Beverly Hills council stands up against hate

BY MORGAN KEITH

Nessah Synagogue in Beverly Hills was vandalized in December.

In a unanimous decision on Jan. 28, the Beverly Hills City Council decided to adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance’s definition of anti-Semitism.

The council’s vote came the day after International Holocaust Remembrance Day, which marked the 75th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz concentration camp. The vote also comes on the heels of a recent rise in anti-Semitic attacks and incidents across the country, including the vandalism of Nessah Synagogue in Beverly Hills in December. According to data from the Los Angeles Police Department, anti-Jewish crimes were up 60.5% in 2019 over 2018, and of the 81 religion-based hate crimes, 48 were acts of vandalism.

The California Department of Justice, in a report for the current year, found anti-Semitic incidents in California to be the highest they have been since 2001.

Beverly Hills council polishes grooming ordinance

BY MORGAN KEITH

At a Jan. 28 study session, the Beverly Hills City Council deliberated on the final details of an ordinance aimed at reducing occurrences of animal injuries and death in grooming establishments, which it plans to introduce in March.

A number of protections would be implemented for animals during grooming sessions including installing video recording systems, requiring staff accreditation from a grooming school and prohibiting the use of grooming nooses, which tether animals to a surface or table.

Grooming nooses tighten after being placed around the head or neck of an animal and are not limit-less when pressure is applied. Grooming loops can be used for the neck of an animal and are not limited to grooming schools, as well as how far away they are and the time it would take to get there.

The pilot program was approved by a 4-1 vote, with Councilman Robert Wunderlich voting against the signs.

“Sign, sign, everywhere a sign.”

The West Hollywood City Council wants any potential wayfinding signs for pedestrians and bicyclists to resemble the city’s existing signs.

The signs are expected to show the direction walkers, bicyclists, wheelchair users and others should travel to reach popular sites, such as the Sunset Strip, as well as how far away they are and the time it would take to get there.

The pilot program was approved by a 4-1 vote, with Councilman John Duran voting against the signs.

“Sign, sign, everywhere a sign. Can’t you read the sign?” Duran argued, quoting the song “Signs” by Five Man Electrical Band. Duran argued the signs would be visual “blight.”

“Sign, sign, everywhere a sign. Blockin’ out the scenery, breakin’ my mind. Do this, don’t do that, can’t you read the sign?” Duran quoted.

Barack Obama in arts

BY CAMERON KISZLA

The National Portrait Gallery, home to portraits of many of the American presidents and first ladies, is bringing two of its most recent and popular additions to the Los Angeles County Museum of Art next year.

The gallery, which is located in Washington, D.C., and is part of the Smithsonian Institution, announced on Jan. 23 that the portraits of former President Barack Obama and former first lady Michelle Obama will visit five American cities from June 2021 through May 2022.

The portraits will be at LACMA from Nov. 5, 2021, to Jan. 2, 2022. The other selected museums are the Art Institute of Chicago, the Brooklyn Museum, the High Art Museum in Atlanta and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston.

“We view the country as our community,” said Kim Sajet, director of the National Portrait Gallery, in a statement. “Since the unveiling of these two portraits of the Obamas, the Portrait Gallery has experienced a record number of visitors, not only to view these works in person, but to be part of the communal experience of a particular moment in time. This tour is an opportunity for audiences in different parts of the country to witness how portraiture can engage people in the beauty of dialogue and shared experience. The portraits — “Barack Obama,” an oil painting on canvas by Los Angeles native Kehinde Wiley, and “Michelle LaVaughn Robinson Obama,” an oil painting on linen by Amy Sheldon — mark the Obamas to make Miracle Mile appearance

BY CAMERON KISZLA

On Jan. 21, the West Hollywood City Council approved a pilot program for wayfinding signs for bicyclists and pedestrians.

The signs are expected to show which direction walkers, bicyclists, wheelchair users and others should travel to reach popular sites, such as the Sunset Strip, as well as how far away they are and the time it would take to get there.

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 council’s request for all mobile dog groomers to have professional certification.

William Recinos, co-owner of VIP Mobile Dog Grooming. He added that the council’s request for all groomers to have professional certi-

fication aimed at reducing occurrences of animal injuries and death in grooming establishments, which can be used for the neck of an animal and are not limit-less when pressure is applied.

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**Alex Ebert**

The Grammy Museum welcomes Alex Ebert for an in-depth conversation moderated by Scott Goldstein, followed by an intimate live performance on Thursday, Jan. 30, at Los Angeles-bred New York-based Ebert is a musician, film maker and the founder of the Guster Records label. He is the father of Pitt himself, who founded the bands Edward Sharpe and The Magnetic Zeros and Ima Ross and won the Golden Globe for Best Original Score in 2014 for his work on “All Is Lost.” His upcoming album “I vs. I” is his most expansive recording yet and will feature guests from Los Angeles. Doors open at 7 p.m., and show starts at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $25. 800 W Olympic Blvd. grammysmuseum.org.

**LA Phil’s ‘All-Roe v. Wade at 47’**

The Los Angeles Philharmonic presents the Griffith Park Free Shakespeare Festival, a free event commemorating the 47th anniversary of Roe v. Wade. This year’s program features a variety of music, stories and interactive activities, and will commemorate the landmark Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion in the United States. The event will take place on Thursday, Feb. 6, at 7 p.m., featuring both free and ticketed events. Tickets are $25. Pasadena Conservatory of Music, 100 N. Hill Ave., (818) 322-1010, pasadenaconservatory.org.

**Beverly Hills Chamber**

Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce is hosting a “Get to Know Your Chamber” event on Thursday, Feb. 6, at 6-7 p.m. The discussion will explore the cultural and historical traditions of the city with the goal of engaging local residents. Admission is free. 9400 S. Santa Monica Blvd., Second Floor. beverlyhillschamber.com.

**Craftering discussion**

Join the Craft in America Center for a discussion on a selection of texts from its library relating to the current exhibition “Quilt: 4 Directions” on Thursday, Feb. 6, at 6:30 p.m. The discussion will explore the cultural and historical traditions of quilting from the black perspective. 8415 W. 3rd St. craftinamerica.org/center.

**French short films**

Theater Raymond Kabbaz presents “A Night of French Short Films” on Thursday, Feb. 6, at 7:30 p.m. The event features a selection of short films created between 2017 and 2020, including films by filmmakers such as N. Fairfax Ave. weho.org.

**Bob Marley tribute**

Mr. Musichead Gallery will pay tribute to the legendary Bob Marley with “Jammin’ & Wailin’,” an event on Thursday, Feb. 6, from 7 to 10 p.m. The event will feature music and cuisine. Tickets are $10 and proceeds benefit the Bob Marley Foundation. 7420 Sunset Blvd. (323) 876-0492, mmusichead.com.
Benefit for fallen West Hollywood Sheriff’s detective brings outpouring of support

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Hundreds of deputy sheriffs, police officers, West Hollywood city employees, and community members attended a lunchtime benefit on Jan. 28 for West Hollywood Sheriff’s Det. Amber Leist, who was killed while off duty on Jan. 12 while assisting an elderly woman crossing a street in Valley Village.

Attendees purchased lunch from a truck provided by In-N-Out Burger and a barbecue station manned by celebrity chef Jet Tila and his staff. All proceeds raised will go to Leist’s family. The amount raised was not available as of press time on Wednesday.

Personnel from the sheriff’s station and other segments of the department were joined by officers from the Los Angeles Police Department, Beverly Hills Police Department, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center security staff and West Hollywood city officials. The line for lunch stretched out of the station’s parking lot onto the sidewalk along San Vicente Boulevard. The event was organized by Dep. Jerry Servin of the sheriff’s station and attorneys Shawn and Shervin Lalezary, who serve as reserve deputies at the West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station.

“The amount of support that exists is indescribable,” Servin said. “It’s good to see we are all here for each other.”

The benefit occurred three days after services for Leist were held at the Mosaic church in Hollywood. Daniel Leist, the detective’s father, said his daughter’s death has been a difficult time for him. “It’s like being in the circus under the big top and falling from the high wire. All of a sudden you fall and there is that feeling of loss and it’s all over, and to have that net catch you,” Leist said. “That’s what it has been like for myself, my wife and my whole family. The support from the sheriff’s department, from the top all the way to the bottom, has been incredible.”

Leist said he has received messages of support from people all over the country, and the experience has reunited him with friends and acquaintances he hadn’t seen or heard from in years.

“Sometimes, we come out of situations a little worse for the wear, but the fact is that we come out OK,” Leist added. “I am just so proud of my daughter. She really loved this community. She loved West Hollywood.”

Det. Leist was struck by a vehicle at the intersection of Whissett Avenue and Riverside Drive in what authorities described as a tragic accident. She had been waiting in her vehicle in a turn lane and witnessed an elderly couple crossing the street. When the woman fell, Leist jumped out of her vehicle and helped them to the corner. She was struck by a car while returning to her vehicle. The driver stayed at the scene and cooperated with authorities.

Capt. Edward Ramirez, commanding officer of the West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station, said the death has deeply affected personnel, but thoughts of her vibrant and jovial personality and commitment to assisting others has helped them persevere.

“It’s absolutely impressive to see the community, to see our brothers and sisters from other agencies come out. It’s been overwhelming,” Ramirez added. “Between Amber’s passing and funeral, we had two weeks. It was in fact, a somber two weeks, but Saturday there was such a beautiful service that it really brought closure. We have a memorial wall for officers from the West Hollywood station who have lost their lives in the line of duty, and we are currently commissioning a portrait to add Amber to that wall.”

Representatives of other departments, such as Det. Brent Hopkins, of the LAPD’s Wilshire Division, attended because he feels a connection with others in law enforcement.

“I had the pleasure of working with Amber,” Hopkins said. “I knew her personally and I had worked with her in different capacities. I had the pleasure of working with her for a long time.”

Representatives of other departments, such as Det. Brent Hopkins, of the LAPD’s Wilshire Division, said he attended because he feels a connection with others in law enforcement.

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Alleged 20K Bandit arrested for series of bank robberies

Some of the hold-ups occurred in Hollywood, West Hollywood

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

A male suspect who authorities dubbed the 20K Bandit was arrested last week in connection with alleged robbing a bank in the San Fernando Valley.

The suspect, identified as Frederick Brooks, 24, was taken into custody after entering a Chase Bank branch in Los Angeles Police Department’s Topanga Division after allegedly robbing a Chase Bank branch on Topanga Canyon Boulevard, said Det. Freddy Arroyo, with the LAPD’s Robbery-Homicide Division. The Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office filed a charge of second degree robbery on Jan. 15.

Arroyo said an investigation is ongoing, and police believe Brooks is also allegedly responsible for five other bank robberies, including three in West Hollywood and Hollywood, one in the Northeast Los Angeles area and another in the San Fernando Valley. He allegedly struck three times on Dec. 16 at Chase Bank, Bank of America and Wells Fargo branches on Santa Monica and Sunset boulevards in Hollywood and West Hollywood. No further information was provided about the times.

FBI spokeswoman Laura Eimiller said the suspect was dubbed the 20K Bandit because he asked tellers for $20,000. In each robbery, the suspect has entered the bank branches, approached tellers and demanded cash. He alluded to having a gun but none was seen, Arroyo added. The suspect fled on foot from each location with an undisclosed amount of cash. No injuries were reported.

Brooks has previous arrests for robbery in 2017 and grand theft in 2015, said Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office spokesman Ricardo Santiago. Anyone with information is asked to contact Det. Arroyo or Daniel Jaramillo, at (213)486-6840.

Beverly Hills Police Department is reminding fans attending Super Bowl parties to get a safe ride home after the game. “If you plan on drinking, plan for a ride home with a sober driver,” Beverly Hills Police Chief Sandra Spagnoli said. “Whether your team wins or loses, you’ll always get the ‘W’ by not drinking and driving.”

Driver arrested for fatal hit-and-run on Sunset Blvd.

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Super Bowl LIV is on Sunday, Feb. 2, and the Beverly Hills Police Department will be looking for people suspected of driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs. Beverly Hills Police Department will be looking for people suspected of driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs. Beverly Hills Police Department will be looking for people suspected of driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs. Beverly Hills Police Department will be looking for people suspected of driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs.

BHPD plans DUI enforcement on day of big game

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Supporters push back after Los Angeles LGBT Center’s budget cut

BY MORGAN KEETH

On Jan. 27, the Los Angeles LGBT Center announced that free STD testing and treatment would cease after funding cuts from the Los Angeles Department of Public Health Public outcry ensued, leading to a temporary agreement the next day to restore services through the end of March.

“The Los Angeles LGBT community saved the day. From phone calls to tweets and emails, their voices were heard and ultimately saved these vital services for our community,” said Lorri L. Jean, CEO of the LGBT Center.

Funding cuts were made last spring when DPH began renewing contracts with its community partners, according to Ward Carpenter, co-director of the center’s health services.

When grants were awarded last month, the center discovered that funding for core STD testing services dropped more than $1 million compared to the previous year.

DPH also announced on Jan. 16 that it would begin charging its community health partners for the laboratory services, according to Carpenter.

“As funding cuts choke off these services, STD cases in Los Angeles will soar and it will cost millions of additional dollars in testing and treatment. These changes are short-sighted, dangerous to the public health and bad for the taxpayers of Los Angeles County,” Carpenter said.

Over the last five years, DPH data show there has been a 98% increase in primary and secondary syphilis cases, an 81% increase in gonorrhea cases and a 25% increase in chlamydia cases in the county.

The epidemic disproportionately impacts gay and bisexual men, transgender people and people of color, according to DPH data.

“This is not a solution. All we have is a very temporary agreement to allow us to maintain these critical services through the time being until we are able to sit down with the county to negotiate some sort of sensible solution that allows us to continue combating these epidemics,” Carpenter said.

Inquiries sent to DPH representatives and County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, 3rd District, about why funding was cut were not returned. The County Board of Supervisors oversees the DPH. Kuehl’s office issued a statement.

“My colleagues and I only recently heard about these proposed funding cuts,” Kuehl said. “We are working closely with the center and the Department of Public Health to resolve the issue and ensure that the center can continue to serve a vital role in the county’s system of free STD testing and treatment services.”

Free STD testing and treatment and pre- and post-exposure prophylaxis services are currently offered by the center.

The center plans to work with DPH to find a long-term solution.

“We are hopeful, but nothing is guaranteed,” Jean said.

For information on services and getting tested, visit lgbtcenter.org.

Street closures in Hollywood for 2020 Oscars

To ensure public safety, support security strategies and facilitate the production of this year’s Oscars on Feb. 9, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences and the city of Los Angeles have finalized street closure plans around the Dolby Theatre at Hollywood & Highland Center in Hollywood.

To accommodate the construction of press nerfs, fan viewing areas and pre-show stages along the Oscars red carpet, Hollywood Boulevard will be closed between Highland Avenue and Orange Drive beginning at 3 a.m. on Sunday, Feb. 2, and remain closed until 6 a.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 12.

MTA subway trains will bypass the Hollywood & Highland station after the last regularly scheduled train on Saturday, Feb. 8, until the first scheduled train after 6 a.m. on Monday, Feb. 10. Service at the station will resume with the first scheduled train after 6 a.m.

Between Sunday, Jan. 26, and Oscar Sunday, Feb. 9, additional streets and sidewalks will be closed for varying periods, including Orchid Alley, Hawthorn Avenue, Orange Drive, Yucca Street, Wilcox Avenue, McCadden Place and more.

Details of the closures and maps of affected areas are available from the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce, the 4th and the 13th District City Council field offices, and on the Academy’s website at oscars.org/closures.

The 92nd Oscars will begin at 5 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 9, at the Dolby Theatre at Hollywood & Highland Center in Hollywood, and will be televised live on ABC. 

“We are hopeful, but nothing is guaranteed,” Jean said.

For information, visit oscars.org.

Local Merchants are Open and Easy to Access

Easy routes to Crescent Drive

FROM NORTH:
- South on N. Cañon Drive, left on Dayton Way, left or right on Crescent Drive
- South on Rexford Drive, right on Clifton Way, left or right on Crescent Drive

FROM SOUTH:
- Westbound on Wilshire Blvd., right on Crescent Drive
- Eastbound on Wilshire Blvd., left on Dayton Way

Parking Available

Self Park (1-hour free)
10 – 333 N. Crescent Drive
11 – 221 N. Crescent Drive
12 – 9361 Dayton Way

Pay as you go Parking
18 – 450 N. Crescent Drive

400 block of N. Crescent Dr. Closed Between N. & S. Santa Monica from January 29 - February 13, 2020
Mixed-use project may bring commercial space, hotel, housing to Miracle Mile

BY CAMERON KISZLA

A proposed project with a hotel, residential units and commercial space adjacent to the site of the future Metro Purple Line subway station at Wilshire Boulevard and La Brea Avenue will be heard by the Los Angeles City Council’s Planning and Land Use Management Committee next month.

The project, located at 623-671 S. La Brea Ave., was scheduled to go before the committee on Jan. 28, but the item was continued until Feb. 11. The item was previously continued from the Jan. 14 meeting. A request for information from the City Planning Department was not returned before press time.

If approved, the project from CGI Strategies will create 121 condominiums, 125 hotel rooms and 13,037 square feet of commercial space. The eight-story, 87-foot-tall structure will also include 177 parking spaces on two underground levels. Representatives from CGI Strategies did not return requests for comment before press time, but according to the company’s website, the site was acquired in 2016.

“Located at a pivotal intersection of multiple thoroughfares as well as a future Metro station, the completed project will feature a compelling hybrid of residential and commercial space that will complement the creative and professional culture of the area,” according to the project description on the CGI Strategies website.

In September, the Mid City West Community Board of Directors approved the project by a vote of 28-1, with one abstention. Mehmet Berker, chair of the Mid City West Community Council Planning and Land Use Committee, said while there are hotels nearby, it will be nice to have one in the immediate area. Berker added that this project creates housing without displacing any existing tenants, and the applicant has agreed to several conditions of approval from the council, including an additional moderate-income unit, a promise that the sidewalk will remain open during construction and spaces for car-sharing services to use in the parking garage.

“We have a goal of supporting more housing,” Berker said. “If a project does that and is not a factor in displacing people in an illegal or untrustworthy way – especially a project like this where it’s commercial or a vacant parcel – what we want to do is come in and say ‘That meets our goal of adding residents.’ If there is a way to make this project even better.”

Berker added that CGI Strategies will also give new residents Metro TAP Cards, which may help encourage people to use public transit instead of driving.

“Research has shown that people are more likely to change their transportation behavior during a big life event, like a move or a new job. We think it’s a good time to give them a transit pass to get them started if they haven’t already,” Berker said.

Though the Mid City West board voted to support the project, Barbara Gallen, the elected representative for Zone 6, which includes the project site, said after hearing from her constituents, she does not support the project.

Gallen said in an email that the project misuses the Transit Oriented Communities Incentive Program which is intended to build affordable housing near bus and train stations, to create a luxury hotel and residential complex with only 14 affordable units. In addition, she said the project’s environmental impact has not been properly studied, and the developers’ plan to use the alley behind the commercial businesses on La Brea Avenue as the complex’s entrance and exit point is a mistake.

Gallen said many of her constituents and nearby businesses already rely on access to the alley because Detroit Street is one-way in that area.

“Residents will be blocked throughout the day and night without warning by trucks queuing, arriving and leaving,” she said. “Residents will also compete with a high volume of passenger cars entering and exiting the garage through the alley.”

Jim O’Sullivan, president of the Miracle Mile Residential Association, said the MMRA is opposed to the project, citing many of the same concerns as Gallen. O’Sullivan added that as the Purple Line Extension project nears completion, developers are looking to make the Miracle Mile even denser than it already is.

“All of the buildings north and south of Wilshire on La Brea, they’re going to start building on them. But you look at La Brea and how jammed it is, and you start wondering how big can they grow? How tall can these buildings get? They’re trying to cram a lot into an area,” O’Sullivan said.

Mark Pampanin, spokesman for City Councilman David Ryu, 4th District, said in an email the councilman is “following this planning case closely and believes the project should contain more affordable housing.” Pampanin also echoed some of the concerns about the environmental impact and the Transit Oriented Communities incentive.

“Councilman Ryu, here and in neighborhoods across Council District 4, believes we need much more affordable and moderate-income housing, which is why he has put forward legislation to incentivize an increase in affordable and moderate-income housing.” Pampanin said.
New Saban Community Clinic site will expand services for families in need

■ Patients can start booking appointments next month

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

The Saban Community Clinic is in the final stages of construction for a new family health center located at 137 N. Virgil Ave. in the Rampart Village neighborhood south of East Hollywood.

The new center will become the fourth Saban Community Clinic, which provides free medical, dental, and behavioral health care.

The $5 million capital project involved renovating an existing building. The center is expected to open in April and remain open on a long-term lease.

The new Saban Community Clinic will begin signing up for appointments in mid-February. For information, visit sabancommunityclinic.org/virgil.

“Our hope is that the clinic will provide better and easier access to the most vulnerable members of our community. This specific neighborhood of L.A. has one of the highest rates of childhood poverty in the county with families having to choose between paying rent and providing healthcare to their loved ones,” said Muriel Nouwezum, senior CHC of the Saban Community Clinic. “We have always believed that healthcare should be a right, and our goal is to be part of the solution in providing quality and affordable care to all.

It was important to us to include our integrated care model approach and ensure that our future patients are able to receive various services all in one stop. We are building this new clinic with our patients in mind first and foremost, and hope that they will feel all the love that went into creating this space.”

The new project will include six medical exam rooms and four dental operations, a training and education room and children's tooth-brushing station. Also included will be a medical lab and dental lab, as well as two care team pods and a treatment room for behavioral health and nutrition services.

Each exam room will have a theme to make patients feel more comfortable. A centralized space for family members to take part and be counted.

Environmental groups endorse Ryu for council

On Jan. 21, Los Angeles City Councilmember David Ryu announced that his campaign for re-election has gained the endorsement of the Sierra Club and the Los Angeles League of Conservation Voters.

“The Sierra Club is glad to endorse Councilmember David Ryu in his re-election campaign of his demonstrated commitment to protecting the environment,” said Carol Hening, Los Angeles Sierra Club Political Committee, Sierra Club Angeles Chapter.

“We congratulate David on his re-election campaign for city government, his pursuit of lasting solutions to the crisis of homelessness in L.A. and his track record on environmental issues such as preserving open space and enhancing our city parks.”

“During his tenure, Councilmember David Ryu has demonstrated his keen interest in ensuring Los Angeles becomes a greener and more livable city,” said Los Angeles League of Conservation Voters Director Dan Galbreath, Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti and fellow Los Angeles elected leaders, state legislators, county elected officials and local labor unions.

On Jan. 21, the city of West Hollywood officially launched its “Be Counted West Hollywood” campaign, which will take place on April 1.

The city's efforts aim to mobilize community members to take part in the upcoming census and to educate residents and stakeholders about the importance of participating in the census and returning the questionnaire.

The United States Constitution mandates that a complete national population count must be conducted every 10 years.

“The census provides critical information for the city of West Hollywood Mayor John D’Amico said. “A complete count will help ensure that West Hollywood receives a fair share of federal funding and investments and, on a state level, the count will determine California’s apportionment in the U.S. House of Representatives. It's so important that people in our community take part and be counted.”

To ensure that every resident of West Hollywood is counted during the Census 2020, the city is inviting community members to become ambassadors, an essential part of the City-Census 2020 engagement team.

Ambassadors will volunteer their time by distributing information across the community to ensure everyone is engaged and knowledgeable about the census.

Ambassadors are encouraged to engage and inform their respective constituents and social audiences in a way they feel most comfortable.

Ambassadors must either live, do business or have strong affiliation with the city of West Hollywood, be willing to receive information from the census or the city, and share this information with the public. Interested stakeholders are encouraged to send an email to Helen Molina at census@weho.org with their name, address, phone number and preferred email address.

The nonpartisan Legislative Analyst’s Office in California has estimated that during the 1990 Census, California’s population was underestimated by 2.7%, this undercount caused California to receive at least $2 billion less in federal funds.

As the City of Angels mourns Kobe Bryant, his daughter and seven others following the tragic helicopter crash that claimed their lives, we remember the words of UCLA basketball coach John Wooden.

WeHo launches Census 2020 campaign

On Jan. 21, the city of West Hollywood kicked off its “Be Counted West Hollywood” initiative at the Jan. 21 City Council meeting.

Beverly Hills completes 2020 homeless count

On Wednesday, Jan. 22, a group of over 60 local volunteers, city staff, Beverly Hills police officers, the Beverly Hills Homeless Outreach Team, and Beverly Hills Ambassadors participated in the 2020 Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority’s Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count.

The annual homeless count is part of a three-night, county-wide effort to understand and address the complexities of homelessness.

Count participants gathered in City Hall and were trained on count procedures, learned about homeless services in Beverly Hills and were deployed to several census tracts covering the entire city. This year, a total of 17 homeless individuals and 1 recreational vehicle were counted by volunteers. This is very similar compared to last year’s count of 16 individuals, 1 recreational vehicle and 1 car.

Every day, about 130 individuals come out of homelessness, while another 150 fall into homelessness. The 2019 homeless count found a 12% increase in homelessness in Los Angeles County from 52,765 in 2018 to 58,024 in 2019 and a 19% increase from 4,401 to 5,223 individuals experiencing homelessness on the Westside of Los Angeles.

While homeless count numbers have not remained consistent, data from the last six years show that the spike in homeless population is a growing trend throughout the state.

With an estimated 15% of its population living in poverty, Beverly Hills has the fifth highest rate of childhood poverty in California.

In addition, the city’s home- less outreach team focuses on intensive case management.

The city hosts monthly homeless collab- oration meetings with community stakeholders including faith-based organizations in the city, the Beverly Hills Homeless Outreach Team, Beverly Hills Public Library staff, city parking staff, park rangers, the Beverly Hills Ambassadors Team and other community organizations to coordinate homeless service efforts.

In addition to the annual count, Human Services, CLASP, the police department, park rangers and the Ambassadors provide regular reports on homeless individuals in the city’s parks, park- ing structures, resident areas and the cityuger, public spaces on homelessness throughout the year.

Beverly Hills began participating in the LAHSA’s official count in 2009, when 42 home- less individuals were recorded.

LAHSA’s three-night, street-counting effort consisted of 160 volunteers. Count numbers are reported by the Department of Housing and Urban Development and directly influ- ence federal funding directed to Los Angeles County.

For information, contact Jim Latta, of the Human Services Division, at (310)285-1006 or jllatta@beverlyhills.org.

Notable quotes

“Our hope is that the clinic will provide better and easier access to the most vulnerable members of our community. This specific neighbor- hoods of L.A. has one of the highest rates of childhood poverty in the county with families having to choose between paying rent and providing healthcare to their loved ones,” said Muriel Nouwezum, senior CHC of the Saban Community Clinic. “We have always believed that healthcare should be a right, and our goal is to be part of the solution in providing quality and affordable care to all.

It was important to us to include our integrated care model approach and ensure that our future patients are able to receive various services all in one stop. We are building this new clinic with our patients in mind first and foremost, and hope that they will feel all the love that went into creating this space.”

“During his tenure, Councilmember David Ryu has demonstrated his keen interest in ensuring Los Angeles becomes a greener and more livable city,” said Los Angeles League of Conservation Voters Director Dan Galbreath, Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti and fellow Los Angeles elected leaders, state legislators, county elected officials and local labor unions.

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As the City of Angels mourns Kobe Bryant, his daughter and seven others following the tragic helicopter crash that claimed their lives, we remember the words of UCLA basketball coach John Wooden.

“Be true to yourself. Make each day a masterpiece. Help others. Drink deeply from good books. Make friendship a fine art. Build a shelter against a rainy day.”

John Robert Wooden (1910 – 2010)
The Metro Board unanimously voted on Jan. 23 to move the NextGen Bus Plan forward for public comment and review. The plan, Metro’s first major overhaul of the bus system in more than 25 years, is a strategic strategy to boost ridership through faster, more reliable and more frequent service. “We won’t be satisfied until all Angelenos see Metro as a convenient way to move around the city,” said Mayor Eric Garcetti, vice chair of the Metro Board.

Metro presents information on subway work

Metro is offering two upcoming opportunities to receive information about Purple Line Extension subway construction in Beverly Hills. A lunchtime webinar will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 10, from 12 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. at the Beverly Hills Public Library, 266 N. Robertson Blvd. For information, call (213)922-6934, or email purplelineext@metro.net.

Metro Board approves plan on bus service efficiency

Los Angeles Unified School District Superintendent Austin Beutner announced his support for free student transit passes for all LAUSD students at the Metropolitan Transportation Authority’s board meeting on Jan. 23.

Metro Board members and Los Angeles Unified School District Superintendent Austin Beutner, left, and LAPD Officer John Bonita, Chairman of Inglewood Mayor James T. Butts Jr. at the Jan. 23 Metro Board meeting.

Metro considers proposal for free transit passes for students

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speed humps on residential streets

LADOT opens application period for speed humps on residential streets

Community organizations and the public can submit requests for speed humps on residential streets to the Los Angeles Department of Transportation.

The Speed Hump Program opens a review cycle every six months to accept petitions. The application period will remain open until the maximum number of requests that can be processed for construction is received.

In the past, the maximum number of requests was 450, or 30 per Los Angeles City Council District. The number allows staff to study and process all applications as efficiently as possible.

Speed humps are designed to reduce vehicular speed on residential streets with a single lane of travel in each direction. While generally effective in reducing vehicle speeds and volume, speed humps also have disadvantages such as the potential for increased vehicle noise when traversing the hump and increased emergency vehicle response times, according to LADOT representatives.

For information and to apply for speed humps, visit ladot.lacity.org/how-do-i/request-speed-humps.
Ryu urges opposition to federal rules reducing protections for waterways

Los Angeles City Councilman David Ryu, 4th District, has introduced a resolution in urging the city of Los Angeles to formally oppose the Trump administration’s rollback of federal protections of streams and other bodies of water.

“The new Navigable Waters Protection Rule, which the Environmental Protection Agency’s Scientific Advisory Board found “no scientific justification” for, would lift protections for approximately half the country’s wetlands, two-thirds of fresh-water streams and 81% of streams in the Southwest United States. “It is clear that the Trump Administration has no regard for the environmental protections we have fought for decades to build,” Ryu said. “This not only rolls back protections won under the Obama Administration, but protections that have been in place since the 1970s. This puts hundreds of previously protected water sources, and the communities that rely on them, at risk. Especially now, as climate change and water scarcity bear down on us, we need to fight back.”

The Navigable Waters Protection Rule rolls back protections crafted under President Barack Obama that extended the 1972 Clean Water Act to cover ephemeral streams, which run intermittently after snowmelt or heavy rains. The new rule also removes the requirements for permits to seek permits before filling in wetlands or dumping fertilizers or pesticides into waterways. Government scientists concluded that the new water rule ignores science by “failing to acknowledge watershed systems.”

“While this rule may be good news for Trump’s golf courses, it’s bad news for the millions of people who rely on local water sources for their drinking water,” Ryu added.

Continuing the state’s accelerated response to the homelessness crisis, Gov. Gavin Newsom recently announced that Los Angeles County will receive 30 travel trailers and medical services tents by Feb. 7.

“We continue to deploy state resources to cities and counties across the state who are stepping up to tackle the homelessness crisis,” Newsom said. “In Los Angeles County, we will work with local leaders to stand up travel trailers and medical services tents to house families. This is one of the many tools in the toolbox we are using to address the crisis-head on.”

The deployment of travel trailers to Los Angeles County is the second installment of the governor’s executive order implementation. Oakland will be the first city to partner with the state and will receive 15 travel trailers, which will be installed on curated land in the coming weeks. The state and county are currently reviewing sites for the travel trailers, which will house families affected by homelessness.

“Gov. Newsom has proven yet again his leadership and his commitment to addressing the humanitarians crisis on our streets,” said Los Angeles County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, 2nd District, co-chair of the Governor’s Council of Regional Homeless Advisors. “By deploying 30 of the state’s travel trailers to serve as interim housing in Los Angeles County, he is demonstrating the ingenuity, resourcefulness and urgency needed to tackle this undeniable emergency. The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors rose to the governor’s challenge and moved to mount a comprehensive and aggressive response to homelessness. This includes identifying vacant land and experienced service providers so that the people who receive the state’s trailers can find a safe haven. A deep sense of urgency is driving our work [and] we are ready to go.”

Newsom also announced the launch of a new website developed by his office’s California Volunteers division that lists volunteer opportunities with organizations that help people obtain housing and services. The governor included more than $1 billion in homeless response funding in his proposed budget, including $750 million for this new Access to Housing and Services Fund.

Community celebrates Red Car Bridge over Los Angeles River

Los Angeles City Councilman Mitch O’Farrell, 13th District, came together with residents on Jan. 25 to celebrate the opening of the Red Car Pedestrian Bridge, one of five major infrastructure improvements along the Los Angeles River. Hundreds of community members joined O’Farrell to cut the ceremonial ribbon on the new Red Car Bridge. After the ribbon-cutting, O’Farrell and the community participated in the first official crossing of the bridge, along with the jazz band from John Marshall High School.

“The Red Car Pedestrian Bridge has been a 16-year labor of love for all involved, benefitting residents of Atwater Village, Silver Lake and all who enjoy the river,” O’Farrell said. “The design of this new bridge also pays tribute to the historic Red Car Trolley that once crossed the river in the exact same spot. I want to thank Friends of Atwater Village, Nettie Carr, Luis Lopez and Sandra Caravella for envisioning this project so long ago.”

“As someone who lives near the north part of the Los Angeles River, I am excited that this pedestrian bridge, years in the works, is opening for us residents to access and enjoy,” Carr added. “I appreciate the ongoing collaboration that residents like myself had with Councilmember O’Farrell’s office and the Bureau of Engineering.”

“The Red Car Pedestrian Bridge connects Silver Lake and Atwater Village. It provides much needed accessibility for pedestrians and other non-motorized uses, which is especially important as the councilman and the Bureau of Engineering embark on a three-year seismic retrofit and historic restoration of the Glendale-Hyperion Complex of Bridges starting in 2021. Every project we complete along the river helps connect nearby residents to the bike path and to each other,” Los Angeles City Engineer Gary Lee Moore said. “The completion of the Red Car Pedestrian Bridge makes the river more accessible and is another step in the city’s ongoing revitalization of the Los Angeles River.”

“The North Atwater Bridge will come online in the coming weeks, and Taylor Yard Bridge is expected to be completed in 2021. Another bridge, connecting Atwater Village with Glendale, is in the early planning stages. In its first two weeks after being introduced, Assembly Bill 1907 has received support from numerous organizations and leaders. The measure, authored by Assemblymember Miguel Santiago (D-Los Angeles) would fast-track homeless housing through public utilities, which is especially important as the councilman and the Bureau of Engineering embark on a three-year seismic retrofit and historic restoration of the Glendale-Hyperion Complex of Bridges starting in 2021. Every project we complete along the river helps connect nearby residents to the bike path and to each other,” Los Angeles City Engineer Gary Lee Moore said. “The completion of the Red Car Pedestrian Bridge makes the river more accessible and is another step in the city’s ongoing revitalization of the Los Angeles River.”

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Legislation to expedite housing gains support

Due to the extreme homelessness crisis and housing shortage facing city-owned land in Los Angeles, a group of organizations are supporting solutions that will eliminate existing hurdles to build more emergency shelters, supportive housing and affordable housing, Santiago added. AB 1907 was co-authored by Assemblymember Mike A. Gipson (D-Carson) and Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva (D-Fullerton). The bill has also gained support from other local leaders.

“I was proud to support AB 1197 last year to streamline life saving housing for people experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles, and I’m proud to support AB 1907 today to bring the same urgency statewide,” said Los Angeles City Councilman David Ryu, 4th District. “Homelessness is an emergency, and we need to start acting like it. Assemblymember Sakura Subjects today, let’s show the state and community we need to meet this crisis head on with the speed and scale required.”

AssemblymemberSubjects today, let’s show the state and community we need to meet this crisis head on with the speed and scale required. AB 1907 will most likely be heard in the Assembly Natural Resources Committee in March or April. Making funeral plans now protects your family from emotional decisions later

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Call 800-600-0076 to speak to an Advance Planning Representative

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10 January 2020 Park Labrea News/Beverly Press

We’re here for you. Our staff is here 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.
First coronavirus case confirmed

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health has confirmed the first case of 2019 novel coronavirus in Los Angeles County. Another case has been confirmed in Orange County. There are currently five cases in the United States.

According to the department, the person is a returning traveler from Wuhan, China, who has been confirmed to have the new strain of coronavirus by the CDC. The person is currently receiving appropriate care at a local hospital. In order to protect patient privacy/confidentiality, Public Health is not releasing the location.

Public Health officials are working to identify persons who may have had close personal contact with this individual, including any friends, family members or health care professionals, to monitor them for signs and symptoms of illness and to take measures to prevent spread of the virus.

This is the only case of 2019 novel coronavirus in L.A. County. There are reportedly five cases in the United States.

"L.A. County is well prepared to manage these kinds of unexpected cases of novel coronavirus," said Barbara Ferrer, director of Public Health. "We are working closely with our federal, state and local partners to provide health care providers and the public with accurate information about actions we are taking to reduce the spread of novel coronavirus and to care for those who are ill. As with other respiratory illnesses, there are steps that everyone can take to reduce the risk of getting sick from circulating viruses, including coronavirus. This includes remaining home when ill, washing hands with soap and water frequently, and getting vaccinated against flu. Because novel coronavirus is new, we are learning more each day about transmission patterns and incubation periods. We will keep everyone informed as more information becomes available.

The risk of transmission of coronavirus in L.A. County remains low. In a statement, the department said there is no immediate threat to the general public, no special precautions are required and people should not be excluded from activities based on their race, country of origin or recent travel if they do not have symptoms of respiratory illness. Los Angeles residents, students, workers and visitors should continue to engage in their regular activities and practice good public health hygiene as this is the height of flu season across the county. Public Health is working closely with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and other federal, state and local agencies to monitor this novel coronavirus that has emerged from Wuhan, China, over the past few weeks.

For information, visit pubhealth.lacounty.gov/coronavirus/2019-n cov/index.html.
Rick Caruso donates $5 million for project at Loyola High School

Loyola High School of Los Angeles, the oldest continually operated educational institution in Southern California, has announced that Loyola Board chair, business innovator, civic leader and philanthropist Rick J. Caruso and his wife Tina are donating $5 million to the Jesuit preparatory school, earmarking $4.5 million for the 1901 Venice Boulevard Project and $500,000 for the Caruso Scholar endowment.

The gift is the largest single donation that Loyola has received to date for the 1901 Venice Boulevard Project, ushering in a new era with its construction. The gift will fully endow a four-year scholarship for a high-performing, low-income student from an underserved Los Angeles neighborhood.

“Tina and Rick’s gift is a historic investment in our school, in our students and in our endowment. Their generosity to Loyola will affect generations of Cubs to come,” said Fr. Gregory M. Goethals, president of Loyola High School. “To inspire our students to become future leaders, we must be able to provide them with state-of-the-art facilities that contribute to a thriving educational and spiritual community. Once completed, the 1901 Venice Boulevard Project will transform our campus.”

The 1901 Venice Boulevard Project includes the rebuilding of Caruso Hall, formerly known as Xavier Center, from the ground up. The 26,188-square-foot Caruso Hall will be used for more than 200 events a year. It will include a dedicated sanctuary to serve liturgies; operable walls that transform the Grand Hall into three separate rooms with multi-area capacity for AP testing events; state-of-the-art integrated communications and audio-visual equipment; a full-service banquet kitchen capable of serving 800 guests; a multi-purpose student kitchen and ADA-compliant restrooms.

The 1901 Venice Boulevard Project will also enhance Hayden Circle with a new front entrance gate and eco-friendly landscaping as well as a Graduate-at-Graduation Walkway. A Veterans’ Memorial will also be erected in tribute to Loyola students who have served or are serving the country.

The Caruso Scholar endowment reflects the Carusos’ long legacy of supporting educational institutions that help transform the lives of children living in poverty. The program offers high-performing, low-income students access to Loyola’s curriculum and enhances the school’s commitment to an already diverse student body.

“Through my work on Loyola’s board and as the parent of a cub graduate, not only have I witnessed firsthand the academic excellence this institution instills in all its students, but equally as important, the spiritual growth that is integral to turning young men into positive contributors to society,” Caruso said, who is also developer of The Grove. “Tina and I are proud to be part of the reimagination of the southern part of Loyola’s 21-acre campus as well as supporting promising students from low-income neighborhoods in their pursuit of a quality high school education.”

Beginning in the 2020-21 academic year, Loyola will have its first Caruso Scholar, who will receive a four-year scholarship, fully endowed by the Caruso Family Foundation. Loyola High School of Los Angeles is celebrating its 154th anniversary. Located just west of downtown Los Angeles, Loyola’s student body of over 1,250 young men represents the geographic diversity of Los Angeles County.

For information, visit loyolahs.edu.

Director of ‘Frankenstein’ at The Wallis receives Sherwood Award

The Center Theatre Group has announced that Mat Diafos Sweeney is the recipient of the 2020 Dorothy and Richard E. Sherwood Award.

Given in memory of Dorothy and Richard E. Sherwood, the $10,000 award cultivates innovative theater artists working in Los Angeles who push formal and aesthetic boundaries, often devised and staged in non-theatrical venues. His most recent projects include "undine," a New Music USA-supported work held in a converted flower shop downtown, and "katabasis," a professional opera staged on the grounds of the Getty Villa, styled after ancient mystery rites.

Sweeney is an Ovation Award-winning artist from Los Angeles. His practice includes directing, choreographing, designing and composing music, and writing and collaging texts to make new theater works. He creates performance work for multidisciplinary ensembles, often devised and staged in non-theatrical venues. His most recent projects include "undine," a New Music USA-supported work held in a converted flower shop downtown, and "katabasis," a professional opera staged on the grounds of the Getty Villa, styled after ancient mystery rites.

In the coming year, Sweeney will continue his ongoing series of site-specific performances for the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, present his participatory installation song cycle "hymns" and premiere his new adaptation of Mary Shelley's "Frankenstein" at The Wallis.

Since 1996, Center Theatre Group has recognized and celebrated local theater artists with the Dorothy Sherwood Award. Dorothy Sherwood, Richard’s wife and a fellow champion of innovative and adventurous theater artists, died in 2018. To honor the passion and dedication of both patrons of the arts, the award was renamed the Dorothy and Richard E. Sherwood Award.

For information, visit centertheatregroup.org.

photo by Dustin Snipes
Gov. Gavin Newsom has announced the reappointments of two Los Angeles residents to state education boards.

Jonathan "Jay" Sures, 53, has been reappointed to the University of California Board of Regents, effective March 2, where he has served since 2019. Sures has been a professor of political science at UC Los Angeles since 2007. He is a director of the Center for International Education.

The Beverly Hills City Council on Jan. 28 with a Kindness Award. Joining Talebi were Beverly Hills City Manager Julian Gold, Counsilmember Lili Bosse, Mayor John Mirisch, and Counsilmembers Lester Friedman and Bob Wunderlich.

Join author Sam Wasson at WeHo Reads event

The city of West Hollywood and Book Soup invite community members to a WeHo Reads series event featuring Sam Wasson's new book, "The Big Goodbye: Chinatown and "Dear Harvey," in celebration of "One City One Pride" on May 22.

Looking over the story of the classic movie is the imminent eclipse of the 1970s filmmakers, friendly studios as they gave way to the corporate Hollywood that currently exists. Additional installments of West Hollywood's WeHo Reads series have been announced. On March 6, Antonio Gonzalez and his book, "Architects Who Built Southern California," will be featured, followed by Kathleen Valentine and "All I Ever Wanted: A Rock n' Roll Memoir" on April 7. An event titled "National Poetry Month, Be the Change" is scheduled on April 22 followed by a Russian Arts and Culture Month celebration with Dr. Emil Draister and his book, "Draister's Raids." Additional installments of the WeHo Reads series are located at 625 N. San Vicente Blvd. For information visit weho.ca.gov.

Gov. Gavin Newsom has proposed a 2020-21 state budget.

On Jan. 10, Gov. Gavin Newsom submitted to the Legislature a 2020-21 state budget proposal, which makes investments in the state's workforce while addressing persistent challenges facing the state.

"California's economic growth has fueled the nation's economy. As 2020 begins, California's economy is growing faster than the nation and the fifth largest in the world. We're eliminating debts, paying down our reserve funds, growing our reserve funds — the largest ever at $21 billion — and one out of every seven new U.S. jobs is in California," Newsom said. "Despite the progress we've made, there are still persistent challenges that threaten our state's future and demand our urgent attention. As we face a number of widespread affordability crises, expanding budgets for higher education and combating wildfires — have been decades in the making and won't be fixed overnight. I'm asking the Legislature to work more than ever to tackle these challenges and this budget builds on that work with new investments and ideas to tackle these longstanding issues."

The budget continues to grow the reserves in the Rainy Day Fund and assumes an additional transfer of nearly $2 billion in 2020-21 and an additional $1.4 billion over the remainder of the three-year forecast period.

The budget also maintains $300 million in the Safety Net Reserve, sets aside $110 million more in the Public School System Stabilization Account and reserves $1.6 billion in the Special Fund for Economic Uncertainties to address emergencies and other unforeseen events. Overall, the budget has $21 billion set aside in reserves.

The administration has announced a new CalRecgen generic drug program, making California the state first to create its own generic drug label and making the state's generic prescriptions drugs available for sale to all Californians. The budget transfers Medi-Cal to a more consistent and seamless system by reducing complexity and increasing flexibility and establish a single market for drug pricing.

The budget also moves the state toward universal coverage and furthers cost containment goals by expanding full-scope Medi-Cal coverage to low-income undocumented Californians aged 65 and above.

Building on the state's recent reversal of law and unprecedented $1.75-billion investment in last year's budget to increase housing supply and hold cities accountable for regional housing goals, this year's budget authorizes $500 million annually for the state's housing tax credit program and continues to support housing development on excess state lands.

The budget also proposes more than $1 billion to radically shift the state's involvement to house the many unhoused individuals living in California, by launching the California Access to Housing and Services Fund with a $750 million initial investment. This fund will create a structure for developing affordable housing units, supple for regional housing goals, this year's budget authorizes $500 million annually for the state's housing tax credit program and continues to support housing development on excess state lands.

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The budget seeks humane approach to canine blood banking

State Assemblymember Richard Bloom (D-Santa Monica) has introduced Assembly Bill 535 to regulate licensed veterinarians and scope of practice to include the collection and sales of blood and blood products collected from dogs.

Existing California law requires animal blood banks to collect blood exclusively from so-called "colony" dogs, which confine donor animals to cages and kennels for months or years. By contrast, other states allow blood banks to collect animal blood in a community-based, voluntary setting. The programs don't rely on confined animals and lead to greater access and reduced waiting times, which can be critical in emergency situations, Bloom said.

Volunteer animal blood donor programs have been established in many university-based veterinary teaching hospitals, including UC Davis, as well as at large urban veterinary referral and emergency clinics.

"The tide has turned over the last session to envision a path forward to expanding the availability of this important and voluntary model similar to human blood banks," Bloom said. "Governor Newsom called on us to work with him and stakeholders to craft a better balance to ensure that we transition away from the outdated and inhumane model into one we can be proud of."

AB 535 is co-sponsored by the Beagle Freedom Project, the American Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and Animal Defenders International. For information visit a50.asmdc.org.

Two local leaders appointed to state education boards

Gov. Newsom offers office staffing update for 2020

As Gov. Gavin Newsom's first year in office came to a close, he asked a number of his senior staff members to serve in his office — the senior point person on business and economic development, and a senior point person on strategy and advocacy. Jason Elliott, 36, of Los Angeles, has served since 2019. Pattillo-Brownson has been vice president and general counsel at the Advancement Project from 2007 to 2016 and education attorney at the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California from 2006 to 2007. The position requires Senate confirmation.
Long live the king cake at YAPA

A baking demo of the New Orleans carnival tradition “galette des rois” by Tracey Mitchell, director of L.A.’s Pacific Food & Beverage Museum, is free to the public on Saturday, Feb. 1, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. After the program, enjoy tastes and refreshments from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Accompanying the event is a free four-course dinner by chef de cuisine Luca Monconi before evening screenings and a Pronto Market lunch before matinee screenings. The theater inside the hotel offers comfortable reclining leather chairs, plush blankets and a side table for movie snacks and beverages. Guests can enjoy a complimentary bag of freshly popped corn with specialty movie snacks and beverages. Guests can enjoy a complimentary bag of freshly popped corn with specialty movie snacks and beverages.

Culina Oscar dinner and film week series

Watch the Oscar-nominated movies at Culina restaurant at the Four Seasons Los Angeles in Beverly Hills. The fourth-annual Oscar meal and film series, which will show different contenders each day leading to the 2020 Academy Awards, includes a three-course dinner by chef de cuisine Luca Monconi before evening screenings and a Pronto Market lunch before matinee screenings. The theater inside the hotel offers comfortable reclining leather chairs, plush blankets and a side table for movie snacks and beverages. Guests can enjoy a complimentary bag of freshly popped corn with specialty movie snacks and beverages. Guests can enjoy a complimentary bag of freshly popped corn with specialty movie snacks and beverages.

Children’s Valentine’s Tea

Peanut Butter & Jelly Triangles on Wheat
Cream Cheese Canapés with a Raspberry Kiss
Chicken Salad Stars on Raisin bread
Mini Fruit 1arts and Scones
Fresh Fruit Skewers
Preserves, Crème Fraiche
Milk, Hot Chocolate, Apple Cider

Make a Super Bowl of Chili

Ground Beef
Extra Course Grind for the Perfect Pot of Chili!
$4.49/lb.

Chicken Wings
$3.98/lb.
good through 2/5/20

Superbowl Parties

Watch the Kansas City Chiefs take on the San Francisco 49ers Sunday, Feb. 2, at the following restaurants and bars.
Super Bowl specials at Public School

Throughout Feb. 2, enjoy all-day food and drink specials. Get your game and your grub on at the chef-driven gastropub specializing in craft beer, classic drafts and elevated fare. On Super Bowl Sunday, Public School’s game day menu will feature $3 Modelo drafts, $4 Modelo Micheladas and $5 Sauza margaritas. Pub food includes $5 parmesan truffle fries, bacon cheddar tots, chips and salsa with beer cheese, buffalo cauli-flower, flatbread, chorizo mac and cheese, and soft pretzels. 612 Flower St., (213)622-4500; 9411 Sunset Blvd., (310)558-0414; 1335 S. Figueroa St., (213)748-4287.

Super Bowl at Dog Haus

Stop by a Dog Haus Biergarten location on Sunday, Feb. 2 to score food and drink specials all day long. 3335 S. Figueroa St., (213)748-4287.

Hotel Shangri-La Super Bowl

A Super Bowl poolside party begins at 1 p.m. on Feb. 2 with access to a big screen TV and an all-American barbecue with beers flowing at the pool bar. The $55-per-person entrance fee includes a barbecue combo platter of beef sliders, chicken wings, nachos and two beers. Additional menu items include a bacon-wrapped hotdog topped with caramelized peppers and onions served with house-made potato chips; a Kobe beef burger with cheddar cheese, grilled onion, lettuce, tomato and pickles served on a warm broche bun; and a tower of steak fries, truffle fries, herb bread and sweet potato fries. Order a bucket of four assorted beers for $20. For those looking for a more private cabana, rental service is $500 per group of five guests. The cabana includes bottle service with mixers and a private flat-screen television. The party goes until 7 p.m. Purchase tickets at eventbrite.com/e/2020-super-bowl-viewing-party-at-hotel-shangri-la-tickets-99404843515?aff=web&search.

All-female wine dinner at Chao Krung

On Friday, Feb. 5, join sisters and business partners Amanda Kuntee and Katy Noochlaor for an all-female wine and food pairing inside the intimate Thai restaurant. All the wines served are made solely by women. Guests will taste authentic, century-old family recipes and delicious new wines.

Superbowl Appetizer Platters

$9.95 Chicken Wings

$15.95 Shrimp & Calamari

$11.95 Onion Rings & Fries

ORDER NOW FOR YOUR SUPERBOWL PARTY!

DINE-IN OR TAKE OUT!

OPEN 24 HOURS!
The following crimes occurred in West Hollywood, Beverly Hills, and the areas protected by the LAPD's Wilshire and Hollywood divisions between Jan. 19 and Jan. 26. The information was compiled from www.crimemap. com, and is based on crime reports filed by law enforcement agencies.

Beverly Hills Police Department
Jan. 19
An unknown suspect burglarized a commercial building in the 9400 block of Wilshire at 10:45 a.m.

At 9:30 a.m., a vandalism incident was reported in the 100 block of S. Roxbury.

Jan. 20
At 12:39 p.m., a suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs near the corner of Olympic and Maple.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 9600 block of Wilshire at 3:37 p.m.

At 10 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft from a vehicle in the 400 block of S. Rodeo.

Jan. 21
At 4:27 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 8500 block of Wilshire.

Jan. 22
At 12:15 p.m., a vandalism incident was reported in the 200 block of S. Stanley.

Jan. 23
A suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs near the corner of Olympic and La Peer at 6:25 p.m.

Jan. 24
A suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs near the corner of Dayton Way and Rodeo at 6:12 a.m.

At 11:40 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft from the 400 block of N. Bedford.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft from a vehicle in the 200 block of McCarty at 5 p.m.

At 5:50 p.m., a vandalism incident was reported in the 6500 block of Olympic and Robertson.

A suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs near the corner of S. La Cienega and Colgate.

Jan. 25
An unknown suspect committed a grand theft from a vehicle parked in the 400 block of N. Beverly at 1:30 p.m.

At 4:18 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 400 block of N. Bedford.

A suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs near the corner of Alpine and Lexington at 8:21 p.m.

Jan. 26
At 8:21 p.m., a suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs near the corner of La Cienega and Colgate.

West Hollywood Sheriff's Station
Jan. 15
At 8:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8900 block of Melrose.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle in the 9000 block of Santa Monica at 9:15 p.m.

Jan. 16
At 3 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 700 block of West Knoll.

Jan. 17
At 2:04 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a business in the 8800 block of Beverly.

Jan. 18
At 7:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1900 block of N. Alpine.

An unknown suspect threatened a victim at gunpoint near the corner of Hildale and Dickis at 11:59 p.m.

A suspect stole a bicycle from a residence in the 100 block of N. Formosa. The time of the incident was not provided.

Jan. 19
At 1:30 a.m., an attempted strong-arm robbery was reported near the corner of Santa Monica and Hancock.

An unknown suspect robbed and assaulted a victim near the corner of Cynthia and San Vicente at 4 a.m.

Los Angeles Police Department

• 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 crimemap.com website.

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors voted on Jan. 28 to create the Civilian Oversight Commission and strengthen oversight of the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department, giving new tools to the Civilian Oversight Commission and the Inspector General.

Under the changes, the civilian bodies overseeing the Probation Department and Sheriff’s Departments will each have the ability to subpoena documents or testimony.

The Civilian Oversight Commission follows a yearlong public process to gather community input and recommendations, and a motion by Supervisors Mark Ridley-Thomas and Sheila Kuehl, 3rd District, approved in October. The board similarly strengthened oversight of the Sheriff’s Department by giving the Civilian Oversight Commission the ability to issue subpoenas. The change stemmed from a motion by Ridley-Thomas and Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, 3rd District, approved in October that grants the COC access to sheriff’s department data, documents and direct testimony, including the authority to compel data, documents and direct testimony.

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For years, the board has spoken loud and clear about the need to enact robust oversight of the Probation Department," Ridley-Thomas said. “Creating the POC is nothing short of game-changing, as it is giving the ability to compel data, documents and direct testimony. Probation reform is the order of the day, and stronger oversight will help us get there.”

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When the Whisper Lounge closed at The Grove, Rick Caruso offered the space to Edoardo Baldi to open his third Tuscan-style restaurant in the greater Los Angeles area.

Baldi moved to Los Angeles with his family as a young boy, where his father Giorgio opened Il Ristorante di Giorgio Baldi in Santa Monica. He grew up working in the kitchen for years before opening his first restaurant in Beverly Hills.

Baldi personally redesigned the interior at the new Grove location into a stylish and casual modern lounge.

At the entrance of edo by Edoardo Baldi is a walk-up pastry and espresso bar, serving a variety of brewed coffees, espresso, cappuccino and cafe latte beverages. The interior has an intimate dining area and an inviting outdoor terrace that is covered and heated.

The all-day menu offers breakfast, lunch, happy hour and dinner fare that is already gaining a following for its croissant, famous chicken salad, Roberta’s beef meatballs, and tomato and basil fusilli.

Earlier this month, I brought my family to experience some of Baldi’s signature Emilia-Romagna recipes, paying homage to his mother’s pasta and ravioli dishes including savory green chard pasta lasagna and eggplant parmigiano.

The main event was the delicious eggplant parmigiano, which was served in a bowl with a creamy tomato sauce, almost like a tomato bisque. Perfect slices of eggplant finished the dish, topped with Parmigiana cheese and a sprig of basil.

For dessert, our server immediately suggested the Torta della Nonna. The double-layered crust has chocolate with pastry cream in the center and toasted pine nuts on top to offer a balance of textures and flavors.

We also ordered an Italian millefoglie, similar to a French mille-fougelle, to enjoy the fresh flavors of a Farmer’s Market salad with red grape and multi-colored heirloom tomatoes, a handful of basil and a dollop of burrata cheese.

Since Baldi is known for his homemade pasta, our server recommended his sweet corn ravioli in a corn broth, served with a large spoon to ladle the luscious golden liquid. The kitchen also makes a variety of pizzette including arribiata, Margherita, prosciutto, four cheese, and a burrata with truffle oil.

The restaurant combines Edoardo’s signature culinary favorites from his Tuscan-style Beverly Hills fine dining establishment, e.baldi, with his more playful edo little bites in Palisades Village. edo by Edoardo Baldi is open daily from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. $$. 189 The Grove Drive, (323) 452-0354.

Enjoy the eggplant at edo by Edoardo Baldi
LA Phil extends contract for Dudamel

The Los Angeles Philharmonic Association has announced that LA Phil Music and Artistic Director Gustavo Dudamel’s contract will be extended through the orchestra’s 2025-26 season.

Dudamel’s contract as music director began in the 2009-10 season. Its original five-year term was extended by one year, through the 2018-19 season. In March 2015, the LA Phil recognized Dudamel’s continuing commitment to the association by adding the title of artistic director and extending his contract further through the 2021-22 season.

“We have completed a staggeringly successful centennial year, so how better to celebrate than to confirm that Gustavo Dudamel and the LA Phil will continue to do great things together all the way into 2026,” said Thomas L. Beckmen, board chair of the Los Angeles Philharmonic Association. “I join the board, and I suspect all of Los Angeles, in saying, ‘Bravo, Gustavo.’”

“Looking back at the first decade in Los Angeles with my orchestra makes me indescribably happy,” Dudamel said. “I am full of expectations and energy as we open the next chapter of our artistic partnership, and I thank the board of directors for its continued trust in my vision for the organization.”

Dudamel added that there have been many accomplishments over the past decade. “I’m so proud of our legacy in education, especially the establishment and continued growth of YOLA. The shared passion of the entire community to nurture the next generation of music-makers is both deeply moving and profound—important. I also remain committed to connecting our rich cultural heritage ever more closely to our programming, community work and concert performances in our homes, Walt Disney Concert Hall, the Hollywood Bowl and now, The Forum.”

Dudamel added: “We have a unique opportunity and responsibility in Los Angeles to unite the soul of the Americas, to build and to strengthen musical and educational bridges with our brothers and sisters here in L.A. and beyond. We have so much work still to do, but I look forward to embracing the challenges ahead and to sharing more beautiful moments together, hand in hand with my extraordinary orchestra and our leadership team.” For information, visit laphil.org.

LA Opera’s ‘Eurydice’ opens at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion

LA Opera presents the world premiere of “Eurydice” by composer Matthew Aucoin and librettist Sarah Ruhl running from Saturday, Feb. 1, through Sunday, Feb. 23, at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion.

The opera is based on Ruhl’s 2003 play of the same name and is directed by Mary Zimmerman. It features a MacArthur Fellowship “Genius Grant” recipient, as are Ruhl and Zimmerman. In addition to composing “Eurydice,” he will also conduct the new work depicting the struggle between love and death.

“Ever since I arrived at LA Opera as artist in residence in the fall of 2016, I have been at work on ‘Eurydice,’” said Ruhl. “It feels deeply right that this opera’s premiere will be the culminating event of my rich and joyful residency here.” Aucoin said: “Sarah Ruhl’s libretto is heartbreaking, funny, surreal and magical. At certain moments, you may find yourself laughing through tears. I hope my music has matched her extraordinary emotional range and I think L.A. audiences are in for a thrilling ride.”

“Eurydice” reimagines the ancient myth of “Orpheus and Eurydice” for a modern age, bringing the heroine out of the shadows and into the forefront of her own narrative. “When I wrote the play, I was still in the process of leaving my primary genre, poetry and moving toward playwriting,” Ruhl said. “As a result, ‘Eurydice’ on the page looks more like a poem than a play, and I think it is the white space on the page where poetry might take flight and become music.”

Showtimes are 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 1, 8, 14 and 20, and 2 p.m. on Feb. 16 and 23. Tickets start at $19. The Dorothy Chandler Pavilion is located at 135 N. Grand Ave. For information, call (213)972-8001, or visit laopera.org.

LA Phil Music and Artistic Director Gustavo Dudamel will lead the orchestra through its 2026 season.
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LA Phil, director win second Grammy

Music and artistic director Gustavo Dudamel and the Los Angeles Philharmonic’s recording of the world premiere of Andrew Norman’s “Sustain” won the Grammy Award for Best Orchestral Performance at the 62nd Annual Grammy Awards on Jan. 26.

“Sustain” was commissioned by the LA Phil and recorded in partnership with Deutsche Grammophon to help celebrate the orchestra’s centennial season in October 2018 at Walt Disney Concert Hall.

“Andrew Norman is an extraordinary talent and vital member of our LA Phil family,” Dudamel said. “We are all so proud to have been able to commission, premiere and record this magnificent work of his.”

Norman is a faculty member of the USC Thornton School of Music and director of the LA Phil’s Barry and Nancy Sanders Composer Fellowship Program. The LA Phil first presented his music in 2010 and has since commissioned and given the world premieres of a number of his major works. He was Musical America’s Composer of the Year in 2017 and won the Gravemeyer Award for 2013’s “Play,” another recording which received a Grammy nomination.

“It was an honor and a privilege to collaborate with Gustavo Dudamel and the inspiring musicians of the Los Angeles Philharmonic,” Norman said. “They brought my piece to life in a completely magical way, and I am very grateful for all the work they do to move this art form forward.”

Norman’s “Sustain” marks the second Grammy for the Los Angeles Philharmonic and Dudamel. In 2012, they won Best Orchestral Performance for their recording of Brahms’ Symphony No. 4. For information, visit laphil.com.

American Pickers on the hunt for California collections

Frank Fritz and Mike Wolfe are returning to California in March to film episodes for “American Pickers,” a documentary series that explores the world of antique “picking.”

The stars are looking for large, private collections or accumulations of antiques they can browse for treasure. Stores, malls, flea markets, museums, auctions or businesses open to the public do not qualify.

For those interested in sharing items, call (855)663-7878, or email americancollectors@cineflix.com.

LA Phil Association names Hollywood Bowl president

On Jan. 22, Los Angeles Philharmonic orchestra president, managing the Los Angeles Philharmonic’s presentations, and general manager and vice president, arts management and programming jazz, world music, Hollywood Bowl pops and pop/rock presentations, and management of the Hollywood Bowl including programming, orchestral operations at the Hollywood Bowl, Smith has served in several critical roles within the Los Angeles Philharmonic’s Symphony Orchestra Operations department, and she has since held several critical roles within the organization, serving as orchestra manager, general manager and vice president, managing the Los Angeles Philharmonic orchestra and concert production. Samuel studied violin and earned undergraduate degrees in music and psychology and a master’s degree from the University of Southern California. She serves on the board of directors for the University of Southern California. She serves on the board of directors for the University of Southern California. Samuel has been the exemplary executive overseeing operations of antiques they can browse for treasure. Stores, malls, flea markets, museums, auctions or businesses open to the public do not qualify.

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For those interested in sharing items, call (855)663-7878, or email americancollectors@cineflix.com.
The Fahey/Klein Gallery presents “Dennis Hopper: In Dreams,” an exhibition that connect Hopper’s role as an actor, husband, father, and photographer. Referencing Roy Orbison’s song by the same name, famously featured in David Lynch’s “Blue Velvet,” “In Dreams” includes appearances by Andy Warhol, Peter Fonda and Wallace Berman, which are interwoven with Hopper’s life and his daily use of the camera.

Hopper first appeared on television in 1954 and co-wrote directed and acted in “Easy Rider” (1969). “While people will always remember me as an actor and for ‘Easy Rider,’ I want to be remembered as a photographer, not just an actor who took pictures,” Hopper said before his death in 2010.

On display through Feb. 29, the exhibition is free and open to the public from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.

The Fahey/Klein Gallery is located at 145 N. La Brea Ave. For information, call (323)934-2240, or visit faheykleingerallery.com.

Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra chair Leslie Lassiter announced that Ben Cadwallader will be its new executive director, effective March 9.

“Ben Cadwallader is one of classical music’s rising leaders,” Lassiter said. “His infectious energy, passion for classical music, innovative thinking and exceptional leadership abilities will help propel LACO’s continuing growth and expansion.”

Cadwallader will work closely with Music Director Jaime Martin in support of Martin’s artistic vision and will oversee all aspects of the orchestra’s strategic planning and operations, provide administrative oversight and collaborate with the board of directors to optimize LACO’s fiscal growth.

“Ben, who cares deeply about song performances, the show will feature a special appearance by Questlove and a guest-conducted segment by Elmira Noone. Noone is the first woman to conduct dur- ing an Oscars telecast. The producers will continue to announce talent joining the show in the coming weeks. The 92nd Oscars will be held at the Dolby Theatre at Hollywood & Highland Center and will be tele- vised live on ABC.

For information, visit oscars.org.

L.A. Chamber Orchestra announces new executive director

On Jan. 23, Oscars co-producers Lynette Howell Taylor and Stephanie Allain announced that Cynthia Erivo, Elliot John, Idina Menzel, Chrissy Metz and Randy Newman will present this year’s nominations for Original Song during the 92nd Oscars ceremony on Sunday, Feb. 9.

“We’re excited to have an incredible group of nominees and performers who will deliver one-of-a-kind musical moments that will only see on the Oscars,” Howell Taylor and Allain said.

This year’s Original Song nomi- nees and performers are “I Can’t Let You Throw Yourself Away” from “Frozen II,” performed by Randy Newman; “(I’m Gonna) Love Me Again” from “Rocketman,” performed by Elton John; “I’m Standing With You” from “Breakthrough,” performed by Idina Menzel and Norwegian Broadcasting; and “Stand Up” from “Harriet,” performed by Cynthia Erivo.

In addition to the five nominees, the show will feature a special appearance by Questlove and a guest-conducted segment by Elmira Noone. Noone is the first woman to conduct during an Oscars telecast.

The producers will continue to announce talent joining the show in the coming weeks. The 92nd Oscars will be held at the Dolby Theatre at Hollywood & Highland Center and will be televised live on ABC.

For information, visit oscars.org.

Editors’ note:

Japan House debuts woodcraft exhibit

Japan House Los Angeles announced the exhibition “HIDA I A Woodwork Tradition in the Making,” which brings Japanese woodcraft from the Hida region of Japan to Los Angeles for the first time.

On display on the gallery’s second floor through April 12, the exhibition invites visitors to discover the legendary craftsmen of Hida and their design legacy today, embodied in the work of century-old furniture maker Hida Sangyo Co. Ltd. Select items on display include a chair designed by the late Sori Yanagi, utilizing wood-bending techniques native to Hida, and a branch spoon created by Ikuko Kaysaya utilizing a traditional chiseling technique.

Displays will highlight regional specialties such as Hida-shunken lacquerware, Ichii wo flax carving (Ichii into bohi — Japanese yew carving) and mageki (wood bend- ing), as well as materials, prototypes and products developed by Sangyo.

Admission is free to the public. Regular gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Saturday; 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Sunday. The gallery will be closed on Feb. 8-9 for Academy Awards weekend.

Japan House Los Angeles is located at 6001 Hollywood Blvd. For information, call (800)516-0565, or visit japanhouse.com.

TMC Arts Dance appoints senior advisor

On Jan. 10, Music Center president and CEO Rachel S. Moore announced the addition of dance curator and producer Martin Wechsler as a senior advisor for TMC Arts Dance presentations.

“Martin Wechsler has his finger on the pulse of the dance world and knows what’s happening before it even happens. He scouts the world looking for what’s next,” Moore said. “He has extensive knowledge of the world’s renowned dance companies and has long and deep relationships within the dance world.”

A dance curator, producer, administrator and educator, Wechsler will work with the Joyce Theater as an administrative assistant and grow to become the organization’s director of program- ming, a role he held for more than 20 years before stepping down in 2017. He was also responsible for programming Joyce Theater Foundation presentations at other venues, including the David H. Koch Theater at Lincoln Center and in public parks throughout New York City.

“He looks forward to contributing to TMC Arts’ engagement approach as we curate the work of local, national and international dance companies and strive to enrich the cultural lives of all Angelenos,” Wechsler said.

Since leaving the Joyce, Wechsler has pursued a number of independent projects, including serving as the associate producer on the 2019 and 2020 Fall for Dance Festival at New York City Center. For information, visit musiccen- ter.org.

FIDM Museum presents annual costume design exhibit

On Feb. 4, the FIDM Museum will open the “Art of Motion Picture Costume Design” exhibit, which celebrates the creativity of costume designers in the film industry.

For its 28th year, the exhibit will feature over 100 costumes from 29 films. Pieces from five Academy Award nominees for costume design — “The Irishman,” “Juno,” “Ratatouille,” “Once Upon a Time… in Hollywood” — will be on view.

Other costumes will be exhibited from “A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood,” “ espacio,” “Avengers: End Game,” “Captive Marvel,” “Knives Out” and “Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker.”

As is tradition, the former year’s Oscar winner for Best Costume Design — “ despacito” — will also be on display.

The exhibition is free to the public and will continue through March 21. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. FIDM Museum is located on the campus of the Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising at 919 S. Grand Avenue. For information, call (213)623-5821, or visit fidmmuse- um.org.

On the 78th anniversary of President Franklin Roosevelt’s executive order that authorized Japanese American internment camps, JANM and Terasaki have partnered to transform the museum into a multisensory experience that brings together historic photography, mist projection, immersive video, and educational programming. The exhibit features the stories of Japanese American men, women, and children, who were incarcerated in internment camps, throughout World War II, and the repercussions of this experience on the lives of immigrants and communities of color. By illuminating the stories of these individuals, we hope to educate and inspire a spirit of justice and democracy for all.

The final section is an immersive performance of a ceremony marking the 40th anniversary of the internment. Artistic visuals inspired by mist projection, immersive video, and educational programming will be presented in a grand hall within the museum. It will be an evening of music and dance, with the Japanese American National Museum ensemble performing in collaboration with local artists. This event will highlight the experiences of Japanese Americans during World War II and the challenges they faced. It will be an important moment to remember and reflect on the history of the internment camps and the resilience of the Japanese American community.

By partnering with JANM, we are able to present this important exhibit to the broader community. This exhibit is a testament to the strength and resilience of Japanese Americans, and it serves as a reminder of the importance of remembering and learning from our history.

The exhibit is free and open to the public. It will run from Feb. 1 to March 29, and admission is free. For more information, please visit janm.org/exhibits/transcendents.
Three historical dramas prepare for Oscars snubs

Rapper, actor and producer Curtis “50 Cent” Jackson will be honored with the 2,686th star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame on Thursday, Jan. 30, at 11:30 a.m. His star will be dedicated in the category of recording at 6250 Hollywood Blvd.

“50 Cent” Jackson is a man of many talents and star power,” said Ana Martinez, producer of the Walk of Fame. “He has pursued many types of entertainment genres and done so with huge success. We are proud to add this talented and revered performer to our Walk of Fame family.”

Jackson is an award-winning rapper, entrepreneur, actor and producer from Queens, New York. Recognized as one of the most talented and prolific music artists of his time, the Grammy Award winner rose to fame with his record-shattering debut album, “Get Rich or Die Tryin’” and has since sold more than 30 million albums worldwide and been awarded numerous prestigious accolades. The exceptional businessman serves as CEO of G-Unit Records, which he founded in 2003, and has since signed a host of multi-platinum artists.

Jackson has carved out a television and film career as both a producer and star. In 2005, he founded G-Unit Film & Television, Inc., which has produced a wide variety of content across numerous platforms and sold shows to multiple networks. He is also developing a number of new projects including “Intercepted” and “Till League” at Starr and the series “For Life,” a serialized legal and family drama which will premiere in February on Starz.

Additional credits include the variety show “50 Central” on BET and “The Outh” on Sony Crackle, the network’s most-watched new original series. Jackson’s film career has included roles in several blockbusters, most recently “Don of Thieves,” co-starring opposite Gerard Butler. Jackson has signed with Anonymous to produce the sequel along with Butler.

Jackson has also appeared alongside Jake Gyllenhaal in Antoine Fuqua’s boxing drama “Southpaw,” and “Spy” with Melissa McCarthy. For information, visit walkoffame.com.
In the Feb. 24, 2011, issue of the Park Labrea News and Beverly Press, NBA and Los Angeles Lakers legend Kobe Bryant was pictured placing his fingerprints in cement during a ceremony at the Grauman’s Chinese Theatre. Bryant became the first athlete to have his handprints and fingerprints enshrined in cement at the theater, an honor generally reserved for actors and members of the film industry. He was joined at the ceremony by actresses Penny Marshall, actor and comedian George Lopez, television host Jimmy Kimmel and former Lakers coach Phil Jackson. The ceremony coincided with the NBA All-Star Game, which was held at Staples Center that year.

Fans around the world are commemorating Bryant, who died on Jan. 26 in a helicopter crash in Calabasas that also claimed the lives of his daughter Gianna and seven others. Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti ordered flags flown at half-mast at government buildings throughout the city on Jan. 27, and Los Angeles City Hall was illuminated in purple and gold as a tribute to Bryant.

Budget could fund school meals

Students may soon be able to enjoy more fresh, nutritious food in school meals under a new budget proposal introduced by Gov. Gavin Newsom in his 2020-21 preliminary budget. The budget proposal, if signed into law, would provide at least $70 million in funding—a 40% increase—to strengthen food service programs and improve the quality of school meals. The funding will support efforts to purchase and serve more freshly prepared, locally grown food, and fuel farm-to-school and sustainability initiatives.

“We know these funds will help children across the state gain access to more locally sourced, healthy, freshly prepared school meals, give school food service staff the tools to succeed, and bolster local California economies through purchasing from local growers and farmers,” said Kat Taylor, founder of the TomKat Foundation and a partner with California Food for California Kids.

A diverse coalition of organizations, including the Center for EcoEconomy, NextGen California, the California School Employees Association and Taylor have joined leaders from dozens of organizations in agriculture, education and public health to boost investment in school nutrition. Their efforts build upon the work by Ross and Thurmond.

“Our members who work as cooks, servers, clerks and delivery drivers see first-hand the positive impact providing a nutritious meal can have on students,” said Ben Valdepeña, president of the California School Employees Association. “Without food, students cannot learn, and good nutrition enables students to meet their education and physical potential.”

For information, visit californiafoodforcaliforniakids.org.

Citing the dangers posed by vaping, the Los Angeles Unified School District unanimously approved a resolution condemning the use of e-cigarettes and criticized the tobacco industry for its role in creating a “vaping epidemic” that affects the health and well-being of students. Authorized by Board Member Dr. George J. McKenna III, the resolution directs LAUSD’s policy that prohibits the use of any tobacco products on campuses and during school events.

Territorial school board passes charter school enrollment resolution

The Los Angeles Unified School Board of Education recently passed a resolution that requires funds recouped when charter organizations fall short of enrollment targets be directed back to non-charter host schools. Approximately one in five charter schools, operating within LAUSD’s boundaries, share space on campuses with traditional non-charter schools, a process known as co-location. When a co-located charter school over-projects the number of students it actually served but continues to occupy the space allocated, the law requires the charter school pay an “over-allocated space” reimbursement to the host district.

“Ms. Goldberg and I recently co-sponsored a resolution creating a program to use bond dollars to benefit co-located charters and district schools on joint projects,” Melvoin said. “I am glad to co-sponsor this latest effort to continue alleviating the burdens of co-location and promoting collaboration and harmony between co-located schools.”

The resolution, which further empowers local leadership councils at host schools to decide how the funds will be spent, is part of a continuing effort to make sure all dollars are invested in schools,” LAUSD Superintendent Austin Beutner said. For information, visit lausd.net.

Black College Expo offers information on higher education

The annual Black College Expo will be held on Saturday, Feb. 1, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Los Angeles Convention Center. LACCD representatives will offer information about the district and its nine colleges, including Los Angeles City College, at the event.

“We want all African American students and families to know that the nine colleges of the Los Angeles Community College District are an excellent first choice for higher education in Los Angeles,” LACCD Chancellor Francisco C. Rodriguez said. “We have tuition-free education for two years and outstanding learning facilities with unique educational opportunities and student success services available to all first-time, full-time students through our Los Angeles College Promise program. Priority registration is available to students who enroll by May 1 for the fall 2020 semester.”

The expo offers workshops and informational booths about financial aid. Representatives from historically black colleges and universities will provide information about transfers for existing college students, internships and scholarships, and special educational programs in science, engineering and math.

The Los Angeles Convention Center is located at 1201 S. Figueroa St. For information about the LACCD College Promise, visit lacollegepromise.org. For information about the Black College Expo, visit blackcollegeexpo.com/events/black-college-expo-2.
GoFundMe raises funds for detective's family

From page 3

with Amber on a couple of cases, and she was just such an incredible person,” Hopkins said. “She was a great detective, but beyond that, she had a really warm personality, was very caring and passionate about her cases. It really hurt to lose her, and we’re all hurt. It was the least we could do to at least pay our respects and let our partners know we’re thinking of them.”

West Hollywood City Councilman Duran was among the city officials who attended the service. “It’s typical of a West Hollywood response when we lose someone, it’s like a tragedy. It brings everybody together,” Duran said. “Det. Leist was an extraordinary deputy sheriff. She’s going to be really missed.”

Tila said he has long respected the law enforcement community and when he heard through social media that a benefit for Leist was being organized, he wanted to participate. “Det. Leist was a very honest person,” Tila said. “This is our way of giving back for what LAPD and LADo for us every day. We couldn’t be more grateful.”

Leist was survived by her father, Elder, sisters Heather Ashor, Sunry Lemmenes and Savannah Torrenzi, and sons, Walter Ray Leive IV, 21, who currently serves in the U.S. Navy, and Anthony Leive, 16. The Association for Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs and the West Hollywood Sheriffs Foundation established an account for anyone wishing to donate to the Leist family. Donations can be made through the ALADS CARES Foundation by visiting alads.org. A personal check is also available to send a check if people wish to donate to “ALADS CARES,” noting “Detective Leist” on the memo line. Checks can be mailed to: ALADS CARES, 2 Daphne St., West Hollywood, CA 91357. Deputy Jon Torrenzi, who serves at the Palmsdale Sheriff’s Station and is married to Leist’s sister, has also launched a GoFundMe page for people wishing to contribute to the family. He said approximately $24,000 has been donated to date.

Everything helps. Any little bit helps,” Chamberlain told Tila. “I’m sorry Det. Leist was so young,” Tila said, adding that anyone wishing to donate should go to the GoFundMe page and use a credit card or PayPal to help. “People can donate whatever they can. A group of kids from the Farmington, New Mexico, police explorers heard about it and donated $5 just because they wanted to help. It’s stories like that that really show people care. The support has just been amazing.”

On Jan. 16, U.S. Sens. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.), Cory Booker (D-N.J.), Al Franken (D-Minn.) and Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) introduced Senate Bill 859 – cosponsored by Sen. Maila Thompson, CEO of APLA Health. The legislation was introduced on behalf of the Bicycle Coalition of West Hollywood, Streets for All, and West Hollywood Committee and founder of the West Hollywood Bike Coalition City Councilwoman Lauren Meister and Mayor John Duran, the said. “I think if we’re going to do this, we need the best tools and the best people. If walking and biking are shown to be quicker than driving, it’s going to be consistent with the other signage we have in our city so that we don’t just have a hodgepodge of different designs going on,” Meister added.

D’Amico, who initially agreed to Duran and called the signs a “bit of a Luddite idea” before agreeing to support the pilot program, added that the signs should be representative and inclusive of people with disabilities, such as people in wheelchairs who may be crossing the street.

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“In the coming months, the council will consider projects that will be included in the Wilshire/Westwood/Vista/Gardner Greenway project. In addition, the City Council in 2018 aims to improve portions of the streets and sidewalks for bicycles and pedestrians to use. It’s possible some signs will be available for people to see at the city’s public outreach event for the project on April 25, said Bryan Eck, the city’s acting long-range planning manager.

“Allow people with staff’s suggestion that we should try signage on a very limited basis in the upcoming project, evaluate how that signage works at all – and then go through another process to go through a citywide sign program if it’s something that’s appropriate,” Heilman said.

“If we do find it effective, it needs to be in a very quick mode because we’re dealing with what goes on any given day,” Duran said. “I think if we’re going to do this, we need the best tools and the best people. If walking and biking are shown to be quicker than driving, it’s going to be consistent with the other signage we have in our city so that we don’t just have a hodgepodge of different designs going on,” Meister added.

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the first time African-American artists were commissioned by the National Portrait Gallery to paint the portraits of a president and first lady. The new exhibit also features an audio-visual element, Portrait Gallery-led teacher workshops a community-curated presentations at each location, the gallery’s statement said. The National Portrait Gallery also announced that a book about the artwork, “The Obama Portraits,” will be published on Feb. 11. Jesssica Youn, LACMA’s interim director of communications, said in an email that the construction of the museum’s new building will not impact the presentation of the Obamas’ portraits.

Groomers worry new rules may be burdensome

From page 1

“I think a lot of times when they come up with these ordinances they’re trying to pass, they don’t know how it really affects the grooming establishments and mobile grooming vans,” Recinos said. “When it comes down to the whole video recording, it’s going to be more costs for a lot of groomers that are smaller companies.

The fiscal impact section of the staff report listed costs associated with the issuance of permits, administration of the program, and inspection of animal grooming businesses, which would be recovered through an annual permit fee of $25 for each establishment. The report said that the costs would be sent out to mobile groomers on a quarterly basis. The report also said that the city council meeting where the ordinance is introduced.

Bloom urges MLB to hold Houston Astros accountable

Earlier this month, Assemblyman Richard Bloom (D-Santa Monica) introduced House Resolution 74 to condemn the Houston Astros for their alleged sign-stealing in the 2017 season. HR 74 requests that in addition to the penalties already anticipated in the scheme, the commissioner of MLB to condemn the Houston Astros for stealing the signs of opposing catchers to hack the code before pitches throughout the 2017 season.

Manager Jeff Luhnow, a member of the Astros’ front office, was recently fired. Bloom said in an email that the commission’s investigation revealed that virtually all of the Astros players had practiced the scheme in treating epilepsy patients, which is associated with a temporary kind of memory disruption called transient cognitive impairment.

Understanding this process has the potential to lead to improvements in treating epilepsy patients, as well as contribute to knowledge of how memory works.

Epilepsy is a neurological disorder characterized by abnormal brain activity that can cause seizures.

A new Cedars-Sinai study reveals how memory and emotional brain activity are linked in patients with epilepsy who often report problems with memory. The data shows that abnormal electrical pulses from specific brain cells in these patients are associated with a temporary kind of memory disruption called transient cognitive impairment.

To perform their study, Rutishauser and his team investigated electrical activity in the hippocampus, an area of the brain known to be important for memory. Using electrodes implanted in the brains of 11 adult epilepsy patients as part of their treatment, the team recorded activity of individual cells in the hippocampus during a recognition memory task.

Epilepsy patients commonly experience IEDs between seizures and report transient cognitive impairment. However, it has so far remained unknown why IEDs cause such impairment.

During the task, the extent of memory disruption was related to exactly when an IED occurred, with the most severe impairment caused by IEDs that appeared within two seconds of the patient trying to recall an image, Rutishauser said. He added that the effect was specific to recall and that the presence of IEDs did not disrupt the encoding of the image.

Epilepsy is a neurological disorder characterized by abnormal brain activity that can cause seizures. It affects about 3.4 million Americans, or 1% of the population.
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