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Serving the Beverly Hills, West Hollywood, Hancock Park and Wilshire Communities

May 7, 2020

Council members criticize Mirisch for messaging

■ BH also receives COVID-19 update from doctors

BY CAMERON KISZLA

On May 4, the Beverly Hills City Council met with the city's Health and Safety Commission and Medical Advisory Task Force to discuss the medical aspects of the coronavirus pandemic, including the potential for contact tracing to help limit the spread of the virus and the importance of testing and screening.

Before the medical talk began, however, most members of the City publicly criticized Councilman John Mirisch for his actions during and after the April 28 council meeting. During that meeting, the council lifted its ban on non-emergency medical and dental procedures in the city and deferred instead to state and county rules and guidelines regarding medical and dental care.

Mirisch, who was the lone vote against lifting the city's ban, claimed the council's decision would reauthorize cosmetic surgeries and procedures, which might

unnecessarily help the virus spread. After the meeting, Mayor Lester Friedman claimed, Mirisch proactively reached out to news media outlets to advise them that cosmetic procedures were resuming in the city, actions he described as "inappropriate" and damaging to the city "in the court of public opinion."

Mirisch denied Friedman's claims and said media outlets reached out to him after seeing his social media posts expressing his disappointment with the vote. CNN, the New York Times and others published stories in which Mirisch was quoted as opposing the ban's lifting.

"We've all been on the wrong end of a 4-1 vote ... I've never seen a performance where someone, when the vote didn't go their way, [reacted the way Mirisch did]," Councilman Julian Gold said.

The council members also criticized Mirisch's language during the April 28 meeting, in which he used

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Koretz proposes 'in public' mask ordinance

■ Plan mirrors Beverly Hills city ordinance

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Los Angeles Councilman Paul Koretz, 5th District, is calling for a city ordinance requiring masks or face coverings to be worn by everyone when in public during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Koretz said masks and face coverings are already required in grocery stores and all non-essential businesses under current county and city orders, and the city of Beverly Hills has required people to wear them in public. He said requiring masks and face coverings at all times while outdoors will provide an additional level of protection.

The City Council previously considered a similar motion by Koretz in early April but voted to defer to public health authorities on any decisions requiring masks in public. Mayor Eric Garcetti later issued an order requiring them to be worn in grocery stores and all businesses that remain open. The council was scheduled



photo by Edwin Folven

Councilman Paul Koretz is calling for masks to be required anytime people are in public.

to review the motion again on May 6, but Koretz introduced an amended motion calling for a staff report to be made within a week on what the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's guidelines are for wearing masks in public, what other jurisdictions are requiring in regards to masks and options for enforcement.

"I don't think anything has

changed. In the days since I introduced this, it has become a more widespread practice," Koretz said. "Intuitively, I think it's fairly obvious. A lot of other areas are requiring them."

Koretz cited regulations requiring masks in public in cities like Beverly Hills and other areas

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Bloom's straight talk with West Hollywood

■ Assemblyman discusses coronavirus impact on Legislature

BY JOSE HERRERA

West Hollywood Mayor John D'Amico invited California State Assemblyman Richard Bloom (D-Santa Monica) to join the City Council on May 4 in a virtual meeting to continue candid discussions about the impacts COVID-19 has had at the state level.

Bloom began by advising incoming Mayor Lindsey Horvath and Mayor Pro Tempore John Heilman, who will be installed in their new positions on May 18, that they will have their hands full dealing with the economic downturn caused by coronavirus.

'You're both veterans of the City Council, and I know that the entire council will join in helping to get through what will be, at every level of government, a struggle over the coming months," Bloom said.

Bloom, who represents the 50th District including West Hollywood, said the budgets of cities on the Westside, and state and federal budgets, are in a state of calamity, but during challenging times, it's important to rise to the occasion.



The Shake Shack on Santa Monica Boulevard is one of many restaurants waiting to serve clients in-house.

In Sacramento, the California Legislature returned to session on Monday after a temporary hiatus due to COVID-19. The situation at the state level of government will be bleak, both on the legislative and budget front, he said.

"We've been encouraged to cut back on our bill packages that we just began a few short months ago," Bloom said. "Only essential bills will be moving through the legislation session this year."

Early in the year, Bloom was working on 25 bills that were later cut down to nine. The California Legislature will focus on passing bills that address immediate issues such as the COVID-crisis, wildfires, homelessness and housing.

Similar to circumstances affecting the West Hollywood budget, the

See Westside page 26

Can't get groceries? **Order a Zoomer**

■ High school students deliver food to seniors

BY JOSE HERRERA

At the beginning of spring break, when most high school students are excited for adventure and time away from academics, Marlborough School 11th grader Mira Kwon was feeling helpless and restless.

Kwon, 16, needed to do something to keep herself busy and connected to her community amid a pandemic preventing just that. Then, her aunt sent an email about 16-year-old Daniel Goldberg, who founded the nonprofit Zoomers to Boomers in Santa Barbara.

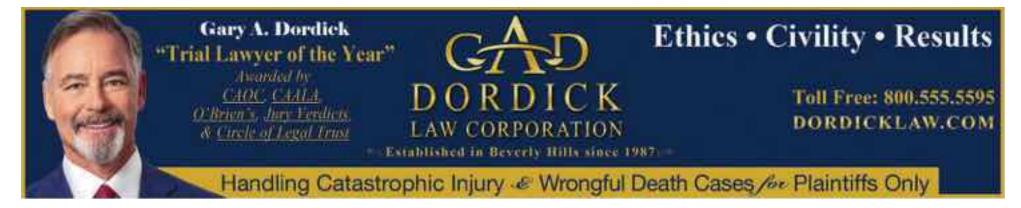
The nonprofit delivers groceries to seniors and the immunoduring compromised COVID-19 crisis. Kwon, intrigued by Zoomers to

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photo courtesy of Mira Kwon

Mira Kwon delivers groceries to seniors and people who are immunocompromised as part of Zoomers to Boomers LA.



Sidewalk repair begins after trees are spared the ax

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Crews have begun sidewalk repairs in the 1200 block of Cherokee Avenue, where roots from mature ficus trees lining the street damaged the concrete in many places.

The city had initially planned to

cut down 18 ficus trees along the stretch of Cherokee Avenue between Fountain and Lexington avenue in 2018, but opposition surfaced from the nonprofit United Neighborhoods of Los Angeles, which contended the trees should be saved because of the shade their canopy provides. Some of the ficus

nerable to the coronavirus due to

many factors, including fear or mis-

trust when accessing primary care

due to past negative experiences or

immigration status, decreased ability

to safely shelter-in-place due to liv-

ing on the streets, and higher rates of

HIV and cancer within the LGBTQ

community and the risks associated

with a compromised immune sys-

tem. The motion will be considered

further by the City Council at a

future meeting.

trees have been in place for 80 years.

Los Angeles City Councilman David Ryu, 4th District, stepped in and worked with Bureau of Street Services General Manager Adel H. Hagekhalil to create a new plan that spared 14 of the 18 ficus trees. After receiving City Council approval for the new plan last year, the bureau created a design for the project. The city pruned the tree roots and is using a meandering sidewalk design around roots that enabled a majority of the trees to remain. Ryu said it is an example of how a new approach can have positive results.

"When the city told me that we had to remove these beautiful, mature ficus trees to make way for new sidewalks, I thought, there has to be a better way," Ryu said. "I got to work with our department and we found that better way – saving most of these trees on Cherokee and repairing our sidewalks. We can be a city of safe sidewalks and rich urban canopy, we just need to be willing to think outside the box."

Ryu spokesman Mark Pampanin



photo by Edwin Foly

The city found a way to repair sidewalks along Cherokee Avenue while preserving ficus trees that have created a shady canopy over the street.

aid it will be the first location in are currently being repaired on the

said it will be the first location in the city where a meandering sidewalk will be used. The sidewalk will be 3 to 4 feet wide, which is ADA-compliant.

Paul Gomez, a spokesman for the Los Angeles Department of Public Works, said the sidewalks west side of the street, and that work should be finished by the end of next week. Crews will then shift to the east side of Cherokee Avenue and the project is anticipated to be completed soon after, although an exact timeline was not available.

O'Farrell calls for COVID-19 testing at homeless shelters

Los Angeles City Councilman Mitch O'Farrell, 13th District, introduced a motion on May 5 instructing the city's homeless coordinator, with assistance from city departments and the county of Los Angeles, to provide COVID-19 testing at all permanent and temporary homeless shelters.

The city recently announced that free coronavirus testing was available to all residents, making Los Angeles the first major city in the United States to have testing available on such a large scale. Eight COVID-19 testing sites have been implemented throughout the city.

However, some homeless service providers have expressed concerns regarding transportation to the testing sites, O'Farrell said. For at-risk individuals such as those experiencing homelessness, navigating the transportation system could be difficult and potentially dangerous, he added.

"The city has already made sure vulnerable, at-risk residents such as those living in nursing homes receive free testing. We need to also ensure that our shelter residents have free testing onsite," O'Farrell said. "Knowing your status is a critical first step in flattening the curve of the pandemic and with this initiative, no Angelenos will be left behind, making us all safer in the long run."

Transgender individuals experiencing homeless may be more vul-



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Uge da Carpi, Sibyl Rending, Lighted by Child with a forch (detail), c. 1520–27, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Mary Stansbury Ruiz Bequest, photo © Museum Associates/LACMA

Governor to let some stores reopen tomorrow

■ County, city of L.A. to follow

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Gov. Gavin Newsom on Monday announced that small businesses such as bookstores, clothing stores, florists and sporting goods stores in some parts of the state will be allowed to reopen on May 8 with modifications that they offer curbside pick-up and customers are not allowed inside.

Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger announced yesterday that the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health will also begin to ease the "Safer at Home" public health order on May 8, in accordance with the state's guidelines, and will begin to allow select businesses and open space areas to reopen.

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti followed suit later that day.

"We are moving this slowly and this deliberately because hasty action kills people," Garcetti said.

The announcements signaled the first easing of statewide restrictions in place during the COVID-19 public health emergency. Newsom cautioned that businesses may not be allowed to reopen in all parts of the state, including areas with high numbers of COVID-19 cases, and left it up to county and city officials to decide what will be allowed in their respective areas.

Newsom said the state continues the implementation of a four-stage

framework to allow some lowerrisk businesses and public spaces to reopen. Based on the state's progress in meeting public health goals, the governor said the state can begin to move into Stage 2 of modifying the statewide stay-athome order on May 8. He said additional guidelines will be released today, May 7.

"Millions of Californians answered the call to stay home and thanks to them, we are in a position to begin moving into our next stage of modifying our stay-at-home order," Newsom said. "But make no mistake, this virus isn't gone. It's still dangerous and poses a significant public health risk. As we move into the next stage of reopening, we will do so with updated guidance to help qualifying businesses make modifications needed to lower the risk of COVID-19 exposure to customers and workers. Californians should prepare now for that second stage of reopening."

Garcetti said on May 5 that he will listen to county public health officials before making decisions when businesses can reopen. As of May 6, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health reported 28,644 positive cases of COVID-19 and 1,367 deaths.

Newsom said his decision to allow some smaller businesses to reopen is based on statewide metrics showing hospitalizations have stabilized, there is enough personal protective equipment in stockpiles, surge capacity can be met, adequate testing is being offered and contact tracing abilities are in place.

The guidelines to be released on



photo by Edwin Folven

The 83-year-old Vine American Party Store on Melrose Avenue plans to reopen on May 15.

May 7 are expected to also allow some retail, manufacturing and logistics businesses to reopen with modifications that lower the risk of transmission, although no further specifics were provided. Newsom reiterated that not all businesses and industries considered low-risk will be able to reopen with modifications. The governor said offices, dine-in restaurants and shopping malls will be part of a later sequence of reopening.

The easing of restrictions can't come soon enough for many small business owners who have been forced to close during the COVID-19 health emergency. Some are formulating plans regarding how business will be conducted.

"If it happens [on May 8], fantastic," said Leslie Macias, owner of Vine American Party Store at 5969 Melrose Ave. "We are going to offer curbside assistance for balloons and whatever they want. We will all have gloves and have sanitized everything."

Macias expressed frustration over having to remain closed, as well as a lack of consistent information about when the restrictions will be lifted in different areas.

"I'm dying here. I have been closed for eight weeks. I need things to get going," Macias said, adding that Vine American Party Store has been in business for 83 years. "Come hell or high water, I am opening up on May 15."

Newsom signs executive order on CalWORKs

On May 1, Gov. Gavin Newsom signed an executive order that temporarily broadens the capability of counties to enroll persons into the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids, or CalWORKs, program using various eligibility verification methods due to social distancing requirements.

The provisions allow for temporary self-attestation of pregnancy and conditions of eligibility, and waive in-person identification requirements.

The executive order also

income is below 200% of the federal poverty level, and supports families by suspending the requirement for county welfare departments to consider federal pandemic unemployment compensation as income when determining CalWORKs grant amounts.

expands the opportunity for indi-

viduals to qualify for a limited

amount of lump-sum financial

assistance instead of receiving

CalWORKs, as long as their

For information, visit covid19.ca.gov.



Face Coverings in Beverly Hills







All persons shall wear face coverings when they leave their home or place of residence for essential activities, such as taking a walk through their neighborhood, if there is a potential to come within six feet of someone who is not a member of their household.

#BHHealthyCity



photo courtesy of the LA

A security camera captured two thieves as they checked for unlocked car doors in an apartment building garage before committing a burglary.

Police warn about auto thefts from apartment buildings

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Auto thieves have recently been targeting tandem-parked vehicles in underground garages at apartment buildings in the Wilshire Division, prompting a warning from detectives to take precautions.

Detective Sam Arnold said the burglars are frequently targeting cars that are left unlocked so family members or other people in the same unit can easily move the vehicles. Sometimes, the vehicles are locked and keys for another vehicle are left inside, and thieves break in to steal them to gain access to other cars.

"The message is, make sure your car is locked and you are looking out for your neighbors."

-Detective Sam Arnold, LAPD Wilshire Division

"Due to the pandemic, a lot of people are not going to work, they are staying home and there are a lot more vehicles parked. Overall, crime has decreased, but auto crimes are an outlier," Arnold said. "Grand theft autos, in particular, are on the rise. One of the things we are seeing is problems with cars that are tandem parked in subterranean garages. Over 50% of all the cars being stolen are due to keys being left in the vehicles."

Arnold said he understands the convenience of leaving keys in cars so others can easily move them, but he would never do it.

"I do not recommend it. People have been letting their guard down, unfortunately," he said. "[The suspects] are sneaking in and checking vehicles, and will steal them."

Police released a security camera image taken in the garage of a building in the Little Ethiopia District on April 20 in which a pair of thieves is seen attempting to open vehicles. The video shows the men checking every door on each vehicle in the garage, looking for one that is unlocked. In that case, the suspects burglarized but did not steal a vehicle. One of the suspects

was wearing a hooded sweatshirt and the other a hat and mask, so police were unable to get a clear description. Anyone with information about the crime is asked to call police. Arnold said the incident illustrates the need for protections.

Most of the thefts have occurred in an area between La Cienega Boulevard and La Brea Avenue, and Sixth and Third Streets, where there are a large number of apartment buildings. A majority of the auto thefts have occurred from 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. Thieves have stolen older cars, which can be started using altered keys, also known as "shaved" keys, Arnold said. There has also been an increase in thefts of license plates, which thieves transfer to stolen cars. Arnold said of the three stolen vehicles recovered in the Wilshire Division last weekend, two had stolen license plates.

The detective cautioned people to be careful that nobody follows them inside when entering a garage, and to not allow strangers inside building lobbies or parking areas. He also said security cameras and apps including Ring help police identify suspects, and online platforms like Nextdoor are helpful in allowing residents to share information about thefts in their neighborhoods.

"The message is, make sure your car is locked and you are looking out for your neighbors," Arnold said. "Be wary of people inside your building. Call the police if you see something suspicious."

Arnold added that auto burglaries have perennially occurred more frequently than auto thefts in the Wilshire Division, especially with people shopping and leaving items visible inside cars. He added that during the coronavirus pandemic, tourists and others are not parking in neighborhoods like the Melrose District and at large shopping centers such as The Grove and Beverly Center, so there are less vehicles for thieves to target.

"The dynamic has shifted," he added. "It can be very challenging. The more communication and education, the better."

People with information about auto thefts and burglaries are encouraged to call Wilshire Division detectives at (213)922-8205, or email wilshireautos@lapd.online.

Injunction targets company selling antibody tests

Los Angeles City Attorney Mike Feuer and Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey announced on May 1 that they are seeking an injunction against a Beverly Hills company for allegedly selling an in-home COVID-19 antibody blood test not approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration

Applied BioSciences Corp., its president Chris Bridges, and founder and chairman Scott Stevens were named in a complaint alleging unlawful advertising and sales of the test. Feuer and Lacey, working in partnership with the federal Department of Justice COVID-19 Fraud Task Force in Washington D.C., are seeking an injunction to prevent the tests from being sold in the future, restitution for customers who bought it and civil penalties.

"This is yet another alleged example of an attempt to cash in on fear and anxiety in this crisis, with tests whose results can't be trusted," Feuer said. "With so much emphasis on testing, companies selling non-approved tests build false hope and sow confusion. In this crisis, Angelenos' health depends on accurate, reliable information and legitimate products that can actually help them."

"Fraudulent medical testing can give consumers a false sense of hope that may contribute to the spread of the coronavirus," Lacey added. "People who believe they are healthy are more likely to return to work and otherwise move about more freely, increasing the risks to themselves and others. These types of scams jeopardize the health of us all."

Feuer and Lacey said Applied BioSciences is a corporation with offices in Beverly Hills. The company allegedly claims it "is focused on



photo courtesy of the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey and Los Angeles City Attorney Mike Feuer are partnering to address scams involving unauthorized at-home COVID-19 antibody test kits.

the development and commercialization of novel, science-driven, synthetic cannabinoid therapeutics/biopharmaceuticals that target the endocannabinoid system to treat a wide-range of diseases." The investigation by Lacey and Feuer revealed that the defendants allegedly marketed the antibody test to "homes, schools, hospitals, law enforcement, military and public servants," and claimed the tests could diagnose COVID-19 with "96.3% accuracy" in just "15 minutes" from a single finger prick of blood. Applied BioSciences allegedly marketed the test on its website and allegedly advertised and sold the kits for \$35 each.

The defendants allegedly further advertised that their test had been "widely used by the Chinese Government to detect infections" and that it allegedly offered "accurate, affordable and reliable results."

Last week, the FDA authorized the first diagnostic test with a home collection option for COVID-19, but the test – created by Laboratory Corporation of America – still requires authorization and analysis from a health care provider. It uses a nasal swab, not a blood test, and tests for current infections. The test from Applied BioSciences Corp., by contrast, is a blood test which claims it determined the presence of antibodies and a past infection. The test has not received approval from the FDA, which has specifically warned that "serological" testing, the type sold by Applied BioSciences, should not be used alone without other tests or diagnostic tools.

Feuer also announced that his office has filed criminal price gouging charges against Brian Gonzalez, a third-party seller on amazon.com doing business as Check Out Time. Gonzalez allegedly inflated the price of single 8-ounce bottles of Purell hand sanitizer from \$19.98 to as much as \$54.90. Feuer has filed 19 counts of price gouging against Gonzalez, one for each of the bottles he allegedly sold.

Consumers can report to scams and price gouging by calling (213)978-8070, or visit lacityattorney.org/covid19.

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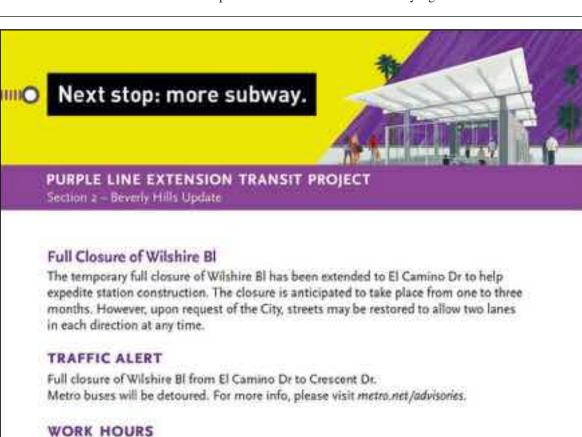
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There is a word for someone who, in the middle of a crisis, steps up to the front lines and turns plans into action.

Who puts the comfort of others before their own again and again, day after day, shift after shift.

Nurse.

Thank You to the nurses of Cedars-Sinai. This week and every week.

#HealthcareHeroes



Cannabis conversation continues in WeHo

■ Competing ballot initiatives to be discussed next month

BY CAMERON KISZLA

Big changes may be coming to rules regarding West Hollywood's cannabis businesses over the next month.

On May 4, the West Hollywood City Council considered the Close the Loopholes ballot initiative, which has garnered enough signatures to appear on the November ballot. The initiative would change West Hollywood's cannabis ordinance to combine adult-use and medicinal retail licenses, allow edible-only consumption lounges to offer consumption of smoking and vaping products, and other changes.

The council voted unanimously to order a report on the initiative, which will come back for discussion on June 1. The council also had the option of putting the ballot initiative directly to the voters, adopting it as is or bringing it back for discussion in 10 days.

Several council members expressed concern about the methods and motivations of supporters of Close the Loopholes.

According to its website, closetheloopholes.com, the initiative is backed by West Hollywood Residents and Businesses for Fairness, which is a coalition of cannabis businesses, United Food Commercial Workers International Union Local 770 and concerned residents.

The initiative's major funding comes from MedMen West Hollywood - one of the "WeHo Originals," four dispensaries that have been operating on temporary adult-use retail licenses but were not awarded permanent licenses in the city's selection process – as well as Alex Kardos and UFCW Local 770, the website said. Kardos is founder and partner of Where Eagles Fly, which was awarded a permit for an as-yet-unopened edible-only consumption lounge called the Fantom Flower. UFCW Local 770 represents cannabis retail workers.

"They're upset about the fact that they didn't get those licenses. This initiative was brought forward by people who were not successful in getting the kinds of licenses they want," Councilman John Heilman

Mayor Pro Tempore Lindsey Horvath added that she was approached by the initiative's petition seekers, who she said were "aggressive with misinformation" in seeking signatures.

"I advised them that the information they were sharing was not accurate. They said it anyway and they were, like I said, quite aggressive with people ... We also received complaints about signature gatherers participating in this activity while the COVID emergency was underway. People were concerned and scared, quite frankly, by people participating," Horvath said.

Per Horvath's request, the June 1 report will also examine the legality of the Close the Loopholes' supporters' methods.

"I think it would be helpful for us to know what types of tactics are allowed and whether there are any consequences for those tactics being used," Horvath said.

In contrast, the supporters of another competing petition, the West Hollywood Cannabis License Integrity Initiative, stopped seeking signatures once the coronavirus pandemic began in March, said Scott Schmidt, executive director of the Adult Use Retailers Association of West Hollywood, in a letter to the City Council. AURA, a collection of the businesses who were awarded adult-use recreational permits by the city, supports the West Hollywood Cannabis License Integrity Initiative.

"Our signature-gathering efforts were rendered impossible and contrary to public health directives related to the global coronavirus pandemic emergency," Schmidt



MedMen West Hollywood is one of the largest supporters of a ballot initiative that would give recreational cannabis licenses to the city's existing dispensaries, among other changes.

said. "Competing signature-gathering efforts ignored local health orders, continued risky door-todoor canvassing and have since qualified a competing ballot measure."

Kian Kaeni, a spokesman for the Close the Loopholes initiative, denied the criticisms and said AURA "decided to turn their frustration of not being able to gather

enough signatures for their initiative into accusations that just are not true." Kaeni added that "the vast majority of our efforts was prior to any social-distancing measures put in place."

"We completed signature gathering in public on [March 19], the same day the order went into effect

See Initiatives page 25

WeHo launches grocery delivery and talks census

The city of West Hollywood has launched a free Temporary Grocery Delivery Program for adults age 62 or older and for people with disabilities who reside in the city.

To participate in the program, individuals must be enrolled in the city's On-Call Transpiration Program. Individuals enrolled in the program can sign up through the city's website by visiting weho.org/services/public-transporation-options/on-calltransporation-program.

Community members who need telephone assistance may call (323)848-6510.

"The city of West Hollywood is continuing to respond to the needs of our community during this unprecedented crisis," West Hollywood Mayor D'Amcio said. "Getting needed groceries and supplies to our most at-risk community is vital and I encourage everyone who qualifies to take advantage of this program so we can all support one another in staying 'Safer at Home."

Individuals should ensure they are enrolled in the city's On-Call Transportation Program. Then they can order and pay for groceries from Gelson's, Pavilions may not be able to locate the or Sprouts in West Hollywood, which all offer online grocery orders for pick up.

The Temporary Grocery Delivery Program will operate between the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and residents can call (310)981-9303 to request delivery service. A delivery driver will contact the recipient by phone before picking up items to confirm availability to accept and deliver.

Customers should contact the grocery store directly for any issues related to delivered items.

Additionally, the city is getting the word out about timeline adjustments the U.S. Census

Bureau has made in response to the COVID-19 crisis. The bureau suspended field operation in March, and West Hollywood is advocating that all residents must complete the census.

Population counts determined by the census are used to determine how federal and state governments assign resources such as funding and congressional representation.

West Hollywood has released an animated public service announcement video highlighting the importance of responding to the census. The video can be watched at the city's WeHoTV channel YouTube youtu.be/IIoIKkCV8 or on the city's social media accounts @wehocity.

"Many of us jumped at the chance to fill out our Census form because we know how important it is for our city to succeed," D'Amico said. "We need to make sure that everyone fills out the census. The City of West Hollywood's Census 2020 response rate falls just below the rates of both the Los Angeles County and the state of California as a whole."

It is likely that some people Census materials mailed to every household. The Census questionnaire can easily and quickly be submitted at my2020census.gov.

"Residents can help by responding to the census questionnaire and by reaching out to social media followers, friends, and neighbors, and encouraging them to respond to the census questionnaire as well," D'Amico said. "By working together, we can not only ensure that our community gets its fair share of resources, but that we have one of the highest response rates in the state."

For information, weho.org.

Notable quotes

"All that I am or hope to be, I owe to my angel mother."

President Abraham Lincoln 1809-1865



Happy Mother's Day!



JOIN THE FUN AND SHARE YOUR CREATIONS!

Participate in weekly We Create Community & Art is Life projects and win!

For project details, view beverlyhills.org/beverlyhillsbeautiful.

Week #3

WE CREATE COMMUNITY - Beverly Hills Blue - Join City Hall and neighboring communities for the National Celebration of Nurses May 6 - 12 by displaying blue lights on your front doorstep or in a window. This is a celebration of our first responders, health care professionals and essential workers. Take a photo and we will share pictures of our City in blue!

ART IS LIFE - Quarantine Karaoke - Just sing! We know you have a favorite artist or band that moves you! We encourage residents to film themselves singing their favorite song and sharing the video, or send it to us to share.

At the end of our six-week community engagement project, we will choose the most inspiring entries from both our WE CREATE COMMUNITY & ART IS LIFE projects and provide those two winning entries with a gift certificate to a beloved Beverly Hills restaurant.



West Hollywood extends eviction moratorium

■ Protections to last for two additional months

BY JOSE HERRERA

The West Hollywood City Council unanimously extended its eviction moratorium through July 31, ensuring protection against eviction for residential and commercial tenants for non-payment of rent related to financial impact due to COVID-19.

The City Council approved the emergency ordinance to ensure West Hollywood renters would not go homeless. The city amended the moratorium that applies to nonpayment eviction notices served or filed on or after March 16.

The council has been updating the ordinance in increments of 30 days, and originally city staff recommended the moratorium, which went into effect on March 16, be extended through June 30.

However, Councilman John Duran disagreed with the 30-day increments and said it was far too

"Considering that 78% of our residents are tenants, we need to be a bit more forthright in providing adequate protection," Duran said.

Duran said the incremental increase, while conservative and precautious, would leave tenants wondering if they were protected for another 30 days pending council review.

"It doesn't give us enough of a buffer in order to prevent massive and widespread evictions when the emergency is over," Duran said.

believed Duran raised a good point; however, he believed the 30-day increment recommended by Assistant City Attorney Lauren Langer was prudent.

"She wants to see what the state does, so that when she comes back we can align our ordinance with the state," Heilman said. "So, that there is some consistent protection for tenants and there's a clear message not only by the state and the judicial council, and by the city that everybody will be protected."

Langer had previously noted that Gov. Gavin Newsom has a similar statewide eviction moratorium that is set to expire on May 31, though he may extend it.

The rules are in place for 90 days after Newsom lifts the state of emergency. Duran said that after that 90 days, if landlords choose to do so they can issue a three-day notice for nonpayment of rent. If a come up with a way to ease finanthree days, then they are automati- with each other and becoming cally in default and landlords have roommates. grounds to evict them when the state order expires. However, West mation to renters facing financial Hollywood extending its eviction hardship due to the COVID-19 pan-

moratorium protects renters whether or not the state extends its moratorium.

Under the ordinances, residential tenants are given a year to pay back-rent, and commercial tenants are given six months to pay backrent that was acquired during the period of emergency.

Duran proposed the extension be 90 days, which would last until Aug. 31, ensuring a sense of certainty for renters and residents finding ways to pay back rent from previous months and plan for the

Heilman said that although he understands the benefit of extending the moratorium for 90 days or more, he is concerned with possible consequences it might cause.

"We also don't want to put tenants in the position where they are so behind with their rent that they wouldn't be able to make it up,' Heilman said.

Councilwoman Lauren Meister agreed that if the council continues going month by month, it would be very difficult for renters, and a proposed 60-day extension – to July 31 - was a compromise.

City Manager Paul Arevalo said that the average rent is approximately \$1,400. The city also provides rental assistance through a one-time grant of \$1,000. Recently, city staff established a new significant cash infusion into the program which allows people to reapply and obtain additional grants.

According to Duran, that average rent could describe rent-controlled units in the city that house seniors or those who have lived in West Councilman John Heilman Hollywood for many years. But many tenants who are in dire need of assistance are millennials in their 20s and 30s who are renting units for more than \$1,500 per month.

> The city ordinance also protects tenants from eviction if they have had people move into their residential unit during the emergency to follow stay-at-home orders. Mayor John D'Amico asked Langer if it was possible to research and include language in the moratorium that would allow tenants to possibly find roommates.

> "We do have leases that are in place, and we want to be careful not to interfere with contracts that are existing," Langer said. "We are trying to do and justify all of this. Right now, we are focused on keeping people in their homes to prevent homelessness and prevent the spread of the virus."

In the future, city staff might tenant cannot pay the rent within cial burdens by connecting tenants

To provide clear, concise infor-



The West Hollywood City Council extended its eviction moratorium protecting tenants from eviction during the COVID-19 pandemic.

demic, the city produced two informational resources on the eviction

moratoriums. They can be read online at weho.org/Home/ShowDocument?i

d=46287 and weho.org/home/showdocument?id=44255.

D'Amico said these are strange times, but if you can afford to pay rent, then do so. And, if a renter cannot pay rent, the moratoriums are in place to provide support.

"As the city continues to intro-

duce programs to assist the community in coming through this pandemic, I encourage all renters and landlords to familiarize themselves with the moratorium information provided and reach out to city hall staff with any questions."

For information, visit weho.org.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO CIRCULATE PETITION

Notice is hereby given by the person whose name appears hereon of their intention to circulate the petition within the County of Los Angeles for the purpose of amending the Los Angeles County Municipal Code, specifically Title 2, Chapter 2.92 - "Department Museum of Art", to enact greater accountability with and safeguards for the Los Angeles Museum of Art (LACMA) its leadership, possessions and financial relationship with the County of Los Angeles. The County Counsel has prepared the following title and summary of the chief purpose and points of the proposed mea-

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MUSEUM OF ART ORDINANCE

The purpose of this proposed measure is to enact an ordinance amending Title 2, Chapter 2.92, of the Los Angeles County ("County") Code related to the Los Angeles County Museum of Art ("LACMA").

The measure proposes adding section 2.92.050, entitled Public Representation, which modifies LACMA's board of trustees ("Board") composition by requiring: the Board to have between twenty and thirty percent public representatives; and the public representatives include the County Supervisor for the Third District, the Councilmember of Los Angeles City Council District Four, and the self-nominated County residents, unrelated to Board members and selected by Save LACMA.

The measure proposes adding section 2.92.060, entitles Request For And Use Of County Funds, limiting any request by LACMA for County funding to a maximum of twenty percent of the total estimated and actual cost for all current and future construction projects and prevents the County from providing funding beyond twenty percent of the cost of such projects.

The measure proposes adding section 2.92.070, entitled Design Review and Approval Process, which requires LACMA to engage the public on projects on the LACMA campus by:

inviting the professional design members of the public to submit proposals through an open design competition;

reviewing the submitted designs by the LACMA director, Board, and their appointed design professionals;

and selecting winning deigns by a majority vote of LACMA's Board.

The measure proposes adding section 2.92.080, entitled Prohibition of Sale or Collateralization of Art, which:

prohibits LACMA, or its representatives, from selling, or using as collateral, any artwork owned by the museum through donation or by purchase;

and makes any debt incurred to any outside organization due to actions of the LACMA director or Board their responsibility.

The measure proposes adding section 2.92.090, entitled Administration and Enforcement, which requires the County Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") and the County Board of Supervisors ("BOS") to:

enforce this chapter by promulgating rules, regulations, and procedures to administer and enforce this chapter, including the formulation and implementation of penalties to LACMA, its director, and the Board;

annually audit the income and expenses of the LACMA director and Board to verify all revenues were expended lawfully;

permit the CEO and BOS, after concurrence by the County Counsel, to add administrative rules and regulations;

and reasonably audit and examine all books and records of LACMA.

The measure proposes that if another measure appears on the ballot addressing this subject, it shall be deemed to be in conflict with this ordinance, and if this measure receives more affirmative votes, it shall entirely prevail over many competing measure, which will be null and void.

The measure proposes that the ordinance shall not be amended or repealed by the County expect where expressly provided in the ordinance.

The measure proposes that if any provision or part of the measure is found invalid or unenforceable, the invalidity shall not affect the application of the remaining pro-

Rob Hollman, % Save LACMA PO Box 71944 Los Angeles, CA 90071

LEGAL NOTICE

8 May 7, 2020 Park Labrea News/Beverly Press

Beverly Hills tweaks emergency ordinance

BY CAMERON KISZLA

In its formal session on May 5, the Beverly Hills City Council voted unanimously to make three minor adjustments to its emergency ordinance.

In light of Gov. Gavin Newsom's decision that some retail stores – such as stores selling clothing, sporting goods and flowers – can open for pick-up service as early as this week, the council decided to expand its curbside pick-up zones for restaurants to include the retail businesses that will be allowed to reopen.

The council also decided to close the city's parks for Mother's Day, as Los Angeles city and county parks will be closed.

"We're concerned about being the only game in town," said Jenny Rogers, the city's director of community services.

As of press time, Beverly Hills parks will close at 6 p.m. on May 9 and remain closed through 6 a.m. on May 11.

The council also adjusted its protections for commercial renters. In keeping with its vote last month to exclude Fortune 1,000 companies from that relief, the council chose to exclude those companies' subsidiaries as well.

"We're not just talking about wholly owned subsidiaries. We're talking about subsidiaries that are majority-owned," City Attorney Laurence Wiener said.

Larger changes, however, are likely to come in two weeks, as the council discussed rent repayment for commercial and residential tenants during the May 5 study session so that city staff could return with an ordinance for consideration on May 19.

Council members said they've received reports from landlords that some commercial tenants had been taking advantage of the city's ordinance by withholding rent they could pay and using that saved money like a free loan from their landlord. That sentiment was echoed by several landlords who spoke during public comment.

In response, the council will consider breaking out commercial tenants into different groups that can be governed differently, such as retail, office and restaurant tenants.

Finding rules that fit each category will be challenging, the council members said. For instance, Vice Mayor Robert Wunderlich said, the impact on retail is evident, but different offices are affected in different



photo by Cameron Kiszla

Multiple commercial properties on South Beverly Drive have been vacated since the start of the coronavirus pandemic.

ways by the coronavirus pandemic.

"Many offices might be feeling some impact on their business, but they're not necessarily devastated as much as retail is being [devastated] ... In my mind, I do see reasons to restrict the language in our ordinance of retail tenants, the ones for which it is more unambiguously clear that they're suffering the impacts of the virus," Wunderlich said.

The repayment amounts and timing are also concerns, council members said. The council discussed options such as equal monthly repayments, graduated payments and balloon payments — which save the largest portion of the repayment for the final installment — but even that could be affected by a phased reopening, where some tenants are allowed to begin operations earlier than others. One point the council members seemed to agree on, however, was that balloon payments should be avoided if at all possible.

"It may be very hard to make a balloon payment at the end of some period of time ... if you're not making payments along the way," Councilman Julian Gold said.

The council also seemed to agree that late fees and interest should not accrue until after the local emergency is lifted and rent is once again due, which may be between three and six months after the end of the emergency, depending on what the council decides on May 19. The council also seemed to agree that a single missed payment should not result in the entire amount of owed rent being due all at once.

For residential tenants, the council

found similar issues, as some people will be able to return to work sooner than others, and even those who have work may not be working full-time.

"I don't think a rigid fraction is going to work or fit every time period, but the goal is as people gain the ability to repay, they repay, and that might not happen in a linear path," Wunderlich said.

"It's very, very individual with the situation of people who are recovering or have lost work due to COVID ... We want people to not wait and to pay as much as they can," Councilman John Mirisch added.

Similar to the commercial renters, the council is seeking to avoid balloon payments at the end of the established 12-month repayment period, as a large amount due several months down the road might create a "perverse incentive" for tenants to leave their unit without repaying the landlord, as Wunderlich said.

"Something has to be in there so there is an incentive to pay it and not have that balloon payment at the end. It's going to be very difficult for a person to pay it at the end, and it's going to be very difficult for the landlord to sustain the property when they've gone without at least part of the rent at the front-end period," Mayor Lester Friedman said.

While many of the details of repayment for commercial and residential tenants remain up for discussion, every council member said – often more than once – that all tenants should pay what they can pay, even if it's only part of what they owe. The key, the council members said, is for tenants and landlords to come together and reach an agreement, ideally without requiring city involvement.

"We worked really hard to find a balance ... The goal here is if you can pay, pay," Councilwoman Lili Bosse said.

L.A. Food Bank receives help

Los Angeles County has provided a \$3 million allocation to the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, a partner in the effort to connect communities and families with resources.

An estimated 2 million residents in the county experience food insecurity on an ongoing basis, more than any county in the nation. The need is anticipated to increase in the coming months due to job losses associated with COVID-19.

The Los Angeles Regional Food Bank has been distributing food to people in need since 1973. The food bank collects food from hundreds of resources, enlists 30,000 volunteers annually and serves hundreds of thousands of thousands of people every month.

Residents can enroll to receive food vouchers, find free meals in their neighborhoods and request delivery assistance by calling 211 or visiting covid19.lacounty.gov/food.

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CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

RESOLUTION OF THE
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD AUTHORIZING THE
ISSUANCE OF LEASE REVENUE BONDS IN
CONNECTION WITH FINANCING CERTAIN PUBLIC
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Monday, May 18, 2020 at the hour of 6:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, the City Council of the City of West Hollywood will hold its regular meeting via teleconference and will conduct a public hearing, at which it will hear and consider information concerning the approval by the City of (i) a lease financing by the City and the West Hollywood Public Financing Authority (the "Authority") for certain public capital improvements to be used by the City and the substantial public benefits of such financing by the Authority in accordance with the criteria specified in Section 6586 of the California Government Code and (ii) the adoption of a resolution by the City Council of the City approving the execution and delivery of a property lease to be entered into with the Authority in connection with such lease financing and the issuance by the Authority of one or more series of lease revenue bonds.

The proposed lease financing will provide funds for the acquisition, design and construction of certain public capital improvements, including: implementing the West Hollywood Park Master Plan Phase II - Implementation Project (which involves the acquisition, construction and installation of additional park open space, a new recreation and community center with gymnasium and park support facilities, and children's playground areas) and related improvements; the acquisition of a property located at 8301 Santa Monica; development of a surface parking lot at 8120 Santa Monica Blvd.; the purchase and improvement of an AIDS Monument in West Hollywood Park; the undergrounding of utility poles at various locations throughout the City; implementation of the Design District Streetscape Master Plan; the acquisition and installation of LED street lamps; the purchase and the installation of a fiber loop; the purchase and installation of two new traffic signals; and the purchase and installation of upgraded on-street parking meters.

In connection with the lease financing, the City will lease certain real property and improvements to the Authority, and the Authority will lease such property back to the City.

THE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA AND STAFF REPORT will be available on Wednesday, May 13, 2020 online at www.weho.org.

Those wishing to comment on the proposed lease financing may either call into the meeting to provide comments via phone (dial-in instructions can be found on the Agenda) or you may submit written comments to the City Clerk at yquarker@weho.org

Dated / Published: May 7, 2020

YVONNE QUARKER
CITY CLERK, CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD

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

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Beverly Hills, WeHo mark National Nurses Day



photo courtesy of the city of Beverly Hills

On May 6, Beverly Hills Mayor Lester Friedman, left, West Hollywood Mayor Pro Tempore Lindsey Horvath and Beverly Hills City Councilman Julian Gold celebrated National Nurses Day at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center.

A motorcade of public safety organizations, such as the Beverly Hills Police Department, the Beverly Hills Fire Department, the West Hollywood station of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and the Los Angeles County Fire Department, also marked the event.

Cedars-Sinai is located at 8700 Beverly Blvd. For information, visit cedars-sinai.org.

Beverly Hills City Council will consider labor agreements

The Beverly Hills City Council will consider the memorandum of understanding with the Beverly Hills Safety Support Association, which represents civilian safety support personnel, at the Tuesday, May 19, City Council formal session beginning at 7 p.m.

In accordance with state law, the city of Beverly Hills participates in labor negotiations with its employee associations. The results of the negotiations process are written agreements or contracts reached between the city and the

city employee associations, or MOUs.

The Safety Support MOU has been ratified by the employee association and is subject to the adoption of the City Council on May 19. Negotiations with this association were completed at the beginning of March. The proposed MOU covers salaries and benefits for a four-year period.

For information, including the MOU, independent fiscal analysis and summary of significant terms, visit beverlyhills.org/negotiations.

Supervisor calls for face masks on Metro buses and trains

Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn, 4th District, has called on Metro to require all bus and train passengers to wear face coverings to protect the health of bus drivers and fellow passengers.

In a letter to Metro CEO Phil Washington Hahn said, "given what we know about the COVID-



photo by Edwin Folven

Metro has not announced whether riders on buses and subways will be required to wear masks or face coverings.

19 virus, the policy of not requiring face coverings puts both Metro passengers and bus drivers at risk."

The supervisor's letter comes after media reports about Metro bus drivers who said they fear for their health and the health of passengers. While the current COVID-19 public health order requires the public to wear face coverings in essential businesses, Metro has allowed bus drivers to determine whether or not to allow passengers on board without face coverings.

"Because so many other essential workers, from grocery store employees to restaurant workers, rely on Metro to get to and from work, Metro's decision not to require face coverings threatens to compound the spread of this virus across our county," Hahn said. She asked Metro to take action immediately instead of waiting for the next meeting of the Metro Board of Directors in late May. Metro Spokesman Dave Sotero said on May 5 that no decision had been made by Metro regarding Hahn's request.

L.A. Represents program offers free legal help

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti and City Attorney Mike Feuer have launched L.A. Represents, a pro bono initiative to provide free legal services to residents facing hardships caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

A coalition of law firms, bar associations and legal-aid organizations has agreed to enhance existing pro bono programs by providing COVID-19-related legal services for vulnerable tenants, domestic violence victims and lowincome individuals with employment, consumer debt and bankruptcy problems.

Additionally, L.A. Represents will build a new support system for small businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, overseen by volunteers and advocates at Bet Tzedek Legal Services. Small businesses can receive pro bono assistance as they address new workplace regulations, renegotiate commercial leases, apply for government relief programs and comply with emergency health and safety orders.

"The COVID-19 crisis is putting people in some of the most painful, difficult and complex situations they have ever experienced, and legal assistance can mean the difference between ruin and recovery," Garcetti said. "L.A. Represents will get urgent help to Angelenos who may not be able to afford the advocacy they need at a critical time in their lives."

In addition to Bet Tzedek, the coalition offering pro bono legal services includes the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles, Inner City Law Center, Public Counsel, Asian Americans Advancing Justice and Neighborhood Legal Services.

For information, visit coronavirus.lacity.org/larepresents.



Metro makes more progress with subway work

Construction is occurring at many locations along the Purple Line Extension project route, from Wilshire/Western to Century City. For updates on the Wilshire/La Brea, Wilshire/Fairfax and Wilshire/La Cienega subway stations, join a webinar on Thursday, May 14, from noon to 1 p.m. by calling (786)535-3211, and using the access code 857-854-941. For information and registration, visit metro.net/projects/notices/events_purpleline.

At the end of Section 2 of the project in Century City, water line relocation underneath Constellation Boulevard will continue through June. Work is currently occurring within a full closure that was implemented along Avenue of the Stars due to the statewide COVID-19 health restrictions and a major reduction in traffic. Constellation Boulevard remains closed between Century Park East and Avenue of the Stars and the work area extends west to Solar Way. Construction is occurring 24-hours at the site. After the water line is relocated, piling will begin for the future Century City Constellation subway station.

Metro has also launched the first of two tunnel-boring machines that will travel eastbound under Beverly Hills and connect with Section 1 of the Purple Line Extension project near Wilshire/La Cienega. The second machine is being assembled and will be launched soon. That segment of tunneling is anticipated to take two years.

In Beverly Hills, expedited piling work is ongoing near the future Wilshire/Rodeo subway station. Wilshire Boulevard remains closed between El Camino and Crescent drives to allow for additional equipment to be used for piling on the south side of Wilshire Boulevard and at the station entrance at Reeves Drive. That piling will continue through mid-May, when decking will begin to create a temporary street surface over the subway station box.

The street can be quickly restored to allow two lanes in each direction when the "Safer at Home" order is rescinded, or upon request by the city of Beverly Hills. During the closure, work hours are 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. for drilling, and 9 to 11 p.m. for non-drilling activities. Canon and Reeves drives will remain closed at Wilshire Boulevard for the duration of the clo-

Work is also ongoing at Wilshire/La Cienega. Gale Drive will be intermittently closed to support construction in the Gale staging yard. Access to Gale Drive will be maintained from San Vicente Boulevard. The closure is a public safety measure due to high volumes of vehicles entering and exiting the property.

A new work zone will be created in mid-May on Gale Drive and will remain for approximately four weeks. Wilshire Boulevard will be reduced to a single lane in each direction between La Cienega and San Vicente boulevards. Left turns and through traffic will be restricted at Gale and Tower drives.

From May 11 through Aug. 1, Wilshire Boulevard will be reduced to two lanes in each direction between San Diego Way and La Jolla Avenue, and McCarthy Vista will be reduced to one lane in each direction between Wilshire Boulevard and Warner Drive. Work zones will be created in the center of Wilshire Boulevard and McCarthy Vista

Farther east near Wilshire/Fairfax, station construction, hauling and

concrete pouring are ongoing. Ogden Drive will be closed intermittently at Wilshire Boulevard, Monday through Saturday. Orange Grove Avenue continues to be closed south of Wilshire Boulevard through

Near Wilshire/La Brea, hauling, deliveries and tunneling support continues in two staging yards. Intermittent lane closures along Wilshire Boulevard and side streets between Highland Avenue and Detroit Street may be necessary to support construction.

A work zone in the center of Wilshire Boulevard just west of Rimpau Boulevard will remain in place through September.

Work is occurring 24 hours at a staging yard just west of the intersection of Wilshire Boulevard and Western Avenue. Northbound Manhattan Place will be closed intermittently just north of Wilshire Boulevard. Intermittent single-lane closures may also occur on Wilshire Boulevard between Western Avenue and Manhattan Place.

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



shoto by Edwin Ed

Deliveries and tunneling support continue at the subway construction staging yards at Wilshire/La Brea.



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Council selects PATH to run bridge housing

The Los Angeles City Council took a final vote on May 5 on the Los Feliz Bridge Home project, instructing the city to enter into an agreement with People Assisting the Homeless to operate the site, which is currently under construction.

"This will be the third Bridge Home center to open in District Four in the past year alone, and one of many more to come," said Councilman David Ryu, 4th District. "I'm thrilled to partner with the professionals at PATH to make this bridge home a success."

The temporary shelter is located at 3210 and 3248 Riverside Drive. Plans began in February 2019 when Ryu introduced a motion to create the shelter as part of the A Bridge Home program, which directs additional resources to combat the homeless crisis in districts that establish temporary bridge housing. A ground-breaking ceremony was held on Feb. 26 and the shelter is expected to open in July.

The \$5.6 million project is primar-

ily funded through state grants and will house 100 men and women. It will include common areas, storage areas, space for pets and offices for residents to meet with counselors and social workers.

Ryu has introduced another motion directing the city to examine if the site has potential to expand the nearby Griffith Park Adult Community Center after three years, when it is no longer needed for bridge housing. The proposal remains under consideration.



photo courtesy of the 4th District Council Office

The bridge housing shelter on Riverside Drive is taking shape. Plans call for it to open in July.

Letters to the Editor

Kudos for reports on what local leaders are doing

Re Park Labrea News/Beverly Press, April 30 issue

Let me start by commending your publication. It sets a good example for unbiased, factual reporting of the news that most other newspapers could learn from. At age 93, I have learned from experience, so I think I am qualified to judge. I am pleased to be able to have made my donation to show my support. Keep up the good work.

There are several articles [in the April 30 issue] on which I would like to comment. Congressman Adam Schiff has endorsed Biden in the 2020 presidential election. Personally, I would rather see Schiff running for this important position. I see good and bad in both leading candidates.

When I first met Adam Schiff at the National Council of Jewish Women on Fairfax Avenue, where he participated in a panel discussion, I was so impressed that I went over to tell him that I would vote for him and volunteer to help him in any election. He smiled and thanked me. I continue to be impressed. Your report on his long-standing recognition of the Armenian Genocide, is well worthy of our time and efforts.

Your report on Los Angeles City Attorney Mike Feuer's warning to residents to watch out for unapproved at-home COVID-19 test kits is typical of this man's actions for the benefit of our people. I remember how he took up the challenge at the request of our members at the Freda Mohr Senior Citizens Center to organize a meeting in support of a ban on guns. It was standingroom-only. He has my support when he runs for our city's mayor.

And, thank you for reporting on the current efforts by City Councilman David Ryu. He has launched a new program to protect seniors in nursing homes and convalescent care facilities by funding deep cleaning and sanitizing to ward off the COVID-19 pandemic.

George Epstein Detroit Street

Hollywood Center Project has too many negative impacts

Re "Project's plan towers over Hollywood," April 23 issue

I read with horrible dismay the cover article on the proposed

Hollywood Center Project consisting of two enormous buildings, one 46 stories and the other 35 stories, which will dwarf and basically take the iconic Capitol Building out of the Hollywood skyline.

Aside from the potential fault lines running under the land this project will be built on, how about the congestion this will cause around that area, both of cars and pedestrians?

I get that we have to go vertical to increase density around public Metro stops, but why dwarf an iconic Hollywood landmark, recognized throughout the world, to do so.

With a Developer-in-Chief in the White House, Hollywood and other parts of Los Angeles are being over-developed with hideous buildings charging high rents, while across the street the homeless sleep under tarps and cardboard. It's a travesty.

Please, City Council, don't allow this to happen unless and until you solve the homeless problem that is gripping L.A. Trust me, setting aside one-tenth of the total units offered to low income seniors isn't the answer.

Tom Vickers Hollywood

Fairfax Gardens residents still need help

Re "Facing development, apartment residents unite," March 12 issue

I first visited the Fairfax Gardens apartments, in Mid-Wilshire/Miracle Mile, at some point in 2009 when visiting two friends who had moved into a one-bedroom there. I remember liking the inner courtyard and landscaping but beyond that, didn't think much of the building.

In 2013, when my partner and I moved into the complex, our security deposit was only \$500. Considering our income level, the rent for a two-bedroom seemed a bit high, but we knew that since it was a rent-stabilized unit and that, as young professionals, we would eventually earn more, we could make do.

As many problems that our unit had over the years – termites, plumbing, low water pressure, dusty screens, water leaks, flooded walkways, mold in a closet and a busted water heater – the management company was responsive and complied with all the maintenance requests. Our unit was located right across from the on-site manager's unit and well, that became convenient because we could just open our

front door up and grab a maintenance request form from the managers' door.

The owners rarely stopped by and the rent increases were always within the legal limits. Then, in April of 2019, the property was sold to developers. This is where the story becomes all too familiar for many renters in Los Angeles.

The two buildings on Fairfax Avenue and Eighth [Street] were built over 50 years ago and are located right next to Tom Bergin's Irish Pub. In June 2019, Bergin's, over the objections of its owner (but with an exemption of landmark status for the parking lot), was named a Los Angeles landmark by the L.A. City Council. It came as no surprise when in [last] July, the developers who purchased the Fairfax Gardens apartments purchased Tom Bergin's. Soon after that, the redevelopment

plans, which includes demolishing Fairfax Gardens to build a 200 unit complex, were made public.

By September, with the guidance of the Los Angeles Tenants Union, we had formed a tenants association and we were holding monthly meetings. Despite hearing the anxieties from tenants who have lived in the buildings for decades, it was encouraging getting to know our neighbors.

The relocation company that was hired by ownership had informed us that we would be receiving our Ellis Act eviction notices in March 2020. And then came the COVID-19 crisis, and the statewide eviction moratorium.

Through all of this, it's been incredible to see our neighbors stepping up and taking on leadership roles in our association. We recently distributed care packs to our neigh-

bors with masks, gloves, tenant rights pamphlets and Zoom call info for our meetings. Organizing a tenants association has truly been about building community.

For the thousands of Angelenos, who work in entertainment, hospitality, dining and other services industries, who are having to choose between paying rent, buying groceries and paying regular bills, it's clear that we need more protections from our elected officials. We need a broader and longer ban on evictions so that Angelenos can stay safe, healthy, and housed. The vitality and health of our economy and our collective well-being rests in protecting renters, and it's time that our City Council act in good faith.

Daniel Schoorl Resident Fairfax Gardens



The Wallis presents 'Irving Berlin' on Mother's Day

The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts presents "Hershey Felder as Irving Berlin," a one-time, live streamed broadcast from Florence, Italy, to benefit The Wallis on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 10, at 5 p.m.

Felder, who has received international acclaim for his productions about the lives of composers such Tchaikovsky, Debussy, Gershwin, Beethoven, Chopin and Bernstein, brings to life the inspiring, family-friendly story of "America's Composer," Irving Berlin. Fleeing the anti-Semitism of Czarist Russia, capturing the rhythms of the Lower East Side and eventually enchanting the world with his music, Berlin epitomized the American dream. Featuring some of Berlin's most popular and enduring songs, from "God Bless America" and "There's No Business Like Show Business" to Skies" "White and

Christmas," Felder's signature creation of character and musical performance weaves a narrative around Berlin's 101-year lifespan, including his long relationship with his wife, battles against anti-Semitism and his storied music.

Directed by Trevor Hay, the production premiered in October 2014 at the Geffen Playhouse.

"To present this event, here in Florence we have recreated the set of Irving Berlin's home on Beekman Place in Manhattan, and we have a film crew that has been safe and in quarantine," Felder said. "If you've seen the production some time ago, there is some new additional material that speaks to our times as well as a few surprises. Because audiences always request the now infamous audience encore, we have even made it possible for you to ask your questions by cell phone text directly to me during the encore section, and I will answer live, just as I do in the theater. And yes, we will be coming to you live from our stage at 1 a.m. in Italy, 5 p.m. on the West Coast, 7 p.m. in the Midwest and 8 p.m. on the East Coast, in honor of the beautiful theaters across the nation, and in honor of all the mothers on this unusual and special Mother's Day.'

"Hershey Felder comes to us live from Italy to reprise one of his most celebrated shows in a Mother's Day gift for the whole family," added The Wallis' Artistic Director Paul Crewes. "We encourage our audiences not to miss this special opportunity to spend some time with one The Wallis' most popular perform-

Tickets are \$50 per household for viewing on a Smart TV, computer, smartphone or tablet. Viewing will be available for an additional 72 hours following the live performance. To purchase, call (310)746-4000, or visit thewallis.org/berlin.



photo courtesy of the Beverly Hills Ho

Caruso's Curbside Concierge introduced at The Grove

Just in time for Mother's Day, Caruso has introduced Curbside Concierge, the latest innovation for guests at The Grove, The Americana at Brand and Palisades Village.

The program features curated collections and menus from select shops and restaurants, allowing guests to virtually browse retail, dining and entertainment offerings from the comfort of home.

The service features food, grocery, fashion and more, from restaurants and retailers including Charlotte Tilbury at The Grove, Jennifer Meyer Jewelry and Erewhon Market at Palisades Village and Chef Michael Mina's Bourbon Steak Los Angeles at The Americana at Brand. Participants can also purchase custom Mother's Day gift baskets and enjoy virtual personal shopping services. Shop multiple retailers and check out with a single-click transaction.

Upon completing a purchase,



Shop online at The Grove and other Caruso properties and items will be available for curbside pickup.

Caruso's Concierge employees will prepare and package each order for contactless, curbside pickup at each property's valet parking location during a designated time slot.

For information, visit curbsideconcierge.thegrovela.com.

Teddy Bears,

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Beverly Hills Hotel ♥ health care workers

On May 5, the Beverly Hills Hotel temporarily replaced its famous sign to show appreciation for health care workers.

"For the first time in over 70 years we have reimagined our iconic sign, as we felt that it was important to give a heartfelt thanks to the health heroes who have continually put their lives on the line to protect our community," said Edward Mady, regional director and general manager of the hotel. "We hope that by writing these brave individuals into our legendary history, they will understand how deeply grateful we are for their hard work and for the many sacrifices they have made for us."

The Beverly Hills Hotel is located at 9641 Sunset Blvd. For information, visit dorchestercollection.com/en/los-angeles/the-beverly-hills-hotel.

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14 May 7, 2020

Mother's Day Dining by Jill Weinlein

Lucques is back for curbside pick-up

Styne have been working hard

with the Independent Restaurant Coalition and developing a new aspect of Lucques Catering to offer pick-up and delivery. Now Lucques is offering a three-course supper series for \$49 per person. The menus change weekly. They also offer six burgers kit to grill-athome. Each kit includes brioche buns, the fixings and condiments for \$60. Their new brunch box serves four to six people for \$75. It includes a dozen eggs, strawberry scones, ciabatta, avocados, smoked bacon, smoked salmon, tomatoes, capers and cream cheese and little gem lettuce with vinaigrette. For Mother's Day, order a lobster chopped salad with bacon, avocado, cherry tomatoes and Maine lobster that serves four people. Larder Baking Company offers breads and

chocolate chip cookies. Go online to order sparkling, white, rosé and red wines by the bottle or in box sets. Bar man Christiaan Röllich offers two of his ready-mixed batched cocktails to-go in 12-ounce bottles for two to three servings for \$20. Curbside pick-up is at the Larder Maple Drive from Thursday through Sunday from 4-7 p.m. Delivery is also available within a five-mile radius for \$15. Order at exploretock.com/lucquescatering. 345 N. Maple Drive, (310)248-3779.

Angelini Mother's Day weekend menu

Call in or email chef Gino Angelini to order a \$49 Mother's Day brunch or dinner for this Saturday and Sunday. The brunch special includes Italian bread pudding, smoked salmon toast, zucchini frittata, tomato bruschetta, Tagilolini al Limone, Italian pastry box and freshly squeezed orange juice for \$49 per



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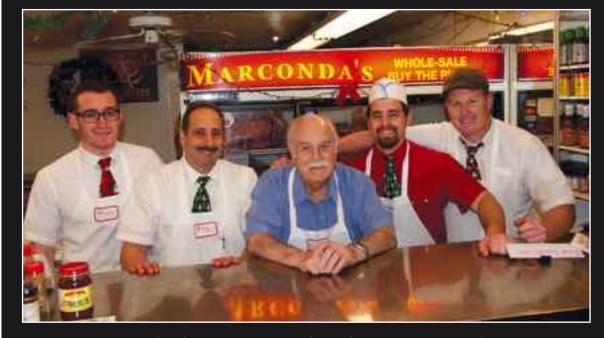
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person with a two-person minimum. For dinner, enjoy grilled garlic bread, classic Caesar salad, ahi tuna tartare crostini, meatballs and a choice of five entrees for \$69 per person with a two-person minimum. Wine and MOM-osa kits start at \$24. Order by calling or email info@angeliniosteria.com. Open 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. 7313-7321 Beverly Blvd., (323)297-0700 ext. 1.

Cake Monkey Bakery home baking kits

On Mother's Day, give Mom a no-fuss chocolate cupcake kit, lemon crumb bar kit or sticky toffee blondie kit with everything included to recreate a dozen of each at home. They also offer blueberry muffins, gluten-free banana chocolate tea cake, bread kits and ready-to-bake cookie kits. Kits run \$28 to \$45 depending on the item. Available for pick-up Wednesday through Sunday with 48-hour advance notice. 7807 Beverly Blvd., (323)932-1142.

Kanaloa Seafood delivery for Mom

SoCal's Kanaloa Seafood is the first certified sustainable seafood company in the United States. For over 30 years, they have proudly offered the best quality seafood to restaurants, retailers and home cooks. Now, they are offering next-day delivery to homes. For Mother's Day or any day, order their popular Sushi Box Family Pack, Bouillabaisse Family Kit, Fish Taco Kit, Martin's crab cakes,

wild California King Salmon, shrimp, squid, octopus and specialty lobsters. Order online before Friday, May 8. Go to kanaloaseafood.com or call (805)966-5159.

Jar's Mother's Day menu

On May 10 beginning at 1 p.m., Jar is offering a special Mother's Day meal with curbside pick-up and delivery. Menu items include sautéed soft-shell crab, cedar-smoked salmon, Jar crab cakes, fried chicken and char siu baby back pork ribs. You can also take away brut rose Champagne when you call in your pre-order. Call 24 hours in advance for delivery. 8225 Beverly Blvd., (323)655-6566.

Sightglass Provisions now open

ightglass roasters and restaurant reopened as Sightglass Provisions, offering the highest quality seasonal produce sourced directly from local farms. Order brined chicken, house smoked salmon, Roman-style pizza and specialty kits. They also offer roasted garlic hummus, meatballs in red sauce, soup stock, pantry essentials, house-made sourdough bread, bagels, buns, cinnamon rolls, cookies, take-and-bake buttermilk biscuits, dairy products, wine, beer and freshly roasted coffee. Preorders can be placed Tuesday through Saturday from 2 to 10 p.m., via exploretock.com/sightglasscoffeeroasters. Customers can order

provisions for contactless pick-up or local delivery within a 2.5 mile radius with a \$50 minimum plus \$3 delivery fee. 7051 Willoughby Ave., (323)763-8588.

Salt & Straw reopens for Mother's Day

Local delivery and contactless pick-up is available at many of the Salt & Straw scoop shops from 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. Waffle cones are also available to enjoy with pint orders. Pint packs can be ordered as a gift around the country by clicking on saltandstraw.com. Scoop shops open for pick-up include 240 N. Larchmont Blvd., (323)466-0485; and 8949 Santa Monica Blvd., (424)288-4818.

Petty Cash reopens

The team is recharged and preparing taco kits, cauliflower nachos and margaritas to go. Their build-your-own taco kits are \$21 per person and include a choice beef brisket, Jidori chicken, salmon creek pork, or grilled portobello mushroom and sweet potato filling. Also included are organic corn tortillas, poblano rice, pinquinto beans or vegetarian black beans, salsa verde and salsa roja, chopped onions, cilantro and crispy tortilla chips. All orders must be placed in advance at exploretock.com/pettycashtaqueria. The hours are Wednesday through Saturday from 4 to 9 p.m. 7360 Beverly Blvd., (323)933-5300.

continues on page 16



The Little Market teams up with Homeboy Bakery for Mother's Day

The philanthropic brand The Little Market, started by Hannah Svarkla and Lauren Conrad, is offering a new baked goods delivery service in Los Angeles through their partnership with Homeboy Bakery, a social enterprise within Homeboy Industries. Through this collaboration, they are delivering freshly baked challah bread, cookies, muffins, brownies, croissants and cinnamon rolls. Deliveries within Los Angeles County are made every Friday; orders must be placed by Wednesday. These delicious treats are available to order for Mother's Day and come in a special reusable tote bag at the littlemarket.com.



Boxwood cooking for moms

For an elevated Mother's Day celebration, the culinary team at Boxwood is preparing baked Maine lobster Newburg, coq au vin and a roasted prime Chateaubriand with a selection of starters, vegetable sides and choice of dessert for two people at \$85. Take-home a \$25 "buildyour-own-beverage" option of strawberry mimosas with freshpressed strawberry juice and bloody marys with smoked bacon. Orders can be placed by emailing boxwoodhost@thelondonweho.co m to be picked up on Sunday, May 10, from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Call before you arrive to pick-up in the valet area. 1020 N. San Vicente Blvd., (310)358-7780.

The Front Yard Mother's Day takeout and delivery

Den now Wednesday through Sunday from 11:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., the Garland is offering two Mother's Day gift totes. The Market Breakfast tote is filled with ingredients and recipes for French toast, breakfast hash and granola parfait for \$39. The Happy Hour tote includes two bottles of California wine paired with an array of appetizers and bar snacks for \$65. Batched cocktails are ready to go in a 12-ounce mason jar for \$15. Enjoy a unique selection of white and red California wines by the bottle for \$15 each. Any to-go

order over \$100 comes with a complimentary bottle. Call for curbside pick-up or delivery through Postmates and DoorDash. 4222 Vineland Ave., (818)255-7285.

Yogurtland surprise for mom

Treat your sweet mom and family with cups of Yogurtland for pick-up or delivery. The frozen yogurt delivery is available on Doordash, Grubhub, Postmates, UberEats applications. Flavors include cookies and cream, strawberry and cheesecake. Order mom's favorite topping, too. 1607 Wilshire Blvd., (213)568-3055; 3183 Wilshire Blvd., (213)736-1815; 5541 W. Sunset Blvd., (323)461-0091; and 310 S. La Brea Ave., (323)936-5428.

Milk Bar's Strawberry Shortcake

Just in time for Mother's Day, Milk Bar's Strawberry Shortcake presents layers of vanilla cake with lightly sweet crème fraiche frosting, creamy-crunchy milk crumbs and a punch of strawberry jam. The Milk Bar's cake truffles are made with strawberry-studded vanilla cake, soaked in strawberry milk and rolled in strawberry shortcake crumbs. Available via Postmates and Caviar. Go online to order milkbarstore.com. 7150 Melrose Ave., (347)577-9504.

Bobo's Mother's Day Gift Box

Treat your mom to a breakfast in bed that's baked with love. The color box delivered to her door includes a breakfast selection of Bobo's organic whole-grain lemon poppyseed, coconut, original and chocolate chip oat bars. Also included are apple pie and peanut butter chocolate chip bites, and a strawberry toaster pastry. As a special gift, Bobo's includes a Bobo's coffee mug, Alpine Start coffee, Stash organic tea and a magnet for a love note to mom to be placed on the refrigerator. Get 20% off this box when you put BOBOSMOM at checkout. Order online at eatbo-

Forma Restaurant & Cheese Bar

Treat mom to a DIY cheese board with fine cheeses, apricots and walnuts from Forma Restaurant & Cheese Bar. A daily selection of unique cheese for takeout and delivery comes with jam, honey, dry fruit and bread. Call for curbside pick-up or look for Forma on Postmates, Grubhub and DoorDash for delivery. 1610 Montana Ave., (424)231-2868.

Vinovore Mother's Day wine gifts

The wine and goods shop located in Silver Lake is selling

Mother's Day gift boxes that include a bottle of Nuvole Sul Poggio Gavi, a bell mountain mini gem soap, a Mother's Day card, and a choice of deck of playing cards or bath salt packet for only \$35. Custom boxes and variations are also available. Another gift for your mom is the Wolfpack wine club, where once a month, a handselected box of two to four packs of wine can be picked up or delivered to her door. Use the code STOCK-UP for 10% off orders of six bottles at checkout. Customers can order wine for free pick-up of local and nationally delivery at vinovore.com. 616 N. Hoover St., (323)522-6713.

Mr. Holmes Bakehouse gifts

Pounder Aaron Caddel created a Mr. Holmes Bakehouse bread starter kit soon after the stay-athome mandate. Now he is offering a selection of cookie, scone, cake and pasta with garlic focaccia kits for \$25 each. They are available for shipping when purchased at mrholmesbakehouse.com/delivery. 111 S. Ave. 59, (323)739-0473.

Smooth QUI tequila for Mother's Day

The crown jewel of QUI, rare extra añejo tequila has been carefully matured for 12 years in hand-selected barrels. QUI Rare delivers beautiful aromas of wood, tobacco, caramel and vanilla. Each sip offers a full and rich bouquet of

sweet oak, toasted almond and a hint of maple, with a long, buttery finish. The golden honey hue is also perfectly complemented by a glass decanter decorated with precious gold accents for a truly elegant gift. For every purchase, the owners will donate \$50 to the National Restaurant Association Restaurant Employee Relief Fund. The 750-milliliter bottle can be delivered in a beautiful box when ordered online at quitequila.com.

Connie and Ted's reopens

ward-winning Chef Michael Cimarusti presents a new takeout menu inspired by the classic clam shacks, oyster bars and fish houses along New England and the Western Coast. Menu items include Jo's Wicked Good Chowda' bowl, lobster rolls, a Hook burger and whoopie pies. Orders are available for pick-up on Tuesday through Saturday when ordered online at exploretock.com/connieandteds. 8171 Santa Monica Blvd., (323)848-2722.



photo courtesy of Connie and Ted's





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Theater company gives young playwrights a voice

Los Angeles-based Echo Theater Company is nurturing future generations of playwrights during the COVID-19 public health crisis by using digital platforms to connect them with professional mentors.

Six young playwrights ages 19-26 have been selected to participate in the theater company's National Young Playwrights in Residence program in 2020.

"The original idea was to develop an option for kids with talent and potential whose ability to further a writing career was limited by geography or finances," said Echo Theater Artistic Director Chris Fields. "Now, given the current situation, all the tools are already in place."

Selected from over 200 applicants, this year's playwrights include six young people representing a diversity of experiences and backgrounds. They include C.L. Byrd, 26, of High Point, North Carolina; Xavier Clark, 25, who grew up in Turkey and studied art in San Diego; Norma Lilia Ruiz Cruz, 22, who grew up in Tijuana, Mexico, and studied in Oklahoma; Yael Haskal, 23, of New York City; Phanésia Pharel, 20, a first-generation Haitian American woman from Miami; and Rachel Saruski, 19, a granddaughter of Cuban refugees who lived in Miami.

Each will be paired in a mentorship with an established professional writer, working together to develop a new work via video chat and phone calls. The theater company will pay for all six to come to Los Angeles to rehearse and present a festival of staged readings of the





photo courtesy of the Echo Theater Company

Six young writers have been selected for the National Young Playwrights in Residence program.

final works.

"This program ensures that new voices from all across the country are getting a chance to be heard," said director of new programming Andrew Shafer. "It offers a trans-

formative way for new writers to fearlessly create bold new work with the support of a professional artistic community."

For information, visit echotheatercompany.com.

"This program ensures that new voices from all across the country are getting a chance to be heard."

> Andrew Shafer director of new programming



L.A. Zoo's wildly popular 'Beastly Ball' moves online

The Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association is holding a virtual version of its annual "Beastly Ball" fundraiser on Friday, May 15, at 6 p.m.

Everyone is invited to participate in the event, with pre-show festivities hosted by actor and comedian Joel McHale at 5:45 p.m. The star-studded evening of fun and philanthropy will feature fascinating animal spotlights, a live auction, inspiring conservation stories and visits from special guests Lisa Ling, Carolyn Hennesy, Julie Chang, Lance Bass, Slash and many

Also joining the online festivities will be "Beastly Ball" honorees Chris and Martin Kratt, of television's "Wild Kratts," and Barbara Natterson-Horowitz and Kathryn Bowers, authors of the bestselling book,

The Beastly Ball will be livestreamed at beastlyball.lazoo.org, as well as the zoo's Facebook page and YouTube channel. The presentation is expected to last approximately 45 minutes.

Register by visiting beastlyball.lazoo.org to receive updates, previews of auction items and exclusive discounts, cocktail recipes and specials from dining and beverage partners. Donations of auction items are also sought.

The Beastly Ball is an annual event that helps the zoo fulfill its mission of animal conservation and habitat preservation. For information, visit beastlyball.lazoo.org.

Online play offers interesting take on social distancing

by West Hollywood resident Tom Lavagnino, on Thursday, May 7, at 3

The presentation is part of the "Skylight LIVE" series. Because theater cannot be open due to the coronavirus crisis, it is making content available online on Thursdays at 3 p.m.

self in a projection booth.

For information and to view the performance, visit skylighttheatre.org.

online production of the short play "The Professor of Social Distancing,"

Gregg T. Daniel performs in the production directed by Gary Grossman. The play follows Jimmy, for whom social distancing is nothing new. Infact, it's the story of his life – isolated, apart from society, working by him-







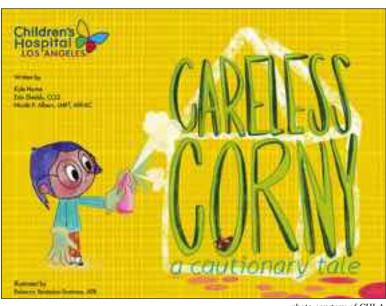


photo courtesy of CHLA

CHLA book helps children cope with uncertainties during pandemic

Children's Hospital Los Angeles has released a children's book titled "Careless Corny: A Cautionary Tale" to help children during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The book can be downloaded for free by visiting chla.org/carelesscorny-book. It was launched in conjunction with Giving Tuesday, and for each donation made to CHLA's Giving TuesdayNow webpage, a softcover copy of the book will be delivered to a patient in the hospital.

The pandemic has prompted many questions for people of all ages, especially children. Written by certified art therapist Kyle Horne, certified child life specialist Erin Shields and Nicole F. Albers, head of the Literally Healing Program at Children's Hospital Los Angeles, the book centers on a character named Corny Coronavirus who has been traveling the world and shows up on a child's doorstep with the ability to spread germs everywhere. In the story, the child goes from unsure to empowered. The book reinforces good hygiene habits, validates feelings and normalizes the experience children are having, and includes tips and guidelines for parents, guardians and caregivers.

Founded in 1901, Children's Hospital Los Angeles is ranked as the top children's hospital in California and fifth in the nation for clinical excellence by U.S. News & World Report. For information, visit chla.org.

State board hosts online meeting offering teacher support

California Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond is hosting an online discussion with a panel of education experts this afternoon, May 7, from 4 to 5:30 p.m.

Thurmond is hoping to hear directly from educators at schools throughout the state about their experiences during the COVID-19 public health emergency. The state superintendent and California Department of Education acknowledge that educators are often feeling overwhelmed by distance learning, and the virtual event will be an opportunity to share experiences, resources and encouragement as schools and families navigate next steps together.

The event, the first of many planned for educator support, can be viewed by visiting facebook.com/caeducation.

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Beverly Hills Unified unveils graduation plans

On April 29, Beverly Hills Unified School District Superintendent Michael Bregy unveiled the district's plans for graduation and commencement ceremonies for the 2019-20 school year in a video message.

"Challenging times call for unique opportunities," Bregy said.

At 7 p.m. on June 3, BHHS seniors will experience a virtual sunset at home, BHHS Principal Mark Mead said in a video message.

"It's a special event, a tradition lasting 10 years. It's going to help you think about your years in Beverly Hills Unified School District, and it's going to help you think about your successes, your struggles and the relationships that you've had as you begin your journey to the finish line," Mead said.

On June 4, the seniors' graduation video will be premiered via live stream at 9 a.m. At 11 a.m., the seniors will be split into five sections and given a time frame during which they will drive through the parking garage and onto Heath Avenue.

BHUSD board of education members will present diplomas to their graduates, and Mead will pose 6 feet away from each cap-andgown-wearing student (with a banner between them) for a photo.

For Beverly Vista Middle School students, the graduation video will be premiered on June 3 at a time yet to be determined.

For Horace Mann School fifthgraders, their promotion video will be premiered via live stream at 9:30 a.m. on June 2.

The Hawthorne School promotion video will be premiered via live stream at 11 a.m. on June 2.

For Beverly Vista, Horace Mann and Hawthorne students, physical celebrations will be held later in the summer, health and safety advice permitting.

For information, visit bhusd.org.

Fairfax High seniors receive \$4,000 Epstein Scholarships

The Los Angeles Chapter of the International Society for the Advancement of Material and Process Engineering has selected the 2020 recipients of the annual Irene Epstein Memorial Scholarships, which are given to Fairfax High School seniors planning to study engineering, science, mathematics and medicine in college

Howard Katzman, of The Aerospace Corporation, announced that seniors Dong Su Kim, Juel Nissi Park and Yomna Ehab Shousha will each receive \$4,000.

Irene Epstein was the wife of Fairfax District resident George Epstein, a retired aerospace engineer. The Irene Epstein Memorial Scholarship program was initiated in 1996 shortly after her death to recognize her desire to assist financially-needy, academically-deserving students attend college. This marks the 24th year that the scholarships have been awarded.

With a GPA of 4.463, Kim is

The Irene Epstein
Memorial
Scholarship program was initiated
in 1996 shortly
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financially-needy,
academicallydeserving students
attend college.

ranked first out of 328 students in his graduating class at Fairfax High School. He has earned an "A" grade in every advanced placement class in which he was enrolled, including environmental science, biology, statistics, calculus, physics and psychology. He plans to attend the University of California, Berkeley,

and major in bioengineering.

Park will graduate second in his class with a cumulative GPA of 4.378. He has earned "A" grades in many advanced placement classes, including calculus, physical chemistry, biology, environmental science, macroeconomics and computer science.

He plans to study human biology on a pre-med track at the University of Southern California. Park's goal is to become a physician.

Shousha is ranked third in her class at Fairfax High School, with a GPA of 4.365. She has earned "A" grades in environmental science, statistics, calculus, physics and macroeconomics, and has been named a Fairfax High School Advanced Placement Scholar with Honor. Shousha plans to attend Claremont McKenna College as a pre-med or engineering student, majoring in economics and engineering, or science management.

For information, visit lasampe.org.



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Los Angeles Unified expands efforts to provide online instruction

On May 4, Los Angeles Unified School District Superintendent Austin Beutner announced the launch of an expanded effort to help educators master online instruction – including the tools and technologies – applying them to help students learn, practice lesson planning, and teach and learn more about how to engage students and their families in online learning.

Nearly all teachers in Los Angeles Unified have completed training in the basics of remote learning, and more than half have signed up for an additional 30 hours of professional development in this new effort.

"We've connected almost all of our secondary school students, providing them with a device and internet access, and in another week or 10 days, we will reach that goal for elementary school students. The emphasis now is to help teachers take their talents online," Beutner said.

Educators will work with Los Angeles Unified leaders and education experts as they earn their Future Ready Certification. Guest contributors include Richard Culatta, CEO of the International Society for Technology in Education; Jane Margolis, senior researcher at the UCLA Graduate School of Education and Information Studies; Mitch Resnick, professor of learning research at the MIT Media Lab; and Jim Steyer, CEO of Common Sense Media/Education.

"The Future Ready Certification is another tool for our Los Angeles Unified family to continue professional development online and another way we are investing in our educators," said LAUSD Board of Education President Richard Vladovic, 7th District. "They are the key to the success of our students and will continue to ensure that the quality of instruction is the best."

"Los Angeles Unified remains committed to supporting our dedicated educators during these unprecedented times," added Board Member Nick Melvoin, 4th District. "We are grateful that so many have stepped up to hone their online teaching skills, and we will continue to lead the way on making this transition as smooth as possible for teachers and our families."

For information, visit lausd.net.

Rosewood engages students virtually, including graduation

Rosewood STEM Magnet of Urban Planning and Urban Design teachers, students and entire staff are engaged in new learning and teaching through social distancing. Though schools are closed, students are still receiving music, art, project based learning, urban planning and urban design, virtual field trips, and all core subjects.

The elementary school iscurrently planning their virtual kindergarten graduation and 5th grade culmination. Those these events will be done virtually, it is important that we recognize each student for their accomplishments.

As Rosewood prepares for the 2020-2021 school year, they invite you to consider a school that nurtures the whole child. As a Social Emotional Focus school, they ensure the unique needs of each student is met.

Rosewood STEM Magnet, Urban Planning & Urban Design is located at 503 N. Croft Ave., Los Angeles, (323) 651-0166.



Program raises \$16 million in relief funds

Recognizing the YWCA Greater Los Angeles' efforts to combat the COVID-19 crisis, the 126-year-old nonprofit was a beneficiary of Black Entertainment Network's "Saving Our Selves: A BET COVID-19 Relief Effort" special on April 22.

Co- hosted by Anthony Anderson, Kelly Rowland, Terrence J, and Regina Hall, and featuring appearances by Alicia Keys and Whoopi Goldberg, the event answered the call to entertain and inspire the black community, which has been disproportionately impacted by the coronavirus pandemic.

With the help of foundations, corporations and a network of business leaders, over \$16 million in commitments were made. The funds will allow over 50 organizations throughout the United States to provide emergency financial support through their partner organizations.

BET and the United Way Worldwide have created the BET Covid-19 Relief Fund. Contributors to the fund included Blue Meridian Partners, The Ford Foundation and the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation. Corporate donors included Facebook, Procter & Gamble, Unilever, Toyota,

Salesforce, McDonald's and many others.

"The YWCA Greater Los Angeles for over 126 years responds to the call of action for the disenfranchised and those individuals in need. We are proud to partner with United Way of Greater Los Angeles and Black Entertainment Network Television in response to the COVID-19 pandemic in the communities of color that we serve in Los Angeles," said YWCA Greater Los Angeles CEO Faye Washington. "As the African American community continues to be disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, the YWCA Greater Los Angeles has responded to this crisis and its disproportionate toll on African American communities."

octer & For information, visit Toyota, ywcagla.org.

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20 May 7, 2020 Park Labrea News/Beverly Press

'Clone Wars' finale corrects a franchise that once went wrong

ON SCREEN

TIM POSADA

An uncomfortable truth: the "Star Wars" prequel trilogy is painful, nearly unwatchable, but it still gave us "The Clone Wars," a remarkable computer animated series set between "Attack of the Clones" and "Revenge of the Sith." Sure, it dances between darkly poetic and juvenile throughout the original six seasons, but it included enough amazing moments to make its cancelation in 2014 disappointing.

Luckily, Disney+ needed new content, hence season seven has arrived with a 12-episode sendoff. And, unlike plenty of other series that fade away, a four-part finale ties "Clone Wars" directly in with the prequel trilogy and highlights the best of "Star Wars": grand battles, increasing obstacles, great characters and, of course, an epic lightsaber duel.

"Clone Wars" best features include the revival of Darth Maul following a punk death in "Phantom Menace," and introducing Anakin Skywalker's padawan Ahsoka Tano (voiced by Ashley Eckstein), one of the most enduring characters to traverse a galaxy far, far away. And then, there's clone trooper Rex (Dee Bradley Baker), one of many duplicates of Jango Fett from "Attack." Thankfully, the series finale tells their story magnificently across four episodes of pure bliss.

A central question lingers in the shadows of every episode: How will this end? Things get pretty bleak come "Revenge," and the last four episodes, each with their own titles but also labeled Part I through Part IV. For any curious viewer hesitant to dive in, plenty of online resources provide helpful lists of essential viewings, but here's a quick run-through.

Ahsoka transitions from immature sidekick to the series' most compelling character, ending season five on a cliffhanger when she leaves the Jedi Order (they hang her out to dry thanks to Republic politics). Meanwhile, Maul (Sam Witwer) takes over Mandalore, the warrior planet with all the cool armor that adorns bounty hunter Boba Fett and the protagonist of Disney+'s live-action "Star Wars" series "The Mandalorian."

Following eight tangential episodes in season seven about



photo courtesy of Disney

Ahsoka Tano fights Maul with duel lightsabers in the "Clone Wars" finale

clone troopers and Ahsoka's brief stint as a smuggler, some rebel Mandalorians confront Ahsoka and ask for help taking their planet back from the ex-Sith Lord. Even though she no longer represents the Jedi, Anakin (Matt Lanter) and Obi-Wan Kenobi (James Arnold Taylor) provide her with a small army, including Rex, while they go off to confront General Grievous in the events that begin "Revenge."

The entire story coincides with "Revenge," from that inaugural scene to Emperor Palpatine's execution of Order 66, which forces all clone troopers to wipe out every Jedi across the galaxy.

The finale of the final season functions like a film, including a more dramatic intro that uses the classic Lucasfilm logo that appeared before each original film. What transpires immediately after is breathtaking, on par with the best moments of "Star Wars".

Ahsoka's double-wielding lightsaber skills when the ships enter the Mandalorian atmosphere are a sight to behold, portraying animated action choreography unseen on the silver screen (though Disney better compile these episodes into a 90-minute film for a limited IMAX release when things open back up a long time from now in a theater near, near our homes).

And, when Maul and Ahsoka clash sabers, they do so with help from a special guest. Ray Park, the original Maul actor in "Phantom," returned to help motion capture the entire sequence. But that's not all that transpires. Battles, Force abilities, exploding space ships, Mandalorians rocking rocket

packs – this is the peak television that doesn't get enough love.

What's next for Ahsoka and Maul remains a mystery (mild spoilers here).

"Solo" provides hints at how Maul (Park back on screen for a hot second) spends his time. And live-action casting rumors for "The Mandalorian" imply Ahsoka is far from done.

The four-part finale is a love letter to fans desiring closure, but it can also be a gift to anyone in dire need of a story as action packed as it is Shakespearean, especially those chill-inducing final moments, complimented by Kevin Kiner's film-scale music score.

Frankly, "Clone Wars" shouldn't be this good. It wasn't at the start. In an abysmal animated film pilot, Ahsoka arrives as a rather obnoxious character. Developer-writer-director David Filoni ("Avatar: The Last Airbender," "Star Wars Rebels," "The Mandalorian") set the series on rocky ground, but when it found its stride, something amazing emerged.

To call "Clone Wars" a perfect series doesn't work, but that's the "Star Wars" way: bumps on the way to greatness. So, even if only half of the series' 134 episodes shine, that's still around 1,450 minutes of quality entertainment. Reimagining Maul as a philosophical sociopath hellbent on destroying Jedi and Sith alike, exploring Ahsoka's character evolution, especially those insane saber skills, and depicting troopers as more than mindless, aimless drones - that's the level of depth "Star Wars" can and must continue to offer.



photo courtesy of Dist

Maul clashes lightsabers with Ahsoka in "Clone Wars," one the best offerings in the "Star Wars" franchise.

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

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

LOCATIONS: 852 WEST KNOLL DRIVE,

West Hollywood, California

REQUEST: Applicant is requesting to subdi-

vide a four-story, six-unit residential building into a common interest development (condo-

minium).

PERMIT(S): Subdivision Permit, and any other

required permits.

APPLICANT(S): West Hollywood V, LLC (Cyrus

Raoufpur)

TIME/PLACE Teleconference Meeting OF HEARING: Thursday, May 21, 2020

at 6:30 p.m.

Given the local, state and nation state of emergency, this meeting will be a teleconferenced meeting (with detailed instructions for participation included on the

posted agenda.

ZONES: R3C (Residential, Multi-Family

Medium Density)

ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS:

Categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Section §15332 (In-Fill Development Projects)

DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND STATE OF EMERGENCY, CITY HALL IS CURRENTLY CLOSED. The staff report will be available on Thursday, May 14, 2020 on-line at www.weho.org

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

If you require special assistance to participate in this meeting (e.g., a signer for the hearing impaired), you must call, or submit your request in writing to the Office of the City Clerk at (323) 848-6409 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

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

IF YOU DO NOT HAVE COMPUTER ACCESS AND WOULD LIKE A MAILED COPY OF THE AGENDA AND STAFF REPORT, OR YOU NEED FURTHER INFORMATION regarding this item, contact Jarrod Coleman, Associate Planner in the Planning & Development Services Department at (323) 848-6475; or via email at: jcoleman-willdan@weho.org

Yvonne Quarker, City Clerk

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

POLICE BLOTTER

The following crimes occurred in West Hollywood, Beverly Hills and the areas patrolled by the LAPD's Wilshire and Hollywood divisions between April 21 and April 28. The information was compiled from www.crimemapping.com. To report a crime, call local law enforcement agencies: Los Angeles Police Department, Wilshire Division (213)473-0476, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department West Hollywood Station (310)855-8850, and the Beverly Hills Police Department, (310)550-4951.

Beverly Hills Police Department

April 26

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 400 block of N. Canon at 1:40 p.m.

At 1:50 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a shoplifting robbery in the 9400 block of Olympic.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of Burton and Palm at 2:14 p.m.

April 27

At noon, a vandalism incident was reported in the 600 block of Endrino.

A vandalism incident was reported in the 8400 block of Gregory at 6:48 p.m.

April 28

At noon, an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 200 block of S. Gale.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 100 block of N. Clark at 3:23 p.m.

April 29

At 7 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 400 block of S. Elm.

April 30

At noon, an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 300 block of N. Crescent.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 400 block of N. Oakhurst at 6 p.m.

May 1

At 5:33 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of N. Canon.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 300 block of N. Canon at 7:50 p.m.

May 2

At 5:20 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 200 block of N. Crescent.

West Hollywood Sheriff's Station

April 21

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 8700 block of West Knoll at 2:44 a.m.

At 1:14 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 7100 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect committed a strong arm robbery in the 8200 block of Santa Monica at 3:30 p.m.

April 22

At 6 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 500 block of Orlando.

April 24

At 2:55 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 8400 block of Melrose.

April 25

At 7:23 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 900 block of N. La Cienega.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 900 block of N. Kings at 7:30 a.m.

Los Angeles Police Department

April 25

At 12:19 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 1700 block of N. Highland.

LAPD warns about scams during COVID-19 pandemic

The Los Angeles Police Department's Commercial Crimes Division is urging the public to beware of scams attempting to defraud people of federal stimulus money. The LAPD is offering tips to ensure people recognize the scams and know what to do to avoid becoming a victim.

The government has issued economic impact payments, commonly known as "stimulus checks," many of which have already been directly deposited into recipients' bank accounts by the IRS. No forms are required, and the federal government does not ask for up-front payments to process the stimulus funding. Anyone who calls or visits in person offering to assist with obtaining stimulus payments is likely trying to perpetrate a scam.

The LAPD is also warning about people offering cures and vaccines

for COVID-19. There are no consumer products that treat or cure the coronavirus, and there is no vaccine. Also, there is currently only one athome testing kit for COVID-19 – offered by Laboratory Corporation of America – that has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration. Advertisements for other at-home testing kits are scams.

Authorities are warning people to be particularly cautious about emails, texts and calls claiming to be from health or government officials regarding health. The calls may be an attempt to obtain credit or personal information. Do not click on links in emails, as they may allow perpetrators to install malware on computers.

People who believe they have been victims can contact their local law enforcement agency. For information, visit lapdonline.org. An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 6500 block of Commodore Sloat at 5:15 a.m.

At 9:15 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft near the corner of Hollywood and Highland.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 5000 block of Wilshire at 9:50 a.m.

At 3:20 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of Hollywood and Cahuenga.

An unknown suspect stole a bicycle in the 8600 block of Olympic at 3:35 p.m.

At 4:30 p.m., a suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 5700 block of W. Fifth.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 300 block of S. Hudson at 7:50 p.m.

At 9:10 p.m., a suspect robbed a victim in the 7600 block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim near the corner of Van Ness and Carmona at 9:40 p.m.

April 26

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 5200 block of W. Olympic at 1 a.m.

At 1 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 5000 block of Hollywood.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 900 block of El Centro at 3:30 a.m.

At 3:30 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 4900 block of Melrose Hill.

A suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 700 block of N. Saint Andrews at 4:20 a.m.

At 7:10 a.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 6500 block of Yucca.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 1300 block of S. La Brea at 9:20 a.m.

At noon, an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 900 block of S. Mullen.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1300 block of S.

La Brea at 1:10 p.m.

At 1:20 p.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 7200 block of Franklin.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 900 block of S. Oxford at 2 p.m.

At 2 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 4100 block of Melrose.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of Hudson and Romaine at 2:30 p.m.

At 2:44 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8700 block of Pico.

grand theft in the 1800 block of N. Cahuenga at 2:50 p.m.
At 4:30 p.m., an unknown suspect

An unknown suspect committed a

committed a petty theft in the 1600 block of Sunset Plaza.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 5700 block of La Mirada at 5:20 p.m.

At 7 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 3200 block of W. Sixth.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1800 block of Garfield at 7 p.m.

At 10 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1400 block of Poinsettia.

April 27

At 2:15 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1000 block of N. Edgemont.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 4600 block of Wilshire at 4:55 a.m.

At 5:58 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 6500 block of Hollywood.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim near the corner of Western and Harold at 6:10 a.m.

committed a petty theft in the 5400 block of Sunset.

At 8:50 a.m., an unknown suspect

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7900 block of Melrose at 10:05 a.m.

At 10:07 a.m., an unknown sus-

pect committed a petty theft in the 5300 block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 3800 block of W. Seventh at 1:40 p.m.

At 10:55 p.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim near the corner of Fourth and Manhattan.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8500 block of Burton Way at 11:17 a.m.

At 8 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 600 block of S. Cochran.

April 28

At 12:35 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 100 block of S. Hayworth.

Editor's note:

Fewer entries were available this week for the West Hollywood Sheriff's Station and Los Angeles Police Department because of technical problems with the crimemapping.com website.

Whom Should I Name As My Executor or Trustee?

The energion of your will and the trustee of your tevocable (akan living trust) serve almost identical functions often your death, in the altern ran. Although your executor in generally subject to direct court supervision, both the executor and the trustee have similar fiduciary responsibilities under your trust while you are living. Although you may act as initial trustee if you become incapicitated, the designated succession trustee may then step in to manage your assets for your fleneth.

An executor or trustee may be a apount or other relative, hardly friend, business associate or a professional fideciary such as a basis. There are a number of issues to consider in octarmining who in name as an executar or trustee.

While both me responsible for ensuring that your wookes are implemented. when your will or trust establishes provisions for the long term management of funds, your choice for execufor or trustee stimuld also be based on similarity, or at a minumum, on understanding of your lifestyle choices as there may be many "discreounts" decisions that your executor or transpe will make. Other issues to he considered would be whither or not the appointment of one of your adult hildren could purse undue stress in his or her relations with siblings. What conflicts of interest are emated if a husiness associate or partner is named as your executor or trustee? Will the person named as executor or successor trustee have the time, organizational ability and experience to do the jobeffectively!

You should discuss your change with your estate planning lawyer, your groumout and other financial advisors.

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Stephen W. Kramer 5858 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 205 Los Angeles, CA 90036 (323)964-7100

FBI names new director of counterterrorism in L.A.

Federal Bureau of Investigation Director Christopher Wray has named Amir Ehsaei as the special agent in charge of the Counterterrorism Division of the Los Angeles Field Office.

Ehsaei most recently served as a section chief in the Human Resources Division at FBI Headquarters in Washington.

The new director is responsible for counterterrorism investigations in Los Angeles as well as large portions of Asia and Australia. He is also responsible for crisis response matters and the weapons of mass destruction program.

Ehsaei began his career as an FBI special agent in 2004. He was first assigned to the Joint Terrorism Task Force in the Los Angeles Field Office and moved

in 2010. Ehsaei was deployed to Baghdad in 2010, leading an interagency team that interviewed members of a foreign terrorist organization. Ehsaei continued to move up

to the Human Intelligence Squad

the ranks and was promoted to chief of the Employment Development and Selection Program Section of the Human Resources Division at Headquarters in 2018. As section chief, he oversaw the Leadership Selection Unit, the Office of Workforce Development, the Performance Appraisal Unit and the Transfer Unit.

Prior to joining the FBI, Ehsaei was an attorney. He is a member of the Florida and California state bars and is fluent in Farsi.

For information, visit fbi.gov.

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10% DISCOUNT FOR **NEW CLIENTS** Crossword Puzzle by Myles Mellor

Across

- 1. Pantheon member
- 4. Verbal abuse
- 8. Pontiac of the past
- 11. Grimace
- 13. Fruit of the vine
- 14. Melody sung solo
- 15. Legal thriller
- 18. Ticket
- 19. Woodworking machines
- 20. Donne's done
- 22. Makes calls
- Gras
- 27. Opposition
- 31. Customary
- 32. Chablis or cabernet
- 33. Buddy in Bordeaux 36. Classic in childrens' books
- 40. One engaged in, suffix
- 41. Rate
- 42. R and B and rap star
- 43. Quipster
- 44. Volumes
- 45. Very, dramatically
- 48. Keyword improvements for a website (abbr.)
- 50. Up for grabs
- 53. Dices
- 57. Jack Reacher novel
- 61. Wild goose
- 62. Sound related
- 63. Deck
- 64. "... a man ___ mouse?"

- 65. New corp. hires
- 66. Alien life forms, for short

Down

- 1. England time
- 2. Expresses amazement
- 3. Prearranged fight for two
- 4. End of the week, briefly
- 6. On -- with (equal to)
- 7. Bingo relative
- 8. Tears
- 9. Cake sections
- 10. Lummoxes
- 12. Antipollution org.
- 16. A star in France
- 21. Cover over
- 24. Tennis great, Arthur
- 26. Courtroom VIP's
- 29. Gets into the website
- 30. "French kiss" star, Ryan
- 33. Original man
- 34. A ___ pittance
- 35. Feminine suffixes
- 38. Be in a pantomime

- 5. Lake, in Geneva

- 13. Joyfulness
- 14. Comic Johnson
- 17. Hide well
- 23. Silent
- 25. Sorry sort
- 28. One of the family

- 37. Money records inspector
- 39. ___ de Janeiro

- 43. Singer Mitchell
- 47. A few
- 49. Repetition
- 50. "___ extra cost!"
- 54. Diner sandwich
- 56. Pique

- - 45. "___ Majesty's Secret Service"
 - 46. Pack animal
 - 51. Dutch cheese
 - 52. Social rebuff
 - 55. Cork's country
- 58. Actress Lupino
- 59. Enlisted soldiers 60. "Mamma Mia!" has four

Answers on page 27



Maul clashes lightsabers with Ahsoka in "Clone Wars," one the best offerings in the "Star Wars" franchise.

The Getty nurtures your inner artist

While Angelenos are staying "Safer at Home" during the COVID-19 pandemic, families may seek ways to pass the time with their children.

The Getty Museum's education staff has compiled a list of creative ideas for kids of all ages, so they may explore their inner artist.

Families can find at the Getty's blog the Iris, under the Art & Archives section, a drawing activity post titled "Drawing with Kids: Five Ideas to Stay Creative with a Pencil and a Piece of Paper" by Rebecca Edwards, an education specialist for the Getty Museum.

Edwards advised families to draw using inspiration from art and artists in the Getty collection. People can

draw a hairdo, find a tiny creature, celebrate spring, draw a pet, or use short lines, anything really that will inspire someone to pick up a pen or pencil and draw.

Additionally, on the Iris readers learned about the Japanese art of the haiku. Porche Carter, author of the post "11 Haiku to Teach Kids about Art," used haikus to teach readers about different elements of art such as line, color and shape, and encouraged people to write poetry.

The Getty has audio books of bestiaries, a popular type of medieval book describing the beasts of the world. People can listen to stories of unicorns, lions and going griffins by getty.edu/art/mobile/center/beasts/li

Also, the Getty created a page on its website based on the popular Percy Jackson book series by Rick Riordan. People can explore the Getty Villa through an immersive audio tour that explores Greek mythology.

Lastly, if someone is interested in learning about photography they can use the Getty's award-winning app Unshuttered. People can access lessons and challenges aimed at improving photography skills at the Getty Unshuttered channel on YouTube.

More and updated artistic ideas for families can be found at Getty at Home and The Iris.

For information, visit getty.edu.

President of the Music Center inducted into prestigious organization

The American Academy of Arts long-standing plan to and Sciences has named Rachel S. Moore, president and CEO of The Music Center, among its distinguished class of 2020 inductees.

Founded in 1780, the AAAS honor society recognizes excellence and convenes leaders from every field to examine new ideas, address issues of importance to the nation and the world.

Moore has been a positive change agent since joining the Music Center, one of the nation's largest performing arts organizations, in October 2015.

She established a new institutional structure that includes TMC Ops and TMC Arts, which helped position the organization to embrace both its operation and artistic roles.

Moore also created a new executive position to lead TMC Arts with the focus of developing more programming that is reflective and responsive to the wide diversity and changing demographics of Los Angeles.

Partnering with board leadership, Moore helped revitalize the Music Center's board of directors, focusing on women and people of color to diversify board composition from 6% to 33%, which added perspectives and skills to the organization's strategic initiatives.

She also secured a long-term lease for the Music Center, which runs the performing arts center on behalf of Los Angeles County in a public-private partnership.

Moore brought to fruition the

renovate the Music Center's Plaza in a more open environment for county residents and visitors. Additionally, more fundraised for the plaza's renovation and secured funds from the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. After a 20-month renovation, the plaza reopened in August 2019.

Moore advocated for the development the TMC Arts Fund that endeavors to broaden access to the arts for communities of Los Angeles County.

She heads the \$70 million company that manages and opeates the Music Center campus, including four theaters, the Music Center Plaza,

Grand Park and provides artistic direction for the Music Center's programming by TMC Arts.

Moore is among 276 artists, scholars, scientists and leaders in the public, nonprofit and private sectors inducted this year including singer and activist Joan Baez, former U.S. Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr., author Ann Patchett, lawyer Anita Hill and filmmaker



photo courtesy the Music Center Rachel S. Moore

Richard Linklater.

Historically among its ranks, AAAS has also elected numerous dignitaries such as Benjamin Franklin and Alexander Hamilton in the eighteenth century, Ralph Waldo Emerson and Maria Mitchell in the nineteenth century and many historic figures.

For information, visit musiccen-

Petersen collects video stories for Cars & Coffee

The Petersen Automotive Museum has announced it will continue compiling digital vehicle submissions every two weeks for its virtual Global Cars & Coffee

The deadline to submit a is May 7, and the premiere of the Global Cars & Coffee video is scheduled to air on the museum's YouTube on May 10.

On April 26, the Petersen livestreamed its first digital Global Cars & Coffee and featured 140 vehicles from car enthusiasts in France, Germany, Australia, England, Canada, United Arab Emirates, South America and across the U.S. The compilation video garnered more than 10,000 views in the first 24 hours, with more than 2,000 hours watched and over 1,000 live views.

"The overwhelming response to Petersen Automotive Museum's Global Cars & Coffee shows the passion of car enthusi-Petersen worldwide," Executive Director Terry L. Karges said. "This shared passion unites the global car community. We are proud to continue serving as a platform for entertainment, education and the love of the automobile during these times of uncertainty."

Enthusiasts can participate by following three steps. First, car owners must record a short 20- to 30-second horizontal video of the car using a phone.

Second, upload the video to Dropbox, Google Drive or YouTube, and fill out a form with the car owners information, car story and video link.

All submissions will receive a YouTube link 24 hours prior to the Global Cars & Coffee live stream. During the event, the Petersen will open a poll so viewers can vote on the People's Choice Award.

After the poll and a brief celebration, the museum will announce the Petersen Perfection Award and Best in Show. All awards will be shipped to their owners following the event.

For visit information, petersen.org/cars-and-coffeeonline.

CASA/LA supports foster youth with fundraiser

Appointed Special Advocates of Los Angeles organized its eight annual "Evening to Foster Dreams Gala" online with the help of celebrity friends, staff and volunteers on May 5.

Each year CASA/LA fundraises for its advocacy programs that support children in L.A. County's child -welfare system who experienced abuse and neglect. CASA/LA's "Evening to Foster Dreams Gala" is an annual million-dollar fundraising event, which accounts for almost 25% of the charity's operating budget, CASA/LA CEO Wende Julien said.

"We're adjusting to our current reality, and while we have successfully adapted our services and advocacy for the youth we work with, there is no replacing something like our annual gala," Julien said. "However, our amazing staff and donors have stepped up to create something wonderful that people can still watch, take part in and be touched by. This will be an incredible evening to share, and a information, visit casala.org.

once-in-a-lifetime experience."

The event CASA/LA Live! was live streamed at casala.org, YouTube and Facebook, and Topher and Ashley Grace led the ceremony. Celebrities Rachel Bilson, Rhea Perlman, Jasmin Savoy Brown, Andy Grammer and Alan Muraoka of "Sesame Street" made special appearances, and "Hamilton" star Kyrstal Joy Brown and rapper 24kGoldn performed for the event.

Former CASA/LA youth in the child-welfare system shared their experiences through spoken word poetry too. The gala honored L.A. leaders who have demonstrated extraordinary commitment to these children.

Previous honorees include Kathy Hilton and Mario Lopez.

CASA/LA also organized an auction with prizes spanning from local restaurants to weekend getaways and full two week vacations, which were donated by local and national companies and individuals. For

LA Phil brings music home

Organizations created ways to share their art through alternative methods such as the Los Angeles Philharmonic's new series "At Home With...

John Adams, Los Angeles Philharmonic creative chair, recorded a show for this week's program that runs through May 5-8 at 6 p.m. From his home in Northern California, Adams talked about his life as a composer and conductor, and shared a curated selection of classical music.

Adams has been the LA Phil's creative chair since 2009, and recently wrote a piano concert for pianist Yuja Wang titled "Must the Devil Have All the Good Tunes?" LA Phil launched "At Home With..." in partnership with

Classical KUSC in Los Angeles and Classical KDFC in San Francisco as means to bring music to L.A.

Each episode of the series presents guests' curated musical selections along with their thoughts of the current landscape of classical music. KUSC's Brian Lauritzen hosts and interviews guests, and produces the show.

"At Home With..." can be heard weekly, Tuesday through Friday, from 6-7 p.m. on KUSC and KDFC. People can listen to KUSC on the air on 91.5, livestream it on KUSC.org or listen for free through iOS and Android apps. The show is also syndicated nationally by PRX.

information, laphil.com/about/watch-and-listen/at-home.

24 May 7, 2020 Park Labrea News/Beverly Press

Holocaust museum discusses the Hollywood Red Scare social media

The Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust hosted a Facebook Live talk with Ellie Gettinger, curator of Jewish Museum Milwaukee's "Blacklist: The Hollywood Red Scare" today.

Journalist Susan King talked to Gettinger about the Blacklist and how it shifted American culture. People interested in the live stream had to register online.

"Blacklist: The Hollywood Red Scare" is about the 1947 House Un-American Activities Committee hearings that led to the Hollywood Blacklist. The film, radio and early television industries complied with government pressure to keep suspected communists from getting hired in Hollywood.

However, less explored is how the content that was being produced in all these mediums changed in response to the Blacklist, eliminating political commentary from the screen and airwaves.

The conversation between King and Gettinger can be watched again at Facebook.

Additionally, the Los Angeles Theatre Works made two audio plays available on the Museum of the Holocaust's website for free



photo courtesy of the Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust

A photo from the museum's archives shows people protesting on behalf of the Hollywood 10, the group appeared before the House Un-American Activities Committee in October 1947.

until June 1.

"Judgement at Nuremberg" produced by Abby Mann is a classic film that tells the story of Nuremberg trials, under which German leaders were found guilty of crimes against humanity in 1945 and 1946. Today, the play remains an indictment of the consequences

of unchecked authority and the power of thought.

The second play "Kindertransport" by Diane Samuels which is about families, secrets and survival that takes the audience to the days of the impending Holocaust.

As conditions deteriorated in Germany in the 1930s, many people tried to escape, and as a result of British humanitarian effort approximately 10,000 Jewsih children from Germany and neighboring countries were relocated to live with families in the United Kingdom, while their parents stayed behind.

The recording includes a conversation with Kindertransport survivor Hilda Fogelson.

For information, visi ushmm.org.

Museum releases music public programs for May

The Grammy Museum announced its next round of new and never-before-released free digital content while the museum in Los Angeles is closed until further notice in light of COVID-19.

Public Programs is a digital series that features new intimate sit-down interviews with artists and musicians recorded via Zoom, as well as archival programs form its 200-seat Clive Davis Theater.

Public Programs are released every Monday, Wednesday and Saturday. Artists Trey Anastasio, Kevin Cronin from REO Speedwagon and Web Wilder kicked-off the first round of programs this week.

Musicians participating in May's programs include Claudia Brant with Cheche Alara and Moogie Canazio, Jim Lauderdale, Melanie Martinez, Jordan Davis, Dave Stewart with Thomas Lindsey, Shinedown, Bush, Brandy Clark, JP Saxe and the Zombies.

Since the museum opened 12

years ago, it has offered more than 900 public programs. Additionally, Grammy Museum will be releasing new exhibit slideshows that feature items from past exhibitions every Friday.

The first digital exhibit this month "Beyond Black – The Style of Amy Winehouse" was released May 1. "Ravi Shankar: A Life in Music" will be released on May 8, and future exhibitions include "Deep Heart: Roots, Rock & the Music of Carlos Vives," "Leonard Bernstein at 100," and "Marty Stuart's Way Out West: A Country Music Odyssey."

Additionally, educators and families can access digital content and lesson plans as part of the Grammy Museum's The Schools Mini-Lessons through its Knowledge Bank, which continues its mission of paying tribute to musical heritage. Educational content is released every Sunday and Tuesday. For information, visit grammymuseum.org.

AFI announces program fellows

The American Film Institute announced the recipients of the 2020 Writers' Room Ready Awards, which recognizes outstanding work by AFI Conservatory Screenwriting Fellows.

AFI paired recipients Haley Bartels, Christina Kingsleigh Licud, Kenda Greenwood Moran and Alessandro Pederzoli with mentors, giving them an opportunity to work directly with established artists.

Mentors include LaToya Morgan, who has written and produced shows such as "The Walking Dead," "Into the Badlands," "Parenthood," and "Shameless;" Andy Siara, who has written for "Lodge 49" and "Palm Springs;" Christina Strain, who has written for "The Magicians" and "Finding Ohana;" and Sheila ,Wilson who has written for "Warrior Nun."

"Beyond being a world-class training ground for filmmakers, AFI Conservatory also has a world-class network of industry professionals who always search for ways to lift up other alumni and newly graduated fellows," said Susan Ruskin, dean of the AFI Conservatory and executive vice president of the American Film Institute. "This year's award winners and mentors embody the skill, talent and groundbreaking artistry that AFI alumni are known for."

Each recipient had to produce a project and be selected for this program.

Bartels wrote "Barbary," set in San Francisco, 1896. A shy postmortem photographer and a brazen actress are led to a murder scene and work together to unravel a series of killings. Licud produced "24K," a half-hour comedy, that follows the life of a Filipino teen determined to earn a full-ride college scholarship and provide for her little sister.

Moran wrote "Tammany," a one-hour drama set in New York City, 1868. A tenacious Irish immigrant, desperate to protect and provide for her rebellious teenage sister, disguises herself as a man to get a job at Tammany Hall. Pederzoli's "Narcobruja" is a one-hour drama that tells the story of a woman, left for dead after a cartel murders her family, is cared for by an indigenous witch and learns magic to avenge her family.

Andrew Hu, AFI class of 2015, created the program to recognize the great television writing being done by Screenwriting Fellows such as the newly announced recipients. Approximately, 75% of winners of the Writers' Room Ready Award are staffed on shows.

For information, visit afi.com.



Mother's Day marks a special time for families



A collection of photographs was featured in the May 3, 1951, issue of the Park Labrea News in honor of family matriarchs on Mother's Day. Mrs. Oscar Jimenez, of Blackburn Street, was shown at top left with her son Carlos, who was 3 months old at the time. Mrs. James Edge, center, of Colgate Avenue, was shown with her first-born daughter, Christine, who was 6 months old. The little guy shown at right is John Andrew Phillips, son of Mrs. Jack Phillips of Colgate Avenue, born in January 1951. Mrs. James Martell, who had recently moved from Park La Brea, is shown at the bottom with 4-month-old Jimmy. This year, Mother's Day is Sunday, May 10. For many ways to celebrate, see the Mother's Day Dining on pages 14-15.

LACMA makes space for art

While the Los Angeles County Museum of Art is temporary closed, LACMA @ Home provides weekly updates of curated digital content from the museum to the greater

community.

This week, LACMA @ Home highlighted Tavares Strachan's "ENOCH" which was created in collaboration with LACMA Art + Technology Lab. ENOCH is centered around the development and launch of a 3U satellite that brings attention to Robert Henry Lawrence Jr.'s story, the first African-American astronaut selected for any national space program.

People can learn more about Art + Technology's past and present by viewing the programs 1967-71 archival catalogue. LACMA curators Maurice Tuchman and Jane Livingston wrote the report, this publication recounts the museum's groundbreaking pairing of artists and technology corporations to produce new work.

The catalogue traces the project's successes and impasses through detailed entries and a wide range of documentation – including some memorable correspondence.

As a result of the coronavirus, the start of LACMA's jazz series cannot occur physically, however people can experience the music through weekly audio interviews with performers who were to be featured in the 2020 season.

People can listen to Meet the Musicians, a weekly audio interview series hosted by Mitch Glickman, featuring performers of



photo courtesy of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art

Tavares Strachan's "ENOCH" was created in collaboration with LACMA's Art + Technology Lab.

the jazz 2020 season. In the first episode in the series, Glickman interviews members of the Yellowjackets.

Families can also learn how to create paper bag hand puppets as part of LACMA's Make Art @ Home series. Using brown paper lunch bags, a person can create hand puppets with simple materials found around the home or by using more advanced art materials if

For information, visit lacma.org.

KCCLA offers online history and cultural lessons

The Korean Cultural Center in Los Angeles has launched a free online video series titled "Short & Sweet Lessons on Korean History & Culture" that will run through the end of June.

KCCLA is following guidelines for the closure of cultural facilities during the COVID-19 health emergency, and the series is a way for the center to continue interacting and communicating with the public. Viewers can enjoy the six episodes on KCCLA's social media platforms and by visiting kccla.org. The videos explore many aspects of Korean history and culture in a concise and fun way presented by lecturers and speakers who are experts in their fields.

The videos are titled "What Koreans Want Americans to Know about Korea"; "Poetry of Korea: Sijo"; "Art of Korea: Korean Art and Architecture with Meher McArthur"; "Beats of Korea: Samulnori"; "Fashion of Korea: Hanbok, Korean Traditional Dress" and "Food of Korea: Gimbap, a Picnic Favorite Finger Food."

"We all spend most of our time at home due to the coronavirus," KCCLA Director Wi-Jin Park said. "We hope that all families will have a great time watching



photo courtesy of KCCLA

The series on history and culture focuses on traditional Korean music.

this video series, and that the current situation with COVID-19 will return back to normal soon so that we can enjoy Korean culture together."

KCCLA also presents other programs on Korean history and culture online, such as a seminar for educators, Korean language lessons, art exhibitions, performances, K-pop concerts and movies. For information, visit kccla.org.

Cedars-Sinai expands visitor policy for new moms

On May 5, Cedars-Sinai's Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology adjusted its visitor policy to allow one visitor to remain with the new mom throughout her hospital stay.

As the nation locked down during the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, Cedars-Sinai – like most major medical centers – implemented best protection practices with precautions like limiting visitors to one person for each pregnant patient and only while the mother was in labor and delivery.

The new policy, which also states the visitor will not be allowed re-entry if they leave the medical center, matches that of neighboring peer institutions. The expanded policy is aimed at helping patients during one of life's most significant events, the birth of a new life.

"We hope this change allows for a more comfortable stay for our patients and alleviates some of the anxiety associated with this difficult time," said Dr. Sarah Kilpatrick, chair of Cedars-Sinai's Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. "During these unprecedented times, we are committed to doing everything we can to protect the health of our laboring mothers and ensure the safety of their babies."

Cedars-Sinai continues to take several steps to ensure the safety of all its patients – including pregnant and delivering mothers – visitors, healthcare providers and essential staff members during the pandemic. However, research on pregnancy



photo courtesy of Cedars-Sinai

Dr. Sarah Kilpatrick is chair of Cedars-Sinai's Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

and the coronavirus remains limited and the nation's low rate of testing makes it difficult to know how many pregnant women are infected.

"Pregnant women do not seem to have had significantly worse outcomes from COVID-19 compared to non-pregnant women," Kilpatrick said. "Although like everyone else, it is important to follow behaviors that we know help reduce the risk of infection such as frequent hand washing, staying away from people who are sick, avoiding touching your face and practicing social distancing."

There also is little known about whether pregnant mothers with COVID-19 can transmit the virus to their baby, although Kilpatrick said the virus has not been found in cord

blood or amniotic fluid, which would be expected if it had been transmitted while the baby was in utero. Similarly, there has not been any evidence of congenital health problems associated with COVID-19 infection.

"That said, specific research is very limited," Kilpatrick said. "There have been a few babies globally who tested positive for the virus soon after they were born, and fortunately, all did well in the newborn period."

There is no data to support the belief that giving birth outside of a hospital lowers the risk of getting COVID-19.

Cedars-Sinai is located at 8700 Beverly Blvd. For information, visit cedars-sinai.org.

Initiatives to be discussed by City Council on June 1

From page 6

at 11:59 p.m," Kaeni said in an email. "Meanwhile, while AURA sits on the sidelines trying to shutter our businesses, this pandemic has come at great hardship for our operators and their employees. Still, we have remained good community partners and citizens, adhering to the county health order and ensuring protections and safety for both workers and customers."

After a request by Councilwoman Lauren Meister, the council will also consider whether to place the West Hollywood Cannabis License Integrity Initiative on the ballot as well.

"We, as a council, should be more focused on those important things as well."

-West Hollywood City Councilman John Heilman

John Leonard, the city's community and legislative affairs manager, suggested June 1 would also be an appropriate time for city staff to provide information beyond the scope of the two ballot initiatives.

"We haven't presented a cannabis update in a number of months, so we can provide that as part of this so that the council has the full information on the cannabis landscape at this point," Leonard said.

Councilman John Duran expressed concern that the update would take multiple hours, as such meetings have in the past.

"We have so many pressing issues to deal with in the middle of a pandemic. We'll give it its just due, but we have other stuff to do, too," Duran said.

Duran's sentiment echoed that of Heilman, who worried that, during the pandemic, West Hollywood voters are focused on "much more important things."

"We, as a council, should be more focused on those important things as well," he added.

Heilman expressed hope that the city and the supporters of the two competing initiatives could use the time before June 1 to come to an agreement regarding the city's cannabis rules.

"I think everything has changed as a result of the current crisis, and maybe there is an opportunity within the next month for us to come up with some kind of compromise. I hope that in the next 30 days, we're exploring those options with all of the parties to see if there is a way to resolve this ... If we can do something in the next 30 days, that's great, if not, we're likely going to have to put this on the ballot," he said.

Kaeni said the Close the Loopholes supporters hope a compromise can be reached.

"We have been requesting an opportunity for compromise for months, and we stand ready to abandon our initiative if we can agree on a reasonable solution," Kaeni said.

L.A. funders create relief fund for visual artists

On May 4, the California Community Foundation, the J. Paul Getty Trust and a coalition of local artist-endowed foundations announced the launch of the Relief Fund for L.A. County Visual Artists, a collaborative effort to support the region's visual artists who are struggling due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The artist relief fund will distribute \$655,000 to visual artists who represent the various and diverse communities of Los Angeles County and have been severely impacted by the current crisis. It was created with CCF endowment funds and by repurposing the biennial Fellowship for Visual Artists program, which began in 1988 with a founding gift from the J. Paul Getty Trust. Additional support has been provided by a group of premier artist-endowed foundations based in Los Angeles, including the Mike Kelley Foundation for the Arts, the Sam Francis Foundation, and the Shepard and Amanda Fairey Foundation.

The artist relief fund is being

administered by the Center for Cultural Innovation, a nonprofit intermediary focused on the financial well-being of those in the arts.

"We're grateful to the artistendowed foundations who clearly recognize the unprecedented economic challenges our artists are facing and have joined us in this effort to sustain them," said Joan Weinstein, director of the Getty Foundation.

Getty and California Community Foundation have been longtime collaborators in support of the arts in Los Angeles. They announced earlier this month that they would work together on a fund supported by \$10 million from the Getty and administered by CCF to provide emergency relief and recovery grants to nonprofit museums and visual arts organizations in Los Angeles County.

"The artist relief fund will focus on financial need with priority consideration given to the region's cultural and geographic diversity," said Antonia Hernandez, president and CEO of the California Community Foundation. "We encourage others who can contribute to donate to the fund and help us sustain artists and build healthier communities for all Angelenos."

Eligible applicants may apply for up to \$2,000 in one-time support, and grants can be used toward any expenses that alleviate financial pressures. The application may be accessed at cciarts.org/LAEmergencyRelief.htm.

To be eligible for the artist relief fund, applicants must be visual artists who are permanent residents of Los Angeles County and not currently enrolled in school.

Applicants will be asked to demonstrate their artistic practice through an online presentation of their work and to describe their financial needs. Artists are asked to apply only if they are facing immediate needs, to reserve as much of the relief fund as possible for those facing significant financial threats.

For information, contact Stephania Ramirez at the California Community Foundation at sramirez@calfund.org.

Sports franchises help Mayor's Fund for L.A.

Fans of many of Los Angeles' most popular professional sports franchises now have the chance to acquire merchandise bearing their favorite team's recognizable logos and colors while also donating to the Mayor's Fund for Los Angeles.

AEG, the Los Angeles Clippers, LA Galaxy, Los Angeles Kings, Los Angeles Lakers, Los Angeles Sparks and Rank + Rally have joined forces to launch the Teams for LA online sale of logoed team merchandise, as well as classic merchandise from the Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival and the Grammy Awards, to benefit the Mayor's L.A. Emergency COVID-19 Crisis Fund.

Proceeds from the website, teamlastore.com, support critical needs as they arise in the city – such as childcare and meals for the neediest, relief and counseling for frontline healthcare workers, critical health care equipment and services for the homeless population.

"Our collective donation of merchandise will provide our fans a way to show their ongoing support for their favorite teams while also contributing to help their fellow Angelenos in need," said Dan Beckerman, president and CEO of AEG.

In addition to the 30,000-plus items offered at discounted prices, fans can also send gear through the site directly to local shelters and nonprofits for those that need it most. All financial contributions will be donated directly to the Mayor's Fund.

Fans are encouraged to visit the site often, as new items will be added as they become available, as will other ways to support those affected in our region.

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Tracing, testing necessary to fight COVID-19

From page 1



photo by Cameron Kiszla

Task force member Dr. Sam Torbati of Cedars-Sinai said the hospital remains ready to help during the coronavirus pandemic.

the phrase "boob and butt jobs" multiple times to illustrate what he thought would be allowed. Councilwoman Lili Bosse registered her displeasure with the terminology during the meeting on April 28 and reiterated it during the May

We can agree to disagree ... but what we pride ourselves [on], the city of Beverly Hills, is that we're a city of heart, and not divisive. Now more than ever, we have to come together, and to be divisive among ourselves is truly disgraceful as well. I'm mortified as to how this occurred," Bosse said.

Gold added that Mirisch's use of that phrase was a "misogynist representation of cosmetic surgery" and had "shades of Harvey Weinstein."

"Your misrepresentations were destructive to the city and the council and ultimately, reprehensible ... It was disgraceful," Gold said.

"Julian, your vote was disgraceful," Mirisch replied.

Mirisch added that his fellow council members had "no reasonable or rational reasons" to not exclude cosmetic procedures on April 28.

'That was my concern, and that's why I used some language that some people may consider to be salty or whatever ... I'm not going to sit on my hands when policies are being put in place that endanger people," Mirisch said.

During the City Council meeting on May 5, Mirisch tried to add two amendments to the city's emergency ordinance. One would specifically ban medically unnecessary cosmetic procedures. When that failed to gain traction, Mirisch proposed a second amendment that Angeles County Department of would protect workers who did not Public Health. feel safe returning to work at medical offices where cosmetic proce- test that shows if someone is curdures were being performed. The rently infected and the antibody test council declined to take action that that shows if someone has already night, but agreed that Mirisch's pro-recovered – will be necessary as the

posals would be discussed at a future study session.

During the meeting of the council, Medical Advisory Task Force and Health and Safety Commission, Dr. David Hopp, a task force member who serves as president of the Los Angeles County Medical Association District 7 - which includes Beverly Hills and Cedars-Sinai – said Mirisch's characterization was harmful to plastic surgeons and other medical professionals who perform outpatient reconstructive surgery. Hopp added that over 85% of patients who undergo plastic surgery are not doing so for cosmetic purposes.

"To hear the disrespect or denigration of the moral compass of plastic surgeons, of whom 95% do reconstructive surgery - that is, treating breast cancer and melanoma patients - to consider them to be nothing but cosmetic surgeons is a bit disrespectful," Hopp said.

Aside from the Mirisch-related remarks during the task force and commission meeting, the council, commission and task force also discussed the medical aspects of the fight against the coronavirus pandemic. Several doctors offered their opinions that, for the city, state and country to resume many day-to-day activities, much more testing would be required.

"Testing is absolutely critical, both for surveillance and diagnosis. If we don't get [tests] in large quantities, we're going to be asking these same questions months from now, and that's terrible," said Dr. Jonathan Fielding, a UCLA professor and former head of the Los

Both types of testing – the swab

country moves forward, though the importance of the antibody test has yet to be established, the doctors said. As of now, there is no proof that those who have recovered from COVID-19 cannot contract it again, meaning the presence of antibodies may not "imply immunity," said Dr. Enrique Terrazas, a task force mem-

In the future, an antibody test may positively identify neutralizing antibodies - those that prevent reinfection - but as of now, scientists aren't sure those neutralizing antibodies are what is being found by current antibody tests, Terrazas

"The antibody test will give us information about how many individuals in the community have been exposed to the virus, but we still need more information," Terrazas

What testing will do, the experts said, is allow government agencies to track those who had proven to be infected with the virus and see who else may have been exposed. The strategy, known as contact tracing, will better allow flare-ups to be detected as society begins to reopen.

Technology companies Apple and Google are working with the Massachusetts Institute Technology on a smartphone application to help with contact tracing, and Iceland and Israel have applications of their own, according to the city staff report. Beverly Hills is exploring its options regarding a contact tracing app for the city, the report added.

'We need ongoing public health surveillance with a statically valid number of people getting tested, probably on a daily basis or every other day, to see what the level of disease is in the population," Commissioner Dr. Lee H. Hilborne said. "Then, as we relax some of the social measures, we need to be able to monitor if there are increases because of that. Hopefully, there will not be."

Terrazas added that he feels enough tests are available to meet the existing need.

"Overall, the availability of testing kits is good, so we're able to meet the current capacity. As the volume of people getting tested increases, that may change, but today [there are enough]," Terrazas

Local hospitals are also staying ready to help COVID-19 patients. Task force member Dr. Sam Torbati, co-chair and medical director of Cedars-Sinai's Ruth and Harry Roman Emergency Department, said the hospital expects to "be taking care of COVID and non-COVID patients realistically for months, if not years."

"From the standpoint of Cedars, we're doing well and we're ready to take care of whoever needs us.' Torbati said.

The doctors also discussed other safety measures that could be helpful, such as health screenings and temperature checks when entering public buildings like offices. While such measures may not detect everyone who's sick, the doctors said, they will discourage those who are not feeling well from leaving their homes.

"Not since the end of World War II have we seen a society so ready to get out of the house and get back to work, so every bit helps," Commissioner Dr. Kirk Chang



photo by Jose Herrera

Shake Shack located at 8520 Santa Monica Blvd. is one of many restaurants waiting for "Safer at Home" orders to be lifted to welcome patrons inside its business.

Westside cities depend on tourism, Bloom says

From page 1

state budget faces diminishing funds from sales tax and all other revenue sources.

"As a result of that, we are facing a \$40 to \$60 billion budget deficit," Bloom said. "We are fortunate that in the last six years we have established a budget surplus cash reserve of \$21 billion. But that is going to disappear really quickly, though it will help cushion the blow."

However, Bloom wanted to reassure folks that while the current state of the economy and life may be difficult, the state government is working on supporting those in need. One way is applying for unemployment benthrough California's Employment Development Department.

People can also seek financial support through the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance program under the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act.

Councilwoman Lauren Meister interjected that it's difficult to go through the process and get help because applicants cannot get EDD staff on the phone.

"This is a problem you share with Santa **Monica** and **Beverly Hills and** with the city of Los Angeles because it is the main driver of all of our economies."

> -Assemblyman Richard Bloom (D-Santa Monica)

"I understand that there are hundreds of thousands of calls happening, but the message is disheartening because it's just, 'here's another number for you to call," Meister said. "Then you call the other number and it's the same message, 'We are going to give you some information and you're on your own and we are going to hang up on you."

Bloom agreed the situation is frustrating and the No. 1 issue has been responding to folks who have not been able to get any or all of their EDD benefits.

Prior to the health crisis, the economy was good, unemployment was low and the state was enduring a low period of unemployment. EDD staff numbers reflected that reality. However, in the first four weeks of the "Safer at Home" order, the EDD had to process 2.7 million applications.

And, as of April 30, the number of applicants jumped to 3.7 million. The EDD has increased its staff to process the increased number of applications, Bloom

Additionally, there has been confusion about which form, the unemployment insurance or PUA, Californians should complete to obtain benefits.

Bloom clarified that unemployment insurance is for workers who have lost their jobs, while the PUA is for selfemployed, independent contractors, freelancers and others who are not eligible for unemployment insurance.

"Many people had applied through unemployment insurance prior to the 28th, thinking they were applying for the other one," Bloom said. "You can apply for either unemployment insurance or the PUA assistance in a single application."

Meister and Horvath also questioned Bloom about when and how the state of California could support sectors of the economy such as the hospitality and tourism industry.

Bloom said the domestic tourism economy will probably return first, then international tourists. But in either case, people who are thinking about visiting anywhere in the world want to feel safe.

"I think we need to put our heads together on a subregional basis. This is a problem you share with Santa Monica and Beverly Hills and with the city of Los Angeles because it is the main driver of all of our economies," Bloom said.

Meister said that she hopes Sacramento thinks realistically about how small businesses and venues such as bars can be brought back, and when it's going to be safe to do so, knowing that there could possibly be a second wave of COVID-19 this fall.

"How we go about doing this, of course, is important to public safety," Bloom said. "It's important that we get it right, and we get it right the first time."

Feinstein lauds funding for California businesses

On May 5, U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.) released a statement on crucial funds for California small businesses that were part of the second round of Paycheck Protection Program

"Last month, many California small businesses were left behind when the Small Business Administration handed out loans under the emergency Paycheck Protection Program. California ranked only 42nd out of all states in funding per person," Feinstein said.

"I'm pleased to announce that

California is receiving far more funds in the second round of loans - so far we're the thirdranked state in per-person funding. This is a more realistic share of loans for the largest economy in the country, and these loans which will be forgiven if businesses maintain staffing levels will help provide paychecks to many Californians," Feinstein added.

For information, sba.gov/funding-programs-/loans/coronavirus-relief-

Original Farmers Market stores supply food

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Boomers' mission, reached out to Goldberg and together worked out plans to start a Los Angeles branch.

"I wanted to help seniors like my grandma who couldn't go out like normal to do their grocery shopping," Kwon said. "This helps mobilize young people. We have a lot of time on our hands and there was so much chaos. We have a role to play and this gives young people an opportunity to do something."

Zoomers to Boomers LA has teams that serve Hancock Park, Koreatown, Hollywood, Beverly Hills, Westwood, Los Feliz, Silverlake, Sherman Oaks and Studio City. The nonprofit operates similar to Instacart - volunteers purchase the order of groceries and the client will receive the receipt to pay through cash, Venmo or check. Drivers will call prior to the delivery with the total cost and an ETA.

There are no tips or additional payments necessary; however, if someone feels inclined to tip, the organization donates the money back into the community.

People interested in the service can order online at zoomerstoboomers.com/los-angeles, (323)364-5878, or email zoomerstoboomersla@gmail.com.

Kwon adapted the model a little differently to ensure safety.

"We weren't comfortable going into grocery stores," Kwon said. "So, we reached out to local shops. Not only are we supporting local businesses, but we are providing an essential service to seniors and immunocompromised."

The Original Farmers Market, located on Third and Fairfax, partnered with Zoomers to Boomers to help them deliver food from the market's local shops including Farm Fresh Produce, Farm Boy Produce, Huntington Meats and Sausage, Farmers Market Poultry, and Monsieur Marcel's Gourmet Market and Seafood Market. They've also partnered with Beverly Hills Market and Deli to provide additional delivery packages. Hancock Park resident and senior citizen Heide Striegel said she loves the service and has used it four to five times last month. She has developed a relationship with Kwon, who has delivered groceries to her home.

"It has been working like a charm," Striegel said. "They do a wonderful job. I've had some issues involved it was only her and a few



The Zoomers to Boomers program has teens pick up food for older adults during the coronavirus pandemic.

with the website and I texted Mira personally and she texted me back saying 'what do you need.""

Striegel said that since the COVID-19 pandemic started she hasn't left her house for anything besides getting fresh air and sunshine, and exercise when she can. She uses services like Zoomers to Boomers LA for her groceries and food orders to support local businesses. She's ordered produce such as oranges, apples, veggies, arugula and plums for a plum cake. She added that it's better because it comes from the Original Farmers

"The sense of community has blossomed during the coronavirus," Striegel said. "It's wonderful to see young people take care of the older generation. They are accommodating and attentive to what must be

Kwon agrees that the nonprofit has connected teenagers across Los Angeles to address the needs of the community and they have met people they would not have otherwise.

Marlborough School juniors Lexi Gluck, Sadie Well and Eva Rogovin are co-leaders, alongside Kwon. They help manage volunteers and coordinate student schedules so each volunteer can deliver groceries twice a week.

Together, they also ensure volunteers follow safety protocols such as wearing face masks and gloves, keeping cars clean, following social distancing and washing hands.

When Kwon first became

friends from Marlborough, but students from public and private schools in different areas of L.A. have stepped up to participate.

Zoomers to Boomers LA caught the attention of Los Angeles Councilman David Ryu, 4th District, who said their work is a wonderful way to keep the community connected while following "Safer at Home" orders.

"Angelenos have shown so much creativity and compassion during this crisis, and Zoomers to Boomers is a perfect example," Ryu said. "Proactive outreach is needed now - and I'm so impressed with these young people for reaching out and offering help."

He added that volunteering is central to getting the city through the crisis.

"In times like these, the government can't do it alone," Ryu said. "We need community and we need each other to make it through, even when we are physically apart. Everyone has the power to make a difference in someone else's life, and this crisis has shown the real power of everyday people working to help their neighbors.'

Kwon said the experience of working for Zoomers to Boomers has been exceptional.

"A lot of people are shocked to hear that I'm a high school student, but people are excited to work with us," Kwon said. "We are so glad to have some meaningful impact on the community."

For information, visit zoomerstoboomers.com/los-angeles.

Enforcement to be saved for "egregious" violations

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around the county such as Laredo, Texas, and some suburbs of Boston, as models for his measure. He also cited the Czech Republic, which he said has credited masks for reducing the overall number of COVID-19 infections.

"A lot of places have done it. Masks have become a real trend," Koretz said.

The councilman said he began calling for masks to be worn at all times in public because he has heard complaints from constituents and has observed a considerable number of people in his neighborhood not wearing them. He understands concerns about some people not being able to afford masks, but said any face covering will suffice, including bandanas or even pieces of cloth tied over the nose and mouth.

"While infections continue to rise, this is a common-sense measure to keep people safe," Koretz added. "It's the kind of protocol that will allow us at some point to reopen. Wearing masks in public is one of those

things we can do."

The councilman believes enforcement should be mostly educational in all but egregious cases when people refuse to wear masks. He said it shouldn't be a "gotcha" situation when people are found not wearing masks, but the city needs to be able to enforce the law with citations when people refuse to follow the rules.

Koretz said he is also focused on other measures that will address the potential spread of COVID-19 as the city reopens, including implementing a system in which "hot spots," or areas where a significant number of new infections occurs, are identified so public health authorities can quickly take measures to protect the public. The City Council is still examining how to proceed with that.

"I want to look at every location where a spread has taken place and try to do everything we can to improve the protocols," Koretz added. "There are things we can do to protect people. The goal is saving lives."

Supervisors enhance protections at skilled nursing facilities

Last month, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a motion by Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, 2nd District, calling for comprehensive measures that would strengthen protections for skilled nursing home residents and staff, who tend to be particularly vulnerable to COVID-19.

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health has found 312 institutional settings throughout the county with at least one confirmed case. As of April 27, 425 residents of institutional settings, such as skilled nursing homes, in L.A. County have died of COVID-19. They account for about 45% of LA County's death toll from the pandemic.

"We cannot underestimate the risk that COVID-19 poses to skilled nursing home residents, given their age, physical condition and health status," Ridley-Thomas said, "We must also take comprehensive precautions to protect the heroic caregivers who work in these settings and then go home to their families. It is critical that we take comprehensive steps - in partnership with the state - to prevent the spread of infection and avoid a surge of patients that could easily overwhelm our healthcare system."

Ridley-Thomas' motion called for working with Gov. Gavin Newsom and the California Department of Public Health to consider several orders, guidelines and requirements to support the safe and sustained operation of skilled nursing facilities, including facilitating expeditious testing for all staff and residents as quickly as possible; issuing standard protocols for skilled nursing homes to follow when they have a positive case of COVID-19; requiring adequate staff-to-patient ratios, as well as a sufficient supply of personal pro-

tective equipment and proper training on COVID-19; and banning retaliation against staff for working at multiple facilities, for advocating for PPEs as a condition of going to work, and for refusing to go to

The motion also called for expediting pending licenses for certified nursing assistants; providing staff with additional pay, including overtime, until the COVID-19 crisis is over, as well as additional paid sick leave days so they can care for themselves or family members who may be infected; paying staff an enhanced rate if they care for residents who have tested positive for COVID-19; and requiring skilled nursing homes to readmit patients once they are no longer sick, and keep them when they are mildly or moderately ill but do not require hospitalization to avoid overwhelming hospitals.

"We appreciate the board's fforts to put measures in place ensuring that essential staff at skilled nursing facilities are properly trained and equipped with the protective equipment they need to remain safe, and support residents who are in great need of continued care," said Dr. Barbara Ferrer, director of the L.A. County Department of Public Health.

L.A. County supports pregnant women and moms

Pregnant women and single mothers may be experiencing particular food insecurity and hardship during the COVID-19 pandemic. In Los Angeles County, there are several programs and services that help families who have been affected by recent events.

Home-visiting programs are still enrolling new clients and serving families in L.A. County. Home visitors provide support and services during pregnancy, coach parents on how to support children during difficult times and more. For the health and safety of clients, all home-visiting programs have temporarily moved all in-person visits to telehealth visits to continue providing support to all our families. For information, call (213)639-6434.

Mama's Program is providing services to pregnant women and those who have recently delivered during the COVID-9 crisis by

offering telehealth telephonic and video visits for medical and behavioral health services, social care navigation and nursing support. The telehealth platform lessens the face-to-face contact for these women without decreasing the number of visits they require or desire. Pregnant women in the safety net who need prenatal and immediate postpartum services can call (844)37-MAMAS for appointments and perinatal services.

Doula services provide emotional support, physical comfort, education and advocacy to African-American pregnant women and persons during pregnancy, childbirth and the newborn period. For information, call (213)639-6448.

The Women, Infants and Children Program provides healthy foods and other resources to pregnant women and families with a child under 5 years of age. For information and eligibility requirements, text APPLY to 91997, visit phfewic.org or call (888)942-2229.

Cash aid and food purchasing services are available through CalWORKS. This program provides monthly financial assistance to help pay for housing, food, utilities, clothing, medical care and other necessary expenses. For information and eligibility requirements, call (866)613-3777.

Early childhood education and childcare services are available for essential workers. For information, call (888)92CHILD (922-4453) or visit lacoe.edu/childcare.

Emotional-support services are available for pregnant and parenting families feeling anxious, panicked or stressed. Mental health professionals are available at (800)854-7771.

For information, covid19.lacounty.gov/testing.

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WE'RE ALL APART OF SOMETHING. BCCCER

The City of West Hollywood is Providing **COVID-19** Relief and Resources

The coronavirus crisis is changing life for all of us.

The City of West Hollywood has expanded its partnerships with nonprofits to ensure that vital social services are available for community members in need.

The City's temporary eviction moratoriums for residential renters and commercial tenants are helping people stay safe in their housing and businesses.

West Hollywood is committed to providing relief and resources, and our resolve has never been stronger.

#WeHoStrong weho.org/coronavirus







Follow @WeHoCity for news & updates



Resources & relief are available for:

Renters, Residents, Workers, Families with Children, Small Businesses, Older Adults