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Beverly Hills receives seed money for ‘Iron Root, 2015’

City gets $200K donation for Ai Weiwei artwork

By Cameron Kiszla

On Aug. 18, the Beverly Hills City Council unanimously voted to use a $200,000 donation from the Richard M. Cohen and Andrew S. Cohen Foundation to help the city acquire a work by the famed Chinese artist Ai Weiwei.

On Aug. 6, the City of Beverly Hills Community Charitable Foundation received the donation and transferred the funds to the city to help Beverly Hills purchase Ai’s cast-iron sculpture “Iron Root, 2015.” The City Council voted last year to follow the recommendation of the city’s Arts and Culture Commission and purchase the artwork, which weighs more than 3,700 pounds, according to a staff report from the April 16, 2019, City Council study session. “Iron Root, 2015” is 10 feet wide, 7 feet tall and 3.5 feet deep.

According to the 2019 staff report, “Iron Root, 2015” is valued at $1.8 million, but the United Talent Agency Artist Space in Beverly Hills, an extension of the United Talent Agency, is offering it to the city for $500,000. With the $200,000 donation, the artwork itself is expected to cost the city $700,000. Shipping, contingency and insurance costs are expected to add another $1.4 million.

The council, which pledged to help Beverly Hills purchase Ai’s work, passed by the City Council on Aug. 17 staff report, approximately 87.6% of dwelling units in the city smoke-free. According to the Aug. 17 staff report, approximately 87.6% of dwelling units in the city smoke-free. According to the Aug. 17 staff report, approximately 87.6% of dwelling units in the city smoke-free. According to the Aug. 17 staff report, approximately 87.6% of dwelling units in the city smoke-free.

Meanwhile, the City Council unanimously voted to use a $200,000 donation from the Richard M. Cohen and Andrew S. Cohen Foundation to help the city acquire a work by the famed Chinese artist Ai Weiwei.

In three months, tobacco smokers looking to move into a condominium or apartment unit in West Hollywood will not have the luxury to light up within their own home. However, marijuana smokers and those who use vapes will still have the freedom to smoke in their residence.

Marijuana excluded from smoke-free ordinance

WeHo bans tobacco use in multi-family units, common areas

By Laura Coleman

In three months, tobacco smokers looking to move into a condominium or apartment unit in West Hollywood will not have the luxury to light up within their own home. However, marijuana smokers and those who use vapes will still have the freedom to smoke in their residence.

The decision to amend the West Hollywood Municipal Code to prohibit smoking within newly built or newly leased units within multi-family dwellings, as well as in common areas, was unanimously passed by the City Council on Aug. 17. The ordinance, which also prohibits smoking in any park or within 5 feet of any parklet, will go into effect 90 days after the 5-0 vote.

“We’ve reaffirmed that a violation of this provision is not grounds for eviction, but it is grounds for an administrative citation for violating the provision,” Mayor Pro Tempore John Heilman said.

The council, which pledged to decide on the specifics of the fines before the ordinance goes into effect, stopped short of requiring a registration program that would have designated units’ smoking status. In anticipation of further strengthening its no-smoking policy, staff will be conducting a survey in the upcoming year about making all condominium and apartment units smoke-free. According to the Aug. 17 staff report, approximately 87.6% of dwelling units in the city of West Hollywood are located in multi-family dwellings.

West Hollywood has a strong history of advocating for the health and welfare of its residents. Similarly, the city has long advocated that people should be able to live the life they choose in the privacy of their own homes without government intrusion provided that those activities are not interfering with others’ peaceful enjoyment of their property.

Prized Pomeranian returns home

Dognapping took Beverly Hills pet to Las Vegas, police say

By Edwin Folven

A 2-year-old Pomeranian named Lolli was reunited with her Beverly Hills owner earlier this month after allegedly being dog-napped on Pico Boulevard and taken to Las Vegas.

The reunion was made possible by officers from the Beverly Hills Police Department, who received help from the Los Angeles Police Department’s West Hollywood Division and the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department.

Owner Gina Bisignano said she thought she may never see Lolli again, but thanks to the work of multiple law enforcement agencies, her prized Pomeranian is back home and the alleged dog-napper is in jail facing charges.

“For 17 days, I was devastated,” Bisignano said. “I really want to thank the police officers who helped find my dog and get her back. I didn’t think there would be a happy ending.”

On July 20, Bisignano stopped at a dry cleaner on Pico Boulevard just south of Beverly Hills and jumped out of her car for what she said was only a minute. A car pulled up behind her vehicle and a man jumped out and smashed her window with a crowbar. The suspect grabbed a purse, got back in the vehicle and fled. Lolli, who weighs less than 5 pounds, was inside the purse.

“I had a panic attack,” Bisignano said. “I fell on the ground and just started crying.”

The theft occurred in Los Angeles and was investigated by detectives at the West Hollywood Division, who were also experiencing a auto burglary spree and thought the dog-napping was related.

They recovered video footage and identified the vehicle involved in the crime.

In July, a similar vehicle – a late-model orange Ford Mustang – had allegedly been involved in numerous other auto burglaries in the LAPD’s Wilshire, West Los Angeles and Pacific divisions, as well as West Hollywood and Beverly Hills.

Investigators in those areas were working together to find the car and the suspect involved in the alleged crime.

On Aug. 5, officers from the Beverly Hills Police Department’s Crime Impact Team investigated an attempted burglary at the home of a Beverly Hills resident.

‘Uplift Melrose’ plan would transform popular avenue

Plan would improve walking, biking for shopping district

By Edwin Folven

Melrose Avenue may be transformed between Fairfax and Highland avenues by a proposed city of Los Angeles project that would bring more sidewalk space, separated bike lanes, new cross-walks, better lighting, more trees and improved landscaping to the shopping and dining district.

The “Uplift Melrose” project has received the support of the Mid City West Community Council, whose board voted 29-2 in favor of the plan at a meeting last week.

The Melrose Business Improvement District is working with Streets LA, formerly the city’s Bureau of Street Services, to implement the idea. Currently in the conceptual phase, the city plans to apply for a $31.8 million grant to help fund the project.

The city has released renderings of how the street might look when the project is complete.

Photo courtesy of Streets LA

While marijuana use will be allowed in multi-family units in West Hollywood, tobacco use will be banned.

Before the ordinance goes into effect, stopped short of requiring a registration program that would have designated units’ smoking status. In anticipation of further strengthening its no-smoking policy, staff will be conducting a survey in the upcoming year about making all condominium and apartment units smoke-free. According to the Aug. 17 staff report, approximately 87.6% of dwelling units in the city of West Hollywood are located in multi-family dwellings.

West Hollywood has a strong history of advocating for the health and welfare of its residents. Similarly, the city has long advocated that people should be able to live the life they choose in the privacy of their own homes without government intrusion provided that those activities are not interfering with others’ peaceful enjoyment of their property.
Feuer files lawsuit over plan to shorten census count time

Los Angeles City Attorney Mike Feuer filed a lawsuit on Aug. 18 against the Trump administration, challenging the federal government’s attempt to drastically cut the amount of time for the 2020 census.

The lawsuit contends that a decision to cut the census count time, by as much as four-and-a-half months, would result in a severely flawed census, inaccurately representing the nation’s population.

Feuer was joined in filing the lawsuit by 11 other city attorneys, including Los Angeles, Austin, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Houston, Seattle, San Francisco, New York and Philadelphia.

“This amounts to afoot-in mouth attempt to subvert the Constitution,” Feuer said in a news release. “The Constitution commands the federal government to conduct a full, accurate and complete census every 10 years. Nothing less will do.”

The city’s lawsuit joins a growing number of legal challenges to the Trump administration’s plan to cut the number of days it has to tally the nation’s population from 10 to six, a move Feuer and others say will result in a less accurate count.

The Trump administration had previously said it would announce the count early, on or before Dec. 17, a move the city attorneys say is an attempt to keep political opponents from observing the count.

“I’m proud to be joined in this lawsuit by so many cities across the country who share our concerns about the Trump administration’s attempt to cut the census count time,” Feuer said in the news release.

The lawsuit argues that the administration’s plan to cut the census count time will result in a less accurate count, as it will not give enough time to complete the count.

“The Trump administration is trying to rush the census, which is a violation of the Constitution,” Feuer said. “Our lawsuit argues that the administration’s plan to cut the census count time will result in a less accurate count, as it will not give enough time to complete the count.”

The lawsuit seeks to stop the Trump administration from cutting the census count time and to require the administration to provide a full, accurate and complete census.

“From political representation to Electoral College votes, from census responses to how family stories are passed down from generation to generation, and how we pay for schools, health services, child care, emergency services, and much more,” Feuer said.

“But the Trump administration has no business rushing the census, which is why we are依法 a lawsuit to stop the Trump administration from cutting the census count time and to require the administration to provide a full, accurate and complete census,” Feuer said.

The lawsuit was filed in U.S. District Court in Los Angeles.

WeHo urges residents to be counted in the U.S. census

The city of West Hollywood is continuing its urgent call for residents to be counted in the 2020 census.

The United States Census Bureau has announced that census counting will end on Sept. 30. Currently, the response rate for households in California is approximately 65%, and the response rate for households in West Hollywood is approximately 70%.

The city urges residents to complete the census form online at 2020census.gov or by phone at 1-844-330-2020.

Census forms cannot be shared with or by other governmental agencies, or used against a person in any way.

The 2020 census will decide how federal funds are distributed in California. An inaccurate census could impact funding for schools, health services, child care, emergency services, and many other programs.

The census will also be used to decide the number of California’s Congressional members and Electoral College votes. For information, visit weho.ca.gov/census2020.

CALANDER

‘Unorthodox’

American Cinematheque is holding a virtual seminar on the Netflix mini-series “Unorthodox” (2020) on Sunday, Aug. 23, at 11 a.m., via Zoom. Co-presented by the Goethe-Institut, the event includes a live Q&A session with the series’ creator Anna Winger, director Maria Schrader and star Shira Haas. “Unorthodox” is based on Deborah Feldman’s New York Times best-selling memoir. Request a screening copy and register by visiting americacinematheque.com/unorthodox.

‘The Ancestors of Atauro’

Learn about “The Ancestors of Atauro” during an installment of the Fowler Museum at UCLA’s Lunch & Learn series on Monday, Aug. 24, from noon to 12:30 p.m. The series offers curatorial explorations of objects from across the world in the museum’s permanent collection. The focus will be on a pair of ancestor figures created by an unknown sculptor on Atauro Island in Timor-Leste in Southeast Asia, in the early to mid-20th century. They are called itas in the Tetum language and were created to honor family members who had died. Joana Barrkman, senior curator of Southeast Asia and Pacific Arts for the Fowler Museum at UCLA, will explain the significance of the sculptures, aspects of the artists’ lives and how itas were made. RSVP by visiting fowler.ucla.edu.

Piano Spheres: Piano Spheres presents a special online broadcast of recordings by Los Angeles-based pianist Paul Cornish on Saturday, Aug. 22. The program includes inspired original compositions by Cornish, a recent graduate of the UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music and the Jazz Studies Program. A link to the recordings will be available on Aug. 22 by visiting pianospheres.org.

Mindful Awareness Meditation

The Fowler Museum at UCLA’s Lunch & Learn series on Monday, Aug. 24, from noon to 12:30 p.m., is open to the public. Special clothing is not required and participants can join for as long as they wish.

We Are All Americans

The Institute for Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, is holding an online broadcast of its “We Are All Americans” with artist Michele Jaquis Pidey on Friday, Aug. 21, from 1 to 2 p.m. The Institute was inspired by the story of how Jaquis’s Russian great-grandfather gained U.S. citizenship in 1925 and her great-grandmother, shielded her son from the horrors of the Holocaust for a discussion on the orthodoxy of its testimonial, immigration, military service, Black Lives Matter, identity privilege and indigeneity. theica.org/en/events/251-we-are-all-americans.

Traffic Alert

Wilshire Bl will be open to at least two lanes of traffic in each direction.

Work Hours

Work hours will vary depending on construction activity, more details at metro.net/purple.

Construction is dynamic and is subject to change.

Contact Us

213.323.6934

Purple (line) extension transit project

Station Construction and Pre-Tunneling Work

Construction of the Wilshire/Rodeo Station box continues from the Reeves Staging Yard located on Wilshire Bl and Reeves Dr. Meanwhile, installation of monitoring equipment advances along the tunnel alignment.

Park Labrea News/Beverly Press
Welcome Back!

Due to Popular Demand, We’ve Expanded our Hours!
Sun- Thurs 9:30am-10pm
Fri-Sat 9:30am-11pm

We follow ALL health protocols!
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BHPD seeks additional victims of alleged rapist

Defendant is accused of targeting multiple victims

BY EDWIN FOLEVN

The Beverly Hills Police Department has arrested a 39-year-old resident on rape and sexual assault charges and is asking for any additional victims to come forward.

The defendant, Kamran Syed, was arrested on June 20 by Beverly Hills Police after he met women at nightclubs in Los Angeles and Orange counties and took them back to his Beverly Hills residence and allegedly raped or sexually assaulted them. The Los Angeles County District Attorney office filed via a grand jury an amended complaint against Syed, including three counts of rape of an unconscious or asleep person, and one count each of assault to commit rape, forcible oral copulation and oral copulation of an unconscious person. Syed remains in custody on $1.5 million bail and is scheduled to appear in Department 31 of the Airport Courthouse on Aug. 31.

BHPD Lt. Max Subin said details of the investigation cannot be released out of privacy concerns for the victims and because of the ongoing criminal case. The crimes allegedly occurred from 2017 to 2020.

“The reason we went public was because we believe there are other victims,” Subin said. “We really can’t give out specifics, but we wanted to notify the public if there are any additional victims.”

Anyone with information is encouraged to call the BHPD at (310)285-2125. Those wishing to remain anonymous can text BEVHILLSPD, followed by the tip information, to 888777.

Suspect in alleged Hollywood hate crime sought

The Beverly Hills Police Department has announced that investigators have made an arrest in a violent crime on July 15 in which two suspects, one male and the other female, allegedly robbed a female cyclist on La Cienega Boulevard.

Detectives identified a vehicle allegedly used in the crime using the city’s closed circuit surveillance cameras, which recorded a license plate. One suspect, Jamilya Taylor, 19, of Los Angeles, was identified and arrested. She posted $40,000 bail and is scheduled to appear in court on robbery charges on Oct. 5.

The alleged suspect wanted for the robbery, assault and hate crime in Hollywood was captured on video.

BHPD to hold DUI and driver’s license checkpoint on Aug. 22

The Beverly Hills Police Department’s Traffic Bureau will be conducting a sobriety and driver’s license checkpoint on Saturday, Aug. 22, from 5 p.m. to midnight at an undisclosed location in the city.

All traffic will pass through the checkpoint. Motorists will be stopped and contacted by uniformed officers when they are stopped for alcohol and drug impairment.

Officers will also check to make sure all contacted drivers have a valid driver’s license.

The Beverly Hills Police Department supports the California Office of Traffic Safety’s “DUI Doesn’t Just Mean Booze” campaign. People who take prescription drugs, particularly those with a driving or operating machinery warning on the label, might be impaired enough to get a DUI.

Marijuana can also cause impairment, especially in combination with alcohol or other drugs, and can result in a DUI.

In addition to being a deterrent, authorities hope to promote public safety and raise awareness about the dangers of impaired driving. For information, call the BHPD Traffic Bureau at (310)285-2196. Funding for checkpoints is provided by the Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Parking enforcement relaxed through Oct. 1 in Los Angeles

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti has extended relaxed parking enforcement until Oct. 1, allowing residents to stay home whenever possible without being concerned about citations during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Relaxed enforcement is extended for residential street sweeping regulations, registration, overnight/overnight parking district restrictions, and temporary no-parking zones. Enforcement continues for metered parking, time limits in preferential parking districts for vehicles without a valid or recently-expired permit, posted time limit zones in residential and commercial areas and temporary no-parking zones.

Citations are also still being issued for blocking emergency access, parking beyond time limits in colored curb zones and violating parking restrictions at city-owned lots.

Residents will not face parking fines increases when failing to pay a citation. Extended grace periods will be allowed for violations in residential and commercial drop off or pickup zones, and extensions have been granted on all deadlines for permits. Temporary permits can be printed at home for people who have renewed permits but will not receive a new hangtag before their current permit expires.

Vehicles displaying recently expired permits within preferential parking districts will have a two-week grace period following the expiration of their permit. For more information, visit ladot.lacity.org.

Suspect arrested for alleged robbery on La Cienega

Detectives arrested a male, 39, on robbery charges on Aug. 19 after a crime occurred July 15.

Detectives identified a vehicle and a suspect. The suspect was identified as Kamran Syed, a 39-year-old Los Angeles resident.

Photo courtesy of BHPD

Kamran Syed is facing rape and sexual assault charges and remains in custody.

Photo courtesy of the LAPD

The alleged suspect wanted for the robbery, assault and hate crime in Hollywood was captured on video.

Police are asking for the public’s help in identifying a man wanted for allegedly robbing and assaulting two transgender women on Hollywood Boulevard during the early morning hours of Aug. 17. Investigators hope a tip will lead them to a suspect.

The crime occurred at approximately 2:15 a.m. when the suspect approached a group of women in the 6500 block of Hollywood Boulevard and offered to buy them items at a store. The suspect refused to pay for the merchandise and the victims walked away, police said.

A short time later, the suspect, armed with a metal bar, approached one of the victims and demanded her shoes and bracelet, police said. The victim complied, but the suspect grabbed her by the hand and forced her to walk with him for a short distance before she broke free and fled.

The suspect then approached the original group again and assaulted one of the women with a bottle, knocking her to the ground. The victims are transgender women, and the suspect made derogatory remarks about their gender status, making it a hate crime, police said.

Some members of the group captured video of the incident and uploaded it to social media. Police said the suspect is Black, approximately 25 years old, 6 feet tall and 180 pounds, with black hair and brown eyes. He was wearing a black tank top and black shorts.

Los Angeles City Councilman Mitch O’Farrell, 13th District, expressed concern about the alleged crimes.

“I spoke with [LAPD Hollywood Division] Capt. [Steve] Luzar and he assured me that a full investigation has been launched and detectives are making significant progress,” O’Farrell said in a tweet. “My office will continue to monitor the situation until there is full reso- lution.”

Anyone with information about the alleged crime is urged to call Detective R. Stogner, of the Hollywood Division, at (213)972-2934. During weekends and off-hours, call the LAPD’s hotline at (877)APD247.
Beverly Hills will light up for holiday season

BY CAMERON KESZLA

In a unanimous vote on Aug. 18, the Beverly Hills City Council approved its fiscal year 2020-21 capital improvement program bud- get, which illustrates the effects of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic and its economic impact on the city.

The CIP budget was considered separately from the rest of the city’s budget, which was approved in June. The council also voted earlier this month to allocate $1.2 million for the purchase and installation of security cameras as part of the CIP budget.

This year’s CIP budget is $73.8 million, though $15 million of that is earmarked for the Metro Rodeo Station North Portal Project, which aims to install a station entrance for riders once the Metro Rodeo Drive – for riders once the Metro Rodeo Station. The city of Los Angeles will begin road work on Benedict Canyon next week.

The city of Los Angeles will begin road work on Benedict Canyon Drive between Clear View Drive on the north and DeLeresto Drive on the south. Traffic will be significantly restricted in each direction during the hours of 6:30 a.m. and 4 p.m., and the public is advised to use Beverly Glen Boulevard as an alternate route.

For information, visit streetla.lacity.org.

Without that $15 million, the fiscal year 2020-21 CIP budget is $58.8 million, almost $10 million less than last year’s $68.5 million budget.

In addition to that reduction, Beverly Hills reduced last year’s CIP budget by $24.4 million so that $6 million could be put toward the general fund. Impacted projects included the Santa Monica Boulevard Corridor project, which was reduced by $8.3 million; $3 million for police facility upgrades; and maintenance and improvements for Fire Station 3 that would have cost $1 million.

However, the budget allows for some maintenance and upgrades. For instance, $650,000 will be set aside for seismic rehabilitation for the City Hall tower, with additional funding expected in fiscal year 2021-22. $13 million will be used to design and drill new groundwater wells in the La Brea Basin; and $4 million will be used to rehabilitate and waterproof the city’s concrete parking facilities. Millions of dollars in funding is also available for sidewalk, street, tree and water main and hydrant repairs, replacements and improvements.

Councilman John Mirisch, who advocated for more cuts to the city’s budget in June, said he supported the CIP budget as it was presented, but he did not see any overspending.

“A lot of it is maintenance, which is important. It’s that old adage of ‘you can pay me now or pay me later,’ and it’s all at a reasonable level,” Mirisch said.

While only one year of the CIP budget is approved at a time, city staff also presented a five-year plan that estimated how much funding is expected in future years. Many of the projects that saw reduced funding this fiscal year are expected to receive more funding next fiscal year, when many hope the economy will have improved. Mayor Lester Friedman, who served with Vice Mayor Robert Wunderlich on the council’s COVID-19 Budget Ad Hoc Committee, referenced Mirisch’s use of “pay me now or pay me later” when explaining the decision to plan for more funding next year.

“It’s really ‘you can pay me now or pay me later,’ but we were careful about not excluding payments for the future. We don’t want to pay more later because we’re not doing something now, and we were very careful and considerate of that,” Friedman said.

The council members also praised city staff for their work in adapting the CIP budget during the coronavirus pandemic while keeping many city priorities funded, such as expanding the city’s network of security cameras.

“I’m pleased to say that there are enhancements here that we know are important, especially those surrounding public safety … all embedded in this capital budget,” Councilman Julian Gold said.

Also included in the budget was $1.3 million for holiday decorations and decorative lighting, which several business owners and advocates for local retailers supported during the public comment portion of the meeting. The original budget for the decorations and lighting was $1.8 million, but with changes to Metro construction, the city will not have to spend $200,000 to relocate its Santa pole that is typically part of the holiday celebrations. In addition, city staff “also determined that current Los Angeles County Department of Health regulations make it unlikely that large gatherings of any kind will be permitted in 2020,” allowing the city to save $300,000 on a holiday stage show event, according to the staff report.

Despite the challenges posed by COVID-19, the retailers said the lights could continue to attract shoppers later this year, even if pedestrian activity is limited and people could only see the lights and decorations from their cars.

“We feel the lighting of our city could be more important this year than in any year that we’ve had it,” said Todd Johnson, president and CEO of the Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce.

Several retailers added that the lights and decorations could provide an emotional lift for people during a difficult time, a sentiment echoed by Councilwoman Lili Bosse.

“Now more than ever, we need to show that Beverly Hills is open, we’re resilient, we’re safe and welcoming. We can’t go dark … As we hit the holiday season and as we begin a new year ahead, we do it with light and brightness and positivity,” Bosse said.

Benedict Canyon resurfacing

The city of Los Angeles will begin road work on Benedict Canyon Drive next week.

From Tuesday, Aug. 25, through Friday, Aug. 28, city of Los Angeles crews will be resurfacing a portion of Benedict Canyon Drive between Clear View Drive on the north and DeLeresto Drive on the south. Traffic will be significantly restricted in each direction during the hours of 6:30 a.m. and 4 p.m., and the public is advised to use Beverly Glen Boulevard as an alternate route.

For information, visit streetla.lacity.org.

Mayor Robert Wunderlich on the need to allocate $1.2 million for the purchase and installation of security cameras as part of the CIP budget. (Photo courtesy of the City of Beverly Hills)
Beverly Hills to consider street upgrades

Subway leads to focus on pedestrians with 'Connect BH'

By CAMERON KISZLA

“Connect Beverly Hills: Meet Me on Wilshire and La Cienega,” the city’s initiative to develop design standards and streetscape plans for Wilshire and La Cienega boulevards, will be led by the city’s Traffic and Parking Commission, the City Council decided on Aug. 18.

The streets are expected to see major changes when two subway stations, Wilshire/La Cienega and Wilshire/Rodeo, open in 2023 and 2025, respectively, and bring an influx of pedestrians.

During the council’s study session on Aug. 18, city staff and Nat Gale of the consulting firm Tool Design had proposed that the city’s Planning Commission could handle the project, as land use will be a major component of the changes.

Gale added that approximately 20% of space along Wilshire and La Cienega boulevards is surface parking lots, which can create “dead space” for pedestrians, while nearby historic buildings and public art can make these corridors more inviting.

“This provides an opportunity to really put people first on Wilshire and La Cienega boulevards,” Gale said.

The council members, however, said transportation will be a primary concern for the streetscape redesign, making the Traffic and Parking Commission a better fit for the job. The council hold one major consideration for the subway-related mobility hub at Wilshire Boulevard and North Gale Drive, which is two blocks from the intersection of Wilshire and La Cienega boulevards. That mobility hub could include “passenger drop-off and pick-up [areas], shuttle connections and long-term bicycle park,” according to the staff report.

“We’re talking less about land use provisions … and more about mobility,” Councilwoman Lili Bosse said.

Councilman Julian Gold pointed out that the Planning Commission is likely to also have to consider several large development projects at the same time, and he was worried about spreading the commissioners too thin.

“It seems to me that we’re asking an awful lot of them … I’m skeptical that they’re going to be able to accomplish it all,” Gold said.

However, because land use will be a consideration, the council members suggested that an ad hoc committee could be formed or the Planning Commission could furnish liaisons to ensure that all issues are considered.

“There are integrated concepts here. I could picture having a representative or two from the Planning Commission serving in some sort of capacity as well,” Vice Mayor Robert Wunderlich said.

Councilman John Mirisch also made clear that the residents of the areas near Wilshire and La Cienega boulevards must have their interests represented and quality of life protected. His suggestion was echoed by Wunderlich and Mayor Lester Friedman.

“I’d like to hear their voice and other people’s voices, simplified voice … Fishtown, that’s right in their wheelhouse and backyard, and I think we need to figure out a way to do that … I think livability should be part of this as well,” Mirisch said.

“I think it’s need to be sure that we have residents and users that have the area involved,” Friedman added.

Because Metro was able to accelerate construction of the Purple Line Extension during the reduced traffic and business closures during the coronavirus pandemic, Beverly Hills is looking to move quickly on “Connect Beverly Hills” and other Metro-related matters. Susan Healy Keene, the city’s community development director, said Beverly Hills needs to decide on its choices for the North Portal – a separate entrance for the Wilshire/Rodeo station that would be on the north side of Wilshire Boulevard to provide easier access to the Business Triangle – by the end of October.

Deputy Director of Transportation Aaron Kunz added the design standards for the area around the Wilshire/La Cienega station need to be finalized by early to mid-2021.

“Because the project has been sped up through COVID and the ability for Metro to move a little bit faster … everything has sped up. We want to make sure we have the ability to weigh in,” Keene said.

The city is seeking input from residents and stakeholders at connectbeverlyhills.org, where a 10-minute Design Elements Preference Survey asks about preferred “types and styles of streetscape amenities” and what types of transportation, design and informational elements should be provided at a potential future Gold Mobility Hub at Wilshire Boulevard/North Gale Drive, according to a release from the Beverly Hills Transportation Planning and Traffic Engineering Division.

Draft concept designs are expected to be presented for public feedback this fall, according to the release.

For information, visit connectbeverlyhills.org, email transportation@beverlyhills.org or call (310)285-1128.

Garcetti names new deputy mayor for homelessness

On Aug. 11, Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti named a long-time homelessness services advocate and provider Jose Ramirez as the new deputy mayor for city homelessness initiatives.

With more than a decade of experience in this field in both Los Angeles and San Francisco, Ramirez will oversee the mayor’s agenda to construct temporary shelters, build supportive and affordable housing, deliver vital services and bring homeless Angelenos into homes.

Before joining the city, Ramirez was the executive director and CEO of the Coalition for the Homeless in San Francisco, where he led programs to connect people experiencing homelessness to housing, employment, medical needs and referral services.

Prior to joining SFC, Ramirez was job development director for the Boys & Girls Club in Oakland. Ramirez replaces Christina Miller as deputy mayor, carrying on her leadership in starting the A Bridge Home program; implementing a voter-approved Proposition HHH and Measure H; dedicating new resources to homelessness; and building new plans to succeed state investments in local homelessness solutions; and initiating rapid COVID-19 response initiatives like Project Roomkey, emergency homeless shelters and isolation and quarantine hotels and motels.

Previously, Ramirez served as executive director and chief operating officer at St. Francis Center in Downtown Los Angeles, where he led programs to connect people experiencing homelessness to housing, employment, medical needs and referral services.

“This truly is a homecoming for me. It was here, in this City of Angels, on a warm summer night forty years ago, that America first looked across the New Frontier, on a warm summer night forty years ago, that America first looked across the New Frontier, on a warm summer night forty years ago, that America first looked across the New Frontier. And I ask you to dedicate yourself to elect Al Gore as the next president of the United States.”

Edward M. Kennedy Remarks by Senator Edward M. Kennedy at the Democratic National Convention, August 16, 2000 Los Angeles, California Kennedy served at a United States Senator for Massachusetts from 1962-2009

(source: “Bartlett’s Familiar Quotations”)
WeHo Chevron to get car wash, convenience store

By Laura Coleman

The West Hollywood City Council failed to be swayed by City Council candidate Jerome Cleary’s appeal regarding the Planning Commission’s approval to redevelop the Chevron service station-anchored parcel at 1107 N. La Cienega Blvd. The council voted 3-1 in its Aug. 17 meeting to allow the owner to move forward with redeveloping the site, which is located on the northwest corner of La Cienega Boulevard and Holloway Drive.

Councilwoman Lauren Moser was the lone no vote to allow the project to proceed, citing her concern about negative environmental impacts. Mayor Pro Tempore John Heilman abstained from the vote due to the proximity of his residence to the project.

After reviewing the entire record, staff finds that the applicant did not adequately address the new businesses that have never been there before not egregiously impact the irreparable damage it will cause to our community. Allowing the addition of these new businesses to the site will make the neighborhood’s main problems, noise and traffic, worse,” wrote resident Stephen Jamieson on behalf of property owner Ben Pouldar.

Before the council vote, staff spoke with the applicant team who agreed to remove the easternmost driveway along Holloway Drive as a condition of approval. To further lessen the anticipated traffic impacts, the applicant also agreed to restrict access to the landscaped area at the westernmost property line.

“This location will be a beautiful addition to the city and one that meets all the findings that are necessary under the city code,” said attorney Stephen Jamieson on behalf of property owner Ben Pouldar.

In anticipation of the meeting, the council received 16 emails, 13 of which opposed the project.

“I am alarmed at what I hear is proposed for the Chevron station site. How will the addition of three businesses that have never been there before not egregiously impact the irreparable damage it will cause to our community. Allowing the addition of these new businesses to the site will make the neighborhood’s main problems, noise and traffic, worse,” wrote resident Helena Shapiro, who is a member of the HOA Board at Empire West.

Cleary, who filed his appeal on March 16, detailed his concerns that the car wash would greatly increase traffic in the area. After visiting another car wash owned by Pouldar three times, he said he always observed long lines of cars, some taking over parking spaces.

“Are we to believe that suddenly they’re going to wave a magic wand and be great business owners?” Cleary questioned. “No. I don’t believe it at all.”

Pouldar told the council that the forthcoming car wash would be automated and able to process approximately 20 cars per hour with each car going through in around three minutes.

The property will continue to operate as a gas station with the existing gas pumps and canopy remaining, but the automobile service bays will be eliminated. In addition to the convenience store and car wash, the new building will have space for another small shop.

West Hollywood City Council gives itself a raise

By Laura Coleman

While salary increases may be elusive for the bulk of Americans as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to unfold, on Aug. 17, the West Hollywood City Council voted 4-1 to give the five council members a 15% salary bump.

“I think in this time when we’ve asked our staff to furiously and we’re focusing on how we can manage our budgets, I just don’t think that increase is going to make or break any sort of situation. We could make a big difference for the services and residents that we’re here to serve, so I’m going vote yes,” said Mayor Lindsey Horvath, the lone no vote.

Had the council not approved the item at its meeting this week, council members would not have been eligible for the pay raise until after the next general election.

“In consideration of the increases in the cost of living since 2017, staff recommends an increase to City Council compensation,” stated the staff report.

The entire $185 a month, which increases council members’ monthly salary from $1,237 to $1,422, aggregates to a combined annual total of an additional $11,100 more a year. Until the raise goes into effect, council members will continue to earn an annual salary of $14,844, in addition to receiving allowances of $150 per month for telephone and internet access and $100 per month for miscellaneous office and transportation expenses, for a total of $3,000 per year. Council members also receive medical contributions and other health and welfare benefits, as well as reimbursements for expenses incurred in the course of approved city business.

Horvath said she would be open to not taking the raise for herself.

In anticipation of the meeting, the council received three digital

The service bays at the Chevron on La Cienega Boulevard will be elimi- nated to make way for a convenience store and car wash.

See Raise page 21

West Hollywood City Council denies appeal of Planning Commission approval

By Laura Coleman

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“Are we to believe that suddenly they’re going to wave a magic wand and be great business owners?” Cleary questioned. “No. I don’t believe it at all.”

Pouldar told the council that the forthcoming car wash would be automated and able to process approximately 20 cars per hour with each car going through in around three minutes.

The property will continue to operate as a gas station with the existing gas pumps and canopy remaining, but the automobile service bays will be eliminated. In addition to the convenience store and car wash, the new building will have space for another small shop.
The city is looking at more ways to rein in house parties in the Hollywood Hills, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Los Angeles City Councilman Mitch O’Farrell, 13th District, and the city’s Economic and Workforce Development Department have announced that the application deadline has been extended through 11:59 p.m. on Aug. 21 for the 13th District Small Business Grant Program.

O’Farrell allocated $1 million in discretionary funding to kickstart the grant program to assist small businesses in the 13th District affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The program is for businesses in the 13th District that have three to 26 employees. The program will be administered in partnership with EWDD. For a link to the application, visit cd13.com. Acelera Financial is providing technical assistance about the application process. For information, call Acelera at (213)410-5099, or email ta@acelerafinancial.com.
Vote in tunneling machine art and naming contest

Metro has announced the selected entries for the Purple Line Extension Section 3 Tunnel Boring Machine Art and Naming Contest, and is asking the public to vote on the finalists through 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 23. The two machines will dig the final tunnels on the western section of the Purple Line Extension project between West Los Angeles and Century City. The first tunneling machine, a TBM, will be assembled at the West Los Angeles Veterans Administration Hospital Campus at the western end of the new line. The second TBM will be assembled at the east end.

Traditional rules for the tunneling machines to be named and adorned with artwork before beginning excavation: A panel of community leaders helped select the finalists, who were required to either be UCLA employees, students or alumni, or veterans and VA Administration employees. The judges included Los Angeles City Councilman Paul Koretz, 5th District; Alex Becton, military deputy for Councilman Mike Bonin, 11th District; Renee Fetter, executive director of the California Coastal Commission; and Transportation; Andrew Thomas, executive director of the Vegetable Wilson Improvement Association, and Anthony Allman, director of outreach for Vets Advocacy. The art contest finalists were selected by Metro’s Community Relations Team. The names and artwork were chosen based on originality and community significance. The finalists for the TBM naming contest are: “Amelia,” submitted by Presley Moreno of UCLA; “Josie,” submitted by Andy Pet, of UCLA; and “Aura,” submitted by Derek De Ruin, of UCLA. The artworks are titled “Inu,” submitted by Claire O’Hanlon of Veterans Affairs; “Heddy,” submitted by Lindsay Winters, of Veterans Affairs, and “Shoobah,” submitted by Sidney, of Veterans Affairs.

To view the artworks and vote, visit thesource.metro.net/2020/08/17/vote-for-tunnel-boring-machine-artwork-and-names-for-purple-line-section-3.

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti celebrated the completion of the Fifth and Sixth Street Improvements Project, bringing new dedicated bus and bike lanes and pedestrian safety improvements to two major thoroughfares in downtown Los Angeles.

“Coming back stronger from COVID-19 and investing in our core pillars of a healthier, more equitable and more prosperous Los Angeles,” Garcetti said. “The public health crisis is our number one priority right now, but that work hasn’t stopped us from getting back to the basics, and the Fifth and Sixth Street Improvements Project shows that we’re focused on major upgrades to our streets and greater sustainability in the heart of our city.”

The project improvements are located along Fifth and Sixth streets between Flower Street and Central Avenue. They include dedicated bus lanes to enhance service and efficiency for transit users; protected bike lanes enabling safer east-west travel, and improved road surfaces and restricted parking.

Fifth and Sixth streets are listed as priority corridors in the Metro Move LA Plan as routes that would benefit most from bus speed improvements based on congestion and ridership metrics. Combined, the two corridors are currently used by 150 buses per hour.

These dedicated bus and bike lanes will become a real game changer for the region and for the heart of our city,” added Ryu, of UCLA. “We expect bus speeds to improve up to 30% and greatly enhance the customer experience through better reliability.”

For information, visit metrot.net.

Project brings improvements to Fifth and Sixth streets

New bike and bus lanes are included in the street improvement project.

Council members seek stronger vote recusal policy

Los Angeles City Council President Nury Martinez and Councilman Gil Cedillo, chair of the City’s Ethics Commission, said that votes cannot be bought. This is seen how effective a very strong conflict of interest policy can be in ensuring the public’s confidence in the governing process.
Los Angeles Zoo plans reopening on Aug. 26

The Los Angeles Zoo is planning to reopen on Wednesday, Aug. 26, after being closed since March 13 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

During the closure, zoo administrators worked to create a safe, modified reopening experience for guests that conforms with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health’s safety protocols. The county’s rules for zoos include operating at a limited capacity, having timed-ticketed entry, closing indoor and high-touch spaces, requiring face coverings and installing supplemental signage throughout the property.

An online, reservation-based ticketing system for all visitors and members will be used at the Los Angeles Zoo. General admission and member reservations are available by visiting lazoo.org/reopening.

"By the time we reopen our gates on Aug. 26, the L.A. Zoo will have been closed to our community for an unprecedented 166 days," said Denise M. Verret, CEO and director of the Los Angeles Zoo. "The world has changed over the last several months, and so has your Los Angeles Zoo. You will notice enhanced protocols and procedures onsite to ensure the health and safety of all guests, staff and animals. We are thrilled to be able to yet again provide our community with an outdoor, enriching experience that connects people with nature and the animals in our care."

In addition to the online ticketing system, guests can expect enhanced cleaning procedures for high-contact surfaces and restrooms, hand sanitizer stations throughout the zoo, new traffic flow indicators, and markers and barriers to promote physical distancing. High-touch areas such as Papajio Playpark, the contact yard at the Winnick Family Children’s Zoo and the Tom Manikewicz Conservation Carousel will remain closed. Some other indoor and enclosed exhibits may also be closed, and in-person talks, presentations and events have been suspended. Face coverings are required for all zoo staff and guests.

The Los Angeles Zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. It is located in Griffith Park at the junction of the Ventura (134) and Golden State (5) freeways. For information, visit lazoo.org/reopening.
Assembllyman Miguel Santiago (D-Los Angeles) highlighted legislation that would provide financial help to pay for groceries.

State bill will fight food insecurity during pandemic

Ryu seeks more options for rent and utility debt relief

Lawmakers continue to gain support for state wealth tax

WeHo reopens parks on a reservation-only basis

Rent relief program applications accepted through Aug. 31

Ryu seeks more options for rent and utility debt relief

Los Angeles City Councilman David Ryu, 4th District, introduced a motion on Aug. 18 to reinstate a rent and utility debt relief program caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The plan would allow tenants who are unable to pay rent or utility bills to apply to the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) for assistance.
In an effort to keep the lights on during the pandemic, all of Madre’s locations now offer happy hour specials from 3 to 6 p.m. Highlights include memela with a choice of chorizo or tripa, tacos, taquitos, enchiladas, quesadillas and an Oaxacan chocolate cupcake. Happy hour cocktails are $8, glasses of red and white wine are available for $6 and draft beers are $4.

On Taco Tuesday, arrachera, chicken and cauliflower tacos are $5 each. A special includes two tacos and a margarita for $16. Madre offers takeaway cocktails in new pre-batched cocktail bags. The Smokey Margarita, Madre Margarita and others are available in pre-batched to-go containers with a pourable nozzle. Madre mimosas come with a bottle of champagne and choice of orange, grapefruit or passionfruit juice for $25 on weekends from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. 801 N. Fairfax Ave., #101, (323)850-8518; 10426 National Blvd., (310)559-4732; and 1261 Cabrillo Ave., #100, (310)974-8005.

Café Amici garden patio dining
Located at Hotel Beverly Terrace in Beverly Hills, Café Amici is a classic Italian restaurant open for Aperitivo Amici hour and dinner on Wednesday through Sunday from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. Happy hour specials include a flight of four Italian wines paired with a charcuterie and cheese board for $19 per person until 6:30 p.m. After 6:30 p.m., the same wine and aperitivos are $25 per person. Call for a reservation or go to OpenTable. 469 N. Doheny Drive, (310)858-0271.

Conservatory WeHo reopens
Reserve a table at Conservatory all throughout the day at the cafe, or during dinner and weekend brunch in the beautiful main outdoor dining room. Culinary offerings from executive chef Carlos Loof pair well with the bottled cocktails, wine and beer selections from beverage director Lisa Beaumont and head mixologist Felix Lopez. Conservatory offers a free burger and fries to all restaurant industry and hospitality employees in L.A. every Friday. Just show a pay stub. Every day, first responders can order a free coffee or beverage. Order or make a reservation on their website or Resy. 8289 Santa Monica Blvd., (323)654-0020.

Bushi by Jinya reopens
Founder and CEO Tomonori Takahashi reopened Bushi by Jinya for takeout and delivery. Enjoy a variety of hand rolls and traditional ramen with chicken, tonkatsu or vegan broth, and three-day, dry-aged Mazesoba noodles that vary in size from thin to thick.

mmmm... Peanut Butter & Chocolate
We’re scooping up Reese’s Peanut Butter Shakes & M&M Shakes! Treat yourself! In the Original Farmers Market 3rd & Fairfax (323) 933-8446 (323) 933-8447

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Mango Lemon Cheesecake
The Pie of the Month
In the Original Farmers Market 3rd & Fairfax (323)933-8446 (323)933-8447

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We’re scoopin’ up Reese’s Peanut Butter Shakes & M&M Shakes! Treat yourself!

Let the feast begin! Available Aug.

August Pie of the Month
In the Original Farmers Market 3rd & Fairfax (323)933-8446 (323)933-8447

Now Carrying In Emily’s Kitchen Spices! Try the Steak & Burger Blend on our Gourmet Burgers!
Hand rolls with nori are sourced straight from the Ariake Sea in Japan. The health and safety of guests and team members is a top priority. They have implemented enhanced sanitation standards, and continue to adhere to all federal, state, and local guidelines. Bushi by Jinya is open for takeout and delivery every day from noon to 9 p.m. Guests can order online at bushbyjinya.myncrsilver.com or through DoorDash, Grubhub, Postmates or Uber Eats. 5168 bushibyjinya.myncrsilver.com or Jinya is open for takeout and delivery state and local guidelines. Bushi by Jinya continues to adhere to all federal, enhanced sanitation standards, and priority. They have implemented straight from the Ariake Sea in Japan. Hand rolls with nori are sourced fresh bread crumbs and topped with chicken breast is deep fried with hot honey dressing and sweet slaw, and it’s served on a brioche bun. It sells for $12 or $15 with fries – every Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. 7005 Melrose Ave. (323)782-1023.

**Hollywood Roosevelt staycation**

For a change of scenery, enjoy the legendary David Hockney-painted pool and receive lunch for two from the Tropica Cafe to take back to your room. The Roadtripper package allows guests to enjoy access to a custom Spotify playlist from fashion influencers and DJ Lola Augusta, along with complimentary valet parking, reserved spots at the iconic pool, lunch for two and an attractive room rate starting at $249 with a two-night minimum. The hotel is also offering a workcation-friendly package that includes a Cabana Bar or Balcony Suite available for early check-in at 9 a.m. Guests also receive complimentary WiFi, complimentary gym access with a reservation, parking for one vehicle, complimentary water, tea and coffee, and access by reservation to the pool. This package is available on Monday through Wednesday starting at $159. Those enjoying their staycation can extend their stay to leave at 8 p.m. or stay overnight for an extra $50. Spend the warm Hollywood summer nights by the pool enjoying a movie every Tuesday from 8 to 11 p.m. Outdoor movie nights are reserved for hotel guests only. 7000 Hollywood Blvd. (323)856-1970.

**Spartina chicken sandwich**

Chef Stephen Kalt’s fried chicken sandwich was a special off-the-menu item prior to the pandemic. Now, you can order it at the walk-up streetcart. The all-white chicken breast is deep fried with fresh bread crumbs and topped with prosciutto di parma, fontina cheese, hot honey dressing and sweet slaw, and it’s served on a brioche bun. It sells for $12 or $15 with fries – every Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. 7005 Melrose Ave. (323)782-1023.

**National Dog Day and Golden Road Brewing**

Golden Road Brewing is offering a special collaboration with the local dog adoption agency Wags & Walks while introducing their new Hazy Pup IPA. As part of the wolf family of beers, this IPA offers a full mouthfeel and body of an IPA, yet with only 105 calories. Golden Road will donate a portion of the proceeds ($1 per every case sold) of Hazy Pup IPA to Wags & Walks to support its mission for promoting animal adoptions and welfare. Wags & Walks is holding a “puppy party” at their Adoption Center on National Dog Day. Wednesday, Aug. 26. Golden Road will offer Hazy Pup IPA six-packs to be picked up at this location. While sales of Hazy Pup IPA will support the rescue, locals can also show their support by visiting Wags & Walk’s first ever virtual auction to celebrate 10 years of rescuing dogs in need across L.A. Come pick a six-pack up at Wags & Walks adoption center on a first-come, first-serve basis while supplies last.

**L.A. LGBT Center opens coffee house**

The Los Angeles LGBT Center formally opened Liberation Coffee House in Hollywood, a retail café located at the corner of Santa Monica Boulevard and McCadden Place on Aug. 17. The 1,600-square-foot café and gallery is located in the Los Angeles LGBT Center’s Flagship Anita May Rosenstein Campus. The space was conceived as a community living room for center residents, employees and the surrounding neighbors, with a flexible retail space to host community events and artists. The café team members are graduates of our unique, intergenerational three-month Culinary Arts program which trains LGBTQ youth and seniors for careers in the restaurant and hospitality industries. Income generated by the café will be reinvested into the center’s programs and services.

**Due to the health crisis, Liberation has implemented safety precautions in accordance with all COVID-19 regulations, including the installation of Plexiglas windows at the ordering counter, availability of hand sanitizers and disinfecting wipes, cashless payments by way of credit and debit cards, and the closure of indoor seating. Social distancing and face coverings will be enforced for all café team members and customers.**

For information, visit lalgbtcenter.org.
The following crimes occurred as West Hollywood, Beverly Hills and the area patrolled by the LAPD’s Wilshire and Hollywood divisions between Aug. 9 and Aug. 15. The information was compiled from www.crimemapping.com. To report a crime, call local law enforcement agencies: Los Angeles Police Department, Wilshire Division (310)444-4488, Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department’s West Hollywood Station (310)855-8850, and the Beverly Hills Police Department. (310)455-4951.

**Beverly Hills Police Department**

**Aug. 9**

At 12:23 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of Canon.

At 6:20 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 9400 block of Charleville.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary near the corner of Maple and Clifton Way at 10:50 a.m.

**Aug. 10**

At 8:09 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of Canon.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 7900 block of Wilshire.

At 11:10 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 100 block of Beverly.

At 11:15 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 9700 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 9700 block of Wilshire.

At 12:15 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 300 block of Canon.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of Rodeo at 11:15 a.m.

At 3:13 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 9700 block of Wilshire.

**Aug. 11**

At 10:19 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 100 block of Beverly.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 9700 block of Wilshire at 12:11 p.m.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near the corner of Canon and Park Way.

**Aug. 12**

At 6:45 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 700 block of Doheny.

At 8:30 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of Canon and Park Way.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 300 block of Doheny at 12:13 p.m. A petty theft was reported in the same location at 11:15 p.m.

At 8 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 100 block of Hamel.

**Aug. 13**

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 300 block of Maple at 11:18 a.m.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of Rodeo.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 200 block of Beverly at 2:05 p.m.

At 3 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 200 block of Doheny.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of Santa Monica and Camden at 3:30 p.m.

**Aug. 14**

A vandalism incident was reported in the 400 block of Beverly at 1:20 p.m.

At 6:20 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft near the corner of Santa Monica and Orchid at 11 p.m.

**West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station**

**Aug. 9**

At 7:40 a.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 1000 block of Westmount.

At 1 p.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 1000 block of Fanfax.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 7500 block of Lexington at 2 p.m.

At 5 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8700 block of Melrose.

**Aug. 10**

At midnight, an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 7400 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1000 block of N. Gardner at noon.

At 7 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1300 block of Havenhurst.

**Aug. 11**

At 11:45 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1400 block of S. Bedford.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7000 block of Sunset at 11:55 a.m.

At 12:25 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 300 block of S. Mansfield.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 6800 block of Hollywood at 12:30 p.m.

At 1 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft near the corner of Fuller and Franklin at 2:05 a.m.

**Aug. 12**

At 11:40 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft near the corner of Hollywood and Western.

**Aug. 13**

At 7:26 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7900 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 7000 block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 600 block of Hollywood.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near the corner of Fuller and Sunset at 5:30 p.m.

**Aug. 14**

At 5:55 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5000 block of Wilshire.

At 8:55 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8200 block of W. Olympic.

At 6 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 7200 block of Hollywood.

At 8:45 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7500 block of Sunset.

**Aug. 15**

At 2 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 4000 block of S. Highland.

At 4:45 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 7200 block of Hollywood.

At 9:35 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 100 block of N. Fairfax.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 6600 block of Wilshire at 10 a.m.

At 12:20 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 4000 block of W. Olympic.

At 1:25 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 8500 block of Beverly at noon.

At 4 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1700 block of N. Orange.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 9700 block of Beverly at 5 p.m.

At 5:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 6600 block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 100 block of The Grove at 7:10 p.m.

At 8 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 5000 block of Melrose.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 9700 block of Santa Monica and Las Palmas at 9 p.m.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 800 block of S. Grauman.

At 2 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5800 block of W. Olympic.

At 8 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 700 block of Hollywood and Vine.

At 8:55 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 4800 block of Sunset.

**Aug. 16**

At 2 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 800 block of S. Grauman.

At 2:40 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5800 block of W. Olympic.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 7400 block of Hollywood at 3 a.m.

At 8 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 800 block of W. Olympic.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 5000 block of Wilshire at 8:55 a.m.

At 12:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 4900 block of Sunset.

A suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 600 block of S. Gracemary at 12:30 p.m.

At 3:15 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 7000 block of Laneway.

At 5:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 6600 block of Hollywood.

At 6 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8400 block of Wilshire.

At 8 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 800 block of W. Olympic.

At 8:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8700 block of W. Olympic.

At 9:15 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 800 block of Hollywood.

At 10 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 100 block of The Grove at 2:35 p.m.

At 11 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 100 block of S. Holt at 11:15 a.m.

At 1 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1300 block of N. Serano.

At 12:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 700 block of W. Sunset.

At 1:25 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 100 block of N. Manhattan.

A suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of Sunset and Van Ness at 3:10 p.m.

At 8:50 p.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim near Argyle and Yuca.
Mirame

a Mexican culinary ‘staycation’ in Beverly Hills

by Jill Warlein

Sitting on the front patio of Mirame, at one of the socially dis-tanced tables near an exterior fire-place, I felt as if I were sitting at a beautiful restaurant in one of the luxury resorts in Punta Mita, Mexico.

Since many of us aren’t flying to Mexico for a summer vacation due to the coronavirus, driving to Mirame in Beverly Hills to enjoy a cocktail and meal feels like a glori-ous get-away.

The night we dined, the city of Beverly Hills had a pop-up tent a few storefronts away with city staff members passing out complimentary bottles of hand sanitizer and Covid-19 handouts.

As we were led to a decorative Mexican-tile table, I admired the light and bright work by M. Winter Design, which also designed Jaffa, Mamuela, and Baci on 3rd. The patio’s resort-like ambiance includes white brick walls with nopalies artistically hanging from a reclamed wood plank, and hanging dried flower bouquets. The flooring is stone and brick and reclamed wood and metal tables are socially distanced along a long banquette with Mexican-style rope and wood chairs.

This is not a typical tortilla chips, salsa and guacamole style of Mexican appetizer. Instead, start with chef Joshua Gil’s activated charcoal masa gnocchi with shredded Dungeness crab meat, chunky avocado and sliced tomatoes in a bowl of exquisite corn consommé. Use the spoon to ladle the gnocchi broth to savor every last drop. Chef Gil makes botanical, visually appealing plates of food by sprinkling micro-greens and flowers on top. Each one tastes as good as they look.

This ambitious chef and partner Matthew Egan opened Mirame (formerly Gratitude) after L.A. County permitted to put tables along the sidewalk and introduced curbside pickup when possible, so guests don’t have to come into the restau-rant,” Egan said.

Looking at the farm-to-bar beverage menu, we noticed a robust col-lection of spirits, artisanal products and notable mezcals. A few playful, resort-style cocktails caught our eye, including one made with a 92012 Rhum blend, that our server said is like an elevated daiquiri, and another named Wild Style that is made with peppered turmeric coconut cream, Mexican rum and pineapple, similar to a pina colada.

We opted for two of their creative margaritas, starting with the Green Lantern, a play on the popular green juice health kick. It’s made with tequila, cucumber, jalapeño, cilantro, celery, fennel and lime. On the side of my lowball glass was a blend of crushed tarragon, fennel and taquin to add a salty zip to the drink.

My husband ordered #IYieldMyTime, which was a bal-ance of flavorful mango juice, mez-cal, blanco vermouth, green tea and chamoy. I liked the tamarind fruit leather, which was around the rim and wrapped around the straw for a balance of sweet and sour flavors.

The bar also makes a $50 and $150 margarita featuring a 7-year and 18-ager agoña tequila, which is then lightly smoked with Palo Santo wood.

Besides cocktails, they also offer an array of Mexican craft beers and wines from Valle De Guadalupe and other regions in Mexico. Each night, they offer a 3-ounce flight of three wines for $32. They try to pair the wines based on your order.

We ordered one flight and first enjoyed a funky natural rose from Paloxo Winery with the Mirame fermented green tea salad.

“This salad is getting a reputation of becoming the new modern chopped salad in Beverly Hills,” our waiter shared.

It’s layered with french-cut jic- ma tossed with cabbage, sesame, chopped peanuts and corn nuts. Not only is it refreshing, but it’s healthy for lunch and dinner.

Next we had a 3-ounce bubbly flute of Blanc d’Noir from Terra Madi, San Antonio De los Ninos, with the delicious kampachi, and finished out the flight with a ruby red glass of Bachi from Tecate, Mexico, to enjoy with pork belly tacos.

Three different tacos are offered, and for the carmelized, slow-cooked pork belly served on a plate with two heirloom red conico corn tortillas. Red corn is exception-ally sweet and nutty in flavor and these tortillas have a pretty pink hue. They are topped with big pieces of tender pork, crushed avocado and chunky tomatoillo salsa.

Egan came back to our table to share his knowledge of the wine. “Bich” means naked, and this No Saguin biodynamic wine is com-prised of an unidentified grape vari-ety. The farmer is not certain, but it’s one of my favorites,” he said.

After one sip, I detected its crisp brightness, bursting with fruity notes and a pleasing funkiness in its finish. For those living it up, the menu offers larger items on the “Seguimos” section including a whole fried Baja snapper, Columbia River steelhead, whole rack of lamb with grilled figs, baby corn and lamb bacon, and a 35-ounce prime cote de boeuf served with melting leeks and fermented garlic.

We saved room for a stone fruit and pine nut tart made with flavor-ful masa and a scoop of chamomile tea and goat cheese ice cream. She also makes a mezcal flan, pineapple mimo brûlée and choco-late cake.

Mirame, meaning “look at me,” in Beverly Hills offers a new look or change of pace, scenery and flavors for weary pandemic diners starting at 11 a.m. for lunch to late night. On weekends, it opens at 10 a.m. for brunch. Reservations are available on OpenTable. SS-SSS 419 N. Canon Drive, (310)236-5035.

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Lee, Peter Mullin, Dennis Varni and Doug DeMuro.

"Although we could not gather in person this year, we couldn’t have hoped for a better digital event to share our automotive passion," Petersen Executive Director Terry L. Karges said. "From the supportive fans to the incredible partners and participants, our shared love for the automobile helped make Petersen Car Week possible.”

The 1937 Horch 853 Sport Cabriolet was named Best of Show at Sunday’s Petersen Concours d’Elegance.

The Los Angeles Philharmonic Association announced two musicians selected for the newly named Judith and Thomas L. Beckmen LA Phil Resident Fellows program: violinist Sydney Adee-Agboola and violist Jarrett Threadgill. Resident Fellows are appointed as musicians playing with the Los Angeles Philharmonic for up to three years. The program, now in its third year, was launched during the 2018-19 season with the purpose of creating a pathway towards diverse and inclusive orchestras of tomorrow. The program was renamed in recognition of a $1 million gift made by the Beckmens.

Fellows focus on their artistic development through orchestral, chamber music, new music and educational concerts performed at Walt Disney Concert Hall, the Hollywood Bowl and in community settings. They also participate in tours with the LA Phil. Mentorship and lessons from LA Phil musicians and assistance with audition preparation are key components of the program, to prepare Resident Fellows for future roles in major professional orchestras, including the LA Phil. Inaugural fellows have joined the Seattle Symphony and the St. Louis Symphony.

For more information, visit petersen.org.

The Los Angeles Philharmonic and KCRW collaborated to present the 2020 Bowl season due to COVID-19, the LA Phil and Association and KCRW will broadcast on Sundays from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. through Oct. 11. Each episode will be hosted by a KCRW Program Director or music. The series celebrates the 10th anniversary of KCRW’s World Festival, which first appeared at the bowl on August 17, 2018, Janelle Monáe (June 12, 2019), Flying Lotus (June 26. Additional featured artists in upcoming episodes include: Blondie (July 9, 2017), Devotchka (July 13, 2013), Flying Lotus (June 17, 2018), Jensen Ackles (June 20, 2016), Jimmy Cliff (July 25, 2010), Little Dragon (June 17, 2018), Robyn (June 29, 2014), Rodrigo y Gabriela (July 14, 2013), St. Vincent (August 30, 2015), Santigold (June 21, 2009), Snoop Dogg (September 24, 2016) and Toon y Moe (June 16, 2019). Each episode will be hosted by a KCRW DJ.

“Building on our long and rich history with KCRW on the World Music Series at the Hollywood Bowl over the last 20 years, the LA Phil is thrilled to continue this valuable partnership by bringing music from the series to our audience in Los Angeles and beyond in a new way,” said Los Angeles Philharmonic Senior Director of Community Engagement Johanna Rees.

The Hollywood Bowl’s World Festival

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For more information, visit laplphil.com.

The Aug. 24, 2000, issue of the Park Labrea News and Beverly Press covered the 2000 Democratic National Convention, which was held at Staples Center in downtown Los Angeles. More than 5,000 delegates and 15,000 members of the media converged on the city for the event. Then-Vice President Al Gore was nominated as the Democratic presidential candidate, and Sen. Joe Lieberman (D-Conn.) was nominated as the vice presidential candidate. Photographs show Kristin Gore making introductions, and her father during his acceptance speech on the final night of the convention. It marked the second time Los Angeles hosted the Democratic National Convention, following the first in 1960, when Sen. John F. Kennedy was nominated for president. The 2020 Democratic National Convention is currently underway in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and concludes tonight.

The Hollywood Bowl’s World Festival

The Los Angeles Philharmonic Association and KCRW will broadcast an exclusive on-air series featuring previously recorded live concerts from KCRW’s World Festival at the Hollywood Bowl. Starting Aug. 23, the exclusive eight-episode series of archival concerts will be broadcast on Sundays from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. through Oct. 11.

Created in partnership with the LA Phil, KCRW’s World Festival has been bringing an eclectic array of artists from around the world to the Hollywood Bowl stage for 20 years. Following the cancellation of the 2020 Bowl season due to COVID-19, the LA Phil and KCRW collaborated to present highlights of past World Festivals.

“Music’s power to bring us together seems even more essential during this time,” said KCRW Program Director of Music Anne Litt. “We can’t wait to be together in person again enjoying warm nights, under the stars, with friends, great food and a glass of wine. Until then, we are delighted to be able to share recordings of these incredible live performances with our listeners.

The first episode will feature the Sept. 18, 2016, Hollywood Bowl debut of Kraftwerk, one of the most influential groups of all time. Also in the first episode is Tokyo's Yellow Magic Orchestra, another pioneering electronic music group, which first appeared at the bowl on June 26. Additional featured artists in upcoming episodes include: Blondie (July 9, 2017), Devotchka (July 13, 2013), Flying Lotus (June 17, 2018), Janelle Monae (June 12, 2016), Jimmy Cliff (July 25, 2010), Little Dragon (June 17, 2018), Robyn (June 29, 2014), Rodrigo y Gabriela (July 14, 2013), St. Vincent (August 30, 2015), Santigold (June 21, 2009), Snoop Dogg (September 24, 2016) and Toon y Moe (June 16, 2019). Each episode will be hosted by a KCRW DJ.

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The broadcast series can be heard live on-air at KCRW 89.9, via the KCRW app, online at hollywoodbowl.com/kcrw and kcrw.com, or by asking your smart speaker to "play KCRW".

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Photo courtesy of the Concours d’Elegance.
LA Animal Services adopters invited to share stories

Animal adopters are invited to share the big and small ways their pet has changed their life for a chance to help Los Angeles Animal Services earn up to $100,000 in grant funds from the Petco Foundation. The Petco Foundation is granting more than $750,000 this holiday season to qualified animal welfare organizations across the country. Awards will range from $500 to $100,000, and adopters with winning submissions will receive up to $1,000 Petco shopping cards plus a prize pack with BOBS from Skechers shoes.

On Screen

Alvin Ailey’s ‘Revelations’ goes digital at Music Center

The Music Center will continue its Digital Dance Experience series with an online salute to Alvin Ailey on Aug. 23 at 2 p.m. with "Inside Look: Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater." The salute marks a special collaboration by the dance company with Gloreya Kaufman Presents Dance at the Music Center to bring fans a special presentation of the Ailey company’s seminal masterpiece, “Revelations.”

The tale of “Lovecraft Country” calls upon the author’s aesthetic influence on horror and science fiction (especially tentacled creatures), including creators like Stephen King, John Carpenter, Sam Raimi and Guillermo del Toro. And before King would connect aiverse across novels and short stories, Lovecraft, who died in 1937 at age 46, had already created a universe of creatures hiding in all corners of our world.

"Loving them doesn’t make them perfect. You just try and cherish ‘em, overlook their flaws."

The presentation will premiere Sept. 30 at musiccenter.org.

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Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater’s “Revelations.”

The presentation will premiere on the Music Center’s virtual platform, which features newly curated programs and original content, including the commission and presentation of original artwork. Following the Aug. 23 premiere, the program will be available for online viewing through Sept. 30 at musiccenter.org.

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LAUSD board honors U.S. Rep. Lewis

The Los Angeles Unified School District Board of Education recently approved a resolution honoring the late U.S. Rep. John Lewis (D-GA), who died on July 17 at the age of 80.

The resolution, “commemorates his legacy of tirelessly working to secure civil liberties for all, thereby building and ensuring a more perfect Union.”

Lewis began his fight against racial segregation as a child in Troy, Alabama, after he was refused a public library card because he was black. Seeking advice on how to become the first black student at the local college, he wrote a letter to Martin Luther King Jr. and became his protege. As head of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, Lewis, age 23, was the youngest speaker at the March On Washington. Championing non-violent protest, he was beaten during sit-ins at white-only lunch counters, on Freedom Riders’ challenging segregation in public interstate travel on buses and trains, and famously, during the March on Selma, crusading for the right of Black Americans to vote. Elected to Congress in 1986, Lewis continued the fight against racial injustice and made his last public appearance in June on Black Lives Matter Plaza near the White House in Washington, D.C.

“John Lewis encouraged us to be involved in ‘good, necessary trouble,’” LAUSD Superintendent Austin Beutner said. “And by involved, he meant to do the work, walk the walk and take action. Words to live by.”

School Board Member George J. McKenna III sponsored the resolution. Like Lewis, he is also a veteran of the Civil Rights Movement.

“We valued being right versus being good. Some Black people thought they were being ‘good’ by taking their seat in the back of the bus. We chose to be ‘right’ and not to ride the segregated bus at all,” McKenna said.

There’s an old song in the Black church, ‘Nobody Knows the Trouble I’ve Seen.’ Bloodied, beaten unconscious and close to death time and time again, John Lewis never resorted to violence. Spat on, burning cigarettes put out on his body as he sat at a lunch counter reserved only for whites. Arrested more than 40 times, and even thrown in Mississippi’s inhumane Parchman prison, he refused to retreat from danger. John Lewis called it getting into ‘good trouble, necessary trouble.’ A lesser man would have quit, punched back or at least rested on his laurels after speaking at the March On Washington in 1963. He never ‘let this cup pass.’ We honor him for his courage, his unwavering commitment and for making a profound difference.

For information, visit lausd.net.

LAUSD calls for more testing and contact tracing before in-person classes resume

The Los Angeles Unified School District Board of Education on Aug. 17 supported the launch of a program that will provide regular COVID-19 testing and contact tracing to school staff, students and their families while distance-learning protocols are in place. Under the plan, research will be conducted to study the impact and effects of reopening schools, and the data will be available to the public.

The testing and contact-tracing program and its corresponding research are a collaboration between LAUSD and scientists from UCLA, Stanford University and Johns Hopkins University, Microsoft, testing experts and health care companies. Each school board member is being sent a specimen collection and testing kit.

LAUSD students began the 2020-21 school year on Aug. 18 with online distance learning. While the decision about the return of students to schools may not be made for a while, the testing and contact tracing program allows a system to be built and tested and also provides a base of knowledge to help prepare for an eventual return to school campuses.

“We know there is no replacement for in-person school, and we’re doing everything we can to get kids back safely,” Beutner said. “That is not possible without a comprehen- sive system of testing and contact tracing.”

WHEN STUDENTS EMBRACE A CHALLENGE

We are excited to welcome students back to campus for the upcoming school year with safety in mind and plans for a flexible learning environment. To help your family get to know Stratford School, we invite you to join us for a Virtual Tour providing an overview of our robust programs, vibrant school community, and extraordinary curriculum.

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Back-to-School

Now more than ever, students need support!
We invite K-5 students to submit drawings to inspire classmates, and middle and high school students to submit 300 word articles. Email submissions to editor@beverlypress.com for consideration.

Festival focuses on repurposed films

Los Angeles Filmforum and Northwest Film Forum present the “Festival of (In)Appropriation ’99” running online from Friday, Aug. 21, through Sunday, Aug. 23. Whether it’s collage, compilation, found footage, detournment or recycled cinema, the incorporation of already existing media into new artworks is a practice that generates novel juxtapositions and new meanings and ideas. Over the past decade, a wealth of new audio-visual elements have emerged for appropriation into new works. In addition to official state and commercial archives, resources like vernacular collections, home movie repositories and digital archives provide material to repurpose in ways that create new meaning and resonance.

Founded in 2009 and curated by Jaimie Baron, Lauren Berliner and Greg McKeown, the Los Angeles Filmforum and Northwest Film Forum present the “Festival of (In)Appropriation ’99.” An online Q&A session will be held on Saturday, Aug. 22, at 6 p.m. with the filmmakers.

Laundry List of LAUSD

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Beverly Hills student excels in Miss California Teen USA contest

Beverly Hills High School student Alana Morgan was recently crowned Miss California Teen USA. Morgan, 17, will next head to the contest’s nationals competition in October. The Miss California Teen USA competition is the pageant that selects the representative for the state of California in the Miss Teen USA pageant.

Morgan is an actress, model and lead anchor on Beverly Hills High School’s Channel 6 television news program. As a professional actress and titleholder, Morgan strives to inspire young girls and participates in many charitable efforts. She has received a letter from President Barack Obama and the White House recognizing her community service. She recently volunteered with Hashtag Lunchbag to provide food for families in need. Morgan is also a board member for the weRpossible project to help end teen suicide, and is enrolled in the programs Deca and Girl Up.

LAMOTH hosts special online reading of Holocaust play

In conjunction with the Temple Emanu-El Streicker Center and Burke-Cohen Entertainment, the Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust presents a special staged reading of “Righteous,” a new play by Drama Desk Award-winner Jeff Cohen, on Monday, Aug. 24, at 7:30 p.m., via Zoom. “Righteous” is the true story of Eduard Schulte, a captain of German industry and member of Hitler’s inner circle who warned the world of Hitler’s plan to murder all of the Jews in Europe. Schulte’s alarm reached the desk of President Franklin D. Roosevelt in December 1942.

Schulte’s identity was a closely guarded secret for over 40 years, and his heroic act to stop the Holocaust was kept hidden from his family and the world. “Righteous” uncovers a compelling and poignant portrait of a man who risked his life and the lives of his family to stand up against evil. In 1988, Schulte was posthumously honored by Yad Vashem.

The reading stars Frank Wood, Johanna Day, Jessica Hecht, Denis O’Hare, Richard Kind and Peter Jacobson. It is being held in conjunction with the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, the Florida Holocaust Museum, the United Jewish Association of Toronto and the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center. A $10 donation is suggested. For information, visit lamoth.org/news--events/events/righteous-

New video music series filmed at the Autry

The Autry brings together music and the museum in an exciting new video series featuring some of Los Angeles’ best musical artists. “The Autry Presents: The Best of Los Angeles” features cinematic, intimate acoustic performances by musicians, all filmed on location inside the galleries.

Produced by Gia Hughes and filmed by Emmy-winning filmmaker Austin Straub, performances will be released on the Autry’s website every other week. In 20-plus minute sets, musicians will perform alongside artwork and objects on display at the Autry including “Bridges” by James Doolin, “War Music II” by Mateo Romero, a Concord mail stagecoach and other works.

Singer/songwriter Chris Pierce is set to perform on Friday, Aug. 28. Pierce’s song “We Can Always Come Back to This” was prominently featured on “This Is Us” and received multiple nominations. On Thursday, Sept. 10, country music singer and songwriter Aubrie Sellers will perform, bringing her gritty, emotive form of rock ‘n’ roll inside the museum dedicated to the American West. Latin Grammy-winning artist Gaby Moreno will perform on Friday, Sept. 25. Moreno, who moved to L.A. from Guatemala and earned an Emmy nomination for co-writing the “Parks & Recreation” theme song, also sings the theme song and voices a character on the Disney series “Elena of Avalor.”

To tune in to the shows, visit theautry.org/bestofla.
ChaiVillageLA seeks collaborators for intergenerational Jewish program

ChaiVillageLA has launched its new “Creating Connections by Bridging the Generations” project, which was funded by a grant from the organization Natan. The project will help participants create meaningful connections through intergenerational programs that leverage their unique skills, shared needs and knowledge.

“We are thrilled to have received this grant from Natan that will enable ChaiVillageLA members to draw upon their collective life experience and wisdom and to connect with younger generations,” Rabbi Laura Geller said. “In addition, younger participants will gain an appreciation of the fact that age does need not be a barrier to relationships.”

As an added benefit, the programs will serve to alleviate participants’ social isolation and foster mutually rewarding connections.

A giving circle and grant making foundation, Natan inspires young philanthropists and supports cutting edge initiatives in Israel and Jewish communities around the world.

“This project is already attracting many new volunteers from our membership due to a great interest in connecting across the generations,” Executive Director Devorah Servi added.

ChaiVillageLA is seeking information about existing intergenerational programs and youth organizations that may want to collaborate. For information, email Project Vice Chair Sue Shachar at susan.shachar@yahoo.com.

ChaiVillageLA is an initiative by the Getty Conservation Institute, creating the first synagogue-based “village” in the country. Together, the synagogues have established a unique communal and multi-generational system of mutual support in which “village” members provide each other programs, services and resources that enable them to live healthier and more engaged lives.

For information, visit chavilagel.org.

Seniors take on the Getty Museum Challenge

When Brittney Giammaria, activities coordinator at the Veranda of Pensacola retirement community, first tackled printouts of paintings to the community bulletin board and began encouraging residents to come to her “art-recreation” photo shoot, she thought she’d get maybe four or five takers. She had spent weeks explaining the challenge, which had initially been created by the Getty at the end of March.

On the day of the photo shoot, Giammaria put down a box of props and costumes, and spread around 25 printouts of paintings on a table in an event room, including Grant Wood’s “American Gothic;” Frida Kahlo’s “Self Portrait With Hat;” and Leonardo Di Vinci’s “Lady with an Ermine.” At first, only a few of the more extroverted residents let her take their photo. One gentleman selected Rene Magritte’s “The Son of Man,” so Giammaria gave him a face mask to wear that she had adorned with a picture of a green apple. Another chose Saturday Evening Post artist George Hughes’s illustration of a swimwear-clad boy playing the piano; he took a seat at the community piano wearing red swim trunks.

The half-naked man at the piano got the residents’ attention. Others began peering at the paintings and brainstorming how they could recreate them. In all, more than 20 residents and staff chose a painting and had their picture taken. And dozens more stayed to watch, all maintaining social-distance protocols as they delighted in their friends and neighbors’ transformations.

“There is a lot of pressure on the entire staff to keep these people safe, and for these people to keep themselves safe, and we just kind of forgot about all of it for the day and that was the most special part,” Giammaria said.

The Getty Museum Challenge found its way to many senior communities by way of staff, often the activities directors who work to provide residents with entertainment like classes, day trips and game nights. With early outbreaks of COVID-19 clustered in senior communities, these facilities were among the first to institute safety precautions such as prohibiting visitors and trips outside the grounds, limiting class sizes or canceling them altogether, and instructing residents to avoid gathering in groups – leaving staff scrambling to find ways to keep residents both busy and socially distant.

Then, the Getty Museum Challenge began popping up on national news. Staff realized that the challenge would allow residents to not only exercise their creativity and enjoy a bit of escapism, but also practice social distancing. Photos were taken in small groups and everyone wore face masks (up to the moment the picture was taken, of course) Giammaria posted all the photos on the community board and said even now, weeks later, people are still stopping to admire them, and they want to plan another photo shoot.

For information visit getty.edu.

KCCLA presents online concert

The Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles presents a special performance today, Aug. 20, on its YouTube channel by Coreyah, a Korean traditional music (gugak) band. Coreyah debuted in 2010 and has expanded its unique music genre, performing around the world. It is a six-member band consisting of Kyungyu (percussion), Kim Dongseung (daeumeg, sogeum, tung-so), Kim Chorong (janggu, jing, kkwaenggwari), Ham Hoyoung (vocals), Ko Jaehyun (guitar) and Na Sunjin (geomungo). The online performance will feature music from the group’s fourth album “Clap & Applause,” which was released in July.

The performance is part of the center’s 2020 K-Performance series. KCCLA is located at 5505 Wilshire Blvd. For information, call (323)936-9015, or visit kccla.org.

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ChaiVillageLA seeks collaborators for intergenerational Jewish program

ChaiVillageLA has launched its new “Creating Connections by Bridging the Generations” project, which was funded by a grant from the organization Natan. The project will help participants create meaningful connections through intergenerational programs that leverage their unique skills, shared needs and knowledge.

“We are thrilled to have received this grant from Natan that will enable ChaiVillageLA members to draw upon their collective life experience and wisdom and to connect with younger generations,” Rabbi Laura Geller said. “In addition, younger participants will gain an appreciation of the fact that age does need not be a barrier to relationships.”

As an added benefit, the programs will serve to alleviate participants’ social isolation and foster mutually rewarding connections.

A giving circle and grant making foundation, Natan inspires young philanthropists and supports cutting edge initiatives in Israel and Jewish communities around the world.

“This project is already attracting many new volunteers from our membership due to a great interest in connecting across the generations,” Executive Director Devorah Servi added.

ChaiVillageLA is seeking information about existing intergenerational programs and youth organizations that may want to collaborate. For information, email Project Vice Chair Sue Shachar at susan.shachar@yahoo.com.

ChaiVillageLA is an initiative by the Getty Conservation Institute, creating the first synagogue-based “village” in the country. Together, the synagogues have established a unique communal and multi-generational system of mutual support in which “village” members provide each other programs, services and resources that enable them to live healthier and more engaged lives.

For information, visit chavilagel.org.

Seniors take on the Getty Museum Challenge

When Brittney Giammaria, activities coordinator at the Veranda of Pensacola retirement community, first tackled printouts of paintings to the community bulletin board and began encouraging residents to come to her “art-recreation” photo shoot, she thought she’d get maybe four or five takers. She had spent weeks explaining the challenge, which had initially been created by the Getty at the end of March.

On the day of the photo shoot, Giammaria put down a box of props and costumes, and spread around 25 printouts of paintings on a table in an event room, including Grant Wood’s “American Gothic;” Frida Kahlo’s “Self Portrait With Hat;” and Leonardo Di Vinci’s “Lady with an Ermine.” At first, only a few of the more extroverted residents let her take their photo. One gentleman selected Rene Magritte’s “The Son of Man,” so Giammaria gave him a face mask to wear that she had adorned with a picture of a green apple. Another chose Saturday Evening Post artist George Hughes’s illustration of a swimwear-clad boy playing the piano; he took a seat at the community piano wearing red swim trunks.

The half-naked man at the piano got the residents’ attention. Others began peering at the paintings and brainstorming how they could recreate them. In all, more than 20 residents and staff chose a painting and had their picture taken. And dozens more stayed to watch, all maintaining social-distance protocols as they delighted in their friends and neighbors’ transformations.

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Artwork to be placed outside of City Hall

From page 1

The staff report said. “The City Council has made it a priority to increase the number of cameras we have in the city,” Subin said. “They are a huge help in keeping the city safe.”

Christian Dior store on Rodeo Drive and realized the vehicle description was similar to a car involved in previous crimes, including a break-in on July 12 in the 400 block of North Rodeo Drive. Because that suspect had previously targeted car parkers at shopping malls, officers checked the Westfield Century City Mall and located the Mustang. Detectives arrested two suspects, one male and the other female, identified as Jesus Luke, 27, and Adriana Martinez, 29.

BHPD detectives knew Wilshire Division investigators were looking for a dog stolen during one of the burglaries and the car may be related, and during questioning, Luke divulged Lolli was in an extended-stay Las Vegas hotel when he had the alleged burglaries and thefts. BHPD detectives and LAPD investigators coordinated and communicated. In Las Vegas, and LVMPD officers went to the hotel and found the dog.

Detective Sam Arnold, with the LAPD’s Wilshire Division, described Luke as a serial criminal, who has a history of committing crimes and eluding police. He allegedly rents late-model vehicles and frequently targets shopping centers for car burglaries. On Aug. 5, the day of the arrest, the suspect allegedly burglarized vehicles in parking lots at The Grove and the Original Farmers Market. Arnold said. Luke is believed to be responsible for at least 12 recent auto break-ins, he added.

When Arnold received word from the LVMPD on Aug. 5 that Lolli had been found in the hotel, he called Bisignano to give her the news. “She was a very, very, victim,” Arnold said, “This pet was like a family member to her. I was glad that we were able to make the recovery.”

Bisignano said the news had changed her life. “By 7 a.m. I was in a (rented) Camaro and I was on my way out there,” she said. “When I got there, I broke down. I was so happy to have her back.”

Bisignano didn’t take time to celebrate in Las Vegas, opting to head straight home. “I am so thankful for the police officers,” Bisignano added. “If it wasn’t for them, I don’t know what would have happened.”

Beverly Hills Police Department Lt. Max Subin also responded to the call. He was told the dog was returned and the alleged perpetrators were facing charges. Martinez was issued a citation to appear in court on Oct. 5 and was released. Luke remains in custody without bail in the Men’s Central Jail awaiting a court hearing on Oct. 5. He faces auto burglary and theft charges.

Subin added that the city’s closed circuit surveillance cameras were a major factor in identifying the vehicle and solving the alleged crimes.

“The City Council has made it a priority to increase the number of cameras we have in the city,” said Subin. “They are a huge help in keeping the city safe.”

In the 2019 study session, Councilwoman Lili Bosse advocated for the city’s purchase and referendum. She said: “It’s been three years. I think we’re due.”

According to the 2019 staff report, “Iron Root, 2015” is expected to be placed at the corner of Santa Monica Boulevard and Crescent Drive.

“I think the space in front of City Hall is an absolutely appropriate one,” then-Mayor and current Councilman John Mirisch added. “According to an update from the Arts and Culture Commission during the Mayor’s Cabinet Meeting on Aug. 10, the piece is scheduled to ship from Beijing soon, and a plinth is being made for the artwork. The plinth will take at least 12 weeks to 10 weeks to create, and updates are expected in September, according to the commission.
Melrose redesign may face pushback

From page 1

state grant from Caltrans to fund the project, streetsLA is the office of Los Angeles City Councilman Paul Koretz, 5th District, who is currently seeking the city council's approval to apply for the grant for Sept. 15.

Details about the project were recently released, and the project proposal is available on the streetsLA website and by visiting bit.ly/2EmYhm4. According to the project description, it would be implemented along a 22-block stretch of Melrose Avenue from Los Angeles Avenue to Beverly Boulevard. The goal is to make the street safer – it is on the city’s list of roads with a high collision and injury rate. Another goal is to make the district more inviting by creating extra space for walking and gathering, bicycling and dining al fresco.

The plan calls for lane reductions on Melrose Avenue, resulting in one traffic lane in each direction. Dedicated bike lanes separated from the street are proposed for east-west travel, and curb extensions would be created at intersections to reduce the number of lanes by one. Raised crosswalks would be another improvement, and curbing would be planted to create a shady canopy over the area. Streets LA determines that the 50 feet of pedestrian space can be added to each block.

Trade-offs include a reduction in vehicle lanes and left turn restrictions everywhere along Melrose Avenue except at Fairfax, La Brea and Highland avenues. Some parking will also be lost to areas where curbs are extended.

Melrose BID Board Member Pierson Blaetz, who also oversees the Melrose Trading Post and the Greenway Arts Alliance at Fairfax, supports the project and believes it will have a positive impact on the area.

“We are super excited about the project. I think it’s the biggest thing to happen to the Melrose corridor in my lifetime,” Blaetz said, including pedestrian bicyclists. “It’s not just adding bike lanes and redosing sidewalks. We’re not just adding trees and greenery – what will do a whole new system of green community.”

Jack Faddiel, another member of the Melrose BID’s board, said the project is sorely needed. The Melrose BID had previously received a $4 million grant from Metro for street improvements, but that money was lost and would only go so far, he said. Through discussions between the BID and the city, the idea surfaced to apply for the state grant and envision a much larger project. Streets LA then created the idea, West described applications and renderings.

“Ultimately, Melrose’s future is based on the city receiving the state grant. It was not clear whether the Metro and state grants would be used together for the same project, or separately for different projects in the Melrose area,” West said. “We have been talking about reimagining Melrose for years,” said Franklin, who owns the Sporter LA shoe store on Melrose Avenue.

“I grew up off Melrose, went to Fairfax High School and went to school on Melrose. I have family members who still live off Melrose and I am there all the time. To have a project that makes it much more comfortable, doable and fun, and create what’s our neighborhood needs.”

Mid City West Community Council President and Melrose BID President Scott Epstein also endorsed the idea.

“People are really excited about this news. This is huge for our Melrose,” Epstein said. “Melrose has had a tough year, so people are really excited about what this could bring Melrose to life.”

Councilman Paul Koretz, 5th District, who chairs the council’s Transportation Committee, said.

“There are quite a few questions. This is the problem of the neighborhood. How are we going to transform this? We have already decided on what the project is and put in the grant request. So there is very little flexibility,” Paul Gomez, a spokesman for the Los Angeles Department of Public Works, which includes Streets LA, Los Angeles County is focusing its coronavirus-related outreach messages on young people and those who speak languages other than English.

County spreads COVID-19 info in multiple languages

Los Angeles County is regularly updating resources on COVID-19 to meet the multilingual and linguistic needs of the county’s most diverse communities.

Earlier this month, L.A. County announced the creation of a $100 million COVID-19 Rent Relief Program which aims to assist low-income renters and property owners who have struggled to pay their rent due to COVID-19.

In an effort to keep the public informed, the county released a multimedia tool for its COVID-19 Rent Relief Program so that it will be easier to share the news with low-income renters.

The digital toolkit includes shareable content in multiple languages, and the frequently asked questions have also been translated into 13 languages. The languages include Spanish, Chinese (traditional), Hindi, Korean, Khmer, Tagalog, Thai, Japanese and Vietnamese.

For additional assistance, dial 211 to speak with multilingual community resource experts over the phone. For information, visit covid19.lacounty.gov.

Los Angeles News/Beverly Press

Clint Dung

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Across
1. Listeners
5. Sluggers’ stats
9. Don’t bother
14. Island feast
15. Little ___
16. Love in Paris?
17. Sea bird
18. Beethoven’s birthplace
19. Metallic sounds
20. Boxing category
23. Canadian people
24. NZ forest tree
25. Canadian province with red sand, for short
28. “Smooth Operator” singer
29. Warren Buffett, e.g.
31. Hosp. area
33. Hosp. area
36. Bellini opera
39. School girl communication
40. Where many banks are situated
44. Forty winks
45. Fingered
46. Neighbor of Minn.
47. Determine one’s position
50. Bar order
52. Color
53. Unhurried
56. Corp. heads
59. One from the heartland
63. Clan emblem
66. Magazine for the fashion-conscious
67. Buckeye state
68. Mythical serpent
69. Huge
70. Wine, prefix
71. Ruhe river city
72. Cough syrup amts.

Down
1. K-6, abbr.
2. Derived from gold
3. Time off
4. Types of leathers
5. Hotel amenity
6. Can be furrowed
7. Secret
8. First name on the Supreme Court
9. Philadelphia landmark hotel
10. Eschew
11. School girl communication
12. A lot
13. TV drama settings
15. Name of Minn.
16. Determine one’s position
17. Bar order
18. Color
19. Unharnessed
20. Corp. heads
21. From the heartland
22. Clan emblem
23. For the fashion-conscious
24. Set free
25. Plaintive cry
26. Handouts
27. Ending for enzymes
28. Key executive
29. Marcus’s retail partner
30. Really small amount
31. Transplant
32. Candied
33. Perhaps
34. R and B and rap star
35. Set free
36. Plutonic cry
38. Handsom
41. Ending for enzymes
42. Key executive
43. Draw forth
46. Marcus’s retail partner
47. Really small amount
48. Transplant
54. Candied
55. Pound sounds
57. “___ Majesty’s Secret Service”
58. Paris divider
59. Soil
60. Boat locale
61. P.I.’s
62. Corner piece
63. Specifying article
64. Sounds of woe
65. 6-pointers
66. Magazine for the fashion-conscious
67. Buckeye state
68. Mythical serpent
69. Huge
70. Wine, prefix
71. Ruhe river city
72. Cough syrup amts.

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