



Sunny, with high temps this weekend

- Voluntary staff reductions in Beverly Hills pg. 3
- Update on party houses pg. 7

## Beverly Hills renews cap on delivery application fees

BY CAMERON KISZLA

On Sept. 1, the Beverly Hills City Council unanimously reimposed its cap on the fees charged by food delivery services. The cap will remain in place until the state of emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic is lifted. Delivery apps such as Uber Eats, Grubhub and DoorDash had been limited to charging a maximum of 15% on delivery fees by a council vote on June 16 and 5% on other

fees, such as those for credit card processing, marketing and other uses already put in place before the pandemic began. In that meeting, council members and city staff said they had heard the delivery service fees had been crippling local restaurants, sometimes by charging as much as 30% or 40% of the price of the food. However, the council's cap expired on Aug. 31.

"When the ordinance was adopted,

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photo by Cameron Kiszla

Though outdoor dining is allowed, restaurants are not currently able to open their indoor dining rooms.

## Uncertainty mounts for 'Uplift Melrose'

■ Deadline nears for crucial project grant

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Both support and opposition continues to grow for "Uplift Melrose," a proposed plan that would dramatically change the shopping and dining district between Fairfax and Highland avenues.

Los Angeles City Councilman Paul Koretz, 5th District, is still analyzing responses to an online community survey that closed on Aug. 31 seeking public input on the proposed project and has not made a decision whether to support or oppose moving forward, spokeswoman Ali Simard said.

It is unclear when Koretz will make a decision, but the clock is ticking. The project, proposed by the Streets LA and the Melrose Business Improvement District, is contingent on the city receiving a \$31.8 million state grant from Caltrans. The deadline to apply for the grant is Sept. 15. Streets LA, formerly the Bureau of Street Services, is awaiting a decision by Koretz to move forward with applying for the grant. Los



photo by Cameron Kiszla

The "Uplift Melrose" project would make the street more pedestrian-friendly and less car-friendly.

Angeles Department of Public Works spokesman Paul Gomez said on Sept. 2 that Streets LA has no updates on the plan.

According to a description by Streets LA, the project would be implemented along a 22-block stretch of Melrose Avenue. It aims to make Melrose Avenue safer while creating more space for pedestrians and cyclists. The plan calls for lane reductions on Melrose Avenue, resulting in one traffic lane in each direction, as

well as dedicated bike lanes separated from the lanes for cars. Curb extensions would be created at intersections to reduce the amount of distance required to cross.

Raised crosswalks, which are a couple inches above the street surface, would also be installed and more trees would be planted. Streets LA determined approximately 8,000 square feet of pedestrian space can be added to each

See **Melrose** page 21

## Rail service to roll through West Hollywood

■ Completion by 2028 Olympics a possibility

BY CAMERON KISZLA

The effort to bring rail to West Hollywood is one step closer to becoming reality after the Aug. 27 meeting of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority Board of Directors.

The Metro board unanimously voted to award a contract for engineering work and environmental analysis on three potential routes for the Crenshaw Northern Extension rail line, all of which go through West Hollywood.

In 2018, Metro proposed five routes, one of which would have missed West Hollywood entirely by traveling through Koreatown to connect to the Crenshaw/LAX line to the Red and Purple lines at the Wilshire/Vermont station.

Instead, all three proposals – one of which is a hybrid of two alternatives presented in the 2018 study – will allow subway riders to board and disembark in West Hollywood. Currently, the nearest subway station to West Hollywood is Hollywood/Highland, though the Purple Line Extension, which travels along a long stretch of Wilshire



map courtesy of the city of West Hollywood/illustration by Karen Villalpando

Boulevard and will service Beverly Hills, is currently under construction and is expected to open stations at Wilshire/La Cienega and Wilshire/Rodeo in 2023 and 2025, respectively.

West Hollywood leaders and residents have long hoped to bring rail to the city, Mayor Lindsey Horvath said.

"We couldn't be more excited in West Hollywood to see what has been a years-long journey coming to be a real thing," she said.

The three potential routes all

would begin where the Crenshaw/LAX line currently ends at Crenshaw and Exposition boulevards, then travel north up Crenshaw Boulevard. After traveling up San Vicente Boulevard, two routes split, one going north up La Brea Avenue and another going up Fairfax Avenue. The Fairfax route would split again at Beverly Boulevard, with the hybrid route heading west until it turns north onto San Vicente Boulevard again,

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## Drop boxes provide voting alternative in Nov. election

■ L.A., WeHo, Beverly Hills brace for high numbers of ballots

BY LAURA COLEMAN

With vote-by-mail starting on Oct. 5 and in-person voting beginning Oct. 24 for the upcoming presidential election, cities are working to facilitate the voting process, including determining where to install new Vote by Mail drop boxes.

Last week, Los Angeles City Councilman David Ryu, 4th District, introduced a motion to expand ballot drop-off centers.

"California is fortunate to have universal mail-in voting, but during the COVID-19 pandemic and cuts at the USPS, we need to expand our resources to ensure every Angeleno can vote easily and safely," Ryu said.


On Tuesday, Sept. 1, the Beverly Hills City Council

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image courtesy of the City of Beverly Hills

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## To our readers,

Next week we will yet again expand our coverage in the neighborhood. Starting with the Sept. 10 issue of the Beverly Press, we will now deliver to Bel Air residents in the 90077 zip code. This is part of an overall plan to increase news coverage and penetration into vital areas of our communities.

If you have any suggestions, questions or comments, please email me at [michael@beverlypress.com](mailto:michael@beverlypress.com)

*Thank you,  
Michael Villalpando  
Publisher*

## Metro explores feasibility of creating fare-free transit

A new internal Metro exploratory task force is working on a proposal to eliminate fares for all riders on buses and trains, Metro CEO Phil Washington announced.

The effort will be called the Fareless System Initiative and the task force will deliver a plan to the Metro CEO and the Metro Board of Directors for consideration by the end of 2020. The plan will include possible funding scenarios and sources.

No other large transit system in the world has switched to an entirely fare-free system. In remarks to the Metro board on Aug. 27, Washington said he views eliminating fares as an economic development tool that will also improve mobility and save money for those who need it most. It will be especially important as Los Angeles County recovers from the coronavirus pandemic.

Combined with Metro’s other work to reduce traffic congestion, fare-free transit could greatly increase transit ridership, free space on roads, help create more public spaces and improve air quality of life.

### City approves COVID-19 wage replacement

The Los Angeles City Council voted on Sept. 1 to approve legislation that will provide workers with up to two weeks of pay if they are infected with COVID-19 and cannot work.

The program, similar to one in San Francisco, will ensure that all workers, regardless of their employment or immigration status, are able to self-quarantine if they become sick. It will use up to \$25 million in federal COVID-19 relief funding for payments, according to a motion authored by Los Angeles City Councilman David Ryu, 4th District.

“Beating the COVID-19 pandemic means keeping folks at home when they’re sick,” Ryu said. “But too many Los Angeles workers are being forced to decide between their paycheck and public health. We need a program that ensures all workers are able to stay home, no matter what work they do, their immigration status or their criminal record.”

On July 29, Ryu and Council President Nury Martinez, 6th District, introduced legislation to establish a wage replacement program that pays workers infected with COVID-19 to stay home.

For information, visit [davidryu.lacity.org](http://davidryu.lacity.org).

“L.A. Metro has a moral obligation to pursue a fareless system and help our region recover from both a once-in-a-lifetime pandemic and the devastating effects of the lack of affordability in the region,” Washington said. “Fare-free transit will help essential workers, moms and dads, students, seniors and riders with disabilities. I view this as something that could change the life trajectory of millions of people and families in L.A. County, the most populous county in America.”

The median household income of Metro bus riders is \$17,975, and \$27,723 for rail riders, according to a customer survey conducted by Metro last fall. The initiative’s task force consists of Metro staff. It will consider funding opportunities for a fare-free system such as local, state and federal grants, and the re-prioritization of Metro funds – such as revenues from advertising or sponsorships. The task force will also consider how fare-free transit will mitigate allegations of targeting people of color for fare enforcement, and how the system would affect homelessness.

For information, visit [thesource.metro.net](http://thesource.metro.net).

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## CALENDAR

### Author Tori Eldridge

Book Soup is hosting a virtual discussion with author Tori Eldridge on Thursday, Sept. 3, at 7 p.m. Eldridge will discuss her book “The Ninja’s Blade” with Rachel Howzell Hall. In the book, Lily Wong, a Chinese-Norwegian modern-day ninja, has more trouble than she bargained for when controlling grandparents arrive in Los Angeles from Hong Kong at the same time she goes undercover in the dangerous world of youth sex trafficking. As she hunts for a kidnapped prostitution victim, a missing high school girl and a sociopathic trafficker, the surviving members of a murderous street gang hunt for Lily. She relies on her ninja skills to deceive and infiltrate, rescue and kill – whatever is necessary to free the girls from their literal and figurative slavery. [booksoup.com](http://booksoup.com).

### ‘Jazz Musicians Unite’ concert

The World Stage and Just Jazz present “Jazz Musicians Unite Against Racism,” a virtual concert on Saturday, Sept. 5, from 7 to 9 p.m. The concert includes Billy Childs, Carmen Lundy, Munyungo Jackson, Tierney Sutton, Bob Sheppard, Jonathan Pinson, Christian Euman, Jamael Dean, Dave Robaire, Tamir Hendelman and Jonathan Richards. [theworldstage.org](http://theworldstage.org).

### Robey Theatre Company

Enjoy a Robey Theatre Company staged reading of the new play “Revolutionary Genocide” on Sunday, Sept. 6, at 3 p.m., via Zoom. The presentation features the theater company’s co-founders actor Danny Glover and producing artistic



director Ben Guillory. The narrative focuses on events in the lives of attorney and activist William Lorenzo Patterson (portrayed by Glover) and actor and activist Paul Robeson (played by Guillory), who presented papers to the United Nations in 1951 accusing the United States government of the attempted genocide of Black Americans due to its failure to pass legislation against lynching and to bring its perpetrators to justice. Other characters will be portrayed by Cydney Wayne Davis, Kimberly Bailey and Melvin Ishmael Johnson. The suggested donation is \$10. [robeytheatrecompany.org](http://robeytheatrecompany.org).

### Jewish Women’s Theatre

Two accomplished and hilarious guests will take the virtual stage at The Braid/Jewish Women’s Theatre for a Zoom event titled “The Comedy of Coping,” on Sunday, Sept. 6, at 11 a.m. Emmy- and Golden Globe-winning writer and producer Cindy Chupack will join actress and best-selling author Annabelle Gurwitch to discuss how they find humor from heartbreak and humiliation in “The Comedy of Coping” – the latest Jewish Women’s Theatre Zoom program – and whether it’s possible to find humor in the time of COVID-19. Chupack and Gurwitch will also share stories about their friendship, their ever-changing lives and successful but challenging careers, as well as how they discovered their comedic voices and the challenges they faced. Viewing is free, but JWT hopes viewers will consider purchasing a virtual ticket from its website. [jewishwomenstheatre.org/zoom](http://jewishwomenstheatre.org/zoom).

### Capricia Marshall book discussion

Join Capricia Marshall for a discussion of her book “Protocol” with Roberto Lovato on Tuesday, Sept. 8, from 7 to 8:15 p.m., via Zoom. The forum will be hosted by Chevalier’s Books on Larchmont Boulevard and features Marshall, former chief of

protocol for the Obama administration, discussing her latest work. [chevaliersbooks.com](http://chevaliersbooks.com).

### Piano Spheres

Piano Spheres presents a special online performance of American composer David Lang’s work for six pianos, “face so pale,” on Tuesday, Sept. 8. The piece will be performed by the six Piano Spheres core artists: Gloria Cheng, Vicki Ray, Mark Robson, Susan Svrček and HOCKET (Sarah Gibson and Thomas Kotcheff), from six locations. It will be will livestreamed on Sept. 8 and available on demand any time afterward. [pianospheres.org](http://pianospheres.org).

### Dog training

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Los Angeles is offering a free online loose leash training seminar on Wednesday, Sept. 9, at 11 a.m. Sara Taylor, SPCALA’s director of animal behavior & training, will lead the seminar focusing on eliminating disruptive dog behavior. To register, visit [spcala.com/events](http://spcala.com/events).

### Latino Theater Company

The Latino Theater Company presents an archival video of its 2016 production “La Olla,” by Evelina Fernández, beginning on Thursday, Sept. 10. A bit player in a shady 1950s L.A. nightclub finds a pot full of cash in Fernández’s adaptation of the Roman comedy, “The Pot of Gold,” by Plautus. Inspired by the Rumberas films of the golden age of Mexican Cinema, the theater company incorporates its distinctive style of comedy, music, dance and imagery to explore one of the most basic aspects of human behavior: greed. Viewing is free on demand beginning on Sept. 10, at 7 p.m. [the-latc.org](http://the-latc.org).



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# Beverly Hills moves to save on personnel costs

■ Early retirement, buyout packages to be offered to city employees

BY CAMERON KISZLA

Governmental budgets have been impacted by the economic devastation caused by the coronavirus pandemic, and Beverly Hills is no exception. On Sept. 1, the council voted unanimously to authorize a pair of cost-saving measures: an

early-retirement program through the California Public Employees' Retirement System, or CalPERS, and a city-led buyout program.

"Given that personnel costs make up such a large, large portion of our general fund budget, there was going to be a need to reduce costs in that area," said Jeff Muir, the city's director of finance.

For the CalPERS program, employees can receive up to two additional years of service credit for their retirement funds if they have been with the city or another

CalPERS member agency for at least five years and are at least 50 years old.

The employee cannot be a public safety worker, such as a police officer or firefighter, as those employees are handled under a separate contract with CalPERS, though Muir said the city is looking into how to include those employees as well.

In exchange for the additional two years of credit, the city will pay CalPERS an annual fee based on the number of employees who accept the early retirement deal for five years beginning in fiscal year 2023-24. The city will also remove the retirees' positions from its budget.

"That effectively means a position will be eliminated," Muir said.

Muir said that 123 city employees are eligible for the CalPERS program, though 58 are likely to accept this deal and retire early. If all eligible employees retired, the city would see net savings of \$9.6 million per year. If 58 employees retire as expected, the city will see net savings of \$4.6 million per year.

For the city program, Muir said there are 21 likely candidates who would receive 2.5% for each year of service with the city, up to a maximum of 70% of an employee's salary. For those who accept the buyout, the position would remain vacant for two years.

Even with the anticipated \$700,000 upfront cost the city will incur with the buyouts, Muir expected that the city would ultimately realize \$2.1 million in sav-



photo by Cameron Kiszla

Beverly Hills is expected to employ approximately 80 fewer people if its buyout and early-retirement programs are utilized as expected.

ings over the next two years.

"These are voluntary programs ... There's no guarantee that ... all the employees we think are likely will actually participate," Muir said.

In total, city staff expects the two programs to save Beverly Hills approximately \$46.2 million between now and fiscal year 2027-28, the last year in which the annual fee will have to be paid to CalPERS. Muir reiterated, however, that the actual number of city employees who will retire or take the buyout won't be known until the deadline of Feb. 28, 2021, and the city might choose to change course before 2028, depending on the pandemic and other factors.

"If the economy were to turn around and there were additional resources available to bolster some staff ... that would eat into these savings," Muir said.

Vice Mayor Robert Wunderlich asked city staff to return with more information related to the budget and the city's finances as it becomes available.

"Initial estimates are always going to be off by something as we develop additional information ... I think this might be a good time to schedule an update ... with the increased knowledge about revenue we have coming in, the cost savings we've achieved and where we stand now," Wunderlich said.

In the meantime, the council members supported moving forward with the cost-saving measures.

"It's better than having to lay off people, it's better than having to do furloughs," Councilman John Mirisch said.

"This is far superior to forced layoffs," Mayor Lester Friedman added.



photo courtesy of The Wallis

The real estate portfolio of the city of Beverly Hills includes the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts.

## Beverly Hills to improve city's real estate portfolio

■ City auditor suggests more oversight, updating city inventory

BY LAURA COLEMAN

The Beverly Hills City Council unanimously supported tightening control over the city's commercial real estate portfolio at Tuesday's study session. An accounting of all properties found that the city owned 57 commercially leased properties that generated approximately \$18.6 million in revenue during fiscal year 2018-19.

The city owns an extensive portfolio of properties that it leases to commercial tenants for investment purposes and public benefit, including businesses Ferragamo, Williams-Sonoma and Google, in addition to recreational and theater spaces such as Beverly Hills Tennis and the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts.

"I think this is probably one of the first audits that we've done just internally. It really makes some solid recommendations to improve the city's real estate management practices," City Auditor Eduardo Luna said.

In accordance with the fiscal year 2019-20 annual audit work plan, Luna's office performed an audit of the policy and management department's real estate and property management division. Objectives of the review included identifying city assets and determining if the city had mechanisms in place for managing its asset portfolio; determining the value of the city's assets and any potential uncollected revenue from late, missing or unenforced escalation clauses; and assessing the city's ability to manage its real estate portfolio.

"The findings and recommendations detailed in this report

serve to improve real-estate operations, as well as facilitate emergency planning as it pertains to the city's commercial-leased properties," stated the Sept. 1 staff report authored by Luna. At its most positive, the report found that generally rent has continued to escalate and be assessed as required.

The report made 13 specific recommendations, which the City Council supported. The recommendations included designating one person to head real estate operations, developing a plan that clearly articulates the city's strategic vision, strengthening internal controls, and reviewing and updating the city's real estate inventory on a periodic basis. In fact, since Luna completed the audit in March, the city has acquired two additional commercial properties.

"The point is to improve operations ... and I think this audit report does do that," said Vice Mayor Bob Wunderlich, who served on the liaison committee focused on this item with Mayor Lester Friedman.

Following discovery of improper activity by the city's former property manager who ultimately pleaded guilty to felony grand theft related to an embezzlement investigation, the city reorganized its real estate operations in 2016, including hiring new personnel and segregating key functions. Whereas the previous property manager directed and oversaw multiple aspects of real-estate operations, including day-to-day operations, lease negotiations, tenant relations, rent collection and property management, in reorganizing its real estate operations, the city opted to split responsibilities amongst three departments: Policy and Management, Public Works and Finance. Luna said that once again appointing one

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photo courtesy of the LAPD  
Carlton Alexander Callaway, left, and Davion Anthony Williams face felony charges for an Aug. 17 attack on three transgender women in Hollywood.

# Charges filed in alleged hate crime and assault

■ D.A.’s office files case after more investigation

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

After further investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department, two men were charged with robbing and assaulting three transgender women on Aug. 17 in Hollywood. The case includes allegations that the incidents were hate crimes.

The Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office announced the charges on Sept. 1 against Carlton Alexander Callaway, 29, and Davion Anthony Williams, 22, both of Compton. Callaway faces one felony count each of second-degree robbery, attempted second-degree robbery, assault by means of force likely to produce great bodily injury, battery with serious bodily injury, grand theft and making criminal threats. Callaway allegedly used a steel rod as a weapon.

Williams faces one felony count each of grand theft and assault with a deadly weapon – a rideshare scooter.

Deputy District Attorney Richard Ceballos, of the district attorney’s office’s Hate Crimes Unit, will prosecute the case.

On Aug. 17, Callaway allegedly approached the three victims near Hollywood Boulevard and

Wilcox Avenue and befriended them, and then later assaulted them, Ceballos said. The crimes occurred separately against each individual victim, who were part of a group, a short period of time apart, according to police. The perpetrator allegedly uttered slurs about the victims’ gender status, making them hate crimes, police said. Williams is charged with joining the attack and also stealing items from one of the victims.

Callaway was initially arrested in Bakersfield on Aug. 20 and booked for assault with a deadly weapon with a hate-crime enhancement. He and another man arrested in connection with the case, Willie Walker, 42, were later released on Aug. 24 when the district attorney’s office asked for more investigation by the LAPD. It was not disclosed what new evidence surfaced or what changed between the time when the suspects were released and the charges were filed.

Callaway and Williams were taken into custody after the district attorney’s office filed charges on Aug. 31. No further information about Walker was provided and he was not charged in connection with the crimes in Hollywood.

Callaway faces up to 13 years and four months in state prison if convicted, and Williams faces up to eight years and four months in prison. The case remains under investigation by the LAPD’s Robbery-Homicide Division.

# Suspect arrested after car crashes into store

■ Driver allegedly carjacked a victim in Venice a day before incident on Melrose

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

A man who allegedly carjacked a female victim in Venice on Aug. 30 was arrested the following day after the stolen vehicle crashed through the front of a shoe store on Melrose Avenue.

The suspect, David Park, 35, of La Palma, was arrested at approximately 8:55 p.m. on Aug. 31 a short distance from the collision scene at CoolKicks, located at 7565 Melrose Ave. He was booked for carjacking and bail was set at \$800,000, said Los Angeles Police Department spokesman William Cooper.

The alleged carjacking occurred at approximately 10:05 p.m. on Aug. 30 near the corner of Lincoln Boulevard and Warren Avenue, in the LAPD’s Pacific Division. Detective L. Jurado described it as a violent crime in which the suspect allegedly approached a woman in a vehicle, forced her to get out and then drove away. The assailant was allegedly armed with a stun gun, Jurado said.

Police were searching for the stolen 2013 Nissan Rogue until officers from the LAPD’s Wilshire Division received a call about the crash at CoolKicks, which special-



photo by Cameron Kiszla  
The facade of CoolKicks on Melrose Avenue was partially boarded on Tuesday after a man allegedly driving a stolen vehicle crashed through the front of the store, backed out and fled.

izes in collectible sneakers. Prior to the crash, the suspect allegedly went into the store and attempted to sell shoes, but was acting strangely and was told to leave, Jurado said. Investigators believe he crashed through the store because he was angry, Jurado added.

Nothing was stolen following the collision. The suspect backed the vehicle out of the store and drove a

short distance to the 700 block of North Fairfax Avenue, where he abandoned the car, Jurado said. The suspect then walked back to the store, where witnesses identified him and officers took Park into custody.

Anyone with information about the carjacking or collision is urged to call Jurado, of the Pacific Division, at (310)482-6313.

# WeHo among first sheriff’s stations to use body cameras

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors voted on Sept. 1 to transfer \$25.5 million to the sheriff’s department for implementation of a new body worn camera program.

The approval will allow the sheriff’s department to implement the cameras in October at the West Hollywood, Lancaster, Lakewood, Industry and Century sheriff’s stations. Ten additional stations will receive the cameras on Jan. 1.

The motion to approve the funding was authored by Supervisor Janice Hahn, 4th District, and Supervisor Kathryn Barger, 5th District, and will cover the first year of the program.

“Body-worn cameras are an important tool for transparency and

will give us a clearer understanding of the interactions between our deputies and members of the public,” Hahn said. “However, we need to recognize that body-worn cameras do not prevent violence or in themselves, guarantee accountability. This move needs to be accompanied by real accountability, real reform and real reflection.”

Over the past four years, the board set aside \$35 million to purchase body worn cameras for the sheriff’s department. On Aug. 11, the sheriff’s department finalized an agreement with Axon Enterprise for cameras to equip 5,200 deputies and security officers over the next two years.

“To build trust between our law

enforcement officers and community members, transparency is key,” Barger said. “Allocating funds for body-worn cameras to Los Angeles County sheriff’s deputies is a critical step to rebuild relationships and accountability. Because of persistence from the board of supervisors and commitment of communities, 5,200 deputies and security officers will have access to these necessary devices.”

The motion allocates for \$12.3 million in ongoing funding and \$13.2 million in one-time funding of the \$35 million set aside for allocation to the sheriff’s department for the body-worn camera program. The board will decide later how to allocate the additional funding.

# Another defendant with links to Huizar pleads guilty

Federal prosecutors filed charges on Aug. 25 against Morris Roland Goldman, 57, a longtime Los Angeles City Hall lobbyist and associate of City Councilman Jose Huizar, 14th District.

In a plea agreement filed on the same date in United States District Court, Goldman agreed to plead guilty to one felony count of conspiring to commit bribery and honest services mail fraud, and agreed to cooperate in an ongoing government investigation into City Hall corruption.

Goldman was charged with participating in a bribery scheme in which he brokered deals and induced a developer client to make \$50,000 in political donations in exchange for Huizar taking official council action to benefit the developer. According to court documents, Goldman was a lobbyist for an unnamed company that had a pending development project in the city’s Arts District.

Goldman was one of several people who established two political action committees, one of which purportedly supported a variety of causes but actually was created to primarily benefit the City Council campaign of an unnamed Huizar relative. If elected, that relative was to have helped Huizar and his associates “maintain a political stronghold in the city,” according to court documents. Although not named nor charged with any crimes, Huizar’s wife Richelle ran for the 14th Council District office in 2018 and later dropped out of the race that year.

In his plea agreement, Goldman admits that in September 2018, he agreed with Huizar and an executive in the developer’s company that the developer would contribute \$50,000 to a PAC established to support Huizar’s relative’s political campaign. In exchange, Huizar would vote against a union appeal of the company’s project in the

council’s Planning and Land Use Management Committee, which he chaired at the time.

Court documents also describe that Goldman secured commitments from the developer’s company to contribute to other PACs at Huizar’s request prior to September 2018. Between November 2016 and March 2017, the unnamed company contributed a total of \$50,000 to a PAC used to benefit Huizar’s political causes. In June 2018, Goldman secured a \$25,000 contribution to the PAC to elect Huizar’s relative, as well as a commitment for an additional \$25,000 contribution. The developer’s project ultimately received significant benefits in the city approval process.

Of the \$150,000 in donations the developer agreed to pay, \$75,000 was actually paid. The final payments were not made because of an FBI search of Huizar’s home and offices in November 2018.

# BHPD spotlights traffic safety

September is Pedestrian Safety Month, and the Beverly Hills Police Department is joining law enforcement agencies throughout the state in a campaign to educate the public and increase enforcement of traffic laws.

“More people are out walking, exercising and doing what they can to spend a little time outdoors after spending so much time inside staying at home,” BHPD Interim Chief Dominick Rivetti said. “Looking out for one another is the least we can do during these difficult times.”

The BHPD will deploy additional patrol officers throughout September to improve safety for drivers and pedestrians. The officers will specifically look for violations by drivers including speeding, illegal turns, failure to yield and not stopping for signs or signals, and pedestrians committing violations

such as not crossing in marked crosswalks or designated crossing areas.

The Beverly Hills Police Department is offering tips to promote safety. Both drivers and pedestrians should avoid distractions. Pedestrians should keep their eyes up and phones down, especially when crossing streets. Always use marked crosswalks, preferably at stop signs or signals. Make eye contact and nod or wave at drivers so it is acknowledged that you see each other. Drivers are encouraged to slow down on busy streets and at intersections. Be extra cautious approaching crosswalks and be prepared to stop for pedestrians. Always stop before a crosswalk and avoid blocking crosswalks when making right turns. For information, visit [beverlyhills.org/departments/policedepartment](http://beverlyhills.org/departments/policedepartment).





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*Caruso*



# Special-needs actors threatened with eviction

■ WeHo residents must temporarily relocate due to construction

BY LAURA COLEMAN

Several West Hollywood residents who live at the Palm View apartments are speaking out about their fears that impending construction during the COVID-19 pandemic will adversely impact their health. The Actors Fund-owned, 40-unit apartment complex, which provides homes to low-income people with special needs, was in the midst of renovations when the pandemic forced a temporary halt to those plans. However, renovations are set to resume this month.

Following publication of an article by the Hollywood Reporter on Aug. 20 that several special needs actors at the apartment complex were planning a demonstration for Sept. 14 to prevent the planned renovations from continuing, residents say they are being threatened with eviction.

Actor Kevin Ross, who has lived at the property since 2005, said he and others who were planning the protest to block construction workers from entering the premises are now uncertain whether they will continue to protest.

“We’d like to, but we’re scared,” he said.

According to the Actors Fund website, to qualify to live at Palm View, residents must have a diagnosis of a permanent disability and meet specific annual income criteria established by the federal government. In addition, to be eligible for an apartment, most residents must have a professional history in the arts.

“Many COVID-19 high-risk residents of Palm View apartments in West Hollywood are upset that the

Actors Fund of America, who owns the building, are demanding them – sick, disabled and mobility-challenged residents – to vacate their homes and live in a hotel or with friends and family for six nights, or stay in their homes or an unoccupied unit from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. without being allowed to leave in order for the Actors Fund to resume construction recently halted due to the coronavirus pandemic,” Ross said. “They are choosing financial obligations over the health and safety of 50 special-needs residents in a 40-unit building geared towards independent living for low-income, permanently disabled entertainment professionals.”

This week, Ross said he signed a document indicating his choice with the annotation that he was doing so “under duress.” Throughout the renovation process, he said he had agreed to stay inside one of the apartment complex’s vacant units between 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. while workers are inside his unit and others in the complex. Residents had been given four relocation options during the five-day process, including the option to stay with family or friends and receive a \$450 stipend.

A notification sent last week to residents of the Palm View apartment complex, which is managed Levine Management Group Inc., stated “Anyone who refuses to participate will be subject to the filing of eviction paperwork as soon as practicable and as permitted by law.”

The city of West Hollywood currently has an eviction moratorium in place through the end of September. Peter Noonan, the city’s manager of rent stabilization and housing, did not respond to a request for comment before the press deadline.

“The Actors Fund will apply the health and safety precautions and guidance available to us through the city of West Hollywood and others so as to allow for as little risk as possible, much as people are doing in every segment of society, but we must proceed,” said Keith McNutt, director of the Western Region of the Actors Fund, in an email sent to residents.

While representatives from the Actors Fund did not respond to a

request for comment by press time, McNutt’s email to residents provided insight into the organization’s urgency related to the need to continue amidst the pandemic.

“As you know, we must move forward on the final stage of the renovation and complete it by the end of October. We do not have an option. This is the legal commitment we made to the city, county and lending partners who are making possible both the financing of the rehabilitation itself and the longer-term, project-based Section 8 contract that will permanently subsidize the rents of the majority of residents to a third of your income,” he wrote.



photo by Cameron Kiszla

Residents at the Palm View apartments say the Actors Fund, which owns the complex, is proceeding with construction despite COVID-19.

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## Correction

In the Aug. 27 article “WeHo council race features 10 challengers,” it was incorrectly stated that Larry Block is a current member of the West Hollywood Disabilities Advisory Board. Block is a former member of the board.

## Beverly Hills proposes solid waste rate adjustments

This week, the city of Beverly Hills will begin notifying residents and commercial businesses about its proposed solid waste rate adjustments and upcoming town hall meetings scheduled in the coming months.

If approved at a public hearing scheduled for Oct. 27, the proposed rate adjustments will be effective starting July 1, 2021, with future adjustments occurring annually for the next five years. The proposed rates for solid waste services will ensure adequate revenues are available to deliver services to the community.

As the cost to provide solid waste services continues to increase for the city, customer rates are reviewed regularly to ensure that customers pay the correct charges for the type of service they receive. This is the first time the city has proposed a rate adjustment since 2011.

Beginning in 2021, a single-family residential, 6,620-square-foot lot, for example, will see a bimonthly increase of \$6.75, while multi-family residential housing will see an increase of \$5.38 per unit. In addition to the proposed rate adjustments, there will also be changes to commercial and residential services.

“While we understand the hardships many are facing during COVID-19, we have worked to ensure this rate increase is minimal to continue providing a high-quality service to the community,” Public Works Director Shana Epstein said.

There will be two virtual town hall meetings scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 1, and Tuesday, Oct. 20, at 6 p.m.

For information, visit [beverlyhills.org/solidwasterates](http://beverlyhills.org/solidwasterates), contact Public Works Customer Service at (310)285-2467 or email [askpw@beverlyhills.org](mailto:askpw@beverlyhills.org).



# City gets tougher on illegal party houses

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti announced the latest enforcement action on Sept. 1 against disruptive house parties held in violation of COVID-19 public health orders, stating that water and electricity service was shut off at a house in the Cahuenga Pass identified as the site of repeated problems.

The house in the 7200 block of Caverna Drive was the site of large parties on Aug. 24 and Aug. 30, authorities said. Police went to the house on Aug. 24 and issued a warning that the party violated public health orders and that utilities may be disconnected. A written warning was also posted. On Aug. 30, police responded to another large party at the same house and issued a second warning. Garcetti authorized service to be shut off on Tuesday.

The name of the owner of the property was not disclosed, and it was unclear whether the site was used as a short-term rental for parties or who was allegedly hosting the gatherings. Authorities said either way, hosting parties with a large number of people is illegal during the public health orders because they enable the spread of COVID-19. Hosting gatherings at homes in the Hollywood Hills also violates a city ordinance enacted in 2018 that allows both property owners and those who rent houses to throw parties to be cited and fined for repeat offenses.

“COVID-19 has taken a devastating toll on our city and country. Yet the power to stop the spread of this virus and save lives rests in our hands, by wearing masks, washing our hands, keeping our distance and avoiding large gatherings. The owner and residents of this home have failed to follow our public health orders and ignored multiple warnings to stop hosting large parties. So, the city disconnected utilities to this house,” Garcetti said. “Parties can spread the coronavirus, and any decisions to organize, host or attend one can mean the difference between life and death.”

Capt. Steve Lurie, commanding officer of the Los Angeles Police Department’s Hollywood Division, issued a statement on social media warning people who may be thinking about hosting parties or allowing their homes to be used as short-term rentals for parties to “think twice.”

“As you know, the coronavirus has shut down a lot of the formal nightlife in Hollywood. Unfortunately, we are seeing professional party promoters move those social events up into the hills into private residences. This is a bad idea for several reasons. First of all, they can be dangerous, and even more importantly, they are clearly places where we may see the spread of the coronavirus, as the houses are crowded and folks are not wearing masks or practicing good distancing,” Lurie said. “Should you decide to use your home as a short-term party rental, you could be cited, we could seek criminal filings against you and you could have your utilities shut off for the remainder of the emergency order.”

The mayor’s announcement about power being shut off to the house in the Cahuenga Pass came on the heels of service previously being disconnected to a residence in the Hollywood Hills rented and shared by TikTok social media celebrities Bryce Hall and Blake Gray. On Aug. 29, Los Angeles City

Attorney Mike Feuer announced that misdemeanor charges of violating the health order have been filed against Hall and Gray, as well as the property owners of two other homes in the Hollywood Hills where repeated parties have allegedly been held.

“With hundreds of people attending, loud music all night long and cars blocking access for emergency vehicles, party houses are really out of control nightclubs and they’ve hijacked the quality of life of neighbors nearby,” Feuer said. “As if that weren’t enough, the hosts are incredibly irresponsible, with COVID-19 spreading and parties

banned because of it. We’ve got to put a stop to it. If you have a combined 19 million followers on TikTok during this health crisis, you should be modeling good behavior, not brazenly violating the law and posting videos about it, as we allege.”

Feuer said the charges against Hall and Gray stem from parties allegedly held on Aug. 8 and 14. On Aug. 8, police responded to a party and cited Hall for violating the health order, Feuer said. A warning about a potential utility shut off was posted and the crowd was dispersed,


See **Parties** page 8



photo by Cameron Kiszla

Law enforcement and city officials say illegal parties in the Hollywood Hills create a health hazard due to COVID-19.


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## WeHo's 'OUT Zones' expand outdoor business

During the coronavirus pandemic, the city of West Hollywood is taking steps to support businesses with solutions that protect health and safety by turning things inside out.

In July, the city began its Temporary Outdoor Expansion Permit program by offering streamlined approval for businesses to use sidewalks, on-street parking spaces and private parking lots as areas to expand operations.

Now, the program has been expanded and given a fresh, new name: Outdoor Use Temporary Zones, or OUT Zones. These temporary expansions provide outdoor commercial space in public right-of-way for restaurants, shops and personal care establishments to move operations outside to ensure social distancing and meet protocols set forth by the L.A. County Department of Public Health and state of California, which currently prohibit many indoor operations in these sectors.

OUT Zones and other business relief measures are outlined in the

city's most recent emergency executive order, available on the city of West Hollywood's website at [weho.org/home/showdocument?id=48059](http://weho.org/home/showdocument?id=48059).

“Creating more outdoor spaces for expanded operations is a creative approach that will help West Hollywood’s businesses, residents and visitors as we continue to respond to the pandemic. OUT Zones will activate sidewalks, street-sides and parking lots with perimeter barriers for safety and will offer people outdoor spots for dining, shopping and personal care while supporting local businesses,” West Hollywood Mayor Lindsey Horvath said. “I’m looking forward to seeing you OUT there!”

The soft opening for the first phase of the city's new OUT Zones program began on Aug. 25 with the installation of protective barriers, known as k-rails, outside of participating businesses, and the installation has now been completed. More than 60 West Hollywood businesses have been approved for temporary OUT Zone permits, and during the

coming weeks, there will be many new zones coming out in the city of West Hollywood.

OUT Zones will be marked by colorful signage with spots to “Dine OUT” for restaurants and cafes; “Shop OUT” for boutiques and goods, and “Werk OUT” for exercise and personal care. People exploring West Hollywood’s OUT Zones are reminded that the city of West Hollywood has a mandatory face-covering requirement and are urged to be mindful of maintaining 6 feet of social distancing for dining, shopping and personal care under the sun and stars.

Businesses interested in applying for the program are invited to watch a one-hour webinar that provides program details and information on submitting an application to temporarily expand business outdoors. OUT Zone permits are free, and all parking requirements have been temporarily waived. For information, contact Paolo Kespradit at (323)848-6556 or [pkespradit@weho.org](mailto:pkespradit@weho.org), or visit [weho.org/outzones](http://weho.org/outzones).



photo courtesy of the city of West Hollywood

West Hollywood's "OUT Zones" will offer outdoor spaces for dining, shopping and personal care.

## Parties have seen violence, lawbreaking

From page 7

he added. Officers were called to the home again on Aug. 14, this time on a call that shots had been fired, and allegedly found another large party occurring. There was no evidence of shots being fired or any weapon found, but police issued a citation to Hall for allegedly hosting the party, dispersed the crowd and posted a second warning about utility disconnection. On Aug. 19, water and electricity was shut off. Feuer's office filed charges nine days later. Penalties include up to one year in jail and up to \$2,000 in fines.

Also charged with violating public health orders were Jianwei Bai, owner of a home on Outpost Drive, and David Marvisi, who owns a home on Sunset View Drive. Those homes have allegedly been the sources of numerous complaints and both owners have received multiple citations for violating the city's party house ordinance. The homeowners also received warning letters about potential prosecution, Feuer said.

Police also continue to investigate a homicide that occurred on Aug. 26 at a party at a short-term rental in the 2200 block of San Ysidro Drive. A man was shot and killed and another injured after an argument at the house. Police said approximately 25 to 30 people were

visiting the home and fled after the shooting occurred. The victim was identified as Deshone Lucas, 44, of Los Angeles. Investigators determined gang members were present during the gathering and believe the motive stemmed from an argument between the gunman and one of the victims who was shot, said Detective Sean Kinchla, with the LAPD's West Bureau Homicide Unit. Anyone with information about that crime is urged to call (213)382-9470.

Garcetti reiterated that gatherings

are a primary location for the spread of COVID-19 and warned that the city will continue to crack down on illegal house parties.

“No matter how young you may be, your choices threaten your health,” Garcetti said. “If you’re thinking about joining a party this Labor Day Weekend, cancel those plans. If you want to be able to hang out with friends in the near future, or see schools and more businesses reopen, we have to be smart, be safe and defeat this virus.”

**“If you’re thinking about joining a party this Labor Day Weekend, cancel those plans. If you want to be able to hang out with friends in the near future, or see schools and more businesses reopen, we have to be smart, be safe and defeat this virus.”**


-Los Angeles Mayor  
Eric Garcetti

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Franklin Delano Roosevelt  
1882-1945  
First Inaugural Address  
March 4, 1933

(source: "Bartlett's Familiar Quotations")

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## Metro hopes to work through the holidays in BH



photo by Edwin Folven

Wilshire Boulevard will be reduced to two lanes in each direction between San Diego Way and Spaulding Avenue through next August. The removal of some K-rail work zones and the installation of new ones planned near San Vicente and Wilshire Boulevard has been postponed until further notice.

Metro is providing updates on construction in September for sections of the Purple Line Extension subway project in Beverly Hills, the Miracle Mile, Wilshire Center and Koreatown. There will be no work on Monday, Sept. 7, in observance of Labor Day.

To expedite construction in Beverly Hills, Metro is requesting a waiver of the holiday moratorium, which will allow work to continue from Thanksgiving through New Year's Eve. No work would occur on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas and New Year's Day. If approved by the Beverly Hills City Council, expedited excavation, geotechnical instrumentation and further station construction will occur during the holidays. An application has been submitted to the city requesting a waiver and the request will be considered at a future council meeting at a date to be determined.

At the site of the future Wilshire/Rodeo subway station in Beverly Hills, excavation is ongoing underneath Wilshire Boulevard and will continue until reaching 100 feet in depth. At the end of August, excavation reached an average depth of 40 feet.

The excavation work continues 24 hours a day and is anticipated to be complete during the first quarter of 2021. Wilshire Boulevard has been reduced to two lanes in each direction between Beverly and Canon drives to facilitate the removal of soil, and may be reduced to one lane in each direction at night. Reeves Drive will remain closed during excavation, as well as sidewalks on the west side of Reeves Drive and the south side

Wilshire Boulevard between  
Beverly and Reeves drives.

Farther east near Wilshire/La Cienega, construction, material deliveries and instrumentation continues at staging yards for a future subway station. Intermittent lane reductions may be in place in the area during non-peak traffic hours. Gale Drive will be intermittently closed at Wilshire Boulevard to support construction activities in the Gale staging yard. Work hours are Monday through Saturday, 4 a.m. to 6 p.m. Access to Gale Drive will be maintained from San Vicente Boulevard. The closure is a public safety measure due to a high volume of vehicles entering and exiting the staging yard.

The previously announced removal of a K-rail work zone on Wilshire Boulevard between Tower and Gale drives has been postponed, as well as the installation of a K-rail work zone in the center lanes of the Wilshire/San Vicente intersection. Information will be provided when further work is announced at those sites.

Wilshire Boulevard will be reduced to two lanes in each direction between San Diego Way and Spaulding Avenue through August 2021. A work zone at the southwest corner of Wilshire Boulevard and Fairfax Avenue is in place to support appendage construction for the future Wilshire/Fairfax subway station.

At Wilshire/Fairfax, station construction, hauling and concrete pouring continues 24 hours. Ogden Drive will be closed intermittently Monday through Saturday at Wilshire Boulevard. Orange Grove

Avenue remains closed south of Wilshire Boulevard. Intermittent lane closures may be in place in the Wilshire/Fairfax station area.

At Wilshire/La Brea, hauling and deliveries continue to the future subway station site. Through February 2021, Wilshire Boulevard will be reduced to two lanes in each direction between Detroit and June streets, and Orange Drive will be closed north of Wilshire Boulevard, to support the construction of station appendages adjacent to the Wilshire/La Brea station. Daily lane closures supporting station construction will continue through the end of 2020 and Wilshire Boulevard may also intermittently be reduced to a single lane in each direction from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m., and 9 p.m. to 5 a.m., between Detroit Street and Highland Avenue.

Through Friday, Sept. 18, Sycamore Avenue will be closed 100 feet north of Wilshire Boulevard to support work on a waterline.

At a work zone at Wilshire/Rimpau, Wilshire Boulevard has been reduced to two lanes in each direction. The work zone is expected to be in place until the end of September and supports concrete pouring underground in the subway tunnels.

Tunneling support, cross passage excavation and street maintenance work is also ongoing 24-hours at a staging yard just west of the intersection of Wilshire Boulevard and Western Avenue. Northbound Manhattan Place will be closed intermittently just north of Wilshire

## Save a life at Original Farmers Market blood drive



photo courtesy of Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

The Original Farmers Market and Cedars-Sinai Medical Center are partnering for a two-day community blood drive on Friday and Saturday, Sept. 4 and 5, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the market, 6333 W. Third St.

The market has long supported blood drives. Donors will enjoy a free pickle from Kaylin & Hobbs and will be entered in a drawing for \$75 in Original Farmers Market gift certificates.

Donors will receive free testing for COVID-19 antibodies and can learn their individual blood type. The Cedars-Sinai Bloodmobile will be in the parking lot near the Farmers Market Clock Tower, and free validated self-parking is available. Donors must bring identification and wear masks.

Limited spaces are available and advance appointments are recommended. For information, call Dave Keys, with Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, at (310)717-5996, or email [keysd@cshs.org](mailto:keysd@cshs.org).

Boulevard from 4 a.m. to midnight., Monday through Friday, and 8 a.m. to 11 p.m., Saturday and Sunday. Access to businesses will be maintained. Intermittent single-lane closures may also occur on Wilshire Boulevard between Western Avenue and Manhattan

Place as a public safety measure to support ongoing excavation and construction.

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

## Bloom joins coalition on wildfire legislation

Assemblyman Richard Bloom (D-Santa Monica) and a coalition of Senators and Assembly members, including Senate Majority Leader Bob Hertzberg (D-Van Nuys) and Assembly Speaker Pro Tempore Kevin Mullin (D-South San Francisco), have jointly introduced Assembly Bill 1659, urgency legislation that will direct immediate funding to address the unprecedented wave of wildfires that have been ravaging the state and establish a long-term plan to mitigate future wildfire and climate impacts.

"The bill includes short- and

long-term plans that will be developed and overseen by the CPUC and the Natural Resources Agency. Both plans are focused on reducing fire risks on the ground and protecting communities,” Bloom said.

The short-term plan dedicates \$500 million from the Surplus Money Investment Fund to jumpstart immediate workforce training needs and implement projects that address the current fire emergency and will help prevent future fires.

For information, visit  
[asmdc.org/bloom](http://asmdc.org/bloom).





photo courtesy of Juli Shamash/Moms Against Drugs

Los Angeles City Hall was lit in purple to call attention to the fight against drug abuse and reducing the stigma about overdoses.

# Purple lights mark International Overdose Awareness Day

Los Angeles City Hall was illuminated in purple on Aug. 31 to recognize International Overdose Awareness Day, a global event held annually to raise awareness about overdoses and reduce the stigma of drug-related death. The day also acknowledges the grief felt by families and friends remembering those who have died or suffered permanent injury as a result of drug overdose. Beverly Hills City Hall and Staples Center were also illuminated in purple on Aug. 31.

The effort in Los Angeles was led by City Councilman Paul Koretz, 5th District, who introduced a motion last week calling for City Hall to be lit in purple in partnership with the nonprofit Moms Against Drugs. The organization was co-founded by Juli Shamash and Debi Nadler, who lost sons to drug overdoses.

Moms Against Drugs promotes drug abuse awareness and overdose prevention, and provides resources and support for people to host awareness events in their communities. They also oversee groups for siblings and fathers of those who have lost lives or suffered from overdoses.

“No family is immune to the devastation of drug addiction and far too many suffer the heartbreak of losing loved ones to overdose. Addiction and overdose affect peo-



photo courtesy of the city of Beerly Hills

Beverly Hills City Hall was illuminated in Purple for International Overdose Awareness Day.

ple of all races, religions and socioeconomic status,” Koretz said. “Particularly during the coronavirus pandemic when so many are isolated, scared and lonely, lighting up Los Angeles City Hall purple should serve as a beacon of love and support for families and friends, and those fighting addiction, that you are not alone and that help is available.”

## 'Tarfest' celebrates local art community

LAUNCH LA presents the 18th annual “Tarfest” arts festival with support from the Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs, Councilman David Ryu, the Original Farmers Market, Beverly Connection, CBS Television City and the Miracle Mile arts and business community.

This year's community celebration includes virtual and live programming. LAUNCH LA recently opened the exhibit "Transition," an open call exhibition featuring 45 works by 44 Southern California artists juried by Holly Jerger, exhibition curator at Craft Contemporary. The exhibition, which had an opening featured on Facebook Live, brings together artists whose practices engage with core concepts of change through process, thought culture, chance and more during unprecedented times. The exhibition is located at the ART170 building, 170 S. La Brea Ave. Free public viewing is available by appointment through Saturday, Sept. 5. To schedule an appointment, email [info@launchla.org](mailto:info@launchla.org).

LA has also launched its first outdoor presentation with three neon light art pieces by Donna Gough, which can be viewed through Oct. 5 on La Brea Avenue near Second Street.

“Tarfest” has been part of the L.A. community for over 18 years, remaining an important annual event through important changes

that have transformed the city,” LAUNCH LA founder James Panozzo said. “This year’s challenges of a global pandemic forced artists and producers to really impose their creative will. I think we have accomplished something special.”

Another group exhibition, "Have To Hold," will be part of LAUNCH Gallery programming. Curated by Elizabeth Tinglof and Ashley Hagen, the exhibit will run from Saturday, Sept. 5 through the end of the month at 170 S. La Brea Ave.

“Have to Hold” is an exhibition in which six contemporary artists reflect on the rich yet charged history and psychology of collecting. Through the use of objects and materials, the artists construct stories of experiences and conceptual perspectives, addressing the past and future. Participating artists include Vida Liu, Constance Mallinson, Kristen Morgin, Kimberly Morris, Ephraim Puusemp and George Stoll.

The gallery will be open by appointment, Thursday through Saturday. Programming related to the exhibition will be announced on the LAUNCH LA website and social media. For

information, email [info@launch-la.org](mailto:info@launch-la.org).

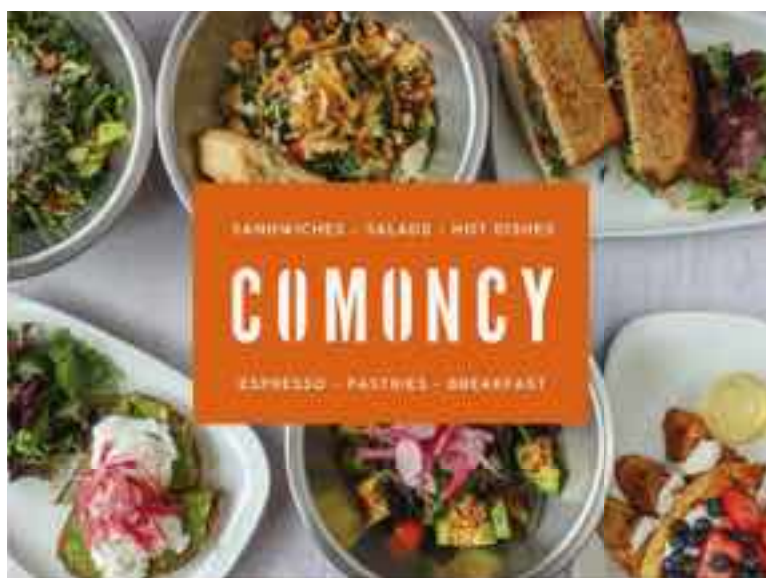
On Friday, Oct. 2, the Original Farmers Market and CBS Television City present "Breathe: A Drive In Dance Event," created, choreographed and directed by Laurie Sefton, with original music by Bryan Curt Kostors. The event was inspired by venues like the Gilmore Drive-In theater, which was formerly located on the Farmers Market property from 1948-79. Guests can enjoy the live outdoor interactive show from the comfort of their cars in the north parking lot of the Original Farmers Market. Advance reservations are required. Ticket information will be available by visiting [farmers-marketla.com](http://farmers-marketla.com).

For information about “Tarfest” and other LAUNCH LA programming, visit [launchla.org](http://launchla.org) and [tarfest.com](http://tarfest.com).



photo courtesy of James Panozzo

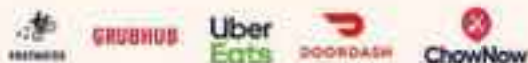
LAUNCH LA is currently hosting the group exhibit "Transition," featuring works by 44 artists.



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Letters to the Editor

Opposition grows to proposed Mirabel project

Re “Miracle Mile’s Mirabel moves ahead,” Aug. 27 issue

We have owned a home on Masselin Avenue in the Miracle Mile for 35 years. We moved here because we loved the architecture, the location, the community spirit, the diversity and the many cultural options.

Recently, we spent five hours in the Zoom meeting when [the Mid City West Community Council] voted in favor of the Mirabel project at Cochran and Wilshire despite the strong objections voiced by most of the speakers from the neighborhood.

We were quite frankly stunned that such a project would be approved for the Miracle Mile area. In fact, the 19 board members who voted for the project completely ignored the concerns of the neighborhood and seemed to have made their decision well in advance of the meeting, despite a huge majority of objections voiced prior to the vote.

Because this project will bring more traffic and parking problems, violate the aesthetic harmony and community spirit of the neighborhood because of its size and style, and do nothing to address L.A.’s housing problems, we can only assume that the board members who voted for the project are hoping for some personal gain or have not fully considered the ramifications of such a project.

Some board members mentioned that the developer’s inclusion of 38 moderate and affordable units in addition to the 310 luxury apartments justified approval. In fact,

adding such astronomically priced apartments to the city’s abundance of luxury housing will only cause house prices and rents to rise further and defeat anything gained with the 38 reasonable units offered by the developer of the Mirabel. In addition, what will become of the reasonably priced units in the future? Will they remain reasonably priced for future occupants? Will the number of affordable units increase as needed if the city’s housing problems continue to worsen? Doubtful!

The board has done a disservice to the neighborhood and the city, and we can only hope that the city council will recognize that this is not a project the city or the Miracle Mile need.

*Ellen and Alan Ehrlich  
Miracle Mile*

I find the first sentence of this article pretty misleading: “A 42-story, mixed-use building planned for the Miracle Mile was approved by the Mid City West Community Council earlier this month.”

“Mixed-use building” obscures what this building primarily is, an exorbitantly expensive apartment building, [with] 310 out of 348 units (89%) set to be ultra-luxury. And ultra-luxury in this case means around \$20K a month to rent. While Wally Marks refuses to release the cost of rent (likely because he knows how appalling it sounds), in a public Zoom meeting he said that he expects the building to be in the top three most expensive apartments to rent in the city. The most expensive building to rent in L.A. – the Ten Thousand in Century City – has similar amenities and is a similar height to The Mirabel, and rents between \$10K-\$65K a month. If The Mirabel is in the same league, we can expect the

same prices.

At the two planning and land use committee meetings about this development, 83% of the public comments made were in opposition to the project. At the MCWCC meeting, the vast majority of the public comments made were in opposition to this project. In this article, the PLUC chair quote makes it seem as though there was a balance of perspectives shared. This was not the case. This was a situation in which there was and is a very clear and large majority in opposition to this project.

The MCWCC vote of endorsement completely disregarded the community’s voice and went against their stated mission of being “... more responsive to our local needs and requests ...”

The article also fails to discuss gentrification. What effect will injecting 310-plus of the most affluent individuals into a low-to-moderate income neighborhood have? Rents will go up, people will be displaced, homelessness will increase, small businesses will shutter and businesses that cater to the elite will move in. This development will completely shift the center of gravity in this rent-stabilized low-to-moderate income neighborhood. And that center will move toward those who already have everything.

The MCWCC board members praised the 38 affordable units, arguing 38 units is better than 0. This fails to take into account the far more than 38 low-income folks who will have to move out of this neighborhood once they no longer can afford to live here, and the far more than 38 low-income folks who will never get a chance to move to a neighborhood that might have once been within their financial reach.

This article seems slanted toward the developers, and does

not provide an accurate picture of the widespread community objection to this building. It also fails to take into account the context in Los Angeles in which this building is being proposed, and that context is 60,000-plus people who are unsheltered, an affordable housing shortage, a high vacancy rate among luxury units (more than 100,000 luxury units in L.A. currently sit vacant), gentrification all over the city and deepening wealth inequality. Against this backdrop, the MCWCC vote to approve this building was fueling class warfare.

*Kira Mintz  
director of outreach  
Sixth Street Miracle Mile  
Neighborhood Association*

Contrary to what you may have been told, the residents are NOT in agreement with putting this behemoth in our neighborhood. As you can imagine, no one who has lived through the Metro construction wants to do this for another three years. There is enough congestion, not enough parking and amenities for the people who already live here. No one cares about the residents, least of all [Councilman] David Ryu, whose job it is to speak for us. He has lost my vote and every one of my neighbors’. This neighborhood has gone to pieces in the last five years and instead of dealing with congestion and lack of parking and the ever growing homeless situation, they put up a huge building that no one can afford to live in.

We are not happy, we are livid.

*Diana Demos  
Miracle Mile*

This project is outrageous. I live across the street, in a rent-con-

trolled unit, from what’s now a Staples, but will soon be a massive pit. In its current form, my neighborhood provides plenty of rent-controlled housing for working people of modest means – exactly the kinds of people who could benefit from the opening of the Purple Line. Many of us moved here because we can walk to surrounding grocery stores and utilize existing bus lines to get to work. This building will, in effect, drive us out of the neighborhood. During a public presentation, I asked Marks what he thought the construction of this absurd obelisk for the wealthy would do to my life. “It’ll be a hardship,” he said, before conservatively estimating construction would take three years. [Councilman David] Ryu is clearly riding the fence until the runoff concludes. If he had any real conviction, he would oppose this project on its face.

*Calvin Godfrey  
Cloverdale Avenue*

Mirabel project will help revitalize the Miracle Mile

Big fan of this and can’t wait to see this come to life and continue the revitalization of the Miracle Mile.

I recommended everyone watch the slick videos they put together on their site to talk about their vision with this project. They seem to not only care about this development but the entire Miracle Mile and what it can be for Los Angeles. Where it hits the ground on Wilshire looks elegant and pedestrian friendly.

*Alan Wayne  
Los Angeles*

### Newsom, state legislators extend eviction protections for tenants

On Aug. 31, Gov. Gavin Newsom announced that he has signed legislation to protect millions of tenants from eviction and property owners from foreclosure due to the economic impacts of COVID-19. These protections apply to tenants who declare an inability to pay all or part of the rent due to a COVID-related reason.

“COVID-19 has impacted everyone in California, but some bear much more of the burden than others, especially tenants struggling to stitch together the monthly rent, and they deserve protection from eviction,” Newsom said. “This new law protects tenants from eviction for non-payment of rent and helps

keep homeowners out of foreclosure as a result of economic hardship caused by this terrible pandemic.”

On Aug. 28, Newsom, Senate President Pro Tempore Toni G. Atkins (D-San Diego) and Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon (D-Lakewood) announced in a joint statement that they had reached agreement on the eviction protections bill, Assembly Bill 3088. The bill eliminates the possibility of eviction through Jan. 31, 2021, as long as the tenant “makes certain declarations and partial payments going forward,” the statement said.

For information, visit [bit.ly/2YV30Dk](https://bit.ly/2YV30Dk).

### City offers more free legal services during pandemic

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

Since launching on May 5, 32 more law firms, over a dozen bar associations and three legal aid organizations have agreed to provide free COVID-19-related legal assistance through L.A. Represents, bringing the total to 60 law firms and 10 legal aid organizations. Services include helping vulnerable tenants, domestic violence victims and low-income Angelenos with employment, consumer debt and bankruptcy matters.

“Since its inception in May, L.A. Represents has continued to grow to be able to assist more and more L.A. residents during this pandemic,” Feuer said. “L.A. Represents exemplifies the very best of Los Angeles, experienced and committed attorneys giving of their time and talent to help Angelenos in need during this crisis.”

To date, more than 100 small businesses have sought help through the L.A. Represents. The

portion of the program for small businesses is overseen by volunteers and advocates at Bet Tzedek Legal Services. L.A. Represents attorneys are helping business owners with legal issues involving loan and grant program and commercial lease applications, employment law, insurance and “Safer at Home” order compliance.

“We applaud the city’s effort to bring together legal aid organizations and volunteers from law firms, corporate legal departments and law schools to combat the impending explosion of residential and commercial evictions through L.A. Represents,” said Diego Cartagena, president and CEO of Bet Tzedek Legal Services. “Working with L.A. Represents and pro bono law firm attorneys, Bet Tzedek has seen the impact we can have by counseling small business owners and tenants on their lease options and helping them chart a path to the other side of this pandemic. Together, we can ensure all individuals can navigate this public health and economic crisis.”

For information, visit [coronavirus.lacity.org/larepresents](https://coronavirus.lacity.org/larepresents).

### Whom Should I Name As My Executor or Trustee?

The executor of your will and the trustee of your revocable (aka living trust) serve almost identical functions after your death, in the short run. Although your executor is generally subject to direct court supervision, both the executor and the trustee have similar fiduciary responsibilities. The trustee may assume responsibilities under your trust while you are living. Although you may act as initial trustee if you become incapacitated, the designated successor trustee may then step in to manage your assets for your benefit.

An executor or trustee may be a spouse or other relative, family friend, business associate or a professional fiduciary such as a bank. There are a number of issues to consider in determining who to name as an executor or trustee.

While both are responsible for ensuring that your wishes are implemented, when your will or trust establishes provisions for the long term management of funds, your choice for executor or trustee should also be based on a similarity, or at a minimum, an understanding of your lifestyle choices as there may be many “discretionary” decisions that your executor or trustee will make. Other issues to be considered would be whether or not the appointment of one of your adult children could cause undue stress in his or her relations with siblings. What conflicts of interest are created if a business associate or partner is named as your executor or trustee? Will the person named as executor or successor trustee have the time, organizational ability and experience to do the job effectively?

You should discuss your choice with your estate planning lawyer, your accountant and other financial advisors.

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by Jill Weinlein

The Veuve Clicquot retro camper will be serving unlimited Champagne with your choice of the Yellow Label (\$125) or Grand Dame (\$295). On Saturday, Sept. 5, chef Ari will prepare special “Glamping” bites for purchase from 1 to 2:30 p.m. and from 5:30 to 11 p.m. Spago will allow a maximum of six guests per table. Visit [exploretock.com/spagobeverlyhills](http://exploretock.com/spagobeverlyhills) to purchase tickets. 176 N. Canon

**A**t 2 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 5, the best margarita makers from Gracias Madre, El Carmen, El Compadre, El Condor, Gold Line, HomeState, Las Perlas and Petty Cash will share their drinks and stories during a fun food and music event that will be streamed on margaritashowdown.com. Attendees can pre-order a margarita flight

package to drink and vote for the best margarita. Orders are to be picked up at HomeState in Highland Park on the day of the event (ID required). Packages are \$50 and include a flight of eight bottled 4-ounce margarita tastings, two limes, garnishing salt, a HomeState metal straw and keepsake Margarita Showdown glass. Comedian Cristela Alonzo will host the event, and artists and HomeState's band alums Spoon, Chicano Batman, Questlove, Local Natives and Fred Armisen are the musical guests. Tickets for pre-order margarita flights from the competing restaurants and bars are on sale now. The winner will be announced at the end of the program. All proceeds from the ticket sales will go to two charity benefactors No Us Without You!

**M**adre's Labor Day weekend package can feed five people and includes 10 margaritas, chips, guacamole, salsa and shrimp ceviche for \$150. The package will be offered from Saturday, Sept. 5, through Monday, Sept. 7. Take a Madre cocktail to go in their new pre-batched cocktail bags. The Smokey Marg, Madre Marg and Chapo y Kate are available in a party-sized to-go container, with the perfect pourable nozzle. They are ideal for a beach day, backyard hang or socially distant get togeth-

The bi-annual dineL.A. Restaurant Week will be held through Sept. 18 across Los Angeles, showcasing specially priced prix-fixe menus at nearly 300 restaurants. Nineteen Beverly Hills restaurants are participating, allowing diners the opportunity to experience a variety of signature dishes. This year, due to COVID-19, dineL.A. menus will be available for on-site dining as well as takeout and delivery. Participating





Beverly Hills restaurants include Avec Nous, Caffè Roma Restaurante & Lounge, Creme De La Crepe Beverly Hills, Crustacean Beverly Hills, Fogo de Chão Brazilian Steakhouse Beverly Hills, Gourmando, Gyu-Kaku Beverly Hills, Il Cielo Restaurant, Jean-Georges Beverly Hills, Ladurée Beverly Hills, Lawry's the Prime Rib, Lucques Catering, Mercato at the Beverly Hilton, Nerano, Seabutter, Sugarfish by Sushi Nozawa Beverly Hills, Summer Fish & Rice, the Farm of Beverly Hills and Tutt'a Post Trattoria. discoverlosangeles.com/dinel.a.

Fogo de Chão dineL.A.

The Beverly Hills location is providing authentic Brazilian cuisine in an open-air environment. Enjoy fire-roasted meats, sides and seasonal salads. Order Fogo To-Go during dineL.A. Restaurant Week, through Friday, Sept. 18, except on Labor Day, Sept. 7. Two dinners to-go are \$65. Mention dineL.A. Restaurant Week when ordering to receive this special price. 133 N. La Cienega Blvd., (310)289-7755.

The Milky Way

The Spielberg family restaurant is open for curbside pickup and Postmates delivery, offering their special dineL.A. lunch for \$35 and \$65 for dinner. Guests get a choice of starter and entree that include a Caesar salad and crispy potato latkes to start, followed by rotini pasta with pistachio pesto, Atlantic salmon or the Impossible cheeseburger. The Milky Way's signature seafood family meal for four people includes Leah's cheese blintzes, choice of salad or soup, cedar salmon or barramundi, wild rice pilaf, sautéed green beans with almonds, and a choice of carrot cake or Leah's classic cheesecake. Wine bottles are also being offered 25% off to accompany any to-go order. For curbside pickup, call the restaurant at dineL.A. available Monday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 8 p.m. 9108 W. Pico Blvd., (310)859-0004.

Veranda Al Fresco

Through Sept. 18, the iconic Hotel Figueroa transports diners far away to an idyllic poolside

restaurant, helmed by executive chef Adrian Garcia. Enjoy a three-course dineL.A. lunch menu for \$25 and a three-course dinner menu for \$35. That includes a Hotel Figueroa margarita on Wednesdays through Sundays from noon to 7 p.m. New menu items include a marinated skirt steak with grilled onions and guacamole served with corn tortillas; a butterflied branzino with Morita salsa, rice and pickled escabeche served with corn tortillas; sweet potato and habanero taquitos with crema, queso fresco, pico de gallo, lime-cabbage slaw, rice and beans; and tres leches with coconut shavings, vanilla bean whipped cream and fresh berries. 939 S. Figueroa St., (213)627-8971.

Gracias Madre

The dineL.A. dinner is \$55 per person and includes the signature La Purista margarita and guacamole al molcajete, an entree of Potato Pimiento Flauta, pozole or macadamia ricotta enchilada, and the gluten-free chocolate brownie. Dine-in only. Reservations available Monday through Sunday from 4 to 10 p.m. 8905 Melrose Ave., (323)978-2170.

Café Gratitude

Executive chef Seizan Dreux Ellis is curating a delicious, organic, plant-based dineL.A. lunch for \$30 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The dineL.A. dinner is \$35 from 4 to 8 p.m. This year's summer dineL.A. is available for outdoor dining, takeout and delivery. The menu includes a spirited Boochcraft hard kombucha, Exquisite coconut calamari, Bountiful eggplant caponata pasta or Adventurous ketogenic Asian smoked tofu bowl. It's available at the Arts District, Larchmont and Venice locations. 300 S. Santa Fe Ave., (213)929-5580; 639 N. Larchmont Blvd., (323)580-6383; and 512 Rose Ave., (424)231-8000.

L'Antica Pizzeria da Michele dineL.A.

Enjoy a three-course lunch and dinner menu at exclusive prices for outside dining, takeout and delivery until Sept. 18. The \$35 lunch includes a choice of an appetizer such as meatballs or gnocco fritto, paired with a signature main dish of either the da Michele Burger, spaghetti Nerano or pizza and

tiramisu to finish. Diners can select a three-course dinner for \$45 from 5 to 11 p.m. The dineL.A. menu features a variety of appetizers that include burrata eggplant, calamari fritti or Mediterranean salad. Entrée choices include pappardelle Genovese, grilled branzino fillet or a pizza, and a choice of bread pudding or strawberry panna. 1534 N. McCadden Place, (323)366-2408.

Arts District Manuela

Manuela unites chef, farmer and artist to create an exciting summer dineL.A. menu. Executive chef Kris Tominaga's American Heritage menu celebrates seasonal ingredients sourced from the best local farms and producers into a three-course \$25 lunch menu from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and a four-course \$45 dinner menu available from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. The dinner menu includes a cream biscuit, selection of appetizer and a choice of main options that include a venison burger, Pitman Farms half chicken, wood fired grilled salmon and a choice of dessert. 907 E. Third St., (323)849-0480.



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# Police Blotter

The following crimes occurred in West Hollywood, Beverly Hills and the areas patrolled by the LAPD’s Wilshire and Hollywood divisions between Aug. 23 and Aug. 30. The information was compiled from www.crimemap-ping.com. To report a crime, call local law enforcement agencies: Los Angeles Police Department, Wilshire Division (213)473-0476, Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department West Hollywood Station (310)855-8850, and the Beverly Hills Police Department, (310)550-4951.

## Beverly Hills Police Department

### Aug. 23

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 300 block of Canon at 1:30 a.m.

At 2:18 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of Rodeo.

### Aug. 24

At 11:51 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of Rodeo.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 600 block of Rexford at 4:50 p.m.

At 5 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 9100 block of Gregory Way.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of Santa Monica and Gregory Way at 10 p.m.

### Aug. 25

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 9900 block of Santa Monica at 12:15 a.m.

At 8:12 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 500 block of Alpine.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 9400 block of Santa Monica at 8:55 p.m.

### Aug. 26

At 4:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 200 block of Rodeo.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 400 block of N. Rodeo at 4:45 p.m.

At 8:30 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 300 block of Rexford.

### Aug. 27

At 7:30 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 200 block of Willaman.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 9900 block of Santa Monica at 2:55 p.m.

At 4:43 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 200 block of Canon.

### Aug. 28

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of Rodeo at 2:43 p.m.

At 4:15 p.m., a vandalism incident was reported in the 100 block of Doheny.

## West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station

### Aug. 23

At 2 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1200 block of Vista.

### Aug. 24

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 9200 block of Sunset at 10 a.m.

At 12:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 7800 block of Santa Monica at 1:20 p.m.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 7400 block of Santa Monica at 7 p.m.

At 9:03 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 1200 block of N. La Brea.

### Aug. 25

At 3:39 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 600 block of N. Huntley.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 8200 block of Santa Monica at 5 a.m.

At 9 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 60 block of Westmount.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1000 block of N. San Vicente at 10 a.m.

At noon, an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 7800 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8200 block of Sunset at 8:30 p.m.

### Aug. 26

At 6:45 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 500 block of Westmount.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 8700 block of Shoreham at 11:34 p.m.

### Aug. 27

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1000 block of N. La Brea at midnight.

At 6:15 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1100 block of N. La Cienega.

### Aug. 28

At noon, an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 8700 block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 8500 block of Sunset at 1:34 p.m.

At 9 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of Robertson and Santa Monica.

### Aug. 29

At 12:45 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 600 block of Robertson.

## Los Angeles Police Department

### Aug. 24

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 300 block of S. Gramercy at 12:17 a.m.

At 2:30 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6300 block of Lexington.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1700 block of N. La Brea at 4 a.m.

At 6 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6800 block of Hollywood.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near the corner of Fourth and Gramercy at 9:30 a.m.

At 9:45 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7100 block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 300 block of N. Hayworth at 10 a.m.

At 10 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 800 block of N. Western.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5000 block of Wilshire at 2 p.m.

At 2:30 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1700 block of Orchid.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 6300 block of Hollywood at 3:30 p.m.

At 3:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 800 block of S. Stanley.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 100 block of The Grove at 3:45 p.m.

At 4 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 600 block of S. Norton.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 500 block of N. Rossmore at 4 p.m.

At 5 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 100 block of N. Larchmont.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near the corner of Fuller and Hillside at 5:15 p.m.

At 6:25 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 800 block of N. Highland.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 7000 block of Sunset at 6:30 p.m.

At 9:03 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1200 block of N. La Brea.

### Aug. 25

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 1300 block of N. Highland at 1:30 a.m.

At 2:45 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near the corner of Melrose and Fuller.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim near the corner of Larchmont and Clinton at 8:50 a.m.

At 9 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 100 block of S. Western.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5600 block of Sunset at 10:30 a.m.

At 11:30 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7200 block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1500 block of N. Western at 3 p.m.

At 5 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 1400 block of N. Poinsettia.

An unknown suspect committed a

petty theft in the 100 block of The Grove at 6 p.m.

At 6 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1800 block of Wilcox.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 700 block of N. Detroit at 7 p.m.

At 9 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 2000 block of Argyle.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1600 block of N. Fuller at 9:40 p.m.

At 11 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 500 block of N. Orange.

### Aug. 26

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 400 block of S. Cochran at 12:40 a.m.

At 5:30 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7000 block of Hollywood.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1700 block of N. Sycamore at 9:30 a.m.

At 11 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft near the corner of Sunset and Orange.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6400 block of Hollywood at 1 p.m.

At 1 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near the corner of Saint Andrews and Lexington.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 5600 block of Sunset at 1 p.m.

At 3:04 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 6600 block of W. Olympic.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 6100 block of Sunset at 4:58 p.m.

At 5 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 400 block of S. Willaman.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 5300 block of Wilshire at 5:41 p.m.

At 6:30 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of Beverly and Larchmont.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 5100 block of Fountain at 7:45 p.m.

At 8:30 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 5400 block of W. Lemon Grove.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1800 block of Vine at 10 p.m.

At 11 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1200 block of S. Sycamore.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 8400 block of Beverly at 11 p.m.

### Aug. 27

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 6200 block of De Longpre at 2:05 a.m.

At 8:30 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 700 block of S. Manhattan.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft near the corner of Hollywood and Las Palmas at 9:30 a.m.

At 10 a.m., an unknown suspect

stole a bicycle in the 1500 block of N. Poinsettia.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near the corner of Melrose and Formosa at 12:35 p.m.

At 1 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 100 block of S. Crescent Heights.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 700 block of Saint Andrews at 10:30 p.m.

At 11 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 6400 block of Maryland.

### Aug. 28

An unknown suspect robbed a victim near the corner of Hollywood and Schrader at 12:45 a.m.

At 3 a.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 6700 block of Leland Way.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 5800 block of Harold Way at 2:10 p.m.

At 7 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a theft in the 1800 block of Garfield.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 7600 block of Hollywood at 10:15 p.m.

### Aug. 29

At 1 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 5500 block of Carlton Way.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 300 block of N. Sierra Bonita at 3:15 a.m.

At 5 a.m., a suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident near the corner of Oxford and Third.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6100 block of Sunset at 6 a.m.

At 11:50 a.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 7300 block of Beverly.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of S. La Brea at 10:58 a.m.

At 12:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 700 block of S. Plymouth.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 6000 block of Wilshire at 5:50 p.m.

At 6:10 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of Selma and Las Palmas.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 400 block of S. La Cienega at 7:30 p.m.

At 7:45 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 6700 block of Hollywood.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near the corner of Wilton and Seventh at 9:30 p.m.

At 11 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 500 block of S. Manhattan.

### Aug. 30

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1700 block of N. Cahuenga at 1:30 a.m.

At 1:05 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 7000 block of Hawthorn.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 1200 block of Vine at 1:20 p.m.



# Canter’s can-do spirit

by Jill Weinlein

Last weekend, I went into Canter’s to pick up some comfort food. As I approached the front door, I noticed a robot on wheels stopped on the sidewalk and a Canter’s employee placing a bag filled with sandwiches, bagels, soup and beverages into its storage box. When the lid closed, the Postmates robotic delivery system blinked its lights twice and took off navigating



photo by Jill Weinlein

Marc Canter and family continue to serve their famous deli food for pick up and delivery.

along the sidewalk towards Melrose Avenue.

“The Postmates robot comes to Canter’s daily,” Marc Canter said as he greeted me at the entrance of the iconic deli restaurant. “I’m not sure if that one is Lola; they each have their own name.”

Canter’s relationship with Postmates has become more important since the pandemic changed the restaurant world.

“Postmates is one of the only delivery services we work with at some of our kitchens,” Canter said.

Before the pandemic, Canter’s to-go and deliveries were about one third of their business, but right now, it is 100%.

“After COVID-19 took away all our interior seats, people still came in for our food for takeaway or logged into Postmates,” he added.

When restaurants had to close their dining rooms in March, Canter’s provided essential grocery items for the community.

“People in the neighborhood came to us seeking milk, eggs and bread, while other restaurants and stores were closed,” Canter

said.

Canter’s continues to serve its popular Reuben, pastrami and juicy burgers, while adding healthier options for a growing demand from customers. When he asked if I would like to try some of his newer vegetarian items, I said sure.

“Wait until you try our new vegetarian matzo ball soup,” Canter said.

Developing vegetarian items started when Canter received a call from Temple Israel about an upcoming event, before the virus outbreak. They asked if he could make the matzo ball soup in a vegetarian version. Canter said of course, and found a great vegetable base and added the same chopped parsnips, carrots, garlic and celery.

He said they also created a vegetarian Reuben that has become very popular.

“We take a garden patty, add cheese, sauerkraut and Russian dressing on rye bread,” he said.

I love their turkey sandwich on rye, so Canter suggested I try the Matt Miller sandwich. White turkey is piled high and topped with cole slaw, melted muenster cheese and their tangy Russian dressing on grilled challah bread, instead of rye bread.

The restaurant opened in 1931 in Boyle Heights. The family purchased an old movie theater in the 1950s and converted it into the current Canter’s Deli Fairfax location. In the 1970s, Canter’s was one of the busiest late night restaurants.

“People would go see a movie and come in afterwards for drinks and food,” Canter said.

The dining room and bar would be packed because Canter’s was one of the only restaurants open in the late evening.

“Because we don’t have to pay rent on the building, we have been able to survive the ups and downs,” he added.

During the civil unrest in May, Canter put bottles of water out for protesters.

“We stayed open, and they didn’t bother us,” he said.

While most of the staff stayed home the next couple of days, Canter made food for the community.



photo by Jill Weinlein

The Postmates delivery robot picks up an order from Canter’s Deli.

“People would come in because we were open, asking for milk for their baby or food to feed their family. Others helped outside, cleaning up along Fairfax,” he said.

The community came together and protected the deli, beloved by customers and employees alike.

The day I visited, it was Canter’s deli manager, Geroqe’s, birthday. He started working for the Canter family in 1964.

George said his secret to longevity is eating well.

“I loved Marc’s grandfather and beautiful grandmother; they all are family to me.”

He shared a birthday card from Marc’s sister, Jacqueline.

“She came in this morning to give me this card, a bottle of wine and other gifts,” he said. “I’ve known Marc and Jacqueline since they were babies. I love what I do, and the people I work with, maybe that’s the best secret to a full and long life,” George said.

I took my Canter’s sandwiches, soup and a couple cupcakes home to share with my family. We first tasted the vegetarian Reuben and the

consensus was that it is as good as their traditional Reuben, with less fat.

I served the vegetarian matzo ball soup in a large bowl for my father, a soup connoisseur. Looking into the bowl, he remarked, “That matzo ball is the size of a baseball.”

The Matt Miller sandwich was also a game changer. The cole slaw and tangy Russian dressing on grilled challah bread, instead of rye is brilliant.

Inside the pink bakery box were three cupcakes – an angel-food cake with fudge-like chocolate icing, a white cupcake with white icing and shredded coconut on top, and a carrot cupcake with raisins and nuts.

Treat yourself to Canter’s Deli this week and be sure to say hello to Marc, Jacqueline and George.

Order Canter’s online at [cantersdeli.com](http://cantersdeli.com), and it will direct you to order from Postmates from the Fairfax location or one of their ghost kitchens to have it delivered throughout the Westside, Pasadena areas and downtown L.A. \$\$

Open 24 hours, 7 days. 419 N. Fairfax Ave., (323)651-2030.



photo courtesy of Caruso

## ‘Angeleno All Access’ program

The Grove has launched the “Angeleno All Access” program, which features exclusive promotions, must-have gifts and limited time offers available for locals only through Sept. 30.

Guests can also enjoy exclusive dining promotions at participating restaurants. Present proof of a local address at checkout with a driver’s license, student ID or passport.

Participating retailers include Alo Yoga, Athleta, Athletic

Propulsion Labs, FRAME, Michael Kors, Nike The Grove, PAIGE, Splendid, Swarovski and Vince. Dining promotions are available Monday through Thursday at Bar Verde at Nordstrom, Blue Ribbon Sushi Bar & Grill, The Fountain Bar, Groundwork Coffee, Häagen-Dazs, La Piazza, Ladurée and Wetzels Pretzels.

The Grove is located at 189 The Grove Drive. For information, visit [thegrovela.com](http://thegrovela.com).

## ‘Firehouse Dinners’ program expands

The First-In Fire Foundation and Olympia Medical Center have partnered to provide freezers and meats and vegetables to fire stations in low-income communities in Los Angeles.

A delivery was recently made to Fire Station 34 at 3661 Seventh Ave. and included a freezer donated by Olympia Medical Center and meat and vegetables provided by Marconda’s Meats and Farm Fresh Produce at the Original Farmers Market. Fire Station 94 at 4470 Coliseum St. also received a freezer and meats and vegetables from Huntington Meats and Farm Fresh Produce at the Farmers Market.

“From all of us from Fire Station

34, we want to thank Olympia and the staff for the freezer and food,” Los Angeles Fire Department Capt. Victor Davila said.

The “Donate a Freezer” and “Fill the Freezer” programs are an expansion of the “Firehouse Dinners” launched by the First-In Fire Foundation last spring. Local fire stations receive meal donations and groceries from Farmers Market merchants. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and ongoing wildfires, the participating organizations are striving to expand help for firefighters and reduce their costs and shopping time.

For information, visit [firstinfirefoundation.org](http://firstinfirefoundation.org).

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# Ancient Egyptian Ushabti statuette finds new life at the Getty

An ancient Egyptian statuette known as an Ushabti, which was discovered in Neferibresaneith’s tomb, is giving scholars at the Getty a lot to think about when it comes to the afterlife.

Ushabtis are figurines that were designed to be placed in someone’s tomb. Ushabtis look like human figures that have been mummified, usually with their arms crossed over their chest. Some, like the Getty’s ushabti, were very carefully made with detailed features, while others are much simpler.

While ushabtis were made out of almost any material, including wood or clay, the most common material for making ushabtis was called faience. Faience is a type of ceramic without clay that was glazed and fired. The most common color of faience glaze was some variation of blue or green, but faience could also be many other colors, such as red, white, yellow or black. Faience was relatively cheap and was used to make dozens of different types of objects, from vessels to jewelry and especially ushabtis.

According to Egyptian beliefs, when the deceased came alive in the afterlife, the ushabtis would also come to life and would perform any menial tasks that the deceased might be asked to do. Egyptians depended heavily upon agriculture in daily life, and it was assumed that the afterlife would be similar, so most ushabtis are depicted holding agricultural tools like hoes or bags of seeds to continue this farm-work in the afterlife. To make sure the ushabti knew what to do, each figurine was usually inscribed with a short spell from the “Book of the Dead.” This spell was designed to bring the ushabti to life and gave the ushabti instructions for performing work on behalf of the deceased.

Ideally, an individual would be buried with an ushabti for every day of the year, but only wealthy people could afford to include this many



photo courtesy of Getty’s Open Content Program  
Ushabti for Neferibresaneith, about 570–526 B.C., Egyptian. Green faience, 7 3/16 x 2 1/16 in. The J. Paul Getty Museum, 2016.

ushabtis in their tombs. Sometimes only a few ushabtis would be included in a burial, along with other items such as furniture and clothing for the deceased to use in the afterlife.

The Getty’s particular ushabti belonged to an individual named Neferibresaneith, whose name appears at the beginning of the spell on the figure. It was discovered along with 335 other ushabtis in the original burial of Neferibresaneith. Neferibresaneith was overseer of Lower (northern) Egypt, administrator of the palace and a priest who served under King Ahmose II (c. 570–526 BCE).

# SAG-AFTRA mourns Chadwick Boseman

In the wake of the death of Chadwick Boseman, SAG-AFTRA is “deeply saddened,” the union of performers said in a statement.

“The absolute pinnacle of our profession is not fame, fortune or accolades. It is the simple act of touching someone’s heart, nourishing their soul and giving voice and meaning to our hopes and dreams,” SAG-AFTRA President Gabrielle Carteris said. “Chadwick soared far above those heights, inspiring a thousand possibilities in the minds of our children while elevating our culture. He exemplified the best of storytelling and the best of who we can be leaving a lasting legacy that sustains us. Rest in peace.”



image courtesy of SAG-AFTRA  
Chadwick Boseman with “Black Panther” cast at the 2019 SAG Awards

# L.A. Theatre Works lines up seven plays for 2021

L.A. Theatre Works has selected seven plays and a national touring production for its upcoming season. Specific dates will be announced after it is safe to resume performances and all safety protocols have been put into place. Each of the performances at UCLA’s state-of-the-art James Bridges Theater will be recorded live in front of an audience for future radio broadcast, distribution on CD, digital download, podcasting and online streaming.

In the new season, L.A. Theatre Works plans to record modern masterpieces by Charles Fuller, Eugene O’Neill and Tom Stoppard, as well as a popular Agatha Christie whodunit in a new, LATW-commissioned adaptation by the BBC’s Kate McAll. The remaining three productions will include plays originally announced for the 2019-20 season that was cut short by the pandemic: Pearle Cleage’s “Flyin’ West,” Ayad Akhtar’s “Junk” and Terence Rattigan’s “The Winslow Boy.”

Fuller’s Pulitzer Prize-winning masterpiece “A Soldier’s Play” is the story of a Black sergeant murdered on a Louisiana army base in 1942. “Flyin’ West” is a contemporary classic about the strength of black women and their role as

pioneers in the settlement of the American West. In “Junk,” Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Akhtar takes the audience on a whirlwind ride into debt financing.

For O’Neill’s masterpiece “Mourning Becomes Elektra,” the ancient story of Aeschylus’ “The Oresteia” is brought into contemporary New England. In Stoppard’s Tony Award-winning tragicomedy “Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead,” two of Shakespeare’s most incidental characters enter the limelight to ponder fate and the inevitability of death. “The Winslow Boy” is Rattigan’s highly charged moral drama based on a real-life incident where a pilfered postal order leads to a legal case.

In addition to the seven plays lined up for the 2020-21, L.A. Theatre Works plans to bring its signature radio-theater hybrid style to more than 30 performing arts venues across the U.S. in spring 2021 as part of the company’s 17th annual national tour. “Lucy Loves Desi: A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Sitcom” is the hilarious and true story behind one of America’s most beloved TV comedies, written by Gregg Oppenheimer, son of “I Love Lucy” creator/producer/head



photo by Matt Petits  
Sarah Drew in “The Winslow Boy”

writer Jess Oppenheimer and one of the world’s foremost experts on the show. This crowd-pleasing show, written for L.A. Theatre Works, played to sold-out houses during its world premiere run at the James Bridges Theater in 2018.

Finally, L.A. Theatre Works plans to resume regular screenings of National Theatre Live, also at the James Bridges Theater. Performances of L.A. Theatre Works’ radio theater series will take place at the James Bridges Theater, located on the campus of UCLA, and be recorded live in performance.

For information, visit latw.org.

# LACO SummerFest ends Sept. 5

Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, ranked among the world’s top musical ensembles, concludes its popular SummerFest series with a free virtual concert featuring LACO principal bass David Grossman on three Rossini sonatas and an extended jazz solo. The program is available for free streaming beginning on Saturday, Sept. 5, at 5 p.m. at laco.org/summerfest.

Joining Grossman for the performance are LACO artists Carrie Kennedy, violin; Joel Pargman, violin; and Trevor Handy, cello. Grossman – who splits his time between LACO and the New York Philharmonic, where, in 2000, he became the youngest member ever to join the orchestra – is also a noted jazz artist whose discography includes a double album entitled, “The Bass of Both Worlds,” featuring both classical music and jazz.

LACO was among the first classical music ensembles in the country to resume gathering together for live performances – with social distancing and no audience – following the shut down due to the global pandemic when it launched in July “LACO SummerFest,” the orchestra’s first-ever summer chamber music series. It includes five concerts, each spotlighting several



photo by Henry Grossman  
LACO Principal Bass David Grossman

LACO artists and musical guests performing together live at Zipper Hall, in downtown Los Angeles, a broad range of chamber music recorded specifically for the series.

# Newsom unveils plan for living with COVID-19

On Aug. 28, Gov. Gavin Newsom unveiled the “Blueprint for a Safer Economy,” a statewide plan for living with COVID-19 for the long haul. The plan imposes risk-based criteria on tightening and loosening COVID-19 allowable activities and expands the length of time between changes to assess how any movement affects the trajectory of the disease.

Like every aspect of California’s response, data and science are the North Star, and as a result, this new framework makes a number of changes to the state’s previous resilience roadmap, Newsom said.

“This blueprint is statewide, stringent and slow,” Newsom said. “We have made notable progress over recent weeks, but the disease is still too widespread across the state. COVID-19 will be with us for a long time, and we all need to adapt. We need to live differently. And we need to minimize exposure for our health, for our families and for our communities.”

The blueprint builds on lessons learned from the first six months of the disease – and the new scientific understanding that has been collected – to create a new system for regulating movement and

COVID-19 transmissions.

It relies on two leading health metrics: number of cases per 100,000 residents and percentage of COVID-19 tests that come back positive. In addition, counties will also be required to show they are targeting resources and making the greatest efforts to prevent and fight COVID in communities and with individuals with the highest risk, and demonstrate improvements in outcomes.

Based on recent data, each county will fall into one of four colored tiers – Purple (Widespread), Red (Substantial), Orange (Moderate) and Yellow (Minimal) – based on how prevalent COVID-19 is in each county and the extent of community spread. That color will indicate how sectors can operate.

For example, in the Purple (Widespread) tier where the disease is widespread, restaurants can only operate outdoors. But once a county has achieved a lower level of disease transmission and moved into the Red (Substantial) tier, restaurants can operate with 25% capacity indoors or 100 patrons, whichever is fewer.

Additionally, Purple

(Widespread) is substituted for the previous County Data Monitoring List (which has equivalent criteria to Purple). Schools in the (Purple) Widespread tier aren’t permitted to reopen for in-person instruction unless they receive a waiver from their local health department for TK-6 grades. Schools can reopen for in-person instruction once their county has been in the Red (Substantial) tier for at least two weeks.

Counties must remain in every tier but purple for a minimum of 21 days before being eligible to move into the next tier. Each Tuesday, California will update each county’s data for the previous week and make corresponding changes to tiers. In order to move into a less restrictive tier, a county must meet that tier’s criteria for two straight weeks.

Conversely, counties that fail to meet the metrics for their current tier for two consecutive weeks must move to the next most restrictive tier. The plan also includes an “emergency brake” where the state can intervene more immediately concerning factors like hospitalizations. To learn more, visit covid19.ca.gov.



‘Bill & Ted Face the Music’ is an excellent adventure



For a third and probably final time, Bill S. Preston, Esq. (the venerable Alex Winter) and Ted “Theodore” Logan (the immortal Keanu Reeves) traverse time, space and what lies beyond in “Bill & Ted Face the Music,” an excellent adventure that closes out a mostly bogus summer. This is how a franchise should end, with an eye to the past and future.

Sure, time-travel stories cheat on that point (shout out to “Avengers: Endgame”), but this one equally cares about nods to past glory and its characters. Ignore the haters and enjoy this one for yourself.

How have the Wyld Stallyns frontmen spent almost three decades? Unsuccessfully trying to compose the perfect song that’ll unite the world, in effect creating a utopian paradise. They feel the weight of their responsibility, but writer’s block undoes these one-hit wonders. Then, a third visitor from 700 years later comes knocking with their next Billboard chart-topper lest all reality meet a sudden end.

Rather than channel their creative energy, Bill and Ted attempt to steal from themselves in the future. Various antagonists hinder this trek, including robot Dennis (Anthony Carrigan) and their own “future us’s,” throwback vernacular to encounters with themselves in “Excellent Adventure” (recall their “favorite number”) and “robot us’s” from “Bogus Journey.”

To cover more ground, Bill and Ted’s daughters Thea (Samara Weaving) and Billie (Brigitte Lundy-Paine) head into to the past in their own heroic journey, revisiting elements of the first two flicks (no spoilers on what specifically).

Their story embraces the common legacy motif and serves as an homage to the franchise’s former glory. That said, Weaving and Lundy-Paine rock their caricatures of each dad.

“Bill & Ted” is a modest franchise compared to contemporary peers. Three feature films, a documentary (“Bill and Ted Go to



photo courtesy of Orion Pictures  
Bill (Alex Winter) and Ted (Keanu Reeves) are back for an excellent new adventure in “Bill & Ted Face the Music.”

Hell”), eight episodes of a live-action series (no Reeves or Winter) and an animated one. It’s always been B-grade content, but that shouldn’t distract from the charms, historical lessons (shallow they may be) and self-awareness. “Face the Music” actually builds on those ideas with heartfelt moments that prove even inept bros can learn something new.

Nostalgia is a gamble. How well do you remember the “Bill & Ted” films? Take “3 Ninjas,” an early ‘90s children’s film that aged terribly. Well, that’s not quite true. It aged as bad then as it does now. “Bill & Ted” has always been ridiculous, “Bogus Journey” earning critical ire in 1991.

That’s hardly shocking considering the films’ many outlandish moments, from Lincoln’s dramatic speech about a “most excellent” romp into the past to the duo’s Twister match with Death (William Sadler reprises once more here). Combining time travel, supernatural elements, robot sentience and, of course, slacker gags in the final chapter is quite on brand.

More than a decade before “Dude, Where’s My Car?” featured daft dudes thrust in the middle of government and alien conspiracies, their predecessors decided that jumping the shark wasn’t a concern, but primary currency. Come

“Bogus,” jumping the shark felt natural. The sequel added robots, crazy villains and a supernatural excursion into the underworld.

Those additions to a modest time-travel premise catered to burgeoning GenXers and some elder millennials. “Face the Music” remembers its former audiences while updating the slacker story for a new generation. Reeves’ recent revival sure helps. He’s a global treasure, after all.

As the third installment, the film does succumb to the peer pressure of more pomp and circumstance. Modern cinema always interprets this as world-ending doom, chock full of CGI spectacle.

But when that goes down here, no dramatic battles grace the screen. Grand spectacle plays for laughs and an equally emotional conclusion.

“Bill & Ted Face the Music” knows what we need right now: delightful characters, hope for tomorrow, a few good chuckles and muscle suits. To call this film idiotic fun or a shameless cash grab ignores how effectively everything weaves together, allowing our leads and others to find satisfying conclusions. While the story of Bill and Ted seems to be at an end, Billie and Thea will hopefully return. We need that now more than ever.

CASA of L.A.’s ‘Justice Jog QuaRUNtine’ kicks off

The Greater Los Angeles Association of Legal Administrators is once again partnering with the Court Appointed Special Advocates of Los Angeles for their annual “Justice Jog” event, but with a virtual twist. This year’s event, which kicked off on Aug. 29 with an aim to raise \$100,000 for children in Los Angeles’ child welfare system, is a virtual “QuaRUNtine” of 5K or 10K.

As part of this year’s run, there will be a variety of accepted exercises that will count towards an individual’s total, with prizes for fastest times, crazy outfits, most unique route/locations and more.

“We’re all finding ways to cope with our current state and the challenges it brings. The Justice Jog QuaRUNtine is something unique and fun that the entire family can take part in while helping children in foster care in L.A. County,” CASA/LA CEO Wende Julien said.

“Children in the dependency



photo courtesy of CASA  
In previous years, participants would run en masse.

system are more adversely affected by COVID-19 shutdowns of services, schooling, medical access and other vital programs. These funds go a long way in helping us make sure they aren’t forgotten, and receive the support they need,” Julien added.

From the time of the kickoff, participants have 30 days (and can sign up anytime in those 30 days until Sept. 26) to complete their challenge (5K or 10K). Each individual

ying for placement or prizes will be required to track their activity, be it running or walking outdoors, cycling, working out on an elliptical or Peloton, swimming, rowing or other device. Competitive participants must submit a screenshot from a tracking app to qualify their time. Every participant receives a runner’s kit with a shirt, water bottle, snacks and finisher’s medal.

For information, visit [casala.org/justicejog](http://casala.org/justicejog).

VINTAGE  
PARKLABREA NEWS

You’ve got mail!

The Sept. 20, 1951, issue of the Park Labrea News illustrated the importance of the United States Postal Service and honored local carriers who served Park La Brea and the surrounding neighborhood. The three letter carriers pictured were William Sease, top, Roderick MacLean, center, and Irving Padwal. MacLean had worked in the area for 20 years and Padwal lived at Park La Brea at the time. This year, many areas, including the cities of Beverly Hills and Los Angeles, are currently working to ensure collection boxes for mail in ballots are in place for the upcoming Nov. 3 election.

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## Beverly Hills teen tracks asteroid

Over five intense weeks this summer, Nicholas Walker, a 17-year-old Beverly Hills resident and a senior at Beverly Hills High School, operated a research-grade telescope remotely to take images of a near-earth asteroid, then calculated its orbital path, including the chance it will impact Earth in the future.

Walker participated in the Summer Science Program, joining 35 other top science students from around the world online for academic challenge, collaboration and personal growth. Since 1959, this unique and highly selective program has offered teenagers their first taste of hands-on, collaborative experimental research. Years and even decades later, alumni describe it as “the educational experience of a lifetime.” Most go on to earn advanced degrees and leadership roles in their chosen careers.

“In short, SSP was transformative,” Walker said in an email. “Although the program is aimed at training and developing the skills of high-caliber students, I would say that any incoming senior with a passion for astrophysics should apply. In truth, I was not expecting to be accepted, but here I am months later with an array of knowledge that I had not [thought] was possible to obtain. Hopefully that is sufficient motivation to



photo courtesy of Nicholas Walker  
BHHS senior Nicholas Walker

encourage similarly minded students to give it a shot. The program was grueling, intense and rigorous, but I came out with a new, invaluable academic and worldly perspective.”

Walker and his colleagues spent over 300 hours collecting and analyzing data in teams of three, overseen by experienced researchers. They also had the opportunity to engage with prominent guest speakers including two Nobel Laureates, physicist Eric Cornell and oncologist James Allison.

SSP is operated by an independent nonprofit in cooperation with host campuses New Mexico Tech, University of Colorado Boulder, Purdue University and Indiana University, and affiliates Caltech, MIT and Harvey Mudd College.

For information, visit [summer-science.org](http://summer-science.org).



photo courtesy of BHUSD  
Maria Kunz, Maria Perez and Luis Mercado of the BHUSD's Food Service Support Team and Superintendent Michael Bregy helped distribute food at Beverly Hills High School.

## BHUSD offers food for children

The Beverly Hills Unified School District will begin providing food to children in Beverly Hills age 18 and under. The Café @ BHUSD program, which was authorized by the United States Department of Agriculture, will serve all children in the city, not just BHUSD students.

Children can pick up a full

week’s worth of food and fresh produce at Beverly Hills High School between 2:30 and 4:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and 8 and 10 a.m. on Wednesdays. The pickup location is at the corner of Durant and South Moreno drives.

For information, email [cafe@bhUSD.org](mailto:cafe@bhUSD.org) or visit [bhUSD-foodservices.org](http://bhUSD-foodservices.org).

## LAUSD board approves measure to expand child care programs

The Los Angeles Unified School District Board of Education recently voted to approve a resolution by Board Member Nick Melvoin seeking to expand child care access, wherever feasible, to district families until schools can safely reopen.

Melvoin and the board hope to expand on the district’s current plan to provide small group childcare for employees reporting to school sites in compliance with public health and safety guidelines.

“Our district has made tremendous progress toward meeting some basic needs of our families in this crisis, from maintaining food security, bridging the digital divide, providing mental health support and more,” Melvoin said. “As we begin to roll out childcare programs for our employees, I’d like us to take this a step further and to the extent

possible, open this opportunity to more equitably serve district students in need of supervision and a stable distance learning environment.”

The resolution tasks LAUSD Superintendent Austin Beutner with developing a plan by Sept. 15 that focuses on equitable access and prioritizes high-need students and families, including homeless and foster youth and children of essential workers. The plan will account for available capacity under current staffing levels and the feasibility of expanding staffing levels to serve more students and provide supplemental support.

“Los Angeles Unified remains committed to supporting families who have been impacted by the crisis,” Beutner said.

For information, visit [lausd.net](http://lausd.net).



photos courtesy of The Getty  
Cheyenne Caraway, left, Kiera Hammond and Michelle Tenggara are the inaugural recipients of Getty Post-Baccalaureate Internships in Art Conservation.

## The Getty boosts diversity with conservation internships

The Getty has announced a pilot internship program that offers financial support and hands-on experience to students preparing to apply to graduate programs in art conservation. It is the first program nationwide providing support to post-baccalaureate young professionals from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds seeking careers in art conservation.

“This new program seeks to reduce the very real barriers to professional careers in conservation faced by many students of color,” said Tim Whalen, the John E. and Louise Bryson Director of the Getty Conservation Institute.

The lack of diversity in art conservation is a concern for museums nationwide, Whalen said. An advanced degree is essential for the work, and applicants to the few graduate degree programs that exist typically must have completed prerequisite courses in science, art history and studio art, along with nearly 1,000 hours of internship training, usually unpaid. It has led to a conservation field that is inequitable and not culturally diverse, an assessment that is confirmed by data such as the Mellon Foundation’s Art Museum Staff Demographic Surveys of 2015 and 2018 showing conservation as one of the least diverse areas in the museum field.

“Increased diversity in conservation serves to not only address the statistical lack of representation, but it strengthens our field by bring-

ing in additional viewpoints and currently excluded interpretative lenses. Culturally diverse conservators will use their expertise and passion to privilege underserved collections,” said Ellen Pearlstein, director of the Andrew W. Mellon Opportunity for Diversity in Conservation and a professor with UCLA Information Studies and UCLA/Getty Conservation. “While we recognize that work must continue to remove barriers to entry in our field, this program will offer immediate resources to these selected emerging professionals.”

Three interns are participating in the 2020-21 inaugural year program and have started with residencies in the antiquities and paintings departments of the Getty Museum, as well as the conservation department of the Getty Research Institute. The interns are Cheyenne Caraway, of Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado; Kiera Hammond, of Howard University in Washington, D.C.; and Michelle Tenggara, of the University of California, Los Angeles. Each has received a \$30,000 grant for the 12-month program, plus additional support for tuition reimbursement and attendance at professional conferences.

Additional experiences for the interns are planned in partnership with a consortium of other museums, including the Los Angeles County Museum of Art; the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures; the Fowler Museum at

UCLA; the Autry Museum of the American West; and the Huntington Library, Art Museum and Botanical Gardens.

“Through the Getty’s internship, I hope to gain an opportunity to connect to something much more significant than myself for the enrichment and enhancement of the Black community,” Hammond said. “Through this funded internship, it will allow me the opportunity to be exposed to the different specialties within conservation. I am looking forward to learning from the researchers and conservators at the Getty about preservation management while expanding my conservation skills for paper treatment.”

Given the continued closure of Getty and the other partner museums due to COVID-19, the interns have started their residencies remotely. They are receiving supervision and mentoring from Pearlstein and Getty conservators and taking online prerequisite courses at Santa Monica College. Rotating residencies will take place later in the academic year, pending the safe reopening of museums.

The pilot year of the Getty Post-Baccalaureate Conservation Internships was made possible with funding from the Getty Patron Program. The internship program is administered by the Getty Foundation, which also funds the Getty Marrow Undergraduate Internships and Getty Graduate Internships.

For information, visit [getty.edu](http://getty.edu).

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## Holocaust Museum Los Angeles celebrates new name, bigger focus

Nearly 60 years after its founding, Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust has changed its name to Holocaust Museum Los Angeles. The museum is using a new logo and has also announced an expanded vision for the future.

“Holocaust Museum Los Angeles is a subtle, simple and powerful way of pivoting from being Los Angeles-centric to Holocaust education for the city to additionally expand to the rest of the world,” CEO Beth Kean said. “One of our most important missions is to educate the next generations – not just teach but inspire students to take action.”

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, over 20,000 students visited the museum annually to learn about the Holocaust and meet survivors. Holocaust Museum Los Angeles continues to conduct its education programs virtually, including student tours, survivor speakers and other specialized programs. It has many other resources that can be used virtually, including teacher guides and training.

The new logo, an image of a hand lined by barbed wire, is a traditional symbol of protection.

“The hand is a universal way of communicating and sharing emotions and gestures,” said Michele Gold, board chair of the Holocaust Museum Los Angeles. “It is symbolic of our identity and values in the fight for justice and overcoming adversity. It also sends a message to stop the hate and bigotry, which is more important in our country and the world than it’s ever been.”

An expanded schedule of virtual programming will be unveiled at the museum’s livestreamed virtual gala on Oct. 21 hosted by Melissa Rivers and featuring appearances by Jason Alexander, Ray Allen, Jack Black, Billy Crystal, Beanie Feldstein, Morgan Freeman, Josh Gad, Gal Gadot, Tiffany Haddish,



photo courtesy of Holocaust Museum Los Angeles  
The museum is using a new logo based on traditional symbols of protection.

Richard Lewis, Ben Platt, Anika Poitier, Sidney Poitier, Paul Shaffer, Marc Shaiman, Ben Stiller and Henry Winkler.

The Holocaust Museum Los Angeles is the first survivor-founded Holocaust museum in the United States. It dates to the 1960s when a group of survivors met and discovered that each of them had a photograph, document or personal item from before the war. They decided that the artifacts needed a permanent home where they could be displayed safely in perpetuity, and also wanted a place to memorialize those who died and educate the public.

Since 1961, the museum has provided free Holocaust education to students and visitors, fulfilling the mission of the founding Holocaust survivors. Because the founding survivors insisted that no visitors ever be turned away for lack of an entry fee, museum admission is always free.

On Oct. 14, 2010, Holocaust Museum Los Angeles opened its permanent home in Pan Pacific Park at 100 The Grove Drive. For information, visit [holocaustmuseumla.org](http://holocaustmuseumla.org).



photo courtesy of the Music Center

Spotlight Program Director Jeri Gaile (right) with musician Jamey Tate on the episode “How to Build a Home Recording Studio for Musicians.”

## The Music Center launches online series to advise teens on the arts

The Music Center has launched a new episodic series of online tutorial videos as part of The Music Center’s Spotlight Academy. The series is designed to help aspiring young artists gain valuable insights on arts careers, workforce development skills and offer tips on how to apply for the organization’s free, annual Music Center Spotlight arts training and scholarship program.

“The Music Center’s Spotlight is an integral part of our commitment to helping all students gain outstanding arts learning experience in their schools and in the community. The program is designed to help students explore their professional goals and increase their confidence,” said Rachel S. Moore, president and CEO of the Music Center.

Spotlight is a nationally recognized program for teens that offers arts experiences, mentorship and workforce development skills taught by professional artists and

arts administrators, and awards more than \$100,000 in scholarships each year. Spotlight participants have the opportunity to perform with the world’s best dance companies, top orchestras and leading jazz clubs, with past participants having sung in the leading opera houses and starred on Broadway. Notable Spotlight alumni include Tony Award winner Lindsay Mendez, American Ballet Theatre’s principal dancer Misty Copeland and major recording artists Josh Groban and Adam Lambert, among others.

“These instructional videos for the Spotlight Academy are not only full of great information, they also take a fun approach to learning and will help students in planning their future, whether they choose to apply to the program or not,” said Jeri Gaile, director of the Music Center Spotlight.

For information, visit [musiccenter.org/spotlight](http://musiccenter.org/spotlight).

## Mount Sinai’s special services for bereaved families

Caring for the bereaved is one of the most important responsibilities in Judaism. Since biblical times, Jewish communities helped families celebrate, remember and honor lost loved ones. The life-affirming tradition of coming together in the face of loss helps families find strength and unity in difficult moments.

Mount Sinai Memorial Parks and Mortuaries has a long history of helping families in Los Angeles, General Manager Howard Kaplan said. One of the first things Jews did when arriving in a new city was create a burial area. When a group of Jews first arrived in Los Angeles in the 1840s and 1850s, a burial society was an immediate concern. At first, funeral services were held in homes, and the community developed a support network. In July 1854, a group of 30 Jews established the Hebrew Benevolent Society to provide aid to Jews in Southern California and to create a Jewish burial service.

The following April, the same group established a cemetery on land at the intersection of Lookout Drive and Lilac Terrace, just south of what is now Dodger Stadium. The land was owned by Jose Andres Sepulveda and the cemetery, Beth Shalom, or “Home of Peace,” was located there from 1902 and 1910 until it was relocated to its current location on Whittier Boulevard in East Los Angeles.

As the community grew, more options for Jewish burial became available. Mount Sinai Memorial Parks and Mortuaries was established in 1953 by neighboring



photo courtesy of Mount Sinai Memorial Parks and Mortuaries

Howard Kaplan, general manager, Mount Sinai Memorial Parks and Mortuaries.

Forest Lawn. In 1964, it was acquired by Sinai Temple, the oldest and largest conservative synagogue in Los Angeles. More than a century after the first Jewish cemetery was created in Los Angeles, Mount Sinai continues to follow the same traditions.

At the center of Jewish burial is the “Chevra Kadisha,” Hebrew for holy society, describing those who prepare a body for interment according to Jewish law. Every aspect of the practice is focused on honoring and preserving the dignity of the deceased. Male Chevra Kadisha members perform “tahara,” ritual bathing and purity rituals, on deceased men, while women do so for deceased women. After the rituals are complete, the body is clothed in “tachrichim,” traditional Jewish burial shrouds. A “shomer,” or guard, stays alongside the deceased until interment, reading

psalms or poems and ensuring the deceased is surrounded with peace and dignity.

“The ancient rituals brought deep meaning to me at a pivotal moment in life. When I was a young man, my father was killed in a tragic biking accident, coincidentally just outside of Mount Sinai,” Kaplan said. “At that moment, my entire world changed. As I hastily made arrangements for my father’s final resting place, I leaned into our Jewish tradition. The process and ritual gave me comfort through profound grief.

“While navigating that experience, I also realized that my parents had never engaged with or prepared for the moment when one of them would pass, which created great chaos for me and my siblings. I resolved that we needed to be better prepared in the event of my mother’s eventual passing,” Kaplan added. “After purchasing a neighboring plot for my mother, I assumed I had taken care of all that was necessary, but 31 years later, when my mother passed after a long, full life, I became aware that I was once again unprepared. While I had purchased a cemetery plot for her, I had not arranged for mortuary services. This, too, was a learning experience that I vowed to put to good use.”

Four months later, Kaplan became general manager of Mount Sinai and began working on ways to make the process more seamless for bereaved families. Kaplan said he is also considering the costs.

For information, visit [mountsinainaparks.org](http://mountsinainaparks.org).



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# Melrose community divided on project

From page 1

block. Fewer drivers will be able to traverse Melrose Avenue, and some parking will be eliminated where sidewalks are expanded. Left turns would be restricted everywhere along Melrose Avenue except at Fairfax, La Brea and Highland avenues.

Amidst the uncertainty about whether the plan will move forward, both opponents and proponents have voiced opinions. Opponents believe the plan will cause traffic congestion in the surrounding neighborhoods and the

loss of parking will harm businesses. Supporters believe the project will transform Melrose into a more vibrant shopping and dining district and attract more visitors, in turn boosting the local economy. In addition to the Melrose BID, the Mid City West Community Council has voted to support “Uplift Melrose.”

“We went out, door-to-door and spoke to all the merchants. The overwhelming response is positive,” said Isack Fadlon, a member of the Melrose BID’s board and

owner of the Sportie LA shoe store on Melrose Avenue. “Some are raising concerns about cut-through traffic and parking ... and those are things that can be addressed. A traffic study is part and parcel with this grant, and there is going to be a lot more public comment opportunity. Let’s not give up on an opportunity to bring \$30 million to our neighborhood.”

Richard Pink, owner of Pink’s Hot Dogs near Melrose and La Brea Avenue, also said he emphatically supports the “Uplift Melrose” project. He believes it could return Melrose Avenue to its status in the 1980s and 1990s, when the district was extremely popular and flourished with businesses and iconic restaurants, including Tommy Tang’s and Chianti.

“What I like about it is it revitalizes one of the iconic streets, corridors and arteries in Los Angeles. I think it will bring people back to the neighborhood and create a new energy for Melrose,” said Pink, who grew up in the area and graduated from Fairfax High School. “I am very much in favor of it. I just think it will be a wonderful addition to our city. We will have to solve some traffic issues and some parking issues, but it is worth it.”

Opponents are organizing against the proposed project, including the Melrose Action Neighborhood Watch. The organization’s administrative committee voted to oppose “Uplift Melrose” based on potential impacts on traffic, parking and quality of life for nearby residents.



rendering courtesy of Streets LA

The “Uplift Melrose” project would include crosswalks raised a few inches above the street surface.

## Vote centers planned for parks, rec centers

From page 1

agreed to move forward with allowing the Crescent North parking structure to become a possible vote center. It’s a novel option given that this year’s in-person voting process will come with a host of safety requirements in the wake of COVID-19. Once again, as happened in March, in-person voters will use the touchscreen Voting Solutions for All People – and the county will be responsible for ensuring that the machines remain free from the coronavirus.

“It’s a huge space, and that’s what you need when you’re in COVID,” Beverly Hills City Clerk Huma said of the parking facility at 450 N. Crescent Drive, which currently remains closed to public access due to COVID-19. “We’re trying to find creative and safe ways to provide in person voting for members of the public during a pandemic.”

With COVID-19 still forcing people to remain “safer at home” and medical experts anticipating a resurgence of the virus in fall, alternatives to in-person voting are critical, particularly for seniors and immuno-compromised people.

“In-person vote centers are still required, but voters are encouraged to either mail their ballots or drop them off at an approved VBM dropbox,” stated the Beverly Hills City Council Sept. 1 staff report authored by Ahmed.

Historically, presidential elections draw more voters than other elections. However, given the COVID-19 pandemic, Ahmed emphasized that the messaging of all local leaders as well as the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, which is conducting the election, is to encourage people to vote by mail.

To that end, in addition to dropping off ballots at the voting centers or United States Postal Service facilities, voters can also avail themselves of the county’s soon-to-be installed new VBM drop boxes. In Beverly Hills, one drop box is proposed for City Hall and a second is proposed for Roxbury Park.

Ahmed said the city needed twice as many as the county wanted to provide, stating, “I fought them and I got two instead of one.”

West Hollywood will have three VBM drop boxes located at the Plummer Park Community Center, City Hall and at the West

Hollywood Library.

The 24-hour VBM drop box is a full stainless-steel mailbox secured to the ground using concrete fasteners on the inside of the box so that no bolts are exposed. The slot is small enough for only a ballot to get through, and has protections against liquid and graffiti. The county envisions having each box affixed to the ground for a period of five years.

“I think that’s ridiculous to have something standing there for five years,” Beverly Hills City Councilman John Mirisch said.

While the March election had a total of three vote centers in Beverly Hills, Ahmed said that given that L.A. County voters can vote anywhere in the county, she wanted to have at least four voting centers for the upcoming presidential election.

“In March, we had a huge influx of voters,” she said.

While many were part of the daytime population that influxes through the city, significantly in excess of its approximately 22,000 voters, Ahmed said that even if many people are now working from home, the city needs to be prepared to accommodate in-person voters. In March, long lines meant that the last ballot at City Hall was not cast until midnight.

In addition to the parking structure, the three other in-person voting centers being considered in Beverly Hills are the Horace Mann School auditorium, the Wilshire Ballroom at the Beverly Hilton Hotel and the Beverly Hills Women’s Club.

In West Hollywood, which has approximately 28,000 registered voters, the city is making Fiesta Hall at Plummer Park a vote center.

“There may be other vote centers provided by private entities in the city, but this is the only location that the city has entered into a contract to provide,” West Hollywood Assistant City Clerk Melissa Crowder said. “Per the County Registrar/Recorders’ website, recruitment and selection of vote centers for the presidential general election is underway and locations will be made available 30-40 days before Election Day,” she added.

Pursuant to California Executive Orders N-64-20 and N-67-20, along with AB 860 and SB 423, all registered voters will receive a VBM ballot.

Opponents are also seeking more transparency from the city, as many only recently learned about the project when it is already facing a critical deadline in applying for a grant.

“The neighbors who would be most adversely affected say this is an ill-conceived plan,” said Peter Nichols, co-founder of the Melrose Avenue Neighborhood Watch. “To be under such an insurmountable gun to proceed in the midst of a pandemic ... is unconscionable. This is a major, major, major impactful project. While we would love to see Melrose improved and beautified, our committee decided that as this project is proposed, we can’t support it.”

Nichols said he is also consulting with the nonprofit Fix the City, which reached an earlier settlement with the city of Los Angeles in a lawsuit filed over “road diets” in other parts of the city where traffic

lanes were removed to create more pedestrian-friendly environments. Fix the City was opposed to the way the infrastructure projects were implemented without adequate public input and vetting.

Jim O’Sullivan, vice president of Fix the City, said the settlement reached with the city in its lawsuit stipulates that the extensive public outreach be conducted before any major street infrastructure plan moves forward. O’Sullivan said the process involving “Uplift Melrose” may violate terms of that settlement, which is something the organization’s attorneys will be looking into, he said.

Meanwhile, both sides remain in limbo until a decision is made about moving forward. Simard said a decision by Koretz will likely be coming soon. The public can view the proposed plans by visiting [streetsla.lacity.org/melrose](http://streetsla.lacity.org/melrose).

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# Rail lines could extend to Hollywood Bowl

From page 1

then turns at Santa Monica Boulevard. All three routes run east along Santa Monica Boulevard, then turn north on Highland Avenue before joining the red line at the Hollywood/Highland station.

David Fenn, an associate planner for the city of West Hollywood’s Long Range Planning Division, said the city is most interested in the westernmost alignment options, as those would serve more of the city, and the hybrid route – the westernmost route – “hits all of the major destinations in the area,” from shopping centers like The Grove and Beverly Center to major employers like Cedars-Sinai and West Hollywood attractions like the Pacific Design Center and many bars and restaurants. The subway stops on Santa Monica Boulevard would also be only blocks away from the Sunset Strip, Fenn added.

Horvath said the hybrid route is a popular choice in West Hollywood.

“The line we’ve called the hybrid in many of the public meetings has seemed to get the most public support and seemed to address the concerns of many of the neighborhoods along the route, but we know there’s work to be done. That’s what this process is,” Horvath said.

Patrick Chandler, community relations manager for the Crenshaw Northern Extension, said popularity was a factor in determining which routes would move on for further study, as was the number and type of venues made more accessible by these routes.

“We did some preliminary engineering and also looked at public feedback, and that’s what went into selecting those stations ... Looking at potential ridership, as well as commerce centers where people will work and shop, all played a factor,” Chandler said.

In addition to West Hollywood, the Hollywood Bowl is another attraction that could potentially be made more accessible by the Crenshaw Northern Extension. The Metro board recommended more study of potentially extending the route beyond the Hollywood/Highland station to reach the historic amphitheater, which is a mile north of the Hollywood/Highland station.

Not only would that extra mile of rail be useful during concerts and events, Fenn said, but there is more open space used for parking and picnics near the Hollywood Bowl, which will be important for “constructability reasons” when the large tunnel-boring machines need to be put into the ground.

“Those same parking lots, once you have a station [and] when there aren’t events happening, those lots could be a ready-made park and ride,” Fenn added.

However, the actual selection of the route – including the feasibility of the Hollywood Bowl extension – and a push by West Hollywood and others to accelerate the project by almost two decades will depend upon several factors.

First, the \$50.4 million contract for engineering and environmental analysis under the California Environmental Quality Act was awarded to Connect Los Angeles Partners – a joint venture of AECOM Technical Services Inc. and the American branch of Canadian engineering consulting firm WSP Global – but how much that funding is allotted for work in the upcoming fiscal year depends on Metro’s budget, which is set to



photo by Cameron Kiszla

The large parking lots at the Hollywood Bowl could be useful for constructing the Crenshaw Northern Extension.

be considered later this month at a public hearing on Sept. 16 and the full board meeting on Sept. 24.

Chandler said it’s “too early to say” exactly when the environmental work will begin, and groundbreaking can’t begin until the environmental work is complete.

“We’re looking at a 30-month long environmental analysis, and we hope to begin early next year or next year, reaching out and having scoping meetings, reaching out for public feedback,” Chandler said.

The acceleration of the project also depends on funding. Construction on the project isn’t scheduled to begin until 2041, and the rail line isn’t expected to open until 2047, but with some financial assistance from West Hollywood and other governmental agencies, construction could be accelerated by nearly 20 years, which some hope will have the project completed in time for the 2028 Olympics and Paralympics in Los Angeles. The sales tax Measure M, which was approved in 2016, provides approximately \$2.2 billion for the project, and if West Hollywood can provide up to 25% of the funding that is necessary for the work in the city of West Hollywood – potentially hundreds of millions of dollars – then the project could be fast-tracked by Metro.

City officials have pointed to sales-tax revenue and a potential Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District – a way to fund big projects by leveraging anticipated increases in tax revenue due to infrastructure projects raising property values – as methods of raising the necessary funds. Fenn said fellow governments, including the city of Los Angeles, are also expected to help raise additional funds. Additionally, the Crenshaw Northern Extension’s anticipated high ridership – as much as 90,000 riders per day – and other factors make the project an appealing target for federal and state grants and financing, Fenn said.

The project’s total cost – and how much the city will ultimately have to contribute – is still yet to be determined, said Metro spokesman Jose Ubaldo.

“There are so many variables to this, we need to be careful, how we look at it. When we finish the environmental studies, we want to have a more clear picture of how this project will move forward, especially the funding. We need to work on this, and we’re working with the city of West Hollywood and trying to get this done,” Ubaldo said.

Horvath said the project’s acceleration has momentum because of the different governments – such as the city and county of Los Angeles – as well as Metro’s board and CEO Philip Washington, who all want to see this project succeed.

“For all of the disagreement that begins in Washington, D.C, people are interested in getting us federal dollars, and for all of the points of view that exist in Sacramento, we have state leaders who are on our side and looking out for us. There’s a lot of private interest in helping move this project along, which means we hope this project will move along in a timeline that makes sense,” Horvath said.

Regardless of their cause, the delays in timing may ultimately affect the ability of West Hollywood to meet the city’s stated goal of opening the Crenshaw Northern Extension in time for the 2028 Olympics.

“Metro representatives have said in public meetings [opening before 2028] still remains possible,” Horvath said. “If they want to make that their goal, I’m certainly happy to see that happen. We need to move forward with this alignment in a way that makes sense for all the communities it will serve, and hopefully that means an expedited timeline.”

Fenn added that the Olympics are a great way to garner attention from the state and federal government, but even if the project misses the 2028 deadline by a few years, any acceleration over the 2047 opening date would be a boon for many thousands of people who would benefit from better transit options in the area.

“The Olympics is a two-week sporting extravaganza. It’s a great thing for the city, because it makes Sacramento and Washington pay attention, because everyone wants to look good on the world stage. This project makes a ton of sense if it’s done in 2030 or 2028 ... We’re trying to get this though in a way that’s responsible for the community and the region’s wider needs ... All of the pieces have to come together to make that happen, and the window is closing, but if the Olympics are the catalyst to make this happen, then we’re all for it,” Fenn said.

West Hollywood plans to continue community outreach and study rail integration, Fenn said. Contracts for outreach and the study are expected to be considered during the Oct. 5 West Hollywood City Council meeting.

# Fee cap will remain until emergency orders lift

From page 1

it appeared that restaurants would be open soon for indoor dining,” said Cynthia Owens, policy and management analyst for the city.

But the spread of the virus has not yet been contained, and Los Angeles County is in the Purple tier of the “Blueprint for a Safer Economy” that Gov. Gavin Newsom announced on Aug. 28. In the Purple tier, which indicates that the virus is widespread, only outdoor dining is allowed.

Until the number of new cases per 100,000 residents and positive-test rate are lowered, the county cannot advance into the Red, Orange and Yellow tiers – indicating substantial, moderate and minimal risk levels, respectively – and allow restaurants to resume indoor dining. However, even at the Yellow tier, restaurants will not be able to fully resume their pre-pandemic activities.

“Even in the best-case scenario

... restaurants will have a maximum capacity of 50%,” Owens said.

The council members said little except to support the decision to keep the cap in place until the emergency orders are lifted. Todd Johnson, president and CEO of the Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce, who was the lone public speaker on the topic, also supported keeping the cap in place until the pandemic has passed.

“Our community is struggling and having enough challenges, let alone the restaurants ... The fees obviously charged by the companies were excessive. This cap keeps it reasonable and good for the residents and good for the restaurants,” Johnson said.

For information about the “Blueprint for a Safer Economy,” see **Newsom page 16**

# Auditor wants one person in charge of BH city realty

From page 3

key person to oversee daily operations would greatly benefit the city.

“A lot of positive changes have been made and I think even more could be made to make the program even better,” he said.

Specifically, the report found that the city had not addressed findings and recommendations from a 2016 audit highlighting issues with the collection of rent late-fee payments and inconsistencies between lease inventory and lease documents. In addition, the report found that the city had not established performance metrics to articulate and monitor its progress towards attaining operational goals.

“Notwithstanding these positive changes, we found that the city needs to take additional steps to strengthen internal controls related to the management oversight, commercial lease oversight and reliability of lease-inventory information,” stated the report.

In addition, the report found that in the absence of established performance metrics, there were different service levels for maintenance at the city’s leased properties.

“It is imperative that the city establish service level expectations as it can impact customer service and lessee satisfaction, affect staffing capacity and resources, lead to duplication of efforts and damage the city’s reputation,” stated the staff report.

Luna emphasized the importance of creating an AMP that articulates a strategic vision and provides a comprehensive overview on the performance of leased properties. In addition to being useful in managing day-to-day activities and ensuring timely operational maintenance and repairs at municipal properties, according to the staff report, an AMP can assist local governments in making economically and socially-justified decisions on property reallocation, change of use and disposal.

For example, earlier this year, the Beverly Hills-owned Log Cabin property on North Robertson Boulevard in West Hollywood was

at the center of a dispute between the city and the Lions Club of West Hollywood after the discovery that the lease had expired in 1977 and the Lions Club has not paid the yearly rent of \$1 since then.

“If the city had appropriate internal controls over its inventory, it may have identified the lease-payment issue, appropriately strategized for the use of the site and communicated plans on the use of the Lions Club sooner,” noted the staff report.

Luna said that he was not aware of other city-owned properties that the city was not aware of, but couldn’t estimate how much revenue the city was letting slip away in the absence of a strategic plan and a clear understanding of the true value of the city’s inventory. For example, a review of the city’s lease terms and collections found that “to a great extent,” late fees on lease payments were not being collected.

“Absent management oversight, a clearly defined organization structure with clearly stated roles and responsibilities, policies and procedures and service level expectations, and a clearly defined strategy for the use of leased properties, the city cannot properly plan, execute, assess, monitor and communicate its progress towards attaining its real-estate goals,” stated the report. “Without improvements, the city risks blemishing its reputation with dissatisfied lessees and poorly maintained spaces.”

## Answers From Page 23





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Crossword Puzzle by Myles Mellor

Across

1. Accomplished

5. Sight related

10. 60s protest singer

14. Grand \_\_\_\_

15. Self-confidence

16. Author of "Leading With My Chin"

17. Breathe heavily

18. "He's \_\_\_\_ nowhere man .."(Beatles)

19. Comic Johnson

20. Somewhere \_\_\_\_, Louis Armstrong lyric

23. Navigational aid

24. Bandleader, Calloway

25. John Hancock, for short

27. Duch suffix

28. Laser pointer battery

32. Mobster

34. Often-dried fruit

36. Bread spread

37. Somewhere \_\_\_\_, Barbara Streisand lyric

40. Engine sound

42. Wine seminar participant

43. Gave it a shot

46. Cookers

47. Black bird

50. "\_\_\_\_ was saying . . ."

51. Genetic info carrier

53. Pitcher, of a sort

55. Someone in the great somewhere \_\_\_\_, Tom Jones lyric

60. Skirt type

61. Gifted in gymnastics, e.g.

62. "Rise, Glory, Rise" composer

63. Abbr. at the bottom of a business letter

64. Fatty substance

65. Pour

66. Mellows

67. Massachusetts has four

68. One way to fall

Down

1. Place side by side

2. Cries at the MET

3. Tablecloths and such

4. Something added

5. Deep-sea fish

6. Look at closely

7. Bleacher feature

8. Esau's father

9. Kind of issues aggravated by gluten

10. Yak

11. Sprays

12. Twist together

13. Monster Muppet

21. Lag behind

22. Basketball association

26. Small GM car

29. \_\_\_\_ glance

30. Bus. record

31. Lots

33. "\_\_\_\_ Some Sugar On Me" 1988

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
20				21						22				
23								24				25		26
27					28	29	30	31		32		33		
			34					35			36			
			37						38	39				
40	41					42								
43					44	45		46				47	48	49
50					51		52			53	54			
	55		56				57	58	59					
60						61					62			
63						64					65			
66						67						68		

Leppard tune

34. Michelle Wie's org.

35. In case it's true

37. Spectators

38. Baseball Hall of Famer

39. Iterate

40. When doubled, a dance

41. Discussing, with "out"

44. Warning sound

45. Reduced, in a way

47. Ethically neutral

48. Disney's chronicles setting

49. Paragraph starter

52. Support

54. Overshadow

56. Feels ill

57. Big shots, for short

58. N.B.A.'er Mario \_\_\_\_

59. Rose, crimson, garnet, etc.

60. Start of an apology

answers on page 22





# THE ORIGINAL FARMERS MARKET PRESENTS:

# dineL.A.

## SEPTEMBER 1-18, 2020



### PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS

#### Lunch Menu - \$15

**BRYAN'S PIT BBQ** - East Patio  
Choice of Beef, Chicken or Pork Sandwich with any side and drink (bottled water or fresh lemonade)

**CHINA DEPOT** - East Patio  
Choice of any Combo Plate plus egg rolls and choice of drink

**DU-PAR'S RESTAURANT** - West Patio  
Choose one:  
- Traditional Waldorf Salad with choice of dinner roll, date nut or banana nut bread  
- Classic Triple Decker Club Sandwich with fries, coleslaw or fruit  
Includes choice of drink

**FRITZI COOP** - East Patio  
Classic Chicken Sandwich with tots or curly fries and lemonade

**THE GUMBO POT** - West Patio  
Large Gumbo Yaya with green salad and iced tea

**MICHELINA ARTISAN BOULANGER** - Westside  
Avocado Toast with choice of drink (add fried egg for \$1)

**MOISHE'S RESTAURANT** - East Patio  
Choice of Falafel Plate, Lula Kebab Plate, Vegetarian Plate or Gyro Plate  
Includes two sides, pita bread, and bottled water

**ROXY & JO'S SEAFOOD GRILL & OYSTER BAR** - East Patio  
Choose one:  
- 1/2 lb Steamed Mussels  
- 6 Oysters on the Half Shell  
- Salmon Burger  
Includes choice of drink

**SUSHI A GO GO** - East Patio  
Course 1  
Japanese Teriyaki Chicken Wings  
Course 2  
Choose one:  
- Japanese California Crab Salad  
- Japanese Green Tea Soba Noodle Salad

**TREJO'S TACOS** - Southside  
2 Taco Combo with Chips & Salsa & 16 oz Agua Fresca (Horchata, Strawberry Lemonade or Guava Lime)  
Choice of protein for tacos - steak asada, grilled chicken, beef barbacoa, carnitas, shrimp, jackfruit, mushroom asada or cauliflower

#### Dinner for 2 Menu - \$55

**DU-PAR'S RESTAURANT** - West Patio  
(AVAILABLE SUN-THUR 3PM - 8:30PM, FRI & SAT 3PM - 10PM)  
Choose two entrées:  
- Chicken Pot Pie  
- Braised Tri Tip  
- Fresh Salmon  
Includes dinner roll, soup or salad and slice of pie, sorbet or ice cream

**MARMALADE CAFÉ** - Plaza  
(AVAILABLE SUN-THUR 3-8PM, FRI & SAT 3-9PM)  
Choose one starter:  
- Spinach and Artichoke Dip  
- Calamari  
- Housemade Guacamole & Chips  
Choose two entrées:  
- Beef Pot Roast  
- Blackened Chicken Penne  
- Ginger Sesame Glazed Salmon  
Choose one dessert:  
- Tiramisu  
- Warm Bread Pudding  
Includes glass of white or red house wine (must be 21 and older)

**MONSIEUR MARCEL BISTRO** - East Patio  
(AVAILABLE SUN-THUR 11AM-7PM, FRI & SAT 10AM-8PM)  
Choose one:  
- Dover Sole for two with choice of side and chocolate mousse  
- Steak Tartare for two with French fries and chocolate mousse

#### Dinner for 4 Menu - \$55

**MOISHE'S RESTAURANT** - East Patio  
(AVAILABLE DAILY 4-6PM)  
Chicken and Beef Lula Kebobs plus 4 sides (fatoush, hummus, taboulah and rice) and bottled waters. Pita bread included.

**ADDITIONAL \$45 DINNER MENU AVAILABLE AT SUSHI A GO GO** (East Patio)  
Available for dine-in, take out or delivery (call merchants directly to verify delivery options). Tax and gratuity not included.