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 WeHo budget update pg. 5 MCWCC's Epstein running for CD5 seat pg. 8

INSIDE

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VERIY

Beverly Hills considers gradual trash rate increase

■ City's collection contract goes up 61% in 2022

BY CAMERON KISZLA

A decision on a potential increase to solid waste rates in Beverly Hills will likely wait until next year as the City Council seeks more information.

The council voted unanimously on Nov. 17 to continue its discussion of proposed rate increases to Dec. 8, when the 2021 Beverly Hills City Council meeting schedule will be decided. The council will then continue its discussion again until a date in January.

The increase was sparked by an increase in the cost of the city's contract with Athens Services, which collects solid waste in the city. That eight-year contract will increase by 61% on April 1, 2022, and the council will have to decide

See Trash page 21



Trash rates in Beverly Hills depend on factors like whether a property is residential or commercial, and if trash is picked up on the curb or in an alley.

Commerce groups criticize dining ban

Supervisors uphold prohibition amid increased COVID-19 infections

BY CAMERON KISZLA

On Nov. 24, in an effort to combat rising COVID-19 infections, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors voted 3-2 to keep in place a three-week ban on outdoor dining, limiting local restaurants, bars and wineries to takeout and delivery orders. Supervisors Kathryn Barger, 5th District, and Janice Hahn, 4th District, voted to allow outdoor dining to continue.

"There is no data to support closing dining establishments, which makes this an arbitrary and capricious restriction - especially the day before Thanksgiving,' Barger said in a statement. "Furthermore, this action will only further encourage individuals to participate in private gatherings, without any of the necessary public health safety measures, which is where the virus is more likely to spread."

Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, 2nd District, said in a



Outdoor dining is now prohibited in Los Angeles County for three weeks, sparking outcry from business owners and commerce groups.

statement that his vote to prohibit outdoor dining was intended to "cause the least amount of permanent, irreversible harm to our residents.'

"These are not decisions that we have made lightly," he said. "We are acutely aware of the compromises all Angelenos have been forced to make in order to protect

the health and safety of themselves and their loved ones. Unfortunately, as we seek to balance the public health and economic health of our region, there is no win-win outcome. There are downsides to every decision."

photo by Cameron Kiszla

Economic leaders, however, say

See Restrictions page 22

Digital billboards may light up Sunset Strip

■ West Hollywood City Council to vote Dec. 7 on static billboard conversion

BY LAURA COLEMAN

The Sunset Strip is wired for a digital evolution as billboards along the iconic West Hollywood street transition from traditional static advertising. According to Bryan Eck, a senior planner for the city of West Hollywood leading the Sunset Boulevard Arts and Advertising program, 20 digital billboards will be built on the strip in the coming decade.

"We believe that because off-site advertising has been an integral part of the Sunset Strip for the past 100 years, we wanted to embrace it and really put the best standards in place and compel really great design," Eck said.

See Billboards page 21



A reason to be thankful during hard times

■ Cedars-Sinai, Immanuel Presbyterian team up to give back

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Hundreds of people, including many seniors, have food for their holiday tables thanks to Cedars-Sinai Medical Center and Immanuel Presbyterian Church, which distributed food for a Thanksgiving meal on Nov. 23.

A long line formed before 8 a.m. outside the church at 3300 Wilshire Blvd. Organizers said the COVID-19 pandemic has exponentially increased need in the community. Hunger remains a particularly pressing problem, said Premere Session associate director of Cedars-Sinai's Healthy Habits program. "So many people in this community right now are struggling to feed their families and survive," Session said. "The need has pretty much tripled."



Volunteer Richard Legaspi, right, said he has noticed a dramatic increase in people seeking assistance.

the pandemic, the church opened resources. It's such an overwhelming time right now, Perez its food pantry twice a week for said. "We get the honor to serve these people Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and we are seeing an average of 2,500 people during five hours. So, the need is there. Cedars has been a tremendous partner with us."

rendering courtesy of the city of West Hollywood

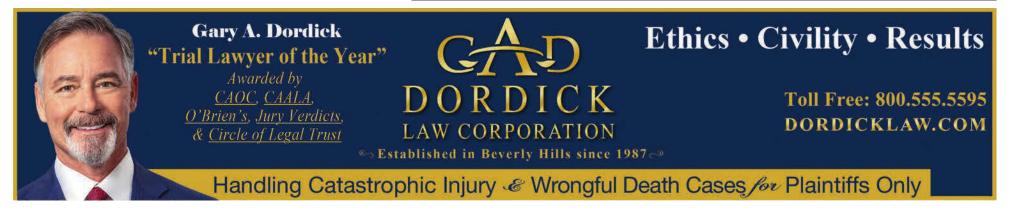
The proposed digital billboard at 8743 Sunset Blvd. is engineered to look like it is floating the sky.

Cedars-Sinai regularly partners with Immanuel Presbyterian Church to provide support for people in need living in underserved neighborhoods. Prior to approximately 100 to 200 people. Since late March, the distribution has been held three times a week, every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. It is common to have thousands of people show up each time, said Alex Perez, senior director of events for Immanuel Presbyterian Church.

"The unfortunate thing is right now, there is such a lack of

Perez said Cedars-Sinai also recently held a flu shot clinic at the church and will hold another

See Thanksgiving page 22



Beverly Hills City Council adopts guidelines for public assemblies

Air passengers required to fill out

COVID-19 acknowledgment form

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti action to protect Angelenos and stop

said.

ity.org

In a 4-1 vote on Nov. 24, the Beverly Hills City Council approved an amendment to its urgency ordinance related to requirements regarding public assemblies and parades that went into effect on Nov. 25.

Since Nov. 4, the city has been requiring permits for most public assemblies and parades. Specific guidelines were put in place such as prohibiting nighttime parades or assemblies in residential areas as well as targeted parades and assemblies, and prohibiting items that pose a health and safety risk during a parade or assembly. Additionally, specific locations were established where parades or assemblies can be allowed without a permit if the parade or assembly is under 500 people.

New guidelines that took effect on Nov. 25 to better protect residents and demonstrators include requiring a permit for any parade or

announced on Nov. 23 that all air

travelers entering the city from

another state or country will be

required to complete an online form

to acknowledge California's recom-

mended 14-day quarantine upon

Passengers arriving at LAX and

Van Nuys Airport will see signs and

messages reminding them to fill out

the required form. Anyone over the

age of 16 must submit the form prior

to or upon arrival at the airports.

Failure to do so may result in a \$500

than ever, and from LAX to our busi-

nesses to our homes, we have to take

"COVID-19 is more dangerous

arrival.

fine

assembly taking place in Beverly Gardens Park. The only locations that do not require a permit will be La Cienega Park and the west side of City Hall.

If an unpermitted parade or assembly takes place in La Cienega Park for more than six weeks within a 12-week period, then unpermitted parades and assemblies will be prohibited in La Cienega Park for a period of six weeks.

The ordinance also prohibits demonstrators at unpermitted assemblies from assembling on the adjacent sidewalk and requires them to remain at least 7 feet from the curb of La Cienega Boulevard and other major arterial streets.

"I believe these new measures will create a fair balance between free speech and the safety of the community," Beverly Hills Mayor Lester Friedman said.

For information, visit beverlyhills.org/coronavirus.

the spread of this virus," Garcetti

Garcetti said travelers can com-

plete the form in under a minute by

visiting travel.lacity.org or by scan-

ning a QR code posted on signage

throughout LAX and Van Nuys

Airport. An advisory issued by the

state of California encouraged volun-

tary quarantine after travel. "All per-

sons arriving in California from other

states or countries, including return-

ing California residents, should prac-

tice self-quarantine for 14 days after

For information, visit travel.lac-

arrival," the advisory reads.

flylax.com/travelsafely#three.

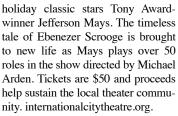
Ebell Holiday Boutique

The Ebell of Los Angeles is holding its virtual Holiday Boutique from Thursday, Nov. 26, through Monday, Dec. 21. The boutique features more than 40 award-winning, primarily female artisans, sourced locally and nationwide from leading craft shows. Use the code EBELL2020 at checkout and 20% of sales will benefit the Ebell Emergency Fund, developed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. ebellofla.com/club/club-events/holiday-boutique.

'A Christmas Carol

International City Theatre is partnering with producer Hunter Arnold to

stream a special filmed version of "A Christmas Carol" from Saturday, Nov. through 28, Sunday, Jan. 3. The beloved Charles Dickens



JFLA business contest

Jewish Free Loan Association is producing a "Shark Tank"-style event on Tuesday, Dec. 1, from 4 to 5 p.m. via Zoom. Hosted by Kelly Redmond, the show features three small business loan clients competing to win a \$1,000 cash prize to help their business grow. The public can help judge and determine the winner. General admission is \$20. jfla.org.

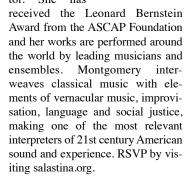
Salastina Music Society

Classical music lovers are invited to enjoy a Salastina Music Society pre-

CALENDAR

sentation of "Happy Hour No. 34:

Jessie Montgomery" on Tuesday, Dec. 1, from 6 to 7 p.m. Montgomery is an acclaimed composer, violinist and educator. She has



'Santa-The Experience'

"Santa-The Experience," a magical, interactive elf-guided journey through winter's busiest wonderland, runs from Tuesday, Dec. 1, through Thursday, Dec. 24. Each live experience is shown via Zoom and includes a personal live video chat with Santa. Families will be welcomed by one of Santa's elves at the beginning of their

exploring Santa's Mailroom, the Elf's Bedroom, the North Pole's Reindeer Stables and the bustling Toy Factory. Tickets are

\$34.95. santatheexperience.com.

Post-election forum

Join Holocaust Museum Los Angeles for "Building Bridges: How Californians Voted on Racial Preferences, Criminal Justice and Other Issues," a webinar discussion on Wednesday, Dec. 2, at 11 a.m. Moderated by museum board member Dan Schnur, a professor at USC Annenberg School for

Communication and UC Berkelev. the discussion will include Julie Bank, board chair for Jewish Center for Justice; Michael Lawson, president and CEO of the Los Angeles Urban League; Helen Torres, executive director of Hispanas Organized for Political Equality; and Nancy Yap, executive director of Center for Asian Americans United for Self-Empowerment. Suggested donation is \$10. holocaustmuseumla.org.

The Groundlings Holiday Show

Enjoy side-spliting laughs during The Groundlings Comedy Theatre's "Holiday Show: Online Edition" on

Fridays, Dec. 5-19, at 7 p.m., via Zoom. Nothing is traditional this year, but that's not stopping The Groundlings from bringing its annual holiday



show to audiences. Join three magical weekends of original sketch and live, interactive improv. Leonard Robinson directs the shows. groundlings.com.

Glen Keane tribute

Enjoy "Glen Keane-An American Cinematheque Tribute" on Saturday. Dec. 5, at 7:30 p.m. A 38-year veteran of Walt Disney Feature Animation, Keane trained under Walt Disney's Nine Old Men. He went on to create many beloved Disney characters such as the Little Mermaid, Aladdin, the Beast, Tarzan and Rapunzel. In 2012, Keane left Disney to form Glen Keane Productions as a way to further his artistic explorations in animation, design and film. He has since collaborated with Google, the Paris Ballet and Kobe Bryant. In 2017, he animated and directed the Academy Award-winning film "Dear Basketball" in collaboration with Bryant and John Williams. Most recently, he directed "Over The Moon," available on Netflix. A Q&A session will be included. americancinematheque.com/glen-keanetribute.

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LA Optimized program offers help to struggling businesses

and

LA Optimized, an initiative to help local small businesses recover from the pandemic by expanding their e-commerce capabilities and growing their online presence, was launched on Nov. 25. The project will be overseen by Mayor Eric Garcetti's newly appointed 2021 entrepreneur-in-residence, Rober-to Martinez. "COVID-19 has changed everything – the way we communicate, work, socialize and shop - and our brick-and-mortar stores need to rapidly rethink how they reach their customers, market their goods, sell their products and thrive when so much business is happening online," Garcetti said. LA Optimized aims to help small businesses adapt to the rapid shifts in consumer behavior and technological advances by empowering them to boost digital marketing, maximize online business listings, create or optimize websites, and increase knowledge and presence in the e-commerce space. The service is free. Through the help of dedicated partners, the mayor's office plans to allocate over \$1.5 million to the services.

The program will also partner services to struggling small busito digital marketing platforms. which are permanent. low income coronavirus.lacity.org/laoptimized.

with the ArtCenter College of Design and vervnice (design studio) to deliver up to \$500,000 to vetted creative professionals to provide \$500 in business and digital content nesses including branding, video, photography and graphic design. In its first year, up to 1,000 small businesses will be able to access services to increase their online visibility and engagement, and help adapt While the pandemic has accelerated a surge of online sales this year, small and medium businesses have long faced digital challenges to compete with larger corporations, the mayor said. This year, California's small business revenue dropped by 29.3%, and a September 2020 report found that Los Angeles has seen 15,000 closures, half of LA Optimized will be open to active small businesses in Los Angeles, with priority given to brick-and-mortar establishments in communities. Businesses can enroll by visiting

Just in Case BH to hold Zoom meeting for Zone 2 residents

On Wednesday, Dec. 2, at 1:30 pm, the city of Beverly Hills will hold its next Just in Case BH community Zoom meeting for residents in Zone 2, located in the

zone will be invited to participate in a Zoom meeting to learn about the program and how they can participate.

Zone 2 residents can join the

visit before

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The Park Labrea News and Beverly Press are weekly newspapers, published on Thursdays. Mail subscription is \$120 annually. Decreed newspapers of general circulation, entitled to publish legal advertising, Feb. 10, 1960 by Superior Court Order No 736637.

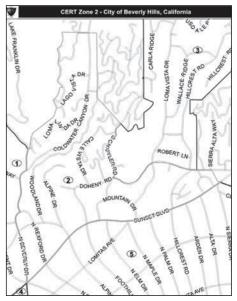
region north of Sunset Boulevard between North Beverly Drive and Schuyler Road.

Just in Case BH, a city-led, neighborhood-based emergency

preparedness and action program, brings together Beverly Hills residents, businesses, fire, police and other city agencies to coordinate seamlessly before disaster strikes and in real-time when disaster strikes. One of the major aspects of the program is the division of the city into geographic zones, with each zone designed to be able to support itself during times of emergency or disaster.

Over the next several weeks, residents and businesses in each

meeting at zoom.us/j/99128476474. For information or to view the city map divided by zones, visit justincasebh.org.



map courtesy of the city of Beverly Hills



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Fire damages vacant commercial building



photo by Laura Coleman

Los Angeles Fire Department personnel battled a blaze in a vacant commercial building on Western Avenue on Nov. 23, extinguishing the flames in 26 minutes. Approximately 55 firefighters were deployed to the building at 547 N. Western Ave. after reports of smoke were received at 10:16 a.m. The building is located on Western Avenue just south of Clinton Street. The fire burned through the roof before the flames were extinguished at 10:42 a.m., LAFD spokesman Nicholas Prange said. No injuries were reported and the cause remains under investigation.

Defendant pleads no contest to vandalizing synagogue

A 25-year-old man pleaded no contest on Nov. 19 to charges related to vandalizing the Nessah Synagogue in Beverly Hills last December, the Los Angeles County Attorney's District Office announced.

Anton Nathaniel Redding, of Millersville, Pennsylvania, entered the plea to one felony count of vandalism of religious property. Redding was immediately sentenced to 220 days in county jail and five years of formal probation. He also was ordered to complete a 12-month residential treatment program and to pay \$166,604 restitution.

The Dec. 14 incident was widely publicized and was initially believed to be a hate crime, although the charges were eventually reduced and Redding was allowed to enter a plea to felony vandalism. The exact motive for the crime was never divulged.

Security cameras captured images of the suspect, who broke into the synagogue overnight and damaged property and religious books while the temple was closed, prosecutors said. Using video footage and fingerprints, police identified the suspect as Redding, who fled to Hawaii shortly after the crime. Investigators from Beverly Hills traveled to Kona, Hawaii, and arrested the suspect on Dec. 18. He was extradited back to Los Angeles to face criminal charges.

Reward offered for information after hit-and-run victim dies

traffic investigators are searching for a driver who struck and killed a woman in the Rampart area on Nov. 23.

A \$50,000 was announced on Nov. 25 for information leading to an arrest and conviction in the case. The crime occurred in the 13th District, represented by Los Angeles City Councilman Mitch O'Farrell. Witnesses told police that a tan, 4-door 2000 to 2010 Toyota Corolla was making a left turn onto westbound Miramar Street from northbound Union Avenue at approximately 5:55 a.m. when it struck the victim, Kuen Ham. The

Los Angeles Police Department vehicle dragged the victim approximately 15 feet, police said. The driver fled the scene without stopping to render aid, which is required by law.

> Los Angeles Fire Department paramedics took the victim to a hospital, where she later died, police said. Video of the suspected vehicle can be viewed by visiting lapdonline.org.

Man whose drone allegedly hit helicopter charged

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

A Hollywood resident whose unmanned aircraft struck a Los Angeles Police Department helicopter in September is facing federal charges.

Authorities used the incident to highlight the potential danger of drones in densely-populated urban areas. People often receive drones as gifts or are hobbyists who may be unaware of strict rules for flying. Situations like the aerial crash in Hollywood illustrate the potentially dire consequences that can occur when drone operators do not follow regulations, police said.

The defendant, Andrew Rene Hernandez, 22, was charged with the unsafe operation of an unmanned aircraft. Federal prosecutors allege he recklessly operated a drone that crashed into a police helicopter on Sept. 18 as it flew over ground units responding to reports of a commercial burglary at a pharmacy. The location of the incident was not divulged, other than it occurred in Hollywood.

The helicopter's nose, antenna and bottom cowlings were damaged and the pilot was forced to make an emergency landing. No injuries were reported, but authorities said there was a potential for a catastrophe. "If the drone had struck the helicopter's main rotor instead of the fuselage, it could have brought the helicopter down," the criminal complaint read.

The drone fell and struck a vehicle, causing property damage,



photo by Edwin Folven

Authorities said drones pose a significant danger to manned aircraft. Recreational operation of unmanned aircraft is strictly regulated.

police said. Officers recovered the unmanned aircraft, retrieved its memory card and used it to identify Hernandez, prosecutors added.

The FBI, Federal Aviation Administration and LAPD investigated and served search warrants in late October at Hernandez's Hollywood residence. Hernandez allegedly admitted to flying the drone after he heard police sirens and an approaching helicopter, prosecutors said. In the criminal complaint, Hernandez is alleged to have said he flew his drone "to see what was going on" and as the drone was ascending, he saw it "smacked" by the hovering police helicopter.

Federal law governs the operation of unmanned aircraft, and operators must follow numerous rules. All drones must be registered with the FAA. Recreational operators are required to stay at or below 400 feet off the ground and nighttime flying is restricted. One of the primary rules listed on the FAA's website is that operators must never interfere with emergency response activities.

Capt. Steven Lurie, commanding officer of the LAPD's Hollywood Division, said thankfully, incidents involving drones and helicopters are infrequent. He said drone operators occasionally fly over crime scenes. In 2015, an LAPD helicopter had to make evasive maneuvers to avoid a drone over a crime scene near Sunset Boulevard and Western Avenue.

"These are quite rare, but of course significant when they occur," Lurie said. "The primary danger is to the police helicopter. Any strike to the airship could be tragic."



Anyone with information is urged to call Detective Juan Campos at (213) 833-3713, the Central Traffic Division watch commander at (213)833-3746, or e-mail 31480@lapd.online. During weekends and off-hours, call the LAPD hotline at (877)LAPD247.

Social Security scams become more prevalent during holidays

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office is warning people to beware of Social Security scams in which perpetrators attempt to steal identities.

The scams commonly target senior citizens and involve a call from someone claiming to be from

the Social Security Administration. The caller tells the victim that their Social Security number has been suspended or compromised.

Authorities warn people to hang up. Never provide a Social Security number or banking information. For information, call (800)772-1213.

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Here's your chance to shred your old documents safely, securely and pick up some compost for FREE. Please follow these rules for everyone's safety:

- Noncompliance with these instructions results in non-participation.
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- Drop off only.
- Face covering are Mandatory at all times.
- Staff will not open vehicle door or enter vehicle cabin.
- First come first serve.
- Stage parking line will be on Burton way in front of courthouse and the corner of Civic Center Dr. Exit through the alley on Foothill Rd. Please visit WWW.BEVERLYHILLS.ORG/SHRED

For more information please contact: Public Works (310) 285-2467 or AskPW@Beverlyhills.org

West Hollywood leaders praise revised budget

City in good financial shape, City Manager Paul Arevalo says

BY CAMERON KISZLA

Though the coronavirus pandemic continues to affect the city, West Hollywood officials touted the city's response to COVID-19 during the Nov. 16 council meeting.

The city staff report noted that the city ended fiscal year 2020 on June 30 "on solid ground," with general fund revenues exceeding the budget, which had been adjusted to account for COVID-19, by \$7 million, or 7%. Though expenditures exceeded the budget by \$5 million, or 5% – including "nearly \$1 million in emergency expenditures" – reserves were able to cover the \$1.1 million deficit.

For the current fiscal year, which began on July 1, the city is expecting a larger budget deficit – \$4.8 million – which will be covered with reserves, City Manager Paul Arevalo said.

"Simply put, our revenues as expected are down, nearly \$25 million. Our budget for last fiscal year was \$115 million in general funds. This year, we're looking at a \$90 million general fund budget, so that's a \$25 million dip. We've reduced our expenditures by \$20 million. We're drawing down on emergency reserves of \$5 million to close the gap and provide services to the community.

Aravelo noted that one of the challenges for the fiscal year 2021 budget is \$2.8 million "in emergency funds that have been used to provide support to our community," but the city

Garcetti announces new testing site

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti on Nov. 20 announced the opening of the San Fernando Park COVID-19 testing super site in the Northeast Valley, in partnership with the City of San Fernando, built in response to a significant spike in case numbers in nearby communities. It opened on Nov. 24, creating the 10th city location providing free COVID-19 tests to anyone with or without symptoms.

The city of Los Angeles, in partnership with laboratory Curative, the nonprofit Community Organized Relief Effort and the Los Angeles Fire Department, operates one of the largest municipal testing programs in the country, including the largest testing site in the nation at Dodger Stadium. The city launched its program in March to test first responders and vulnerable individuals and quickly expanded to offer free testing to all residents, with or without symptoms. Since then, the city has tested over 2.24 million people and can test over 38,000 people each day across 10 city testing sites. The walk-up super site will offer up to 3,000 COVID-19 tests each day at 208 Park Avenue in San Fernando, and will operate Tuesday through Saturday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The site will also be able to deliver up to 500 flu vaccines per day. In the weeks ahead, the site will also begin to enable residents to participate in the city's ongoing rapid antigen testing pilot.

is also facing revenue challenges. For instance, the city's transient occupancy tax – or hotel tax – revenues for the first quarter of fiscal year 2021 were down 64% as compared to last year, and with the economic downturn, sales tax is a challenge "as expected," Arevalo said.

"With the stay-at-home orders, a lot of our businesses have been shut down or the retail activity has been reduced significantly. Travel is down, hotels are struggling not only in West Hollywood but throughout the world," Arevalo said.

Some good news, however, was the passage of the 0.75% sales tax increase Measure E by voters on Nov. 3, which Arevalo noted was "much needed" and passed with the support of more than 70% of West Hollywood voters.

"It's going to be a wonderful addition, especially during the COVID times. In a solid year of revenues, it would be somewhere around \$10 million in revenue. Because of the downturn in the economy, it will be less than that, but at the same time, it's something to be really grateful that we have the support of the community on that particular tax," Arevalo said. The council did not discuss the

The council did not discuss the budget as a separate item on Nov. 16 and instead received the budget update as part of the consent calendar, though Councilman John Duran used a portion of his comments to thank city staff for their work on the budget.

"I think many of us were concerned about the impact that COVID and the economic collapse would have on the city of West Hollywood, but it has been their skillful management of resetting revenue expectations, resetting expenses, making sure the budget was balanced, tapping into our reserves, bonding out cash, that we've got a very I think positive update tonight," Duran said.

Duran also noted that West Hollywood is "in a lot better shape than so many other cities across Los Angeles County," some of whom may even have to file for bankruptcy, and West Hollywood is "not in that position."

"Because we've got a very strong, strong fiscal manager as our



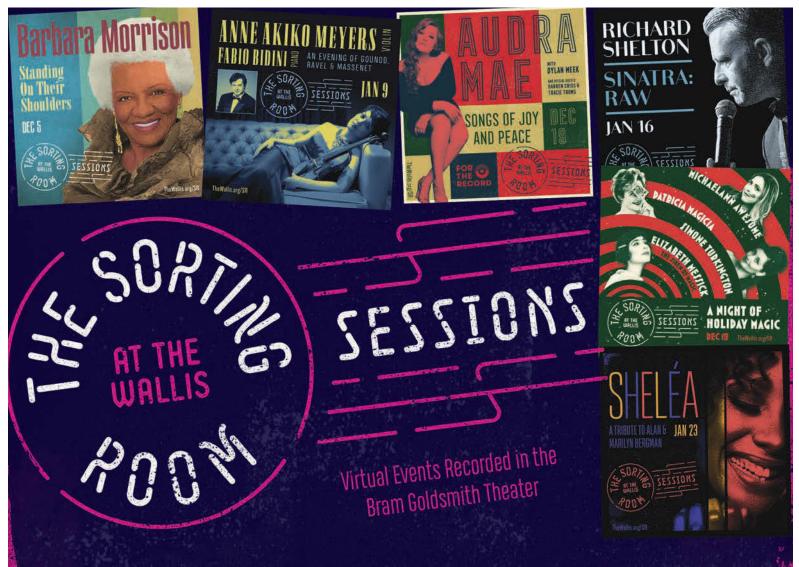
photo by Cameron Kiszla

West Hollywood's fiscal situation is relatively stable despite the ongoing pandemic, city leaders said.

city manager, and [Assistant City Manager] David Wilson and [Senior Management Analyst] Christine Safriet ... we can all breathe a sigh of relief, we're going to be OK," Duran said.

Duran also noted that with President-elect Joe Biden's victory in the Nov. 3 election, he is hopeful that Democrats in Washington, D.C., can provide more relief to local governments than could have been expected if President Donald Trump was reelected.

"The Biden administration can't come soon enough. I know that Speaker Pelosi and others are fighting for revenues to come to local and state governments, including ourselves, which would be really, really helpful," Duran said. "There's lights at the end of the tunnel."



For information, visit coronavirus.lacity.org/testing. Six entrancing nights of music, magic, and merriment in your living room.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 5 AT 8PM BARBARA MORRISON: STANDING ON THEIR SHOULDERS

SATURDAY DECEMBER 12 AT 8PM A NIGHT OF HOLIDAY MAGIC

SATURDAY DECEMBER 19 AT 8PM AUDRA MAE WITH DYLAN MEEK: *Songs of Joy and & Peace* SATURDAY JANUARY 9 AT 8PM AN EVENING WITH VIOLINIST ANNE AKIKO MEYERS AND PIANIST FABIO BIDINI

SATURDAY JANUARY 16 AT 8PM Richard Shelton in *Sinatra: RAW*

SATURDAY JANUARY 23 AT 8PM Sheléa: A tribute to alan & Marilyn Bergman

The Wallis.org/SR or email Tickets@TheWallis.org

Ticket holders may stream the performance for 24 hours starting at 8pm on the date selected.

TheWallis

West Hollywood marks World AIDS Day

■ Listing of names, award ceremony part of virtual celebration

BY CAMERON KISZLA

World AIDS Day is Dec. 1, and the city of West Hollywood is planning several virtual events and commemorations to remember those lost to the crisis.

David Giugni, the city's social services manager, said marking World AIDS Day is especially important for West Hollywood, a city known for its connection with the LGBT community, which has been especially hard-hit by HIV.

"In broad strokes, the city has been extraordinarily impacted by HIV. West Hollywood has the highest rate of community members living with HIV in L.A. County," he said.

Mayor Lindsey Horvath added that the city "has been at the forefront of this fight ever since it began."

"We all dedicate ourselves to this effort, and that's what World AIDS day is, a recommitment to these efforts that started long ago," she said.

This year, the city's World AIDS Day events began with the installation of posters related to HIV and AIDS from the collection of ONE Archives at the USC Libraries, the largest repository of LGBT materials in the world, according to its website. The posters have been placed on the temporary fencing that was erected for construction at West Hollywood Park, and they will remain on display through the end of the year.

The city is also promoting AIDSWatch, a memorial to those who have died of AIDS, which will be displayed on WeHoTV from Friday, Nov. 27, through Tuesday, Dec. 1.

"It's literally just a scroll of names of people – not just in West Hollywood, I think it's national – people we've lost to HIV and AIDS. It's a powerful reminder of our shared experience in West Hollywood and the greater community. It's a very simple kind of project but once you tune in, it pulls you in and it's really powerful," Giugni said.

On Dec. 1, the Alliance for Housing and Healing will place flowers on the memorial plaques on Santa Monica Boulevard, and the city will also honor those who provide assistance to people living with HIV and AIDS with the 20th annual Paul Andrew Starke Warrior Awards. The event will be held at 7 p.m. on Zoom and on the city's YouTube channel, and this year, the honorees are Chris Aguilar, of the Los Angeles LGBT Center; Garry Bowie, of Being Alive; Liza Marie Ceballos, of the TransLatin@ Coalition; Cheryl Hoffman, of the Friends Research Institute; Emmanuel Sanchez-Ramos, of APLA Health; and Spencer Shelton, of the AIDS Healthcare Foundation.

Horvath noted that the Warrior Awards will be particularly significant this year with the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

"The awards ceremony is always incredibly moving, because inevitably there are stories of what our community's experience was with the infection rate among gay men causing a high number of deaths in the community. Today, we have a whole new global health pandemic, and it's certainly impacted our community," she said.

In particular, one of this year's honorees, Garry Bowie, is being honored posthumously after he lost his life to COVID-19 earlier this year.

"He dedicated his entire life to being in service to this cause, and to lose him to yet another health pandemic is heartbreaking," Horvath said.

Giugni added that although "we're in a very different place right now with HIV with effective medicines that have pretty much brought it to a manageable disease or health condition," much can be learned from the HIV and AIDS crisis and put to use in how society is responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We really go back and see the activism that occurred during the height of the pandemic, how that is still an important aspect of how we address COVID and address treatment, address how folks are treated who have COVID," he said. "When people look at it now and they say, 'Oh, HIV and World AIDS Day, that feels like a part of history,' but it is very pertinent to what we're experiencing now with COVID."

For instance, Giugni said, "we really have to look at our disenfranchised communities." While HIV and AIDS initially affected gay and bisexual men the most, today, many communities of color are most impacted, and "disparities in health care and access to services" became apparent, he said.

"Again, with a disease such as COVID, our disenfranchised communities are most impacted. What did we learn? The gay community, with support from its allies, really forced the federal government to address HIV and push for an immediate response, and we see that need again with COVID," Giugni said.

While federal help is sought, the city will also examine some of its own efforts during the Warrior Awards ceremony, as the city's consultant Aaron Celious, director of research and strategy for the research firm Maroon Society, will provide an update on the West Hollywood HIV Zero Initiative.

Giugni said the five-year strategic plan is finishing its fourth year, and it aims to decrease HIV transmission, address disparities in health care, decrease the rate of progression for people living with HIV and decrease stigma for those living with HIV. "There has definitely been success when you look at the number of transmissions," Giugni said. "That has decreased in West Hollywood. The real challenge, which we see on a federal level, is access to health care, addressing disparities in access to health care, and then stigma is still an issue."

West Hollywood is seeking input on stigma of HIV through a survey. To participate, visit weho.org/services/social-services/hiv-aidsresources.

"That's for folks to share where they encounter stigma, is it a result of living with HIV, how are you experiencing that? This is in order for us to attempt to address and lessen folks experiencing stigma," Giugni said.

Beverly Hills TEMPLE of the ARTS PRESENTS

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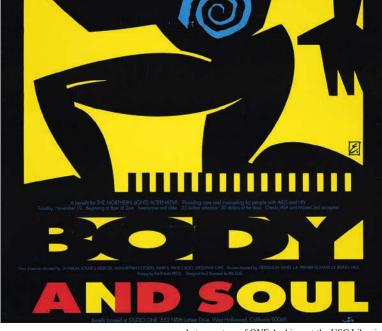


photo courtesy of ONE Archives at the USC Libraries

As part of its commemoration of World AIDS Day, West Hollywood is displaying historical posters and art related to HIV and AIDS at West Hollywood Park.



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Mid City West Chair Epstein enters CD5 race

Homelessness and transportation among chief concerns

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Community leader and advocate Scott Epstein has thrown his hat in the ring to represent the Los Angeles City Council's 5th District, joining four others who have already announced candidacy in the March 2022 municipal election. Current 5th District Councilman Paul Koretz will be termed out in 2022.

A Fairfax District resident since 2007, Epstein has served on the Mid City West Community Council for eight years, including as its chair since 2014. He said in that role, he has dealt with complex regional issues including homelessness, land use and development, as well as more-localized problems affecting neighborhood quality of life such as traffic and public safety. Epstein officially announced his campaign on social media five days before the Nov. 3 General Election, and has eagerly begun the long process of meeting with constituents and raising support.

"I am running because I think right now, we need leadership that is both connected to community and committed to progress. We have some very serious problems in this city," Epstein said. "We have an acute housing crisis where a lot of folks are struggling to continue to afford to live in this city. We are at risk of losing our middle class and the most unfortunate of us are slipping into homelessness. After improving our air quality for decades, now we're slipping back and the quality of our air is getting worse. We really need bold action to solve these problems, but in order to do so, we also need leaders that have experience with civic engagement and getting people involved and building toward change. I think that is what I have to offer."

Epstein, who works as a policy analyst for UCLA, cited homelessness as a primary issue affecting the 5th District. He said he saw firsthand how it adversely impacts people's lives when he helped organize the Mid City West Community Council's participation in the annual homeless count in 2014.

"That was an important moment in my public life. It was my entryway into this issue," Epstein said. "I was new in my leadership at the council and realized that this is of course something we should do. We decided to opt in to leading the homeless count for our area that first year and we had so many volunteers that we were able to help the communities bordering us as well. It's become an annual tradition and we have hosted the homeless count every year since."

The 41-year-old 5th District candidate said more housing coupled with services and resources must be part of the solution to homelessness. He said he hopes to identify more places where temporary shelters, supportive housing and affordable housing can be built in the local area.

"As councilmember, I think my leadership would be much more muscular in a sense, more quickly identifying the places in the 5th District where we can get temporary shelter up, where we can build permanent supportive housing," Epstein said. "How do we do it more cheaply, how do we experiment with different building types, different sites, to make it happen? We do need the funding streams, we do need the policy support, and we have some of those things with Measure H and Measure HHH. But we need the leadership on the ground in all of the council districts to champion these projects and make sure it happens.'

Epstein also said he plans to be a

On Nov. 25, U.S. Rep. Adam

Committee

Schiff (D-Burbank), the chair-

man of the House Permanent

Intelligence, released a statement

in opposition to President Donald

Trump's pardon of Michael

Flynn, his first national security

"Donald Trump has abused the

pardon power to reward his

friends and political allies, and

protect those who lie to cover up

for him. This time, Trump has

once again abused the pardon

power to reward Michael Flynn,

who chose loyalty to Trump over

his communications with the

Russians - efforts which under-

mined U.S. foreign policy after

sanctions were imposed on

Russia for interfering in our elec-

"Flynn lied to the FBI about

loyalty to his country.

Select

advisor.

Schiff condemns Flynn pardon

on

catalyst for innovation in transportation, and cited traffic congestion as a problem that will continue to affect the community long into the future without significant change.

Another concern is economic recovery after the COVID-19 pandemic, he said. Epstein supported the recent Uplift Melrose plan, which would have removed some parking lanes on Melrose Avenue in exchange for bike lanes and more pedestrian space. That project was scrapped in September after Koretz decided not to support it because impacts to residents and traffic on surrounding streets would have been too significant.

"I think it is essential we create a multi-modal future for our city. If we care about the climate, and I think most Angelenos do, we have to create options for getting around better that are not the automobile," Epstein said. "The highest emitting sector in California in terms of carbon emissions is transportation, and a lot of those emissions are coming

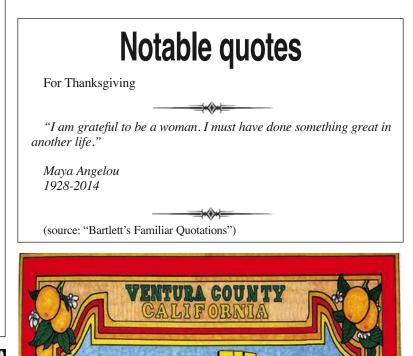
photo courtesy of Scott Epstein

Scott Epstein said he's ready to get to work on behalf of Los Angeles City Council District 5.

from our major metro areas like the Bay and Los Angeles. We need to make space for people on foot, on bikes and on transit.'

Epstein said he plans to canvass neighborhoods and is eager to meet more people in the community to discuss issues.

Epstein enters a race that already included four candidates, including Koretz's Director of Policy Jeff Ebenstein; Katy Young Yaroslavsky, senior deputy for the environment and arts for Los Angeles County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, 3rd District; Sam Yebri, an attorney and former Los Angeles Civil Service Commission member; and Molly Basler, an activist and environmentalist.





tions. And Flynn pled guilty to those lies, twice. A pardon by Trump does not erase that truth, no matter how Trump and his allies try to suggest otherwise.

"There is no doubt that a president has broad power to confer pardons, but when they are deployed to insulate himself, his family and his associates from criminal investigation, it is a corruption of the Framer's intent. That's why Democrats in the House and the Senate have introduced the Protecting Our Democracy Act to prevent any president from using pardons, or the promise of pardons, in the corrupt way that Donald Trump has done. I'm hopeful that in a new Congress, we will pass it.

"It's no surprise that Trump would go out just as he came in crooked to the end."

Epstein said the spirit of community service was evident, and he hopes to harness that energy.

"I think there is something special about the count in opening folks' eyes to the problem. Partly, it's just the nature of going around counting your unhoused neighbors that makes it very real. We all see it every day, but there's something about actually doing the tally that is very eye opening," Epstein added. "The other thing that I think is very amazing about the count is how many people show up to help. It's a reminder of the challenge, but it's also a reminder of the opportunity. [There arel a lot of community members who are hungry to make change and be a part of the solution."



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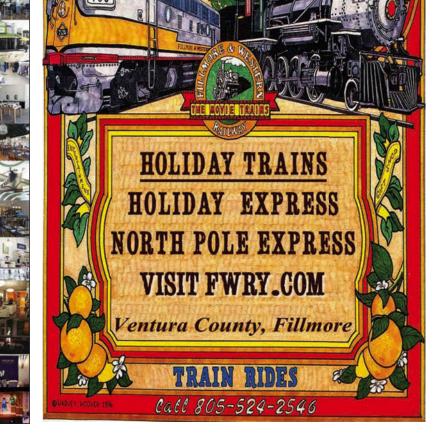
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New housing provides homes for WeHo seniors

BY LAURA COLEMAN

The West Hollywood Planning Commission voted on Nov. 19 to allow a senior congregate care housing facility to proceed at 923-931 Palm Ave., despite community opposition. The new four-story, Lshaped building, which is being developed by Dylan Investment Properties, will incorporate two historic bungalows to provide 49 senior units.

"Staff supports the project given that the proposed rehab work will help preserve the cultural resources without impacting the integrity and provide a needed housing type in the city," Senior Planner Antonio Castillo told the commission. "Without rehabilitation incentives, the historic property may continue to

deteriorate as upkeep and maintenance of the property may not be financially feasible. The new senior congregate care housing facility meets key city goals and provides for the preservation, the rehabilitation and ongoing maintenance of the property and site as well as the goal of promoting housing for a diverse population."

After hearing multiple public comments, the majority in opposition, the Planning Commission voted 5-1-1 to green light the project. Commissioner Lynn Hoopingarner was the lone "no" vote with Vice Chair John Erickson abstaining. Erickson, who was recently elected to the West Hollywood City Council, would not have been able to consider the matter twice if an appeal brought it before the council.

"I think it's the right type of use [and] I think it's a thoughtful way of preserving these units," Chair Adam Bass said.

On two separate occasions, the Historic Preservation Commission failed to vote in support of the project moving forward, which Bass characterized as "really disappointing." He said the most recent HPC 3-3 vote on July 27 gave "no direction" in terms of providing guidance.

The Planning Commission had originally planned to vote on the project on Oct. 15 but postponed the vote to November after residents asked the commission to delay the hearing so they could mourn the sudden death of Duff Bennett, who died days before the meeting. Bennett, who had lived in one of the properties on the site, had spearheaded opposition to the project for the past four years.

Castillo said that after the city published its agenda on Oct. 15. staff received 70 written comments both in support and opposition to the project, as well as general questions.

"I do not oppose the need for congregate care facilities in our community. That's not what this is about," stated one resident who spoke during the commission meeting. "I'm concerned about honoring the historic designation of these bungalows."

West Hollywood Preservation Alliance Board President Victor Omelczenko, who characterized the process as not being sufficiently



rendering courtesy of the city of West Hollywood

The Planning Commission supported moving forward with a new senior congregate care facility on Palm Avenue in West Hollywood that incorporates historic buildings.

transparent, emphasized the impact of the project on the future of the neighborhood and the city. The alliance has consistently opposed the project.

Bass, in contrast, said he believed the public was particularly involved in the project given the large amount of community input.

The approved 33,460-squarefoot project includes construction of a four-story senior housing facility containing 48 senior units with a one-level subterranean parking garage. In moving forward with the project, the developer will rehabilitate two historic single-family bungalows built in 1902 at 927 and 931 Palm Ave., which were designated as landmarks in 2013. A third bungalow at 923 N. Palm Ave., which is also over a century old, will be torn down as part of the redevelopment, as well as all non-historic accessory structures and rear additions. The bungalow at 927 Palm Ave. will serve as a reception area for the facility, and the bungalow at 931 Palm Ave. will function as a detached residence, for a total of 49 senior units.

Dylan Investments Vice President James Stevens said they plan to partner with Caden Senior Living to operate the facility and it will open in two years.

"This one has been really difficult balancing the benefits and the detriments for me. I definitely see a need for this," Commissioner Sue Buckner said. "After really thinking this through, I believe it meets pretty much all of the requirements of the code and all of the parameters. In my gut, it makes me uncomfortable, but I'm going to vote for it."

"There are certain aspects that I don't like, but overall the good outweighs the bad," Commissioner John Altschul added.

Partner sought for street program

The Los Angeles Board of Public Works Commission unanimously approved a request for proposal plan on Nov. 24 for the updated Sidewalk and Transit Amenities Program.

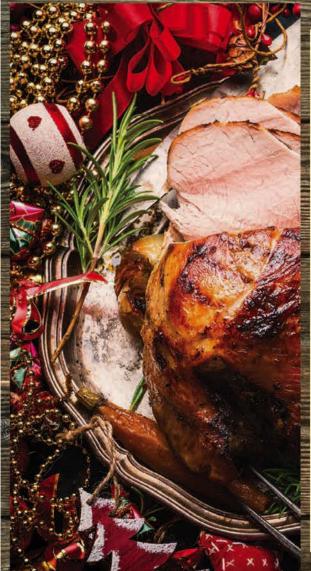
STAP, which is overseen by StreetsLA, will expand an advertising-supported program to finance the costs of street furniture amenities that provide shelter, shade, safety and comfort for transit riders and pedestrians. They include the nearly 2,000 bus shelters in Los Angeles, which StreetsLA hopes to increase to 3,000.

StreetsLA will initiate a competitive procurement process to identify a qualified partner that shares the values of service excellence, sustainability, innovation and accountability.

"We are excited to continue the public process to find a partner for a strong and innovative street furniture program that will support transit riders and pedestrians," StreetsLA Executive Director and General Manager Adel Hagekhalil said.

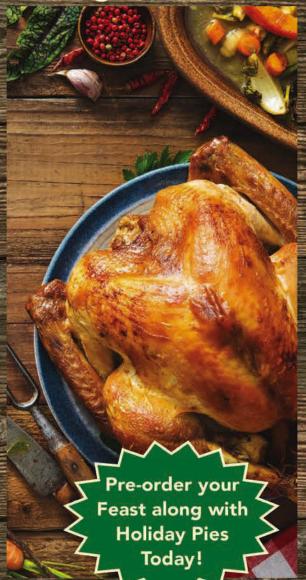
information. For visit streetsla.lacity.org.

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Metro takes Thanksgiving holiday on subway work

Metro is temporarily suspending subway construction on the Purple Line Extension subway project in observance of Thanksgiving on Thursday, Nov. 26 and Friday, Nov. 27.

All Metro bus and rail service will operate on a Sunday/holiday schedule on Nov. 26, and regular weekdays service will resume on Nov. 27.

Following the holiday, work will resume at many locations along the route through the Miracle Mile and Beverly Hills. Construction in Beverly Hills will continue through the holidays after the City Council recently granted Metro a waiver. No work will occur on Dec. 10 (the first night of Hanukkah), Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day, or if there is a city sponsored event. During the holiday construction period, excavation in the Wilshire/Rodeo station box, hauling, material delivery and utility maintenance will occur, as well the installation of geotechnical instruments.

New hauling hours for removing soil have been announced. From 10:45 a.m. to 4 p.m., two lanes will be open in each direction on Wilshire Boulevard between El Camino and Crescent Drive. From midnight to 10:45 a.m., Wilshire Boulevard will be reduced to one lane in each direction between El Camino and Crescent drives, when excavation will occur through deck openings along Wilshire Boulevard at Canon Dive, just west of Beverly Drive.

The installation of geotechnical instruments will continue along the tunnel alignment and around the station box area in Beverly Hills to monitor ground movement, settlement and other geological impacts. Instruments are being installed within the public right-of-way and on private property. Through December, installations may occur along Wilshire Boulevard and on adjacent streets east of Crescent Drive. New work hours are weekdays from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Wilshire Boulevard, and weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at other locations. Intermittent closures of traffic lanes, alleys, sidewalks, crosswalks and parking meters may be required during work hours.

At Wilshire/La Cienega, station construction, material deliveries, instrumentation and concrete pouring continue. Ongoing concrete and material deliveries to the Wilshire/La Cienega station box are anticipated to continue this week.

The work will be conducted from Wilshire Boulevard and in the Wilshire/Gale staging yard from 4 a.m. to 6 p.m. Eastbound Wilshire Boulevard may be intermittently reduced to one lane from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., and 8 p.m. to 7 a.m., as needed. The lane reduction may also be used on Saturdays from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Gale Drive will also be intermittently closed at Wilshire Boulevard to support construction. Work will continue 24 hours in the staging yards.

At Wilshire/San Vicente, a K-rail enclosure in the center lanes is

anticipated to be in place through December. The enclosure supports ongoing tunnel and mitigation work underneath Wilshire Boulevard.

From 9 p.m. on Dec. 4, through 6 a.m. on Dec. 7, southbound San Vicente Boulevard may be closed through the intersection with Wilshire Boulevard. Eastbound Wilshire Boulevard will be reduced to a single lane through the intersection.

Near Wilshire/Fairfax, station construction, hauling and concrete pouring are ongoing. Wilshire Boulevard will be reduced to two lanes in each direction between San Diego Way and Spaulding Avenue through next August. Intermittent lane closures may be in place to support deck panel maintenance and investigation.

Ogden Drive will be closed intermittently Monday through Saturday at Wilshire Boulevard, and Orange Grove Avenue remains closed south of Wilshire Boulevard until January. A K-Rail work zone has been installed at the southwest corner of Wilshire Boulevard and Fairfax Avenue to support work on appendages to the main subway tunnels.

At Wilshire/La Brea, hauling, deliveries and tunneling support is ongoing in construction staging yards and from Wilshire Boulevard near Sycamore Avenue. Intermittent lane closures on Wilshire Boulevard and side streets between Highland Avenue and Detroit Street may be in place to support construction from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday



photo by Edwin Folven

On Nov. 28, work will resume along the Purple Line Extension route, including in Beverly Hills at the site of the future Wilshire/Rodeo station.

through Friday. Orange Drive will remain closed north of Wilshire Boulevard through the end of February.

A work zone on the west side of the intersection of Wilshire and Rimpau boulevards is anticipated to be in place through next May. Wilshire Boulevard has been reduced to two lanes in each direction between June Street and Muirfield Road. Concrete and material deliveries are anticipated to continue at the site through the end of November.

In December, a K-rail enclosure will be installed on Wilshire Boulevard between Plymouth Boulevard and Windsor Avenue, and will remain in place for one vear.

At Wilshire/Western, construction continues in a staging yard near Wilshire Boulevard and Manhattan Place. Northbound Manhattan Place will be intermittently closed just north of Wilshire Boulevard from 4 a.m. to midnight, Monday through Friday, and 8 a.m. to 11 p.m., Saturday. Intermittent single lane closures on Wilshire Boulevard may be necessary between Western Avenue and Manhattan Place. Access to businesses will be maintained and a signed pedestrian detour has been installed.

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

Metro hosts community conversation on Koreatown

Join Metro for an installment of its Community Conversations series on Thursday, Dec. 3, from noon to 1 p.m.

The online meetings hosted by community leaders focus on histories, art, activism and cultural assets in specific neighborhoods. The upcoming program is titled "Advocacy and Empowerment in Koreatown."

Special guests Alexandra Suh, executive director of the Koreatown Immigrant Workers Alliance, and Steve Cho, an organizer with KIWA, will discuss how their work has evolved since the 1990s to meet the needs of immigrants, workers and tenants in Koreatown. They will also explain how their vision for public transportation is linked with an economically just future for the neighborhood. Participation is free. To RSVP or join the meeting, visit zoom.us/j/4329547902?pwd=enRq d1pUL3AzbzFQRVZmcmJ2ek9zU T09#success. For those without computer access, call (877)853-5247.

Webinar highlights the benefits of rain barrels



photo courtesy of Los Angeles Sanitation and Environment Los Angeles Sanitation and Environment's Watershed Protection Program will host a free Zoom webinar on Saturday, Dec. 5, from 10:30 a.m. to noon to encourage homeowners to install rain barrels. Participants will learn about rebates for purchasing rain barrels, as well as installation tips. Residents of the city of L.A. can win a \$25 gift card for home improvement supplies. To register, visit eventbrite.com/e/rain-barrel-webinar-by-city-of-los-angeles-watershed-protection-program-registration-122165740017. For information, visit lacitysan.org.





photo courtesy of Metro Alexandra Suh and Steve Cho will discuss transportation and the future of Koreatown.

To our new

Thanksgiving Edition readers of the Park Labrea News & Beverly Press: If you would like to subscribe to the newspapers every week, please send an email to: michael@beverlypress.com or call (213)713-6142



MCWCC candidate filing deadline approaching

Neighborhood and community councils are holding board elections in 2021, and the Mid City West Community Council's election is fast approaching.

Residents and stakeholders of Mid City West have until Dec. 28 to file for candidacy for the next community council board. The election will be held on Tuesday, March 16.

There are 35 seats on the board in six categories: three homeowner

representatives, five renter representatives, six nonprofit representatives, six business representatives, seven geographic zone representatives and eight at-large representatives. Zone representatives must live within the boundaries of the zone in which they are running. For information, see midcitywest.org/about-us/bound-

aries-of-mid-city-west.

All other 28 seats are open to any

Mid City West stakeholder. Stakeholders are considered those "who live, work or own real property in the neighborhood and also to those who declare a stake in the neighborhood as a community interest stakeholder, defined as a person who affirms a substantial and ongoing participation within the neighborhood council's boundaries and who are at least 18 years old." "While raising two daughters, I became concerned for their safety on our neighborhood streets. So I got involved with the MCWCC and did my best to make our streets safer for everyone. In the process I learned about the wonderful, diverse people that make up Mid City West," outgoing board member Taylor Nichols said.

A "Candidate 101" virtual event will be held at 7 p.mm. on Monday, Nov. 30. The event will give prospective candidates the nuts and bolts on the election process and also share information about the types of exciting projects they can work on as a Mid City West board member. To RSVP, visit forms.gle/M8QGdCsx2zFCAv34A.

For the first time, all voting for neighborhood councils will be done entirely by mail and in two parts.

Residents and stakeholders who are at least 16 years old by Election Day are eligible to vote.

For more information on Mid City West Community Council, visit midcitywest.org.

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

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

LOCATIONS:	8743 SUNSET BOULEVARD, West Hollywood, California
REQUEST:	Proposal to convert an existing static billboard and pole to a new digital billboard as part of the Sunset Boulevard Off-site Signage Policy.
PERMIT(S):	Billboard Permit, Certificate of Appropriateness, Develop- ment Agreement, Zone Map Amendment, and any other re- quired permits.
APPLICANT(S):	Reshma Pendleton, Netflix (Seymour Consulting Group, Representative)
TIME/PLACE OF HEARING:	Teleconference Meeting Monday, December 7, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. Given the local, state and nation state of emergency, this meeting will be a teleconferenced meeting (with detailed instructions for participation included on the posted agenda).
ZONES:	SSP (Sunset Specific Pan)
ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS:	Mitigated Negative Declaration prepared for Sunset Boule- vard Off-Site Signage Policy

DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND STATE OF EMERGENCY, CITY HALL IS CURRENTLY CLOSED. The staff report will be available on Wednesday, December 2, 2020 on-line at www.weho.org

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

Dodgers help families in need with annual turkey giveaway



photo by Carrie Giordano/Los Angeles Dodgers The Los Angeles Dodgers, Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation and team partner Smart & Final held the 16th annual Community Thanksgiving Turkey Giveaway at Dodger Stadium on Nov. 19, distributing 1,500 Thanksgiving meals to nonprofit community-serving organizations. The Dodgers partnered with many public officials to select recipients for the giveaway, including the office of Los Angeles City Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell, 13th District. Turkeys and fixings are also being provided to pre-selected students in the Dodgers' Community of Schools, a strategic community partnership to improve the education and wellness of children attending schools and living in communities surrounding Dodger Stadium. For information, visit dodgers.com.

Rampart Mint welcomes 22 formerly homeless people

West Hollywood Community Housing Corporation is proud to announce the opening of Rampart Mint, an all-new, affordable apartment community for formerly homeless individuals. Located in the Rampart Village area of Los Angeles, Rampart Mint includes 22 permanent supportive housing units and one unit for an on-site resident manager.

Co-developed with Affordable Living for the Aging, Rampart Mint is built on city-owned land. ALA will provide the on-site building management and has decades of experience working with special out physical limitations. Residents can truly age in place without fear of displacement.

"I am so pleased to see the Rampart Mint project come to life," said Los Angeles City Councilman Mitch O'Farrell, 13th District, who represents parts of the Westlake neighborhood on the Los Angeles City Council. "My office has actively supported this project from the beginning, and I welcome 22 apartments for chronically homeless individuals with special needs in the district I represent. I look forward to continuing our work with WHCHC to create more quality

needs populations.

"When residents begin to move in, it makes the project real for us," said Matt Mason, WHCHC's director of real estate development. "We're all very proud to be able to create quality affordable apartments for L.A.'s most vulnerable community members."

The KFA-designed building includes a spacious community room with kitchenette, a computer area, a rooftop garden with amazing views of the city, a building manager's office and social services office.

"This has been a labor of love," WHCHC Assistant Project Manager Rachel Peled said. "These last few days putting the final pieces in place, knowing their lifechanging value, was electric."

Rampart Mint was built by Dreyfuss Construction. Pioneering universal design principles have been incorporated so every unit accommodates those with and with-

affordable housing, including supportive housing, for our most vulnerable."

Often, formerly homeless residents arrive with only what they carry. With the generous support of the David Geffen Foundation, all 22 resident units are fully outfitted with brand new furniture. Additionally, all of Rampart Mint's community spaces – lobby, community room, rooftop garden, social services and property manager's office – are fully furnished with an investment from the Ahmanson Foundation.

"Rampart Mint is not only a reflection of the community it takes to provide supportive housing; it becomes a community in itself," WHCHC President and CEO Jesse Slansky said.

Residents began moving in earlier this month.

For information, visit whehe.org or call (323)650-8771.

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

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

IF YOU DO NOT HAVE COMPUTER ACCESS AND WOULD LIKE A MAILED COPY OF THE AGENDA AND STAFF REPORT, OR YOU NEED FURTHER IN-FORMATION regarding this item, contact Jennifer Davis, Senior Contract Planner in the Planning & Development Services Department at (323) 848-6475; or via email at: jdavis@weho.org

Yvonne Quarker, City Clerk

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

RESTAURANT NEWS

by Jill Weinlein

The Los Angeles County Health **Gelato Festival** Department ordered restaurants, in L.A.

breweries, wineries and bars to halt outdoor dining, which took effect Wednesday, Nov. 25, due to a surge in coronavirus cases. As restaurants struggle during this time of year, here are some making the pivot once again to focus solely on takeout and delivery. Please consider supporting these local favorites by ordering food and purchasing gift cards for the holidays.

Patxi's Pizza Black **Friday special**

Starting Friday, Nov. 27, guests will receive a free voucher for a 10-inch thin crust pizza when \$65 is spent. They offer salads, wings, meatballs and deep dish pizza too. This holiday deal is available through Dec. 31 and vouchers are redeemable for takeout until Jan. 31, 2021. 1011 S. Figueroa St., (213)999-9414.

The Gelato Festival is hosting three socially distanced competition events, as well as a newly added coffee-making competition. The winners will move on to compete in the World Finale which is set to take place in September in Italy. Customers can purchase a sampling box and be the judge of the best gelato, along with honorary judge Giada de Laurentiis. Gelato boxes are available for purchase starting at \$69 until Dec. 9 and will be shipped shortly thereafter. Each box includes four QR codes that allow consumers to vote for their favorite flavor and ultimately take part in picking the winner of this year's tournament to be announced in January. Gelato Festival is also be offering a vegan gelato box made with Califia Farms plantbased milks. 8906 Melrose Ave., (424)249-3966.

Farmers Market delivers for the holidays

The Original Farmers Market, corner of Third and Fairfax, has many options to fulfill shopping needs during the Thanksgiving holiday weekend, and take-out and delivery menus from market restaurants are available by visiting mercato.com.

The British pub Market Tavern will be closed on Thanksgiving Day, but take-out and delivery resume at noon on Friday, Nov. 27, and offerings include takeaway growlers filled with premium brews and tall glasses of creative cocktails.

Du-par's will serve Thanksgiving turkey plate, first come, first served until it is sold out. The regular menu is also available for take out. Warm up with their pumpkin pancakes and hot cocoa. Pies are available for pick up at the bakery counter from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. on Thanksgiving Day.

Other Farmers Market merchants in the mercato.com delivery program include Magee's Kitchen, which is offering all of its Thanksgiving options, Monsieur Marcel Bistro, the French Crepe



photo courtesy of the Original Farmers Market

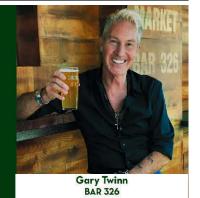
Market Tavern is offering a new take-out menu starting on Friday, Nov. 27 from noon unitl 8 p.m. Try their delicious meat pies and fish and chips with a hand-shaken coctail or growler to go.

Company, the Gumbo Pot, Blaze Pizza, Buca di Beppo, Chipotle Mexican Grill, Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf, Fritzi Coop, Local Ice, Marmalade Café, Mixology 101, Pampas Grill, Papa Jake's, Patsy D'Amore's Pizza, Phil's Deli and

Grill, Singapore's Banana Leaf, Starbucks, Sushi A Go Go, Trejo's Tacos and Veggie Grill.

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







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6333 W. Third St. In The Original Farmers Market 323.938.5131 www.marcondas.com



photo courtesy of Fillmore & Western Railway

Celebrate the season aboard a vintage train

Experience the Fillmore & Western vintage holiday train adventures in a new way this year. Ride the "Holiday Express" day train or choose the "North Pole Express" at night. Beginning on Nov. 28, the "Holiday Express" departs from the historic city of Fillmore in Ventura County and takes passengers to Prancer's Christmas Farm in Santa Paula, where they can enjoy fun attractions and purchase a pre-cut tree. The "North Pole Express" departs directly from Prancer's Christmas Farm and takes passengers on a one-hour trip to see Santa and his Elves. Masks are required and people must maintain physical distancing. For information, call (805)524-2546, or visit fwry.com.

Burger Lounge reopens locations

Burger Lounge in Larchmont reopened earlier this year. Now, the Marina Del Rey location has reopened, and the Santa Monica Burger Lounge reopens on Nov. 30. Burger Lounge now features options that satisfies the burger cravings of carnivores, flexitarians, vegans, vegetarians and more. Cashew-based, dairy-free milkshakes are available in strawberry and vanilla. They also offer hand-scooped dairy milkshakes. Pickup and delivery is available delivered at the the following locations - 217 N. Larchmont Blvd., (323)462-2310; 281 S. Beverly Dr., Beverly Hills, (310)385-0898; 13455 Maxella Ave., Marina Del Rey, (310)827-3670; and 213 Arizona Ave., Santa Monica, (424)238-8950.

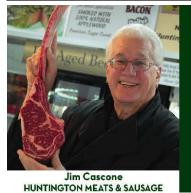
Adrift Burger Bar opens

Michelin-starred chef David Myers returns to L.A. to debut his new burger bar pop-up in his hometown neighborhood of Venice. His gourmet burgers gained fame here in L.A., and then he opened concepts in Tokyo, Singapore and Dubai. Order for takeout or delivery one of his signature burgers with all the fixings, alongside elevated milkshakes and fries. Burgers start at

\$7.95. They will also feature a charitable topping option for guests to add a donation to their order in support of St. Joseph Center. The Venice-based charity provides homeless families with resources and support. Delivery is available via Postmates. 1025 Abbot Kinney Blvd., (424)238-5753.

Salt & Straw debuts in Culver City

The recently opened retail and creative office development, the Culver Steps, now has a Salt & Straw scoop shop offering its smallbatch flavors. Honey Lavender is my favorite, though other enticing options include Salted, Malted Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough and Thanksgiving flavors like Cranberry Juniper Sorbet, Sweet Potato Casserole with Maple Pecans, Roasted Peach and Sage Cornbread Stuffing, and Salted Caramel Thanksgiving Turkey. The ice cream lineups are available on freshly made waffle cones or in pints that can be picked up, ordered online or through Postmates. 9300 Culver Blvd. Culver City, (424)341-6577.



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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 Nov. 12 and Nov. 21. The information was compiled from crimemapping.com. To report a crime, call local law enforcement agencies: Los Angeles Police Department, Wilshire Division (213)473-0476, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department West Hollywood Station (310)855-8850, and the Beverly Hills Police Department, (310)550-4951.

Beverly Hills Police Department

Nov. 15

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 200 block of La Cienega at 12:15 a.m.

At 2 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of Rexford.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 100 block of S. Palm at 8 p.m.

Nov. 16

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 300 block of Elm at 7:54 a.m.

At noon, an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 700 block of Foothill.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 9100 block of Charleville at 3 p.m.

At 7 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 400 block of N. Rodeo.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 400 block of N. Bedford at 9:45 p.m.

Nov. 17

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 8800 block of Gregory at 5:45 p.m.

At 8 p.m., a vandalism incident was reported in the 400 block of N. Doheny.

Nov. 18

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 300 block of Rodeo at 2:44 p.m.

At 10:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 400 block of Smithwood.

Nov. 19

At 1:52 a.m., a vandalism incident was reported in the 9600 block of Wilshire

Nov. 21

At 9:44 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 400 block of Palm.

West Hollywood Sheriff's Station

Nov. 15

At 10:50 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 7100 block of Santa Monica.

An attempted vehicle burglary was reported in the 8000 block of Romaine at 6:40 p.m.

Nov. 16

At 6 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 7100 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1000 block of Hancock at 11:45 p.m.

Nov. 17

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 8700 block of Sunset at 1:12 a.m.

At 6:30 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 900 block of N. Ogden.

Nov. 18

A suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 1100 block of Fuller at 1 p.m.

At 5 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 900 block of Wetherly.

A suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 800 block of Westbourne at 5:13 p.m.

At 11 p.m., a suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 1000 block of Havenhurst.

Nov. 19

At 2:30 a.m., a suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 1300 block of

committed a petty theft in the 100 At 6 p.m., an unknown suspect block of N. Robertson.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 100 block of N. Robertson at 2:10 p.m.

At 7:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 9000 block of Cynthia.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near Laurel and Santa Monica at 7:30 p.m.

Nov. 21

At 5 a.m., an assault was reported in the 8400 block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 1200 block of N. Harper at 6:29 p.m.

Los Angeles Police Department

Nov. 13

At 2:10 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 5800 block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of Selma and Vine at 9 a.m.

At 2:50 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a theft in the 6300 block of Third

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 100 block of The Grove at 5:59 p.m.

At 7:30 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1200 block of N. June.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 700 block of Cole at 8 p.m.

At 8:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a theft in the 1100 block of N. La Brea.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1000 block of Cloverdale at 9 p.m.

At 9:30 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 700 block of Martel.

Nov. 14

At 12:45 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1600 block of N. Wilcox.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 7100 block of Hollywood at noon.

At 12:45 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 800 block of S. La Brea.

committed a burglary in the 1300 block of N. Cahuenga.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 3900 block of Wilshire at 8 p.m.

At 8 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 6500 block of Yucca.

Nov. 16

An unknown suspect robbed a victim near the corner of Gower and Sunset at 3:40 a.m.

At 5:11 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 100 block of N. Norton.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 2100 block of N. Cahuenga at noon.

A robbery was reported in the 6300 block of W. Fifth at 2:15 p.m.

At 11:30 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 2000 block of Ivar.

Nov. 17

At 4:40 a.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 5600 block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 6700 block of Hawthorn at 5:40 a.m.

At 12:50 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1700 block of El Cerrito.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6100 block of Hollywood at 1 p.m.

At 2 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near the corner of La Brea and Wilshire.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 900 block of Tremaine at 8 p.m.

At 8:20 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near the corner of Wilshire and Spaulding.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim near the corner of Highland and Sixth at 11:50 p.m.

At 11:55 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1000 block of N. La Brea.

Nov. 18

At 6:25 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 5700 block of Franklin.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 1500 block of pect committed a burglary in the 5200 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near the corner of Vista and Melrose at 12:30 p.m.

At 1:05 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near the corner of Hillcrest and Bonita.

An attempted robbery was reported in the 300 block of N. Formosa at 5:15 p.m.

At 6:20 p.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim near the corner of Orange and Second.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1600 block of N. La Brea at 8:30 p.m.

At 8:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 700 block of N. Detroit.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1300 block of N. Formosa at 10 p.m.

At 10 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 1700 block of N. La Brea.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 5900 block of W. Second at 10 p.m.

10 Reasons Why I Don't Want An **Estate Plan**

1. I want large sums of my hardearned money to go to a law firm.

2. I want the government to decide who gets my life savings.

3. What for? My house is only

5. I want a total stranger to go

and financial affairs.

unnecessary ones.

earned money.

through all of my personal papers

6. I like family fights - especially

7. I don't care who inherits my hard

8. I've been messy in life; I'll be

4. I really don't care who raises our

worth a half-million dollars.

children.

An unknown suspect committed a	lence incident in the 1300 block of Havenhurst.	Nov. 15	Schrader at 11:45 a.m.	messy in death.
petty theft in the 400 block of Spalding at 5 a.m.	An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8400 block of Sunset at 5 a.m.	An unknown suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of Whitely and Hollywood at 1:30 a.m.	At noon, an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 4300 block of Wilshire.	9. They say you can't take it with you, but what if you can?
At 1:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 100 block of Almont.	At 3:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8800 block of Melrose.	At 3:25 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 1600 block of N. Formosa.	An unknown suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of Sunset and El Centro at 2 p.m.	10. Probate. Must be fun.
An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 400 block of Palm at 3:40 p.m.	An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8900 block of Cynthia at 6 p.m.	An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 7400 block of Sunset at 9:15 a.m.	At 8:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in thew 1000 block of S. Corning.	If you don't do it for yourself, please do it for those you care about.
At 4:11 p.m., a suspect was arrest- ed on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs near the corner Crescent and Lomitas.	At 6 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of Detroit and Santa Monica.	At 1:10 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 5900 block of Willoughby.	An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1200 block of N. McCadden at 8:30 p.m.	KRAMER LAW GROUP
An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8900 block of Burton Way at 11 p.m.	Nov. 20 At 12:27 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 700	An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 1500 block of N. Stanley at 4 p.m. At 5:15 p.m., an unknown suspect	Nov. 19 At 7 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 600	Stephen W. Kramer 5858 Wilshire Blvd.,
Nov. 20	block of N. San Vicente.	robbed a victim near the corner of	block of S. Ridgeley.	Suite 205
At 2:10 p.m., a suspect was arrest- ed on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs in	An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 8400 block of Santa Monica at 4:48 a.m.	Hollywood and Ivar. An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 1300 block of N.	An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 5900 block of Carlos at 7:15 a.m.	Los Angeles, CA 90036 (323)964-7100
the 9800 block of Olympic.	At 10 a.m., an unknown suspect	Western at 5:45 p.m.	At 10:40 a.m., an unknown sus-	

'The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air Reunion' with Will Smith tops the homecoming specials this year

ON SCREEN WITH TIM POSADA

In a year of media limbo, nostalgia replaces film and TV delays with casts of recent and late classics recording Zoom parties for all to enjoy. Check out Josh Gad's YouTube series "Reunited Apart" for a host of options.

Even "The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air" earned such social media exposure on Will Smith's YouTube channel in March. Like the others, it came and went, a quaint appetizer for 12 minutes. Perhaps that was merely a teaser of something more epic to come.

In the game of reunions, only one rules them all: HBO Max's official "Fresh Prince" special, celebrating the series' premiere 30 years ago. This is the crème de la crème of reunions, no buffering issues or lost resolution along the way. The cast converges in familiar terrain, the living room they shared for six seasons, portraying a culture clash between affluent relatives the Banks family in Bel Air and a cousin sent away from west Philly when "a couple of guys who were up to no good started making trouble," Smith rapped at the start of 148 episodes.

Most of the old crew return, with one glaring absence (more on that later, folks). Of course, Smith leads the discussion, as he led the show until its end in 1996. He might control all the pieces, but plenty of reflections paint a picture of a novice uninitiated to the acting craft, some quite hilarious.

Of course, Alfonso Ribeiro breaks down the Carlton, the prominent dance named after his character that keeps popping up across pop culture. Tatyana Ali discusses the anxieties of growing up while portraying the youngest Banks sibling, Ashley. And Karyn Parsons must confront the audition she once submitted for valley girl Hilary Banks.

Even DJ Jazzy Jeff – simply Jazz on the show – enjoys some screen time, though the many times Uncle Phil throws him out of the house seem to go unnoticed.

Unfortunately, Joseph Marcell, who played the (almost always) very formal house butler Geoffrey Butler, enjoys a few moments during the reunion (the show served



Most of the memorable cast led by Will Smith, left, returned for "The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air Reunion."

him much better), while Daphne Reid, who played Aunt Vivian come season four, remains rather quiet throughout.

A host of topics are covered, like casting rituals, on-set dynamics and recurring motifs. But a central topic, one emphasized by each cast member with pride, is what "Fresh Prince" tried to accomplish, not merely as comedy but media of substance.

The juxtaposition between class and race prevailed across multiple seasons, poked fun at in Carlton's love of Tom Jones and sincerely addressed in clashes with police officers. Perhaps the most poignant analysis comes when Smith briefly notes how relevant the series remains today for the worse, a reminder that some things have not improved for the better.

In the game of reunions, only one rules them all: HBO Max's official "Fresh Prince" special, celebrating the series' premiere

Each surviving member on screen creates a clear line between "Fresh Prince's" authenticity and the late James Avery, the masterful actor behind Uncle Philip Banks. The cast fondly remem-

30 years ago.

bers his best moments, both comedic and profound, presenting him as a masterful performer who elevated "Fresh Prince" in each scene.

photo courtesy of HBO Max

The reunion is charming, each player laughing and sharing memories like a family as they explore the creation of a fictional one enjoyed by millions. Of course, that happens in the absence of not one but two parents.

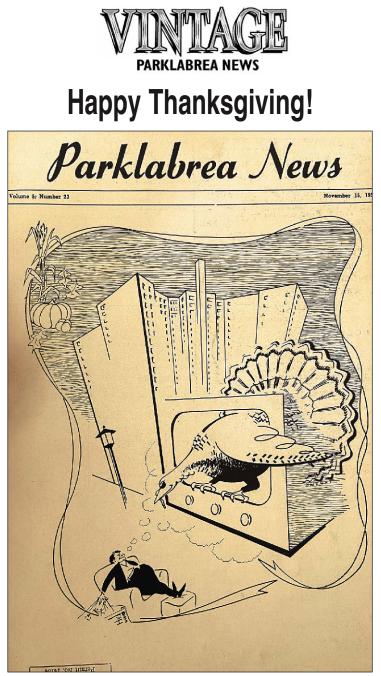
During the 1990s, the NBC series would not go unscathed by controversy. Halfway through, Aunt Viv underwent a recast. Janet Hubert killed the role, but season four kicked off with Reid subbing until the series concluded three years later.

The tension between Hubert and Smith glittered headlines ever since, coming to a head in March 2017 when Ribeiro posted an Instagram photo of "Fresh Prince" colleagues noting only one absence, Avery. Hubert had choice words for Ribeiro before condemning the alleged "reunion."

"There will never be a true reunion of the Fresh Prince," she said on Facebook at the time. "I have no interest in seeing any of these people on that kind of level."

To create a 30-year homage without Hubert would rightly be incomplete, a historical revision that mutates something authentic into spin, easy TV divorced from conflict. But the "Fresh Prince" reunion goes there.

Hubert meets with Smith for a truly gut-wrenching exchange. It calls attention to the damning label "difficult" for a Black woman in Hollywood, especially in the 1990s. "I lost everything," Hubert tells Smith, directly citing his role in ending her run on the show. It's an intense sequence, but regardless of how it concludes (no spoilers), Hubert's story remains tragic, going nearly 30 years for a degree of closure. That's a small win at best. "The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air Reunion" is an emotional rainbow - humorous, heartfelt, thoughtful, uncomfortable even. It praises the many ways "Fresh Prince" advanced representation for a largely resistant industry but calls out at least its most glaring monster in the closet. That's rather bold for a piece of nostalgia, one of many ways this TV homecoming rules the roost.



The Park Labrea News celebrated Thanksgiving with an illustration on the cover of the Nov. 15, 1951, issue that jokingly summed up how many people might feel after dinner. With restrictions in place because of the pandemic, most people will likely celebrate the holiday at home this year. While in-person dining is prohibited, many local restaurants are offering takeout and delivery. For information, see Restaurant News, page 12.

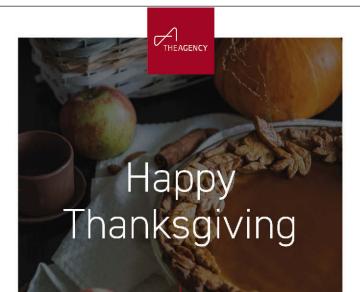




photo courtesy of HBO Max

Will Smith and Janet Hubert, who portrayed Aunt Viv on the "The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air" but left the show under controversy, shared some poignant moments during the reunion.



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Trans actor/poet Zackary Drucker is featured in LACO's on-demand performance of "Appalachian Spring" on Dec. 4.

LACO plays 'Appalachian Spring'

The Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra continues its all-digital 2020-21 season, LACO: Close Quarters, with Aaron Copland's masterpiece "Appalachian Spring."

Available on demand beginning on Friday, Dec. 4, at 6:30 p.m., the digital program features compelling visual elements directed by groundbreaking director/designer/artist James Darrah, LACO's creative director of digital content, and new poetic text written on election night by prominent L.A.-based trans actor/filmmaker/poet Zackary Drucker. The piece will be conducted by Music Director Jaime Martín with LACO Conductor Laureate Jeffrey Kahane on piano.

Drucker, a producer and integral voice on the acclaimed Amazon ΤV series "Transparent," wrote about her experience and mindset while listening to "Appalachian Spring" for the first time as the polls closed in Florida. Thanks to the generosity of individual donors, the program is available to the public at no cost and can be streamed at laco.org/laco-athome, and on LACO's YouTube channel and Facebook live.

'Appalachian Spring,' originally commissioned by choreographer Martha Graham as a ballet, provides a superb showcase for LACO's artistry," Martín said. "For this performance, I am delighted to share the stage for the first time with my predecessor, Jeffrey Kahane, a brilliant pianist who was the longest serving music director in LACO's history."

"The chamber version of

"Zackary Drucker's powerfully poetic, thoughtful series of text, filtered through LACO's sublime performance of Copland's historically significant 'Appalachian Spring,' creates a hypnotic portrait of Los Angeles on election night," Darrah added. "It is not heavy-handed political text, but rather a thematic document that elevates this incredible and familiar piece of music."

LACO: Close Quarters programs are created specifically for streaming and are each between 30 and 40 minutes in length. They are filmed at the Colburn School's Olive Rehearsal Hall.

Subsequent LACO Close Quarters episodes premiere on Fridays at 6:30 pm, continuing on Dec. 18. For more information, visit laco.org.

photo by Ben Gibbs



Holocaust Museum LA commemorates Kindertransport Day

The Holocaust Museum LA will present a special virtual commemoration of World Kindertransport Day on Tuesday, Dec. 1, at 11 a.m., marking the 82nd anniversary of the arrival of the first Kindertransport in Great Britain.

Kindertransport – Children's Transport – was a rescue mission that allowed approximately 10,000 Jewish refugee children to escape from Nazi-occupied territory to Great Britain and other countries, including Switzerland and Sweden, between 1938 and 1939. The first Kindertransport train left a Berlin station with approximately 200 children in December 1938. Often, these children were the only members of their families who survived the Holocaust.

Participants in the event will include Paul Kester, who traveled from Germany to Sweden on a



photo courtesy of Holocaust Museum LA

Approximately 10,000 Jewish refugee children to escape from Nazioccupied territory to Great Britain and other countries.

Kindertransport in 1939; Barbara Winton, daughter of humanitarian



photo courtesy of Holocaust Museum LA Many of the children who escaped Nazi-occupied territory via the Kindertransport were the only members of their family to survive. and rescuer Sir Nicholas Winton, (who died in 2015 at the age of 106); and Michele Gold, museum board chair and daughter of Kindertransport survivor Rita Berwald. Gold is the author of "Memories That Won't Go Away: A Tribute to the Children of the Kindertransport."

Holocaust Museum LA is the first survivor-founded Holocaust museum in the United States. Since 1961, the museum has provided free Holocaust education to students and visitors from across Los Angeles, the United States and the world. Museum admission is always free.

A donation of \$10 is suggested. For more information and to register, visit holocaustmuseumla.org/eventdetails/world-kindertransport-daycommemoration.





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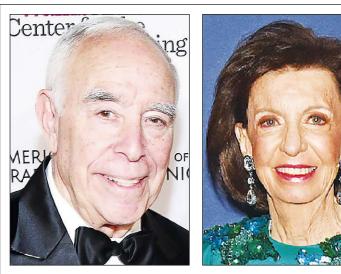
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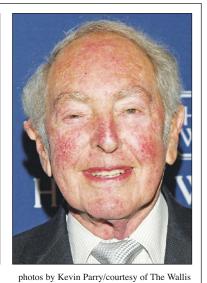
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"Farewell, Work Holiday Parties" is free and open to the public between

10 a.m. and 10 p.m. each day at LACMA.

LACMA says 'Farewell' to holiday parties

The Los Angeles County Museum of Art is presenting a new sculptural installation by Los Angeles artist Alex Prager.

Prager is known for making photographs and short films embellished with Technicolor fantasy but grounded in the pains and pleasures of the everyday. In "Farewell, Work Holiday Parties," Prager satirizes a specific part of working life, drawing on pop culture tropes to create a simulation of office holiday parties.

As is customary in her artistic practice, Prager employs moviestudio production techniques, in this case working with an effects company that constructs hyperreal human figures. Installed on the museum's Smidt Welcome Plaza, these figurative sculptures are animated with costumes, makeup and props, and placed in recognizable office-party situations, creating a strange yet celebratory scene that can be experienced in the round. This installation is curated by Rita Gonzalez, Terri and Michael Smooke Curator and department head of contemporary art, and Liz Andrews, executive administrator in the director's office.

"In her films and photographs, Alex Prager always brings a sharpened eye to the everyday," Gonzalez and Andrews said. "We

hope this fantastical scene will offer some humor to visitors to our outdoor plaza for the holiday season."

"Through my work, I've been able to process things in the world that I'm questioning or struggling with, which is one of the many reasons I feel this piece is important for the current social climate," Prager said. "Right now, during this strange and life-altering time, many of us are reprioritizing our lives and figuring out what exactly matters to us. Through the commemoration of 'Farewell, Work Holiday Parties,' we'll examine one of the most peculiar American social experiments, the work party."

While the museum's indoor galleries remain temporarily closed, "Farewell, Work Holiday Parties" is one of several outdoor sculptures on LACMA's campus that are accessible to the public and can be safely enjoyed in a physically distanced way, including Chris Burden's "Urban Light," Michael Heizer's "Levitated Mass" and Yoshitomo Nara's "Miss Forest." "Farewell, Work Holiday

Parties" is free and open to the public between 10 a.m. and 10 p.m. every day.

LACMA is located at 5905 Wilshire Blvd. For information, visit lacma.org.

The Wallis celebrates silver anniversary of founding

The Wallis Annenberg Center for Performing Arts will commemorate the 25th anniversary its founding of with "DreamBuilders: From Post Office to Box Office" on Thursday, Dec. 3, at 6:30 p.m. The virtual benefit celebrating the landmark occasion will honor Wallis Founding President Paul Selwyn, Wallis President Emeritus Richard Rosenzweig and former Beverly Hills Mayor Vicki Reynolds for their efforts in helping to bring The Wallis to life.

"As we celebrate The Wallis' silver anniversary, we proudly recognize Vicki Reynolds, Paul Selwyn and the late Richard Rosenzweig for their enormous role in its founding," said benefit co-chairs Daphna Nazarian and Stephanie Vahn. "Their extraordinary vision, exceptional leadership and tireless efforts over many years helped ensure The Wallis' genesis."

Through myriad performances, Dreambuilders will provide a fascinating 25-year look back at The Wallis' remarkable history, from its origins in 1933 as the city of Beverly Hills' historic post office to its transformation into a world class performing arts venue, which embraces both classic and modern architecture. When the venue opened its doors to critical acclaim in 2013, the 70,000square-foot facility quickly became a dynamic cultural hub and community resource where local, national and international artists could share their artistry with ever-expanding audiences. The Wallis has continued since its beginning to offer eclectic programming that mirrors the diverse landscape of Los Angeles and its location in the entertainment capital of the world.

Presented by Harry Winston Inc., the benefit is hosted by Wallis Board Members Debbie Allen and Nigel Lythgoe, with Wallis Annenberg serving as Honorary Chair. The festive celebration, filled with dazzling entertainment, includes virtual red carpet arrivals plus performances by performers including Adam Levine, Academy Awardwinning actor Jeremy Irons, acclaimed violinist Daniel Hope, jazz legend Patrice Rushen and Grammy-nominated R&B singer/songwriter Sheléa.

The upcoming gala program will also feature performances by Broadway star and American Idol season one top-four finalist Tamarya Gray with Lily Zager, a student from GRoW@TheWallis' acclaimed Broadway Dreams program and The Miracle Project. The nationally recognized John Burrows High School Powerhouse Choir the Debbie Allen Dance Academy will also perform.

Proceeds from the gala will benefit the Hope @ The Wallis Resiliency Fund, a crucial source of philanthropic support for The Wallis during its unanticipated and lengthy closure due to the global pandemic.

"Not only does our first virtual benefit enable The Wallis to reflect on its roots by honoring the dedicated community members who made possible its very existence, but also it helps support our unprecedented and vital fundraising needs to ensure The Wallis can reopen with strength once it's safe to do so. This virtual benefit, in particular, is helping to bolster our organization and assure its future," said Rachel Fine, The Wallis' executive director and CEO.

Patron sponsor packages and single tickets for the virtual benefit, starting at \$500, are available online. For more information, visit thewallis.org/dreambuilders.



Japan House L.A.'s "Windowology" exhibition explores themes about

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Richard Rosenzweig, Vicki Reynolds and Paul Selwyn will all be honored at the upcoming gala.

culture and humanity, as represented here by a bowl of salt.

'Windowology' at Japan House L.A.

Japan House Los Angeles, a Japanese cultural destination in the heart of Hollywood, recently launched its newest exhibition, "Windowology: New Architectural Views from Japan."

"Developed prior to the pandemic but extraordinarily pertinent now, Windowology examines the role of windows as cultural objects and the ways in which they frame our vision and give unique perspectives on the world," stated a release issued by Japan House L.A.

The virtual experience includes a navigable 3D virtual tour and exclusive video content about the exhibition from director Igarashi Tarō. Once the physical gallery reopens to the public on a later date, guests will be able to visit Windowology and immerse themselves in the gallery experience at Japan House Los Angeles.

Windows are one of the most important elements in architecture. They function to connect the outside and inside worlds, opening and closing as required," Taro said. "During times of crisis, windows reveal much about culture and humanity.'

The exhibit is a multidisciplinary research project conducted by the Window Research Institute, a Tokyo-based foundation. Exhibition-related virtual events are scheduled for November and December with the opening day of the physical gallery at Japan House L.A. slated to be announced on a later date.

For more information, visit japanhousela.com.

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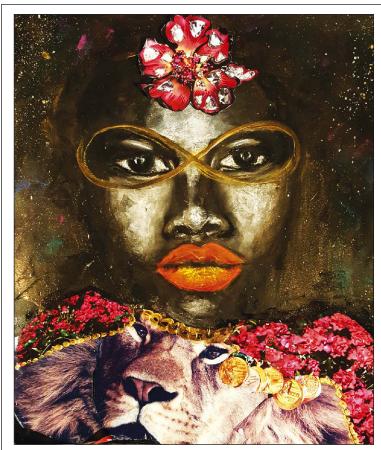


photo courtesy of the Los Angeles LGBT Center Courtney Alexander's "Strength" is part of the current virtual exhibition.

L.A. LGBT Center unveils 'Black Dreams, Futures, & Mutual Support'

The Los Angeles LGBT Center's Advocate & Gochis Galleries announced a special online exhibit in collaboration with the award-winning arts collective and production incubator Level Ground. Celebrating the publication of Issue 02 of their magazine Skew, "Black Dreams, Futures, & Mutual Support" features artworks by 28 of the more than 50 Black and mostly queer artists featured in the current issue of Skew magazine.

The exhibit is open now through the end of the year.

Skew is Level Ground's experimental art and dialogue magazine, and this year's magazine features the contributions of over 50 Black artists, futurists, healers, conjurers and abolitionists around the curatorial theme "Black Dreams, Futures, & Mutual Support."

Because of COVID-19 restrictions, this year's magazine has expanded to include the printed publication and a digital hub for online healing and other interactive spaces. Every purchase supports the artistic and creative labor of 50-plus Black artists and also brings exclusive access to the SKEW / Digital Hub – including artist conversations, plus video, audio and interactive art.

To view the free online gallery, visit lalgbtcenter.org/gallery. For more information about Level Ground and Skew, visit levelground.co.



UCLA presents 'A Thousand Ways' starting December

UCLA's Center for the Art of Performance will present "A Thousand Ways (Part One): A Phone Call," by 600 Highwaymen, on Sunday, Dec. 6 and 13, and Sunday, Jan. 24, 2021. Abigail Browde and Michael Silverstone are Obie Award-winning artists working together as 600 Highwaymen.

The experimental "A Thousand Ways," which will ultimately comprise three parts, plumbs the essence of theater – bringing people together in the creation of a moving live experience – to counteract social isolation exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

In "Part One: A Phone Call," two audience members, nameless strangers to one another, follow a carefully crafted set of directives, revealing things about themselves and their lives. Over the course of the hour-long journey, a portrait of the other emerges through fleeting moments of exposure and the simple sound of an unseen voice.

CAP UCLA will also present the in-person "A Thousand Ways (Part Two): An Encounter" and "A Thousand Ways (Part Three): An Assembly" at later dates slated to be announced in 2021.

In "Part Two: An Encounter," a small table bisected by glass is nested at the center of empty space. Two audience members, a separate pairing from the one in "Part One: A Phone Call," sit at the table opposite one another, with a stack of index cards, a handful of objects and a set of instructions to guide them.

The not-yet-created "Part Three:

An Assembly" will be a public convening made up of participants in the work's first two parts. Using a shared script, they will come together for a final collective experience.

The experimental "A Thousand Ways" is comprised of three separate parts.

The dramaturg and project designer of "A Thousand Ways" is Andrew Kircher and its line producer is Cynthia J. Tong. The work is produced by ArKtype and was commissioned by the Arts Center at NYU Abu Dhabi, Stanford Live at

Stanford University and Festival Theaterformen. It was originally commissioned and co-conceived by Temple Contemporary at Temple University. Original support for "A Thousand Ways" was provided by the Pew Center for Arts & Heritage, Philadelphia.

photo by Maria Baranova

Tickets are \$25 per person and available for purchase as timed slots. For more information, visit cap.ucla.edu/calendar/details/600hi ghwaymen.











LA20-CR022

photo courtesy of the Los Angeles LGBT Center Khadija Jahmila's "Quickly Evolving Situation" is part of the exhibit.

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photo courtesy of KCCLA

Sooa Im McCormick, associate curator of Korean Art at the Cleveland Museum of Art, focuses on Korean art in this new virtual tour.

KCCLA spotlights Korean art in U.S.

The newest online project by the are especially strong and include a Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles, "Korean Art in America at the Cleveland Museum of Art," is now live on KCCLA's YouTube channel. Introduced by Sooa Im McCormick, associate curator of Korean Art at the Cleveland Museum of Art, the episode offers an interesting introduction to Korean art while focusing on Korean artifacts at the museum.

The new episode is part of KCCLA's virtual tour series of exhibitions and collections of Korean art in major American museums.

McCormick examines the museum's special exhibition "Gold Needles: Embroidery Arts from Korea" and shares her favorite pieces and the interesting stories behind them.

The Cleveland Museum of Art is renowned for the quality and breadth of its collection, which includes more than 61,000 objects and spans 6,000 years of achievement in the arts. The museum's collection of Korean art is one of the most distinguished collections outside of Korea and the museum has been actively acquiring Korean art since 1915.

The collection features a robust selection of works in a variety of media. The holdings in ceramics number of fine celadons from the Goryeo dynasty (918-1392). The painting collection contains rare Goryeo Buddhist paintings, as well as the Joseon dynasty (1392-1897) paintings such as landscapes and portraits. Its selection of folding screen paintings includes a notable 19th-century example from the genre of "scholars' accouterments," or chaekkori, as well as an important pair of 15th-century ink landscape screens by Yi Sumun, a Korean artist who painted in Japan. Bronze Buddhist statuary and ritual objects from the Three Kingdoms period (57 BC-AD 668) through the Goryeo dynasty attest to the sophisticated craftsmanship of these eras. The collection also has significant examples of early earthenware vessels and other archaeological materials.

McCormick joined the Cleveland Museum of Art in 2015 and is primarily responsible for the Korean art collection. She holds a Ph.D. from the University of Kansas and a Master of Arts in art history from Rutgers, the state university of New Jersey. She also completed graduate coursework in art history at Hongik University, Seoul, where she focused on Chinese and Korean art. For more information, visit kccla.org.

The Wallis' nightclub begins Dec. 5 with Morrison

The Sorting Room Sessions, the Wallis Annenberg Center for Performing Arts' popular nightclub series, is going virtual with six programs, including two holiday-themed shows, featuring an array of captivating magicians and stellar pop, jazz and classical music artists.

The programs will be presented digitally on Saturday evenings at 8 p.m. from Dec. 5 to Jan. 23, 2021, with single tickets and multi-show ticket packages available. Purchase of the digital concert includes 24hour viewing access.

be a musical tribute to the iconic jazz and **blues** singers **Billie Holiday,** Sarah Vaughan, **Dinah Washington** and Ella Fitzgerald.

Launching The Wallis' virtual Sorting Room Sessions, jazz and blues legend Barbara Morrison will display her stunning two-and-a-half-octave range and rich, soulful, musical interpretations in "Standing On Their Shoulders" on Saturday, Dec. 5. The evening will be a musical tribute to the iconic jazz and blues singers Billie Holiday, Sarah Vaughan, Dinah Washington and Ella Fitzgerald, and the songs they helped popularize.

The holiday season promises to be even more magical with a special family-friendly program featuring four L.A.-based magicians on Saturday, Dec. 12. "A Night of Holiday Magic" features magicians Elizabeth Messick, Michaelann Awesome, Patricia Magicia and Simone Turkington. Messick,

known as "The Siren of Magic," enchants with her vintage flair. Close-up magician and stand-up comic Awesome weaves humor and mystery into her sleight-of-hand performances.

Wallis on Dec. 5.

French magician Magicia mesmerizes adults and children alike with her uncanny abilities. Turkington infuses the sights and sounds of the '60s into the visual, card and mentalism effects that comprise her repertoire.

Powerhouse vocalist Audra Mae, great grandniece of Judy Garland, and keyboard wizard Dylan Meek will infuse the yuletide season with music from classic holiday films on Saturday, Dec. 19, with "Songs of Joy and Peace."

The show is presented in association with For The Record Live, acclaimed for its

genre-bending form of live entertainment turning the soundtracks of iconic filmmakers into thrilling immersive theatrical concerts.

Barbara Morrison will launch the Sorting Room Sessions at The

image courtesy of Barbara Morrison

On Saturday, Jan. 9, 2021, violinist Anne Akiko Meyers and pianist Fabio Bidini will ring in the New Year with a musical journey to France. The program includes Gounod's "Ave Maria," Massenet's gloriously dramatic "Méditation" from the opera "Thais," and Ravel's exuberant jazz-inflected "Sonata No. 2 in G Major."

Other upcoming programs include actor/singer Richard Shelton in "Sinatra: Raw" on Saturday, Jan. 16, and singer/songwriter/keyboardist Sheléa in "A Tribute to Alan & Marilyn Bergman" on Saturday, Jan. 23.

For more information, visit thewallis.org/sr.





The evening will

Photo by Lisa Whiteman

Bob Baker Marionette Theater's "Holiday on Strings" is live online.

'Holiday on Strings' goes virtual

Pasadena Playhouse holiday programming is on PlayhouseLive, beginning with an exclusive streaming of Bob Baker Marionette Theater's "Holiday on Strings!" Filmed in front of a live audience, this holiday tradition for generations of Angelenos launched online at PlayhouseLive on Nov. 23 and is part of the fall lineup of the theater's pay-per-view streaming theatrical events.

One of the theater's most requested shows, "Holiday on Strings!" takes viewers along with Wizard of Fantasy and his sidekick Demitrius Nova Twinklestar III as they embark on a magical tour of the holiday galaxies, complete with stops at Santa's Workshop, a celebration of the eight days of Chanukah, a dip into the world of Charles Dickens and more.

"Holiday on Strings!" can be rented through PlayhouseLive for \$14.99 and is available through Jan. 3, 2021.

More than 1 million children of all ages have experienced a Bob Baker puppet performance since the theater's establishment in 1963.

Other PlayhouseLive programming on the streaming service this fall includes Javon Johnson in "Still," a timely one-man performance about the complexities of the Black experience, as well as the pilot episodes of four new series.

For more information, visit playhouselive.org.



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Billboards draw praise, criticism in WeHo

From page 1

At its meeting on Dec. 7, the West Hollywood City Council is expected to vote on the first billboard application to be processed under the recently adopted Sunset Boulevard Off-Site Signage Policy, which governs how static billboards can be converted. According to the policy, the Sunset Strip has the densest concentration of off-site signage (billboards and tall wall signs) on the West Coast.

Before bringing the item to City Council, the city's Planning Commission unanimously voted 4-0 on Nov. 5 to convert the existing static billboard at 8743 Sunset Blvd. to a digital billboard. Vice Chair John Erickson and Commissioners Sue Buckner and Rogerio Carvalheiro recused themselves from discussing and voting on the project. Erickson said he was recusing himself in anticipation of joining the City Council, where he will be tasked with voting on the project. Carvalheiro said he was recusing himself because he was working on another project that falls under the policy. Buckner needed to recuse herself because she lived within a 500-foot radius of the project.

"The project replaces a static billboard with an exciting, digital experience that will include an 'invisible frame,' which will give it the appearance of floating in that the sky or existing background can be visible from behind the billboard from a specific location on the sidewalk. The technique uses cameras and integrates LED technology to create a billboard whose frame can 'disappear' as needed, creating a unique transparent experience," the Planning Commission resolution read.

The resolution further stated that the development agreement promoted the "public interest and welfare" by creating a digital billboard that would provide "greater visual interest and excitement" on Sunset Boulevard, in addition to generating revenue for the city and also providing a platform for curated digital public arts programming and emergency programming as needed.

Before the vote, multiple West Hollywood residents spoke against the conversion, with one resident stating, "What about all of us that live north of Sunset Boulevard? Our quality of life is dwindling with every single project. While this is a great idea, it doesn't belong there." Commissioner Lynn

Hoopingarner, who praised the pro-

ject's creativity, raised concerns about the technology and asked to make a couple "tweaks" to the resolution including clearly addressing the reflectivity to ensure that people didn't "go running off the road" due to the sun's blinding reflection.

"The 'wow factor' is tremendous. The creativity and ingenuity is tremendous. And I think the city should be extremely proud to be the pioneer in going along this route," Commissioner John Altschul said.

Eck said that depending on the upcoming council vote, he expected that both the "invisible frame" digital billboard as well as the newly created Sunset Spectacular digital billboard at 8775 Sunset Blvd., now in development, would be operational during the first half of 2021.

"As a pilot program, the Spectacular was great because it helped us understand and set expectations for what architecturally integrated and interesting billboards can be. And the reason the city pursued that was to share with the billboard industry and the off-site advertising industry what we thought was the most interesting kind of project that you can have; one that not only presented large-scale digital advertising, but also created public space," he said, noting that the interior of the Spectacular would have digital projections allowing people to interact with it.

Eck said the city will earn 40% of ad sales at Sunset Spectacular, largely because the city owns the property.

Depending on the upcoming council vote, the pending revenue-share agreement for the digital billboard at 8743 Sunset Blvd. could be 30%. That expected revenue amount, Eck said, equates to \$38 million over 30 years; and if the 10-year option to extend the agreement happens, he said that amount would increase to approximately \$60 million.

Approximately 100 billboards currently line the Sunset Strip – roughly one every 75 feet, Eck said. All of them, he added, were deemed to be "legal and conforming" after the city allowed billboards without permits to be included in its stock in 2019.

Eck said that studies consistently found that the value of digital billboards was six to 10 times the value of a static billboard. Per industry guidelines, he said digital images can remain on the billboard for no fewer than eight seconds. The West Hollywood screens will also allow for full motion animation from sunset to 2 a.m. Eck underscored that in moving forward to adopt the billboard policy in 2019, which he said took a decade to develop, safety was paramount. He said the city engaged lighting and traffic consultants to create standards that protect safety for motorists, pedestrians and nearby residents. However, according to Patrick Frank, president of the Coalition for a Scenic Los Angeles (formerly the Coalition to Ban Billboard Blight), most billboards are fraught with challenges. "Almost any billboard creates blight because it blocks the view and it impinges on your mental tranquility," he said. "There are a couple of challenges related to digital billboards, the most important one is traffic safety. Numerous studies have shown that digital billboards distract drivers and contribute to accidents."

Trash rate increase could affect reserves in BH

From page 1

how best to strike a balance between passing the increases on to residents and businesses and offsetting some of that cost increase with money from the city's reserves.

Vice Mayor Robert Wunderlich and Councilman Julian Gold, who comprised a liaison committee to consider the increased rates, joined city staff in proposing that instead of passing on a large increase to customers at one time, the city could gradually increase rates, beginning on July 1, 2021, and continuing each year until July 1, 2025.

"Instead of raising our rates then, all at once, we're trying to slowly implement a rate increase so that it's more manageable for our customers," said Shana Epstein, the city's director of public works.

According to the city staff report, solid waste rates in Beverly Hills had not increased since 2011 and, if enacted, residents and businesses may see their rates go up drastically, though that figure will depend on the type of customer and whether their trash is picked up curbside or in an alley. For instance, a residential customer on a singlefamily, 11,000-square-foot lot currently pays \$114.40 per month for bi-monthly trash pickup, and that figure could go up to \$182.60 per month by July 1, 2025.

"It is a large increase, but it is a competitive increase [as compared to other nearby cities] ... driven by market forces, in particular, a decline in the recycling market. It had been a long time since we had a rate increase, so all of those things explain why we have a large increase," Wunderlich said.

However, with the ongoing pandemic and its associated economic downturn, council members were reticent to charge residents and businesses more.

"It's so hard for me to fathom asking anybody to pay a higher rate right now, while we're in the middle of COVID," Councilwoman Lili Bosse said.

"Here we are in the middle of a pandemic and we're looking to

particularly distracting given the content could change every eight

treat residents, yet again, like ATM machines. I find it shameful and it's unconscionable, and it's time to stop treating our residents like ATMs," Councilman John Mirisch added.

The council members asked city staff to return in January with studies of how much of the city's reserves will be used if the increases are delayed to Jan. 1, 2022, if no increase is enacted, if the proposed increase is enacted and, after a request by Mirisch, if the proposed increased rates are reduced by 5%. Projections from city staff show that the graduated increases could require the city use between \$8.4 million and \$10.3 million in reserves, though that figure could increase if less of the new contract is passed onto consumers.

"It seems to me that in a month, we could know how much bigger [the impact on the city's reserves] will be, see if that's palatable and see if that's worth it to us to see if we can have a more equitable multifamily system and ... delay the rate increase a little bit more. Not saying we'll go with that option ... but we can get an additional data point that we can use to make that decision," Wunderlich said.

The council members, however, also wanted to make clear that they were not trying to charge residents and business owners more. Rather, they were simply reacting to forces outside of their control.

"Underneath it all, people have to understand that the city is already paying these rates ... and the question is, at what point do the ratepayers - rather than the city - pay these rates? We've deferred this for a while in an effort to be sensitive to COVID and an effort to be sensitive to the rate payer ... Nobody wants to pay more. We get that. The city doesn't want to pay more. We get that. None of the ratepayers want to pay more, and certainly we understand that. We, by the way, are all ratepayers. But at the end of the day, we didn't really have a lot of choice, and this was the only way we were going to be able to make this fiscally responsible," Gold said.

digital billboards are actually spying on you," Frank said. Eck said that beyond having "rigorous" demands to ensure that West Hollywood's forthcoming digital billboards retain state-of-the-art technology by mandating upgrades every seven or eight years, the city was doing nothing to "prevent" or "enable" billboard companies from further profiteering off passersby whose own digital device connectivity could be used to further target advertising. "We thought about all the angles on this, and none stand alone. We don't do it just because the design is great. We don't do it just because the revenue is great. We don't do it just because of the arts component or the other associated public benefits," Eck said. "It really is the coordinated approach to bringing vibrancy to the Sunset Strip based on an asset that has long characterized the Sunset Strip. It is really thought through, and no piece stands alone."



photo courtesy of Mayor Eric Garcetti's office Six days after tenants began moving into Residences on Main, Mayor Eric Garcetti celebrated the housing development's opening.

Garcetti celebrates opening of Residences on Main

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti on Nov. 20 celebrated the opening of Residences on Main, a 50-unit supportive housing development serving homeless families and transitional age youth in South Los Angeles. The development is the sixth Proposition HHH-financed project to open its doors since the bond measure passed in 2016 and the eighth supportive housing project to finish construction this year. "Residences on Main is a story of hope and transformation for this neighborhood, and shows what's possible when we come together to give our unsheltered neighbors a place to call home," Garcetti said. Garcetti led the coalition to pass Proposition HHH, a \$1.2 billion bond designed to leverage financing to more than triple L.A.'s annual production of supportive housing and support the addition of 10,000 units for homeless Angelenos across the city. Since Proposition HHH passed in 2016, more than 123 permanent supportive housing developments — representing 6,295 units — have received funding commitments, and 33

are in construction.

Developed by LA Family Housing and the Coalition for Responsible Community Development, the Residences on Main project broke ground in April 2019 and saw the first tenant move into the building on Nov. 14. The four-story site features 36 permanent supportive housing units for transitional-aged youth (18-25 years) and 14 units for families experiencing homelessness and earning between 30% and 50% of area median income. There are 21 studios, 15 one-bedroom, 6 two-bedroom, 8 threebedroom units and a two-bedroom manager's unit. The LEED Silver-certified design includes a community room and an on-site community garden and playground, in addition to offices for property management and on-

site case management services. Tenants will pay 30% of their income toward rent each month. Rent subsidies for tenants will be provided by the L.A. County Department of Health Services Flexible Housing Subsidy Pool program and the Housing Authority of Los Angeles through Project Based Section 8 vouchers.

Frank said the digital signs were

seconds.

"And they're more attractive," he added. "They're internally illuminated so they glow in the dark more. The changing aspect of them distracts drivers far more than a static billboard, so it draws the eyeball, and then you can make more money off of it because you rotate the signs."

In addition, he said that a forthcoming design element in the billboard industry is to embed tracking devices in them to read data from the smart devices of those who pass by, giving the billboard companies access to people's movements and demographics. In 2016, billboard company Clear Channel Outdoor Americas partnered with AT&T and other wireless providers to track mobile phone users who are in proximity to billboards.

"Digital billboards can now be programmed to the kind of people that are actually passing by. A lot of

Restrictions could lead to business closures

From page 1

those downsides are too steep a price to pay for many business owners.

Todd Johnson, president and CEO of the Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce, said the outdoor dining prohibition will "hurt quite a bit" for an industry that is already "suffering tremendously."

"There are a number of restaurants I've spoken to who had already gotten their Thanksgiving food supply in. For instance, Lawry's [the Prime Rib]. Lawry's had 700 reservations for Thursday, of which now, they're trying to talk 700 people into doing takeout," Johnson said. "The food outlets aren't going to take the food back, so the restaurants have all this food that they planned on, obviously a lot of turkey, Thanksgiving items, stuffing, things most places don't normally carry, so they're going to have the challenge of this not going to waste.'

Steve Kramer, president of the Greater Miracle Mile Chamber of Commerce, pointed out that he's not a medical professional, but he thinks the board of supervisors acted "prematurely" on outdoor dining.

"Give restaurants a chance to have some viability before they go permanently out of business," Kramer said.

Rana Ghadban, president and CEO of the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce, said that she appreciated the efforts by Barger and Hahn to keep restaurants open, but the failure of the motion is "devastating.

"It's devastating not only for the restaurants, but it's devastating for the employees who are going to be laid off right around the holidays ... They're not going to have an income for financial support, they're going to have to wait for unemployment to process their claims," she said.

Genevieve Morrill, president and CEO of the West Hollywood Chamber of Commerce, added that the timing of the closure "is absolutely cruel" given the beginning of the holidays and the recent investments by many restaurants to purchase additional equipment to make outdoor dining safer and more feasible.

going to have to lay off thousands of employees right at the Thanksgiving holiday. They're terrified. They can't pay their December rent. They're worried about how they're going to feed their families. The outdoor dining is the only source of income for these businesses to try to survive," she said.

The West Hollywood Chamber of Commerce is planning a march to oppose the outdoor dining closures, Morrill added.

Ghadban said the Hollywood Chamber supports Barger's effort to reallocate \$10 million in funding from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act - or CARES Act - for financial relief for restaurants, breweries and wineries that have to cease outdoor dining service.

"We hope the county board of supervisors, who expressed their sadness for our restaurants and their employees, support the financial support to keep these businesses alive," Ghadban said.

Several local business groups are trying to assist their non-restaurant members as well, as those businesses face restrictions of their own through Dec. 21. Non-essential indoor businesses, such as retail stores, offices and personal care services, are limited to 25% of their maximum capacity. Grocery stores and convenience stores are limited to 50% of their maximum capacity. In addition, personal care establishments must require appointments, and services that require removing a mask, such as facials and shaves, are prohibited.

The Hollywood Chamber of Commerce has launched explorehollywood.com to attract visitors and customers to its member businesses, with plans for a discount card next year.

The Hollywood Partnership, which manages the Hollywood Entertainment District property business improvement district, is using a similar digital strategy. Davon Barbour, the vice president of advocacy and economic development for the Hollywood Partnership, said the group's website, hollywoodpartnership.com, now features profiles of area small businesses and lists nearby busi-"Right now, we know that we're nesses so customers can patronize

more than one during trips to Hollywood.

"What's great about the newly deployed website, when you search for an individual business, once you pull up that business name, you're able to see in close proximity any food establishments or retail options to enhance your experience," Barbour said.

Now more than ever, getting customers to spend at small businesses will be vital, many of the economic leaders said.

"Some of the small business that don't have such a big presence in ecommerce, and many retailers and restaurants bank on the last four to six weeks of the year, it can be anywhere from 40% to 90% of their yearly budget is attained in the last four to six weeks of the year, when this is happening," Johnson said.

Barbour said research shows that a majority of people plan to shop this upcoming weekend - which includes Black Friday, Small Business Saturday and Cyber Monday, when many retailers offer discounts and other deals to encourage customers to begin their holiday shopping. With many businesses struggling, Barbour said it's "vitally important" that people continue to patronize retail businesses.

"The one thing about retail is it fulfills our basic needs as well as our emotional needs. Retail therapy is real and people want a sense of normalcy. This is a big weekend not only for L.A., but for the entire country, with Thanksgiving, Black Friday and Cyber Monday, and we know that consumers are eager to shop," he said.

Johnson said it's important for everyone "to shop local and support their cities, wherever they reside, and try to help the businesses, both restaurant and retail, during what's supposed to be the most festive time of the year."

"I think we all need to be grateful for what we have, and thankful more than ever this year. We've got to stay positive and we've got to keep moving forward, and eventually, we'll get past this, but there are going to be some pretty big bumps we have to continue to get past in order to make that happen," he said. The Beverly Hills City Council will discuss the closure at the Dec. 1

Thanksgiving aid needed in L.A.

From page 1

on Dec. 2, from 3 to 5 p.m.

"That has been tremendous for this community," Perez added. "It was the first time that Immanuel Presbyterian Church has been able to do that. It's completely free, there is no appointment needed. Just come and get a flu shot."

Session said volunteers from Cedars-Sinai staffed the food pantry and provided tote bags, which were filled with mashed potatoes, stuffing, corn, green beans and other ingredients from the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank. Each person could also choose a ham, chicken or ribs for a main course.

"One of our four main missions is serving the community," Session added. "It's one of the pillars of Cedars-Sinai."

Those who received the food were grateful.

"I'm happy that I can come here. Thank you, thank you," said an older woman waiting in line who identified herself as Grace. "Without this food, I don't know ... It really helps.'

Perez said Immanuel Presbyterian Church's food pantry is open to anyone in need. For information, visit immanuelpres.org.

"The need has been so intense," added Perez, who said a similar food distribution will be held in the days prior to Christmas. "The need is not going to go away. One of the things we need to do is get the word out. If there are people out there looking for food resources, we are here."



Bruce the Shark from the movie "Jaws" has been installed at the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures.

photo by Michael Palma/@A.M.P.A.S.

Academy Museum installs shark model from 'Jaws'

The Academy Museum of Motion Pictures has completed the installation of one of the most iconic objects from its permanent collection, the only surviving full scale shark model from the 1975 Oscarwinning film "Jaws." The Academy Museum's much-anticipated opening will be on April 30, 2021, and the 25-foot model - nicknamed Bruce the Shark – will be on view free to the public. "Jaws," directed by Steven Spielberg, won Oscars for Film Editing, Sound and Original Score, and was nominated for Best Picture at the 48th Academy Awards in 1976.

The monumental model is the fourth, final and only surviving version of the shark model derived from the original "Jaws" mold. The creation of the infamous mechanical shark - which Spielberg is rumored to have named Bruce after his lawyer - was tasked to art director Joe Alves, whose original schematics depict the 25-foot-long body, 400-pound head and jaws nearly 5 feet wide. The three screen-used production molds were cast in latex and the rubber rotted and they were destroyed. The Academy Museum's version, cast in fiberglass for photo opportunities at Universal Studios Hollywood surrounding the film's 1975 release, survived at Universal until 1990 when it found its way to Nathan Adlen's family's junkyard business in Sun Valley, California. In 2010, it was authenticated by Roy Arbogast, a member of the original "Jaws" film's special effects crew, and in 2016, the Academy Museum acquired the shark model through a contribution by Adlen. The museum worked with special effects and make-up artist Greg Nicotero, cofounder of KNB EFX, to meticulously restore the fiberglass shark which had deteriorated from being outdoors for 25 years.

Since the shark is so large, it is unable to fit in the museum's elevators. Instead, a team of art handlers. engineers and construction workers removed two panels from the Saban Building's curtain wall of glass and craned Bruce into the building.

Bruce is now suspended 30 feet above the third floor of the Academy Museum. In its new location, Bruce will be visible from many vantage points within the museum and to passersby outside on Fairfax Avenue and Sixth Street. "It's been a long journey for Bruce since he was acquired in 2016, and we couldn't be happier to welcome him to his new home," said Bill Kramer, director and president of the Academy Museum. Academy Museum of Motion Pictures is located at 6067 Wilshire Blvd. For information, visit academymuseum.org.

Red Cross, Martina McBride seek blood donations

country music star Martina McBride have joined together this holiday season to remind people to take care of one another, sharing comfort and joy with hospital patients through the gift of blood donation. Health emergencies don't pause for a pandemic or holiday celebrations. The Red Cross needs the help of blood donors across the country now to ensure patients continue to have access to lifesaving blood.

As the U.S. experiences a new surge in COVID-19 cases, the Red Cross is becoming increasingly concerned about the nation's blood supply - including convalescent plasma. A convalescent plasma donation collects plasma from COVID-19 survivors because antibodies to the disease in their blood may help patients who are currently fighting the virus. Increased hospitalization of patients with coronavirus this fall

The American Red Cross and and winter has caused the Red delighted to sponsor a propane Cross to distribute a record number of COVID-19 plasma products to hospitals treating patients who are battling the virus.

> "If nobody has ever asked you to give blood before, I'm asking you to give blood – especially during this trying time," McBride said.

> As a thank-you for helping meet the need for blood donations through Dec. 15, Suburban Propane is offering blood, platelet and plasma donors a chance to win an outdoor living experience, powered by propane, to enable a lucky winner to enjoy socially distanced celebrations with family and friends this holiday season. The prize includes a propane-powered pizza oven, fire pit, outdoor heater and stipend towards propane.

> "Through our SuburbanCares initiative, giving back to our local communities is a top priority, and what better way to do that than to donate blood. Suburban is

experience giveaway to help motivate more people to give the gift of life this holiday season," said Nandini Sankara, spokesperson for Suburban Propane.

meeting.

Eligible individuals are urged to make an appointment to donate blood now to help patients in need. Find a donation opportunity using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting redcrossblood.org or calling (800)RED-CROSS [(800)733-2767].

"Giving comfort to patients by providing lifesaving blood products is fundamental to the Red Cross mission. However, it's not possible without the support of generous blood donors and dedicated partners, like Martina McBride and Suburban Propane," said Paul Sullivan, senior vice president at the Red Cross.

For information, visit redcross.org/local/California/losangeles.html.

Answers From Page 23

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LEGAL NOTICE

SCOTT TALKOV, State Bar No. 264676 / TALKOV LAW CORP., 2900 Adams St Ste C225, Riverside, California 92504, Telephone: (951) 888-3300, Email: scott@talkovlaw.com, Attorneys for Petitioner Michael Villalpando. SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES IN RE THE PETITION MICHAEL VILLALPANDO TO ESTABLISH THE BEVERLY PRESS AS A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULA-TION Case No. 19STCP04891.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on December 08, 2020, at 8:30 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, in Department 24 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court - Stanley Mosk Courthouse, located at 111 North Hill Street, Los Angeles, California 90012, Petitioner Michael Villalpando intends to apply for an order, pursuant to California Government Code §§ 6008 and 6020, declaring Beverly Press to be a newspaper of general circulation for the City of Beverly Hills and County of Los Angeles, State of California

The Petition verified under penalty of perjury by Michael Villalpando as Publisher of the Beverly Press sets forth the following: 1) Petitioner is the Publisher of the newspaper known as Beverly Press. 2) Beverly Press is a newspaper published for the dissemination of local or telegraphic news and intelligence of a general character in the City of Beverly Hills, County of Los Angeles, State of California. 3) Beverly Press has a bona fide subscription list of paying subscribers in the City of Beverly Hills, County of Los Angeles, State of California. 4) Beverly Press has been established under that name during the whole of the three-year period preceding the filing of this petition. 5) Beverly Press has been published at regular intervals of not less than weekly in the City of Beverly Hills, County of Los Angeles, State of California during the whole of the threeyear period preceding the filing of this petition. 6) Beverly Press has a substantial distribution to paid subscribers in the City of Beverly Hills, County of Los Angeles, State of California. 7) Beverly Press has maintained a minimum coverage of local or telegraphic news and intelligence of a general character of not less than 25 percent of its total inches during each year of the threeyear period preceding the filing of this petition. 8) Beverly Press's principal office of publication is within the jurisdiction of the City of Beverly Hills, County of Los Angeles, State of California for which it is seeking adjudication. WHEREFORE, Petitioner prays for judgment ascertaining and establishing Beverly Press as a newspaper of general circulation, as defined in California Government Code § 6008, for the City of Beverly Hills, County of Los Angeles, and State of California. [Petition dated and signed November 6, 2019 by Scott Talkov, Attorney for Petitioner Michael Villalpando. Verification of Michael Villalpando dated November 6, 2019, Filed n November 14 2019 as Case No



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- Have lunch at the Homegirl Café
- · Buy your bread at Homeboy Bakery.
- · Contact Homeboy and find out what you can do to help.



Crossword Puzzle by Myles Mellor

- Across
- 1. Gossip
- 5. Religious figures
- 10. Roseanne of comedy 14. Table d'_
- 15. Whiskey ____ (L.A. rock club)
- 16. Olympics event
- 71. ____ Grill 72. ____ Alto 73. Sounds of disapproval 74. Boxes 75. Apt. area measurement

Down

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- 17.1965 jazz album
- 18. Nauru capital
- 19. People movers
- 20. U.S. tourist attraction
- 23. Walk- (cameos) 24. Blood-group letters
- 25. Stimulating factor
- 29. Actress, Lupino
- 32. Old classmates
- 36. Bean
- 38. Antique auto
- 40. Half a cheerleader cry
- 41. English tourist attraction
- 45. Good way to eat vegetables
- 46. U.S. Army medal
- 47. Extend
- 48. Bug
- 51. Time Warner merger partner
- 53. Fable maker
- 54. ____ amis
- 56. Vienna's land, abbr.
- 58. Italian tourist attraction
- 67. Religious image
- 68. French story
- 69. Like the Sabin vaccine
- 70. Convergence points

- 1. Think about, with on
- 2. Granada greeting
- 3. ____ never happen
- 4. Bar request
- 5. Store away
- 6. 1999 U.S. Open champ
- 7. Eve's opposite
- 8. Former Mets outfielder Tommie
- 9. "Crime and Punishment" heroine
- 10. Dupe
- 11. Slavish mimic
- 12. Axis-turning winder
- Admiral 13.
- 21. Andrea
- 22. Ring org.
- 25. Exceedingly
- 26. Played over
- 27. Persistently chewed on
- 28. Mutual fund
- 30. Harry Potter nemesis Malfoy
- 31. Lingus (Irish airlines)
- 33. Russian range
- 34. Nintendo hero
- 35. Rams and lambs
- 37. Legal scholar's deg.
- 39. Spanish bear

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- 42. Fed. govt. supplies distributor 43. Seeming 44. Southwestern Colorado native 49. Muscat residents 50. "____ out!" (ump's call) 52. South African wagon circle 55. Throws off 57. Consumers 58. Sort through papers 59. W.B.A. calls
- 60. Make fun of 61. One foot in front of the other 62. Rum cake 63. Chops off 64. Mideast hot spot 65. Elephant young 66. Like crazy

answers on page 22



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