



Sunny, with
highs in the
60s and 70s

- BH OKs Slow Streets pg. 3
- Fatal police chase ends on Fairfax pg. 4

Two Georgia men charged in Melrose area murder

■ Robbery cited as possible motive

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Police have arrested two men for allegedly murdering a male victim on Feb. 26 in a residential neighborhood south of the Melrose Avenue shopping district.

Police said they linked the two suspects, who allegedly knew the victim, to the crime through undisclosed evidence and worked with the FBI's Fugitive Task Force to locate and arrest them. The suspects

were identified as Robert Aikens, 22, of Stone Mountain, Georgia, and Shidreyius McClinton, 20, a resident of Atlanta. The body of the victim, Nazeer Ejua Defares, 24, of Decatur, Georgia, was found by citizens at approximately 6:40 p.m. near the corner of Gardner Street and Rosewood Avenue. Capt. Shannon Paulson, of the LAPD's Wilshire Division, attended a virtual

See Crimes page 26



photo courtesy of Peter Nichols

Arrests have been made in an alleged murder and robbery last week.

BHUSD elementary students to begin in-person classes next week

■ District, union sign off on plan

BY CAMERON KISZLA

With the Beverly Hills Unified School District planning to resume in-person elementary school classes next week, the district and the Beverly Hills Education Association, the teachers union, finalized their agreement on a return to in-person classes.

The district had planned to return students in transitional kindergarten through second grade on March 4 and students in third through fifth grade on March 8. Last month, however, the BHEA filed an unfair practice charge with the Public Employment Relations Board. The legal action points out that in December, the union and district "agreed that grades TK-2 would not move to in-person instruction until Los Angeles County COVID-19 adjusted case rates



photo by Justin Sayers

BHUSD elementary school students, including those at Hawthorne Elementary School, will return to in-person classes soon.

were below 10," BHEA Certificated President Alana Castanon said in an email.

"The parties also negotiated protective procedures that – assuming the adjusted case rates

were below 10 – would help keep students and staff safe," Castanon added.

As of Feb. 24 – the date the

See Schools page 25

Bottini, women's and LGBT advocate, dies at 94

■ WeHo leaders pay tribute to prominent former resident

BY JUSTIN SAYERS

Ivy Bottini, a longtime West Hollywood resident and artist who spent more than five decades fighting for lesbian and women's rights, died on Feb. 25. She was 94.

Her death was announced by members of the West Hollywood City Council, including Mayor Lindsey Horvath, who ordered the city's flags to be flown at half-staff starting on Monday, March 1 – also the first day of Women's History Month.

"Luckily, Ivy called [West Hollywood] home for decades," Horvath wrote on Twitter. "We are grateful for her imprint on our city and the fight for full equality for women and LGBTQIA community. I'm incredibly lucky to have had a personal relationship [with] an icon who blazed trails for generations to come. Her artwork hangs in my home, her voice shows up in my thoughts, her spirit will always be in my heart. ... May she rest in power."

Bottini was born in New York



photo by Jon Viscott/courtesy of the city of West Hollywood

Ivy Bottini, one of the founders of the National Organization for Women in New York City, died at 94.

City and discovered a passion for graphic design and artistry while attending the Pratt Institute School of Art. She worked as a graphic designer and illustrator, including 16 years for Newsday, a position she held until her move to California in the early 1970s.

She married her husband, Edward Bottini, in 1952. They had two daughters, Laura and Lisa. She stayed with her husband for 16

years, despite knowing early on in her life that she was attracted to women.

"The week before our wedding, I suddenly couldn't swallow. It was like somebody had me by throat," Bottini said in an interview with the Lavender Effect, an organization that advances the future of LGBTQ+ heritage and culture,

See Advocate page 26

Sunset Strip restaurant sues WeHo, L.A. County

■ Health department forced closure

BY JUSTIN SAYERS

The owners of a Sunset Strip restaurant are suing the city of West Hollywood and the Los Angeles Department of Public Health, alleging the entities incorrectly labeled their outdoor patio as indoor, forcing the

restaurant to close.

The refurbished Classic Cat restaurant now might be closed for good after city and county inspectors issued a citation to the restaurant last month, ordering the restaurant to shut its doors by March 5, according to co-owner Donn Berdahl.

The restaurant was originally

See Restaurant page 25



photo courtesy of Classic Cat

The owners of the Classic Cat restaurant claim the retractable roof makes the dining area an outdoor patio.

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O’Farrell launches clinic for vaccinations in 13th District

Working to support communities that have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 as well as essential workers, Los Angeles City Councilman Mitch O’Farrell, 13 District, is organizing a vaccination clinic to provide thousands of first and second doses to those who are eligible in the 13th District.

The vaccine clinic will launch on Tuesday, March 9, and over a six-week period will be held at sites in different communities throughout the district. Hours of operation will be 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. Both first and second doses will be administered to those who register.

Eligible recipients include 13th District residents 65 and older and employees in the district who work as education workers, food and agricultural workers, health care workers, childcare workers, law enforcement personnel and emergency responders.

Individuals who are interested in being vaccinated must fill out an application by visiting bitly.com/cd13vaccinations. The

form will be used to determine eligibility for the program and does not guarantee a vaccination.

“The 13th District is home to many groups that have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19, including essential workers, seniors and communities of color, who have been unable to reach city and county operated vaccination sites due to working long hours, travel barriers or accessibility issues,” O’Farrell said. “The local vaccination clinic I am launching in the 13th District helps solve this challenge by bringing the vaccine directly to Angelenos in a safe and convenient way.”

The 13th Council District includes the neighborhoods of Hollywood, East Hollywood, Thai Town, Little Armenia, Wilshire Center and Koreatown, as well as Atwater Village, Echo Park, Elysian Valley, Glassell Park, Historic Filipinotown, Rampart Village, Silver Lake, Virgil Village and Westlake North. For information, call (213)207-3015, or email cd13svp@lacity.org.

Koretz offers grants for vulnerable organizations to improve security

Los Angeles City Councilman Paul Koretz, 5th District, announced on March 2 that a new \$100,000 fund, to be made available in grants of up to \$2,500 each, will be open to vulnerable institutions in his district that are at high risk due to religious, lifestyle, cultural or ethnic practices.

Koretz cited 2020 Los Angeles Police Department statistics showing an increase in crime city wide as need for the grants, which are intended for security measures. Hate crimes have steadily increased from 229 in 2016 to 355 in 2020, he added. Hate crimes against Jews, Blacks, Asian Americans and transgender and gay men all increased in 2020, with the largest increase being hate crimes against Asian Americans – a 114% increase over 2019, Koretz said.

“We are not immune to a rising tide of hate, and after what we saw happen in our nation’s capital and the increase in hate crimes against individuals, it demands that we step up and protect every Angeleno no matter what they look like, or how they pray,” Koretz said. “Given the rise of hate-motivated attacks, hate speech and increased hate crimes aimed at individuals and institutions, I have created a security fund to help institutions implement additional safety measures so that their members will be free to observe in peace. I encourage all faith, LGBTQIA and cultural institutions of [the 5th District] to apply.”

The funds will be provided through 5th District discretionary funds. They can be used for specific infrastructure projects such as installing security cameras, gates and gated windows, and upgrades to existing security systems. The grants may also be used for crisis response training for staff and members, and other security training needs. The grants cannot be used for security staff salaries, Koretz added.

“We should be increasing our funding and protection for vulnerable communities and be proactive about hate crime prevention,” Koretz said. “If city leaders don’t stand up for these communities, who will?”

The deadline to apply is Friday, March 12. For applications, visit councilmemberpaulkoretz.com/resources/security-grant-program.

CALENDAR

‘The Hebrew Hillbilly’

The Benefit Series at Santa Monica Playhouse presents “The Hebrew Hillbilly” streaming online from Thursday, March 4, through Friday, April 30. Shelley Fisher returns in the hilarious and poignant show that takes audiences on a rollercoaster ride from her early years as a blonde bombshell through her current incarnation as the “Memphis Belle of L.A.” The program includes a special Passover celebration and supports the playhouse as its doors remain closed due to COVID-19. Tickets are \$30 and the program can be viewed on demand. santamonicaplayhouse.com.



Culver City author Doyin Richards on Sunday, March 7, from 11 a.m. to noon, via Zoom. Richards will read from his latest book, “Watch Me: A Story of Immigration and Inspiration,” with illustrations by Joe Cepeda. Afterward, the author will join a Q&A session and share information about his work and inspiration. The book tells the story of Richards’ dad Joe, who came to America as a young child and succeeded when many thought he would fail. Richards is a children’s author, founder of the Anti-Racism Fight Club and a TEDx speaker on anti-racism. bit.ly/2NHPctt.

work offers a series of short stories about Black women, faith and desire. The author explores the murky lines between what is considered right and wrong as four generations of characters grapple with the church’s standards and their own needs and passions. Writer, photographer and podcast host Nneka Julia Odum will lead the discussion. caamuseum.org/programs/talks-and-workshops/the-secret-lives-of-church-ladies.



Holocaust Museum L.A.

Holocaust Museum Los Angeles presents “Bending Toward the Sun: A Multigenerational Conversation on the Legacy of the Holocaust and Survival in Today’s World” on Monday, March 8, at 11 a.m. Author, community leader and philanthropist Leslie Gilbert-Lurie will be joined by her mother, Holocaust survivor Rita Gilbert, and son Gabe Gilbert-Lurie in discussing how the Holocaust has impacted their lives and why its lessons of are particularly relevant now. The conversation, moderated by award-winning journalist Jessica Yellin, celebrates the audiobook launch of Leslie Gilbert-Lurie’s memoir “Bending Towards the Sun: A Mother and Daughter Memoir.” holocaustmuseumla.org.



‘Perseverance on Mars’

Learn about NASA’s newest rover during Caltech’s “Watson Lecture: Perseverance on Mars” on Wednesday, March 10, from 5 to 6 p.m., via Zoom. Kenneth A. Farley, W. M. Keck Foundation Professor of Geochemistry at Caltech, will describe how the highly-capable Perseverance rover, which landed on Mars on Feb. 18, will investigate rocks deposited billions of years ago at the bottom of a large lake, seeking evidence of possible life. He will also look at how the rocks carefully collected by Perseverance will provide the cargo for the first-ever effort to bring samples back to Earth from another planet. caltech.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_uJoVcflSGKTUQvx7fDdRQ.

‘Fox Blondes’ of Hollywood

Hollywood Heritage and the Hollywood Foreign Press Association will present a virtual tribute to the “Fox Blondes” – Alice Faye and Betty Grable – with a CD release party on Wednesday, March 10, at 7:30 p.m. The new CDs include rare soundtrack songs from their films of the 1930s and 1940s. The tribute will also feature interviews, trailers and music clips, and will focus on other blonde Hollywood legends. hollywoodheritage.org.

Author Deesha Philyaw

Author Deesha Philyaw will discuss her latest book, “The Secret Lives of Church Ladies,” in conjunction with the California African American Museum exhibition, “Enunciated Life” on Tuesday, March 9, from 5 to 6:30 p.m., via Zoom. A National Book Award Finalist for fiction, Philyaw’s

Author Doyin Richards

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BEVERLYPRESS.COM

Michael Villalpando
PUBLISHER

Karen Villalpando
EDITOR & PUBLISHER

Edwin Folven
editor@beverlypress.com
EDITOR

Cameron Kiszla
cameron@beverlypress.com
REPORTER

Justin Sayers
justin@beverlypress.com
REPORTER

Jill Weinlein,
Tim Posada,
Rebecca Villalpando,
Emily Jilg
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

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Beverly Hills supports Slow Streets program

■ Residential streets to become more pedestrian, bike-friendly

BY CAMERON KISZLA

The Beverly Hills City Council on March 2 unanimously expressed support for bringing a Slow Streets

program, which would place signs on blocks of residential streets to discourage car traffic so residents can walk, run, bicycle and play in a safer area, to the city.

The concept has been implemented in nearby areas, including Los Angeles, and typically allows for residents and vehicles making deliveries to travel to the included

streets while encouraging those vehicles to slow down and drive carefully. Signage for the Slow Streets program incentivizes drivers seeking to utilize the streets as a cut-through to find an alternative route.

“It’s a low-cost, short-term strategy to reduce both the volume and speed of traffic on streets,” said Daren Grilley, city engineer.

The council members expressed unanimous support for the city’s plan, especially as it requires the program to be initiated by a resident of the area and for a majority of the residents of a Slow Street to sign off before it is implemented. In addition, Grilley noted, the sponsor or a neighborhood watch will be responsible for keeping track of the Slow Streets and bringing any problems that arise to the city’s attention.

“We’re just asking for someone to be our eyes and ears, let us know if there are issues ... Give us a heads up so we can make changes,” Grilley said.

Councilman Julian Gold supported Slow Streets, though he was the most reticent of the five council members. He proposed potentially starting with five blocks or so for the pilot program.

“The unintended consequences [due to people gathering] are a little concerning, but I’m OK with trying this,” Gold said.

The other four council members, however, suggested the program could be more widely implemented.

“I am extremely supportive of this. This is happening all over Los Angeles ... I think it’s about time that we explore that, and for me, since this is resident-initiated, I



photo by Cameron Kiszla

A Slow Streets program in Los Angeles allows local traffic, but otherwise preserves the street for residents and neighbors to exercise.

House passes Rim of the Valley Corridor Preservation Act

U.S. Rep. Adam Schiff (D-Burbank) on Feb. 26 applauded the landmark passage of the Rim of the Valley Corridor Preservation Act, which would add more than 191,000 acres of the Rim of the Valley Corridor to the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. The bill passed the House on a bipartisan basis as part of the Protecting America’s Wilderness and Public Lands Act.

“I am thrilled that the House of Representatives has passed the Rim of the Valley Corridor Preservation Act, legislation I have championed for nearly 20 years,” Schiff said. “Millions of residents in the Los Angeles Basin depend on open space in our communities for recreation, and the benefits of widely accessible natural land have never been more apparent than during this public health crisis. The Rim of the Valley Corridor is an area of breathtaking natural beauty, and we must preserve this pris-

tine land for the sake of our environment, wildlife and ecosystems, and for the benefit of L.A. residents, the millions each year who visit and for generations to come.”

Last year there were a record number of visits to public lands – a 21% increase on average in national park attendance.

Schiff first introduced the Rim of the Valley Corridor Preservation Act in 2017 based on the recommendations of the Rim of the Valley Corridor Study Act, championed by Schiff for years.

The expansion of the SMMN-RA boundaries respects private property rights and existing local land use authorities, and it will not put any additional restrictions on property owners. The bill does not allow for land acquisition through eminent domain.

To view a map of the expansion under the Rim of the Valley Corridor Preservation Act, visit bit.ly/3aVNNrM.

think that’s already half the battle,” Councilwoman Lili Bosse said.

“I’m glad we’re going to embark on this,” Mayor Lester Friedman added.

Vice Mayor Robert Wunderlich pushed back on some of Gold’s concerns, such as that the streets would become gathering places.

“Generally speaking, they don’t become parks. They don’t become places where people congregate ... It just becomes a quieter street and people become more comfortable walking their dogs, bicycling and things like that,” Wunderlich said.

Grilley also disputed that people were likely to congregate in the street and made clear that the intention was for the Slow Streets to be used by residents and neighbors.

“It is a public space, but we aren’t encouraging it to be a gathering place for others. Perhaps from the next street over, but we’re not encouraging people to drive over from the other side of town,” Grilley said.

Several council members also expressed support for the Slow Streets program becoming permanent.

“I think this is great and it should not just be something that happens during COVID,” Councilman John Mirisch added.

“It provides an opportunity for people to experience something,” Wunderlich added. “Depending on the feedback we get and if it’s positive feedback, we should explore extending it past the pandemic period.”

COVID-19 Vaccination Information



#BHHealthyCity

For appointments, visit VaccinateLACounty.com or myturn.ca.gov.

Those currently eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine include: Education and Childcare workers; Emergency Service workers; Food and Agriculture workers; Healthcare workers, Staff & Residents at Skilled Nursing Facilities and LA County Residents 65 and older.

LA County phone assistance is available for those without a computer:
833-540-0473 • seven days a week • 8 a.m.-8:30 p.m.

For general COVID-19 questions and information, visit:
beverlyhills.org/coronavirus
or contact the City’s COVID-19 Hotline at 310-550-4680
Monday-Friday • 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

#BHHealthyCity

Man allegedly stabbed family member to death on Olympic

■ Suspect was arrested the same day in Burbank

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

A 28-year-old man who police said stabbed a male family member to death and held two others against their will in an apartment in the 4500 block of Olympic Boulevard on March 1 was arrested later the same day and remains in custody for murder.

The suspect, James Lesnau, was being sought by authorities at the time of the murder for previous violence against family members, police said. No motive for the killing was provided.

Police received a call about the stabbing at approximately 4:50 a.m. on March 1. Officers found a man suffering from stab wounds inside the apartment. He was pronounced dead at 5:05 a.m. Two other family members had also been assaulted, but no further information was provided about their condition. The suspect fled before officers arrived, police said.

The Los Angeles County Medical Examiner-Coroner identified the deceased victim as Erick Perez Reyes, 42.

Investigators from the Los Angeles Police Department’s West Bureau Homicide Unit were assigned the case and worked with an FBI Fugitive Task Force, which located Lesnau at approximately 7:50 p.m. near Delaware Road and San Fernando Boulevard in Burbank. The suspect was booked for murder and outstanding arrest warrants. He is being held on \$3.2 million bail.

The stabbing caused concern among some residents in the nearby community. Julie Stromberg, a Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council member who lives in the neighborhood, said it was alarming and was surprised there wasn’t more information on social media or from the police department.

“I am concerned because I hadn’t heard anything about it,” Stromberg said. “I understand the detectives won’t release a lot of information because they are investigating, but if there is someone out there on the loose, I’d like to know if I should keep my kids inside.”

The investigation remains ongoing. Anyone with information is asked to contact West Bureau Homicide Unit investigators at (213)382-9470.

Police pursuit ends in tragedy

■ Innocent driver killed after being struck by vehicle

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

A man was killed on March 2 in a collision at Third Street and Fairfax Avenue after his vehicle was struck by a car being pursued by West Hollywood sheriff’s deputies.

The deputies pulled over a Chevrolet Malibu at approximately 10:28 p.m. on Melrose Avenue near Crescent Heights Boulevard after allegedly observing the driver straddling lanes and driving without headlights, said Lt. Bill Moulder, with the West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station.

As deputies approached the stopped vehicle, it drove away, striking one of the deputies, he

added. A pursuit ensued and the suspect’s vehicle collided with the victim’s car in the intersection of Third Street and Fairfax Avenue. Paramedics arrived and pronounced the driver of the other vehicle dead. The victim’s name was not released, but Moulder said he was in his 30s.

The deputy who was struck was treated for non-life threatening injuries and hospitalized as a precaution. The suspect was taken to a hospital and treated for non-life threatening injuries. He was arrested for felony evading with death, manslaughter, assault on a peace officer and driving under the influence causing injury. Moulder said the incident remains under investigation and no further details were available.

Anyone with information is urged to call the West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station at (310)855-8850.

Man shot and killed in Hollywood after allegedly arguing with woman

Detectives from the Los Angeles Police Department’s West Bureau Homicide Unit are seeking the public’s assistance in identifying a suspect responsible for killing a man in Hollywood on March 2.

At approximately 6:25 a.m., officers from the Hollywood Division responded to a call about a shooting near Sunset Boulevard and Orange Drive. Officers located a male adult victim inside a vehicle suffering from a gunshot wound to the chest. Witnesses reported that the victim had been outside his vehicle arguing with an unidentified woman before a shot was heard, police said. The victim got

back into his vehicle and the woman walked away east on Sunset Boulevard, authorities added.

Los Angeles Fire Department paramedics responded and transported the victim to a hospital where he was pronounced dead. The name of the victim is being withheld pending notification to next of kin.

Anyone who witnessed or heard anything in the area is asked to call West Bureau Homicide Unit detectives at (213)382-9470.

During Weekends and off-hours, call the LAPD’s hotline at (877)LAPD247.

Lady Gaga’s dogs found, suspects still sought

■ Dog walker who was shot is recovering

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

A police investigation continues into the shooting of Lady Gaga’s dog walker and the theft of two of the pop star’s French bulldogs on Feb. 24 in Hollywood.

The victim who was shot, Ryan Fischer, is recovering and released a statement on March 1 from the hospital via social media. The two dogs, named Koji and Gustav, were turned over to police on Feb. 26 after they were found by an unidentified woman, authorities said.

The shooting occurred at approximately 9:40 p.m. as Fischer was walking the dogs near Sunset Boulevard and Sierra Bonita Avenue. Two men in a white Nissan Altima pulled up, jumped out and confronted the victim. One of the men was armed and shot Fischer once in the chest during a struggle, police said. The suspects allegedly reentered their vehicle with the two dogs and were last seen heading northbound on Sierra Bonita Avenue toward Hollywood Boulevard. A third dog was recovered at the scene.

People who heard the shots called paramedics and police, and Fischer was taken to a hospital in critical condition. He improved by Monday, when he was listed in stable condition. Authorities did not say when he would be released from the hospital.

The LAPD’s Robbery-Homicide Division was assigned to investigate

because it handles high-profile cases. Information about the robbery was widely broadcast on media outlets and social media. On Feb. 26, an unidentified woman notified Lady Gaga’s staff that she had found two dogs matching the stolen French bulldogs’ description, and arrangements were made to meet detectives at the LAPD’s Olympic Division, where the dogs were returned, police said. Authorities declined to release information about where the woman found the dogs or any further details out of concern for her safety and the ongoing investigation, police said.

The two suspects were described as Black men, 20-25 years old. The armed suspect allegedly had blond dreadlocks and was wearing a black hooded sweatshirt. The other suspect was wearing dark clothing. The robbery and shooting was captured on security camera video.

Fischer said was grateful for the support he has received since the



photo courtesy of Instagram

Lady Gaga’s dog walker Ryan Fischer was shown in a social media post with the two French bulldogs, Koji and Gustav.

robbery and shooting and thanked friends and family.

“I am still in recovery from a very close call with death and have kept myself ... from the growing media story. I will write and say more later, but the gratitude for all the love I feel from around this planet is immense and intense. I felt your healing support. Thank you,” Fischer said in his statement. “I am humbled and grateful that attention and focus from the police were enough to get Koji and Gustav back to safety, and I know they are committed to bringing these criminals and attempted murderers to justice. I am so appreciative of everything you continue to do.”

Anyone with further information is urged to call detectives at (213)486-6840.



photo courtesy of Instagram

Ryan Fischer posted a photograph of himself in the hospital with a statement on social media.

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BH landlords may seek post-pandemic evictions

■ Council wants options for protecting renters

BY CAMERON KISZLA

Beverly Hills plans to see how best it can protect its residents from eviction once the pandemic ends.

On March 2, the City Council discussed the city’s rent subsidy program. During a presentation by Helen Morales, the city’s deputy director of rent stabilization, the council members learned that 27 of the city’s residents who were approved to receive rental assistance had landlords who refused to accept the money.

Morales told the council that in conversations with some of these landlords, she and Susan Belgrade of Jewish Family Services, which administers the city’s program, learned that these landlords were advised by their attorneys to refuse the money so that, once the eviction moratoriums are lifted, they can evict their tenants. It is believed that the ultimate intention in some of these cases is to take rent-stabilized units and raise the rent to market prices after the eviction is complete, Morales added.

“They have an idea that they really just want to evict these tenants,” Morales said.

The council members said they want to see what can be done to help these 27 tenants in particular, many of whom are tenants of corporate landlords, according to Morales.

“[The tenants] have a target on their back, because otherwise, the landlords would take this money ... Fortunately, it’s only 27, but that’s 27 of our residents feeling insecure,” Councilman John Mirisch said.

Mirisch suggested a specific ordinance could be drafted to address the issue.

“Should we create a rule that would not allow them to go to market after evicting someone for hardships in this specific case, the

COVID case?” Mirisch said.

The proposal seemed to garner broad support on the council.

“We do need to look at it and see if there is something we can craft that can take away that incentive from the landlord so that they don’t utilize that for the purpose of evicting someone,” Mayor Lester Friedman added.

The council also received an update on the city’s rent subsidy program as a whole, which Morales noted has processed approximately half of the 480 total eligible applications that were sent to JFS for review.

“We’re hoping by the end of April we can get through this process with all of the applications we’ve received to date,” Morales said.

The city’s residents can apply to receive up to \$3,000, though if they receive money from the county’s rent subsidy program, which provides up to \$10,000, they’ll be ineligible to participate in the city’s program.

“We encourage people to apply to both ... We will only deny [applicants in the city’s program] once they receive payment from the county,” Morales said.

Morales also explained to the council that, between the county program and applications from people who received additional benefits, such as unemployment, and thus were not eligible for the program, the city’s approval rate is only 23%.

“We all feel the effects of COVID-19, and as a result, everyone applied, but when you make a determination as to whether they were financially impacted, we didn’t see a reduction in income [for many applicants],” Morales said.

The city also plans to conduct more outreach so those who need help will be able to find it with the city and so those who are interested in applying will have a better idea

of whether they are eligible. The city’s program stopped receiving applications in December, but city staff has been advised that more funding is anticipated for the county program.

“We should construct something relatively simple ... so tenants and landlords both understand what their options are,” Councilman Julian Gold said. “We should construct something in lay language that explains the state programs and our programs ... Any communication methodology we have, we should use to make sure people understand what this is and how to get help.”



photo by Cameron Kiszla

Some Beverly Hills landlords are refusing to accept money from rental relief programs so they can move to evict their tenants once the pandemic is over, according to city staff.

Local rabbis urge Lieu to support Uyghurs in China

An unprecedented coalition of cross-denominational Los Angeles rabbis sent an open letter to U.S. Rep. Ted Lieu (D-Torrance), urging him to take action in Congress to support the Uyghur people in China’s Xinjiang province. The People’s Republic of China has drawn international condemnation for its aggressive policies toward the Uyghurs, a predominantly Muslim ethnic and linguistic minority group. Within the last month, the United States and Canada have labeled China’s actions toward the Uyghurs – which include the use of internment camps and forced sterilization – crimes against humanity and genocide.

Nearly every senior rabbi in Los Angeles signed the letter, which was organized by Rabbi Pini Dunner of Young Israel of North Beverly Hills Synagogue.

“The horror stories we have heard about the Uyghur people in China being seized at night, their heads being shaved, then being put on trains and interned in concentration camps, forced into slave labor, and systematically murdered – are all too familiar to the Jewish community,” the letter read. “For us,

the undersigned, remaining silent is simply not possible. We cannot stand by as the blood of our human brethren is spilled by evil murderers for no reason other than their faith and ethnic identity. All of us feel that the Chinese government must be held accountable for this unconscionable crime against humanity.”

“We implore you to take action in Congress in support of the Uyghur people,” the letter added. “One thing that you can do immediately is to cosponsor the newly reintroduced House Bill HR 6210 – Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act, to help ensure that goods made with forced labor in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of the People’s Republic of China do not ever enter the United States for commercial purposes, or indeed for any other purpose. This legislation will ensure that American consumers do not become unwitting supporters of the genocide and crimes against humanity being committed against the Uyghur people of China through purchases of consumer goods made in any part with Uyghur forced labor.”

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L.A. LGBT Center study looks at transgender health

The Four Corners: Trans & Nonbinary Health Research Advisory Network, an initiative of the Los Angeles LGBT Center and partnering organizations, announced on Feb. 24 the release of its first report entitled “Health Research Priorities Among TNB Communities.” The community-led research advisory network released findings identifying priority areas and directions for researchers looking to develop patient-centered projects focused on addressing the health needs of TNB communities.

Findings from the Four Corners network can make future research projects more relevant, ethical and beneficial to TNB individuals whose voices and experiences are often overlooked or ignored.

“This first-of-its-kind report will significantly help to address the disparities experienced by members of the TNB community who deserve access to proper healthcare and vital health resources,” said Dr. Robert Bolan, Los Angeles LGBT Center’s chief medical officer and

Four Corners site principal investigator. “We thank our partnering organizations, and those who participated in this important health research, for helping TNB people be healthy and complete.”

“Trans and nonbinary people need to be at the table to represent our communities. Four Corners research finally brings healthcare professionals, researchers, and community members together to address TNB health inequities,” Four Corners Network Member Bo Hwang of Los Angeles added.

Four Corners is a network made up of researchers, clinicians and TNB community members from three Federally Qualified Health Centers: Los Angeles LGBT Center, Howard Brown Health in Chicago and Whitman-Walker Institute in Washington, D.C. Together, the organizations serve more than 10,000 TNB-identified patients and clients. The network officially launched in 2018.

For information, visit bitly.com/fourcornersnetwork.

Notable quotes

“It was kind of solemn, drifting down the big still river, laying on our backs looking up at the stars, and we didn’t ever feel like talking loud, and it wasn’t often that we laughed, only a little kind of low chuckle. We had mighty good weather, as a general thing, and nothing ever happened to us at all, that night, nor the next, nor the next.”

“The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn”
Mark Twain
[Samuel Clemens]
1835-1910

(source: “Bartlett’s Familiar Quotations”)

Schiff comments on Khashoggi, Saudi crown prince report

Rep. Adam Schiff (D-Burbank), the chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, released a statement on Feb. 26 in response to the release of a report that ties Saudi Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman to the murder of Washington Post columnist Jamal Khashoggi in 2018.

Schiff said Congress has wanted this report released “for years,” and he thanked President Joe Biden and Director of National Intelligence Avril Haines “for making this report public as we requested.”

“The highest levels of the Saudi government, including Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, are culpable in the murder of journalist and American resident Jamal Khashoggi, and there is no escaping that stark truth laid bare in the intelligence community’s long overdue public assessment,” Schiff said. “It should not have taken this long for the United States to publicly share what we knew about the brutal murder of a U.S. resident and journalist, and this report underscores why Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman’s repeated claims that he was either unknowing or uninvolved in this heinous crime are in no way credible.

“As the crown prince continues to demonstrate no remorse for his actions and to shield senior Saudi

officials from accountability for their role in the murder of Mr. Khashoggi, the Biden administration will need to follow this attribution of responsibility with serious repercussions against all of the responsible parties it has identified, and also reassess our relationship with Saudi Arabia. We must ensure that if foreign governments target journalists simply for doing their jobs, they are not immune to serious repercussions and sanctions, because restoring confidence in American leadership requires we act in accordance with the values that have long set America apart.

“The administration should take further steps to diminish the United States’ reliance on Riyadh and reinforce that our partnership with the kingdom is not a blank check,” Schiff added.

In October, Schiff introduced the Jamal Khashoggi Press Freedom Act. It built on a bill passed by Congress in 2010, the Daniel Pearl Freedom of the Press Act, which requires the State Department to report on press freedom around the world. The Khashoggi Act takes the next step by prohibiting U.S. foreign assistance to government entities that perpetrate gross human rights violations against journalists, and by levying sanctions on individuals and foreign leaders who do the same.

West Hollywood council approves bike lanes

■ Cyclists to be given space on Fountain, Santa Monica

BY JUSTIN SAYERS

The West Hollywood City Council unanimously voted during the March 1 meeting to come up with a plan to put protected bike lanes on Fountain Avenue and Santa Monica Boulevard.

The item directs staff to conduct a feasibility study to analyze how the city could install the lanes, while also amending the city’s bicycle and mobility plan, which was passed in 2017, to include the bike lanes as future projects. No timeframe was given for when those recommendations will be brought back to council, and when the lanes will be installed.

“Protected bike lanes will bring us into the light and into a space where we can say we are a progressive city once again,” Councilwoman Sepi Shyne said.

The study, which will cost \$100,000, will include determining where and how bike lanes can be installed and what types of bike lanes can be implemented – such as raised lanes or lanes separated from traffic with vehicle barriers. There is no cost projection for the project, but staff estimated that longer-term capital costs could exceed \$10 million.

Staff cautioned that the installation of bike lanes may require reductions in street parking, changes to medians, potential lane adjustments and changes to sidewalk widths.

Councilwoman Lauren Meister expressed concern over the potential loss of parking, especially along Fountain Avenue, which has a lot of homes.

“If we do have to lose spaces, we have to think about where we’re going to find them for those residents,” she said.

She added that the Santa Monica Boulevard project is a priority because it’s the direct route from the city to downtown Los Angeles and Santa Monica.

“It’s an important place for us to have a bike path,” she said.

The item, which was introduced by Mayor Lindsey Horvath and Councilman John Erickson, was met with overwhelming support from the public during the public comment period.

In an interview, Karen O’Keefe, a member of the West Hollywood Bicycle Coalition, said she was “delighted.”

“It was the biggest step forward we’ve seen in West Hollywood ever for safe infrastructure for bicyclists. It’s a huge step forward toward greener transportation,” she said.

O’Keefe said that West Hollywood is not the safest city for bicyclists, adding that she’s personally faced aggression from drivers while knowing several people who have been injured by cars or run off the road.

“Of all the places I’ve lived, the climate is the best for biking. It’s a health-conscious, climate-conscious city, but it stands in contrast with values of the city and state that we prioritize automobile transportation to the detriment of everything else,” O’Keefe said.

She said that the coronavirus pandemic is likely to blame for a shift in transportation trends, as less people have relied on cars and are shifting to bicycle transportation.



photo by Justin Sayers

The West Hollywood City Council approved a plan to put a bike lane on Fountain Avenue.

“Maybe we’re kind of experiencing a shift like we had with cigarettes, where something went from totally acceptable to where we try to reduce the harm,” she said.

The vote was looped in with an update on the city’s pedestrian and bicycle plan.

Bob Cheung, the city’s senior planner, said that the plan includes 72 projects, such as improvements at unsignalized crosswalks, signal-

ized intersections and bicycle improvements throughout the city. Of those 72 projects, the city has completed 14, is underway on 33 and has 25 planned for the future.

The full list includes five key projects that include pedestrian crossing improvements on Santa Monica Boulevard, temporary traffic diversions on Willoughby Avenue and pedestrian improvements on Fountain Avenue.

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Renters Representative (Appointed in 09/2019)
Our slate is at: www.mcwcommunityfirst.org



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- Former Economist, UCLA Anderson Forecast
- Former researcher, Milken Institute & RAND Corp.
- Master of Public Policy, USC Sol Price School of Public Policy
- BA, Economics & Political Science, Northwestern University
- Former MCW Business Rep. (09/2018-06/2019), At Large Rep. (12/2004-05/2016), and Renters Rep. (01/2003-06/2004)

MCWCC Board of Directors Election
Vote By Mail Application Website:
<https://clerk.lacounty.gov/elections/neighborhood-council-elections/vote-by-mail-application>

VBM App. Period Started: 01/15/21; Ends: 03/09/21
Election Day: Tuesday, March 16, 2021
(Mail ballot to address listed on return envelope, postmarked by 3/16/21 & in by 3/19/21, 5pm.)

Cedars-Sinai studies community COVID spread

Health care workers might not be so different from the general population in the factors that determine their risk of getting COVID-19. A new study led by Cedars-Sinai shows that health care workers are more likely to have antibodies to COVID-19 in their blood if they are African American or Latino or have hypertension.

Additionally, the study suggests that the community – rather than the workplace – is the more common source of coronavirus exposure.

The research, published online Feb. 12 in the peer-reviewed journal BMJ Open, was based on blood tests and a survey of more than 6,000 employees in the Cedars-Sinai Health System conducted

starting in May. During that first wave of the pandemic, about 4% of the employees were found to have antibodies to the SARS-CoV-2 virus in their blood, indicating they had been exposed to COVID-19.

“Our study shows that we started out last summer with a relatively low exposure rate to SARS-CoV-2,” said Dr. Susan Cheng, associate professor of cardiology at Cedars-Sinai and director of the Institute for Research on Healthy Aging in the Department of Cardiology at the Smidt Heart Institute. “This fact means the vast majority of our communities have remained vulnerable to infection, and therefore vaccination and continued vigilance are critical.”

Of particular concern was the

study’s findings on race and ethnicity. Across the board, regardless of whether they had been diagnosed with COVID-19, blood tests showed that health care workers were significantly more likely to have antibodies to the SARS-CoV-2 virus if they were African American or Latino rather than of other racial or ethnic groups.

“These disparities underscore the ongoing, urgent need for us to

understand why certain demographics and communities remain at higher risk in the pandemic than others,” said Kimia Sobhani, medical director of the clinical core laboratories and associate professor of pathology and laboratory medicine at Cedars-Sinai. “The reasons may well include structural and societal factors that we were unable to capture.”

Another significant finding was that having antibodies to the virus was related more to having had community-based exposure,

including a household member previously diagnosed with COVID-19, than to workplace exposure.

“Our data show that public health measures work,” said study co-author Dr. Peggy Miles, associate professor of medicine and medical director of employee health services at Cedars-Sinai. “Our workers are taking care of the sickest people, including high-risk patients, and yet we see very little transmission of coronavirus in the hospital.”

For information, visit cedars-sinai.org.



photo courtesy of Getty/Cedars-Sinai

A new study suggests that even for health care workers, community – rather than the workplace – is the more common source of coronavirus exposure.

Galperin reports \$550M revenue shortfall for L.A.

Los Angeles City Controller Ron Galperin on March 1 released the city’s revenue forecast, reporting a \$550 million revenue shortfall this fiscal year and warning of continued budget woes. He also noted that revenues could begin to improve next fiscal year if the economy starts to recover.

“With a \$550 million revenue shortfall, the end of this fiscal year is going to be a tough one,” Galperin said. “Our ability to continue delivering the same level of services to Angelenos is imperiled by our financial situation. But because COVID-19 vaccines are becoming more available, it is quite possible that the economy could begin to turn the corner sometime this summer, resulting in an uptick in city revenues during the next fiscal year. There is reason to be cautiously optimistic, but it will be a long road to full recovery.”

The forecast features city revenue estimates to help inform the mayor and City Council as they discuss the city’s fiscal year 2022 budget this spring. The current fiscal year, FY21, ends on June 30, 2021, and FY22 begins on July 1.

General fund revenues for the current fiscal year are projected to be 8.3% lower than the budgeted amount, coming in at \$6.14 billion – 3.7% below the last fiscal year, Galperin said.

Property tax revenues will increase 6.1% and cannabis business taxes will jump 79% (\$139 million), but will be offset by dramatic shortfalls in transient occupancy tax (down 66%), parking

occupancy tax (down 44%), telephone users tax (down 15%) receipts and others, he added.

Based on available local and national economic and public health information, Galperin predicts some economic stabilization beginning in the middle of this summer. If that comes to pass, steady growth should happen over the course of FY22, leading to better revenues for the city.

General fund receipts for FY22 are projected to increase 4.4% to \$6.4 billion.

Property tax, sales tax, cannabis business tax and other revenues should increase, along with 5.8% growth in business tax receipts and a 6.7% increase in sales tax receipts.

Transient occupancy tax receipts have fallen nearly 75% from their height last fiscal year. They are likely to increase in the second half of FY22, but will remain below pre-COVID levels.

If the pandemic worsens in the coming months, next year’s revenues could come in lower than projected in the forecast.

The city’s revenue outlook would improve considerably with the infusion of additional federal and state relief funds. Under the plan before Congress, Los Angeles could receive more than \$1.2 billion to replace lost revenue, pay for community services and assist with pandemic response efforts. Because the funds haven’t yet been secured, they aren’t included in Galperin’s revenue forecast.

For information, visit lacontroller.org/revenueforecast2022.

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:	Citywide, West Hollywood, California
REQUEST:	Zone text amendment to modify solid waste driveway grade requirements to align with general allowable driveway grade slopes, citywide, West Hollywood, California.
PERMIT(S):	Zone Text Amendment, and any other required permits.
APPLICANT(S):	City of West Hollywood
TIME/PLACE OF HEARING:	Teleconference Meeting Monday, March 15, 2021 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:	Citywide
ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS:	Categorically exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Regulations pursuant to Section §15061 (Review for Exemption)

DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND STATE OF EMERGENCY, CITY HALL IS CURRENTLY CLOSED. The staff report will be available on Wednesday, March 10, 2021 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.

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

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

IF YOU DO NOT HAVE COMPUTER ACCESS AND WOULD LIKE A MAILED COPY OF THE AGENDA AND STAFF REPORT, OR YOU NEED FURTHER INFORMATION regarding this item, contact Rachel Dimond, Acting Long Range Planning Manager in the Planning & Development Services Department at (323) 848-6475; or via email at: rdimond@weho.org

Melissa Crowder, Acting City Clerk

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

West Hollywood approves additional hazard pay

■ Requirement won't take effect until mid-April

BY CAMERON KISZLA

West Hollywood expanded the businesses that fall under its hazard pay regulations on March 1, but workers at those businesses will have to wait until mid-April for their pay to increase.

The council attempted to pass an urgency ordinance including those businesses, which would have taken effect immediately, but the votes against the measure by Councilman John D'Amico and Mayor Pro Tempore Lauren Meister prevented the council from reaching the necessary four-fifths margin for an urgency ordinance. A majority was reached, however, allowing the ordinance to take effect 45 days after the March 1 vote, and it will remain in place for 120 days, until mid-August.

D'Amico and Meister said they wanted the city to do more to push the newly included stores – pharmacies like CVS and Rite Aid and stores such as Target that sell groceries, but do not meet the city's definition of a grocery store, which sells food products as 70% or more of its business – to help their employees get vaccinated, and they voted against the ordinance because it did not include that stipulation.

Meister proposed that the payment period for the additional \$5 per hour be shortened from 120 days to 60 days as an incentive for these businesses to push their employees to receive a vaccine.

"Our endgame is to get people vaccinated. Basically, the workers and our residents are not safe until people are vaccinated, regardless of the hazard pay," Meister said.

D'Amico referenced the decision made two weeks ago to provide hazard pay to grocery store workers when explaining his decision.

"I am very much in support and want to find a way to pay the workers that were not included in the urgency ordinance that we passed two weeks ago. It's really important," D'Amico said. "But it is equally important that we provide as much thoughtful consideration about every single possible thing we can do to get people vaccinated."

The other council members expressed concern about the plan, which Mayor Lindsey Horvath noted might "potentially backfire" if the hazard pay is tied to vaccinations. "You can't force people to get a vaccine," Horvath said, and some employees could delay their vaccinations so they would continue receiving the higher pay.

"I think that this will disincentivize people to get vaccines, and I don't feel good about that. That's concerning that we're sending a message that we'll pay you more if you wait to get a vaccine," Horvath said.

Councilman John Erickson pointed out that though other cities have enacted hazard pay for frontline workers, "no other city has done this, and there's probably a reason for that."

"I think it's very dangerous to set up hazard pay based on vaccinations," Erickson said.

Councilwoman Sepi Shyne added that she struggled to find a way to adequately measure if employers were doing enough to vaccinate their workers.

"If this were to happen and this

comes back in 60 days, what metrics are we looking at and how do we quantify that?" Shyne said.

Despite Meister's proposal to use vaccination records, the number of cases in the city and reports from the county about outbreaks in West Hollywood to determine if enough progress was being made, the three council members were not swayed.

The three majority council members also expressed some unease with tying the hazard pay to someone's vaccination status, as many of the grocery store workers are Black, Indigenous or people of color, who have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.

"To me, the hazard pay isn't leverage to get people to get the vaccine," Horvath said. "The hazard pay is a recognition for the work that's being done on the front lines, and quite frankly, has been done since the beginning of this pandemic by people who are not at the top, but people who are often working multiple jobs just to make ends meet. ... I am willing to try [pushing for employers to help their

workers get vaccinated], but not at the risk of rewarding people who have sacrificed so much already and are still putting themselves in harm's way, whether or not they have a vaccine in their arm."

Instead, the council will request that pharmacies, retail stores and grocery stores coordinate with each other to make vaccinations easier for their employees to get. Grocery store workers became eligible for vaccinations on March 1.

Because the urgency ordinance did not pass, the credit given to businesses such as Trader Joe's that already have some amount of hazard pay enacted will be delayed as well. Until April 16, those businesses will have to pay an additional \$5 per hour on top of the hazard pay, which Shyne noted last month was already an additional \$4 per hour for Trader Joe's employees.

The council also decided against including Best Buy in the ordinance, something D'Amico requested last month but was not feasible under West Hollywood's ordinance, which was based on that of the city of Los Angeles.



photo by Cameron Kiszla

The West Hollywood locations of stores such as Target and CVS will have to pay their employees an additional \$5 per hour in hazard pay, but not until mid-April.

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MCWCommunityFirst.org

Praise pours in for Firestone building preservation

■ All Season Brewing Company opens in historic space

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Things are revving once again at a former Firestone service center at the corner of La Brea Avenue and Eighth Street after the building was renovated and reopened last week as a brewery and restaurant.

All Season Brewing Company, one of many Los Angeles restaurants, bars and breweries operated by the hospitality company Pouring With Heart, opened in the space at 800 S. La Brea Ave. on Feb. 24. The landmark building, which was designated a city of Los Angeles cultural-historic monument in 2012, was painstakingly refurbished, with many of the original features of the

1937 structure left intact, according to the new owners. Firestone closed the service center in approximately 2015.

“It was very important to preserve the space as much as possible,” said Matt Winter, of M. Winter Design, who spearheaded the design of the new brewery. “We looked at all of the features of the building and kept as many as we could. It was important to keep the look of the building’s exterior and we restored it back to its original appearance. The interior of the space was also left original.”

The renovation project took approximately four years. Winter said the plan called for the baked enamel panels, signs and surfaces to be refinished and repainted, a time-consuming process. The large neon Firestone sign remains atop the building and has been restored.

Winter said windows from a car wash area were relocated behind the bar offering patrons a view into the brewing room.

“We did a lot of little things to make sure we kept the original character,” Winter added. “Because there was a change of use, we had to make this building work for the modern day. But I am a third-generation native [of Los Angeles] who understands the importance of preserving these buildings that have been forgotten. One of the things my company specializes in is giving a new look to old spaces, and this building was a special project.”

All Season Brewing is currently open with outdoor seating. Hours are currently 3 to 10 p.m., Monday through Thursday; 3 p.m. to midnight, Friday; noon to midnight, Saturday; and noon to 10 p.m., Sunday. The brewery serves draught beers made on premises, as well as specialty cocktails and a full bar. Patrons can order food from Chicas Tacos, which oversees food service onsite, and dine on the patio. Tables have been spaced 8 feet apart, and masks and physical distancing are required. Food must accompany alcohol purchases. There is currently seating on the patio for 75 people during restrictions due to the pandemic, Winter said. Normal capacity on the patio is 195 people, with the building having a maximum capacity of 425 people, he added.

Residents in the surrounding community were pleased the building was preserved and has been reopened as a neighborhood-serving business. It was designated as a cultural-his-



photo by Conrad Starr

The building at La Brea Avenue and Eighth Street was restored in homage to its previous use as an auto service center.



photo by Conrad Starr

The patio at All Season Brewing Company has ample space for patrons.

toric monument based on its Streamline Moderne architecture, according to the Los Angeles Conservancy. Conrad Starr, president of the Sycamore Square Neighborhood Association, said he hopes it is a success.

“It’s really pretty and it’s big. When you see people there, you see how large the restaurant is,” said Starr, adding that Pouring With Heart worked extensively with the neighbors during the planning process. “We’ve been waiting for this for years now. By the chatter on Nextdoor, it’s an eagerly anticipated institution in the greater area.”

Miracle Mile Residential Association President Greg Goldin also praised the preservation effort and the work it took to restore the building to its old appearance.

“Everyone was quite relieved that this landmark building was preserved and not destroyed,” Goldin said. “This is the sort of small-scale business we want. I think the building is a really good example of adaptive reuse because it preserves a building that is part of the heritage of the Miracle Mile. We should be grateful and happy the developer chose to do that instead of tearing it down.”

Winter encouraged members of the public to visit soon.

“My message is to come and enjoy a Los Angeles relic that has been completely restored for a new life, and the care and detail that went into restoring the space,” he added. “I hope people will look out for other buildings and make sure they take a stand to preserve L.A.’s history.”

Metro explores fareless system on buses and trains

The Los Angeles County Transportation Authority is studying how the agency could eliminate fares on buses and trains and wants public input.

The Fareless System Initiative study is underway and may lead to a fareless pilot program that would provide free rides on Metro buses and rail service for low-income riders and kindergarten through 12th grade students. The fareless system could be implemented beginning next January. Metro encourages people to learn more about the initiative and provide feedback.

The Fareless System Initiative project team will present information on the initiative at five local Service Council meetings in March. The upcoming meeting for the Westside/Central Service Council will be held on Wednesday, March 10, at 6 p.m. For information, visit metro.net/about/local-service-councils.

Metro’s local service councils advise the agency on planning and implementation of services in five geographic regions. Public input also helps guide decision making regarding services.

The information will be the same during each presentation, although participants can ask questions and provide input about their specific areas.

For questions and information, email fareless@metro.net.



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Light shines at the end of the subway tunnel

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority announced on March 1 that the first tunnel boring machine has broken through the final section of dirt and emerged at the Wilshire/La Cienega subway station in Beverly Hills. Named Elsie, the machine is the first of two that will reach the final station on the first section of Metro’s Purple Line Extension Project. The second tunneling machine is expected to break through the final section of soil and emerge at the station soon.

Tunneling for the first four-mile section of the project is now two-thirds complete, Metro officials said. More than 90% of the tunnels have been excavated and Metro anticipates completing tunneling on the first section this summer. Excavation for all three subway station boxes – Wilshire/La Brea, Wilshire/Fairfax and Wilshire/La Cienega – has also been completed.

Elsie, a 1,000-ton, 400-foot long tunnel boring machine, started heading west from the Wilshire/Fairfax station on May 29, 2020, and reached the Wilshire/La Cienega station on Feb. 25. The tunneling machines were manufactured in Germany by Herrenknecht AG. Metro contracted with the joint venture Skanska Traylor Shea to design and build the first section of the project.

Reaching the milestone is a significant accomplishment, Metro officials said. The high-tech tunneling machines have successfully mined through a unique combination of soils and geologic conditions, including tar sands and methane gas.

“Metro has reached yet another milestone as it works to bring fast, frequent and reliable subway service to the Westside,” Los Angeles Mayor and Metro Board Chair Eric Garcetti said. “Tunneling to Wilshire/La Cienega is a big step toward completing the first section to the Miracle Mile and Beverly Hills and connecting Angelenos to the many destinations in both of those communities.”

Metro’s tunneling machines were



photo courtesy of Metro

A tunneling machine recently emerged at the Wilshire/La Cienega subway station after completing a tunnel on the Purple Line Extension.

first lowered into the ground at the Wilshire/La Brea station location in the Miracle Mile in October 2018. The machines tunneled approximately 60 feet per day, excavating five days a week, 20 hours a day.

The closed-faced machines are pressurized and minimize ground settlement during excavation. The tunnel is lined with precast concrete segments that are bolted together to form a ring. Segments are also gasketed to seal the joints between segments from water and gas.

When tunneling on the first section is finished, both of Metro’s tunneling machines will have excavated nearly 500,000 cubic yards of earth, Metro officials said.

“This project is easily the most complex engineering feat in the modern history of L.A. Metro Rail construction,” Metro CEO Phillip A. Washington said. “The subway trav-

els through some of L.A. County’s most densely urbanized neighborhoods and beneath some of our region’s most challenging geologic conditions. I’m glad that our project team has had such great success in tunneling through this area.”

The first section of the Purple Line Extension is scheduled for completion in 2023. For information, visit metro.net/purplelineext.

Subway work remains steady along Wilshire Boulevard

Metro is continuing with the installation of geotechnical instruments in March along the Purple Line Extension tunnel alignment from Century City to Beverly Hills.

Ten-foot poles with geotechnical instruments will be temporarily installed on sidewalks to monitor ground movement, settlement and other geological impacts during major construction. Each pole and instrument will be in place for approximately one month before being removed and relocated. Installation and removal will require intermittent traffic lane and sidewalk closures.

The poles will be installed on Brighton Way, Wilshire and Charleville boulevards, and Young, Lasky, Moreno, Spalding, Linden, Swall, Wetherly, Oakhurst, Bedford, Canon, Beverly and Doheny drives. Two lanes in each direction will be maintained for daytime work on Wilshire Boulevard. Other adjacent streets may be reduced to one lane. Flaggers will be stationed at both ends to allow through traffic in both directions during the installation and removal of the poles.

Construction will start this month on underground appendage structures such as entrances and exits, passageways and utility rooms adjacent to the

Wilshire/La Cienega subway station. The work will require intermittent and semi-permanent lane reductions and closures in the neighborhoods around the intersection.

The work is anticipated to be implemented in phases through the third quarter of 2022. During the first phase, which will last through January 2022, Wilshire Boulevard will be reduced to two lanes in each direction between San Vicente and La Cienega boulevards. Left turns from Wilshire Boulevard onto Gale Drive and from Tower Drive onto Wilshire Boulevard will be restricted.

Intermittent lane reductions may be also in place on Wilshire Boulevard between El Camino and Crescent drives. Crews are still excavating at the Wilshire/Rodeo subway station in Beverly Hills, and concrete deliveries and pouring are occurring at the Wilshire/La Cienega and Wilshire/Gale staging yards.

Other work continues in staging yards near the Wilshire/Fairfax, Wilshire/La Brea and Wilshire/Western stations, as well as at locations along Wilshire Boulevard. 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.

Stay up to date with street sweeping changes online

StreetsLA, formerly the Bureau of Street Services, has modified street sweeping operations and launched a notification system to alert the public about days and times when streets will be swept.

With the COVID-19 pandemic and staff reductions, the frequency of street sweeping will change on routes in the city of Los Angeles from weekly to bi-weekly. To assist residents with the changes, a map and street-sweeping notification system can be viewed by visiting streetsla.lacity.org/sweeping.

The notification system will allow users to input an address and get notification 24 hours before sweeping via email. The goal is to give residents an opportunity to move their vehicles prior to the posted sweeping time and avoid being cited.

“StreetsLA has done a brilliant job in adapting during the pandemic and with staff reductions, while working hard to maintain core services,” said Board of Public Works Commissioner Teresa Villegas. “Street sweeping

is one of the key services for Angelenos and we appreciate the stakeholders’ feedback and understanding as we make modifications.”

In addition to the website, notifications will be disseminated by City Council offices, the Los Angeles Department of Transportation, neighborhood councils and the StreetsLA Stakeholder Advisory Council, as well as social media and online community platforms.

Residents can also contact the city’s 311 call center from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 8 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. on weekends for information, or use the 311 app.

“We want to thank the residents of the city as we make these changes to the street sweeping operation,” StreetsLA General Manager Adel Hagekhalil said. “We are committed to maintaining this important service, while also giving us the opportunity to adjust in order to maximize our resources.”

For information, visit [street-sla.lacity.org](https://streetsla.lacity.org).

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photo courtesy of Mayor Eric Garcetti's office

Mobile clinics have tripled the number of vaccinations they have been administering to 12,000 per week.

City opens vaccination sites to those who are newly eligible

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti has announced that city vaccination sites have been expanded to accommodate new workers who are now eligible, including education, child care, food and agriculture, and law enforcement employees. The transition to expanded eligibility occurred while doses remain limited. City sites will primarily provide second doses this week, and will offer a small number of first dose appointments. The city's online portal has been updated to allow those with new eligibility to make first dose appointments.

"Our vaccination program has weathered many challenges, but we have made it clear that nothing will interfere with our mission to deliver this life saving vaccine to Angelenos as quickly and as safely as possible," Garcetti said. "Opening eligibility to more groups of essential workers will save more lives and accelerate our recovery. We are encouraged to hear commitments for more vaccines coming from our federal and state partners, and stand ready to scale up our operations so we can end this pandemic."

The city's capacity remains higher than the supply of vaccines it is receiving. Even with delayed deliveries in late February, the city administered over 90,000 doses during a single week — the highest number administered to date but only 68% of the program's total capacity. Providing an average of 18,080 doses each day, the city was able to make up for postponed appointments from the previous week and remained on schedule to deliver second doses that were due for patients. If the city receives additional doses this week, more first dose appointments will become available.

The city's mobile program has also tripled its total capacity, increasing doses administered to vulnerable communities from 4,000 to 12,000 per week. Additionally, the city has begun the planning process to integrate the recently FDA-authorized Johnson & Johnson vaccine into its inventory in the coming weeks, preparing to administer doses once the state and county provide them.

For information, visit coronavirus.lacounty.org/vaccines.

WeHo encourages vaccinations as more people become eligible

The city of West Hollywood is encouraging more people to get vaccinated for COVID-19 now that Los Angeles County has announced that workers in three additional sectors — education and child care, emergency services and first responders, and food and agriculture — are eligible to receive vaccines.

The newly eligible sectors join frontline health care workers, staff and residents at skilled nursing facilities, staff and residents at long-term care facilities, and all people ages 65 and over in being eligible for vaccines. Residents in all eligible groups may visit vaccinelacounty.com to schedule appointments. Residents who do not have computer access may call (833)540-0473 between 8 a.m. and 8:30 p.m. for assistance.

Los Angeles County continues to urge patience as it works to expand capacity and supply, which is currently limited. The vaccine will be offered to different groups of people at different times. When enough vaccines are ready, they will be offered to the general population. People coming to be vaccinated

will be asked to verify they are in an eligible group.

"Getting vaccinated is critical in our aim to get back to normal," West Hollywood Mayor Lindsey Horvath said. "Our public health officials are continuing to get as many vaccines out as quickly as possible. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has recently announced its emergency-use authorization for a third vaccine, which will expand supply, and I'm relieved that L.A. County has announced expanded vaccine eligibility to include countless essential workers who work in education and child care, emergency services and first response, and food and agriculture. If you are eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, please do so as soon as possible to help protect yourself and your loved ones."

While the vaccine stops people from getting sick, it is not yet clear if it stops people from spreading COVID-19 to others. The county encourages everyone to continue wearing face coverings, maintaining physical distance and avoiding gatherings. For information, visit publichealth.lacounty.gov.

LaBonge, Wyman to be honored at coliseum

Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn, 4th District, recently proposed adding two plaques to the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum Court of Honor recognizing the late former City Councilman Tom LaBonge, 4th District, and former City Councilwoman Roz Wyman, 5th District, who along with Hahn's father, Los Angeles County Supervisor Kenneth Hahn, helped bring the Dodgers to Los Angeles.

Hahn nominated LaBonge and Wyman for the honors during the Feb. 25 meeting of the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum Commission and the motion was unanimously approved.

"I hope these plaques will be fitting tributes to their legacies," Hahn said. "Tom loved this city and the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum. This plaque will be a way for us to show how much we loved him back. Roz, along with my father, brought the Dodgers to L.A. and they played their first two seasons and the 1959 World Series in the coliseum. That is L.A. history that needs to be recognized."

LaBonge, known to many as "Mr. Los Angeles," was a longtime supporter of the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum. He attended Coliseum Commission meetings after he



photo by Edwin Folven

Former Los Angeles City Councilman Tom LaBonge, left, joined Olympic greats Rafer Johnson and Louis Zamperini at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum in 2008. LaBonge will be recognized in the coliseum's Court of Honor, along with another new inductee — former City Councilwoman Roz Wyman. Johnson is also recognized in the Court of Honor.

retired from the City Council and raised funds for other Court of Honor honorees. He also once photographed games from the sideline at the coliseum, Hahn said.

Wyman was linked to the coliseum through the Dodgers as the City Council's first representative on the

Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum Commission. She was also the second woman to serve on the Los Angeles City Council and was the youngest person ever elected to the council, at the age of 22, in 1953.

For information, visit lacoliseum.com.

County stays in most restrictive health order tier

Los Angeles County Department of Public Health announced on March 2 that the county remains in the most restrictive purple tier in the state's Blueprint for a Safer Economy.

To move into the less restrictive red tier that allows for additional reopenings, L.A. County's daily case rate must be at or below seven new cases per 100,000 people and the county's test positivity rate must be at or below 8%. On March 2, updated numbers were released and L.A. County's adjusted case rate is 7.2 new cases per 100,000 people and the test positivity rate is 3.5%. If Los Angeles county's adjusted case rate drops to seven new cases per 100,000 people next week, the county must continue to show a case rate of seven new cases per 100,000 people or less for two consecutive weeks before it can move into the red tier and be eligible for additional re-openings, including on-site learning for the seventh through 12th grades.

"L.A. County is very close to meeting the metric thresholds for the less restrictive red tier in the state's Blueprint for a Safety Economy, which will provide our county with more opportunities to reopen for additional activities," Los Angeles County Director of Public Health Barbara Ferrer said. "Since there is still widespread transmission occurring in our county, we are hoping we do not see increases in the number of daily cases in the upcoming weeks that will pause our recovery journey and cause more hospitalizations. With an increase in the circulation of variants, we need to ask our residents, workers and businesses to continue following the safety measures and implement health officer order directives, including wearing a mask and physically distancing from others not in your household to prevent spread."



County health officials also announced progress in other areas. The number of COVID-19 cases among people experiencing homelessness has substantially declined from the peak of 620 weekly cases


reported around Christmas to 91 new cases reported this week. The number includes 63 cases from previous weeks that were newly identified and were included in the new case totals. To date, the public health department has identified 6,927 cases among people experiencing homelessness, and 180 people who were experiencing homelessness have passed away from COVID-19.

Health care workers, residents and staff at long-term care facilities, people 65 or older, education and childcare workers, food and agriculture workers, and emergency service workers and law enforcement employees are now eligible for the COVID-19 vaccines.

For information, visit vaccinelacounty.com and publichealth.lacounty.gov.

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





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- Korean Cuisine Series
- Korean Art in America Series
- Korean Movie Night
- K-Performance Series
- Remembering April 29 Writing Contest (ITBC)
- From JBJ to Gwangbi: The Origins of Choi-Minul Type
- 2021 Online K-Pop Dance Tutorial
- 2021 Hanbok Week
- Online Korean Language Program
- 2021 Online Korean Speech Contest

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JCF issues new grants

The Jewish Community Foundation of Los Angeles has announced that it has awarded \$1.3 million in grants to five local organizations to address urgent physical and mental health care needs in the community.

The grants also include support to sustain small-business owners financially impacted by the pandemic and are part of the previously announced COVID-19 Response Grants, a multi-stage initiative through which the foundation has committed more than \$8 million. The five new recipients are Jewish Family Service Los Angeles, the Jewish Free Loan Association, Los Angeles Jewish Home, Martin Luther King Community Hospital and Venice Family Clinic. The foundation has awarded a total of 46 grants. Prior relief grants addressed immediate needs in the Los Angeles community and in Israel, and to sustain Jewish non-profits impacted by the pandemic.

Through its ongoing outreach with local nonprofits and other funders, the foundation identified unmet needs resulting from more hospitalizations due to COVID-19, according to president and CEO Marvin I. Schotland. The ongoing pandemic also has resulted in greater isolation of many seniors who lack the technology or knowledge to access essential care, he added. It continues to have a devastating financial impact on small business owners.

“This is a global health crisis of a magnitude never experienced in our lifetimes. Vast needs continue to emerge that require support. Because the foundation is in regular contact with non-profits, we are able to respond quickly as critical needs are identified, including funding for urgent physical and mental healthcare disparities and busi-

nesses that are struggling,” Schotland said. “With these significant grants to five organizations, our dollars will favorably impact thousands of individuals in need in the Jewish and larger community.”

Jewish Family Service Los Angeles will use a grant for video services for older adults. It will expand a successful pilot program to connect frail older adults with vital services. Funding will support staffing and provide Chromebooks and internet connectivity for elderly clients.

The Jewish Free Loan Association will use a grant for its Small Business Loan Fund. Due to the pandemic, JFLA has received a significantly higher number of applications for interest-free loans – on average \$20,000 – for struggling businesses and for launching new enterprises. The grant will help grow the loan fund and allow JFLA to continue loaning money.

Los Angeles Jewish Home will use a grant for the Brandman Centers for Senior Cares Program for All-inclusive Care for the Elderly. Known as PACE, the program provides services for 250 nursing home-eligible seniors who wish to remain in their own homes or with family members. The grant will also be used for the Factor Building Skilled Nursing Facility to support patients needing long-term medical and rehabilitative therapies for COVID-19.

The Martin Luther King Community Hospital will receive a grant for space conversion and its post-discharge Intensive Care Unit. The Venice Family Clinic will use a grant for telehealth/information technology infrastructure to keep older adults engaged and prevent social isolation, and its COVID Care Outreach Initiative.

For information, visit jewishfoundationla.org.

WeHo recognizes women’s history in March

The city of West Hollywood will celebrate National Women’s History Month in March with a series of virtual events to recognize and honor women.

Throughout the month, a series of street lamp pole banners that commemorate famous American women, civil rights leaders and women’s rights activists will be on display along Santa Monica Boulevard.

Two new women’s history month street lamp pole banners honor Alicia Garza, principal at Black Futures Lab and co-founder of the Black Lives Matter Global Network; and business leader and activist Michaela Mendelsohn, CEO, founder and board chair of Trans Can Work.

Additional banners will honor pioneering lesbian and feminist activist Ivy Bottini, who died on Feb. 25 at the age of 94, as well as Maya Angelou, Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Blackwell, Rachel Carson, Hillary Rodham Clinton, Bessie Coleman, Midge Costanza, Jane Fonda, Barbara Gittings, Dolores Huerta, Mother Jones, Coretta Scott King, Wilma Mankiller, Mary McLeod Bethune, Patsy Mink, Connie Norman, Michelle Obama, Rosa Parks, Eleanor Roosevelt, Margaret Sanger, Sonia Sotomayor, Gloria Steinem, Elizabeth Taylor and Harriet Tubman.

A series of virtual events honoring women will also be held throughout March. MashUp Contemporary Dance Company will present the 5th annual International Women’s Day Dance Festival from Friday, March 5, through Monday, March 8. The festival will feature free dance classes, panels and a choreographers’ showcase.

For information and to register, visit bit.ly/2MRxLpU.

The city of West Hollywood and its Russian Advisory Board will present an online International Women’s Day Celebration on Sunday, March 7, from 1 to 2 p.m. Enjoy stories about inspiring

women written by community members and read by professional actors.

To view, visit youtube.com/wehotv.

“WeHo Reads: In Your Face – Womxn Writing Truth” will be held virtually on Wednesday, March 17, from 6. to 7:30 p.m. The reading and discussion featuring Myriam Gurba and Randa Jarrar will celebrate the release of Randa’s new memoir “Love is an Ex-Country.” For information and to RSVP, visit weho.org/wehoreads.

Join a dynamic group of lesbians discussing their written works on Thursday, March 18, from 7 to 9 p.m. “Reviving the Revolution: Empowered Lesbians and Queer Women of Color Read and Discuss Their Written Works” will be moderated by Suzette Zazueta and will feature Jewelle Gomez, C.B. Lee, Vero’nica Reyes and Alicia Vogl Saenz.

To register, visit zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlcc-2hrzsvG9NwIHPReGSb8Qr7lZwHSQFZ.

On Friday, March 19, from 6 to 7 p.m., the city will celebrate the late U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg with a virtual panel discussion about her legacy. Admission is free.

For information, visit www.wehobgday.eventbrite.com.

The city of West Hollywood and its Women’s Advisory Board will also co-sponsor an Equal Rights Amendment panel discussion presented with the Hollywood Chapter of the National Organization for Women on Saturday, March 20, at noon. Admission is free.

For information, call (323)596-7389, or email hollywoodnowchapter@gmail.com.

The West Hollywood Transgender Advisory Board and Women’s Advisory Board will host two virtual screenings of “The TransVagina Diaries” by Lindsey Deaton on Saturday, March 27 and Sunday, March 28, at 2 p.m. Admission is free.

For tickets and information, visit transvaginadiaries2021.eventbrite.com.

Women’s History Month in West Hollywood concludes on Wednesday, March 25, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., with the 25th Annual West Hollywood Women in Leadership Awards and Reception, a virtual celebration. This year’s honorees are Katie Brightside, artist/designer and creative director for Welcome to the Brightside Agency; Emiliana Guereca, founder of Women’s March Los Angeles and president of Women’s March Foundation; Silvia Salguero, mental health therapist and former city of West Hollywood Women’s Advisory Board member; and Fran Solomon, community leader and former city staff member. The suggested donation is \$25 and benefits the National Council of Jewish Women, Los Angeles.

For information and tickets, visit wehowila2021.eventbrite.com.

A full schedule of City of West Hollywood events and meetings is available at weho.org/calendar.

Paid parental leave approved in L.A.

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti and City Council President Nury Martinez, 6th District, recently announced the launch of the Paid Parental Time pilot program for city employees. Approved by the City Council, the initiative provides six weeks of fully paid time off for new parents, supporting thousands of municipal workers who are ineligible for employee parental benefits from the state.

Martinez and Councilman Paul Krekorian, 2nd District, first introduced the motion calling for paid parental leave for city employees in 2015. The mayor’s office advanced the proposal further, putting forth a plan to provide six weeks of fully paid parental leave for employees unable to work due to pregnancy or following the birth, adoption or long-term foster care placement of a child.

Letters to the Editor

LAPF likes orange grove story

Re “‘Orange’ you glad they are helping?,” Feb. 11 issue

We can’t thank you enough for the front page, lead story about our project [at the Franklin Canyon Orange Grove]. We were thrilled and our board members in Beverly Hills all loved it.

I personally am also grateful for the inclusion of our Tom LaBonge Memorial Fund in your story [about his passing] a few weeks back. Tom loved the Beverly Press. He was all about community, as you know, and your newspaper does a lot to knit many neighborhoods together as a whole. Thanks for that.

*Carolyn Ramsay
Executive director,
Los Angeles Parks Foundation*



image courtesy of the city of West Hollywood



image courtesy of the city of West Hollywood

ESTATE PLANNING

An Introduction

Many people think that estate planning is simply the writing of a will. But a good estate plan will also protect you in the event of your incapacity. It will let you - ~~not the courts~~ - make decisions about your medical care and keep control of your assets. The best time to plan your estate is now - while you can and before you need it. None of us likes to think about our own frailties, but that is exactly why so many families are caught off guard and unprepared when incapacity or death strikes.

Who Needs Estate Planning?

EVERYONE over the age of 18 should consider the benefits associated with designating a person who, in the event of your incapacity, will have the responsibility for the management of your health care, including the authority to make health care decisions on your behalf.

Whatever the size of your estate, even a small one, someone should be in charge of its management and distribution. If your estate is larger, you will also want to consider various ways to preserve your assets for your beneficiaries and to reduce or postpone the amount of estate tax which otherwise might be payable at your death.

What Is My Estate?

Your estate consists, simply, of everything you own - your home, other real estate, bank accounts, investments, retirement benefits, insurance policies, death benefits, collectibles, and personal belongings. When you start adding it up you may find, like many people do, that you actually own a lot more than you think. Now, perhaps, you understand why people do estate planning.

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RESTAURANT NEWS

by Jill Weinlein

Brooklyn Ave.
Pizza Co. dineL.A.

Order a 12-inch pizza and a choice of three-piece wings or papas for \$20. This dineL.A. special is available for dining outside only on Tuesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. 2706 E. Cesar E. Chavez Ave., (323)968-1106.

Cafe Gratitude
dineL.A. Week

Available through March 14, the vegetarian Cafe Gratitude has crafted a special prix-fixe lunch available for \$20 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. that includes a starter and entrée. The special dine L.A. dinner is \$35 per person from 4 to 9 p.m., and includes a refreshing sangria or pressed juice drink, a starter, entrée and dessert. Menu highlights include coconut calamari, eggplant

caponata pasta, and a key lime pie or olive oil cake. These specials are available for outdoor dining, takeout and delivery at the DTLA, Larchmont and Venice locations. 300 S. Santa Fe Ave., Suite 300, (213)929-5580; 639 N. Larchmont Blvd., (323)580-6383.

Comfort food at
Adrift Burger Bar

For dineL.A. week, order an Adrift burger layered with tomato jam, pickled jalapeño, arugula and Gruyère cheese with house-made truffle chips for \$15 until March 14, Monday through Sunday for takeout and delivery starting at 11:30 a.m. 1025 Abbot Kinney Blvd., (424)238-5753.

dineL.A. Casa Vega

Enjoy Casa Vega’s signature Emargarita with the dinner

dineL.A. menu for \$25. Main dishes include a vegetarian burrito, house combination, tres tacos chicos and a choice of churros or flan for dessert. This dineL.A. special is available for takeout or outdoor dining Monday through Sunday from 4:30 p.m. to midnight. Casa Vega’s dineL.A. lunch menu is \$20 per person without a margarita included. 13301 Ventura Blvd., (818)788-4868.

Original Farmers
Market dineL.A.

Every day from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., enjoy \$15 dineL.A. specials at many of the merchants at the Original Farmers Market until March 14. Go for a large gumbo with a green salad and an iced tea from the Gumbo Pot. At Trejo’s Tacos, guests can order the two-taco plate with a refreshing agua fresca. Du-par’s Restaurant is offering a patty melt, turkey club or chicken sandwich with a choice of side and a drink. Kids and adults will enjoy the Fritzi Coop butter-milk fried chicken sandwich alongside mac and cheese gobblers. The

French Crepe Company is offering custom four-ingredient crepes with a small Nutella crepe for dessert. There are plenty of tables and seats available on the open-air dining patios, or guests can order for pick-up and delivery via Mercato when they call the individual merchant and verify delivery options. farmersmarketla.com. 6333 W. Third St., (323)933-9211.

CHLA partners with
restaurants

The annual month-long campaign brings the community together to support local restaurants and businesses and gives back to the hospital, to help provide life-saving services to over 600,000 children each year. Some of this year’s partners include Shake Shack offering a 25% donation at all 12 locations. Ggiata Delicatessen is having a CHLA patient create a special Make March Matter sandwich with a percentage of sales donated to CHLA all month long. Go Get Em Tiger is creating a special cookie with sales going to CHLA during the month of

March. H. Wood Group has four restaurants – Slab, Petite Taqueria, Delilah and Nice Guy – supporting the campaign. Porto’s Bakery is bringing back their delicious CHLA butterfly cookie with proceeds going to the campaign, and Randy’s Donuts is creating a special donut at their Inglewood location. Visit Uncle Paulie’s Deli and \$1 is donated from every sale and guests have the option to donate more at checkout. To learn more, go to makemarchmatter.org.

Sant’olina pop-up at
the Beverly Hilton

A new dining option is set to open at the Beverly Hilton. Chef Michael Teich, David Johns and Slab’s Burt Bakman are offering a melting pot of Israeli and Mediterranean cuisine with a SoCal vibe. The hotel’s brand-new 360 degree view rooftop restaurant by the H. Wood Group is set to debut this month. Menu highlights include mujadarra, halloumi, cauliflower tabbouleh, Israeli salad, chickpea matbucha, lemonfish crudo, zucchini keftedes, borekas,



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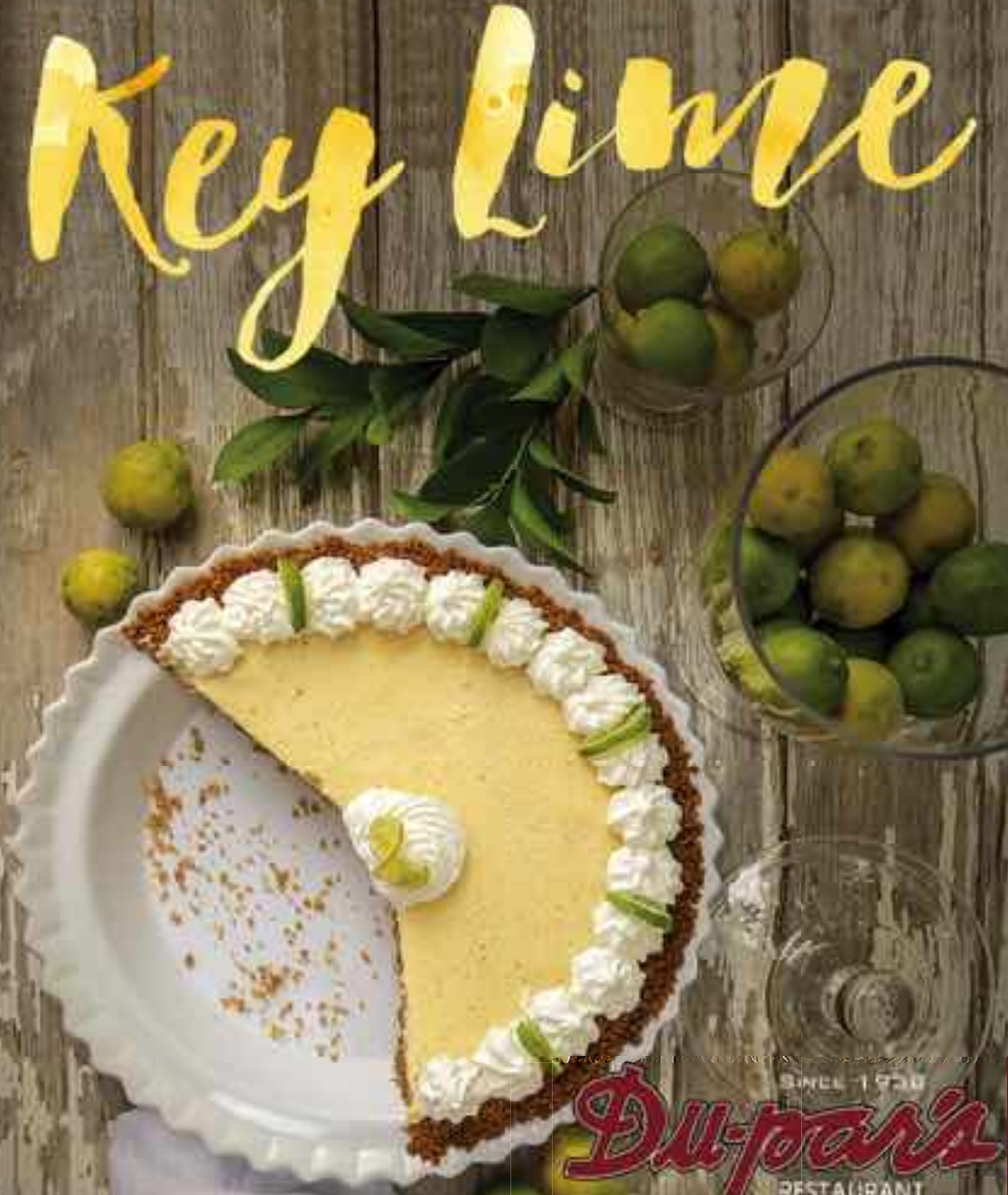
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Ficks makes an authentic hard seltzer using pure fruit juice that offers a clean taste, zero added sugar and only 100 calories. Flavors include blackberry, mango, cranberry, lime and grapefruit. Variety cases are available at Bevmo, Target and Hollywood Super Mart. Also, Fick’s can be delivered via Drizly.



photo courtesy of Jill Weinlein

Pacific oysters and harissa-cured salmon. Dinner service is nightly and brunch service will be on weekends. 9876 Wilshire Blvd., (310)274-7777.

Vespertine Oaxaca at home

Chef Jordan Kahn continues to expand on the his atmospheric theme, recreating the Vespertine dining experience, this time offering Oaxacan dishes. Available for delivery or pickup from the Culver City restaurant, a new

Oaxaca menu is available starting Friday, March 5. Each package is \$95 per person and sold in servings for two. The Oaxacan menu includes an optional supplemental mezcal tasting for \$49, featuring three of Kahn’s favorite mezcals from Nuestra Soledad, crafted from the villages of San Luis del Rio, Santa Maria Zoquitlán and Lachiguí Miahuatlán. A selection of snacks, or botanas include an agua fresca, chile roasted peanuts and a plantain empanada. Mains or platos include a barbacoa of prime rib. To see the full menu, order via Tock. 3599 Hayden Ave., (323)320-4023.

‘Cook with Jacques & Friends: Volume 2’

The Jacques Pépin Foundation is excited to release “Cook with Jacques & Friends: Volume 2,” a video recipe book featuring over 40 chefs, bartenders and others from across the country. Los Angeles chefs Antonia Lofaso, Brooke Williamson and Josiah Citrin are among those who have contributed recipes for “Volume 2.” Each contributor submitted a video and recipe so readers can watch and cook alongside the contributor. The video recipe book is available to all Jacques Pépin Foundation members. Membership starts at \$40 per year. The Jacques Pépin Foundation supports free culinary and life skills training through community-based organizations. To learn more, go to jp.foundation.



“We are all equal in the eyes of the stove.”

Jacques Pépin



photo courtesy of Caruso

Clang, clang, clang goes the Trolley!

Take a trip on the Trolley at The Grove. Built on the historic undercarriage of a 1950s Boston streetcar, the Trolley travels along First Street through The Grove, taking visitors on a special tour of the property. Powered by electricity, it was the first transit system in the United States to use inductive power technology.

The Trolley operates from noon to 7:45 p.m., Sunday through Thursday; and 1 to 8:45 p.m., Friday and Saturday. The Trolley is recharged from 3:45 to 5 p.m., daily.

Only one-way trips are available at this time. Loading and unloading takes place in front of the Trolley Depot.

Frequent sanitization is used to safeguard health and safety. Guests are seated six feet apart in every other row to ensure physical distancing. Each row accommodates an individual or family. Conductors advise passengers that masks are required at all times.

The Grove is located at 189 The Grove Drive. Call (323)900-8080, or visit thegrovela.com.



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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 Feb. 20 and Feb. 27. 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

Feb. 21

At 4:21 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of N. Rodeo.

Feb. 22

At 2:40 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 400 block of N. Rodeo.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8400 block of Wilshire at 10:36 p.m.

Feb. 23

At 2:45 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 9000 block of Olympic.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 300 block of S. La Cienega at 3:35 p.m.

At 8:30 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 800 block of Foothill.

Feb. 24

At 7:30 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of S. Doheny.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 100 block of Bedford at 10:04 a.m.

Feb. 25

At 1:14 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of N. Rodeo.

Feb. 27

At 6 p.m., an unknown suspect stole auto parts in the 100 block of N. Arnaz. A second theft was also reported at 7 p.m. in the same area.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 500 block of Roxbury at 9:30 p.m.

At 11:51 p.m., a suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs near the corner of Santa Monica and Wilshire.

West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station

Feb. 21

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 9000 block of Beverly at 2:55 a.m.

At 8:50 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 1200 block of N. Kings.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 1000 block of Hammond at 12:45 p.m.

At 8 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 600 block of N. Robertson.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1200 block of N. Alta Loma at 10 p.m.

At 11:06 p.m., an unknown sus-

pect committed a petty theft in the 1200 block of N. La Brea.

Feb. 22

At 10:15 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8900 block of Sunset.

Feb. 23

At 7:30 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1400 block of N. Havenhurst.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1200 block of N. Fuller at 2:29 p.m.

At 4:52 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8200 block of Melrose.

Los Angeles Police Department

Feb. 20

At 12:20 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5800 block of Virginia.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 8100 block of Melrose at 3:30 a.m.

At 4 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 8200 block of Melrose.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 100 block of The Grove at 7:45 p.m.

At 7:50 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 7800 block of Melrose.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 300 block of S. Clark at 8 p.m.

At 9 p.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim near the corner of Selma and Cherokee.

Feb. 21

At 12:01 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 1800 block of N. Cahuenga.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 100 block of S. Martel at 2:52 a.m.

At 4:30 a.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 1800 block of N. Gramercy.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 600 block of N. Harper at 5:30 a.m.

At 9:30 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 6200 block of De Longpre.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 4100 block of S. La Cienega at 11:30 a.m.

At 1:50 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 600 block of N. Harper.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 600 block of S. Western at 3 p.m.

At 4:29 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 800 block of S. Wooster.

An unknown suspect committed a

burglary in the 7200 block of Clinton at 4:40 p.m.

At 4:40 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 1500 block of N. Poinsettia.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 6000 block of Eleanor at 5 p.m.

At 5:15 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked near the corner of Franklin and Whitley.

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

At 6:20 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 2100 block of N. Cahuenga.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 5700 block of First at 6:45 p.m.

At 8 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 3900 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1500 block of N. Cahuenga at 8:05 p.m.

At 8:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft. In the 6300 block of W. Third.

Feb. 22

At 2:45 a.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim near the corner of Cahuenga at Cerritos.

A suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 7000 block of Hawthorn at 5:30 a.m.

At 7 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 800 block of S. Le Doux.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of Hollywood and Vine at 7:20 a.m.

At 9 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 400 block of N. Oxford.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 3300 block of W. Eighth at noon.

At 5 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6300 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of Franklin and Orchid at 5 p.m.

At 5:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft near the corner of Santa Monica and Van Ness.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1400 block of N. Mansfield at 7 p.m.

Feb. 23

At 12:01 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 5500 block of Sierra Vista.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 800 block of S. Masselin at 2 a.m.

At 5:13 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty in the 6400 block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect committed a theft in the 7600 block of Beverly at 11 a.m.

At 11:55 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 6200 block of Afton.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near the corner of Windsor and Eighth at noon.

At noon, an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 7300

block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 500 block of N. Sycamore at 1:45 p.m.

At 5 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 2000 block of N. Las Palmas.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7300 block of Sunset at 5 p.m.

At 7 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 7800 block of Beverly.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1200 block of S. Holt at 7:30 p.m.

At 8 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1800 block of N. Wilcox.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1500 block of N. Gardner at 10 p.m.

At 11 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1600 block of N. Poinsettia.

Feb. 24

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 2000 block of N. Ivar at 3:10 a.m.

At 6:15 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6700 block of Hollywood.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 200 block of N. Arden at 9:20 a.m.

At 10 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 5100 block of Raleigh.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 800 block of S. Cloverdale at noon.

At 7:30 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked near the corner of Beverly and Sweetzer.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 6100 block of Pico at 9:15 p.m.

At 9:45 p.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 7100 block of Sunset.

Feb. 25

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 5800 block of Wilshire at 9:40 a.m.

At 10 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1100 block of S. Clark.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 6800 block of De Longpre at 4 p.m.

At 5 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1100 block of S. Elm.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim near the corner of Melrose and Curson at 5:15 p.m..

At 5:20 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 5100 block of Hollywood.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 5200 block of Sunset at 5:30 p.m.

At 5:30 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1800 block of N. Las Palmas.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5500 block of Wilshire at 5:25 p.m.

At 6:30 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 600 block of S. Bronson.

An unknown suspect robbed a vic-

tim in the 1700 block of Whitley at 8:30 p.m.

At 9 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near the corner of Hollywood and Argyle.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 6600 block of Fifth at 9:05 p.m.

At 9:20 p.m., a suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 1900 block of Argyle.

Feb. 26

At 2:40 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near the corner of Hollywood and Orange.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 5400 block of Sunset at 3 a.m.

At noon, an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 6500 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 6200 block of Hollywood at 4:15 p.m.

At 7:45 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 700 block of N. Western.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked near the corner of Orange and Eighth at 8 p.m.

At 8 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked near the corner of Plymouth and Wilshire.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 1700 block of N. Wilcox at 8:20 p.m.

At 8:45 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 6500 block of Colgate.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 300 block of S. La Cienega at 9:10 p.m.

At 11:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 6500 block of Hollywood.

Feb. 27

An unknown suspect robbed a victim near the corner of Western and Third at 1:30 a.m.

At 3 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 5500 block of Hollywood.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1100 block of N. La Brea at 6 a.m.

At 7 a.m., a suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 7000 block of Lanewood.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft near the corner of Hawthorn and Orange at noon.

At 12:20 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft near the corner of Melrose and Spaulding.

An unknown suspect committed a theft near the corner of Melrose and Spaulding at 12:30 p.m.

At 12:30 p.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 6800 block of Hollywood.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of Hawthorn and Poinsettia at 1:39 p.m.

At 4:10 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 700 block of N. La Brea.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 5400 block of Edgewood at 5 p.m.

CHLA and partners team up to Make March Matter

Children’s Hospital Los Angeles recently launched its sixth annual Make March Matter campaign. Actress, author, advocate and long-time CHLA supporter Jamie Lee Curtis joined the hospital to kick off the campaign. The month-long fundraising drive empowers local businesses to rally community participation to raise \$1 million or more in March in support of children’s health in Los Angeles.

“We are grateful to the businesses who are partnering with us this year in support of our commitment to improve the health of all children,” CHLA President and CEO Paul S. Viviano said. “The impact of the pandemic has affected every aspect of our lives, but one thing that has



photo courtesy of CHLA

People can support CHLA in a variety of ways in March through partnerships with local companies.

not wavered is the world-class care we provide to our precious young

pediatric patients.”

Since the campaign’s inaugural launch in 2016, Southern California businesses and corporate partners have helped raise \$8 million for life-saving care for children in Los Angeles and surrounding communities. Individuals can participate in this year’s campaign by dining or ordering takeout from local food establishments, shopping, participating in virtual workouts and more.

Numerous corporations and businesses have agreed to support community members in giving back. Each business has selected a unique way to contribute to the campaign’s collective impact. Some sell specific items with proceeds supporting CHLA patients, while others devote a portion of overall sales for the entire month. Panda Restaurant Group, parent company of Panda Express, has been the campaign’s top fundraiser for the past five years.

“Our Panda team is passionate about children’s causes,” Tina Hsing, director of Panda Cares said. “Funds raised via our in-store donations and associate giving initiatives will benefit CHLA’s Panda Cares Center of Hope and programming that is designed to improve children’s mental, emotional, physical and spiritual well-being.”

For a complete list of participating partners and events, visit make-marchmatter.org.



photo courtesy of the Ford Theatres

The Ford Theatres reprises Invertigo Dance Theatre work

Invertigo Dance Theatre presents “After It Happened,” a story of trauma, hope and healing, on Thursday, March 11, at 6:30 p.m.

Set in the aftermath of a natural disaster, Invertigo Dance Theatre’s “After It Happened” tells the story of a community rebuilding itself and searching for hope. The performance blends dance, theater and live music, capturing the feelings of resilience, desperation and regrowth that come in tragedy’s aftermath.

Recorded live on stage at the Ford in 2016, “After It Happened” was choreographed by Laura Karlin in collaboration with the performers and features original music composed by Toby Karlin, Diana Lynn and Hyosun Choi.

Viewing is available on the Ford Theatres’ YouTube and Facebook channels, and by visiting theford.com.



photo courtesy of Park Labrea News/Beverly Press archives

Chef Wolfgang Puck

Children’s Bureau plans culinary benefit with Wolfgang Puck

Children’s Bureau will observe Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month in April by hosting “Eat. Drink. Give.,” an exclusive virtual dinner party in support of the vulnerable children and families the agency serves.

The interactive event on April 17 will include a virtual cooking demo with Chef Wolfgang Puck. The evening will be hosted by former “Iron Chef” judge Billy Harris.

All proceeds will directly benefit Children’s Bureau’s child abuse prevention programs that provide families with support, tools and resources to thrive.

Nearly 100 children in California are placed in foster care due to abuse or neglect every day, and over 33,000 of those children live in Los Angeles and Orange counties. Children’s Bureau is one of the largest investors in child abuse prevention in the country.

Dinner tickets start at \$500 and include access to the virtual event, ingredients and instructions for a four-course meal for two, cocktails and a bottle of wine. Delivery within Los Angeles is offered at an additional charge. Viewing-only tickets are also available for \$50.

For information, visit all4kids.org/eatdrinkgive.



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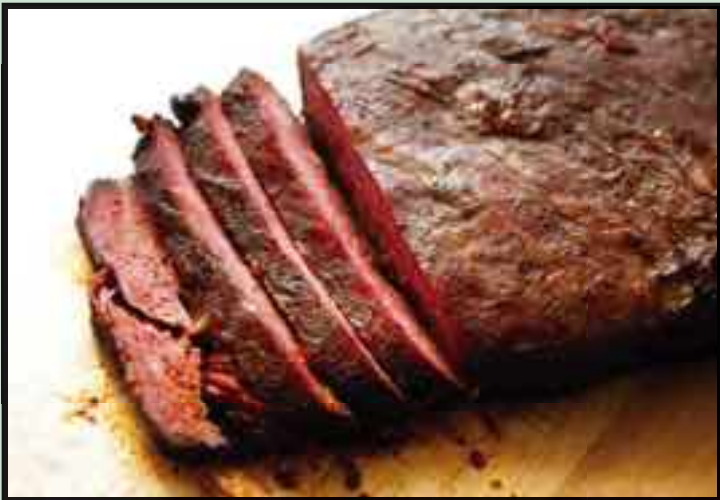
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BHHS seniors named students of the month



photo by Ilene Knebel

Beverly Hills High School seniors Shannon and Haley Miller were awarded Student of the Month honors by Jaynee Roszhart, exalted ruler of the Santa Monica Elks Lodge 906, on Feb. 15.

Elks Lodge 906 recognizes outstanding scholars in the community with this monthly award. Shannon Miller was honored for January and Haley Miller was honored for February.

For information, visit elks.org/lodges/home.cfm?LodgeNumber=906.

LAUSD adds 10 new electric buses to fleet, total now at 11

The Los Angeles Unified School District has purchased 10 additional all-electric “Magic School Buses” as part of the district’s efforts to transition to zero emissions and reduce its carbon footprint.

“Los Angeles Unified remains committed to reducing our carbon footprint,” Superintendent Austin Beutner said. “A single electric bus will save more than \$10,000 annually in lower maintenance costs as compared with a traditional diesel bus and reduce greenhouse gases by 54,000 pounds each year. It’s great these electric buses will arrive in time to bring students to schools when they reopen.”

The LionC buses can travel 155 miles on a single charge and incorporate an integrated wheelchair lift. The electric buses were funded in part by the California Energy Commission’s School Bus Replacement Program. The district has one bus already.

“We are always working to make Los Angeles Unified greener and more sustainable,” board President Kelly Gonez said. “These new buses will not only be better on the environment overall but will provide better air quality for our students and the bus drivers who ride them.”

“Electric buses equal cleaner air,” board member George J. McKenna III said. “That benefits our students, our families, our employees, all of us.”

“Los Angeles Unified’s transportation program serves as a journey to exciting places for many of our students and their ticket to campus,” board member Mónica García said. “This investment will continue taking kids to new heights and

reaching graduation while reducing our carbon footprint.”

“Now is the time to take effective action on climate change to protect our students, families, and communities,” board member Scott M. Schmerelson said. “These all-electric buses will provide efficient and reliable transportation for all our students. I applaud the transportation services division for continuing the efforts to reduce Los Angeles Unified’s carbon footprint, its fuel and maintenance costs in the short-term and long-term fleet plans as we continue to move toward the goal of achieving 100% clean, renewable energy by 2040.”

“I am proud that LA Unified takes its commitment to reducing our carbon footprint seriously,” board member Nick Melvoin said. “These buses are a positive step toward building the sustainable world that our students will need to thrive.”

“By reducing air pollution, electric buses improve our health,” board member Jackie Goldberg said. “Less pollution is especially beneficial for our children who have asthma aggravated by living in dense, congested, heavily traveled neighborhoods.”

“We all have a responsibility to slow, stop and reverse the harmful effects of everyday human activity on our environment,” board member Tanya Ortiz Franklin said. “These buses are an important step in LA Unified’s deep commitment to ensuring our students are prepared to thrive in life, and that includes having a global and local community capable of sustainability well into the future.”

For information, visit lausd.net.

State gives money for school reopening

Gov. Gavin Newsom, Senate President Pro Tempore Toni G. Atkins and Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon highlighted an agreement on March 1 on a \$6.6 billion budget package to accelerate the safe return to in-person instruction across California and empower schools to immediately expand academic, mental health and social-emotional support, including during the summer.

“Since the height of the winter surge, we have successfully shifted the conversation from whether to reopen schools to when,” Newsom said. “Now, our collective charge is to build on that momentum and local leadership, and – just as critically – do whatever it takes to meet the mental health and academic needs of our students, including over the summer.”

Public schools throughout the state will be allocated \$6.6 billion under the proposed budget package. Approximately \$2 billion will fund safety measures to support in-person instruction, such as personal protective equipment, ventilation upgrades and COVID-19 testing. An additional \$4.6 billion would fund expanded learning opportunities, such as summer school, tutoring and mental health services. Together, the funds empower schools to develop and execute comprehensive strategies to reopen and expand programs to address the

social-emotional, mental health and academic needs of students.

All public schools will be required to offer in-person instruction to students in kindergarten through second grade, and high-needs students in all grades, by the end of the month. Districts will lose 1% of eligible funds every day thereafter if they do not open. The requirements aim to help ensure schools begin to reopen as soon as possible, and to build trust and confidence to continue phased reopening.

As students return to in-person instruction, all public schools will also be empowered to meet the needs of the whole child. Expanded Learning Opportunities Grants allocate \$4.6 billion to local educational agencies based on the equity-based local control funding formula, with an additional \$1,000 for each homeless student. The funds will be for supplemental instruction and support for social and emotional well-being.

Schools will be able to use the funds for providing more instructional time, such as summer school, and accelerating progress to close learning gaps through tutoring, learning recovery programs, mental health services, access to school meal programs, programs to address pupil trauma, social-emotional learning and support for credit-deficient students. The pack-

age will also codify multiple successful state programs to support safe school reopening, including vaccine prioritization for K-12 school staff. The governor has committed to setting aside 10% of vaccines for education workers. The state is collaborating with county health departments, the Biden administration and providers such as Kaiser Permanente to accelerate vaccine access for K-12 school staff.

The package also codifies data reporting requirements, including requirements for schools to report reopening status and COVID-19 safety measures. The statutory requirements will help build on efforts to increase transparency, including interactive geospatial maps displayed on the Safe Schools Hub, according to state officials.

Additionally, the package allocates \$25 million to the State Safe Schools Team, which provides technical assistance, oversight and accountability to the over 10,000 public schools. The funding will allow the team to conduct a safety review of any school with two or more COVID-19 outbreaks. The state’s efforts to accelerate safe school reopening include delivery of three months of PPE and safety supplies to all schools.

For information, visit schools.covid19.ca.gov.

Company of Angels adds new staff members

Company of Angels announced three new hires to help further the organization’s mission to create a theater deeply connected to communities who are under-represented on Los Angeles stages.

Corinne Chooey, an accomplished actor and improviser, will fill the new role as director of Angel City Improv and lead community engagement initiatives in Boyle Heights and the rest of the community at large. Julianna

Stephanie Ojeda takes over as associate producer. Nakasha Norwood will serve as company manager after filling various roles, including acting, directing and assistant producing.

“I am honored to welcome these incredible women to the CoA’s staff. Their vision, passion, artistry and advocacy will elevate our company’s driving focus, they embody the heart of our mission and are exemplary examples of the pas-

sionate artistic leaders we hope to build upon here at CoA,” Company of Angels Artistic Director Armado Molina said.

“It is my distinct honor to accept this position at Company of Angels. I look forward to creating, exploring and developing bold new stories with our membership and the greater community,” Chooey said.

For information, visit companyofangels.org.

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Two new exhibits come to Luis De Jesus

A pair of new exhibits, “Gabriel Sanchez: Mirando al Mundo (Looking at the World),” and “Evita Tezeno: Better Days,” will be on display at Luis De Jesus Los Angeles starting Saturday, March 6, through Saturday, April 17.

Sanchez in 2019 – 60 years after his grandfather fled Havana – became the first in his family to return to Cuba. Like many first-generation Cuban-Americans, he grew up understanding Cuba more as a mythical and fabled paradise, fleshed out with familial anecdotes and old photographs. Painted over the last two and a half years during extended visits to Cuba, Sanchez has created a deeply empathetic body of work that captures the spirit of an emerging avant-garde living and working in Cuba.

Artists, writers, photographers, dancers and opera singers – a sub-culture of young, bold and restless Cubans who represent the future of the island’s art scene, and to a large degree the dreams of many, untethered from the moribund Cuba of the past and the suspended reality of the present. Vulnerable yet proud to be who they are in the face of an oppressive system, they stand naked and exposed for the world to see – a symbol of honesty and simplicity – their lives captured by Sanchez with inquisitiveness and sensitivity. Painting is praise, and with this exhibition Sanchez honors his compatriots, joining their ranks as a Cuban artist and native son.

Employing richly patterned hand-painted papers and found objects in a contemporary folk-art style, Tezeno’s colorful collage paintings on canvas and rag board depict a cast of characters in harmonious everyday scenes.



photo courtesy of Luis De Jesus Los Angeles

“Brotherhood” is part of Gabriel Sanchez’s exhibit at Luis De Jesus.

Inspired by her family and friends, childhood memories in South Texas, personal dreams and moments from her adult life – and influenced by the great 20th century modernists Romare Bearden, Elizabeth Catlett and William H. Johnson – scenes of joy animate her vision of a Black America filled with humanity.

The gallery will hold an open-

ing reception from noon to 6 p.m. on Saturday. Visitors are encouraged to make an appointment at luisdejesus.com/contact.

For information, visit luisdejesus.com.



photo courtesy of Los Angeles Zoo

Hasina died after giving birth to what would have been her sixth calf.

L.A. Zoo giraffe dies at 12

The Los Angeles Zoo announced that Hasina, a 12-year-old female Masai giraffe, and her full-term stillborn calf died on Monday.

Based on the abnormal breech position of the calf, a natural delivery was determined to not be possible, and the Animal Health team made the decision to proceed with an anesthetized exam to remove the calf manually. The calf was successfully removed, and Hasina recovered from the anesthesia and was doing well, but passed away Monday night.

“The zoo is devastated at the loss of Hasina and her calf,” Dr. Dominique Keller, chief veterinarian and director of animal health and wellness at the Los Angeles Zoo, said. “Hasina was a healthy giraffe in her prime, so we were hopeful that she would survive. There were many complicating factors at work in this procedure such as the difficult position of the breech calf and the length of time

under anesthesia. Following the procedure, Hasina was standing on her own, which is a positive sign, but in the end she may have been too weak from the experience.”

The five-hour-long procedure began Monday morning and consisted of a team of over 30 Animal Care and Animal Health staff working together to remove the unborn calf and save Hasina’s life.

This would have been Hasina’s sixth giraffe calf, three of which were sired by 9-year-old Phillip. Hasina came to the zoo from the San Diego Zoo in March 2010 and has been an ambassador for her species and instrumental in adding to the sustainable population of Masai giraffes at the Los Angeles Zoo.

The remainder of the giraffe herd, Phillip, Zainabu, Sofie and James, will remain out in their habitat during normal zoo hours, weather permitting.

For information, visit lazoo.org.

Sound/Stage launches Friday

The Los Angeles Philharmonic announced that its second season of Sound/Stage, which begins Friday and runs through June 25, will include performances by the orchestra, Grammy Award-winning artist Common and Grammy Award-gospel duo Mary Mary.

The orchestra’s music and artistic Gustavo Dudamel acts as host for the free online series, which also includes new performances by the LA Phil, as well as conversations with LA Phil Creative Chair John Adams and renowned chef José Andrés. Each episode includes one or more special segments, ranging from animated shorts to interviews between Dudamel and his guests. Everything will be available at laphil.com/soundstage.

“It has been a joy to watch Sound/Stage grow and blossom and to share it with audiences here in Los Angeles and around the world. In this second season, we explore everything from the connections between music and food to the early history of the Hollywood Bowl, and I get to share the stage with dear friends like José Andrés and John Adams. And I cannot describe how proud I am to welcome my son, Martín, for his LA Phil debut. Until we can all make music together again, we hope that, by sharing these moments of beauty and happiness, we can be together in spirit,” LA Phil Music and Artistic Director Gustavo Dudamel said.

“In its first season Sound/Stage began as a response to the global pandemic and the turbulence of our socio-political moment. We needed to find a way to continue connecting with audiences and offer a space to reflect on our collective experiences through music. Thanks to the support of our generous donors and the adventurous spirit of our orchestra, we were able to do that through Sound/Stage and other media initiatives. Now as we enter season two, we are continuing to explore the medium and bring Gustavo’s ideas about music and the world to the fore. Sound/Stage opens up new pathways for connection and communication that we will continue to build on long after the pandemic ends,” Chief Executive Officer and David C. Bohnett Chief Executive Officer Chair Chad Smith said.

All Sound/Stage performances were filmed outdoors at the Hollywood Bowl under strict adherence to public health guidelines, with all performers maintaining social distance. The chamber performances were filmed at the Ford and Walt Disney Concert Hall without an audience and also in strict compliance with public health guidelines.

The second season of Sound/Stage is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts.

For information or to watch, visit laphil.com/soundstage.



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Pan African Film Festival continues

The 14-day 2021 Pan African Film Festival kicked off on Feb. 28, featuring more than 200 films made by and about Black people from 83 countries, including 168 narrative films, 39 documentaries, 159 short and mini short films from 45 countries and in 43 languages.

Actor, activist and festival co-founder Danny Glover opened the event with the U.S. premiere of David Oyelowo’s director debut, “The Water Man.” The invitation-only screening attracted 600 viewers and was followed with a Q-and-A discussion with Oyelowo and the film’s two stars, Lonnie Chavis and Amiah Miller.

The festival also joined Amazon Studios in hosting the world premiere of the highly anticipated sequel, “Coming 2 America,” starring Eddie Murphy and Arsenio Hall. The comedy, which is set in the lush and royal country of Zamunda, stars Murphy as newly crowned King Akeem, with Hall as his trusted confidante, Semmi, as they embark on a hilarious adventure that has them traversing the globe from their African nation to the borough of Queens – where it all began.



photo courtesy of Pan African Film Festival

“Executive Order,” the directorial debut of Lázaro Ramos, will headline the closing night of the Pan African Film Festival on March 14.

Other highlights of this year’s festival include Nate Parker’s “American Skin” and a special conversation with director Lee Daniels and the cast of “The United States vs. Billie Holiday.”

Closing Night will spotlight Lázaro Ramos’ directorial debut “Executive Order,” which is set in a dystopian near-future in Brazil, where an authoritarian government orders all citizens of African descent to move to Africa – creat-

ing chaos, protests and an underground resistance movement that inspires the nation. “Executive Order” will screen globally on Sunday, March 14, at 6 p.m. Director Lázaro Ramos’ and members of the cast will participate in a Q&A following the screening.

To see the complete 2021 PAFF Program, purchase festival passes and access individual film screenings, visit paff.org.



photo courtesy of Japan House Los Angeles

‘True Mothers,’ Japanese film, now available online

Japan House Los Angeles, a Japanese cultural destination in Hollywood, is presenting an online screening of the critically acclaimed, “True Mothers,” which was written and directed by award-winning Japanese director Naomi Kawase.

The film, which is available through March 10, was selected to represent Japan for 2021 Oscar consideration in the International Film category and was featured at both the Toronto International Film Festival and Cannes Film Festival.

Adapted from the novel by Mizuki Tsujimura and set in modern-day Tokyo, a couple struggling with infertility is presented with an alternative option: adoption of a baby boy. Their lives are disrupted when, six years after the adoption, the birth mother reappears wanting her son back. The film holds special meaning to Kawase, who was

adopted and raised by her great uncle and aunt.

“We are honored to showcase such a meaningful film that examines the concepts of adoption and motherhood with expressive cinematography,” Japan House Los Angeles President Yuko Kaifu said. “We’re particularly proud to highlight females in the film industry through our live event with Naomi Kawase and Claudia Puig on the universality of motherhood and film.”

“Everybody is somebody’s child; everybody has a mother who gave birth to them. And in this respect, the core of this story should touch people’s hearts,” Kawase added. “For therein lies the world’s beginnings, seen by a pure soul who believes that this world is genuinely beautiful.”

Information and registration is available at japanhousela.com.

Arco, long-time WeHo resident, dies at 91



photo courtesy of Yoram Kohana

Ray Arco, right, died on Christmas Day after he contracted COVID-19 while in a coma.

Ray Arco, a long-time member of Hollywood Foreign Press Association, died on Christmas Day, his family recently disclosed. He was 91.

The long-time West Hollywood resident slipped and fell in September, suffering a concussion and brain hemorrhaging that put him in a coma. He contracted COVID-19 at the hospital and moved into an isolation ward, where he died just weeks short of his Feb. 2 birthday.

He was born Raul Alteresco in 1929 in Bucharest, Romania to a middle-class Jewish family. With the rise of Nazi Germany and the looming threat of a war, Arco, aged 12, was brought to California by the Red Cross. He later enrolled to study acting at the Pasadena Playhouse and motion pictures at UCLA in 1956. He minored in education and journalism.

He spent the early part of his career in public service work. His master’s thesis dealt with issues of education, environment and identity focusing on emerging nations’ struggles with basic education, health and self-government. He was invited to present his findings at the Agency for International Development in Washington, D. C.

He brought his knowledge and ideas to Native American organizations in Arizona and Colorado, working on youth leadership,

poverty, environment and economic growth issues, responding quite early to the zeitgeist. Even before they became popular, he studied and wrote about ecological issues, especially as they impact marginalized societies in Africa, the United States and Canada, working with Native American and Canadian First Nations councils and organizations. He met with Sen. Robert F. Kennedy to discuss forming a Youth in Service of Humanity NGO and an affiliated Global Youth Awards program.

He meanwhile teamed with another HFPA member, French journalist and the late cinematographer Gerard Alcan, to work on several documentary and feature films ranging in places like Iran, Germany and Mexico.

He also tried his hand in importing films, coordinating symposia and managing concert tours. Drawing on his connections and knowledge, he brought music and film productions to his native Romania, including working with a German concert promoter on a TV special, “Halloween Variety Music Carnival with Hollywood Stars,” from the original Dracula fortress in Transylvania.

After the Romanian revolution and overthrow of the communist dictatorship, Arco worked with the new government to promote tourism and entertainment production. That included the Romania stop in Michael Jackson’s “Dangerous” World Tour on October 1, 1992, which sold out the 90,000-seat Bucharest National Stadium; HBO’s documentary of the event became its most-viewed program.

His most successful visit to Romania was in July 1974, when he met Ileana Matic, the daughter of an impoverished Romanian Gypsy couple, who later worked her way to a doctorate in art history. She was a museum curator in Bucharest, where he met her during a press trip. She was engaged to be married to a colleague. But after a whirlwind four days of courtship worthy of a Hollywood

romantic movie script, Arco proposed and brought his bride to Los Angeles.

It was a match made in heaven both romantically and professionally: Ray, a polymath, created a steady stream of prose, poetry, scripts, music and art, and Ileana became his editor, curator and archivist.

By her count she has catalogued some 3,000 poems, 51 books, 36 scripts and numerous essays, interviews and articles. Only one slim book of poetry, “Exotic Spirited Poems” (1967), has been produced.

Ray Arco joined the Hollywood Foreign Press Association in 1960, and has written for publications in a number of countries over his six decades, including in his native Romania, Israel, Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand and Denmark. He was appointed 12 years ago to be the Hollywood correspondent of Observaterul (The Observer), a Romanian language magazine published in Toronto, Canada, for the Romanian diaspora worldwide.

Always optimistic, never discouraged, ceaselessly planning, he kept writing until his accident and hospitalization.

He took his frustrations and disappointments in stride, living for some 50 years in the same modest apartment, crammed floor to ceiling with his unpublished work, never losing his optimistic frame of mind.

“I may not be wealthy,” he used to say, “but I am very, very rich.”

In a poem he wrote for Ileana, on their 45th and last anniversary on July 4, he said:

“THANK YOU SO MUCH!...
For EVERYTHING!!!
For being in my Life,.....
For translating my nonsense comments,
For editing my lunacy,
For organizing my silliness,....
For guiding my foolishness,
For denying that I'm totally mad, AND...
For contributing to our Life's Symphony!”

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photo courtesy of the Grammy Museum

Ringo Starr programs to air

The Grammy Museum announced a new program centered around Ringo Starr that features a virtual exhibit of the record-setting “Ringo: Peace and Love,” along with new and archival interviews that are part of the museum’s streaming service, Collection:Live. The career-spanning program features the interviews, conducted with Bob Santelli, founding executive director of the museum, as well as a virtual version of the groundbreaking 2013 exhibit, “Peace & Love.” The exhibit was both the first major exhibit ever dedicated to a drummer and the first to explore the career of the Grammy Award-winning Starr. The scope of the exhibit spans Ringo’s life, starting with his early life growing up in Liverpool, to Raving Texans turned Rory Storm, to the Beatles, to becoming a solo artist and then to the All Starrs, with whom he continues to tour. He just celebrated 30 years with the All Starrs, marked by the publication of

the stunning book, “Ringo Rocks: 30 years of the All Starrs.” The virtual exhibit will include images from the unique collection that included diverse artifacts, rare and never before seen photographs, documents and personal letters. The museum’s Public Programs digital series features new intimate sit-down interviews with artists and musicians recorded via digital conferencing. Since the museum opened 12 years ago, it has offered more than 1,000 public programs. The museum is also releasing a new exhibit with several photo slideshows. Collection:live is the Grammy Museum’s new official online streaming service available for \$2.99/month or \$29.99 a year. Proceeds benefit the museum’s music education initiatives and help keep the museum’s mission alive while the physical location remains closed due to COVID-19. For information, visit grammy-museum.org.

Unbox Petersen Museum on YouTube

The Petersen Automotive Museum launched a new series unboxing history, where museum archivist Laura Fisher unboxes the first issue of “Hot Rod Magazine” along with other artifacts from Petersen Publishing. Petersen Publishing was founded in 1948 and is known for producing some of the world’s most-popular automotive titles including Hot Rod Magazine, Motor Trend Magazine, Automobile Magazine, Car Craft Magazine

and Super Street Magazine. The Petersen Publishing Archive features 1.5 million digital images that are accessible to the general public at petersen.org. Among other videos on the YouTube page include an exclusive first look at the iconic 1964 Porsche 901, which first debuted in 1963 at the Frankfurt Auto Show and would later be renamed the 911 after a legal dispute with Peugeot. Petersen Automotive Museum

Chief Historian Leslie Kendall takes viewers on a virtual tour of the car, which was advanced in comparison to the Volkswagen-derived Porsche 356 engine. Over several years, the 901 coupe has been restored to prize-winning condition and represents one of the pivotal moments in Porsche’s history. The videos are available at youtube.com/user/petersenmuseum. For information, visit petersen.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:	R3C-C District, West Hollywood, California
REQUEST:	Zone text amendment to allow on-site alcoholic beverage service for beer, wine and liquor in the R3C-C zone district.
PERMIT(S):	Zone Text Amendment, and any other required permits.
APPLICANT(S):	City of West Hollywood
TIME/PLACE OF HEARING:	Teleconference Meeting Monday, March 15, 2021 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:	R3C-C (Residential, Multi-Family Medium Density)
ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS:	Categorically exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Regulations pursuant to Section §15061 (Review for Exemption)

DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND STATE OF EMERGENCY, CITY HALL IS CURRENTLY CLOSED. The staff report will be available on Wednesday, March 10, 2021 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.

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

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

IF YOU DO NOT HAVE COMPUTER ACCESS AND WOULD LIKE A MAILED COPY OF THE AGENDA AND STAFF REPORT, OR YOU NEED FURTHER INFORMATION regarding this item, contact Rachel Dimond, Acting Long Range Planning Manager in the Planning & Development Services Department at (323) 848-6475; or via email at: rdimond@weho.org

Melissa Crowder, Acting City Clerk

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



Wilshire subway project gets underway



A photograph in the March 17, 1983, issue of the Park Labrea News showed initial construction on the Wilshire Subway, as it was called at the time. Exploratory holes were being dug to gather geotechnical information about water tables and subsurface conditions. The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority was known then as the Southern California Rapid Transit District. In the photograph, RTD Board President Mike Lewis, left, and General Manager John Dyer examined a soil sample taken near Fifth and Hill streets. Metro is currently building the Purple Line Extension subway project under Wilshire Boulevard in the Miracle Mile, Beverly Hills, Century City and Westwood. The first of two tunneling machines recently reached the Wilshire/La Cienega station, the end of the first phase of the project.

Virtual event to help aid U.S. Holocaust Museum

Members of the Western Region community of the D.C.-based U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum are coming together virtually on March 11 at 7 p.m. to support the museum’s efforts.

The COVID-19 pandemic rapidly changed much of how the USHMM does its work, but not why it’s done. Eric and Suzi LeVine, from Seattle, will represent the Western Region Leadership Committee and join Museum supporters from the 10 western states, Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah and Washington, to renew its pledge to ensure that the critical lessons of the Holocaust – lessons about the fragility of societies, the nature of hate and the consequences of indifference – help shape our nation’s way forward.

The annual “What You Do Matters” Western Region Dinner normally held in Los Angeles that historically attracts up to 1,000 guests in-person, including many Holocaust survivors, will this year feature the theme of “Survival, Hope and Resilience” with special guests; compelling Holocaust testimonies from survivors and liberators told by celebrities Morgan Freeman, Jamie Lee Curtis, Camryn Manheim and Tim Matheson, among others; inspiring specialty music; and important messages about the museum’s role in these challenging times.

Emmy Rossum will emcee the “2021 Western Region Virtual Event.” Rossum was nominated for a Golden Globe Award for her performance as Christine in The Phantom of the Opera and starred in nine seasons of Showtime’s critically acclaimed dark comedy series, “Shameless.” She has been an outspoken critic of anti-Semitism and bigotry in Hollywood.

Taking part in a special segment will be Gerda Weissmann Klein, Holocaust survivor, acclaimed author, humanitarian, subject of the Academy Award-winning documentary, “One Survivor Remembers,” and 2011 recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom. “One Survivor Remembers” relates the harrowing story of Klein and her journey of



photo courtesy of United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

Emmy Rossum, best known for her performance as Christine in “The Phantom of the Opera,” will emcee the event.

survival and remembering both before and after the war. Home Box Office and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum co-produced the documentary film, which was awarded both an Emmy and an Academy Award.

“These challenging times compel us to present a program that initiates critical thinking, inspires self-reflection and motivates the community to create positive change,” said Marla Abraham, the museum’s director of the Western Regional Office. “We are grateful to have Emmy Rossum emcee our virtual event and recognize the significant work that the Western Region Leadership Committee put forth to make this non-traditional program deeply impactful. The event will be a memorable and powerful experience with appearances by Gerda Weissmann Klein, Derek Black and the musical performance by students from the Colburn School.”

The event is open to the public, but registration is required. Registrants will receive a link via email to access the program a day before the virtual event. Groups and individuals interested must register by March 10. Multi-level sponsorship opportunities are available and begin at \$1,000. Sponsorships are being accepted now through March 1.

For information, call (310)556-3222, email western@ushmm.org or visit ushmm.org.

Close Quarters launches digitally

The Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, led by Music Director Jaime Martín, announced the second half of its all-digital 2020-21 season, Close Quarters, an interdisciplinary series that melds musical and visual arts in digitally native programs created specifically for streaming.

The orchestra’s artistry is showcased front-and-center in seven musically driven episodes that feature creative collaborations with a range of visual and performance artists who create work inspired by LACO’s music. Martín, who conducts two of the programs, provides musical curation for the series, with composer Jessie Montgomery, who serves as guest musical curator for two back-to-back episodes. They are collaborating closely with LACO Creative Director of Digital Content James Darrah, who provides visual curation for each episode.

The videos are available for free

on demand, with the broadcasts premiering biweekly on Fridays, from March 12 through June 4, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. The videos are available at laco.org/close-quarters, and on LACO’s YouTube and Facebook channels.

Additionally, LACO is launching virtual pre-concert conversations with musical artists and special guests providing insights into Close Quarters that air prior to each episode at 5:30 p.m.

“With Close Quarters, LACO has made a seismic shift in how it presents music,” Martín said. “These robust digital programs have proven to be a wonderful and extremely effective vehicle for showcasing the Orchestra and its virtuosic artists, bolstering its growing reputation as one of classical music’s most relevant and forward-thinking organizations.

For information and the full list of episodes, visit laco.org.

‘Nomadland’ among Golden Globe winners

The Hollywood Foreign Press Association last weekend announced the winners of the 78th annual Golden Globe Awards, headlined by “Nomadland” for best drama motion picture and Chloe Zhao for best director.

Other winners included “Borat Subsequent Movie Film” for best comedy or musical motion picture, “Soul” for best animated picture and “Minari” for best foreign film.

The telecast was hosted by Tina Fey and Amy Poehler, who

appeared on each coast, with Fey at New York’s Rainbow Room and Poehler at the Beverly Hilton in Los Angeles. Jane Fonda was honored as the 2021 Cecil B. deMille Award honoree, while Noman Lear was honored with the 2021 Carol Burnett Award.

The Hollywood Foreign Press Association, MRC and NBC donated \$2 Million To Feeding America during the telecast. The show highlighted the charity, which is the nation’s largest domestic hunger

relief organization, its COVID-19 Relief Fund and Community Organized Relief Effort.

Presenters appeared virtually from around the world and included Jamie Lee Curtis, Laura Dern, Michael Douglas, Gal Gadot, Tiffany Haddish, Kate Hudson, Ben Stiller, Kenan Thompson and Kristen Wiig.

The full show is available for streaming on Peacock. For information or to see the full list of winners, visit goldenglobes.com.

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: CITYWIDE, West Hollywood, California

REQUEST: The proposed Zone Text Amendment will amend Title 19, Zoning Regulations, TO CLARIFY THAT NO NET LOSS OF HOUSING PROVISIONS APPLY WITHIN THE R2 ZONING DISTRICT. On February 18, 2021, the Planning Commission recommended approval of the Zone Text Amendment.

PERMIT(S): Zone Text Amendment, and any other required permits.

APPLICANT(S): City of West Hollywood

TIME/PLACE OF HEARING: **Teleconference Meeting Monday, March 15, 2021 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: R2 Zoning District.

ENVIRONMENTAL: Categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Section §15061 (Review for Exemption).

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and state of emergency, City Hall is currently closed. The staff report will be available on Wednesday, March 10, 2021 on-line at www.weho.org If you do not have computer access, please contact the assigned planner listed below to have one mailed to you.

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.

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.

For further information contact Bryan Eck, Senior Planner in the Planning & Development Services Department at (323) 848-6475; or via email at: beck@weho.org

Melissa Crowder, Acting City Clerk

AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

State of California)
County of Los Angeles)
City of West Hollywood)

I declare under penalty of perjury that I am employed by the City of West Hollywood in the Office of the City Clerk, and that this document was posted on:

Date: March 4, 2021
Signature:\Alyssa T. Poblador\
Office of the City Clerk

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



photo courtesy of Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences

Academy Award nominee voting opens on March 5

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences announced that 366 feature films are eligible for the 2020 Academy Awards, which will be held on April 25.

Feature films are eligible for consideration for the 93rd Academy Awards as long as they opened in a commercial motion picture theater in at least one of six U.S. metropolitan areas – Los Angeles County, New York City, the Bay Area, Chicago, Miami and Atlanta – by Feb. 28, 2021, and completed a minimum qualifying run of seven-consecutive days in the same venue. Drive-in theaters open nightly are included as qualifying commercial venues in the above cities.

Films intended for theatrical release but initially made available through commercial streaming, video on-demand service or other broadcast may qualify if the film is made available on the secure Academy Screening Room member site within 60 days of the streaming release or broadcast. Feature films must have a running time of more than 40 minutes.

The “Reminder List of Productions Eligible for the 93rd Academy Awards” is available at oscars.org/oscars/rules-eligibility. It also includes the list of performers eligible for consideration in the acting categories.

Nomination voting begins on Friday, March 5, and concludes on Wednesday, March 10. Nominations for the 93rd Academy Awards will be announced on Monday, March 15.

The Oscars will be held on Sunday, April 25, and will be televised live on ABC and in more than 225 countries and territories worldwide.

For information, visit oscars.org.

Eleven to compete in monologue event

Center Theatre Group has selected 11 local high school students to participate in the regional finals for the virtual 2021 August Wilson Monologue Competition, where participants will perform on the stage of the Kirk Douglas Theatre in early March.

The competition’s judges will view the competition remotely but in real time. The performances will be recorded and streamed during the live event on March 23 at 5 p.m. The free livestream is available at CTGLA.com/AugustWilson2021.

This is the 10th consecutive year Center Theatre Group is hosting the L.A. component of the national monologue competition. The program is designed to inspire and educate Los Angeles youth using monologues from August Wilson’s “American Century Cycle,” a 10-play cycle that details the complexity of the African-American experience in the 20th century. All previous competitions have culminated in an evening of monologues performed on the stage of the Mark Taper Forum.

The students selected to participate in the regional finals are Simone Baker (Sherman Oaks), Hazel Eko (Los Angeles), Willa Jackson (Los Angeles), Chazaiah Johnson (Los Angeles), Hailey Soomin Lee (Redondo Beach), Giselle Lopez (Los Angeles), Veronica McFarlane (Whittier), Stephen Moran (Los Angeles), Reva Pau (South Pasadena), Dillion Jerome Sowell (Moreno Valley) and Landon Wouters (Fullerton).

Two finalists will be announced during the livestream on March 23.

Those two finalists will be joined by one of last year’s finalists, Tyla Uzo, in advancing to the national competition. The students selected will receive master classes provided by Center Theatre Group. The sessions will allow the students to refine their performances while gaining valuable acting techniques.

The program kicked off this season with a preliminary audition that featured 113 students in 10th, 11th or 12th-grade from 33 different high schools in Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino and Riverside counties. Of those students, 45 advanced to a semi-final audition held live on Zoom in December 2020 where the aforementioned 11 regional finalists were selected to move forward.

For information, visit CTGLA.org/AugustWilson.

Center Theatre Group adds leaders to board

Center Theatre Group announced that it has added eight new members to its Board of Directors as the organization continues building strong support from across the community through prolonged closures of its theaters as a result of the pandemic.

The newest members are Michell A. Avan, Wendy Chang, Noah Francis, Ron Gillyard, Max Gousse, Marsha Tauber Sallai, Richard Weitz and Hattie Winston, growing the board to 50 members.

The newest board members include leaders from the worlds of finance, education, marketing, sales, the arts, the recording industry and the wider entertainment industry.

“These new members represent some of the pillars of Los Angeles that have helped keep this organization a vital part of the theatre ecosystem in this country for more than 50 years,” board President Kiki Ramos Gindler said.

“Our board has also made an important commitment to becoming a better reflection of our community by expanding its representation to include more BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and people of color) voices,” Gindler added.

“Last year, our board leadership voted to adopt a dedicated budget item for equity, diversity, inclusion and anti-racism for the entire organization. And we created a standing committee on the board dedicated to this necessary work. This committee’s goals include revising the board’s workplan to include measurable actionable steps in diversifying its membership and moving towards being an anti-racist organization. We will continue to work at the board level and with the organization’s leadership to further these goals in the coming months and beyond.”

For information, visit centertheatregroup.org.



photo courtesy of American Red Cross Los Angeles

Pierce Brosnan is among the celebrities participating in a virtual storytelling for the American Red Cross Los Angeles on Thursday.

Brosnan among celebrities in Red Cross storytelling event

Pierce Brosnan, best known for playing James Bond in four films, including in “Tomorrow Never Dies,” is among the celebrities taking the virtual center stage for the American Red Cross Los Angeles Region storytelling event on Thursday, March 4.

The stories of resiliency and hope were gathered from all aspects of the Red Cross mission, including Disaster Relief, Blood Services and Service to the Armed Forces. Joining Brosnan will be Chloe Coleman (“Big Little Lies”), Charles Malik Whitfield (“The Temptations”), Elisabeth Röhm (“Law and Order”), Rita Rudner (“Melissa & Joey”) and more.

“This past year was tough, and though we were prepared, our workforce faced more than we could have imagined and lived through harrowing experiences,” American Red Cross Los Angeles Region CEO Joanne Nowlin said. “These stories are universal to what we all experienced last year, and they touch upon the tender moments of 2020. We are honored these Angelenos shared their experiences, and celebrities such as Pierce Brosnan add to the depth of what we are sharing.”

The event will be held on Thursday, starting with a virtual dinner reservation with celebrity chef Steve Samson for VIP Holders from 6:30 to 7 p.m. The storytelling event and auction will be held from 7 to 8 p.m.

For information or to purchase tickets, visit redcross.org/RCStories2021.



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‘Superman and Lois’ offers a refreshing take

Amidst Kal-El’s limbo at the movies, The CW’s “Superman and Lois” reminds diehard fans and hopefully some burgeoning stories with pure characters can be just as narratively complex as sarcastic superheroes and morally compromised antiheroes.

The last “Arrowverse” series – joining current series like “The Flash,” “Legends of Tomorrow” and “Batwoman” – owes its existence to a sea of CW’s DC content, but the latest caped story feels tonally and visually more cinematic after two episodes.

“Superman and Lois” outsources much of its backstory across previous shows. This Superman/Clark Kent/Kal-El (Tyler Hoechlin) actually premiered in “Supergirl’s” season two in 2016. He returned for two crossover events, finally bringing Lois Lane (Elizabeth Tulloch) into the fold as well, culminating in a teased Justice League. Both major

events glimpsed into Clark and Lois’ life together, introducing their newest obstacle, parenting twins, which now serves as the primary conflict here.

Set more than a decade ahead of the “Arrowverse’s” current slate of programming, the boys still don’t know dad’s big secret, and their lives in Metropolis are about to be uprooted. Clark’s hometown Smallville needs him, and the family probably needs a little more privacy once all those secrets, and perhaps some superpowers, arrive.

Now, the notion of Superman’s offspring spans various comics storylines, ranging from clones to children from alternate Earths. Brother Jonathan (Jordan Elsass) winks at the 2015 intro of Jon Lane Kent in DC Comics. But this Jonathan is quite different: a varsity quarterback his first year of high school and an all-around popular kid. The other sibling, Jordan (Alex Garfin),



is a new arrival and quite the opposite in personality.

“Things with Jordan were more challenging: tantrums, night terrors,” a somber Clark narrates in the pilot’s opening. So how does the last son of Krypton raise his own sons, one on meds for social anxiety disorder? He might be the planet’s savior, but things at home remain in process.

The hour-and-half premiere provides some answers or sets the path to them, which continues in episode two. But unlike other Superman media on the big and small screens, this is a more vulnerable telling. Gone are the hokey one-liners and unadulterated commitment to the American dream. Clark and Lois care about the country and world, Superman working directly with Gen. Sam Lane (Dylan Walsh), but some things are less clear than they once were for the world’s mightiest Boy Scout.

Perhaps skeptical viewers wonder why Superman deserves yet another examination. After all, he headlined four others shows, dating back to the 1950s “Adventures of Superman,” starring George Reeves. The CW already gave the Man of Tomorrow an extended origin story with “Smallville” that lasted 10 seasons (the second of its kind, depending on what you call “Superboy”).

At the very least, “Superman and Lois” traverses new territory, both child rearing and a nemesis who easily defeats the allegedly impene-



photo courtesy of The CW

Lois Lane (Elizabeth Tulloch) and Clark Kent (Tyler Hoechlin) return to Smallville in “Superman and Lois” on The CW.



photo courtesy of The CW

Clark Kent (Tyler Hoechlin) and Lois Lane (Elizabeth Tulloch) finally reveal to twins Jonathan (Jordan Elsass) and Jordan (Alex Garfin) who Superman really is.

trable man in the first round. Plus, the small screen hasn’t featured a Superman in full red and blue since Dean Cain in the ‘90s, which is reason enough to give the public a new face.

Yes, he’s clearly graced theaters quite a few times, though none in almost 40 years can be called a complete success. This Superman builds on 2013’s “Man of Steel,” omitting most cheesy elements (plenty of series keep that going, so fret not if you miss those vibes) and transforming him into a darkly poetic character overwhelmed by personal trauma (he has lost more than two parents).

Another “Man of Steel” steal: Lens flares abound on the Kent farm during this and other sunrise or sundown scenes. Sure, J.J. Abrams overdid them a decade ago, but they remain a wonderful homage to film history and serve a particular purpose here: Superman’s power derived from the sun, and director

of photography Gavin Struthers (“The Witcher”) establishes a beautiful color palette that will hopefully continue throughout the series’ entire run.

To be honest, praising a CW show’s aesthetic choices is peculiar. The network generates ample sleeper hits, including several across the Arrowverse, but “Superman and Lois” looks different. And unlike the last cinematic iteration, this guy and everyone else feel quite human (kind of fun instead).

The characters already feel more layered. That’s something the recent films forget to do, spending so much time on grandiose set pieces, forgetting to present stories and emotional motivations that resonate. “Superman and Lois” works because of both Clark and Lois – Hoechlin and Tulloch effortlessly fit the roles – their struggles as parents and moving partnership paving the way for a show that can last several seasons.

Grant will further research to help stroke victims

The National Science Foundation has awarded Cedars-Sinai neuroscientist Tanuj Gulati its top honor – the Faculty Early Career Development Program award.

Over the next five years, Gulati, 36, plans to use the \$620,000 grant to advance his existing work on using brain-machine interfaces for motor disabilities caused by stroke. BMIs, also called neuroprosthetics, are an assistive technology that allow direct mind control over external devices such as a robotic arm or a computer cursor.

“My long-term goal, now made possible with this coveted award, is to understand how a neuroprosthetic skill is learned in the brain using animal models, then translate my findings into tangible solutions for stroke survivors with motor disabilities,” said Gulati, assistant professor in the departments of Biomedical Sciences and Neurology at Cedars-Sinai. “Stroke remains the leading cause of motor disability in the United States, creating a vast unmet need for countless patients with limited mobility.”

Gulati’s expertise also uses neuroprosthetics to better understand how the brain learns new skills.

“Tanuj’s work on how the brain learns to control neuroprosthetics is recognized as outstanding and forward-thinking,” said David Underhill, chair of the Department of Biomedical Sciences and the Janis and William Wetsman Chair in Inflammatory Bowel Disease for Cedars-Sinai. “Awards like this



photo courtesy of Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

Neuroscientist Tanuj Gulati, center, has received a \$620,000 grant to advance his work in studying neuroprosthetics.

highlight the outstanding quality of research pursued at Cedars-Sinai.”

To understand how the brain can learn to control neuroprosthetics, Gulati and his research team listen to neurons in the brains of laboratory rats with implanted electrodes and use these neurons’ activity to control a waterspout. The neurons are typically linked to controlling hands in the rodents.

As the rats explore ways to control the spout, they sometimes activate neurons adjacent to the electrodes. When the proper neurons are activated, a computer algorithm moves the waterspout, so that rats can drink from it.

“We see that eventually rats become very proficient at this and

don’t show any overt movement of the hands,” Gulati said. “They learn to intentionally control the pipe.”

Gulati also aims to further identify the role sleep plays in consolidation of neuroprosthetic skills, and whether sleep can be augmented for enhanced control over such devices, especially after a stroke injury.

“As this important research progresses, it brings us one step closer to translating these findings to our patients to promote stroke recovery,” said Dr. Nancy Sicotte, the Women’s Guild Distinguished Chair in Neurology at Cedars-Sinai. For information, visit cedars-sinai.org/newsroom/national-science-foundation-honors-cedars-sinai-neuroscientist.

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Restaurant claims dining area is outdoors

From page 1

supposed to open in March 2020, but those plans were put on hold as the timing coincided with the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic, which led to limits on restaurant dining in L.A. They opened shortly in July, before reopening again after some limitations were lifted to allow outdoor dining in January. They’ve since been closed since Feb. 23.

Berdahl called the situation “frustrating,” saying that the dining area has long been considered an outdoor patio, including when it was a previous concept that he was involved with.

The restaurant’s owners filed a civil rights suit, alleging that they were targeted by the city and county and did not have a right to due process, in Los Angeles Superior Court on Monday. They are seeking injunctive relief plus unspecified damages, claiming they’re missing out on \$5,000 a day in revenue and potentially \$20,000 for events.

“We’re very surprised to say the least and why I’m marginally frustrated that they’re painting a picture that we don’t care about COVID – it’s very odd. ... It’s just not correct,” Berdahl said. “We’ve done everything they asked and then some.”

The Los Angeles Department of Public Health declined to comment specifically on the lawsuit, only reiterating the dining room “is an enclosed room with a retractable roof, which does not meet the state Department of Public Health’s definition of what is considered an outdoor activity,” according to a statement.

The city of West Hollywood said in a statement that all city businesses “have a duty and responsibility to comply for the safety of their guests and employees.”

“On March 16, 2020, the city of West Hollywood’s City Council approved a declaration of local emergency to ensure the availability of mutual aid and to safeguard community health and safety in responding to the novel coronavirus/COVID-19,” the statement read. “While the city of West Hollywood cannot comment on any specific legal actions, the city is in the jurisdiction of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health and the city actively enforces the L.A. County Health Officer Order and related protocols.”

On Wednesday, the public health department sent a letter clarifying that the state has said that all permanent patios fall under the same guidelines for temporary structures.

“Based on the evaluations conducted of your restaurants on Feb. 11 and Feb. 16, 2021, your restaurant doesn’t meet state guidance,” the letter read. “As a result, your restaurant is limited to takeout and delivery only.”

Berdahl and his partners’ vision for the Classic Cat was to build on the heritage of the historic restaurant that was a popular stop for locals, tourists and celebrities, including Adam West, Charlton Heston, Chevy Chase and Jim Morrison.

The concept includes a dining area, enclosed fully on three sides with a lattice wall on one side, with a retractable roof. The restaurant provides dinner and transitions to a nightclub at night with the roof closed.

The spot was previously occu-



photo courtesy of Classic Cat

A view of the dining area at Classic Cat restaurant, which is suing West Hollywood and the L.A. Department of Public of Health, alleging their outdoor patio was unfairly closed.

pied by a venture from Berdahl and other partners that included outdoor dining. During the planning stages for that venture, they sought to expand the dining area, and the city labeled the patio as an “existing outdoor dining area,” according to the lawsuit.

“This is my life savings. I put a lot of what I consider an enormous amount of money into this thing. If it fails, it’s going to be devastating. Probably bankruptcy for me.”

-Donn Berdahl, co-owner of the Classic Cat

“It has been an outdoor dining patio and outdoor dining for 5-1/2 years essentially and been designated as such, which obviously adds to my confusion,” Berdahl said.

Shortly after reopening, they were visited by inspectors from the city and county. They were issued a citation on Feb. 23 because they were “operating without approvals by L.A. County health department [i]n regards to the patio area not meeting the 50% threshold for air

flow required,” and [were] told to stop operating indoors immediately,” according to the suit. A superseding indictment was issued a day later after an officer “observed operating without approvals by L.A. County health department [i]n regards to the patio area not meeting the 50% threshold for air flow required” and issued a stop for March 5.

“The designation of Classic Cat’s patio area as ‘indoor’ was arbitrary, capricious and in violation of plaintiff’s due process rights. The resulting damage to plaintiff is extensive and will continue if the unconstitutional conduct is not prevented by this court,” the suit states.

Brian Neach, an attorney for Berdahl, had sought clarification on that 50% threshold, as he felt that it only applies to temporary structures. He added that the change-up in closure dates was further confusing, which was exacerbated by the fact that they could not get a clear response from the city attorney and public health department regarding the true closure date.

“Everybody’s punting and nobody is taking responsibility, and, in the meantime, businesses are suffering,” he said.

Berdahl said he and his partners ultimately made the decision to close immediately. That comes on the heels of owners spending thousands of dollars going above and beyond the reopening requirements, setting up custom plexiglass in-between tables, removing extra tables below the 25% capacity threshold and hiring private security to monitor mask wearing, he

Schools to host students, teachers once again

From page 1

union filed its complaint – L.A. County’s adjusted case rate was 12.3 cases per 100,000, according to the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. As of March 3, the adjusted case rate is 7.2.

“The district is now repudiating that agreement and directing teachers to return to work while adjusted case rates are higher than the parties had earlier agreed to. This is in clear violation of the district’s own contract, and it places BHUSD employees, students, their families and our community at greater risk,” Castanon said on Feb. 26.

The district and union began mediation this past weekend and a tentative deal was reached. After the March 3 approval of the agreement by the BHEA and the BHUSD Board of Education, BHUSD plans to return to in-person classes for students in transitional kindergarten through second grade on Monday, March 8, while students in third through fifth grade will return to in-person classes on Tuesday, March 9, district spokeswoman Rebecca Starkins said in an email.

The deal also includes “clearer systems for employees to obtain [personal protective equipment and] twice-per-week testing for all employees, among other items,” Starkins added.

“We believe we have demonstrated that we expect the school district to honor its agreements, but are pleased that this mediation has allowed us to work with the district to improve internal safety conditions and supports, thereby mitigating risks that would have been imposed by the new starting dates,” Castanon said.

Starkins said approximately two-thirds of elementary school students will return to in-person physical school for two hours and 20 minutes each Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, with Wednesday in-person classes lasting for one hour and 30 minutes. The remainder of the students, approximately 32%, will not return to in-person classes. They will either remain with online instruction or will continue with the Independent Learning Center that they opted into at the start of the semester, which Starkins noted is “a full-semester commitment.”

The students who do return to in-person classes will focus on core subjects, such as English, math, science and social studies, while the rest of each day is devoted to “independent learning” in art, music, physical education and other such classes, Starkins said. Some in-person students will have a new teacher because their teacher has chosen to continue teaching online and vice versa, Starkins added.

“We have decided to provide five days of in-person instruction

that is 100% focused [on academic classes] rather than a Zoom/live stream model where the teacher’s attention would be divided. Our youngest learners especially need this full-time attention,” Starkins added.

The deal, which was approved unanimously by the BHUSD board on March 3 – also allows for BHUSD teachers who have not yet been vaccinated to receive their COVID-19 vaccine on March 5.

“BHUSD is receiving our first allocation of vaccines and is offering them to teachers to receive this Friday. Each subsequent week, we will continue to offer vaccinations as long as we continue to receive them from L.A. County,” Starkins said.

The Los Angeles Unified School District is also vaccinating employees. LAUSD workers can visit Hollywood Park in Inglewood or one of three school-based sites as part of the district’s plan to resume in-person elementary school by April 9.

“Providing vaccinations for school staff in an organized manner will help Los Angeles Unified open schools sooner,” LAUSD Superintendent Austin Beutner said in a statement. “Employees can avoid the online ‘vaccine lottery’ trying to find a vaccination appointment. Importantly, the effort recognizes how staff are all connected at schools – a school bus driver takes students to school, a principal unlocks the front door, a teacher leads in the classroom, a cafeteria worker prepares lunch and a custodian keeps the school clean.”

With elementary school students returning to in-person classes, Starkins said that the return of middle and high school students can happen when the adjusted case rate falls below 7 per 100,000, though the district is awaiting some clarification on the timing and specifics.

“At this time, the county and state have not released an indication about when they will allow cohorts to mix between classes, which is necessary for middle and high school,” she said.

In an email to the BHUSD community on Feb. 28, Superintendent Michael Bregy said more information will be released in the coming days – including teacher assignments – and families should reach out to school site administrators with questions.

“We are eager to share with you that this week, you will receive many more details such as your teacher’s name,” he said. “If you are coming back to campus, you will be sent a video showing you how things will work. Thank you for your ongoing patience and support.”

said.

“We did that because of an overabundance of caution because we wanted to show the city that we are taking this seriously,” he said.

Berdahl, who took his earnings as a college basketball referee and invested them in the Classic Cat and other restaurants, said the

whole ordeal has made him lose sleep, and that he’s scared what will happen if the business can’t reopen.

“This is my life savings,” he said. “I put a lot of what I consider an enormous amount of money into this thing. If it fails, it’s going to be devastating. Probably bankruptcy for me.”

Advocate left a legacy in West Hollywood

From page 1

where she served as a founding advisor.

She said the doctor told her it was psychological and sent her to a psychiatrist. She told him that she thought she loved women, and he responded by telling her to get married and “cleave unto your married friends.”

“I just kept falling in love with women,” she said in the interview, which was uploaded six years ago.

It was during her time in New York City that she was introduced to the National Organization for Women, with whom she helped found the New York City chapter in 1966. In 1970, she famously led a group of women to the Statue of Liberty. After ferrying to the statue, they removed fabric that they had stuffed under their dresses and hung a large banner over the statue’s pedestal that said, “Women of the Word Unite.”

She elevated to the role of president, but in 1970 she was forced of the organization after coming out as a lesbian and pushing for lesbian rights. In 2016, NOW rectified the decision and sent her a letter apologizing for the way she was treated.

“The NOW community is deeply saddened by the passing of LGBTQ and feminist icon, Ivy Bottini,” the group posted on Twitter. “In 1966, Ivy co-founded the first chapter of NOW and created our iconic NOW logo. Much of her efforts have brought us to this point, and we will continue the fight.”

After she moved to California, Bottini helped lead campaigns against the discrimination of LGBT workers, organized LGBT rights marches and protests and fought to get funding and services during the AIDS epidemic. She founded the city’s first AIDS organization, AIDS Network L.A., and she co-founded AIDS Project L.A. She also founded the Los Angeles Lesbian/Gay Police Advisory Board. She was co-chair of the West Hollywood Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board for 11 years and founded the nonprofit Gay & Lesbian Elder Housing, Inc. in 1993. She also briefly served as the Los Angeles LGBT Center’s director of women’s programs.

“Today Ivy Bottini died at the age of 94, and our community lost a tireless activist and queer commu-

nity shero,” L.A. LGBT Center CEO Lorri L. Jean said in a statement. “Once Ivy overcame years of struggle to accept her lesbianism, she never hesitated to express her opinion and never ceased her efforts to make the world a better place for LGBT people. Rest in peace, Ivy.”

After the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that Proposition 8, the initiative that banned same-sex marriage in the state, was unconstitutional, Bottini was among the many supporters of same-sex marriage who jubilantly marched in the streets of West Hollywood.

“The results of this decision and the results of what it is going to do are so historic,” Bottini told the Beverly Press in 2012. “Having worked on this for over 50 years, this is a moment I have never experienced. I am happy for the people who want to marry. It says, ‘I am equal, I deserve this and I am a human being’.”

She was a fixture at West Hollywood Council meetings and served as a mentor for many members of the council, including Councilman John Erickson. He said



photo courtesy of John Erickson

Members of the West Hollywood Council read from Ivy Bottini’s memoir during a memorial service for the long-time activist last weekend.

that after his grandmother – who he called the most-influential person in his life – died shortly after he moved to California, Bottini stepped into that role and urged him to run for council.

“When Ivy said to do something, you usually do it because you don’t want her coming to council and screaming at you,” he said. “There are so many ways in which Ivy took on that role as a mentor that my grandmother did. ... It’s truly important that we all recognize and remember who she is and what she did.”

He was among the members of the council who held a service for Bottini this past weekend across from her longtime home, where they read excerpts from her memoir, “The Liberation of Ivy Bottini: A Memoir of Love and Activism.” Other council members paid tribute with statements.

“When I think of Ivy Bottini, I can’t help but think of the Frank Sinatra song, ‘My Way.’ Ivy fought for what she believed in,” Councilwoman Lauren Meister said. “Whether it was women’s rights or the rights of the LGBTQ community, she was all in. She was a powerhouse and an inspiration. She gave it her all. And she did it her way.”

“Ivy was never about formal institutions,” Councilman John

D’Amico said. “In fact, she purposefully worked outside the system to serve as a medium of institutional critique. A foil for the regular, an exception that proved the rule, a yes in the face of not ever.”

Councilwoman Sepi Shyne, too, said that Bottini was a leading supporter during her run for council and became a mentor after meeting with her at her home. During that meeting, Bottini grilled her about her most-important issues, including cost of living and women’s rights, before endorsing her.

“I haven’t had many lesbian mentors in my life, but she quickly became mine, as well as a dear friend. She touched so many people’s lives and created so much positive change. She is our West Hollywood Shero,” Shyne said.

During the council meeting, Shyne shared a story from Bottini’s final moments before her death in Florida, where she had been living in hospice care.

Shyne said that Bottini’s pastor came by, and Ivy pressed him on the church’s support for LGBTQ rights, the use of pronouns and better security for LGTBQ members, all issues she had been advocating for months.

The pastor agreed, she smiled and then she died, Shyne said.

“A true activist even in her last few seconds with us,” Shyne said.

Crimes leave Melrose community unsettled

From page 1

neighborhood crime meeting on March 2 held by the Melrose Action Neighborhood Watch and provided details about recent homicides in the community. In the murder last Friday, authorities believe the suspects allegedly shot the victim during a robbery inside a moving vehicle and pushed his body out of the car. The victim was an “up and coming rapper from Georgia” and the two suspects were also involved with the rap music business, Paulson said. A dispute over money allegedly occurred inside the vehicle. She did not know why they were in the Melrose area.

The Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office filed murder charges against Aikens and McClinton on March 2 and they remain in custody.

Another murder during a car-to-car shooting occurred on Jan. 12 near Melrose and Sierra Bonita avenues. Robert Antrel Love, 27, was arrested later the same day in West Hollywood and is facing a murder charge. A dispute occurred between occupants of the two vehicles prior to the shooting, Paulson said. A 21-year-old passenger in one of the vehicles was struck by gunfire and later died at the hospital. Paulson said the suspect was from out of state and had recently rented an apartment in West Hollywood. That incident is not believed to be gang-related, she added.

An earlier homicide occurred on Dec. 15 near Melrose and Stanley avenues. Police recently announced the arrest of Santana Stamps, 19, of Los Angeles, who is facing a murder charge and is next expected to appear in court on March 11. Paulson said that murder involved two men in their 20s who were shopping in the area and were confronted by a gunman who allegedly tried to rob them. One of the victims, who was from Ohio, was also armed and exchanged shots with the suspect, Paulson said. One

man died at the scene and the other was hospitalized. The suspect was allegedly later involved in a gang-related shooting in South Los Angeles and was linked to the Melrose murder after being arrested for that crime.

“I know the greatest concerns obviously ... are the homicides we’ve seen and the robberies we’ve seen. The good news is, in regards to the homicides, every one of them has been solved and every one of them involves suspects who are in custody,” Paulson said. “There is no connection between each of these crimes, definitively. There’s no commonality between these, no relationship, other than they all involved young men in their 20s. There does seem to be a frequency of individuals from out of state, but that could just be the effect of the [attraction] of the Melrose-Hollywood area.”

Paulson also acknowledged there has been an increase in street robberies in the Melrose area since the beginning of the year. Much of the increase is being attributed to people being targeted who are wearing expensive jewelry. At least seven recent robberies in the area, as well as two on Third Street near La Cienega Boulevard, have involved the theft of Rolex watches. Paulson said more resources are being deployed to the area, including vehicle and bike patrols, foot beats and the LAPD’s Mounted Unit, as well as undercover operations.

“Our request to everyone is to be very careful,” Paulson said. “We do have leads on these robbery cases and we are diligently following up on these robberies. There has been somewhat of a drop-off in those robbery cases in the past week or so. We will, to the best of our ability, continue to put resources in that area, a high-visibility patrol posture, to try to prevent this pattern.”

Peter Nichols, cofounder of the Melrose Action Neighborhood Watch, said the murder last Friday heightened concerns about crime among local residents, but he is relieved it has been solved. Nichols, who lives nearby, went to the scene of the murder shortly after he was alerted by neighbors that a body had been found.

“I was there within 10 minutes. Paramedics had just gotten there,” Nichols said. “What’s distressing about it is it’s part of a larger increase in crime in the area.”

He added that while the news about the arrests is positive, more needs to be done overall about rising crime.

“All of the murders have been solved, and that’s great. It seems like they have wrapped everything up,” Nichols said. “But these crimes are not isolated to our area. It’s not comforting, but definitely understandable, because this is going on all over the city.”

Los Angeles City Councilman Paul Koretz, 5th District, added that he plans to continue urging law enforcement to do everything possible to prevent crime in the area.

“I am working closely with the Los Angeles Police Department and relevant agencies to make sure all necessary resources are being brought to bear to prevent and thwart criminal activity in the Melrose area,” Koretz said. “There are multiple action plans that are currently being put into place at this time, which we strongly believe will result in positive solutions in the Melrose corridor. On a daily basis, my team coordinates and collaborates with LAPD command to assure that the necessary deployments, including patrols and foot beats, are present in the region. The security of our business and residential communities is my highest priority. We are fully committed and all in to restore safety on and around Melrose.”

Bicameral bill seeks pathway to citizenship for essential workers

U.S. Reps. Ted Lieu (D-Torrance), Joaquin Castro (D-Texas), and Sens. Alex Padilla (D-Calif.) and Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.) on Feb. 26 announced the Citizenship for Essential Workers Act at a virtual roundtable with essential workers.

This legislation would create an expedited pathway to citizenship for the over 5 million undocumented essential workers who kept Americans healthy, fed and safe during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Citizenship for Essential Workers Act provides undocumented essential workers with a fast, accessible, and secure path to citizenship, beginning with immediate adjustment of status to legal permanent resident. This legislation is a critical part of a just and inclusive COVID-19 recovery, the legislators said.

“Workers in health care, meat-packing, agriculture, public transit and other industries strive to ensure our neighbors have basic necessities and are cared for. During the pandemic, these are people who have risked their lives to keep our economy and country running,” Lieu said. “I’m proud to partner

with Congressman Castro and Senators Padilla and Warren to announce the Citizenship for Essential Workers Act. This legislation provides an expedited pathway to lawful permanent resident status and eventual U.S. citizenship for over 5 million undocumented essential workers who have been a critical part of the COVID-19 response.”

“These heroes have risked their health and their lives to keep our communities safe and our economy moving and they have earned a pathway to citizenship,” Padilla added.

Answers From Page 27



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LEGAL NOTICE

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME:
CASE #21GDGP00072
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner, DAVID MOTTAHEDEH AND FATEMEH DIANA FLORA KESHAVERIYAN, filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present name: MOTTAHEDEH (1 GIRL), Proposed name: NIRVANA KESHAVERIYAN MOTTAHEDEH; MOTTAHEDEH (2 BOY), Proposed name: NICOLAS KESHAVERIYAN MOTTAHEDEH. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING Date: April 29, 2021. Time: 8:30 AM. Dept.: E. The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, 600 E. BROADWAY, 2ND FLOOR, ROOM 279, GLENDALE, CA 91026. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation printed in this county: PARK LABREA NEWS BEVERLY PRESS. Dated: Feb. 19, 2021, DARRILL MAVIS, Judge of the Superior Court.

Published in the Park Labrea News Beverly Press
2/25, 3/4, 3/11, 3/18/2021

Crossword Puzzle by Myles Mellor

Across

1. Slightly open

5. Clarified butter of India

9. Henrik who wrote 'Peer Gynt'

14. Asian fruit tree

15. Loot

16. Spacious

17. "The Witching Hour" author Rice

18. Composer Thomas

19. Peruvian peaks

20. Plaza in central Beijing

23. Six-pointers, for short

24. Alliance that includes Ukr.

25. Blue grass instruments

29. Government lending group's

31. Tanning lotion letters

34. Crying veggie

35. ___ Grand Cherokee

36. Taiwan-based computer company

37. El Paso's place?

40. Go bad

41. Barbecue fare

42. Together

43. Med. plan

44. Like old records

45. Butchers' offerings

46. Midmorning

47. Queen of the fairies

48. Emperor penguin's realm

57. Richter, e.g.

58. Constellation divided into four

59. U.S. abbr.

60. Comic-strip frame

61. Overbrim

62. Musical poetry

63. Smart

64. On deep water

65. Prefix with spore

Down

1. Gray's subj.

2. First name in folk

3. Tennis star, Kournikova

4. It means nothing to the French

5. Concert pianos

6. Injures

7. Article for Mozart

8. Nice garden

9. Basra residents

10. Anything that makes a person feel encouraged

11. Fountain treat

12. Part of E.M.T., abbr.

13. Nasdaq competitor

21. Make up for

22. Suffix with sea or moon

25. Newspaper chain

26. Year (Lat.)

27. Explosion maker

28. Last of the Gospels

29. Start of a Balkan language

30. Hospital essentials

31. Offspring

32. Italian tubes

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

33. Liberates

35. Enlist in

36. Likewise

38. Unbroken mustang

39. Synagogue official

44. Only

45. Washington city

46. Accounts

47. Surname in a Janis Joplin title

48. Cleopatra's pets

49. School sports org.

50. Suns

51. "Toodles!"

52. Angry tirades

53. Demolish

54. "Time's a-wastin'!"

55. Impart

56. Therefore

answers on page 26

THE ORIGINAL FARMERS MARKET PRESENTS:

RESTAURANT WEEK

NOW THRU MARCH 14, 2021 • \$15 LUNCH MENU



PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS

BRYAN'S PIT BBQ - East Patio

Choice of Beef, Chicken or Pork Sandwich with any side plus Bottled Water or Fresh Lemonade

CHARLIE'S COFFEE SHOP - West Patio

Cheeseburger, Fries and Choice of Drink

CHINA DEPOT - East Patio

Any Combo Plate with Egg Rolls and Choice of Drink

DU-PAR'S RESTAURANT - West Patio

Choose one:

- Patty Melt
- Turkey Club

- California Chicken Sandwich

Includes Fries, Coleslaw or Fresh Fruit and Fountain Drink, Coffee or Tea

THE FRENCH CRÊPE COMPANY - Mid-Market

La Marie Antoinette:

Choose any 4 ingredients

(Swiss, Mozzarella or Cheddar Cheese, Eggs, Sour Cream, Tomatoes, Avocado, Onions, Spinach, Ham, Turkey, Tuna Salad or Mushrooms)

Includes small Nutella Crepe and Bottled Water

FRITZI COOP - East Patio

Buttermilk Fried Chicken Sandwich

(spicy mayo, sweet & spicy relish and cheese)

with Tots or Curly Fries and Bottled Water or Lemonade, & 3 Piece Mac & Cheese Gobblers

THE GUMBO POT - West Patio

Large Gumbo Yaya with Green Salad and Iced Tea

MARMALADE CAFE - Plaza

Choose one:

- Big Marm Cheeseburger with French Fries

- Lunch size Pasta with Side Salad and Bread

(pasta choices: Blackened Chicken Penne, Garlic Shrimp Linguine or Spaghetti with Meatballs)

MICHELINA ARTISAN BOULANGER - W. Mkt

Ham and Cheese Croissant with Choice of Beverage

PHIL'S DELI & GRILL - East Patio

Pastrami Special or Reuben Sandwich with Choice of Side and Drink

ROXY & JO'S

SEAFOOD GRILL & OYSTER BAR - East Patio

Choose one:

- Crispy Cod Fish Sandwich

(lettuce and tartar sauce served on a brioche bun)

- Vegan Crab Cake

(lettuce, tomato, vegan chipotle sauce on sesame bagel)

Includes Housemade Lemonade

SUSHI A GO GO - East Patio

"Bento Sundae" Box

California Roll Crab or Spicy Tuna

served atop rice and salad

Served with your choice of Miso or Edamame

TREJO'S TACOS - Mid-Market

2 Taco Combo with Chips & Salsa and 16 oz Agua Fresca (Horchata, Strawberry Lemonade or Guava Lime)

Choice of protein for tacos (Steak Asada, Grilled Chicken, Beef Barbacoa, Carnitas, Shrimp, Jackfruit, Mushroom Asada or Cauliflower)



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