



Sunny, with
highs in the
70s

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

June 10, 2021

WeHo calls for LASD audit

■ If county fails to act, city may step in

BY CAMERON KISZLA

The West Hollywood City Council took action in regards to the allegations of fraud made against the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

The council on June 7 unanimously called for the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and the inspector general to work with the California Contract Cities



West Hollywood City Council members want an investigation into allegations of billing fraud made against the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

See LASD page 31

Pico Robertson hotel faces Planning Commission

■ Project would serve Orthodox Jews, displace local eatery

BY CAMERON KISZLA

A proposed hotel on Robertson Boulevard is expected to be considered by the Los Angeles Planning Commission this morning, June 10. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m.

The project, which goes by the name SORO Hotel – which stands for south of Robertson – would construct 131 hotel rooms at 1434-1456 S. Robertson Blvd. According to Ira Handelman, a consultant and spokesman for the project, the hotel would serve the Orthodox Jewish community, allowing guests to observe the restrictions of the sabbath, such as a prohibition on operating mechanical and electrical equipment, and by offering kosher dining and banquet areas.

"The SORO Hotel will provide a place for guests to stay close to the families or businesses they are visiting, which is also within walking distance of temples and synagogues where they can conveniently worship," the development team wrote in a document provided by



Le Petit Jardin will be demolished to make way for the SORO Hotel if the project is approved.

Handelman.

However, the project has drawn criticism from some in the community, including Priscilla Sotelo Klisch, whose family has owned the café and flower shop Le Petit Jardin at 1456 S. Robertson Blvd. for 27 years. Plans for the hotel call for the café building, which according to city documents is owned by Harkham Family Enterprises, to be torn down to make way for the

hotel.

"If I don't have my restaurant, we don't make money. We don't have jobs," Sotelo Klisch said.

Carly Kirchen and Charlie Carnow, research analysts with Unite Here Local 11, which is opposing the project unless changes are made, noted that the eatery is beloved by the neighborhood.

See Hotel page 30

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One Beverly Hills approved by council

■ Bosse clashes with Mirisch on affordable housing issue

BY CAMERON KISZLA

The Beverly Hills City Council on June 8 gave the One Beverly Hills project the necessary approvals, but not without some conflict between council members.

The 4-1 vote was opposed by Councilman John Mirisch, who raised several issues with the project, including that more should be done to create affordable housing. Mirisch cited several pieces of evidence, including the recently completed nexus study from Kathe Head and Keyser Marston Associates, which estimated that the new hotels, residences and businesses in the mixed-use project would create a need for 527 new affordable units in the surrounding area.

"Ignoring the nexus study is pretty much proof positive that the council majority could care less about affordable housing," Mirisch said.

The project does not include affordable housing on site, but as



rendering © DBOX for Alagem Capital Group

The One Beverly Hills project includes 4.5 acres of publicly accessible botanical gardens and a 3.5-acre private garden for residents and hotel guests.

part of the development agreement, the developer is paying the city \$100 million, which the council members have said they plan to use for affordable housing. Mirisch reiterated that "talk is cheap" multiple times during his comments.

"We had a chance to change the narrative on affordable housing, to fix our abysmal record, and we failed to do so ... This council chose to prioritize deca-million-

aires and billionaires over the most vulnerable in our community," he said.

The other council members disagreed with Mirisch's assessment, and Vice Mayor Lili Bosse responded directly to his comments, which she said left her "almost speechless."

"This entire council, as was stated at the last meeting and all

See One Beverly Hills page 31

Music may ring out again on the streets of WeHo

■ Proposal could allow live entertainment on public, private spaces

BY AARON BLEVINS

The West Hollywood City Council may soon permit local businesses to once again host live, outdoor entertainment if an amended executive order proposed by the city's manager and director of emergency services is

See OUT Zones page 30



photo courtesy of the city of West Hollywood
OUT Zones were created last year to provide businesses a way to operate outdoors during the pandemic.



Beverly Press/Park Labrea News file photo

The city of West Hollywood commemorated victims of HIV/AIDS and examined the impact the disease had on the community.

WeHo marks 40th anniversary of first CDC report on AIDS

On June 5, the world marked 40 years since the first five cases were officially reported of what would later become known as AIDS. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report described the five cases four decades ago.

The onset of the HIV/AIDS epidemic had a significant impact in West Hollywood. The disease's elevated infection rate among gay men caused a devastatingly high number of deaths in the city; the city mourns those who have been lost to HIV/AIDS and honors those who work tirelessly in response to the epidemic.

"The city of West Hollywood has been a leader in the fight against HIV and AIDS," Mayor Lindsey Horvath said. "After unspeakable heartbreak, we've seen so much progress in the fight.

Today, we see people who are living with HIV thrive because of extraordinary advances in medications and treatment. But, there's so much more work to be done. In West Hollywood, we're working to turn our HIV Zero vision into a reality, and we won't stop until we can declare that HIV/AIDS is over."

On June 8, the city's Human Services Commission meeting included a panel presentation about the advancement of HIV medications over the past 40 years, as well as an update about the development of an HIV vaccine and cure. Panelists included Dr. Jay Gladstein, chief medical officer and site medical director, APLA Health Mid-Wilshire; and long-term survivors of HIV/AIDS. To view the presentation visit [youtube.com/wehotv](https://www.youtube.com/wehotv).

Beverly Hills Chamber

The Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce is holding a small business forum on Thursday, June 10, from 9 to 11 a.m., via Zoom. The forum includes opening remarks by Beverly Hills Mayor Robert Wunderlich and roundtable discussions specifically focused on the restaurant and retail sectors. Admission is free but reservations are required. members.beverlyhillschamber.com

Culinary history

Join the Culinary Historians of Southern California for "Japanese Luxury Ingredients and Their Transmission to the West" with professor, historian and author Ken Albala, on Saturday, June 12, at 10:30 a.m., via Zoom.



Albala will describe the initial impression Portuguese traders and missionaries had of Japanese cuisine and its ingredients, and how the Dutch used the ingredients in the 17th century and early 18th century. Albala will also discuss the mysterious process by which ingredients such as soy, miso, sake and pickles were first imported to Europe and North America, and then largely forgotten by the early 19th century. The illustrated lecture is free; registration required. [eventbrite.com/e/ken-albala-japanese-luxury-ingredients-and-their-transmission-to-the-west-tickets-156162926517?](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ken-albala-japanese-luxury-ingredients-and-their-transmission-to-the-west-tickets-156162926517?)

East West Players

East West Players, the nation's largest producer of Asian American theatrical works, presents

CALENDAR

Vancouver Asian Canadian Theatre's "1 Hour Photo," written and performed by Tetsuro, running online from Saturday, June 12, through Sunday, June 20. "1 Hour Photo" is the true story of a Japanese Canadian man's quest for beauty during a difficult period, as he journeys from finding love in a World War II incarceration camp to rebuilding his life as a scientist, businessman and father. The production uses intricately crafted miniatures to explore Mas Yamamoto's life during and after internment. A discussion with Shigematsu is included. Tickets are \$34.99. eastwestplayers.org.



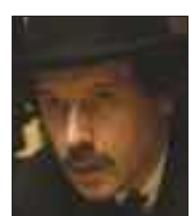
ter children for a single week, multiple weeks or the full 10-week session. Classes are \$450 per week. 1101 S. Robertson Blvd., Ste. 104. robertsonartzone.com.

Dance and art

The Los Angeles County Museum of Art presents "Art Moves: Modern Art and Culture Shock L.A." on Tuesday, June 15, from 6 to 7 p.m., online. In celebration of the opening of LACMA's modern art galleries in BCAM, Level 3, Culture Shock L.A. will premiere new choreography in response to works on view. Culture Shock Los Angeles is a nonprofit dance company that utilizes hip hop dance and culture to create education, empowerment and entertainment programs to inspire positive change. Experience the interplay between dance and the museum's modern art collection in the online program. my.lacma.org/events/21435.

Bloomsday

Celebrate Bloomsday with an online screening of the film "Bloom," presented by the Hammer Museum on Wednesday, June 16, at 7 p.m. Bloomsday, observed on June 16, is an annual commemoration and celebration of author James Joyce's life. Stephen Rea, Angeline Ball and Hugh O'Conor star in the feature-length film adaptation of Joyce's magnum opus, "Ulysses." As in the groundbreaking novel, the film takes place entirely on June 16, 1904, and follows Leopold Bloom, who walks the streets of Dublin while his wife entertains a lover. Viewing is free but reservations are required. hammer.ucla.edu/programs-events/2021/bloom.



Japanese film

Japan Foundation Los Angeles is holding an online screening of the film "Words Can't Go There" on Saturday, June 12, ad Sunday, June 13, at 7 p.m. This film is a feature-length documentary exploring the story of California surfer turned Japanese shakuhachi flute master John "Kaizan" Neptune. The film examines what it takes to cross cultural borders and become a master of the traditional Japanese art form. Neptune has lived in Japan for over 40 years, focusing on the shakuhachi to further delve into the infinite possibilities of sound.

Art camps for kids

Robertson Art Zone is holding a 10-week Art Summer Camp from Monday, June 14, through Friday, Aug 20. The camp for children ages 5-12 is held Monday through Friday, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Activities focus on a different region of the world each week. Parents can regis-

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Keith Sterling promoted to BH chief communications officer



photo courtesy of the city of Beverly Hills
Keith Sterling

The public information manager for the city of Beverly Hills, Keith Sterling, has been promoted to chief communications officer as part of the approval of the executive compensation plan and reorganization at the June 1 City Council meeting.

Sterling, who has overseen the city's communications and media relations since 2018, was recently awarded the city's 2020 Employee Excellence Award for Outstanding Job Performance for his achievements spearheading various public information efforts throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

"I am very grateful to the Beverly Hills City Council and the city manager for my promotion," Sterling said. "I look forward to continuing to strengthen our communication efforts with new and exciting ways to reach our community."

Sterling has received many accolades throughout his career, including a Los Angeles Area Emmy Award. He has been honored by the Public Relations Society of America as well as the California School Public Relations Association.

Prior to joining the city, Sterling has led communications for the city of Burbank, Anaheim Elementary School District and the University of Utah. Sterling has also been a television news anchor and reporter for several stations across the country. He is a graduate of the Roy H. Park School of Communications at Ithaca College.



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Beverly Hills adopts fiscal year 2021-22 budget

BY AARON BLEVINS

The Beverly Hills City Council adopted its 2021-22 capital improvement and operating budgets on June 1 with only a few adjustments from the proposed budgets that were presented to the council in May.

The changes included accelerating the citywide outdoor warning siren system project and allocating \$100,000 for a feasibility study to see if the city should create its own health department, according to a staff report.

Mayor Robert Wunderlich said the pandemic had a "horrific" impact on individuals, businesses and cities, but Beverly Hills "was in a lot better shape" than some municipalities, and its budget reflects that.

"We were in a relatively good position to weather it," he said.

Wunderlich said there were certainly cutbacks in the operating budget, as revenue sources were down. He said several employees have taken advantage of early retirement plans and that some capital improvement projects have been eliminated to compensate.

"The hotel tax was devastated," the mayor said. "The sales tax was reduced significantly."

Although the city is seeing encouraging signs that businesses are returning to Beverly Hills, the city will need some time to recover, Wunderlich said.

"Going forward, we anticipate that our finances are going to take a couple of years to be as robust as they would have been with no pan-



photo by Cameron Kisza

Beverly Hills officials say the city is in relatively better shape than other cities due to its buildup of reserves.

demic," he added.

The council passed the 2021-22 budgets by a 4-1 margin. Councilmember John Mirisch voted against the proposed budgets, citing a lack of money assigned to affordable housing units in the city.

During the June 1 meeting, Mirisch asked the city's director of finance, Jeff Muir, if there was any funding set aside for affordable housing in the budgets. Muir acknowledged that there was not.

"Talk is cheap," Mirisch said. "I'm not going to allow this community to be gaslit, not even by the council."

He referenced a Keyser Marston Associates nexus study that showed the city would need any more than 500 additional affordable housing units as a result of the One Beverly Hills project, which the council approved on Tuesday.

"This project is actually going to dig the affordable housing hole deep-

er in Beverly Hills," Mirisch said.

During the meeting, Wunderlich asked Muir if the city budgets allocated funding for land acquisition – funding that could be used to develop affordable housing units. Muir confirmed that they did, even though there was not a separate line item for affordable housing.

"The fact that [affordable housing] wasn't in there from the get-go tells you what the city thinks about affordable housing," Mirisch said.

Wunderlich said the city is evaluating possibilities for additional affordable housing and dedicating money toward it, even if it wasn't a line item in the budgets. He said the city is planning to put out a request for proposals in the coming months to develop an affordable housing project.

"There are things we are doing and part of the money ... would come from projects like One Beverly Hills," Wunderlich said.

ble to receive a vaccine. Visit vaccinatelacounty.com to sign up for a vaccination appointment. For people without access to a computer or the internet, or people with disabilities, an L.A. County call center is open daily from 8 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. to help schedule appointments at (833)540-0473.

Additional information, such as links to West Hollywood-area drug store chains offering vaccinations, is available on the city's website at weho.org/coronavirus in the vaccines and testing information section.

Los Angeles County is offering in-home COVID-19 vaccinations for homebound community members. To register for an in-home vaccination, community members should visit the L.A. County Public Health website at publichealth.lacounty.gov/acd/ncorona2019/vaccine/hcwsignup to complete and submit an online form. For questions about the program, or to register by phone, call (833)540-0473.

Vaccines by Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson are available in Los Angeles County. Individuals are considered fully vaccinated two weeks or more after they have received the second dose of either the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine or two weeks or more after they have received the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

WeHo encourages community members to get vaccinated

The city of West Hollywood is getting the word out that there is ample supply of vaccines in the Los Angeles County region to prevent against COVID-19 disease. Getting vaccinated is the single most effective way to protect against illness and community spread of the coronavirus and is the most important step in getting back to normal.

The latest data from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health indicates that as of May 23, more than two-thirds of West Hollywood residents, 68.2% or 23,394 people, have received at least one dose of vaccine.

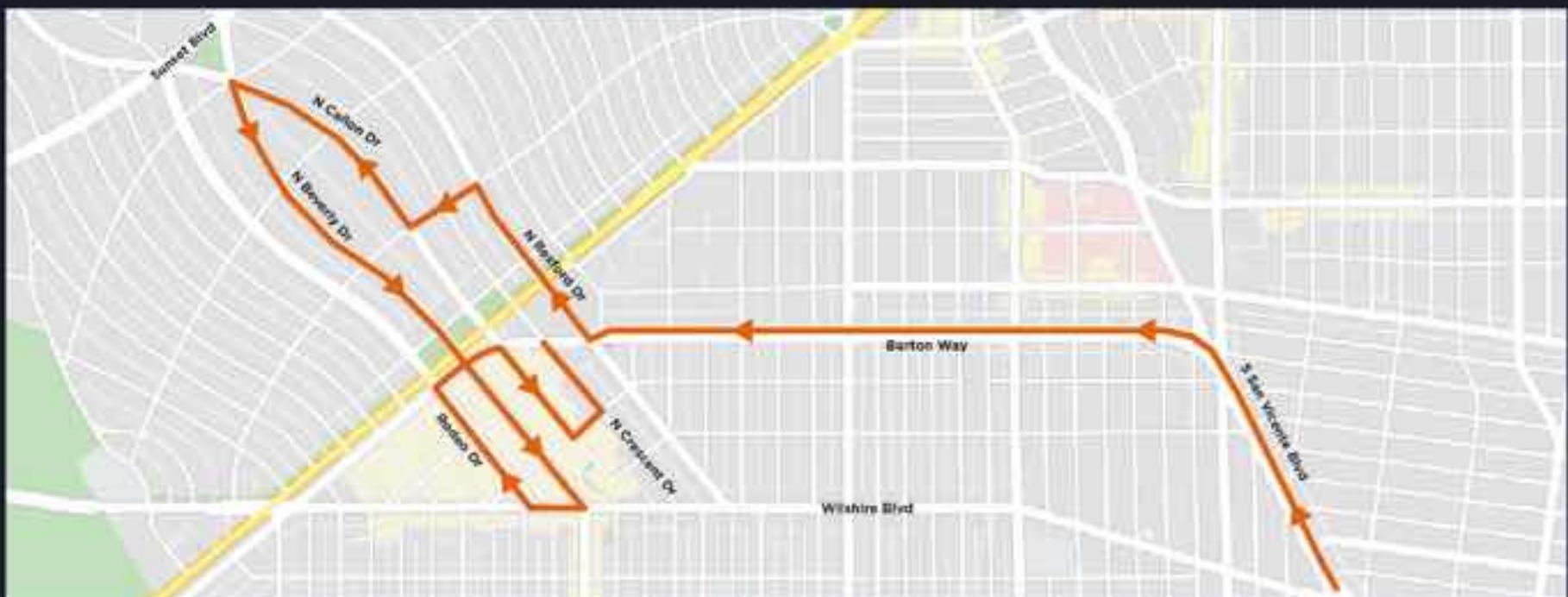
As a destination for dining, nightlife and entertainment, the city amplifies its vaccination message to those throughout the region and the state. The more people who get vaccinated, the safer everyone will become as new COVID-19 variants emerge and as the economy continues to open across sectors.

"We're finally at a stage of the pandemic where there's a good supply of vaccine availability," West Hollywood Mayor Lindsey Horvath said. "Getting back to normal means we must all do our part to get vaccinated and to encourage people we know to get vaccinated. No matter which vaccine you choose, please get vaccinated."

Health officials urge all people to get vaccinated, and people ages 12 and older are now eligi-



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More information is available at BeverlyHills.org/BHCarRally.

Fire spreads through attic in building on Melrose Avenue



photo by Cameron Kiszla

A greater alarm structure fire sent dozens of firefighters into action on June 5 at a building in the 5000 block of Melrose Ave., near Wilton Place. The fire was reported at approximately 11 p.m. in a series of adjoining vacant commercial storefronts. At 11:15 p.m., additional Los Angeles Fire Department personnel were dispatched to the scene after the blaze was declared a greater alarm fire requiring more resources. Approximately 75 firefighters extinguished the blaze at 11:34 p.m. LAFD spokesman Brian Humphrey said the personnel conducted offensive operations to extinguish heavy flames and contain them to the front portion of a common attic in the building. The cause of the fire remains under investigation, and the cost of damage and loss was not available.

New leadership named at LAPD's Wilshire Division

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Capt. Sonia Monico, a 22-year law enforcement veteran, has been selected as the new commanding officer for the Los Angeles Police Department's Wilshire Division.

Monico will succeed Capt. Shannon Paulson, who is being promoted to the rank of commander and will serve as assistant commanding officer of the LAPD's Counter-Terrorism and Special Operations Bureau. The anticipated date for the transition is Aug. 1.

Monico and Paulson were not available for comment before press time. According to her biography on the LAPD's website, Monico was born in Mexico and raised in Los Angeles. She joined the department in 1993 and has served in many assignments during her career, including patrol officer,

patrol supervisor, watch commander and lieutenant. She formerly served as an aide to a commander in the LAPD's Operations-Valley Bureau and adjutant for Deputy Chief Regina Scott in Operations Central Bureau.

After being promoted to the rank of captain in 2019, Monico served as patrol captain for the Hollenbeck Division. Since October, she has been assigned as commanding officer of the LAPD's Central Traffic Division.

Other changes at the station include a promotion for the current patrol commanding officer, Capt. Al Mendoza, who will become commanding officer of the LAPD's Central Traffic Division. Mendoza will be succeeded by newly promoted Capt. Anthony Otero.

Paulson said previously that she plans to continue focusing on the

community during her time remaining at the Wilshire Division. Los Angeles City Councilman Paul Koretz, 5th District, added that the division will remain in good hands.

"I am so proud that Capt. Shannon Paulson is receiving a well-deserved promotion from her role as captain to commander. While it is bittersweet to lose her as an invaluable protector of our community, we are so thrilled for her and we are also looking forward to working with our new incoming Capt. Sonya Monico," Koretz said in a statement. "We understand that there will be ample transition time and from past experiences at Wilshire Division, the transitions have been seamless. The continuity of operations will be in very capable hands with Capt. Monico. We look forward to a continued bright future at the Wilshire Division."

Man pleads guilty to fraud involving TV production

The CEO of two Hollywood production companies that specialize in reality television programming agreed on June 8 to plead guilty to wire fraud for obtaining a \$2 million business loan using fabricated documents and by misrepresenting his companies' financial circumstances.

Jonathan Lee Smith, 40, of West Hollywood, was charged with wire fraud. In a plea agreement filed on June 8, Smith agreed to plead guilty to the felony offense, which carries a

maximum penalty of 20 years in federal prison.

According to the plea agreement, Smith managed and owned two production companies: Hoplite Entertainment, Inc., and Hoplite, Inc. To convince a private lender to fund a \$2 million loan last year, Smith falsely represented that his two companies had accounts receivable of \$3.4 million. He also submitted falsified license agreements and committed other forgeries to back up

the claim, authorities said.

To convince the private lender to give him additional time to repay the loan, court documents stated that Smith falsely represented the payment was imminent. He also emailed a fake record showing a \$100,000 wire payment from Hoplite to the lender.

The loan was never repaid. Smith has agreed to pay \$2 million in restitution. The defendant is expected to next appear in court on July 6.

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Lawn bowlers roll out the welcome mat

■ Holmby Park group seeking new members

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Exercise and socialization are important for staying healthy as people age, which is something members of the Holmby Park Lawn Bowling Club know well.

The club has approximately 90 active members, most ages 50 and above, who gather up to three times a week for a friendly game. Members said they enjoy conversation and camaraderie as they compete in one of the world's oldest sports, dating to the 12th century. The club is holding an open house on Saturday, June 12, at 10 a.m., and encourages everyone to stop by and experience the joy of lawn bowling – free lessons will be provided.

"First, the club is in a very beautiful park. This is one of the gems of the area," said Tom Seres, who has served as club president for 20 years. "It's a traditional game invented by the Brits, and it became very popular. What's interesting is around the world, it's played by people in their 30s, 40s and 50s, but in America, it became a game for people who are retired or are going to retire. Apart from the game, it is very social. The social interaction is almost as important as the game itself."

The club plays on expansive greens in a fenced area dedicated to lawn bowling in Holmby Park, located at 646 Comstock Ave., next to the Los Angeles Country Club and just west of Beverly Hills. During play, each green is divided into smaller areas known as rinks. The facility is large enough that multiple games can be played simultaneously, accommodating dozens of people. Teams of one to three players compete against each other on separate rinks.

"The social interaction is almost as important as the game itself."

-Tom Seres,
president of the Holmby Park Lawn Bowling Club

To start a game, a white ball known as a jack is rolled out onto the green. The players then roll bowls – not balls – toward the jack, trying to get as close as possible. The bowls are not perfectly round, which causes them to curve right or left as they roll across the green. The player or team that finishes a round, known as an end, with their bowls closest to the jack wins that round. Games typically have 12 to 14 ends.

The Holmby Park Lawn Bowling Club was founded in 1927. Famous players of the game include Shirley Temple and Walt Disney. In his later years, former President Ronald Reagan is said to have stopped by to watch members of the club play.

Holmby Park Lawn Bowling Club member Vicki Goddard, who took up the sport in 2019, said it's a wonderful game that is a lot of fun. The club meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11 a.m. and on Saturdays at 10:30 a.m. During the summer, the club sometimes opens on Wednesday evenings, she added.

"I usually try to play Tuesday and Thursday, and sometimes Saturday," Goddard said. "I really like the people; they are very nice.

It's an interesting mixture. I live in Holmby Hills, but you have people from Park La Brea all the way to Pacific Palisades who come, and a few people come from the Valley. We welcome people to come by and learn the game."

Goddard said the club loans bowls to new members until they purchase their own. She said inexpensive bowls can be found online, and new ones start around \$50. Many of the members wear white clothing, which is a tradition in lawn bowling, but the club is very casual and white apparel is not mandatory, Goddard added.

"It's very relaxed. It's not the

French Open," she joked. "If they show up at the open house, we'll welcome them. We welcome all ages. They can take free lessons, or if they just want to learn about the game, we encourage them to stop by."

Seres said he hopes many people will visit during the open house and take up the sport. Membership is \$95 annually, but Seres said it will be reduced to \$50, covering the rest of 2021, on June 12.

"It's great when new people come in. It's very satisfying to see new people meld into the existing group," he added. "The friendliness of the group has always been a big selling point."



photo courtesy of the Holmby Park Lawn Bowling Club

Lawn Bowling is competitive but friendly, and members enjoy a sense of togetherness and camaraderie, club administrators said.



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Fairfax Theatre undergoes further review for historic status by Cultural Heritage Commission

■ Venue will also be considered for National Register of Historic Places

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

The Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Commission voted unanimously on June 3 to further study the Fairfax Theatre for possible historic-cultural status, as part of a three-step process for designation.

The decision moves the property on the northwest corner of Beverly Boulevard and Fairfax Avenue one step closer to becoming a Los Angeles historic landmark. Next, two members of the commission will tour the site, and the commission will consider historic status at a future meeting, when a final vote is expected. The proposal will then move to the Los Angeles City

Council for consideration.

The Cultural Heritage Commission heard a presentation by Steven Luftman, a member of the grassroots group Save Beverly Fairfax and a board member for the Art Deco Society of Los Angeles, who filed the petition for historic monument status. Luftman also disclosed on Monday that he has a bigger goal in his quest to have the theater designated historic. He applied to have the theater recognized on the National Register of Historic Places and received news that the State Historic Resources Commission, which works with the California Office of Historic Preservation to get properties nominated for the national registry, has agreed to consider the Fairfax Theatre at a meeting on July 30.

"It's a big deal just to get on that agenda," Luftman said. "We are hoping it will be another step for

this important building."

Luftman conducted extensive research over the past several years on the theater, which was built in 1930. He learned that it has long been at the center of the local Jewish community, having preceded the first synagogues in the area. Jewish congregations held community meetings, fundraisers and special events at the theater, as well as numerous High Holy Days observances, he said. The theater building housed the first kosher deli and Jewish grocery store in the community, as well as an office for one of the first Jewish doctors in the Fairfax District, he said.

The commission is considering historic-cultural status for the theater for the second time. A previous application was turned down in 2010, when the commission ruled that the long-vacant building did not meet the requisite criteria. Luftman said that application focused solely on the architectural elements of the building, not its history and importance in the community. He added that much of the information about the history and connection to the neighborhood was not available to the previous applicant, as he found a lot of it in old newspapers and other sources that have been digitized and made available to the public.

The building's owner, B&F Associates, opposed the historic-cultural monument nomination in 2010 and still opposes it now.



photo courtesy of Mott Studios, 1932/California State Library collection

The Fairfax Theatre was built in 1930.

Attorney William F. Delvac, who represents the owner, spoke briefly during the hearing, indicating the owner is eager to move forward with a development project approved in 2013 for the site,

whether or not historic status is granted.

The owner already has city approval to build 71 condominiums in the building, which currently houses small stores on the ground level. Those approvals require that the theater's marquee and key Art Deco features be preserved, including the building's signature spire.

Delvac asked that the commission take into consideration that there are already approvals granted for housing. The owner has until 2024 to build the project.

Luftman acknowledged that the building owner has the right to build the condominium project and that cannot be changed, whether or not historic-cultural status is granted.

ed. He said historic designation is important and will put the city on record recognizing the theater's significance in Los Angeles history. Luftman said he is even more optimistic about the preservation plan after the Cultural Heritage Commission vote on June 3.

"I'm very excited. It's really positive," he said. "We think it is really important the building gets recognized."

In the meantime, Luftman said he will continue raising support for preservation and hopes the Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Commission will conclude the property is significant.

"The building should be considered a historic resource," Luftman said. "I'd love to talk to the owner about changing their plans. Maybe this could work out to be a cultural center. It could be such a great building to resurrect the neighborhood."



photo courtesy of the Los Angeles Library

In its heyday, the Fairfax Theatre drew crowds to opening night events.

Bill would remove vestiges of redlining and segregation

The California Assembly on June 2 supported a measure to remove vestiges of redlining and segregation that have hindered affordable and supportive housing. Assembly Bill 721, authored by Assemblyman Richard Bloom (D-Santa Monica), will invalidate density restrictions in housing covenants that do not conform with local zoning.

"We know racial restrictions in housing covenants go against our values as Californians," Bloom said. "The same is true about density restrictions that aim to keep low-income and communities of color out of certain neighborhoods."

Court decisions and the California Legislature have made racially restrictive covenants unenforceable. However, the racial restrictions are often contained in longer covenant documents with restrictions on the size and number of units allowed, which can act as clear barriers to the development of affordable and supportive housing. The time

and expense needed to remove the covenants deter developers from acquiring and developing on these otherwise ideal project sites.

AB 721 will clarify that density restrictions in private covenants cannot be used to curtail affordable and supportive housing. The measure allows for the owner of a property who commits to building 100% affordable units for lower-income households may build as many units as the local zoning code allows. AB 721 also preserves and strengthens local control by restricting private landowners from overriding local zoning.

"Affordable housing developers have to walk away from ideal project sites because of these private covenants that date back to the 1930s," Bloom said. "We need to make sure these restrictions don't continue to stand in the way of affordable housing production."

AB 721 heads to the Senate for consideration.



NOTICE OF COMMISSION VACANCIES

RENT STABILIZATION COMMISSION – deadline to apply: June 18, 2021 at 5:00pm

The Beverly Hills City Council is seeking qualified residents to fill two vacancies on the Rent Stabilization Commission representing the Tenant group only.

For more information on the Commission positions and to apply online, please visit the City's website at www.beverlyhills.org/applyforacommission or call the City Clerk's Office at (310) 285-2400 to obtain the application form by mail or e-mail.

HUMA AHMED
CITY CLERK



photo courtesy of Isaac Bryan

Democrat Isaac Bryan will represent the 54th District in the state Assembly.

Bryan sworn into Assembly

Elections officials have certified the results of the May 18 Assembly District 54 Special Primary Election. The winner is Isaac Bryan, a Democrat who claimed 50.8% of the vote with 21,472 votes received. He was sworn in on May 28.

Democrat Heather Hutt finished in second place with 24.9% of the vote, or 10,538 votes. Democrat Cheryl Turner finished third, with 9.6% or 4,072 votes. Democrat Dallas Fowler finished fourth with 7.6% or 3,235 votes. Bernard Senter, who did not express a party preference, finished fifth with 3.9%

or 1,667 votes. Democrat Samuel Robert Morales finished last, with 3.1% or 1,304 votes.

The winner of the Assembly District 54 Special Primary Election will serve the remainder of the current term, which was vacated by former Assemblywoman Sydney Kamlager, who now serves in the state Senate. The current two-year term will be up for election again next year.

For information, visit sos.ca.gov/elections/prior-elections/special-elections/2021-ad54-primary-official-canvass.

L.A. releases sustainable transportation program

Los Angeles City Planning and the Los Angeles Department of Transportation on June 7 unveiled proposed changes to the city's existing Transportation Demand Management program, including a proposed update to the citywide TDM ordinance. The draft proposal would help reduce car dependence in Los Angeles by changing the zoning code for new developments, helping the city meet the carbon pollution reduction goals set out in the mayor's Green New Deal. It would also introduce strategies that enhance sustainable mobility options.

The current update to the citywide TDM ordinance aims to reduce the number of overall vehicle trips that result from new construction, leveraging the latest technologies and incentives to offer sustainable modes of transportation. While the city's existing TDM ordinance applies only to large-scale commercial sites, the proposed revision would expand the TDM program to apply to more new construction projects, including multi-family residential development projects consisting of 16 or more units.

"This program puts people first. It recognizes Angelenos' diverse transportation needs, invests in walkable, bike-friendly, transit-rich communities and incentivizes the creation of walkable activity centers," Director of Planning Vince Bertoni said. "By creating more efficient and sustainable options for getting around the city, we will make it easier for Angelenos to reach jobs, education, health care and social activities."

The core of the initiative introduces new transportation strate-

gies for reducing carbon emissions. These proposed changes to the city's zoning code would require projects of a certain size to incorporate TDM strategies for reducing drive-alone vehicle trips and total miles traveled.

"L.A.'s TDM ordinance brings a long-overdue overhaul to our development review process that will make us a more connected and efficient city," LADOT General Manager Seleta Reynolds said. "When we incentivize a wider range of transportation options, we build a future with greater mobility, less traffic and improved health outcomes for Los Angeles."

Through this legislative action, City Planning and LADOT will be better positioned to require new developments to contribute to the city's expanding transportation options. New developments will be able to choose from a menu of TDM strategies to implement, including additional investments in public transit, biking and carpooling; incentivizing sustainable transportation; and making travel option information more accessible to residents, employees and visitors. As a result, Los Angeles will have more robust alternatives to driving alone, like public transit, walking, biking and car-sharing.

In the weeks ahead, LADOT and City Planning will hold virtual workshops and a public hearing to solicit community input before advancing the draft ordinance first to the City Planning Commission, and then to the City Council for adoption. For information, click Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Program Update at planning4la.org/mobility.

Wilson confirmed as WeHo city manager

■ Details of contract unveiled at City Council meeting

BY CAMERON KISZLA

The West Hollywood City Council confirmed the appointment of the new city manager with a unanimous vote on June 7.

David Wilson, who currently serves as assistant city manager, will replace outgoing City Manager Paul Arevalo on July 7, when Arevalo retires after more than two decades at the helm.

Wilson has served as assistant city manager since 2018, but he has been with the city for more than 20 years, according to an announcement of his selection the city released last month. Prior to his time as assistant city manager, Wilson was director of finance and technology services for the city. He graduated from the University of California at Berkeley with a bachelor's degree in political economy of industrial societies and earned his master's degree in planning from the University of Southern California. Wilson also briefly played professional football as a defensive back for the Minnesota Vikings and New England Patriots

in 1992.

Wilson was awarded a 30-month contract, which will take his employment through Jan. 7, 2024, with two potential 12-month extensions that could bring his tenure through the beginning of 2026.

His salary will be more than \$329,000 through Jan. 7, 2023, after which he will be given a 5% raise, bringing his pay to nearly \$346,000. If the extensions are approved, on Jan. 7, 2024, his pay will rise to nearly \$363,000, and on Jan. 7, 2025, it will increase again to more than \$381,000.

If his tenure ends early, Wilson's severance pay will be nine months' pay, though that amount drops to six months' pay and then 90 days' pay as the end of the contract nears.

The city did not make Wilson or Arevalo available for an interview or comment before press time, but during the June 7 council meeting, Mayor Lindsey Horvath and Mayor Pro Tempore Lauren Meister offered Wilson their congratulations.

"I just want to say, on the appointment of the city manager, congratulations to David Wilson again ... It [is now] official, so thank you, David," Meister said.

Wilson thanked the council members for handling the matter as

photo courtesy of the city of West Hollywood
West Hollywood City Manager
David Wilson

part of the council's consent calendar, which typically indicates unanimous support.

"I do thank you all and appreciate you moving my contract to consent," Wilson said.

Letters to the Editor

Development issues deserve greater scrutiny

Regarding the June 3 issue,

First, I read on the front page, "One Beverly Hills given green light" by reporter Cameron Kisza, and then on page 11 my letter ("Mobility options must be balanced. . ." and the letters by Marcy Kelly, "One Beverly Hills will have major impact on city," and Robert Chernoff, "Plan for church property would harm neighborhood.") All deal with real estate development and road mobility in our communities.

Kisza describes an extended overview of what the developer plans for the One Beverly Hills project focused on economic benefits that the city could receive, but so little on any negatives. Letter-writer Marcy Kelly recognizes the likely impact of the project, rising 32 stories into the sky (100 feet taller than the

Statue of Liberty), far exceeding Beverly Hills' height limit of 45 feet. "The traffic will be a nightmare," she predicts.

My letter congratulates the Beverly Hills City Council on its efforts to balance the needs of bicyclists, pedestrians, transit riders and motorists. I agree, but caution is the order of the day. Do we need more empty bicycle lanes, as they now are? Will transit ridership improve or are we just dreaming? And what about the project's impact on traffic congestion and limited parking spaces, barely enough to accommodate our present car drivers? We certainly want to do more good than harm.

As letter-writer Chernoff hints, bribery and collusion involving developers are not things we would like to be factors in our city's growth and well-being. Recent findings of corruption by elected local leaders is not what we want for our communities.

George Epstein
Detroit Street

West Hollywood State of the City to be held June 29

The West Hollywood Chamber of Commerce will virtually host the annual State of the City event on Tuesday, June 29, from 5 to 7 p.m.

The event will honor outgoing City Manager Paul Arevalo and his 30 years of service to the city as he delivers his final State of the City, and will welcome the new City Manager David Wilson. The program will feature chamber Chair Nick Rimedio, a keynote address by Mayor Lindsey Horvath and a

panel of city experts to speak about how the chamber is making changes to support the business community as they "Open to Creativity."

The event acts as a fundraiser for the West Hollywood Chamber of Commerce, a 501(c)6 nonprofit organization.

Tickets are \$40 and sponsorships are available.

For information, email info@wehochamber.com or visit wehochamber.com.

Whom Should I Name As My Executor or Trustee?

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

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

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

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

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

Cedars opens pediatric gender wellness clinic

Cedars-Sinai has opened a clinic for children and adolescents under age 18 who are questioning their gender or experiencing gender dysphoria – marked incongruence and distress between their true gender identity and biological sex. The clinic is run by Dr. Paria Hassouri, a pediatrician specializing in the field of gender wellness.

Hassouri had a personal reason for studying gender-affirming care. One of her three children came out as transgender at age 13.

"As I had to navigate these difficult decisions with my husband for my own teenager, I realized that it was really something that I felt passionate about, and that I wanted to help other families through this process as well," Hassouri said. "Seeing my own daughter going from being depressed to really thriving, once she was able to live in her authentic gender, made me want to be able to help other teens do that as well."

In the Pediatric and Adolescent Gender Wellness Clinic she runs at Cedars-Sinai, Hassouri helps children and their parents navigate options such as medical transition or blocking puberty, as well as offer resources and support.

Blocking puberty is used for youth who are just starting puberty and may want to put a pause on

their puberty while they are working through their true gender identity. As Hassouri explains, pausing puberty is done by administering medication through a single toothpick-size implant in the upper arm. The medication can pause puberty for anywhere from one to two years.

"We're doing a pause on puberty, which is completely reversible and safe until the child is a little bit older," Hassouri said. "When the child is older, they and their

family can then decide whether to go forward with hormone therapy, such as estrogen and testosterone."

"My advice to parents is to not hesitate or be scared about making that first appointment with someone who specializes in gender-diverse youth," Hassouri said. "That first conversation is just about gathering information and knowledge, which

makes all the difference for parents and their children."

The clinic also helps families with social support, especially for younger children who have not reached puberty but are feeling gender fluid. Hassouri's advice for parents of young children with gender identity issues is to listen and offer support.

"If a child is born designated male, but feels either fluid or feminine, and they want to wear certain clothing, they want to go by different names, they want to use she/her pronouns, you support them and call them by the name that feels more authentic to them. You use the pronouns they want, and you sign them up for activities or sports teams that they feel more comfortable with," said Hassouri. "At that age, you are supporting them and allowing them to explore their gender and be comfortable."

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



photo courtesy of Cedars-Sinai
Dr. Paria Hassouri

Notable quotes

"The basis of our government being the opinion of the people, the very first object should be to keep that right; and were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

Thomas Jefferson
1743-1826

Letter to Colonel Edward Carrington
January 16, 1787

With yesterday's revelation that Donald Trump's Department of Justice under Attorney General William Barr secretly sought and obtained phone and email records for professional and private accounts from journalists at CNN, the New York Times and the Washington Post in a move to aggressively target news outlets in leak investigations, the words of Thomas Jefferson remind us to hold our government to account.

We fear that this unprecedented effort will have a chilling effect on the First Amendment rights of all Americans to a free press.

The Publishers

(source: "Bartlett's Familiar Quotations")

Los Angeles County CRC to hold 10 public hearings

The Los Angeles County Citizens Redistricting Commission, or L.A. County CRC, is launching 10 public hearings to solicit ideas on how to adjust the district boundaries for electing the Board of Supervisors for the next decade.

The LA County CRC is unlike past practices when the Board of Supervisors appointed an advisory boundary redistricting committee to study proposed changes and could make revisions before adopting the final districted boundaries.

Now, the L.A. County CRC is independent of the Board of Supervisors as a result of California legislation that passed in 2016.

At the local level, periodic redistricting can help to ensure the

county's diverse population and communities have opportunities to have their voices heard, enable voters to elect representatives of their choosing and not draw supervisorial districts in such a way as to dilute fair opportunities, and have supervisors be responsive to the preferences and needs of residents through public policies to improve lives.

English-language meetings are scheduled for June 14, 23 and 28; July 14, 20 and 28; and Aug. 11, 19 and 22. A Spanish-language meeting will be held on Aug. 7.

To find which meetings will cover which areas, visit redistricting.lacounty.gov/public-hearings.

For information, visit redistricting.lacounty.gov.

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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

LOCATIONS: **9157 SUNSET BOULEVARD,
West Hollywood, California**

REQUEST: Proposal to replace an existing single-sided static billboard with a new single-sided digital billboard on a property designated as a cultural resource, subject to a development agreement and as part of the Sunset Boulevard Off-Site Signage Policy.

PERMIT(S): Certificate of Appropriateness, Development Agreement, Sign Permit, Zone Map Amendment, and any other required permits.

APPLICANT(S): Jeffrey A. Seymour, Seymour Consulting Group

**TIME/PLACE
OF HEARING:** **Teleconference Meeting
Monday, June 21, 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: SSP (Sunset Specific Plan)

**ENVIRONMENTAL
STATUS:** Negative Declaration prepared for Sunset Boulevard Off-Site Signage Policy

DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND STATE OF EMERGENCY, CITY HALL IS CURRENTLY CLOSED. The staff report will be available on Wednesday, June 16, 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 Jennifer Davis, Senior Contract Planner in the Planning & Development Services Department at (323) 848-6475; or via email at: jdavis@weho.org

Melissa Crowder, Acting City Clerk

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



photo courtesy of Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti's office

The city will be switching to smaller clinics within communities.

City begins change in strategy for COVID-19 vaccinations

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti recently announced the next phase of the city's vaccination program, transitioning from the mass vaccination model to a mobile strategy to bring vaccines directly and conveniently to L.A.'s hardest-hit communities. The city's vaccination program is expected to transition entirely to mobile clinics by Aug. 1.

"Vaccines are the path to ending this pandemic, and we've worked day and night to get shots into Angelenos' arms at our mass vaccination sites, our mobile clinics and neighborhoods across our city," Garcetti said. "We will always meet and exceed the demand. With a growing number of residents getting inoculated, we are putting our resources where they will do the most good – delivering doses directly to under-vaccinated communities, engaging and educating vulnerable populations and eliminating barriers to this life-saving vaccine."

Equity and access are central pillars of the city's vaccination campaign, the mayor said. Early in the vaccination effort, Garcetti launched the Mobile Outreach for Vaccine Equity program, and he

recently announced extended hours at some city sites and appointment-free options across Los Angeles.

The city will now expand the number of mobile units and deploy more teams based on community assessments of areas with high vulnerability and low vaccination rates. Mobile units will also focus on high traffic locations and special events to connect with community members and make it easier to get vaccinated.

More than 4 million Angelenos are fully vaccinated, and nearly 9 million others have received at least a first dose by the end of May, authorities said.

A scaling down of the mass vaccination sites will happen gradually, and the centers will remain open to the public over the next two months. On June 19, the mass vaccination site at Pierce College will close permanently, followed by Los Angeles Southwest College on June 26.

By Aug. 1, the city will have at least 14 mobile teams throughout Los Angeles.

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



photo courtesy of Homeboy Industries

Pfizer and Johnson & Johnson vaccines will be available on June 12.

Get vaccinated on June 12 at Homeboy Industries

Homeboy Industries is hosting a community vaccination site on Saturday, June 12, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Pfizer vaccine will be available to anyone 12 and older. Those under 18 must come with a parent or legal guardian for consent. Homeboy Industries will also have the one-shot Johnson & Johnson vaccine available.

Free grocery boxes, diapers, baby wipes and care kits will be provided to those who get vaccinated. Free HIV testing will also be offered. No appointment or documentation is necessary.

Homeboy Industries is located at 130 W. Bruno St., downtown. For information, call (888)702-9042, or visit homeboyindustries.org.

Union Station provides new hub for vaccinations

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority has partnered with the city of Los Angeles and the Los Angeles Fire Department to open a free, public vaccination site at Union Station.

The site will be open Monday through Saturday, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Union Station East portal. Union Station is the region's busiest transit center, with more than 100,000 people using the station during an average weekday prior to the pandemic. Union Station provides access to Metro bus and rail, as well as Metrolink, Amtrak, regional and municipal transit partners, and private transportation.

"Opening this site at Union Station moves us closer to a core goal of our vaccination campaign: making vaccines more accessible to people across Los Angeles," Los Angeles Mayor and Metro Board Chair Eric Garcetti said. "With this new clinic at the epicenter of our transit network, we are adding another life-saving stop on our journey toward ending this pandemic – and ensuring our road to recovery leaves no Angeleno behind."

All three vaccines will be available at Union Station. Moderna and the one-shot Johnson & Johnson vaccine will be available to everyone 18 years and older. The Pfizer vaccine will be available to everyone 12 years and older (children require a parent or guardian present). The vaccines are free, and no insurance or citizenship documentation is required.

"Union Station has played a critical role in offering free COVID-19 testing during the pandemic, so it's

photo courtesy of Metro
Free vaccinations are available at the Union Station East portal, which faces the Patsaouras Bus Plaza.

fitting that it will now offer vaccinations for the thousands of Angelenos visit and travel through here for essential work and other tasks every day," said Los Angeles City Councilman Kevin de León, 14th District. "Not everyone has been able to realize the gains we have made in recovering from COVID-19, which is why it is so important that we make it as easy as possible for everyone to get vaccinated – particularly those in underserved and marginalized communities."

The vaccination site is located at the top of the escalator at the Union Station East portal, which faces the Patsaouras Bus Plaza. The site will be operated by the LAFD in partnership with Carbon Health and Community Organized Relief

Effort, known as CORE. Appointments can be made by visiting carbonhealth.com/covid-19-vaccines/los-angeles. The site will also accept walk-ups.

The LAFD will also continue to provide free onsite COVID-19 testing at Union Station. For information, visit unionstationla.com/happenings/free-covid-19-testing.

"Promoting health equity is central to my strategic operational vision for LA Metro," Metro CEO Stephanie Wiggins said. "From COVID-19 testing to free face masks on buses and trains, to opening up vaccination sites at key Metro transit centers, we will continue to offer services and resources for those who need it most in Los Angeles County to ensure an equitable recovery."

County, state outline more plans for reopening

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health will host a virtual town hall on reopening on Thursday, June 10, at 6 p.m. Public health officials will provide updates on the June 15 reopening in Los Angeles County. The town hall will be streamed live on Twitter, Facebook, and YouTube @lapublichealth. For information, visit tinyurl.com/askreopeningtownhall.

As California reopens and physical distancing requirements and capacity limits for customers are lifted on June 15, protecting L.A. County workers will be a top priority, especially in communities hardest hit during the pandemic. On June 3, the Cal/OSHA standards board recommended new guidelines for places of employment to align with the June 15 reopening. The standards, which are expected to be in place on June 15, apply to most

workers in California.

According to the news rules, fully vaccinated workers without COVID-19 symptoms do not need to wear face coverings in a room where everyone else is fully vaccinated and are not showing symptoms. However, where there is a mixture of vaccinated and unvaccinated people in a room, all workers are required to wear a face covering.

Outdoors, fully vaccinated workers without symptoms do not need to wear face coverings. However, outdoor workers who are not fully vaccinated must continue to wear a face covering when they are less than six feet away from another person.

Employers can eliminate physical distancing and partitions and barriers for employees working indoors and at outdoor mega events if they provide respirators, such as N95

masks, to unvaccinated employees for voluntary use. After July 31, physical distancing and barriers are no longer required, but employers must provide all unvaccinated employees with N95 masks for voluntary use.

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health maintains that the best safeguard to prevent COVID-19 infection is vaccination. As of June 4, more than 9.6 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered in Los Angeles County. More than 4.5 million (54%) L.A. County residents ages 16 and over are fully vaccinated, and 65% percent have received one dose of the vaccine, county health officials announced on June 7.

For information, visit publichealth.lacounty.gov and dir.ca.gov.

Lieu bill will explore use of dogs to detect COVID-19

U.S. Rep. Ted W. Lieu (D-Torrance) on June 8 introduced the COVID-19 Warrior Dogs Act, legislation to authorize a pilot program at the Department of Defense to determine the effectiveness of using dogs to detect the early stages of diseases, including COVID-19.

"We've seen time and time again how dogs and their amazing talent can help protect our safety. Dogs' skills in detecting COVID-19 are currently being developed in countries all over the world," Lieu said.

"I'm pleased to introduce this bill to create a pilot program at the U.S. Department of Defense to test the effectiveness of dogs using their keen sense of smell to detect COVID-19. If effective, dogs can be trained and put to work in airports and other travel hubs across the country – offering a cheaper and faster way to test for COVID."

Although the U.S. is making great strides in the fight against COVID-19, the virus isn't going away, which is why we must continue to explore cost-effective and dynamic ways to test for infections."

The Penn Vet Working Dog Center at the University of Pennsylvania supported the COVID-19 Warrior Dogs Act:

"Working dogs have demonstrated an ability to detect COVID-19," said Cynthia M. Otto, director of the Penn Vet Working Dog Center. "This bill will ensure scientifically rigorous validation for operational utilization of medical detection dogs."

For information, visit lieu.house.gov.



photo courtesy of the Dordick Law Firm

Attorney Gary A. Dordick was joined by his wife Nava at the Dordick Trial College in Cabo San Lucas.

Inaugural Dordick Trial College considered a big success

Beverly Hills attorney Gary A. Dordick recently held the first Dordick Trial College in Cabo San Lucas. The event helped prepare trial lawyers for the courtroom and attracted lawyers from around the country.

Approximately 300 people attended from May 13-16. Numerous attorneys provided insight about the legal profession

and tips for young lawyers and law students. The location was selected to provide a relaxing atmosphere while offering a robust series of educational forums to help lawyers improve their craft and careers. Proceeds benefit the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

For information, visit dordick-trialcollege.com.

Board warms to idea of continuing outdoor dining

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved two motions on June 8 to support permanent options for outdoor dining.

"The temporary outdoor dining program that Supervisor Hahn and I initiated last summer has been hugely successful in Los Angeles County for restaurants and customers," said Supervisor Kathryn Barger, 5th District. "We should make every effort to ensure this program becomes a permanent option for eateries throughout the region. This is a valuable resource for the restaurant and hospitality industry, which was devastatingly

impacted by the COVID-19 closures."

Last summer, supervisors Barger and Janice Hahn, 4th District, co-authored a motion to direct the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and the Department of Regional Planning to establish a temporary outdoor dining program to fast track permits for restaurants.

The actions by the board of supervisors on June 8 will make the programs permanent in the county, allowing businesses to transition current outdoor dining into permanent spaces and to identify new locations.

One motion asked the board to support Senate Bill 314, which would streamline alcohol sales by allowing current licensees, under the emergency relief order of the Alcohol Beverage Control Department, a one-year grace period after the emergency order is lifted to apply for a permanent expansion of their license.

The other motion directs the Los Angeles County chief executive officer, in partnership with county departments, to develop guidelines for expanded outdoor dining options on sidewalks, streets and alleys.

Artist's studio in Hollywood designated historic

Los Angeles City Councilman Mitch O'Farrell recently announced that the City Council voted on June 2 to designate the Corita Kent Studio in Hollywood as a historic-cultural monument.

The designation of the Corita Kent Studio, located at 5518 Franklin Ave., acknowledges Kent's important legacy in Los Angeles and elevates the stories of female artists, O'Farrell said. The site was designated for its association with the famed artist, educator and social justice advocate.

"This designation not only acknowledges Corita's important legacy in Los Angeles, it elevates the stories of female artists, whose contributions have too often gone unsung," O'Farrell said. "Corita



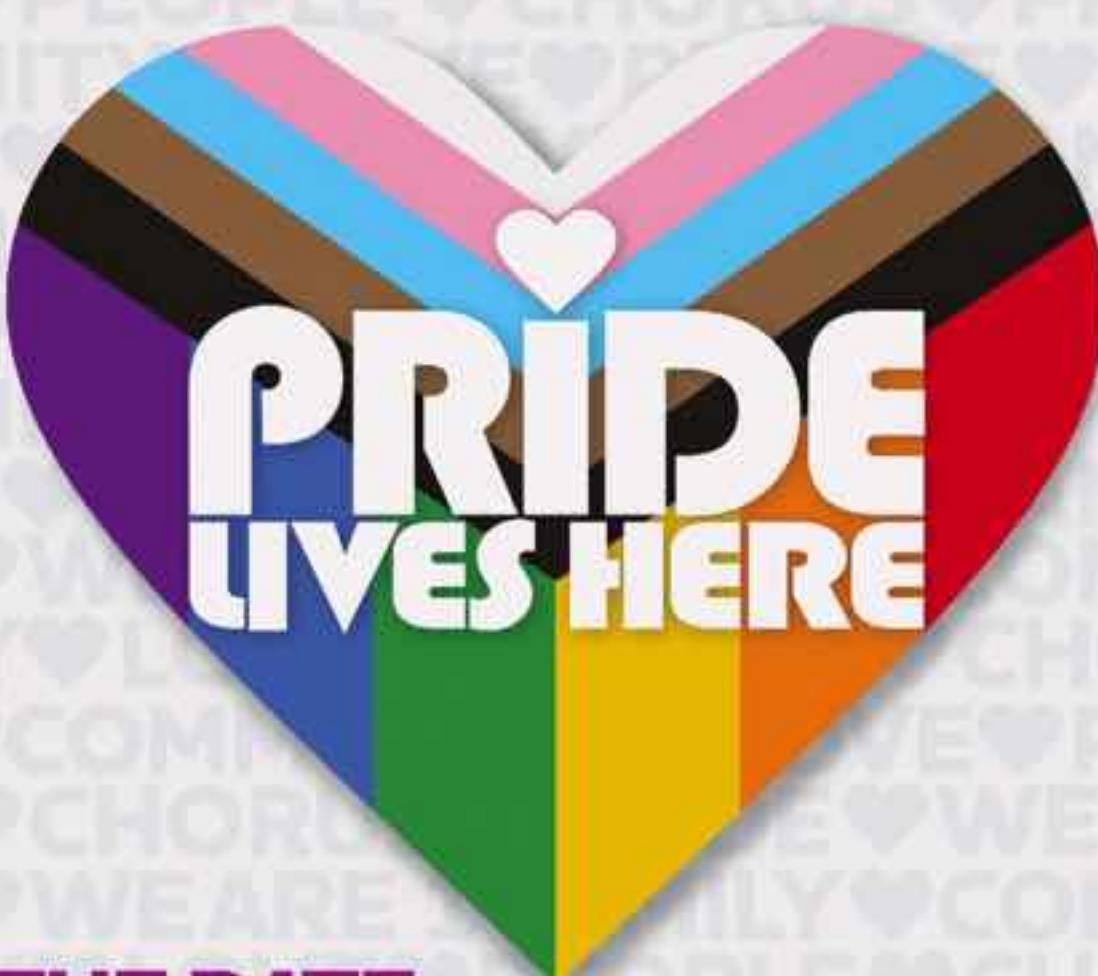
photo courtesy of the Corita Art Center

The studio is shown in an undated photo on the Corita Art Center's website.

Kent was a champion for women's rights, equity and social justice, and the impact of her body of artistic work continues to loom large in Los

Angeles and beyond."

For information, visit corita.org and laconservancy.org/issues/sister-mary-corita-studio.



**SAVE THE DATE
WEHO PRIDE
JUNE 25–27, 2021**

www.wehochamber.com/wehopride

#WEHOPRIDE21

Steady progress evident with subway project

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority has provided updates about subway construction along Wilshire Boulevard for the coming month.

The next webinar for updates on the Purple Line Extension project will be held on Wednesday, July 7 from noon to 1 p.m., via Zoom. To view the meeting, visit zoom.us/j/96626476708#success, and use the webinar ID: 966 2647 6708.

Metro announced that bus pad restoration work occurred this week on Wilshire Boulevard near San Diego Way. Construction continues at many other locations along the boulevard, in staging yards and underground.

Work in Beverly Hills is primarily occurring at the future subway stations at Wilshire/Rodeo and Wilshire/La Cienega. Station construction continues underground at Wilshire/Rodeo, and crews are working on appendage structures that house vital systems at Wilshire/La Cienega. Long-term lane reductions will be in place on Wilshire Boulevard, which has been reduced to two lanes in each

direction between San Vicente and La Cienega boulevards through fall of 2022.

Parking is available from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 8447 Wilshire Blvd. and 8350 Wilshire Blvd. to replace metered parking removed from the area due to construction. The first hour will be validated for free by mentioning Metro upon entering the structure.

Work is also occurring at the future subway station sites at Wilshire/Fairfax and Wilshire/La Brea, and near Wilshire/Western, the current terminus of the Purple Line. Concrete and material deliv-

eries are expected to continue in June. Lane closures will be implemented in many areas. Wilshire Boulevard has been reduced to two lanes in each direction between San Diego Way and Spaulding Avenue, and between Detroit and June streets. Some side streets adjacent to construction staging areas, including Gale Drive and Orange Grove Avenue, will also be intermittently closed.

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.

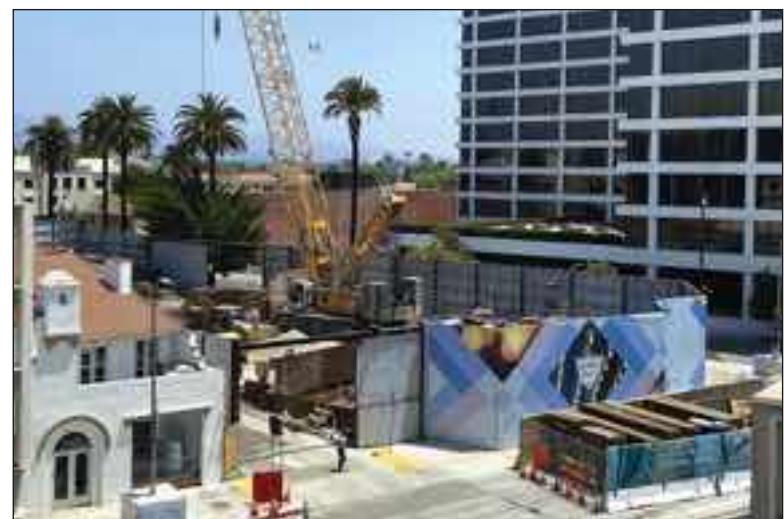


photo by Edwin Folven

Crews are supporting underground construction at the Gale staging yard in Beverly Hills.

App provides new options for housing

The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, Los Angeles County Development Authority and the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles have launched a new universal housing application that will modernize the process for people experiencing homelessness. The goal is to remove barriers in obtaining permanent housing.

The universal housing application consolidates 15 paper housing applications from different departments and agencies into one digital application. The new system will help LAHSA reduce the housing application process for people experiencing homelessness by up to 30 days.

"Despite housing 65,000 people over the last three years, we aren't resting on our laurels when it comes to supporting those we serve to get into housing. Right now, it takes too long for people to move from street to home and we must act with urgency to cut red tape and bust systemic barriers," LAHSA Executive Director Heidi Marston said. "The UHA is a groundbreaking step forward. Through innovation, technology, and partnership, it speeds up the housing application process and eliminates redundancies, making it easier for our unhoused neighbors to find a place to call home."

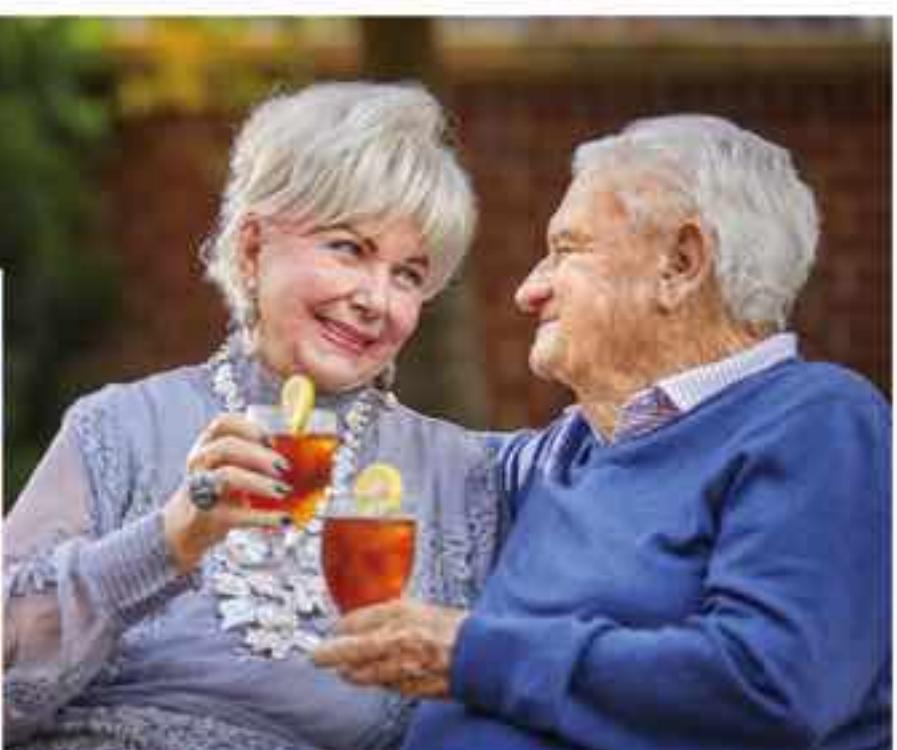
Prior to having a universal housing application, it took an average of 150 days for a person experiencing homelessness to apply for and move into permanent housing. Case managers often spent up to an hour on each application, filling them out by hand. Approximately 60% of the applications were sent back for corrections in a process that sometimes took more than a month.

The universal housing application is integrated with existing databases, allowing for up to 60% of the application to be automatically filled in with information about an individual.

For information, visit lahsa.org.





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Schiff seeks funds for local projects in infrastructure bill

U.S. Rep. Adam Schiff (D-Burbank) has announced the inclusion of nearly \$20 million for local priorities in a transportation and infrastructure package – the INVEST in America Act – introduced this week.

The investments would be shared across seven projects from Glendale to West Hollywood and resulted from Schiff's advocacy to ensure Los Angeles transportation and infrastructure had significant funding support in the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure legislation.

"Investing in our nation's infrastructure is the strongest way to both revitalize our economy and ensure we are ready for the future," Schiff said. "That process begins with this transportation investment bill, which includes seven important community projects for California's 28th Congressional District. These improvements will enhance the safety, green sustainability and quality of life across our community. Infrastructure is more than just roads and bridges, [it] includes investments in people and how they live, and I'm confident

that we will pass a major surface transportation infrastructure package this year."

The bill, which is expected to be voted on in the House in the coming months, includes numerous local funding priorities requested by communities across the district. Schiff announced that \$4.9 million would be made available for the city of West Hollywood for the Melrose Avenue Complete Street Improvements project, which includes pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements; and \$3 million would be allocated to West

Hollywood for the Beverly and Robertson Boulevards Complete Street Improvements project, which would modernize roadways and implement pedestrian safety measures.

Additionally, \$2.5 million would be available for projects in Burbank. \$.5 million would be earmarked for projects in Glendale and \$4.8 million would be available for the Flint Canyon Trail repair and restoration project in La Cañada Flintridge.

For information, visit schiff.house.gov.



U.S. Rep. Adam Schiff

City unveils blueprint for more affordable housing

Los Angeles City Planning released a report on May 25 outlining strategies to create affordable housing more equitably throughout the city. The report to the City Council proposed the establishment of an equitable Housing Element rezoning program, the establishment of targeted housing numbers by community and strategies to ensure that equity is at the forefront of future land use considerations.

By addressing issues related to zoning capacity, the recommendations seek to ensure that planning complements citywide objectives for growth with equity, planning department officials said.

"Affordable housing has become an evermore critical lifeline for so many Angelenos," Director of Planning Vince Bertoni said. "With housing costs on the rise, we must facilitate housing production across every one of our neighborhoods to address our present and future needs. By aligning our long-range policies, we can achieve fair, equitable and meaningful results."

To ensure that every neighborhood in Los Angeles provides its fair share of affordable units, City Planning is updating the Housing Element's policies and strategies for meeting housing goals, needs and targets. Laying the foundation for policy decisions on allocating land resources, the Housing Element can expand options for alternative models of housing. City Planning is proposing new rezoning strategies that will create additional housing capacity in high-opportunity areas with access to jobs and transit, while protecting tenants, vulnerable communities and environmentally sensitive areas.

The department is also proposing a change that will require every neighborhood in the city to do its part to address the housing crisis. The change would introduce targeted fair-share zoning allocations to guide future general plan updates and ensure that affordable housing is equitably distributed across the city. An explicit objective of the new plan is to reverse past land use policies that have contributed to racial segregation. The plan seeks to undo those policies by expanding housing opportunities in higher-resource areas and further prioritizing affordable housing.

For information, visit planning.lacity.org.

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photo courtesy of CHLA

Publisher Karen Villalpando, left, participated in the CHLA Walk and Play in 2019 with her niece, Jia Hauck and her sister Kathy Hauck. Jia Hauck, now 13, has been a patient in the Division of Plastic and Maxillofacial Surgery at CHLA since she was 17 months old. She and her mother have walked and raised money each year since the event launched in 2017.

Walk and Play L.A. at Home supports Children's Hospital

Children's Hospital Los Angeles is holding the fifth annual Walk & Play L.A. event presented by Disney on Saturday, June 12, at 9 a.m.

This year's Walk and Play L.A. at Home is a family-friendly event that supports the health and well-being of children in Los Angeles, while uniting the sports community. To ensure the safety of all participants, the event will be held virtually. Funds raised through Walk & Play L.A. at Home will support CHLA's mission to protect children's health.

The event will be hosted by

boxing legend and CHLA Foundation board member Sugar Ray Leonard, and Ellen K, host of the Ellen K Morning Show on KOST 103.5 and a longtime CHLA supporter. It will feature special performances by "American Idol" season 17 winner Laine Hard and recording artists PUBLIC, as well as sports clinics from the Los Angeles Chargers and Los Angeles Kings.

People may sign up individually or create a team to support CHLA. For information and to view the livestreamed event, visit walkandplayla.org

Celebration of life planned in memory of Kerlin

Many in the community are mourning Richard "Dick" "Rich" M. Kerlin, Jr., who passed away on Saturday, March 13, at the age of 59 in Los Angeles.

Kerlin battled brain cancer and died peacefully, surrounded by his sisters, friends and caregivers at the Van Ness Recovery House. In 2013, he completed a program at VNRH and went on to provide counseling and mentorship to others at the facility.

Born on Jan. 26, 1962, in Vincennes, Indiana, Kerlin was a graduate of Lincoln High School. He attended Indiana University before relocating to California.

Kerlin had a successful career in marketing and public relations including positions at the Queen Mary, Walt Disney Company and Hill+Knowlton. He also worked at California State University, Long Beach, where he opened the Richard and Karen Carpenter

Performing Arts Center. Most recently, Kerlin was the general manager of Monsieur Marcel Gourmet Market at the Original Farmers Market, corner of Third and Fairfax.

A natural philanthropist, Kerlin was active in community outreach. He was an inaugural member of Leadership Long Beach and provided time and marketing to the Special Olympics Southern California and the West Hollywood Cheerleaders.

Kerlin was preceded in death by his father, Dr. Richard M. Kerlin, and is survived by his mother Lida Kerlin, sister Gean Townsley (Chuck), sister Clair Smith (Bryan), three nephews (Steven, Michael and Alex) and two nieces (Emily and Maddie).

A celebration of life is planned for June 26 at 2 p.m. at the Van Ness Recovery House, 1919 Beachwood Drive. Per Kerlin's request, memorial donations can be made in his



Richard M. Kerlin, Jr.

name in lieu of flowers to the Van Ness Recovery House.

For information, visit vannessrecoveryhouse.com.

Lawmakers officially celebrate Pride Month

Sens. Dianne Feinstein and Alex Padilla (both D-Calif), along with Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio) and the entire Senate Democratic Caucus, introduced a resolution on June 8 recognizing June as LGBTQ Pride Month.

The resolution highlights the contributions LGBTQ individuals have made to American society, notes several major milestones in the fight for equal treatment of LGBTQ

Americans and resolves to continue efforts to achieve full equality. The resolution also recognizes how the coronavirus pandemic compounds the systemic inequality that LGBTQ people face in healthcare, employment and housing systems in the United States, leading to a disparate impact on the community.

"Pride Month is an opportunity to celebrate the progress made in the fight for justice, equality and inclusion," Feinstein said. "At the same time we must recommit ourselves to combating hatred and bigotry in all its forms."

Senate Democrats introduced the first Senate Pride Month Resolution in 2017. In 2019, Senate Democrats reintroduced the Equality Act, legislation to ensure civil rights laws prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.

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Innovative new city campaign addresses impact of hate crime

Los Angeles leaders and local artists recently launched "LA for All," a multilingual public service campaign led by the city's Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department to share resources for reporting hate crimes and hate incidents, and to celebrate diversity, belonging and inclusion.

"LA for All reaffirms what Los Angeles is and can be at our best: a place where everybody belongs and where no one should face discrimination, bigotry or violence because of who they are, what they look like, who they love or what they believe," Mayor Eric Garcetti said. "Our campaign brings our city's creative spirit, our commitment to human and civil rights and our rejection of intolerance together under a single banner, and makes sure Angelenos can find resources and support in the face of prejudice and hate."

The campaign, led by the Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department, the Department of Cultural Affairs and Department of Public Works, includes artwork and designs from six local Asian American and Pacific Islander artists, as well as resources for reporting hate crimes and incidents. The campaign was launched amid a rise in hate crimes in Los Angeles, including a 114% increase in hate crimes against Asian Americans reported to LAPD in 2020. Hate crimes have increased 55% in Los Angeles since 2016, according to LAPD data, and have reached new highs against members of the Black, Latino, Jewish and LGBTQ communities.

"LA for All" artwork will be featured on bus shelters, street light banners, DASH buses, sanitation trucks and digital billboards in every terminal at Los Angeles International Airport, as well as on social media.

"'LA for All' is more than a campaign, it is a call to action," said Capri Maddox, executive director of the Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department. "Hate crimes in Los Angeles have risen 55% over

the past five years, affecting the AAPI community and so many others. This is a crisis we cannot ignore. We must make it clear that Los Angeles will not stand for hate or discrimination, and that we celebrate the diverse mosaic that defines our city."

"It is imperative that we continue to invest in meaningful, ongoing efforts to support and celebrate the AAPI community. As we work to build an inclusive, anti-racist Los Angeles, it must start with proclaiming that L.A. is for all and speaking up emphatically and unequivocally against all forms of hate and violence," said Councilmember Mark Ridley-Thomas, 10th District. "I stand in solidarity with the AAPI community today, and every day."

Anyone who has seen or experienced a hate crime or incident can report it anonymously to the LAPD by calling (877)ASKLAPD, or visiting lavshate.org/report.

Beverly Grove residents welcome private security

Beverly Grove residents Joel and Jeanette Post hosted a neighborhood gathering on June 6 to raise awareness about a private security company offering services in the community. Post Alarm is providing alarm and patrol services for some residents of the neighborhood to deter criminal activity, organizers said. The Posts, who happen to share the same name but have no connection with the company other than being customers, said it provides an extra level of security that can be reassuring during current periods of increased crime rates.

Post Alarm's security officers receive extensive training in de-escalation, use of firearms and Tasers, first aid and customer service. The patrol cars have security technology and are equipped with Destiny Software, which allows officers to receive time-sensitive information and maintain seamless communication with the central station.

"Thanks to the action of the Beverly Grove neighbors, we were



photo by Joel Post

Residents learned more about the benefits of private security at the event on June 6.

able to learn about the community and confidently identify patterns of criminal activity," said Gina Post-Franco, co-owner of Post Alarm. "These insights helped us devise

the best strategy for patrol deployment that can bring the most customized security for all Beverly Grove residents." For information, visit postalarm.com.

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Bill aims to reduce food insecurity

Assemblymen Miguel Santiago (D-Los Angeles), Mike Gipson (D-Carson), Carlos Villapudua (D-Stockton) and Robert Rivas (D-Hollister) have urged the California Senate to pass Assembly Bill 221, the Emergency Food Assistance for All bill.

AB 221 passed the Assembly with bipartisan support. It will provide \$600 in emergency food assistance to low-income Californians, regardless of legal status, who are struggling financially due to COVID-19.

"California must support residents who are struggling to survive this devastating pandemic, and that is why we are fighting to provide them with \$600 of emergency food assistance," Santiago said.

AB 221 would provide \$600 of emergency food assistance for low-income residents who have been financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

RESTAURANT NEWS

by Jill Weinlein



photo by Bonjwing Lee

The Angler reopens in Beverly Center

On the heels of reopening their San Francisco location, Saison Hospitality has reopened Angler Los Angeles at the Beverly Center. Chef Joshua Skenes' seafood-focused menu draws inspiration from the small group of fishermen, gatherers, ranchers and farmers from whom the restaurant sources

to prepare the highest quality dishes. Try their Reserve caviar with banana pancakes, bigeye tuna tartare and delicate whole sea bream. Angler's award-winning wine program offers wines of Burgundy, as well as Napa and Sonoma. 8500 Beverly Blvd., (424)332-4082.

Bottega Louie West Hollywood

The much-awaited Bottega Louie is open as a restaurant, gourmet market, patisserie and café. Similar to the downtown L.A. location, there is a full bar and an extensive selection of sweet and savory products to order off the menu or to take home to enjoy. The restaurant does not accept reservations and will seat guests upon arrival. Go on Resy waitlist if you are within a 5-mile radius of the restaurant. Valet parking is available in front of the restaurant starting at 6 p.m. Self parking is available at the West Hollywood public parking structure. 8936 Santa Monica Blvd., (213)802-1470.

National Steakhouse Month at STK

During the month of June, STK highlights premium cuts of Wagyu from Australia, Japan and America. Indulge in delicacies like Wagyu beef tartare and caviar or A5 Wagyu filet. Make a reservation for Father's Day brunch to try the

Wagyu beef skirt tostada with a slow-cooked duck egg. Other specials this month include Dad's Night Out where he can indulge in Wagyu and whiskey featuring STK's signature Not Your Daddy's Old Fashioned made with Woodford Reserve, angostura bitters, brown sugar and vanilla bean. Also on the menu are Korean-style short ribs and Zingy rubbed skirt steak. 930 Hilgard Ave., (310)659-3535.

topped with slow-roasted pork belly and soft Ligurian cheese. Fish lovers will enjoy roasted Mediterranean sea bass with potatoes, olives, pine nuts, white wine and basil. 970 Monument St., Suite 110, (310)454-0709.

Sunright Tea Studio Instant Boba Kit

Boba tea fans can now make their own boba milk tea at home thanks to Sunright Tea studio. This do-it-yourself kit comes in a sunny yellow box and is filled with Ceylon black tea and Sunright's special milk tea powder. Add sweetness from brown sugar and chewy boba pearls made of tapioca packets to make six delicious servings. It is easy to make at home in just a couple of minutes. Stop by any Sunright Tea Studio to pick up their new Instant Boba Milk Tea Kit. 2206 Sawtelle Blvd., (424)499-6999; and 134 S. Central Ave., (213)758-8888.

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winner Brooke Williamson's Playa Provisions after riding along the bike path or a day at the beach. She and husband Nick Roberts expanded their patio deck near the bike path so riders can stop and enjoy brunch, craft cocktails and elevated seafood by large fire pits. Weekend brunch is available on Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Menu items include lobster rolls, battered fish tacos and a pretzel croissant sandwich. Brunch cocktails are named Pool Party, Semester Abroad and Hooked on Tonics. Save room for a scoop or two of their small-batch ice cream. 119 Culver Blvd., Playa del Rey, (310)683-5019.

Theia brunch cocktails

The restaurant lounge concept at Theia offers a lively ambiance, inventive cocktails and contemporary Greek cuisine during brunch on Saturdays from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sit outside on the expansive patio area or inside the dining room. Two cocktails to try include the Tanqueray gin-based Purple 75 with St. Germain elderflower liqueur, freshly squeezed lemon,

Champagne and butterfly pea flower tea drops. The Bathtub Gin is made with Mulholland cucumber gin, freshly squeezed lemon, lemongrass, Fever Tree tonic water, endive, cherry tomato and mint. 8048 W. Third St., (323)591-0059.

Sol Mexican Cocina brunch

Inspired by the best of coastal Baja California, Sol's kitchen features a unique spin on fresh, healthy Mexican food made from scratch. Weekend brunch is from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sit back and enjoy Sol's Fro-

Mo for \$11 with wood-grilled tacos and fresh seafood ceviche. The Fro-Mo is a frozen mimosa made with freshly squeezed orange juice and a splash of sparkling wine. 12775 Millennium Drive, #160, (424)289-0066.

Bull & Butterfly brunch

A Californian ode to ranch cooking with a Baja spin, Bull & Butterfly reimagines Saturday and Sunday brunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The savory menu includes egg

dishes, salads and sandwiches. Highlights including a steak and cheddar eggs, jumbo blue crab and poached asparagus, avocado toast, a buttermilk-fried chicken sandwich, a 10-ounce hickory patty melt, and eggs and cheddar cheese. Brunch cocktails include sangria, bloody marys with bacon or jumbo shrimp, and creative Champagne cocktails. 12746 Jefferson Blvd., #2200, (213)267-2900.

Craft Cocktails at Manuela

A new Garden Bar at Manuela seats 33 guests and is now open on weekends from 2 to 9 p.m. The produce-driven craft cocktail menu by beverage director Niki Kotantoulas offers classic cocktails using house-made bitters and tonics. Local beers are on tap, while the carefully selected wine list is designed to pair with executive chef Kris Tominaga's "Tropical Nights" menu. Located in the property's scenic garden, guests sit near flowers, produce and herbs, and are entertained by the 11 rare-breed chickens who have been a source of eggs for Manuela for nearly five



photo by Jill Weinlein

The Henry reopens

One of West Hollywood's favorite hot spots, the Henry, has reopened with plenty of outdoor and indoor seating. New menu items include chilled seafood on ice with a jalapeño mignonette, remoulade and cocktail sauce. Dip Alaskan King crab legs, wild Mexican shrimp with tails and oysters into these delicious sauces. They also offer Caribbean spiny lobster tails. Weekend brunch dishes include smashed avocado toast and a California burrito. As the evening air chills, heat lamps keep diners warm as they sip a glass of wine or craft cocktail while enjoying a healthy harvest bowl or grilled halibut. The dining patio is also dog-friendly. 120 N. Robertson Blvd., (424)204-1595.

See More Restaurant News
on page 18



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A fine Fellow in Westwood

by Jill Weinlein

The first time I dined at Philip Camino's restaurant, Fellow in Westwood, was in 2017. It was a fun pre-theater dining spot before a night at the Geffen Playhouse or sporting event at UCLA.

When I learned the restaurant recently reopened their dining room, my husband and I made a reservation. We discovered there have been some big changes at Fellow since the last time we dined.

Camino leased the space adjacent to his restaurant and now has an art gallery and event space. Diners enter through the Galerie door where they are greeted by the host and led into the restaurant, which features a soaring ceiling.

Large art pieces hang on the walls, and the booths are upholstered in a light purple soft velvet, adding a modern design to the interior while staying true to the original elements found in the historic building and neighborhood.

Camino also hired chef Chris Flint to take over the kitchen. After helping Eleven Madison Park in New York win three Michelin stars, Flint was part of the team to garner another Michelin star award at NoMad New York before coming to Los Angeles to help open NoMad in downtown L.A. in 2018.

Flint then worked in the kitchen at Curtis Stone's Maude before the pandemic. He has elevated and refined the Fellow menu into visually appealing edible art on a plate. Sommelier and Director of Operations Scott Lester, a level three sommelier, presents a curated cellar with more than 2,000 bottles of wine from more than 350 producers with a focus on classic California growing regions. Lester was formerly with the French Laundry, the Restaurant at Meadowood and also an Eleven Madison Park alum.

Camino also wanted to expand Fellow's beer list, so he hired another Eleven Madison Park alum, Matthew Pene, to curate a menu showcasing some of the most talented brewers in Los Angeles, alongside marquis Belgian classics and rare global releases. These Artisically arranged carrots top Forbidden expertly crafted wines and rice.



photo courtesy of Fellow

beers elevate and balance Flint's fine dining menu items.

Sitting at a booth next to a large glass window looking out to Glendon Avenue, our friendly server Joey introduced two menus. The dinner menu offers a selection of appetizers, entrées and desserts, and a water menu featuring bottled waters from around the world. Guests can order bottles of still water from France, Fiji, the U.K., Denmark, Finland, New Zealand and Norway. Fellow may be the only restaurant in Los Angeles where you can order a bottle of sparkling water from Romania, Spain and Italy.

The cocktail menu is from bar director Adam Fournier, who is also formerly of NoMad and was named 2021 U.S. World Class Bartender of the Year by USBG and Diageo. Camino has quite a team now.

I recognized the professional and affable General Manager Charles Hueston when he stopped at our table to greet us. He was the GM at BOA Steakhouse in Santa Monica and is now running Fellow smoothly, along with Assistant General Manager Rachel Cambon, formerly of Rustic Canyon Group.

Looking over the chef-driven à la carte dinner menu, we decided to order the scallop ceviche on half of an avocado with radish and jalapeños. Flint halves a perfectly ripe avocado and places it on top of a crumble of dehydrated scallops, salt and spices. He bathes fresh scallops in Leche de Tigre and tops them with equal sized thinly cut radishes that curl to look like flowers. It's finished with a few white edible microflowers. We were

wowed with each bite and commented how the cuisine is much different than the pre-pandemic casual Fellow.

The second appetizer we ordered was the fennel salad with bright orange citrus slices, red onion and a simple, yet so flavorful, olive oil and aged goat cheese dressing.

Other fine dining appetizers include foie gras with strawberries, tortellini of cauliflower with pine nuts, and hamachi crudo with a ponzu dressing.

Looking over the five entrees, we selected the glazed lobster tail on a turnip mash that was enhanced with vanilla. With an artistic flair, there were curled turnip slices and microleaves framing the lobster.

The seared duck was served on a charcoal-colored plate featuring two thick slices of duck with an artistic pop of red from roasted whole beets, a raspberry sauce and fresh raspberries. A few green nasturtium leaves on top added to the visual presentation.

My favorite dish was a vegetarian roasted carrots with black rice and mushrooms. Chef Flint uses forbidden black rice and shapes it into a perfect sphere. On top, he decorates the black rice canvas with rainbow-colored carrot medallions. Thinly sliced mushrooms and a few microgreens finish this simple, yet so flavorful, dish.

For dessert there are three choices, including gluten-free chocolate butter mochi cake with dulce de leche and sesame, and a pistachio cake with cherries and brittle. Flint



FELLOW
DINNER

photo by Jill Weinlein

Chef Chris Flint creates edible art at Fellow. Fresh sea scallops are hidden under radish flowers on a halved avocado.

came out with both desserts and shared his plans for an upcoming tasting menu. He is excited for the Geffen Playhouse to open soon, and for UCLA to welcome back students and their parents at the end of the summer.

Fellow is a new fine dining place

to meet friends in Westwood. The visual art on the walls and picturesque food on the plates appeal to all of your senses.

Fellow is open Wednesday through Saturday from 5 to 10 p.m. \$1071 Glendon Ave., (310)208-1071.

Restaurant News

From page 17

L.A. Times Food Festival Juneteenth virtual food forum

Attend L.A. Times staff writer Donovan X. Ramsey's virtual event covering Black life in Los Angeles on June 15. He explores Black foodie spots in L.A. with Kevin Bludso (chef and owner, Bludso's Bar & Que), John Cleveland (chef and owner of L.A. Times 2020 Gold Award honoree Post & Beam), Kim Prince (chef and owner, Hotville Chicken) and Ray Anthony Barrett (Cinqué). Go to Eventbrite to register and listen for free to this esteemed panel via Zoom at 6 p.m. eventbrite.com/e/la-times-food-bowl-2021-food-forum-red-drinks-for-juneteenth-tickets-15403235391.

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Immaculate Heart commencement returns to Hollywood Bowl



photo by Nick Boswell
Immaculate Heart High School alumna Tyra Banks, class of 1991, returned 30 years after her own IHHS graduation to address graduates at the school's 115th commencement.

Last week, 108 graduates of Immaculate Heart High School crossed the stage at the Hollywood Bowl and received their diplomas during the school's 115th commencement.

The June 2 ceremony signaled a tentative return to normal after the pandemic forced the closure of the Hollywood Bowl last year and prompted Immaculate Heart to hastily arrange an alternative ceremony for the class of 2020 on its campus.

Immaculate Heart's traditional commencement still looked a bit different this year.

For example, the graduates, still masked and socially distanced, were only allowed on the bowl stage to receive their diplomas. They could not assemble on risers and sing their graduation songs by tradition under the bowl lights. Instead, the students were scattered in box seats in front of the stage, where they listened to their recorded songs and watched their photos appear on the large screens that flanked the stage. Family members required tickets for admission and were spaced out accordingly throughout the bowl's increasingly higher seating sections.

Addressing the difficulties of the past year, class speaker Danielle Sanchez told her fellow graduates, "It is an understatement to say that we have been dealt a very challenging hand. However, again and again, I am reminded by my classmates of the strength we have to continually push beyond adversity and see light – to be the change we wish to make and to guide others

on the same path."

Similarly, commencement speaker Tyra Banks, an Immaculate Heart alumna as well as a successful entrepreneur, TV personality and supermodel, acknowledged the resiliency of the students and encouraged them to make a positive difference in the world.

"Class of 2021, the world you live in today has presented you with unprecedented challenges and heartbreaking revelations that shout out for the need for deep change," Banks said. "Because we are Immaculate Heart fighters and we don't give up, we climb. Class of 2021, you all are leading a revolution, for this country, for the dis-

enfranchised, for yourselves."

Joining Banks on stage were theology chair Maria Pollia, who offered the commencement's invocation; IHHS Principal Naemah Morris, who conferred the diplomas; and IH President Maureen Diekmann, who expressed her gratitude to everyone present.

"I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge and thank every member of the Immaculate Heart School Community for their patience, creativity and resilience over the past 15 months," Diekmann said. "Your support and commitment to each other and to our school is truly a testament to being of great heart. You make us proud – and we shine in your reflected glory."

For information, visit immaculateheart.org.

Durant branch library hosts online talk about Native American comedy

The Los Angeles Public Library's Will & Ariel Durant Branch will host a virtual discussion on Native American comedy with bestselling author and comedy historian Kliph Nesteroff and actor and writer Tai Leclaire on Thursday, June 10, at 2 p.m., via Zoom.

"We invite the public to join us in this event with Nesteroff, the preeminent historian and scholar of American comedy, and Leclaire, an up-and-coming Native American comedian," said John Frank, the branch's senior librarian. "This discussion on the history and future of Native Americans in stand-up comedy is bound to be entertaining and provocative."

Nesteroff is the author of the critically acclaimed book "The Comedians: Drunks, Thieves, Scoundrels and the History of American Comedy," and "We Had a Real Estate Problem." Leclaire is a Native American writer, actor and performer on NBC Peacock's "Rutherford Falls." He was a house performer at Upright Citizens Brigade Theatre and has also entertained at festivals around the country.

The Los Angeles Public Library serves the largest and most diverse urban population of any library in the nation. For information, and a link, email durant@lapl.org.

American University • Arizona State University • Baylor University • Beloit College • Benedictine College • Bentley University • Biola University • Boston College • Boston University • Butler University • California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo • California State Polytechnic University – Pomona • California State University – Fullerton • California State University – Los Angeles • California State University – Northridge • Colgate University • College of the Holy Cross • Connecticut College • Creighton University • Dartmouth College • Dominican University of California • El Camino College • Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University – Daytona Beach • Feather River College • Fordham University • Franklin University Switzerland • George Washington University • Georgetown University • Glendale Community College • Gonzaga University • Grinnell College • Harvard University • Harvey Mudd College • Howard University • Indiana University Bloomington • John Cabot University, Rome • Kimball Union Academy • Lake Forest College • Lehigh University • Lewis & Clark College • Los Angeles City College • Loyola Marymount University • Loyola University Chicago • Marquette University • Michigan State University • Montana State University

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photo courtesy of LAUSD Board Member Nick Melvoin's Office

LAUSD Board of Education member Nick Melvoin recently visited early education centers after they reopened.

Masks off to the class of 2021

We are nearing the end of an incredibly difficult school year for our kids and families, and as your Los Angeles Unified School District Board representative, I wanted to provide an update on our plans to navigate the path to recovery for students and families. Our schools are currently open for hybrid instruction with childcare options, and we are thrilled to be able to celebrate our graduates in person in the coming weeks now that schools can officially hold in-person, socially distanced graduation ceremonies.

As we send our new graduates into the world, we are also planning for a future that will give our school communities the guidance, resources and funding they need to chart a path forward for next year's students. This fall, all students will have the opportunity to participate in full-time, on-campus in-person instruction. As we finalize labor negotiations, we know that full-day programs for both elementary and secondary students will look much like they did prior to the pandemic. We will put all the necessary health and safety protocols in place in accordance with county and state public health guidance. We are currently enrolling students of all ages for next year – visit a local school or apply.lausd.net.

We are also preparing for upcoming summer learning programs available to every district student. These programs include in-person and virtual options, with academic, enrichment and childcare opportunities. For information, visit achieve.lausd.net/summer2021.

Over the past weeks, the LAUSD board has continued discussions and approved historic investments in schools, including funding for additional mental health support, tutoring, teaching staff and nursing services. The board also recently voted for a more equitable path to recovery, increasing our Student Equity Need Index commitment for next year to \$700 million to be allocated

BHUSD holds in-person elementary promotion ceremony

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, June 8 was the first in-person elementary promotion for both Hawthorne Elementary School and Horace Mann Elementary School. The promotion ceremonies for fifth-grade students were the first events of their kind since the district-wide reconfiguration in 2019.

In attendance at both ceremonies were Board of Education President Rachelle Marcus, Vice President Tristen Walker-Shuman and board member Noah Margo, as well as BHUSD administration officials Michael Bregy, superintendent; Dustin Seemann, assistant superintendent of education services; Laura Chism, assistant superintendent of student services; Matt Horvath, assistant superintendent of personnel services; David Damico, executive director of technology services; Rebecca Starkins, director of public relations; and Tim Ellis, director of athletics.

Hawthorne Elementary Principal Sarah Kaber and Assistant Principal Kevin Painter spoke, along with several students and fifth-grade teachers.

Horace Mann Elementary Principal Craig Bugbee hosted the



photo courtesy of BHUSD

In-person elementary promotions were held at Horace Mann and Hawthorne elementary schools.

event alongside Assistant Principals Samantha Jung and Chris Regan. Many students and fifth-grade teachers spoke, including a moving tribute to fifth-grade student, Mason Duncan-Book, who tragically passed away in November.

To watch both events, visit [instagram.com/bvms.bhusd](https://www.instagram.com/bvms.bhusd) and [youtube.com/kbev6](https://www.youtube.com/kbev6).

gram.com/hm.bhusd.

BHUSD held its first-ever in-person Beverly Vista Middle School eighth-grade graduation at 5 p.m. yesterday, June 9, and Beverly Hills High School graduation will be this morning, June 10, at 9 a.m. To view these events, visit [instagram.com/bvms.bhusd](https://www.instagram.com/bvms.bhusd) and [youtube.com/kbev6](https://www.youtube.com/kbev6).

[melvoi.on](https://www.melvoi.on) Facebook and Twitter.

Wishing you all a great summer, and another big congratulations to the class of 2021.

*Nick Melvoin
Board Member
LAUSD Board of Education*



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Boston University	Macalester College	The New School
Brandeis University	Mount Holyoke College	Trinity University
Bryn Mawr College	Mount St. Mary's University	Tufts University
California State University, All Campuses	Muhlenberg College	University of Arizona
Cal Poly Pomona	New York University	University of California, All Campuses
Cal Poly San Luis Obispo	Oberlin College	University of Michigan
California College of the Arts	Occidental College	University of Minnesota Twin Cities
Carnegie Mellon University	Pepperdine University	University of Oregon
Chapman University	Reed College	University of San Diego
College of the Holy Cross	Santa Clara University	University of San Francisco
College of William & Mary	Sarah Lawrence College	University of Southern California
DePaul University	School of the Art Institute of Chicago	University of St. Andrews
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115 years

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New principal named to lead Beverly Vista Middle School

The Beverly Hills Unified School District Board of Education has approved the appointment of Dr. Kelly Skon as principal for Beverly Vista Middle School.

Skon has over 14 years of experience, starting as a middle school math teacher and later becoming a Common Core site lead at Laguna Beach Unified School District. She also had three years of district-level leadership at Saddleback Valley Unified School District, and most recently served as assistant principal at Fountain Valley High School.

"Dr. Skon's passion for excellence in education, building community culture and school spirit were clear on paper, but after seeing her interact with students, observe classrooms and share insightful perspectives at BVMS last Friday, I can honestly say that we have found the right person to lead Beverly Vista Middle School," BHUSD Superintendent Michael Bregy said. "It is important to note her impressive experience at both the school site and district level enabling her ability to balance the considerable responsibilities required of a middle school principal. I am extremely grateful to our dedicated panelists who participated in two full days of our comprehensive BVMS principal search. BHUSD is excited to welcome Dr. Skon to the BVMS community."

Skon holds a doctorate in philosophy from Chapman University, a masters of arts degree in education from Vanguard University of Southern California, and a bachelor



photo courtesy of BHUSD
Dr. Kelly Skon

of science in mathematics degree from Chapman University. She has also earned professional credentials from Harvard Graduate School of Education, the Association of California School Administrators and Azusa Pacific University. Skon will begin in the new position with BHUSD in July.

"I am delighted and humbled by the opportunity to join the team at Beverly Vista Middle School and the community of Beverly Hills," Skon said. "As the newest member of the BVMS family, I am eager to meet all the students, parents, guardians, teachers and staff to develop a lasting relationship. Together, we will continue the envisioned dream of creating a thriving middle school campus in Beverly Hills Unified School District."

For information, visit bhhsd.org.

Craft in America to receive pair of grants

■ Students in underserved K-12 schools will get free field trips

Craft in America has been approved for two Grant for Arts Projects awards: a \$35,000 grant to support a Craft in Schools Education Program and a \$20,000 grant to support an upcoming episode for PBS: "Craft in America: Jewelry."

Craft in America is among the more than 1,100 projects across America totaling nearly \$27 million that were selected during this second round of Grants for Arts Projects fiscal year 2021 funding.

"As the country and the arts sector begin to imagine returning to a post-pandemic world, the National Endowment for the Arts is proud to announce funding that will help arts organizations such as Craft in America reengage fully with partners and audiences," NEA acting Chairman Ann Eilers said. "Although the arts have sustained many during the pandemic, the chance to gather with one another and share arts experiences is its own necessity and pleasure."

"Craft in America feels a sense of gratitude and a commitment to the National Endowment for the Arts," Executive Producer and Director of Craft in America Carol Sauvion said. "The NEA grant, used for post production, will allow the 'Jewelry' episode of our series to be completed and the valuable message of craft to be broadcast



photo courtesy of Craft in America

Woodworker Pamela Weir-Quiton works with students during her exhibition at the Craft in America Center.

nationwide on PBS."

The "Jewelry" episode will take viewers on a jeweler's journey from age-old traditional techniques that employ precious metals and stones, to work that transforms the most mundane materials into new art forms.

The Craft in Schools Education Program will provide free field trips and art workshops to Los Angeles' underserved K-12 schools.

"Every time I bring a group of students [they] really enjoy themselves. They get a chance to learn something that I'm not teaching in the classroom ... The center has allowed the students to have opportunities that they may not have had otherwise," said Ronieka Pinkney, a middle school art teacher.

The Craft in America Center is located at 8415 W. Third St. For information visit craftinamerica.org.

Congratulations to the 2021 Graduating Class from Cathedral Chapel School

Yva Akounou
Brandon An
Antonio Ariza
Aidan Arroyo
Sarah Baumann
Alexis Bodnar
Caitlyn Castaneda
Beltran DeMendoza
Jacob Diaz
Matthew Gomez-Li
Joan H. Huh
Sander Im
Dylan Jacob
Noah Jeong
Ava L. Johnson
Kyle Kim
Michael Kim
Zaiden Kinney
Atticus Li
Elizabeth Lo
Robert McGregor
Delano Oppong
Sean Park
Sanaa Pitter
Veronica R. Salonga
Victoria R. Salonga
Justin Sato
Darrel Shin
Benjamin Song
Giada Vargas
Julia D. Yanez
Maya Zagross

Marymount High School
Buckley School
St. Augustine High School
Cathedral High School
Immaculate Heart High School
Ipoly High School
Bishop Conaty High School
Loyola High School
Francisco Bravo Medical Magnet
Cathedral High School
New Covenant Academy
Loyola High School
Palos Verdes High School
Loyola High School
Cathedral High School, N.Y.
St. Monica High School
Loyola High School
Mater Dei High School
Geelong Grammar School, Australia
Notre Dame High School
Crespi Carmelite High School
St. Monica High School
Cathedral High School
St. Monica High School
Notre Dame Academy
Notre Dame Academy
CA Academy of Math and Science
Notre Dame High School
Loyola High School
Immaculate Heart High School
Notre Dame Academy
Laurel Springs Academy



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NHM explores undersea worlds with SpongeBob

In honor of World Oceans Day, the Natural History Museums of Los Angeles County and Nickelodeon have launched "Science of SpongeBob," a new initiative based on the "SpongeBob SquarePants" animated series.

The program will introduce children and families to the science that inspired the undersea world of Bikini Bottom and its beloved inhabitants. With the help of Natural History Museum experts, audiences will learn about different scientific disciplines, including marine biology, paleontology, ichthyology and mammalogy, as well as the scientific discovery process that contributed to the creation and development of the show. Dynamic videos, activities and live programs with NHM scientists and educators are available for viewing by visiting nhm.org/spongebob.

"We are thrilled to be working with Nickelodeon again on a program that demonstrates the excitement of scientific research and discovery, as well as the range of career pathways available in museum science," said Dr. Lori Bettison-Varga, president and director of the Natural History Museums of Los Angeles County. "As we continue to encourage scientific exploration and share our research and collections, we hope that kids and families are inspired to take responsibility for the care of our natural world."

NHMLAC has collaborated with Nickelodeon to create eight videos featuring scientists from NHM's



photo courtesy of NHMLAC

Dr. Jann Vendetti, NHM's associate curator of malacology (mollusks) and the Twila Bratcher chair in malacological research, is among the museum scientists who will lead the programs.

Research and Collections Department. The videos feature clips from episodes of "SpongeBob SquarePants" that demonstrate how science has been incorporated into the TV show, its characters and storylines. The videos provide information on the underwater ecosystems that comprise the world of Bikini Bottom, where the show is set, by exploring various topics. They will also feature behind-the-scenes exploration of NHM's collections, allowing access to many items rarely seen by the public.

Scientists will also share tips for overcoming ocean fears, observing marine life and avoiding misconceptions about marine science.

Viewers can learn about the ocean animals that SpongeBob and the citizens of Bikini Bottom are based on, the small steps individuals can take to protect oceans, how scientists create unique species names, the different types of ocean habitats, deep sea dangers and silly sea facts.

Visitors can also participate in fun at-home activities, including creating an ocean diorama, starting an ocean journal and making a sea turtle puppet. In July, additional do-it-yourself activities developed by NHM's 2021 marine science interns will help audiences continue at-home exploration.

For information and a complete schedule of programs, visit nhm.org/spongebob.



photo courtesy of BHUSD

Horace Mann Elementary School and other BHUSD schools are flying rainbow flags for Pride Month.

BHUSD to fly rainbow flags at all schools and district office

During the June 8 Beverly Hills Unified School District Board of Education meeting, the board passed a resolution that proclaims June to be Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Pride Month and to display a rainbow flag at each school and facility within BHUSD throughout the month of June every year. Many community members voiced their support for this action during public comment. As of June 9, all school sites and the district office are proudly flying the new Progress Pride Flag.

To watch the meeting, visit [youtube.com/kbev6](https://www.youtube.com/kbev6).



photo courtesy of the Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz

An educational video uses fun characters to teach kindergartners about the intricacies of music.

Educational video helps kids develop a love for music

A new video featuring jazz legend Herbie Hancock aims to educate kindergarteners around the world.

The collaboration between the 14-time Grammy and Academy Award-winning pianist and composer, along with an award-winning team of animators the first in a series of animated videos showcasing innovative methods for educating kindergarteners has been released.

Titled "Treble Leads the Class," the newly-released video is part of a supplemental curriculum developed by the Young Academic Research Group at the Touro Graduate School of Education in New York City that uses the power of music to help kindergarteners learn about numeracy, problem-solving and computational thinking.

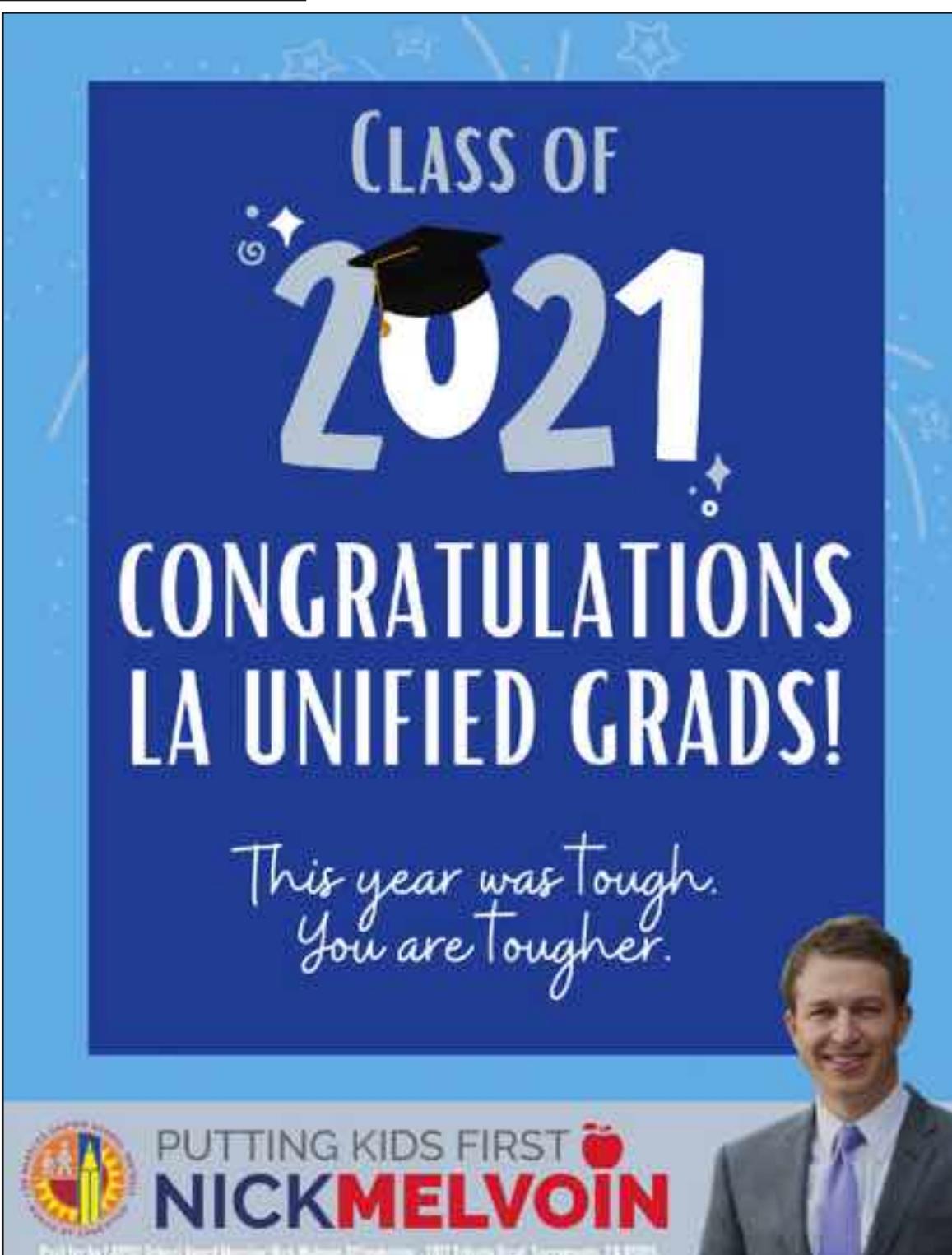
YAM is an early phase education and research program led by professors Susan Courey, Timothy Bellavia and Roslyn Haber, and funded through a \$1.4 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

Hancock, who is chairman of the Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz, an adjunct professor at the UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music and a UNESCO goodwill ambassador for intercultural dialogue, narrates the video.

"I'm thrilled to be able to create new ways for children to learn about music," Hancock said. "I hope this video and the others to come will help instill a sense of fun and musical inspiration for kids around the world."

"Treble Leads the Class" tells the tale of characters Treble Clef and his best friend Four-Four Signature. Treble, like many young children, battles nerves and anxiety when talking with others. When he is chosen to lead his classmates during a day at school, Treble is challenged with facing his fears. Thankfully, his friend Four-Four is there to keep him calm.

For information, visit hancockinstitute.org. To watch the video, visit [youtube.com/watch?v=ZmEkWFgs eo0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZmEkWFgs eo0).



The Getty explores connections in film and dance

The Getty is holding the second program in its Dancers on Film series with filmmaker and artist Madeleine Hunt-Ehrlich in conversation with research specialist Kristin Juarez on Thursday, June 10, from noon to 1 p.m., via Zoom.

The free discussion will center on how experimental filmmaking reimagines the fragments of African American narratives found in archival material and cinema histories. The program will include a screening of the artist's short films, including her surrealist documentary "Spit on the Broom" (2019), which explores the history of the United Order of Tents, a clandestine organization of Black women organized in the 1840s during the height of the Underground Railroad.

The program will be accompanied by a pre-screening of George Stevens' film "Swing Time"

(1936), a classic Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers musical that speaks to Hunt-Ehrlich's use of dance to create new understandings of the cinematic genre. "Swing Time" will be available for viewing through June 11 on the Getty's website, with webinar registration.

Hunt-Ehrlich is a filmmaker and artist whose work has screened internationally. She appeared on Filmmaker Magazine's 2020 list of 25 New Faces of Independent Cinema. Her first feature film, "Madame Négritude," which is forthcoming, received screenwriting support from the San Francisco Film Society's Rainin Grant and was a 2020 finalist at Biennale College Cinema, the Venice Film Festival's prestigious film lab and fund.

Juarez is the research specialist for the African American Art History Initiative at the Getty

Research Institute. She studies the work of modern and contemporary multidisciplinary artists who utilize the moving image, dance and visual art. She is co-curator of the forthcoming exhibition "Blondell Cummings: Dance as Moving Pictures," which will open in September.

The program is part of an ongoing series that considers how the moving image archives dance and what dance can archive. The program is associated with the Getty Research Institute's African American Art History Initiative.

To RSVP, visit getty.edu.



photo courtesy of Madeleine Hunt-Ehrlich

Madeleine Hunt-Ehrlich's film "Spit on the Broom" is included in the presentation by the Getty.

Museum spotlights story of LGBTQ pioneer Eve Adams

In observance of Pride Month, Holocaust Museum Los Angeles presents "The Daring Life and Dangerous Times of Eve Adams," a virtual book talk with Jonathan Ned Katz on Tuesday, June 22, at 5 p.m.

Katz will discuss his new book about pioneering lesbian activist Eve Adams, who is also known as Eva Kotchever. Born Chawa Zloczewer into a Jewish family in Poland, Adams emigrated to the United States in 1912, took a new name, befriended anarchists, sold radical publications and ran lesbian-and-gay-friendly speakeasies in Chicago and New York. Her New York after-theater club "Eve's Hangout" is considered one of the first lesbian bars in America. In 1925, Adams wrote and published a collection of short stories titled "Lesbian Love."

Adams's bold activism caught the attention of the young J. Edgar

Hoover and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, leading to her surveillance and arrest for publishing an obscene book. She was jailed and deported back to Europe, and was ultimately murdered by Nazis in Auschwitz. "Eve's Hangout" closed in the wake of her arrest and today is recognized as a historic monument by the National Park Service and the NYC LGBT Historic Sites Project. An LGBTQ icon in Paris, she has a street (Rue Eva Kotchever) and a public school named after her.

Katz is an expert on lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and heterosexual American history who has focused on same-sex attraction and changes in the social organization of sexuality over time. "The Daring Life and Dangerous Times of Eve Adams," his latest book, includes the text of Adams' "Lesbian Love."

For information, visit holocaustmuseumla.org.

WeHo Sounds summer series returns in a virtual format

As West Hollywood, the region and the state move toward a full reopening following strict COVID-19 guidelines, many music and entertainment venues are still making plans after months of related closures.

The city of West Hollywood will keep offerings virtual this summer with the WeHo Sounds Free Virtual Concert Series. Concerts will take place on the third Friday of each month through September on a livestream platform. Visit weho.org/wehosounds for links to concerts.

The virtual series will kick-off on Friday, June 18, at 6 p.m. with Ryan Porter & Friends. Los Angeles native trombonist Porter has released four self-titled albums, and has played and recorded with artists such as Herbie Hancock, Stevie Wonder, Thundercat, Kamasi Washington and Kendrick Lamar.

Crawford, a young group from Hollywood, will perform on Friday, July 16, at 6 p.m. Created by a group of friends who met at Musicians Institute, Crawford brings people together through

recorded music, live performances and community building. The group lists one of its greatest achievements as producing Spill The Tea, a monthly gathering in which a vibrant community is created through music and art.

Grammy award-winning pianist John Beasley performs with his "4Tet" on Friday, Aug. 20, at 6 p.m. Beasley has performed with Miles Davis, Freddie Hubbard, Chaka Khan, Queen Latifah and Dianne Reeves. He has a dozen albums and has also worked on film and TV projects including "1917," "Finding Nemo," "Skyfall" and "Spectre."

Buyepongo will perform on Friday, Sept. 17, 2 at 6 p.m. With roots in South and Central America, Buyepongo draws heavily from the Latino and Afro-Indigenous musical culture. Taking cues from traditional roots music of Colombia, Haiti, Belize, Honduras and the Dominican Republic, Buyepongo creates a vibrant polyrhythmic sound fusing merengue, punta, cumbia and other styles.

For information, visit weho.org/wehosounds.

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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:	An amendment to Title 19, Zoning Ordinance, West Hollywood Municipal Code to update the applicability of the City's Urban Art Program Guidelines, 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, June 21, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. Given the local, state and nation state of emergency, this meeting will be a teleconferenced meeting (with detailed instructions for participation included on the posted agenda).
ZONES:	Citywide
ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS:	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, June 16, 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 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

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photo courtesy of the Center Theatre Group

Writer and performer Alex Alpharaoh stars in "WET: A DACAmended Journey" available on Center Theatre Group's digital stage.

Play explores struggles in gaining citizenship

Center Theatre Group is marking the ninth anniversary of DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) on June 15 with "WET: A DACAmended Journey," a production written and performed by Alex Alpharaoh that will be shown online.

The production will be available for a free sneak peek on June 15 from 5 p.m. to midnight by visiting ctgla.org/dacamented. It runs from June 18 through July 16. The video will remain free to Center Theatre Group subscribers and supporters throughout the run. Viewing is \$10 for all others.

Center Theatre Group will also hold a live panel discussion on June 15, at 4 p.m. about the impact of ever shifting U.S. immigration laws and policies on individuals and communities.

"WET: A DACAmended Journey" is a true story of what it means to be an American in

every sense of the word except one: on paper. Award-winning actor, director and spoken word artist Alpharaoh knows firsthand the emotional and psychological hardship and risked his own freedom to share his story in a nationwide tour. Filmed at the Kirk Douglas Theatre for a presentation on Center Theatre Group's Digital Stage, "WET" takes audiences between hilarity and heartbreak on one man's travels to a home country he had never known as part of his relentless journey to become a documented citizen of the United States.

Center Theatre Group is a non-profit theater company based in Los Angeles. The company presents seasons at the Mark Taper Forum and Ahmanson Theatre at the Music Center in downtown Los Angeles, and the Kirk Douglas Theatre in Culver City. For information, visit ctgla.org/dacamented.

Sandra Tsing Loh returns with new show

The Broad Stage presents award-winning performer and writer Sandra Tsing Loh in "The Bitch is Back," streaming on demand from June 23-30.

The program is a hilarious, free-wheeling 70-minute solo comedy cabaret piece ostensibly on menopause, middle-age and mothering. More than a history lesson, "Bitch is Back" is a humorous rant in Loh's signature mode a la "The Loh Life," which ran on KCRW and KPCC for 20 years in Los Angeles. The production previously had a sold out run at the Edye at The Broad Stage in summer 2015 and was taped live.

All ticket holders can join Loh live at two special happy hours celebrating Women 45-plus. Loh welcomes special guest Marlo Thomas during "Women 45+ and Relationships" at 5 p.m. on Thursday, June 24. Thomas recently authored "What Makes A Marriage Last" with husband Phil Donohue.

On Saturday, June 26, at 5 p.m., Loh welcomes special guests Caroline Aaron, Marilu Henner, Melanie Mayron and JoBeth Williams for "Women 45+ and

Theater: Thoughts on Wendy Wasserstein," co-hosted by Chris Burney, artistic director of New York Stage and Film.

In the program, Loh covers Costco samples, what people really use Q-Tips for, the great underground society of mothers who have to get stoned to go to Michael's and her ritual for weighing herself (which requires two weeks of deep meditation and the exact correct arrangement of Tibetan prayer flags). In the unique film, the Edye stage is transformed into an extended bar, where Loh personally serves plastic cups of wine to the cathartically howling audience members.

"As we re-enter this post-pandemic moment, watching this time capsule of the recent past reminds us of all of the things we no longer take for granted, but look forward to having again," Loh said. "We know the bitch will be back in more ways than we could have known then."

Loh will also be organizing women's watch parties on social media, with gifts including goddess pants, "Madwoman" wine glasses, free books and specialty cocktails.



photo by Madeline Peng Miller

Sandra Tsing Loh returns in an online presentation of her program about menopause, middle age and mothering.

Interested parties can contact Loh directly by visiting sandratsinglo.com.

Tickets are included with the Broad Stage membership and are pay what you can (\$10-\$75) for all others. For tickets and information, visit thebroadstage.org.

KCCLA explores traditional musical storytelling

The Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles and Korean traditional music artist Seo-Yoon Jang present a special online project titled "English Pansori Series-Korean Traditional Music 101" available every second and fourth Wednesday through Aug. 25, on the KCCLA YouTube channel.

The video will help audiences understand and enjoy pansori, one of the main vocal genres of Korean traditional music. Pansori includes musical works and narrative songs, storytelling and body movements. "Gosu," a drum player, accompanies a singer with "buk," a barrel drum.



photo courtesy of KCCLA

Explore traditional pansori during the online series.

The audience imagines the scene, its circumstances and characters based on the singer's explanation.

For information, and to view other Korean music and dance performances, visit kccla.org.

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Football star's philanthropy provides jobs and housing



Former Los Angeles Rams great Rosey Grier was shown in this photograph from the June 2, 1977, issue of the Park Labrea News with a quilt signed by celebrity and sports personalities to be auctioned that year for charity. He was joined by Margaret Cavigga, left, and Roberta Ernisse, of the organization Giant Step, a nonprofit founded by Grier to give disadvantaged youth job training and to provide housing for senior citizens in Los Angeles. Grier, 88, played for the Rams from 1963-67 and the New York Giants from 1955-62, and also made numerous television appearances from the 1960s to 1980s. He remains active in the Giant Step organization and raises awareness for other causes, including the Prostate Cancer Foundation.

POLICE BLOTTER

The following crimes occurred in West Hollywood, Beverly Hills and the areas patrolled by the LAPD's Wilshire and Hollywood divisions between May 30 and June 5. 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

May 31

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft from a vehicle parked in the 300 block of N. Palm at 5 p.m. An auto burglary was reported in the same location at the same time.

At 11 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 200 block of N. Almont.

June 1

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 200 block of S. Robertson at midnight.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 400 block of N. Rexford at 1:59 a.m.

At 9 a.m., a vandalism incident was reported in the 200 block of N. Canon.

An arson fire was reported in the 9500 block of Sunset at 6:35 p.m.

At 11:22 p.m., a suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs near the corner of Robertson and Wilshire.

June 2

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 200 block of Arnaz at midnight.

At 11 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 9900 block of Durant.

June 3

At 4 p.m., a vandalism incident was reported near the corner of Wilshire and La Cienega.

A vandalism incident was reported in the 400 block of N. Rexford at 8:30 p.m.

At 9:33 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 100 block of N. Carson.

June 4

At 2:28 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 100 block of S. Peck.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 9600 block of Santa Monica at 2:09 p.m.

At 2:15 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 300 block of S. Almont.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of N. Rodeo at 3 p.m.

West Hollywood Sheriff's Station

May 30

At 5:03 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1200 block of N. La Brea.

A suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in

the 7100 block of Santa Monica at 6:07 a.m.

At 4:20 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 1000 block of N. La Brea.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 600 block of N. Robertson at 10 p.m.

May 31

At 11:23 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a bicycle in the 7300 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8300 block of Santa Monica at 2:30 p.m.

At 10:45 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8200 block of Roxbury.

June 1

A suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 7500 block of Norton at 12:30 p.m.

At 7 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1200 block of N. Laurel.

June 2

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 8500 block of Beverly at 6 p.m.

June 3

At 1:45 a.m., an arson fire was reported in the 7700 block of Santa Monica.

An arson fire was reported in the 1200 block of N. Fairfax at 2 a.m.

At 7:10 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary near the corner of Huntley and Melrose.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 1200 block of N. Detroit at 8:20 p.m.

June 4

At 4:56 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1200 block of Vista.

Los Angeles Police Department

May 30

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 6000 block of Fountain at 3:25 a.m.

At 10:30 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near the corner of Rosewood and Fairfax.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 6600 block of Franklin at 10:40 a.m.

At 10:50 a.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 5700 block of Fountain.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1700 block of N. Wilcox at 12:01 p.m.

At 1 p.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 7100 block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5100 block of Wilshire at 1 p.m.

At 2 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 800 block of N. Formosa.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 800 block of N. La Brea at 4:30 p.m.

At 6 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 5900 block of Sixth.

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

At 9:15 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 5900 block of Olympic.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of Larchmont and Clinton at 9:55 p.m.

May 31

At 12:45 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 200 block of S. La Brea.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 400 block of Westminster at 2:30 a.m.

At 2:45 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 6100 block of Sunset.

A suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident near the corner of Orange and Romaine at 3 a.m.

At 4 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 500 block of N. Wilton.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 6100 block of Sunset at 8:20 a.m.

At 10 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked near the corner of Orange Grove and De Longpre.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 1800 block of Grace at 10:30 a.m.

At 10:45 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 600 block of N. Alta Vista.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 7200 block of Franklin at 11 a.m.

At 2:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8500 block of Beverly.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 800 block of N. Croft at 4:30 p.m.

At 4:30 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 5700 block of Camerford.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8500 block of Beverly at 4:50 p.m.

At 5 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6000 block of Hollywood.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8500 block of Beverly at 5:15 p.m.

At 5:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6300 block of Third.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 1700 block of Argyle at 7:20 p.m.

At 7:45 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near the corner of Cahuenga and Selma.

An unknown suspect assaulted a

victim in the 8700 block of Gracie Allen at 9:15 p.m.

At 9:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1900 block of Cheremoya.

June 1

At 12:30 a.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 200 block of S. La Brea.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 1700 block of N. Highland at 12:50 a.m.

At 3:20 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 100 block of Kings.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6500 block of Drexel at 7 a.m.

At 7:20 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft near the corner of McCadden and Hollywood.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 100 block of N. Highland at 8:30 a.m.

At 9:30 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8400 block of Beverly.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 3200 block of Canyon at 9:30 a.m.

At 1:05 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 2000 block of N. Highland.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 6600 block of Sunset at 2:15 p.m.

At 3:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 100 block of The Grove.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 600 block of S. Hudson at 4:30 p.m.

At 6 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7000 block of Lanewood.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 8000 block of Hollywood at 6 p.m.

At 6 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1200 block of N. Van Ness.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 400 block of S. Western at 7 p.m.

At 9 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 800 block of S. Curson.

June 2

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 800 block of N. Detroit at 2:32 a.m.

At 2:50 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 100 block of S. Mansfield.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 600 block of N. Oxford at 4 a.m.

At 4:30 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 6200 block of Olympic.

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

At 10:40 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 7900 block of Melrose.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft near the corner of Melrose and Spaulding at 6 p.m.

At 10 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 1300 block of N. Highland.

June 3

At 4:10 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 2009 block of N. Western.

A robbery was reported in the 1600 block of N. Wilcox at 11 a.m.

At 11:30 a.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 1200 block of N. Highland.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 5300 block of Loma Linda at 11:40 a.m.

At noon, an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked near the corner of Hollywood and Argyle.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8500 block of Beverly at 3:30 p.m.

At 5:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 5300 block of Russell.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 1100 block of S. Fairfax at 6 p.m.

At 8:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 300 block of S. Burnside.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim near the corner of Waring and Fuller at 9:55 p.m.

At 10:30 p.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 6200 block of Third.

June 4

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 200 block of S. Fuller at 3 a.m.

At 3:12 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 600 block of N. Sycamore.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 6600 block of Franklin at 3:30 a.m.

At 4 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of S. Western.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 5800 block of Wilshire at 10:15 a.m.

At 1 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 5200 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7000 block of Sunset at 2 p.m.

At 4:50 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of La Brea and Sunset.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 100 block of N. La Brea at 5 p.m.

At 8:38 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 100 block of N. La Cienega.

An unknown suspect

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Crossword Puzzle by Myles Mellor

Across

- Setback
- Ogres
- Called balls and strikes
- "Strength, Courage and Wisdom," singer, India
- Kinks song
- Teases
- Color hue
- Biblical shepherd
- "Love Story" star
- Intense stage of conflict
- Alternatively, in ___ of
- Overseas refusal
- ___-relief (sculpture style)
- Causes of personality clashes
- View
- Some reproductive cells
- Red River capital
- Diamond Head locale
- Rally cry for many revolutions
- "___ Russia with Love"
- "I ___ born yesterday!"
- Saturate
- Spurs
- Workplace safety org.
- Pal of Piglet
- Tach readings
- Site of Theo. Roosevelt Natl. Park
- The Battle of Britain, for example
- Stick
- Boat with an open hold

Down

- Framework for plaster
- Large bay window
- Moses's mountain
- Medium-sized sofa
- Norwegian king and saint
- Report (luxury lifestyle magazine)
- Fresh from the shower
- Off-color
- Horseshoe-shaped fasteners
- Challenge for a barber
- ___ in the sky
- LAX landing approximation
- High-speed Internet initis.
- Should, with "to"
- Leaves from China, often
- Hippy necklace
- Allergy season sound
- Buffalo
- Stumblebum
- Kind of job
- Horror writer, Edgar Allan
- Employer's proposal
- Sign of late summer



- Galore, in disco lingo
- Man-mouse link
- In that case
- UK ship titles
- E.R. workers
- Prefix with centric
- Salem's home
- 'On the Media' airer
- Fesses up
- Play ___ for me
- Start of an oath
- Halt
- Bright-eyed Courier
- The "A" in A.D.
- Canadian bird
- 100-lb. units
- Pack (down)
- Evening news producers
- Hawaiian headwear
- "___ ... I Said" (Neil Diamond)

answers on page 31

'Cruella' saves the oft-dull Disney live-action remake

"Cruella" dons a sundry wardrobe of styles: clever, eccentric, safely gritty. Compared to other blockbuster hopefuls, it's pleasant, easy viewing, the boyfriend jeans of movies always in vogue. It topples Disney's previous live-action remakes, which in comparison play like sporting Birkenstocks with socks (my tragic sartorial choice in high school).

Don't mistake that for a ringing endorsement. Bland entries like "Maleficent: Mistress of Evil" invite a degree of suspicion, especially any notion that this or any other foray into villain origins will result in anything remotely dark. Always expect the once antagonist-turned-protagonist to transform into at least an antihero.

"Cruella" goes deep in the heroine's past. Sure, the running time well past two hours could've been trimmed down. There's really no need for an extended intro about pre-teen Estella's (Tipper Seifert-Cleveland) trouble fitting in, partly thanks to her alter-ego Cruella. Eventually an older Estella (now Emma Stone) emerges as a professional thief, though she never lets go of her childhood dream to stun the world with fashion design.

Luckily, partner-in-crime Jasper (Joel Fry) believes she can succeed, helping her land a low-level job that eventually blooms into a position alongside Baroness Von Hellman (Emma Thompson), the most influential designer in the industry. Think Miranda Priestly with more killer instinct – not a stretch considering "The Devil Wears Prada" scribe Aline Brosh McKenna's involvement here.

Eventually the pair clash, and Estella must release Cruella (surname pending) from her unconscious, no longer bound by niceties or law. The stakes continually escalate, but "Cruella" – in theaters and streaming premiere on Disney+ – spends much of its time locked in a fashion battle. Two genius minds clash on the catwalk.

Unlike other Disney attempts to reprise classic characters in live action, the latest venture is a kinda-sorta prequel to 1961's "One

Hundred and One Dalmatians," based on Dodie Smith's 1956 novel. It humanizes one of the most one-dimensional villains in the Mouse's vault. Just over 60 years ago, she rocked an evil cackle, craved the furs of puppies and chain smoked with a cig stick.

The cackle eventually returns in 2021, while other references to her more unsavory fabric choices remain wrapped in easter eggs. As for the tobacco haze that once signified her nefarious intentions – it's no longer permitted by Ms. de Vil's overlords, who created a blanket ban on portraying all such products in anything below an R rating (which Disney proper doesn't do anyway).

To call "Cruella" edgy gives it too much credit. Frankly, its PG-13 rating is dubious as well. At least it doesn't ride the popularity of "Joker," allowing that bland film to spark a trend. Instead, director Craig Gillespie ("Fright Night," "Lars and the Real Girl") borrows more from his most recent Oscar-nominated film "I, Tonya."

More than a deep dive into madness – Cruella herself only says she's "a little mad," anyway – this one will be best known for its insanely original costuming, as Cruella attempts to upstage all the Baroness' most publicized events. Expect a nom or win. It's almost a sure thing.

But costumes only work because Stone knows how to use them. Her performance as Estella feels more familiar, a role similar to her past films. Her Cruella is new territory that mostly works. Again, don't expect fidelity to the novel, animated film or the critically panned remake in 1996.

"Cruella" shines brightest through the spectacle of all those costumes and Stone's brilliant transformation (her strut slays). But two silent heroes arise as well: a remarkable soundtrack featuring a sea of familiar songs that clearly code the '60s landscape and a series of heists (sometimes) successfully performed by Cruella and her crew.

Some logical gaps emerge once all is revealed but they hardly ruin

ON SCREEN WITH TIM POSADA

any of the payoffs. And with a sequel already green lit, anything can happen. Hopefully that doesn't mean a traditional adaptation of the original, which would be quite disingenuous. Perhaps what comes next will be as bizarre as the marketing promised. But that would require a certain media conglomerate to give away some creative control.



photo courtesy of Disney

Estella (Emma Stone) transforms into the fashion-forward Cruella in the new live-action film.

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photo courtesy of Disney
Emma Stone stars Estella, who is destined for big things in the new Disney feature "Cruella."



photo by Jesse Grant/Getty Images for Project Angel Food
Project Angel Food Founder Marianne Williamson attended Project Angel Food's 14 Millionth Meal Dedication on June 3.

Celebs honor Project Angel Food's 14 millionth meal

Marianne Williamson, author and Project Angel Food founder; Pauley Perrette, actress on "NCIS" and Project Angel Food trustee; Sandra Lee, Emmy-winning TV host; Rufus Wainwright, 2021 Grammy nominee; and Project Angel Food's Executive Director Richard Ayoub came together on June 3 in Hollywood to celebrate the delivery of Project Angel Food's 14 millionth meal.

"Fourteen million meals is an extraordinary achievement," Williamson said. "Project Angel Food has been a journey. It's difficult to change an organization after it's gotten started, but in the case of Project Angel Food, that's good news. Every generation of leadership has carried forward this spirit [and] has truly imbibed the mission. This is about showing up with love."

"Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we ramped up bigger and faster than ever before," Ayoub added. "I never imagined we'd be celebrating at this time. And how beautiful and what amazing divine choreography it is that we are doing it while we are also

marking the 40th anniversary of the first reporting of AIDS by the CDC."

The program opened with Rufus Wainwright performing a moving rendition of "Over the Rainbow" from his upcoming streaming event "Rufus Does Judy at Capitol Studios" on June 10. Williamson dedicated the 14 millionth meal, which was presented to Richard Eshoo, a client since 1994 who is living with HIV.

"I learned one thing from Project Angel Food – and it's called unconditional love," Eshoo said as he received the milestone meal.

From its kitchen in Los Angeles, Project Angel Food provides medically tailored meals to 2,300 people per day who are living with life-threatening illnesses such as HIV/AIDS, cancer, diabetes and heart disease. The organization was founded in 1989 in response to the AIDS epidemic and today prepares and delivers over one million meals per year.

For information, visit angelfood.org.

Rare cars to drive through Beverly Hills

The organizers of the Rodeo Drive Concours d'Elegance, an event that has been a Father's Day tradition in Southern California for over 25 years, have announced a special reimaged event taking place on Sunday, June 20. The Beverly Hills Tour d'Elegance will provide families with a fun and free way to celebrate Father's Day while safely distancing from the crowds of the annual concours event. The Beverly Hills Tour d'Elegance has selected 50 of the most prestigious, rare and eye-catching vehicles to take part in a rolling display through the city of Beverly Hills, allowing attendees the thrill of witnessing these unique vehicles in motion on public roads. The traditional Rodeo Drive Concours d'Elegance will return in 2022.

"We are excited to return to Beverly Hills this Father's Day with a lineup of some of the greatest cars ever produced," event founder Bruce Meyer said. "More importantly, we are thrilled to begin the return to normal with a fun, free, family-friendly event which will support our local first responders. They have supported all of us through the last year and now we have an opportunity to give back."

Set to begin Father's Day morning, the tour will be led by O'Gara Coach, the Beverly Hills dealership for McLaren, Aston Martin, Bentley, Bugatti, Koenigsegg, Lamborghini, Maserati, Alfa Romeo, Rolls-Royce and Genesis. O'Gara Coach will be bringing out the latest and most exciting models from its showroom for a rolling demonstration of cars rarely seen on public roads.

Surprise celebrity drivers will also join the tour as they parade in vehicles like Beverly Hills Fire Department's own 1928 Ahrens Fox fire engine. Spectators are welcome to view the tour anywhere along its route, which will include some of the city's most iconic landmarks, including Rodeo Drive itself.

Beverly Hills Mayor Robert Wunderlich will be behind the



photo courtesy of the Rodeo Drive Committee

The Rodeo Drive Concours d'Elegance will return to Beverly Hills on Father's Day.

wheel of one of the extraordinary automobiles. "It's been a long year since we could celebrate events in Beverly Hills. On this Father's Day, we join 50 wonderful classic cars on the road back towards normalcy, while raising funds for our first responders, [this is] such a great first step. I can't wait to see the residents and visitors enjoying the Tour d'Elegance on June 20," Wunderlich said.

The public will have excellent views of the tour between 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. as it travels westbound on Burton Way between San Vicente Boulevard and Rexford

Drive, southbound on Beverly Drive between Lomitas Avenue and Wilshire Boulevard, and on Canon Drive between South Santa Monica and Dayton Way.

This year's event benefits both the Beverly Hills Police Officers Association and the Beverly Hills Firefighters' Association, nonprofit charities which provide assistance to first responders injured in the line of duty, maintain scholarship funds for their children and provide other support.

For information, visit rodeo-drive-bh.com/rodeo-drive-recommends.

Robey Theatre Co. commissions five playwrights

The Robey Theatre Company announced its Community Creatives Developmental Project to support the advancement of original plays by emerging and established African-American voices. The project has commissioned five playwrights to develop five original plays.

"Playwrights of color are often marginalized and go without the funding and developmental support afforded to white artists and creatives," said Ben Guillory, co-founder and producing artistic director of the Robey Theatre Company. "The Robey Theatre Company is pleased to be able to work with and fund these gifted artists and creatives."

Over the next year, each of the commissioned playwrights will be asked to write a full-length play. Each play will be workshopped, and a public staged reading will follow.

Over the past two years, the five selected playwrights have participated in the organization's Playwrights Lab and received substantial and tailored developmental support from the Robey Theatre Company's experienced resident dramaturgs,

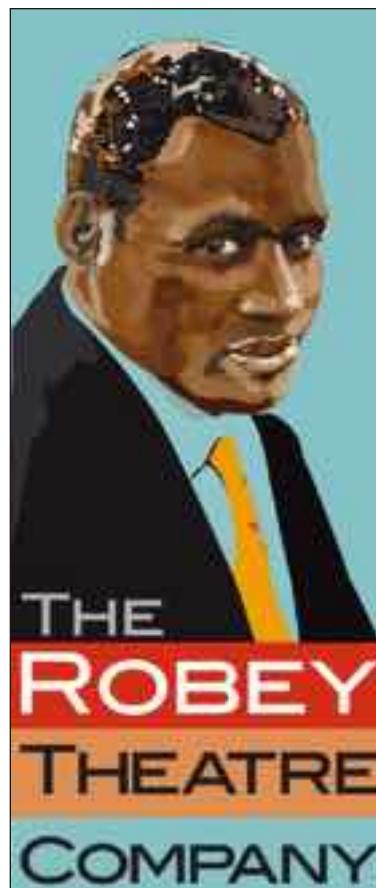
Daphne Sicre and Dylan Southard. Following this process, the playwrights will be considered for full productions in future seasons of the Robey Theatre Company.

The selected playwrights and their working titles are Nui Brown, "Looking for the Hustle"; Paulette James, "Buffalo Meets the Thunder"; Kwik Jones, "When the Wind is Gone"; Julio Hanson, "La Negra"; and Lorinda Hawkins Smith, "Vaccination Elevation."

The Robey Theatre Company is funded, in part, by grants from the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through the office of former Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, the Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture, the California Arts Council, the California Community Foundation and the Ford Foundation.

For information, email office@therobeytheatrecompany.org or visit therobeytheatrecompany.org.

image courtesy of the Robey Theatre Company
The Robey Theatre Company has commissioned five original plays from five playwrights.



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LACO extends contract of Jaime Martín

Jaime Martín, music director of Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, received a five-year contract extension through the 2026-27 season, which was announced by board Chair Leslie Lassiter. Martín, who has quickly risen to worldwide attention as a conductor following a prominent career as a flutist, began his LACO tenure in the 2019-20 season, infusing the orchestra with tremendous musical creativity and

forward momentum. He was also recently announced as taking the position of principal guest conductor of the Spanish National Orchestra in the 2022-23 season.

"During his short tenure with LACO, Jaime Martín has helped enhance the orchestra's artistic profile in Los Angeles, as well as nationally and internationally," Lassiter said. "His joyous music making, remarkable artistry, includ-

sive and bold programming and collegial leadership inspire both LACO audiences and musicians. We are delighted the orchestra's musical trajectory will continue under his baton."

"I am deeply honored to be a part of this iconic orchestra and grateful to LACO's exceptional artists and dedicated board of directors for their confidence in my leadership," Martín said. "It has been exhilarating to be a part of L.A.'s vibrant cultural scene and engage with LACO's devoted audiences and community partners. I look forward to further exploring new musical frontiers with the orchestra and sharing our artistry."

In concert reviews, the Los Angeles Times hailed Martín's "infectious music making," noting "the musicians seem to be having a blast. The audience is invited to the party." Overseas, he has been praised as "a visionary conductor, discerning and meticulous" (Platea Magazine), and London's The Telegraph said "his infectious enjoyment of the music communicated to the orchestra and audience alike."

For information, visit laco.org.



Jaime Martín has been contracted to remain as the music director of LACO through the 2026-27 season.

Jewish dignitaries, leaders attend festival reception

Hillel Newman, consul general of Israel; Meir Fenigstein, founder and executive director of the Israel Film Festival; and Guy Nattiv, Academy Award-winning filmmaker, attended the Israel Film Festival reception on June 3.

The cocktail reception was held at the Four Seasons Hotel Los Angeles at Beverly Hills, 300 S. Doheny Drive.

The 35th Israel Film Festival, the largest showcase of Israeli cinema in the United States, will take place Nov. 11-28.

The mission of the Israel Film Festival is to highlight Israel as the lively and innovative nation that it is, as well as to shine a spotlight on its thriving film and television industry, and enrich the American



experience of Israel's social and cultural diversity.

For information, visit israelfilmfestival.com.

Newsom seeks to support restaurants, bars

As California's economy comes roaring back and the state prepares to fully reopen this month, Gov. Gavin Newsom on June 3 announced action to ensure that restaurants, bars, breweries and wineries continue to benefit from pandemic regulatory relief – including expanded outdoor dining and the sale of to-go alcoholic drinks – to support the recovery of businesses and protect public health.

"California's restaurants help create the vibrant and diverse communities that make California the envy of the world," Newsom said.

"As the state turns to post-pandemic life, we'll continue to adapt best practices that have helped businesses transform customer experiences for the better. With new opportunities and support for businesses large and small, and the California can-do spirit that has carried us through the past year, we will come roaring back from this pandemic."

The administration extended relief measures that permit restaurants and bars to continue to benefit from their investments to expand outdoor operations in areas such as sidewalks and parking lots, and to

continue the sale of to-go alcoholic beverages with food deliveries, among other successful pandemic adaptations. In addition, the administration is urging local governments to facilitate outdoor dining through local zoning and programs that support and promote expanded open-air, takeout and delivery options.

While California has one of the highest vaccination rates and the lowest rate of community transmission in the nation, public health experts recognize that encouraging best practices like outdoor activities and operations remain a public health priority as regions across the nation and world experience surges and variants continue to pose a threat.

Building on regulatory relief announced throughout the pandemic by the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, bars will be able to continue to partner with food trucks, catering companies or restaurants in order to sell meals with their beverages, as required, and allow wineries and breweries to partner with restaurants to host virtual dinners with wine and beer pairings.



Gov. Gavin Newsom visited Tommy's Mexican Restaurant in San Francisco when discussing restaurant aid.

Farmers Market hosts vaccination clinic



photo courtesy of the Original Farmers Market

Miracle Mile resident Ryder Worden, 12, received his COVID-19 vaccination at the Original Farmers Market on June 9. Worden was joined by his twin brother, Aidan, and mother, Mari, at the clinic, which offered benefits for anyone who gets vaccinated.

The clinic was offered in partnership with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health and Rite Aid.

Those who were vaccinated received a free all-day parking pass and a Farmers Market tote bag, and they were entered into a drawing for hundreds of dollars in Farmers Market gift cards. Drawings for Farmers Market gift certificates will take place July 5.

In addition, those who receive vaccinations are eligible for the \$1.5 million and \$50,000 cash prizes offered by Gov. Gavin Newsom and the state of California.

COVID-19 vaccines are free regardless of insurance, immigration status or residency.

The Original Farmers Market is located at 6333 W. Third St. For information, visit covid19.ca.gov/vax-for-the-win.

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NINE-5

Hotel would displace 12 affordable units

From page 1

Kirchen and Carnow noted that the union's primary concern in opposing the project is the removal of 12 affordable housing units to make way for the hotel, which contains no housing units, but protecting Le Petit Jardin would be a benefit "for the whole community."

"[Le Petit Jardin] sells flowers to people for Shabbat and she has for many years ... This is something that for generations, people saw their fathers give their mothers flowers every Friday night, and they give their wives flowers now," said Carnow, who lives close to the project site and personally wants to support "small businesses that are such a critical part of the community."

"This project is the demolition of rent-stabilized housing with no plan for replacement, as well as small businesses, including the beloved Le Petit Jardin," Kirchen said.

One of those affordable units belongs to Sotelo Klisch, who lives with her father above the restaurant.

She said the developers, which city documents identify as Van Nuys-based QES Inc., have offered \$30,000 for her and her father to relocate from their residence and their business, an amount she described as "a joke" and "an insult."

"As far as I'm concerned, I'm not accepting a deal, especially one that's so ridiculously low," Sotelo Klisch said.

Handelman said negotiations are ongoing with Sotelo Klisch.

"We are still in discussions about her unit and we are going to be making an above-required offer to her. The business is separate; there's no requirement to compensate for a business ... but we're still in negotiations with her about ways we can help her," Handelman said.

As for the housing issue, Unite Here Local 11 is looking to see affordable units included as part of the project, something the union was successful in doing in a mixed-use project near the intersection of

Wilshire Boulevard and La Brea Avenue earlier this year. In that project, a settlement between the developers and Unite Here Local 11 resulted in the addition of five more affordable units than had originally been planned, as well as more sustainable building practices and better traffic circulation.

"I'm proud that we were able to get more affordable housing in that project, a good example of housing and hotel space, to show that we're really not crazy for asking for this really commonplace thing nowadays. Throughout that process, the developer added four new affordable units, and we hope that people can take a lesson to do the right thing," Carnow said.

Handelman noted that housing "is an important issue citywide," but said there were no plans to include housing in this project.

"We believe that in this location, a hotel that meets the needs of the Orthodox Jewish community is an



photo courtesy of Unite Here Local 11

Unite Here Local 11 encouraged the Pico Robertson neighborhood to push back against the proposed hotel on June 4.

important use to revitalize the community and bring some people to the neighborhood. We're not disputing that housing is a big issue, but not every project can solve every problem," Handelman said.

Aside from housing concerns, Carnow, Kirchen and Sotelo Klisch noted that the hotel's seven-story height is dramatically higher than the one- and two-story buildings currently in the area.

"We don't have tall buildings [in our neighborhood] ... This building will stand out in a strange way from the neighborhood," Sotelo Klisch said.

Handelman noted that the hotel's height was in accordance with city code.

"This area needs development. We feel that this is a positive addition. There's a lot of support for the project. There are a number of synagogues supporting it," Handelman said.

Those supporters include the Young Sephardic Community Center, Congregation Knesset Israel and others, Handelman added.

Three candidates for Los Angeles City Council District 5 in the March

2022 election have taken stances against the project on Twitter.

"This project would demolish 12 rent-stabilized housing units [without] replacing a single one. Existing tenants would likely be priced out of the community ... I support new hotel construction in L.A. [and] CD5. But it must not be done at the expense of community members' housing security, and should be designed in a way to enhance the community," Scott Epstein said.

"Putting aside neighborhood concerns about height [and] massing, the permanent elimination of rent stabilized units without provision for replacement is unacceptable," Katy Young Yaroslavsky said.

"A proposed seven-story, 131-room hotel in Pico Robertson would displace [rent-stabilized] units and small businesses," Sam Yebri said.

The current representative of the 5th District, City Councilman Paul Koretz, has yet to take a stance on the project, he said in an email.

"There are pros and cons on both sides, and I am still weighing the issues relating to this project," he said.

OUT Zones draw concern from neighbors

From page 1

Division would ensure businesses adhere to the city's guidelines.

"We need to evaluate each and every possible location," Councilman John D'Amico said.

D'Amico said he supports ratifying the order "on its face," but he would like to hear input from his fellow council members and the public. D'Amico said the pandemic has shown that the city can be more creative with its public and private outdoor spaces, as evidenced by its OUT Zone – which stands for Outdoor Use Temporary – program.

"It's created a much more alive and breathing city for me," he added.

However, some organizations have been outspoken against some of the OUT Zone areas, particularly the area included in the Robertson Closure Pilot Program, which closes Robertson Boulevard from Santa Monica Boulevard to Melrose Avenue from 6 p.m. on Saturdays to 2 a.m. on Mondays.

"We're not interested," West Hollywood West Residents Association Vice President Manny Rodriguez said.

The council approved the Robertson pilot project in March

with no outreach to neighborhood associations, he said. Rodriguez added that few businesses and organizations have utilized the outdoor space.

"Nobody was interested," Rodriguez added.

Rodriguez said the association did not support the project when it was originally proposed. He said the council closed a street that has been open for years. However, he admitted that it has not increased traffic in the area.

"We're very happy about that," Rodriguez said, adding that the lack of participation may explain the lack of additional traffic.

D'Amico acknowledged some of the criticisms the OUT on Robertson program has received. Yet, the project has had no negative impact that has been documented on Robertson Boulevard, he said.

"It's really less about OUT on Robertson and more about how people organize cities in their head," he said, adding that some residents are accustomed to streets only being used for vehicular traffic.

D'Amico described the program as being a "moderate" success. He said the May 1 kickoff of the pilot project coincided with

the loosening of indoor capacity restrictions for businesses, which made it difficult for some to participate.

"It's a solid B-plus," D'Amico said about the program so far.

According to the staff report, the amended order would allow live entertainment in the OUT on Robertson pilot program area between 11 a.m. and 10 p.m. when Robertson Boulevard is closed.

Additionally, commercial properties located near other businesses could host live entertainment from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Commercial properties adjacent to residential areas would be permitted to host live entertainment from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., as long as microphones are not used.

The city started the OUT Zone program in September 2020 to streamline approvals for businesses seeking to use public and private property to expand outdoor operations, according to the staff report. An executive order expanded the program in April to temporarily allow bars to operate outdoors.

The council is scheduled to vote on the amended executive order at its June 21 meeting.

Galperin urges action to support local businesses

Los Angeles City Controller Ron Galperin on May 20 issued a letter to Mayor Eric Garcetti and the Los Angeles City Council recommending a series of measures to increase contracting with local businesses in order to support communities, create jobs and boost sales tax revenue to pay for more neighborhood services.

"Los Angeles is missing out on millions in sales tax revenue that is benefiting other cities instead because so much contracting is done with non-local vendors," Galperin said. "I see an opportunity to change that, which would both support local businesses – including small businesses owned by women, people of color and LGBTQ indi-

viduals – and create more jobs for our communities. It would also put more money back into the city's general fund to support services that Angelenos rely on and need."

Galperin found that council-controlled city departments paid out \$7 million in sales taxes that went to other California jurisdictions for commodities purchased from fiscal year 2018 to fiscal year 2020. During the same period, the city paid just \$4.1 million in sales taxes that went back into L.A.'s general fund for commodities purchased from Los Angeles-based vendors.

Even with the local purchase preference programs currently in place, Galperin said that between

fiscal year 2018 and fiscal year 2020, only 18% of the city's commodities spending went to vendors in Los Angeles.

Galperin noted that, while changes were recently made to the local business preference program, the City Council should consider increasing the bid preference further to account for the local allocation of sales taxes paid to Los Angeles-based vendors. In addition, changes should be made to the city's contracts to encourage vendors to use Los Angeles-based locations as the place of sale when possible.

For information, visit lacontroller.org/increasing-local-investment.

Lieu bill would designate space as critical infrastructure

U.S. Reps. Ted W. Lieu (D-Torrance) and Ken Calvert (R-Corona) on June 4 introduced the Space Infrastructure Act, which would direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to designate space systems, services and technology as a sector of critical infrastructure.

Currently, the Department of Homeland Security works to protect 16 different sectors of critical infrastructure, which includes areas like communications, water and energy – but not space. There is no singular sector that concentrates expertise and resources pertaining to the characteristics of the space industry and, instead,

the space industry relies on collecting threat and security information from a patchwork of 16 existing sectors. This bill would designate space as a dedicated sector of critical infrastructure, ensuring cogent security analyses of assets like satellites in orbit, launch systems on the ground, manufacturing plants, communications devices, supply chain and information technology.

"Space is infrastructure," Lieu said. "So many things we rely on – like navigation systems, cable

TV and communications tools – function with the help of technology in and around space. As a result, we have to ensure that we're protecting these critical systems by directing the right minds and resources towards them. As co-chairs of the California Aerospace Caucus, Rep. Calvert and I know first-hand how important it is to strengthen efforts to secure space-based assets. All the recent hacking incidents underscore that we have to be forward-thinking about how to safeguard critical infrastructure."

"American assets in space play a vital role in our economic and national security," Calvert added. "That's why officially designating space as a critical infrastructure sector is a logical step, and I'm proud to work with Rep. Lieu on this bill. The collaboration between federal security agencies and industry partners directly and indirectly involved with space-based assets and technologies is essential to America's future as we confront evolving threats."

For information, visit lieu.house.gov.

One Beverly Hills criticized by Mirisch

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rendering © DBOX for Alagem Capital Group

The botanical gardens will be on a podium above the street access to Merv Griffin Way, which will travel under the podium.

meetings, has been unanimous ... in our support for affordable housing," Bosse said.

Bosse also protested "divisiveness" after a tough last year with the pandemic and national political squabbles.

"Everybody here makes all of their decisions with a lens of fiscal responsibility, with a moral compass and with an ethical compass ... What makes Beverly Hills the great city that we are, why we choose to live here, why we love it with every ounce of our being, is that we all have the same values and goals, and we're all respectful to each other. We treat each other with respect," Bosse said. "At times we might disagree, but at the end of the day, we all have the same

goal."

Bosse also defended the project, which she said is "breathtakingly beautiful" and "complements the neighboring surrounding area."

"To me, this is the next 100 years. You may agree, you may disagree, but one thing you need to know: every single person on this council cares about this community, has the same values about this community, has the same integrity and the same passion about the future of Beverly Hills ... This will be for our children and our grandchildren and something we can be proud of," Bosse said.

The other council members also expressed support for the project and the process of creating the development agreement, which they said will help ensure that hundreds of millions or billions of dollars in tax revenue and payments come to the city over the next few decades.

"This is a project that is very important for the sustainability of the city, long-term ... It will provide substantial funds for the city," Mayor Robert Wunderlich said.

Beyond the financial benefits, the council members praised the project's aesthetics – it's designed by well-known British architect Lord Norman Foster – and the role it will serve as a gateway landmark for those coming from the west.

"There is no other project in the city of Beverly Hills that I could support with the height of these buildings ... This property has a

singular, unique characteristic and location that can support the buildings that are planned," Councilman Lester Friedman said.

"What makes Beverly Hills the great city that we are, why we choose to live here, why we love it with every ounce of our being, is that we all have the same values and goals, and we're all respectful to each other."

-Beverly Hills Vice Mayor Lili Bosse

LASD facing accusations of fraud in billing

From page 1

than it was contractually obligated. In a May 26 Los Angeles Times article detailing the filing, an anonymous LASD deputy alleged that while they were working at the West Hollywood Station, they were told to lie about the hours worked by deputies in order to "burn" contracted patrol minutes.

"That's straight-up fraud. It's so rampant that it became the norm ... At the end of the day, we know it's stealing, and I'm not a thief," the deputy told the Los Angeles Times.

Though the item was not discussed on its own, some council members expressed support for it, including Councilwoman Sepi Shyne, who co-sponsored the item with Mayor Lindsey Horvath, during their general comments.

"This is extremely important, and I hope the supervisors take action immediately," Shyne said.

In a statement released after the Los Angeles Times article was published, West Hollywood detailed its process of conducting a "regular monthly internal review process for its public safety billing," which the city's statement said "serves to monitor how the city is billed for sheriff's personnel time."

Councilman John D'Amico said this request for a countywide audit was a continuation of that

supervision, and he said he expects West Hollywood's Public Safety Commission to discuss the topic as well.

"Over the years, I think all of us have initiated and certainly, all of us have voted on, different ways to audit the contracts of the sheriff's department, and I think this is a good extension of that continuous oversight," D'Amico said.

Councilman John Erickson made clear that if West Hollywood's desired audit was not undertaken by the county, he would like the city to act on its own "immediately." He also raised other issues that West Hollywood residents have reported with the LASD.

"I'm gravely concerned by the whistleblowers' claims, and I will say from a public safety standpoint, when I was away in Wisconsin, I was receiving a number of disturbing emails [alleging unresponsiveness] from the sheriff's department," Erickson said. "I have great respect for our first responders, those who put their lives on the line, but I am slowly losing confidence in the sheriff's department. I've always worked with them in a great way and found them to be responsive, but they are not being responsive to members of our community who call them for very simple tasks, and that's con-

cerning to me."

Three members of the public also supported the audit, which they claimed was the first step toward diverting police funding and increasing funding for social services, a push that continues following the nationwide call to defund police departments after the murder of George Floyd at the hands of Minneapolis police officers last year and the killings of other people of color by police officers.

"This audit is a vital next step towards dismantling systemic racism and solving so many safety and quality-of-life issues," West Hollywood resident Jordan David said.

Another member of the public, Enoch Miller, referenced other controversies that have surrounded the LASD, including allegations of racism and that there are so-called gangs of officers within the department.

"Please vote to drastically increase city spending on social services and dramatically divest from the sheriff's contract. The well-documented issues of white supremacy and police gangs [indicate that the LASD] are not equipped to solve any of our public safety issues," Miller said.

A request for comment from the LASD was not returned before press time.

Assembly OKs bill to modernize pet blood banks

The California State Assembly on June 1 overwhelmingly approved Assembly Bill 1282, the California Pet Blood Bank Modernization Act, authored by Assemblyman Richard Bloom (D-Santa Monica) and state Sen. Scott Wilk (R-Santa Clarita), along with Assemblymen Kevin Mullin (D-San Mateo), Devon Mathis (R-Visalia) and Chad Mayes (I-Yucca Valley).

AB 1282 seeks to address both the shortage of animal blood for veterinary transfusion medicine and phase out the practice of captive closed colony canine blood banks in the state.

"The legislature made progress in previous sessions to envision a path forward to expanding the supply of blood for dogs through a voluntary model similar to human blood banking," Bloom said. "Governor

[Gavin] Newsom called on us to work with him and stakeholders to craft a better balance to ensure that we transition away from the outdated and inhumane model into one we can be proud of. We can do so much better for the animals in our state."

AB 1282 authorizes California licensed veterinarians to operate community blood banks to produce and sell or transfer animal blood and blood products.

Currently, voluntary community-based blood banking isn't allowed in California. Instead, California is the only state in the country that requires animal blood to come from so-called "closed colony blood banks" that source blood from animals kept, housed or maintained at a facility for the purpose of collecting their blood. These closed colony blood banks require hundreds of animals to be in cages for

years while their blood is routinely harvested with animal blood demands only increasing.

AB 1282 allows for a more humane solution for sourcing animal blood while also establishing conditions to eventually phase out captive close colony canine blood banks.

"I have been working on this issue passionately for three years and I am pleased to have the bi-partisan support and co-authorship from my colleagues in both houses," Bloom said. "With the continued thoughtful engagement of stakeholders, I am hopeful that the Senate will share the Assembly's support, and that Governor Newsom will sign AB 1282 into law this fall."

AB 1282 now heads to the Senate and will be referred to relevant policy committees.

Center seeks help from

county on foster youth

The Los Angeles LGBT Center on June 1 called upon Bobby Cagle, director of the Los Angeles County's Department of Child and Family Services, and the county Board of Supervisors to stop their neglect of LGBTQ youth in the foster care system.

Thirteen years ago, the county abandoned the LGBTQ youth under its care when it stopped funding the system's only LGBTQ+ specific services, the L.A. LGBT Center said. Despite expressly agreeing in the years since that such services are critical to properly care for and keep these youth safe from harm, and contrary to explicit promises to the center and the state of California that they would remedy this situation, the county has failed to act.

"All we've seen from Bobby Cagle are empty promises," Los Angeles LGBT Center CEO Lorri Jean said. "The appalling consequences for LGBTQ youth have been dire, including emotional trauma, torture and even death. Yet, the very agency responsible for their care and protection, knowing this for many years, has done nothing to change the situation. This intentional neglect must stop. The county knows that at least one in five youth under their care are LGBTQ, and 90% of these are youth of color.

They know, too, that their failure to properly care for these youth is actually causing them irreparable harm. Yet, they can't manage to take even the simplest step of asking the Board of Supervisors for the resources necessary to prevent LGBTQ+ foster youth from a life of suffering. This shocking dereliction of duty is inexcusable. Queer

youth of color are not expendable. It's time for our county to do whatever is necessary to save the lives of LGBTQ foster youth."

According to research commissioned by the center and conducted by UCLA's Williams Institute in 2014, approximately 20% of foster youth identify as LGBTQ and more than 90% of them are youth of color. Other studies have indicated that as many as 30% of foster youth identify as LGBTQ.

"DCFS has failed LGBTQ youth by denying them life-saving services," the center's Youth and Family Connections Manager Jo Cerdá said. "They need services and programs specifically designed for them to exist in the foster care system and enter the world as healthy, equal and complete members of society. The failure of DCFS to provide culturally competent services to LGBTQ youth of color is causing actual harm to these youth. Our children are suffering and dying under the DCFS watch. They deserve better."

For information, visit lalgbtcenter.org/DCFS.

Answers From Page 26





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