WeHo examines vaccine mandate possibilities

‘We do need to be a leader on this,’ Shyne says

BY AARON BLEVINS

West Hollywood officials are looking into the possibility of implementing a vaccine mandate at various locations around the city, which would join a slate of other municipalities, including Los Angeles, pursuing such measures as COVID-19 cases rise. In a report to the City Council on Monday, City Attorney Lauren Langer said officials could likely make proof of vaccination or a recent, negative COVID-19 test result mandatory for residents entering city buildings for public services – as long as the city commits to providing services in person and online. “We know it can be done,” she said of providing services off-site. “It does raise some interesting health information concerns.”

Langer said vaccine mandates could be implemented at City Hall, including the police department and libraries. City officials may require proof of vaccination for visitors at City Hall.

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Beverly Hills gets CicLAvia wheels turning

BY AARON BLEVINS

The city of Beverly Hills could be participating in its first-ever CicLAvia next year, after the City Council directed staff to pursue a partnership with the cities of Los Angeles and West Hollywood to host one of the open-street events. If all goes well, the cities will file a joint grant application for funding from the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority. Metro’s Open Streets Grant Program awards up to $500,000.

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CicLAvia will again visit Hollywood and West Hollywood next year, and it may also include Beverly Hills.

National Night Out transforms into clinic

■ More than 100 people receive COVID-19 vaccine

BY EDWIN POLVEN

The Melrose Action Neighborhood Watch and the Los Angeles Police Department’s Wilshire Division held an annual National Night Out Against Crime event at Poinsettia Park every August to connect with residents. This year’s Night Out included a COVID-19 vaccination clinic. More than 100 people were vaccinated, including Melrose District resident Cooper Campbell, who said he had initially been hesitant to receive a vaccine but now believes it is an important safety measure for himself and his family. Campbell was pleased the vaccine clinic was held in his neighborhood. “The convenience of where it was located is great,” because I live just halfway down the block,” Campbell said. “It seemed like it was easily accessible so I stopped by.”

Cristan Corona, who traveled from Culver City and received vaccinations with her husband and teen children, said she believes it is important to protect others. “I work with children so I want to make sure they are safe, and my family,” Corona said. “I am trying to protect my family.”

Peter Nichols, co-founder of the Melrose Action Neighborhood Watch, also said it was important to hold a vaccination clinic because coronavirus cases are again on the rise, particularly with the Delta variant. Melrose Action partnered with Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, which supplied the vaccines. “It’s been super successful. There are a lot of people getting vaccinated,” Nichols said. “It’s important because the biggest threat to public safety is [a lack of] public health.”

While the vaccination clinic superseded the regular National Night Out event, representatives of CicLAvia about the possibility of the event running through Beverly Hills. According to a staff report, it is seen as a “high-priority event” in the city’s Complete Streets Action Plan. City transportation planner Jessie Holster said event organizers could not organize a new event in Beverly Hills due to previous commitments, but they could extend a planned event in Los Angeles and West Hollywood to include Beverly Hills.

She said CicLAvia will revisit its route from August 2019, when it traveled down Hollywood Boulevard to Highland Avenue, south to Santa Monica Boulevard and west to San Vicente.

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WeHo’s draft housing element ready for public review online

After extensive community engagement, the city of West Hollywood’s draft housing element report for 2021 through 2029 has been released for public review.

The draft housing element serves as a policy guide that provides an indication of housing needs in the community, the availability, affordability and adequacy of housing.

The city of West Hollywood encourages community members to take part in the process of reviewing the draft report and providing comments and input. The forthcoming housing element will assist the city in completing its overall policy framework for the future to address vital housing needs in the community.

The City Department of Housing and Community Development will continue to review the draft and will provide comments to ensure that the final housing element meets state requirements.

The state of California requires the housing element to be included in the city’s general plan, which must be updated every eight years to demonstrate that the housing needs of all community members can be met, regardless of income. The goal is to create an adequate supply of safe and affordable housing.

The report assesses housing needs for different income groups and creates a strategy for addressing them.

To read the draft housing element report, visit weho.org/housingelement

Answers sought on building integrity

In response to the collapse of the Champlain Towers South condo-complex in Surfside, Florida, which killed 98 people, Los Angeles City Councilman Paul Krekorian introduced a motion on July 30 seeking to ensure the safety and structural integrity of high-rise buildings in Los Angeles.

The motion introduces the Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety, Bureau of Engineering and Los Angeles Fire Department to prepare a report on existing inspection protocols for high-rise buildings, best practices for their inspection and how that can be taken into account to prevent building collapses. It also instructs the departments to prepare a minimum list of all high-rise buildings and the dates of their most recent structural inspections or inspections during a similar focus. The City is also requesting a critique of its zoning laws that contain no affordable housing components.

City Council considers motion on proof of vaccination requirement

Los Angeles City Council President Nury Martinez, 6th District, 5th Ward, introduced a motion on August 4 to require proof of vaccination for all customers and staff at all food service establishments and food hubs. The motion would require eligible individuals to have received at least one dose of the vaccine to enter indoor public spaces, including but not limited to restaurants, bars, retail establishments, fitness centers, spas and entertainment centers such as stadiums, concert venues and movie theaters.

“Enough is enough already,” Martinez said. “Hospital workers are exhausted, moms who have put aside their careers are tired and our kids cannot afford the loss of another school year. We have three vaccines that work and are readily available so what’s stopping us from taking it? Our kids are about to return to school and the unvaccinated are putting their lives at risk every day. Ask your questions, talk to your doctor, and get the vaccine. Let’s put this behind us.”

The officials are particularly concerned about the spread of the virus due to the Delta variant. “Handworking Angelenos, their customers and the general public deserve to be safe in public spaces,” O’Farrell added “The vaccines are our most effective form of protection, and the time to act is now.”

The motion calls for the city attorney to prepare and present an ordinance and to report back on how businesses and stakeholders can comply with the measure. The motion will next be heard in the Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Recovery and Neighborhood Investment. The city is also exploring how to expand the “Vax UP” vaccination campaign for outreach and education.

What We’ve Done, What We’re Doing and What’s Next for Hancock Park

Land Use and Zoning in Han-cok Park

We participated in community meetings on how to mitigate the impact on the surrounding resi-dents and community of two major TOC develop-ments:

1) Highland and Wilshire, and 2) 401 Rossmore.

We continued our outreach to the community on Sacramento’s proposed bills – SB9 and SB10 – the neighborhood destroying zoning laws that contain no affordable housing components.

Restoring Safety and Security

Continued requirements an action from CD4 Council Office for 1) Tree Planting and Sump Removal – Developed and implemented action plan with Urban Forestry to remove tree stumps and pre pare to replant parkway trees.

Neighborhood Schools

Working with leadership at Yavneh on renovations and coordinat ing with LAUSD and neighborhood on John Burroughs Middle School new construction plan

Preserving our Urban Canopy

Highland Median - Trimm ed all the young palm trees and con tinued monitoring irrigation and trash removal.

Tree Planting and Sump Removal – Developed and implemented action plan with Urban Forestry to remove tree stumps and prepare to replant parkway trees.

Neighborhood Schools

Working with leadership at Yavneh on renovations and coordinating with LAUSD and neighborhood on John Burroughs Middle School new construction plan

Infrastructure Repairs in our Neighborhood

Met with the new StreetsLA Director to discuss restoring our repair plan for concrete streets, sidewalks and ADA curb installation

Received updates on the development of engineering plan to con struct and connect Beverly and Fairways and implemented action plan

Transportation and Traffic

Unified neighborhoods – WIndor Square HOA joined Hancock community support of Hancock Park’s Reasonable, Thought ful, Inclusive Plan for 4th Street

A new pedestrian "island" will be installed on 3rd street btw McCadden and Las Palmas for safety

Please see our website at www.HancockPark.org! Join a committee! Come to a Zoom Meeting! Participate! We are all volunteers!

137 N. Larchmont Blvd. #719, Los Angeles, CA 90004
New Metro routes need direction in BH

**Council critiques changes to city's bus lines**

BY AARON BLEVINS

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority tweaked its bus routes in Beverly Hills at the end of June, and after a month, Metro officials are looking at ways to improve service.

As part of its NextGen Bus Plan, the agency eliminated three bus routes – bus lines 14, 16/316 and 30/330 – and replaced them with one, bus line 617, which runs from Robertson Boulevard westbound onto Burton Way to Beverly Drive, and south to Pico Boulevard.

"I think structurally it's helped. I don't know that we've got to the frequency on the 617 that we ideally should be at," Metro's director of service, performance and analytics, Joseph Forgiarini told the Beverly Hills City Council on July 27. "That's something we as staff need to work on."

While Metro staff has already identified some issues to address in Beverly Hills, there is no formal plan or timeline to implement further changes, he said. The agency will implement the final stage of the NextGen plan in December and will formalize its findings after that, Forgiarini said. However, Metro is always looking at ways to improve its bus lines.

"It's a continuous review process," Forgiarini added. "It never ends."

He said the NextGen Bus Plan "emphasized high-frequency service on key corridors," such as Santa Monica, Wilshire and Olympic boulevards in Beverly Hills. While the bus lines offer less coverage overall, buses come more frequently in high-traffic areas, Forgiarini said.

He said the agency began reviewing its Los Angeles County bus system in 2018. In early 2020, it proposed eliminating the Beverly Hills bus routes, a move the city staff opposed. Metro officials then proposed replacing/extending bus line 617 to accommodate the loss of service.

According to a staff report, the city accepted the compromise because service to the business triangle and future Wilshire/Rodeo subway station would be preserved.

Resident Steve Mayer said individual bus riders were not consulted about the changes, and that the alterations negatively impact Metro riders in Beverly Hills. He said some stops on the new line require lengthy walks to certain locations.

"And this is to gain new users, which is the whole reason of this exercise," Mayer added.

Councilman Lester Friedman asked how many stops were eliminated in Beverly Hills as part of the plan. Metro's service planner for the area, Carl Torres, said the removal of bus line 14 included 14 stops between Santa Monica and San Vicente boulevards.

Mayer said some bus stops are still scheduled to be eliminated, such as one at Santa Monica Boulevard and Roxbury Drive. He also referenced some stops that had been removed on Olympic Boulevard.

Forgiarini said that information came from a consultant's recommendation list that was shared publicly and is not necessarily representative of what was approved.

"Good. Thank you for that," Mayor Bob Wunderlich said.

Forgiarini said some stops on the new line will be eliminated.

"That would be an example of one that is essential to our central business area. That … would be far from optimal for that to be eliminated."

The Metro representatives also gave the council an update on its Fareless System Initiative, which is looking into the possibility of making all Metro bus and rail lines fareless.

"That is currently a study in progress," Forgiarini said, adding that the study is being broken into phases. Currently, Metro is exploring its K-14 initiative, an effort to partner with school districts to provide free rides for students.

The Beverly Hills Unified School District has opted not to participate but is following the program. "Metro has shared presentation opportunities about the pilot program, but other priorities have filled the current capacity we have at this time," Superintendent of Schools Dr. Michael Bregy said.

"We are very interested to know the results of the pilot program to understand how this program will impact our students," Forgiarini said. He said the program’s next phases will benefit students in community colleges and qualified low-income residents.

"We don’t anticipate any major challenges," he added.

For information, visit metro.net/projects/nextgen.
WeHo man sentenced for scheme that cheated victims out of homes

A West Hollywood man was sentenced to 12 years and 6 months in federal prison on Aug. 2 for orchestrating a real estate fraud scheme that victimized more than 2,000 homeowners.

Soria, 35. The judge called Soria “a skillful conman who created a very effective con.”

The defendant's scheme involved fraudulent filings that affected the title of properties across the country and caused more than $7.6 million in losses, federal authorities said.

United States District Judge Dale S. Fischer sentenced Patrick Joseph Soria, 35. The judge called Soria “a skillful conman who created a very effective con.”

Soria admitted in court documents that losses to victims totaled more than $7.6 million. The properties were located in Texas, New York, Nevada and California, including the city of Beverly Hills.

The case was investigated by the FBI and the Federal Housing Finance Agency Office of Inspector General, with assistance from the Los Angeles Police Department, Beverly Hills Police Department and Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department.

Soria convinced homeowners that he could help them with their mortgages, either by assisting with a loan modification or by taking over their mortgage from a lender. He promised to reduce their mortgage payments and convinced owners that he was trying to help them.

After gaining the victims' trust, Soria convinced homeowners to stop paying their real lender and to start paying him. Through more fraudulent filings, Soria deceived his victims into believing he had taken over their mortgages. He also falsely convinced victims to do nothing to protect themselves from the government, he said.

Soria, who appeared by video, admitted to the scheme and pleaded guilty to one count of wire fraud and one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud.

The FBI recently contacted attorneys for the defendants who are siblings, and their friend Jeremy Findel. Bulone said the Greens and Findel were at the Nice Guy restaurant at 401 N. La Cienega Blvd., Beverly Hills, on April 13, 2015, when they witnessed an argument involving the defendants: twin brothers Maurice Driz and Alberto Driz; Maurice Driz’s son, David Driz; and their friend William Joelson.

Bulone said Maurice and Alberto Driz first berated a valet for the restaurant, and then attacked the Greens and Findel when they tried to intervene. Anne Greene was struck in the head and sustained a fractured skull and jaw, the attorney added. Matthew Green and Findel were also struck in the head and injured in the altercation, Bulone said.

A lawsuit was filed in 2016 against the alleged attackers.

Bulone said, “They heard about the head trauma and they heard about his traumatic stress disorder. This was just to be able to see the suffering that happened here.”

The defendants represented themselves at trial. Kristensen said the plaintiffs will vigorously fight to make the money the defendants made and to get them sentenced.

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Soria, 35, was convicted in January 2018 of one count of bank fraud, one count of wire fraud and one count of conspiracy.
Preservation advocates notched another victory in the effort to have the long-vacant Fairfax Theater designated as historic on July 30, although the victory was purely symbolic and will not further preserve the theater.

The 1932 building on Beverly Boulevard near Fairfax Avenue was considered by the State Historical Resources Commission for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places, and the state commission unanimously supported the designation. Regardless, because the owner has opposed any historic designation for the theater building, it will not appear on the national list, said Steven Luftman, a preservationist who filed the application for historic status on behalf of the grassroots group Save Beverly Fairfax and the Art Deco Society of Los Angeles.

The theater building is also under consideration for designation as a city of Los Angeles historic-cultural resource and will be considered at the Cultural Heritage Commission today, Aug. 5, at 10 a.m. If approved by the city commission and ultimately the City Council, the designation would place the city on record stating that the Fairfax Theatre was a landmark, but such designation would still not preclude changes to the building.

Luftman said he is not dissuaded by the fact that no matter what is decided, the owner of the Fairfax Theatre will be allowed to build a 71-unit housing complex at the site. The owner previously received entitlements from the city to build the housing and has until 2024 to begin the project. Attorney Bill Delvac, who represents the owner, B&F Associates, contended that the building has been altered so significantly that it does not warrant historic designation.

“The owner strongly believes that the theater and the building itself no longer maintains sufficient integrity for it to convey any significant association it may have,” Delvac said during the state commission’s meeting. “We believe the nomination … contains erroneous and incomplete information. It fails to disclose or analyze numerous alterations.”

Luftman said the Fairfax Theatre was at the center of the Jewish community during an important period of growth for the Fairfax District and city of Los Angeles. It hosted community meetings, religious services and special events at a time in the 1930s when the first synagogues were being built, and it was a pillar of the Jewish community, he added.

The city entitlements secured by the owner already require that the Fairfax Theatre’s marquee and Art Deco spire be retained and preserved in the housing project, so historic designation will ultimately do nothing to further protect the building, Luftman admitted. However, he said it is important that the public record reflects that the building was an important component of the Fairfax District and Los Angeles history.

“It was exciting to see the commissioners validate the work we have done. But since the owner is not supportive of historic designation, it won’t be on the list,” Luftman said. “Unfortunately, because of the entitlements they have, it won’t be protected against this [housing] project. But we are hopeful a better use can be found.”

Luftman said he hopes the owner will change the plans and devote the building to the arts. If the Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Commission votes to include it as a city of L.A. historic-cultural resource, the matter will be considered by the City Council’s Planning and Land Use Committee and, later, the full City Council.

“I feel really good about it,” Luftman said. “Our dream is that it would become some sort of art center.” To view the Cultural Heritage Commission’s meeting, visit planning.lacity.org/depap/meetings/document/70089.

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The Wallis remembers Luanne C. Wells

**City may help ‘Light Up Navajo’**

Los Angeles City Councilman Mitch O’Farrell, 13th District, a member of the Navajo Nation and the lone Native American on the council, on July 30 introduced a motion that moves the city toward a landmark collaboration with the Navajo Nation, the largest federally-recognized tribe in the United States.

The Navajo Nation spans approximately 27,000 square miles across the states of Utah, Colorado, Arizona and New Mexico, and an estimated 15,000 Navajo families currently live without access to power infrastructure of any kind.

Since 2019, the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority, partnered with the American Public Power Association in the “Light Up Navajo” program, providing power and infrastructure to all corners of the Navajo Nation. To date, the project has delivered power to more than 900 families during two phases of work, with a third phase expected to begin in the spring of 2022.

The Sacramento Municipal Utility District is currently the only California-based utility to be part of “Light Up Navajo,” O’Farrell’s motion, seconded by Councilman Paul Krekorian, 2nd District, would result in the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power becoming the second California municipality to participate in the project.

As Los Angeles moves toward its own renewable energy goals, we must also strengthen our partnerships, particularly with our friends in the Navajo Nation,” O’Farrell, chair of the City Council’s Energy, Water, Climate Change, Environmental Justice and Los Angeles River Committee, said. “This is a mutually beneficial project that will further training standards for city employees while directly assisting Navajo families in need. ‘Light Up Navajo’ also provides the city the opportunity to rectify its dirty environmental practices of the past.”

For more than 40 years, Los Angeles purchased inexpensive power from a now-closed Navajo facility before divesting and removing itself as a principal partner. Recently, at O’Farrell’s direction, the city explored new renewable energy partnerships with the Navajo. Earlier this month, O’Farrell and Kerkorian led a delegation to the Navajo Nation to discuss “Light Up Navajo” and other partnership opportunities.

The Navajo Office of the President and Vice President expressed appreciation for Los Angeles’ support of the initiative. “We thank Council members Mitch O’Farrell and Paul Kerkorian for reaching out to the Navajo Nation and witnessing firsthand the success of ‘Light Up Navajo,’” Navajo President Jonathan Nez said. “The Navajo Nation looks forward to a long-term relationship with the city of Los Angeles and the Navajo people.”

The American Red Cross has an emergency need for blood amid ongoing severe blood shortages. The public is urged to make an appointment to donate.

The Red Cross has been distributing approximately 12% more blood products to hospitals across the U.S. compared to this time last year. The Red Cross needs to collect more than 1,000 additional blood donations each day to meet the current hospital demand and end the severe blood shortage. Donors of all blood types are needed.

To donate blood or platelets and to help ensure the safety of the blood supply, go to redcrossblood.org/feelthebeat or call 1-800-RED-CROSS.

“Sh’eir inseparable and will be deeply missed by everyone at The Wallis,” Fine said. “Luanne was near and dear to me and everybody else on the board. It’s important to recognize her and her legacy.”

Luanne (Constance) Wells will be laid to rest today at Forest Lawn Hollywood Hills.

**GMCLA GALA 2021 Livestream**

The gala will be streamed live from the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts in Beverly Hills and will feature a slate of notable musical acts, including a performance by Shoshana Bean, of Broadway’s “Wicked,” and a beneﬁt performance by Morgan Stanley. The event will also feature a silent art auction to support GMCLA’s on-going mission to promote the performing arts and the education of local Native American youth.

**Andra Day to join GMCLA livestream**

Gay Men’s Chorus of Los Angeles has announced that 2021 Golden Globe Winner and American Academy Award-nominee Andra Day and Shoshana Bean, of Broadway’s “Wicked” and “Waltz,” will join the GMCLA GALA 2021 Livestream on Aug. 14. Bean will perform live, and Day will perform in a special video.

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**Notable Quotes**

“Light Up Navajo” also provides the city the opportunity to rectify its dirty environmental practices of the past.”

Mitch O’Farrell

“Sh’eir inseparable and will be deeply missed by everyone at The Wallis,”

Luanne Wells

“This is nice to be here. You’re 99 years old, it’s nice to be anywhere.”

George Burns

“The American Red Cross has an emergency need for blood amid ongoing severe blood shortages.”

The Red Cross

“**Hereditary Disease Foundation, the American Diabetes Association and a rescue program for wild animals.**

Wells, an avid Lakers fan who spent much of her time free-riding horses and cultivating different species of trees in Malibu, will be missed by many.

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Mayor Horvath recognizes group during council meeting

BY EDWIN POLVEN

West Hollywood Mayor Lindsey Horvath paid tribute on Aug. 2 to many people who advocated for the prosecution of Ed Buck, who was convicted of nine federal felonies on July 27 related to the deaths of two men who overdosed on drugs in his apartment.

Horvath made a special presentation during the City Council’s virtual meeting and expressed gratitude to supporters and law enforcement officials who worked tirelessly to ensure justice was served. She specifically thanked LaTisha Nixon, mother of Gemmel Moore, who overdosed and died at Buck’s apartment in 2017; Joyce Jackson and JoAnn Campbell, sisters of Timothy Dean, who overdosed and died at the apartment in 2019; community advocates Jasmyn Cannick, Jerome Kitchen and Coni McLean, who supported the families of victims; and Dane, Arthur and Cody, survivors of encounters with Buck who testified during the recent trial and have only been identified by their first names. Also recognized were Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department Sgt. Paul Cardella and detectives John Mundell and Quilmes Rodriguez, investigators in the case against Buck.

“We know everyone who is featured here was dedicated to justice, committed to increasing public safety in our community and committed to making sure that people’s voices were heard,” Horvath said.

“In the face of so much, all of these people continued, stood strong and fought for justice. And it’s also important that we as a community recognize that Black gay lives matter, and that survivors deserve to be heard and believed. We don’t discount people’s lives because of struggles with addiction, sex work or other issues. We don’t abandon them to re-victimize. We fight for everyone’s life to be valued, and that’s what each person featured did.”

Nixon addressed the council and personally thanked Horvath. “I want to first and foremost thank you for everything that you’ve done,” Nixon told the mayor. “You believed us from day one. You honestly and truly cared about West Hollywood. Your community is blessed to have you.”

Campbell also expressed gratitude. “I just wanted to say thank you to everyone that played a part in getting this victory for us,” Campbell said. “It meant so much to us. I am very grateful, and my family is grateful.”

Cannick, who frequently spoke out against Buck in public before and during his trial, also thanked everyone involved. She was a close supporter of Moore’s family during the past four years. “I want to start off by thanking the family and friends of Gemmel Moore, Timothy Dean as well as all of Ed Buck’s victims for trusting our group to lead the fight for justice for their loved ones,” Cannick said. “It’s a huge responsibility, and I am deeply honored that they put their trust in us and we were able to bring them some semblance of justice with those nine guilty verdicts.”

Justice advocates honored in WeHo

West Hollywood Mayor Lindsey Horvath honored several individuals who advocated for the prosecution of Ed Buck during the City Council meeting on Aug. 2.

Dr. David Marshall

Marshall began his nursing career in 1983 as a staff nurse at the University of Texas Medical Branch Health in Texas. He was part of the leadership team that led UTMB Health through the Hurricane Ike crisis — serving as an important public face and voice of confidence for the hospital while keeping patients and the community informed.

Marshall has held leadership posts with numerous professional organizations at the local, state and national levels. In 2017, he was appointed to a four-year term on the American Nurses Credentialing Commission on Magnet Recognition Program. He also serves on the board of directors of the American Organization of Nursing Leadership and is a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing. In 2021, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors appointed Marshall as a member of the Los Angeles County Hospitals and Health Care Delivery Commission.

Buck faces 20 years to life in federal prison. He has been in federal custody since his arrest on Sept. 17, 2019, and will remain in jail until sentencing, at a date to be determined.

“I want to extend some sincere extra love to Dane, Arthur and Cody. You demonstrated such courage and such bravery as survivors of things we can only imagine. We are grateful for the service that you delivered to our community,” Horvath added. “And to my dear friend Jasymn, for pushing it forward and continuing the fight and making sure people listened and that voices were heard.”

Cedars names new nursing chair

Dr. David Marshall, senior vice president, chief nursing executive and chair of the Department of Nursing at Cedars-Sinai, has been named the Dr. James R. Klinenberg and Lynn Klinenberg Linkin Chair in Nursing in honor of Linda Burns Bolton.

Marshall joined Cedars-Sinai in 2019, when he succeeded Bolton, who now serves as the hospital’s chief health equity officer. Marshall has more than three decades of healthcare experience—from improving nurse leadership proficiency and fostering innovation to championing compassionate care.

“I’m proud … to further cultivate an environment where nurses can deliver the best possible care to patients,” Marshall said. “This chair recognizes nursing as consequential to the underpinnings of every patient experience here at Cedars-Sinai.”

Since joining Cedars-Sinai six months before the COVID-19 pandemic, Marshall has played a vital role in preparing nursing staff for surge capacity and has helped with vaccination efforts within the community.

“Nursing is integral to our mission,” said Dr. Jeffrey A. Smith, executive vice president of hospital operations and chief operating officer at Cedars-Sinai. “Dr. Marshall will expand our legacy of providing excellent patient care by recruiting and developing our talent and launch promising research initiatives that improve the health of Cedars-Sinai patients and our broader community.”
The elephant statues and tower in Hollywood and Highland's courtyard are being removed and redesigned as part of its transformation into Ovation Hollywood.

Elephant statues removed at H&H

As part of the $100-million reimagining of the property at Hollywood and Highland, the Babylon-themed elephants are being demolished and removed.

The project includes a full renovation of the property and updating of its central courtyard as it transforms into Ovation Hollywood.

Gaw Capital USA, a Hong Kong and Los Angeles-based real estate private equity firm, in partnership with DJM, a San Jose and Los Angeles-based private equity real estate developer, unveiled their vision and plans for the shopping center last August. The revamped Ovation Hollywood will reflect the modern-day global city in which it is located.

“Hollywood is as much an idea as it is a place,” said Stem Putnam, chief retail officer at DJM. “The idea of Hollywood is optimism – dreams and ambitions feel more tangible when you’re here. Our reimagining of Hollywood and Highland into Ovation Hollywood is about creating a place that captures this idea.”

Upon completion in late 2021, Ovation Hollywood will include 135,000 square feet of retail space, two floors of nearly 100,000 square feet each, 65,000 square feet of dining, 65,000 square feet of entertainment areas and 40,000 square feet of event space.

With an emphasis on a refreshed tenant mix and updated merchandising, DJM is planning to bring in an updated tenant mix to the property.

The original courtyard and the elephants were designed to pay tribute to Hollywood’s silent film era and reconstructed structures from the original set of D.W. Griffith’s 1916 film “Intolerance.” The elephants and tower are being removed because of their connotations to Griffith and his previous film, “Birth of a Nation,” which included bigoted portrayals of Black Americans, according to the property’s owners.

“The Babylonian-themed courtyard is a replica of an antiquated film set from an intolerant time that we’ve always planned to remove for the reimagining of the property,” said Chad Cross, chief creative officer at DJM. “Our goal for Ovation is to create a space that is forward-looking and celebratory of Los Angeles’ diversity, history and optimism.”

The removal process of the elephants began on July 29, and work on the tower will continue over the coming weeks. The updated facade of the tower, which frames the Hollywood Sign, will feature a sunburst relief design to mimic klieg lights used on film sets.

Gaw Capital USA and DJM are working with the design and architecture firm Gensler on Ovation Hollywood. Other changes include a simplified facade and color scheme, a new concept for the tower, an easier to navigate layout, updated landscape design, new art pieces, enhanced outdoor space and new businesses.

For information, visit ovationhollywood.com.

Congress members pen letter to AG


Over the years, multiple people of Asian descent have been falsely accused by the DOJ of espionage.

The common thread in every case was a defendant with an Asian surname. There have now been multiple reports of false accusations of spying alleged against individuals such as Wen Ho Lee, Sherry Chen, Xiaoxing Xi, Anming Hu and others.

The letter asks for an update on department-wide blanket bias training mandated in 2016 after DOJ dropped espionage charges against Asian researchers. It also contains information about DOJ’s China Initiative, a program launched under the Trump administration to counter trade secret theft, hacking and economic espionage by the Chinese Communist Party.

“Racial profiling is both illegal and corrosive to our democracy,” the Congress members wrote. “As a particular form of this discrimination has disproportionately affected the Asian American and Pacific Islander community, which is the false belief that somehow Americans of Asian descent are more likely to be spy.”

On June 27, 2016, the DOJ announced department-wide blanket bias training after members of Congress and the public
Bill would create rebates for buying used electric vehicles

Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) and U.S. Rep. Jimmy Gomez (D-Los Angeles) recently introduced the Affordable EVs for Working Families Act, a bill to provide buyers of pre-owned electric cars with tax rebates up to $2,500.

Buyers of new electric vehicles currently qualify for a $7,500 tax credit. However, there is no tax incentive to purchase used electric cars. The tax credit for new electric cars was adopted to incentivize greater adoption of EVs with the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transportation. A corresponding tax credit for used electric cars would further accelerate the purchase of these automobiles, the lawmakers said.

“We know that passenger vehicles account for a huge amount of the carbon emissions that contribute to global warming. California has already taken the lead in shifting away from fossil fuels and the internal combustion engine; now it’s time for the nation to follow,” Feinstein added. “This bill would help make electric cars affordable to a larger group of people and move us closer to a point where high-pollution gas-powered cars are off the roads. We need more legislation that reduces greenhouse gases, and I’m proud to sponsor this bill.”

The tax credit would only apply to electric cars at least two years old that cost less than $25,000. The credit would be phased down for buyers whose adjusted gross income exceeds $75,000 for individuals, and $150,000 for joint filers.

“More electric vehicles on Los Angeles roads means fewer CO2 emissions in our skies and better health outcomes for our communities,” Gomez said. “With an electric car in the driveway, working families will be able to save money on gas and maintenance costs while prioritizing the safety and security of our planet. We have a historic opportunity to establish a first-of-its-kind tax credit for buyers of used plug-in electric cars to make them more affordable and expand access to millions of Americans.”

The transportation sector generates nearly one-third of total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions. While electric vehicles have a higher upfront cost than gas-powered vehicles, the total cost of ownership is cheaper over the lifetime of the vehicle because of the cost of gas and maintenance.

The bill will assist low income and middle income households to purchase electric vehicles, ultimately saving money and reducing emissions. Similar rebate programs already exist in Oregon, Connecticut and Pennsylvania.

Metro subway work remains robust in August

Work on the Purple Line Extension subway project continues. The 2007 Purple Line transit project has enjoyed federal funding and has 10 years to complete the 7.3-mile extension. The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) recently announced the extension will extend from Wilshire/La Brea to Culver City.

Assessor Prang revamps website

The Los Angeles County Office of the Assessor has launched a new website that features a highly functional design optimized for mobile and tablet devices. The website features new informational content and toolkits. One of the updated features is an artificial intelligence chatbot that can answer the most common questions. Los Angeles County Assessor Jeff Prang said is a one-stop-shop for property tax administration resources. For information, visit assessor.lacounty.gov.

Metro subway work remains robust in August

Crews are continuing to excavate appendage structures, which are rooms and passageways housing vital systems, at the future Wilshire/La Brea station.

The underground work will take place 24 hours, Monday through Friday. Traffic lane closures are currently in place.

In Beverly Hills, crews are installing geotechnical instruments along the tunnel alignment and around the station box area to monitor ground movement, settlement and geological impacts. Work hours are 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday on Wilshire Boulevard, and 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday on residential streets.

Each pole and instrument will be in place for approximately one month before being removed and relocated. The installation and removal of the poles will require intermittent traffic lane and sidewalk closures. However, sidewalks will continue to be accessible once poles are in place.

Crews are also building appendage structures that house vital systems at the Wilshire/La Cienega, Wilshire/Fairfax and Wilshire/La Brea stations. Concrete and material deliveries are expected to continue in August. For questions and concerns about the Purple Line Extension project, call the 24-hour project hotline at (213)922-6934, emailed the project team at purpelineext@metro.net, or visit metrotax.net.

= Time To

Early Dinner Special
Mon.-Fri. 4-6 pm

GRilled salmon tapenade
Grilled Atlantic salmon served on creamed spinach and creamy mashed potatoes

Almond chicken
Breast of chicken dusted with flour and almonds served with creamy mashed potatoes and steamed broccoli

Spaghetti and meatballs
Served with marinara sauce and meatballs

Come in from 4-6 and pay the price on the clock for your meal! (must purchase a beverage)

Beat the clock hotcake
One Buttermilk Hotcake, one egg, choice of one turkey link or bacon. Served with maple syrup and butter

Gourmet meatloaf
Choice chuck and pork ground together to create this old time favorite! Topped with mushrooms and gravy. Served with creamy mashed potatoes

6333 W. 3rd St. at the Farmers Market
(323) 933-8446 • (323) 933-8447

Since 1938
Restaurant & Bakery
Offer not valid with any other discounts and promotions. No substitutions. Beverage purchase required. Dine in only. Subject to change without prior notice.
The Los Angeles County Animal Care and Control released its COVID-19 Impact Report on Aug. 2 detailing the department’s response to the pandemic and operational changes.

With the guidance and support of partner organizations such as the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Best Friends Animal Society, and the University of California, Davis’ Koret Shelter Medicine Program, DACC implemented a community-based approach to keep pets in homes, reunite lost pets with their owners and reserve its seven care centers for animals most in need.

Imake among seven animal care centers decreased by 46% during the pandemic. In fiscal year 2019-20, 46,135 animals came into the care centers. In fiscal year 2020-21, that number decreased to 24,856 animals.

Positive outcomes (adoptions, return to home, adoption by rescue groups) for sheltered animals increased from 54% to 68% for cats, and remained approximately 88% for dogs. Respiratory ill-
nesses decreased by 53% in dogs and by 85% in cats. That was attributed to fewer animals in the care center, fewer people visiting and a more controlled environment using appointments. Virtual train-
ning for foster caretakers also led to hundreds of animals being placed in temporary homes.

“The COVID-19 pandemic has been a transformational event in the field of animal welfare, and it required the Department of Animal Care and Control to completely reinvent ways of providing essential services,” Director Mircea Mayaed said. “We rose to this chal-
lenge and have emerged stronger and better positioned to be the most effective animal resource centers possible for our communities.”

The DACC is holding an enhanced adoption program in August called “Love at First Sight.” The public can self-sched-
ule appointments on DACC’s website to visit an animal care center, view all available animals and adopt a pet. The new program eliminates waiting lists that can delay the adoption process. Animals that are spayed or neutered will be available the same day.

For information and to schedule an appointment, visit animalcare.lacounty.gov.
O’Farrell pitches in to revitalize neighborhoods

Los Angeles City Councilman Mitch O’Farrell, 13th District, highlighted the progress work being completed in East Hollywood last weekend. The Bureau of Street Services, in partnership with O’Farrell’s office, is repairing nearly 2,000 square feet of sidewalk along Ardmore Avenue, Romaine Street, and Kingsley Drive.

“[This project] will enhance accessibility and safety, especially for nearby seniors, who walk these streets regularly and depend on safe sidewalks,” O’Farrell said. O’Farrell’s Clean Team was also recently out in Koreatown removing discarded furniture from a parkway on Catalina Street between Beverly Boulevard and First Street.

To report a street or parkway in need of service, call O’Farrell’s district office at (213) 207-3015. O’Farrell invites the public to his next Councilmember in Your Corner event on Saturday, Aug. 7, from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on the Baron Avenue Median, at the intersection of Baron Avenue and Saint Andrews Place in East Hollywood.

The event will include a community cleanup in partnership with local residents, as well as door-to-door canvassing to connect community members with city services. The city’s Urban Forestry Division will also trim trees and conduct landscaping maintenance. O’Farrell encouraged residents and community members to get involved.

For information, call O’Farrell’s East Hollywood field deputy George Hakopiants at (213) 207-3015, or visit cd13.lacity.org.

LENTERS TO THE EDITOR

Above-ground transportation should have been considered in plan

Re “VINTAGE: Subway system was decades in the making,” July 29 issue

I loved your vintage Metro Plan from 1960. It was smart enough to know that to build more miles cheaply, it would have to be above ground.

The current Purple Line [subway] construction is expensive and will be completed much later than promised, and only covers 5 miles. Had above ground lines been done, they would be completed quicker and cheaper, allowing more lines to be built overall.

Harlan Levinson
Los Angeles

Women learn set designing skills at Television City

More than 30 women learned set construction on July 24 and 25 at Television City, where set pieces for some of the most popular television shows have been designed and built. The women are trainees in Illumination Training, a program offered by The MBS Group, the parent company Hackman Capital Partners and Women in Media for women seeking production jobs. Participants in the new program are taught on-set technical skills, virtually and on-site, by experts employed at Television City and other studio properties owned by Hackman Capital Partners and operated by the MBS Group.

Television City is supporting the partnership through its $1-million Changing Lenses pledge, which promotes efforts that increase equity and diversity in the entertainment industry. For information, visit womennmedia.com.

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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

LOCATIONS: 9165-9169 SUNSET BOULEVARD, West Hollywood, California

REQUEST: Applicant is proposing to install a new static 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): Billboard Permit, Certificate of Appropriateness, Development Agreement, Zone Map Amendment, and any other required permits.

APPLICANT(S): Clay Collett, Orange Barrel Media

TIME/PLACE OF HEARING: Teleconference Meeting

Thursday, August 19, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

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

City Hall is accessible by appointment only. The staff report will be available on Thursday, August 12, 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 Planning Commission, 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: jldavis@weho.org

Melissa Crowder, City Clerk

We сообщаем вам об обсуждении проекта. Для дополнительной информации на русском языке звоните: 323-848-6826.
Today, August 5, celebrate National Oyster Day at Messhall Kitchen with half dozen oysters and an IPA pairing for $24 or just the oysters for $18. Since today is also National IPA Day, Messhall Kitchen is offering two mini drafts for $6. Selections include Stone Delicious IPA and mini drafts for $6. Orders must be placed by 3 p.m. every Tuesday, for Friday’s pickup before 3 p.m. Order by calling directly or through Tock or email catering@messhallkitchen.com.

Huckleberry Cafe offers fresh produce, fish and meat sourced in Southern California. The emphasis is on sustainably, locally sourced, ethically fished and responsibly farmed ingredients. The restaurant also offers fresh produce, fish and meat sourced in Southern California. Rappahannock is open Monday through Friday from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. On weekends, it opens at 11 a.m. 1318 E. 7th St. (323)435-4004.

Huckleberry Cafe has been a go-to for Jewish holiday catering. Hanukkah, Passover and the High Holidays. Starting this Friday, August 6, it is now offering weekly Shabbat takeaway dinners. The à la carte menu is filled with traditional Jewish fare, alongside comforting, seasonal dishes. Everything feeds two to four people and simple instructions are included for a heat and serve ready meal. Chef/Partner Jen Toomey is making braised grass-fed brisket with onions; and whole roasted organic chicken with lemon couscous. Roasted carrots with honey date butter, pistachios and herbs and Huckle’s classic matzo ball soup are sides. Pastry Chef Laurel Almerinda is baking up challah and beautiful olive oil multi-grain loaves with poppy, sesame and fennel seeds, sunac and fleur de sel. For dessert, enjoy butterscotch pudding with strawberries and boxes of gluten-free and dairy-free coconut macaroons. Orders must be placed through July 29, 2022.

Rappahannock’s first in LA’s Warehouse District, just blocks from the Arts District and Little Tokyo. The emphasis is on sustainable, locally sourced, ethically fished and responsibly farmed ingredients. The restaurant also offers fresh produce, fish and meat sourced in Southern California. Rappahannock is open Monday through Friday from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. On weekends, it opens at 11 a.m. 1318 E. 7th St. (323)435-4004.

Coconut Cream Pie Cheesecake

The Cheesecake Factory has launched a new flavor - coconut cream pie cheesecake. It’s made with vanilla custard and a layer of chocolate atop a coconut macaron crust. They are donating $0.25 to Feeding America for every slice of coconut cream pie cheesecake sold through July 29, 2022.

USDA Prime Ribeye Steak Bone-In

$19.98/lb.


Bulgogi Chicken Thighs

$4.98/lb.

With this ad only through 8/11/21
**Farmer John Hot Dog Giveaway**

The Farmer John food truck is on the road again to feed, celebrate and serve its Southern California family. For a second year, the Farmer John California Commitment Tour is embarking on a 12-week mission to deliver grab-and-go lunches to local heroes and essential businesses in the greater Los Angeles community. The team is also donating much-needed protein to local food banks. Hot dog enthusiasts can visit one of the tour stops between now and September 6 by submitting an entry form at FreeFarmerJohnFranks.com.

While there, enjoy a “thank you” in the form of a free meal. The Farmer John food truck is on the road again to feed heroes and communities with each weekly stop. The truck will complete three to four stops per week at various health care facilities, youth empowerment centers, grocery retailers and postal establishments. To see where the California Commitment Tour food truck will complete three to four stops per week at various health care facilities, youth empowerment centers, grocery retailers and postal establishments.

**Locked Away to Seize the Moment**

The iconic oceanfront hotel Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows in Santa Monica opened their new Japanese restaurant Soko on July 30. Helmed by veteran Sushi Chef Masa Shimakawa, Soko is a tribute to the humble origins of sushi with a SoCal twist. The intimate 8-seat setting is open Wednesday through Sunday from 5 to 10 p.m. Guests can walk-in and take a seat at the bar for a one-of-a-kind sushi experience. Later in the summer, Soko will open sidewalk seating on Ocean Avenue, as well as service for the Lobby Lounge menus for locals and guests to enjoy. Menu highlights include a variety of appetizers, nigiri, rolls, and shareable Japanese cuisine.

Executive Chef Makoto Tanaka crafts an Asian-European menu at the new Le Meridien Hotel Pasadena Arcadia. Chef Mako opened Chinois on Main with Wolfgang Puck and was the Executive Chef at Spago before opening his own restaurant Mako in Beverly Hills, now closed. Located off the lobby of the hotel, guests will notice a two story glass wine cellar at the entrance of Mélange. Menu items include cold plates such as salmon carpaccio, hot appetizers like crispy oysters, crispy quail and barbecue baby back ribs. The garlic noodles and seafood risotto are very popular menu items, as are the fresh shellfish and fish options, like Diver scallops with uni. Meat and poultry offerings include a tender prime black Angus filet mignon, braised short ribs, lamb chops and a half roasted duck.

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Located next to the Despicable Me Minion Mayhem ride and at the entrance of Super Silly Fun Land is the all-new Minion Cafe. The eclectic menu includes their signature Despica-Bowl Ramen, a warm noodle bowl filled with roasted pork, pork broth, marinated egg, black garlic oil, green onions and sesame seeds. Other menu items include pulled pork grilled cheese with banana barbecue sauce, chicken bacon ranch mac n’ cheese; El Macho nachos with chicken; and Nutella bread pudding.

**Thank You for Supporting Our Family-Owned Restaurants!**

Thank you for supporting our family-owned restaurants!

**Old Fashioned Hotcake Alaska**

2 Hotcakes served with Vanilla Ice Cream, whipped cream and our own Boysenberry or Maple Syrup. $8.95

**Strawberry Nutella Pancakes**

served with fresh strawberries and a mini jar of Nutella to take home.

full stack $14.93
short stack $12.93

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short stack $12.93
Mayor launches new efforts to combat violence

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti recently spoke with the newest recruits in his Office of Gang Reduction and Youth Development. They included intervention workers in the Peace Ambassadors program who work to reduce violence through community-led engagement strategies.

The mayor was joined by members of the Peace Ambassadors program during a training session on July 26.

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T**he highlight of the evening while dining at Bodega Malbec, was meeting owner and founder Javier Pardini. My friend Melissa and I dined at Bodega Malbec, and Pardini insisted we enjoy a bowl of gnocchi. “Everyone in Argentina eats gnocchi on the 29th of the month,” Pardini said. “It’s just before payday, and gnocchi is cheap and easy to make with potatoes and flour. In Argentina, we leave a bill or coins under the plate of gnocchi to bring good fortune in the coming months.” His ragu sauce, made from cuts of the finest steak and the peas add a delicious sweetness to the tomato base and is pure comfort food.

Raised in Cordoba, Argentina, Pardini started working at Gaucio Grills Argentina while in college. First he was a bus boy, and worked his way up to host, waiter, and then manager. In 2009, he opened Malbec restaurant in Pasadena with two partners, and with its success they opened locations in Toluca Lake, Santa Monica and Eagle Rock.

A part with most restaurants during the pandemic, the owners went through a variety of struggles. For Pardini, he lost his father in Argentina, and worked endlessly to keep his restaurant open. Eventually he vowed to not give up, and he kept the Toluca Lake location. He started a new concept and renamed it Bodega Malbec.

“I want to take an experience for diners that makes them feel like they are enjoying a traditional Argentine asado at a friend’s house,” Pardini said.

On the front terrace, we had a sense of traveling through the countryside of Argentina while wine tasting with Pardini and enjoying a marriage of Italian and Spanish bodega specialties.

The menu features items, ingredients and flavors from his childhood including empanadas, pasta, paella, seafood and grilled meat. His wine list focuses on high quality Argentine wines that best express their region, as well as wines from the South America, the United States, Australia Spain and Italy - the two European countries to which Argentina and Javer have the strongest roots.

A selection of empanadas made with beef, spinach and cheese, chicken, ham and cheese or special empanadas of the day are offered. We selected a special spicy beef and a spinach and cheese. Pardini arrived to pour a highly- aromatic Dibon Cava Brut Rosé offering a hint of watermelon. The bubbles and acidity were perfect with the spicy beef skirt steak empanada.

Next he poured a taste of Anko 2019 wine. To the nose, this white wine dazzles with aromas of honeysuckle, grapefruit blossoms and rose petals. It’s medium body and crisp finish paired nicely with the spinach and cheese empanada.

We tasted three more white wines with the grilled octopus. The first was El Enemigo “The Enemy” a chardonnay from Mendota, Argentina. It’s a rock-star chardonnay offering a full body creaminess of dried-apple, pear and peach with a long and flavorful finish. The octopus was served with cubed steamed potatoes, aioli Amurillo aioli, a drizzle of olive oil with a sprinkle of smoked paprika on top. Next was a taste of Foris from the Rogue Valley of Southern Oregon. This wine was sweeter than the others, and offered a high acid with a hint of residual sugar.

One of the most interesting wines of the evening was the Terre Brulée from Heartland South Africa. The soil is one of the oldest in the world and the vineyard is filled with Chenin Blanc grapes, producing a smooth mouthfeel and ending weighted with lemon custard.

The national dish of Argentina is asados – a variety of meats grilled on a parillo. We ordered the grilled chorizo and black blood sausage plate. Two links of seasoned chorizo and a parillo. We ordered the grilled chorizo and black blood sausage with a side of Cannellini bean salad and salsa criolla that had chopped tomatoes, bell peppers, garlic, olive oil and vinegar. We sipped Finca Decero “Remolinos Vineyard” 2017 Malbec, offering a jammy red fruit aroma with herbal notes and a hint of vanilla. This wine is ideal to drink with other grilled meat on the menu including natural flat iron steak, skirt steak, ribeye, tenderloin and New York steak. The table mixa offer a selection of two types of grilled beef served in a black skillet with a choice of sauces including a creamy black pepper, salsa Argentina with a Malbec wine reduction, caramelized pearl onions and mushrooms. The beef is cooked over an open fire and delivered sizzling to your table.

The wood-fired skirt steak came with a side chimichurri sauce and course salt to sprinkle on top. Lastly we finished with evening with Parqueñas de dulce de leche, that arrived with two large crepes filled with dulce de leche that were folded into fans. Each were topped with chocolate sauce and powdered sugar. On the side there were sliced berries and bananas, plus a scoop of vanilla bean ice cream and a sprig of mint on top.

Bodega Malbec is your local culinary and cultural escape to Argentina. It’s open daily from 5 to 9 p.m. Sunday to Thursday, and 5 to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday, $5 10515 Riverside Drive, (818)762-4860.

**Waldorf Astoria hires new director of marketing, sales**

Waldorf Astoria Beverly Hills and its four-star sister property, The Beverly Hilton, have announced the newest addition to the executive team with the recent appointment of Dana Cooper as complex director of sales and marketing.

She will be responsible for overseeing all sales and marketing initiatives at both properties, along with achieving sales growth and leading and motivating on both property teams.

With more than 20 years of experience in luxury hospitality, Cooper is well-versed in selling top-tier experiences and flavors from his childhood including empanadas, pasta, paella, seafood and grilled meat. His wine list focuses on high quality Argentine wines that best express their region, as well as wines from the South America, the United States, Australia Spain and Italy - the two European countries to which Argentina and Javer have the strongest roots.

A selection of empanadas made with beef, spinach and cheese, chicken, ham and cheese or special empanadas of the day are offered. We selected a special spicy beef and a spinach and cheese. Pardini arrived to pour a highly- aromatic Dibon Cava Brut Rosé offering a hint of watermelon. The bubbles and acidity were perfect with the spicy beef skirt steak empanada.

Next he poured a taste of Anko 2019 wine. To the nose, this white wine dazzles with aromas of honeysuckle, grapefruit blossoms and rose petals. It’s medium body and crisp finish paired nicely with the spinach and cheese empanada.

We tasted three more white wines with the grilled octopus. The first was El Enemigo “The Enemy” a chardonnay from Mendota, Argentina. It’s a rock-star chardonnay offering a full body creaminess of dried-apple, pear and peach with a long and flavorful finish. The octopus was served with cubed steamed potatoes, aioli Amurillo aioli, a drizzle of olive oil with a sprinkle of smoked paprika on top. Next was a taste of Foris from the Rogue Valley of Southern Oregon. This wine was sweeter than the others, and offered a high acid with a hint of residual sugar.

One of the most interesting wines of the evening was the Terre Brulée from Heartland South Africa. The soil is one of the oldest in the world and the vineyard is filled with Chenin Blanc grapes, producing a smooth mouthfeel and ending weighted with lemon custard.

The national dish of Argentina is asados – a variety of meats grilled on a parillo. We ordered the grilled chorizo and black blood sausage plate. Two links of seasoned chorizo and a parillo. We ordered the grilled chorizo and black blood sausage with a side of Cannellini bean salad and salsa criolla that had chopped tomatoes, bell peppers, garlic, olive oil and vinegar. We sipped Finca Decero “Remolinos Vineyard” 2017 Malbec, offering a jammy red fruit aroma with herbal notes and a hint of vanilla. This wine is ideal to drink with other grilled meat on the menu including natural flat iron steak, skirt steak, ribeye, tenderloin and New York steak. The table mixa offer a selection of two types of grilled beef served in a black skillet with a choice of sauces including a creamy black pepper, salsa Argentina with a Malbec wine reduction, caramelized pearl onions and mushrooms. The beef is cooked over an open fire and delivered sizzling to your table.

The wood-fired skirt steak came with a side chimichurri sauce and course salt to sprinkle on top. Lastly we finished with evening with Parqueñas de dulce de leche, that arrived with two large crepes filled with dulce de leche that were folded into fans. Each were topped with chocolate sauce and powdered sugar. On the side there were sliced berries and bananas, plus a scoop of vanilla bean ice cream and a sprig of mint on top.

Bodega Malbec is your local culinary and cultural escape to Argentina. It’s open daily from 5 to 9 p.m. Sunday to Thursday, and 5 to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday, $5 10515 Riverside Drive, (818)762-4860.
Academy Museum debuts first exhibit catalogues

The Academy Museum of Motion Pictures announced plans on Aug. 3 for the publication of three debut catalogues on the work of renowned filmmakers Hayao Miyazaki, Spike Lee and Pedro Almodóvar, whose careers will be celebrated when the museum opens its inaugural exhibitions on Sept. 30.

“Like the exhibitions, these catalogues will bring readers closer to the filmography, art, influences and careers of these remarkable artists,” the publication features a foreword by actor Tilda Swinton; a conversation between Academy Award-winning writer and director Agustín Almodóvar and film journalist Rachel Handler; essays by producer Agustín Almodóvar and Academy Award-winning writer and director Almodóvar and an illustrated filmography. For information, visit academy-museum.org.

Audiences must ‘take their shot’ to see ‘Hamilton’

Broadway in Hollywood and the Hollywood Pantages Theatre announced on Aug. 2 that all ticket holders for performances through Oct. 10 must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. The vaccination policy will be reassessed on an ongoing basis and an update for performances after Oct. 10 will be provided at a later date. The policy is a joint effort to provide the safest possible environment during the return of “Hamilton” beginning on Aug. 17.

The policy requires audience members to be fully vaccinated 14 days prior to their attendance date. To enter the theater, patrons must bring a photo ID and proof of vaccination – either a physical vaccination card, photograph of your vaccination record, or a digital vaccination record. All California residents may request a digital vaccination record by visiting myvaccinerencord.cdph.ca.gov.

Guests under age 12 and those who need other accommodations must provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test taken within 72 hours prior to entering the theater.

Outdoor jazz returns to LACMA

Jazz at LACMA Limited Edition, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art’s free concert series, begins on Friday, Aug. 6, with reduced and controlled capacity, and other new health and safety measures. The 30th season of the free music concert series kicks off with a live, in-person performance by Billy Childs in front of Chris Burden’s “Urban Light” on Aug. 6, at 6 p.m. Jazz at LACMA Limited Edition is free; tickets must be reserved online in advance. All attendees, including children, must have a ticket. To protect the health and safety of the museum’s visitors, staff and musicians, attendees will be required to undergo health screens prior to entry. Masks are required except when eating or drinking.

LACMA is located at 5055 Wilshire Blvd. For information and schedule, visit lacma.org/visit.

World Dog Day festival returns to WeHo

The city of West Hollywood is co-sponsoring the Vanderpump Dog Foundation’s fifth annual World Dog Day, which will bring together great friends and fans on Saturday, Aug. 7, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at West Hollywood Park. All activities will be outdoors and socially distant. Masks are encouraged. Starting in 2016, the family-friendly event will include live performances and DIs sponsored by SUR Restaurant and Lounge; an adoption area with rescue dogs sponsored by Zappos; an animal education area sponsored by Hill’s Pet Nutrition, Inc.; a doggy agility park; doggy fashion show featuring past adopted rescue dogs and celebrity judges; exhibitors featuring pet-friendly products and services; and food trucks. Celebrities anticipated to attend include Lance Bass, Michael Turchin, James Kennedy, Lala Kent, Raquel Leviss, Ariana Madix, Tom Sandoval and Lisa Vanderpump.

World Dog Day also raises awareness about dog abuse worldwide. The Vanderpump Dog Foundation has rescued and facilitated the adoption of more than 2,300 dogs. Admission is free and open to the public. All dogs must be on leashes. West Hollywood Park is located at 647 N. San Vicente Blvd. For information, call (323) 848-6400, or visit weho.org and Vanderpumpdogos.org/world-dog-day.

Iconic Monroe photos exhibited

On a late June afternoon in 1962, Marilyn Monroe arrived at Hotel Bel-Air — alone, five hours late, ready to discard her identity for the camera of her legendary photographer Bert Stern. The 12-hour photo shoot that ensued, and the following two sessions, yielded nothing short of magic.

The 2571 portraits revealed a Marilyn completely unrestrained yet utterly glamorous in wispy scarves, pink silk, birdcage veils and an iconic black velour gown by Christian Dior. Collectively titled The Last Sitting®, the autumne portraits would be the public’s final glimpse into the life of the Hollywood icon before her untimely death six weeks later. Viewers will have a chance to discover Stern’s series in an exhibition taking place in the lobby of Hotel Bel-Air from Sept. 1 to Oct. 31. The exhibition will feature 15 photos from The Last Sitting®.

“Bert captured Marilyn in a series of images so comprehensively,” said curator Shawnah Launerstein Stern, wife of the late Stern. “He went beyond her external and ethereal beauty to her essence. Marilyn seemed to trust Bert and let go in ways she had never before. She was free and playful, and Bert captured the total of her with reverence and passion he felt. They had a relationship through what they both related to most, the lens of the camera.”

Prior to his death, Stern called Monroe the first American goddess. “She is gone, but she is every-where,” he said. “Stars die, but lights go on forever. Through the magic of photography the light from Marilyn Monroe is still reaching us, still drawing on, like moths to a flame.” The exhibition is complementary and open to the public seven days a week.
Another summer, another Disney film poaching its own nostalgia in hopes of the next major blockbuster. I'm not inherently against such practices if they work. Plus, Dwayne Johnson and Emily Blunt co-leading sounds enticing enough, casting worth raising a cup o' London Fog in approval.

Alas, this old-fashioned treasure hunt romp is no proper brew but watered down Earl Grey. "Jungle Cruise" relies more on brand recognition, both the classic ride (the fun and even the cringey) and A-listers missing too many ingredients that cancel out what should be at least a playful potable.

This "Jungle Cruise" belongs to a small trend 12 films in the making. Of the dozen Disney films based on attractions across Mouse House parks, only one goes down easy. Most major studios drawn in options that all taste similar or pour from the same pitcher. I'm under no illusion that this will change, nor do I entirely hate it based on the outcome, so I propose Disney adds a stage.

Dwayne Johnson and Emily Blunt star in "Jungle Cruise," the latest in a long series of film adaptations of Disney rides and attractions. I know, it's already part of "Alice in Wonderland," arriving at Disneyland in 1955, four years after the animated feature's premiere. But this has nothing to do with Alice. Make the tea cups center stage.

Certainly rides like the Haunted Mansion, Pirates of the Caribbean and Jungle Cruise afford screenwriters a touch more source material to build upon, but spinning cups should be enough for a full-length story. After all, Universal took the Battleship game and opted out of a war film in favor of an alien invasion actioner, so anything's possible at this point.

For starters, imagine a story about the actual tea cups at Disney providing a Wonderland-like entrance into another dimension of pure imagination ... but not an "Alice" story, to be clear. Perhaps something pseudo sci-fi like 2020's "Tenet"? No soul. So why not let the Mad Hatter's tea cups lead the way to another realm. What happens next is anyone's guess.

Not feeling it? How 'bout a Pixar story? After all, Universal took the Battleship game and opted out of a story. After all, Universal took the Battleship game and opted out of a story. "Indiana Jones" plagiarism – will it do more than dupe a few moviemakers and streamers with the promise of fun escapism.

So much energy, so much marketing, no soul. So why not let the Mad Hatter's tea cups lead the show. It might tank, but that's rather on brand and oddly more original than most of these attraction adaptations.
Backpacks filled with school supplies were distributed to more than 140 families.

Pathways LA, a nonprofit providing resources to families with young children, held its third annual Back-to-School Distribution on July 31 in Koreatown. The event was for children ages 3-12 who are enrolled in Pathways LA’s Family Engagement program, which partners with parents and caregivers to promote healthy relationships and child development.

Volunteers distributed 350 backpacks filled with school supplies to help more than 140 families prepare for the upcoming school year. Families also received snack bags filled with healthy treats, and had the opportunity to win prizes including lunch boxes, toys and Kroger gift cards.

“Children’s work is children we serve receive free and reduced-price meals at school and their families struggle to afford basic necessities like school supplies. Now more than ever, in recovering from a global pandemic, students need help accessing school supplies. Pathways LA plays a critical role in helping our children receive quality care and thrive academically,” Pathways LA CEO Tamaki Far said. “This event supports our mission as we aim to strengthen low-income and vulnerable working families, promote high quality early care and education services for children of all abilities.”

The distribution was hosted at Pathways LA’s parking structure in Koreatown and was held in accordance with Los Angeles County COVID protocols.

Pathways LA is located at 3325 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 1100. For information, visit pathwaysla.org.

Students can receive help in filing DACA applications

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti recently announced a grant program for qualifying Los Angeles County families of students going through the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals application process.

The grants will cover initial and renewal application fees, allowing hundreds of young Angelenos brought to this country as children to file petitions to remain without financial hardship.

“The decision to erode the DACA program was heartbreaking, but Los Angeles will always stand up for our dreams,” Garcetti said. “DACA has given so many hard-working, ambitious young Angelenos an opportunity to pursue higher education and contribute to our city and we want to support them in staying here in Los Angeles where they belong.”

In partnership with the Mayor’s Fund for Los Angeles, the Foundation for the Los Angeles Community Colleges and the Los Angeles Community College District, 500 LACCD students will receive a one-time grant to pay the $495 DACA application fee.

“The Mayor’s Fund for Los Angeles creates partnerships to respond to moments of urgency like this, and we are proud to come together with the mayor’s office, the Foundation for the Los Angeles Community Colleges and the Los Angeles Community College District to help these deserving students,” Mayor’s Fund President and CEO Deidre Lind said.

The district’s support to cover the cost of the DACA application fee provides another assurance to our LACCD students that “you are safe here,” LACCD Chancellor Francisco C. Rodriguez said. “We will use all available resources to fully support the interests of LACCD to serve and protect the over 10,000 undocumented students enrolled at our nine colleges.”

To qualify for the grant, students must be enrolled at one of the nine LACCD colleges, demonstrate financial need and attend virtual workshops that provide information about the program and immigration resources. Students who qualify are also eligible to receive legal representation provided by the Central American Resource Center and the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights to assist in filing a DACA application.

The grant program will also serve as an incentive to those submitting applications to do it as soon as possible. While the decision by a U.S. District Court in Texas stopped the processing and granting of initial applications, initial applications can be filed and current DACA recipients are able to continue submitting requests for renewal.

For information and contacts for the nine LACCD campuses, visit laccd.edu/about/pages/our-colleges.aspx.

Mural makes progress at Dayton Heights Elementary

Los Angeles City Councilman Mitch O’Farrell, 13th District, joined students on July 31 to paint a new mural at Dayton Heights Elementary School, located at 603 N. Westmoreland Ave.

The group also included community members, representatives of the local nonprofit Arts Bridging the Gap, and artists Ethel and Carlo Zanfranco. Titled “Hybrid,” the mural covers the entire south-facing exterior of the school and was designed by the 2019-20 5th grade students at Dayton Heights Elementary School and Arts Bridging the Gap. The Zanfranco created the final design and led the painting project.

The vision for the mural came from O’Farrell’s office, which wanted to bring a powerful and meaningful project to the school. The campus is located in a community historically overlooked for artistic experiences and beautification efforts, he said.

Particularly notable is the £2 billion investment in affordable student housing, a critical equity issue in one of the most expensive cities in the world. The Legislature also included $100 million to fund students’ basic needs, such as housing and food — a growing issue with costs increasing through the pandemic.

“Since DACA was implemented in 2012, California has stepped up to secure the future of critical educational tools like the Strong Workforce Program,” said LACCD Board President Francisco C. Rodriguez, LACCD Chancellor.

LACCD provides higher-education opportunities

The Los Angeles City Council on July 28 approved Gov. Gavin Newsom for signing the Higher Education trailer with $500 million for “unprecedented” resources for the state’s community colleges, including dedicated funding for student housing and basic needs, workforce programs and ethnic studies.

Newsom’s budget is the largest and most comprehensive higher education budget in the history of California and represents the forward-looking approach of the state – with its focus on ensuring that students have programs that fit with the jobs of the future and making attending community college as affordable and accessible as possible.

“This year’s budget is a milestone for our district to go big with an ambitious legislative agenda intended to build a sustainable, equitable framework for our institutions and our students,” said Francisco C. Rodriguez, LACCD Chancellor.

This budget incorporates many of our key priorities, and I commend Governor Newsom and our state legislators for their dedication to higher education,” said Mike Fong, chair of the LACCD Legislative and Public Affairs Committee. “I am pleased that the Legislature stepped up to secure the future of critical educational tools like the Strong Workforce Program, which will continue to make California a dynamic economy for years to come.”

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Las Cafeteras will perform at the Music Center’s Jerry Moss Plaza on Aug. 21.

The Ford, the 1,200-seat Los Angeles County Amphitheatre at the Hollywood Bowl, announced a new cultural program designed by celebrated chef and community activist Jocelyn Ramirez of Todo Verde.

Ramirez founded Todo Verde in 2015 with a mission to create delicious and healthy foods inspired by her Mexican and South American roots for her Eastside Mexican community. She continues to learn about the health benefits of nutrient-dense food and healthy ecosystems and shares her knowledge of healthy living through workshops.

“Todo Verde’s menu, inspired by the idea of the ‘green Ford’ as the first plant-based food concessionaire to take over a major music venue in the city of Los Angeles,” she said.

In addition to three types of tacos – mushroom y mole, jackfruit carnitas con pipian verde and chorizo-scented mushroom – Todo Verde offers several dishes to share: ceviche de palmitas with hearts of palm in citrus and olive oil served with crispy tortilla chips; como la flor of roasted poblano cashew queso and pico de gallo; and poblano mac y cheese with fire-roasted poblano chile and chorizo.

Both performances will begin at 8 p.m. Tickets are on sale now and are $20 per person. Children ages 12 and older. Up to four free child tickets (age 12 and under) will be available per order with the purchase of one adult ticket. For information, call (213) 972-0711 or visit musiccenter.org.

all classes regardless of their vaccination status. Students must continue to maintain six feet of distance during class instruction. For information, visit parks.lacity.gov/summerclasses.

El Capitan Theatre screens ‘Free Guy’ in Dolby Vision

Hollywood’s El Capitan Theatre will present “Free Guy” from Aug. 13 to Aug. 26, shown in Dolby VisionTM Laser Projection and Dolby Atmos® Audio Technology. Guests can take a picture at a “Free Guy” themed photo op and see costumes from the movie.

There will be an Opening Night Fan Event at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 12. Guests will be among the first to see “Free Guy”, and each ticket includes reserved seating, one 1:25-inch box of popcorn, one bottle of beverage and an Opening Night Fan Event souvenir credential with lanyard. Tickets are $25 for opening night.

Daily showtimes are noon, 3:30 p.m., 7 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Showtimes and dates are subject to change. Tickets are available at elcapitancalifornia.com.

El Capitan Theatre has taken enhanced health and safety measures to its guests and staff members. All guests must follow posted instructions while visiting the El Capitan Theatre. For information, visit elcapitancalifornia.com.

**PILGRIM SCHOOL**

An Independent School Established in 1958
Early Education - Elementary - Middle School - High School (Day/Boarding)

**WE’RE BACK!**

Our students and community are joyful to be back together and SAFE as we work closely with LA Dept of Public Health to keep our school on the cutting edge of health and safety.

Come visit us at our on-campus Open Houses for the 2022-2023 school year!

Saturday, November 13 or Saturday, December 4
8:30 AM Elementary (Kindergarten - Grade 5)
11:00 AM Early Education (Age 2 - JK)
2:30 PM Secondary (Grade 6 - Grade 12)

Register by contacting us at admissions@pilgrimschool.org or call us at 213-355-5204.

540 S. Commonwealth Avenue, Los Angeles 90020
(213) 385-7251
Located in Koreatown.
A division of First Congregational Church of Los Angeles.

**The Ford offers new, innovative fare**

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“This is such a moment for chefs of color in Los Angeles, and I’m honored to be a part of The Ford’s season as the first plant-based food concessionaire to take over a major music venue in the city of Los Angeles,” she said.

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New leader appointed to county Arts Commission

The Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture has announced Leticia Rhi Buckley has joined its Arts Commission, the county’s advisory body for the arts.

The commission has 15 members who are diverse arts community leaders chosen by the board of supervisors to represent each of the five districts in the county. Buckley was appointed by Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Chair Hilda L. Solis, 1st District.

Buckley served as head of communications and interim executive director at the former Los Angeles County Arts Commission, which the board of supervisors transitioned into a county department in 2019. She is currently the senior civic strategist at the Music Center Performing Arts Center of L.A. County, where she’s responsible for the overall direction, management and strategic implementation of civic and community engagement, as well as building arts and culture-focused partnerships.

Born and raised in East Los Angeles, Buckley is committed to shepherding diversity and making the arts accessible to all. She helped develop the county’s Cultural Equity and Inclusion Initiative, a report launched in 2017 with recommendations to strengthen diverse, equitable and inclusive access to arts and culture. During the report’s development, she facilitated dialogue and worked closely with stake-holders to outline equitable strategies to support the arts in historically under-resourced communities.

Prior to her roles with L.A. County cultural organizations, Buckley managed publicity, outreach and engagement initiatives for Cirque du Soleil and Disney Theatrical Productions. She also created a marketing and public relations firm specializing in Latino outreach and engagement.

“Leticia Buckley’s career is steeped in community, equity, and arts. I am thrilled that she will bring that expertise to the Arts Commission, supporting it and the Department of Arts and Culture as they work to make arts and culture resources available to residents across Los Angeles County,” Solis said.

“It is deeply meaningful to me to join a commission whose members recognize the arts are a catalyst for social and civic change,” Buckley added. “I am grateful to Chair Solis for the opportunity to serve the residents of Los Angeles County, working alongside leaders and colleagues I deeply admire and support in our work to make arts and culture resources available to all.”

For information, visit lacountyarts.org.
CiCLaVia may be coming to BH
From page 1

Beverly Hills officials are hopeful that CiCLaVia is a net positive for the city, which has never participated in the event.

Breast cancer screening bill authored
U.S. Sens. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.) and Martha Blackburn (R-Tenn.) have introduced the Protecting Access to Life-saving Screenings (PALS) Act of 2021, a bill to preserve coverage for routine breast cancer screening for women in their 40s.

The bill extends a congressional moratorium, first passed in 2015, on recommendations made by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force that would advise women to begin biennial breast cancer screenings at age 50 instead of annual screenings beginning at age 40. The PALS Act delays the recommendations in order to protect insurance coverage of annual breast cancer screenings at no cost for women aged 40 and older.

The PALS Act is cosponsored by U.S. Sen. Jeanne Shaheen (D-N.H.). A companion bill was introduced in the House by U.S. Reps. Debbie Wasserman-Schultz (D-Fla.) and Fred Upton (R-Mich.).

“Finding breast cancer early through screening has helped reduce breast cancer deaths among women,” Feinstein said. “Access to no-cost screenings – including for women in their 40s – is critical to continue the fight against this terrible disease. Notably, there was a significant decline in breast cancer screening during the pandemic. As we get back to regular doctor visits, our bill would ensure the cost of getting screened isn’t a barrier that further delays women from seeking preventive care.”

For information, visit feinstein.senate.gov.

Mandates could be ‘challenging’
From page 1

“Let's talk about what’s possible.”

Creating mandates for private businesses could be difficult, as some businesses may not have the resources to manage and enforce them, Langer said. She said she hadn’t heard of any cities pursuing a policy like that so far.

However, on Tuesday, the West Hollywood Chamber of Commerce released a list of businesses that would be requiring proof of vaccination or a negative test. They include the Abbey, Beaches Weld, Bliss Blessing Wellness Spa, the Chapel at the Abbey, the Comedy Store, Koffi, Montgomery, Formosa Cafe, Harlowe, Hi Tops, Matthew Miller Skincare, PUMP Restaurant, Sparadise Massage & Wellness Center, Tom Tom and Trunks.

“It’s a great thing that should be applauded,” Langer said of businesses voluntarily enforcing vaccination requirements. “If the city were mandating it, I think it would be a little bit more challenging.”

Lastly, Langer said the city would probably not be able enforce mandates at public meetings due to the Brown Act.

“The general consensus of the council was for city staff to continue researching vaccination mandate measures. “We do need to be a leader on this,” Councilwoman Sepi Shyne said.

Councilman John D’Amico agreed. “It’s clear that we’re all very serious about this,” he said.

D’Amico said he had to show proof of vaccination at a gym a few weeks ago, and it wasn’t a big deal. He requested that city staff look through the city’s business license list and identify those that involve a lot of close contact between staff and customers.

“Some will naturally fall out of there, and some will naturally fall in,” D’Amico said.

The day after the meeting, Los Angeles City Attorney Mike Feuer called on the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to require proof of vaccination for indoor activities, such as dining in restaurants, working out in gyms and attending performances and events.

The Los Angeles City Council also began exploring proof of vaccine mandates on Wednesday.

County launches registration system
The Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation has debuted its new ActiveNet online registration system which families can use to schedule all of their parks and recreation activities online.

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Community walk is a first for council member

From page 1

walk was the first in-person event the chamber has held with the councilwoman, who was elected in November 2020. Raman previously met with chamber members in May via Zoom, since stay-at-home orders were in place that precluded in-person meetings.

“Over the next few months, what I want to be doing is meeting with more people in person. I think we have a district that has a lot of varied needs, and during COVID … city services were really diminished. I know a lot of residents are frustrated with the pace of improvements, with the pace of tree trimming and sidewalk repairs, and believe me, I am too. It’s just (that) we are coming back from a period when we were really, really diminished.”

Raman also addressed homelessness, including the Los Angeles City Council’s July 28 approval of an ordinance to clear encampments from sidewalks and public property. The new law bans camping on public spaces but requires outreach and other steps be taken to find people and get them into safer, permanent encampments are removed. The City Council will also consider the removal of each encampment on a case-by-case basis after action is taken, adding a second layer of approval before temporary encampments are cleared. Raman, along with Councilman Mike Bonin, 11th District, voted against the new ordinance.

“We still have a lot to learn about how to process people staying on the street and how we’re going to process the ordinance,” Raman said. “What does the process look like, how are places selected, what happens when a resolution is passed for a particular area, how do L.A. sanitation and service providers get involved? A lot of that is being determined now through a partnership with the CAO (chief administrative officer), and so I am trying to influence that process to try to make sure it happens in the most robust and sustainable way possible.”

Raman has proposed creating supportive housing or an affordable housing project on a city-owned parking lot at 728 S. Cochran Ave. across the street from Cathedral Chapel School, which has caused concerns in the community. The school opposes the idea, as do some people in the surrounding neighborhood. Raman met with Cathedral Chapel School principal Tina Kipp and the school community during the walk to discuss the proposal.

Raman said the idea for housing on the lot is still in the early stages, and that nothing final has been decided. She added that there is plenty of time to still hear from the community and decide what may be the best use of the parking lot.

“We are trying to set up a tour of a facility in the community that is close to a school so that people can get a sense of how it works,” Raman told Kipp. “Because of COVID, the tours of the tours have been on hiatus, but we are working on getting a schedule that, and also schedule another conversation, so we can talk more in detail.”

Raman also looked at other options too, such as purchasing an existing buildings and converting it into a new project. She was looking at other options too, such as purchasing an existing buildings and converting it into a new project.

Kipp said the parking lot is not a suitable location for homeless supportive housing because of its proximity to the school, and added that the LAPD’s Wilshire Division attended and spoke with members of the community. Los Angeles City Councilman Paul Koretz, 5th District, gave a commendation to Commander Shannon Williams, who serves as commanding officer of the Wilshire Division for two years before being promoted and leaving the station on Aug. 1.

The police station’s new commanding officer, Sonia Monico, encouraged more community involvement.

“I am really looking forward to working with the community and our senior lead officers and patrol officers,” Monico told the small crowd that gathered. “This is my second year, so it is going to take me a little bit of time to get to know the people and talk to folks. Right now, with the resurgence of COVID, we are still doing stuff via Zoom. But be patient. I am really looking forward to the opportunity of working with you.”

In a new twist on the National Night Out theme, approximately 30 people, led by police officers, embarked on a walk through the Melrose neighborhood.

“Being that it’s National Night Out, we are doing our part,” said Sgt. Adi Kirby, head of the Community Relations Office for the Wilshire Division. “It took a step back in a sense. Because of the COVID numbers and everything going on, we morphed it into a vaccination event. But we want to do things that benefit our community. Vaccinations are what we need now, so we wanted to hold that type of event.”

Nicholas said a second vaccination clinic will be held on Aug. 24, from 4 to 8 p.m. at Poinsettia Park, 7341 Wilshire Ave. People who received a first dose of the vaccine Aug. 5 can get a second dose. Those who need an initial vaccine shot are encouraged to attend.

For information, visit melrosevax.org.
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Crossword Puzzle

by Myles Mellor

Across
1. “Back in Black” band
5. West to McDonald’s
8. “You Shamer”
11. Boxing Hall of Famer
12. Director’s order
14. Old world “you”
15. Isaac’s eldest
16. Bead material
17. German guy
21. Jong
22. British flers
23. City of delight
27. Backed up
28. Maukaatane
33. Covering
34. __ good turn (be helpful)
36. 1993 film based on a book by Frances Hodgson Burnett
41. Early rise
42. Small battery
43. Tahkali falldar
44. Crossbreeds
47. Bel ___ (soft cheese)
48. “All over the world” singers, for short
49. Lead-in to Vegas
51. Shark’s third character
60. ___ et (nounly item)
61. Cheese
62. Take cover

Down
1. Aid and ___
2. Spanish for house
3. Beatles’ “___ Prudence”
4. Actress Pendope
5. First name in mysteries
6. RPM indicator
7. Dublin country
8. 1969 Oates novel
9. One ___
10. “Show Boat” composer
12. Half a Tolstoy novel
13. Cming closer
14. Grand ___ Auto
19. “Little Women” sister
23. Four ___
24. Irish times, abbr.
26. zoned, e.g.
28. Ransack
29. Rigid
30. Murphy of movies
31. Execution
35. A chip, maybe
63. Female crook
64. Where to get a fast buck?
65. High-fat spread
66. College degree
67. 2nd letter addendum
68. Posh British school

answers on page 22
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