upper 70s

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 Burglary at Nordstrom
 pg. 4

**Volume 31 No. 47** 

Serving Beverly Hills, West Hollywood, Hancock Park and Miracle Mile

November 25, 2021

# Letter aims to stay ahead of the PAC in Beverly Hills

BY AARON BLEVINS

Beverly Hills Planning Commissioner Peter Ostroff is circulating a letter denouncing political action committees' influence on local elections in an effort to limit their involvement in next year's City Council races.

He said the impetus for the letter was simple: he saw something, so he said something.

Ostroff is seeking a commitment from each candidate to openly request that PACs not support their campaigns. He penned a letter stating his reasoning, and 85 individuals — some of whom are former

mayors and city officials – signed it. Former city treasurer Eliot Finkel and Myra Demeter, a fellow planning commissioner, helped circulate the message.

In March 2020, Beverly Hills City Council incumbents Dr. Julian Gold and Lili Bosse won re-election while receiving indirect financial support from Beverly Hills United to Support Bosse and Gold for Council 2020.

Although both the councilman and vice mayor have denied involvement, the organization spent more than \$100,000 supporting them – an effort that city officials

See Letter page 30



photo courtesy of Food on Foot

Food on Foot volunteers gather every Sunday to give hot meals to more than 250 unhoused individuals.

# Putting its best foot forward

■ Food on Foot helps individuals secure jobs, housing

BY BRYNN MECHEM

Every Sunday, homeless individuals who visit a particular parking lot in Hollywood are met with smiles and a hot meal.

What started as a single person serving chicken dinners out of the trunk of his car has grown into a nonprofit responsible for serving more than 250 homeless individuals weekly.

Founder Jay Goldinger started Food on Foot in 1996 to feed his homeless neighbors. He would pack up his car and serve meals outside the Hollywood Post Office.

Now, the nonprofit serves more than 11,000 meals annually. Functioning out of the Los Angeles LGBT Center's parking

Gary A. Dordick

lot at 1625 Schrader Blvd., Food on Foot volunteers give homeless and low-income individuals weekly access to food, personal hygiene equipment, donated clothes and mental and physical health services through its Sunday meals program.

"We really want to serve our homeless neighbors and make sure that they have what they need to be as stable as they possibly can throughout the week until we see them the following week," said Precious Boone, a program director.

After the Sunday meal program proved successful, the nonprofit grew, adding a program to help individuals experiencing homelessness regain their footing through full-time jobs and secured housing.

Members visit Food on Foot every Sunday to first volunteer with the meal program before

See **Meals** page **31** 

# Hollywood parade ushers in holidays

■ Annual Christmas celebration returns to Hollywood Boulevard

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

The beloved Hollywood Christmas Parade returns on Nov. 28 for its 89th year.

Sheryl Underwood, host of the award-winning television show "The Talk," will be the parade's grand marshal. She will be joined by dozens of celebrities, local officials, performance artists, bands, floats and floating balloon characters that will travel through Hollywood beginning at 6 p.m. at the corner of Hollywood Boulevard and Orange Drive. The parade route follows Hollywood Boulevard to Vine Street, south to Sunset Boulevard and west back to Orange Drive. The streets will be closed to traffic and parking throughout the day.

Los Angeles City Council President Pro Tempore Mitch O'Farrell, 13th District, joined parade performers and city representatives on Nov. 22 in front of the Dolby Theatre and invited everyone to attend the parade.

"After a very difficult 20 months, and that is putting it light-



photo by Edwin Folver

The PAVA World Traditional Korean Band will perform in the Hollywood Christmas Parade on Nov. 28.

ly, Hollywood will serve once again as the backdrop to a beloved holiday tradition here in the City of Angels – the 89th annual Hollywood Christmas Parade benefitting the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation," O'Farrell said. "As the councilman representing the district where the parade takes place, I am thrilled to collaborate with the parade organizers and city departments to ensure the public enjoys this local event and

that residents are aware of the restricted access to the area."

O'Farrell and Los Angeles Police Department Capt. Brent McGuyre, commanding officer of the Hollywood Division, called attention to increased security that will be in place on and around the parade route. O'Farrell said extra security measures are particularly important in the wake of an attack at a Christmas parade in

See Parade page 30

# A new chapter for Assistance League of L.A.

■ Sunset Boulevard location will house Operation School Bell

BY BRYNN MECHEM

Assistance League of Los Angeles opened its new Hollywood chapter house on Nov. 18, and it will serve as a headquarters for staff offices, community events and the organization's Operation School Bell program.

The league purchased the building, located at 6640 Sunset Blvd., in 2019. Since then, renovations have been made to the bowstring truss 1930s structure to help better serve the league's mission to improve the lives of impoverished children by providing resources, programs and scholarships.

"The new chapter house is an inspiring environment for the league's important work: creating equity for some of L.A.'s most vulnerable children and building a community of care," Assistance League CEO Melanie Merians said.

Senior director of development and corporate engagement Allie Fernandez said now that the building is open, the league will launch a



photo by Brynn Mecher

Assistance League and Hollywood officials cut the ribbon at the new chapter house at 6640 Sunset Blvd.

campaign to name different rooms. All money raised will go toward the league's programs.

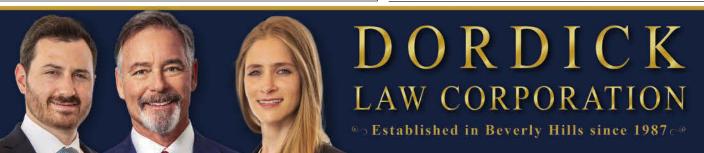
Since 1919, the Assistance League has raised funds to provide services to impoverished children and families. Today, the nonprofit serves nearly 22,000 children each year across five programs that provide clothing, school supplies, arts enrichment and educational opportunities.

At the opening, L.A. City

Council President Pro Tempore Mitch O'Farrell, 13th District, said by the time he was in seventh grade, his family had faced evictions and moved 10 times. He said he's proud to welcome the new chapter house to Hollywood because the league "transforms lives and builds community."

"I love partnering with the Assistance League; I always have," O'Farrell said. "My whole entire

See **League** page **31** 



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photo courtesy of the city of Beverly Hills

Beverly Hills city officials and members of the business community kicked off festivities during the Rodeo Drive Holiday Lighting celebration.

## 'Tis the season on Rodeo Drive

Beverly Hills welcomed the holiday season by hosting the annual Rodeo Drive Holiday Lighting celebration. The city was lit in twinkling, festive lights with the push of a button on Nov. 18. A kickoff ceremony was held from 5-8 p.m. and featured three stages of live entertainment, festive décor and the arrival of Santa Claus.

Julie Wagner from the Beverly Hills Conference and Visitors Bureau, Councilman Lester Friedman, Councilman Julian Gold, Councilman John Mirisch, Vice Mayor Lili Bosse, Kathy Gohari from the Rodeo Drive Committee, Todd Johnson from the Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce and Beverly Hills Mayor Bob Wunderlich gathered on stage to officially light the street. A fireworks show brought the evening to a close with a bang.

# City protects public art as median upgrades continue

The city of Beverly Hills has launched the Burton Way Median Green Street and Water Efficient Landscape Project to create a storm water retention site and improve the landscaping on Burton Way between Rexford and Oakhurst drives. The project will transform the median into a drought tolerant garden and is

scheduled to be complete in late summer or early fall 2022.

Four sculptures currently on the median, and one on a median across from Roxbury Park, were fenced to protect them during construction. They include "Folded Square-Alphabet G," by Fletcher Benton; "World on Its Hind Legs," by William Kentridge; "Sisyphus," by Alexander Liberman; "Love Anatomy," by Alexandra Nechita; and "Spiral of Life," by Baile Oakes. During construction, the sculptures will be periodically wrapped by the city's art conservators, Rosa Lowinger & Associates, to protect them from excessive condensation. While the Burton Way Median Green Street and Water Efficient Landscape Project will temporarily prevent the public from fully viewing the sculptures, improvements to the median will create an environmentally-sustainable sculpture garden to be enjoyed for years to come, city officials said. For information, call the Beverly Hills Public Works Department at (310)285-2467, or email askpw@beverlyhills.org



photo courtesy of the city of Beverly Hills
Public artwork on the Burton Way
median in Beverly Hills, including
"Love Anatomy" by Alexandra
Nechita, has been fenced and protected during an ongoing improvement project.

#### CALENDAR

#### **LACMA** portraiture

Join the Los Angeles County Museum of Art for a virtual presentation titled "5 Questions, 5 Artists: Reframing Portraiture, Lyle Ashton Harris" on Tuesday, Nov. 30, from noon to 1 p.m., via Zoom. Presented in conjunction with "Black American Portraits," an exhibition

that reframes portraiture to center Black American subjects, sitters and spaces, the series will include conversations between



artists and LACMA curators and educators. Each artist will be presented with the same five key questions about portraiture, exploring how the art form functioned historically, while also providing new perspectives on representation. Harris has cultivated a diverse artistic practice ranging from photography and collage to installation and performance art. Admission is free but reservations are requested. us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\_b7AMV8QcQnCstOJX0Kt 1yw.

# Comedy and Cocktails

Enjoy an evening with comedian Bill Devlin and his Comedy and Cocktails series on Friday, Nov. 26, at 8 p.m., at the Wren Theatre in the Hollywood Irish Import Shop. The show features top comedians and surprise special guests. Comedian Jamie Kennedy will join Devlin at

the show. Tickets are \$10.742 Vine St. (323)498-4445. billdevlin.com.

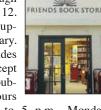
#### **Theatre 40**

Theatre 40 presents "Good People," a play running from Saturday, Nov. 27, through Wednesday, Dec. 22, at the Reuben Cordova Theatre on the campus of Beverly Hills High School. The comedy and drama examines issues such as income inequality and racial politics. Showtimes are 8 p.m., Wednesday through Saturday; 2 p.m. Sunday; with shows at 8 p.m. on Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 20-21. Tickets are \$35. 241 S. Moreno Drive. (310)364-0535, theatre40.org.

# Friends of Beverly Hills Library

Friends of Beverly Hills Library is holding its annual holiday book sale from Sunday.

Nov. 28, through Sunday, Dec. 12. Purchases support the library. The sale includes all books except \$1 and 25¢ publications. Hours



are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday; noon to 4 p.m., Sunday. 444 N. Rexford Drive. (310)288-2209.

#### 'Recovered Voices'

Colburn School's Ziering-Conlon Initiative for Recovered Voices presents "Recovered Voices 2021: Schulhoff and More" launching on Tuesday, Nov. 30, at noon. The four-part online series explores the life and music of Erwin Schulhoff (1894–1942), a multi-faceted composer who embraced many styles. Admission is free, and episodes are available on demand. colburnschool.edu/community-initiatives/recovered-voices/recovered-voices-2021.

#### 'A Christmas Carol'

Center Theatre Group presents the

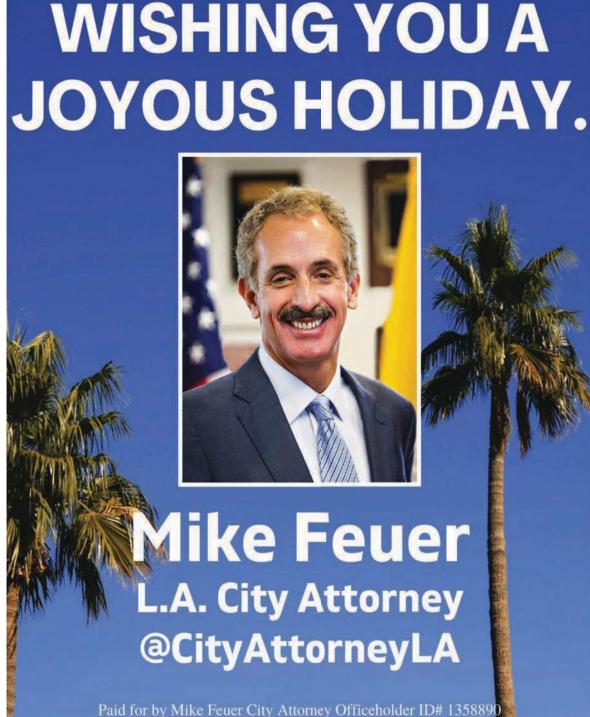
five-time Tony Award-winning production of "A Christmas Carol" running from Tuesday, Nov. 30, through Saturday, Jan. 1, at the Ahmanson



Theatre. Bradley Whitford ("The Handmaid's Tale," "The West Wing") will perform opposite Kate Burton and Alex Newell in a new interpretation of Charles Dickens' timeless story, adapted by Tony Award winner Jack Thorne. Showtimes vary; see schedule. Tickets start at \$40. 135 N. Grand Ave. (213)972-4400, centertheatregroup.org.

#### **LA Phil**

Classical music fans are invited to join the Los Angeles Philharmonic for "Colburn Celebrity Recital: Jean-Yves Thibaudet" on Wednesday, Dec. 1, at 8 p.m. at the Walt Disney Concert Hall. French pianist Thibaudet will perform during a concert dedicated to the music of Debussy. Tickets start at \$58.111 S. Grand Ave. laphil.com.



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# BHUSD board may put projects on hold

■ Budget issues prompt analysis of district's construction program

BY AARON BLEVINS

A budget shortfall in its construction program has led the Beverly Hills Unified School District Board of Education to rethink how it wants to move forward in implementing the master plan the board approved in 2012.

Following presentations by the district's bond manager Team Concept Development Services Inc. in which the company expressed concern about the program's budget, the board voted to table a contract renewal with DLR Group, the architectural and engineering firm modernizing Beverly Hills High School's south site.

Given the budget shortfall identified by TCDS, the district should "take a break" and "see what's going to happen," President Rachelle Marcus said. Superintendent of Schools Michael Bregy said the district typically approves such items "expeditiously," but he wasn't aware of any deadline for board action.

"I would like to make sure that we're finishing up what we've started ... but I personally cannot vote for this," Marcus said.

During a board study session in October and a Facilities and Construction Committee meeting last week, TCDS representatives cited several factors that have led to the district's need for an additional



photo by Cameron Kiszla

DLR Group's contract renewal for work at Beverly Hills High School was tabled during the board's meeting Tuesday.

\$130 million to finish its remaining projects.

Much has changed since 2017, when the board contracted with TCDS. The company's program manager, Pam Johnson, said project alterations, market prices, subway construction and unforeseen dilemmas, such as the fire service line rupture at the former Venoco facility at BHHS that flooded the area, have impacted the program.

Perhaps most notably, construction costs have increased approximately 22% since 2018, and they are expected to increase another 20% over the next two years, Johnson said.

"We're just now in a market that none of us has seen in our careers," she added. As of October, the district had several projects ongoing. Contractors are modernizing El Rodeo Elementary School. Two buildings on the BHHS campus – B3 and B4 – are also being modernized. Some other projects, such as proposed work to the BHHS' south site, have been submitted to the Division of State Architect for review.

According to the DLR Group contract proposal, the updated scope of work at BHHS includes the design of the baseball/softball fields, the track/football field and the demolition of the Konheim Gym, as well as the design of the grand lawn and perimeter fencing on the campus' eastside.

"When I look at the scope of this

# Brown Act violations alleged

BY AARON BLEVINS

The Beverly Hills Unified School District's Facilities and Construction Committee may have violated the Brown Act last week, when two committee members discussed a district contract via e-mail prior to its meeting on Nov. 17.

In an e-mail forwarded to the Beverly Press/Park Labrea News, committee co-chair Theresa Kaplan on Nov. 16 sent her questions and concerns regarding a proposed contract renewal with the district's bond manager, Team Concept Development Services, to fellow committee members.

"As promised in an earlier email, below are my questions and observations regarding the proposed agreement between the district and TCDS," she wrote.

Committee member Donna Tryfman thanked Kaplan for the analysis and offered her observations as well. In addition to the other three committee members – Jake Manaster, Ori Blumenfeld and chair Howard Goldstein – the e-mails were addressed to BHUSD Board of Education President Rachelle Marcus, Vice

President Mary Wells and Superintendent of Schools Michael Bregy, among others.

According to the Brown Act. "a

According to the Brown Act, "a majority of the members of a legislative body shall not, outside a meeting authorized by this chapter, use a series of communications of any kind, directly or through intermediaries, to discuss, deliberate or take action on any item of business that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body."

During the meeting, Goldstein offered a reminder that the committee is governed by the Brown Act and suggested that members review its requirements to prevent another "hiccup." Blumenfeld also criticized the correspondence.

"The e-mails that were flying around were absolutely a violation of the Brown Act, and I'd rather just not comment any further on this item," Blumenfeld said.

Tryfman argued that the emails were not a violation of state

"In terms of the Brown Act, I did submit notes that I took on the See **Committee** page **30** 

work, it seems pretty extensive," Vice President Mary Wells said. "And given the last update that we had on the budget and the master plan – we spoke about how now would be a good time to take a pause to determine what is the best way to move forward with the construction program. I wouldn't want

to impede the progress of the projects that we already have in place."

She suggested that the board discuss the item again at a future meeting. In the interim, she suggested reaching out to the district's facilities department to discuss "how to move forward on that bigger picture."





photo by Edwin F

A suspect arrested for an allegedly unprovoked attack on a man on Nov. 15 was known to frequent the neighborhoods near Santa Monica Boulevard and Fairfax Avenue.

# Two arrested for separate attacks in West Hollywood

**BY EDWIN FOLVEN** 

Authorities in West Hollywood arrested two homeless individuals during the past week for allegedly committing separate unprovoked attacks.

One suspect, David Cook, 44, was arrested on Nov. 21 and booked for attempted murder after allegedly stabbing a man on Nov. 15 in the 7800 block of Santa Monica Boulevard. The suspect allegedly approached the victim, who had just left a nearby store, and attacked him, said Lt. Bill Moulder, with the Hollywood Sheriff's Station. The victim fell to the ground and the suspect got on top of him, pulled out a sharp object and stabbed the victim multiple times, he added. The suspect fled before deputies arrived. The victim was taken to a hospital and is expected to recover, Moulder said.

The suspect matched the description of a homeless man known to frequent the neighborhood around Santa Monica Boulevard and Fairfax Avenue. Sheriff's department investigators issued a crime bulletin and notified police in neighboring jurisdictions as deputies searched for the assailant.

On Nov. 21, Los Angeles Police Department officers detained a man matching the suspect's description near Beverly Boulevard and Martel Avenue. West Hollywood deputies were called and arrested Cook, who was booked for attempted murder and remains in custody on \$1 million bail.

Moulder said another homeless man committed multiple crimes on Nov. 18 before being arrested near Santa Monica and La Cienega boulevards. He said the suspect is in his late 20s but declined to provide a name based on the ongoing investigation. Moulder said the suspect threatened two people and attempted to rob another between 8:30-11 p.m.

All of the crimes occurred within a two-block radius of each other along Santa Monica Boulevard, he said

The suspect first allegedly entered a business in the 8600 block of Santa Monica Boulevard shortly after 8 p.m. and confronted an employee. Moulder said the suspect pulled out a box cutter and threatened the victim. When the employee called 911, the suspect allegedly pulled the phone from the employee's hand and fled. Deputies arrived but were unable to locate the suspect, he added

At approximately 9:15 p.m., West Hollywood deputies received a 911 call about a suspect matching the description from the previous incident attempting to break into vehicles in a parking lot in the 8400 block of Santa Monica Boulevard. The male suspect allegedly threatened a security guard who intervened, and fled before deputies arrived, Moulder said.

Another victim called authorities at approximately 9:55 p.m. and said a male suspect attempted to rob him in the 8200 block of Santa Monica Boulevard. The victim yelled for help and the suspect fled on a scooter, Moulder said

At approximately 10:50 p.m., deputies saw the suspect and attempted to detain him near Santa Monica and La Cienega boulevards. A foot pursuit occurred and the man was taken into custody a short distance away, Moulder added. The three victims later identified the man as being involved in each incident, he said.

Moulder said investigators are in the process of reviewing security camera footage and interviewing witnesses before presenting the case to the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office. Anyone with further information is urged to call the West Hollywood Sheriff's Station at (310)855-8850.

#### State authorities combat retail theft

In response to a recent increase in organized retail thefts across the state, Gov. Gavin Newsom has directed the California Highway Patrol to increase its presence near major retail sites and shopping centers, and announced a proposed increase in the 2022-23 state budget to combat retail theft.

The announcement follows burglaries committed by large groups at department stores in the Bay Area and Los Angeles. The governor's office has coordinated with local mayors, police departments and retailers to address the increase in thefts, Newsom said. For information, visit gov.ca.gov.

# Smash-and-grab burglary suspects target Nordstrom

■ Three arrested following police pursuit from the scene

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Los Angeles Police Department officers arrested three male suspects who were allegedly part of a group that smashed a window on Nov. 22 at the Nordstrom department store at The Grove and stole an undisclosed amount of merchandise.

Police are investigating whether the suspects were involved with any similar burglaries in other parts of Los Angeles and Beverly Hills, where multiple suspects attempted to smash windows and break into the Louis Vuitton and Saks Fifth Avenue stores overnight from Nov. 20-21. The suspects were unable to get inside the two stores in Beverly Hills and fled before police arrived. Additional security has been deployed in the Rodeo Drive shopping district to combat similar crimes.

LAPD spokesman Drake Madison said the burglary at the Nordstrom occurred at 10:40 p.m. Multiple vehicles pulled up outside an entrance to the department store at Third Street and The Grove Drive and smashed a large window. Madison did not know how many suspects were involved other than the three who were arrested., but media reportes have stated the burglary involved nearly 20 people



photo by Edwin Fo

A group of suspects smashed a window and stole merchandise from the Nordstrom department store at The Grove on Monday night.

The suspects entered the Nordstrom store, which was closed, but did not enter any other parts of The Grove. A sledgehammer allegedly used to break the window was recovered at the scene.

Madison said officers from the Wilshire Division saw an SUV fleeing the area and a pursuit occurred. Officers followed the vehicle to South Los Angeles, where the three suspects got out and ran away, Madison added. Officers established a perimeter and took them into custody in the early morning hours of Nov. 23, he said. Detectives are continuing an inves-

tigation into the crime.

The burglaries in the Los Angeles area occurred after numerous similar crimes involving large groups of people looting stores were reported in the Bay Area last weekend. The LAPD will monitor malls and shopping centers in an attempt to prevent additional crimes.

Anyone with information about the burglary at Nordstrom is urged to call investigators with the Wilshire Division at (213)922-8200. Anyone with information about the attempted burglaries in Beverly Hills is asked to call the BHPD at (310)550-4951.

## Man killed after defending woman during robbery

■ Homicide believed to be linked to spree of follow-home robberies

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

A 23-year-old man was shot and killed at approximately 2:10 a.m. on Nov. 23 during an attempted robbery that occurred in the 7100 block of Sunset Boulevard, police said.

Los Angeles Police Department spokesman Drake Madison said the victim was seated in a parked vehicle and was talking with a female friend who was standing next to the car when a group of men walked up and attempted to rob the woman at gunpoint. The victim also had a gun and confronted the suspects, Madison said.

"He got out of the car to help her and they shot him," he added. "He was pronounced dead at the scene."

The female victim was not injured and the suspects fled after the shooting. Madison said police did not recover the victim's gun at the scene and are trying to corroborate accounts of what happened

with witnesses. The robbery was allegedly committed by up to eight suspects, but no description was available. Police believe the hold-up is related to a series of follow-home robberies during the past several months targeting people leaving restaurants and nightclubs.

The robbery occurred near Bossa Nova restaurant at 7181 Sunset Blvd., but Madison did not know where the victims had been previously or if there was any connection to the restaurant. The case is being investigated by the LAPD's Follow-Home Task Force, which was formed on Nov. 17 to investigate the series of follow-home robberies. Anyone with information is urged to call (213)486-6840.



photo by Edwin Folver

The homicide occurred outside the Bossa Nova restaurant on Sunset Boulevard, just west of La Brea Avenue.

## D.A. launches youth sentencing diversion program

Los Angeles County District Attorney George Gascón on Nov. 17 launched a victim-centered, pre-filing diversion program for youth.

"This program will help repair the immense harm that criminal behavior inflicts on our community by giving crime victims the opportunity to actively participate in the restorative justice process," Gascón said.

"While victims cannot generally attend the juvenile court process, through restorative justice, we can give crime victims a chance to be a meaningful part of the process to determine appropriate restitution

and resolution," added Jessica Ellis, executive director of Centinela Youth Services and the Everychild Restorative Justice Center.

Eligible youth may avoid criminal charges by agreeing to participate in an individually-tailored program to address the underlying issues that contribute to criminal behavior, such as mental health needs or substance use. Community-based service providers will assess participants, connect them to services, prepare them for restorative justice conferences with crime victims and monitor the completion of the agreed-

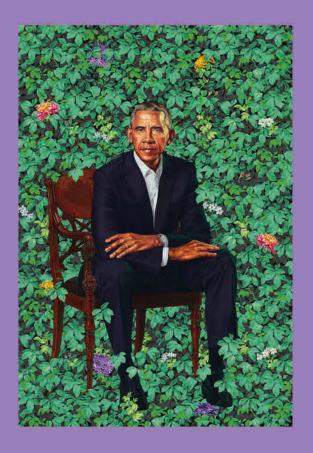
upon terms of the program.

Victims and survivors will have a voice in determining participant agreements while also having an opportunity to be heard in a meaningful way, Gascón added. The program applies to people under the age of 18.

Gascón said the restorative justice model has proven to support public safety and community healing. It also addresses racial disparity within the criminal legal system and mass incarceration by diverting young people away from jails and prisons.

For information, visi da.lacounty.gov.

# PORTRAITS MAKE HISTORY



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Featuring works by Kehinde Wiley and Amy Sherald





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# 'Every day is Thanksgiving' at nonprofit

■ Project Angel Food extends lifeline during holidays

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

People who receive meals from Project Angel Food will get a special treat on Thanksgiving Day, with food prepared for delivery by celebrity volunteers such as Loni Love, Tyler Henry, Duff Goldman and Eileen Davidson.

Approximately 150 volunteers

will gather today at Project Angel Food's headquarters at 922 Vine St. in Hollywood to prepare traditional turkey dinners for critically ill residents. Volunteers will distribute the meals countywide to Project Angel Food clients.

Project Angel Food CEO Richard Ayoub said the meals are a lifeline for people suffering from HIV, AIDS, cancer, heart disease and many other life-threatening illnesses. Without Project Angel Food, many people might go hungry on Thanksgiving, he said. The meals include roasted turkey, vegetables, stuffing, gravy, cranberry sauce and a slice of pumpkin cheesecake, all prepared under the direction of Project Angel Food's executive chef John Gordon.

"This year, we are doing old-school, inside the kitchen cooking with celebrities and volunteers, and we are also delivering to the community with approximately 150 volunteers," Ayoub said. "We are actually doing it all week, delivering Thanksgiving dinners to 3,000 people, which is an increase."

Other celebrities helping with the Thanksgiving effort include Melissa Rivers, Kate Flannery, Rachel Harris, Rebecca Metz, chef Stuart O'Keefe, Amy Phillips, Juan Pablo Di Pace, Peter Porte, Lauren Tom, Sasha Ruiz, Michael Corbett and Jeffrey Drew.

Ayoub said this year's Thanksgiving meal delivery effort is particularly special because the organization was unable to host a high-profile event in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Although staff prepared and delivered meals to people in need last year, the organization was not able to welcome supporters in-person on Thanksgiving – a Project Angel Food holiday tradition.

"Up until the pandemic, 80% of the holiday work was done by volunteers, so it's great to have them back," Ayoub said. "I like to call the kitchen the great equalizer. This amazing, powerful kitchen doesn't care if you are a CEO or a celebrity, a high school kid or a person in recovery. No matter who it is, when you are in the kitchen and scooping



photo courtesy of Project Angel Food

Emmy-winning television host Loni Love, of "The Real," returned this year for Project Angel Food's Thanksgiving meal delivery effort.

**Tokens' Philip Margo remembered** 

Entertainer Philip Margo, cofounder of The Tokens, which produced a cover of "The Lion Sleeps Tonight" that is worldrenowned, died on Nov. 13 surrounded by loved ones, his family announced.

Margo was a multi-media entrepreneur who produced gold records, wrote novels and did everything in between. Born in Brooklyn in 1942, he loved the Dodgers, Devil Dogs and Nathan's.

He began his career along with his younger brother, Mitch, as founding members of the group, The Tokens. Their hit, "The Lion Sleeps Tonight" is considered by some to be one of the best pop songs of all time.

Philip Margo and the group moved on to have several gold records as recording artists, offering such hits as "Tonight I Fell in Love," "I Hear Trumpets Blow" and "Portrait of My Love." As producers, they popularized acts like The Chiffons, The Happenings, Randy & The Rainbows and Tony Orlando and Dawn.

Though their roots were in doowop, The Tokens expanded their musical horizons with successful releases spanning four decades. They released "Intercourse" in 1968, "Cross Country" in 1973, "Re-Doo-Wopp" in 1988 and "Esta Noche El Leon Baila" in 1996.

The Tokens were a family business, as the brothers continued touring through 2017. The Tokens biggest fan was always their younger sister, Maxine, who worked with the group behind the scenes and sang with them on their 1998 MLB National Anthem tour.

Margo's son, Noah, now a board member of the Beverly Hills Unified School District Board of Education, toured with the group as a drummer and musician for 25 years, along with close friends Jay Leslie, Mike Johnson and, on occasion, Margo's daugh-

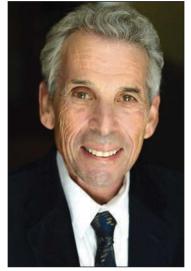


photo courtesy of the Margo family
Philip Margo

ter, Neely. The Tokens co-founder also had a chance to perform with his grandsons, Solomon and Ethan.

Margo loved being honest with the audience and would boast about his wife, Abbie, and mother, Ruthie.

From his music career, he branched onto Broadway, contributing the music and lyrics for the show "A Matter Of Time." From there, Margo spent over a decade managing the career of Robert Guillaume during his Emmy Award-winning show "Benson."

He also began writing and producing television movies for Robert and Gary Coleman, having a string of successful films, such as "The Kid With the 200 I.Q." and "The Fantastic World of D.C. Collins." He also co-wrote and co-produced "This Wife for Hire," as well as "The Goddess of Love."

Margo published his first novel, "The Null Quotient," in 2010. He was a black belt in Kung Fu San Soo, as well as an avid softball player. Margo owned and flew planes into his 70s. He loved the space program, Hallmark movies and salt water taffy, but he loved family most of all.

tater tots onto a tray, or green beans, there is no way you are not thinking about those who are getting the meal."

Ayoub said the need increases every year, with more people turning to Project Angel Food to meet basic needs. The organization delivers meals to more than 2,400 people every day.

"On Thanksgiving, we provide more than we usually do," Ayoub added. "We provide any client who has a caregiver or someone they want to spend the holiday with an extra meal so they are not alone."

The Thanksgiving effort was sponsored by the Stanley and Joyce Black Family Foundation, Glamazon and 94.7 The Wave. Volunteers were selected in advance for Project Angel Food's Thanksgiving deliveries, but Ayoub

said there are many other opportunities to help throughout the holidays, and the rest of the year. Throughout November, Ralphs and Food for Less grocery stores will match monetary donations to the organization through Project Angel Food's Fill the Fridge campaign. Ayoub said the need for monetary support is even greater this year because of increases in the cost of food and gasoline required for deliveries.

"We want people to know that we appreciate their support," Ayoub added. "At Project Angel Food, every day is Thanksgiving, and I would love people to remember that we don't just need help on that day, we need it the day before, the day after and all 365 days of the year. There are many ways to help, visit angelfood.org."

# Bar association toy drive begins

The Beverly Hills Bar Association Barristers' 2021 toys and clothes drive for clients of Inner City Visions, which provides social services to at-risk and exploited youth in South Los Angeles, has commenced.

The drive received an in-kind donation of hundreds of items from Mattel, including games for recipients of all ages, as part of its annual Global Gift of Play.

Further, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices California Properties' Probate Real Estate Division, The Sanborn Team, has committed to match all donations made through the drive's Amazon list up to \$500.

Inner City Visions will host a distribution event the third week in December to give the toys and clothes to families in need.

"We are enormously grateful to Mattel for its very generous donation that will brighten holidays for many families," said Belinda Macauley, executive director of the Beverly Hills Bar Association. "We also very much appreciate The Sanborn Team's matching pledge."

To purchase toys, visit amzn.to/3ny4AHT. For information, visit bhba.org.



# WeHo officials debate project's impacts

■ Proposed mixed-use building could add traffic, noise to area

BY BRYNN MECHEM

West Hollywood planning commissioners on Nov. 18 debated the potential impacts, including traffic and noise pollution, that could be caused by a proposed development at 8555 Santa Monica Blvd.

The proposed mixed-use development would include more than 100 residential units, as well as commercial space for restaurants, offices and a salon.

The project was originally heard by the Planning Commission in 2019, though no action was taken at the time and the project was continued to an uncertain date. Since then, the project site has been expanded, requiring a new draft environmental impact report, which outlines the impacts the project would have on the city should it be approved.

In total, the project site will span approximately 61,100 square feet from Santa Monica Boulevard to West Knoll Drive.

The development would be five stories above grade, rising 55 feet in height, and include two levels of subterranean parking, as well as a mezzanine level of parking.

The residential portion includes 111 apartment units, 17 of which would be designated as affordable housing, which Abundant Housing LA directors said in a letter to commissioners would help the city address its need for more housing.

"The greater Los Angeles region is facing a severe housing shortage, and this project is another step towards addressing the overwhelming need for more housing across Los Angeles," the letter states. "By creating new housing in this neighborhood, it will help to reduce issues of gentrification and displacement in other parts of the region."

The commercial portion of the development includes 3,938 square feet of restaurant and café use, 15,494 square feet of live/work space, 14,488 square feet of retail space, a 3,643-square-foot hair salon and 6,711 square feet of creative office space.

Though commissioners said the addition of affordable units will



photo courtesy of the city of West Hollywood

A proposed project would add 111 housing units and retail space at 8555 Santa Monica Blvd.

benefit the city, some raised concerns about the potential impacts the project would bring to the neighborhood, particularly when considering the traffic associated with an increase in housing.

Commissioner Rogerio Carvalheiro said that although the draft EIR found any related traffic increase would have a "less than significant impact" on the area, the proposed development could cause backups along Santa Monica Boulevard as drivers attempt to turn into the complex.

The draft EIR states that vehicular access to the commercial portion and part of the residential portion of the development will be located off Santa Monica Boulevard.

"We know that Santa Monica Boulevard along that section needs to be addressed," Carvalheiro said. "Crosswalks will need to change and the light, which is where the commercial entrance to this development is, will likely need to change."

Carvalheiro also expressed concern that some drivers would access the property through West Knoll Drive, causing strain for residents who live along the road. In a letter to the commission, West Knoll Drive resident Linda Russ said traffic is already an issue.

"The traffic on this street now is dangerous and obtrusive, especially when all the Amazon deliveries, trash and recycle trucks are parked, blocking traffic going east and west," she said. "Also, the 30-day move-in, move-outs that will take place on the first and 30th of each month will be overwhelming

to all of us, causing complete grid-lock."

Though the report found the project would not have significant impacts to the city's air quality, greenhouse gas emissions or aesthetics, one area that would see significant impact is noise while the property is under construction.

The study found the project will cause "significant and unavoidable" noise due to the potential for construction sounds to affect nearby residents and guests at the Ramada Plaza by Wyndham West Hollywood Hotel & Suites, said Karly Kaufman, a supervising planner at Rincon Consultants Inc.

Efforts to mitigate such noise could include 24-hour complaint signage posted on the property, prohibition of idling equipment, controlled level of workers' radios and the construction of a sound barrier, according to the report. Commissioner Katrina Vinson said that should the project move forward, the city should mitigate as much noise as possible.

"We need noise mitigation for residents and the Ramada," she said. "As long as this construction is going on right next door, it's going to be really hard for them to run and keep a business."

Residents have until Nov. 29 to make comments on the draft EIR. Comments can be emailed to lyelton@weho.org.

Commissioners will deliberate the merits of the proposal and decide whether to support or oppose the project at a future meeting.

### Center holds day of remembrance

On Nov. 20, the Transgender Day of Remembrance, the Los Angeles LGBT Center mourned the loss of 53 known transgender and non-binary lives in the United States – making 2021 the nation's deadliest year on record for the trans community since such data collection began.

"The Los Angeles LGBT Center joins transgender and non-binary people, communities and organizations across the country in denouncing the continued, pervasive and violent attacks against them, especially Black and Latina against transwomen," said Joe Hollendoner, the center's executive director. "It is critical to mourn, remember and honor these lives lost as we address the uptick of blatant anti-trans and racist rhetoric in our communities, in media and in legislatures nationwide. While we have made great strides in transgender rights and visibility, awareness without understanding can have deadly consequences for trans and non-binary folks."

He said the center's work to end the violence against the trans community continues, as do its services to support trans and non-binary people.

"We celebrate the diversity and resilience of the trans community and express our solidarity in the struggle for equality and to be treated with dignity," Hollendoner said. "And we will continue the fight to ensure that LGBT people – particularly those trans and non-binary community members who are at greatest risk for violence – thrive as healthy, equal and complete members of society. Until that day is here, our work is far from over."

Of the 375 trans people murdered worldwide in the last year, nine out of 10 (96%) were trans women or transfeminine people, and more than half (58%) were sex workers. The average age of those murdered is 30 years old, with the youngest being 13.

"Every time a transgender or non-binary person is reported killed, my heart aches," Trans Wellness Center program manager Mariana Marroquin said. "Undoubtedly, someone in our Los Angeles trans community knows at least one of these 53 known victims in the United States – and that should never be the case. We need to do more than bring awareness to these vicious deaths. We must act on preventing more deaths through com-

munity education and compassion. At the Trans Wellness Center, our clients tell us the horrible acts of violence and discrimination they encounter every day, stories which many of us are very familiar with. We will continue to provide them with the support and the safe space until every trans and non-binary person is healthy, equal and complete. Rest in power to those taken from us too soon."

The center provides culturally competent care and services for transgender and non-binary individuals in all of its programs and services.

For information, visit lalgbtcenter.org.

#### NOTICE OF SERVICE OF SUMMONS

State of California, Los Angeles Superior Court Stanley Mosk Courthouse, 111 N. Hill St., Los Angeles, CA 90112 Case No. 21STCV18794 Assigned to Hon. Maurice Leiter, Dept. 54

Notice to Defendant: Vernon Healthcare Center; Vernon Healthcare Center, LLC dba Vernon Healthcare Center; Rockport Administrative Services, LLC; Brius Management Co.; SHLOMO RECHNITZ; and DOES 1 through 60, inclusive

You are Being Sued by Plaintiff: Debra Ann Blackmon, in and through her Guardian ad Litem, Latasha Bracks

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below. You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.couffinfo.ca.govlselfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court. There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service, If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California I eqal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courlinfo.ca.govlselfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$ 10.000 or more in a civil case, The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without attorney is: Lisa Trinh Flint, Esq. (SBN 243468), Moran Law, 5 Hutton Centre Drive, Suite 1050, Santa Ana, CA 92707, (714)-549-0333

NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served as an individual defendant by BEVERLY PRESS AND PARK LABREA NEWS. Publish Dates: November 11, 2021; November 18, 2021; November 25, 2021; and December 2, 2021.

#### **Notable Quotes**

"I see trees of green Red roses too I see them bloom For me and you And I think to myself What a wonderful world."

Performed by Louis Armstrong Written by Bob Thiele and George David Weiss 1967

\*Source LyricFind



Happy Thanksgiving from New Orleans! The publishers Michael and Karen Villalpando

#### LADWP staff honors fallen colleague

Work at all Los Angeles Department of Water and Power job locations halted for five minutes, from 10:52 a.m. to 10:57 a.m. on Nov. 18, as the department paid tribute to Michael "Mike" Lemestre, a member of its Power System team who died in the line of duty on Nov. 4

The Board of Water and Power Commissioners paid tribute to Lemestre with a special board meeting that began at 10:30 a.m. to observe the department-wide "stand down" in solidarity with LADWP employees and labor partners.

"Mike's sacrifice weighs heavily on many in the department because it reminds us of the very real hazards of the work that many LADWP employees, especially those out in the field, perform each day," Board President Cynthia McClain-Hill said. "When tragic accidents like the one that took Mike's life happen, we know the life of their loved ones and their coworkers will be forever

changed. Though this loss is difficult and painful, the LADWP family has come together today to show our respect for one of our own and to show our support for Mike's family."

LADWP crew members performing work as far away as the Navajo Nation in the desert southwest, and in Nevada and Arizona, observed the "stand down."

Lemestre died as a result of injuries sustained when he came in contact with an energized circuit in an underground vault while working as part of a cable splicing crew performing electrical service work at Terminal Island in Los Angeles. He was a 16-year veteran of the department.

Last week, Mayor Eric Garcetti ordered all U.S. flags in city facilities be lowered to half-staff to recognize Lemestre. His family will hold funeral services and a celebration of his life shortly after the new year.

# O'Farrell calls for better ways to address homelessness

Los Angeles City Council President Pro Tempore Mitch O'Farrell, 13th District, introduced two motions on Nov. 24 to ensure better delivery of health services and resources for people experiencing homelessness.

"There is nothing compassionate about enabling homeless people to live and die in squalor on streets and sidewalks," O'Farrell said. "Every day, an average of four homeless people die in Los Angeles. This is not acceptable, and it's long past time for structural change and aggressive, comprehensive action, and that will not be possible unless we zero in on the city's contractual relationship with the county and address the mental health and substance abuse issues that often go untreated in encampments."

From January 2020 to July 2020, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health reported that deaths by drug overdose rose 33% when compared to the same time period in 2019. Since 2017, drug overdose has been the leading cause of death annually for people experiencing homelessness, and from 2017-19. people experiencing homelessness were 36 times more likely to die of a drug overdose than the average Los Angeles County resident. The department also determined that the increased use of substances laced with fentanyl have exacerbated the mental health crisis among unhoused Angelenos.

The city of Los Angeles does not have its own health department, and since 1964 has relied exclusively on Los Angeles County for public health services, including those related to mental health and substance abuse. In October 2020, the City Council adopted O'Farrell's motion calling for a review of the city/county public health contract dating back to 1964, as well as county public and mental health departments and agencies. The review confirmed that there is no clear method for the city to evaluate if the county's service delivery is effective.

One of O'Farrell's motions instructs the city administrative officer and chief legislative analyst to report on the city's contractual relationship with Los Angeles County, the delivery of health services in its existing contract and specific recommendations on how to improve the current system.

"What we have learned from the tragic humanitarian crisis of homelessness and the inadequate response to the pandemic is that our public health system is broken, especially for the most vulnerable Angelenos," Councilman Kevin De León, 14th District, who seconded the motion. "Despite not having a public health department, our city has a responsibility to ensure Angelenos have public health services that meet the growing and unfilled needs now facing us. This is a step in that direction."

The second motion introduced by O'Farrell on Nov. 24 affirms the city's support for funding from the state of California's 2022-23 budget for the construction of permanent supportive housing and other permanent housing solutions for people experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles.

For information, visit cd13.lacity.org.

# City diverts armed responses to homeless calls

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti launched the Crisis and Incident Response through Community-Led Engagement pilot program on Nov. 23. The first-of-its-kind program will divert nonviolent 911 calls related to homelessness from law enforcement to trained, unarmed professionals.

"There's a lot of support around the idea of removing police officers from nonviolent response, and Los Angeles is harnessing that energy to create a model that strengthens the human bonds that are essential to public safety and seeks to help, not punish, our most vulnerable Angelenos," Garcetti said. "CIR-CLE will ensure that our unhoused neighbors are met with the compassion and care they deserve, and is another step in the direction toward our ultimate goal: ending homelessness in Los Angeles."

In the 2021-22 fiscal year budget, the city made its largest-ever investment to address homelessness. The nearly \$1 billion commitment includes funding for new solutions to reimagine public safety. The CIR-CLE program is at the core of the new approach.

Currently, the program has teams deployed in Hollywood and Venice to foster relationships with people experiencing homelessness. Starting next month, the crisis response teams will be available 24 hours to respond to non-emergency calls from the Los Angeles Police Department's 911 system and the police non-emergency number, (877)LAPD247. Also, additional proactive response teams will be deployed during daytime hours in areas of high need in Hollywood and Venice. The teams will continue to build a rapport with the unhoused community, conduct light sanitation work, de-escalate situations and refer people to local service providers. CIRCLE response staff will not be armed and will not perform any law enforcement duties.

CIRCLE teams are comprised of an outreach worker, mental health



photo courtesy of Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti's Office

Mayor Eric Garcetti outlined a new program providing an unarmed response to non-emergency incidents involving homeless individuals. He was joined by Councilmembers Monica Rodriguez and Mike Bonin, and Council President Pro Tempore Mitch O'Farrell.

clinician or licensed behavioral health clinician, and a community ambassador. Venice and Hollywood were selected as the pilot areas because of a high concentration of people experiencing homelessness and a high volume of police calls for service.

"You couldn't have a clearer example of this country lacking a robust social safety net than when people with guns show up to respond to a nonviolent, mental health crisis," said Los Angeles City Council President Nury Martinez, 6th District. "In 2020, elected officials were called upon by Angelenos to re-evaluate our current approach to public safety and the L.A. City Council met that challenge head on by introducing an unarmed crisis response program. I'm happy to see the city building upon this commitment by launching the CIRCLE pilot program for those

experiencing homelessness."

"We are actively reexamining and updating how we handle the delivery of health services, especially to people who are not only experiencing homelessness, but who are also grappling with mental health and substance abuse issues," added Council President Pro Tempore Mitch O'Farrell, 13th District. "The CIRCLE program will help us meet people where they are and allow practitioners to thoughtfully respond to people's complex needs, without compromising public safety."

The city selected Urban Alchemy, a Los Angeles-based organization that also runs the city's mobile shower and restroom program and several interim housing facilities, as the service provider for the CIR-CLE program.

For information, visit lamayor.org.

# Property owners sought for county housing program

The Los Angeles County Development Authority is offering \$2,500 to eligible property owners who partner with the county and rent available units to emergency housing voucher holders.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has allocated 1,964 emergency housing vouchers to the LACDA to assist residents in need, including individuals and families experiencing homelessness and people who are victims of domestic violence or human trafficking. Property owners who have units located in the jurisdictions served by the LACDA and the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles are eligible for the program.

Property owners will receive a one-time reimbursement up to \$5,000 for new contract inspection repairs, and a \$2,500 signing bonus for each unit leased to an emergency voucher holder.

"This unprecedented global pandemic requires unprecedented actions to protect people experiencing homelessness and other vulnerable populations," said Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Chairwoman Hilda L. Solis, 1st District. "The additional monetary incentives being offered to property owners throughout the county to house emergency housing voucher holders is a promising tool. I thank the Los Angeles County

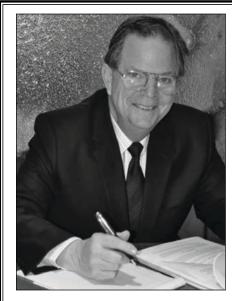
"This
unprecedented
global pandemic
requires
unprecedented
actions to protect
people experiencing
homelessness and
other vulnerable
populations."

-Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda L. Solis

Development Authority for helping to lead innovative win-win solutions."

"These robust incentives send a clear message to our property owner partners that we want to do all we can to make the program work for them, as well as for our families that are in dire need," LACDA Executive Director Emilio Salas added. "On top of incentive bonuses, we're also willing to help subsidize the cost of repairs to bring a unit up to standard, which is an unprecedented benefit not likely to be found anywhere in the country."

Property owners who are interested in the program can call (626)586-1585, or email lacdaincentives@lacda.org.



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

- 1. I want large sums of my hard-earned money to go to a law firm.
- 2. I want the government to decide who gets my life savings.
- 3. What for? My house is only worth a half-million dollars.
- 4. I really don't care who raises our children.
- 5. I want a total stranger to go through all of my personal papers and financial affairs.
- 6. I like family fights especially unnecessary ones.
- 7. I don't care who inherits my hard earned money.
- 8. I've been messy in life; I'll be messy in death.
- 9. They say you can't take it with you, but what if you can?
- 10. Probate. Must be fun.

If you don't do it for yourself, please do it for those you care about.

Kramer Law Group

Stephen W. Kramer

5858 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 205 Los Angeles, CA 90036 • (323)964-7100

# O'Farrell distributes grants to local theaters

Los Angeles City Council President Pro Tempore Mitch O'Farrell, 13th District, presented grants to 19 live theater groups on Nov. 18 as part of the Theater Emergency Response Program he created in partnership with the Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs.

"Arts and culture are what make a city more livable, and live theater means so much to the cultural and economic fabric of Los Angeles, especially here in Council District 13," O'Farrell said. "COVID-19 has been devastating to our live theater community. This program is not only helping our theater artists do what they do best – create and perform – but it's also helping them stay afloat through challenging economic times."

The Theater Emergency Response Program provides grants of \$5,000 each to performing arts companies in the 13th District. The recipients are the 2220 Arts Cooperative, Actors Co-Op, Art Time Presents, Bazalaam Beats Productions, Circle X Theatre, FilAm ARTS, Fountain Theatre, Gloria Gifford, Grok Acting Studio, Hudson Theatres, Independent Shakespeare Company, Jaxx Theatricals, Lizzy Ross, Skiptown Playhouse, the Blank Theatre Company, the Sacred Fools Theater, Open Fist Theatre Company, the Yard Theater and Two Wilder Inc.

"This program is much needed and much appreciated by the live theater community in Council District 13," said Giselle Tongi, executive director of FilAm ARTS. "Live theater is especially essential as the arts has been the lifeline and lifeblood for so many in Los Angeles during this pandemic, and it provides a critical forum for storytelling and representation for all Angelenos. We are grateful to Councilmember O'Farrell and the Department of Cultural Affairs for prioritizing the arts and partnering with our community in this program."

The grants can be used for operational costs including rent, salaries, artist fees, videography, marketing, website administration and other costs incurred since Jan. 1, 2021. Recipients will be required to produce, present or provide in-kind production support for one online performance, workshop or theater arts event that is free and publicly accessible on the organizations' and DCA's website.

Theater The Emergency Response Program was funded with \$130,000 in arts development fees allocated for Theatre Row on Santa Monica Boulevard in Hollywood. The arts development fees program was reactivated by O'Farrell, who was formerly chairman of the City Council's Arts Committee. Under the program, the city requires that each owner of a private development project valued at \$500,000 or more pay an arts fee or create a sitespecific art project based on the square footage of the building or 1% of the project's building and safety permit valuation, whichever is lower. When O'Farrell took office in 2013, the program had been discontinued, but he worked with DCA to renew the program and make

available millions of dollars for public art projects.

"As the City grows, we must continue to invest in our collective arts and culture," O'Farrell said. "The arts development fee represents an ongoing commitment to public art that is synonymous with our evolution as a city. I'm proud to do everything I can to ensure Los Angeles is a place where people can live, work and thrive, and public art is a prime example of how we thrive as individuals, as a community and as a world-class city."

For information, visit cd13.lacity.org and culturela.org.



photo courtesy of the 13th District council office

Council President Pro Tempore Mitch O'Farrell, 13th District, joined representatives from theater companies throughout his district that received grants to sustain operations.

# CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

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

LOCATIONS: 9165-9169 SUNSET BOULEVARD,

West Hollywood, California

**REQUEST:** Proposal to install a new billboard containing static and LED

components on a property designated as a cultural resource, subject to a development agreement and as part of the Sun-

set Boulevard Off-Site Signage Policy.

**PERMIT(S):** Certificate of Appropriateness, Development Agreement,

Sign Permit, Zone Map Amendment, and any other required

permits.

**APPLICANT(S):** Clay Collett, Orange Barrel Media

TIME/PLACE Teleconference Meeting

OF HEARING: Monday, December 6, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.
This meeting will be a teleconferenced meeting (with de-

tailed instructions for participation included on the posted

agenda).

**ZONES:** SSP (Sunset Specific Plan)

ENVIRONMENTAL

STATUS: Negative Declaration and addendum prepared for Sunset

Boulevard Off-Site Signage Policy

City Hall is accessible by appointment only. The staff report will be available on Wednesday, December 1, 2021 on-line at www.weho.org

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

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

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

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

Melissa Crowder, City Clerk

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

## **Shufelt honored at Cedars-Sinai**

Dr. Chrisandra L. Shufelt, the associate director of the Barbra Streisand Women's Heart Center at the Smidt Heart Institute at Cedars-Sinai, has been named the inaugural holder of the Anita Dann Friedman Chair in Women's Cardiovascular Medicine and Research.

Shufelt, also the co-director of the Preventive and Rehabilitative Cardiac Center and director of the Women's Hormone and Menopause Program, is a leading global expert in women's hormones and heart disease.

"It's a complete honor being the inaugural holder of this chair," said Shufelt, who also was promoted to professor of cardiology earlier this year. "It shows a level of dedication and respect to what the Barbra Streisand Women's Heart Center has done to advance women's health and the careers of women physician-scientists."

After graduating from the Keck School of Medicine of USC and completing her internal medicine residency, she began her career at Cedars-Sinai as the inaugural Constance A. Austin Fellow in Women's Heart Health in 2006, funded by the late Connie Austin.

Austin's daughter, Anita Dann Friedman, kept her mother's legacy alive by endowing that fellowship in 2014. She continues her family's legacy by recently establishing the endowed chair that has been appointed to Shufelt.

Dr. C. Noel Bairey Merz, director of the Barbra Streisand Women's Heart Center and the Irwin and Sheila Allen Chair in Women's Heart Research, emphasized the importance of women receiving endowed chairs.



photo courtesy of Cedars-Sinai

Dr. Noel Bairey Merz, left, joined Anita Dann Friedman and Dr. Chrisandra Shufelt, the inaugural Anita Dann Friedman Endowed Chair in Women's Cardiovascular Medicine and Research.

"When an endowed chair holder is a woman, that achievement provides a strong voice at the leadership table when it comes to crafting health policy, establishing new treatment guidelines, pursuing critical research and creating gender-sensitive curricula in medical schools," Bairey Merz said.

In September 2021, Shufelt became president of the North American Menopause Society, which serves medical professionals and the public. She also is an advisory board member of the European Menopause and Andropause Society and was the sole U.S. author for that society's Global Position Statement on menopause in the workplace.

Shufelt said the endowment will help her implement future innovative projects specific to women's heart health and how it affects the entire lifespan of women.

"This chair also represents a legacy of women supporting women," she added

10 November 25, 2021 Beverly Press/Park Labrea News



More frequent weekend service will be implemented on Dec. 19 on Metro's Rapid 720 Line, which runs along Wilshire Boulevard.

# Metro plans improvements to service on bus lines

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority is notifying bus riders that it will be making transit service changes on Sunday, Dec. 19.

Metro plans to add more frequent service to 18 bus lines and modify bus service on an additional 24 lines to improve travel times. The bus service changes are part of Metro's NextGen Bus Plan to provide easier access to key destinations, and to operate more frequent and reliable service. Additionally, Metro plans to increase peak-hour frequency of trains on the Blue, Green, Expo and Gold light rail lines.

In the local area, additional weekend trips will be added on Metro Rapid Bus Line 720, which runs between Santa Monica and downtown Los Angeles via Wilshire Boulevard. The bus service changes will also affect Line 51 between Koreatown and downtown Los metro.net/mybus.

Angeles. The line's north terminus will move Wilshire/Vermont to Westlake/MacArthur Park subway station on the Red and Purple subway lines. Trips will and end Seventh/Flower/Grand transit hub in downtown L.A. Line 20/720 service on Wilshire Boulevard, and Line 66 service on Eighth Street west of the Westlake/MacArthur Park subway station, will provide alternative bus service close to Seventh

Extra trips will also be added on weekdays on Metro Bus Lines 10, 14, 16, 55, 60, 66, 70, 94, 108, 125, 152, 165, 166, 230 256, 602 and 720, and the Silver Line.

Metro plans to resume fare collection on buses on Jan. 10, 2022. Fares had been suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

For information,

# Steady progress maintained on subway project

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority is holding its next lunchtime webinar on Purple Line construction Wednesday, Dec. 1, at noon. The webinar will focus on sections one and two of the subway project between the Wilshire/Western and Century City/Constellation stations, including work in Beverly Hills at the Wilshire/La Cienega and Wilshire/Rodeo stations. For information and registration, visit metro.net/calendar/ple123-lunchwith-us-webinar.

Metro will continue working on the subway at many locations along Wilshire Boulevard during the coming weeks. Crews are relocating underground pipes and infrastructure through early 2022 in Century City. Partial traffic lane closures are in place on Avenue of the Stars to facilitate station excavation, hauling and material deliveries. Eastbound and westbound vehicle access on Constellation Boulevard will be maintained between Century Park West and Century Park East.

In Beverly Hills, geotechnical instruments are being installed on poles along Wilshire Boulevard to monitor construction. Each instrument will be in place for approximately one month before being removed and relocated.

At the future Wilshire/Rodeo subway station, construction will be ongoing in December. Wilshire Boulevard will likely experience lane reductions between El Camino and Crescent drives to support work around the station near Wilshire



Crews are building elevator shafts, underground passageways and rooms for vital systems at the Wilshire/Fairfax subway station.

Boulevard and Reeves Drive.

At the future Wilshire/La Cienega subway station, crews are working on underground appendage structures housing vital systems. Concrete and material deliveries will continue to construction staging areas near Wilshire/La Cienega.

Crews are also building appendage structures underground at the future Wilshire/Fairfax subway station. Lane closures are anticipated on Wilshire Boulevard near Ogden Drive, and on the south side of Wilshire Boulevard at Orange Grove Avenue, through April 2022.

At Wilshire/La Brea, crews are working underground and in construction staging areas. Plans call for temporary decking on Wilshire Boulevard between La Brea Avenue and Orange Drive to be removed as early as April. The work will require eight to 10 full weekend closures of Wilshire Boulevard. Further information will be provided once project details are

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

## L.A. and the U.K. partner on sustainable transportation

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti and Minister Trudy Harrison, of the United Kingdom's Department for Transport, signed a precedent-setting memorandum of understanding on Nov. 18 to share best practices

for reducing emissions and adopting more sustainable transportation infrastructure.

"Los Angeles is proud to partner with the U.K. to speed up our transition to zero-emissions technology," Garcetti said "This [memorandum of understanding] will deepen the bond between our city and the U.K., and help move us closer to our shared goal of cleaner air and a healthier, more sustainable future for the people we serve."

The MOU will enable the city of Los Angeles and the U.K. Department of Transportation to share and collaborate on new technologies and methods to reach their respective climate commitments on emissions reductions in the trans-

"As we look to build on the commitments made at COP26 to accelerate our transition to zero-emission

cars and vans, the signing of this [memorandum of understanding] marks a new era in how the U.K. can work together with the city of L.A. to decarbonize transport," Harrison said. "By sharing best practices, we can promote innovation in transport as we strive to reach our climate commitments helping to drive down emissions and clean up the air we breathe on both sides of the Atlantic."

"The signing of this [memorandum of understanding] marks a new era in the already strong relationship between the U.K. and L.A.," British Consul General Emily Cloke added. "By sharing our expertise on transport, we will together make progress on areas like reducing greenhouse gas emissions ing more sustainable transport and helping improve the lives of people in the U.K. and L.A."

#### **Letters to the Editor**

#### WeHo should consider its own police department

Re "WeHo debates sheriff's department's future," Nov. 18

Forty-four of 88 of the municipalities in Los Angeles County currently contract with the sheriff's department for law enforcement. That would mean 44 do not, [and] 44 cities go it on their own.

West Hollywood voters rejected a proposal to create a West Hollywood Police Department in the 1990s, some 10 years after cityhood. The vote was close. The idea was strongly opposed by the city leaders at the time - worries of pensions, unions and liability. Money, basically.

Now, in the rearview, we see a city that has enough money to spend nearly a quarter-billion dollars (capital "B" because that's a lot of capital) between the revamp of West Hollywood Park and the robogarage behind City Hall – both vanity projects that the vast majority of citizens of the city will never

use. If you can afford these, you can afford a public service department. After all, the other city employees seem to be in a pension system, why not public safety personnel?

With that kind of financial largesse, the concerns for making a hometown police department should be debated on quantity and quality of service, not a price tag. You would have life-long, career people in these positions. Not the major or area commander assigned to WeHo changed every few years at the whim of the sheriff. The benefits would be large.

The individual public servants – the new WeHo cops – would be more accountable to the City Council than the sheriff. In a true crisis, outside agencies would step in, as they do now, and assist when necessary. They would know and learn the city and not rotate throughout the county.

A West Hollywood Public Safety office or department is a smart, progressive step. Put it on the ballot in 2022, perhaps as early as the June primary. Let the public debate begin.

David Reid Vista Street

#### **Bus-only lanes** on La Brea Avenue are a bad idea

Re "Bus-only lanes planned along La Brea Avenue," Nov. 18

The plan would reduce bus commutes by five minutes according to the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority. That might make those bus passengers a bit happier, but how would it impact auto drivers and passengers? "Not significantly," the Beverly Press tells us.

What exactly does that mean to the auto drivers and their passengers in the vehicles who now use those lanes during those hours? And squeezing them into the adjacent lanes is bound to slow the traffic in those lanes. That means more CO2 emissions fouling our environment.

I am not ready to make that change.

George Epstein Detroit Street

## Council takes steps to create city procurement office

The Los Angeles City Council on Nov. 23 approved a motion by Councilwoman Nithya Raman, 4th District, to create a permanent Office of Procurement to bring greater transparency and accountability to the city's contracts with goods and service providers. Los Angeles is one of the only major cities in the country with a decentralized procurement system.

The city of Los Angeles spends approximately \$4.5 billion annually to purchase goods and services, and for construction contracts. However, responsibility for procurement is

dispersed across individual departments, making it difficult for the city to determine how funds could be better spent to advance social, environmental and equity goals, Raman

The motion proposes establishing a permanent Office of Procurement overseen by the city administrative officer. The Office of Procurement would have the authority and expertise necessary to advise and oversee departmental contracting processes, aligning those practices with a council-approved, citywide procurement policies.

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■ Beverly Hills Temple of the Arts' Ilysia Pierce prepares for Hanukkah

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

From the time she was young, Cantor Ilysia Pierce knew music was her calling. The New York native, whose family moved to the Los Angeles area when she was 10, said her late grandfather was a cantor, and she discovered a love for music as a teenager while attending Temple Beth Kodesh of West Hills, in the San Fernando Valley.

"That's when I realized I have this love and passion for singing Jewish music and holiday music," Pierce said. "I was listening to a cantor at the time and thought, 'I can do this.' It was very inspirational. I was maybe 14 or 15 and it really stuck with me."

The music led Pierce to seek

vocal training and after high school, she embarked on a professional theater and singing career, appearing in numerous productions and musicals such as "Beauty and the Beast," "Fiddler on the Roof," "Evita" and "Sweeney Todd." Pierce performed on and off-Broadway and sang at concerts in the Walt Disney Concert Hall, Ford Amphitheater, Saban Theatre and Kennedy Center. While those accomplishments were significant and rewarding, Pierce said she was destined for something much bigger in the future.

In 1999, she attended services with Beverly Hills Temple of the Arts, led by Rabbi David Baron. Pierce said she found it inspirational and quickly joined the congregation, which owns and holds services in the Saban Theater. Unaware of her vocal prowess, Baron heard Pierce sing one day and encouraged her to pursue training as a cantor.

"That is when we started talking

about it," she said. "I said I had always wondered what it took to be a cantor. I sort of learned as I went. My congregation loves and supports me and it has been an amazing jour-

Pierce became the cantor for Beverly Hills Temple of the Arts and sings at Shabbat services, bar mitzvahs, bat mitzvahs, weddings, concerts and other special events, as well as during High Holidays services. Baron has been supportive of her singing career and participation at the temple.

"Ilysia, from day one, was beloved by all of us. She is a very talented singer," Baron said. "She sings with such passion and brings such energy to her songs. We are very fortunate to have her with us."

Pierce recently recorded her first solo album, "Blessed," which will officially be released in the coming weeks. Co-produced by the temple's music director, Sharon Farber,



Beverly Hills Temple of the Arts' cantor Ilysia Pierce, right, said she developed a spiritual connection to Jewish music.

and recording artist Sam Glaser, the Seasons Hotel at Beverly Hills, 300 album features the holiday song "There's Something About Those

Candles," written by Sandy Sherman. Just in time for Hanukkah, which begins at sunset on Nov. 28, the song is currently available for listening on Spotify, Pandora and Apple Music. "The messages in that song of light and coming together, and

standing together as one, are very powerful," Pierce said. "I have always thought that lighting the candles and bringing light into the darkness has such a beautiful universal message."

Pierce will perform during the Temple of the Arts Hanukkah Celebration on Dec. 3 at the Four S. Doheny Drive. The first part of the event from 6:15-7 p.m. is free and open to the public and includes a candle lighting ceremony for children. A dinner and shabbat service begins at 7 p.m. and requires tickets and reservations. For information, visit.bhtota.org.

Pierce is also performing at the nonprofit StandWithUs'"A Night to Honor Heroes" and Festival of Lights celebration on Dec. 5. The in-person event begins with a reception at 5 p.m. at the Wilshire Ebell Theatre, 4401 W. Eighth St. Reservations and tickets are required. The event will be livestreamed free at 7 p.m. at standwithus.com.

#### BH fundraiser benefits World's Jewish Museum

World's Jewish Museum held its third annual gala for the World's Jewish Museum Hamakom at The Maybourne Beverly Hills on Nov. 19.

The celebrated architect Frank Gehry's design and vision for the museum, and honored three individuals for their commitment to the WJM project.

Scholar, author and spiritual leader Rabbi Joseph Telushkin received the Lifetime Achievement Award, Aviv Mayor Ron Huldai accepted the Early Adopter Award and Miri Nash, a powerhouse in the world of Jewish philanthropy, was presented with the Israel Legacy Award.

Comic and Emmy-nominated TV host Howie Mandel and Rabbi David Wolpe returned to co-host.

At the gala, Gail Asper, the founding force behind The World's

The American Friends of the Jewish Museum, revealed that the projected cultural center will now be called The World's Jewish Museum Hamakom, an addition of the Hebraic word for "the place."

> Asper announced that more than half of the construction budget had been raised and plans are on track to lay the museum cornerstone in 2023. The gala raised more than \$1.4 million.

> "As we move closer to the fulfillment of our vision for the World's Jewish Museum, I am convinced that we are building an iconic, oneof-a-kind gathering place that will become a destination jewel in Tel-Aviv," Shauna Shapiro Jackson, executive director of AFWJM, said. "This will be a place to celebrate the impact the Jewish people have had on the world through the ages and to inspire future generations for years to come."

The World's Jewish Museum will be an immersive experience, part of a complex that will include a cultural and entertainment center. Designed by Gehry, the museum will celebrate contributions that the Jewish people have made to the world. Situated on the bank of the Yarkon River and overlooking the Mediterranean Sea, the museum will serve as a cultural hub in Tel

For information, visit worldsjewishmuseum.com.

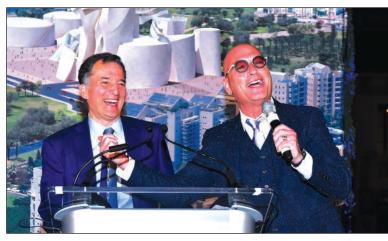


photo courtesy of Vince Bucci

Rabbi David Wolpe, left, and comedian Howie Mandel hosted the gala.

#### Skirball Center celebrates Hanukkah

Throughout December, Skirball Cultural Center is presenting opportunities for people to celebrate Hanukkah.

At 6 p.m. on Dec. 4, view an online short film that highlights the magic of Hanukkah. Led by Rob Eshman, national editor of "Forward," the film will explore the Jewish Festival of Light, featuring reflections from members of the Skirball community. It examines the Skirball's Hanukkah lamp collection, which includes more than 200 hanukkiot.

From 10-11 a.m. on Dec. 5,

learn why jelly doughnuts, or sufganiyot, are eaten during Hanukkah. Join Maite Gomez-Rejón of ArtBites to hear the history of the treat before making a version at home.

The event is \$10 for nonmembers and \$5 for members. Participants must register by 5 p.m. on Dec. 3.

From 2-6 p.m. on Dec. 5, join the Skirball for an afternoon of music, storytelling, art-making and celebration. Adult tickets are \$18. For information, visit skirball.org.



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#### **CHLA tuned in for Giving Tuesday**

# ■ Hospital partners with KOST 103.5 for celebration

**BY AARON BLEVINS** 

Giving Tuesday, a global day of philanthropy, will commence on Nov. 30, and families, patients and staff members at Children's Hospital Los Angeles are preparing for their moment in the spotlight.

From 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., iHeartMedia Los Angeles' KOST 103.5 will celebrate Giving Tuesday with CHLA virtually, with radio personalities interviewing patients, families, staff members and celebrity supporters to showcase the importance of the hospital's mission.

It also serves as a fundraiser. In the six years of the partnership between KOST and CHLA, organizers have raised approximately \$1 million to benefit research and equipment upgrades at the hospital, said Monica Rizzo, one of the event organizers.

"That first year – we still kind of laugh as we think back to how we pulled all that together in three weeks' time," she said. "It's just kind of snowballed. Everybody was all-in from the start."

Rizzo said CHLA's Giving Tuesday celebration began several years ago with a chance encounter with Ellen K, of The Ellen K Morning Show. She said CHLA staff members discussed the possibility of promoting the hospital on the show, and the idea blossomed from there. And it continues to grow.

Ellen K said she was introduced to CHLA in 2016, when her son, Calvin, was injured in a high school football game. He was sent to the CHLA emergency department, and doctors said he would require surgery.

"As a mom seeing her son in pain, I was a wreck," Ellen K said in a statement. "When we were at CHLA for Calvin's surgery, everyone was so positive and so on top of everything that I knew he was going to be all right. It was incredible how they took care of our whole family. I had driven past CHLA for years and never knew the magic that went on behind its doors. It was literally in my backyard, but I didn't know about it because we never needed it."

She said she is pleased to give back to the hospital, especially given the treatment her son received. Ellen K said Giving Tuesday has been a great way to express her gratitude.

"We were so touched by the outpouring of support from our listeners that first year, we couldn't wait to do it again and again," she added. "Now, it's our favorite day of the year, where we get to meet some amazing people who do amazing things and give back to this hospital that has touched so many."

In past years, the hospital's lobby has been full of excitement during Giving Tuesday, with the radio



photo courtesy of CHLA

Ellen K and her son, Calvin, celebrated Giving Tuesday at CHLA in 2019.

show broadcasting the celebration from CHLA facilities on Sunset Boulevard. This year's installment will be held virtually, but it will still offer plenty of fun and heartfelt moments with CHLA families, Rizzo said.

"The stories are just so incredibly inspirational," she added.

Additionally, actors Matt LeBlanc and Jamie Lee Curtis, and Los Angeles Dodgers third baseman Justin Turner are scheduled to participate. Ellen K and show cohost Ryan Manno will be joined on air by radio personalities Kari Steele and Sandi Stec.

Several sponsors have joined the cause to match the donations received during Giving Tuesday up

to \$125,000. Individuals who donate \$35 or more on Nov. 30 will provide a My Hand in Yours blanket to a patient at CHLA. Curtis, a big supporter of the hospital, founded the organization in 2020 and donates 100% of the proceeds to CHLA.

"She's just so dedicated to helping the hospital and raising awareness and championing those most vulnerable patients that need the life-saving care that CHLA provides," Rizzo said.

Further, Porto's Bakery and Café and Trejo's Tacos will donate a portion of their sales on Nov. 30 to CHLA.

For information, visit kost1035.com/chla.

## WeHo marks World Aids Day

West Hollywood recognizes World AIDS Day annually on Dec. 1, and this year the city will host special events and programming.

World AIDS Day originated at the 1988 United Nations World Summit of Ministers of Health on Programmes for AIDS Prevention. United Nations agencies, governments, nonprofit organizations and citizens come together to campaign around specific themes related to AIDS. World AIDS Day is an opportunity for people worldwide to unite in the fight against HIV/AIDS, to show support for people living with HIV and to commemorate people who have passed away due to HIV/AIDS.

The international theme this year is "End Inequalities. End AIDS. End Pandemics."

This year, the city of West Hollywood will recognize World AIDS Day with special events, including AIDSWatch, an electronic memorial to those lost to HIV, which will be viewable on the city's WeHoTV broadcast channel on Dec. 1.

The Paul Andrew Starke Warrior Awards presentation will be held at 6 p.m. on Dec.1 and can be viewed on the city's YouTube channel. It will feature the Warrior Awards, which are given to employees or volunteers of agencies that offer HIV/AIDS and/or substance abuse prevention and care services.

For information, visit weho.org.

# **Concert honors World AIDS Day**

AIDS Healthcare Foundation, the world's largest HIV/AIDS care provider, is once again holding a free concert to commemorate World AIDS Day, formally observed internationally each year on Dec. 1.

AHF's concert will feature Oscar and Grammy winner Jennifer Hudson and Grammy winner Christina Aguilera. It will be hosted by Emmy-nominated comedian Randy Rainbow.

The free concert will be held at 8 p.m. on Dec. 1 at The Forum and will be produced with AHF partner, Debbie Allen. The concert will also serve as a benefit for the Debbie Allen Dance Academy, and students from the dance academy will perform.

At the event, U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders will be honored with AHF's Lifetime Achievement Award, which will be accepted via special video presentation.

Under its "Keep the Promise!" banner, AHF will also acknowledge progress made in the global fight against HIV and AIDS and continue to raise awareness about "The Other Pandemic" as a reminder of the significant work still to be done.

"The effects of the AIDS epidemic are very personal for me, as I had many friends and loved ones who passed away from this deadly virus. World AIDS Day allows me to celebrate those lives lost and commemorate their various contributions not only to our personal relationships but also to film, television, dance and more," Allen said.

To date, 33 million have died of AIDS and more than 38 million people worldwide are estimated to be living with HIV.

Free tickets are available at ahfevents.org.

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# Focusing on food insecurity

# ■ Hollywood Harvest aims to provide food for seniors year-round

BY BRYNN MECHEM

As Angelenos prepare their turkey and stuffing for Thanksgiving, one nonprofit is focusing its attention on ensuring continued food security for Hollywood residents.

According to data from the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, one in five Angelenos, or about 2 million people, are food insecure, and Hollywood Harvest is hoping to help.

Hollywood Harvest was started at the outset of the pandemic to deliver groceries and other essential items to people ages 65 and older so they didn't have to leave their homes.

Organized by several Central Hollywood Neighborhood Council members, a group of volunteers called as many seniors in Hollywood as they could to assess their needs. From there, volunteers made deliveries to about 450 individuals every week.

In eight weeks, the volunteers had delivered 32,000 pounds, or 16 tons, of food to seniors in need.

"It was nuts. Looking back on it, it's amazing what we accomplished," said Louis Abramson, a CHNC board member and founding member of Hollywood Harvest. "We felt a real sense of urgency. We really did feel like if we didn't make these calls and deliveries, something bad could happen to our neighbors."

After two months, the volunteers passed responsibility to city and county government agencies that were helping deliver services. However, volunteer members still felt called to address food insecurity.

Over the following year, members met to brainstorm how best to continue Hollywood Harvest's mission.

The new program still targets seniors with fixed incomes that need access to food, but now the nonprofit sources its meals from recovered food waste.

According to data from the Los Angeles Food Policy Council, over 1 million tons of food goes into L.A.'s landfills each year. To help cut that number down, Hollywood Harvest now recovers food from grocery stores, farms and distributors that didn't sell and otherwise would have gone to waste.

"It's as good as what they're selling in stores; it's just overstock," said Spencer Hillman, a founding member of Hollywood Harvest. "We figured out there was an absolutely insane amount of waste, so now with this program, we can address food waste and food insecurity."

Hollywood Harvest now partners with the Hollywood Food Coalition to keep the recovered food in a large refrigerated storage space at 1223 Vine St.

Each week, recipients are given a bag of raw ingredients to cook their own meals. Items in the bag differ based on what Hollywood Harvest is able to recover for the week, but volunteers try to ensure residents get a few items in each of the food groups.

"This is good because if people don't like a prepared cooked meal, they might throw it out," Abramson said. "Because we're giving them raw ingredients, they're getting healthier food than they normally would, and they can cook something they like that makes them feel good."

Since its relaunch in July, Hollywood Harvest has delivered 15,000 pounds of food to its clients. Currently, Hollywood Harvest serves about 90 individuals, though Hillman estimates its storage space could serve up to 360 individuals should it receive the financial support necessary for growth.

In the future, Hollywood Harvest members hope to offer a supermarket that sells recovered food that are priced on a need basis. Anyone could shop there, but clients of Hollywood Harvest would essentially shop for free.

Abramson said he'd also like to put together a cookbook featuring recipes from clients as a way to build community, another key component of Hollywood Harvest's mission. Abramson said that about 80% of the organization's client base does not have a support system in their lives, and the organization has been able to step into that role.

"You've got to nourish the soul as well as the body," he said. "The food does the body good, but the fact that we go into our clients' homes and interact with them and call them every week, that does just as much good as the food."

Though clients won't receive a turkey in their Thanksgiving weekend bags, Abramson said they might receive some sweet potatoes or cranberries. As the organization grows, he said he hopes to be able to offer a more robust holiday service.

Individuals who are looking to volunteer during the holiday season and beyond can visit hollywoodharvest.org.



photo courtesy of Louis Abramson

Louis Abramson instructs Hollywood Harvest volunteers.

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by Jill Weinlein

# Thanksgiving at Savoca

The JW Marriott Los Angeles L.A. LIVE restaurant Savoca has a new holiday menu inspired by Chef Nathaniel Marcus' time cooking in Savoca, a Sicilian town. On Thanksgiving Day, Savoca is serving a three-course, pre-fixe menu of holiday favorites for \$65 per person. 900 W. Olympic Blvd., (213)765-8630.

# Dekkadance at InterContinental

Dine on the 69th floor and take in the views at Dekkadance on Thanksgiving. The brunch menu features carved-to-order dishes, including roasted and Cajun fried turkey, and brown sugar glazed bone-in ham. Sides include garlic mashed potatoes, maple cinnamon yams, traditional cornbread stuffing, poached prawns and crab claws. Finish with a slice of pumpkin pie, cranberry swirl cheesecake or assorted pastries. The meal is available today from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Prices start at \$95 for adults and \$40 for children 12 and under. 900 Wilshire Blvd., (213)688-7777.

# Golden Road Brewing 5k

On Nov. 26 join the hybrid virtual Golden Friday 5K Fun Run at Golden Road Brewing in Atwater Village. Registration is open through Nov. 26. Enjoy one of the brewery's new seasonal Christmas Cart beverages that offer notes of cherry, cinnamon and holiday baking spices. For every registrant, \$5 will be given to the nonprofit Wags & Walks to

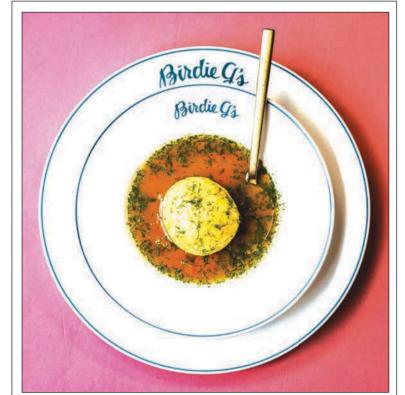
help rescue dogs in need. goldenroad5k.racemanager.app 5420 W. San Fernando Road.

# Hanukkah from Huckleberry's

The bakery and café's annual heat and serve menu features Creekstone Farms' onion-braised beef brisket, organic potato pancakes with organic sour cream, housemade apple sauce, matzo ball soup, organic double apple noodle kugel, dreidel cookie decorating kits and slow-roasted Scottish salmon. Orders must be placed 72 hours prior to the desired day on or by emailing catering@huckleberycafe.com. huckleberrycafe.com. Wilshire Blvd., (310)451-2311.

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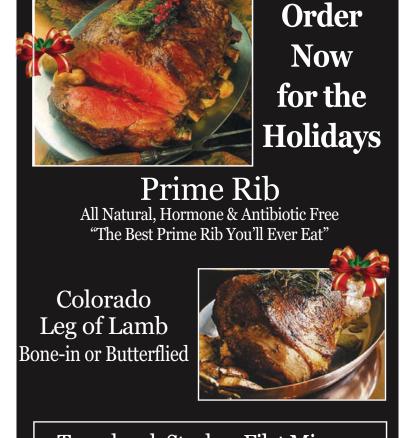
Through Dec. 31, Veggie Grill will donate 5% of proceeds from all online and in-store gift card sales to two nonprofits, Mercy for Animals and Farm Sanctuary. For



#### Birdie G's Hanukkah takeout and delivery

From Nov. 28 to Dec. 5, Birdie G's is offering a la carte menu items to heat and serve at home. Bring home a carrot miso-laced matzo ball soup, savory noodle kugel, sauerkraut latkes with crème fraiche and apple sauce, kosher wines and cocktails. Order online through Tock. 2421 Michigan Ave., (310)310-3616.





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#### **Weekly Burgers and Burgundy**

Every Thursday from 5:30-10 p.m., guests and locals can enjoy delicious sliders paired with some of the best wine in town. Burgers and Burgundy is held in The Living Room at Shutters On The Beach, offering views of the ocean and live music. Piquillo, caprese and truffle sliders are \$21 each. A three-slider flight is \$30. Enjoy with a glass of burgundy priced from \$8 to \$30, or enjoy with a three-burgundy flight for \$50. 1 Pico Blvd., (310)458-

#### **BLVD Kitchen holiday** edible gift show

Sharon Graves and the team from BLVD Kitchen will host a dozen local area women and minority artisans for a Holiday Gift Market on Thursday, Dec. 2. Items include sweet and savory treats, houseware, clothing and jewelry. The event will be outdoor and open to the public from 1-5 p.m. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to charity. 4641 Libbit Ave., (844)454-2583.

#### **Cyber Monday at Dog Haus**

On Nov. 29, participating Dog Haus locations will offer a buyone-get-one Haus Dog, sausage or burger on the Dog Haus app. The reward is for in-store app scan, pickup or delivery. Diners who have made a past purchase at a participating location via the app will automatically receive the reward on Nov. 29. It is a one day only promotion. doghaus.com. 3817 W. Olive Ave., (818)566-4287.

#### **Holiday Tamales at** Lanea Cocktail Bar

Dine-in or pre-order a dozen

tamales to take home, freeze and prepare later. Carefully crafted by Petra Zavaleta of East L.A.'s Barbakush, the tamales feature grilled chicken, grilled pork, a vegetarian option or a vegan option with fresh pineapple, and are topped with her secret seasoning. Each tamale is \$3 and available to purchase only on weekends at Lanea's until the end of the year. 217 Broadway, (424)265-

#### Vinovore expands for the holidays

The wine shop with a focus on female winemakers has expanded into a second location with a wine and food marketplace on York Ave, in Eagle Rock. The market is owned and operated by Coly Den Haan and Angelica Luna. Den Haan, one of L.A.'s first female sommeliers, launched her femaledriven concept, selling wine, beer and goods by female makers in Silver Lake. Stop in for gifts or items for a holiday party. 4627 York Ave. and 616 N. Hoover (323)522-6713.



#### Wise Sons Jewish Deli holiday menu

Let Wise Sons take care of Hanukkah this year with its classic and modern deli dishes. The Hanukkah catering menu includes braided challah, chicken broth and matzo balls, potato latkes with sides, roast chicken and winter vegetables, babka cinnamon or chocolate loafs, rugelach and chocolate chip cookies. The catering menu is available for delivery or pickup from Nov. 27 to Dec. 6. Orders must be placed by 9 a.m. two days prior to delivery. 9552 Washington Blvd., (424)298-8205.



# LIDAY FEAST



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# Sugar Palm satisfies the soul

Recently, my husband and I enjoyed a tropical dining experience at Sugar Palm, inside the newly-renovated Viceroy Santa Monica.

The minute one steps into the lobby, they immediately notice the \$21 million renovation. Off the lobby, the sophisticated indoor dining area offers a mid-century feel and opens to an expansive wraparound bar, dining patio and individual cabanas. Outdoor fireplaces and a colorful mural by L.A. artist Evelyn Leigh immediately welcome guests to dine under the towering palm trees.

Sugar Palm's new chef Jason Francisco grew up on the island of Moloka'i, Hawaii's fifth-largest island, and traveled to Los Angeles to get his accounting degree. Not wanting to be in an office all day, he later enrolled in the Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts in Las Vegas, where he began cooking innovative dishes.

His talents landed him a job at the two-star Michelin French restaurant, Alex at the Wynn Las Vegas. After returning to L.A., Francisco worked for Chef David Myers at his French brasserie Comme Ca, and later for Chef Michael Cimarusti at Il Pesce Cucina and Providence, which has two Michelin stars.

To get in the tropical spirit, we decided to try some cocktails. I ordered a lavender-colored gin concoction named The Botanist.



By Jill Weinlein

It's made with mezcal, lemon Aquafaba and chamomile. My husband selected a bright blood orange cocktail named Day Trip to Oaxaca that had mezcal, fresh blood orange juice, lime, agave and Topo Chico.

We started the evening with a beautifully-presented cheese board. Presented on a wood board were slices of California artisanal cheeses, including goat cheese flavored with fennel, wedges of the popular Point Reyes Farmstead blue cheese and Humboldt Fog goat cheese. Sweet red peppers were stuffed with feta cheese, briny green olives, salty mixed nuts, a wedge of oozing honeycomb, sweet homemade jam and vinegary dijon mustard to spread on grilled slices of sourdough bread.

Because the chef is known for his seafood dishes, we ordered a bowl of his "Ocean Chowdah."

The red tomato and lobster broth is served with king salmon sashimi, sweet potato cubes and clams. Slices of grilled sourdough were served to dip into the luscious

Next, the charred Spanish octopus arrived to the table, presented as a work of art. The black squid ink sabayon was swirled on the plate next to a red bell pepper puree. Crispy potatoes, similar to garlicky patatas bravas without the red arrabbiata sauce, were surrounding a slightly charred octopus tentacle topped with chorizo dust and microgreens.

Our server said "there is nothing like the bone marrow," and when it arrived on a long, wood plank, we agreed. Half of a bone was filled with flavorsome bone marrow that melted in our mouth.

We scooped up the delicacy and spread it on bread, along with duck mole confit, crispy Brussel sprout leaves, a dollop of Dijon mustard and homemade jam. Each bite was an explosion of earthy, sweet and savory flavors.

We paired the dish with a Longboard Island Lager from Hawaii, as an homage to the chef's homeland. Other beers include a Salty Crew Blonde Ale from Coronado Brewing Company, Escorpion Negro Black Ale from Baja Brewing Company and a local Expatriate IPA from Three Weavers Brewing Company in

A variety of wines by the glass from Central and Northern California wineries are great to sip on with some of the larger, shareable plates.

Other favorites include Jidori half chicken, marinated hanger steak and charred salmon in a miso broth with an extra-large, crispy rice cake.

Desserts include a dazzling deconstructed cheesecake with fresh berries, a tropical coconut flan and tiramisu bread pudding.

For Thanksgiving, Sugar Palm is serving a three-course menu and glass of bubbly for \$95. The children's menu is \$45. Guests may choose a cabana if available, or sit under the palm trees. Reservations can be made on OpenTable. 1819



# **Music Center announces** new dining options

The Music Center announced new partnerships with two wellknown Los Angeles dining establishments as part of its plan to reimagine dining options on its campus.

The Black women-owned Sip & Sonder opened its second location in front of The Music Center's Walt Disney Concert Hall, serving house-roasted coffees and signature pastries.

"When prompted with an opportunity to join The Music Center campus, we jumped," Shanita Nicholas, co-founder of Sip & Sonder, said. "Our mission is, and always has been, to create a space 'For the Community. For the Culture.' Our tagline highlights our vision for a place where culture is elevated, creativity encouraged, social responsibility championed and connections made."

This winter, Carney's, a familyowned restaurant chain known for one of the best burgers in L.A., will open its fourth location adjacent to The Music Center's Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, overlooking Grand Avenue.

"Carney's is all about great food served in a memorable atmosphere, and The Music Center is one of the most memorable and popular destinations in L.A.," Carney's owner John Wolfe said. We're excited to open our newest location and be a part of a new L.A.-driven dining experience at a

place that reaches so many in our community and from around the world."

Additionally, The Music Center and hospitality partner Levy announced a collaboration with Chef Ray Garcia to craft a new concept inside the anchor restaurant space at The Music Center's Walt Disney Concert Hall. Upcoming announcements throughout the rest of 2021 and into 2022 will highlight additional partnerships with home-grown restaurants and a new catering experience for private and social gatherings.

The Music Center's president and CEO Rachel Moore said adding Sip & Sonder and Carney's to the organization's dining portfolio aligns with its vision to offer culinary experiences and price points for every palate.

"The Music Center has always been a beacon for arts and culture. and now we're excited to enhance our role as a culinary destination with some of L.A.'s favorite dining experiences," Moore said. "Carney's has been an L.A. icon for decades, and Sip & Sonder has recently burst onto the coffee scene. These two artisanal food purveyors, who share our commitment to building community and social interaction, are wonderful examples of what a creative, entrepreneurial spirit can make possible."









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For more information visit www.rotary.org or www.wilshirerotary.org.

# **Emerging playwrights selected for Under 30 Lab**

IAMA Theatre Company selected a diverse set of playwrights to join its third annual class of 2022 Under 30 Playwrights Lab.

Emerging Los Angeles-based writers Sowmya Ashokkumar, A'raelle Flynn-Bolden, Karyn Peyton, Ebony Priddie, Dylan Schifrin and Daysha Veronica will meet on a monthly basis to share and develop their work in a peer-guided format.

Ashokkumar is a playwright, screenwriter and educator from the San Francisco Bay Area whose writing centers on women of the global majority in narratives about home, hope and healing.

Flynn-Bolden is an actor, vocalist, playwright, educator and activist. While training at California Institute of the Arts, she found a passion for telling

stories that explore the lives of foundational figures in BIPOC and LGBTQ+ history.

Peyton studied English at UChicago and Oxford as a first-generation, low-income student. Her first book of poetry is forth-coming from Finishing Line Press in January 2022.

A recent graduate of UCLA's School of Theater, Film and Television, Priddie sees playwriting as a movement for community action and social change. Priddie wants to inspire audiences to look deeper into the history of theater, and to see the community healing that can come from it.

Schifrin is a composer, lyricist and writer whose work seeks to blend satire, spectacle and music to tell often-political, often-LGBTQ+ outsider narratives. He is a Yale College graduate with a

B.A. in musical theater composition through the Shen Curriculum for Musical Theater.

Veronica is a playwright, screenwriter, poet, author, educator, digital media producer, women's lifestyle blogger and Television Academy Foundation Internship alumna. Her plays have been workshopped and performed at UC San Diego, UCLA, Meet Cute LA, Celebration Theatre, New York Theatre Workshop, PlayGround and PlayGround-LA.

The Under 30 Lab provides an artistic home for the next generation of L.A. playwrights and is an integral building block of IAMA's mission to foster young, hip and modern storytelling.

Members of the lab will be given dramaturgical support from the artistic and literary staff at IAMA, as well as a ticket to each

photos courtesy of IAMA Theatre Company

Clockwise from top, Daysha Veronica, Sowmya Ashokkumar, Ebony Priddle, Dylan Schifrin, A'raelle Flynn-Bolden and Karyn Peyton comprise the 2022 Under 30 Playwrights Lab.

of IAMA's mainstage and virtual productions. The lab will culminate in a public presentation of

the members' work.

For information, visit iamatheatre.com/under30.



photo courtesy of the BHUSD

## BHHS' Mani accepts scholarship

Beverly Hills High School power forward Jac Mani has accepted a basketball scholarship to the University of California, Davis.

In celebration of National Signing Day, Mani signed his national letter of intent to continue his basketball career at UC Davis, one of eight scholarship offers he received. He and his family decided UC Davis was the best place to expand and refine his skills, one day resulting in professional

options.

"I am extremely proud of Jac Mani and grateful to his coach, Jarvis Turner, who has guided and coached Jac for many years," BHUSD director of district athletics Tim Ellis said. "Harnessing athletic potential at a high school age is critical to ensure every future opportunity is made available to our students, and we are proud to see that Jac will continue on this journey next year."

# Academy launches global digital film preservation forum

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has announced the launch of the Academy Digital Preservation Forum, a global online gathering place dedicated to exploring the latest issues surrounding digital preservation of motion pictures.

An initiative of the Academy's Science and Technology Council, the forum hosts original content and resources and will serve as an ongoing discussion place for stakeholders and practitioners within the field and those interested in learning more.

"Preserving motion pictures – whether film or digital – is an imperative from both cultural and commercial perspectives," said Andy Maltz, senior vice president, Science and Technology Council. "As long as digital motion picture technologies evolve, there will be a need for collaboration between archivists, technologists and filmmakers. The ADPF provides a

foundation for productive communication and problem-solving to ensure future generations can access the movies we enjoy today and those yet to come."

The ADPF's mission is to confront challenges facing the digital preservation field, encourage information exchange and catalyze work toward sustainable solutions. By inspiring active participation from online community members, including academy members, filmstudio executives, makers, archivists, operations professionals, technologists and other practitioners, the forum aims to reinforce the importance of digital preservation to modern filmmaking and help shape the future of this work.

Resources include workflows, practices, technical standards, educational materials and critical research on digital preservation.

For information, visit academy-digitalpreservationforum.org.

## Doc McStuffins clocks in at CHLA

Investigators at Children's Hospital Los Angeles are using virtual reality in new ways to change how children experience healthcare. In collaboration with Disney Junior, CHLA doctors and scientists have developed an interactive virtual reality experience featuring popular television character Doc McStuffins.

In a recent study, the experience, called "Doc McStuffins: Doctor for a Day" reduced fear in children facing surgery. The study followed 51 patients undergoing surgery at Children's Hospital Los Angeles. After playing the game, 97% of the children reported feeling more comfortable at the hospital and 74% said they felt less frightened.

Nearly 5 million children undergo surgery every year, and more than half of them experience anxiety leading up to their procedure. Preoperative anxiety is linked to slower recovery, sleep disturbances and other difficulties in the weeks

following surgery.

"Children undergoing routine painful medical procedures will often report feeling better if they are engaged with a book or have something to focus on like playing with toys or bubbles," said Dr. Jeffrey I. Gold, director of the Biobehavioral Pain Lab and the Children's Outcomes, Research and Evaluation Program at CHLA. "Pain is very complex, but we know that shifting the patient's attention away from the pain can be very powerful."

Several years ago, Gold began investigating the use of VR for children having to undergo a blood draw. Some children were so immersed in the game, they didn't even notice the procedure. Because VR reduces discomfort, pain and fear, Gold wondered if he and his team could apply it in other areas, such as surgery.

When children engage in what is called medical play, they are happi-

er and less fearful, he said. Facilitated by trained professionals, such as child life specialists, medical play allows children to work through their feelings or anxieties regarding medical experiences.

Gold and his team partnered with Disney Junior to create an immersive, virtual experience to help children feel more comfortable before surgery. The experience, which was developed by Disney's Media and Entertainment Distribution Consumer Experiences and Platforms division in partnership with the CHLA team, allows each child to engage in play with Doc McStuffins, a popular character from the Disney Junior television show of the same name.

The "Doc McStuffins: Doctor for a Day" experience has been made available to participating patients at CHLA and other children on more than 1,800 headsets at more than 400 pediatric facilities across the country.



www.immaculateheart.org

#### **FIDM Museum celebrates** 'House of Gucci' film

Metro Goldwyn Mayer and United Artists Releasing have partnered with the Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising for a limited time "House of Gucci" exhibit at the FIDM Museum.

The exhibit, which will run through Dec. 4, coincides with the release of the "House of Gucci" film.

The movie is inspired by the shocking true story of the family behind the Italian fashion empire. When Patrizia Reggiani (Lady Gaga), an outsider from humble beginnings, marries into the Gucci family, her unbridled ambition begins to unravel the family legacy and triggers a reckless spiral of betrayal, decadence, revenge and ultimately, murder.

Presenting an exclusive mix of never-before-seen House of Gucci photography, film footage and costumes curated by costume designer Janty Yates, the exhibition offers audiences an immersive experience and backstage access to director Ridley Scott's upcoming drama, which also stars Adam Driver, Jared Leto, Jeremy Irons, Salma Hayek and Al Pacino.

"Making this film has been an extraordinarily rewarding experience, and this exhibition serves as an extension and showcase of the terrific work by my remarkable team of artists," Scott said.

FIDM will host a series of activities around the "House of Gucci" exhibit for its past, present and future students.

The exhibit is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday, and is free to the pub-

For information, visit fidmmuseum.org.



photo courtesy of FIDM Museum

Guests can see costumes worn by Lady Gaga and other actors in the "House of Gucci" movie.

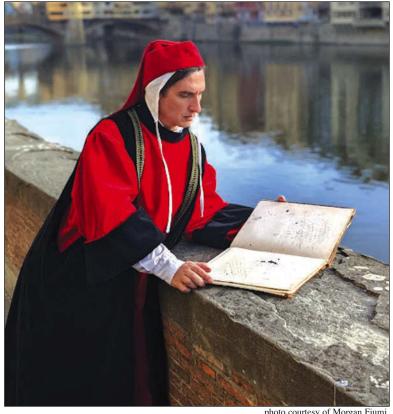
## Wallis will screen live Italian musical performances

The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts and Hershey Felder are partnering again to present seven new musical films throughout 2022.

For the second time, the Wallis is partnering with Felder, a pianist and playwright, to bring "Hershey Felder Presents - Live From Florence," a series of musical and dramatic films produced in Europe, directly into people's homes. Films in the new season were set and produced in Paris, Vienna, Venice, Warsaw and Avila, Spain.

The new season follows the international success of "Live From Florence's" 2020-21 season, which featured eight productions and sold more than 56,000 tickets.

The films in season two include "Dante in Florence," about Italian poet Dante Alighieri and his muse, Beatrice; "Mozart and Figaro in Vienna," about the collaboration between Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Lorenzo da Ponte; "The Verdi Fiasco," about the disastrous opening night of Verdi's "La Traviata"; "The Assembly," about Holocaust survivor Eva Libitzky's visit to urban schools; "Chopin in Paris," about the music and life of Fryderyk Chopin; "The Crazy Widow (of Moses de Leon), about 13th century Jewish mysticism that is the basis for Kabbalah; and "A Musical Surprise for Holiday Time," the subject of which will be decided by season ticket holders.



Hershey Felder performs as Dante in "Dante in Florence."

Felder, who has resided in Florence since the start of the pandemic, created the "Live From Florence" film studio in Tuscany to support artists and organizations that were struggling. Proceeds from the first season benefitted theaters and arts organizations, such as The Wallis, that have served as Felder's artistic homes.

The films will premiere Nov. 28, and run through Dec. 18,

2022. Productions are available for \$55 each, though all seven can be viewed with a World Premiere Pass, which also includes access to behind-thescenes events and season one films, for \$220.

Tickets are now on sale, and those who purchase a season pass before Nov. 26 will save 40%.

For information and tickets, visit thewallis.org or call (310)746-4000.



Join Mayor Bob Wunderlich for 'Wellness Wednesdays,' a Mayoral Initiative that aims to inspire community members to get outside and participate in exercise classes, enjoy wholesome food options from local businesses and incorporate wellness into their lives.

# Latin Sizzle

\*The class will be held indoors; per LA County Department of Public Health protocols, masks will be required.

#### 12-1-21 at 8 a.m. **Roxbury Park**

(Meet in front of the Community Center) 471 S Roxbury Dr. **Beverly Hills, CA 90212** 



beverlyhills.org/wellnesswednesdays | Questions can be directed to 310-285-1014 | #BHHealthyCity

# **Getty acquires first Caillebotte painting**

The J. Paul Getty Museum has acquired "Young Man at His Window," regarded as the most important painting by French Impressionist Gustave Caillebotte in private hands.

The large-scale figure painting, widely considered a masterpiece of modern realism and a key moment in the history of impressionism, will go on display at the Getty Center Museum in 2022.

"We expect Caillebotte's 'Young Man at His Window' to become a new standout in our popular Impressionist gallery," said Timothy Potts, Maria Hummer-Tuttle and Robert Tuttle director of the J. Paul Getty Museum. "This extraordinary painting exemplifies Caillebotte's carefully-constructed and sharp-edged brand of urban realism – so distinct from the informal landscape aesthetic of artists like Monet and Renoir – and will allow us to present to our public a fuller picture of the art associated with the impressionist movement."

"Young Man at His Window" represents a pivotal moment in Caillebotte's early career. He exhibited it to acclaim at the second impressionist exhibition in 1876, when he was 27 years old. It was his public debut as a painter, and among his submissions, the painting received the most critical acclaim, after his famous "The Floor Scrapers."

"Young Man at His Window" is the culminating work in an early trio of domestic interior scenes featuring Caillebotte's immediate family, the other two being "Young Man Playing the Piano," which depicts his brother Martial, and "Luncheon," which depicts his brother René, his widowed mother and a servant.

The painting depicts a young man in a dark suit standing at a large open window in the

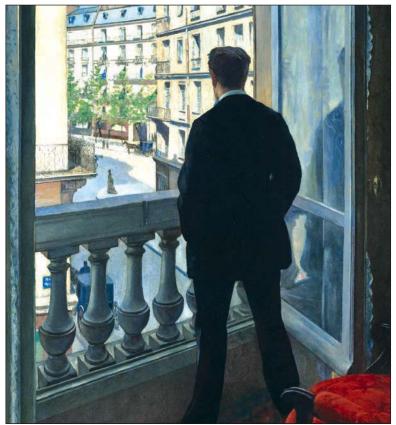


photo courtesy of the J. Paul Getty Museum

Gustave Caillebotte debuted "Young Man at His Window" at an impressionist exhibition in 1876.

Caillebotte family's well-appointed upper-story apartment in Paris. With his back to the viewer, his feet planted firmly apart and hands in his pockets, he looks out at a sun-drenched street scene tightly framed by tall apartment blocks.

"With dramatic lighting, painstaking execution and a highly original composition that brilliantly conjoins domestic interior and Paris street scene, 'Young Man at His Window' is an acknowledged masterpiece from the most inventive period of Caillebotte's career," said Scott Allan, curator of paintings at the Getty Museum. "Caillebotte's

painting represented the most innovative form of modern urban realism in the mid-1870s. Such realism was a key ingredient of the broader impressionist project, particularly among the most ambitious figure painters of the independent exhibition group."

The painting has featured prominently in nearly every major Caillebotte retrospective since 1894. It has been extensively discussed and reproduced in scholarly literature.

This is the first work by Caillebotte to enter the Getty's collection.

For information, visit getty.edu.

# Holiday season comes to Hollywood and Highland

As the holiday season gears up, Hollywood and Highland has many events planned to get Angelenos in the Christmas spirit.

Toy soldiers, carolers, the Sugar Plum Fairy and Jolly Old Saint Nicholas will make appearances throughout the coming weeks.

The pop a cappella group Jingle 5 Carolers will perform every Thursday and Saturday from 2-6 p.m. in the Awards Walk and the Hollywood popup. The group's last performance will be Dec. 23.

Every Saturday and Sunday from 2-4 p.m. Santa and his elf helper will be available for socially-distanced photo opportunities. The last day to get a photo with Father Christmas is Dec. 19.

An assortment of other holiday entertainment, including candy cane stilt walkers, a singalong Sugar Plum Fairy, toy soldier dancers, ballerinas and a holiday jazz band will make appearances.

For information, visit holly-woodandhighland.com.



photo courtesy of Hollywood and Highlan

A cappella group Jingle 5 Carolers will perform throughout December.

#### The Broad celebrates decade of exhibitions

The Broad will present "Since Unveiling: Selected Acquisitions of a Decade," a free exhibition that highlights nearly 60 years of artwork.

The exhibition will run in the first-floor galleries through April 3. It highlights works acquired in the 10 years since Eli and Edythe Broad publicly announced their plans for the opening of the museum.

The Broad was built to house the collection of postwar and contemporary art that the Broads cultivated for over five decades, and the museum has offered free general admission since its opening in 2015. The exhibition celebrates the museum's dedication to collecting artists' work in depth, featuring artworks that have entered the Broad collection in the last decade, with some as recently as this year.

"As a collector and tireless philanthropist, Eli Broad spent decades bringing contemporary art to public spaces," Founding Director Joanne Heyler said. "Unveiling' looks back at key acquisitions of the past decade as the museum took shape, built to share the collection with the public in perpetuity."

The immersive, multi-screen installation "The Visitors" by Ragnar Kjartansson returns to the galleries for the occasion. New acquisitions by artists Catherine Opie and Shirin Neshat are featured, as well as select acquisitions that expand the collection's representation of Black artists, such as Kerry James Marshall and Nathaniel Mary Quinn.

The 57 works on view by 29 artists represent varying facets of contemporary art, from explorations of abstraction and figuration to examinations of place, identity and narrative.

Many works critique, re-contextualize and interpret the our global pre-

sent, speaking to political struggle, American history, power and the concept of home.

The Broad continues to operate at reduced visitor capacity. Advance online ticket reservations are required by visiting ticketing.the-broad.org.





photos courtesy of Nathaniel Mary Quinn and Kara Walker

Postwar and contemporary art will be on display as The Broad celebrates a milestone.



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#### **Beverly Hills to host free author talk**

The Beverly Hills Public Library will host a free, virtual author talk with celebrated memoirist and novelist Jill Schary Robinson at 6 p.m. on Dec. 7.

Schary Robinson is the author of several renowned memoirs, including "With a Cast of Thousands," "Bed/Time/Story" and "Past Forgetting."

As copywriter for the advertising agency FCB, Robinson trained with businesswoman, American author and publisher Helen Gurley Brown. Robinson also wrote on women's issues for Cosmopolitan and covered political trials for the SoHo Weekly News.

She is the daughter of Dore Schary, the Oscar- and Tony Awardwinning writer, producer and head of MGN

Robinson's first memoir, "With a Cast of Thousands," is about her experiences growing

up among celebrities such as Jane Fonda, Spencer Tracy, Elizabeth Taylor and Adlai Stevenson.

Robinson was given a lifetime grant in 2005 to develop the non-profit Wimpole Street Writers Program, which continues today in London and Los Angeles. In 2009, Robinson was instrumental in saving the Motion Picture and Television Fund's retirement home.

To attend the event, RSVP by calling (310)-288-2244, or email the Beverly Hills Public Library at reference@beverlyhills.org.

For more information, visit bhpl.org.



photo courtesy of the Beverly Hills Public Library

Jill Schary Robinson is renowned for her memoirs.

# PARKLABREA NEWS Happy Thanksgiving



An advertisement in the Nov. 25, 1954, issue of the Park La Brea News offered a complete Thanksgiving Dinner for a \$1.95 at Van De Kamp's coffee shop, which was once a landmark in the Miracle Mile at 5665 Wilshire Blvd. Van De Kamp's had restaurants throughout the Los Angeles area with memorable windmills affixed to their facades, including the former restaurant at Wilshire Boulevard and Masselin Avenue. Van De Kamp's also operated numerous bakeries until operations ceased when the company filed for bankruptcy in 1990. For information on ways to celebrate Thanksgiving this year, see Restaurant News on pages 16-17.

# NHM displays Lon Chaney Sr.'s makeup kit

The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County was one of the earliest institutions to begin collecting and exhibiting artifacts from the motion picture industry, beginning in 1930, and now, visitors can view one of the most popular artifacts from the museum's unparalleled Hollywood collection.

Known as the "Man of a Thousand Faces," silent film actor Lon Chaney Sr. used his talent with makeup and pantomime to transform himself into dozens of different characters over the course of his career, including "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" (1923) and "The Phantom of the Opera" (1925).

Visitors can see Chaney's makeup kit alongside his costume from the 1920s film "The Penalty" in the museum's "Becoming Los Angeles" exhibition through May 16.

Because several contents in the kit are light sensitive, it will be displayed open through Feb. 7 and closed through May 16.

The temporary display provides a deeper look into Chaney's role as a double amputee in the film, while addressing how the still-common use of non-disabled actors to play characters with disabilities can be offensive and an obstacle to greater equity for actors with disabilities.

"Becoming Los Angeles" explores the growth of Los Angeles over the course of five centuries and illustrates the interconnection of the city's ecological and cultural histories. The exhibition brings L.A.'s history to life through compelling stories and ancient and historic artifacts such as objects made and used by Native Americans, colonists, rancheros, oil



photo courtesy of Michael F. Blake Collection Actor Lon Chaney Sr. used makeup to transform himself into dozens of characters.

barons, filmmakers and innovators. For information, visit nhm.org/becomingla.

#### Los Angeles Dodgers host annual turkey giveaway

The Los Angeles Dodgers and the Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation hosted the 17th annual community Thanksgiving Turkey Giveaway at Dodger Stadium on Nov. 19.

Dodger legend Fernando Valenzuela joined fellows Dodgers Justin Turner, Tony Gonsolin, Andrew Vasquez, Brusdar Graterol, Alex Vesia and Phil Bickford to distribute 1,500 Thanksgiving meals.

The meals included turkeys and all the traditional fixings and were given in reusable canvas bags to individual families, as well as nonprofit community organizations.

The Dodgers also partnered with the offices of Mayor Eric Garcetti; state Sen. Maria Elena Durazo (D-Los Angeles); Los Angeles City Council President Pro Tempore Mitch O'Farrell, 13th District; Councilman Gil Cedillo, 1st District; U.S. Rep. Jimmy Gomez (D-Los Angeles) and Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis, 1st District, for the turkey giveaway, with each office selecting organiza-



photo by Jon Soohoo courtesy of the Los Angeles Dodger

"Third baseman Justin Turner helped distribute Thanksgiving meals for individuals in need.

tions in its district to benefit.

Turkeys and fixings were also provided to pre-selected students in the Dodgers' "Community of Schools," a strategic community partnership to improve the education and wellness of children attending local Title 1 schools and living in communities surrounding

Dodger Stadium. Levy Restaurants also provided all recipients with complimentary Dodger dogs.

The L.A. County Department of Mental Health joined the Dodgers onsite to provide mental health resources to Angelenos. For information, visit mlb.com/dodgers/community/foundation.

# Bogie's Liquor



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The following crimes occurred in West Hollywood, Beverly Hills and the areas patrolled by the LAPD's Wilshire and Hollywood divisions between Nov. 12 and Nov. 20. The information was compiled from crimemapping.com. To report a crime, call local law enforcement agencies: Los Angeles Police Department, Wilshire Division (213)473-0476, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department West Hollywood Station (310)855-8850, and the Beverly Hills Police Department, (310)550-4951.

# Beverly Hills Police Department

#### Nov. 14

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 400 block of N. Canon at 2:20 a.m.

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

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 9600 block of Wilshire at 3:17 p.m.

#### Nov. 15

At 2:10 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 300 block of S. Rodeo.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 600 block of Hillcrest at 1:18 p.m.

#### Nov. 16

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 100 block of N. Hamilton at 2 p.m.

At 2:15 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 9700 block of Wilshire.

A robbery was reported in the 9400 block of Brighton at 9:30 p.m.

#### Nov. 17

A vandalism incident was reported in the 9300 block of Civic Center at 1:10 a.m.

At 12:31 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 600 block of N. Alta.

#### Nov. 18

At 12:43 p.m., a vandalism incident was reported in the 300 block of N. Palm.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 9600 block of Sunset at 2:45 a.m.

At 1:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 400 block of N. Bedford.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 200 block of S. Rexford at 7:17 p.m.

#### Nov. 19

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 200 block of N. Rodeo at 12:06 p.m.

At 2:22 p.m., an unknown suspect stole auto parts in the 300 block of N. Foothill.

#### Nov. 20

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

#### West Hollywood Sheriff's Station

#### Nov. 14

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 8800 block of Santa Monica at 1:30 a.m.

At 10:07 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1000 block of N. Harper.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of Lexington and Santa Monica at 7:10 p.m.

At 8:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1100 block of Alta Loma.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8400 block of Melrose Place at 11:15 p.m.

#### Nov. 15

At 12:24 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8900 block of Keith.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 1000 block of San Vicente at 1 a.m.

At 2:15 a.m., a suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 500 block of N. Huntley.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1200 block of N. Vista at 5:30 p.m.

At 7:14 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 7800 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked near the corner of Carlos and Phyllis at 10:44 p.m.

#### Nov. 16

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 1200 block of N. La Brea at 9:25 a.m.

At 2:09 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1100 block of N. Poinsettia.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8600 block of Melrose at 4:45 p.m.

At midnight, an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 8700 block of Beverly.

#### Nov. 17

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1200 block of N. Flores at 8:20 a.m.

At 5:25 p.m., a suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 8600 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8400 block of Melrose at 9:56 p.m.

At 10:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8200 block of Santa Monica..

#### Nov. 18

A suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident near the corner of Lexington and Detroit at 12:48 a.m.

At 10 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8900 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 1100 block of N. Spaulding at 7:30 p.m.

#### Nov. 19

At 8:25 p.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 7900 block of Santa Monica.

#### Nov. 20

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 800 block of San Vicente at 3:45 a.m.

At 1:51 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1000 block of N. Ogden.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 600 block of N. Orlando at 2 p.m.

At 4:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1000 block of Edinburgh.

# Los Angeles Police Department

#### Nov. 12

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 6000 block of Santa Monica at 10:10 a.m.

At 11:15 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 8500 block of Brighton.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 100 block of N. La Cienega at 12:15 p.m.

pect robbed a victim in the 8700 block of Third.

At 12:30 p.m., an unknown sus-

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 800 block of S. Burnside at 3 p.m.

committed a petty theft in the 7000 block of Hollywood.

An unknown suspect committed a

At 3:38 p.m., an unknown suspect

burglary in the 1800 block of N. Ivar at 7:30 p.m.

# At 11:40 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 6400 block of Selma.

#### Nov. 13

A robbery was reported in the 700 block of N. Gardner at 1:53 a.m.

At 2 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 6000 block of Hollywood.

An attempted robbery was reported in the 500 block of N. Crescent Heights at 3 a.m.

At 3:05 a.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 5700 block of Hollywood.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 300 block of S. Gramercy at 10 a.m.

At 4:20 p.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 7000 block of Hollywood.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 7200 block of Melrose at 6:55 p.m.

At 7 p.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim near the corner of Melrose and Poinsettia.

#### Nov. 14

At 12:01 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 5800 block of Willoughby.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 1600 block of N. Las Palmas at 1:30 a.m.

At 3:45 a.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 6000 block of Third.

An unknown suspect robbed a vic-

tim in the 700 block of N. Highland at 7 a.m.

At 12:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 100 block of N. Arden.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 700 block of N. Van Ness at 7 p.m.

At 7 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 400 block of S. Las Palmas.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1200 block of N. McCadden at 9 p.m.

At 10 p.m., an unknown suspect

stole a vehicle parked in the 600 block of Ridgeley.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 2000 block of N. Las Palmas at 11:30 p.m.

#### Nov. 15

At 12:01 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 400 block of N. Orange.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1900 block of Grace at 12:01 a.m.

At 1:30 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 500 block of N. Arden.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 6500 block of Santa Monica at 7:10 a.m.

At 8:15 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1000 block of N. Highland.

grand theft in the 1000 block of N. Western at 12:24 p.m.
At 4:40 p.m., an unknown suspect

An unknown suspect committed a

committed a grand theft in the 100 block of N. La Cienega.

An unknown suspect stole a vehi-

Saint Andrews at 5 p.m.

At 7 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a bicycle in the 1200 block of

cle parked in the 400 block of N.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1000 block of

At 8:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 5500 block of Sixth.

A suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident near the corner of Grace and Franklin at 8:30 p.m.

#### Nov. 16

S. Holt at 7 p.m.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 2000 block of N. Sycamore at 3:35 a.m.

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

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 300 block of S. Doheny at 7 a.m.

stole a vehicle parked near the corner of Romaine and La Brea.

At 6:30 p.m., an unknown suspect

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1600 block of N. El Centro at 7 p.m.

At 8 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 700 block of N. Gramercy Place.

#### Nov. 17

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 7600 block of Beverly at 1:30 a.m.

At 3:45 a.m., an unknown suspect

committed a petty theft in the 300 block of N. Hayworth.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 200 block of S. La Brea at 8:40 a.m.

At 1:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 8400 block of Melrose Place.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5600 bock of Eighth at 5:30 p.m.

At 6:15 p.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 300 block of N. La Cienega.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8400 block of Willoughby at 8:20 p.m.

At 11:30 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 5100 block of Melrose.

#### Nov. 18

An unknown suspect robbed a victim near the corner of Sunset and Martel at 12:01 a.m.

At 1 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7600 bock of Melrose.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 800 block of S. Stanley at 12:05 p.m.

At 3:15 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1300 block of Vine.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 100 block of S. La Brea at 4:50 p.m.

At 5 p.m., an unknown suspect

committed a petty theft in the 8500

block of Beverly.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6300 block of

# Yucca at 7:30 p.m. **Nov. 19**

3:25 a.m.

At 12:01 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near the corner of Wilcox and Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 8400 block of Third at

At 4 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 5900 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 6600 block of Yucca at 6:30 a.m.

At 8 a.m., an unknown suspect

committed a petty theft in the 300

block of S. Saint Andrews.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5900 block of

At 9:50 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the

Lexington at 8:30 a.m.

800 block of S. Wooster.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6800 block of Hollywood at 11:15 a.m.

At 2 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 6500 block of Cerritos Place.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 400 block of Palm at 3:04 p.m.

At 6:26 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a bicycle in the 5800 block of Franklin.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near the corner of Seward and Lexington at 7:05 p.m.

At 9:25 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 6500 block of Hollywood.

#### Museum experience will examine life of Tupac Shakur

The Shakur Estate announced the world premiere of "Tupac Shakur. Wake Me When I'm Free," a fully immersive museum experience that explores the life and legacy of the acclaimed rapper, artist and activist.

"Tupac Shakur. Wake Me When I'm Free" will open on Jan. 21 at The Canvas, located at the intersection of Georgia Street and Olympic Boulevard, downtown.

Twenty-five years after his murder, Shakur remains one of the most complex and prolific artists of his generation. With more than 75 million albums sold worldwide, he is one of the top-selling artists of all time.

In 2017, Shakur was inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, making him the first solo hip-hop artist to be recognized for inclusion in his first eligible year. Shakur also had success and critical acclaim as an actor, starring in popular films including "Juice" and "Poetic Justice."

Part museum, part art installation, part sensory experience, WMWIF will showcase Tupac's music, poetry and never-before-seen artifacts. WMWIF will delve into the greater meaning of his activism, music and art.

Tupac's mother and Black Panther Afeni Shakur played a prominent role in Shakur's life and her spirit brings a parallel presence to the exhibition.

"Afeni was the baddest Black woman to walk the planet. She raised awareness and shifted the

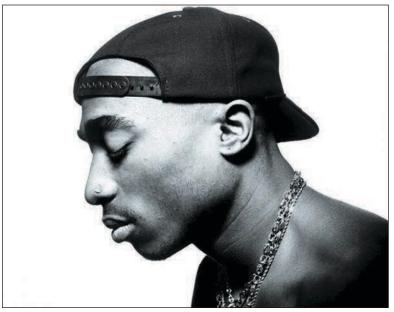


photo courtesy of Jeffrey Newbury

"Tupac Shakur. Wake Me When I'm Free" will examine the artist's life, music and legacy.

atmosphere wherever she went," Jamal Joseph, Tupac Shakur's god-father and special advisor to the estate, said. "Tupac's brilliance shined brighter than the sun. He lived and moved with creative, revolutionary, fearless passion fueled at the speed of a comet. Afeni and Pac challenged, re-imagined and transformed history."

WMWIF is a creative collaboration led by chief curator and vice president of curatorial affairs at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Nwaka Onwusa, and award-winning creative director at Project Art Collective Jeremy Hodges.

"It is a privilege to be a part of

such a monumental project," Hodges said. "Tupac Shakur was my Malcolm, he was my Martin, and to build an experience that honors such a prolific man cannot be summed up in words. We wanted to create a memorable experience that will inspire you to be better than when you walk in, all while leaving you with the knowledge that he was a true revolutionary spirit."

The museum experience is scheduled to visit a limited number of U.S. and international cities over the next several years.

For information, visit wakemewhenimfree.com.

# **UWC** celebrates TransGiving



photo courtesy of the Unique Woman's Coalitic

The Unique Woman's Coalition held its annual TransGiving dinner on Nov. 20, coinciding with the Trans Day of Remembrance. The annual event invites members of the transgender community to come together for a free holiday meal. Since its inception in 1999, attendance has grown to more than 200. TransGiving events are now held in locations across the U.S., including Sacramento, Mississippi, New York and Atlanta. Guests had their photos taken at a photo booth before enjoying a meal catered by Redline Food & Bar. After the meal, guest hit the dance floor accompanied by a live DJ.

#### **Beverly Center rings in the holidays**

For the remainder of the year, shoppers at Beverly Center can celebrate the holidays with a series of interactive and immersive experiences.

Through Dec. 31, guests can enjoy a larger-than-life holiday display and a winter wonderland, complete with Santa's sleigh and Frosty the Snowman.

On Dec. 4, 11 and 18, capture the holiday magic with live music and a photo booth. Enjoy favorite holiday classics from 1-5 p.m. and take a photo print home.

On Dec. 11, Beverly Center is partnering with the nonprofit

WGIRLS Los Angeles to bring guests holiday treats, entertainment and artisanal goods during its second annual holiday market.

From Dec. 19-23, Santa will spread holiday cheer as he strolls through Beverly Center. He will make hourly visits to Grand Court, where guests can pose for a photograph.

Also, Beverly Center, Cedars-Sinai and Sofitel Los Angeles at Beverly Hills will host a two-day community blood drive from Dec. 22-23.

For information, visit beverlycenter.com.

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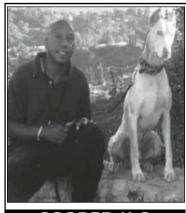
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#### Crossword Puzzle by Myles Mellor

- 1. Hamburg's river
- 5. George Eliot or George Sand, e.g.
- 10. Spain and Manchester United soccer
- 14. Drudgery
- 15. Slip away
- 16. Deity for Nefertiti
- 17. Being petty over money
- 20. Categorize
- 21. Aggressive one
- 22. Cocktail ingredient
- 24. Los Angeles attraction, with "the"
- 25. World's second largest island
- 29. Firefighter's need
- 33. Advisory
- 34. Pitcher Hershiser
- 35. Little butter?
- 38. Cynical foreign policy
- 42. Cardinal's insignia
- 43. Spanish for kiss
- 44. David of "The Pink Panther" 45. Bill addendum
- 46. Federal \_\_\_ Commission
- 47. Eisenberg of "The Social Network"
- 51. Skater, Babilonia
- 53. Pulls off
- 57. Scarcely detectable amount
- 62. Making the rounds as a lawman
- 64. Vogue competitor
- 65. Aqua \_\_\_\_
- 66. "Casablanca" role

- 67. Cartographer's septet 68. Pelé's real first name
- 69. Creator of Charlie and Matilda

#### Down

- 2. Clark's girlfriend

- 5. "The Optimist's Daughter" author
- 7. "\_\_\_ Lisa" (Louvre attraction) 8. Combines
- 9. "Homer and \_\_\_ Hail Mary Pass"
- 10. Mrs. Eisenhower
- 11. Not perfectly upright
- 13. Ticked off
- 18. Mistakes section
- 23. Worn away
- 26. More than some
- 27. \_\_\_-mell 28. Website address 30. Hop out of bed
- 31. Kick out
- 32. Not so good
- 36. Finished off the cake

- 1. European erupter
- 4. Nevada's second-largest county
- 6. Old Danish coin

- ("The Simpsons" episode)
- 12. Church doctrine
- 19. Othello's betrayer
- 25.60s apartments

- 35. Intoxicant
- 37. Fraction of a newton

- 35 36 37 59
- 39. Baseball score
- 40. Prompt
- 41. Fallen space station
- 45. Kind of organ
- 47. Mocks 48. Élève's place
- 50. Math ratios
- 52. Whitish

49. N.F.L. coaching legend Don

- 54. On the qui \_\_\_-alert 55. Arthurian lady
- 56. Certain NCO's 58. Bibliographical abbr.
- 59. Crème \_\_\_ crème
- 60. Long, deep cut
- 61. More as well 63. Eastern philosophy

answers on page 31

## 'King Richard' isn't the Williamses you'd expect

Venus (Saniyya Sidney) and Serena (Demi Singleton) are destined for greatness. We all know that now, but their father Richard Williams (Will Smith) intended it from before their births with a 78-page plan. As the film title implies, this is the story of the divisive father behind the Williams sisters.

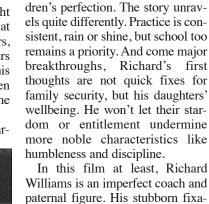
The young prodigies are important to the story, especially Venus on her way to an epic showdown by age 14, but "King Richard" is a Smith vehicle catered to Academy voters and, luckily, anyone in search of a feel-good flick.

Normally, a film that focused on

the patriarch over leading female characters would seem like an easy target for criticism. True enough, the stories of both Venus Williams and Serena Williams separately are worth a whole series of films – and maybe a plan exists for sequels that do just that.

But this entry seeks to right wrong, a glaring double standard, at the bequest of the Williams sisters, who serve as executive producers with veto. Throughout the tennis titans' careers, their father often became a target for shirking the game's cultural norms.

Initial trailers depict an overbear-



ON SCREEN

TIM POSADA

ing parent obsessed with his chil-

williams is an imperfect coach and paternal figure. His stubborn fixation with that multipage plan puts him at odds with big-time trainers like Paul Cohen (Tony Goldwyn) and Rick Macci (Jon Bernthal).

Even more troubling, he tends to make unilateral decisions without wife Oracene Williams' (Aunjanue Ellis) input.

The film might champion dad's central role, but mom is there at every stage. She pays the bills. She trains Serena when most of Richard's attention switches to Venus and her professional coaching. And she continually advocates for what Venus wants, especially when Richard hesitates about allowing her to enter professional competitions.

Alas, these moments merely sprinkle the film intermittently, while the primary focus remains on Richard. Smith's take is quite enjoyable, even during those awk-



photo courtesy Warner Bros. Picture

"King Richard" tells the candid story of Richard Williams (Will Smith) and his daughters, tennis prodigies Venus and Serena Williams.

wardly prideful moments and cringe-inducing teachable moments that only make sense if anyone else thinks like him (hardly the makings of a great teacher).

And while the film pays lip service to Richard Williams' history warts – namely absence in the lives of the children from his first marriage – mentioning them so offhandedly in the third act (out of the blue, as if moviegoers should know this info already) frames him in an entirely different way that goes unexplored.

It plays like an ethical obligation, a token character flaw to appease folks. It doesn't work. It stands out in its brevity. Any other enjoyment of the film comes with a dash of amnesia, or at least a challenging ability to focus on his role in Venus' and Serena's lives.

As a film by itself, divorced from

real events, "King Richard" is a mostly inspirational, charming sports film featuring a complicated protagonist who often feels like his own foe. Perhaps the reality isn't so different.

We just don't know. One thing gives the film more weight: both Venus and Serena Williams approved it. That allows us to approach these 144 minutes as a rhetorical counterpoint to years of what they consider bad press.

This is the sisters' take on their dad. Such a position hinders any historical authenticity – any story produced by the folks it portrays (think "Straight Outta Compton," "Bohemian Rhapsody") is less likely to wade into murky, unflattering bits. Instead, the Williams sisters control the narrative, telling the story they want, regardless of how it might be perceived.



photo courtesy Warner Bros. Pictures

"King Richard" explores the dedication and training of Venus (Saniyya Sidney) and Serena (Demi Singleton) Williams, and their relationship with coach Paul Cohen (Tony Goldwyn).

#### **Matrix Theatre has new residents**

Rogue Machine Theatre has found a new home for its 2021-22 season at the Matrix Theatre, where it will present several new plays, including an American premiere.

Rogue Machine Theatre was operating out of The Electric Lodge in Venice, but will now move to The Matrix on Melrose Avenue.

"I never expected to be in residence at the Matrix Theatre. We are thrilled," said founder and artistic director John Perrin Flynn. "We are also thrilled to come back to live theater and have a wonderful season planned that includes an American premiere and three or four world premieres."

Season 14 will include the American premiere of "On the Other Hand, We're Happy," by Daf James. The play tells what could be the everyday story of a father and his adopted child in a way that is detailed and specific,

but epic – a journey of a lifetime. New plays from Justin Tanner and Zola Dee will follow, along

and Zola Dee will follow, along with the return to late night shows and the Rant and Rave series, which brings together six artists monthly to create performances on one topic.

In 2017, Rogue Machine Theatre won the Ovation Award for Best Season and received, for the second time, the Polly Warfield Award for Outstanding Season from the L.A. Drama Critics Circle.

Rogue Machine Theatre has been nominated for the Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Awards and Ovation Awards for Best Production of the Year in five of the last eight years and has won each award three times.

The Matrix Theatre is located at 7657 Melrose Ave. For information, visit roguemachinetheatre.com.





# El Capitan Theatre unveils the magic of 'Encanto'

El Capitan Theatre is presenting Disney's "Encanto" through Dec. 5.

Walt Disney Animation Studios' "Encanto" tells the tale of an extraordinary family, the Madrigals, who live hidden in the mountains of Colombia. They reside in a magical house, in a vibrant town called an Encanto.

The magic of Encanto has blessed every child in the family with a unique gift from super strength to the power to heal – every child except one: Mirabel (voiced by Stephanie Beatriz).

But when she discovers that the magic surrounding Encanto is in danger, Mirabel decides that she, the only ordinary Madrigal, might just be her exceptional family's last hope.

The film is directed by Jared Bush (co-director of "Zootopia") and Byron Howard (co-director of "Zootopia," "Tangled"), co-directed by Charise Castro Smith (writer of "The Death of Eva Sofia Valdez"), and produced by Yvett Merino and Clark Spencer.

"Encanto" features original songs by Emmy, Grammy and Tony Award winner Lin-Manuel Miranda ("Hamilton," "Moana"), and Germaine Franco ("Dora and the Lost City of Gold," "Little," "Tag") composed the original score.

Before each showing, guests can see Mirabel live on the El Capital stage and take a photograph at a themed opportunity in the lobby. Movie-goers can also purchase Encanto-themed concession items.

Daily showtimes are at 10 a.m., 1 p.m., 4 p.m., 7 p.m. and 9:55 p.m., though dates and times are subject to change.

A Spanish language screening of "Encanto" will be held at 4 p.m. on Dec. 5.

Tickets for Monday through Thursday screenings are \$18 for adults and \$12 for children through the age of 11 and adults over the age of 60. Weekend tickets are \$24 for adults and \$18 for children and seniors.

The El Capitan Theatre is located at 6838 Hollywood Blvd. For information and tickets, visit elcapitantickets.com.



photo courtesy of © 2021 Disney. All Rights Reserved.

Voiced by Stephanie Beatriz, Mirabel is determined to prove she belongs within in her magical family.

## Getty celebrates works by Jean Antoine Watteau

Showing through Feb. 20, "La Surprise: Watteau in Los Angeles," brings together a dozen paintings and drawings from public and private collections in celebration of the J. Paul Getty Museum's recent acquisition of the painting "La Surprise."

Scenes of courtship, music and dance, strolling lovers and characters from commedia dell'arte (the Italian comic theater) were favorite subjects of French painter Jean Antoine Watteau.

Members of the French Royal Academy of Art were so puzzled by Watteau's absence of a traditional narrative that they coined a new term to describe his work – the fête galante, or courtship party.

In 2017, the Getty Museum added to its collection a painting that Watteau's contemporaries considered one of his best fêtes galantes, a work thought lost for more than a century. Known as "La Surprise," the picture joined an already extensive array of Watteau's drawings and paintings in Los Angeles.

"Los Angeles is well-known as a center for collections of contemporary art. Somewhat surprising, however, is the fact that the city is also home to an extraordinary group of works by Watteau," said Timothy Potts, Maria Hummer-Tuttle and Robert Tuttle Director of the J. Paul Getty Museum. "The 300th anniversary of his death affords us an opportunity to showcase some of the artist's most distinguished drawings and paintings from local public and private collections, including our new acquisition of 'La Surprise.' This will be the first exhibition on the West Coast to showcase this supremely innovative and enchanting artst, who was celebrated as the preeminent master of



photo courtesy of J. Paul Getty Museum

The J. Paul Getty Museum acquired "La Surprise" by French painter Jean Antoine Watteau in 2017.

early 18th-century French painting."

Watteau's new category of picture transformed French painting and drawing in the early 18th century. Neither grand history paintings nor humble genre scenes, Watteau's fêtes galantes are courtship pictures, set in park-like landscapes and populated by elegantly ambiguous figures in sumptuous, often theatrical, attire.

Music and theater occupied a central place in many of Watteau's works. When he arrived in Paris at the beginning of the 18th century, the capital's artistic scene was second to none.

In his painings from the time, Watteau gave rich and accurate depictions of theatrical costumes, instruments, musicians and their performances, as well as the different settings in which music was performed.

The exhibition will feature chalk studies and their transformation into painted figures, an original drawing and its counterproof and various poitures that hung as companion pieces in the houses of 18th-century collectors.

"The method Watteau used to compose such pictures was equally unconventional. A prolific draftsman, he collected his studies of live models into bound volumes and later returned to them for inspiration, plucking out motifs for his painted compositions," said Davide Gasparotto, senior curator of paintings at the Getty Museum. "The exhibition will offer the opportunity to explore the artist at work, his compositional strategies and the reuse of the same motifs in different paintings."

For information, visit getty.edu.

# 'Aaay,' the Fonz's garb is up for auction

Actor Henry Winkler is partnering with Bonhams to present an auction of the Henry Winkler Collection.

The auction will offer 28 lots documenting his career, including a complete Arthur "Fonz" Fonzarelli outfit of blue jeans, a white T-shirt, black biker boots and the famous leather jacket from Winkler's breakout role in the classic American sitcom "Happy Days." The outfit is estimated at a cost of \$50,000 to \$70,000.

Another highlight lot will be an original "Ghostface" mask used by Winkler in 1996 in the film "Scream." Its estimated cost is \$20,000 to \$30,000.

Bonhams will also present the recently rediscovered Triumph motorbike used by the Fonz throughout the TV series with an estimated cost of \$80,000 to \$120,000. It is being reunited with the complete outfit for the first time ever since the show wrapped.

A portion of the proceeds from the sale will be donated to "This Is About Humanity," a nonprofit that supports separated and reunified families at the border.

Also auctioned at the event will be a Greta Garbo personal makeup kit, a Claudette Colbert suit from "The Man from Yesterday" and a Rosalind Russell Tony Award for "Wonderful Town."

The auction will begin at 10 a.m. on Dec. 8. For information, visit bonhams.com/auctions.

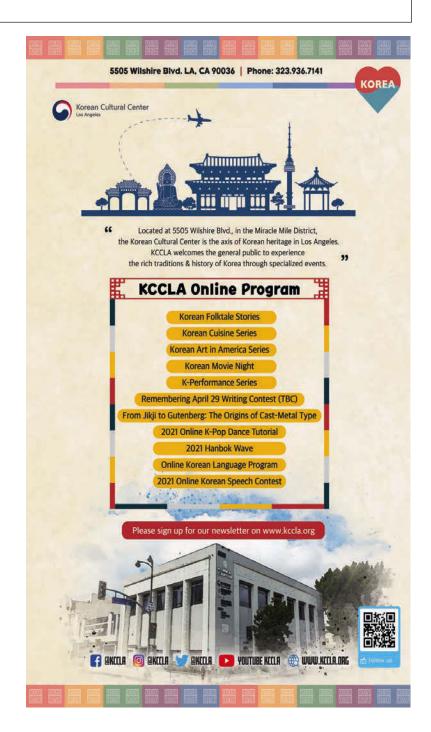


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#### **CAAM** names new visual arts curator

The California African American Museum announced that curator and arts writer Essence Harden will join the museum's staff as visual arts curator, effective Dec. 13.

"Essence Harden has been a collaborator and friend to CAAM for years, so we are delighted to now welcome them to the CAAM Executive Director Cameron Shaw said. "Essence is deeply enmeshed in contemporary art communities throughout California, and we look forward to them bringing those experiences, relationships and passions to the work at CAAM."

As an independent curator, Harden curated the 2018 solo exhibition "Shinique Smith: Refuge" and co-curated the 2019 group exhibition "Plumb Line: Charles White and the Contemporary," both at CAAM. Harden has also curated exhibitions at Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions, Museum of the African Diaspora, El Segundo Museum of Art and Oakland Museum of California, and is part of the curatorial team for the Orange County Museum of Art's 2022 California Biennial.

"I'm excited to join the CAAM team as a visual arts curator," Harden said. "CAAM has been an incredible point of access for Los Angeles, and I look forward to sup-



photo courtesy of Joyce Kim Essence Harden has collaborated with CAAM for years.

porting artists, highlighting the work of collectors and collectives, and cultivating scholarship on Black visual culture and the west."

A 2018 recipient of the Creative Capital-Andy Warhol Foundation Arts Writers Grant and a 2020 Annenberg Innovation Lab Civic Media Fellow, Harden graduated magna cum laude with a bachelor's in history and received a master's degree from the Department of African American Studies at the University of California, Berkeley. Currently, Harden is a Ph.D. candidate in African Diaspora Studies at UC Berkeley.

#### **Academy Museum screens film programs**

Motion Pictures will screen more than 100 films and public programs through January 2022.

Events will include works by Chloé Zhao, Roberto Gavaldón, Satyajit Ray and Hayao Miyazaki.

"We have been thrilled by the overwhelmingly positive response to our inaugural programs. We feel the excitement growing among film lovers to experience the Academy Museum as a new destination to watch films and learn more about their creation and their impact," said Jacqueline Stewart, chief artistic and programming officer at the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures.

The screenings and programs will highlight the work of academy branches and filmmaking

The Academy Museum of crafts, and feature films from the golden age of Mexican cinema, Austrian emigrés who helped shape Hollywood, contemporary Afghan cinema and Oscar-winning films.

> "The museum's programming teams have worked to develop a robust and dynamic schedule of screenings and discussions that inspire our visitors to dive deeper into our exhibitions," said Bernardo Rondeau, senior director of film programs for the museum. "While the schedule certainly offers something for everyone, we also encourage visitors to allow themselves to be introduced to new directors and artists, genres and topics."

> For a full schedule of events, visit academymuseum.org.



photo courtesy of the Academy Museum

Work by Hayao Miyazaki will be featured in the museum's winter program.



## Museum gift guide brings art to the holidays

SoCal Museums is continuing its tradition of putting art and culture under the Christmas tree with its SoCal Museums Holiday Gift Guide.

The guide features a wide range of inventive and whimsical items, such as ornaments, prints, catalogues and puzzles, all priced under \$50.

SoCal Museums, comprising marketing and communications professionals from more than 65 museums across Southern California, aims to increase visitation to and awareness of museums in the region.

"We are so thrilled to welcome visitors to our museums and cul-

tural institutions once again. Our gift guides are a joyful way to connect with our audiences and spotlight some of the unique and exciting products featured at museums across Southern California," said Lucy Spriggs, SoCal Museums president.

Gifts from Los Angeles County museums include a Bruce the Shark float from the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures, "Alison Saar: Of Aether and Earthe" from the Armory Center for the Arts, porcelain miniature penguins from Aquarium of the Pacific, hand-felted animal slippers from Craft Contemporary and a



Artist Susan Kare created a Bruce the Shark float design, inspired by the Academy Museum of Motion Picture's "Jaws" mold.

Takashi Murakami rainbow plus flower pin from The Broad.

The complete gift guide can be viewed by visiting socalmuseums.org/gift-guide-2021.



#### **Registration is open**

for Temple of the Arts Campus of Le Petit Gan Preschool. Check out our website BHTOTA.org for more information.





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Four Seasons Hotel Los Angeles at Beverly Hills 300 DOHENY BEVERLY HILLS CA 900048 Outdoors at the Wetherly Pavilion

PART 1: 6:15 - 7:00 PM Hanukkah Candle Lighting, songs and dreidels. No charge and open to all

PART 2: 7:00 - 9:00 PM Dinner and SHABBAT Service by RESERVATION

**Must RSVP for Dinner** edgar@templeofthearts.org | 323-658-9100

#### SERVICES LED BY RABBI DAVID BARON

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RSVP Link: https://www.greenvelope.com/event/Hanukkah-Shabbat \*Must bring proof of vaccination or Negative PCR Test within 72 hours\*

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8440 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, CA 90211

# Parade returns to Hollywood Boulevard

From page 1

Wisconsin on Nov. 21, when a man drove through a crowd, killing five people and injuring more than 40

McGuyre said there are no threats to events planned in Los Angeles. He said police officers will provide a highly visible presence at the parade and the department will use undercover operations and other security measures.

"We are implementing additional precautions with this parade to include the interdiction of vehicles onto the parade route. Obviously, our partners at the Department of Transportation will be shutting down traffic all along the route so vehicles will not even be able to get close to the parade route," McGuyre said. "In addition to that, we will have LAPD officers lining the route to look out for any suspicious activities and we will be taking additional security precautions this year, in addition to what we've implemented in years past, just to make sure this is a safe and secure event."

The Los Angeles Department of Transportation is encouraging audience members to arrive early and use public transportation if possible. A list of street closures and parking restrictions is available by visiting thehollywoodchristmasparade.org.

The Hollywood Christmas Parade will once again be hosted by Laura McKenzie, Erik Estrada, Dean Cain and Montel Williams, with special co-host Elizabeth Stanton, of the CW's "World's Funniest Animals." Participating celebrities include Marilyn McCoo and Billy Davis Jr., of the Fifth Dimension; actors Jerry O'Connell, Danny Trejo, Tom Arnold, Lou Ferrigno, Jerry Mathers and Tony Dow; and actresses Kate Linder, Melissa Ordway, Kimberlin Broken Horn Ropers equestrian



photo by Edwin Folven

The Hollywood Christmas Parade will be held from 6-8 p.m. on Nov. 28, and curbside viewing is free.

Brown, Deidre Hall, Judi Evans, Kristina Wagner, Laura Wright and Michelle Stafford, among many

O'Farrell and Councilmembers Nithya Raman, 4th District, and Kevin de León, 14th District, will also ride in the parade.

Bands from throughout Los U.S. Marine Corps Band, Los

units will perform, and giant balloons of characters from "The Nutcracker," Dr. Seuss books and other children's favorites will be carried along the route. Young audience members will not want to miss Santa Claus, who will arrive on a float with U.S. Marines sergeants Jonathan Lazer and Raymond Paladino.

Nov. 28, and free curbside viewing is available along the parade route. Tickets for grandstand seating are available by visiting ticketmaster.com.

## Letter gains traction in BH

From page 1

referred to as a historic first for PACs in Beverly Hills.

Ostroff said that, prior to the election, candidate Lori Greene Gordon asked him whether she should have a PAC formed, and he adamantly advised against it from an ethical standpoint.

"I just think it's the wrong thing to do," he said. "That was bad advice in hindsight, because a very well-financed PAC was formed to support [two of her opponents]. But, it really didn't change my mind [about PACs]."

It did prompt Ostroff to get ahead of the 2022 election, when Mayor Robert Wunderlich and Councilmen Lester Friedman and John Mirisch will look to retain their seats. Andy Licht, chairman of the planning commission, and Beverly Hills Public Works Commissioner Sharona Nazarian have also announced their council candidacies.

Ostroff's criticism of PACs, which are legally referred to as independent expenditure committees in California, is two-fold: they are an "end-run" to city campaign finance laws and allow elections to be determined by money as opposed to each candidate's

Beverly Hills restricts donations to \$450 per individual or organization if a candidate commits to total campaign expenditures of \$80,000 or less. If the candidate does not commit to the spending limit, individuals or organizations may only donate \$125 or less,

According to city records, 13 individuals or organizations made donations to Beverly Hills United to Support Bosse and Gold for Council 2020 that exceeded \$4,000, with the majority of the donations being more than \$9,000.

The PAC lists Stephen Massman as its treasurer, and its contact number is associated with Kaufman Legal Group and its downtown Los Angeles office. Attempts to reach Massman were unsuccessful by deadline.

The organization was not the only PAC to support City Council candidates last year. The Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce Leadership PAC contributed approximately \$12,000 to support Bosse and Gold's campaigns using mailers and ads, according to city records.

Kaufman Legal Group is listed as a creditor on the chamber reached for comment by deadline.

PAC's pre-election statement from 2020 for professional ser-

Chamber representatives said the leadership PAC's board declined comment.

Ostroff said he is fully aware of the legality of these independent organizations and that the letter technically does not have any teeth, but he is doing his part to raise awareness about an issue that concerns him in Beverly

"It's just a bad thing, it's wrong and it's bad for our city. ... It's my way of trying to say to candidates and prospective candidates, please don't do this," he added.

Thus far, it appears that candidates are taking notice. Licht said that neither he nor his campaign have any involvement in PACs.

"I intend to run a communityinclusive campaign that is positive and transparent," he said in an e-mail.

Nazarian said only that she is unaware of any PACs being formed to support her campaign as of now.

Mirisch voiced his opposition to PACs and referenced two court cases that have negatively impacted American elections.

"Many of the worst problems within our political system can directly be traced back to the role of money in politics and two awful Supreme Court decisions, Citizens United and Buckley v. Valeo," the councilman said in an e-mail. "But corporations aren't people, and money isn't speech. I completely favor comprehensive campaign finance reform and limiting the role of special interests and dark money in elections. We should be electing people with the best arguments and ideas and not those with the biggest megaphones. Simply stated, we need campaign rules that create a level playing field and put the residents first, not corporations and dark money groups with hidden agen-

Friedman said he does not want

"Although they are recognized as legal entities and as such can have no coordination or input from any candidate, I have no interest in obtaining support from a political action committee nor will my campaign accept support from a political action committee," he said.

Wunderlich could not be

Angeles will perform, including the Angeles Catholic Schools Band, PAVA World Traditional Korean Band, Korean American Youth Performing Artists and the Los Angeles Police Emerald Society Pipes and Drums. The Majestic Acres, Painted Ladies Rodeo and The parade runs from 6-8 p.m. on

The parade will also be filmed and later broadcast on the CW network at 8 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 17.

## **Committee reviews TCDS contract**

From page 3

contract and I distributed it to the members of this committee and to other committees, and I don't believe that it called for deliberation or any discussion," she said. "I don't think that there was any sort of violation of the Brown Act, but thank you very much. It's always good to be reminded of it."

Kaplan also defended the notes she shared prior to the meeting.

"I'll be candid with everyone. I elt accused both yesterday and again just a few minutes ago [as if I was] somehow knowingly, deliberately trying to violate the law, which I was not doing," she said.

Whether the committee should be discussing the contract renewal at all has been a matter of debate. The board of education was scheduled to consider the five-year agreement during its Oct. 26 meeting, but Wells requested that the item be pulled from the agenda for further analysis – by the board and its committees.

The five-year renewal would continue bond management services that will complete construction projects, including an athletic complex at Beverly Hills High School, and the modernization of El Rodeo Elementary School.

"This is a complicated contract, and the scope of work that we have ahead of us for the next five years is not clearly defined for us as a district," Wells said during that meet-

Board member Noah Margo disagreed and said it was the board's duty to review the contract.

"I don't think that this needs to be pulled at this time, and it is not our committees' purview to review every contract that comes in front of the board," he said. "If we did, everything is financial – that means we would be giving every contract to the finance committee to review. That's not a practice we have or support. And the construction committee was not formed to review contracts on our behalf either. That's our job."

The board agreed to table the item, which was reviewed again on Nov. 9. Margo motioned to approve the agreement, saying that both the district and TCDS should benefit from it in the end.

"I did look into the hourly rate increase and the fee," he said. "The hourly rate increase is lower than the rest our district has received in the last three years. The fee is lower than the going rate for companies doing this work."

Wells again requested that the contract be tabled and suggested that district committees review it.

"Like I stated previously, there's no urgency for this contract to be approved at this time - since we have an existing contract that still has nine months on it," she said. "Given that this is an estimated

contract that can be worth \$50 million, I feel like this contract deserves and requires more due diligence and thoughtful considera-

Margo noted that the board approved a \$6 million construction agreement ProWest Constructors for work at El Rodeo Elementary School at its last meeting without any suggestion that the committees review it.

However, he withdrew motion to approve the renewal and moved to table it to a future meet-

ing.
"I don't need to see the item being defeated tonight or being at a stalemate," Margo added.

The board's Facilities and Construction Committee discussed the TCDS proposal on Nov. 17, with members split on whether the committee should intervene in the contract renewal process.

Goldstein and Blumenfeld argued that providing a recommendation to the board regarding the specifics of the contract would be akin to offering legal advice. Tryfman said the contract was within the committee's purview, especially since it involved the district's master plan.

Kaplan suggested that the board look into hiring independent counsel, and the rest of the committee agreed, except Manaster, who had left the meeting.

## Bill looks to provide vision care

U.S. Reps. Adam Schiff (D-Calif.) and Jahana Hayes (D-Conn.) introduced theSee the Board Act, legislation to help millions of students access optometry care at no cost to their families, on Nov. 17.

The legislation will bring mobile vision services to schools in rural and urban communities and help ensure children have the opportunity to succeed in the classroom.

Due to inequitable access to vision care, it is estimated that more than 2 million students nationwide go to school each day without the glasses they need to fully participate and succeed in class.

While vision services for lowincome families, including a free pair of glasses for children, are covered under Medicaid, many eligible families face barriers that prevent them from accessing the services. Families are often unable to take time away from work and school or are unable to secure transportation to visit optometrists.

The See the Board Act will authorize the Department of Health and Human Services to deliver grants to nonprofit organizations.

#### Melrose forum

Melrose Action is hosting a Los Angeles City Council 5th District candidate forum at 7 p.m. on Dec. 1, via Zoom.

The "Melrose Votes for Safety" forum will host six candidates seeking the seat.

To register, visit melroseaction.org/meetings.

# Meals go a long way for program clients

From page 1

receiving job training, including resume building and mock inter-

One such volunteer is Megan Bonner, who despite working full time, was homeless for three years.

Originally born in California, Bonner moved to Bermuda with her mother and sisters when she was 12 years old. She moved back to California six years ago at the age of 28 to pursue her dream of becoming a chef.

After working several odd jobs to raise money, Bonner enrolled in the St. Joseph Center's Culinary Training Program and later earned a job cooking at Terranea Resort. However, she still couldn't find housing.

"I was saving my money, trying desperately to find someone that would give me a chance to rent," Bonner said. "One guy called me and said, 'You don't have any credit history,' and I didn't know what that was because we didn't have that in Bermuda. I didn't know I had to have that to just get a place to live."

For months, she was living out of a car that a friend had given her, cleaning herself with wet wipes before work. One day, she left her car for a few minutes to take a shower and when she came out, the car was being towed.

Because the title was in her

friend's name, she couldn't get the car released from impound, and she began renting a car to sleep in.

"It was so draining," she said. "I was going to work to make money to keep a rental car just to be able to have shelter."

That was when Bonner discovered the Food on Foot jobs and housing program. At the time, Bonner was commuting more than 20 miles from Compton to the program by train.

"It was a journey for me, but I was determined," she said. "I knew they were going to help me and I was tired of being homeless, so I just kept telling myself, 'I got

Members of the program receive help acquiring jobs in the hospitality and warehouse industries, and upon receiving a job offer, Food on Foot helps them secure permanent housing through partnerships in Hollywood and Koreatown.

Once members move into an apartment, Food on Foot pays their rent in full for six months, allowing participants to save money. Program directors set a goal for each individual to save \$5,000 in case of emergencies.

"We want to make sure they stay in housing," Boone said. "The stability piece is so important to us. We don't want to get people into housing just to have them fall out."

After the six months are up, program members "graduate" and begin paying for their apartment by themselves. However, they can still volunteer at the Sunday meal program two times a week to receive a subsidy for their apart-

Bonner moved into her own apartment in October 2020, and said she instantly felt a sense of independence.

Now a graduate, Bonner said she has been able to restart her life. She is proud to pay for her own apartment and have a place to come home and unwind.

"I don't know if it was a blessing or a miracle or what it was, but to have a support system to help you with any and everything that you needed, so many doors opened for me," Bonner said. "It definitely made me feel like a part of society again and gave me the confidence that went away after being out on the streets for so long.'

Though she works long hours, Bonner said she made a commitment to show up at Food on Foot every Sunday to continue providing meals for the community.

As Angelenos consider volunteering for the holidays, Boone invited them to join Food on Foot for planned meal giveaways from 1-3 p.m. on Thanksgiving and a tobe-determined



Morgan Bonner graduated from the Food on Foot job and housing program with a job in the culinary arts and her own apartment.

Christmas. However, she said Food on Foot always has a need for volunteers year-round.

Through volunteerism, Boone said the stigma around homelessness can be broken.

"These are great individuals; they have great minds and they're really intelligent," she said. "One of the goals I have working with them is to get rid of this 'us versus them' stigma. We're all one community and they are just our neighbors in need."

Aside from serving meals, the Food on Foot board made a commitment to match the first \$100,000 in holiday donations. Proceeds will be put toward the job and housing program.

# League opens new chapter house

From page 1

team loves your purpose, your determination and your resolve to stay with what you were created for, and that is to lift families up, lift children up and set them on a path and a course for a productive, more fulfilling life."

One way the program seeks to help impoverished children overcome barriers is through its Operation School Bell program, which annually provides 6,200 Los Angeles Unified School District students with new school uniforms, personal clothing, hygiene kits and shoes.

Assistance League Board President Adrienne Seltzer said thousands of children throughout Los Angeles do not regularly attend school because they lack the basic necessities Operation School Bell provides.

"These are very underserved

A jury on Nov. 19 found Kvle

Rittenhouse, who killed two indi-

viduals and wounded another dur-

ing a protest in Wisconsin last year,

not guilty on several counts,

individuals who wish to bring vio-

including first-degree homicide. The decision prompted a statethem don't even have their own toothbrush. They share a toothbrush or they share their shoes so they can't go to school every day because they have to share shoes with a sibling. So, they live in incredible circumstances and we just try to boost them up a little bit so they'll be proud to go school."

Currently, volunteers prepack bags for students in the program and drop them off at each child's

When it's safe to do so, the league will annually invite about 2,200 children to the new Hollywood chapter house for a day of "shopping." Children will be able to "shop" for new uniforms and play clothes before trying them on in the chapter house's fitting rooms.

Volunteers serve as personal shoppers to help children select children," Seltzer said. "Some of the best fit. Aside from clothes,

U.S. Rep. Bass condemns Kyle Rittenhouse verdict

children also receive their own backpacks and school supplies, and on the way out, they each get to select a toy to take home.

Children who do not visit the chapter house are served by the Operation School Bell on Wheels program, which serves about 4,000 children at school sites throughout Los Angeles annually.

Operation School Auxiliary Chair Kiel FitzGerald, who also volunteers as a personal shopper, said she can't wait for children to be able to visit the new

"They just get so pumped up when they get to choose their own books or toys; they just lose their minds," she said. "To see them run down the hallway with a smile is amazing. We haven't had one kid here yet, and we built this for them, so I'm looking forward to having bus-fulls of children."

## Controller issues sidewalk report



Los Angeles City Controller Ron Galperin found that the city of L.A. prioritizes fixing sidewalks near city facilities.

Los Angeles City Controller Ron Galperin on Nov. 17 released a report analyzing the city's sidewalk repair program and urging sweeping changes to get more walkways fixed. In "Repairing L.A.'s Broken Sidewalk Repair Strategy," Galperin found that less than 1% of the city's sidewalks have been certified as repaired.

When city workers fix a sidewalk, they replace the entire parcel - far more than it is legally required to do - making repairs more costly and time-consuming than they should be, Galperin said. In addition, the current priority is to fix sidewalks next to city-owned facilities, leaving out L.A.'s residential neighborhoods and commercial centers, he added.

Galperin also determined that the

Correction

businessman tapped for Norway ambassadorship," Nathanson's wife, Jane, was misidentified. She is a psychotherapist who founded the UCLA Nathanson Family city is responding slowly to simple repair requests.

"Tens of thousands of sidewalks throughout Los Angeles are impassable for the elderly, individuals with disabilities and pedestrians of all ages," he said. "Despite its recent focus on the issue, the city's sidewalk repair program is simply not working as it should. The sheer scale of the problem, combined with the city's inefficient and ineffective strategy to address it, means dangerous sidewalks aren't getting fixed fast enough. In fact, most won't be fixed for years or even many decades."

#### ment by U.S. Rep. Karen Bass (Dstrated the "dire" consequences case is 91% white. The city of Calif.), who denounced the verdict and said it gives a greenlight to

lence to protests throughout the "It emboldens vigilantism," she than seven months ago. "There are two other high-pro-

said. "Where this jury had an opportunity to address this danger and hold a person who killed two people accountable for his actions, it failed. But this isn't solely the fault of the jury. Time and time again, trials like these are structured in a way to generate verdicts

that do not reflect justice, and I believe that this trial is no different. In a murder trial in which lawyers aren't allowed to refer to the individuals as 'victims,' it's hard for me to believe that there is a serious pursuit of the truth being made."

Bass said the trial also demonfrom the lack of national gun safety laws and the "absolute" need for the U.S. Senate to advance legislation that passed in the House more

file trials happening right now one of the men who killed Ahmaud Arbery and one of the individuals who organized the white supremacist rally at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville," she added. "I'm highly concerned that iustice will not be served in either trial. In the trial of the men who killed Ahmaud Arbery, even the judge himself identified the appearance of 'intentional discrimination' after the defense struck 11 of 12 Black jurors from the pool of eligible jurors. The jury hearing the Brunswick is 55% Black. These two trials may also embolden violent vigilantes throughout the country.

"Thousands will protest this injustice throughout the country tonight and in the nights to come to express the pain and hurt caused by this verdict. I urge those participating to be peaceful, with purpose and hope. There is power in our collective voice. Justice will be

In the Nov. 18 story, "BH Resilience Center.

#### **Answers From Page 26**

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