Looking back on a year of perseverance

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Pandemic-related uncertainty was ever-present in Beverly Hills, West Hollywood and Los Angeles in 2021, but resilience and perseverance prevailed as residents, business owners, neighborhood leaders and civic officials banded together to restore normalcy in the local community.

In stark contrast to 2020, when lockdowns and quarantines were in effect for most of the year, 2021 ushered in a period of new beginnings. Although the year started—and is now ending—with a coronavirus surge, it was filled with openings and opportunities that were desperately missed during the previous 365 days. Attending school and working from home gave way to in-person gatherings on campuses and in offices and businesses throughout the community. With vaccination rates at near-75% countywide, according to the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, a sense of optimism for a brighter future remains despite challenges that will undoubtedly occur in the days and weeks ahead.

Beverly Hills remained in a state of constant change during the past year, while maintaining its foundational character and reputation as a world-class retail and cultural destination. As was the case for the entire region, Beverly Hills expanded outdoor dining in early January when the state of California eased restrictions, extending it to restaurants on Canon Drive.

The Beverly Hills City Council also made headlines in February when it approved a June 2022 ballot measure to enact term limits. Voters will decide whether council members should be limited to three-four-year terms. A controversial provision to extend term limits retroactively was included. Councilman John Mirisch is in his third term, which ends in 2022. Mayor Robert Wunderlich and Councilman Lester Friedman are in their first terms, which also end in 2022. Vice Mayor Lili Bosse and Councilman Julian Gold are in their third terms, which end in 2024. By March, the availability of vaccinations expanded, and the Beverly Hills Unified School District formulated plans for hybrid in-person and at-home classes.

Bradbury back in step for Rose Parade

BY AARON BLEVINS

Marching down Colorado Boulevard in the 133rd Rose Parade in Pasadena on New Year’s Day will be Beverly Hills High School band director Bill Bradbury, who will join the parade’s first-ever band of band directors. Bradbury, 61, will play the sousaphone in a marching band that will accompany the Michael D. Sewell Memorial Foundation’s “Saluting America’s Band Directors” float. Approximately 300 individuals representing all 50 states and Mexico are expected to perform.

“At my knowledge, I don’t know if an all-band directors band has ever been put together before,” Bradbury said. “I think this is a really unique occasion.”

The foundation honors the late Michael D. Sewell, a long-time band director in Pickerington, Ohio. It sponsors the Tournament of Roses Michael D. Sewell Service Through Music Award, which was created in 2018 to honor a participating Rose Parade band each year that best exemplifies a commitment to community service.

“The greatest gift you can give someone is your time,” Sewell always told his students, according to the foundation.

Bradbury does not have a personal connection to the organization, but he is excited to participate. He’s played the sousaphone in the parade before, as a UCLA student representing his alma mater, Huntington Beach High School. The band director said much has changed since then, and that has a new perspective of the event, having directed Beverly Hills High School bands in other parades.

“I think the Rose Parade is probably up there with Macy’s, if not a little bit more prestigious,” Bradbury added.

His participation has required plenty of preparation. Bradbury said he began training at the beginning of November and continued through the high school’s winter recess.

The Suspect in philanthropist’s murder pleads not guilty

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

The 29-year-old man accused of killing philanthropist Jacqueline Avant in her Trousdale Estates home pleaded not guilty on Dec. 16 to multiple felony charges including murder, attempted murder and being a felon in possession of a firearm. The defendant, Aariel Maynor, was also charged with two counts of residential burglary with a person present. Maynor remains in custody without bail at the Twin Towers Correctional Facility in downtown Los Angeles. He allegedly shot and killed Avant, 81, on Dec. 1, during what police said was a burglary at her home in the 1100 block of Maytor Place. She was not related to music producer Clarence Avant, who was home when the shooting occurred but was not injured.

Maynor was arrested after allegedly committing another burglary in the Hollywood Hills a little more than hour after Avant was shot. Authorities said the suspect accidentally shot himself in the foot during the second burglary. Los Angeles Police Department officers found Maynor hiding in the backyard of a residence in the 6000 block of Graciosa Drive and took him into custody. Beverly Hills Police Department officials were notified about Maynor’s arrest and assumed responsibility for investigating the crimes at both locations.

BHPD Chief Mark Stainbrook announced the arrest of Maynor on Dec. 2. He said cameras operated by the city of Beverly Hills captured footage of Maynor driving eastbound out of the city shortly after the murder. An AR-15-style rifle believed to be the gun used in Avant’s murder was recovered at the scene of the second burglary. The charges against Maynor include the special allegation that he used an assault weapon during the crimes.

Stainbrook described Maynor as a parolee with an extensive criminal history that includes prior convictions for burglary. Maynor is scheduled to appear in court next on Jan. 19.
The Los Angeles County Department of Health Services has expanded its COVID-19 testing services amidst holiday demand. The expansion includes the relaunching of Holiday Home Test Collection Program with new guidelines to reach more people and make testing easier.

“L.A. County residents are doing right by getting tested as a precaution before gathering, if they have not been exposed and at the first sign of symptoms,” said Dr. Christina Ghaly, director of the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services. “Getting tested and isolating as needed plays a vital role in our collective fight against the current holiday surge, we encourage anyone – including those who are vaccinated – to get tested if they believe they have been exposed to COVID-19 symptoms. We will continue to closely monitor testing needs and adjust capacity as needed in the coming weeks.”

The expansion includes extended hours of operation at sites across the county, additional mobile testing units in hard-hit areas and additional week and weekend dates as of Dec. 24.

For information, visit covid19.lacounty.gov.

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health on Dec. 28 reported 28 cases along with three deaths, indicating surging transmission across the county.

The department also identified 292 cases across L.A. County healthcare workers during the week of Dec. 18, an increase of 26% from the previous week. Meanwhile, 46% of hospitals in the county were reporting staffing shortages, compared with 20% at the outset of last winter’s surge, which is occurring statewide.

“California is now seeing nearly 15,000 new COVID-19 infections per day, a five-fold growth in just one month,” Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.) said. “And hotspots like Los Angeles are seeing even faster surges. It’s critical that we continue to take actions needed to stop the virus’s winter’s surge, which is occurring statewide.”

For those who haven’t been vaccinated or received a booster shot, the time to act is now. With increases in cases, the potential to become infected and further spread the omicron variant is now high. Two-thirds of Californians are fully vaccinated, but that number needs to rise.”

Cinelounges

Cinelounges is showing “Gillian,” “The Lost Daughters” and “Nightmare Alley,” from Dec. 31, through Thursday, Jan. 6. Adrian Martinez’s “Gillian” is a dramatic battle for human connection in an increasingly digital and disconnected world. “The Lost Daughters” by Maggie Gyllenhaal is a seemingly serene story of a woman who reveals her tumultuous relationship and all she can do to stop the male-dominated “Nightmare Alley” follows an ambitious carny with a talent for manipulating people who hook up with a female psychologist who is even more dangerous than himself. Showtimes vary; see schedule. Tickets are $13. Cineloune Sunset, 6464 Sunset Blvd.; Cineloune Outdoors, 1625 N. Las Palmas Ave. (323)294-1644, cinelounges.com.

LACMA virtual storytime

In celebration of the Obama Portraits Tour at LACMA, join a virtual reading of “Of Thine I Sing: A Love Letter to My Daughters by Barack Obama” on Sunday, Jan. 2, from noon to 2 p.m. via Zoom. The program is part of LACMA’s Family Sundays Virtual Storytime. Dedicated to the former president’s daughters, the book is a tribute to iconic figures in history. Admission is free but reservations are required. To register, visit lacma.org/event/family-sundays-virtual-storytime.

‘Great Clarinet Trios’

 Chamber music lovers won’t want to miss the LA Phil’s “Great Clarinet Trios” program on Tuesday, Jan. 4, at 8 p.m. The performance features LA Phil musicians Dennis Rhee, Ricardo de Althalleng, clinet; Alin Melik-Adamyan, piano; Johnny Lee, clarinet; Andrea Lowy, clarinet; Jeanne Marie Martín, piano; Burt Harris, clarinet; Gloria Lam, cello; and Norman Krieger, piano.Tickets start at $20. 111 S. Grand Ave. laphil.com/events/performances/14552021-01-04/great-clarinet-trios.

Dance films

The Dance Camera West Film Festival returns from Thursday, Jan. 6, through Saturday, Jan. 8, at 8 p.m. at Theatre Raymond Kabbaz. Enjoy an exclusive set of international dance films that connect cultures. Each film focuses on different disciplines of dance, choreography and culture. In total, all three together. Artist conversations, and wine and cheese tastings at intermission are included. Daily general admission is $10. Student/general festival pass: $60.6 W. Pico Blvd. (310)286-0553, tdcafinevent.org.

WeHo advises about holiday recycling

The city of West Hollywood reminding residents about end-of-year trash and recycling.

The city of West Hollywood, Athens Services, will not pick up trash on New Year’s Day, Saturday, Jan. 1. Services will be one day later than the regular scheduled pickup day.

Holiday trees are recyclable. Athens Services will collect holiday trees on normal pickup days through Friday, Jan. 7. All trees stand, ornaments, lights and tim and place holiday trees at the curb. Athens Services will be over 6 feet in length and cut in half. Trees with flocking and fire retardants are acceptable. Do not place trees in a plastic bag.

For information and to arrange extra trash and recycling services, please contact Athens Services’ Customer Service Office at (310)338-6100.

An ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS EXTENDING URGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 21-O-2023 TO PROVIDE OBJECTIVE STANDARDS FOR SENATE BILL 9 PROJECTS IN SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL ZONES

The proposed ordinance would extend Interim Urgency Ordinance No. 21-O-2023 for an additional ten (10) month and fifteen (15) day period, pursuant to Government Code Section 65808. The interim urgency ordinance established objective development standards for residential developments in the single-family zones constructed pursuant to Senate Bill (SB) 9. If the City Council decides to extend the interim urgency ordinance, it will be active for a one year period in total, which will provide additional time to study the effects of enacting such regulations, and to provide an opportunity to discuss whether such regulations should be considered for permanent adoption. The staff report for the December 7, 2021 City Council meeting describes the contents of Urgency Ordinance No. 21-O-2023, and is available on the City’s website.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The staff report has been assessed in accordance with the authority and criteria contained in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq., the State CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Sections 15000 et seq.), and the environmental regulations of the City. Upon review, the ordinance does not appear to be a project under CEQA, and it can be seen with certainty that there is no potential for such ordinance to have a significant adverse effect on the environment. This is because the draft ordinance does not authorize construction and consists of additional regulations on future development, which will be treated ministerially pursuant to the stipulations of SB 9.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54955(i)(3), members of the Beverly Hills City Council and staff may participate in this meeting via teleconference/video conference. In the interest of maintaining appropriate social distancing, members of the public can access City Council meetings telephonically, through live webcast, and BHTV Channel 10 on Spectrum Cable.

To submit Audio/Oral comments during the hearing call: (310) 288-2288, to submit written comments please email: city- clerk@beverlyhills.org, to submit video comments (during public comment only) please use https://beverlyhills.org/zoom (passcode: 90210). To Watch Video Live use http://beverlyhills.org/live or On-Demand use http://beverlyhills.org/councilmeetings.

It is recommended that public written comments be submitted to the City Clerk, office by 12:00 p.m. on the meeting date. Public comments will also be taken during the meeting when the topic is being reviewed by the City Council. Written comments should identify the Agenda Item Number or Topic in the subject line of the email. Written Comments will be allowed on topics which record for approximately 3 minutes of speaking time. A topic comment is not a substitute for the agenda item, and it will not be a part of the public record. Public comment via video conference will be 3 minutes per each individual comment, subject to City Council discretion.

Any interested person may participate in the meeting and be heard or present written comments to the City Council. According to Government Code Section 54955(i)(3), you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City, either at or prior to the public hearing.

If there are any questions regarding this notice, please contact Chloe Chen, Associate Planner in the Planning Department at (310) 285-1194, or by emailing at chen@beverlyhills.org. The case file, including a copy of the proposed urgency ordinance, attached amendments, and all other relevant documents and hearing materials, a staff report on this matter will be available at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting date by contacting the planner above.

HUMA AHMED
City Clerk
The #BOOM! New Year’s Eve party is typically among the largest in L.A. photo courtesy of #BOOM!

BY AARON BLEVINS

New Year’s Eve celebrations are often a reason for optimism, but for the sober community, the holiday can present a series of challenges that can be overlooked by revelers who don’t know any better. I feel like I can say that definitively, having now experienced both sides of holiday partying.

On May 10, I decided that I had sunk low enough and quit alcohol indefinitely. I looked awful, felt worse and set sail on a journey of sobriety without really knowing what I was doing. Following three days of agony, it took very little time to recognize the benefits of my lifestyle change, which has helped make this process a lot easier than I anticipated. I've taken very little time to recognize the differences of my lifestyle change, and now I believe. My first as a sober person – the Fourth of July – consisted of me sitting in silence, secretly agitated by overwhelming thoughts about my situation. It wasn’t so much that I wanted a drink; I just felt dumb sitting in silence, secretly aggravated by overwhelming thoughts about my situation. It wasn’t so much that I wanted a drink; I just felt dumb around my family for letting my life get to this point.

Halloween was tough, as I was the only sober person at the function I attended, but I’d become a little more seasoned in my sobriety at that point. Despite my progress, Christmas Eve and Christmas were way more difficult than I expected. As I was working my way through that struggle, I was reminded that New Year’s Eve was just a week away. Anxiety ensued. What would I do? Even my aunt who rarely drinks has margaritas on New Year’s; nowhere is safe. But then, #BOOM!

I first heard about West Hollywood’s sober NYE event several years ago, and my first thought was, “lame.” Quitting drinking wasn’t even on my radar at the time, and all things sober seemed depressing. I maintained that way of thinking until I grappled with my own sobriety. Even back in May, I scoffed at sober events. I attended an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting and was put off by the whole ordeal.

However, I was still living the sober life and trying to relearn how to have fun, as difficult as that seemed at the time. I had essentially become a high school student again, eating loads of ice cream, blowing money in arcades and going to the movies as regularly as COVID would allow. My girlfriend showed me some virtual AA meetings that were much more my speed, and I have since rethought my opinions on sober events – hence my newfound fascination with West Hollywood’s #BOOM!

Organized by the Institute for Public Strategies West Hollywood Project, which is funded by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, the event has become one of the largest New Year’s Eve parties in the L.A. area, IPS prevention coordinator Dean Ambrosini said.

However, this year’s event will be virtual, which is unfortunate. Ambrosini said it has been difficult to translate such a shindig into a virtual space.

“But we’re doing our best, and it’s going to be quite the event,” he said. #BOOM! will begin at 9:30 p.m. Dec. 31 and run through midnight. There will be celebrity guests, music videos, performances and a countdown to midnight. Drag musical artist Salina EsTitties will host.

“The holiday season can be a particularly challenging time for people with substance abuse or mental health issues, let alone the additional stress of the COVID pandemic,” Mayor Pro Tempore Sepi Shyne said in a city press release promoting the event.

The event has been helpful for participants. Ambrosini would know. Six years ago, he spent his first sober New Year’s Eve volunteering at an in-person #BOOM! celebration, which led him to his current job. “It was really [impactful],” Ambrosini said. “Seeing that many people gathered together, not drinking, it [had] an impact. It’s an amazing experience to be there and be around people and realize that they’re doing everything – within reason – that most people are doing at bars, but nobody’s drinking and nobody notices and nobody cares and not everybody’s in the sobriety community. It’s something to be seen in person, but we’re doing our best to bring it down to the virtual space.”

Personally, I’m still undecided on what I want to do to get through New Year’s Eve, but it is a wonderful relief to know that I have sober options as I continue down this path. For information, visit boomweho.com.

#BOOM! will be held virtually this year, beginning at 9:30 p.m.
Police seek clues in assault and robbery in Hollywood

Detectives with the Los Angeles Police Department’s Hollywood Division are investigating a robbery on Dec. 28 in which a French bulldog named Luca was stolen.

The robbery occurred at approximately 7:30 a.m. as the victim was walking his dog named Luca near Shoreham and Weatherly drives. A male passenger got out of a parked black sedan, struck the victim in the back of the head and stole the dog, police said. The suspect returned to the vehicle, which was driven by a woman, and the two suspects fled.

The male suspect was described as Black, in his early 20s, approximately 5 feet 9 inches tall and 165 pounds. He was wearing black clothing and a red vest. The female driver was Black, but no further description was provided.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Hollywood Division robbery detectives at (213)972-2920. During weekends and off-hours, call the LAPD’s hotline at (877)LAPD247.

WeHo stresses importance of crime prevention

The city of West Hollywood is reminding residents and visitors to remain vigilant about public safety during the New Year’s weekend. The city continues to be a safe place to live, visit and work, but recent reports of crime increases throughout the city have prompted heightened awareness and concern. The West Hollywood Sheriff’s Department has increased the number of Block by Block Security Ambassadors in business districts during the holiday season to promote enhanced community safety. The ambassadors will have an expanded presence in West Hollywood’s commercial districts through Monday, Jan. 3.

Block by Block Security Ambassadors are deployed on bicycles on major streets, alleys, parking lots and residential neighborhoods. They work in collaboration with the West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station. The security ambassadors also provide an extra level of hospitality to visitors. The city of West Hollywood and the West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station are reminding people to stay alert and remain aware of their surroundings. If you see something suspicious, contact authorities. During emergencies, call 911.

For information, call the West Hollywood Station at (310)855-8850 and Block by Block at (323)821-8604.

Four suspects tied to Hollywood murder

Defendants arrested by Follow-Home Task Force

The Los Angeles Police Department announced the arrests of four men on Dec. 21 in connection with a robbery and murder on Nov. 23 in Hollywood.

The arrests were made in undiscovered locations in Los Angeles and Fontana by members of the LAPD’s Follow-Home Task Force and SWAT team. The four suspects were identified as Jaron Sanders, 21, Abraham Castillo, 20, Tyree Singleton, 20, and Joshua Saulsberry, 21. The Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office has charged Sanders, Castillo and Singleton with murder, robbery and attempted robbery. Saulsberry was charged with one count of robbery.

The arrests and charges stem from a homicide on Nov. 23 in which a 23-year-old man was shot and killed in the 7100 block of Sunset Boulevard. The victim, Jose Ruiz Gutierrez, was sitting in a parked car with a woman outside the Bossa Nova restaurant at approximately 2 a.m. When the woman exited the vehicle, she was robbed at gunpoint by several men who approached on foot, police said. Gutierrez, who was also armed with a gun, got out and tried to inter- vene when he was shot and killed by one of the suspects. The female vic- tim was not injured.

Investigators with the LAPD’s Robbery-Homicide Division, which leads the Follow-Home Task Force, declined to provide specific details about the arrests, including how the suspects were identified and where they lived. During searches of the suspects’ residences, detectives recovered a handgun, a replica handgun, more than $30,000 in cash, handbags, a Rolex watch, gang paraphernalia and two vehi- cles allegedly used during the rob- bery and murder.

Sanders, Castillo and Singleton are being held on bail in excess of $2 million, while Saulsberry is being held on $160,000 bail. All four men have been arrested numer- ous times, according to Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department cus- tody records. Authorities have not announced whether the suspects are allegedly involved in any of the follow-home robberies, which have occurred in Hollywood and the Melrose District, as well as downtown Los Angeles and the San Fernando Valley. Detectives believe the rob- beries are being committed by dif- ferent groups of suspects who target people leaving restaurants, nightclubs and luxury retail stores. Some of the victims who were targeted were wearing expensive jewelry and driving luxury vehicles, police said. Anyone with information is urged to call the Follow-Home Task Force at (213)486-6840.

Arrests have been made in a homicide that occurred in November out- side the Bossa Nova restaurant on Sunset Boulevard.

The fire erupted in the duplex, which was boarded for security.

The city of West Hollywood and the West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station are reminding people to stay alert and remain aware of their surroundings. If you see something suspicious, contact authorities. During emergencies, call 911.

For information, call the West Hollywood Station at (310)855-8850 and Block by Block at (323)821-8604.

City attorney receives grant to combat identity driving

The Los Angeles City Attorney’s Office has been awarded a $912,090 Impaired Driving Prosecution Grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety to expand the Driving Under the Influence of Drugs Unit.

In 2020, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration announced a 7.2% increase in fatal alcohol and drug-impaired driving, “The stark increase in automobile deaths makes it all the more impera- tive during the New Year’s Even weekend for information, visit lackyattorney.org.

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Music makes miracles happen in Beverly Hills

Treble Makers mend minds through melodies every week

BY AARON BLEVINS

There is a certain magic that happens every Tuesday in Multipurpose Room B at the Roxbury Community Center in Beverly Hills. The old feel young again. The introverted come alive. Gloom becomes joy.

The catalyst is in the Beverly Hills Treble Makers, a group that is actually up to a lot of good. It is a product of Music Mends Minds, a nonprofit organization that promotes the therapeutic nature of music, especially for individuals experiencing Alzheimer’s disease or dementia.

In Beverly Hills, participants sing, dance and play instruments, and all are welcome:

“We have seen many experiences where people are pretty much not engaged or just disaffected, but when someone puts a microphone in their hands, they remember how to sing. They’re up there like Frank Sinatra, and it’s Las Vegas,” Treble Makers co-founder Myra Lurie said. “Some of these people have had the incredible ability to get up there and perform when they’re otherwise not even able to recognize people and families. It’s pretty awesome.”

Westwood resident Carol Rosenstein started Music Mends Minds and its inaugural band, The Fifth Dementia, in August 2014 after canceling sessions to her normal gatherings in mid-August after canceling sessions.

The Treble Makers resumed their weekly event when they were able to get up there and perform again. The introverted come alive. “…That was the beginning of The Fifth Dementia band that took us global,” Lurie said. “We have seen many experiences where people are pretty much not engaged or just disaffected, but when someone puts a microphone in their hands, they remember how to sing. They’re up there like Frank Sinatra, and it’s Las Vegas.”

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Rosenstein, who suffered from Alzheimer’s disease, had been suffering cognitive impairments. Her husband, the late Irwin Rosenstein, had been suffering from Parkinson’s disease and dementia and happened across a Treble Makers in February 2018. Lurie launched Treble Makers.

Since Music Mends Minds was established, several groups have organized under its umbrella. The majority are in California, but groups have also been created in Washington, New York and Connecticut, as well as other countries.

Lurie and fellow Rotarian Steven Weinglass launched Treble Makers in June 2018. Lurie said its weekly event is more of a sing-a-long, although organizers offer instruments to all attendees.

The multipurpose room offers a projector, which displays the lyrics on the screen, and a part of the band,” she added. “It’s pretty awesome.”

Notable Quotes

“Failure is not an option.”
—Apollo 13 Screenplay, 1995
William Broyles Jr. and Al Reinert
1944

The New James Webb Space Telescope, 30 years in the making, successfully launched this week on a 1.5-million-kilometer journey into deep space. It will peer up to 13.5 billion years into the past and gather data from the “Big Bang” and the birth of the universe.

Safe travels, James Webb Space Telescope!

*Bartlett’s Familiar Quotations

For information, visit musicmendsminds.org.
Transplant recipient to ride on Donate Life float

Tournament of Roses Association member and Cedars-Sinai transplant recipient Gerald Freeny will ride in his first Rose Parade this year as the medical center’s representative on the Donate Life float, which honors donors and recipients.

In the early 1990s, Freeny, a law enforcement officer, determined something was wrong with his health when he felt like he didn’t have energy for his workouts. Doctors diagnosed Freeny with bile duct cancer.

In order to operate, surgeons would have to cut through his liver, meaning he would need a new one. He had that surgery, and the liver transplant, in 1993 at 33 years old, allowing him to continue to pursue his career and amass a resume of community involvement.

Things were going well until 2010, when Freeny found out he had cancer again. This time, it was lymphoma. Treatments for the cancer were hard on his body, and ultimately, Freeny’s doctors told him he would need a new liver and a kidney. He received those transplants at Cedars-Sinai in 2015.

A few years after the double transplant, Freeny served as Rose Parade president, a role that required extensive travel and public speaking. He credits his care team with getting him through it.

“They took care of me,” Freeny said. “I was in the hospital every other day getting some type of infusion to keep me up, and they got me through the parade.”

Drs. Nicholas Nissen, director of hepatobiliary and pancreatic surgery and surgical director of liver transplantation, and Irene Kim, associate professor of surgery and co-director of the Comprehensive Transplant Center, performed the 14-hour surgery.

To this day, Freeny and his family remain on a first-name basis with many of the doctors and nurses on his care team.

Freeny joined the Tournament of Roses Association in 1988 and has served on every committee in the organization. He made history as the organization’s first Black Rose Parade president for the 130th parade season.

“This is the first time I’ll be riding,” Freeny said. “I won’t have to be worried about anything in the parade [but] I’ll be practicing my wave.”

Congressional districts redrawn

The California Redistricting Commission has released new Congressional maps.

The California Redistricting Commission on Dec. 27 delivered the newly drawn Congressional, Board of Equalization, State Senate and State Assembly maps to the California Secretary of State’s office in Sacramento.

“I want to thank the Redistricting Commissioners for their hard work under difficult circumstances,” Secretary of State Dr. Shirley N. Weber said. “We will be sending the new maps to Legislators and to the California’s 58 counties for implementation.”

The U.S. Constitution requires a federal census every 10 years. The independent California Citizens Redistricting Commission uses the new census data to redraw the boundaries based on population changes.

The boundaries for local districts, such as county supervisorial or city council districts, are drawn by local governing bodies.

As required by law, the secretary of state will provide the new CCRC maps to the California State Legislature for their records and to California’s 58 counties, which will redraw precincts within the new district boundaries and assign voters to the updated precincts.

Voters will cast ballots for candidates running for office using the new district boundaries as part of California’s June 7 Primary Election.

For information, visit wedrawthelinesca.org.
Metro offers cybersecurity protection to riders

To help protect riders, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority and city of Los Angeles have launched LA Secure, a free mobile security application for Apple iOS and Android platforms. The app will help protect Metro riders and other L.A. County residents and visitors from growing cybersecurity threats on public Wi-Fi systems.

LA Secure provides people with immediate protection against new and evolving threats on mobile devices. After the application is downloaded and installed, it alerts users to threats in real time and offers information on what to do about threats. For example, if someone tries to connect to a rogue Wi-Fi network, LA Secure will alert them about the security risk immediately. Also, phishing protection provided by LA Secure guards against malicious links and enables people to check the safety and legitimacy of suspicious links before clicking on them.

“Providing a safe and secure environment for Los Angeles County’s 10 million residents who live and work is becoming just as important as online as it has always been offline,” said Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, 1st District, who also serves as chair of the Metro Board. “As L.A. County continues to expand public Wi-Fi access, including on its entire fleet of Metro buses, LA Secure offers an industry-leading technology to ensure all the activity they conduct on their mobile devices remains safe, private and secure.”

The app is part of Metro’s ongoing effort to improve customer experience. This includes an enhancement that continuously validates all web connections on their mobile devices, enabling riders to securely shop online, work, use social media, check on connecting buses or trains and contact loved ones while in transit. All of Metro’s 2,300 transit buses offer free public Wi-Fi access.

In addition to the app, the LA Cyber Lab promotes cyber security awareness and offers support to local businesses and government agencies. The city’s Get Connected initiative provides information on free and low-cost internet options, devices and training.

“The city and county of Los Angeles have a responsibility to protect residents in both the physical and the digital realms — and it’s a responsibility we take very seriously,” Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti said. “Through LA Secure, we’re making good on that commitment and empowering people with the resources they need to stay safe online.”

As a result of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, more people depend on their mobile devices on a daily basis. Cyber threats are increasing. Cyber threats are increasingly targeting mobile devices because they do not yet have the protection available included on most desktop or laptop computers. New and constantly evolving threats require patches and updates to mobile operating systems that many users don’t consistently install.

“We are excited to offer the gift of online security to our customers this holiday season. We see LA Secure as another opportunity to provide greater access and equity for our transit customers, many of whom are low-income, do not have their own access to Internet services and depend greatly on public Wi-Fi services.” Metro CEO Stephanie N. Wiggins said. “We believe everyone deserves to have a secure online experience on our system and look forward to promoting privacy protections available through this important program.”

LA Secure was developed by Zimperium, a mobile security and protection company, and is available for free download in the Apple App Store and Google Play Store. For information, visit metro.net.
Gov. Gavin Newsom on Dec. 20 announced that California’s plan to provide $1 billion in mortgage relief grants to homeowners who have fallen behind on housing payments or reverse mortgage arrearages during the COVID-19 pandemic has been approved by the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

Newsom said the approval clears the way for a full program launch in coming weeks. Under the plan, the California Mortgage Relief Program will help an estimated 20,000 to 40,000 homeowners, with funds reserved for homeowners in socially disadvantaged and underserved communities.

“We are committed to supporting those hit hardest by the pandemic, and that includes homeowners who have fallen behind on their housing payments,” Newsom said. “No one should have to live in fear of losing the roof over their head, so we’re stepping up to support struggling homeowners to get them the resources they need to cover past due rent or mortgage payments and the way for a full program launch in coming weeks. Under the plan, the California Mortgage Relief Program will help an estimated 20,000 to 40,000 homeowners, with funds reserved for homeowners in socially disadvantaged and underserved communities.

“No one should have to live in fear of losing the roof over their head, so we’re stepping up to support struggling homeowners to get them the resources they need to cover past due rent or mortgage payments and stay afloat. This program will help families that have lost their jobs or had their paychecks cut, leading many to wonder how they can keep up with their housing payments,” said Lourdes Castro Ramírez, secretary of the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency.

“During this pandemic, Californians have lost their jobs or had their paychecks cut, leading many to wonder how they can keep up with their housing payments,” said Lourdes Castro Ramírez, secretary of the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency.

“This program will help families keep their homes and provide the stability they need to recover from the financial, physical and emotional toll caused by the pandemic.”

The California Mortgage Relief Program will be a part of California’s Housing is Key program and is designed to work in tandem with several existing state and federal initiatives and programs to support residents facing difficulties as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Californians at or below 100% of their county’s area median income, who own a single-family home, condo or manufactured home (permanently affixed) and faced a pandemic-related financial hardship after Jan. 21, 2020, may be eligible.

The California Mortgage Relief Program will begin accepting applications in the coming weeks through an online portal at CaMortgageRelief.org. Interested applicants can visit the website to review program and eligibility information leading up to the launch of the application portal.

Mid City West seeks candidate for open seat

The Mid City West Neighborhood Council is seeking candidates to fill the vacant non-profit representative seat on its board.

People who live, work, rent or own property, or are a community interest stakeholder in the area are eligible to run for the open seat. The current board will vote to select an eligible stakeholder to fill the non-profit representative position at its next meeting on Jan. 11, at 6:30 p.m., via Zoom. All candidates are encouraged to notify the executive council of their intent to run and must attend the next general board meeting to be eligible. All candidates will have an equal opportunity to present information to the board.

New board members must complete all required trainings and are expected to be engaged and active members of MCWNC. For information, email the MCWNC executive council at executive@midcitywest.org, or visit empowerla.org.
Gov. Gavin Newsom on Dec. 22 announced new booster requirements and testing measures to better protect all Californians as the Omicron variant becomes the dominant COVID-19 strain in the nation.

The COVID-19 booster requirement for health care workers will mitigate potential staffing shortages while helping to safeguard the state’s hospital capacity and protect the health and safety of Californians.

Combined with the new federal policies announced on Dec. 21, the actions will help ensure that residents in California has access to testing throughout the holiday season and that K-12 public school students can return to school safely.

“As the Omicron variant spreads rapidly across the country and circulates in all regions of the state, we’re taking immediate, proactive steps to protect Californians with boosters and expanded access to testing,” Newsom said. “The state is also redoubling our efforts to keep kids safe and keep schools open. We will help prevent the spread of COVID-19 in our communities by making at-home testing kits available to every K-12 public school student as they head back to the classroom from winter break.”

By Feb. 1, health care workers and all employees in high-risk congregate settings, including nursing homes, will be required to get their booster. In the interim, all health care staff that have not received their booster must test for COVID-19 twice weekly until they are due to date on their vaccines.

To help mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in schools, the state is also increasing the availability of at-home COVID-19 tests across California so K-12 public-school students can be tested as they return to school from winter break.

In early December, the California Department of Public Health distributed approximately 2 million tests to schools for this purpose. CDPH will expand the efforts by providing one to two rapid tests for every student. CDPH will work with local education and health partners to distribute those test kits as quickly and efficiently as possible.

“As we fight Omicron, there is nothing more important for our kids than keeping schools safely open – that means deploying rapid tests,” State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond said.

“The holiday break, CDE will be working closely with the governor and California’s public health and emergency management personnel to get testing supplies to families, districts and schools.”

The state will also expand antigen test availability and expanding hours of operation at state-sponsored OptumServe sites that are already at capacity. As of Dec. 22, 90% of the state lives within a 30-minute driving distance of a site. Over the course of the pandemic, the state has established 6,288 testing sites statewide, comprising 31% of the nation’s testing sites. Since August, the state has purchased more than 12 million over-the-counter tests, CDPH is distributing an additional 6 million

Gov. Gavin Newsom on Dec. 28 highlighted new bills signed into law in 2021 that will go into effect Jan. 1, including measures to expand worker protections, tackle redress for housing crisis, redress for institutional and environmental harms.

“In partnership with the Legislature, we’ve advanced hundreds of new bills this year to make meaningful progress on an array of issues that matter deeply to Californians across the state,” Newsom said. “As we head into the new year, I look forward to our continued work to expand opportunity for all Californians.”

Among the new laws taking effect are protections for workers and important measures to increase the state’s supply of affordable housing, create a more inclusive state, expand voter access and protect consumers and the environment from harmful chemicals.

Assembly Bill 701 by Assemblywoman Lorena Gonzalez (D-San Diego) will establish transparency requirements for manufacturers to disclose warehouse production quota descriptions and prohibit the use of algorithms that disrupt basic worker rights.

Senate Bill 62 by Sen. Maria Elena Durazo (D-Los Angeles) will end the garment industry’s practice of piece-rate compensation and expand fashion brands’ liability for unpaid wages.

A bill by Sen. Nancy Skinner (D-Berkeley), SB 8, will extend the provisions of the Housing Crisis Act of 2019 through 2030 to accelerate the approval process for housing projects and curtail local governments’ ability to downzone, among other provisions.

Two controversial bills – SB 9 and SB 19 – will facilitate the process for homeowners to build a duplex or split their current residential lot and create a voluntary process for local governments to implement streamlined zoning for new multi-unit housing near transit or in urban infill areas.

SB 2 by Senate President Pro Tempore Toni Atkins (D-San Diego) and Sen. Steven Bradford (D-Gardena) creates a system with the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training to investigate and revoke or suspend peace officer certification for serious misconduct.

Sen. Nancy Skinner’s SB 16 will expand public access to police misconduct records related to unreasonable or excessive use of force, discriminatory or prejudiced behavior and other misconduct.

Further, SB 389 by Senator Bill Dodd (D-Napa) allows restaurants, bars, breweries and wineries that sell food to continue offering to-go alcoholic beverages with food orders, building on state regulatory relief announced in June.

AB 338 by Assemblyman James C. Ramos (D-Highland) will allow the placement of a monument in Capitol Park honoring Sacramento-area tribes, replacing the sculpture of missionary Junipero Serra, while his AB 855 will remove Columbus Day as a judicial holiday and replace it with Native American Day in September.

A bill by Assemblyman Joaquin Arambula (D-Fresno) will ensure that crimes targeting people due to their immigration status are considered a hate crime.

Other approved Assembly bills will make permanent the measure implemented last year to send a vote-by-mail ballot to every active registered voter, require retail department stores to provide a gender-neutral section for toys and child care items and ban the use of toxic PFAS in products for children, such as car seats and cribs.
Los Angeles City Attorney Mike Feuer announces on Dec. 28 that his office has secured a victory in a challenge to the city’s adoption of the Exposition Corridor Transit Neighborhood Plan, which allows for increased housing and pedestrian-friendly streets within a half-mile radius of five westside train stations on Metro’s E Line, formerly the Expo Line.

The plan involves the Bundy, Sepulveda, Westwood, Palms and Culver City train stations. To encourage people to live and work closer to transit hubs, it allows for 6,600 new apartments—a portion of which will be set aside for low-income housing—condominiums and space to accommodate up to 14,000 jobs along the E Line. A community activist group called Fix The City sued the city on the grounds that current infrastructure improvements in L.A. County’s “E.A. City’s future is closely tied to creating more transit-oriented development as we tackle our housing crisis and L.A.’s crushing traffic congestion.”

In July 2018, the Los Angeles City Council unanimously passed the general plan and zone changes to facilitate adoption of the Exposition Corridor Transit Neighborhood Plan, which was ultimately approved in November 2019. Deputy city attorneys John Fox and Morgan Hector, on behalf of the city’s attorney’s office’s Land Use Division, defended the city against the lawsuit. L.A. County Fire Department seeks applicants for Explorer Program

Los Angeles City Fire Department’s Fire Explorer Program is preparing to welcome a new group of participants in 2022. Interested individuals may sign up for a virtual recruitment event and open house to learn more about the Fire Explorer Program.

“The LA County Fire Department’s Explorer Program has always provided a valuable and well-rounded experience for our participants,” Interim Fire Chief Anthony C. Marrone said. “Explorers receive basic safety training, first aid skills and CPR certification, and the opportunity to be on real-world calls.”

“The program provides discounts that can be applied toward the purchase of weekly and monthly transit passes on Metro and any transit agencies participating in the LIFE program, or 20 free rides from any one of the participating transit agencies. People can apply by visiting metrolink.net/LIFE, Application Step 1 and self-certifying that they meet LIFE program income levels. Those who are new to the program will receive a free 90-day pass valid on Jan. 10. After the free pass expires, riders can load the LIFE discount fare onto an E-TAP card. For information, visit metrolink.net/riding-life. To prepare for the resumption of fare collection, Metro is encouraging qualified seniors and residents with disabilities to apply for the city’s subsidized Senior/Disabled Bus Pass Program. The city provides free bus passes to West Hollywood residents who are eligible for Metro’s Senior/Disabled Reduced Fare TAP Card. Regularly, a 30-day pass for people participating in Metro’s Senior/Disabled reduced fare program costs $20. However, West Hollywood residents can receive a 30-day Metro pass or $20 in stored value at no cost. The city covers 100% of the bus pass cost for eligible residents. For information, visit weho.org/services/public-transit-transportation-transit-options/bus-pass-subsidy.

Los Angeles City Councilman Mitch O’Farrell, 13th District, center, and his staff recently continued their holiday tradition of volun-teering at Project Angel Food in Hollywood. Project Angel Food prepares healthy and nutritious meals for individuals with life threaten-ing illnesses. The councilman thanked Project Angel Food for mak-ing a difference in the lives of people in need every year. For infor-mation and ways to volunteer, visit angelfood.org.

The Council will consider extending the interim Urgency Ordinance for an additional period of one (1) year, in accordance with the provisions of Government Code Section 53508. In summary, the interim ordinance amends section 10-2-303 of Article 3 of Chapter 2 of Title 10 of the Beverley Hills Municipal Code to prohibit a lot adjustment that would acquire or expand a lot that crosses the City boundary. Staff also seeks direction from the City Council regarding the contents of a permanent ordinance that would be adopted in place of such interim ordinance in the near future. The staff report for the March 2, 2021 City Council meeting describes the contents of Urgency Ordinance No. 21-O-2833, and is available on the City’s website.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The draft ordinance has been assessed in accordance with the authority and criteria contained in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA, Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq.), the State CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Sections 15000 et seq.), and the environmental regulations of the City. The adoption and imple-mentation of the Urgency Ordinance represents minor alterations in land use limitations and do not result in any changes in land use or density, and the average slope of the City is less than 20 percent. It can therefore be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the proposed amendments may have a significant effect on the environment. Accordingly, the City Council will consider the staff recommendation to find the Urgency Ordinance exempt from the environmental review requirements of CEQA pursuant to Section 15365 of the California Code of Regulations.

HUMAN SERVICES AND HOUSING

Los Angeles City Council President Nury Martinez, 3rd District, left, and Steve Hall, right, inspect a home during an inspection of the Urgency Ordinance represents minor alterations in land use limitations and do not result in any changes in land use or density, and the average slope of the City is less than 20 percent. It can therefore be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the proposed amendments may have a significant effect on the environment. Accordingly, the City Council will consider the staff recommendation to find the Urgency Ordinance exempt from the environmental review requirements of CEQA pursuant to Section 15365 of the California Code of Regulations.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e)(3), members of the Beverly Hills City Council and staff may participate in this meeting via teleconference/video conference. In the interest of maintaining appropriate social distancing, members of the public can access City Council meetings telephonically, through live webcast, and BHTV Channel 10 on Spectrum Cable.

To submit Audio/Oral comments during the hearing call (310) 288-2298, to submit written comments please email: city- clerk@beverlyhills.org. For information, visit http://beverlyhills.org/citycouncilmeetings.

It is recommended that public written comments be submitted to the City Clerk’s office by 12:00 p.m. on the meeting date. Public comments will also be taken during the meeting when the topic is being reviewed by the City Council. Written comments should identify the Agenda Item Number or Topic in the subject line of the email. Written comments will be allowed with a maximum of 350 words, which corresponds to approximately 3 minutes of speaking time. If a comment is received after the agenda item is heard, it will not be a part of the record. Public comments via video conference will be 3 minutes per individual comment, subject to City Council discretion.

Any interested person may participate in any meeting or be heard or present written comments to the City Council. According to Government Code Section 65022, if you challenge the Council action 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 written correspondence delivered to the City, either at or prior to the public hearing.

If there are any questions regarding this notice, please contact Chloe Chen, Associate Planner in the Planning Division at (310) 285-1194, or by email at chloe.chen@beverlyhills.org. The case file, including a copy of the proposed urgency Ordinance, is available for review by contacting the planner above. In addition, a staff report on this matter will be available at least ten days in advance of the meeting date by contacting the planner above.
Ring in the New Year at Ocean Prime in Beverly Hills, opening at 3 p.m. on Dec. 31.

NYE at Ocean Prime Beverly Hills

Serve only the best for 2022!

Prime Rib
All Natural, Hormone & Antibiotic Free
“The Best Prime Rib You’ll Ever Eat”

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Bone-in or Butterflied

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DUTCH APPLE

MAY POI OF THE MONTH

The Godfrey Hotel
‘Van Gogh is My Neighbor’

On Jan. 2, the immersive Van Gogh Exhibit at the

NEW YEAR’S EVE DINING
BY JILL WEINLEIN

Countdown to 2022 at Loews Santa Monica Beach Hotel

Celebrate in grand style at Loews during its annual New Year’s Eve party. Start with a four-course dinner with wine pairing options. DJ Jeffrey from Wine Country Entertainment provides upbeat sounds and a festive dining vibe. Listen to big band-style entertainment with live performances from jazz vocalists, The Satin Dollz. The celebration will feature tap dancers, specialty cocktails and a midnight champagne toast countdown. 1700 Ocean Ave., (310)458-6700.

L’Antica Pizzeria da Michele NYE

The special Feast of The Seven Fishes pasta dish is available through Dec. 31. The kitchen is also preparing a NYE menu for $125 per person, which includes baked mushroom tortino and homemade black squid tortellini filled with lobster, asparagus and saffron sauce, as well as a complimentary champagne toast. A wine pairing menu is available for an additional $40. A DJ will help guests ring in 2022. 1354 N. McCadden Place, (323)366-2408.

Little Dom’s all-day New Year’s Day brunch

Kick-off 2022 with brunch all day at Little Dom’s on Jan. 1. Guests can feast on specialty dishes such as crab cakes, eggs with caviar and black-eyed peas. Also available on the Little Dom’s menu are the traditional blueberry ricotta pancakes, breakfast pizza and Little Dom’s burger. Enjoy the dishes with a variety of mimosas, bloody Marys and spitzers. Little Dom’s is open on New Year’s Day from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. 2128 Hillhurst Ave., (323)893-4055.

The restaurant opens at 3 p.m., on Dec. 31, and stays open until after midnight. Guests receive festive hats and noise makers and enjoy a complimentary champagne toast at midnight. Start with a handcrafted Merry Old Fashioned made with bourbon, citrus and a special spiced honey. Or try their signature Berries & Bubbles cocktail with Belvedere citrus vodka, marinated blackberries, fresh lemon and a splash of Domaine Chandon Brut. A little dry ice adds to the cocktail’s smoky wow factor. Berries & Bubbles is also available as a cocktail kit for those celebrating at home this holiday season. Highlights on the menu include seasonal sea bass on a bed of lobster risotto for $69. 9595 Wilshire Blvd., (310)859-4818.
Lighthouse Artspace is leaving Hollywood. For those attending the unique art experience, the Godfrey Hotel located next door is serving a specialty cocktail called “Van Gogh is My Neighbor.” It’s inspired by Van Gogh’s art and made with Buffalo Trace bourbon, blueberry and lavender. At the hotel’s signature restaurant, ALK, guests can enjoy new American cuisine with plant-based and vegan options. Every Friday and Saturday, listen to late night live jazz by artists Nick Campbell and Jacob Mann. No reservations required. 1400 Cahuenga Blvd., (323)762-1000.

Cafe Gratitude and Imperfect Foods

Imperfect Foods has provided Cafe Gratitude with produce for Executive Chef Dreux Ellis’ limited-time fire-roasted poblanos relenos with walnut sauce and pomegranate. They are filled with tempeh “carnitas” and Imperfect Foods produce. The dish is a creative vegan play on the popular Oaxacan traditional Chiles en Nogada and is offered at all Cafe Gratitude Los Angeles locations from Jan. 10–16. The restaurant is donating $5 from each of the special dishes sold to the Hollywood Food Coalition. 639 N. Larchmont Blvd., (323)580-6383; 300 S. Santa Fe Ave., (213)929-5580; and 512 Rose Ave., (424)231-8000.

The Musso & Frank Grill temporarily closes

The beloved Hollywood restaurant Musso & Frank Grill is pausing all operations until after the holidays and will not be open on New Year’s Eve and New Year’s Day. Look for the venerable restaurant to reopen in a few weeks.

El Granjero Cantina New Year’s Eve & Day

Come celebrate Nochevieja or Año Nuevo at El Granjero Cantina as Executive Chef Jenni Sklar serves up her innovative Mexican menu showcasing antojitos, ensaladas, quesadillas featuring the Hibiscus made with sauteed hibiscus flowers, onion and cheese, tacos, los tazones (bowls), burritos and dessert. El Granjero Cantina will also be serving specialty holiday cocktails including Tobin Shea’s classic holiday margarita with a choice of tequila or mezcal, Cointreau, fresh lime and citrus agave; Snowy in Mexico made with Cazadores Blanco tequila, choice of milk or oat milk, and cinnamon; and Naughty List Punch made with mezcal, cucumber, cilantro and spicy infused rum. On New Year’s Day enjoy some of the best people watching at the Original Farmers Market and by watching the 108th Rose Bowl game (Ohio State v. Utah) on a big screen on the lively patio starting at 2:00 pm. Executive Chef Jenni Sklar will be cooking her innovative Mexican menu all day. The full beverage menu includes wine, beer, non-alcoholic beverages and specialty list of tequilas and cocktails. El Granjero Cantina New Year’s Eve & Day photos courtesy of El Granjero Cantina.

Enjoy innovative Mexican cuisine and specialty cocktails at El Granjero.

El Granjero Cantina New Year’s Eve & Day photos courtesy of El Granjero Cantina.

Enjoy innovative Mexican cuisine and specialty cocktails at El Granjero.

The classic martini at Musso’s.

El Granjero Cantina New Year’s Eve & Day photos courtesy of El Granjero Cantina.

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El Granjero Cantina New Year’s Eve & Day photos courtesy of El Granjero Cantina.

Enjoy innovative Mexican cuisine and specialty cocktails at El Granjero.

The classic martini at Musso’s.
The following crimes occurred in West Hollywood, Beverly Hills and the areas patrolled by the LAPD’s Wilshire and Hollywood divisions between Dec. 19 and Dec. 25. The information was compiled from crime mapping and was obtained from LAPD’s Crime Analysis Unit.

**Beverly Hills Police Department**

**Dec. 19**

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 300 block of S. Robertson at 2:45 a.m.

At 2:20 p.m., a vandalism incident was reported in the 9900 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 300 block of N. Beverly at 4:45 p.m.

At 6 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 400 block of Rodeo.

**Dec. 20**

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 200 block of S. La Cienega at 4:28 p.m.

At 9:46 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 9400 block of Brighton.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 400 block of N. Oakhurst at 10:48 p.m.

**Dec. 21**

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 8400 block of Wilshire at 4 p.m.

At 6:08 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 300 block of N. Rodeo.

**Dec. 22**

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 200 block of S. Benedict at 2:20 a.m.

At 3 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 300 block of N. Beverly.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 200 block of N. Canon at 11 p.m.

**Dec. 23**

At 2:10 a.m., a suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs in the 8500 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 300 block of N. Canon at 9:19 p.m.

**West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station**

**Dec. 19**

At 12:09 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 8500 block of Melrose.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7100 block of Santa Monica at 2:45 p.m.

At 5:36 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8800 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 8900 block of Santa Monica at midnight.

**Dec. 20**

A suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident near the corner of Santa Monica and Sun Vicente at 2 a.m.

At 8:27 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7100 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 800 block of Westbourne at 8 a.m.

At midnight, an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 8900 block of Santa Monica.

**Dec. 21**

At 3:25 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8600 block of Melrose.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8400 block of Sunset at 7 p.m.

At 9 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8700 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8800 block of Santa Monica at 10:30 p.m.

**Dec. 22**

At 9 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 500 block of N. Orlando.

**Dec. 23**

At 8:30 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 7100 block of Santa Monica.

**Dec. 24**

At 4:18 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle in the 8900 block of Melrose.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 1000 block of Wilshire at 5:40 a.m.

At 10:30 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 8900 block of Santa Monica.

**Dec. 25**

At 3 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 7100 block of Santa Monica.

At 7:04 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 500 block of N. Lucerne.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1000 block of N. Formosa at 8:30 p.m.

At 9:40 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 100 block of S. Clark.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 7000 block of Hollywood at 10:10 p.m.

At 10:10 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 9100 block of Sunset.

At 4:55 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle near the corner of Hillside and Vista.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 100 block of S. Sweetzer at 4:55 p.m.

At 5 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near the corner of Norton and Elwood.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 8400 block of Blackhawk.

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

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 6000 block of Hollywood at 8 p.m.

**Dec. 19**

At 2:10 a.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 1300 block of Miller.

A vehicle burglary was reported in the 7700 block of N. Ivan at 6 a.m.

At 6:15 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle in the 2000 block of Hillcrest.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 100 block of N. La Brea.

At 8:39 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 700 block of N. Kings.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7500 block of Melrose at 6 p.m.

At 10:30 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked near the corner of Hollywood and Wilcox.

**Dec. 20**

At 7:45 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 1800 block of Cherokee.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 400 block of N. Ogden at 10 a.m.

At 12:14 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5600 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 300 block of N. Ogden at 12:20 p.m.

At 1 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 800 block of Franklin.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 400 block of N. La Cienega at 1:45 p.m.

At 4:35 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle in the 100 block of S. La Cienega.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 100 block of N. Highland at 2 p.m.

At 2:28 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 8500 block of Beverly.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 800 block of Vine at 3:25 p.m.

At 5 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 100 block of S. Crenshaw.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1100 block of S. Alfred at 6 a.m.

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

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 5300 block of Wilshire at 6:20 p.m.

At 9 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 500 block of Orlando.

An unknown suspect burglarized a high school in the 700 block of N. La Cienega at 10:15 p.m.

At 11:45 p.m., a suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 1100 block of N. Las Palmas.

**Whom Should I Name as My Executor or Trustee?**

The executor of your will and the trustee of your revocable (aka living trust) serve almost identical functions after your death, in the short run. Although your executor is generally subject to direct court supervision, the trustee of a revocable living trust has much less authority. There are a number of issues to consider in determining who to name as an executor or a trustee.

While both are responsible for ensuring that your estate is managed properly, when will your trust or estate be liquidated, and how will it be managed for your beneficiary’s benefit?

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

Whether or not you are qualified to manage an estate is irrelevant. All wills and trust agreements set out what your executor or trustee must do. Will your executor or trustee have the time, organizational ability and experience to do the job effectively?
In 2021, dining out offered change of scenery and sense of normalcy. Even though takeout is convenient, transporting your order home just isn’t the same as dining at a restaurant. Here are 10 of my favorite culinary adventures that offered a multi-sensory experience, exceptional wait staff and dinners I hope to enjoy again in 2022.

Number one on my list is Angler for an adventurous dining experience. The terrace over open fire. He is considered by many to be one of the best fine-dining chefs on the West Coast. Some of his one-of-a-kind menu items include caviar and a banana pancake; an exquisite floral-like radish-chic salad that arrives with a bib to protect clothing; and any of the fish and meat entrées that are cooked in the kitchen’s fireplace. Angler’s award-winning wine program emphasized wines of Burgundy, as well as some favorites from Napa and Sonoma. Angler is located on the ground floor of the Beverly Center’s main parking structure. $$$ 225 N. Canon Drive, (310)860-7886.

HiHo Cheeseburger opened a new location along the Marvin Braude bike trail in Santa Monica. While riding my bike, I stopped for lunch and dined at a table overlooking rows of boats in the Marina del Rey harbor. WhatHiHo offers a relaxed atmosphere and a variety of options. HiHo curates its beef from a blend of grains, legumes and lower saturated fat than other types of beef. HiHo cheese is made from ice cream churned by a family-run creamery. $$$ 4625 Admiralty Way, #109, (424) 317-7858. Other HiHo Cheeseburger locations open at 11:30 a.m. 6245 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 102, (323)642-6467 and 1320 Second St., (310)469-7250.

Culina Ristorante at the Four Seasons Hotel at Beverly Hills has seen a surge in interest in classic Italian cuisine. Giovanni Spataro, the head chef, has brought back some of the most memorable dishes. $$$ 300 S. Doheny Blvd., (310)966-7801.

Ten favorite restaurants in 2021
BY JILL WEINLEIN

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Music Center patrons must show vaccination proof in January

The Music Center on Dec. 22 expanded its vaccination policy for guests of indoor performances and events presented by its programming arm, TMC Arts, as well as for lease events that take place in Music Center theatres.

Any guests who attend these indoor events or performances will be required to show proof of a COVID-19 booster vaccine as of Jan. 17. The policy is in line with recent policy updates made by the Los Angeles Philharmonic and Los Angeles Master Chorale for its performances.

In most cases, guests who are eligible for the booster but who have been unable to get it will be offered a one-month grace period. LA Opera, which does not resume performances until March, is currently evaluating its policies.

All members of the public who attend an event of performance inside any of The Music Center’s four theatres must show proof of full vaccination for COVID-19 (two weeks after receiving the Johnson & Johnson/Janssen COVID-19 vaccine, or a second dose of a Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine of a COVID-19 booster vaccine before accessing any of the buildings on the campus, subject to legally required exemptions.

In addition, all Music Center artists and vendors, including those providing housekeeping, landscaping, and any building-related services, must show proof of full vaccination and a booster vaccine.

For information, visit musiccenter.org.

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Photo courtesy of the Music Center

Audience members will need to show proof of having a COVID-19 boost-
er shot to attend programs at the Music Center after Jan. 17.

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Take public transit to the Rose Parade and Rose Bowl game

The Dec. 23, 1982, issue of the Park Labrea News encouraged people to take public transportation to the Tournament of Roses’ annual Rose Parade and Rose Bowl game on New Year’s Day. Rose Queen Suzanne Gillespie and her royal court touted the special transit service that year to the parade and football game in Pasadena. This year, Metro is offering free rides on its transit system on New Year’s Eve. No fares will be charged on all Metro rail lines starting at 9 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 31, until 2 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 1. Metro’s Red, Purple and Gold lines offer public transportation options to the Rose Parade and Rose Bowl football game. For information, visit metronet.ca.
The Marvel Cinematic Universe requires more than just major franchises from its audience, and “Spider-Man: No Way Home” continues that tradition. To truly enjoy this one, yes, you should check out the first “Spider-Man” trilogy, the next two Spider-fflecks and the latest trilogy.

Perhaps that sounds exhausting, but only two of those films are mediocre, while the rest work incredibly well. So perhaps this is the kinda homework work undertaken.

Even without this level of commitment, here’s what you need to know. Following the events of “Far From Home,” the world now knows Peter Parker (Tom Holland) superheroic identity, and plenty of folks believe he also killed Mysterio, a villain posing as a hero.

Peter just wants to go back to the way things were, enjoying his remaining time in high school, planning college together with his best friend Aunt May (Marisa Tomei) and girlfriend MJ (Zendaya). But a normal life is slipping further away, so Peter and his old enemies team up, Doctor Strange (Benedict Cumberbatch) inquiring about a possible spell that can make every one forget his identity.

Aas, that doesn’t pan out and variants from other universes arrive to complicate matters further. Doc Ock (Alfred Molina), Green Goblin (Willem Dafoe) and Sandman (Thomas Haden Church), all from the Tobey Maguire-led “Spider-Man” trilogy, alongside Lizard (Rays Flans) and Electro (Jamie Foxx) from the Andrew Garfield films, converge on a Spider-Man who looks quite different than the one they’re used to.

Peter and Strange need to put all those villains back in their timeline, and do it. MJ and Neo help out with some sage advice from Aunt May (Maria Tonya) and Happy Hogan (Jon Favreau), Tony Stark’s old right-hand man. But some unexpected help also arrives from various corners of the Marvel canons.

For those diligently keeping up on the Marvel flicks, you already know what is happening next across the MCU: worlds converge, timelines mingle. “WandaVision” hinted at more trouble to come. “Loki” expanded on the battle over a “sacred timeline” and Disney’s animated series “What If?” presented stories from across alternative realities.

It all might sound confusing, but it really isn’t. “No Way Home” works with an enormous mythology without seeming to require a massive knowledge of previous films. Solo, it’s a big action story with sentences.

Regardless of how “No Way Home” could happen, the outcome is both exciting and successful, even if the whole backstory also turns this film into an ad for two other Spider film series and even those Venom ones as well.

Yet, this film deserves all the praise. The acting, the throwbacks, the special effects, the emotional heart, the implications — “No Way Home” is more than a productively ambiguous message that this web slinger can still do it again in the big-screen “Flash” flick, Michael Keaton reprising his Batman role.

Plenty of critics roll their eyes at this. The only reason it can happen here is with the approval of Sony, which still owns film rights to the Spider-Man character library despite Disney’s purchase of Marvel over 10 years ago. So part of this film’s success belongs to a complicated web of industry politics, which places it somewhere between legally authentic art and film economics.

Despite Disney’s purchase of Sony, which still owns film rights to Spider-Man, few can deny this film’s success belongs to a complicated web of industry politics, which places it somewhere between legally authentic art and film economics.

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Grand Park celebrates New Year’s Eve online

Grand Park’s NYELA will ring in the new year with a live, one-hour stream and a focus on the resilience of Los Angeles County residents and in particular, those whose personal and professional sacrifices kept us safe.

Due to COVID-19 breakthrough cases, the Los Angeles production of “Hamilton” at the Hollywood Pantages Theatre has cancelled performances through Jan. 23.

All tickets will be refunded at the point of purchase. Performances of “Hamilton” are scheduled to resume on Wednesday, Jan. 26.

With COVID-19 cases still rising in Los Angeles each day, the Omicron variant has yet to peak, and we expect many refunds and suppressed sales for the next several weeks, ” Producer Jeffery Seller said. “In consultation with our epidemiologist, we are proactively and immediately cancelling performances thru Jan. 23. We look forward to resuming performances at the Hollywood Pantages Theatre with a complete and healthy company in 2022.”

“Hamilton” is the story of America’s founding father Alexander Hamilton, an immigrant from the West Indies who became George Washington’s right-hand man during the Revolutionary War. Hamilton served as the nation’s first treasury secretary. Feeding a score that blends hip-hop, jazz, blues, rap, R&B, and Broadway tunes, “Hamilton” is the story of America then, as told by America now.

Tickets for upcoming performances may be purchased by visiting broadwayinhollywood.com/hamiltonla.

‘Hamilton’ suspends shows through Jan. 23

Jameel Westman appears in the national tour of “Hamilton.”

During COVID-19, TAG Gallery at 5458 Wilshire Blvd. is offering two $3,500 scholarships for low-income artists. The scholarships are specifically tailored to artists who identify as being from backgrounds, groups and communities that are underrepresented in the arts.

Additional tickets have been released for MOCA Grand Avenue and the Geffen Contemporary at MOCA. Available for advance reservation through March 6, tickets will be released every two weeks on Tuesdays at noon.

MOCA Grand Avenue is open to the public with advance free ticket reservations. All visitors, including members, need to secure advance timed-entry tickets online. Tickets for MOCA Grand Avenue are also currently available through March 6.

The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA is open to people with advance ticket reservations. All visitors, including members, need to secure advance timed-entry tickets online. Tickets for MOCA Grand Avenue are also currently available through March 6.

The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA is open to “Pipilotti Rist: Big Heartedness, Be My Neighbor,” a special ticketed exhibition. Special exhibitions at MOCA are $18 for adults, $10 for students with I.D. and seniors 65 and older, and free for children 12. MOCA members receive free admission to special exhibitions.

MOCA offers scholarships for artists

Gallery offers scholarships for artists

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The Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association announces a $1 million anonymous donation to help fund the zoo’s first Conservation Strategic Plan. The plan, released in July 2021, is a comprehensive five-year effort that operationalizes the zoo’s pledge to protect animals, plants and habitats through actions that also advance social and environmental justice. “The $1 million anonymous donation helps GLAZA get 90% of the way to achieving our $5 million fundraising goal for the Conservation Strategic Plan,” GLAZA president Tom Jacobson said. “Our success in raising funds to implement this bold plan highlights donor excitement and the belief that the zoo can and must exert a proactive impact on conservation in Los Angeles, the region and the world for the next five years.” The Conservation Strategic Plan focuses on social and environmental justice, human-wildlife coexistence, California conservation, illegal wildlife trade, conser- vation, rewilding and evidence-based conservation. California’s native wildlife is uniquely at risk, according to the plan, and the Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association (GLAZA) will aid the zoo’s efforts to protect endangered species, including southern mountain yellow-legged frogs. The Conservation Strategic Plan will aid the zoo’s efforts to protect endangered species, including southern mountain yellow-legged frogs. GLAZA. With 1,100 miles of coastline threatened by sea level rise, rising temperatures and increased frequency and severity of droughts, California faces daunting challenges. The Conservation Strategic Plan starts with a focus in Griffith Park and extends around the world. It highlights the zoo’s integral role in saving animals from extinction, notably three endangered California species – California condor, peninsular pronghorn (also known as herren- do) and southern mountain yel- low-legged frog. It also highlights the important role that the zoo, which welcomes 1.8 million visitors annually, plays in connecting people to nature. “This incredible donation and GLAZA’s fundraising efforts are vital to the zoo’s efforts to achieve the goals and objectives set forth in the Conservation Strategic Plan,” added Los Angeles Zoo Director and CEO Denise M. Verret. “It’s the zoo’s vision to create a world where people and wildlife thrive coexist, and this plan solidifies that vision but provides a pathway for us to get there.” For information, visit lazoo.org.
L.A. theater vet Danziger remembered

Kenneth Danziger, the British actor whose humor and intelligence charmed audiences in London and regional theaters across the country for decades, died on Dec. 12. He was 76.

According to close friend June Stock, Danziger had been diagnosed with cancer six months ago. He died at his home in Santa Monica.

Born in Essex, England, Danziger was brought to Los Angeles in his late teens by his mother. He began theater studies at El Camino College. Returning to the U.K. to train at the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School, he then joined Joan Littlewood’s Stratford East Theatre Company.

In a career spanning 50 years, Danziger acted in roles for stage, film and television in London, New York and Los Angeles. He was an accomplished voice artist, working extensively in radio, video games, audiobooks and looping.

In April 1991, he directed “A Small Family Business,” a play he had enjoyed a special opening video at (310)423-4170, or email blood-donor-services@chs.org.

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2021 provided plenty of reason for optimism

West Hollywood

The landscape of West Hollywood continued to evolve in 2021 as the city rebounded from the first year of the pandemic. On Jan. 19, the city embarked on its Housing Element Update, a lengthy analysis of its housing stock and prospects for creating more affordable housing. On Feb. 16, the City Council took another major policy step by approving the city’s first-ever Housing Element Study.

Pride celebrations were held virtually in West Hollywood this year.

Los Angeles

The Los Angeles, Hancock Park, Melrose-Fairfax and Hollywood communities also experienced a transformation in 2021. Pride events were held in-person this year, allowing restaurants and outdoor dining to return. The Los Angeles County Museum of Art reopened its campus in April, and the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History also opened in late 2024.

The city of Los Angeles was a leader in the fight against COVID-19, with over 20,000 vaccine doses being administered each week. The city also implemented new requirements for businesses, including a vaccination mandate for all employees.

Beverly Hills

The city of Beverly Hills rebounded from the pandemic, with new developments being announced throughout the year. The 17.5-acre project near Wilshire and Santa Monica boulevards does not include affordable housing on site, but the development agreement includes a provision for 50 affordable units.

On June 8, one of the largest developments in Beverly Hills history was approved after the City Council gave the nod to one Beverly Hills, which will include residences and hotels. The project is expected to be completed in 2022. On May 12, Beverly Hills Police Department and FBI agents arrested the three gang members from South Los Angeles in connection with the II Pasta robbery. The arrests were the result of a joint investigation.

On July 21, the West Hollywood City Council approved a controversial hotel ordinance granting new rights to employees. The ordinance reduced workloads by limiting the amount of floor space housekeepers can clean during an eight-hour shift, and new minimum wage standards for hotels. The ordinance was passed in response to a petition by workers who were not being paid the minimum wage.

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Other cities in Los Angeles County, including Los Angeles, West Hollywood, and Santa Monica, also approved similar ordinances in 2021.
Band to feature 275 band directors

From page 1

"I’ve been doing mileage with one of the sousaphones at Beverly Hills High School and just worse around the track," he added. "I did a couple mornings, so kids getting ready for their first period would see me… I did five miles [on Dec. 22], just going around the track and having the music in my headphones on my phone and then playing my part along with it," Bradbury said. He attempted to simulate what he would be doing during the parade, so he began marching for well over an hour non-stop while carrying the 30-pound instrument during his workouts. He feels pretty good – just some aches and pains. "I’m sure there’s probably somebody that’s older than I am that’s going to march it, but when you’re thinking five-and-a-half miles, you have to wrap your head around that," Bradbury said.

He also learned and memorized music for the parade, including a special arrangement of Meredith Willson’s "Seven Six Trombones" by Lisa Galvin called "Salute to America’s Music Makers." "The Stars and Stripes Forever" by John Philip Sousa, "Strike Up the Band" by George and Ira Gershwin, and "Singing, Sing, Sing" by Louis Prima.

"The kids that are involved are very dedicated," Bradbury said. "The kids that are involved are just as enthusiastic and committed as I’ve seen – certainly in the years leading up to COVID," he added.

Bradbury will have around 20 family members in the grandstands backing him. His students are excited for him as well. "I really think the students are excited to have the opportunity to have the music in their headphones during the parade, so he began marching for well over an hour non-stop while carrying the 30-pound instrument during his workouts. He feels pretty good – just some aches and pains. "I’m sure there’s probably somebody that’s older than I am that’s going to march it, but when you’re thinking five-and-a-half miles, you have to wrap your head around that," Bradbury said.

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Crossword Puzzle by Myles Mellor

Across
1. Reunion attendee
5. Visibility reducer
9. Illuminate
14. List heading
15. Inside
16. Short straw drawer
17. Comes to the rescue
18. Leave a mark on
19. Had something
20. Stephen King novel that was made into a film
23. Strange sounding lake
24. Send
25. Important digits on an I.R.S. form
28. Drink all at once
31. “Fool’s” gold
33. Old German currency
36. Massenet opera
39. Insurer for military personnel
40. Armchair quarterback’s hobby
41. Somewhat
2. Or Receive the Beverly Press with your Los Angeles Times subscription.
4. Inlay
5. Not fitting a category, briefly
6. Clive Cussler’s “___ Gold”
7. Sports figures
8. Medieval light
9. One of the Seven Dwarfs
10. Icy glaze
11. Philosopher suffix
12. Born name
13. Coastal eagle
21. Conductors Zhbin
22. Kind of boot
25. Rope fiber
26. Unquotyled
27. Actress Patricia et al.
29. Sounds of hesitation
30. “Let’s Get It On” singer
32. Massage
33. “Chiar de late” key
34. Purse
67. Place to find stubble
68. Sing like Bing
69. OK city
70. Compliment
71. Egypt’s capital
72. Bobbsey, Grey and Woods
73. Fish-eating duck

Down
1. Somewhat
2. French river
3. Milk dispenser
4. Iblay
5. Not fitting a category, briefly
6. Clive Cussler’s “___ Gold”
7. Sports figures
8. Medieval light
9. One of the Seven Dwarfs
10. Ivy place
11. Philosopher suffix
12. Born name
13. Coastal eagle
21. Conductors Zhbin
22. Kind of boot
25. Rope fiber
26. Unquotyled
27. Actress Patricia et al.
29. Sounds of hesitation
30. “Let’s Get It On” singer
32. Massage
33. “Chiar de late” key
34. Purse
35. Quarterback ___
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