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City council candidates face off in Hancock Park forum

■ Former Mid City West chair Scott Epstein left out

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

The Hancock Park Homeowners Association hosted three of the four candidates running for the Los Angeles City Council's 5th District seat for a virtual forum on March 21.

Candidates Sam Yebri, Katy Young Yaroslavsky and Jimmy Biblarz answered questions asked by Hancock Park Homeowners Association president Cindy Chvatal-Keane during the hour-long forum. Notably absent was a fourth candidate, former Mid City West Neighborhood Council chair Scott Epstein, who said he wasn't invited to the forum and was not allowed to participate when he asked to be included.

Chvatal-Keane said the forum was organized in early February and the board decided to invite the three top candidates who had raised the most money in campaign donations. At the time, there were six candidates running, including



photo by Edwin Folven

The candidates discussed several issues affecting Hancock Park.

Yebri, Yaroslavsky, Biblarz and Epstein, as well as Kristina Irwin and Molly Basler, who have since dropped out of the race after failing to gather enough signatures to qualify for the ballot. Chvatal-Keane said by the time Epstein contacted the HPHA on March 19 about being

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Gloves come off in mayoral debate

■ Candidates outline their vision for L.A. in televised event

BY AARON BLEVINS

Five Los Angeles mayoral candidates – U.S. Rep. Karen Bass (D-Calif.), City Attorney Mike Feuer, developer Rick Caruso and Councilmen Kevin de León and Joe Buscaino – participated in a televised debate on March 22 at USC.

Moderated by L.A. Times columnist Erika Smith and Fox 11 anchor Elex Michaelson, organizers invited five of the leading candidates as determined by a UC Berkeley Institute of Governmental Studies poll.

The debate turned contentious early. When candidates were outlining their plans to address homelessness, Buscaino thanked Caruso for “finally joining” the group in a debate. Caruso did not participate in a televised debate last month.

“Listen, Joe, I appreciate the effort you’ve been taking on the City Council, but the reality is ... since you’ve been councilman, there’s 700 more people on the streets in your [15th] District



photo courtesy of Fox 11 Los Angeles/L.A. Times

From left, U.S. Rep. Karen Bass (D-Calif.), Councilman Kevin de León, City Attorney Mike Feuer, Councilman Joe Buscaino and developer Rick Caruso participated in the debate on March 22.

alone,” Caruso said. “I don’t know how you quantify success when the problem has gotten worse under your leadership.”

Caruso said his campaign has created a “comprehensive” and “concrete” plan to help house approximately 30,000 of the 40,000 people currently experiencing homelessness in the city. His plan includes declaring a state of emergency and demanding a state and federal response to the issue, according to his website.

“People are living in the streets,” he added. “They’re living in their own waste. It’s a terrible situation we have.”

Bass’ plan also called for an emergency declaration and ensur-

ing that the state and federal government get involved.

“We need to have everything expedited if you’re going to build affordable housing,” she said. “On Day One, I would appoint a chief, and that person would report directly to me.”

De León touted the success that he has seen in his 14th District – specifically the construction of “the largest tiny home village” in the U.S. and securing funding for No Place Like Home.

“Anyone on this stage can make big, bold pronouncements on the issue of homelessness, but there’s one major difference,” he said. “The difference is I’m already

See **Debate** page 26

WeHo purchases Log Cabin

■ City exercises option to buy property on Robertson Boulevard

BY AARON BLEVINS

The West Hollywood City Council on March 23 opted to purchase property on Robertson Boulevard that it had leased from the city of Beverly Hills since April 2020. The price tag: more than \$5.7 million.

The property, located at 617-621 N. Robertson Blvd., is techni-

cally within the city of West Hollywood’s boundaries, but it is owned by Beverly Hills. The city had subleased the property to the West Hollywood Recovery Center for substance abuse services.

“We’re very excited and very pleased,” WHRC president Mark DeRosa said. “This has been going on a long time. The community is very grateful for the historic value of the Log Cabin, which we knew [about]. But, without it, I’m not sure we would

See **Cabin** page 27



photo courtesy of the WHRC

The West Hollywood Recovery Center has hosted substance abuse meetings at the Log Cabin in West Hollywood for decades.

Suspects target Beverly Hills jeweler

■ Thieves steal up to \$5 million in merchandise

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Police are searching for a group of suspects who committed a brazen smash-and-grab burglary during broad daylight on March 22 at a Beverly Hills jewelry store.

The robbery occurred shortly before 2 p.m. at Luxury Jewels of Beverly Hills, located at 203 S. Beverly Drive. A group of five male suspects used sledgehammers to smash the front windows and steal jewelry before fleeing north on Beverly Drive, according to police. The suspects were wearing hooded sweatshirts and masks that concealed their faces. No further description of the suspects was available.

The smash-and-grab burglary is the latest in a series of similar crimes that have occurred in Beverly Hills and Los Angeles. The suspects stole jewelry valued at up to \$5 million, according to media reports. The Beverly Hills Police Department addressed the crime in a statement released via social



photo by Rance Collins

Suspects smashed a front window at the store at 203 S. Beverly Drive and stole jewelry valued at up to \$5 million.

media.

“Chief [Mark] Stainbrook understands the community frustration regarding the crime that happened at 203 S. Beverly Drive. The chief is willing to discuss with any person or group the reality of the current regional crime situation,” the statement read. “Immediately, BHPD is adding a camera trailer, extra security patrols and extra special watch from officers to South Beverly Drive. The Beverly Hills

Police Department continues to hire new officers and engage new technologies to keep the city safe. The city and department also need the help of the District Attorney’s Office and our state legislators.”

The burglary occurred in one of the city’s busiest shopping districts. Beverly Hills city officials have criticized Los Angeles County District Attorney George Gascon for not being tough enough on

See **Burglary** page 27

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Beverly Press/Park Labrea News file photo
Rosewood Gardens Park, at the corner of Rosewood and Fairfax avenues, is one of the city’s smallest parks.

Join Mid City West for clean-up project at Rosewood Gardens

The Mid City West Neighborhood Council is holding a community clean-up project on Saturday, March 26, from 8:30-10 a.m. at Rosewood Gardens, a small pocket park at Fairfax and Rosewood avenues, adjacent to the southwest corner of the Fairfax High School campus.

At 145 square feet, Rosewood Gardens is one of the smallest parks in Los Angeles. It features seating and small tables.

Volunteers will perform light gardening and pick up trash in the park, and the surrounding neighborhood.

Approximately 25-35 volunteers are expected for the clean-up, including volunteers from local businesses on Fairfax Avenue. Cofax Coffee is donating coffee and the owners are volunteering. Members of Inner City Arts will also participate.

The clean-up is part of the first phase of Mid City West’s beautification of Rosewood Gardens. In December, the council was awarded \$2,500 from Los Angeles Office of Community Beautification’s Keep LA Beautiful program. The grant was matched by Councilman Paul Koretz, 5th District, and Hackman Capital Partners. The funds will be used by Inner City Arts to design and install a mural at the park.

For information, visit bit.ly/RosewoodGardens and midcitywest.org.

Beautify L.A. grant cycle begins

The Los Angeles Office of Community Beautification and Keep Los Angeles Beautiful, an affiliate of Keep America Beautiful, announced on March 17 that the second cycle of the Beautify L.A. Grant will begin accepting proposals on Monday, April 4.

The grant program supports the efforts of community-based organizations to beautify public spaces throughout L.A. and empower individuals to take personal action to improve their neighborhoods.

Community groups, such as neighborhood councils, business improvement districts and beautification committees, are invited to submit proposals. The OCB will hold a virtual workshop via Google Meet for interested applicants to get more information on Wednesday, March 30, at 6 p.m. To participate, visit meet.google.com/htg-wtco-bgf, or call (832)775-8470, and use the PIN 593 896 803#.

KLAB will once again award matching grants of up to \$2,500 to help fund projects that benefit and revitalize communities in Los Angeles. Organizations will be required to match a minimum of 25% of the grant. The deadline to submit a proposal is Friday, May 6. For information, visit laocb.org.

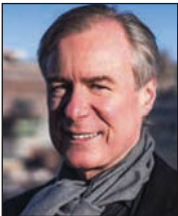
Art exhibit

Vellum L.A. is holding “Artists Who Code: Generative Art NFTs by Women and Non-Binary Artists,” an exhibit running from Thursday, March 24 through Sunday, April 10. The show features works that showcase the central role and major impact women and non-binary creators have in digital art and technology. An opening reception will be held on March 24 from 8-10 p.m. Appointments are required for viewing during regular hours, which are 1-6 p.m., Thursday through Sunday. 7673 Melrose Ave. vellum-la.com.



LA Phil classical concert

The Los Angeles Philharmonic has announced that conductor David Robertson has replaced Semyon Bychkov in performances on Thursday, March 24, and Saturday, March 26, at 8 p.m., and Sunday, March 27, at 2 p.m. at Walt Disney Concert Hall. Bychkov has withdrawn from conducting engagements for two weeks based on medical advice. The LA Phil will perform Mahler’s Symphony No. 7 in E minor. Tickets start at \$63. 111 S. Grand Ave. my.laphil.com.



Dance films at The Getty

The Getty Center presents “Poussin Projected: A Screening of Contemporary Dance Films” on Saturday, March 26, at 3 p.m. in the Harold M. Williams Auditorium. See three newly commissioned dance films by L.A.-based choreographers Chris Emile, Ana María Alvarez and Micaela Taylor. Their works complement the Getty Center exhibition “Poussin and the Dance” and respond to the French artist’s intricate depictions of dramatic scenes, colored textiles, enigmatic landscapes and bodies in motion. The screening will be followed by a discussion and Q&A

CALENDAR

session with Emile and Alvarez, and a reception. 1200 Getty Center Drive. getty.edu.

Salastina

Join Salastina for a classical music concert on Saturday, March 26, at 6 p.m. at the Fowler Museum. The concert features works by Esmail, Debussy, Bach, Shostakovich, Rachmaninoff, Brahms, Farrenc, Korngold, Von Bingen, Golijov and Adès. In-person tickets are \$40; \$10 for livestreaming. 308 Charles E. Young Drive North. salastina.org.

Jazz concert

New York-based musician and composer Christopher McBride brings a versatile, soulful vibe to 18th Street Arts Center’s 2022 Make Jazz Fellowship. New compositions created during his residency will be performed in a culminating concert, “Lessons on a Path,” which will be livestreamed on Saturday, March 26, from 7-8:30 p.m. The concert and McBride’s residency was supported by the Herb Alpert Foundation. The concert will be livestreamed at facebook.com/18th-streetarts.



‘45 Bennington’

Enjoy a staged reading of “45 Bennington” by Ryan McCurdy Saturday, March 26, and Sunday, March 27, from 7-10 p.m. at The Pico. The new comedy is about religion and real estate. Meg has just won the house of her dreams in a church sweepstakes, but nothing is free, and she will not get a moment of peace if Vegas Strip magician King Aramad and a parade of unwelcome guests have anything to do with it. Someone is going to pay and someone has to die, but it’s all for charity. The play features Brittany Curran, Dileep Rao, Caroline Morahan, Daniel Mills, Marie Semla and Stephanie Sheh. Tickets start at \$10. 10508 W. Pico Blvd. thepico.com.

‘The Goldberg Variations’

The Broad Stage presents Simone

Dinnerstein, considered a foremost interpreter of Bach, performing “The Goldberg Variations” on Sunday, March 27, at 4 p.m. Dinnerstein follows the success of her 2007 self-produced debut album, titled “The Goldberg Variations,” with a live performance of Bach’s masterpiece. Dinnerstein is a 2021 nominee for a Grammy Award for best classical instrumental solo for Richard Daniepour’s “An American Mosaic.” Tickets start at \$40. 1310 11th St., Santa Monica. (310)434-3200, thebroadstage.org.

Writing webinar

Aspiring authors won’t want to miss an Independent Writers of Southern California webinar titled “The Art of the Short Story and Personal Essay” on Monday, March 28, from 6-8 p.m., via Zoom. The webinar will include information on creating basic characters, developing ideas, revising stories and submitting works for publication. Book coach and editor Robin Quinn will moderate the panel, which features Tantra Bensko, Sue William Silverman, Corie Adjmi and Lisa Morton. Admission is free for IWOSC members; \$15 for non-members. Reservations required by noon on March 27. iwosc.org.

Yiddish music

The Lowell Milken Center for Music of American Jewish Experience at the UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music welcomes Anthony Mordechai Tzvi Russell for a workshop on Wednesday, March 30, at 7 p.m., and a concert on Thursday, March 31, at 7:30 p.m. Fans of Yiddish music can learn from Russell during a song workshop on March 30. The concert on March 31 will feature Russell with his chamber ensemble performing reimagined arrangements of original Yiddish modernist music, in addition to songs combining African American spirituals and the music of Jewish Eastern Europe. The events are free, reservations are requested. 445 Charles E. Young Drive East. (310)825-3650, schoolofmusic.ucla.edu/resources/lowell-milken-fund-for-american-jewish-music.



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BHUSD may select new bond manager

BY AARON BLEVINS

The Beverly Hills Unified School District on March 22 voted 4-1 to finalize its request for proposals to potentially hire a new construction management company to oversee its building projects.

However, the current bond manager, Team Concept Development Services Inc., could still be retained if the board decides not to approve any new bids or if TCDS submits a bid and is selected.

In October, the company reported a budget shortfall for BHUSD projects, including ongoing work at Beverly Hills High School and El Rodeo Elementary School. TCDS representatives said it may need an additional \$130 million to complete the projects, though the total shortfall is still being finalized.

“I just don’t know where to begin,” said board Vice President Noah Margo, who voted against the RFP. “I’ve spent months thinking about this moment. It has come down to what I hope I could say to stop this train from completely derailing. The decision that is about to be made by this governing body is perhaps the most dangerous and impactful decision I’ve ever been a part of.”

For the last five years, the district has been building under a bond program managed by TCDS and its owner, Don Blake. Margo said the program is “unparalleled” and “recognized by every governing state agency involved in our projects.” He referenced recent audits that stated BHUSD’s bond pro-

gram is among the top 3% in the state.

Margo said the district had a “sour reputation” after issues with its construction program in the past, and that has been alleviated by hiring TCDS.

“There were three goals at the time: no change orders, no delays, no losses,” he added. “This was a bold statement in this business of public instruction.”

The board vice president said several of the district’s contractors have praised their relationships with TCDS and expressed concern about the board potentially changing bond managers.

“We are behaving like franchise sports team owners only focused on the bottom line,” Margo said. “The bottom line doesn’t win championships. People win championships.”

Because Blake does not have a contractor’s license, TCDS would not be able to submit a bid in the new RFP process, Margo said. He warned that moving forward could halt construction on several projects.

Board member Rachelle Marcus said she supported the new RFP, especially since one was not issued when TCDS and the district reached an agreement five years ago – a statement that Margo contested.

“I feel that it is my fiduciary duty to request an RFP for bond manager,” she added.

Marcus said she has been following TCDS’ monthly payroll, and that she was “very concerned” with the amounts that she’s seen. The

company’s payroll was approximately \$268,000 for the month of February, she said.

“If I were to project that over a whole year ... we would be paying \$3.2 million for one year alone for payroll for the projects,” Marcus added. “I find that amount unbelievable.”

Like her fellow board members who supported the new RFP, she cited the budget shortfall and a lack of transparency by TCDS.

“I feel that, in light of all of this, there’s nothing wrong with approving an RFP request and moving forward,” Marcus said. “I feel it is my responsibility to do so.”

Board member Dr. Amanda Stern agreed.

“I really feel that it is prudent to canvass the market and look at what other proposals are out there,” she said. “It’s a complex matter, and I think that, as a parent, I also don’t want my children in bungalows or dealing with construction. ... We need to see some more results with this amount of money.”

Board member Gabe Halimi could not attend the meeting, but he wrote a letter in support of the RFP.

“I have simply not been able to get sufficient data reports and communication under the current structure to do my job as a board member and we need to reset,” he wrote. “As currently structured, TCDS as bond manager reports directly to the board, not to Superintendent [Michael] Bregy or [other district staff].”

Halimi said the structure of the current agreement is “untenable.” However, he welcomed the compa-



photo courtesy of the BHUSD

TCDS has completed some work at Beverly Hills High School, but more work remains despite the budget shortfall.

ny to submit a bid.

“If anything, I would personally consider their experience as a bond manager to boost their application,” he wrote. “On the other hand, considering TCDS has been working for BHUSD for five years, has consistently maintained competence and performance and was seeking contract renewal, should TCDS not participate in an open and transparent RFP process? I think we should ask ourselves why that is, but that may be a discussion for another day.”

Student board member Eli Ramer asked Bregy if the board is required to select from the bids it receives. Bregy said the board did not have to select a bid unless it so desires.

“There’s an interview process that happens, and it’s an eight-week window that the RFP is out there and people are able to submit proposals,” Bregy said.

Ramer said he supported the RFP because the district could still work with TCDS if the process moves forward, and it would allow the district “flexibility” and promote “transparency” in the bond program.

Board President Mary Wells said she agreed that the RFP process would promote transparency and accountability.

“I believe that we’re only halfway through our construction program,” she said. “We have a long way to go, and I believe that we can do much better.”

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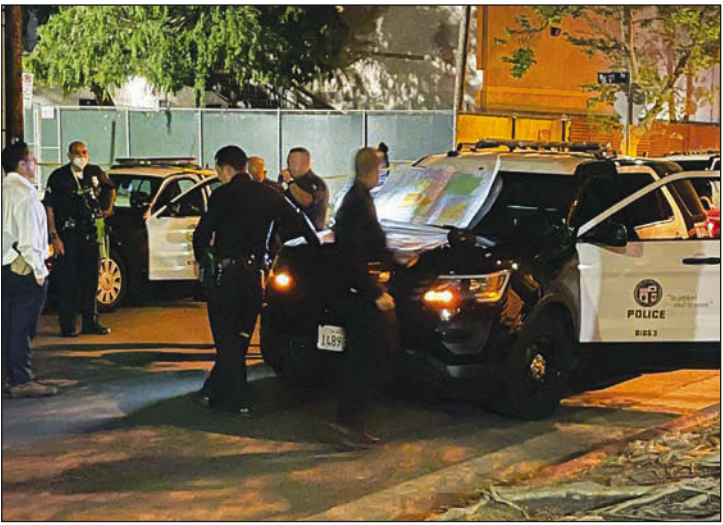


photo courtesy of Melrose Action

Officers established a perimeter and searched for the shooting suspect, who was not located and is still being sought by police.

Gunman sought who allegedly harmed dog and shot witness

Detectives with the Los Angeles Police Department’s Wilshire Division are seeking the public’s help in locating a male suspect who physically beat a dog on March 21 and shot an individual who witnessed the crime.

The incident occurred at approximately 7:30 p.m. in 700 block of North La Brea Avenue, near the intersection of Willoughby Avenue. Two witnesses were walking by an apartment complex on La Brea Avenue when they observed the suspect on an apartment balcony physically beating a dog. The witnesses yelled at the suspect to stop and let the dog go free,

police said. The suspect yelled back, pulled out a gun and fired at the witnesses. One of the witnesses was shot once, was transported to Cedars-Sinai Medical Center and is in stable condition.

Witnesses reported seeing the suspect running away from the apartment complex. Police contacted the resident and determined the gunman was a boyfriend of the occupant.

Anyone with information is urged to call detectives with the Wilshire Division’s Major Assault Crimes unit at (213)922-8205. During weekends and off-hours, call the LAPD’s hotline at (877)LAPD247.

Suspect arrested for murder on Gramercy Place

■ Authorities believe the homicide stemmed from gang-related dispute

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Police arrested an 18-year-old man on March 16 for the murder of a 32-year-old resident in the 400 block of South Gramercy Place. Police described the homicide as gang-related crime.

The suspect was identified as Wilser Virula, 18, of Los Angeles. He is being held on \$2.2 million bail pending his next court hearing on April 21.

The homicide occurred at approximately 2:05 p.m. on March 7 inside a unit in an apartment building on Gramercy Place, between Fourth and Fifth streets. The defendant is accused of shooting the victim, Josua Oliva, 32, who lived in the apartment. The motive was a dispute, said Detective Sean Kinchla, with the Los Angeles Police Department’s West Bureau Homicide Unit. The suspect and victim knew each other, he added.



photo by Edwin Folven

Flowers and candles remain outside the apartment building where a man was shot to death on March 7.

Kinchla did not have information about how investigators identified and located Virula, who was taken into custody at an undis-

closed location. Anyone with further information about the shooting is asked to call the West Bureau Homicide Unit at (213)382-9472.

Authorities warn about puppy breeding scams

The Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office is warning the public about scams in which perpetrators attempt to sell mixed-breed dogs as purebreds.

In purebred puppy scams, victims may find themselves spending hundreds or thousands of dollars on supposedly purebred dogs that are not what the sellers claim. A state law requires pet shops to sell only dogs, cats and rabbits

from animal shelters or rescue organizations. The intention is to make it more difficult for perpetrators to commit the scams, authorities said.

To determine if a dog is a recognized purebred, people should request the registration documents from a dog registry organization such as the American Kennel Club, Canine Kennel Club or the Continental Kennel Club. For a

non-recognized breed, such as a designer breed, people should get a second opinion about breeding from an expert.

The district attorney’s office also suggests that people meet sellers and the dog in person where the animal is being housed and ask for medical records before signing a contract or paying.

For information, visit da.lacounty.gov.

Lawsuit targets short-term rental platform HomeAway

To stop its alleged flagrant violation of the city’s short-term rental ordinance, which prohibits platforms from booking transactions for unregistered hosts, Los Angeles City Attorney Mike Feuer announced on March 21 that a lawsuit has been filed against HomeAway, which operates the popular Vrbo short-term rental hosting platform. HomeAway, part of Expedia Group, allegedly routinely processes rental bookings for unregistered hosts. From Nov. 7-Dec. 7, 2021 (the most recent 30-day period for which the city has booking data from HomeAway), approximately 29% of HomeAway’s booking transactions in the city violated the ordinance, alleged. Such data suggests that HomeAway has completed thousands of prohibited transactions since the ordinance took effect, he added.

“We’re in the midst of a housing crisis. The council found that unregulated home sharing worsens our extreme housing shortage and contributes to increased rental costs, along with undermining the residential character of neighborhoods and increasing nuisance activity. And when online platforms and hosts refuse to play by the rules, it allows them to compete unfairly with those who do, as well as depriving the city of much-needed revenue for basic services,” Feuer said. “HomeAway’s alleged flagrant violations of City law must end now.”

In December 2018, the L.A. City Council adopted the short-term rental ordinance after finding that short-term rentals reduce the number of available units and drive up rental costs. It also found that short-

term rentals increase nuisance activity, and have negative impacts on the residential character of neighborhoods. Enforcement of the ordinance, which prohibits home sharing without the host first registering with the city, began in November 2019. The ordinance defines a short-term rental as one that is rented for 30 or fewer consecutive days.

The ordinance requires eligible hosts to submit an application, pay a fee and obtain a registration number from the Department of City Planning before engaging in short-term rentals. All postings for short-term rentals must clearly list the host’s city-issued registration number, and hosts may not rent for more than 120 days in a calendar year unless they’ve obtained a separate exemption. Hosts are also required to pay a fee to the city for each night of short-term rental, and collect transient occupancy taxes from guests, which must also be remitted to the city.

The ordinance prohibits hosting platforms from processing booking transactions for any host who does not have a valid home-sharing registration number issued by the city. It also prohibits platforms from processing transactions for hosts who have exceeded the authorized 120-day limit.

The lawsuit seeks to force HomeAway from further violating the ordinance. It also seeks penalties of up to \$2,500 under the Unfair Competition Law and up to \$2,500 under the L.A. Municipal Code for each past unauthorized booking.

For information, visit lacityattorney.org.



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Section 2 – Beverly Hills Update

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TRAFFIC ALERT

Construction of the La Cienega Station continues on the north side of Wilshire Bl. North Gale Dr will be closed 24/7 at Wilshire Bl through April 2022. Two lanes of traffic will remain open in each direction during peak hours along Wilshire Bl.

MEETING HOURS

Community Construction Update webinars will be held virtually on the first Wednesday of the month from 12–1pm. Please join us on February 2, March 9 and April 6.

Upcoming webinars are held over Zoom and posted to Facebook:

Webinar Link: zoom.us/j/96626476708

Webinar ID: 966 2647 6708

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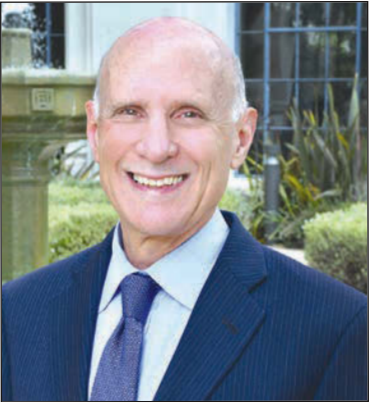
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And they’re off: BH races at the starting gate

BY AARON BLEVINS

The candidate nomination filing period ended on March 11 for individuals looking to pursue elected office in Beverly Hills, and although voters can still write in candidates on June 7, the ballot for open city seats is complete.

Three seats of the Beverly Hills City Council – currently held by Mayor Robert Wunderlich and Councilmen Lester Friedman and John Mirisch – and the city treasurer position, held by Howard Fisher, will be up for grabs.



Robert Wunderlich

Robert “Bob” Wunderlich was elected to the Beverly Hills City Council in 2017, and he has served as mayor for the last year. Before being elected, Wunderlich represented Beverly Hills for 10 years as its director on the board of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

Professionally, Wunderlich has been an economic and business consultant for more than 25 years, assisting many businesses across several industries, including entertainment, technology, health care and fashion.

He earned a master of business administration degree with emphasis in finance from the UCLA Anderson School of Management, a doctorate in chemical physics and a master of arts degree in physics from Harvard University, as well as a bachelor of arts degree in chemistry from Columbia University.

Wunderlich grew up in Queens, New York, moved to Southern California in 1981 and married his wife, Andrea Spatz, in 1986. Their children, Matthew and Michele, graduated from Beverly Hills High School.

“I want to preserve what we love about Beverly Hills, while positioning it for the future,” he said. “I am proud of my accomplishments during my first term. My priorities will continue to be public safety; residential quality of life; economic, community and environmental sustainability; and transparency in government.”



Lester Friedman

Lester Friedman was elected to the Beverly Hills City Council in 2017 and served as mayor in 2020.

Previously, he served on the Beverly Hills Traffic and Parking

Commission from 2011-17 and served as its chair in 2015. Friedman was also chair of the Beverly Hills Taxi Review Committee and served on the Blue Ribbon Commission for Santa Monica Boulevard Reconstruction. He is a 2009 graduate of Team Beverly Hills.

Friedman is an attorney and serves as a mediator and judge pro-tempore. He is a past chairman of the State Bar of California’s Board of Legal Specialization and served on that commission from 2009-14. He serves as a director and management chair of the California Applicant’s Attorneys Association.

Since 2009, he has been honored by the attorney rating service “Super Lawyers,” was named in the “Top 100 Super Lawyers of Southern California” for 2022 and was selected as a “best lawyer” from 2005-22. He is a graduate of UCLA and attended Southwestern School of Law.

Friedman has lived in Beverly Hills since 1984, having grown up in the Beverly/La Cienega area of Los Angeles. He is married to Simone Friedman, who previously served as chair and as a commissioner of the city’s Recreation and Parks Commission, and served as chairwoman and president of the Beverly Hills Education Foundation. They have four children, Joshua, Allana, Adam and Jeremy, as well as five grandchildren.

“Over the last two years, we have encountered and survived an unexpected and frightening experience,” Friedman said. “While there was no script for this as a community, we persevered, and we are now stronger. I want to continue our upward trajectory and use the lessons learned for our future.”



John Mirisch

John Mirisch was elected to Beverly Hills City Council in 2009 and has served as mayor three times. Throughout, he said he has emphasized fiscal responsibility and value for our taxpayer dollars.

After graduating from Yale University (magna cum laude) in 1985, Mirisch followed in his family footsteps by going to work in international film distribution with 20th Century Fox International.

His grandfather and great-uncle were movie producers Harold and Walter Mirisch, who won or were nominated for Oscars for movies such as “West Side Story,” “Some Like It Hot,” “Cast a Giant Shadow,” “Fiddler on the Roof” and “In the Heat of the Night.”

Mirisch is a fourth-generation resident of Beverly Hills. He attended Beverly Hills schools through graduation and was active in journalism and forensics.

Mirisch served on the school district’s Facility Advisory Committee and was voted into the Beverly Hills High School Hall of Fame alongside his mother, Wendy

Goldberg. His brother, Richard Mirisch, and sister, Amanda Goldberg, are also graduates of Beverly Hills High School. Mirisch’s son, Vin, is a fifth generation Beverly Hills resident and attended Beverly Hills schools.

“I’ve been involved in Beverly Hills politics for half a century,” former Mayor Charles Aronberg said of Mirisch. “Nobody has served us better or with more distinction than John Mirisch. He is relentless in working for our community and he brings up important issues that nobody else talks about. We need John to be our voice at City Hall.”



Robin Rowe

Robin Rowe works as a senior manager at a multi-billion dollar company that makes software for banks and investment companies that protects the country’s financial system. Previously, for the U.S. Department of Defense, Rowe produced an AI crisis detection system installed at the country’s command centers for national defense. As a navy research scientist, Rowe built systems to train NATO Special Forces.

Rowe first ran for City Council in 2020 and finished better than he expected for a first-time candidate.

A central Illinois native, he moved to Beverly Hills with his wife, Gabrielle Pantera-Rowe, to work in the film and TV industry after being recruited by DreamWorks Animation. She began working at MGM, but she eventually accepted positions at Fox and then Disney.

“No matter how much money Beverly Hills City Council spends on police, if it isn’t spent wisely, we gain nothing,” Rowe said. “I know how to implement public safety properly from working for the Department of Defense. I was the architect of a real-time crisis detection system installed at our country’s command centers for national security, to keep America safe. If elected to City Council, I will make Beverly Hills secure too.”

He said he took a “hard look” at Beverly Hills security in 2020 after the Nessah synagogue break-in. As a member of the city’s Technology Committee, Rowe said he questioned how Beverly Hills had installed the world’s most sophisticated CCTV city security system, yet it failed.



Andy Licht

Andy Licht is a lifelong resident of Beverly Hills, a graduate of Beverly Hills schools, chair of the Beverly Hills Planning Commission and a previous member of the city’s Traffic and Parking Commission.

A principal of Beverly Hills-based Licht Entertainment since 1981, Licht works as a film and television producer.

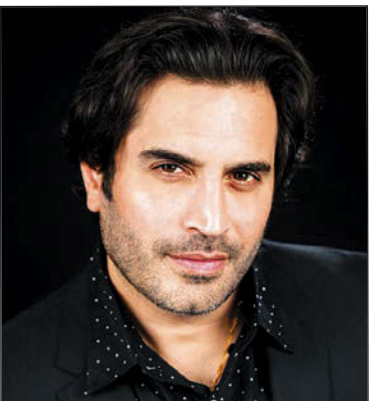
As his three children were attending Beverly Hills schools, he began his career in public service, having served as a member of the Beverly Hills Unified School District Citizens Oversight Committee.

Licht was unanimously selected by the City Council to serve on the planning commission in 2016 and was re-appointed to a second term in 2018. He served as chair of the planning commission in 2018 and was reappointed chair in 2021.

The commissioner has helped create charity fundraisers for numerous organizations, including the United Jewish Fund, Big Brothers, Boys and Girls Clubs of America, the Santa Monica Boulevard Blue-Ribbon Committee, the Metro Subway Station Area Advisory Committee and the Beverly Hills Centennial Committee.

In 2019, Licht and his wife of 31 years, Lisa, were honored at Temple Emanuel’s annual Beverly Hills Ball for serving the community.

Licht earned a bachelor of arts in economics from the University of California, Berkeley, where he graduated with honors. He earned a master of fine arts degree at USC’s Peter Stark Program, graduating cum laude. Licht is a lifetime member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.



Akshat “A.B.” Bhatia

Akshat “A.B.” Bhatia is a real estate professional/small business owner, a father of two and a husband, whose wife has “fallen in love with our community in Beverly Hills.”

He said that, although viewed as an Indian American, he sees himself “as a true American living the American Dream.”

“And I want to serve the city I love most,” Bhatia said.

He said his priorities include enhancing neighborhood safety, ending the homelessness crisis, strengthening education and supporting small businesses.

Bhatia said criminals should not be allowed to get away with crime in Beverly Hills. He said the current situation is “troubling,” which is why he strongly supports the recall of Los Angeles County District Attorney George Gascón.

To end homelessness, Bhatia said he will work with city, county and state agencies to garner additional support.

As far as education, he wanted to strengthen ties between the City Council and the Beverly Hills Unified School District Board of Education to make sure children have the best facilities and

resources they need to succeed.

Bhatia said he will fight for small businesses, advocating for fewer taxes and less “red tape.”



Kevin Kugley

Kevin Kugley is the owner of a Beverly Hills financial firm, Kevins7, a virtual family office with accountants that engage in financial planning.

He earned his executive master of business administration from USC Marshall School of Business and completed the executive training program at the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, and received his bachelor’s degree from the University of Tennessee.

Prior to launching his business, Kugley could be seen in episodes of “Desperate Housewives,” “Suburgatory” and “CSI.”

His platform is three-fold: revitalizing public safety, supporting small businesses and listening to community needs.

“As we emerge from the pandemic, it will take City Council members that are capable of uniting Beverly Hills – long-time residents with new neighbors ... shops and landmarks with tourists from all over the world,” Kugley said. “I will help restore our city’s past glory and safety, while leading its next generation into its future.”



Dr. Sharona Nazarian

Dr. Sharona Nazarian currently serves as a Beverly Hills Public Works commissioner and a Los Angeles County commissioner. Previously, she has served as the past chair and commissioner of the Beverly Hills Human Relations Commission.

She holds a bachelor’s degree in psychology and sociology from USC and a doctorate in clinical psychology with an emphasis in multicultural psychology.

Nazarian has lived in Beverly Hills for over three decades and has generational roots in the city. She has been active in the community for more than two decades, she said.

Nazarian hopes to bring a new perspective to the City Council and wants to increase public safety and security, upgrade technology and work more closely with Beverly Hills schools. She also wants to improve residents’ quality of life.

“I am running to serve as the voice of our community and will bring a new perspective to the City Council,” Nazarian said. “I will be

WeHo council tables public safety measure

■ City expands funding for Block by Block program

BY RANCE COLLINS

The city of West Hollywood has been considering cutting funding to the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department, but no decision was reached at Monday’s city council meeting. Atthe March 14 public safety commission meeting residents expressed concerns about the proposal, which originated from a recommendation by the commis-sion. With public safety on the agen-da, residents expected the city coun-cil would move forward with a deci-sion.

Instead, the item was tabled in a 3-2 decision with Councilman John D’Amico and Councilwoman Lindsey Horvath voting no.

City Manager David Wilson said there seemed to be confusion as to what exactly was going to be dis-cussed by the council in the meeting. Wilson explained that the agenda item was supposed to be simply an update on public safety reports.

“There is a lot of confusion amongst the community about that item,” Wilson said. “I think there is confusion on actions being taken tonight or not being taken tonight, additionally there is information that needs to be clarified by staff.”

There were discussions among the council members about whether or not the “clarifications” were in fact inaccuracies in the statistical data of the crime reports. Horvath pressed Wilson on this point during the meeting.

“There are no specific points that are not correct. We’d like to provide more clarification, more context, and have some certainty that all the information is correct before we have public discussion,” Wilson said.

West Hollywood public informa-tion officer Sheri Lunn provided context to Wilson’s concerns.

“COVID-19 pandemic-related state and county health orders during 2020 and 2021 created emergency policies that forced certain business closures and safer at home recom-mendations,” Lunn said. “These emergency policies also had a signif-icant effect on crime. Part one crime incidents in the early part of the pan-demic, March 2020 and April 2020, were reported as the lowest in the city’s history. This trend of lower crime continued during the pandem-ic in 2020 and 2021.

“Not providing context about the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic can be misleading. Using only February 2021 data (105 incidents) presents a sharp deviation from past averages (180 to 220 incidents) and is a bit like comparing apples with oranges,” Lunn added.

Lunn did also note, however, that the February 2022 statistics (249 incidents) did show a rise from pre-2020 numbers.

When reached for comment, Mayor Lauren Meister said she believed tabling the issue was the right move.

“I know the community was dis-appointed that the public safety update was tabled, but I also didn’t want to hear an item if it wasn’t ready to be heard,” Meister said. “Further, the discussion about our Housing Element took longer than we thought it would, so the public safety item would not have been heard until very late in the evening, and that is also not fair to the public. I assume the item will be brought back in April, when we are back in Council Chambers.”

Meister also came out against cutting funding to the sheriff’s department.

“This is not the time to cut deputies. Public safety must be our top priority,” Meister said.

Both D’Amico and Horvath took issue with tabling the agenda item.

“West Hollywood’s evolving community safety strategy needs a full hearing with discussion of crime trends, policy and safety goals, and program and staffing levels, regard-less of what might happen in the near future this will necessarily always be an ongoing developing story,” D’Amico said on Tuesday.



Beverly press/Park Labrea News file photo

The West Hollywood City Council will review funding for the Los Angeles Sheriff’s Department at a future meeting.

Horvath also outlined her frustra-tions.

“Public safety is my top priority, as it should be for all local offi-cials. I’m disappointed that city staff and law enforcement have dis-seminated conflicting information, which has led to confusion and upset in our community. I’m also disappointed that this conversation was delayed for City Council dis-cussion. We need to take our responsibility seriously, have the tough conversations, and deliver for our residents,” Horvath said.

During the public comment sec-tion, many residents voiced their opinions regarding the West Hollywood Public Safety Commission’s proposed budget cuts, as well as the decision to table the discussion.

“The commission recommenda-tion appears to be a political response to a very real issue of concern to residents and businesses alike who are alarmed by the very real increase in crime in West Hollywood,” Leslie Karliss, who serves as the president of the West Hollywood West Residents Association, said.

“I find it extremely frustrating and disappointing that at the 11th hour, you table [the public safety agenda item],” West Hollywood resident Manny Rodriguez said. “City staff has had since [March 17] to make any amendments that they felt needed to be done and cor-rect any errors or add information ... it’s very disappointing. And if there’s any discrepancies in the report, that is what you should be discussing.”

Horvath visibly nodded along with Rodriguez’s comments.

Even with the debate over the future sheriff’s department’s fund-ing in West Hollywood, two items related to public safety were moved forward without dissent during the meeting. The first aims to develop a citywide behavioral health crisis response unit, while the second expands the Block by Block Kiosk program. This provides funding for unarmed foot patrols along West Hollywood’s commercial corridors.

The next West Hollywood City Council meeting will take place on April 4 at 6 p.m. More information can be found at weho.org/city-gov-ernment/city-council.

Television City recognized for public safety support

Representatives of the Melrose Business Improvement District met with the ownership of Television City on March 17 to thank them for helping to fund new license plate reader cameras on and around Melrose Avenue.

Melrose Avenue property own-ers and Melrose BID board mem-bers Deny and Sylvia Weintraub, and Melrose BID executive direc-tor Don Duckworth, met at Spartina restaurant with Zach Sokoloff, vice president of asset management for Hackman Capital Partners, owner of Television City, to thank Hackman for its contribu-tion to preserving public safety. Television City donated funds for new LPR cameras to be installed along the business corridor on Melrose Avenue from Fairfax to Highland Avenues, and in sur-rounding neighborhoods.

The effort was spearheaded by the Melrose Action neighborhood community group. Dozens of cam-eras have been installed throughout the Melrose area. Melrose Action contracted with the company Flock Safety on the camera project. The cameras record footage that is routed to Melrose Action, which in turn shares it with the LAPD when crimes occur. The cameras’ ability to record license plate numbers is helpful in tracking down suspects, authorities said.

Hackman Capital Partners owns and operates Television City, which is located at the corner of Fairfax Avenue and Beverly Boulevard. Television City’s con-tribution to the Melrose Action camera program was part of its Rebuild Beverly/Fairfax initiative in which it partners with local orga-nizations and invests in rebuilding and revitalization efforts in the community.

For information, visit televisioncityla.com, melroseartsdis-tract.com and melroseaction.org.



photo courtesy of Kim Sudhalter

Zach Sokoloff, vice president of asset management for Hackman Capital Partners, owner of Television City, was joined by Sylvia Weintraub, prop-erty owner and Melrose BID board corporate secretary; Deny Weintraub, property owner and Melrose BID Board president; and Don Duckworth, executive director of the Melrose BID.

Notable Quotes

“Well I do think, when there are more women, that the tone of the conversation changes, and also the goals of the conversation change. But it doesn’t mean that the whole world would be a lot better if it were totally run by women. If you think that, you’ve forgotten high school.”

Madeleine Albright
1937-2022

Madeleine Albright was the first female U.S. Secretary of State under President Bill Clinton. In 2012, she was awarded the nation’s highest civilian award, the Medal of Freedom by President Barack Obama. Albright championed democracy, the expansion of NATO and human rights. She was known for the stylish pins that often took on other meanings, such as the time when she met with Saddam Hussein and wore a snake pin. Another time she wore a bug pin to acknowledge the Russians who bugged the State Department. Albright died on Wednesday, March 23, 2022.

*source: Brainy Quotes

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Subway work requires upcoming road closures

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority is advising about work along the Purple Line Extension project that will impact motorists and residents.

Metro is planning a major upcoming street restoration project near the Wilshire/La Brea station that involves the replacement of decking on Wilshire Boulevard. Street restoration will begin on April 22 and require 10 weekends of full closures on Wilshire Boulevard between Highland and La Brea avenues from Friday night to Monday morning. For full details, visit mcknbr0fgxh5k0f2vx078zts2980.pub.sfmc-content.com/1guuusythcw/w2hnxunr-so4.

Work is also occurring at many other locations along the project route. Crews began installing K-rail barriers on the eastbound side of Wilshire Boulevard last week, east of Sycamore Avenue. The barriers will stay in place for approximately six months. However, the current traffic pattern on Wilshire Boulevard will remain intact. A temporary sidewalk closure will be in place between Orange Drive and approximately 80 feet west of

Sycamore Avenue. Access to 5150 Wilshire Blvd. will be maintained west of the closure.

Farther west, a K-rail work zone will be in place for two years in the middle of Wilshire Boulevard between Courtyard Place and Masselin Avenue. The work zone supports construction activities in the tunnels below Wilshire Boulevard.

At Wilshire/Fairfax, work continues at the site of a future subway station near Wilshire Boulevard and Ogden Drive, and at a work zone at the southeast corner of Wilshire Boulevard and Fairfax Avenue.

Crews are also working in constructions staging areas at the future Wilshire/La Cienega subway station. The current phase of work will impact traffic on Wilshire Boulevard through the third quarter of 2022. Two lanes will be open in each direction between La Cienega and San Vicente boulevards, and Gale Drive will be temporarily closed north of Wilshire Boulevard through April. A new phase of the work is schedule to begin in April, when Gale Drive will be closed south of Wilshire Boulevard.

Farther west in Beverly Hills,

crews are working on the future Wilshire/Rodeo and subway station. The current phase of station construction at Wilshire/Rodeo will occur through 2024. Lanes on Wilshire Boulevard will be intermittently closed between El Camino and Crescent drives. Geotechnical instruments are also being installed in the neighborhoods along Wilshire Boulevard to monitor ground movement, settlement and geological impacts.

Daytime traffic lane closures on South Beverly and Canon drives for utility work will also be in place for approximately two weeks. Lane reductions and turn restrictions will be in place.

Utility work is anticipated to begin in late March on permanent power lines to the subway station. Installation will occur along Wilshire Boulevard between Dayton Way and Rexford Drive. Traffic control may also be implemented on Beverly Drive.

In Century City, crews are moving utilities, sewers and storm drains as part of the construction of the Century City/Constellation subway station. The work is anticipated to last through the third-quarter



photo by Edwin Folven

K-rails surround a work zone at the southeast corner of Wilshire Boulevard and Fairfax Avenue, where work is occurring on a future subway station.

of 2022. Excavation also continues through early 2023 for the underground station beneath Constellation Boulevard.

Partial traffic lane closures are currently in place on Constellation Boulevard. Eastbound and westbound vehicle access on Constellation Boulevard has been

maintained between Century Park West and Century Park East.

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.

Online version of Tarfest celebrates local talent

LAUNCH LA will present the 19th annual Tarfest music and art festival in a virtual format on Wednesday, March 30, at 7 p.m.

Tarfest traditionally takes place in fall, but pandemic uncertainties and prohibitions on public gatherings prompted LAUNCH LA to pivot to a virtual festival this spring. This year's celebration will include a 55-minute video with performances by two nonprofit contemporary dance companies, as well as seven diverse musical acts based in Los Angeles. The video will be available for viewing at tarfest.com.

James Panozzo, executive director of LAUNCH LA, said organizers plan to return to an in-person festival in June 2023, when Tarfest celebrates its 20th anniversary. He said it was unfortunate that the COVID-19 pandemic forced a change of plans in 2022, but the online program will still fulfill the festival's mission of providing exposure for cutting edge dance and musical performers from Los Angeles.

"It's a great way to reach a lot of people and utilize a different format of presenting the festival," Panozzo said. "Based on different scheduling, it looks like we are aiming for June of 2023 for our next in-person event."

The online program will feature Versa-Style Next Generation and Mash Up Dance Company. VSNG represents the diversity and complexity of Los Angeles. It is led by professional dancers Ernesto Galarza and Anthony Berry. Nine male and female dancers will perform "Take It Back," a tribute to the golden era of hip hop from the 1980s to early 2000s.

Mash Up Dance Company, a nonprofit company dedicated to the movement of female bodies and feminist ideas, will present "EMBODY I in body." The new piece analyzes the qualities of who and what inspires people. Six women dancers will explore how those elements are exhibited and explored through movement.

The musical performers include trombonist and conductor Paul Nelson and his Big Ol' Band featuring 14 musicians and vocalist UNSPOKENVIEWS performing their piece, "Justice." Multi-instrumentalist and Korean-born composer George Sarah presents his ensemble, which includes violist and violinist Morgan Lee Gerstmar, cellist Peter Jacobson and Australian multi-instrumentalist Andrew Dalzeill. Japanese-American actor, singer and songwriter Aidan Laprete performs with



photo courtesy of LAUNCH LA

Versa-Style Next Generation will present a tribute to the golden era of hip hop during the online version of Tarfest.

his band, featuring bassist Will Easley and drummer Matthew Sukert. Vocalist Jazmen Safina joins her recently formed all-female band with Aubrey Harris on bass, Dee Simone on drums and Olivia Jyemo on keys.

Warner Records guitar-player, singer and songwriter John Robert performs music inspired by his Appalachian upbringing and observations from his new home, Los Angeles. New York City transplant Frank Anthony delivers insightful R&B that serves as a soundtrack to 20-something life in L.A. Tarfest alumnus Jessica Childress will also

present soulful stories from life with skillful piano accompaniment.

The video was produced by Phil Jaurigui and his team at the Den Studios.

"In the final stages of this long pandemic, Tarfest hopes to provide meaningful opportunities to artists along with inspiration and enjoyment to our viewing public," Panozzo added. "Years of experience and established relationships allowed for this special collaborative effort to occur for the benefit of all who miss music and dance."

For information, visit tarfest.com.

Report highlights unspent funds in L.A.

Los Angeles City Controller Ron Galperin on March 16 released a report that identified nearly \$55 million sitting unspent for years in special funds that the city of Los Angeles could use to ease upcoming budget strain.

Special funds are created to pay for specific projects, including grant programs, capital projects, fee-supported activities and debt service. They are different from the city's primary budgetary fund, the general fund, which pays for a wide variety of different programs and services.

Galperin found that 187 of the city's 621 special funds were "idle" because no money had been spent

for two or more years. The idle funds contain almost \$55 million.

Utilizing special funds to pay for critical expenditures has precedent in L.A. After Galperin identified 123 idle funds with a balance of \$28 million in a 2018 report, the City Council closed many of the funds and freed up money for active projects. Now that Los Angeles faces a budget crunch, Galperin recommends reviewing idle funds once again, which have grown in number and cash balance over the past few years.

To view the report, visit lacontroller.org/financial-reports/special-funds-2022.

Letters to the Editor

WeHo cul-de-sacs are not as threatened as it seems

Re "WeHo cul-de-sacs could be developed," March 10 issue

You would think after reading this article that SB 9 forces property owners to move out of their homes, tear them down, subdivide their property, build duplexes, add an ADU and live a

miserable and ruined life ever-after. It does nothing of the sort and is unlikely to affect Betty Way in any way.

My best advice to those who don't want their properties subdivided and replaced with duplexes is to not do so. Don't sell it.

Way more important issues to be concerned about these days.

Josh Kurpies
West Hollywood

NATIONAL HEALTHCARE

National, state and community organizations are leading a massive effort to highlight the importance of Advance Healthcare decision-making. In California, the growing importance of every adult having an Advance Health Care Directive (AHCD) has been addressed by the Secretary of State who has established a state-wide AHCD Registry. Should you become injured, ill, or otherwise unable to speak for yourself, your healthcare provider or legal representative may request information from the state-wide registry regarding your healthcare.

In an AHCD, you designate an individual whom you direct to carry out your wishes regarding choice of hospital, your doctor, support staff, treatment, and end-of-life issues if you become unable to speak for yourself. Healthcare providers must follow your Agent's instructions. The significance of having an AHCD cannot be overstated. Privacy laws and liability issues have made it increasingly difficult for doctors and hospitals to discuss medical matters with family members – even a spouse or parent! Consequently, without an AHCD, it may be the courts or hospital administrators determining your care.

KRAMER
LAW GROUP

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

Company files to build Hollywood campus

CMNTY Culture on March 18 announced plans for an inventive new real estate development project in the heart of Hollywood – a 500,000-square-foot project dubbed CMNTY Culture Campus that will be developed with architects HKS and landscape designer Hood Design Studio.

CMNTY Culture are a group of entertainment and media portfolio companies founded by Grammy Award-winning artist and businessman Philip Lawrence in partnership with entertainment business manager Thomas St. John.

“The entertainment industry is experiencing a time of unparalleled excitement and change, bringing about an opportunity to reimagine the landscape upon which content is created and consumed,” said Lawrence, who owns a nearby recording studio, the Record Plant. “Now, we live in a new era where creatives and their audiences seek opportunities to collaborate and interact, not just in the digital sphere, but in-person. Content creators need a physical epicenter, a place that celebrates their work and the power of community. CMNTY Culture Campus will be a place where creative people will want to hang out with like-minded individuals and experience something special.”

Located on a nearly two-acre site at the corner of Sunset Boulevard and Highland Avenue, the CMNTY Culture Campus was designed to appeal to creatives and the entertainment industry that supports them.



rendering courtesy of CMNTY Culture
CMNTY Culture has proposed a campus in Hollywood.

According to the developers, the project will be one of the largest Black-owned enterprises in the area and will bring together all aspects of the industry – from artists and content creators, tech and media companies, agencies and management companies, as well as other entertainment sectors – with the mission to support artistic creation and enrich the Hollywood community.

Featuring 430,000 square feet of creative office space alongside studio/production space, pre- and post-production facilities, education space and performance venues, the project aims to appeal to major content creation companies and “influential tastemakers”

worldwide, generating jobs and driving business to local companies.

CBRE will handle leasing for the project.

“We look forward to engaging and partnering with our neighbors as the project moves forward,” said St. John, CMNTY Culture’s CEO. “Their input will be critical as we bring this campus to life. We see this place being an immersive playground for students, artists, creators and innovators of all types while also creating more opportunities in the entertainment industry.”

More about the project will be shared over the coming months.

For information, visit cmntyculturecampus.com.



rendering courtesy of DJM
A rendering shows the upgrades planned for Ovation Hollywood, which was formerly Hollywood and Highland.

Ovation Hollywood transition begins

DJM, a California-based private equity real estate developer, owner and manager, announced on March 22 that the Hollywood and Highland retail complex will be permanently known as Ovation Hollywood.

The Academy Awards, which will be held at the Dolby Theatre, will be broadcast from the newly-named Ovation Hollywood on March 27.

In summer 2020, DJM and Gaw Capital USA announced their \$100-million dollar reimagining of Hollywood and Highland into Ovation Hollywood. DJM and Gaw Capital’s plans for the property include major design improvements, an updated tenant mix and an additional 100,000 square feet of creative office space.

Construction at Ovation

Hollywood began in 2021 and has included the demolition of the property’s Babylonian-themed central courtyard and removal of the elephant sculptures. Additional work that has already taken place includes updates to the parking garage, exterior paint, escalators and elevators.

Upon completion, Ovation Hollywood’s courtyard will be transformed into a park setting with a focus on modern landscape architecture, updated seating areas, shade and public event spaces. The updated façade of the courtyard’s tower arch, which frames the Hollywood sign, features an art deco-inspired radiant relief design that mimics Hollywood klieg lights. It includes a new large scale mural by artist Geoff McFetridge.

Vanity Fair Street Closures: Access to Local Businesses Maintained



Easy routes to Crescent Drive

FROM NORTH:

- ➡ South on N. Cañon Drive, left on Dayton Way, left or right on Crescent Drive
- ➡ South on Rexford Drive, right on Clifton Way, left or right on Crescent Drive

FROM SOUTH:

- ➡ Westbound on Wilshire Blvd., right on Crescent Drive
- ➡ Eastbound on Wilshire Blvd., left on Dayton Way

Parking Available

Self Park (1-hour free) 10 – 333 N. Crescent Drive 12 – 9361 Dayton Way	Self Park (2-hours free) 1 – 345 N. Beverly Drive 5 – 450 N. Rexford Drive 6 – 438 N. Beverly Drive & – 439 N. Cañon Drive 7 – 241 N. Cañon Drive & – 242 N. Beverly Drive
Pay as You Go Parking 18 – 450 N. Crescent Drive	

400 block of N. Crescent Dr. Closed Between N. & S. Santa Monica from March 15 - March 31, 2022
More info at BEVERLYHILLS.ORG/VANITYFAIR

Francis Ford Coppola receives star on the Walk of Fame

BY RANCE COLLINS

“The Godfather.” “The Conversation.” “Apocalypse Now.” “Peggy Sue Got Married.” “The Outsiders.” These are just a few of the titles writer and director Francis Ford Coppola has to his credit. Winner of five Academy Awards, Coppola was honored by the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce with a star on the Walk of Fame Monday, March 21 in an event that also helped mark the 50th anniversary of “The Godfather.”

Ben Mankiewicz, host of Turner Classic Movies, said that he believed the recognition was long overdue.

“I feel like this sort of sets it right. If you’re going to pick only ‘14 people’ to have stars on the Walk of the Fame, and that’s it, you can only have those ‘14 people,’ Francis Ford Coppola should have one. So, it feels like a little justice is done,” Mankiewicz said.

“There was cinema before Francis Ford Coppola, and cinema after,” Council President Pro Tempore Mitch O’Farrell, 13th District, said. “He changed it.”

Coppola’s younger sister, actress Talia Shire, quipped that she met Coppola when she was born. Shire was directed by her brother in the trilogy of “Godfather” films.

“We were a family of five,” Shire said. “We had a musician father, a mother who was an old-time beauty with great comedic timing [and] our older brother August who was a

great, dreaming philosopher.”

She went on to explain that Coppola experimented with storytelling from a young age, first working with puppetry.

“He was also a ventriloquist. One of the reasons I don’t sit on his lap is because I don’t want to be the dummy,” she added with a laugh.

Shire went on to discuss Coppola’s experiences as a theater arts student, including acting in plays like “As You Like It” while at Hofstra College and writing a musical based on H.G. Wells. Coppola attended graduate school at the University of California, Los Angeles, where he was instructed by pioneering female director Dorothy Arzner. Coppola worked with legendary producer Roger Corman early in his career and quickly moved into writing and directing A-list features, such as “Finian’s Rainbow” and “Patton.”

Following the blockbuster success of “The Godfather,” Coppola was cemented as one of the auteurs of Hollywood’s new wave. Alongside such visionaries as Martin Scorsese and Steven Spielberg, Coppola represented the youthful, more realistic take on film that came into vogue during the Vietnam era, a period when censorship no longer dictated what could and could not be shown on screen.

Actress Elle Fanning, who worked with Coppola in the 2011 horror film “Twixt,” praised the director.

“I’m so happy to be here to celebrate you ... the legendary Francis Ford Coppola, who is undoubtedly the greatest and the most influential of all time,” Fanning said.

Fanning went on to describe the director’s resourcefulness, saying that he could “make the fork on the dinner table a heroine in his story if he needed to.

“Francis told me never to lose my youthful spark, to never compromise and always strive for creative freedom,” Fanning added.

The star is located in front of the entrance to the historic Musso and Frank Grill on Hollywood Boulevard. Coppola is a long-time patron of the establishment.

“For generations, the Coppola Family has been a part of the Musso and Frank family,” Mark Echeverria, CFO/COO of Musso and Frank Grill, said. “We are honored and excited that Francis Ford Coppola’s star will forever be in front of Musso’s so generations of Hollywood visitors can come enjoy.”

During his brief remarks at the ceremony, Coppola credited his wife, filmmaker Eleanor Coppola, as well as his family for his success through their support during his career. He also evoked his association with one particular studio.

“I have to thank Paramount Studios, because without them there would be no star on this street,” Coppola. “They are why I have this star.

“I think in my position it best that your comments be brief and sincere, and certainly who would not be pleased to have their name amid these wonderful people,” he added.

In discussing her brother’s lega-



photo courtesy @imagrybyoscar, Hollywood Chamber of Commerce

Writer and director Francis Ford Coppola received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame on March 21 in a ceremony that included comments from sister, Talia Shire, and actress Elle Fanning.

cy, Shire cited a famous Isaac Newton quote.

“If I see further than others, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants,” Shire said. “Francis is a giant, and he sees what is ahead. He’s a visionary, and he has the

courage to take what he sees ahead and turn it into a movie. Now, I don’t want to embarrass Francis and try to stand on [his] shoulders... so I will from time to time, as I know many thousands will ... stand on your star.”



DANCE & FITNESS BLAST: Sunday, April 3, 2022

Road Closure: 8am-1pm | N Crescent Dr. Between N and S Santa Monica Blvd.

Event: 9am-12pm

The City of Beverly Hills, in partnership with All Seasons Fitness Media and celebrity trainer, Dion Jackson, will be hosting the ‘Beverly Hills Dance & Fitness Blast’ event Sunday, April 3, 2022 from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. on the Crescent side of Beverly Hills City Hall. The free event will feature dance & fitness classes for all ages, and is open to residents and employees of Beverly Hills businesses to promote health and mental wellness throughout the community.

Recommended Parking | **Self Park (2-hours free)**
1 – 450 N. Rexford Drive

To RSVP, view the schedule of events, sponsors and more, visit
beverlyhills.org/dancefitnessblast

Not just another pretty face

BY CHRIS ERSKINE

As fate would have it, I am the maestro of March. I love the way the wild grasses spill into the hiking trails, like lousy toupees. I love the fields of yellow mustard plants.

I love L.A. in March – the kids in baseball uniforms, with eye black on their cheeks, the make-up of raccoons and Victorian actresses, little half moons of black grease. I love that more than moonglow, more than Robert Plant, more than all the movies ever made.

I love how, at age 7, the ballplayers wear their pants up around their armpits. I love what the sun does to their cheeks, finds the freckles, pinks the tips of their ears.

Look, I love the suburbs. I love them, I hate them, I love them some more. So, mostly I love them.

Dear suburbs, let me count the ways...

Obviously, lots about American life sucks right now. Everyone is in fight mode. There are pandemics, then wars, then William Hurt dies.

Meanwhile, my former boss, the L.A. Times, no longer prints a separate Sports or Food section. Corey Seager is now playing for Texas. Poor Kanye West went a little coo-coo.

Will bad stuff ever stop? In my experience, life never stops. So you look extra hard for the grace notes, the rhyming couplets, the next funny quip out of Barkley's mouth.

You bask in March, troubled as it is. Troubled as it's always been.

As Esquire recently pointed out,



March is historically an ornery month. Caesar died in March. Lindbergh's baby was kidnapped. March is named after Mars, the god of war. No surprise, the Cossacks are on the move again.

Look, I seek shelter wherever I can find it: In words, in song, in ballgames on the green.

Seems fitting that I am back writing a column in March. Glad to be back in print. As I once described newspapers (a tad dramatically): "The soft thud of democracy landing on your doorstep."

A little bit about me: I'm a Scorpio. I like Stephen Bishop, Jonathan Franzen and long walks on the beach. My favorite chef is Trader Joe. I was once engaged to the actress Angie Dickinson. In honor of Willie Mays, I chew every bite of steak 24 times. Like Voltaire, I'm a Deist.

On my SATs, I scored a 2 on the English portion, yet nailed the math (780). Naturally, I became a writer.

For 25 years, I penned sports,

travel and feature columns for the Los Angeles Times. Some readers used to find them funny, though I was actually being totally serious the entire time.

Whatever. Obviously, I'm more than just another pretty face, or the guy with a poo bag walking a big dog down Wilshire. I'm you, I'm me, I'm the sum total of an entire life spent raising kids in America. Gawd help us all.

Seems fitting that I am back writing a column in March. Glad to be back in print. As I once described newspapers (a tad dramatically): "The soft thud of democracy landing on your doorstep."

Let me just say: So glad to be back.

For three decades I mined L.A., America's most-suburban city, for The Times. I tried to reveal parenthood's poignant moments, the half truths, the mayhem, the magic.

Along the way, I've coached every kind of team – some awful, some pretty good. The father of four, I've attended all the 6th-grade plays, lingered too long at school open houses, ordered 10,000 boxes of Thin Mints.

Throwing batting practice, I've taken line drives to the forehead and the cha-chas. Ouch.

Fleeting, though, isn't it? So rich,



photo courtesy of Chris Erskine

The joys of spring are back, coaching Little League, watching the Dodgers and spring break.

so temporary. I realized early on that fatherhood was flying by – as do all life's best moments.

One day, the kids are in second grade, the next day fifth. Before you know it, they're licking their lips as they fill out their college apps. For a small fortune, you send them away.

Go! Here's a hundred grand. Just go already. College tuition has become like the dowries paid by 19th century industrialists.

When I was a kid, my goals were simple: I wanted to marry Dolly Parton. I wanted to fly fighter jets. I wanted to win the Nobel Prize for comedy.

All the usual stuff.

As it turned out, I am a man of bold public failures. When I crash, I

burn. I mean, you should see the triple-decker sandwiches I make my kid. Crooked, like the Alps. Our family motto: "If it's worth doing, it's worth overdoing."

And thanks to the Villalpando family, I am here for you again – sometimes funny, occasionally serious. If I'm ever insightful, I assure you it was quite by accident.

Thud. Here it comes. More Democracy. And a little mirth.

Yep, life goes on.

Email the columnist at Letters@ChrisErskineLA.com. For past columns, books, and for info on his free hiking club, please visit his website, chriserskinela.com/ Follow him on Twitter @erskine-times.



The City of Beverly Hills cordially invites
you to the installation of
The Honorable Lili Bosse as Mayor
With her Oath of Office Administered by
Ambassador Nicole A. Avant
and
the Honorable Julian A. Gold, M.D. as Vice Mayor

Joined by City Councilmembers
the Honorable John A. Mirisch
the Honorable Lester J. Friedman
the Honorable Robert Wunderlich

**Tuesday, April 5, 2022
7:00 P.M.**

Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts
9390 North Santa Monica Boulevard, Beverly Hills

Reception to follow
Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Complimentary parking

Celebrating Women’s History Month

■ Diverse life experiences, unique professional success

BY RANCE COLLINS

In honor of Women’s History Month, we are profiling dynamic women who make significant contributions to our community.



photo courtesy of Patty Horton
Patty Horton

Patty Horton

Patty Horton is a born and raised Angeleno who’s made a career out of giving back to the community. Specifically, Horton helps keep California’s 28th Congressional District buzzing along, working as U.S. Rep. Adam Schiff’s campaign director. Politics was not always the plan for Horton, however.

“I went to an arts school, because I was going to be an artist, and that’s how you end up in politics,” Horton said with a laugh.

A graduate of Otis Parsons, now called Otis Art Institute, Horton also attended both Glendale Community College and Pasadena Community College.

Horton still draws in her spare time, but moving into civic engagement was a natural progression. She credits her Irish family with helping her to navigate the public sphere.

“The Irish are very much about getting together, that’s how we were raised. It was always about the community around you,” Horton said. “That’s how I grew up, so that’s how my brain works.”

This sense of community led her to politics.

“I like to hear what drives people,” she said. “I think we are all happier when we are engaged with each other.”

Horton has been on Schiff’s staff since 2001 when he began his career in the U.S. House of Representatives.

“I had been in Colorado for a few years, and I came back, and my dad loved this new guy Adam Schiff, who had gotten elected, and told me I should call him,” Horton explained.

“I’m the person who manages the campaign office and does everything political,” she added.

She has also served for eight years as the chair of the United Democratic Headquarters, one of the largest Democratic election headquarters in California. In 2018, Horton helped usher in a Democratic House majority and one of the largest freshman classes of women ever in Congress.

As a single mom with three sons, Horton said juggling her busy home life and working in the political arena has been a “motivating” experience.

“You spend a lot of time networking, you spend a lot of time talking to people, being social, and I think women are wired that way,” Horton said.

Horton has also had a number of high school interns who have gone into public service. For young women wishing to get involved in

politics, Horton said that they should start locally.

“I think one of the problems is we all want to do everything all at once, but if they have a passion for something, start [local],” she said.

“Start with what you care about,” Horton added.



photo courtesy of Emily Jilg
Emily Jilg

Emily Jilg

When Emily Jilg started the Emily Jilg Co., she didn’t intend for floral arrangements to be part of the business plan. However, her life took her in directions she didn’t plan.

Her major at the University of Missouri, Columbia, was strategic communications in journalism, and she began her career at the Los Angeles Times. After six years, she was anxious to branch out on her own and bridge her love of food and aesthetics with business.

Starting with her own line of spices, Jilg launched her business at the end of 2019.

“This kind of blossomed into an all-encompassing experience about enjoying your life,” Jilg said. “COVID happened when I was about 10 days into my business. So, I pivoted into creating a really lovely experience for people in their homes.”

She started doing Instagram lives with cooking classes featuring her spices.

“The sets were always aesthetically pleasing. We’d have florals, we’d have music, candles and elegant table settings,” Jilg said.

As vaccinations rolled out, Jilg expanded her business.

“I started to do these private chef work parties with groups of eight to 12 people ... very curated menus and a full experience that also included florals. I started to get more into that sector, and suddenly I was finding myself getting more requests for floral design than anything else,” Jilg explained.

She expressed particular pride in a “desert disco” arrangement she produced for a recent party in Palm Springs.

“[My client] walked in, and she was floored,” Jilg said. “She didn’t know how I could make a disco ball out of flowers.”

With the success of her floral arrangements – @bloomsby.Emily on Instagram – Jilg knew she had to bring the business under the umbrella of her company, Emily Jilg Co., which will open a brick and mortar in La Canada next month.

“We will have flowers, we will have fancy olive oils, we will have pretty vases and nice curated candles,” she explained, likening it to the fictional Rose Apothecary on the television series “Schitt’s Creek.”

In addition to featuring her own

items, Jilg will also sell products crafted by artisans throughout Southern California.

Being a millennial woman in the workforce has had unique challenges for the young businessowner.

“I’m 30, owning my own business, having a space and employees ... I’m not playing business, I’m actually doing it,” Jilg said.

She said other women looking to make their way into the entrepreneurial world should not be intimidated by hard work and perceived or real obstacles. They should also not be afraid to make mistakes.

“You have to sometimes experience a little bit of failure to see what success looks like,” Jilg said.

Emily Jilg Co. will be located at 831 Foothill Blvd., La Canada Flintridge. Customers can order the company’s arrangements for delivery at bloomsbyemilyjilgco.com.



photo courtesy of Priscilla Sands
Dr. Priscilla Sands

Dr. Priscilla Sands

The Marlborough School is one of the most respected girls’ educa-

tion institutions in the Los Angeles area, and Head of School Dr. Priscilla Sands has been in charge of maintaining its high academic standards for the last seven years. At the end of this semester, Sands will retire, marking the end of another chapter in a storied life.

Sands studied theater at the University of Rhode Island and, after completing her degree, worked as a theater critic for a Rhode Island newspaper. She then was a theater director in North Carolina and later taught theatre at the University of Rhode Island.

“Many of the kids came from working class families, and they took theater as an elective because it would irritate their parents who wanted them all to take business, and actually a few of my students went on and had nice TV careers,” Sands said. “It really gave them the strength to say to their parents, ‘I want to pursue this.’”

She later obtained a Master of Arts from Villanova University and a Doctorate from the University of Pennsylvania. Prior to joining Marlborough, Sands was the assistant head of school at Agnes Irwin School in Philadelphia and led the Springside School, also in Philadelphia.

Sands said working in education is a logical step for a person with a theatrical background.

“[Theater] prepares you in ways that I think are more helpful than anything else. I have seen really smart, fabulous people flounder at the speaking part and the narrative story [part of the job],” she said.

“It helps in terms of talking about the mission of the school, talking about the work I’m doing and caring deeply for students,” Sands added.

Sands describes her current role as being like a mayor of a small town.

“I have to be attuned to everyone’s needs and know what is happening,” she said.

“We are living in an unprecedented time. What I have noticed is that our students are way ahead of all of our thinking and all of our planning,” Sands said.

She said her goal is to create programs and an educational environment that is “preparing for their future, and not our past.”

For Sands, this includes being inclusive with all students, no matter how they identify or why they may choose to go to a girls’ institution.

“[The students] are real activists. They hold us very accountable for the environment, for race, for gender, and we’ve had to adapt. I said [to our staff], ‘We have to adapt to this [and] show our students that we see them,’” Sands said.

She told a story about a transgender student she said solidified her faith in the next generation’s future.

“I was talking to my advisees, and I had a trans boy in my group, and I talked about having come from a co-ed school,” she explained. “I made a glib comment that I was so glad to be back at a girl’s school, and that this is where my passion is. As they were filing out, I said to this boy, ‘Could you just stay for a few minutes. I am so sorry, I have three sons, I do like boys, but I am a feminist. I didn’t mean to exclude you,’ and he said, ‘You didn’t exclude me. You included me by assuming I’m a feminist.’”

“And I am. That’s why I wanted to stay at Marlborough,” Sands added.

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Campaign kick-off!

MARCH 27, 2022
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Imperial Hwy, Suite 200, Norwalk CA 90650



photo courtesy of Linda Delaney
Linda Delaney, right, is raising money to find a cure for leukemia. She is shown with her husband Mike, and daughters Kelly, second from left, who is a childhood leukemia survivor, and Dana.

Extending a lifeline for children with leukemia

■ Cancer survivor’s mother joins campaign to give back

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

In 2001, Kelly Delaney was diagnosed with acute T-cell lymphoblastic leukemia, also known as ALL, at the age of 3.

Leukemia, which is a cancer that affects the blood, claims the lives of more than 57,000 people each year, according to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. But a leukemia diagnosis doesn’t mean there is no hope, which is the message that Linda Delaney and her daughter Kelly want people to understand.

The diagnosis devastated the family and left the Delaneys struggling to find help and resources. The family’s pediatrician directed them to City of Hope, a cancer treatment and research center in Duarte, California, where Kelly was treated for three years.

Now 23, Kelly’s leukemia has been in remission for nearly two decades. As way of giving back, she has taken a job as the campaign development manager for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society Greater Los Angeles Region.

“In 2001 when I was diagnosed, there was about a 30% to 40% survival rate, but 20 years later, because of research, campaigning and fundraising, we are at a 90% survival rate,” Kelly Delaney said. “Only 20 years later ... it’s phenomenal. There have been so many advances.”

Linda Delaney hopes Kelly’s story will inspire others, and she is participating in the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society’s Visionaries of the Year Campaign, which runs through May 22. The campaign is a fundraiser supporting leukemia research, and Linda Delaney has set a goal of raising \$200,001, an amount that symbolizes the year her daughter was diagnosed with the disease, she said. With eight friends and associates, she formed Linda’s Lifesavers, a group that is raising funds for leukemia research. She said the effort is going well, generating more than \$23,000 from the start of the campaign on March 11 through March 17.

“We are trying to get sponsorships and large businesses to make gifts, and are accepting personal donations,” Linda Delaney said. “Everybody has been wonderful. They are very motivated to help.”

Linda Delaney said Kelly’s road to recovery was filled with uncertainty, and it’s a miracle that she now lives a normal, vibrant life. She described the leukemia diagnosis as a mother’s worst nightmare but said she never gave up hope.

“We were just devastated,” Linda Delaney said. “It was touch and go for a long time. She started to respond to treatment but then threatened to relapse. Every day, literally, my fists were clenched worrying about how it would go.”

Linda Delaney credited City of Hope for her daughter’s miraculous recovery.

“I can tell you, I owe them everything,” she added. “How can you ever give thanks for what they did? It was the best possible outcome.”

City of Hope works closely with the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, and when the nonprofit was seeking childhood leukemia survivors for a campaign to raise awareness about the disease, the medical center recommended Kelly.

At age 9, the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society named her Girl of the Year, and Kelly continued collaborating with the organization on programs throughout her teenage years. In 2017, Kelly raised \$60,000 during the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society’s Students of the Year campaign. Today, she helps the organization with fundraising in her position as campaign development manager.

“It’s all about funding and generating the money that will lead to these cures,” Kelly Delaney added. “This campaign 100% saved my life.”

Anyone wishing to donate to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society through Linda’s Lifesavers is encouraged to visit pages.lls.org/voy/calso/los22/ldelaney. For information about the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and its work to find a cure, visit lls.org.

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ANDY LIGHT

Beverly Hills City Council

MAR 27TH

CAMPAIGN KICK-OFF!

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BOB'S CAMPAIGN KICK-OFF

Join neighbors and friends to launch the re-election campaign of Councilmember Bob Wunderlich.

SUNDAY, MARCH 27, 2022
3:30 PM - 5:30 PM

Hosted by:

Dr. Sharon and Dr. Lou Ignarro
Alissa and Dr. Warren Roston

RSVP for address at www.robertwunderlich.com or bob@robertwunderlich.com

Paid for by Robert Wunderlich for City Council 2022 ID#1440499

RESTAURANT NEWS

by Jill Weinlein

Cooking Classes at Eataly help CHLA

On March 24, Eataly in Los Angeles is offering a gnocchi cooking class and will donate 20% of sales to support the Make March Matter campaign. Participants will discover the regional and seasonal variations to preparing gnocchi, and will receive antipasto and a freshly prepared gnocchi dish by La Scuola's chef, with complementary wine. The class from 6-8 p.m. costs \$105 per person. On March 31, participants will learn the secret of making one of the best lasagnas ever using fresh egg pasta dough and assembling the lasagna alla Bolognese. The class includes a lasagna meal with a glass of wine for \$110. Proceeds from both classes benefit Children's Hospital Los Angeles. Sign up at eataly.com. 10250 Santa Monica Blvd. (213)310-8000.

Make March Matter at Tocaya

Tocaya will donate 20% of sales from all of its Los Angeles locations on March 28 from 2 to 6 p.m. to support the Make March Matter campaign benefiting Children's Hospital Los Angeles. Customers must show the digital flyer found on the restaurant's website or mention the fundraiser to the cashier when ordering. 1140 Gayle Ave., (424)244-3770; 6550 Sunset Blvd., (323)472-5802; and 8720 W. Sunset Blvd. (424)288-4871.

Terranea Make March Matters night

On March 26, the Lobby Bar will feature live entertainment from Beale Street Boogie Dueling Pianos. The evening will feature a

silent auction and specialty menu items from 7-11 p.m. Items in the silent auction were donated by Tito's and ONEHOPE Wine. Proceeds benefit Children's Hospital Los Angeles. 100 Terranea Way, (310)494-7891.

Drinks and dancing at Desert 5 Spot

Enjoy an evening of music on March 30 and take a line dancing class on the rooftop of Desert 5 Spot at Tommie Hollywood. Tickets are \$30 for a group lesson and one drink. Select either one of the house spirits, beer or glass of wine. Country legends Mike Bendavid and Diane will teach the line-dancing classes at 7 and 8 p.m. For tickets, visit desertfivespotevents.com. 6516 Selma Ave. (323)871-1234.

The Front Yard spring block party

On the heels of The Garland's 50th anniversary, the hotel is hosting a Spring Block Party on



photo courtesy of the Melrose Rooftop Theatre

E.P. and L.P. are pairing films with classic dishes during its dinner and a movie night special.

E.P. dinner and show at Melrose Rooftop Theatre

This week, E.P. and L.P. are pairing movies with classic Hollywood dishes and a modern American menu by chef Nicholas Russo and culinary director Monty Koludrovic. The complete dinner and a movie VIP package includes a globally inspired and locally sourced three-course menu from E.P. Restaurant, for \$65 per person. The Melrose Rooftop Theatre dinner menu includes Baja tuna fish and chips, or a gem lettuce Caesar, followed by fresh pasta or slow cooked duck leg. Finish with a choux bun for dessert with vanilla

bean ice cream and caramel sauce. MRT returns for its sixth year offering new releases and classic movie screenings with bean-bag seating, personal wireless headsets, specialty crafted cocktails and sunset views. General admission VIP seating is \$30 per person. "Mamma Mia" will be shown on March 28, and "Crazy Rich Asians" will be shown on April 4. The L.P. Rooftop opens daily at 4 p.m., and cinema doors open at 7:30 p.m. Screenings begin at sundown from 8:30-10:30 p.m. 603 N. La Cienega Blvd. (310)855-9955.

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Sunday, March 27, from 2-5 p.m. with live music by the Stereo Set and a pop-up shopping area. Gourmet bites from The Front Yard as well as beer and wine tastings will be offered. Tickets for the event benefit The Village Family Services, an organization providing trauma-informed, culturally sensitive services to children, homeless youth and families so they can lead safe, healthy and productive lives. Pre-sale tickets are available via Eventbrite for \$35 through March 26, or \$45 on the day of the event. [eventbrite.com/e/the-front-yard-spring-block-party-tickets-288708002407](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-front-yard-spring-block-party-tickets-288708002407). 422 Vineland Ave. (818)980-8000.

Disney California Adventure Food & Wine Festival

Through April 26, Disney California Adventure’s Food & Wine Festival will be held throughout the theme park with a dozen different culinary marketplaces under themes such as avocado, local cheese, wine and berries. Culinary items are available a la carte, and

visitors can purchase a Sip & Savor Pass. Tickets are available by visiting disneyland.disney.go.com. 1313 Disneyland Drive. (714)781-4636.

Be Good Restaurant & Experience Dine in the Dark

In the heart of Old Town Temecula, Be Good Restaurant & Experience provides a one-of-a-kind dining venue combining culinary delights with unique interactive experiences. Diners are led into a pitch-black room for a Dine in the Dark experience that includes a three-course dinner. Patrons’ senses will be heightened as they experience a meal from a new perspective. The cost is \$59.99 per person. On March 30, join a murder mystery party at 6 p.m., featuring a live action, cooperative case-cracking experience. Everyone in attendance transforms into sleuths and suspects, and gets fully into character with costuming and suspect blinders provided. The experience includes an appetizer, entrée and beverage for \$55 per person. 28636 Old Town Front, Temecula. (951)428-1537.

Waldorf Astoria Beverly Hills offers Easter brunch

Waldorf Astoria Beverly Hills, a five-star hotel in Beverly Hills, will offer a deluxe Easter Brunch curated by chef Jean-Georges Vongerichten and culinary director Steve Benjamin. Two seatings – at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. – will be offered on Sunday, April 17.

The brunch will take place in the Astor Ballroom for the first time, with a live performance by Analog Jukebox, a variety of culinary stations and an indoor Easter egg hunt for children 12 and under.

Guests will enjoy an array of food from a gourmet crustaceans station with fresh oysters, lobster, crab and shrimp cocktails, as well as a sushi station, ham station, pasta station, crudité display, salad bar, soup station and carving station featuring tomahawk steak, chicken, lamb and yakitori skewers. The desserts are sure to satisfy every sweet tooth, with highlights including the chef’s selection of assorted tarts, cakes, crepes, macaroons, bonbons and



photo courtesy of the Waldorf Astoria Beverly Hills

ice cream. Beverage offerings will include a bloody Mary and mimosa bar, along with an open bar featuring mixed cocktails, wine and beer selections.

Reservations must be booked in

advance via OpenTable and are pre-paid. Pricing starts at \$220 for adults and \$90 for children under 12. To make a reservation, visit opentable.com/r/jean-georges-beverly-hills.



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Ladies lunch at THEBlvd

I recently enjoyed a sophisticated ladies lunch at THEBlvd at the Beverly Wilshire, a Four Seasons Hotel. We were seated at a table by the window, and we admired the elegant ambiance, and appreciated the impeccable service throughout our lunch.

While sipping iced teas, we started with THEBlvd's thick grilled sourdough slices sprinkled with olive oil and topped with sweet tomato halves, basil and garlic confit. The fresh ingredients elevated this bruschetta-style bread to a must-try starter.

Executive sous chef Amir Nematipour has some newer menu items that include bowls, healthy salads, savory sandwiches and larger entrées. Try the hearty avocado toast with marinated tomatoes, Persian feta, Moroccan spices, parsley salsa and almonds.

I opted for the avocado bowl with layers of ancient grains, cubes of avocado, sweet potatoes, kale, chopped walnuts, chickpeas and beets. It was lightly drizzled with a pleasing tahini dressing. I asked for grilled salmon to be added for extra protein. It was cooked perfectly and



By Jill Weinlein

was generous in size. Sautéed shrimp or grilled chicken can be added to salads and bowls. The menu also includes acai bowls with gluten-free granola, and super-charged green bowls with spinach, avocado, chia and banana.

Two of the finest burgers in town are listed under the sandwich section. Diners have a choice of THEBlvd wagyu beef melted brie cheeseburger with a delightfully sweet and tart fig onion chutney on a brioche bun. The second is a plant based impossible burger layered with caramelized onions and jalapeño aioli for a slight kick of heat on a potato bun.

My friend ordered the chopped kale and Beluga lentil salad with sliced red peppers and shrimp added on top. She said it's her favorite when she dines at THEBlvd, because she likes the crunchy hazelnuts and special orange miso dressing.

We splurged and ordered two exquisite desserts by THEBlvd's executive pastry chef Riccardo Menicucci. Kiersten Dunn, the director of public relations and communications at the hotel told me that Menicucci is a fun and charming Italian chef, who joined the hotel in August 2021.

"He's from Florence, Italy, and his desserts are works of art," she said.

Dunn recommended we try the strawberry pistachio dessert, and when it arrived, it looked like a decadent pink glazed doughnut. There were layers of spring flavors in this beautiful pastry. The creamy strawberry cremeux was smoother and denser than a mousse. Hints of pistachio and an ethereal whipped strawberry mousse topped the dessert.

The chef is also making a special Golden Croissant that has become a popular all-day treat. Wanting to create something truly exceptional for awards season, he was inspired to make a "well dressed" croissant. It offers the perfect balance of flavors made with black sesame and Valrhona Manjari 64% dark chocolate, and topped with 24-karat gold leaf. Diners can order it until the Academy Awards show on Sunday, March 27.

For Easter, the talented culinary team at THEBlvd released a special brunch menu on Saturday, April 16, and Sunday, April 17. Pastry chef



photo by Jill Weinlein

Add grilled salmon, chicken or shrimp to any bowl or salad for a healthy lunch at THEBlvd.

Menicucci is creating a beautiful, larger-than-life chocolate egg that will be on display in the main lobby of the hotel. Next to the display will be a basket filled with delicious chocolates and delights for all to enjoy before or after brunch from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The a la carte brunch menu features weekend favorites such as French toast, scallop ceviche, egg white and crab frittata, lobster risotto and a seafood platter with lobster

tails, oysters and shrimp. Desserts include vanilla and chocolate semifreddo, salted caramel tarts and vanilla buttermilk cream puffs.

On Easter Sunday, April 17, live music will be performed from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., and children 9 and under will be given a complimentary Easter basket filled with delicious house-made goodies. \$\$\$ 9500 Wilshire Blvd. (310)275-5200.

NHM re-launches innovative First Fridays series

After two years of virtual programming, the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County is bringing a refreshed onsite experience to visitors with this season's "NHM First Fridays: From Seeds to Psychedelics," featuring live music, DJs, discussions and signature cocktails.

This year, First Fridays returns to the roots of well-being, reawakened with new ideas from ancient ways. From foraging to fungi, seeds to psychedelics – and all things plant-based – the series will look at how scientists, activists and artists are utilizing the power of plants and fungi to save humanity.

On April 1, enjoy an outdoor set by DJ Spñorita. Also, the museum's iconic North American Mammal Hall will feature a discussion on wild harvesting with live music by Girlpool. Moderated by Dr. Yewande Pearse, a neuroscientist and science communicator, the discussion

will examine the first steps in foraging and common pitfalls. Participants will examine Native American foraging traditions and ways to bring the ancient practice into their lives. Pearse will be joined by Heidi Lucero, an American Indian studies lecturer, and Pascal Baudar, a naturalist and forager.

After the discussion, the fun will continue at the outdoor main stage with Girlpool and New Yorker Grace Ives. Participants are also invited to enjoy food and drinks in the Nature Gardens and explore the museum after-hours.

The event is free for NHM members and \$20 for general admission. Advanced reservations are recommended. Additional First Fridays events will be held on May 6, June 3 and July 1. The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County is located at 900 Exposition Blvd. For information and to RSVP, visit nhm.org/firstfridays.



photo courtesy of the Natural History Museum of L.A. County

Enjoy live music, scientific discussion, food and after-hours access to the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County during the return of the First Fridays series.

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Theatricum Botanicum announces summer series

Summer is on the horizon, and Will Geer’s Theatricum Botanicum is ready to announce a mix of classical theater, new work and music set to take place at its outdoor amphitheater in Topanga.

In addition to the company’s annual offering of Shakespeare, the 2022 season will include a world premiere, a surprising “all new” revival and a host of satellite events.

“Our 49th season will shine light on the complicated weave of relationships that tie and bind us to each other as we struggle to find freedom and balance within ourselves, our families and our community,” Theatricum artistic director Ellen Geer said.

Best known for presenting lively and engaging renditions of the works of William Shakespeare, Theatricum will open the season with two of the Bard’s buoyant comedies: “The Merry Wives of Windsor,” opening June 11, and the company’s annual, signature production of “A Midsummer Night’s Dream,” opening June 12.

“The Merry Wives of Windsor” has been re-set to 1950s small-town America during the nascent period of second-wave feminism. Things might seem picture perfect in “Small Town USA,” but when opportunistic schemer and womanizer John Falstaff blows into town on his Harley and tries to woo two wealthy ladies at once, the town’s women gleefully plot his comeuppance.

Joining the repertoire on June 25 is a spanking “new” revival. Forty-one years after its premiere at the



photo courtesy Will Geer’s Theatricum Botanicum

Will Geer’s Theatricum Botanicum will host a variety of events at its outdoor amphitheater.

Ahmanson Theatre, Academy Award-winning writer Ernest Thompson (“On Golden Pond”) has deconstructed his script for “The West Side Waltz.” In the world premiere of Thompson’s newly revised, heart-filled dramedy set during the tumultuous 1980s, Theatricum artistic director Ellen Geer, her sister Melora Marshall and daughter Willow Geer take on the roles of an aging concert pianist, her violin-playing spinster neighbor and a would-be actress on New York’s Upper West Side.

Finally, the world premiere of “Trouble the Water” opens on July 9. Inspired by the real-life story of Robert Smalls, who escaped slavery to become an American hero,

the play navigates the rich tributaries of courage, betrayal and redemption in a script freely adapted by Ellen Geer from the 2019 award-winning historical novel by Rebecca Dwight Bruff.

All four productions will play in repertory from June 11 through October 2. Unlike most theaters in the L.A. area that stage continuous runs of a single play, Theatricum, using a company of actors, will perform each of the plays in repertory, making it possible to see all four plays in a single summer weekend.

To purchase individual tickets and season subscriptions call (310)455-3723 or go to theatricum.com.

‘Gatsby Redux’ at Greystone Mansion

The city of Beverly Hills Community Services Department, in partnership with director and choreographer Janet Roston and Mixed eMotion Theatrix, presents the dance theater production “Gatsby Redux” from April 27-29 at the Greystone Mansion and Gardens: The Doheny Estate.

The “Gatsby Redux” production has been featured at historic mansions throughout the United States, and is making its debut in Beverly Hills. This site-specific, 90-minute production involves audience members following the dancers through the terraced grounds, exploring themes inspired by the “The Great Gatsby.”

The “Gatsby Redux” was originally commissioned by the Los Angeles Music Center and performed in the Blue Ribbon Garden at the Walt Disney Concert Hall.

“My ties to Beverly Hills run deep and it’s wonderful that after touring the production, it will be performed in my home community. Greystone is the perfect site for the show. One can truly imagine attending one of Jay Gatsby’s garden parties on the grounds of the mansion.”

“The city of Beverly Hills is thrilled to be presenting Janet Roston’s ‘Gatsby Redux’ at Greystone, as together they represent an inspired pairing of a Gatsby-era dance performance placed within a Bohemian-aged iconic mansion,” said Ben Johnson, manager of arts and culture for the city. “The setting will be spectacular, and the performance will feature Janet’s finely-honed choreography and exquisite dancers. This will truly be one-of-a-kind special evenings that are quintessentially Beverly Hills.”

The performance will be held outside and will involve walking, at times on slate, grass and stairs. Comfortable shoes are encouraged. Guests are encouraged to arrive from 6-7 p.m. and dress in 1920s-themed attire. Photo ops will be available on the terrace of Greystone Mansion. For questions regarding accessibility, call (310) 285-6830.

Tickets for Beverly Hills residents are \$15 and are currently available. Non-residents can purchase tickets for \$20 beginning on March 30. For information, call (310)285-6830, or visit beverlyhills.org/gatsbyatgreystone.



photo courtesy of the city of Beverly Hills

The “Gatsby Redux” is an immersive theater experience coming to the Greystone Mansion and Gardens April 27-29.



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L.A. Community College District to receive \$5 million

The Los Angeles Community College District has achieved a significant victory, as the recently passed omnibus appropriations bill, H.R. 2471, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2022, includes over \$5 million in dedicated funds for crucial student services, such as transportation, workforce development and basic needs. This funding will help increase student access to LACCD colleges and provide additional support to underserved students.

“We want to thank our local members of Congress, Senators Feinstein and Padilla and President Joe Biden for their strong support of community colleges, which is evident in this appropriations bill,” LACCD Board of Trustees President Gabriel Buelna, Ph.D., said. “LACCD will continue to advocate for an agenda that ensures students have access to quality education and the resources to succeed.”

The procedural vehicles for these allocations are Community Project

Funding, previously referred to as Congressional Earmarks, which provide for direct funding for specific projects in larger spending bills such as this one.

“The district recognizes and appreciates the dedication of our Congressional representatives to ensure that our community colleges have the resources they need to provide a pathway to success for underserved students,” LACCD Chancellor Francisco C. Rodriguez, Ph.D., said. “We have always put equity first, and this funding directly creates resources that will have an impact on students who need them most.”

All of these newly funded programs, ranging from a Basic Needs project at Los Angeles City College to a new healthcare hub at East Los Angeles College, reflect LACCD's dedication toward providing accessible, high-quality education that meets the needs of students and their communities.

“We want to thank our passionate

members of Congress for fighting for our District and helping us secure this truly transformative funding,” LACCD Board of Trustees Vice President David Vela said. Vela also chairs the Board’s legislative and public affairs committee.

Seven different legislators sponsored the Community Project Funding grants, including both Sen. Dianne Feinstein and Sen. Alex Padilla, reflecting the broad support in our state for LACCD's equity-first agenda. Padilla helped to support several of the House projects in the Senate, ensuring their passage in the Senate and ultimately guaranteeing their inclusion in the final appropriations package.

"I am proud to deliver over \$1.3 million to help expand the Los Angeles Community College District's health care and biotech programs," Padilla said. "These programs will prepare students for good-paying jobs in rapidly growing industries and help make the entire Los Angeles area stronger."

safety and protocols,” LAUSD Superintendent Alberto M. Carvalho said. “I want to personally thank our students, employees and families for their support and patience. We know some in our school communities and offices will continue to wear masks, while others may not. Please consider your situation and do what is best for you or your child. Now that this important issue is behind us, it is time to focus on each student’s full academic potential.”

The agreement can be viewed at achieve.lausd.net/Page/16700.

LAUSD ends masking requirement

The Los Angeles Unified School District has announced that it has reached agreement with its labor groups to make masking strongly recommended – but not required – at all elementary, secondary and adult school campuses and in all non-school locations.

The union ratification processes have begun, and the new policy will be implemented no later than Wednesday, March 23.

"I strongly support ending the indoor mask requirement and am committed to continuing to uphold our science-based approach to COVID-19

Holocaust survivors speak with students

Los Angeles Unified School District has hosted an online seminar the last week with survivors of the Holocaust. Presenters in the virtual seminar have come from a variety of backgrounds, providing students with a multifaceted understanding of the Holocaust.

"I survived 12 camps and I had a family with three sisters and two brothers. I am the only survivor from my family," Holocaust survivor and seminar presenter Joseph Alexander said. Joseph Alexander, born 1922, survived 12 different concentration camps, including Dachau and Auschwitz-Birkenau.

Other participants have included Harry Davids, Dana Schwartz, Lea Radziner, Phil Raucher, David

Lenga and Herb Murez. The final two seminars will take place on March 24 and 25.

“The unprovoked cruelty and death that we are seeing today in Europe reminds us what was possible during World War II when an authoritarian, barbaric, and genocidal regime was able to systematically murder over six million Jewish people and others considered to be undesirable human beings,” Los Angeles Unified Board Member Scott M. Schmerelson said. “I am so very grateful that our students will have the opportunity to learn about the history and horrors of the Holocaust because I am very fearful of what could happen if we ever forget this history

Wallis presents Complexions Contemporary Ballet

Complexions Contemporary Ballet will make its Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts debut with three performances on April 14, 15 and 16, at 7:30 p.m. in the Bram Goldsmith Theater.

The New York City-based company presents two works by the co-founder and co-artistic director, Dwight Rhoden, including the West Coast premiere of “Snatched Back From the Edges,” described by Rhoden as a piece that celebrates the strength and resilience of humanity. Set to an eclectic soundscape of music by Beethoven, Jon Batiste, Shirley Caesar, Tye Tribbett, Jessye Norman, Le’Andria Johnson and Aloe Blacc, it features a range of solos, partnering and ensemble work, building layers of movement.

Additionally, Complexions will perform “StarDust” a dance tribute to the life and music of David Bowie, replete with glam rock-inspired costumes, set to some of the pop legend’s iconic hits. A post-per-

formance talk-back with company members will be held immediately after the opening night performance on April 14.

Complexions Contemporary Ballet, noted for its technical precision, power and passion, is blazing a new path in the dance world with its groundbreaking mix of styles ranging from ballet to hip hop. Led by Rhoden and Desmond Richardson, **Complexions** has awakened audiences to an original genre with its singular approach of reinventing dance and contemporary ballet. With its gifted dancers and powerful choreography, the company has been featured on the TV show "So You Think You Can Dance." It has been presented in more than 20 countries on five continents as well as to more than 20 million television viewers.

The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts is located at 9390 N. Santa Monica Blvd., Beverly Hills. To purchase tickets and for more information, please call (310)746-4000 or visit thewallis.org/quartet.

LACCD seeks trustees

The Los Angeles Community College District Board of Trustees is accepting applications from individuals who are interested in receiving a provisional appointment to the board. Applications are due not later than 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 6.

All application materials must be submitted in hard copy format before the deadline to the LACCD Office of the General Counsel, 770 Wilshire Blvd.

The LACCD Board of Trustees will consider the applications and conduct public interviews during a meeting on Wednesday, April 13. At the meeting, it is anticipated that the board will make a provisional appointment of a person to serve in District Seat 7 through Dec. 9.

Application information is available at laccd.edu, or by calling the general counsel's office at (213)891-2188.

It is the responsibility of each applicant to ensure their completed application packets are delivered in hard copy format to the general counsel's office before the stated deadline. The district is not responsible for any delays in receipt of application packets due to delivery services, mail or other circumstances. Applications will not be accepted after the deadline and also will not be accepted by phone, fax or email.

Applications must include responses to a questionnaire, a

resume or curriculum vitae and other supporting materials that applicants may feel are relevant. The maximum amount of materials that may be submitted per applicant is ten single-sided pages. The required questionnaire and applicant information packet may be obtained by contacting the general counsel's office.

It is also anticipated that on April 13 the board will call for an election on Nov. 8 for eligible voters to elect a person to take office on Dec. 9 to fill District Seat 7 for the remaining two years of the existing term through 2024.

Members of the LACCD Board of Trustees serve staggered, four-year terms. In 2020, elections were held for District Seats 1, 3, 5 and 7. In 2022, elections will be held for District Seats 2, 4 and 6 – plus for Seat 7, but only for the remaining two years.

The current vacancy exists for District Seat 7 because now-former trustee Mike Fong was recently elected to the California State Legislature to represent Assembly District 49.

LACCD colleges include Los Angeles City College, East Los Angeles College, Los Angeles Harbor College, Los Angeles Mission College, Los Angeles Pierce College, Los Angeles Southwest College, Los Angeles Trade-Technical College, Los Angeles Valley College and West Los Angeles College.



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L.A. Zoo receives sensory inclusion certification

The Los Angeles Zoo is providing an enhanced experience for visitors with autism, dementia, PTSD and other special sensory needs.

The nonprofit KultureCity certified the Los Angeles Zoo as a sensory inclusive venue, which is a major step for the zoo in creating an inclusive and equitable space for every guest.

“Los Angeles is known for its cultural diversity, but we’re also committed to looking at all elements of diversity and creating a space where every single member of our communities is welcomed, included and can truly belong,” said Denise M. Verret, CEO and director of the Los Angeles Zoo. “In order to provide an experience where our guests walk away with a renewed connection to wildlife and nature, we had to take the time to learn about sensory needs and adapt experiences for the benefit of everyone. Our goal is to co-create a future where people and wildlife thrive, together, and that involves everyone, including those with sensory needs.”

“This is a key milestone in the

city of Los Angeles’s efforts to become the most accessible big city in America,” said Stephen David Simon, executive director of the Los Angeles Department on Disability. “The L.A. Zoo’s commitment to creating a safe, nurturing space where children and adults with sensory needs can more fully enjoy the zoo’s amenities furthers the city’s commitment to proposing, developing and implementing policies, programs, services and activities that improve the quality of life for all persons with disabilities.”

Challenges with sensory regulation, or sensory needs, are often experienced by individuals with autism, dementia, PTSD and similar conditions. One of the major barriers for the individuals is sensitivity to overstimulation and noise, which is part of the environment at the L.A. Zoo.

With the new certification, the zoo is better prepared to assist guests with sensory sensitivities to have the most comfortable and inclusive experience possible. As part of the KultureCity certifica-

tion, the L.A. Zoo’s staff was trained by industry professionals on varying sensory needs, sensory inclusive components throughout the zoo campus, and ways to best support all individuals who visit.

“Our communities are what

shape our lives, and to know that the Los Angeles Zoo is willing to go the extra mile to ensure that everyone, no matter their ability, is included in their community, is amazing,” said Uma Srivastava, executive director of KultureCity.

“We’re honored to partner with the L.A. Zoo to provide a truly inclusive experience for all guests.”

The Los Angeles Zoo is located at 5333 Zoo Drive. For information, call (323)644-4200, or visit lazoo.org.

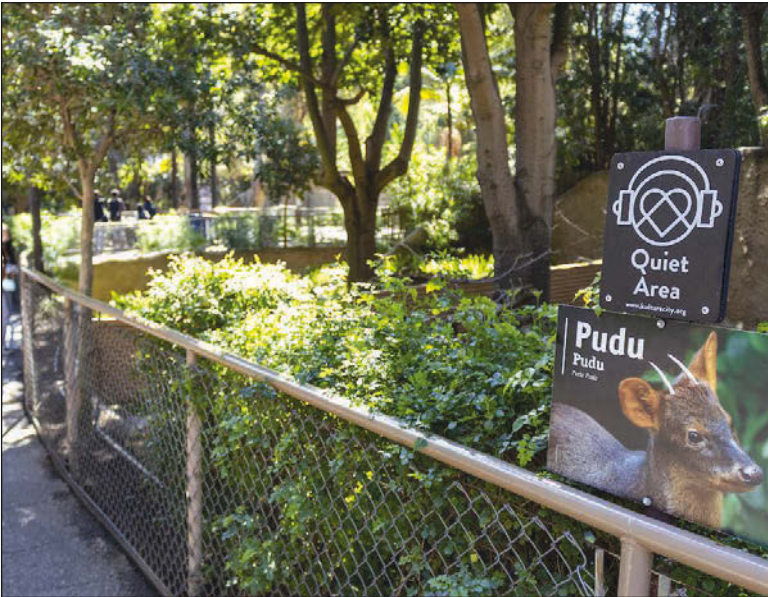


photo courtesy of the Los Angeles Zoo

The zoo is taking steps to accommodate visitors with special sensory needs.

‘Monster’s Inc.’ returns to the El Capitan

Hollywood’s El Capitan Theatre will screen Disney and Pixar’s “Monsters, Inc.” (2001) March 25 and 26 presented by Disney+.

The film is about Monsters Incorporated, the largest scare factory in the monster world, and James P. Sullivan (John Goodman) is one of its top scarers. Sully is a huge, intimidating monster with blue fur, large purple spots and horns. His scare assistant, best

friend and roommate is Mike Wazowski (Billy Crystal), a green, opinionated, feisty little one-eyed monster. Visiting from the human world is Boo (Mary Gibbs), a tiny girl who goes where no human has ever gone before.

Daily showtimes for “Monsters, Inc.” are 10:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$12 and can be found at elcapitanickets.com.



photo courtesy Disney/Pixar. All rights reserved.

“Monster’s Inc.” features Mike and Sully, voiced by Billy Crystal and John Goodman.

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Petersen Automotive Museum unveils new lowrider display

The Petersen Automotive Museum has unveiled the new Lowriders and Customs Vault Display now open in the Legends Gallery in The Vault presented by Hagerty.

Lowriders first burst onto the Southern California automotive scene in the post-World War II era as unique symbols of personal creativity and Latino cultural identity. While hot-rodders focused on going fast, lowriders were about going low and slow. Expressions of civic and cultural pride, lowriders became rolling works of art and

early influencers for import cars, hot rods and lowered truck builders.

Vehicles on display include the most influential lowrider ever, the 1964 Chevrolet Impala known as “Gypsy Rose.” Featured on the opening title sequence of the 1970s hit television sitcom “Chico and the Man,” the lowrider was broadcast into millions of homes every Friday night. In 2017, Gypsy Rose went on display at the National Mall in Washington D.C. and was the first lowrider inducted into the National Historic Vehicle Registry. The 1963 Chevrolet Impala “El

Rey,” which blends contemporary design elements with classic lowrider styling, will also be displayed.

Other notable customs cars inspired by lowriders include the 1948 Cadillac Sedanette “CadZZilla” built by Boyd Coddington for Billy Gibbons of ZZ Top, the innovative two-tone 1964 Chevrolet El Camino “Blind Faith” with its rear-mounted V8 owned by the originator of Hot Wheels design Harry Bradley, and the beautiful 1960 Buick LeSabre “Lectrified” built by JH Restorations and Customs.

The Petersen Automotive Museum is located at 6060 Wilshire Blvd. For information, visit petersen.org.



Photo courtesy the Peterson Automotive Museum

The 1964 Chevrolet Impala, known as the “Gypsy Rose” and used on the series “Chico and the Man” will be on display at the Petersen Automotive Museum.

Music Center announces Arts Grown L.A. program series

The Music Center has announced the launch of Arts Grown L.A., a collaborative effort that creates a platform for the artistic expression thriving in communities throughout Los Angeles County. Deepening and expanding the reach of free arts events and performances available to the public, Arts Grown L.A., a TMC Arts program, builds on The Music Center's highly successful partnerships with community groups and local artists to create free, family-friendly performances and artmaking experiences for all ages.

The program will expand the reach of The Music Center’s multi-disciplinary artist roster into neighborhoods, create connections with local artists and arts organizations to produce large-scale neighborhood performances and establish dance residencies for young people at community partner sites. From performances and concerts at parks, community centers, libraries, senior centers and civic events, to Hip Hop dance parties and youth lessons, Arts Grown L.A. will uplift artists and creativity in communities throughout Los Angeles and complements existing local programs to enrich and enliven neighborhoods through the arts.

“L.A. County has a rich arts culture with artists whose work defines and differentiates the many pockets and neighborhoods throughout the region. It’s these artists that bring our communities together, build bridges and open lines of communication through their work and remind us of what we share in common and how we can respect each other’s differences,” Josephine Ramirez, executive vice president of TMC Arts for The Music Center, said. “Arts Grown L.A. was designed to embrace local artists and partner with the talent we find in the backyards of L.A. County to create arts experiences we can share with our children, friends and neighbors.”

“We are excited to partner with The Music Center and Univer-SOUL Hip Hop to bring their transformative, soul-centered dance education to the youth in Little Tokyo Service Center’s Mi CASA after-school program and to the Little Tokyo community,” Nancy Alcaraz, director of resident services at Little Tokyo, said.

For a complete list of upcoming events, visit musiccenter.org/arts-grownla.



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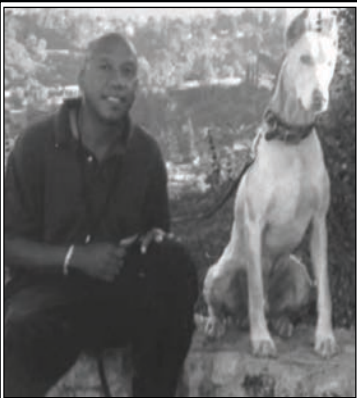
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Crossword Puzzle by Myles Mellor

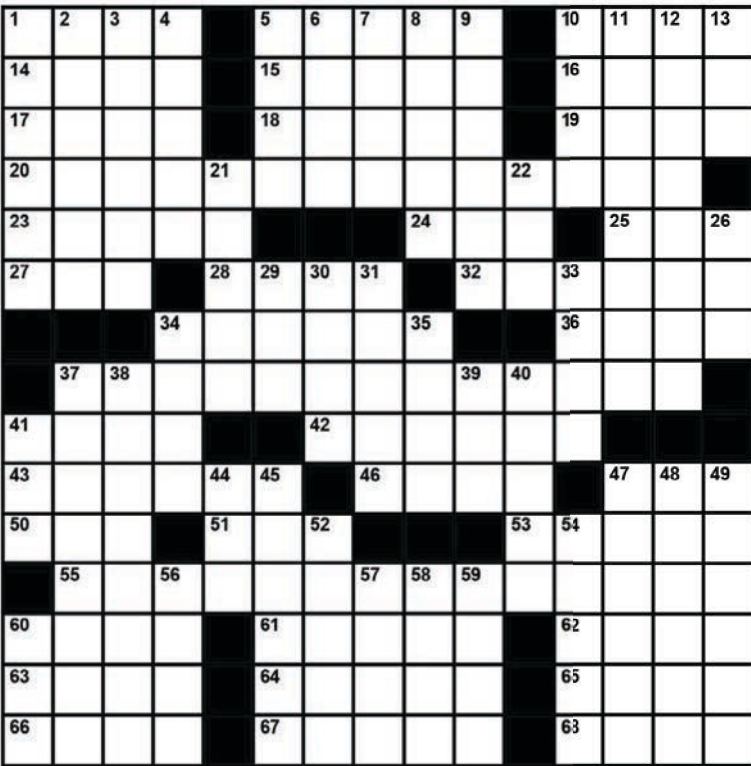
Across

- Strokes a pet, for example
- Bothered
- Emerald for one
- Just ___ should be
- French for 'black'
- "Top Chef" judge Simmons
- Where the Mets used to play
- Mixer
- Director Preminger
- Has huge meals
- Normandy beach
- Elder
- Spoon bender
- Wall Street watchdog, abbr.
- Top quality
- Petroleum executive
- More finely sharpened
- Porridge, essentially
- Very quiet and unmoving
- Swiss river
- Pickle
- Rough
- Gluck of the Met
- Pop-ups, e.g.
- Govt. Rx watchdog
- Shoebox marking
- Call
- Very courageous
- Swing around
- Fab Four member
- Baseball's Tony or Alejandro

- Unsubstantial
- Wearer of three stars, abbr.
- Chase after
- Exalted works
- Football field divisions
- In a mixed up state

Down

- Strolls
- Feel guilt
- Haberdashery item
- Put away
- Pro's adversary
- Grabbed
- German "a"
- Operatic solos
- Synthesized music
- "Petrushka" composer Stravinsky
- Seedless mandarin oranges
- Can read
- "Don't Bring Me Down" band
- Pigeonhole
- "...___ quit!"
- Officeholders
- Sushi bar order
- Word with "decision" or "judgment"
- Magnetic measurement
- Uncouth person
- Ukraine capital
- Track
- Shoed for summer
- Hold dear



- "The Wizard of Oz" studio
- "Gone with the Wind" star
- "___ Wiedersehen"
- One engaged in, suffix
- Just about
- Parting words
- Hockey Hall-of-Famer Marcel
- Beethoven's "Moonlight ___"
- 1996 Madonna musical
- Leader of the pack
- Tunis rulers

- Tech sch. grad
- Worn
- Princes, e.g.
- Brazilian city starter

answers on page 27

Police Blotter

The following crimes occurred in West Hollywood, Beverly Hills and the areas patrolled by the LAPD’s Wilshire and Hollywood divisions between March 13 and March 19. The information was compiled from crimemap-ping.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

March 13

At 1:06 a.m., a suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs near the corner of Robertson and Olympic.

A suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs near the corner of Santa Monica and Beverly at 3:19 a.m.

At 10:30 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 400 block of Roxbury.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 9400 block of Dayton at 4:50 p.m.

At 11:38 p.m., a suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs near the corner of Beverly and Carmelita.

March 14

At 4:29 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 100 block of Copley.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of Durant and Moreno at 8:30 a.m.

At 11 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 9500 block of Olympic.

A vandalism incident was reported near the corner of Wilshire and Santa Monica at 11:15 a.m.

At 11:05 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 100 block of Elm.

March 15

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 100 block of Roxbury at 2:13 a.m.

At 11:58 a.m., a suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs near the corner of Willman and Wilshire.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 300 block of Palm at 6 p.m.

At midnight, an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 400 block of N. Doheny.

March 16

At 1 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 400 block of N. Canon.

March 17

At 1 a.m., a vandalism incident was reported in the 8900 block of Olympic.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 100 block of N. Robertson at 5:44 a.m.

At 2:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 9500 block of Brighton.

A vandalism incident was reported

in the 9400 block of Charleville at 3:51 p.m.

At 8:44 p.m., a suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs near the corner of Santa Monica and Crescent. Another suspect was arrested for allegedly driving under the influence in the same location at 9:25 p.m.

March 18

At 6:45 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 9600 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 100 block of N. Hamel at 11:50 a.m.

March 19

At 2:49 a.m., a suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs near the corner of Wilshire and Wetherly.

West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station

March 13

At 1:22 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8600 block of Melrose.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8900 block of Santa Monica at 1:40 a.m.

At 8:41 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 9000 block of Melrose.

March 14

At 2 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 1100 block of N. La Brea.

March 15

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 1400 block of N. Hayworth at 4:30 p.m.

At 7 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 1100 block of N. Hacienda.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 7900 block of Santa Monica at 8:13 p.m.

March 16

At 5 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1000 block of N. Hayworth.

March 17

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 8600 block of Sunset at 1:15 p.m.

At 5:36 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8200 block of Santa Monica.

March 18

At 12:08 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8900 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8900 block of Santa Monica at 2:10 a.m.

At 5:18 a.m., an unknown suspect

committed a burglary in the 7600 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 900 block of N. Palm at midnight.

March 19

At 1 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8800 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 8800 block of Santa Monica at 2:24 a.m.

At 7:45 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8900 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 900 block of N. San Vicente at 3 p.m.

Los Angeles Police Department

March 13

At 12:40 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6400 block of Selma.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 600 block of N. Vista at 1 a.m.

At 1:30 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5500 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6500 block of Santa Monica at 3 a.m.

At 3:21 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 100 block of S. Larchmont.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked near the corner of Santa Monica and Cahuenga at 6 a.m.

At 7:05 a.m., a suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 500 block of N. Curson.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 500 block of N. Orange at 8:21 a.m.

At 1:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 100 block of N. Rossmore.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1600 block of N. Schrader at 2 p.m.

At 2:20 p.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 6700 block of Leland.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 6900 block of Sunset at 5:45 p.m.

At 8 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 500 block of N. Sycamore.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 6200 block of Wilshire at 8:40 p.m.

At 9:15 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 6000 block of Hollywood.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6900 block of Fountain at 9:35 p.m.

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

March 14

At 3:36 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 800 block of S. Robertson.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim near the corner of Stanley and Clinton at 2 p.m.

At 5:20 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 7600 block of Beverly.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft near the corner of La Cienega and Oakwood at 6:15 p.m.

At 6:30 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 5500 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 8000 block of Beverly at 7:15 p.m.

At 8 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1900 block of N. Orlando.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 700 block of S. Spaulding at 9 p.m.

At 10 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 400 block of S. Fairfax.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 1700 block of N. Orchid at 11:30 p.m.

March 15

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 6300 block of Third at 3:20 a.m.

At 6 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 6300 block of Sixth.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 6200 block of Third at 7:15 a.m.

At 8:50 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 100 block of S. La Brea.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 200 block of S. La Brea at 10 a.m.

At 11:20 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1700 block of N. Wilcox.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near the corner of Sweetzer and Beverly at 11:45 a.m.

At noon, an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 7100 block of Hawthorn.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8300 block of Third at 1:30 p.m.

At 5 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6800 block of Hollywood.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1400 block of N. Poinsettia at 6:30 p.m.

At 7 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 300 block of N. Alta Vista.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1400 block of N. Spaulding at 8 p.m.

At 8 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8700 block of Beverly.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5100 block of Hollywood at 8:30 p.m.

At 9 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 7100 block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim near the corner of Hilldale and Sunset at 10 p.m.

March 16

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 7600 block of Beverly at 3:15 a.m.

At 8:30 a.m., an unknown suspect

stole a bicycle in the 500 block of N. Rossmore.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 5900 block of Wilshire at 1 p.m.

At 6 p.m., a bicycle theft was reported in the 6600 block of Yucca.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1300 block of N. Las Palmas at 6 p.m.

At 6 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 300 block of N. Hauser.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1000 block of N. La Brea at 6:45 p.m.

At 7 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 400 block of N. Rossmore.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 400 block of N. Beachwood at 8:30 p.m.

At 10:40 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked near the corner of Argyle and Selma.

March 17

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1400 block of N. Cahuenga at 2 a.m.

At 5:30 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 5300 block of Clinton.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft near the corner of Selma and Vine at 10 a.m.

At 10:30 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 1600 block of N. El Centro.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of Sycamore and Santa Monica at 11:25 a.m.

At 2 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 600 block of N. Stanley.

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

At 5:20 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7500 block of Melrose.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 400 block of N. Curson at 7 p.m.

At 10:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a theft in the 1600 block of Cherokee.

March 18

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 6100 block of Sunset at 12:45 a.m.

At 1 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 1500 block of Wilcox.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 900 block of N. La Cienega at 8 a.m.

At 8:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 6200 block of Third.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1500 block of N. Stanley at 9:30 p.m.

At 10:25 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 100 block of N. La Brea.

March 19

At 1 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft near the corner of 6th and Western.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim near the corner of Selma and Cherokee at 3:15 a.m.

Event explores feminism and art at The Getty

The Getty presents “Suzanne Lacy: Between Feminism and Social Practice,” a free in-person event on Tuesday, April 12, from 6-7 p.m. at the Getty Center, and online via Zoom.

Feminist and activist artist Suzanne Lacy will present a brief historical review of her four decades of work, share a glimpse of current projects and explore how performance art operates with respect to art and general audiences. Lacy’s installations, videos and performance art focus on topics that include sexual violence, rural and urban poverty, incarceration, labor and aging.

Lacy explores connections

between feminism and performance art, first introduced via mentors Judy Chicago and Allan Kaprow. Focusing on ethics, communication and new art forms, she argues that contemporary social practice art draws heavily on feminist practices, including consciousness-raising, expanding audiences, inclusion strategies and naming the political in the personal.

Her large-scale projects are on display in England, Colombia, Ecuador, Spain, Ireland and the United States. Her books include “Mapping the Terrain: New Genre Public Art” and “Leaving Art: Writings on Performance, Politics, and Publics.” She is a professor at

the Roski School of Art and Design at the University of Southern California and a resident artist at 18th Street Art Center.

The event will be moderated by Glenn Phillips, senior curator, head of exhibitions and head of modern and contemporary collections at the Getty Research Institute. The program is part of the GRI’s Art History in the Making series, which brings artists, critics, curators and scholars together.

The Getty is located at 1200 Getty Center Drive. A recording of this program will be available on the GRI YouTube channel following the event. For information, visit getty.edu.



photo by Alan Seabright

Suzanne Lacy and Meg Parnell appear in the 2013 performance piece “Cleaning Conditions.”

MOCA releases tickets for special exhibits

Additional tickets have been released for MOCA Grand Avenue and The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA, and are available for advance reservation through May 29. Tickets are released every two weeks at noon on Tuesdays.

MOCA Grand Avenue is open to the public but requires advance free ticket reservations. All visitors, including members, are required to get advance timed-entry tickets online.

The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA is currently presenting “Pipilotti Rist: Big Heartedness, Be My Neighbor.” Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$10 for students and seniors 65 and older, and free for children under 12. MOCA members always

receive free admission to special exhibitions.

Tickets for “Pipilotti Rist: Big Heartedness, Be My Neighbor” allow for a free second visit to the exhibition. Paid ticket buyers will receive a special code via email to reserve return tickets within 72 hours of visiting.

Phone reservations for both locations are available from 11a.m.-5 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday by calling (213)633-5351, and at the museum’s box offices. MOCA Grand Avenue is located at 250 S. Grand Ave., and The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA is located at 152 N. Central Ave. For information, visit moca.org.

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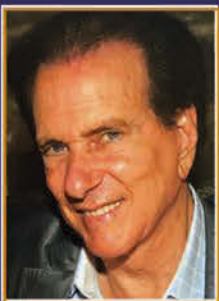
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VINTAGE PARKLABREA NEWS

Dinosaur Ball supports Natural History Museum



Actor Jimmy Stewart and his wife, Gloria, were shown in the March 17, 1983, issue of the Park Labrea News in support of the “Dinosaurs Ball” at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. The annual event is still held each May and in 2021 raised more than \$900,000 for educational resources that connect hundreds of thousands of students with science, nature, history and culture. Details about this year’s event are still forthcoming. For information, visit nhm.org.

Hollywood forgot about film scores

■ What the Oscars’ choice to sideline the film score category really means

If you wanna know which film featured the best film score, now you don’t have to wait until halfway through the Oscars ceremony on Sunday. That one, along with several others, will be announced off camera prior to the main event. This truly is trite tactic to temper a torturous tenure annually. (I discussed this in last week’s column.)

It shouldn’t come as a shock. The industry doesn’t seem to care much for those scores lately. More than a decade ago, original orchestration took a weird turn. The Guardian’s Tom Service notes the problem, criticizing 2008’s “The Dark Knight.”

“Hans Zimmer and James

Newton Howard’s music, I thought, got mired in a single idea, an obsessively repeated minor third, that gloomy interval of impending doom, but could not generate any real tension or dramatic counterpoint with the onscreen action,” he wrote in 2009. “It’s a pity, given the complexity of drama and ideas in both films, that the music didn’t add to the experience.”

On the YouTube channel Every Frame a Painting, Taylor Ramos and Tony Zhou (Netflix’s “Voy”) also date the problem back to 2008, specifically criticizing Marvel Studios films for employing simple moods, white-noise ambiance and copying other films in a practice called temping, placing a temporary track over a scene mimicked (legally) by the current composer.

Such things are common across blockbusters, Ramos and Zhou argue, easily found in the likes of

ON SCREEN

WITH
TIM POSADA

“Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen,” “300” and best pic nom “Mad Max: Fury Road,” whose score often appears on many “best of the 2010s” lists.

They even ask passers-by in Sydney to hum memorable themes from popular franchises like “Star Wars,” “Indiana Jones” and “007.” No one recalls a Marvel theme. We sure know the classic “Superman” one and Danny Elfman’s iconic Batman theme from 1989.

Why do the Oscars and, frankly, major filmmakers care so little for those big, bold instrumental melodies we can’t help but croon? It’s hardly one thing, instead something systemic, an old song familiar across the industry.

Ever heard the cliché number about film editing? Apparently it works best when it goes unnoticed. Tell that to “Memento,” nominated in 2001. Whoever drummed up that ditty seems to believe modern scores shouldn’t be either.

That makes contemporary raptures so memorable. “Annihilation” hardly embarks upon new terrain until the climax, featuring something so off the wall, so original, it remains one of the best audible moments on screen in the last decade.

And the last new franchise to present a main theme that sticks doesn’t emerge from a major live-action flick (though the “Avengers” theme finally took center stage come “Endgame”) but a 2010 animated



photo courtesy of Warner Bros. Pictures

Timothée Chalamet stars as Paul Atreides and Rebecca Ferguson as Lady Jessica in the epic sci-fi saga “Dune,” which features a prolific film score.

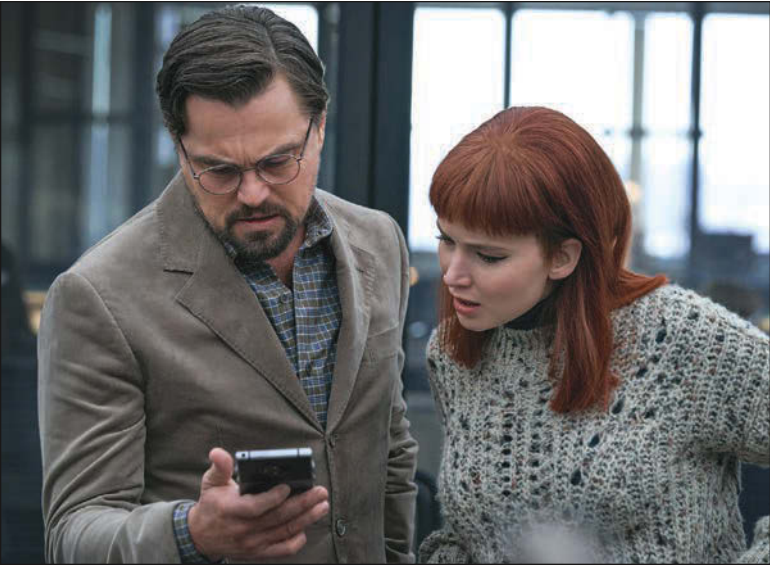


photo courtesy of Netflix

Leonardo DiCaprio and Jennifer Lawrence star in “Don’t Look Up,” which is nominated for an Academy Award in four categories, including Best Achievement in Film Editing.

feature from DreamWorks, “How to Train Your Dragon.” Not counting franchises with long histories that can get away with memorable tunes, that’s a major drought.

They aren’t gone though. The big money just goes elsewhere. In some instances, score emphasis has moved to indie flicks. “Beast of the Southern Wild,” “The Last Black Man in San Francisco” and “A Ghost Story” favor mood interpreted by music free of words sung or spoken to explain what spectators should feel.

Such moments feel like a throwback to classic cinema’s close ties to live theater. Before a single frame graced the screen, an overture set the tone. Even Disney’s sci-fi flop “The Black Hope” sports a two and a half minute one you can enjoy on Disney+ right now.

While norms have changed, one positive has been the growing ways composers creatively invent unique sounds. Look up “The Nightmare Box” right now to witness the birth of

tactically eerie sounds. Or watch “Score: A Film Music Documentary” to scratch any curiosity itch you might have about how much work goes into the entire process.

Besides major motion pictures, TV actually pumps out a sizable number of catchy, epic numbers. Bear McCreary alone sports three prominent main themes with “Battlestar Galactica,” “The Walking Dead” and “Black Sails.” (That last one comes up in “Score.”)

If you want to hum something, you have plenty of classic films and current TV series, while film music now mostly relies on mood and, sometimes, filler. The 2022 noms are half-and-half on this one, though “Dune” and “The Power of the Dog” present some truly remarkable moments. Too bad nobody gets to learn more about them since the Oscars, and the picture business, don’t seem to care that much in public or during the production process.

Academy Museum to open new exhibits honoring ‘Godfather,’ ‘Casablanca,’ Black cinema, among others

Beginning this summer, the Academy Museum will open the exhibition Regeneration: Black Cinema 1898-1971, which will explore the history of Black cinema, from its earliest days to just after the civil rights movement. In the fall, the museum will open galleries devoted to Francis Ford Coppola’s “The Godfather” (1972) and the influences of French filmmaker Agnès Varda.

In early 2023, several new exhibitions will open, including spaces dedicated to “Boyz n the Hood” (1991), “Casablanca” (1942), documentarian Lourdes Portillo and the collaborative work of production designer Sarah Greenwood and set decorator Katie Spencer.

In late spring 2023, the Academy Museum will open its first permanent exhibition Hollywoodland, which will chronicle the founding and the founders of the Hollywood studio system in Los Angeles. In addition, new objects, images and interviews will be added to numerous galleries, including Gregory Peck’s Oscar for “To Kill a Mockingbird” (1962), storyboards and scripts from Alfred Hitchcock’s “Rebecca” (1940) and “The Birds” (1963), costumes designed by Travis Banton, Edith Head and Ann Roth and interviews with film editors Maysie Hoy, Carol Littleton, Sam Pollard and others.

Concurrently, the Academy Museum’s public spaces - the Sidney Poitier Grand Lobby, the Ted Mann



photo courtesy the Margaret Herrick Library

A new Hollywoodland permanent exhibit will trace the history of cinema in Los Angeles, including the contributions of Universal Pictures founder Carl Laemmle.

Lobby, the Netflix Lounge, the Walt Disney Company Piazza, the Dolby Family Terrace, the Gerry Schwartz and Heather Reisman Mezzanine and the spine of the museum - will be refreshed by Kulapat Yantrasast and WHY Architecture. Incorporating cinematic elements and moments of digital engagement and connectivity, these spaces will be designed to more deeply enhance the visitor experience.

“The history of film is endlessly rich and varied, which is why we envisioned the exhibitions of the Academy Museum as a continually evolving set of installations and virtual content. We are delighted to present a new round of stories, explorations, moving images, props and

other objects that explore the many facets of moviemaking, from the founding of Hollywood to present day. These rotations give our visitors many wonderful reasons to come back, while offering an extraordinary invitation to others to engage with the museum,” Bill Kramer, director and president of the Academy Museum, said.

“In our core exhibition, we are excited to continue offering a multitude of perspectives on film and filmmaking, drawing on the unmatched resources of our collection,” Jacqueline Stewart, chief artistic and programming officer of the Academy Museum, said.



New Listing

9935 YOUNG DRIVE | BEVERLY HILLS
\$4,200/MONTHLY | 2 BED | 1 BATH



Quiet boutique townhome that has it all in the most sought after neighborhood of Beverly Hills by BHHS and Century City. This peaceful French Normandie residence features central air, beautiful wooden floors, kitchen with granite countertops, built-in appliances, and private laundry. The living room boasts natural light and decorative fireplace mantel. Formal dining room. Convenient downstairs guest bathroom. The two spacious bedrooms are located upstairs with ample closet and storage space.

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Artistic Porsche race car debuts at Market Tavern

Contemporary artist Robert Williams’ work will be unveiled on a Porsche 718 GT4 RS race car and a selection of luxury timepieces during a special event on Saturday, March 26, from 5-10 p.m. at the Market Tavern at the Original Farmers Market.

Produced by the AutoMoto Film & Arts Festival, the event will be highlighted by the debut of TRG Racing’s special edition #66 Porsche 718 GT4 RS Cayman Clubsport, covered with one of Williams’ iconic artworks. The same Williams art, along with other pieces from his collection, will also be featured on limited-edition timepieces by B.R.M. Chronographies.

Market Tavern owner Gary Twinn said the event symbolizes the past and present of auto racing, and also pays tribute to the Farmers Market’s automotive history. The Porsche will be displayed with one of the midget race cars that once competed at Gilmore Stadium, which was located near Fairfax Avenue and Beverly Boulevard on

the A.F. Gilmore Company property from 1934-1952. The Gilmore Company was a major oil producer in Los Angeles during the early days of the automobile and the land where the Farmers Market and surrounding attractions are now located was once part of a large oil field. Twinn said the midget race car was loaned for the event by Hank Hilty, who recently retired as president and CEO of the A.F. Gilmore Company.

“There’s definitely a connection to the history of the Farmers Market with the Gilmore racing stadium. The organizers thought the tie in with Gilmore and its history with racing in Los Angeles was great,” Twinn added. “We’ll have the old and the new. We are definitely grateful to Hank Hilty for allowing us to display this car.”

Williams, a painter, cartoonist and founder of Juxtapoz Art & Culture magazine, was among a group of artists who produced Zap Comix. A self-described “conceptual realist,” Williams was involved

with some of the most significant and influential contemporary art movements.

Over the course of his six-decade career, Williams embraced marginalized styles and underground cultures, including alternative comics, hot rods, pinups, graffiti and tattoo art.

“The impact that Robert Williams has had on American culture has truly been profound,” AutoMoto Founder Fred LoBianco said. “We hope this will help bring his works to new audiences, through automotive and timepiece adaptations.”

Twinn said the event was made possible through a collaboration with an old friend, Scott Parker, who is with the AutoMoto Film & Arts Festival. Twinn said they are both fans of vintage British motorcycles and racing, and the Market Tavern is the perfect place to hold the event in Los Angeles.

“With Scott being a friend of mine, he wanted to give us support, and we were thrilled to host such an event,” Twinn said. “It’s pretty



photo courtesy of Gary Twinn

The Porsche race car on display at the Farmers Market will be wrapped in this artwork from Robert Williams.

exciting. It’s going to be a great event.”

Executives from participating brands will participate in the unveiling, as well as TRG driver Derek DeBoer, who will display the Porsche 718 GT4 at races throughout the 2022 Fanatec GT World Challenge America Series.

The evening will also include a live performance by Market Tavern favorites “Long Shadows,” which features Twinn on vocals.

Market Tavern is located at the Original Farmers Market, 6333 W. Third St., #706. For information, call (323)452-9299, or visit market-tavernla.com.

Awards ceremony honors Hollywood’s architects of beauty

The seventh annual Hollywood Beauty Awards, founded by CEO Michele Elyzabeth, took place on Saturday, March 19, at the Taglyan Complex in Hollywood. The HBAs honor the architects of beauty, recognizing talent in hair, makeup, photography and styling for film, TV, music, the red carpet and editorial.

The 2022 winners included Ahmad Barber and Donte Maurice of AM + DM (Neal Preston Photography Award), Jo Baker (Sue Cabral-Ebert Makeup Award), Jenny Cho (Frida Aradottir Hairstyling Award), Melissa Dezarate (Groomer of the Year), Alexx Mayo (Norma Patton-Lowin Makeup Award), Tym Wallace (Lawrence Davis Hairstyling Award) and Wayman Bannerman and Micha McDonald (Sharen Davis Styling Award).

The 2022 honorees included Ann-Margret (The Timeless Beauty Award), Frida Aradottir (Outstanding Achievement in Hairstyling), Sue Cabral-Ebert (Outstanding Achievement in Makeup and SFX Makeup), Lawrence Davis (Outstanding Achievement in Hairstyling), Sharen Davis (Outstanding Achievement in Costume Design), Drew Elliott of MAC Cosmetics (Product of the Year), Diane Gomez-Thinnes of Galderma (the Beauty Enhancement Award), Marco Parisiegla of Amouage (the



photo courtesy the Hollywood Beauty Awards

Timeless Beauty Award honoree Ann-Margret pictured with Jon Voight at the seventh annual Hollywood Beauty Awards March 19.

International Beauty Award), Norma Patton-Lowin (Outstanding Achievement in Makeup), Neal Preston (Outstanding Achievement in Photography) and Stefanie Spodek (Fragrance of the Year on behalf of Estee Lauder’s Luxury Collection).

The 2022 presenters included Saisha Beecham, Dyan Cannon, Larry Cherry, Christine Chiu and Dr. Gabriel Chiu, Laura Dern, Jill Eikenberry, Yolonda Frederick-Thompson, Bobby Holland, Candice Lambert, William Lauder,

Marissa Marino, Molly Ringwald, Angelica Ross, Saniyya Sidney, Larry Sims, Troye Sivan, Courtney B. Vance, Jon Voight, Anne Winters, and Kiyah Wright, with celebrity appearances by Corbin Bernsen, Karina Brez. Logan Browning, Shelby and Tommy Chong, Casey Dandridge, Cesar DeLeon Ramirez, Drew Elliott, Nabil Hayari, Reema Khan, Jaime King, Lizzo, Taryn Manning, Aida Rodriguez, Renaud Salmon, Vincent Spinnato, Chrissy Teigen and Kym Whitley.

Violinist Nemanja Radulović to debut with LACO

Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, led by music director Jaime Martín, presents the U.S. debut of Franco-Serbian violinist Nemanja Radulović performing Tchaikovsky’s Violin Concerto in back-to-back concerts on Saturday, April 23, at 8 p.m., at Glendale’s Alex Theatre, and Sunday, April 24, at 7 p.m., at UCLA’s Royce Hall.

Radulović has taken the classical music world by storm with his virtuosity, depth of expression and adventurous programming, both in the recording studio and on the concert stage. The program also features Martín conducting the rarely-performed overture to Joplin’s only opera, “Treemonisha,” and the

complete orchestral suite of Ravel’s “Ma mère l’Oye,” which brings Mother Goose to life.

Radulović, an artist who seeks to broaden the boundaries of classical music, champions the power of music to bring people together with his unique energy and candor. He has amassed loyal fans around the world who have enjoyed his performances with many of the world’s leading orchestras.

Tickets start at \$29 and may be purchased online at laco.org or by calling LACO at (213)622-7001 ext. 1. Discounted tickets are also available by phone for seniors 65 years of age and older and for students.



photo courtesy Nemanja Radulović

Nemanja Radulović will perform Tchaikovsky’s Violin Concerto with the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra.



photo by Al Seib, Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences

The red carpet is rolled out on Hollywood Boulevard in preparation for the 94th annual Academy Awards.

Oscars announce presenters, performers for Sunday’s ceremony

Beyoncé, Reba McEntire, Sebastián Yatra and Billie Eilish, who will be joined by FINNEAS, will perform this year’s nominated songs on the 94th Oscars, show producers Will Packer and Shayla Cowan have announced.

“Be Alive” from “King Richard” will be performed by Beyoncé, who co-wrote the song with DIXSON. Sebastián Yatra will sing “Dos Oruguitas” from “Encanto,” which was written by Lin-Manuel Miranda. “No Time To Die” from “No Time to Die” will be performed by co-writer Billie Eilish alongside FINNEAS. Eilish penned the song with Finneas O’Connell. Reba McEntire will sing “Somehow You Do” from “Four Good Days.” The song’s music and lyrics were written by Diane Warren.

“Down To Joy” from “Belfast,” with music and lyrics by Van Morrison, will not be performed on the broadcast. Van Morrison was invited to perform his nominated song but will not attend the Oscars due to his tour schedule.

Also taking the Oscars stage will be an all-star band featuring the show’s music director Adam Blackstone, blink-182 drummer Travis Barker, percussionist and singer Sheila E. and genre-spanning pianist Robert Glasper.

DJ D-Nice, who over the last two years united millions of people around the world with his virtual Club Quarantine parties, will perform during the show as well as at the Governors Ball, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences’ official post-Oscars celebration.

Recently announced presenters will include Daniel Kaluuya, Mila Kunis, Lupita Nyong’o, Naomi Scott, Wesley Snipes and John Travolta, who will join the previously announced Ruth E. Carter, Kevin Costner, Anthony Hopkins, Lily James, Zoë Kravitz, Lady Gaga, John Leguizamo, Simu Liu, Rami Malek, Rosie Perez, Chris Rock, Uma Thurman and Yuh-Jung Youn.

The 94th Oscars will be held on Sunday, March 27, at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood and will be televised live on ABC at 5 p.m.

Forum held for L.A. City Council candidates

From page 1

included, it was too late to alter the program format.

“There was no slight intended. We planned this in early February and we publicized it as only being the three candidates,” Chvatal-Keane said. “It was too late in the game. I’m happy to invite [him] to our next meeting and give the opportunity to answer questions.”

Epstein said he believes the reason he was not invited is because many HPHA board members are supporting another candidate.

“Disappointed, yes, but not surprised. Half a dozen board members are publicly in support of Sam Yebri. It sure seems politically motivated, and it sure doesn’t seem like it serves the people of Hancock Park,” Epstein said. “Look, I have plenty of opportunities to get our message out. There are plenty of forums ahead and we will have opportunities to connect decisively with voters.”

Chvatal-Keane said the HPHA does not endorse candidates, but individual board members, like anyone else, are allowed to personally choose which candidate to support. She added that the forum on March 21 was specifically intended to give the public information on the candidates who are frontrunners.

Chvatal-Keane said the questions were given to the candidates ahead of time to give them a chance to prepare. The questions focused on constituent services, public safety, homelessness and infrastructure repair, among other topics.

“I think it’s really important to note that the most important job of an L.A. City Council member is to provide excellent constituent services,” said Yaroslavsky, a former land use attorney and policy advisor to Los Angeles County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl. “It doesn’t matter what else I’m doing well. If I’m not providing excellent constituent services through a really responsive, excellent team of people on the ground every day working hard to develop and maintain relationships, I’m not doing my job, and it literally doesn’t matter what else I’m doing.”

“That’s what this job is about, constituent services,” said Yebri, an attorney with a private practice. “First off, I come from the private sector and am the only business owner among the candidates. And if elected, I’ll be the only business owner on this council. I know that if I don’t return my client’s phone call or email within 24 hours, I will get fired. So that’s a mindset I’m

going to bring to this job. And that will be my staff’s mindset as well.”

“Neighborhood services are the basis of government trust, and that government trust is broken,” said Biblarz, who also an attorney. “It’s why when there is a bug infestation that wreaked havoc on Hancock Park’s unique tree canopy, concrete over asphalt streets, and the various other municipal services that have gone unattended, this has to be the basis of trust between an elected official and the citizenry. I have to be a careful listener. That’s what I’ll bring to City Council.”

The candidates were also asked how they would use discretionary funds, which are funds the council office distributes for local projects in their district. Yebri said his priority will be to use discretionary funds for infrastructure projects like better sidewalks and lighting, and community emergency preparedness, as well as police overtime when crime spikes. Yaroslavsky said she would implement a similar system to the Discretionary Funds Task Force used by former 4th District Councilman David Ryu. Community members would provide input on projects and the task force would make final decisions.

Biblarz said he would also be

guided by community input when determining how to distribute discretionary funds. He cited “participatory budgeting” as an important component of addressing public needs.

Chvatal-Keane asked the candidates to summarize in one word what they think the most important job is for a council member. Both Yebri and Biblarz said “safety,” while Yaroslavsky said “collaboration.”

The candidates had differing viewpoints on crime and public safety. Chvatal-Keane asked how they would make residents feel safer.

“Our police force is down to 9,400 sworn officers roughly, down from the 10,000 we had ... under Mayor Villaraigosa. And that number dwindles every single day because of early retirement and low morale and the failure to recruit more police officers,” Yebri said. “I am the only candidate in this race who supports adding more LAPD officers. We need to get guns off the streets faster through gun buyback programs, enforce our ghost gun laws that we just recently enacted and we need to employ more technology [like] cameras to deter and solve crimes.”

“I am all about what works, and being laser focused on the most research tested methods for reducing violence,” Biblarz added. “We have to think about public safety broadly. Police are a key piece, but so are having other strong social institutions, good schools and safe roads.”

“We all deserve to be safe in our communities, and it doesn’t feel like a safe place right now. It feels very out of control,” Yaroslavsky said. “We need a well-funded, well-staffed, well-trained, accountable police department, we need more officers out on the street. That means doing two things. It means shifting officers away from jobs that they’re doing right now that are better handled by other people. It also means we’re going to probably need to hire some more officers, but until we have a sense of how many officers are right now doing things they shouldn’t be doing, I don’t know how many officers we need. I suggest we do an audit and figure out how many new officers we need.”

Chvatal-Keane also asked the candidates to state yes or no whether they support the recall of Los Angeles County District Attorney George Gascon, and they all answered “no.”

With homelessness and affordable housing, the candidates had differing views, but each agreed that more housing needs to be created to keep people from falling into homelessness in the first place. The three candidates said they support protections for single-family neighborhoods like Hancock Park with historic preservation overlay zones. However, they added that addressing homelessness is a top issue affecting the city, and more needs to be done to balance the needs of providing services to individuals experiencing homelessness and clearing encampments to maintain the integrity of neighborhoods.

“We need to work with all layers of government to create a permanently affordable housing funding stream and demand new government investments in public housing,” Biblarz said. “We also need to encourage more naturally affordable units. I’m a big believer in promoting mixed-use development on underutilized commercial

transit corridors in Council District Five.”

“What we have to do is preserve rent-controlled and affordable units that currently exist,” Yebri said. “We need to prioritize, streamline and subsidize the construction of affordable housing near transit. That’s where housing belongs.”

“We need to be laser focused on the missing pieces that we don’t have right now that are leading contributors to homelessness,” Yaroslavsky said. “We need affordable housing, we need workforce housing and we should be prioritizing that housing near job centers.”

Chvatal-Keane asked about transportation and for the candidates in one word to describe what mode should be the highest priority. Biblarz said buses, while Yaroslavsky said bicycles and Yebri cited electric vehicles.

“It’s really a crazy time to be living in Los Angeles in so many ways. And one of them is because people are nuts behind the wheel. It’s like we’ve lost all sense of civility,” Yaroslavsky said. “I think we need to slow down maximum speed limits. I support putting up more traffic lights, more cameras to bust people who are speeding excessively. Having more cameras up to catch people who are really driving dangerously is important. And then also we need to have safer intersections, safer crossings. So many people die every day just crossing the street and riding their bike. It’s not safe.”

“In 2021, traffic deaths were nearly on par with homicides. Let that sink in for a second in terms of the magnitude of this public safety crisis,” Biblarz said. “And the reason we don’t see the same public outcry is because we’re desensitized to it. It’s become a fact of life and we need to disrupt that status quo to make real inroads on this incredibly important safety issue.”

“We have to slow down traffic. We have to reduce speed limits with proactive traffic mitigation measures,” Yebri added. “I believe that we need more police resources and more personnel, more technology not less devoted to address these other crimes on our streets. Because we know that people are dying and like Jimmy said, it’s up there on par with homicides.”

The candidates all said more collaboration is needed for fixing infrastructure problems and repairing roads and sidewalks. Biblarz said he plans to leverage federal funding for local repairs, while Yaroslavsky said her experience working in government has shown her how partnerships between federal, state and county officials benefit local communities. Yebri said his priority will be to fix streets, sidewalks and other infrastructure, which circles back to his initial response about the importance of delivering services for constituents.

The public will have another chance to hear from the candidates for the Los Angeles City Council’s 5th District seat, including Epstein, when the Pico Neighborhood Council hosts a virtual forum on Wednesday, March 30, from 7-8:30 p.m., via Zoom. The neighborhood council includes the South Carthay, Carthay Square, Wilshire Vista, Pickfair Village and Faircrest Heights neighborhoods.

For reservations, visit us02web.zoom.us/j/89651172691?pwd=c0lRby9mNzQrTkxtUExYNjYwVUwrdz09 and use the Meeting ID 896 5117 2691, and passcode 180465.

Debate gets heated at USC

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doing something about it.”

Buscaino said he also has a plan to create additional beds for unhoused individuals, but the city must try to alleviate substance abuse and mental health problems occurring in its streets.

“It’s irresponsible to say the homelessness issue is only about housing,” he added.

Feuer said his opponents borrowed his idea to declare a state of emergency, but he expanded upon it by suggesting that the city create pop-up locations throughout the city that provide services to unhoused individuals.

“And I’ve done this as city attorney,” he said. “That’s the thing about this race: experience counts.”

The moderators then asked how the candidates would clear encampments and whether they would use the police to do so.

Caruso said he would deploy outreach workers and provide services before clearing encampments.

“Once you have a dry bed, warm food – you have the medical services that they need – you need to give them an option one time,” he said. “You need to give them an option maybe a second time, but a third time, you have to move that encampment because you have to protect the communities that are being impacted by the encampments on the sidewalks.”

Bass said she “would never criminalize poverty,” and that giving a mentally ill individual several chances to move out of an encampment will not work.

“I certainly don’t think you arrest them,” she added. “I do think the police might need to be in the background in case it’s a dangerous situation. But I don’t think you use the police department to arrest people who are in encampments.”

Buscaino, a former LAPD officer, said it is not “criminalizing poverty” by providing unhoused individuals services and clearing city streets.

“When a bed is available in the city of Los Angeles, the sidewalk should not be an option,” he said.

De León said having enough housing stock is key.

“We have to supply the inventory to make sure we can move them from the streets into housing,” he added.

Feuer said offering unhoused individuals an option is a strategy that has worked in the past. When it doesn’t, the city should have a triage location elsewhere in L.A. that offers congregate shelter and basic services, he said.

“Before I go on, Mr. Caruso, you indicated you’re a builder, and I respect that, but I have to say you haven’t done much in the way of building homeless and affordable housing for all the opportunities you’ve had,” Feuer said. “Instead, you’ve opposed rent control, and at the same time you were building luxury housing and opposing rent control, I was standing up for tenants being illegally evicted.”

Caruso responded by saying the city is over-regulated, which makes it difficult on developers.

“If you want to talk about facts and problems in the city – Mike, I’m sorry that you opened this door – your office was raided by federal agents,” Caruso said. “Your office is under investigation, and you’ve got a senior person in your office that’s accusing you of perjury.”

On reducing crime, de León said the city needs to ensure that it is efficiently using its resources before considering increasing the LAPD’s budget.

“We need to hire mental health specialists to get our LAPD offi-

cers off the mental health frontlines and back on the line of duty to protect and serve,” he added.

Feuer proposed adding 500 officers while also reforming the LAPD and training officers to deescalate situations.

“We can’t ask the LAPD to do it alone,” he added. “We need to complement that with neighborhood-based violence prevention programs and [by] cleaning up our communities. Just cleaning up a neighborhood has been shown [to] decrease gun violence by 29%.”

Buscaino said he voted against defunding the LAPD and that taking resources away from the department leads to an increase in crime.

“In fact, one of my first actions as mayor is going to refund the LAPD \$150 million,” he said.

Caruso referenced his work on the Los Angeles Board of Police Commissioners following the Rodney King beating. He said he helped reverse the course of the LAPD and promoted community policing, and crime dropped 30%.

“I’ll do it again, because I know how to do it,” Caruso added.

Bass suggested that the city invest in communities in order to suppress crime.

“In my office, I want to have an office of community safety so we can prevent the crimes of the future and make the investments in communities that will do that,” she said.

The candidates were also asked to analyze the performance of Los Angeles County District Attorney George Gascon and current L.A. Mayor Eric Garcetti. Further, they discussed the city’s approach to reopening as COVID-19 cases waned.

To watch the debate, visit youtube.com/watch?v=x03PYYkwGWY.

Election season heats up in BH

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proactive in addressing safety and security and will work tirelessly to make the community feel safe. I am accessible and will bring a residents-first approach to all decisions to improve quality of life, increase sustainability and plan for the future. Working with our schools and families to boost their educational experiences is a priority. I look forward to bringing safety and unity to our community.”

Sharona and her husband, Daniel, reside in Beverly Hills with their three sons.



Vera Markowitz

Vera Markowitz is the founder of Just in Case BH, a community-led, disaster preparedness organization that aims to keep neighborhoods safe in the event of an emergency.

A resident of Beverly Hills for more than 50 years, Markowitz has never held elected office but ran for City Council in 2017. She became involved in civic issues after problems developed at the Beverly Hills Police Department.

In a previous interview, Markowitz cited several problems in Beverly Hills that need to be addressed immediately: the city’s water reserves, its fiber optics project and its general plan update.

“There are so many different problems in the city, and at this point, if we don’t make these prob-

lems get better, I don’t know if [Beverly Hills] will ever recover,” she said.



Darian Bojeaux

Darian Bojeaux has more than 30 years of experience practicing law in numerous fields, including civil litigation, personal injury and wrongful death, real estate, contracts, conservatorships, probate, legal and medical malpractice, defamation, family law retirement funds, bankruptcy and criminal law.

She has litigated, settled and tried numerous cases, including high-profile cases against celebrities, resulting in settlements and verdicts ranging beyond \$1 million.

Bojeaux received her bachelor’s degree in psychobiology from UCLA and a doctorate of law degree from Loyola Law School.

She has served as an arbitrator for the Los Angeles Superior Court and a judge pro tempore in West Los Angeles Small Claims Court.

Bojeaux has received the 2014 Consumer Attorneys of California President’s Award of Merit for service above and beyond the call of duty and in recognition of extraordinary dedication to Consumer Attorneys of California.

Her campaign theme is, “Keep building heights low with Darian Bojeaux.”

Shiva Bagheri

Shiva Bagheri did not respond to multiple requests for information. According to her Instagram page, she supports the Beverly Hills Freedom Rally, an organization that claims it is L.A.’s “nexus for citizens committed to liberty and civic participation,” according to its website.

“We support the freedoms of faith, family and country, and we believe in the divine right of self-defense and self-determination,” the website states. “In God we trust, and we pledge allegiance to the U.S. Constitution.”

Bagheri has reportedly been involved in anti-vaccine and anti-mask demonstrations in Beverly Hills.

City treasurer



Gabrielle Pantera-Rowe

Gabrielle Pantera-Rowe currently works for UCLA, building their assets management system. Previously, she guided development of a large asset management system at the Walt Disney Company.

“I want to increase transparency in our city government,” Pantera-Rowe said. “If elected treasurer, I will produce a budget anyone can understand and publish it where anyone can read it.”



Jake Manaster

Jake Manaster is a chief business executive and attorney and is currently the president and CEO of a 55-year-old California business, Contract Carpet Corp.

He has held various business, finance and legal leadership positions working for law firms, multinational corporations and creative executives.

Manaster received his bachelor’s degree in history from UCLA and his law degree from Case Western University’s Gund School of Law.

He is a former BHUSD board president who was first elected to public office in 2009. He served as president of the school board during the 2012-13 school year.

Manaster also served on the Beverly Hills Traffic and Parking Commission from 2014-20, holding the position of chair in 2016.

He said his tenure on the school board led to the creation of the first district-wide endowment/reserve for BHUSD, which has now grown in excess of \$11 million and brought the stabilization of budget shortfalls under that tenure and beyond.

Manaster has lived in Beverly Hills for over 20 years with his wife of 26 years, Lynda, and their two children, who are third generation Beverly Hills graduates and fourth generation residents.

“To me, there is nothing more important to civil society than stepping up, giving back and contributing to the community and the

hometown one has enjoyed and thrived in with one’s family,” he said. “Beverly Hills is all that for me. Of all the times I could have decided to run for an office, the need now seemed clear. This last year and those soon to come have seen unprecedented challenges and extraordinary financial and social impacts. I want to be a part of helping the city get back on its feet for its residents, businesses and families.”

Howard Fisher

Howard Fisher is the current treasurer for Beverly Hills. He did not respond to a request for information, but according to the city, he is a Beverly Hills tax and business attorney, specializing in planning, transactions and litigation.

Fisher has presented more than 100 lectures on tax and business subjects throughout the world and authored dozens of articles.

He is a graduate of Beverly Hills High School’s Class of 1969 and past chair of the planning and public works commissions.

He is a graduate of Team Beverly Hills and Community Emergency Response Training and has served on the board of the Southwest Homeowners Association. He has also served as Cub Scout leader of B.H. Troop 100, a board member of Temple Emanuel and president of the Beverly Hills Bar Association in 2017.

He studied at the American College in Paris and is a graduate of the University of Southern California. He received his law degree from Southwestern University, a bachelor of law degree with honors from the University of Cambridge in England, and he has engaged in post graduate studies at Harvard University Law School.

Fisher has been married to his wife, Francine, since 1976. She is a dental hygienist who has worked in Beverly Hills for near 44 years. His sons are graduates of Beverly Hills High School.

Cabin gets new lease on life in West Hollywood

From page 1

have reached this conclusion. So, it’s a good deal.”

The West Hollywood City Council was slated to discuss purchasing the property – known as the Log Cabin – during its meeting on March 21, but members of the council voted to approve the purchase without discussing it.

According to a staff report, both cities agreed on a one-year lease agreement with an option for West Hollywood to purchase the property in April 2020. If West Hollywood exercised the purchase option, the deed would restrict the property’s use to addiction recovery services and a surface parking lot.

In 2016, the city of West Hollywood determined that the site appeared eligible to be added to the National Register of Historic Places – a determination that was confirmed independently, the staff report states.

“At this time, it has the potential to be [registered], but that is actually enough to keep both of the cities from being able to tear it down – in that, they can’t tear it down,” DeRosa said. “The only other thing they would be able to do is move it, which wasn’t feasible, so it saved our butt, so to speak.”

He said WHRC has used the

building in “one way or another” since the 1960s or ‘70s, and that the Log Cabin was likely constructed in the 1940s. A branch of Lions Club International operated out of the building for decades until about one year ago, DeRosa said.

“I myself am 31 years sober,” he added. “I’ve been going to meetings there over the course of my sobriety, and it was there long before I was sober. It’s been a place for meetings. It’s well known around the country actually. That’s why this is so important to the sober community.”

The staff report states that the Log Cabin needs renovations, but any construction done to the structure would be subject to the California Environmental Quality Act and would need to meet the U.S. secretary of interior’s standards for historic properties.

DeRosa said the building is in disrepair, as it has not had any work done to it “for a while.” Although there are no current plans to renovate the building, it needs to be brought “up to code,” he said.

“We haven’t quite gotten to the nitty gritty of the plan, but that is the overall plan,” DeRosa added.

He said the city purchasing the property is a “big, big deal” regard-

less.

“It’s literally a log cabin on Robertson Boulevard, which is really high-tech, expensive restaurants, clothing and art stores,” DeRosa said. “It’s just like this little piece of the woods in the middle of a city, and it’s very, very special.”

What the future holds for the Log Cabin would be a premature discussion, he said. However, in the interim, WHRC will continue to host meetings at the site and provide resources for the sober community.

“It’s been such a long battle to get it to where we are today that I think we need to hold on to this win and kind of revel in it for a while,” DeRosa added.

Burglary in Beverly Hills

From page 1

crime, leading to an increase in incidents such as the jewelry store burglary.

“This HAS to STOP!!!! We must have consequences to crime! We MUST RECALL DA George Gascón,” Beverly Hills Vice Mayor Lili Bosse tweeted after the burglary.

HUD allocates L.A. project funding

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has awarded more than \$155 million for projects to the Los Angeles Continuum of Care. The amount represents an increase of \$5 million over HUD’s allocation to the LA CoC in 2020.

Each year, HUD announces a competitive notice of funding opportunity for the CoC program nationally. As the LA CoC’s collaborative applicant, LAHSA typically prepares and submits the funding application on behalf of the LA CoC.

HUD’s announcement includes renewal funding for existing projects and new funding for the LA CoC.

“We are grateful to HUD and its Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs for renewing

assistance for local rehousing programs,” LAHSA executive director Heidi Marston said. “These funds are critical to our efforts to increase the speed and volume of exits from interim to permanent housing throughout our system.”

The LA CoC includes all cities in Los Angeles County, with the exceptions of Glendale, Long Beach and Pasadena.

LAHSA serves the city and county of Los Angeles and was created in 1993 to address the problem of homelessness in Los Angeles County. LAHSA is the lead agency in the HUD-funded Los Angeles Continuum of Care and coordinates and manages federal, state, county and city funds for programs providing shelter, housing and services to people experiencing homelessness.

Answers From Page 21

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