



ICAN hosts remembrance ceremony

■ City of Beverly Hills honored for fighting Holocaust distortion

BY AARON BLEVINS

Author Sylvia Foti grew up believing that her grandfather, Jonas Noreika, was a war hero. She heard tales of his bravery – that he rescued Jews and fought communism before being arrested, tortured and eventually killed by the Soviets during World War II at the age of 36.

A Lithuanian, Noreika was chief of the second largest region in the country, which eventually fell under Nazi control. His service and sacrifice was celebrated throughout Lithuania, as evidenced by a grammar school and other monuments named in his honor.

“I only knew what a wonderful man my grandfather was,” Foti said.

Grant Arthur Gochin, the honorary consul for the Republic of Togo, grew up believing that approximately 100 of his family members in Lithuania were killed by Nazis during the Holocaust.

That was until Gochin, a historical justice advocate, began visiting the country in the 1990s, after



photo by Abraham Joseph Pal

From left, ICAN chief executive officer Dillon Hosier, Grant Arthur Gochin and Sylvia Foti share their stories of Holocaust distortion at the ceremony at the Iranian American Jewish Federation.

Lithuania had declared itself a sovereign state. During one trip, he learned that his family had been killed by one man: Jonas Noreika.

“I was the last one [to] know who murdered my family,” Gochin said, adding that his online research confirmed what he’d learned in Lithuania. “I still look at myself and say, ‘How could I have been so stupid and innocent at that time?’”

Foti operated under the impression that her grandfather was a war hero until her mother and grandmother died months apart in 2000. Her mother had been working on a book about Noreika, and Foti promised to finish it at her mother’s request.

While attending her grandmother’s burial in Lithuania, Foti visited the grammar school that bears her grandfather’s name. There, the

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Beverly Hills project celebrates milestone

BY AARON BLEVINS

Representatives of the Swedish development company Skanska and Beverly Hills city officials on April 25 celebrated the “topping off” of 9000 Wilshire, a four-story, 50,000-square-foot office development that should be completed this summer or fall.

Attendees were invited to the fourth floor of the construction project to watch workers install the final

steel beam of the structure. Before its installation, participants signed the beam and wrote words of encouragement and praise for the project.

“I wanted to thank you for choosing Beverly Hills for your first building,” Mayor Lili Bosse said. “Beverly Hills welcomes you, and this is the first of many. We want many Skanska buildings.”

She said the community has been

See **Skanska** page 27



photo by Aaron Blevins

Mayor Lili Bosse and Vice Mayor Julian Gold signed the steel beam prior to it being installed at 9000 Wilshire.

Design meeting set for Viper Room project

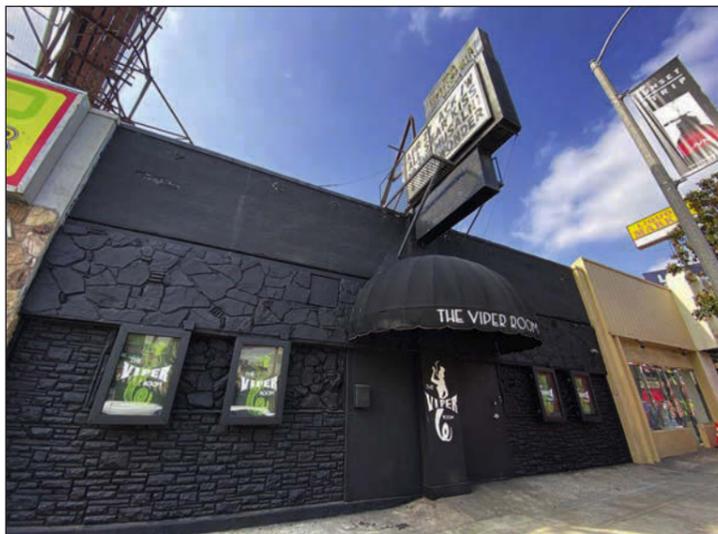
■ Proposal could alter landscape of the Sunset Strip

BY RANCE COLLINS

In recent months, development of the space occupied by the Viper Room, 8852 Sunset Blvd., has been at the forefront of West Hollywood residents’ minds. On March 2, Silver Creek Development announced it had hired the architectural firm, Arquitectonica, to transform the site with a multi-story project that could vastly transform the landscape of the Sunset Strip.

“We are delighted to bring forth this distinguished mixed-use project that pairs an unparalleled level of luxury and attention to detail with a historic location on the iconic Sunset Strip,” Charles Essig, managing director at Silver Creek Development, said at the time. “The project is a complementary offering to the Strip and will include a five-star luxury hotel to make 8850 Sunset a premier destination in the heart of West Hollywood.”

On Thursday, April 28, a West Hollywood Design Review



by Rance Collins

A mixed-use development plan is being reviewed by the West Hollywood Design Review Committee for the Viper Room site.

Committee hearing will be held for the current proposal, which would include a 12-story building. Initially, a 15-story building had been planned. A street-level restaurant and both hotel and residential units, would be included in the development. Eight housing units would be

available, as would 26 market-rate condominiums. A club named in honor of the Viper Room would also be featured.

“The design is defined by a series of thin horizontal planes that fade into the sky. These architectural horizon lines rise from a base of

See **Viper** page 27

L.A. bans single-use plastic at city facilities

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

The Los Angeles City Council took unprecedented steps to protect the environment on April 27 by approving measures that will phase out single-use plastic bottles, containers and products at all city facilities and events, and will eventually ban all polystyrene (Styrofoam) products in the city.

The Los Angeles City Council

unanimously approved the motions by Council President Pro Tempore Mitch O’Farrell, 13th District, and Councilmen Paul Koretz, 5th District, and Paul Krekorian, 2nd District. The city will next conduct an environmental review of the plans with the goal of implementing them as soon as possible. The measures could go into effect as early as this fall or the

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photo courtesy of the 13th District office

Councilman Mitch O’Farrell, center, Paul Koretz, front right, and Paul Krekorian, front left, celebrated the measures to ban single-use plastic products.






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Beverly Hills celebrates arts, culture and creativity



photo courtesy of the city of Beverly Hills

The Beverly Hills City Council joined the California Arts Council and Californians for the Arts on April 26 to proclaim April as Arts, Culture and Creativity Month. From left are Councilman Robert Wunderlich, Vice Mayor Julian Gold, Arts and Culture Commission Chair Deborah Frank, Next Beverly Hills Committee chair Tiffany Davis, Beverly Hills Mayor Lili Bosse, Councilman John Mirisch, Director of Community Services Jenny Rogers, and Councilman Lester Friedman.

Mid City West hopes to fill open seats

The Mid City West Neighborhood Council is seeking candidates for stakeholder member vacancies.

People who live, work, rent or own property in Mid City West's area, or have a stake in the neighborhood as a community interest stakeholder, are eligible. Community

interest stakeholders are defined as people who affirm a substantial and ongoing participation within the neighborhood council's boundaries.

There are openings for one member on the Arts and Recreation, Outreach and Civic Engagement, Economic Development, Planning and Land Use and Transportation and Sustainability committees. There are two openings on the Social and Racial Equity Committee.

All candidates must attend the Executive Council Meeting on April 28 to be eligible. All candidates will have an equal opportunity to present to the council.

For information, email executive@midcitywest.org.

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CALENDAR

Witness Theater Los Angeles

Join the Museum of Tolerance for "Witness Theater Los Angeles: Stories of Survival" on Thursday, April 28, from 7:30-9:30 p.m., and Sunday, May 1, from 7-9 p.m. Created and performed by Los Angeles teens and survivors of the Holocaust, the program features survivor stories from Walter Bodlander, Betty Cohen, Amrom Deutsch and Eva Nathanson. Tickets are \$18; \$10 for students and seniors. 9786 W. Pico Blvd. museumoftolerance.com.



'Tea'

Hero Theatre is holding a revival of "Tea," Velina Hasu Houston's lyrical exploration of the immigrant experience running from Thursday, April 28, through Sunday, May 15, at Inner-City Arts' Rosenthal Theater. Five Japanese women learn to adjust to a new life in rural Kansas alongside their American GI husbands after World War II in the moving, humorous and surprising play that explores a little-known chapter in American history. Showtimes are 8 p.m., Thursday through Saturday; 2 and 7 p.m., Sunday. Tickets are \$35. 720 Kohler St. (323)206-6415, herotheatre.org.



'Hear Now' festival of new music

The 11th annual "Hear Now" festival of new music by contemporary Los Angeles composers will be held on Saturday, April 30, at 3 p.m. in the Shatto Chapel at the First Congregational Church of Los Angeles. The chamber concert

includes soprano Kirsten Ashley Wiest, and Doug Tornquist performing on tuba. It includes "Musas Mexicanas" by Juan Pablo Contreras, "ORBIT E" by Russell Steinberg, "Sognare Vignette" by Nicole Brady, "Encounters II" by William Kraft and "While Twigs Make Minor Adjustments" by Kevin Zhang. General admission is \$20. 540 S. Commonwealth Ave. hearnow2022.bpt.me.

Williams and Miller

Enjoy "Williams-Williams & Miller (An Evening of One-Act Plays)" running from Saturday, April 30, through Sunday, June 12, at the Gloria Gifford Conservatory in Hollywood. The production includes works by Tennessee Williams and Jason Miller including "Moony's Kid Don't Cry" and "Twenty-Seven Wagons Full of Cotton" by Williams, and "Lou Gehrig Did Not Die of Cancer" by Miller. Showtimes are 8 p.m., Saturday; 7:30 p.m., Sunday. Tickets are \$25. 6502 Santa Monica Blvd. (310)366-5505, tix.com.

Heidi Duckler Dance

Los Angeles-based Heidi Duckler Dance presents "CounterIntelligence: The Story of Sister Alyonushka and Brother Ivanushka," an episodic film told through dance in two parts screening live on YouTube, Facebook and Twitch. "CounterIntelligence" is a contemporary reimagining of a Russian folktale told in a telenovela style. Part one will stream live on Sunday, May 1, at 6 p.m. and includes "An Evil Stream," the first episode and the beginning of the adventure. Episode two, titled "Deer Brother," and the trailer for part two will follow. The remaining four episodes will be shown every Sunday beginning on July 10, at 6 p.m., and the finale will be shown on Aug. 7. The project was supported by an arts grant from the city of West Hollywood and filmed in the city. eventbrite.com/e/counterintelligence-the-story-of-sister-alyonushka-and-brother-ivanushka-tickets-259626127737.

Pianist Daniil Trifonov

The LA Phil welcomes Grammy-winning pianist Daniil Trifonov performing a solo recital on Tuesday, May 3, at 8 p.m. at the Walt Disney Concert Hall. Trifonov, Musical America's 2019 Artist of the Year, will perform works by Szymanowski, Debussy, Prokofiev and Brahms. Tickets start at \$58. 111 S. Grand Ave. laphil.com.

IAMA Theatre Company

IAMA Theatre Company presents a sneak-peek engagement of two solo plays, each written and performed by members of the IAMA ensemble, running from Thursday, May 5, through Sunday, May 8, at Actors Company L.A. Drew Droege directs "I Hate New York," a comedy written and performed by Tom DeTrinis. Deanna Cheng directs "Hot Dogs and Tears," a darkly hilarious, autobiographical snapshot of the American South, written and performed by stand-up comedian Melissa Stephens. After the engagement, the plays will be featured at the 2022 Edinburgh Theatre Festival. Showtimes are 7 p.m. Single show tickets are \$20; \$35 for both shows. 916 N. Formosa Ave. iamatheatre.com.

Louie Cruz Beltran

Louie Cruz Beltran performs with his Latin Jazz Ensemble on Thursday, May 5, at 8:30 p.m. at the Catalina Bar & Grill. Beltran is a charismatic entertainer, singer and master percussionist who has captivated audiences with his dynamic stage presence and vocals. His music includes contemporary R&B, jazz, Latin jazz and salsa influences, as well as the Great American Songbook. Tickets are \$30. 6725 W. Sunset Blvd. (323)466-2210, catalinajazzclub.com.



WeHo welcomes residents at 'Meet Me in the Park' event

The city of West Hollywood invites community members to spend the day at West Hollywood Park as part of this year's Lesbian and Queer Women Visibility Week's "Meet Me in the Park" gathering on Saturday, April 30 from 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

The event will include a full schedule of programming taking place in and around the Great Lawn at West Hollywood Park, located at 647 N. San Vicente Blvd.

The day's programming will begin at 10 a.m. with a sound bath meditation.

At 11 a.m. there will be welcoming remarks from members of the West Hollywood City Council immediately followed by "You Want Me to Call You What?" a Lesbian Speakers Series panel discussion featuring gender non-confirming, nonbinary and masculine presenting persons who have created welcoming workspaces for lesbian and queer women of all presentations. Panelists will include USC adjunct professor Dr. Diandra Bremond, assistant principal at Animo Ralph Bunche Charter High School Kim Fuentesilla, executive director of ProjectQ Madin Lopez

and actor, comedian and entrepreneur Kalela McNeil.

At 12:30 p.m., participants can enjoy a pup meet up and contest, which will include prizes for best butch, best femme, best costume, best dog-human look-alike, best trick and cutest queer dog.

From 1:30-5:30 p.m., a field day in the park will be held featuring games such as cornhole, giant Jenga, interactive bingo and tug of war, along with some team sports.

"Meet Me in the Park" will also include a guest DJ and other fun activities with the community.

The city recommends that visitors bring a blanket, yoga mat, lawn chair, sunscreen and items for picnics in the park.

The West Hollywood City Council is commemorating Lesbian and Queer Women Visibility Week through May 1. The city is displaying the Lesbian Pride flag in medians on Santa Monica Boulevard and at West Hollywood City Hall. To RSVP for "Meet Me in the Park," visit eventbrite.com/e/meet-me-in-the-park-lesbian-and-queer-women-visibility-week-celebration-tickets-310552680427. For more information visit weho.org/lgbtq.

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BH council talks tenants

■ Council members identify issues with assistance proposal

BY AARON BLEVINS

With society returning to a sense of normalcy in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Beverly Hills City Council is looking to gracefully emerge from the city's eviction and rent increase moratoria in a way that is fair to both tenants and landlords.

During its formal meeting on April 26, the council discussed a means-tested housing assistance program that aims to provide tenants and housing providers with a funding source to combat anticipated inflationary conditions beginning on July 1. Council members opted to continue the discussion to June 21, when more data will be available.

"I just think we need to keep this thing moving, and it sounds like we're going to do that, so I'm certainly OK with it," Councilman Lester Friedman said. "I just want to make everyone aware that it is this council's objective to help people, and we're going to do it as quickly as we can."

Originally introduced in March, the program would help tenants in rent-stabilized units, with priority given to seniors, individuals with disabilities and families with children in the city of Beverly Hills.

Helen Morales, the city's deputy director of rent stabilization, said payments would be given on a monthly basis and provided directly to the housing provider. Under the current proposal, the city would contract with a third party to determine eligibility and distribute funds, she said.

However, staff members sought direction on setting household income eligibility limits, the maximum and minimum monthly and annual housing assistance payments, eligibility limits for maximum monthly rent and prioritizing "mom and pop" housing providers, Morales said.

Using data from the state's COVID-19 rent relief program, staff members reported that 83% of Beverly Hills residents who applied for state assistance had very low incomes or lower. Morales also cited data from the Southern California Association of Governments that suggested 40% of the city's elderly residents had incomes that were considered very low.

She said staff members determined that monthly rents of \$2,000 or less appeared to be a "natural breaking point," and that 2,006 units – roughly 25% of the city's rental units – have rents at or below \$2,000.

The funding for the program is approximately \$700,000, and staff members suggested that council members limit the funding provided to a household to \$3,000. Further, staff members defined mom-and-pop housing providers as those with no more than four apartment units in Beverly Hills.

"This proposed program is really only addressing potential high rent increases going forward related to high changes in [the Consumer Price Index]," Councilman Robert Wunderlich said. "It is not addressing the situation that I think we discussed also, which was that ... sometimes the tenant may have left, so there's no ability for the

landlord to recover that past due rent."

He also expressed concern about staff's definition of mom-and-pop housing providers and the proposal's use of income data. Wunderlich said it's possible someone could have a "normal" income but suffered a "great financial impact" during the pandemic.

His fellow council members also raised several concerns with the proposal, so the council opted to table the discussion until more data is provided relative to the change in the Consumer Price Index.

The council also created an ad hoc committee, composed of Wunderlich and Vice Mayor Julian Gold, to work with staff on the proposal.

On a related note, the council unanimously approved a 3.1% rent increase from June 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023, but only if a rent increase was missed from March 15, 2020, to June 30, 2020, because of the rent increase moratorium. The staff report states that the council will discuss potential alterations to rent increases in June.

WeHo deputies honored by City Council

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

The West Hollywood City Council recognized two deputies serving at the West Hollywood Sheriff's Station on April 18, as well as a young man who completes community walks to raise support for first responders.

Deputies Danny Martinez and Yesenia Olvera were honored for saving the life of an infant who was choking, Lt. Bill Moulder said. The incident occurred in early April.

Deputies arrived at an emergency medical call and determined a baby boy was not breathing. Fire department personnel arrived shortly after the deputies, and Martinez and Olvera rushed the baby outside to get him to paramedics as soon as possible. As Martinez handed the boy to members of the fire department, a piece of plastic he was choking on became dislodged from his throat and the baby began breathing again, Moulder said. The boy has made a full recovery.

"The deputies performed life saving measures and we are proud



photo courtesy of the city of West Hollywood

West Hollywood Sheriff's Station Lt. Bill Moulder, right, joined Deputies Danny Martinez and Yesenia Olvera, as well as Jordan Ramirez, second from left, after they were honored by the West Hollywood City Council.

of them," he added. "We all appreciate and thank the mayor and the council for recognizing the deputies for saving this 1-year-old baby boy."

The council also recognized Jordan Ramirez, 12, who performs walks in communities throughout Los Angeles and Orange counties

in support of first responders. Moulder said Ramirez, of La Puente, has visited the city twice previously on his walks, as recently as early February.

"It's important to acknowledge positive things and positive actions," Moulder said. "Jordan is a great, great young man."

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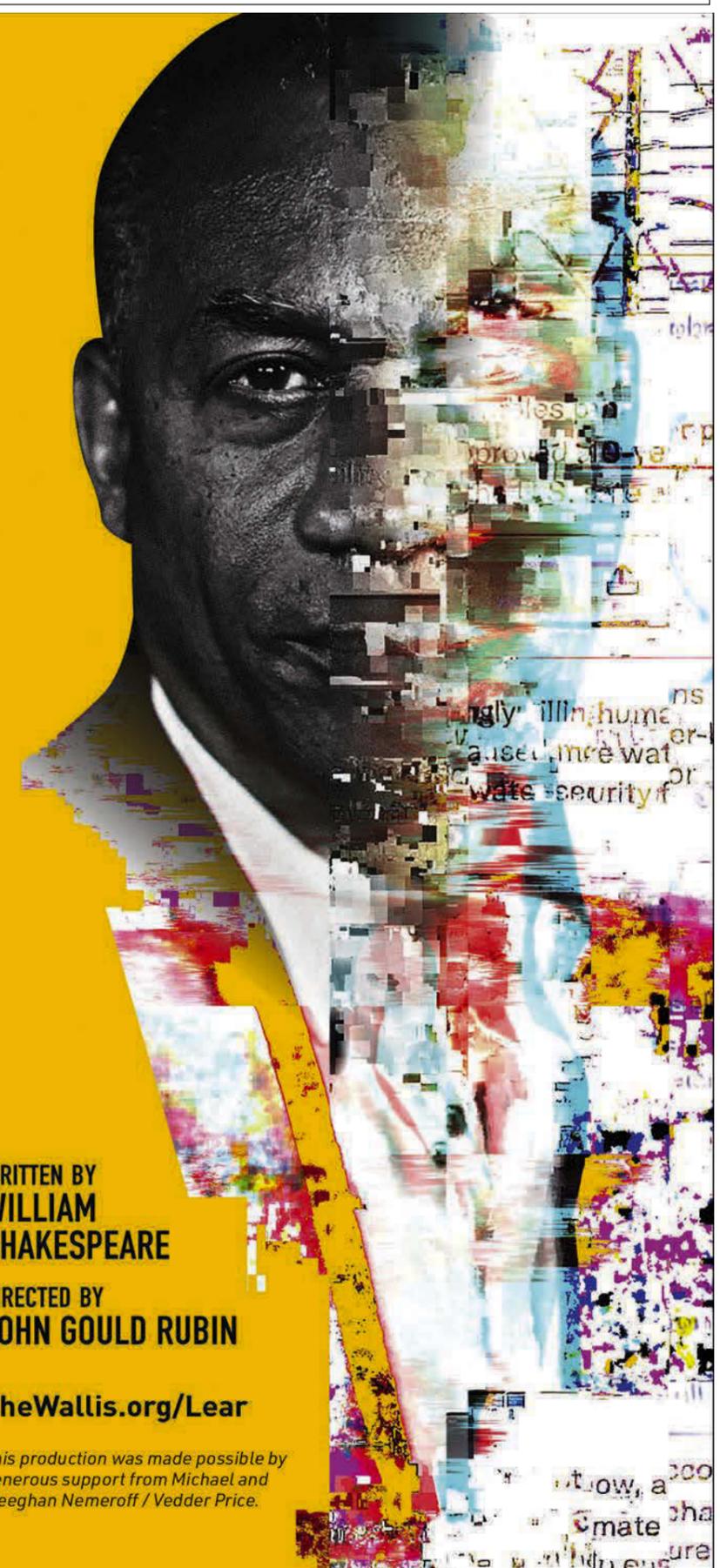
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Suspect charged for sex crimes in case that originated in WeHo

■ Authorities are still searching for other victims

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department authorities are seeking additional victims of a suspect who they allege engaged in lewd behavior with minors, including a victim from West Hollywood.

The defendant, Alexander Rahsaan Miles, 42, of Pasadena, was arrested on April 15 at an undisclosed location in the city of La Crescenta and booked at the West Hollywood Sheriff's Station. The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office charged Miles on April 19 with three counts of committing a lewd act on a child under age 14, and one count of using a minor for sex acts.

Lt. Dan Stanley, with the sheriff's department's Special Victim's Bureau, said the investigation into Miles began when a 13-year-old female victim filed a report with West Hollywood investigators on March 13. The victim told investigators that she was contacted by the suspect last October and November on Snapchat, an instant messaging app. The suspect allegedly offered to provide alcohol and narcotics to the victim in exchange for explicit photographs and videos.

The case was assigned to the Special Victim's Bureau and detectives identified Miles as the man who allegedly communicat-

ed with the victim. During the investigation, it became apparent the suspect was communicating with many individuals, mostly female, via Snapchat, Stanley confirmed.

"The reason we are asking for more information is because we think there are more victims in the Los Angeles area," he added. "I can't get into how it all started because it involves a minor, but we believe he was communicating with victims via Snapchat."

Authorities believe the suspect was formerly a high school basketball coach for schools in the San Gabriel Valley and a basketball referee in the Los Angeles area. Stanley did not have details about which schools or the time periods for when he was coaching, but said investigators do not think he is still actively coaching. Stanley said he may have recently been serving as a basketball referee, but declined to elaborate.

Miles is being held on \$340,000 bail and is next expected to appear in court on May 3. Anyone with information about the case or who believes they are a victim is urged to call the Special Victims Bureau tip line at (877)710-5273, or email specialvictimsbureau@lasd.org. Those who wish to remain anonymous can contact Crime Stoppers at (800)222-TIPS, or visit crimestoppers.org.



Alexander Rahsaan Miles

One in custody, one still sought for Melrose robbery

■ Suspects allegedly targeted victim for expensive watch

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

A 22-year-old male suspect was arrested on April 18 for an attempted robbery in the Melrose District on April 10 in which a victim was shot at as he fled from two armed men attempting to steal his watch, police said.

The Los Angeles Police Department's Follow Home Robbery Task Force investigated the case and arrested Jamario Kevin Ray, of Los Angeles, in connection with the attempted robbery. Ray was arrested when authorities served a search warrant at his residence, police said. The suspect was on parole for assault with a deadly weapon and had a warrant for a parole violation.

On April 20, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office charged Ray with one count of attempted murder, one count of attempted robbery, one count of assault with a deadly weapon and one count of being a convicted felon in possession of a gun. Ray is being held without bail.

The attempted robbery occurred at approximately 4 p.m. on April 10 near the corner of Melrose Avenue and Ogden Drive. The male victim told police he saw two men walking



photo courtesy of the LAPD

Police are still searching for a second suspect who was involved in an attempted robbery with shots fired on April 20 near Melrose Avenue and Ogden Drive.

out of an alley and they appeared to be watching him. The victim, who was wearing an expensive wristwatch, ran inside a store. One of the suspects fired six shots at him but missed. The bullets struck the store,

which was not identified by authorities. Nobody was injured, police said.

Investigators located security cameras in the area that allegedly showed the suspects arriving in a vehicle that parked nearby, and then leaving in the same vehicle. Detectives are still seeking a second male suspect who was involved in the attempted robbery. Police described the second suspect as Black, in his 20s, approximately 6 feet tall and 170-190 pounds. He was last seen wearing a navy blue hooded sweatshirt, gray pants and black shoes.

Det. Chris Marsden, with the LAPD's Robbery-Homicide Division, said the crime near Melrose and Ogden is part of a series of robberies citywide in which suspects target people wearing expensive watches and jewelry. Authorities believe up to 17 different gangs are committing the same type of robberies, and many of the hold-ups have occurred in the LAPD's Wilshire and Hollywood divisions in places like the Melrose District and the La Cienega Boulevard corridor.

"This is the busiest time I have had as a robbery detective," Marsden added. "These cases are happening all over the city."

Anyone with information about the attempted robbery is asked to call the Follow Home Robbery Task Force at (213)486-6840.

Suspect arrested for robbery on Highland Avenue

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Detectives with the Los Angeles Police Department's Follow Home Robbery Task Force have announced the arrest of a male suspect who allegedly attempted to rob a victim on April 16 on Highland Avenue. Authorities are still searching for a female suspect who was also allegedly involved in the robbery.

The incident occurred at approximately 3:45 p.m. in heavy traffic on Highland Avenue near Melrose Avenue. The victims were in a white Audi that was stopped in traffic when the suspects pulled alongside in a black 2020 Alfa Romeo SUV. The driver of the Alfa Romeo pointed a handgun at the victims and demanded that they pull over and give up their property.

The victims attempted to drive

away but became stuck in traffic, police said. The suspects followed and collided with the rear of the victim's vehicle, causing a four-vehicle chain-reaction collision. The suspects got out of their vehicle and gathered their belongings before fleeing the scene on foot, police said.

"The suspect decided to leave his car at the scene," said Det. Chris Marsden, with the LAPD's Robbery-Homicide Division. "He was ID'd and arrested a couple days later. The female suspect, we are still looking for her."

The male suspect was identified as Cyree Jamal Carter, 23, of Inglewood. On April 19, detectives located Carter in Long Beach and attempted to pull him over. A short pursuit occurred and the suspect crashed his vehicle, got out and ran, police said. He allegedly dropped a

gun, which was recovered by police, and was taken into custody without further incident.

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office charged Carter on April 19 with one count of attempted robbery, two counts of assault with a deadly weapon and one count of assault with a vehicle. After charges were filed, bail for Carter was reduced to \$230,000. He posted bond and was released from jail pending a court hearing on May 9.

Detectives are seeking information that will help them identify the female suspect, who was described as Black, in her early 20s, approximately 5 feet 6 inches tall and 130 pounds.

Anyone with information about the case is asked to call the Follow Home Robbery Task Force at (213)486-6840. During weekends and off-hours, call (877)LAPD247.

BHPD searches for suspect who stole postal vehicle keys

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Police in Beverly Hills are searching for a male suspect who robbed a U.S. Postal Service mail carrier at knifepoint on April 22 in the 700 block of North Alpine Drive.

Lt. Giovanni Trejo, of the Beverly Hills Police Department, said the robbery occurred at approximately 2:40 p.m. in a residential neighborhood.

"A male suspect approached a postal worker and pulled out a knife," Trejo said. "He demanded the keys to the postal truck, took the keys and fled."

Police believe the suspect fled in a vehicle that was parked nearby but no description of the car was available. Trejo described the suspect as

Hispanic, but had no further information.

The lieutenant added that it was an unusual incident and investigators are still trying to figure out why the suspect wanted the vehicle's keys. Sometimes thieves steal mailbox keys and later use them to commit break-ins, but the keys to the postal vehicle only open and start that vehicle.

"It's hard to say. We're not sure what the incentive was," Trejo added. "The male suspect did not appear to be disheveled or possibly a transient. It's not your typical robbery."

Trejo said investigators are checking city-owned cameras and private security cameras in an attempt to identify the suspect. Anyone with information is urged to call the BHPD at (310)285-2125.

Police pursue stolen vehicle from L.A. to Beverly Hills

Officers from the Los Angeles Police Department's Wilshire Division pursued a stolen vehicle on streets around the Beverly Center on April 26 before following the suspect to an undisclosed location in Beverly Hills, where the suspected auto thief was taken into custody, police said.

Sgt. Harvey Dixon said officers located a stolen black Jeep SUV

near Crescent Heights and Wilshire boulevards at approximately 9:40 p.m. and the driver refused to stop. A pursuit occurred on roads in the area, including Third Street and La Cienega Boulevard. The suspect stopped and was taken into custody in Beverly Hills, just over the border from Los Angeles, Dixon said.

Anyone with information is urged to call (213)922-8205.

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TCM Festival returns to Hollywood

BY RANCE COLLINS

Since its launch in 2010, the Turner Classic Movie Classic Film Festival has been a staple on Hollywood Boulevard, utilizing historic venues to celebrate Hollywood's golden age. Over the years, the festival has played hundreds of movies and hosted stars from all eras. Prior to their deaths, TCM's event was able to feature such luminaries as Tony Curtis, Debbie Reynolds, Christopher Plummer, Peter O'Toole, Esther Williams, Cicely Tyson, Mickey Rooney, Sidney Poitier, Martin Landau and Maureen O'Hara. In 2019, everyone from Sally Field to Billy Crystal to Meg Ryan made appearances.

But, for the last three years, the pandemic prevented the event from gracing the theaters surrounding Hollywood Boulevard and Highland Avenue.

For the thousands of fans who attend the festival each year, the absence was real. TCM offered a virtual version of the event through HBO Max and their on-air channel in both 2020 and 2021. This version featured recorded conversations with various celebrities, including a cast reunion honoring the 60th anniversary of "West Side Story" (1961).

The channel has a significant online community, with the Facebook group "Going to the TCM Classic Film Festival" and the Twitter hashtag #TCMParty serving as a hub for fans.

"We got creative with social

media and Zoom," said Ruth Mundsack, a Los Angeles resident who has attended the festival since 2016. "TCM helped with sending fun things to print like virtual passes. Some of us made buttons to exchange and mailed them to one another. We dressed up at home and took pictures to share with our online community, [and] we would tweet and watch films together."

The TCM Classic Film Festival finally set up shop in-person again from April 21 - 24 at the TCL Chinese Theater, the TCL Chinese Multiplex, the Hollywood Legion Theater at Post 43, the El Capitan Theater and the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel. For the fans, it was like coming home.

"The three-year absence of the TCM Classic Film Festival disappeared in the blink of an eye when we reconvened, reconnected and replenished our hearts with the love of classic films on the big screen," said Theresa Brown, a Brooklyn-based fan who has been at every festival since the second in 2011. "It was good to share this with friends again. It was good to be home."

"It's a community of like-minded people who share a lot of the same interest and passions," TCM wardrobe stylist Holly Hadesty said.

"Folks just lit up," TCM host Ben Mankiewicz said. "They were happier to be there than we were to host them, and we were unbelievably excited to be hosting it. It was just so rewarding to see how much it clearly meant to so many people."

TCM brought out big-names for the weekend. Steven Spielberg

appeared on both April 21 and April 22, highlighting his own "E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial" (1982) and the classic epic "Giant" (1956), one of his favorite films. Pam Grier brought the house down with her quick wit at several events throughout the weekend, including a screening of "Coffy" (1973). Lily Tomlin received her hand-and-footprints in the TCL Chinese Theater forecourt in a special ceremony where she was introduced by Jane Fonda. Warren Beatty presented film critic Leonard Maltin with the festival's Robert Osborne Award for his contribution to film history and preservation. The cast of "A League of Their Own" (1992) reunited on stage to discuss the Penny Marshall-directed baseball classic. Kevin Bacon, Steve Guttenberg, Tim Daly and Paul Reiser talked about their movie "Diner" (1980). In total, more than 100 individual screenings and panels took place over the four-day festival.

The pre-film conversations sometimes led to headline-making reveals. In a conversation before the movie, Jane Seymour went on the record about the details of her relationship with Christopher Reeve during the filming of "Somewhere in Time" (1980), professing that the pair fell madly in love, though they were not able to remain together at the time.

"The good part of the story is that Chris went on to have these two beautiful children, and we met one another on many occasions," Seymour said. "We remained really, really close friends, literally until the day he died. I have to believe I



photo courtesy of Warner Media

Turner Classic Movies hosts Eddie Muller, Jacqueline Stewart, Alicia Malone, Dave Karger and Ben Mankiewicz pose with director Steven Spielberg at the opening night of the festival.

will one day see him somewhere in time."

Fans packed theaters to watch films dating back to the silent era. The Mont Alto Motion Picture Orchestra accompanied "7th Heaven" (1927), a movie which helped earn its star, Janet Gaynor, the first Academy Award for best actress. The festival utilized the Roosevelt Hotel pool to showcase movies like "Blue Hawaii" (1961) and "Soylent Green" (1973), and the hotel's Blossom Room also served as "Club TCM," a central location for passholders to mingle and take in panels with people like Bruce Dern and Piper Laurie.

"The whole point of being at the Roosevelt is that this is where the first Academy Awards took place ... actually in club TCM," said Anne Wilson, vice president of studio production for TCM.

"How can you get more authentic

than being at the TCL Chinese with the handprints and the footprints? That's not gonna happen if you have it in Flagstaff, Arizona. This is where those stars were," Hadesty said.

"It's been amazing just to see in person how much TCM means to so many people," Wilson said.

Mankiewicz talked about a fan he had interacted with whose husband died prior to the 2019 festival. When he saw her again at this year's event, he asked how she had been during the pandemic.

"She's reemerging, and she's coming to the festival," Mankiewicz said. "We were talking, and she just started weeping ... she was sad, but happy. She had made it through. This matters to people. It's just a reminder how much this channel, this festival and these movies mean to really good, decent, kind people who love black and white movies."

IDEAS!

I WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

LIVE!

WITH MAYOR Lili

COME JOIN US **IN-PERSON** FOR OUR **FIRST LIVE** WITH LILI ON

Monday, May 9th

FROM 7 P.M. - 8 P.M. AT CITY HALL

This is an opportunity for Beverly Hills Mayor Lili Bosse to listen to **YOUR** ideas and what you have on your mind!

IN-PERSON:

City Hall Municipal Gallery
455 N Rexford Dr.
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

WHEN:

7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

VIRTUAL:

To participate:
beverlyhills.org/LiveWithLili

To watch:
beverlyhills.org/live

No RSVP necessary;

for more information, visit
beverlyhills.org/LiveWithLili

Let's come together as a community!

'Tootsie' is entertaining but falters

BY RANCE COLLINS

Musicals have made a welcome return to the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood, and the opening night audience for "Tootsie" on April 26 laughed, applauded and gave the stellar cast and crew a standing ovation at curtain. It is tough to deny that "Tootsie" is a crowd-pleaser. Unpacking the show's intent and messaging is a more complicated, even problematic, task.

The Broadway production of the show opened in 2019, following a 2018 Chicago run. Nominated in virtually every musical category at the 2019 Tony Awards, Robert Horn won for his book of the musical and Santino Fontana won for leading actor. Music and lyrics are courtesy of David Yazbek.

It is a direct adaptation of the 1982 blockbuster comedy film "Tootsie," which starred Dustin Hoffman and was directed by Sydney Pollack. Moving the workplace setting from the world of daytime soap operas to a musical the-

ater show-within-the-show, the story follows Michael Dorsey, an out-of-work, 40-year-old actor who pretends to be a woman to get a part in a new Broadway musical. Taking the name Dorothy Michaels, Michael is a sensation. Things get (more) complicated when he falls for the show's leading lady.

The production itself is stellar. The scenic design is simple, but engaging, crafted around an ever-evolving New York City backdrop. The music is infectious, particularly "What's Gonna Happen," a recurring song for the long-suffering character of Sandy Lester, Michael's neurotic ex-girlfriend. Played in the original film by Teri Garr, Payton Reilly nearly steals the show with her hilarious performance.

The cast is uniformly excellent, with notable turns from Jared David Michael Grant as Jeff Slater and Kathy Halenda as Rita Marshall. As Michael (and Dorothy), Drew Becker holds the show together with effortless finesse and energy.

As entertainment, "Tootsie" is a rollicking good time, rarely giving the audience a moment to breathe between zippy one-liners, physical comedy and infectious musical numbers. It is often laugh-out-loud funny, with every person on stage and behind the scenes running on full cylinders.

The runtime whizzes by, and the larger questions left unexplored and unanswered won't hit you until long after you leave the theater.

Because as social commentary, "Tootsie" doesn't really succeed. The writers' hearts seem to be in the right place, but outside of occasional, on-the-nose speeches, the greater depths of gender equality and gender identity aren't thoroughly unpacked in any meaningful way.

There are attempts by Horn and Yazbek to infuse the 40-year-old source material with modern sensibilities, but when one character says, "Be a he, be a she, be a they, use whatever bathroom you want and don't let anybody tell you you can't," it comes off perfunctory, a necessary cliff note between sitcom punchlines.

Michael, as Dorothy, is listened to and respected by (nearly) every person he fools. The only real difficulty Michael faces masquerading as a woman is in his love life. What lessons does Michael really learn about women? Outside of name-checking transgender people, are the very real problems they face even discussed?

A more introspective, modern approach to the issues raised in the film and musical could make for a



photo by Evan Zimmerman for MurphyMade

Peyton Reilly shines as Sandy Lester in "Tootsie," a role originated in the 1982 film by Teri Garr.

thought-provoking piece, but this does not seem to be the end goal for "Tootsie." I would like to see this story tackled by a writing team that isn't, frankly, cis males.

After it opened in New York, the musical received criticism from the transgender and non-binary communities for its use of the "man in a dress" comedic trope. What would this musical have looked like with their input? Even the original film, written by a team of men, had uncredited input from Elaine May, arguably the most prominent female writer at that time.

This reviewer would encourage you to keep these realities of gender issues in mind as Dorothy Michaels succeeds in a way no other female character in the musical is seemingly capable. Considering the implications of this is important in a world where legislation is passed nearly daily that could negatively impact women, transgender and non-binary individuals.

To its credit, the musical does make clear that Michael's masquerade is wrong, and that people should embrace who they really are. But there is no real showcase for how his ruse affects anything except Michael's love life, and his regret over his own deception doesn't land with quite the punch it could were these issues better explored.

"Tootsie" is instead baseline popcorn entertainment, never bogging itself down in self-examination long enough to get in the way of its own good time.

"Tootsie" runs through May 15 at the Dolby Theater, 6801 Hollywood Blvd. Tickets start at \$39, with performances Tuesday through Friday at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 2 and 8 p.m., and Sundays at 1 and 6:30 p.m. Tickets can be purchased online at broadwayinhollywood.com, by phone at (800)982-2787 or in-person at the Dolby Theatre and Hollywood Pantages Theatre box offices.

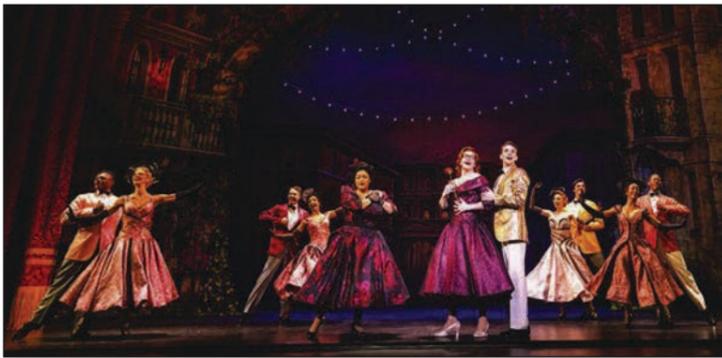


photo by Evan Zimmerman for MurphyMade

"Tootsie" will continue performances through May 15.



MEASURE TL: TERM LIMITS

General Municipal Election is June 7, 2022 - Measure TL will be on the ballot

Voters in Beverly Hills will consider an ordinance that, if approved, would establish a total three term limit during one's lifetime for the offices of City Councilmember and City Treasurer. If the ordinance is not approved, term limits will not be established for the respective offices.

VOTING INFORMATION

WWW.BEVERLYHILLS.ORG/ELECTIONS
OR WWW.LAVOTE.GOV

Beverly Hills City Clerk's Office: (310) 285-2400

Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk:
(800) 815-2666

Look for your Vote-by-Mail Ballot:
Week of May 9, 2022

Election Date: June 7, 2022

Track your ballot:
WHERESEMYBALLOT.SOS.CA.GOV

SAMPLE BALLOT

Term Limit Measure:

Shall an ordinance be adopted by the City of Beverly Hills to establish a total three term limit during one's lifetime for the offices of City Councilmember and City Treasurer in the City of Beverly Hills?

YES

NO

LEARN MORE

For more information, please visit beverlyhills.org/measureTL.

Jean Smart hacks the Walk of Fame

BY RANCE COLLINS

She grew up in Washington. She started her career in New York. But Jean Smart hit the big time in Hollywood. Four Emmys later, she is one of the most honored performers in television, and now she has her own star on the Walk of Fame.

“Thanks to the Walk of Fame Committee for this iconic Hollywood tradition. I’m so flattered and so honored,” Smart said.

She thanked writers Larry Rosen and Larry Tucker for bringing her to Los Angeles to star in the short-lived 1983 series “Teachers Only.”

Since then, Smart has been a staple on TV screens since the 1980s, when she starred alongside Delta Burke, Dixie Carter, Annie Potts and Meshach Taylor in the sitcom “Designing Women,” created by Linda Bloodworth-Thomason.

Bloodworth-Thomason was unable to attend the April 25 Walk of Fame ceremony, but she sent a letter that was read by actor Joe Mantegna.

“She can make the girl next door you’ve met before seem like no other girl you’ve ever known,” Bloodworth-Thomason wrote. “She can make you cheer for a difficult and demanding Las Vegas diva or profusely weep over a stone-cold serial killer.”

Mantegna also spoke about his friendship with Smart, whom he met through her husband, Richard Gilliland, who died unexpectedly last year.

“The story behind the star is that she is equally deserving to be honored for who she has been as a beloved wife to my dearest friend [Gilliland] -- a fantastic mother to two wonderful children and a loving, generous and companionate friend to all of us who know and love her,” Mantegna said.

Smart met Gilliland on the set of “Designing Women,” in which he guest starred as a love interest for Potts.

“Jean, who was immediately smitten, asked Delta to inquire if he was involved with anyone,” Bloodworth-Thomason wrote. “Just before the table read, Delta shouted out, ‘Hey, Richard, do you have a girlfriend? Jean wants to know if you’re married.’ After the reading, a mortified Jean ... somehow still managed to ask Richard if he could help her with something in her dressing room. He must of found a lot of stuff to work on because we didn’t see much of them over the next five days.”

“It was a puzzle,” Smart injected



photo by Rance Collins

Jean Smart was joined by actors Hannah Einbinder and Joe Mantegna at her April 25 Hollywood Walk of Fame ceremony.

with mocked shock.

Following her success with “Designing Women,” Smart received two Emmys for her recurring role on “Frasier,” scored a Tony nomination for a revival of “The Man Who Came to Dinner” and took home an additional Emmy for the series “Samantha Who?”

She also has had a variety of film roles, including turns in “Sweet Home Alabama,” “The Brady Bunch Movie,” “I Heart Huckabees,” “Bringing Down the House” and “Garden State.” She will appear with Brad Pitt, Margot Robbie and Tobey Maguire in the upcoming golden age Hollywood drama “Babylon.”

Smart has seen a significant resurgence of popularity on television in the last few years, taking prominent roles in “Fargo,” “Watchmen,” “Dirty John” and “Mare of Easttown.”

Smart has enjoyed perhaps her widest recognition, though, for the HBO Max series “Hacks,” which will premiere its second season on May 12. Since the first season launched in 2021, Smart has not only taken home another Emmy, but she has also won a Golden Globe, a Critics’ Choice Award and a Screen Actors Guild Award for her performance as Deborah Vance, the hard-edged, Baby Boomer

Vegas comedian forced to team up with Hannah Einbinder’s younger millennial as a writing partner.

“What can I say about Jean Smart that hasn’t been type-screamed in capital letters by every lesbian with an internet connection,” Einbinder said. “Well, there’s actually a lot I can say about Jean Smart, because whether you’re with her for a day or a couple years, like I’ve been, you’re sure to leave carrying something she’s given you. Everyone knows that Jean is an enchanting performer with a God-given gift for storytelling. What I’d like to focus on is how beautiful a human being she is.”

Bloodworth-Thomason’s words perhaps best summed up Smart’s quality as an actress.

“This tall hot fudge sundae of a girl, topped with sprinkles of Marilyn Monroe, Lauren Bacall and Lucille Ball or none of them at all ... this shameless scene-stealer, this genius for hire and five-alarm thespian fire, this one in a million chameleon who can make ordinary seem noble and bring greatness down to human size as she sails like a glorious meteorite into the firmament of Hollywood’s most legendary stars. Shine on, sweet Jean, shine on,” Bloodworth-Thomason wrote.

First ‘Business with Bosse’ held



photo courtesy of the city of Beverly Hills

Beverly Hills Mayor Lili Bosse hosted her first “Business with Bosse,” an effort to support local businesses in the city, on April 25 at Tommy’s Beverly Hills, 235 N. Canon Drive. Tommy’s is a California-inspired restaurant with contemporary Italian influences by chef Vartan Abgaryan. Owner Tommy Salvatore opened the establishment earlier this year.

GenSpace opens in Koreatown



photo by Edwin Folven

In advance of its April 25 opening, officials at Annenberg GenSpace hosted a media preview of its offerings at the Audrey Irmas Pavilion next to the Wilshire Boulevard Temple in Koreatown. GenSpace offers a host of services aimed to help older adults age in place, including a fitness studio, horticultural therapy, a “tech bar” and virtual programming. It also hosts classes and events. The center is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Thursday, at 3643 Wilshire Blvd., Level 3. For information, visit genspace.la.

Armenian Genocide protests held

The anniversary of the Armenian Genocide was April 24, and members of the Armenian Youth Federation – Western U.S. held its annual protest at the Turkish Consulate General in Los Angeles on Wilshire Boulevard in Beverly Hills.

Federally, U.S. Rep. Adam Schiff (D-Burbank) observed the anniversary and condemned Turkish officials for refusing to acknowledge that the genocide occurred.

“One hundred and seven years ago, the Ottoman Empire undertook a systematic effort to destroy the Armenian people – ultimately murdering one and a half million innocent men, women, and children in what became the first genocide of the 20th century,” he said. “Despite the overwhelming evidence of this

methodical mass killing, to this day, Turkey continues to deny the genocide ever happened. But today, we speak with one voice. We will not forget. We will never forget.”

For “tens of thousands” of his constituents, the genocide has been a lifelong struggle, Schiff said.

“The milestones we have achieved together, from the resolutions passed by Congress in 2019 affirming the facts of the genocide to President [Joe] Biden’s historic recognition last year, happened because of them – a strong and resilient Armenian diaspora,” he added. “But the threat of annihilation still hangs over the Armenian people.”

Schiff said the U.S. cannot allow crimes against humanity to go unrecognized and must “fully step



photo courtesy of the Armenian Youth Federation

into its role” as a defender of democracy.

“We must not relent in our calls for the immediate, safe and unconditional release of the remaining Armenian prisoners of war and captured civilians, for the end of U.S. assistance to the Aliyev regime and for stronger efforts to secure more funding for Armenia and Artsakh,” he said.

Notable Quotes

“She was a kind joyous woman, a special person who will forever remain in our hearts.”

Mariupol Rabbi Mendel Cohen
April 20, 2022

Speaking to Chabad.org of Vanda Semyonovna Obiedkova, a 91-year-old Holocaust survivor who hid in a cellar during Mariupol’s Nazi occupation over 80 years ago. She was killed on April 20, 2022, by Russian bombardments as she again took refuge in a basement.

Source: Chabad.org.

Metro webinar outlines work on subway project

Learn about work on the Purple Line Extension subway project during Metro's next lunchtime webinar on Wednesday, May 4, from noon-1 p.m. The webinar will focus on construction on all three sections of the project between the Wilshire/Western and Westwood/VA Hospital stations. To attend the meeting via Zoom, visit zoom.us/j/96626476708. To view the meeting live, visit facebook.com/purplelineext. To listen to the meeting, call (669)900-9128 and enter the webinar ID 966 2647 6708.

Metro also continues to remind the public about weekend closures of Wilshire Boulevard between Highland and La Brea avenues for work on the Purple Line Extension subway project.

Crews will be removing decking from the Wilshire Boulevard street surface for nine additional weekends through July 11. No work or closures will occur on the Memorial Day and Fourth of July weekends.

Wilshire Boulevard will be closed from 9 p.m. on Friday to 6 a.m. on Monday each weekend. The work will begin near Highland Avenue and progress westward to La Brea Avenue. Traffic will be

diverted north to Sixth Street to bypass the closure. Metro bus stops may be relocated and services may be impacted. For information, visit mcknrb0fgxh5k0f2vx078zts2980.pub.sfmcc-content.com/1guusythcw/w2hnxunrso4.

Work is also occurring at other locations along the route. Through April 30, Wilshire Boulevard will be reduced to two lanes in each direction between San Diego Way and Spaulding Avenue to support appendage construction adjacent to the Wilshire/Fairfax station. Cross passage work is also occurring near the Wilshire/Fairfax station at a construction zone in the center of Wilshire Boulevard near Masselin Avenue. Wilshire Boulevard has been reduced to two lanes in each direction between Ridgely Drive and Curson Avenue.

Motorists are also warned about lane closures near the Wilshire/La Cienega subway station, where crews are pouring concrete for the station concourse. Construction is mainly occurring in staging yards near Wilshire/La Cienega and Wilshire/Gale. Two lanes will be open in each direction on Wilshire Boulevard between La Cienega and San Vicente boulevards. Through April 30, Wilshire

Boulevard may also be intermittently reduced to one lane in each direction between Tower and Stanley drives from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 7 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday.

Motorists should also expect intermittent lane closures on Wilshire Boulevard between El Camino and Crescent drives in Beverly Hills. Utility work is anticipated to begin in early May on permanent electrical power lines to the future Wilshire/Rodeo station. Ground improvement work in preparation for the construction of cross passage tunnels is also anticipated to begin in mid-May.

In Century City, crews are relocating sewers and storm drains through the third quarter of 2022. Excavation also continues for the underground station beneath Constellation Boulevard near Avenue of the Stars. Upcoming implementation of a new stage of work will require a full southbound closure of Avenue of the Stars during the weekend to accommodate piling for temporary decking of the roadway.

In Westwood, piling is ongoing on Wilshire Boulevard near Gayley Avenue for the future Westwood/UCLA station. Metro



photo by Edwin Folven

Motorists are advised about full weekend closures of Wilshire Boulevard between Highland and La Brea avenues for restoration of the street surface.

crews will install dewatering wells on Wilshire Boulevard between Malcolm and Selby avenues to support maintenance for the tunnel boring machines. The work will be completed in stages through June 30, and notices on community impacts will be updated as work progresses.

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.

PATH appoints new leader in fight against homelessness

People Assisting The Homeless has announced that Katie Tell has been appointed as chief external affairs officer. With 25 years of experience managing and raising funds for health care and international public health programs, as well as initiatives fighting homelessness, Tell will lead PATH's fundraising, communications, community affairs and policy work across California.

"Homelessness is the issue of our time and PATH has been focused on addressing the issues from all fronts," PATH CEO Jennifer Hark Dietz said. "From public policy, community engagement, internal leadership development programs and diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives, we are working to

address the systemic causes and bring more solutions to the communities we serve. We know Katie's leadership will support and elevate all of these efforts."

Prior to joining PATH, Tell led the fundraising and external affairs programs for L.A. Family Housing and Eisner Health. She helped increase public support for homeless services, affordable housing development and health care access for all.

"I have long admired PATH's work, and I am thrilled to have joined such a focused, dedicated and compassionate statewide team," Tell said. "Leading external affairs at PATH is really about providing the answer to that question, 'What can I do?' – engaging all of our friends, neighbors and commu-

nity members in PATH's mission to end homelessness. We can't do this work alone, and we need every Californian to stand with us and advocate for proven effective solutions. There are so many ways to support PATH's mission – volunteering, donating and advocating – and I look forward to sharing opportunities for all of our supporters to be part of the solution to our state's homelessness crisis."

Tell also previously spent seven years leading fundraising efforts for Planned Parenthood Los Angeles and served as a program officer for health access with the California Endowment.

Founded in 1984, PATH is committed to ending homelessness for individuals and families throughout California by building affordable supportive housing and providing homeless services. For information, visit epath.org.



photo courtesy of PATH

Katie Tell will help PATH raise funds and support to end homelessness.

Letters to the Editor

Thanks for including the Beverly Press

What a big surprise when I opened the L.A. Times Thursday morning and found the Beverly Press!

I am happy to be reunited with it! I depend on it for local news, happenings and restaurant tips. Please continue publishing and sending it.

Betty Kabaker
Westwood

LAUSD needs to adopt programs to combat climate change

Re "L.A. City Council approves electric vehicle mas-

ter plan," April 7 issue

We need LAUSD to join in on this historic change. As a parent of a fifth grader at Palms Elementary School, I am excited to see that climate literacy will soon be integrated into students' curriculum across LAUSD. Car pollutants cause immediate and long-term effects on the environment, effects that we have been convinced to ignore because of our high dependency on fossil fuels.

My child and over 65,000 other students in LAUSD suffer from asthma and respiratory health issues, which is only worsened by their constant exposure to these pollutants. We can no longer rely on fossil fuels, and teaching our children that sustainable alternatives exist is essential in diminishing the climate doom that many youth face.

Karla Garcia
Los Angeles

BH seeks input on Gale Yard site

The city of Beverly Hills is seeking public input on the long-term development of its property located at 8421 Wilshire Blvd., also known as the Gale Yard.

The site currently serves as a construction staging yard for Metro's Wilshire/La Cienega station on the Purple Line Extension project. The city owns the Gale Yard site and plans to develop the site after the Metro project is complete.

The city will host its first hybrid meeting on May 2, at 6 p.m. to hear community input on potential uses

for the Gale Yard site. The meeting will be held in the Beverly Hills City Council Chamber at City Hall, and the public may also attend virtually.

Community members are encouraged to complete a short survey, view potential uses and provide additional suggestions. Once feedback from the public is collected, the city will begin preparing a request soliciting development proposals for the site.

To take the survey, view information and access the virtual meeting, visit beverlyhills.org/galeyardsite.



photo by Edwin Folven

The city of Beverly Hills is considering future uses for the Gale Yard, which is currently serving as a construction staging site for Metro's Purple Line Extension project.

Whom Should I Name As My Executor or Trustee?

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

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

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

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

KRAMER LAW
GROUP

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

All Saints Church plans Ukrainian relief concert

All Saints Episcopal Church in Beverly Hills will hold a benefit concert to raise money for Ukrainian refugees on Friday, May 6, at 8 p.m. The church is located at 504 N. Camden Drive in Beverly Hills.

The concert is sponsored by the All Saints Music Guild and will feature selected works by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. It will be performed by the All Saints Choir and Orchestra, which has earned international acclaim for its interpretation of classical and Anglican choral music.

“Let us reach out together and provide care for the millions of refugees displaced by this war,” said the Rev. Canon Andrea McMillin, priest in charge at All Saints Episcopal Church in Beverly Hills.

“Our concert will help provide basic necessities like shelter, food, blankets, hygiene supplies and money for relocation assistance. The money we raise will support Episcopal Relief and Development, an agency of the national Episcopal Church, which has a network of Eastern Orthodox churches and other faith-based partners with ‘boots on the ground’ in cities in Ukraine, the border countries of Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania [and] Moldova, as well as other countries providing refugee relief.”

The concert will include Mozart’s “Solemn Vespers” and “Coronation Mass.”

“These pieces are some of Mozart’s signature works,” said Canon Dr. Craig Phillips, All Saints’

director of music and organist. “‘The Vespers’ was written in 1780, and is comprised of six movements with alternating sections for chorus and soloists. ‘The Mass in C Major,’ was completed in 1779, and is known as the ‘Coronation Mass,’ after becoming the preferred music for royal coronations and services of thanksgiving. This event promises to be an outstanding opportunity to hear and appreciate Mozart’s incredible artistry.”

A contribution of \$25 or more per person is requested. All funds will support Ukrainian refugee relief. Contributions will be collected at the door prior to the concert.

All Saints Episcopal Church is one of the oldest churches in Beverly Hills. The congregation began meeting at the Beverly Hills Hotel in 1922. Four years later, a chapel was built at the church’s current location on Camden Drive. It is a parish of the Episcopal Church, the American church within the worldwide Anglican Communion.

For information, call (310)275-0123, or visit allsaintsbh.org.

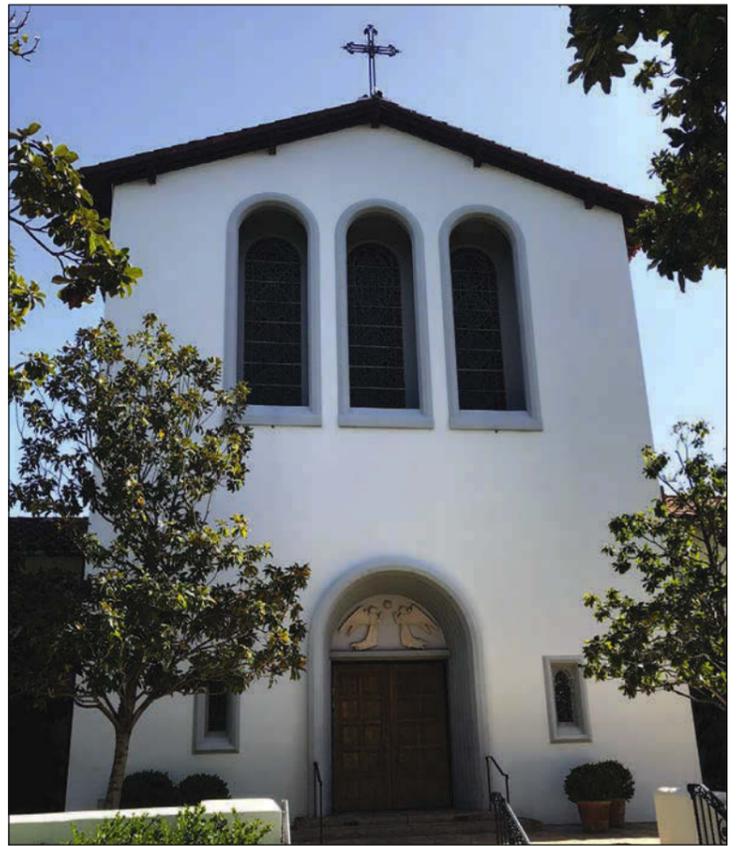


photo courtesy of Tim Blair

All Saints Episcopal Church in Beverly Hills will hold a benefit concert on May 6 to provide relief for refugees from Ukraine.

Volunteers help at Project Angel Food

The Young Presidents’ Organization Santa Monica Bay Chapter brought approximately 150 volunteers to Project Angel Food on April 23 during its annual Big Give, in which members give back to critically ill clients throughout L.A. County. The group also included 60 presidents and CEOs from 35 corporations. YPOSMB helps each member become a better leader in business and the community. The volunteers helped with meal preparation in the kitchen and packaging meals, as well as gardening box projects and a mural painting.

The group was welcomed by YPOSMB’s Sue Chen and Jordan Pynes, and Project Angel Food CEO Richard Ayoub. Project Angel Food, located at 922 Vine St. in Hollywood, prepares and delivers medically tailored meals to critically ill residents throughout Los Angeles County. Volunteers are always needed in the Project Angel Food kitchen.

The nonprofit has many other initiatives that also depend on volunteers, including the Telephone Angels Program, which connects volunteers with clients to combat loneliness among critically ill individuals. Project Angel Food has a holistic approach to client mental and physical health outcomes. The goal is to care for a person’s body with medically tailored meals, but to also help improve emotional well-being.

Project Angel Food is also conducting its congestive heart failure pilot program, a 12-week intervention designed to improve health outcomes and reduce medical costs of people living with congestive heart failure through meal deliveries and

individualized nutritional counseling. For information, visit angelfood.org.



photo by Noe Garcia/Project Angel Food

Volunteers helped prepare and package meals during the YPOSMB’s Big Give event at Project Angel Food.

MAKE MOM’S DAY MEMORABLE!

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Beverly Hills Art Show returns in May

The city of Beverly Hills will hold the spring installment of its bi-annual Art Show on Saturday, May 21, and Sunday, May 22, from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. in Beverly Gardens Park, along three blocks of Santa Monica Boulevard between Canon Drive and Rexford Drive.

The Beverly Hills Art Show is a free event that brings 150 artists from Southern California, the Southwest and across the nation together to showcase artworks in 11 mediums including ceramics, digital media, drawing and printmaking, glass, jewelry, mixed-media, painting, photography, sculpture and watercolor. All participating artists will exhibit and sell their work, giving attendees an opportunity to acquire one-of-a-kind originals, limited editions and newly released pieces.

Several artists who placed first in last year's Art Show will return in May, as well as 37 new artists and established and emerging artists. Returning is artist and California native Christen Austin, who received first place in painting in October 2020.

"It is important to provide imagery that represents the Black community in a way that encompasses positivity and relatability," Austin said.

Also returning is Joe Polthakorn Vilaiwan, of Vilaiwan Fine Jewelry, who is a second-generation jeweler. In his native Thailand, he developed an instinct for identifying quality stones and metals. At the age of 14, Vilaiwan began designing avant-garde jewelry that has been featured in magazines, on runways and in films.

Another favorite of the Art Show is photographer Ira Meyer, whose work is collected worldwide and has been published in newspapers and magazines such as National Geographic, Outdoor Photographer and the Los Angeles Times, as well as on the cover of books, greeting cards and calendars.

Also new to the show is sculptor Danette Landry. Her art calls for a constant reconstruction and materialization of one's self. This force is represented in her bronze totems.

In addition to art, guests can enjoy food and beverages from the

food trucks Cousins Maine Lobster, Pie 'n Burger, the Deli Doctor, Paradise Truck and Thai Mex Cocina. Parking is located directly across from the show.

The Beverly Hills Art Show is produced by the city's Community Services Department. Follow @CommunityLifeBH on social media to learn about Community Services Department events, programs, classes and activities. For the Beverly Hills Art Show, tag photos with #bhartsow and #bhartsandculture. For information, call (310)285-6830, or visit beverlyhills.org/artshow.



photo courtesy of the city of Beverly Hills

The Beverly Hills Art Show returns on May 21-22 to Beverly Gardens Park, along three blocks of Santa Monica Boulevard between Canon Drive and Rexford Drive.

BH chamber endorses candidates

The Board of Trustees of the Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce Leadership Political Action Committee has endorsed Lester Friedman and Robert Wunderlich for Beverly Hills City Council and Howard Fisher for Beverly Hills city treasurer for the upcoming June 7 Primary Election.

The PAC board knows the candidates from their involvement with the city of Beverly Hills and service on City Council and, in the case of Fisher, as city treasurer. The PAC conducted one-on-one interviews with each candidate to learn about their positions on issues facing the business community and their vision for the future.

The PAC's priorities include ensuring Beverly Hills remains a first-class destination for visitors and businesses; reducing the time and cost it takes to get approval for attractive development projects and opening businesses; attracting new and exciting businesses, including top-notch cultural and food attractions; ensuring the city remains on a

sustainable financial path; enhancing the southeast portion of Beverly Hills; and planning for the upcoming subway stops.

Friedman and Wunderlich have shown good judgment, character and dedication in their time on the City Council, according to board members. Both have shown dedication to key business issues by lowering parking requirements and fees, supporting an innovative and successful outdoor dining program, passing an ordinance permitting more rooftop dining and creating more flexibility for medical office uses, board members said.

Fisher has served ably as city treasurer for several years, managing the city's investments and monitoring the city's finances more generally, the board said. He has "extensive" experience serving the community, including serving on the city's Planning, Public Works and Traffic & Parking commissions.

For information, visit beverlyhillschamber.com/advocacy/leadership-pac.

Beverly Hills City Council recognizes Tom's Toys



photo courtesy of the city of Beverly Hills

The Beverly Hills City Council recognized Tom's Toys on April 26 during its Shout Out program. Councilman Robert Wunderlich, left, was joined by Vice Mayor Julian Gold, Mayor Lili Bosse, Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce CEO Todd Johnson, who accepted the award on behalf of Tom's Toys, Councilman John Mirisch and Councilman Lester Friedman in recognizing the business, located at 437 N. Beverly Drive.

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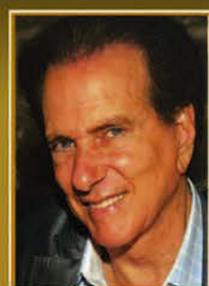
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Connect to the project at metro.net/purple.



Israel Film Festival kicks off at the Saban Theatre

The 35th Israel Film Festival in Los Angeles, the largest showcase of Israeli cinema and television in North America, unspools this year in theaters and virtually from May 5-26.

The festival's opening night film on May 5 will be director Avi Neshet's "Image of Victory," which was nominated for 15 Ophir Awards. The evening will also celebrate Israel's Independence Day.

With leading Israeli filmmakers and talent in attendance for post screening Q&A sessions, this year's festival will include five U.S. pre-

mieres, six West Coast premieres and 14 Los Angeles premieres among the 30 award-winning features, documentaries and short films.

"I'm thrilled that the Israel Film Festival in Los Angeles is fully back for audiences to celebrate and support Israeli movies and their talented filmmakers. We hope that this 35th edition will be a new, exciting beginning towards continuing to bring the very best of Israeli culture to Los Angeles," said Meir Fenigstein, founder and executive director of the festival.

"Image of Victory," which had the largest budget for an Israeli film to date, was inspired by true events that took place in 1948. The story follows Hassanin, an Egyptian filmmaker, who is tasked with documenting a raid on the isolated kibbutz Nitzanim. When the kibbutz learns of the impending army raid, Mira, a young but valiant mother, is forced to reckon with the true cost of war and make an impossible choice.

The film was written by Neshet from a story by Liraz Brosh and Ehud Bleiberg. It stars Joy Reiger, Amir Khoury and Ala Dakka. The movie won both best cinematography for Amit Yasur and best makeup for Emily Faudem at the Ophir Awards, which are presented by the Israeli Film Academy.

The May 5 opening night will take place at the Saban Theatre. All other festival screenings will be held at Lumiere Cinema's Music Hall Theater in Beverly Hills and the Laemmle Town Center 5 in Encino. The Saban Theatre is located at 8440 Wilshire Blvd.

To purchase tickets for the May 5 opening night gala and all in-person and online events, visit israelfilmfestival.com, or call (310)247-1800.

Ticket prices for opening night are \$85 per person for VIP access, which includes opening night red carpet arrival, a VIP reception, the film and a post-screening dessert reception. For access to just the opening night and post-screening dessert reception, tickets are \$36 per person.



photo courtesy of Holocaust Museum LA

Former Los Angeles County Supervisor and Los Angeles City Councilman Zev Yaroslavsky will give the keynote speech at the virtual Yom HaShoah observance.

Virtual Yom HaShoah observance commemorates Holocaust victims

Holocaust Museum LA will hold its annual Yom HaShoah observance virtually on Sunday, May 1, at 2 p.m.

Participants will remember those who perished, honor survivors and highlight the experience of Eastern European Jews during the Holocaust. The ceremony will also reflect on the devastating war in Ukraine and growing humanitarian and refugee crises.

Former Los Angeles County Supervisor and Los Angeles City Councilman Zev Yaroslavsky will give the keynote speech. Other participants include Mayor Eric

Garcetti; Holocaust survivor Dana Schwartz, who was born in Lviv, Ukraine; Jeffrey Abrams, regional director of ADL Los Angeles; Los Angeles City Controller Ron Galperin; Consul General of Israel Dr. Hillel Newman; and Consul General of Poland Jaroslaw Lasinski. The ceremony will also feature a live performance of Ukrainian composer Joachim Stutschewsky's "Moods for Unaccompanied Oboe."

The virtual event will be livestreamed, and a viewing link will be sent to those who register at 31418.blackbaudhosting.com/31418/Yom-HaShoah-Commemoration.



photo by Yoav Kleinman and Ram Gil

"Dead Sea Guardians" will be shown during the Israel Film Festival.

SEEFest spotlights European films

The annual South East European Film Festival, also known as SEEFest, returns with its 17th edition, bringing U.S. premieres, European talent and an industry accelerator with seminars, panels and workshops.

Through May 4, the festival will showcase movies from the culturally rich area in South East Europe and will delight viewers with a selection of 63 features, documentaries and short films, the festival's largest competition lineup to date.

From this year forward, the festi-

val will feature selections from Ukraine. The films from the Ukraine include "Klondike," by Maryna Er Gorbach, and the U.S. premiere of "Blindfold," by Taras Dron, at the Lumiere Cinema, located at 9036 Wilshire Blvd. Both films feature accounts of the war and personal, emotional portraits of women caught in the destruction.

More than 80% of the films in competition are premieres. For the full schedule and information, visit seefest2022.eventive.org/films.

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O'Farrell celebrates Earth Day with bike ride

Los Angeles City Council President Pro Tempore Mitch O'Farrell, 13th District, chair of the Energy, Climate Change, Environmental Justice and River Committee, celebrated Earth Day on April 22 by participating in an eight-mile bike ride with advocates for immigration, tenants, social justice and the environment. Participants included representatives of the Bresee Foundation, Community Warriors 4 Peace, Homies Unidos and the Salvadoran American Leadership and Educational Fund.

"Earth Day is as much about equity and environmental justice as it is about protecting our natural environment," O'Farrell said. "Celebrating this day with a bike ride along the Los Angeles River in partnership with social and environmental justice advocates sends a clear message that we must work collectively to restore our green spaces for all Angelenos."



photo courtesy of the 13th District office

Councilman Mitch O'Farrell joined representatives from community-serving organizations for the Earth Day bike ride.

NHM takes museum-goers to the prehistoric era

The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County will present "L.A. Underwater: The Prehistoric Sea Beneath Us," opening May 2.

The multimedia-rich, immersive exhibition explores the underwater realm of prehistoric Los Angeles when much of the L.A. area was submerged beneath the Pacific Ocean. Visitors will view rare fossils from across the L.A. region and encounter huge cinematic elements showcasing sharks the size of school buses, glowing deep sea fish, giant tuskless walruses, a 10-million-year-old whale skull discovered in Lincoln Heights, and other awe-inspiring species that roamed ancient L.A. The two-year exhibition will feature engaging media elements that bring fossils to life and serve as reminders of the ancient ocean that is still shaping

L.A.

"With 'L.A. Underwater,' we are giving visitors an in-depth look at the Southern California region, millions of years before humans set foot anywhere near Los Angeles. Through NHM's commitment to discovering the natural world in our own neighborhood and this exhibition's focus on our extensive marine collections, we continue to shape our understanding of the ancient past as well as inform current and future discoveries," NHMLAC president and director Lori Bettison-Varga said.

The exhibition also features the skull of a newly-described giant walrus species, *Pontolis Barroni*, never before seen by the public. The exhibition features nearly 40 fossils and specimens showcasing the Los Angeles region's vast

pre-history, including an ammonoid fossil that dates from nearly 75 million years ago, the 13-15-million-year-old Coursen's Strange Seal, a 10,000-50,000-year-old saber-toothed cat skull and a shell discovered in modern L.A. soil.

"L.A. Underwater" is free with museum admission. The museum is located at 900 W. Exposition Blvd. For information, visit nhm.org/underwater.

Jean-Georges offers Mother's Day menu

Waldorf Astoria Beverly Hills is celebrating Mother's Day with a special three-course lunch menu at Jean-Georges Beverly Hills on Sunday, May 8, from noon to 4 p.m.

In addition to an elaborate lunch menu, guests will enjoy live entertainment throughout their meal.

Menu highlights include toasted egg yolk with caviar, avocado pizza, almond pancakes with house-made almond butter and

whipped bananas, roasted salmon, wagyu beef tenderloin and sunny side up frittata.

Jean-Georges Beverly Hills will also offer a decadent dessert station with tarts, crepes, house-made chocolate bonbons and vases of macaroon biscuit.

Prices start at \$220 for adults and \$90 for children ages 12 and up.

Reservations can be made by calling (310)860-6700 or jeangeorgesbh@waldorfastoria.com.



photo courtesy of Waldorf Astoria Beverly Hills

Avocado pizzas are among the Mother's Day offerings at Jean-Georges.

Farmers Market celebrates AAPI heritage month

The Original Farmers Market, corner of Third and Fairfax, is celebrating Asian American and Pacific Islander heritage month in May by spotlighting members of the Asian community that have long been part of the market

From merchants who were among the first to establish storefronts at the market in the 1930s-40s to current favorites who now call it home, vendors from a variety of countries including China, South Korea, the Philippines, Japan and India have played an important role in the history of Original Farmers Market, its owners said.

Angie Chang owns Bryan's Pit BBQ, a market staple since 1961, and China Depot, which was established in 1948 and is among the oldest vendors in the market. She operates both businesses with her son, David, and daughter-in-law, Nicole, as well as grandchildren, David and Ava, who help from time to time.

Peking Kitchen is owned by husband-and-wife Annie and Tony Zou. Natives of Hong Kong, they took over Peking Kitchen when Tony's Aunt Betty, the original owner, retired in 1989. Annie Zou does most of the cooking while Tony chats with customers at the counter.

Light My Fire and T Shop are two unique stores owned by South Korean native Young Min. For those who love spiciness, Light My Fire offers more than 1,000 varieties of hot sauce. To help curb

the fiery explosion of flavors, stop by T Shop and indulge in over 250 varieties of teas from throughout the world.

AAPI vendors have made Third and Fairfax their home-away-from-home for decades, offering visitors a glimpse into their rich backgrounds. The Original Farmers Market is proud to celebrate the important figures in the community throughout May and the entire year.

The Original Farmers Market is located at 6333 W. Third St. For information, call (323)933-9211, or visit farmersmarketla.com.



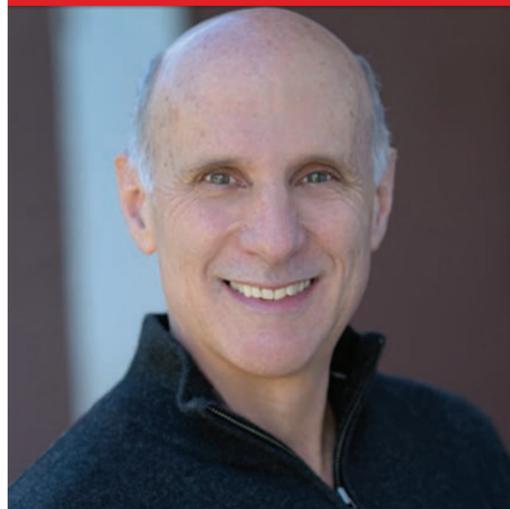
photo courtesy of the Original Farmers Market

China Depot is one of the longest-serving vendors at the Original Farmers Market.



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RESTAURANT NEWS

by Jill Weinlein

National Prime Rib Day at Lawry's The Prime Rib

To celebrate National Prime Rib Day, which is observed on April 27, the Lawry's team has prepared a special dinner available until May 1. Enjoy six cuts of certified Angus beef including 45-day dry-aged prime rib. Diners can order prime rib a la carte, or as a dinner starting at \$59 that includes Lawry's famous spinning bowl salad, buttery mashed potatoes, classic Yorkshire pudding and Lawry's whipped cream horseradish. 100 La Cienega Blvd., (310)652-2827.

wish granted that inspired the creation of the Make-A-Wish Foundation. The NORMS team has been working hard to raise money for the foundation. The restaurant has organized customer donation campaigns and events including the recent 2022 Walk for Wishes. To honor World Wish Day, all NORMS locations will donate \$1 from the sale of each cotton candy blue lemonade to the Make-A-Wish foundation. Starting on April 29 and running for four weeks, the beverage can be enjoyed with NORMS' iconic signature Bigger Better Breakfast, a plate of piping hotcakes and habanero jalapeño bacon cheeseburgers. 470 N. La Cienega Blvd., (310)657-8333.

NORMS and Make-A-Wish

World Wish Day, April 29, is the anniversary of the first

PATH hosts Taste of Home Festival

People Assisting the Homeless is having its inaugural food festi-

val on Saturday, April 30, from 4-7 p.m. The public is welcome to celebrate the vibrant dining culture of L.A., while joining the movement to end homelessness. The Sunset Las Palmas Studios in Hollywood is the venue for fun and unlimited food and beverages from vendors all around the city. General admission tickets are \$45 for entrance into the festival and all food tastings. General admission and two drinks are \$65. General admission and three drinks are \$75. VIP admission is \$150 and includes early entrance at 3 p.m., plus four drink tickets, a goodie bag and access to the VIP lounge. Tickets are available at tasteofhomefest.org. 1040 N. Las Palmas Ave.

Cinco de Mayo at SOL Mexicana Cocina

The Baja-inspired restaurant is offering an exclusive festive menu for Cinco de Mayo for dine-in only from 3 p.m. to closing. The celebration includes tequila shots, Mexican beers, SOL's specialty margaritas made with fresh citrus



photo courtesy of Lawry's

The dry-aged prime rib dinner at Tam O'Shanter starts at \$59.

Tam O'Shanter prime rib dinner

Select up to three cuts of dry-aged prime rib at Tam O'Shanter and enjoy a choice of two sides that include creamed corn, creamed spinach and mashed potatoes starting at \$59, through May 1. 2980 Los Feliz Blvd., (323)664-0228.

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juice, and live music. Start with “naked” guacamole made with Hass avocados and chorizo and mushroom con queso. Larger plates include the double tortilla stuffed taco vampire asada and a taco plate with two sides. To-go orders can be placed by phone, but online ordering will not be available. 12775 Millennium Drive #160, (424)289-0066.

Poolside Cinco de Mayo at Caravan Swim Club

On Cinco de Mayo, Thursday, May 5, celebrate at Caravan Swim Club at Steve Livigni’s Baja-inspired restaurant at Hotel June. An afternoon pool party will be held with Tanteo tequila. Festivities begin at 1 p.m. and include a DJ set, poolside bar service and tequila cocktails available for purchase. Imbibers have the option to choose a selection of peppers to “pick your kick.” The event is free and open to the public, and reservations can be made at Caravan Swim Club via OpenTable. 8639 Lincoln Blvd., (310)645-0400.

Mother’s Day brunch at Culina

On Sunday, May 8, the Four Seasons Hotel Los Angeles at Beverly Hills is presenting a decadent buffet-style brunch from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Chef Mitch Austin and the hotel’s culinary team present a variety of stations that include eggs made-to-order, sushi, slow roasted leg and shoulder of lamb, salmon en croute, braised short ribs, ricotta cheese blintzes, morning pastries and Belgian waffles. The special brunch is \$159 per person and \$75 per child under 12 years old. The children’s brunch menu features chicken tenders, ham and cheese sandwiches, pizza and cotton candy. 300 S. Doheny Drive, (310)273-2222.

Gracias Madre Treats Mom on Mothers Day

Treat mom to a vegan meal at Gracias Madre from May 8-10. Chef Diana’s lovingly-curated

vegan menu can be paired with beverage director Maxwell Reis’ Madre Spritz. It’s made with strawberry, blanc vermouth and sparkling chenin blanc. He also is pouring a Mezcaleria flight for tastings at the table. Each mother dining can take home their table flower arrangement. Reservations can be made at OpenTable. 8905 Melrose Ave., (323) 978-2170.

Mother’s Day Menu at Cafe Gratitude

Express your gratitude for mom this Mother’s Day with a memorable plant-based brunch and delicious dessert at Cafe Gratitude. Executive Chef Dreux’s brunch includes Belgian oat waffles with berries, shiitake mushroom tartine, smashed avocado toast and chilaquiles. Cafe Gratitude is preparing a “You Are Appreciated” strawberry cheesecake made with raw cacao pecan crust, cashew whipped cream, strawberry raspberry reduction and micro flowers. This limited-time sweet treat is only available on Sunday, May 8, at Cafe Gratitude Art’s District, Larchmont See page 16



photo by Andrea D’Agosto

KA'TEEN in Hollywood will celebrate Cinco de Mayo with a special menu.

Cinco de Mayo tacos at KA'TEEN

On Thursday, May 5, Wes Avila’s coastal Mexican restaurant KA'TEEN in Hollywood offers a creative a la carte menu and a taco special in celebration of Cinco de Mayo. The Taco Perrón special features an order of two tacos served on flour tortillas with Oaxaca cheese, cranberry beans, rib-eye, onions and cilantro salsa for \$15. Specialty cocktails showcasing Aviön Cristalino Tequila, and an expansive list of agave-based drinks and spirits are available. 6516 Selma Ave., (323)410-6360.



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From page 15 and Venice locations. 300 S. Santa Fe Ave., (213)929-5580, 639 N. Larchmont Blvd., (323)580-6383, and 512 Rose Ave., (424)231-8000.

Trejos Tacos Mother's Day weekend

Treat mom to a breakfast burrito at the Original Farmers Market or head over to Santa Monica for brunch with limited time dish highlights that include breakfast tacos, chilaquiles, huevos rancheros and bottomless mimosas. It's available Friday, May 6, to Sunday, May 8. 1048 S. La Brea Ave., (323)938-8226 and 316 Santa Monica Blvd., (310)393-0622.

Redbird Mother's Day Brunch and Dinner

On Sunday, May 8, Chef Neal Fraser and his team are making

a special garden brunch for \$65 per person. Guests have a choice of first courses that include a cured salmon tartine and burrata salad with strawberries and pistachio crunch. The second course choices include Basque baked eggs, duck chilaquiles and a melted leek and asparagus frittata. There is a kids' menu for children 10 and under. The three-course dinner menu will be served in the main dining room and lounge and is \$75 per person. A \$20 deposit per person is required to reserve for this special event on Tock. 114 E. Second St., (213)788-1191.

Rumba Kitchen delights on Mother's Day

Located in Little Tokyo, Rumba Kitchen will be serving Mother's Day brunch and dinner, with a sweet treat for each mom. Chef Omayra Dakis' teenage daughter, Maria, also a chef, will be gifting mom's homemade sweet Mayorca bread at both brunch and dinner. The four-course brunch is from noon-4 p.m., and the cost is

\$58 per person. The first course is a platter of empanadas, alcapurrias, bacalaitos, croquetas, tostones and amarillos to be shared. Next is a green avocado salad. For the third course, patrons can choose between San Juan Benedict with pork belly or lobster medallions, steak and eggs, or a plantain waffle with chicharones de pollo and sunshine mofongo. Finish with a choice of classic flan, vegan cheesecake or coquito bread pudding. Bottomless mimosas are served for \$23 per person with a two-hour time limit with the purchase of food. An a la carte dinner menu will be available from 4-8 p.m. 123 Astronaut E. Onizuka St. #204, (213)265-7899.



photo by Wonho Frank Lee

The plantain waffle with chicharones de pollo and sunshine mofongo at Rumba Kitchen will be available as part of their Mother's Day special.



photo by Rob Stark

Enjoy a live mariachi band and DJ while dining at Nueva for Cinco de Mayo.

Nueva's Cinco de Mayo fiesta

Listen to a mariachi band and a Live DJ while ordering from Chef Manuel Portillo's cantina menu with a festive south-of-the-border cocktail at Nueva. The Cinco de Mayo May 5 lunch will be held from noon-3 p.m., and dinner will be served from 3-11 p.m. All-day cocktails and frozen margaritas will be made until 2 a.m. Come back for Mother's Day brunch on May 8, from 10:30-3 p.m. Nueva is also available for takeout and delivery on Toast. 822 Washington Blvd., (310)747-6050.



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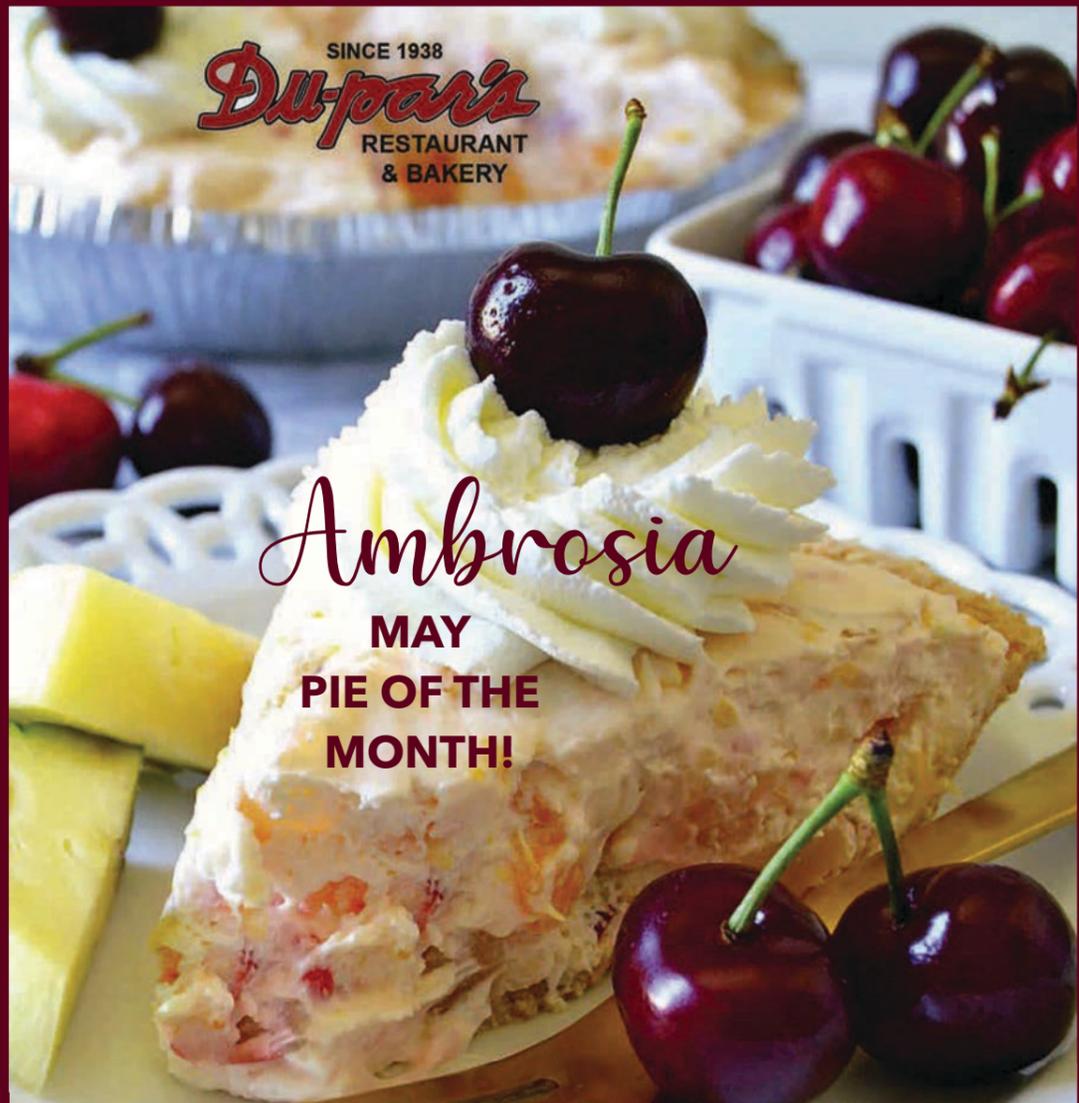


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Chef Ricardo Zarate's Nikkei-style delights at Causita

If you have been reading my column for the past 13 years, you know that Ricardo Zarate is one of my favorite chefs in L.A. What he brings to each restaurant is a multi-sensory story about his home country, Peru. His newest tale is Nikkei-style share plates and dishes at Causita, near Silver Lake's Sunset Triangle Plaza. It's the third concept by Intent to Dine Hospitality Group, co-led by industry veteran David Rosoff. Causita joins its recently opened sister concepts, Bar Moruno and Rapid.

Eager to reunite with Zarate at his new restaurant, my husband and I dined last Friday evening, just after its grand opening. "Nikkei" is a word referring to people from around the world who have Japanese heritage but do not live in Japan. In the late 1800s, when a large group of Japanese people immigrated 9,000 miles to Peru, they brought staples such as miso, ginger, soy, wasabi and rice vinegar with them. Zarate adds these to Peruvian ingredients such as tropical fish, quinoa, potatoes, corn and peppers for a beautiful blend of brightly bold and subtle flavors. Nikkei cooking also incorporates Italian and Chinese ingredients that Zarate uses in his dishes.

Sitting inside the former Sawyer restaurant space, we noted the redesign by Studio UNLTD, creating a bright, breezy dining room and lush exterior patio with a fire. Light wood furniture and clean lines are similar to an upscale Japanese sushi house, yet the plaster walls, abundance of greenery and brightly colored artwork give nods to Peru. There is a colorful knotted macrame-style quipu by Peruvian artist Rudolph Castro, showing a union between Peruvian and Japanese culture. Peruvian statuettes thought to bring good fortune, positive vibes and protection are strategically placed throughout the back bar. Also near the bar is a blend painting of the Japanese and Peruvian flags.

Tables are set with beautiful chopsticks and silverware, offering diners a choice as each course comes out of the kitchen and is delivered to the table.

Looking over the exciting cocktail list developed by Ramsey Musk (The Proper Hotel Group, Ma'am Sir, Sotto), there is an emphasis on pisco, agave spirits, rum and Japanese whiskey. Since Peru is known for the Pisco Sour cocktail, the bar makes one with lychee and lime-yuzu sour and a touch of absinthe. Pisco is a type of brandy native to South America, and the bar makes a playful Pucara pisco punch and an "Oh Captain, My Captain" cocktail that has pisco and carrot-coconut caviar.

The wine list is just like the one at its adjacent sister restaurant, Bar Moruno, focusing on organic and biodynamic bottles from across the globe, with a spotlight on Latin American selections. When diners order a glass of wine, the servers bring a sample for a tasting. If they are not satisfied, diners can order another varietal and receive a new tasting.

There are also two different types of Japanese sakes, and their beer on tap is the local Frogtown Brewery IPA. Another beer available by bottle or can is Hitachino Nest Red Rice Ale from Japan.

Two ladies sitting next to us were oohing and awing over a cocktail named "Girl from Lobitos," so I told our server from Cusco, Peru, that I wanted one. The photo-worthy drink has a pineapple leaf garnish and a tall crown of shiso foam.

Its flavor notes included passion-fruit, ginger and lime.

My husband said the pink Mamalucha margarita was a winner with its Yerba mate salt along the rim. Besides tequila blanco, it has a splash of Cointreau, prickly pear juice and kumquat.

While sipping our drinks, I remarked about how much I liked the eclectic music at the restaurant. Like every good storyteller, music enhances an adventurous tale. The name Causita is slang for "Best Friend," and the music is a fusion of sounds and styles drawing on the country's Andean, Spanish and African roots.

My toes were tapping in excitement when the two lobster dumplings arrived. Picking up one with the chopsticks, I bit into vibrant flavors of succulent pieces of lobster inside a glistening, slightly-charred dumpling. It's pan-fried with a splash of jalapeño oil and topped with white ceviche aioli and a pretty edible flower petal.

Another dish that surprised us was the trio of Nikkei nigiri-style sushi on a lovely light pink circular plate. Three thin cucumber ribbons had a slice of soft potato, instead of traditional sushi rice. In Peru, there are over 4,000 colorful varieties of native potatoes growing in the Andean highlands. We were instructed to pick up both ends of the cucumber slices and bite into the salmon enhanced with preserved lemon, yuzu and ahi amarillo. Another nigiri had tomato with rocoto pepper aioli and seaweed salt. The third was tuna with truffle aioli and rocoto pepper, offering a

touch of heat and flavor. Each were adorned with a micro green sprig to balance the sea and earth flavors.

For a vegetable dish, Zarate takes a generous handful of green snap peas, slightly blistered and charred in jalapeño oil. He tops them on a mound of cool and creamy white labneh, adding chopped mint and crispy garlic chips. I could easily eat a bowl every day.

Another winner was the three delicately steamed white bao buns filled with a choice of beets or pork belly and topped with a gochujang sauce for a boldly sweet, slightly spicy, and full-umami flavor. Zarate adds parmesan cheese for a touch of Italy and rocoto sauce to bring Peru into this dish.

We finished with a sea bass tamale and bowl of soba noodles, and each impressed us in presentation and flavors when delivered to our table. The sea bass tamale arrived on two folded green banana leaves. The moist fish had choclo corn and lime aioli on top. Peruvian choclo corn is different from North American corn-on-the-



By Jill Weinlein



photo by Jill Weinlein

Nikkei-style dishes at Causita include three steamed baos filled with beets or pork belly.

cob. It's not as sweet, and the kernels are larger, with a nutty flavor. The soba noodles arrived in a shallow bowl without broth. The noodles were swirled with a fabulous cilantro and mint pesto, and topped with asparagus and tiny, crunchy lime green Tobiko wasabi flying fish roe. This delightful caviar is a popular addition to Japanese cuisine, and provides a natural sea essence, light tanginess and touch of heat from wasabi horseradish.

I wish I could have tasted every item on the menu. The clams looked beautiful on a plate marinating in leche de tigre, as did the grilled octopus delivered to the ladies seated next to us. My friend Linda dined with her son the night

after, and told me that the roasted chicken with bell peppers and almond pesto was superb.

Desserts range from refreshing, light Peruvian purple corn sorbet to the denser matcha cheesecake served with a passionfruit chantilly sauce and pickled purple and red berries. The churro bombs are similar to doughnut holes on top of a bright red cranberry sauce for dipping.

Zarate shares his new culinary chapter of food, drinks, music and ambiance at Causita, and to me, this is his best story yet.

Make a reservation on Resy soon. Weekend evenings are filling up, but weekends are still available from 5-10 p.m. causita-la.com. \$\$ 3709 Sunset Blvd.



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BHUSD hires new personnel

The Beverly Hills Unified School District Board of Education on April 26 approved the appointment of Raphael Guzman as assistant superintendent of business services and Sandi Tsosie as the director of technology services.

Guzman has more than 13 years of experience in supporting school district finance. Most recently, he served as the chief business official of the Inglewood Unified School District, where he and his team achieved several positive financial certifications, settled collective bargaining agreements, facilitated the implementation of a new bond measure and enabled several construction and facilities projects to advance.

“Mr. Guzman brings with him exemplary experience in the business services field, having held positions spanning various financial sectors,” BHUSD Superintendent of Schools Michael Bregy said. “His extensive knowledge and leadership skills will equip Mr. Guzman to continue sustaining our sound fiscal position.”

Prior to his service as a chief

business official, Guzman served as the director of fiscal services at the Whittier City School District, where he was responsible for the leadership of the fiscal services department. His responsibilities included financial reporting, facilities accounting and planning, payroll, accounts payable and budgeting. He held various roles in school finance and is experienced in many sectors of the business office. Before his employment in school districts, he served in the U.S. Marine Corps for more than four years. Guzman’s military occupational specialty was related to personnel, payroll and governmental accounting.

“I am humbled and honored to have been selected to serve the wonderful Beverly Hills Unified family,” he said. “We are in a challenging time in education, and I hope to be a valuable asset to the Beverly Hills Unified School District community in ensuring our students are successful and achieve academic excellence. I will be a collaborative partner in further implementing the district’s vision

and mission. I strive to work with the board, superintendent, administration, our certificated and classified staff, and all our educational partners to ensure our students receive a world-class education.”

Tsosie served as a career and technical education instructor, Title I and intervention coordinator, student council advisor, detention coordinator and girls’ basketball coach for the first 12 years of her career while working for the Hermosa Beach City School District.

She has received multiple awards from the California Industrial and Technology Education Association and International Technology and Engineering Educators Association, both as teacher of the year and leading the CTE international program of the year. Tsosie has provided ongoing professional development on cutting-edge technology within the education field for many years, as well as within the state of California and the ITEEA community.

“Mrs. Tsosie brings a unique skill set to BHUSD with significant



photo courtesy of the BHUSD
Sandi Tsosie



photo courtesy of the BHUSD
Raphael Guzman

experience in both educational and technological areas,” Bregy said. “She has commendable accolades for her leadership as recognized by numerous awards. We look forward to Mrs. Tsosie joining BHUSD to continue implementing the often unseen, yet extremely valuable work, done by our technology department.”

Tsosie has served as an administrator for the past five years in the Palos Verdes Peninsula School District. As a principal, she led her

school team in developing and refining programs that focused on technology in education and building technology literacy among teachers and staff. She was instrumental in developing the district’s technology plans focusing on sustainability, fiscal responsibility and ongoing professional development.

“It is my honor to be part of BHUSD,” Tsosie said. “I look forward to continuing the legacy of excellence as we move into the future together.”

LAUSD launches air monitoring network

The Los Angeles Unified School District on April 22 unveiled the nation’s largest school-based air monitoring network at Hesby Oaks Leadership Charter earlier as part of Superintendent Alberto M. Carvalho’s 100-Day Plan.

As part of the Know Your Air Network, district officials installed sensors at 200 school locations across the LAUSD’s 710 square-mile footprint, providing students, parents, teachers and the community with important real-time data about their local air quality.

“To ensure that our students reach their full potential, we must also ensure the safety of our schools,” Carvalho said. “The launch of the Know Your Air Network provides us with an important tool to monitor air quality throughout the district, allowing us to proactively ensure student safety.”

Calibrated for accuracy, the air sensors take a measurement of fine particulate matter in the air every six minutes. Measurable elements detectable by the network include

smog, exhaust, industrial emissions, smoke and dust. Sensors are deployed across the district, allowing each school to have a sensor installed within a 1.6-mile radius.

“Many of our Los Angeles Unified communities are environmentally impacted after suffering decades of underinvestment”

Board President Kelly Gonez

“I’m proud to see this implementation of a resolution I sponsored in 2019 to reduce air pollution and find a way to monitor air quality in all our school communities,” said LAUSD Board Vice President Nick Melvoin, who represents Hesby Oaks Leadership Charter. “While the world has changed in unthink-

able ways since I first proposed this initiative, our commitment to providing the safest possible learning environment for our kids has remained steadfast. We will continue to prioritize the safe, in-person learning of our students, with the help of tools like the Know Your Air network.”

“Many of our Los Angeles Unified communities are environmentally impacted after suffering decades of underinvestment,” Board President Kelly Gonez said. “We must work to address the environmental injustices our students face, whether it’s air quality, lack of green space or extreme heat. The Know Your Air Network is part of a larger strategy Los Angeles Unified

is taking to make our schools greener and more resilient for our students and families.”

Data from the Know Your Air Network will be used during critical events, such as wildfires, allowing the district to proactively respond to ensure the safety of students. Members of the public may also view real-time data from the network on LAUSD’s website at [achieve.lausd.net/knowyourairnetwork](https://www.lausd.net/knowyourairnetwork) or through the AirVisual mobile app.

Relying on a unique public-private partnership, the district partnered with Clarity Movement Co. to provide the sensors, software and networking infrastructure as the foundation for the Know Your Air Network.

“Our core founding grew out of California public schools,” Clarity Movement Co. CEO David Lu said.

“We’re humbled and honored to bring years of innovation and development on air quality monitoring back to benefit California schools.”

The Coalition for Clean Air provided experts and funding partners, such as Wells Fargo and the Zolla Family Foundation, to design and operate the project’s pilot program.

“Parents and the public need accurate, local air quality data available in real time,” coalition president and CEO Dr. Joseph K. Lyou said. “The creation of this network required a true coalition of public and private parties coming together.”

The district’s partnership with the Coalition for Clean Air is complemented by a recent board action to explore opportunities to mitigate the harmful effects of air pollution on school communities.

BVMS students go to space (camp)

During spring break, 40 Beverly Vista Middle School students traveled to Space Camp in Huntsville, Ala., for an out-of-this-world experience.

The camp was an extension for students who have taken advanced STEM classes, including the advanced aerospace curriculum, which prepared them to take the adventure, train as astronauts and prepare for future careers among the stars.

Camp activities included missions to the International Space Station, the moon and Mars. The students trained like an astronaut on a gravity chair and multi-axis trainer. They also designed and launched a rocket, built a heat shield for re-entry and learned about commercial space flight pioneers like SpaceX.

The adults also got in on the fun, with Team Marshall training alongside the students.



photo courtesy of the BHUSD

Students from Beverly Vista Middle School trained like an astronaut at Space Camp.

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Music Center opens student arts festival to the public

The Music Center's 43rd annual Very Special Arts Festival returns to an in-person celebration on April 29-30, opening to the public for the first time.

The festival continues the performing arts center's long tradition

of providing opportunities for young people of all abilities to express creativity. The festival welcomes school groups only on Friday, April 29, from 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m.; and opens to the public on Saturday, April 30, from 9:30 a.m.-

1 p.m. Both days will feature performances, art and dance workshops, magic shows and an art exhibition of student works inspired by the festival theme, "the Arts Heal L.A."

The program will include an ASL interpreter and will be transcribed for people with visual impairment. The free event, which is the only student festival of its kind in Los Angeles County, celebrates artistic achievements and encourages active participation in the arts and connection with one another as a community.

"The Music Center's Very Special Arts Festival has been a beloved and inclusive event for the past 43 years, but it is particularly meaningful this year as we are finally able to return to an in-person celebration, and, for the first time, invite the public to experience the inspiring creative talents of children of all abilities," said Rachel S. Moore, president and CEO of the Music Center. "This year's theme

could not be more fitting as we come together to celebrate the transformative and healing power of the arts for all."

"Our partner schools look forward to the Very Special Arts Festival each year, and we're very excited to return to an in-person event where young people and people of all ages and abilities can once again experience the communal and uplifting experience of participating

in the arts and engaging in opportunities to express themselves creatively, which is vital to everyone's overall well-being," added Keith Wyffels, associate vice president of education for TMC Arts.

The programs will be hosted by Suzanna Guzman and David Prather. The Music Center is located at 135 N. Grand Ave. For information and to RSVP, visit music-center.org.



photo courtesy of the Music Center

Works by students will be highlighted at the Music Center's Very Special Arts Festival.

Craft Contemporary hosts CLAY LA

CLAY LA 2022, a two-day open market and celebration of all things clay, will take place April 30 and May 1 at Craft Contemporary. The event will feature shopping, music, hands-on clay activities and an early shoppers preview brunch.

CLAY LA is an annual sale and fundraiser showcasing emerging and established ceramic makers in the Los Angeles area. Meet and shop from some of L.A.'s most

vibrant and dynamic makers.

The ticketed preview brunch will occur at 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 30. It will include early access to the market, first pick of ceramic pieces, a hands-on workshop for families, a flower bar and complimentary drinks and light refreshments. Tickets for the preview are \$40 and can be purchased at craft-contemporary.org/clay-la-2022.

General museum admission will

run from noon through 5 p.m. on April 30. May 1 hours will be 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. An opportunity to make a clay keepsake, with air-dry clay donated by Laguna Clay, will take place from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. both days. Regular tickets are \$9 for adults, \$7 for students, teachers and seniors and free for Craft Contemporary members. All museum tickets are free or pay-what-you-can on Sundays.

For information visit craftcontemporary.org. Craft Contemporary is located at 5814 Wilshire Blvd.

Students gain access to technical education at Local District Central

Los Angeles Unified School District's Local District Central and Division of Adult and Career Education announced April 21 an unprecedented partnership to provide high school students with access to career technical education in transportation, healthcare and information technology.

High school juniors and seniors will continue their coursework while gaining work experience that leads to high-wage, high-skill careers.

"In adhering to the superintendent's 100-Day Plan for the expansion of learning options, I want our families to have an abundance of skills to increase career options," Local District Central superintendent Frances Baez said. "Because of this historic partnership, our students will be able to jump-start their careers."

High school students will receive career certification in addition to obtaining an A-G high school diploma to prepare them for college. Classes will be offered

either after school or on Saturdays.

At Belmont Senior High School, students can enroll in the auto technician course for careers in transportation. At the Roybal Learning Center, students will be trained in health care for jobs as medical assistants, certified nursing assistants, dental assistants and pharmacy technicians.

Students also can take courses at Eagle Rock and Jefferson high schools to learn about information technology. Starting pay for those entry-level positions at the LAUSD, for example, is \$23.09 per hour.

"Partnering with Local District Central to expand access to high-quality workforce certification programs really puts the AND in college and career preparedness," said Joseph Stark, LAUSD's executive director of adult education.

Students can enroll online through their counselors at tinyurl.com/ctecourses22. For information, visit belmonthighschool.org/ourpages.

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I'm not over that 'Killing Eve' finale

■ A spoiler-filled retraction of a series that betrayed us all

When the pandemic began, I got creative with reviews in lieu of theater access, delving into streaming services for brief respites from isolation. One such TV series enjoyed two lovely seasons on BBC America before making some, well, choices.

"Killing Eve" started so well. I even endorsed it during those entertaining heydays, but I feel like I owe everyone a retraction for that ending. After four tight seasons, things concluded poorly for all parties involved on April 10.

For the uninitiated, "Killing Eve" follows off-and-on agent Eve Polastri's (Sandra Oh) obsessive investigation into various assassinations conducted by the mysterious and sociopathic Villanelle (Jodie Comer). The pair form a unique bond across 32 episodes, but they eventually find themselves on the same side as they plan to bring

down The Twelve, a nefarious international organization secretly manipulating world affairs.

Endings matter. Think of all those stories with promise that fumble in the third act. TV shows with extended story arcs seem particularly prone to this. "Dexter," "Game of Thrones," even "Chuck" flipped off their viewers with cringy finales. Add "Killing Eve" to the list. Shock value trumps closure here. (Prepare yourself for spoilers ahead.)

Things go wrong before the series' final moments. In the previous episode, producers decided to kick off the end with the death of Konstantin (Kim Bodnia), the most charming character of the entire show. Did that need to happen? Maybe. But feels so useless considering how and why.

An assassin-in-training executes the execution on the order of someone already dead. Immediate remorse follows. Frankly, it's a punk death – the kind Disney would retcon in the "Star Wars" universe to rectify a past wrong. Still, one death can't undo all the splendid

ON SCREEN

WITH
TIM POSADA

ups and downs leading to the big farewell. But it can foreshadow more cheap trips to come.

In most of season four, Eve is rather tedious, judging everyone and making extremely questionable choices. But all the indecision crumbles away once the pair learns the location of The Twelve, hell-bent on killing them all at once. But no plan unfolds.

Like "Thelma and Louise" fan fiction, the pair road trip to their final destination, listening to music, laughing and finally answering the series' most lingering question: will they or won't they? They do.

The majority of the episode focuses on the Eve and Villanelle's blissful journey. They're finally happy together, Eve moving down a darker path and Villanelle returning from the abyss, proving she can change despite the diagnoses of most experts.

Then it's game time. The Twelve commune in the lower deck of a cruise ship while a wedding transpires upstairs. Perfect. Villanelle dispatches the threat – we never see any of them – while Eve kills time dancing. Once concluded, they embrace one last time on the deck. All the joy this episode presents, all the satisfaction of their relationship finally solidifying, is snuffed out by a sniper's bullet.



photo courtesy of BBC America

Eve (Sandra Oh) and Villanelle (Jodie Comer) share a blissful journey in the final episode of "Killing Eve," but the series' ending leaves much to be desired.

They fall in the water. Villanelle sinks to her death. Cut to Carolyn (Fiona Shaw), the former MI-6 big shot who actually helped form The Twelve (it gets a bit convoluted along the way), who commends the unseen sniper. Once more, she betrays Eve and Villanelle. Who knows why – it's not worth pondering.

Finally, Eve ascends the water drenched in grief. Mid scream, the scene cuts to a black screen bleeding two words in red: "The End." That's it. After this many hours or moral ambiguity and sexual repression, apparently both the leading ladies and the rest of us are punished for straying from the status quo.

If I knew this would be the end – that "Killing Eve" would merely mimic the tired "bury your gays"

trope – I wouldn't have bothered. This one joins the ranks of "The 100," "Boardwalk Empire," "Buffy the Vampire Slayer," "House of Cards," "Northern Exposure," "Orphan Black," "Pretty Little Liars," "Private Practice," "Skins," "Spartacus" and "The Walking Dead," who all killed lesbian love interests. Even the original author Luke Jennings, who let them live happily ever after in print, found the ending troubling and disappointing.

A return to the norm that killers must die by the finale plays out like a mutated resurgence of the Hays Code during the golden age of cinema: murderers must die. If a TV series like this can't allow us to suspend our obligations to realism, then what's the point of storytelling?

El Capitan celebrates Star Wars Day

The El Capitan Theatre is holding a special engagement of the original "Star Wars" trilogy from April 28-30 to celebrate Star Wars Day, also known as "May the Fourth."

Each film in the trilogy will be shown for one day. "Star Wars: A New Hope (Episode IV)" will be shown on April 28, followed by "Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back (Episode V)" on April 29 and "Star Wars: Return of the Jedi (Episode VI)" on April 30. Daily showtimes are 10 a.m., 1:20 p.m., 4:40 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Tickets are \$15. The El Capitan

Theatre is located at 6838 Hollywood Blvd. For information and tickets, call (800)DISNEY6, or visit elcapitantickets.com.



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Mark Hamill, left, Carrie Fisher and Harrison Ford star in "Star Wars: A New Hope," which will be shown on April 28 at the El Capitan Theatre.



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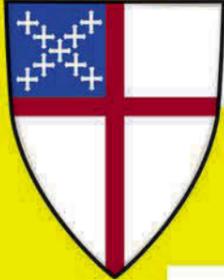
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ALL SAINTS'

POLICE BLOTTER

The following crimes occurred in West Hollywood, Beverly Hills and the areas patrolled by the LAPD's Wilshire and Hollywood divisions between April 15 and April 23. The information was compiled from crimemapping.com. To report a crime, call local law enforcement agencies: Los Angeles Police Department, Wilshire Division (213)473-0476, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department West Hollywood Station (310)855-8850, and the Beverly Hills Police Department (310)550-4951.

Beverly Hills Police Department

April 17

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 400 block of N. Canon at 7:30 a.m.

At 9:06 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of N. Canon.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 400 block of N. Beverly at 10:39 a.m.

At 6 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a residential burglary in the 100 block of N. Oakhurst.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of Canon at 6:35 p.m.

At 7:38 p.m., a suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs near the corner of Foothill and Burton.

April 18

At 7:36 p.m., an arson fire was reported in the 400 block of S. El Camino.

April 19

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 9800 block of Santa Monica at 12:50 p.m.

At 3:35 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 200 block of Beverly.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8800 block of Wilshire at 8:23 p.m.

At 11:45 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 9000 block of Santa Monica.

April 21

At 2:31 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 400 block of Beverly.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 300 block of N. Bedford at 4:44 p.m.

April 22

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 700 block of N. Alpine at 2:39 p.m.

At 4:59 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 900 block of Alpine.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 900 block of N. Rexford at 5 p.m.

At 11 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of N. Canon.

April 23

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 600 block of N. Alta at 4:50 a.m.

At 1:25 p.m., a vandalism incident was reported in the 9800 block of Olympic.

An unknown suspect committed a

petty theft in the 200 block of N. Rodeo at 3:49 p.m.

West Hollywood Sheriff's Station

April 17

A suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 8400 block of Sunset at 1:30 a.m.

At 3 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 7500 block of Norton.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8400 block of Sunset at 8:50 p.m.

At 8:50 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 500 block of N. Croft.

April 18

At 10:28 p.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim near the corner of Santa Monica and Genesee.

April 19

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 1200 block of Formosa at noon.

At 2:30 p.m., a suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 8900 block of Melrose.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 1100 block of Detroit at 5 p.m.

At 7 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8400 block of Melrose.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 1000 block of Hayworth at 9:55 p.m.

At 10:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 7200 block of Fountain.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 9000 block of Santa Monica at 11:45 p.m.

April 20

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

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1200 block of N. Ogden at 5 p.m.

At 5:45 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7100 block of Santa Monica.

April 21

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1000 block of Hayworth at 10:45 a.m.

At 7:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 7300 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 500 block of N. Orlando at 9:53 p.m.

April 22

An unknown suspect committed a

burglary in the 1200 block of Poinsettia at 3:15 a.m.

At 7 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 8500 block of Rosewood.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8400 block of Sunset at 10 p.m.

April 23

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1100 block of Hacienda at 12:16 a.m.

At 11 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of Doheny and Santa Monica.

Los Angeles Police Department

April 15

At 12:01 a.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim near the corner of Las Palmas and Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 5800 block of Clinton at 1 p.m.

At 2:50 p.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 6100 block of Fountain.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1400 block of N. Mansfield at 5 p.m.

At 6 p.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 6500 block of Hollywood.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near Selma and Vista Del Mar at 10:55 p.m.

At 11:30 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked near the corner of Waring and Alfred.

April 16

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 6500 block of Sunset at 12:01 a.m.

At 12:10 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7500 block of Hollywood.

An attempted vehicle burglary was reported in the 100 block of S. Arden at 3:30 a.m.

At 9 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 800 block of N. Vine.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 6800 block of Santa Monica at 12:30 p.m.

At 3 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 1400 block of N. Sierra Bonita.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 700 block of N. Highland at 3:45 p.m.

At 8 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft near the corner of Beverly and Ogden.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 800 block of N. Alfred at 10:30 p.m.

At 10:30 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 8200 block of Presson.

April 17

At 12:01 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 900 block of N. Sycamore.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of Hollywood and Orange at 1 a.m.

At 3:30 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 6100 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of De Longpre and Ivar at 4:50 a.m.

At 7:30 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 400 block of S. Curson.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 8000 block of Romaine at 7:36 a.m.

At 9:15 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a bicycle in the 1100 block of Cardiff.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1300 block of N. Formosa at 4 p.m.

At 4 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near the corner of Willoughby and Hudson.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 7500 block of Melrose at 7 p.m.

At 11:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 500 block of S. Curson.

April 18

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 8400 block of Melrose Place at 2:10 a.m.

At 3:30 a.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim near the corner of Lexington and Vine.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 500 block of N. Arden at 8:30 p.m.

At 11:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8200 block of Blackburn.

April 19

An unknown suspect robbed a victim near the corner of Fairfax and Third at 1:25 a.m.

At 8:40 a.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 1500 block of N. La Brea.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 7100 block of Sunset at 9 a.m.

At 9:40 a.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 1200 block of N. McCadden.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 6800 block of Willoughby at 11:35 a.m.

At 1:20 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 200 block of S. La Brea.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near San Vicente and Wilshire at 1:30 p.m.

At 3:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 300 block of Hauser.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near the corner of De Longpre and Vine at 7 p.m.

At 11:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1600 block of N. Las Palmas.

April 20

At 9 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 1300 block of Poinsettia.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 5000 block of Wilshire at 1:30 p.m.

At 2 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked near the corner of Hauser and Orange.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of Fairfax and Third at 3:10 p.m.

At 4:50 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 100 block of N. La Cienega.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 900 block of Keniston at 6 p.m.

At 6:15 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 800 block of N. Edinburgh.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 700 block of S. Spaulding at 6:30 p.m.

At 6:40 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked near the corner of Melrose and Orange Grove.

April 21

At 2:55 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 400 block of S. Holt.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim near the corner of Santa Monica and McCadden at 3 a.m.

At 2 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of Sunset and Spaulding.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 6600 block of Bonair at 6 p.m.

At 6:25 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 1000 block of N. Orlando.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 100 block of S. Martel at 6:45 p.m.

At 8:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 6600 block of Santa Monica.

A robbery was reported in the 7100 block of Melrose at 9 p.m.

At 10:30 pm., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1500 block of N. Argyle.

April 22

At 12:40 p.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 1400 block of Vine.

A suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 8200 block of Blackburn at 3:15 p.m.

At 4 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near the corner of Fountain and Cahuenga.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near the corner of Orange and Ninth at 8 p.m.

At 9 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 6600 block of Hollywood.

April 23

At 12:40 a.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 600 block of N. Saint Andrews.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 6600 block of Hollywood at 3:20 a.m.

At 4:40 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of Third and Van Ness.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 300 block of N. Flores at 8:37 a.m.

At 2:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near the corner of Selma and Ivar.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 1400 block of N. Sweetzer at 5 p.m.

At 7 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 6300 block of Hollywood.

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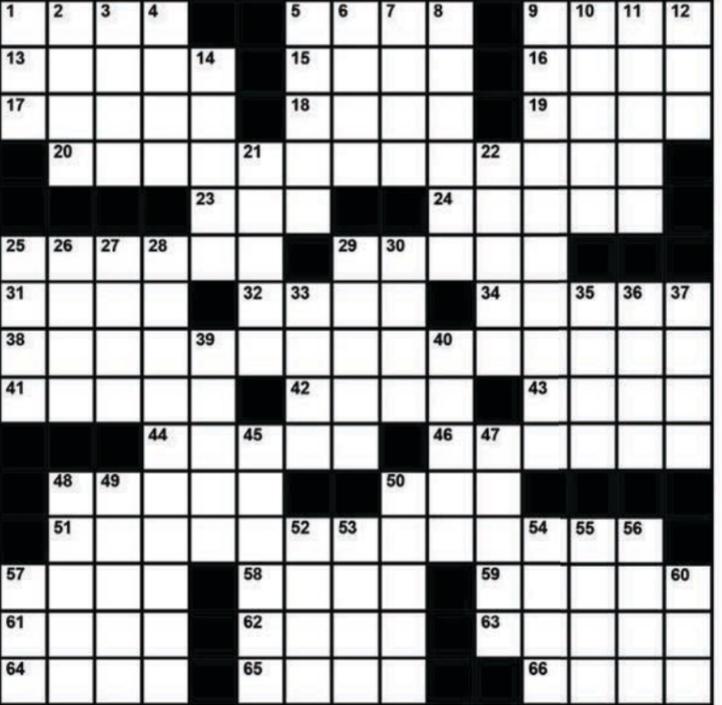
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Crossword Puzzle by Myles Mellor

- Across**
- High-flying mil. group
 - Farm equipment
 - Provoke
 - What Little Bo Peep lost
 - Eastern music
 - Adherents
 - Our planet
 - "Two fives for ___"
 - Deli-sandwich side dish
 - Survivor hit
 - Egyptian king
 - Intense
 - Big name in guitars
 - Relinquishes
 - Get a load of
 - Sweet cherry
 - New York city
 - Nursery song
 - Baccarat "declaration"
 - Nice report card
 - It's for the birds
 - Face-to-face exams
 - Emissary
 - Improvise
 - TV's Longoria
 - Elton John hit
 - Spanish love
 - Chateaubriand hero
 - First name in hotels
 - The "B" of N.B.
 - Electrical letters
 - Expression of surprise
 - Spent
 - Hot stuff
 - Bruce and Spike
- Down**
- Wear and tear
 - Game of Thrones character
 - Unsubstantial
 - Bash
 - Whitney's business partner
 - Strip of wood
 - S-curve
 - Classified
 - "Eew!"
 - Land patch
 - It may be blank
 - Capt.'s heading
 - Snapshot
 - Toadstools, e.g.
 - Freeze over
 - Very smooth
 - Small amount
 - Cap'n's mate
 - Blue
 - Spanish houses
 - "Lord of the Rings" singer
 - Abbr. at the end of a list
 - Guess
 - "___ la vie"
 - Comic Johnson
 - Kind of cleaning acid



- Soothing ointment
- Away from the mouth
- "___ bird catches the worm"
- Summits
- Go on and on
- Chosen ones
- Style of the Rockefeller Center
- Chinese leader?
- Trompe l'___
- Pepsi rival
- "Trick" joint
- "Aladdin" monkey
- Slow equine

answers on page 27

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Native artist joins county arts program

The Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture has selected artist and entrepreneur Jacob Pratt for a one-year residency as part of its Creative Strategist-Artist in Residence Program. Pratt will work with staff at the Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission to develop a project with performing art presentations, community engagement, cultural asset mapping and other programming.

The LANAIC residency develops ways to increase awareness and understanding of local tribes and the urban American Indian and Alaska Native community, especially their histories and cultural practices. The goal is to build and sustain trust between Los Angeles County and the AIAN community.

Pratt, who is Dakota and Ojibway, is a pow wow and hoop dancer who is also trained in contemporary and ballet dance. He is an accomplished Native American flute player and co-hosted the Canadian TV series "Wild Archeology." Pratt has a master's degree in social entrepreneurship from USC's Marshall School of Business and a bachelor's degree in business administration from the First Nations University of Canada. His production company won a Clio Award for the "Use Your Voice" campaign for Disney Channel, which featured young people making positive change in their communities.

Pratt's project will also align with another collaboration between the Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture and LANAIC to develop a land acknowledgment policy and protocol for Los Angeles



photo courtesy of the Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture

Artist and entrepreneur Jacob Pratt aims to strengthen ties between the Native community and Los Angeles County.

County. Land acknowledgments are formal statements that recognize the history and enduring relationship between Indigenous Peoples and their traditional homelands. It is a symbol of recognition and respect to honor the original inhabitants as the stewards and caretakers of unceded lands.

"Los Angeles County is prioritizing equity for all of its residents, and as a part of that work, it is also taking unprecedented steps to engage with and address the needs of its Native community. The Department of Arts and Culture is proud to contribute to these efforts and collaborate again with our incredible partners at the Native American Indian Commission to raise the visibility of our local tribes through the lens of arts and culture," Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture

director Kristin Sakoda said. "Artist Jacob Pratt will bring his lived experience and his skills in media, community engagement and storytelling to the Creative Strategist Program. In launching this new residency, we are excited to commit cultural resources to shift narrative change and develop new ways to connect with American Indian and Alaska Native communities."

"I'm looking forward to working with the LANAIC and L.A. County. The indigenous community here in L.A. is the largest urban population in the United States. It consists of local tribes that have a deep connection to this land and tribal groups from all across North America," Pratt added. "My goal is to make a positive impact on this community and share the rich history and stories with L.A. County residents. No ethnic group should be invisible, especially when they are the Indigenous Peoples of the land we all share and live on. I'm very proud to be a part of changing the narrative and representation of Indigenous Peoples in L.A. County."

For information, visit lacountysarts.org/creativestrategist.

Distinguished Speaker Series welcomes Malala Yousafzai

The Distinguished Speaker Series presents Malala Yousafzai, the youngest-ever Nobel Prize recipient and an activist for education and equality, on Sunday, May 15, at 7 p.m. at the Saban Theatre in Beverly Hills.

"Malala Yousafzai's continued advocacy is an inspiration to those who fight for children throughout the globe" said Kathy Winterhalter, founder of the Distinguished Speaker Series of Southern California. "She is a hero to so many. The community interest in seeing her has been tremendous and has initiated the unusual decision to open up tickets to non-subscribers."

Yousafzai survived an assassination attempt in 2012 and became the youngest Nobel Peace Laureate in 2014. She opened the largest library in Europe by declaring, "Pens and books are the weapons that will defeat terrorism." Even with her many accomplishments, Yousafzai does not consider herself extraordinary. She is "simply Malala," as she describes herself.

Born on July 12, 1997, in Mingora, Pakistan, Yousafzai was enrolled in her father's school at age 4. Her father, Ziauddin Yousafzai, is a Pakistani educator, activist and humanitarian who established a school in their rural home in Swat Valley.

Inspired by her father's activism, Yousafzai began her campaign for girls' education at age 11 with "Diary of a Pakistani Schoolgirl," an anonymous blog for the BBC about life under the Taliban. She soon began advocating publicly for girls' education and joined her father on visits to neighboring villages to recruit students for the school. While he spoke to the men, she spoke to the women. Their crusade was the subject of a New York Times short documentary in 2009.

Yousafzai also began attracting



photo courtesy of the Distinguished Speaker Series

Malala Yousafzai will discuss her experiences during an installment of the Distinguished Speaker Series of the Westside on May 15.

international media attention and awards. Due to her increased prominence, she was shot in the head by a terrorist in October 2012 on her way home from school. She survived the horrific attack and did not let the act of violence deter her mission.

She later moved to England and continued speaking up for young girls. After months of surgery, she co-founded the Malala Fund to continue her campaign to enable all girls to attend school. In December 2014, Yousafzai, 17, received the Nobel Peace Prize in recognition of her work for education and equality. She graduated from Oxford University with a degree in philosophy, politics and economics in 2020. Her best-selling memoir, "I Am Malala," has been translated into more than 40 languages.

The Distinguished Speaker Series is held at the Saban Theatre, 8440 Wilshire Blvd., in Beverly Hills. Yousafzai will be the final presenter in a series of six talks in the Distinguished Speaker Series of the Westside. The program will conclude with a 30-minute unfiltered and candid Q&A session.

Tickets to Malala Yousafzai are \$85 until May 10. For information and tickets, visit speakersla.com.

'Gatsby Redux' arrives at Greystone

The city of Beverly Hills Community Services Department in partnership with director/choreographer Janet Roston and Mixed eMotion Theatrx brings an immersive dance theater production, "Gatsby Redux," to Greystone Mansion and Gardens: The Doheny Estate on April 27-29.

The production has been booked at historic mansions and grounds throughout the United States and is making its debut in Beverly Hills. The site-specific, 90-minute production has audience members follow the dancers through the terraced grounds, exploring themes inspired by the novel, "The Great Gatsby."

"Gatsby Redux" was originally commissioned by the Los Angeles Music Center and performed in the Blue Ribbon Garden of Disney Concert Hall.

"I am so excited that Mixed eMotion Theatrx will be presenting 'Gatsby Redux' at Greystone. 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," Roston said.

"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," arts and culture manager Ben Johnson said.

The event is outside and will involve walking throughout the performance, at times walking on slate, grass and stairs. Comfortable shoes are encouraged. Guests are encouraged to arrive between 6 and 7 p.m. and dress in 1920s-themed attire, if they so wish, for a chance to take photos on the beautiful terrace of Greystone. Due to the historic nature of the grounds, some sections of the performance are only accessible via stairs. For questions regarding accessibility, call (310)285-6830.



photo courtesy of the city of Beverly Hills

The novel "The Great Gatsby" is the inspiration for "Gatsby Redux," which will perform at Greystone Mansion and Gardens: The Doheny Estate April 27 through 29.

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DCA observes civil uprising anniversary

The Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs will present six commissioned artists to create and perform original works in observance of the 30th anniversary of the Los Angeles civil uprising at 5 p.m. on April 29 at Leimert Plaza Park.

Six free live performances – representing the six days of the rebellion – will take place in front of the installation of Hank Willis Thomas’s “All Power to All People” artwork.

DCA’s Leimert Park Cultural Hub is producing the event, “Voices of the Rebellion: 30th Anniversary Reflections,” in conjunction with Monumental Los Angeles, a traveling public art installation initiative hosted and supported by Council District 10.

“All Power to All People,” a 28-foot-tall afro pik with a raised fist capping the handle, is a symbol of “community, strength, perseverance, comradeship and belonging” – themes that should be expressed in the proposed theatrical works. Actors will perform monologues, short plays or poetry not to exceed five minutes in length.

Each of the six projects will receive an award of \$2,000, consisting of an artist fee and production fee. DCA committed \$10,000 towards the installation of the monument in addition to \$12,000 in commissions to South L.A. theater artists for programming.

The artists were selected to showcase their work by a panel of judges comprised of Akuyoe Graham, Ben Guillory and Rhonda Mitchell.

‘The Fire This Time’ to screen April 29

The Los Angeles Public Library’s Changing Tones team in partnership with Community Build, Inc. and the African American Heritage Month Legacy Project will present a rare, one-time-only screening of the documentary “The Fire This Time,” directed by Randy Holland, followed by a panel discussion, marking 30 years after the 1992 L.A. Civil Unrest. The LAPL will present an in-person and virtual screening of the doc on Friday, April 29, beginning at 12:45 p.m. with the panel discussion to follow at 3:15 p.m., which is the same time the acquittals of four police officers were announced for the beating of Rodney King.

Award-winning television journalist Beverly White from NBC4 will moderate a panel discussion, featuring legislators and community leaders in keeping with the event’s theme: “Where we were, where we are, where are we going?” Councilman Herb Wesson, the recently appointed Los Angeles City Councilman of District 10, will provide opening remarks. Wesson is the first African American to hold the position of Council President in the city’s history and was re-elected three times to lead the city’s legislative body. During his tenure as Council President, Wesson presided over monumental policy initiatives making Los Angeles a better place to live, work and raise a family.

For viewers wishing to attend, the screening will be held at the Taper Auditorium of Central Library, located at 630 W. 5th Street. For the virtual screening, participants can register with LAPL at forms.gle/NDSRCa9sTbbwWY57.

DCA’s Leimert Park Cultural Hub gave commissions to Peter J. Harris for “VoiceMusic in the 5th Street Sky,” spoken word, vocals and bass; Gary Jones for Blackstreet USA Puppet Theatre, a project on the effects of the 1992 civil unrest; Clayton Lawrence, who will present “Snooze,” an original poem highlighting the uprising experience; Penelope Lowder for “She Shot Me,” a short, three-person play; and Conney D. Williams for a poem, “orange juice and other crazy **** that happens to black people.”

The outdoor program will also feature singer/songwriter Radha Botofasina.

“The City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs is honored to partner with FACE on the SAIGU 30 campaign. DCA’s ‘Voices of the Rebellion: 30th Anniversary Reflections’ of the L.A. civil uprising supports our city’s efforts to unite our communities and bring about healing and wholeness. Through theatrical expression, ‘Voices’ will help transform memories, pain and trauma into opportunities for building community, strength, perseverance, comradeship, and belonging,” interim DCA general manager Daniel Tarica said.

“FACE is pleased to support the ‘Voices of the Rebellion’ event. Our SAIGU 30 campaign encourages the community’s efforts to lift the

voices and experiences presented as we reflect on events that culminated during that time,” FACE founder, president and CEO Hyepin Im said.

DCA is collaborating with a community partner, Faith and Community Empowerment, that launched its SAIGU initiative commemorating the anniversary of the civil uprising. “SAIGU” stands for “Serve, Advocate, Inspire, Give, Unite – Nurturing Black and Asian Solidarity” and “429” representing the effects of the Los Angeles civil uprising that began on April 29, 1992. For information, visit facela.org.

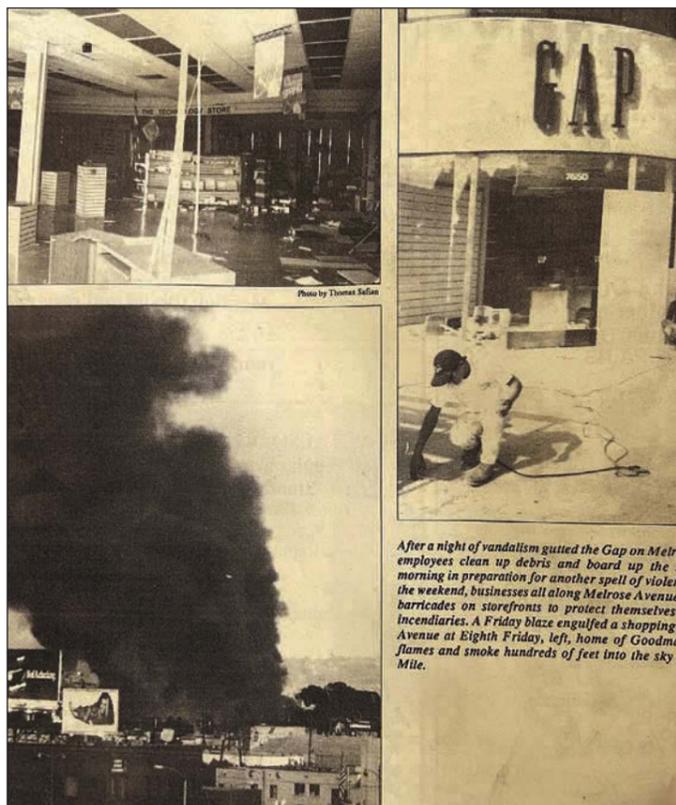
The Monumental Tour is a public art exhibition traveling across the domestic U.S. that features a rotating cast of American contemporary artists honoring aspects of the African American experience. It has been touring since 2018.

Monumental Los Angeles will be on view through May and will feature artists Arthur Jafa, Coby Kennedy, Christopher Myers and Hank Willis Thomas. Collectively, the works engage with one another in a curated discourse and honor and examine aspects of the African American experience, from the first slaves brought over in the 16th century to the present-day prison pipeline – and the struggle for liberation in between.

For information and locations, visit monumentaltour.org.

VINTAGE PARKLABREA NEWS

Commemorating 30th anniversary of the 1992 L.A. Riots



After a night of vandalism gutted the Gap on Melrose, employees clean up debris and board up the store morning in preparation for another spell of violence the weekend, businesses all along Melrose Avenue barricaded on storefronts to protect themselves incendiaries. A Friday blaze engulfed a shopping Avenue at Eighth Friday, left, home of Goodman flames and smoke hundreds of feet into the sky. Mite.

Photographs in the May 7, 1992, issue of the Park Labrea News showed some of the aftermath of the Los Angeles Riots, when civil unrest spread throughout the city from April 19-May 4, 1992. The civil unrest followed the acquittal of police officers involved in the beating of motorist Rodney G. King. Demonstrations, fires and looting occurred in the Hollywood, Wilshire, Beverly, Fairfax and Melrose areas, and many businesses were damaged or destroyed. The photographs show a Radio Shack store on La Brea Avenue that was looted, workers cleaning up outside at a GAP store on Melrose Avenue and smoke coming from a fire that destroyed Goodman Music on La Brea Avenue. This year, Friday, April 29, marks the 30th anniversary of the Los Angeles Riots. Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles is holding a special performance titled “Flashpoint 429” bringing community leaders and musicians together on April 29 at 7 p.m. at 5505 Wilshire Blvd. For information, visit kcccla.org. The Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs will also present original works by six commissioned artists on April 29, at 5 p.m. at Leimert Plaza Park, 4395 Leimert Blvd. For information, visit monumentaltour.org.

Podcast shares civil unrest stories

The Los Angeles Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department will launch Forward Together, a podcast by the department’s Human Relations Commission on Friday, April 29. The three-episode podcast will explore the L.A. civil unrest of 1992 on its 30th anniversary through the stories of diverse Angelenos.

“As a storyteller, I know the power that a new perspective or a lived experience can bring to an issue,” narrator Lisa Ling said. “The civil unrest of 1992 is part of the L.A. story, and it needs to be told so that we can have real understanding in Los Angeles. I am grateful to the L.A. Civil Rights Department and Human Relations Commission for collecting these stories and having me be a part of the journey.”

Forward Together, produced by students from the USC Annenberg School for Communications and Journalism, will allow listeners to hear real conversations between Angelenos of different backgrounds on how the civil unrest of 1992 changed them.

Episode one, “Faith,” drops on April 29 and will feature a conversation between two friends whose bond was built in the aftermath of 1992. Reverend “J” Edgar Boyd, pastor at First A.M.E. Church of Los Angeles, and Emile Mack, retired firefighter and current vice president of the Korean American Federation of Los Angeles, explore the realities of building solidarity and what it means to forge a path forward between the Black community and the Korean American community.

Episode two, “Memory,” will be released on May 2 and will feature

artist Victoria Cassinova, who painted the mural of Latasha Harlins at L.A.’s Algin Sutton Park, and filmmaker Justin Chon (“Pachinko,” “Gook”). Together, the two artists, who had never met before the conversation, quickly find a common bond in their struggles to depict the events of 1992 for a new generation.

The third episode, “Healing,” will be available on May 5 and will feature a conversation between two friends raised in the aftermath of the 1992 civil unrest. Activist Haewon Asfaw, who is Black and Korean and one of the foundering members of Black Lives Matter L.A., and therapist Gonji Lee, who describes themselves as a Korean queer femme child of immigrants who specializes in intergenerational trauma, share their stories about growing up in the aftermath of the 1992 unrest, how they see Los Angeles grappling with racial injustice today and how they are fostering healing, hope and solidarity in the next generation together.

“Thirty years after the LA Civil Unrest, we wanted to hear directly from Angelenos about what has changed since ‘92 and what hasn’t,” L.A. Civil Rights executive director Capri Maddox said. “Our Human Relations Commission has recorded powerful conversations that tell the stories of what it really means to build solidarity in Los Angeles, and the work that still needs to be done to create equity and opportunity for all.”

Forward Together will be available on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Anchor.fm and more.

For more information, visit anchor.fm/lacivilrights.

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NINE-5

Holocaust distortion remains prevalent

From page 1

school's director pulled Foti aside and explained that the school had received a lot of "grief" over their decision to use Noreika's name.

"And I said, 'Grief from who?' And he said, 'The Jews.' And I said, 'What could the Jews possibly say about my wonderful, magnificent, legendary grandfather who is a hero, who I love so much?' And he looked at me like I was the idiot," Foti said. "I didn't know what I was talking about, and, really, I was very unprepared. And he said, 'He was accused of killing Jews.' That was my last moment of innocence about my grandfather. I felt like somebody punched me in the gut."

Eighteen years later, she finished the book about her grandfather, "The Nazi's Granddaughter," and created a website to promote it. Within days, Foti was contacted by one of Gochin's associates, who said Gochin would like to speak to her about her grandfather. Gochin was filing a lawsuit against the Genocide Resistance and Research Centre of Lithuania for its role in Holocaust distortion, she said.

"After about six weeks," Foti added, "I finally said, 'Who did I write this book for if it wasn't for

someone like Grant?'"

She said she had read all of his research in his fight against Holocaust distortion in Lithuania, and when they spoke, she informed him that he had made a "huge" error: Gochin had omitted approximately 10,000 of her grandfather's victims.

Since that interaction, the two have been working together to combat Holocaust distortion by the Lithuanian government, which has systemically scrubbed the record of at least another dozen war criminals, Gochin said.

In 2018, a bill was introduced in the Lithuanian parliament that would criminalize Holocaust research, so Gochin called a meeting with Israeli-American Civic Action Network chief executive officer Dillon Hosier to discuss a plan of action. The ICAN board advised Hosier to "use the power of American diplomacy and American government," he said.

They reached out to the city of Beverly Hills, and the City Council passed a resolution condemning Lithuania. The West Hollywood City Council and Los Angeles City Council soon followed suit.

The resolutions garnered a lot of interest, and several international organizations joined the protest. Eventually, the bill was pulled, Gochin said.

However, the fight against state-sponsored Holocaust distortion continues, and it was the subject of a Holocaust Remembrance ceremony on April 25 in Neman Hall at the Iranian American Jewish Federation in West Hollywood.

Foti and Gochin told their stories at the event, and ICAN honored the city of Beverly Hills and Israeli Consul General Hillel Newman. Vice Mayor Julian Gold and Councilmen John Mirisch and Robert Wunderlich accepted the honor on behalf of the city.

"Holocaust denial seeks to erase the history of the Holocaust," Gold said. "In doing so, it seeks to legitimize Nazism and antisemitism. Truly, the genocide [that] happened in Germany is probably one of the best-documented atrocities in human history, and some people say it never happen. Holocaust distortion is more complicated. It's not that the Holocaust never happened; it's just not as bad as people say. It's an effort to minimize the



photo by Abraham Joseph Pal

The city of Beverly Hills was honored by ICAN on April 25. From left are Councilman Robert Wunderlich, ICAN California chair Vered Elkouby Nisim, Vice Mayor Julian Gold, Councilman John Mirisch and ICA chief executive officer Dillon Hosier.

impact of the Holocaust."

Mirisch said it is imperative for the Jewish community to remember the Holocaust and fight back against those who deny or suppress its impact on the world.

"It is a sacred responsibility for all of us, just in the same way that I believe it is the sacred responsibility of all of us to support and love Israel," he added. "That does-

n't mean we always agree with all the policies and the individual politics; we don't do that here either. But that is home and is a central part of our memory as a Jewish people."

"I'm proud to be here to remember the Holocaust and to say that we will be always vigilant in fighting distortion or denial of the Holocaust," Wunderlich added.

Plastic to be phased out in city facilities

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beginning of 2023, pending environmental review and budget allocations to fund their implementation.

"[This] vote is another historic milestone on our journey to a plastics-free future," said O'Farrell, chair of the City Council's Energy, Climate Change, Environmental Justice and Los Angeles River Committee. "By first phasing out single-use plastics at city facilities and city events, we are leading by example and setting the table for a citywide polystyrene ban. It's time to double down on a cleaner, greener Los Angeles."

"We [have taken] another step forward toward ending toxic plastic pollution," Koretz added. "Styrofoam, for example, has no market for recycling. After one use, the only thing it does is become a choking hazard for birds and fish. The styrene in Styrofoam even makes its way into our bodies by leaching into food and can impact our health. It is time to end another dangerously bad habit."

"The world is drowning in plastic waste. It chokes our waterways and pollutes our neighborhoods. Microplastic particles infiltrate

our food supply, the air we breathe and the water we drink," Krekorian added. "At this point, each of us ingests enough microplastic every week to make a new credit card. Los Angeles is once again taking the lead in defense of our environment."

The council also instructed the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office to draft an ordinance that will expand a 2013 prohibition on single-use carry out plastic bags. O'Farrell said the intent is to extend the ban on single-use bags to all stores in the city, beyond grocery stores and markets.

O'Farrell has long been a proponent of reducing the impact single-use plastic has on the environment, and said he was inspired at a young age to take action after seeing trash and plastic waste littering highways.

He spearheaded a 2019 ordinance banning restaurants from providing plastic straws except by request, and the city's 2021 utensils-by-request-only ordinance, which went into effect for all food and beverage facilities in Los Angeles on Earth Day, April 22, 2022.

O'Farrell, who is Native American, added that environ-

mental protection is of the utmost importance.

"I am a firm believer in a livable, clean environment, not just for myself, but for future generations," O'Farrell said. "There is a high spiritual value to treating the Earth with respect and treating the people of L.A. with respect as well."

The ban on single-use plastic products at city facilities and events was also celebrated by state leaders. O'Farrell held a press conference with government leaders and environmental advocates at City Hall following the passage of the measures.

"Plastic waste is a global crisis that threatens oceans, animals, the environment and public health. It's also hitting cities who have a waste management crisis on their hands," added state Sen. Ben Allen (D-Santa Monica), who chairs the California Senate's Environmental Quality Committee and the California Legislative Environmental Caucus. "The City Council's action is an important step in addressing the urgent financial challenges and environmental disasters caused by plastic pollution."



photo courtesy of Gov. Gavin Newsom's office

Officials celebrated the groundbreaking on Earth Day.

Wildlife crossing breaks ground

The National Wildlife Federation and Caltrans on April 22 held a groundbreaking ceremony for the Wallis Annenberg Wildlife Crossing, a project in Liberty Canyon that aims to protect wildlife in the Santa Monica Mountains.

Gov. Gavin Newsom and U.S. Rep. Adam Schiff (D-Burbank) were among the speakers. Schiff said the project will be "vital" to protecting local wildlife.

Newsom announced the launch of strategies to achieve California's first-in-the-nation 30x30 conservation goal and better manage the state's natural and working lands to combat climate change and protect our communities and ecosystems.

Newsom has put forward a \$37.6 billion climate package to protect Californians from the costs and impacts of climate change, while accelerating efforts to reduce the dependence on big polluters and fossil fuels.

"No challenge poses a greater threat to our way of life, prosperity and future as a state than climate change," Newsom said. "With our rich natural heritage on the front lines of this crisis, California is building on our global climate leadership with bold strategies that harness the power of nature to fight

climate change and protect our communities and ecosystems. Strong partnerships across the board will be critical to these efforts, and the project we're lifting up today is an inspiring example of the kind of creative collaborations that will help us protect our common home for generations to come."

The wildlife crossing will reconnect a long-fragmented ecosystem and a biodiversity hotspot, and it will be the first urban crossing of its scale – spanning 210 feet over 10 lanes of highway and pavement, along with an access road – and is the first to be significantly funded through private donations along with public support, according to the foundation.

A press release states that Wallis Annenberg and Annenberg Foundation were instrumental in the success of making the wildlife crossing a reality, by issuing a record-breaking challenge grant of \$25 million in 2021.

Isolation by highways and suburban development is a huge danger to wildlife and, if not addressed, the isolation will lead to a greater reduction of genetic diversity and ultimately cause the extinction of animals such as mountain lions.

David Glass returns as Alzheimer's Association chair

Enenstein Pham & Glass LLP managing partner David Glass will serve as both the returning Alzheimer's Association California Southland Chapter Board of Directors chair and as the chapter's first-ever Purple Spring Gala chair.

While the chapter normally allows board chairs to serve just one, two-year term, the board and chapter voted to retain Glass in his position, as Alzheimer's is on the rise in California.

Glass was first appointed board chair in 2019. However, three months into his tenure, the pandemic, a continued need for a more

diverse representation in the Alzheimer's services and research communities and a downturn in fundraising opportunities, inspired him not just to build, but to establish the monumental task of growth through it all.

Under Glass's leadership, the chapter launched more than 40 online and telephone support groups and educational classes and social engagement opportunities as well as free, interactive research webinars.

He helped heighten the awareness of the Alzheimer's Association 24/7 Helpline at (800)272-3900.

Further, Glass helped launch virtual advocacy programs that allowed association volunteers to ensure caregiver-related legislation and dementia funding was a continuing matter of focus in Sacramento and in Washington, D.C.

Glass twice oversaw annual Walks to End Alzheimer's and took on the role of the chapter's Purple Spring Gala chair, launching the first chapter Gala in Hollywood.

The inaugural Purple Spring Gala will be held on April 28. Purple Spring gala tables and tickets can be purchased at laspringgala.givesmart.com/.

Skanska celebrates ‘topping off’ of project

From page 1

through tough times over the past couple of years, so it meant a lot for the city to celebrate the project’s milestone with Skanska representatives in person.

“It’s fitting that we get to do this together,” Bosse added.

According to a press release, 9000 Wilshire has incorporated “intelligent efficiency with a commitment to local and global ecologies.” Designed by Neil M. Denari Architects and HLW, the building will offer flexible floorplates, outdoor work areas, operable windows and views from the rooftop deck. It will also feature bicycle parking, electric vehicle charging stations and public art.

“We value a healthy city, so the fact that you are valuing a healthy building and a healthy work environment – from the outdoor space to the sustainability to the technology – you are visionaries,” Bosse said. “We look forward to partnering with you. We look forward to making this process even easier for you.”

Vice Mayor Julian Gold said the partnership between the city and

Skanska has been good thus far.

“We hope that continues,” he said. “We love to see new things like – things that are on the cutting edge or things that are technologically superior. I’m sure this will be beautiful when it’s done. From the city’s point of view, this is exactly what we want to see. And for that, we want to be really good partners to make that happen.”

Councilman John Mirisch noted that 9000 Wilshire isn’t Skanska’s first “foray” into Beverly Hills, as the company is involved with the Purple Line Extension project. He said he was proud of the company’s Swedish roots, as he is a Swedish citizen himself.

Mirisch referenced a joint venture by IKEA and Skanska called BoKlok, which he said allows for the construction of modular, prefab housing up to five stories. He said the effort results in “wonderful” living spaces at a “great value.”

“If there’s any way that we can help you bring that product to not just Beverly Hills, but to California and the U.S., I know we would love

to do that,” Mirisch added. “So, this is a great start.”

City manager George Chavez said he’s spent 25 years on the regulatory side of the construction business, and that he was thoroughly impressed by what Skanska brings to the table.

“I thank you for being so professional and bringing such a quality building to the city,” he said.

Clare De Briere, executive vice president and regional manager for the Skanska USA Commercial Development’s L.A. region, said 9000 Wilshire is the company’s first commercial development project in California.

“We are excited to have this first project fully exemplify Skanska’s core values,” she said. “This will be the most sustainable office building in Beverly Hills, with a priority placed on the experience of our customers, from both a health and wellness perspective, as well as from a design perspective. We believe that the incorporation of art is integral to the design and also gives something back to the community here in



rendering courtesy of Skanska

Skanska’s 9000 Wilshire is the company’s first commercial building in Southern California.

Beverly Hills.”

Gordon Childress, Skanska USA Building’s executive vice president and general manager, said the building symbolizes the company’s hope to build more developments in the Los Angeles area.

“It’s affecting hundreds of workers positively every day, and we look

forward to turn the building over to the first tenant to let them affect the lives of many more,” he said. “We work with developing, building and delivering sustainable buildings ... and I can’t think of anything more sustainable than coming out, having a little fresh air and being able to work outside.”

Viper Room proposal hearing upcoming

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ever-changing, dynamic perforated bronze panels that anchor the building to the ground. It is the story of the Earth and the endless Pacific horizon,” Bernardo Fort-Brescia, co-founder of Arquitectonica, said in March.

Silver Creek Development touted the project as “the latest in the transformative evolution of the legendary Sunset Strip.”

The history of the Viper Room night club is legendary, perhaps most infamously known as the site of River Phoenix’s drug overdose in 1993, which led to his premature death. Established in 1993, the club was once partially owned by Johnny Depp. Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers performed at the club’s opening night. Johnny Cash, the Pussycat Dolls and the Stokes have all graced the venue. It’s stage has also been used in movies like “Charlie’s Angels:

Full Throttle” (2003), and at one time hosted an underground, celebrity poker ring, which was featured in the film “Molly’s Game” (2017).

Because of the Viper Room’s history, West Hollywood residents have expressed concern over the development plans.

Los Angeles historian and author Alison Martino has written about the project on Vintage Los Angeles.

“What you need to know is it’s not just the Viper Room, [but] the entire block is coming down,” Martino said. “Developers say they’re going to save the Viper Room and incorporate it into their new development. No, they’re just going to redesign an over-priced bottle service lounge off the lobby and call it the Viper Room. That’s not saving it.”

Martino also wrote that she was

fearful the rest of the blocks would soon be leveled for development.

“I’m terrified of seeing it all go and what will become of this area,” Martino said. “What’s even more maddening to me is there are two empty lots nearby. They couldn’t have just built this colossal nightmare there?”

To participate in the Design Review Committee hearing on April 28 at 6 p.m., visit us06web.zoom.us/j/81147197757 #success. To be added to the public speaking list, send an email to dgillig@weho.org. Written comments can also be sent to the email address, but they must be submitted by 4 p.m. on the same day as the hearing.

The hearing will not be the final word on the plans. The West Hollywood City Council will not consider design plans until after the committee’s review.

CHLA, LACC celebrate Earth Day



photo courtesy of CHLA

Children’s Hospital Los Angeles and the Los Angeles City College Foundation on Earth Day, April 22, celebrated the one-year anniversary of their community garden, which is located on the LACC campus in East Hollywood. Volunteers grow culturally-diverse fruits and vegetables that are distributed to students and the community. They also use the produce to create meals for volunteers. To support the garden, call the foundation at (323)953-4011 or e-mail info@laccfoundation.org.

Garcetti presents budget proposal

Mayor Eric Garcetti on April 20 announced his proposed budget for the 2022-23 fiscal year — a proposal that makes record-breaking investments in homelessness while maintaining the largest cumulative reserves in city history at 8.8%, he said.

The spending plan includes the city’s largest ever investment at \$1.164 billion, which is more than 20 times the homelessness budget when Garcetti took office in 2013. The budget also shows a 6.6% increase in projected revenue from last year, an indication that the city is undergoing one of the strongest economic recoveries from the pandemic in the nation, the mayor said.

“This spending plan is about more than doubling down on the improvements and solutions that Angelenos can see and feel in their daily lives; it’s about placing our city on a fixed course to stability, prosperity and equity for generations to come,” Garcetti added.

The \$1.164 billion proposed to tackle homelessness includes more than 3,700 permanent supportive housing units, \$331 million for more than 2,200 housing units through Prop. HHH and \$255 million for a new round of Project HomeKey, which will add 928 permanent housing units.

The proposed budget calls for new public safety resources, including the hiring of 780 police officers and 260 firefighters. The spending plan would increase current spending on public safety alternatives by more than 30%, with \$8 million for CIRCLE, a program to divert nonviolent 911 calls related to homelessness to trained professionals, \$2 million for the Therapeutic Transportation Van Pilot program, \$37 million for the city’s Gang Reduction and Youth Development program and \$6.4 million for Saturday Night Lights, a program to reduce crime and violence during the summer

months by offering free food, activities and resources at city parks.

Other components of Garcetti’s budget include \$15 million for waste diversion and water resiliency improvements; \$12.4 million for electric vehicle purchases and leases, electric vehicle infrastructure and charging infrastructure across the city; \$10.5 million for the establishment of the two-part Climate Equity Fund to provide mitigation actions for low-income communities that disproportionately suffer from climate impacts; \$9.7 million for street safety improvements; \$4 million in cool pavement, doubling the city’s current investment; \$3.8 million to expand the city’s Clean and Green program; \$3 million for Summer Play LA, which will provide low-cost summer camp programs at recreation centers; nearly 800 additional sanitation workers, including more than 200 youth positions for the CleanLA program; and \$2 million for tree planting in low-canopy neighborhoods.

LADWP touts rebates on Earth Day

In celebration of Earth Day, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power is encouraging all Angelenos to join the department in creating a sustainable future by reducing their carbon footprint and saving water and energy.

As the weather starts to warm up and demand for energy increases, customers with smart thermostats are also encouraged to enroll in LADWP’s Power Savers Program by visiting enrollmythermostat.com/ladwp.

Power Savers is an energy management program available to all residential and small commercial electric customers with qualified internet-connected thermostats.

The program helps reduce stress on the power grid during high-demand times, when temperatures are hot and demand for energy soars. Power Savers participants agree to allow LADWP to remotely adjust their internet-connected thermostat up to four degrees during high electricity demand events.

Participating customers receive a \$125 Amazon gift card per thermo-

stat (limited to two qualifying thermostats per household) after enrolling. In addition, customers will receive a \$60 Amazon gift card per thermostat (limited to two qualifying thermostats per household) for each year of participation.

Customers who want to enroll in the Power Savers Program but need to purchase or upgrade a smart thermostat can shop LADWP’s Efficient Product Marketplace at marketplace.ladwp.com and receive up to a \$75 instant rebate.

Answers From Page 22





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