



Volume 34 No. 29

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

INSIDE

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• Festival Beverly Hills returns on July 21 pg. 8

July 18, 2024

Beverly Hills, WeHo Pavilions stores to be sold under merger

■ Property owner plans development at Olympic site

BY TABOR BREWSTER

Grocery giants Kroger and Albertsons in 2022 announced a merger that would combine two of the largest supermarket operators in the U.S. under one umbrella. The deal would see Kroger – which

owns Ralphs – acquire Albertsons – which owns Vons and Pavilions – for \$24.6 billion, the largest merger of its kind in history. However, the mega merger was challenged by the Federal Trade Commission with a lawsuit that alleges the plan would

See **Merger** page 21



photo by Tabor Brewster

The Pavilions at 9467 W. Olympic Blvd. in Beverly Hills will be sold to a wholesale grocery supply company under the merger agreement.

Council determines if Roxbury trees get the ax

■ Appeal hearing on tree removal set for Sept. 10

BY TABOR BREWSTER

After the Beverly Hills Planning Commission on June 26 granted a tree removal permit for a private property at 1001 N. Roxbury Drive, neighbors filed an appeal of the decision, which will be heard by the City Council on Sept. 10. The permit approved the removal of three heritage trees – two Coastal Redwoods and one London Plane Sycamore – as the property owner plans to construct a new home on the empty lot.

Heritage trees are defined by the city as trees with a circumference of 48 inches or more, and removal requires a permit granted by the city. The two Coastal Redwoods on the property are 94 and 107 inches, and the London Plane Sycamore is 75 inches in circumference. The Planning Commission, in its decision, added a condition that the trees must be replaced with three trees each at least 25 feet tall at the time of planting.

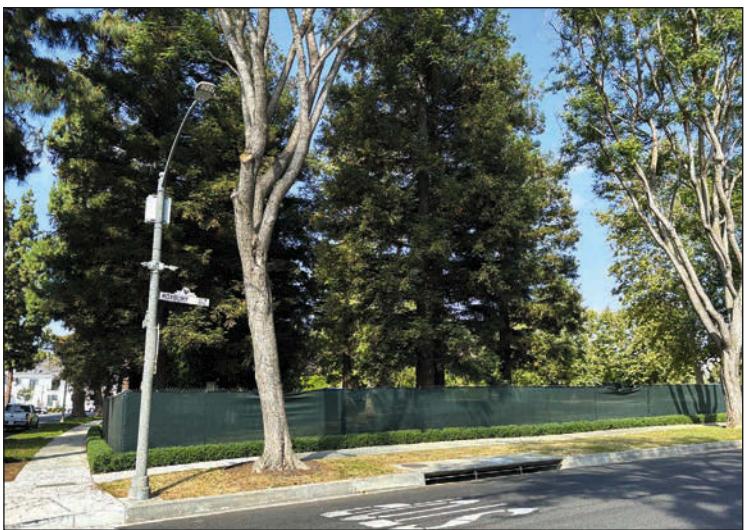


photo by Tabor Brewster

Neighbors have filed an appeal to save three heritage trees located on a private property at 1001 N. Roxbury Drive.

The appellant, Maple Leaf Ventures, LLC, alleges that the Planning Commission's findings are not supported by evidence, that the decision violates the California Environmental Quality Act and that the city did not provide legally required notice to surrounding property owners. The appellant has also argued that the removal of the trees negatively impacts the surrounding area.

"The loss of the trees will result in significant adverse environmental effects through the loss of canopy cover, habitat and other ecological, aesthetic and historic benefits. Substantial evidence shows that the trees provide irreplaceable environmental benefits, and their removal will adversely

See **Trees** page 21

WeHo 'swamp' stews sanitation concerns

■ City presses owner to clean up site of stalled project

BY RANCE COLLINS

The Melrose Triangle has become a focal point of concern for West Hollywood residents, as an abandoned construction site between Santa Monica Boulevard and Melrose Avenue has become what many have coined a "swamp."

A six-story mixed-use development has been stalled on the property for over three years – though excavation had already begun, which is why the property is now a giant subterranean pit. Stagnant water has led to muddy, swamp-like conditions, creating concerns over mosquitos and pests.

"We are aware of the issue and our technicians have conducted multiple mosquito inspections and treatments over the last month," said Aaron Arguay, the executive

director of the Los Angeles County West Vector Control District. "Follow up inspections [and] treatments will be conducted as needed until the project manager can eliminate the standing water problem."

The city of West Hollywood issued a statement on the problem, saying that the city is "actively responding to community concerns" about the site, which is located on the 9000 block of Santa Monica Boulevard.

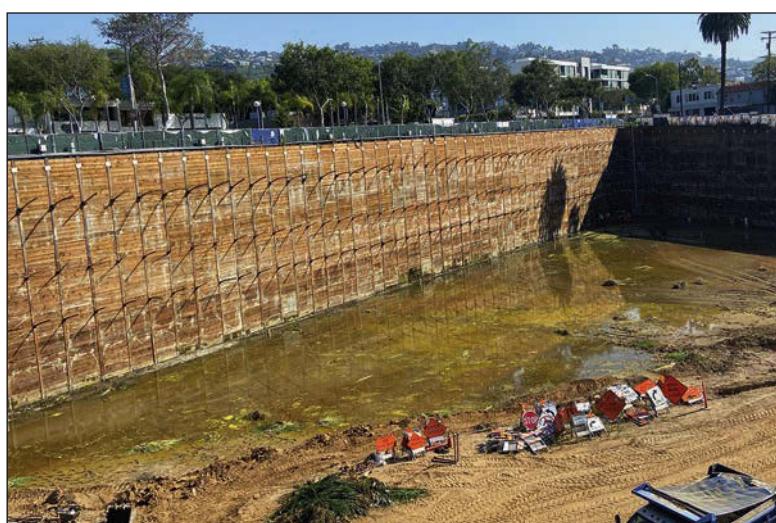
"The city's neighborhood and business safety division has opened a code enforcement case and is working with the property owner to ensure that dewatering takes place at the property, which is in a high water-table area," the statement said.

The code enforcement team issued a violation notice to the property owner, listed as the Charles Company, on June 24.

"Dewatering pumps are now fully operational and, according to the property owner's representative, additional dewatering pumps will be activated to expedite drainage," West Hollywood's statement continued.

The project manager for the Charles Company did not respond

See **'Swamp'** page 22



A pool of stagnant water along Santa Monica Boulevard and Melrose Avenue has raised concerns in West Hollywood.



photo by Edwin Folven

The West Hollywood City Council received an update on public safety on July 15, including drone use.

Drone pilot program flies over West Hollywood

■ Council approves new public safety measures

BY RANCE COLLINS

Soon, West Hollywood will add drones to its public safety portfolio – at least for one year.

At a yet-to-be-determined date, camera drones will begin flying over the city in efforts to curb crime as part of a pilot program.

"We need to provide our public safety partners access to all the tools they need to keep our residents, businesses and visitors safe," Councilwoman Lauren

See **Drones** page 22

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Beverly Press/Park Labrea News file photo

The candidate nomination filing period for the Nov. 5 general election is now open. Paperwork must be filed by 5 p.m. on Aug. 9.

Candidate filing period opens for Nov. 5 general election

Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk Dean C. Logan announced that the candidate nomination filing period for the Nov. 5 general election is now open.

Candidates are required to file and return completed paperwork to the RR/CC Headquarters on or before 5 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 9.

If nomination documents for the incumbent are not filed by that time, the nomination period for persons other than the incumbent will be extended to 5 p.m. on Aug. 14.

Candidates who want to file paperwork in person are encouraged to make an appointment before visi-

ting the RR/CC Norwalk Headquarters. Appointments can be made online or by calling (800)815-2666, option 4.

Alternatively, candidates may request that their paperwork be issued to them by email or U.S. mail if they request it in advance of the deadline.

Candidates interested in running for office are encouraged to review the Nov. 5 candidate handbook and resource guide. The handbook and resource guide include a variety of details and critical deadlines for being eligible for the election.

For information, visit lavote.gov.

Program helps tenants facing eviction

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved the Tenant Right to Counsel Ordinance on July 16, providing free legal representation to eligible tenants facing eviction beginning in January 2025.

The new ordinance will bring about a major expansion to the Stay Housed L.A. program, the county's comprehensive eviction defense initiative, which since 2020 has provided tenants with information and resources to help minimize displacement and homelessness. Stay Housed L.A. is administered by the Los Angeles County Department of Consumer and Business Affairs.

Effective Jan. 1, 2025, the Tenant Right to Counsel Ordinance will codify a program that provides legal representation to eligible tenants who have received an unlawful detainer and whose household income is equal to or less than 80% of the area median income. A lack of access to legal representation discourages tenants from challenging unlawful evictions and asserting their rights, which contributes to the disruption of families and communities and homelessness in the county.

Under the Tenant Right to Counsel Ordinance, landlords will be required to provide tenants with notice of county's eviction defense program in English and any other frequently spoken languages when they serve a tenant a notice of termination of tenancy. Additionally, the notice must be posted on rental properties in an accessible area.

For information, call (888)694-0040 or visit stayhousedla.org.

BEVERLY PRESS PARKLABREA NEWS

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CALENDAR

Adoption forum

People interested in foster parenting and adoption are encouraged to attend an online Children's Bureau presentation on Thursday, July 18, from 4-5 p.m. A Children's Bureau member and a foster parent will lead the program. Admission is free but reservations are required. (800)730-3933, all4kids.org.



'Dancers on Film'

The Getty Center will hold "Dancers on Film: Maren Hassinger" on Thursday, July 18, at 6 p.m., featuring a screening of rare material by Hassinger to celebrate the Getty Research Institute acquiring her archive. Part of Getty's African American Art History Initiative, the event will explore the artist's experimentation in video art, performance and sculpture. A conversation between Hassinger and GRI curator LeRonn Brooks, moderated by senior research specialist Kristin Juarez, follows the film. Admission is free but an advance ticket is required. 1200 Getty Center Drive. getty.edu.

Dane Cook and David Meltzer

Comedian Dane Cook joins sports executive and entrepreneur David Meltzer for "The Collab," an evening of engaging discussions with special guests from different industries on Friday, July 19, at 7:30 p.m. at the YouTube Theatre. With live Q&A sessions and audience-driven topics, the event features Cook's sharp, witty humor intertwined with Meltzer's insightful and inspirational advice, offering viewers an entertaining yet profound exploration of life's questions and challenges. Tickets start at \$101. 1011 Stadium Drive, Inglewood. youtubetheater.com/events/detail/dane-cook-davidmeltzer-1.

Disney at the Bowl

Enjoy a "Disney '80s-'90s Celebration in Concert" on Friday, July 19, and Saturday, July 20, at the Hollywood Bowl. The concert highlights songs and clips from iconic Disney films of the 1980s and 1990s, with special guest singers joining the orchestra for favorites from "The Little Mermaid," "Beauty and the Beast," "Aladdin," "The Lion King," "Mulan," "Toy Story," "A Bug's Life," "Hocus Pocus," "Newsies" and "A Goofy Movie." Showtimes are at 8 p.m. Tickets start at \$20. 2301 N. Highland Ave. hollywoodbowl.com.

BH healthy living

The Beverly Hills Health and Safety Commission welcomes Jamie Wozny for "Moment of Mindfulness" on Monday, July 22, at 4 p.m. The commission invites speakers to present information to the public at its meetings. Wozny, a coach and speaker, partners with clients including NBC and Hulu and hosts transformative retreats. She is featured on wellness podcasts, empowering individuals to embrace their true potential. 455 N. Rexford Drive. beverlyhills.org/777/Health-Safety-Commission.



'Mozart Under the Stars'

After 31 years away, conductor Zubin Mehta returns on Tuesday, July 23, at 8 p.m. for "Mozart Under the Stars," an annual tradition that started under his baton. The LA Phil's conductor emeritus leads the orchestra in Mozart's "Jupiter" Symphony, a piece suited for a night under the stars.



Leonard Pitts, Jr.

Join author Leonard Pitts, Jr. for a book signing and discussion of "54 Miles" on Thursday, July 25, at 7 p.m. at Book Soup. The story is set in the fateful weeks of March 1965, from the infamous "Bloody Sunday" march at the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma to the triumphant entry into Montgomery. 8818 Sunset Blvd. (310)659-3110, booksoup.com.

Chinese Acrobats of Hebei

The Chinese Acrobats of Hebei are a multi-talented troupe that features such unique acts as Chinese Poles, Foot Juggling, Towering Chair Balance, and more. All paired with unbelievable martial arts. A beautiful oriental soundtrack drives each jaw-dropping act. This sets an exotic tone for the production. With stunning costumes and props that create a kaleidoscope of color, the Chinese Acrobats of Hebei create a definite "wow" factor for the audience.

SABAN THEATRE

September 27, 2024

Doors 6pm. Show 8:00pm.

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Violinist Pinchas Zukerman joins the LA Phil for an upbeat showpiece of an expressive and celestial concerto. Tickets start at \$17. 2301 N. Highland Ave. hollywoodbowl.com.

Group art exhibit

TAG Gallery is partnering with critic and KCRW radio personality Edward Goldman to present "Made in the USA: Let Freedom Ring," an exhibit running from Wednesday, July 24, through Friday, Aug. 9. The exhibit includes works by Jaime Coffey, Liliana D'Ambrosio, Adrian Huth, Shalla Javid, Emily Wallerstein and Elyse Wyman. A curatorial talk and exhibition tour with Goldman will be held on Saturday, Aug. 3, at 3 p.m. 5458 Wilshire Blvd. taggallery.net.

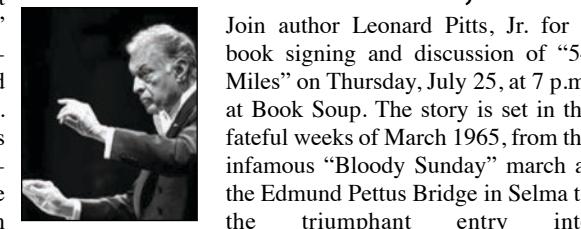
Holocaust story

Holocaust Museum L.A. is holding "The Beilis Affair," an online program on Wednesday, July 24, at 4:30 p.m. Menachem Mendel Beilis was accused of ritual murder in the Russian Empire in 1911. His two-year trial gained worldwide attention and served as the catalyst for many Jews to leave Russian-controlled areas. Hear his grandson Jay Beilis tell the story from the perspective of his family, as well as in the greater context of blood libel. Admission is free but reservations are required. holocaustmuseumla.org/event-details/the-beilis-affair-a-conversation-with-jay-beilis.

Music at Hammer Museum

DJ Monalisa, The Philharmonik and Olea of Soulection will perform on Thursday, July 25, at 6:30 p.m. as part of the Hammer Museum's Music and Performance series. Enjoy a free concert in the Hammer's courtyard. The galleries will be open late. A cash bar with drinks will be available. 10899 Wilshire Blvd. hammer.ucla.edu.

THE MUSIC MINUTE



Chinese Acrobats of Hebei

The Chinese Acrobats of Hebei are a multi-talented troupe that features such unique acts as Chinese Poles, Foot Juggling, Towering Chair Balance, and more. All paired with unbelievable martial arts. A beautiful oriental soundtrack drives each jaw-dropping act. This sets an exotic tone for the production. With stunning costumes and props that create a kaleidoscope of color, the Chinese Acrobats of Hebei create a definite "wow" factor for the audience.

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WeHo Council election off to the races

■ Candidates pull papers as nomination process begins

BY RANCE COLLINS

The West Hollywood City Council election has officially begun. On July 15, candidates started submitting nomination papers. As of July 17, six candidates have taken the first step toward entering the race, with more expected in the coming days.

The deadline to file is Aug. 9 at 5 p.m., although that date is expected to be extended to Aug. 14. The filing period is extended if at least one incumbent does not file, and Councilwoman Sepi Shyne previously shared that she would not be seeking reelection. Mayor John Erickson, however, was among the first to enter the race. Shyne and Erickson currently hold the two seats that will be open in the Nov. 5 election.

So far, the candidates, in addition to Erickson, are business license commissioner Danny Hang, Block Party WeHo owner Larry Block, Los Angeles County employee Rachel Schmeidler, resident Ramesses II Setenpre and William West Seegmiller, founder of the Free WeHo Coalition, a self-described "medical freedom advocacy and support group." Public safety commissioner George Nickle has also announced his intention to run, but has not yet picked up his application from the city clerk.

"I was the first person to announce in this run for City Council, and I am excited to pull my papers this week," Nickle said. "While I am not a career politician, I am honored to take part in the democratic process and look forward to winning in November and establishing a new commonsense majority on City Council that will be responsive to the public safety concerns of residents and small business owners."

Hang cited his desire to increase AAPI representation as a key reason for his decision to run for office.

"For decades, Asian Americans have been underrepresented in positions of leadership. By stepping up to run for office, I aim to bridge this gap and ensure that the concerns, perspectives and aspirations of the Asian community are heard and are a part of the decisions that impact our lives. It's time for our government to reflect the rich diversity of our city," Hang said.

Like others running, Hang said that there are issues in West Hollywood that "deserve attention and action."

"Right now, we're facing an intense housing crisis. Across the city, our neighbors are struggling to remain housed. Hard-working community members face skyrocketing rents and impossible homeownership barriers. I'm committed to championing policies that will protect renters, make it easier to build affordable housing and ensure that everyone has a roof over their head," Hang said.

Schmeidler said that her background as a 24-year resident, single mother, renter, special needs advocate and "real-world government experience" working as a principal accounting systems analyst for the Los Angeles County auditor-controller has uniquely prepared her to serve on the council.

"West Hollywood is a vibrant and diverse community, and I am committed to ensuring it remains inclusive and safe for all residents," she said. "I aim to enhance public safety by reinvesting in our sheriffs and implementing collaborative and constructive solutions to address any community concerns. I also see a great need to support our local businesses, reduce regulatory burdens to foster economic growth and modernize our rent stabilization programs to protect renters and maintain the unique character of our neighborhoods while supporting smart growth. I am passionate about advocating for those with special needs and creating pathways for employment for people with disabilities. This commitment stems from my personal and professional experiences and drives my dedication to community service."

Schmeidler also cited the upcoming 2026 World Cup and 2028 Olympic games as important upcoming events in which a candidate with skill would be necessary to help prepare West Hollywood for the influx of visitors and opportunities the events will bring.

"I am running because I want to leverage my experience, skills and passion to make a positive impact



photo by Mike Pingel

West Hollywood City Council candidate Danny Hang held a campaign kickoff on July 16 that was attended by Councilwoman Sepi Shyne, as well as Mayor John Erickson and Vice Mayor Chelsea Byers.

on the city I love and help our West Hollywood thrive for years to come," she concluded.

Seegmiller discussed his desire to bridge differences with others in his candidacy.

"After years of division in West Hollywood, [it] marks the start of a new chapter as we pull nomination papers for the 2024 City Council race," Seegmiller said. "This year brings an exciting mix of candidates beyond the usual establishment names. I'm proud to run as the only independent and am honored to be joined by other grassroots leaders challenging the status quo. As national divisions are likely to intensify ahead of November's election, let's remember that after it's all over, we will still live with one another. I hope that West Hollywood can exemplify loving our neighbor, even as we respect-

fully disagree."

Block said he was running because "the streets are dead."

"Business is terrible. Customers come in to my shop and ask what happened to WeHo," Block continued. "I do not see another candidate who understands the impacts of council decisions on small business. I'm running because City Hall is broken and many decisions are made without due process. I'm running to bring a resident centric small business voice to the City Council."

Both Erickson and Councilman John Heilman encouraged candidates to get familiar with the city's civil practices.

"It would be great to see some of the individuals running attend a City Council meeting to learn how and why we do things, but I want to

See Candidates page 22

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February 8, 2024

"29 years later, I became a mom at the very same hospital where my mother gave birth to me."

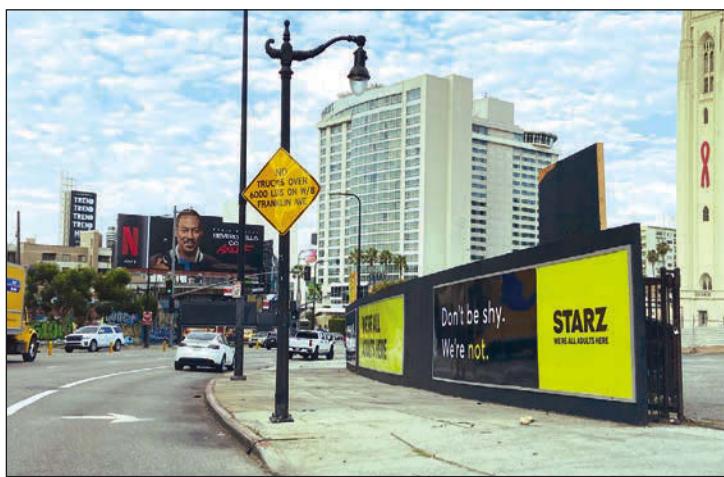
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The sidewalk on Highland Avenue, north of Franklin Avenue, was cleared on July 15. photo by Edwin Folven

Cleanup at encampment on Highland brings relief

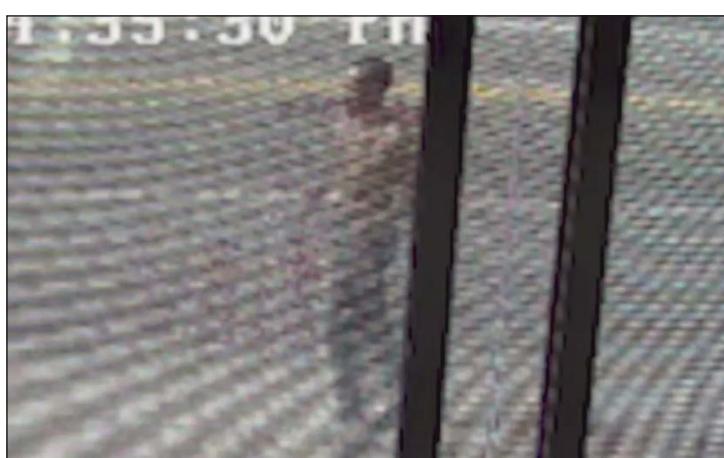
BY EDWIN FOLVEN

The sidewalk on the west side of Highland Avenue north of Franklin Avenue was cleared on July 15 by a city of Los Angeles cleanup operation at the site. As of July 17, tents that had largely blocked the public sidewalk in front of a fenced parking lot on Highland Avenue had not returned.

The cleanup was a CARE+

operation scheduled by the office of Los Angeles City Councilwoman Nithya Raman, 4th District, and was part of a comprehensive effort to get people off the streets and connect them with services, Raman's spokeswoman Stella Stahl said. CARE+ operations, which involve sidewalk pressure washing and sanitization, are conducted periodically to ensure health

See Tents page 21



A video was located showing the suspect crossing Melrose Avenue shortly before the attack. photo courtesy of the LAPD

Man sought for unprovoked attack on Melrose Avenue

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

LAPD Wilshire Division investigators are searching for a male suspect who violently attacked a female victim on June 24 on Melrose Avenue near Crescent Heights Boulevard.

Lt. Mark Ro said the attack was unprovoked. The victim was walking her dog when the male suspect, who was shirtless, crossed the street and began following her. Ro said the suspect walked up from behind and punched the woman in the face, causing her to fall. The suspect then walked away.

"We believe he is homeless and was suffering from mental illness issues. He didn't say anything to the victim but she said he was mumbling something," Ro said. "A witness was driving by in a car and saw him hit her but didn't get a good look at the suspect. The witness pulled over and helped the victim and called police."

Investigators found security camera footage of the suspect as he crossed the street shortly before the attack and released it to

the public. The victim, Sigal Engelberg, posted the video of the suspect on social media and asked the public to help find him.

"Please share this video so he can be caught. Keep a lookout and call the cops if you see him," she posted on July 12 on Instagram.

Ro said patrol officers viewed the footage and have been looking for the suspect. Ro said personnel who frequently contact unhoused individuals do not recognize him and have not been able to identify the man.

"It's very bothersome. It doesn't happen often, but we've seen situations occur throughout the city where someone walks up and just punches a victim," Ro said. "It's egregious, especially when it's unprovoked."

Authorities said anyone who sees the suspect should call 911. Anyone with information is asked to call Wilshire Division detectives at (213)922-8205 or (213)473-0476. During weekends and off-hours, call the LAPD's hotline at (877)LAPD247.

LAPD seeks suspects in Hancock Park burglary

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Police are searching for four male suspects who burglarized a home in the 400 block of South Las Palmas Avenue in Hancock Park on July 14 and are searching for additional security camera footage that may lead them to the perpetrators.

The burglary occurred in daylight, around 11:10 a.m. Lt. Mark Ro, with the Los Angeles Police Department's Wilshire Division, said the suspects were waiting in a parked car in the neighborhood before committing the crime. The resident told officers he left around 10:30 a.m. and received a notification from his alarm system shortly after 11 a.m. that a side door was opened. The resident called police, and so did a neighbor who saw three suspects exiting the residence around 11:09 a.m. carrying property belonging to the victim.

Ro said the suspects wore masks and hooded sweatshirts, making it difficult for authorities to get a good description. Security camera video was found in the neighborhood that shows the suspects' car, but the license plate was covered. The vehicle is a gray 2024 four-door Honda Accord, he added.

No similar burglaries were reported during the past week in the neighborhood, but Ro said the crimes occur frequently, with burglary crews targeting different neighborhoods. He said the resident told investigators that he left a side door unlocked on July 14 and he cautioned people to keep doors and windows secured. Ro also said



The suspects parked their vehicle in the 400 block of South Las Palmas Avenue and committed the burglary around 11:10 a.m. photo by Edwin Folven

alarms are helpful in preventing crimes, and cameras help police identify suspects.

"It's usually multiple suspects covered from head to toe who go in when residents aren't home and take what they want and flee," Ro added. "This general area does get hit from time to time, mostly north of Third Street and east of Gower in the Olympic Division."

Cindy Chvatal-Keane, president of the Hancock Park Homeowners Association, said a similar burglary occurred in the neighborhood around two weeks ago.

"It's something that is occurring all over the city, they happen all the time," Chvatal-Keane said. "It's very unfortunate."

Chvatal-Keane pointed out that a permanent senior lead officer from the Wilshire Division has not been assigned to the Hancock Park area since Officer Dave Cordova retired

earlier this year. The station's administration assigned Office Phil Choi to serve as temporary senior lead officer, but he recently returned to regular patrol duties.

Ro said administrators are in the process of getting a permanent senior lead officer assigned to the area but the decision is made by the department's Personnel Division, and it is unclear how long it will take.

"We basically have to get a green light from downtown until we can fill the vacancy," he said. "That doesn't mean we are not deploying resources to the neighborhood. Officer Choi is still deployed to the neighborhood and is working the area. We are also deploying other resources."

Anyone with information is urged to call Wilshire Division burglary detectives at (213)922-8205, or (213)473-0476.



VIRTUAL-ONLY

MULTI-FAMILY ADU COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

Join Beverly Hills planners for an interactive virtual workshop to discuss potential changes to the multi-family accessory dwelling unit (ADU) regulations. Share your perspective on key standards such as height, floor area, and more. Your participation will be valuable community feedback for our Planning Commission and City Council. This session contains the same information presented in the July 8 in-person workshop.

WORKSHOP DETAILS

Date: WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 2024 | Time: 3 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Location: Virtual participation via Zoom

Access the webinar: <http://www.beverlyhills.org/CDOutreach>

o Password: 90210

o Phone: (833) 548-0276

o Meeting ID: 844 6491 8768

The workshop concludes with a live Q&A session led by City staff.

✉ For further questions, please contact longrange@beverlyhills.org.



Scan the QR code or visit beverlyhills.org/adu to participate in the City's community survey on multi-family ADUs.

Commission approves five-story Doheny building

■ Project will bring one affordable unit to Beverly Hills

BY Tabor Brewster

The Beverly Hills Planning Commission on July 11 approved a development plan and density bonus permit for a five-story residential project at 232 S. Doheny Drive.

The commission approved the project in a 3-0 vote. Commissioners Gary Ross and Lou Milkowski were not present at the meeting.

The project will replace a single family home on Doheny Drive with a multifamily residential building. The building will contain nine units – eight market rate and one reserved for affordable housing, which allows for a density bonus permit. While a building at that address would typically be restricted to six units, the affordable housing unit allows for a density bonus of three additional units under state housing laws. The building will be 53 feet tall with a rooftop lounge area open from 7 a.m.-9 p.m. Plans also include four surface-level and nine underground parking spaces. The building is designed by architect Jamsheed Sobhani.

"With the times, and with the different regulations that we have to follow coming from the state, we have certain flexibility – very little – but we do try to understand."

-Beverly Hills Planning Commissioner Myra Demeter

"Our goal is to improve the area and to make it more desirable, more livable. And I think that's what we've done in this particular project," the project's attorney Murray Fischer said during the meeting.

Though the developers believe the project will improve the quality of life in the neighborhood, some nearby residents expressed concerns with the plans in written public comments.

"We have lived here since 1998 and since then there has been ever-increasing development in a large way with less and less parking, carelessness of developers who have no interest whatsoever to keep our community preserved in a positive way," Sami and Lauren Ibrahim wrote. "It is a shame that such a community has become interested in developments that do not benefit the community in positive ways."

The letter also raised concerns with a perceived lack of maintenance of alleys by the city. While the project includes parking access through the alley that connects Charleville Boulevard and Gregory Way, Fischer stated that it won't contribute to waste problems, as it utilizes an indoor trash collection system.

He also added that he believes the project will alleviate some of

the city's perceived problems through generating revenue through rent.

"I understand [the Ibrahims'] complaints with respect to what's going on in the city of Beverly Hills and development and etcetera, but none of [their] complaints particularly had to do with this particular building," Fischer said. "While [they're] concerned we don't have enough money to fix potholes and things like that, I think that this building will provide ... a rental income for the city ... so hopefully some of that will do that."

After questioning aspects of the proposal such as its decreased setbacks and balcony layout, Commission Chair Terri Kaplan, Vice Chair Jeff Wolfe and Commissioner Myra Demeter ultimately voted to approve the project.

"We did hear the residents who wrote us. And we do know that there are changes. And with the times, and with the different regulations that we have to follow coming from the state, we have certain flexibility – very little – but we do try to understand," Demeter said.



photo by Tabor Brewster

The five-story multifamily building will replace a single family home at 232 S. Doheny Drive.



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Richard Simmons dies at 76

■ Fitness guru leaves legacy of kindness

BY RANCE COLLINS

Few celebrities were more iconic than Richard Simmons, who died in Los Angeles on July 13.

The fitness guru came to prominence with a fresh approach to aerobic instruction, encouraging body positivity and, most importantly, fun as part of the health and exercise wheelhouse. For decades, Simmons' Beverly Hills studio was a fixture and his appearances on television were legendary, marked by his positive attitude and buoyant reserve of energy.

Born Milton Teagle Simmons in New Orleans on July 12, 1948, Simmons was raised in the city's French Quarter and graduated with a degree in art from Florida State University. He changed his name to Richard in honor of his uncle, who paid for his college tuition. He struggled with weight growing up, which led to his inclusion as a "freak show" in the Federico Fellini films "Satyricon" (1968) and "The Clowns" (1970).

He moved to Los Angeles in the 1970s, working as the maître d' at the popular Beverly Hills restaurant Derek's. While there, he developed an interest in diet and exercise. He realized that there was a glaring need in the fitness industry for a supportive, inclusive environment to help everyday people lose weight and get healthy. Simmons took what he learned from his own weight-loss journey and launched a new kind of fitness environment with his Aerobics Asylum studio, which would eventually be christened Slimmons. With his quirky personality, he quickly gained a large following, which led to a popular 1980s talk show.

For clients and eventual friends like Elijah Jones, Simmons' approach to exercise made a world of difference.

"I was born and raised in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, just two hours up the highway from where Richard grew up in New Orleans'

French Quarter," Jones said. "Neither of us knew we were growing up barely 100 miles apart from each other and how our paths would cross. He was a fat kid from the French Quarter, me a fat Black kid from a small town in Mississippi. I continued overeating all the way through my adult life and eventually ended up weighing 484 pounds."

But then Jones found Simmons. "I discovered Richard on television on 'The Richard Simmons Show,' right about the time I chose to take my life back from food and my weight. Watching Richard's show was my inspiration and I eventually lost nearly 300 pounds," he said. "I wrote a fan letter to Richard, telling him about my weight-loss success and how much his show had inspired me. As a result of that fan letter, I was flown to Los Angeles to be a guest on his show and share my own story with his audience."

Jones ended up moving to L.A., working as a receptionist for Simmons' show and, eventually, became his manager. Even after returning to Mississippi over a decade later, he kept working with Simmons and remained a life-long friend.

Jones' story is not unique. The fitness guru had a gift for fostering community, and many clients became friends, including Los Angeles resident Liz Riley Pitman.

"Richard was so many things to so many people," Riley Pitman said. "Everybody's relationship with him was special and unique."

Riley Pitman related that at one point, when she had lost a job, he offered to write a blank check for whatever she needed.

"I never took him up on it, but the fact that he had me up to his home and made the offer that meant a lot. I know I'm just one of many stories like that," she said.

Marc Pasquinelli never took one of Simmons' classes and only encountered him one time, but his kindness is seared into Pasquinelli's memory.

"My friends and I were deep in the throes of putting together our costumes for West Hollywood's Halloween Carnival [in 2013],"

Pasquinelli remembered. "I went to Aardvark in Hollywood in search of a perfect trench coat for my Mary Poppins."

He noticed Simmons' presence in the store not long before he found the perfect coat to complete his ensemble, though the \$70 price tag was a bit steep for Pasquinelli. But when he went to the register, the attendant told him that the coat had "been taken care of" – by Simmons.

"I have no idea how or when he did it, but he'd kindly paid for my coat," he said. "I went right over to him and asked, 'Are you sure?' But he reassured me that he was happy to do it."

This kind of kindness was just who Simmons was.

"Richard had a unique gift: making people feel good about themselves, no matter what they weighed," Jones said. "He recognized the emotional baggage that came with being overweight but insisted that we not let it get us down. Richard made 'fat acceptance' OK before it became a thing, even in body-conscious Los Angeles. But his most special gift was his ability to connect with people across physical, economic and



photo courtesy of Liz Riley Pitman

Liz Riley Pitman, a friend and frequent attendee of Richard Simmons' Slimmons fitness classes, appeared with him in a photo and video shoot for his website in the early-2000s.

social structure. He made the people who changed his beds at the hotel feel as special as the CEOs of those hotels."

Jones said that he spoke to Simmons just before his death and reminded him of his "invaluable ability to make people smile and laugh."

"He had the unique ability to take an hour of music and dance and turn it into magic," Riley Pitman said. "I saw people change in so many ways physically, mentally. [There was] no one like him ... Simmons was the second happiest place on Earth. He was a magic man."

Notable Quotes

"All successful newspapers are ceaselessly querulous and bellicose. They never defend anyone or anything if they can help it; if the job is forced upon them, they tackle it by denouncing someone or something else."

Henry Louis Mencken
1880-1956
Prejudices, First Series

Henry Louis Mencken was an American journalist, essayist, satirist, cultural critic and scholar of American English. He commented widely on the social scene, literature, music, prominent politicians and contemporary movements.

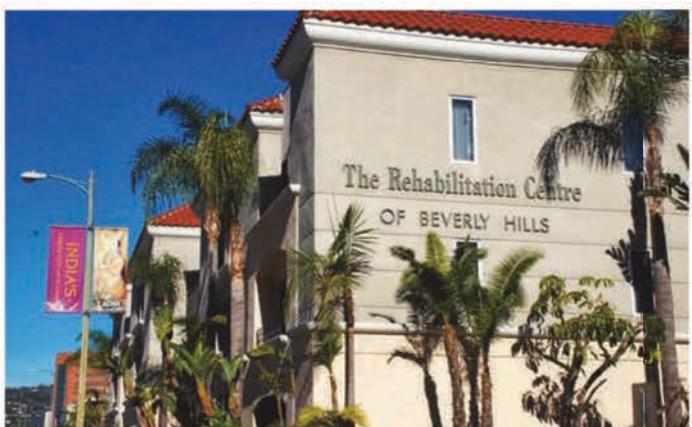
*Source: Bartlett's Familiar Quotations



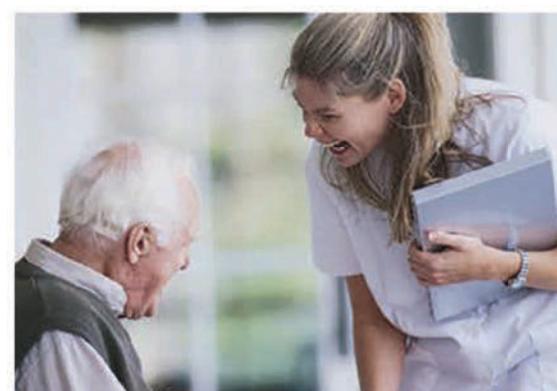
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State lawmakers offer views on homelessness, crime

■ Hollywood Chamber hosts State of the State forum

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

The Hollywood Chamber of Commerce held its annual State of the State forum on July 16 at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel, covering issues such as homelessness and crime that affect the local area as well as the entire city.

State Sens. Ben Allen and María Elena Durazo, and California Assemblymen Rick Chavez Zbur and Miguel Santiago, spoke during the luncheon, outlining state efforts to get people housed, reduce crime and improve quality of life. KTLA political reporter John Fenoglio moderated the panel discussion, which was attended by hundreds of Hollywood Chamber members.

"We're in an election year and the four public officials that we have here, two assembly members and two state senators, the four of them together collectively represent all of what encompasses Hollywood. So they're very important to our community," Hollywood Chamber of Commerce president and CEO Steve Nissen said. "There's real firepower that the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce is able to bring together all four representatives in one place at the same time."

Santiago (D-Los Angeles) outlined some of the state programs that are impacting homelessness in counties and cities such as Los Angeles. He also called for more accountability to ensure state funds

are being spent wisely. Although the state faced budget deficits for the 2024-25 fiscal year, Gov. Gavin Newsom's budget allocates \$1 billion to address homelessness.

"That's why we put a little bit more strong accountability in there," Santiago said. "We made sure the counties and cities are using the dollars, they're using data driven methods, not using it in particular ways that aren't going to be effective."

Zbur (D-Hollywood) said he believes efforts to address homelessness are moving in the right direction.

"I think it's getting slightly better. But one of the things I'm really optimistic about was that this year, we will maintain our commitment to funding programs that prevent homelessness," Zbur said. "Spending more money on homelessness prevention is really key to the things we need to do."

Allen (D-Santa Monica) added that he is pleased the governor devoted significant funding for efforts to end homelessness and also highlighted the need for more mental health treatment services. He said finding future funding for those will be challenging.

"I think that the budget challenges make the situation more vulnerable," Allen said. "That's why we all said, with the governor, we've got to retain this funding."

Durazo (D-Los Angeles) also cited mental health treatment as a much-needed component of addressing homelessness, and identified funding as a major challenge.

"Another part that we know we

have to address much more directly is mental health services. That's a big part of addressing homelessness, and that's not just for the homeless, that's also for a growing number of youth that need mental health services," she said. "There's the piece of working with local governments and how do you push local governments to do the housing that's needed, build the health system that needed, but at the same time, take responsibility at the state level for funding. There has to be both and we've not exactly found that sweet spot."

Zbur said the Assembly is working on bills to better address homelessness that will be considered in the coming year. He is also working on measures to curb crime, particularly property crimes and retail theft, which are often intertwined with the homelessness problem.

"We actually have a very robust package of bills. It includes things like education and a new [law] that will make serial retail theft a felony. It will give police officers more enforcement tools for arresting people," Zbur said.

"I think what's important is that there is a holistic approach to the issue of retail theft. You have to be tougher in some ways to get the message across it is unacceptable, especially when we're talking about the safety of Californians. But we're also not going to be able to lock up our way out of this crisis," Durazo added. "We have to have the services that people need, but we also have to have a very direct and explicit way of addressing it."

Allen said he plans to address

property crime by creating measures targeting online marketplaces where thieves sell stolen merchandise. He advocated for more enforcement and new laws to hold people accountable who are organizing retail thefts, such as gangs and organized crime groups.

"In our last budget, a lot more money went out to our sheriffs and our [police departments] to be able to respond faster, because it doesn't matter how many new [laws] are on the books, if the police aren't there on time to help a store on the ground, it's not going to make your life better," Allen said.

Santiago said the goals need to be clearly defined and legislation targeted to specifically address



photo by Edwin Folven

The discussion was hosted by KTLA's John Fenoglio, left, and included Assemblymen Miguel Santiago and Rick Chavez Zbur, and state Sens. Ben Allen and María Elena Durazo.

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Festival Beverly Hills brings the world together

■ Family-friendly event celebrates international cultures

BY TABOR BREWSTER

On Sunday, July 21, from 12-6 p.m., Beverly Hills will host the second annual Festival Beverly Hills – a celebration of world cultures through music, dance, artwork and food.

The festival has been significantly expanded since its inaugural event last year. With a new mid-summer date, relocation to Beverly Gardens Park and 25 performances by artists from around the world, community leaders said this year's celebration will be a milestone event for the city.

"Following the successful launch of Festival Beverly Hills last year at the Farmers' Market, we are looking forward to being able to accommodate even more participants and community members by moving it to our iconic Beverly Gardens Park," Mayor Lester Friedman said. "It's imperative we continue to be a city that celebrates all cultures across the globe through immersive presentations, dance, food and more."

Friedman will kick off the festival with opening remarks at noon.

Karla Gordy Bristol, chair of the city's Arts and Culture Commission, helped organize the festival and advocated for the new central location in Beverly Gardens Park.

"What a pleasure it has been to be



photo courtesy of the city of Beverly Hills

Changüí Majadero will bring the dance music of Cuba to Beverly Gardens Park.

a part of organizing a summer arts and culture festival in my hometown city, highlighting music and dance," Gordy Bristol said. "A key element was to create awareness of the many wonderful cultures around us, so people can understand each other better. Consider this a Beverly Hills multicultural festival staycation. Travel and enjoy many cultures in one event. Joy times 10. People who don't know each other come together through the universal language of music and dance. I hope we bring a lot of good vibes to many people this Sunday."

Music and dance performances will occur on three stages through-

out two blocks of the park. They include an interactive Senegalese drum circle, Hawaiian ukulele player Daniel Ho, Jewish soul musician Klezmer Juice, Afro-Cuban musicians Changüí Majadero, award-winning Sephardic fiddle player Lily Henley and Danza Azteca, an indigenous Mexican dance troupe celebrating ancient spiritual traditions.

The consulates of Brazil, Colombia, El Salvador, Senegal and Trinidad and Tobago will be present to celebrate their unique cultures.

Attendees can participate in workshops and activities such as Japanese matcha-making, face-

painting, traditional Senegalese hair braiding and virtual reality cave exploration.

"Food trucks stationed throughout the festival will include international selections such as Persian, Colombian, Creole, Cuban and Brazilian cuisine."

Additionally, the city has partnered with the Farhang Foundation to bring Iranian art and food to the festival. Kooban Ensemble, a classical Iranian music group, will perform at 4 p.m. on the Crescent Stage.

"Farhang Foundation is honored to collaborate with Festival Beverly Hills on this extraordinary cultural celebration. We are thrilled to introduce a rich taste of Iranian heritage to this vibrant, multicultural event," said Alireza Ardekani, executive director of the Farhang Foundation.

The event is free and open to the public. Beverly Gardens Park is located at 9439 Santa Monica Blvd.

For information and the festival schedule, visit beverlyhills.org/1335/festival-beverly-hills.

WeHo hosts strategic plan community meeting

The city of West Hollywood will host a community meeting to gather feedback as part of West Hollywood's next citywide strategic plan, WeHo 40. This free event will include informational exhibits, community organizations, food and live entertainment. It will take place on Saturday, July 20 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Doheny Room at the West Hollywood Aquatic & Recreation Center, located at 8750 El Tovar Place, adjacent to West Hollywood Library. Community members are encouraged to stop by during the meeting to learn more about the project, provide feedback and connect with fellow community members. Translation services will be available in Spanish and Russian. Advance RSVP is not required.

40.

The

event will showcase draft elements of the WeHo 40 strategic plan and gather feedback from the West Hollywood community. The goal is to preview the plan's draft focus areas and goals that will guide the city's future. Attendees will have the opportunity to share their experiences, ideas and perspectives to inform the city's strategic priorities. WeHo 40 project team members will be present to facilitate small group discussions, collect feedback and answer questions from attendees.

Visit engage.weho.org/wehos-strategicplan to learn about the latest WeHo 40 updates and sign up for project-specific announcements.

For information, contact Paolo Kespradit, West Hollywood management analyst, at (323)848-6460 or pkespradit@weho.org. For people who are deaf or hard of hearing, call TTY (323)848-6496.



Applications for
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Contact teambh@beverlyhills.org for any inquiries.

CicLAvia goes Hollywood

CicLAvia returns to Hollywood this summer providing a great way to be a tourist in your own backyard while experiencing car-free open streets at CicLAvia's 54th event on Sunday, August 18 between 9 a.m.-4 p.m. The public is invited to enjoy 6.6-miles of car-free open streets connecting East Hollywood, Hollywood and West Hollywood via Hollywood Boulevard, Highland Avenue and Santa Monica Boulevard.

All people-powered modes of movement are invited to this unique, temporary park for the day that will feature activities, street games, local businesses and art and cultural activations for all ages. Always free, CicLAvia participants can show up anywhere along the route at any time to enjoy the open streets. This is an exciting opportunity to explore WeHo, Hollywood and East Hollywood from a new

perspective.

CicLAvia – Meet the Hollywoods features five hubs along the route filled with plenty of activities and programs. Hubs are walking zones (mandatory bike dismounts) and meeting points with family-friendly activities, restrooms, free water refilling stations, free basic bike repair, bike parking and first aid. Within this route, participants can find the West Hollywood hub, Plummer Park hub, Walk of Fame hub, Hollywood Boulevard hub and East Hollywood hub. Free pedicab rides are available at each hub's information booth, allowing for travel between hubs. Check out the local gems along the route here.

"Our Meet the Hollywoods program is exemplary of what CicLAvia Sundays are all about," executive director Romel Pascual

said. "Locals and tourists have the opportunity to experience iconic areas that may be familiar to them, but with an unexpected twist: in the absence of cars and polluting traffic, they have the freedom and safety to walk, bike, skate and stroll at their preferred pace."

Only people-powered vehicles are allowed. No electric scooters, electric skateboards, hoverboards, electric unicycles, motorcycles and other non-people-powered vehicles are allowed at CicLAvia. Class 1 e-bike pedal-assist are allowed. Class 2 e-bikes are allowed when the throttle is powered off. Class 3 e-bikes are allowed when pedal-assist is powered off. Motorized wheelchairs are allowed.

For information and CicLAvia map, visit ciclavia.org.



photo courtesy of CicLAvia

Hollywood Boulevard will be a focal point at the Aug. 18 CicLAvia event.

Whoopi to receive WeHo's Key to the City

Whoopi Goldberg will be receiving the key to West Hollywood at The Woods on Saturday, July 20. The event is free to guests 21 and older with tickets available at eventi.io/events/a-night-with-whoopfam-10344.

The occasion also marks the exclusive launch of Goldberg's new cannabis brand Emma & Clyde at The Woods – the only place in West Hollywood where it will be available for purchase during the launch.

To celebrate, Goldberg will be at

The Woods for the ceremony and to meet and greet with attendees. Guests who purchase an Emma & Clyde joint while Whoopi is at The Woods will have the exclusive opportunity to have the item signed by Goldberg.

The key to West Hollywood ceremony begins at 1:30 p.m. and will feature West Hollywood Mayor John M. Erickson and Vice Mayor Chelsea Byers.

The Woods is located at 8271 Santa Monica Blvd.



photo by Timothy White/courtesy of Whoopi Goldberg

Whoopi Goldberg will appear in West Hollywood on July 20.

WeHo grants history to artists

The city of West Hollywood has opened applications for its 40th Anniversary Cultural History Grant program. The deadline for applications is Thursday, August 29.

West Hollywood, through its Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission, has managed its Arts Grant Program for 26 years. West Hollywood's Arts Grant Program provides grant funding to individual artists, artist collectives and nonprofit arts organizations for the production, performance or presentation of art projects that take place in the city, as well as those that serve the West Hollywood community.

The 40th Anniversary Cultural History Grant is a category specifically dedicated to highlighting the history of West Hollywood concurrent with the recognition of 40 years of cityhood, and exploring

stories of the people, policies and cultures that make West Hollywood a unique and vibrant community. Eligible projects include the presentation of a cultural history exhibition or activity, film screening, panel discussion or walking tour. Proposed projects must take place in 2025, in West Hollywood or the immediate West Hollywood adjacent area and must be free and accessible to the public. The maximum award per grantee is \$10,000 with a total of \$40,000 of available funding for the program.

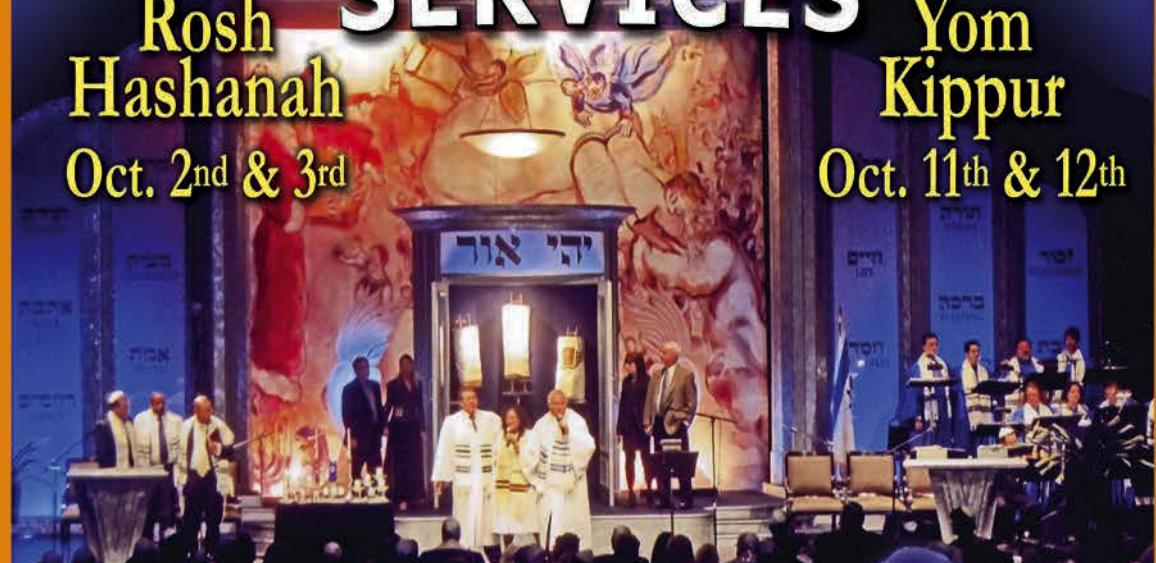
For information about West Hollywood's Arts Grant Program, visit www.weho.org/arts or contact Eva Angeloff, West Hollywood grants coordinator, at (323)848-6354 or at eangeloff@weho.org. For people who are deaf or hard of hearing, call TTY (323)848-6496.

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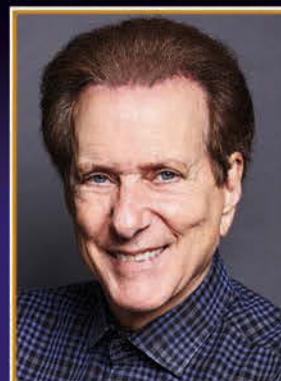
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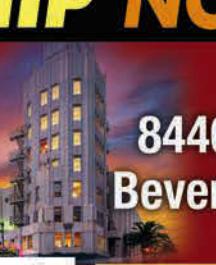


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Transcending the discontents of modern life

I like the way the setting sun lights up the tops of trees – like birthday candles – on these long summer days of minor consequence.

I like that someone had the audacity to come up with ramen s'mores, a new flavor that takes two things young people cannot live without – ramen and s'mores – and turns them into something unappealing in almost every aspect.

Still, I like that. I like that someone, while slurping their nightly ramen and watching Maddow and missing the innocence of youth, had an a-HA! moment.

Ramen noodles in s'more sauce! Why not?

I like raindrops on roses and girls in white dresses.

I like swimming in the warm agile sea.

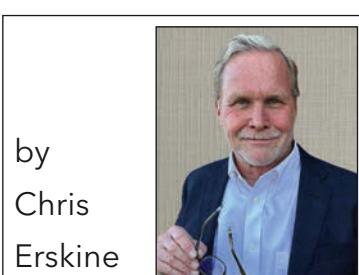
I like that moment you swim back toward the beach, and your toes finally find the sand.

I like the psssssssssssst and promise of a new bottle of beer.

I like the way kids walk onto airplanes – as if they're about to go explore space.

I like the way Adam Gopnik of The New Yorker writes about "the discontents of modern life and how we might transcend them."

I like lakes with ski boats ... kayaks, canoes.



by
Chris
Erskine

I like poached eggs on hash.
I like the rasp of Woody Guthrie's guitar.

I like the way some folks keep bunting and American flags up after the Fourth, as if doubling down, as if extending the holiday.

After all, isn't summer the greatest American holiday?

I like the way my friends Karen and Michael muddle black cherries with gin and tonic in their kitchen late at night. They add black pepper. I add simple syrup.

FYI, it contains almost half the recommended daily amount of gin that most doctors recommend.

I like my primary physician (Dr. Steve), who looks like Buck Henry and has the manner of a country doctor.

If you need his number, let me know.

I like the old guy in the waiting room next to me, who talks in grunts.

I like the way my contractor calls

his wife "sunshine."

I like the way lifeguards climb into their seats.

I like wedding singers with Frampton hair.

I like that I paid only \$2.99 for a dozen eggs the other day. Really, like in the old days.

I really like the old days. I really like the new days.

I like every dawn – an absolution, a nod from God.

Like you, I don't get God sometimes. But when I do...

I like the way kids ride their bikes too fast.

I like the way moms quietly braid their daughters' hair, as if crocheting a blanket.

I like the way butchers carve big slabs of meat, and the way they flip and fillet a decent fish.

I like the way grandmas tie on aprons ... the way they pull out the pies.

I like the way my son Smartacus tees up a golf ball, licking his lips a little, like he's about to eat fried chicken. Waaaaaaaaaaaaap!!!

I like the way my girl bundles her tinsel hair.

I like Vandenberg launches at dusk and the vanilla frosting they scratch in the sky.

I like drinking from the garden hose.

I like fresh mint in my iced tea.

Know what I really like? I like rubbing dogs' bellies.

FYI, Smartacus has this new theory – they arrive almost hourly, his theories – that dogs need to spend



photo by Chris Erskine

I like drinking from a garden hose and fresh cherries in my gin.

five minutes each day letting their owners rub their bellies.

I like the idea of a dog some day winning the Nobel Peace Prize.

I like calling old friends and when they pick up, saying, "Shut up, will you? You bug me." Then talking and laughing for two hours.

I like the sizzle of a summer night.

I like homecomings.

I like ninth innings.

I like frozen bananas.

And remember: I like cherries. I like gin.

Amen, summer.

Amen, America.

For more columns, please go to ChrisErskineLA.com

Disney classics celebrated at Hollywood Bowl

Jodi Benson, known for her iconic role as the voice of Ariel in Disney Animation's "The Little Mermaid," and Bill Farmer, the official voice of Goofy will join an all-star cast from Broadway, animation, film and television for "Disney '80s-'90s Celebration in Concert" presented by the LA Phil

at the Hollywood Bowl on Friday, July 19 and Saturday, July 20.

The cast includes Corbin Bleu, Susan Egan, Aisha Jackson, Arielle Jacobs, Adam J. Levy and Krysta Rodriguez, alongside gospel vocalists from DC6 Singers Collective and an ensemble of Broadway dancers. Sarah Hicks will conduct

the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra with music direction by Benjamin Rauhala and choreography by Anna Aimee White.

Following last summer's spectacular concert celebration of 100 years of Walt Disney Animation Studios, Disney Concerts, 10th & Main Productions, and the Hollywood Bowl are set to return with the ultimate throwback concert celebrating the very best Disney and Pixar soundtrack hits of the 1980s and '90s including songs

from "Hercules," "A Goofy Movie," "Toy Story," "A Bug's Life," "The Little Mermaid," "Newsies," "Aladdin," "Hunchback of Notre Dame," "Beauty and the Beast," "Pocahontas," "The Lion King" and "Hocus Pocus."

Tickets are on sale through the Hollywood Bowl at hollywoodbowl.com. "Disney '80s – '90s Celebration in Concert" is part of the LA Phil-presented Hollywood Bowl 2024 Season. The Hollywood Bowl is located at 2301 Highland Ave.

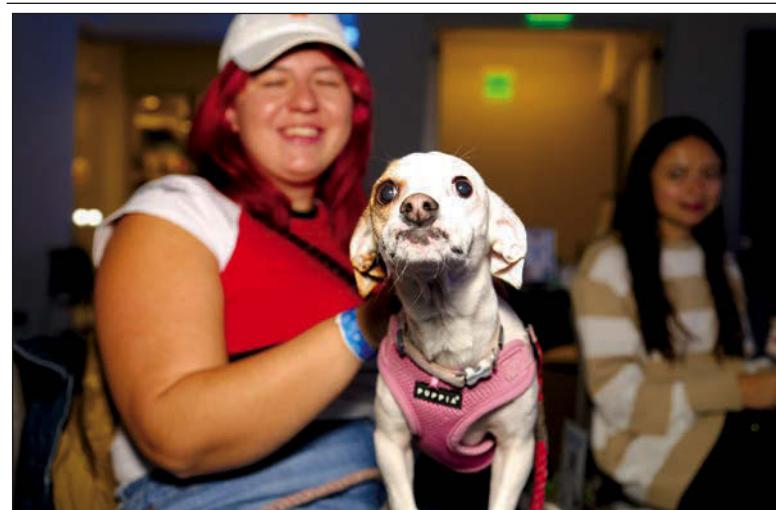


photo courtesy of Wallis Annenberg PetSpace

Attendees are invited to bring along their furry friends for an unforgettable night of comedy.

PetSpace hosts 'Stand Up for Pets'

The jokes are back at Wallis Annenberg PetSpace for Can't Even Comedy's "Stand Up for Pets," on Friday, July 26, at 7 p.m. Guests are invited to laugh until they cry – with their four-legged best friend by their side – as incredible comedians take the PetSpace stage for a good cause.

On Friday, July 26, PetSpace will be transformed into the west side's premier comedy venue, welcoming hilarious comedians Taylor Williamson, Leah Knauer, Hugo Galaxy, Angie Stroud and Antjuan Tobias, alongside host Caitlin Benson and DJ Anna Krylova.

Can't Even Comedy is a stand-up comedy company founded by husband and wife team Maxwell and Caitlin Benson. They have been lauded by the Los Angeles Times as

well as featured in their roundup of "The 60 Best Places to See Stand-Up Comedy in L.A." As they explain on their website, "There are few events – if any – in Los Angeles that can offer comedy, dining, drinks, music and dogs."

A portion of ticket sales will go towards the PetSpace Extraordinary Care Fund, which supports PetSpace's work with the most vulnerable animals in the shelter system – those who face significant medical needs that serve as barriers to adoption.

Tickets start at \$25 and are available at annenbergpetspace.org/events/3691812.

Wallis Annenberg PetSpace is located at 12005 Bluff Creek Drive, Playa Vista.

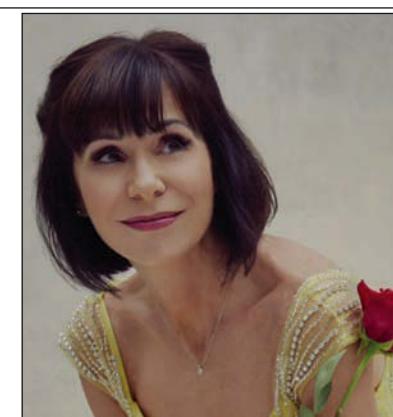


photo courtesy of LA Phil
Broadway star Susan Egan performs at the Hollywood Bowl.

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BY DINA MORRONE

Directed by Peter Flood

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theatre west

Letters to the Editor

Marilyn Monroe offers no reason to celebrate

Re "Preservationists save Monroe home from demolition," July 11 issue

I only learned about his when I read it in Beverly Press and found it to be a stunning development, one which I thoroughly reject as appropriate or reasonable.

"Few places help illustrate the life of Marilyn Monroe – and the person she was at this point in her life – better than her former Brentwood residence in Los Angeles." Not so. Monroe only lived here for several months, and, by all accounts, they were probably the most miserable months of her life. She was depressed, confused, had been fired from her last job, her romantic life was a disaster, had purportedly tried to commit suicide only weeks earlier in Tahoe and was considered by some close to her to be mentally unstable.

This house does not represent the glamorous life of a famous movie star, but the end of the life of Norma Jean Baker. Marilyn Monroe was an illusion, a character of her own creation, a caricature of herself which she turned on and off at will and which the public turned into the movie icon and legend. She did nothing extraordinary, like contribute to science or medicine or anything else that could improve the quality of life for humanity.

She was a mediocre actress. "The fact that she passed away in the home gives this particular site an importance that no other site will ever have." This was not Monroe's "life house," it was her "death house" and that is not something to be celebrated. Comparing this

house to The Dakota in New York or to Graceland in Memphis is a bridge too far. There is no comparison and the ownership of someone's personal real property was obstructed, as in this case.

"This is a site of an importance that no other site will ever have." Except, the house is hidden from view behind walls on an out-of-the-way cul-de-sac that no one can visit or even look at. It's also an unnecessary intrusion into the private lives of those who live in the neighborhood. Moving the house to a more public location is the only suggested option I can even partly agree with.

Monroe's legend is her work, her movies, which have grown more popular through the years and will outlast everything else that commemorates her existence. Her crypt in Westwood has become a world class tourist draw. Millions of fans go there to be near her and leave little tokens of the love they feel for her, take pictures, attend a memorial service for her every year in the very same chapel in which her funeral was held, watch the 1962 black and white film of her funeral procession, listen to Lee Strasburg's eulogy and "walk with the procession" from the chapel to her crypt. It's the closest they can come to actually being there. Many of Marilyn's closest friends, co-stars and associates have attended these memorials through the years.

These are the memories that keep the Marilyn Monroe legend alive and the closest they can get to the real person, none of which has anything at all to do with the "death house."

Woody McBrairy
West Hollywood

Kings Road Park in WeHo should honor former resident

Re "Vintage: Kings Road Park opens in WeHo," July 11 issue

That was a nice reflection about the park on Kings Road.

What surprised/saddened me about the location, was that no mention was ever made about who lived there for so many years. It was the home of Pete Larsen and his wife, since before I arrived there in 1964. He had that property, and another small A-frame unit that abutted the Dodge House.

He was always in his garden and you could hardly see the structure that is now the main clubhouse and restrooms. That used to be their home. He was kind of the unofficial watch dog over the Dodge House and was always chasing us kids out of there. It was wide open, no walls or fences. And we would walk our dogs down there to play and run on the enormous lawn. It was a glorious structure, and you can read about it on the monument that they've erected in its honor.

What bothered me, when they opened it, was that there was no mention of who lived there for so long. I don't know how the transfer of the property was handled. I didn't really get to know Pete Larsen, but he and my father had cordial conversations, and he knew that I was that little runt that he would chase off the Dodge House property, climbing onto the roof and exploring the jungle-like gardens.

At the time, I knew [former West Hollywood council member] Abbe Land, and wanted to



photo by Edwin Folven

A small home was converted into a community meeting room when Kings Road Park was created in 1999 at 1000 N. Kings Road in West Hollywood.

contact her and see what, if anything, could be done to remember

Pete. A tiny plaque, something to remember him, and the years he spent taking care of that property while apartment buildings went up everywhere along Kings Road. There were some majestic homes there, as can be viewed just a block to the west of carefully zoned Kings Road.

We lived at 1028 N. Kings, a property owned by Dr. Max Wilson and his family. We leased the home there until my father's passing in 1988. They sold the two lots for about \$4 million, and there is a big white box of condos there,

with the market's loading dock to greet them each morning.

WeHo has more issues to deal with than remembering some long-forgotten family and who used to live where. We have the Schindler House, just down the street, and keeping it intact was a miracle in itself.

Pete Larsen would be pleased with the pocket park on Kings Road. Just would be nice if there was some memory of his name and the time he spent there.

John Huber
Beverly Hills

Subway project prompts lane closures

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority is offering updates about construction along the D Line subway extension project.

Street restoration work is ongoing at and around the existing subway station at Wilshire/Western and the new station at Wilshire/La Brea. Wilshire Boulevard is reduced to two lanes in each direction throughout July between Highland Avenue and Detroit Street to accommodate street-level work.

For approximately three months, a K-rail work zone will be implemented in the middle lanes of Wilshire Boulevard between Fairfax and Spaulding avenues, and Wilshire Boulevard will be reduced to two lanes in each direction in the area. A closure on Orange Grove Avenue south of Wilshire Boulevard will be removed, opening the street to northbound traffic. However, a construction fence west of the Fairfax Avenue intersection will remain in place.

Work is ongoing at the Wilshire/La Cienega station. Through Sunday, Aug. 4, Wilshire Boulevard will be reduced to a single lane in each direction overnight from 8 p.m.-7 a.m. between La Cienega and San Vicente boulevards. Eastbound Wilshire Boulevard will be intermittently closed overnight. The work supports ongoing waterline construction along Wilshire Boulevard. Northbound La Cienega Boulevard will also be reduced to

one lane overnight between Wilshire Boulevard and Clifton Way.

Crews are also restoring streets and sidewalks along Wilshire Boulevard near La Cienega Boulevard. A K-rail work zone will remain in place along the north side of the street.

Eastbound Wilshire Boulevard will be intermittently reduced to a single lane between Le Doux Road and Hamilton Drive from 8 p.m.-7 a.m. on weeknights, and 6 a.m.-10 p.m. on weekends to support access to underground areas near the Wilshire/La Cienega intersection.

At the Wilshire/Rodeo station, crews are working near South Beverly and Cañon drives. Construction is ongoing 24 hours on the subway station. Lanes on Wilshire Boulevard will be intermittently reduced between El Camino and Crescent drives. Lane reductions will also occur on Beverly and Reeves drives near Wilshire Boulevard.

At the Century City/Constellation station, crews are pouring structural concrete through September. A new traffic control plan to support utility relocation work is in place. Intermittent lane closures will occur on Constellation Boulevard through November.

For questions and concerns about the D 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.

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD NOTICE OF ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a General Municipal Election will be held in the City of West Hollywood on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, for the following Officers:

For two (2) Members
of the City Council

Full term of four years

The nomination period for these offices begins on July 15, 2024 and closes on August 9, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.

If nomination papers for an incumbent officer of the city are not filed by August 9, 2024 (the 88th day before the election), the voters shall have until the 83rd day before the election, August 14, 2024 at 5:00 p.m., to nominate candidates other than the person(s) who are the incumbents on the 88th day before the election, for that incumbent's elective office. This extension is not applicable where there is no incumbent eligible to be elected.

If no one or only one person is nominated for an elective office, appointment to the elective office may be made as prescribed by § 10229, Elections Code of the State of California.

The Vote Centers for the election shall be open as required during the identified voting period pursuant to California Elections Code sections 4007 and 14401.

Melissa Crowder
City Clerk
Dated: July 18, 2024

RESTAURANT NEWS

Cherlato's at the Abbey

The Abbey in West Hollywood is hosting a Cherlato residency and pop-up throughout the month of July. This unique pop-up features several delicious Cherlato flavors including "Juniper Nights" – a brand-new creation inspired by The Abbey itself. Cherlato, the delicious gelato brand created by Cher is made fresh every day using organic locally sourced ingredients. For information, visit cherlato.com. The Abbey Food and Bar is located at 692 N. Robertson Blvd.

Mixologist series at the Roosevelt

The Hollywood Roosevelt, the historic boutique hotel in the heart of Hollywood, has announced the launch of an all-new "Mixology Masters" series, welcoming select award-winning cocktail destinations recognized by the 2023 World's 50 Best Bars list. During the bars' multi-day pop-ups, ticketed guests will experience a selection of signature drinks (including mocktails) and a complementary menu of bites from the visiting bar, all of which will be internationally influenced and featuring ingredients sourced from the market-fresh bounty of Southern California. 1930 Cocktail Bar will host the series from Aug. 8-10, 6 p.m.-close. Behind the bar will be 1930 bar manager Benjamin

Fabio Cavagna, a whiskey and spirit collector who loves to experiment with new techniques and testing new flavors, taking inspiration from his trips around the world. Tickets are \$20 per person and can be purchased at eventbrite.com/e/teddys-mixology-masters-bartender-series-tickets-943648125947?aff=oddtc-creator. The Hollywood Roosevelt is located at 7000 Hollywood Blvd.

Cocktails bring Cabra of L.A. dreams

Embrace DTLA views and sip away with the LA Dreamin', Cabra's tequila cocktail made with tequila, pomegranate and ginger. For anyone feeling a little spicy and citrusy, the Limorange You Glad is a great option, mixing mezcal, tequila, aperol, aji hot sauce and limorange juice. Pair the cocktails with fun bar bites like chorizo skewers and tuna & tots. To make a reservation, visit cabralosangeles.com/reserve or call (213)725-5858. Cabra Restaurant & Bar is located at 1060 S. Broadway.

Crustacean offers Wine Program

Come to Crustacean Beverly Hills and experience the new Summer Wine Program. Elizabeth An, CEO of the renowned House of AN restaurant and hospitality group, which owns five restaurants in California, including Crustacean

Beverly Hills, loves summer. So, she asked her sommelier, Peter Meemalayath, to celebrate her favorite season with a unique Summer Wine Program, available now until the end of summer. The talented sommelier, who boasts 28 years in the wine industry along with a passion for education, came up with a wine program that soothes and excites the summer soul, offering respite from canceled vacation plans, giving Angelenos the opportunity to enjoy the summer holidays without leaving the city.

The wine menu features obscure gems and hidden treasures handpicked by Meemalayath. Every Wednesday, Crustacean diners will be able to taste Meemalayath's selection as he strolls around the restaurant with his wine trolley. The weekly picks are available for purchase every day at the restaurant, except Monday, when the restaurant is closed. He is highlighting wines from Canada, France, England and South Africa. For information, visit crustaceanbh.com. Crustacean Beverly Hills is located at 468 N. Bedford Drive.

Tequila treats at Girl & the Goat

Join the herd at Girl & the Goat and indulge in chef Stephanie Izard's cuisine with a side of a refreshing tequila cocktail. Crowd favorite goes to the Farmer's Market Margarita, a unique concoction of tequila blanco, charred poblano, tamarind and zesty kick of citrus-belize salt. But if you want to add more heat to your summer, opt in for the Ring of Fire, made with tequila blanco, pomegranate, tar-



photo courtesy of Paloma

Pizza is on the menu at Venice's new restaurant Paloma.

Paloma opens in Venice

A new culinary journey awaits at Paloma, which has opened in the heart of Venice on the iconic corner of Abbot Kinney Boulevard and Venice Boulevard. Paloma has been reimagined under the guidance of local restaurateur and chef Jason Neroni into a desert-inspired dining oasis, serving a California-meets-Mediterranean culinary menu alongside a robust beverage program and refreshed interior and exterior design.

A beloved local chef with a track record of great success with neighborhood restaurants, Neroni worked with his team at Jaybird Hospitality to infuse his signature cuisine and Venice roots into the newest iteration of Paloma. Leaning into Palm Springs' famed mid-century modern design, the team transformed Paloma into a space that celebrates Venice – from the local flavors and ingredients to the community's eclectic spirit and cool factor. Neroni has curated menus for brunch, lunch and dinner that focus on market-

driven, hyper-seasonal Californian cuisine with a Mediterranean influence.

Each beautifully plated and made with local produce selected by Neroni, dishes include fan-favorites like his Sweet Corn Agnolotti with sweet corn purée, tajín and ricotta salata; Bucatini Carbonara with guanciale, egg yolk, parmesan, cracked pepper and panna; and Ode to Franco reverse margarita-style pizza. These are joined by new, soon-to-be signature dishes such as the highly shareable Grilled Laffa Bread with spreads including Sunflower Seed "Butter" and Eggplant Caponata; the Southern France-inspired Pissaladière pizza topped with spring onions, tomatoes, olives, fennel pollen and roasted garlic; a raw bar of Nantucket Bay Scallops on the half shell and Yellowtail Crudo; and seasonal treats like Crispy Valdivia Squash Blossoms and a Summer Greek Salad featuring generous portions of cucumbers, tomatoes and dill pollen.

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ragon, habanero and ginger. To make a reservation, visit girlandthegoat.com/los-angeles/#reservation or call (213)799-4628. Girl & the Goat is located at 555-3 Mateo St.

Teishoku added to Kaminari menu

Kaminari Gyoza Bar, known for its craft gyoza from Utsunomiya, the gyoza capital of the world, introduced a teishoku, or a set meal, to its menu. The teishoku is composed of six gyoza pieces of one's choice between yaki (pan fried) or age (deep fried), rice, clear pork soup, cabbage, a spring roll, edamame, pickles and choice of one small side dish whether ajitama, spicy cold tofu, kimchi and

seaweed salad. Kaminari, the nation's first gyoza bar, is set to launch its second location in West Hollywood this fall. Founded by Shigemitsu Fujii, Kaminari is shining a spotlight on gyoza in the U.S. with recipes crafted by chefs from Utsunomiya, served in a modern and energetic setting. For information, call (213)265-7351. Kaminari Gyoza Bar is located at 323 First St.

Tumie offers latest hot sauce flavor

Tumie Coco, the innovative hot sauce brand founded by seasoned chef Jason Fullilove, announces the launch of its latest flavor: Yazuke The Black Samurai. This tantalizing new sauce combines

the zesty goodness of citrus with the rich sweetness of black plum and brown sugar, making it the perfect addition to your summer culinary creations. Yazuke The Black Samurai stands out with its unique blend of black plums, coconut aminos and coconut sugars. This multipurpose sauce is ideal for marinades and adds a flavorful kick to various meats, poultry and seafood. Just in time for the summer grilling season, this versatile sauce promises to elevate your culinary experiences to new heights. The original Tumie Coco hot sauce combines the earthy warmth of turmeric, the sweet nuttiness of coconut, and the brightness of black pepper. Free from preservatives, it serves as a versatile condiment for a wide range of dishes. For information, recipes and to order Tumie Coco, visit tumiecoco.com.

Celebrate Farmers Market's 90th anniversary

The Original Farmers Market, corner of Third and Fairfax, is celebrating its 90th anniversary with its inaugural Night Market on Thursday, July 18, from 6-9 p.m.

The special pop up Night Market will showcase Los Angeles' vibrant culture of local apparel and special-

ty retail merchants who typically sell their merchandise online.

Vendors include Andie Gechtman Studio, known for contemporary art pieces and stylish clothing and jewelry designs; Merch Motel, specializing in retro-inspired hats, T-shirts and pins; and

Dapper Day, an upcycle vintage apparel shop that previously joined a pop up at the market. WL Handmade, a Farmers Market merchant specializing in custom leather shoes and purses, will also join the special event, along with Androhmeda Jewelry, Alberly Sombberos, RetroFitted LA and Yoho Florist. All permanent market merchants will be open for shopping and dining.

The special anniversary event will also feature DJ Ricky Rocks from 6-7:30 p.m. and celebrity DJ Daisy O'Dell from 7:30-9 p.m. playing top 1990s hits.

The Original Farmers Market is located at 6333 W. Third St. For information, visit farmersmarketla.com.



photo courtesy of the Original Farmers Market

The Original Farmers Market will welcome local apparel and specialty retail merchants during its inaugural Night Market.

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Los Angeles, CA 90036
(323) 935 1246



photo by Rance Collins

THE Blvd's churro croissant sundae is chef Riccardo Menicucci's latest creation.

Breakfast sundae debuts at THE Blvd

At THE Blvd, executive pastry chef Riccardo Menicucci's latest creation, a churro croissant sundae, is a show-stopping treat. It combines buttery laminated brioche topped with creamy vanilla ice cream, rich hot chocolate sauce and house-made dulce de

leche. It's a decadent indulgence that's not to miss. For information, visit theblvdstaurant.com or call (310)385-3901. THE Blvd Restaurant and Lounge is inside the Beverly Wilshire Four Seasons Hotel, located at 9500 Wilshire Blvd.

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Andaz brings vinyl bar to West Hollywood

Andaz West Hollywood, nestled along the legendary Sunset Strip, is poised to debut Kaye Records at Riot House, an innovative vinyl bar concept, on July 26. The hotel boasts a storied musical legacy as one of the first and most influential hotels on the Sunset Strip, having hosted some of the most iconic rock and roll stars over the years. Affectionately known as the "Riot House" during the 1970s, its distinguished guest list included legendary acts such as The Rolling Stones, The Who and Duran Duran. Now, Kaye Records at Riot House beckons music enthusiasts to step into the hallowed footsteps of the immortal rock gods, offering a gateway to relive the magic of Los Angeles' legendary Sunset Strip.

Every Friday and Saturday night

starting at 7 p.m., DJ Selectors will spin tunes from the hotel's vast library of nearly 3,000 vinyl records live from the new stage at Riot House, the property's signature restaurant. Drawing on influence from Japanese jazz kissa, hotel lobby parties, Hollywood nightclubs, backyard kickbacks and underground hip-hop record shops, Kaye Records at Riot House is the vision of Andaz West Hollywood's in-house DJ Jeremy Onesko and one of the first in Los Angeles' burgeoning vinyl scene. The name "Kaye Records" is a heartfelt nod to Jeremy's mother Kaye, whose love for music and cherished vinyl collection inspired his lifelong passion for spinning records.

"I have always wanted to create a spot that really embraces eclectic music, be it jazz, soul, hip hop,

house, reggae, electronic, and more," Onesko said. "At the heart of Kaye Records at Riot House is a mission to create a space that celebrates music across all genres, with a DJ-friendly approach to presentation and performance. Drawing from my experience as a DJ since the '90s, where I began my journey on two turntables, Kaye Records provides a personal platform to revisit cherished LPs, 12 inches and 45s, sharing my extensive collection with a fresh audience of eager listeners."

To mark the launch of Kaye Records at Riot House, Andaz West Hollywood will be throwing a public party on Friday, July 26 from 7-11 p.m. Those in the area can pop by for an evening filled with music and camaraderie as the property also debuts its very own collabora-



photo courtesy of Andaz West Hollywood

Guests will have the opportunity to listen to a DJ spin vinyl tracks while enjoying unique cocktails.

tion whiskey, "Continental," created in conjunction with the premium whiskey brand Uncle Nearest.

Andaz West Hollywood is located at 8401 Sunset Blvd.

For information, visit hyattexperiences.com/andaz/laxss?icamp=property_page_menu_book_experiences#!/event/2d07308d-b16c-4ce7-9359-aae0e7ae796f.

Event venue opens on Cahuenga

The Brownstone has opened on Cahuenga Boulevard. The newest addition to the Citizen News Events locations represents the first step in expanding their portfolio of event venues outside of the historic Citizen News building. Spanning two stories and over 10,000 square feet, the sophisticated space offers customizable rooms equipped with sound and lighting systems. Formerly the site of restaurant

Beauty and Essex, The Brownstone breathes new life into this iconic address under the visionary leadership of hospitality luminary Giancarlo Pagani and events industry veteran, Talene Kanian.

Reimagined by Lauren Borisoff of Borisoff Design Studio, The Brownstone seamlessly blends classic charm with contemporary allure, paying homage to the timeless elegance of East Coast brown-

stones while incorporating modern flourishes. The first-floor welcomes guests with a spacious main room boasting lofty ceilings and abundant natural light, alongside an intimate lounge exuding a captivating moody ambiance and an outdoor patio perfect for summer gatherings. Ascend the spiral staircase to discover multiple private dining rooms, a dynamic club-style DJ area and a chic cocktail lounge, all tailored to satisfy the discerning tastes of hosts and guests alike. This versatile space sets the stage for opulent wedding receptions, galas or an intimate album release party, while offering an inviting sanctuary for guests to unwind and savor the city's temperate summer nights.

Pagani's latest venture, MARS, has made a splash in Hollywood, discreetly nestled behind Mother Wolf in the Vinyl District. Open to the public Thursday through Saturday, MARS extends exclusive privileges to its select membership, granting access to rare spirits, invitations to members-only affairs and the opportunity to personalize one's own spirits locker. Transitioning effortlessly from indoor elegance to outdoor charm, MARS offers guests a respite from the bustling streets of Hollywood. The allure of the 3,000 square foot indoor-outdoor lounge lies in its decadent ambiance, with plush red velvet, Italian-inspired murals and gilded chandeliers evoking an air of

exclusivity. Stepping onto the patio, guests are greeted by Los Angeles' perfect weather, accentuated by black-and-white marble floors, antique vases and lush greenery, alongside a striking mural by local artist Kenyan Armitage. MARS, part of the Citizen News Events portfolio, is available for private bookings, along with Mother Wolf's main dining room and private dining spaces and Citizen News' second-floor gallery. These spaces seamlessly integrate with Citizen News' 10,000-square-foot event space, offering a comprehensive range of options for hosting events.

For booking information, visit citizennewsevents.com.



photo courtesy of Citizen News Events

Citizen News Events has launched its latest venue in Hollywood.

The Ebell celebrates Amelia Earhart with special program

The Ebell of Los Angeles is holding an Amelia Earhart Celebration with Deep Sea Vision explorer Lloyd Romeo on Wednesday, July 24, at 6:30 p.m.

On the 127th anniversary of Amelia Earhart's birth, the Ebell of Los Angeles' commemorative celebration will include cake and Earhart's favorite snacks. Special guest Romeo, project manager for Deep Sea Vision, will discuss Earhart's life with Ebell board member and senior technology executive Rosa Bravo. The discussion will dive deep into the ongoing exploration to find answers on Earhart's disappearance, including details about the submersible mapping device they believe has pinpointed the missing plane.

Earhart holds a pivotal place in the Ebell's history, having delivered what is believed to be her final public address to audiences at the historic campus on Wilshire Boulevard before embarking on her fateful, history-making journey in 1937.

The Amelia Earhart Celebration will be held in the Ebell of Los

Angeles' Dining Room, 741 S. Lucerne Blvd. Tickets are \$30; \$25 for Ebell members. For information and reservations, visit ebellofla.org/event/amelia-earhart-celebration-07-24-24.



photo courtesy of the Ebell of Los Angeles

The celebration includes a discussion with Lloyd Romeo of Deep Sea Vision, which is working to uncover the location of Earhart's missing plane.

CIUDAD DE WEST HOLLYWOOD NOTIFICACIÓN DE LA ELECCIÓN

POR LA PRESENTE SE DA AVISO de que se habrá de llevar a cabo una Elección Municipal General en la Ciudad de West Hollywood, el martes, 5 de noviembre del 2024, para los siguientes funcionarios:

Para dos (2) Miembros
del Concejo Municipal

(Período completo de cuatro años)

El periodo de nominación para estas oficinas comienza el 15 de julio del 2024 y cierra el 9 de agosto del 2024 a las 5:00 p.m.

Si los documentos de nominación para un oficial incumbente no son presentados a la ciudad el 9 de agosto de 2024 (88 días antes de las elecciones), los votantes tendrán hasta 83 días antes de las elecciones,

14 de agosto del 2024, para nominar otros candidatos en lugar de la(s) persona(s) que son incumbentes 88 días antes de las elecciones, para la oficina electiva del incumbente. Esta extensión no se aplica si no hay un incumbente calificado para ser electo.

Si no se nomina a nadie o solamente a una persona para un cargo electivo, se puede realizar el nombramiento al cargo elegido según lo prescrito por la sección §10229 del Código Electoral del Estado de California.

Los centros electorales para la elección estarán abiertos durante el periodo identificado por las secciones 4007 y 14401 del Código Electoral del Estado de California.

Melissa Crowder Secretaria

Municipal

Fechado: 18 de julio del 2024

Karl Strauss Brewing Company means business

BY Tabor Brewster

Few things in life are as instantly satisfying as an ice cold beer on a hot summer day. Surely Chris Cramer and Matt Rattner knew this when they opened Southern California's first independent brewery in 1989. Named for Cramer's cousin and brew master Karl Strauss, the brewery launched the craft beer scene in San Diego – long before microbrews were all the rage among flannel-wearing hipsters throughout the country.

Many years and many beers later, Karl Strauss' award-winning brews are poured in bars up and down the West Coast, and it operates nine brewpubs, including one in Downtown Los Angeles. The location offers a casual respite in the heart of downtown, with an atmosphere that readily encourages tippling. Thirsty patrons can sit at booths, low and high-top tables, at the bar or even on couches, and catch the big game on multiple televisions. The quick, reliable service makes it a great pit stop to refuel before another commitment in the area – perhaps a pregame for a sporting event at the Crypto.com Arena or Dodger Stadium. It's also a great place to check in – and check out – after a long day of meetings in the city's financial district, or maybe even somewhere to go if you need to take a Zoom call while knocking back a few. There's plenty of space and it's relatively quiet, so long as you don't mind your virtual background being decorated with barrels, kegs and vats of

beer. And of course, the giant metal "WILL WORK FOR BEER" sign on the wall behind you might give away your true intentions during that big pitch. The brewery even offers private meeting rooms with a special catering menu for large groups of businesspeople.

But don't get it twisted – it's definitely not an office. You can leave your work at the door and still enjoy the pleasures of malt, hops and yeast.

The food menu is a mix of classic American pub fare – note the four different types of burgers and three styles of mac and cheese – and slightly more health-conscious, perhaps more distinctly Southern Californian dishes, like poke nachos, ginger salmon and mixed organic green salad.

To start, I went for the duck fat pretzels. The bite-sized pretzel rolls are baked, tossed in the fat and dusted with rosemary, pecorino and parsley. They're an irresistible snack, especially when dipped in the accompanying truffle dip – a creamy garlic aioli – and eaten in between sipping a heavier, more bitter beer like an IPA. Duck fat is something of a rare find in many California restaurants. A novel state law prohibits serving foie gras, a luxurious French delicacy that is perhaps the most famous, if ethically questioned, way of consuming the animal's fat. Instead, this appetizer gives you just a hint of duck fat – a tastier, and in fact, healthier alternative to butter – and spares you of any moral quandary along the way.

From the mains, I went with the grilled chicken tacos – three six-inch tacos topped with corn, cabbage, cheese and pickled onions. Though it's technically a main course, it's also good for sharing, and pairs well with just about any of the lighter beer options, especially when each are accented with a lime wedge. Are there better tacos in Los Angeles? Of course. But these are still delicious – especially after a few pints.

The real main course at Karl Strauss is the beer. With 13 of their own brews and nine "Friends of Karl," or beers imported from other Southern Californian craft breweries, there's plenty to choose from. I opted for a flight, a perfect opportunity for the indecisive or the adventurous to sample four different beers in four-ounce glasses.

Starting with the lightest, the "Follow the Sun Lager" is an American-style light beer that lives up to its evocative title. Refreshing, crisp and nearly weightless in terms of body, it's easily the most "crushable" of any Karl Strauss beers. If you're a fan of the American "lights" – Bud, Coors or Miller – start here. It's similar to any of the three with just slightly more citrus and bready notes. At 4.2% ABV, it's a great beer for a sweltering day, when you need to cool down without worrying about getting too buzzed.

The 5.1% ABV "Windansea Wheat Hefenwiezen" is a German-style wheat beer that's still refreshing but packs a maltier punch.



photo by Tabor Brewster
The duck fat pretzels are a perfect way to soak up the many different beer styles at Karl Strauss Brewing Company.

Bright and bubbly with the subtlest notes of baking spices, it's like if an American beer studied abroad in Bavaria during its senior year of college – returning to the states with a fresh sense of adventure and refined European taste.

Next was one of Karl Strauss' most well-known beers, the Irish-style "Red Trolley Red Ale." With its vibrant crimson color, the appearance is already markedly different than the previous two. At 5.8% ABV, it's richer, with a slightly fuller body and more obvious caramel notes. I still wouldn't call it a "heavy" beer, but it's more well-suited for a night at the pub than a day at the beach.

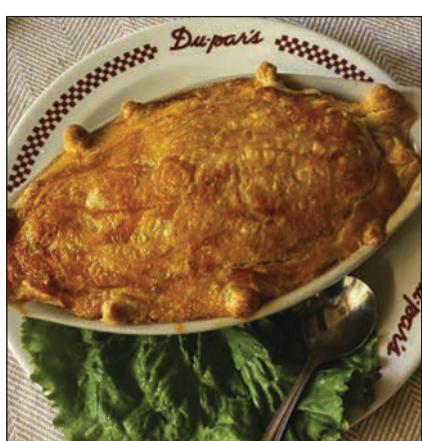
Lastly, the "Boat Shoes IPA" brought something bolder to the table at 7.2% ABV. With a classic hazy IPA bitterness – think lemon, orange or grapefruit peel – that doesn't linger too long after the last sip, it's a nice beer if you want something stronger but still not overwhelming.

There's a beer for just about any occasion at Karl Strauss, and it's worth paying a visit next time you want to try one of California's best craft breweries.

Karl Strauss Brewing Company is located at 600 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 100.

For information, visit karlstrauss.com.

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POLICE BLOTTER

The following crimes occurred in West Hollywood, Beverly Hills and the areas patrolled by the LAPD's Wilshire and Hollywood divisions between July 7 and July 13. 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

July 7

At 1:40 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 600 block of N. Palm.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 9700 block of Wilshire at 12:59 p.m.

At 1:54 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 100 block of N. Maple.

An unknown suspect committed a commercial burglary in the 400 block of N. Rodeo at 3:11 p.m.

At 3:46 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of N. Beverly.

July 8

At 12:44 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of Cañon.

July 9

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 9500 block of Wilshire at 2:05 p.m.

At 3:15 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim near Camden and Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim near Camden and Wilshire at 3:40 p.m.

At 5 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 200 block of S. Gale.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle in the 400 block of N. Roxbury at 7:15 p.m.

At 9 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 9600 block of Wilshire.

July 10

At 6:10 a.m., a vandalism incident was reported in the 700 block of N. Oakhurst.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 100 block of S. Beverly at 9:57 a.m.

At 3:15 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 9000 block of Wilshire.

A vandalism incident was reported in the 400 block of N. Camden at 9:01 p.m.

July 11

At noon, a vandalism incident was reported in the 300 block of N. Rexford.

July 12

At 12:56 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 9400 block of Olympic.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 9500 block of Brighton at 1:55 p.m.

At 3 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a commercial theft in the 9500 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 200 block of N. Rodeo at 5:15 p.m.

At 8:45 p.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 100 block of N. Crescent.

July 13

An unknown suspect committed a residential burglary in the 100 block of N. Elm at 12:32 a.m.

At 1:31 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of S. Rexford.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 400 block of N. Rodeo at 1:53 p.m.

At 5:38 p.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim near Charleville and Willaman.

An unknown suspect stole auto parts in the 400 block of S. Oakhurst at 9 p.m.

At 10:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8400 block of Gregory.

West Hollywood Sheriff's Station

July 7

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8800 block of Santa Monica at midnight.

At 12:01 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8500 block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect pickpocketed a victim near Robertson and Santa Monica at 1:30 a.m.

At 2:40 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim near Santa Monica and Westbourne.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1300 block of N. Havenhurst at 9:17 a.m.

At 7:30 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8800 block of Santa Monica.

July 8

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

At 10 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 1100 block of N. La Cienega.

July 9

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 7600 block of Hampton at 4:50 p.m.

At 9:10 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8400 block of Santa Monica.

July 10

At 7:20 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 9000 block of Elevado. A second burglary was reported in the same area at 7:40 a.m.

At 1:15 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7300 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8500 block of Sunset at 4:08 p.m.

At 5:26 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim near La Brea and Lexington.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8900 block of Santa Monica at 9:30 p.m.

At 11 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8400 block of Sunset.

July 11

At 12:22 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8400 block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 7600 block of Santa Monica at 2 a.m.

At 10:30 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 1000 block of Spaulding.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 1100 block of Larabee at 11 p.m.

July 12

At 6 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 600 block of N. Robertson.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6600 block of Santa Monica at 12:50 p.m.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8900 block of Santa Monica at 8:30 p.m.

At 11:16 p.m., a suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 7500 block of Willoughby.

July 13

At 2 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 8900 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8900 block of Santa Monica at 2:20 a.m.

At 5:54 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 900 block of N. Doheny.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 600 block of N. Robertson at 11:28 a.m.

At 11:30 a.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 1100 block of N. Fuller.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8900 block of Santa Monica at 6:30 p.m.

Los Angeles Police Department

July 7

At 12:01 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1600 block of N. Cahuenga.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1400 block of N. Ivar at 8:30 a.m.

At 9:40 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle in the 1200 block of S. Rodeo.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 200 block of S. Sycamore at 10 a.m.

At 10:04 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 400 block of S. La Brea.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5200 block of Wilshire at 10:07 a.m.

At 5:30 p.m., an unknown suspect pickpocketed a victim in the 7300 block of Beverly.

July 8

At 12:01 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1700 block of N. Camino Palmero.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1500 block of N. Vine at 4:44 a.m.

At 10 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 100 block of N. Sycamore.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6600 block of Santa Monica at 12:50 p.m.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle in the 8400 block of Third at 10:30 p.m.

July 9

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle in the 6300 block of De Longpre at 12:50 a.m.

At noon, an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 400 block of Genesee.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle in the 5700 block of Olympic at 2:05 p.m.

At 6:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7000 block of Hollywood.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near First and Sycamore at 8 p.m.

At 10 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 900 block of S. Ridgeley.

July 10

At 9:42 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 800 block of N. Sweetzer.

An unknown suspect pickpocketed a victim in the 100 block of N. Larchmont at 11:30 a.m.

At 11:58 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5200 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle in the 100 block of The Grove at 5:30 p.m.

At 9 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle in the 100 block of S. Mansfield.

July 11

At 8:15 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 800 block of N. Detroit.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5300 block of Wilshire at 8:30 a.m.

At 12:08 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 400 block of S. La Brea.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8500 block of Olympic at 1 p.m.

At 1:45 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 100 block of The Grove.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle in the 1400 block of N. Genesee at 3:30 p.m.

At 7:25 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7900 block of Beverly.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6700 block of Sunset at 8 p.m.

At 9 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle in the 6100 block of Saturn.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle in the 8400 block of Third at 10:30 p.m.

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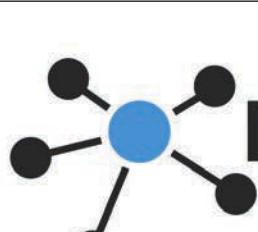
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'MaXXXine' ends the 'X' trilogy on a high

Mia Goth is a star, to paraphrase Maxine Minx, save a naughty expletive. Now if you're worried about a rogue F-bomb here or there, "MaXXXine," the final chapter in the "X" horror series, might be a bit much. Like its predecessors, mood and style trump jolts, but gore rains down upon a 1980s Hollywood landscape.

First, 2022's "X" explored horror cinema's oft association with porn. Maxine (Goth) and a production crew attempt to create a hardcore film in a remote cabin, unaware of their landlords' murderous proclivities, which would then be explored in prequel "Pearl."

Several years later in the 1980s,

sole survivor Maxine rules the adult entertainment industry, but hopes to leave that all behind. She gets a shot, new hope found in a horror film. Is that on the nose? A horror flick shaking its own hand? Maybe, but consider all the stars whose careers began in horror, like Kevin Bacon, a campy private investigator in this meta-slasher.

Alas, Maxine's chance at the limelight hits a snag. Someone seems obsessed with her. Is it the Night Stalker or someone trying to make a series of murders look like his work? Friends die, cops take notice and a mysterious, well-funded antagonist gets closer to his goal. That reveal is a satisfying one three



photo courtesy of A24

"MaXXXine," starring Mia Goth, shows the horror genre remains a hotbed of creativity.

ON SCREEN
WITH
TIM POSADA

films in the making.

Eventually, the body count adds up, but not before a slew of unexpected familiar faces grace the screen, including Giancarlo Esposito, as Maxine's entertainment lawyer Teddy Night, Esq., and Elizabeth Debicki, as the director of "The Puritan II," a film mired in controversy for both its religious content and casting an adult film star in a leading role. (Side note: Look up "MaXXXine's" viral marketing stunt with protesters. It's a fun tactic.)

These films are an actor's sandbox. First, Goth plays both final girl Maxine and killer Pearl at the end of the 1970s. Then Goth fully embraces Pearl's madness in a solo venture set nearly 60 years earlier. Now, Maxine takes center stage. She has some substance problems, but she remains focused on a singular goal: fame. Her performance doesn't reach the memorable heights of "Pearl," but it still allows Goth to do some remarkable acting.

In previous decades, Maxine would be an easy target, a horror



photo courtesy of A24

Mia Goth, left, returns in "MaXXXine," the third and final installment of the "X" series.

character violently discarded, punished for her sexual appetite and vain dreams. (Historically, horror films often elate in conservative morality that favors virginal survivors, after all.) Not so in "MaXXXine," a film more interested in poking fun at the film industry, challenging horror norms.

This is yet another example of A24's dominance in horror cinema. "Hereditary," "Bodies, Bodies, Bodies" this year's "I Saw the TV Glow" – the studio keeps racking up eerie, disturbing, clever contributions to one of the longest-running film genres. "MaXXXine" resides somewhere in the middle, poking fun at a slew of genres and tones while it tells a polished story as well.

For a third time, horror auteur Ti

West ("House of the Devil," "The Innkeepers") reminds us that horror is a ripe locale for creative exploration. Quentin Tarantino has known this for some time, and "MaXXXine" drives that home once more. It's the most visually stunning "X" entry, overexposing its 1980s setting.

Think about perfect trilogies: "Back to the Future," the original "Star Wars," "The Lord of the Rings." Add the "X" trilogy to that list. It's a solid film, especially considering how many third entries cave to the pressure. The "X" films aren't scary, but they know how to embrace style. "MaXXXine" ends the trilogy on a memorable note, exploring the peculiar connections between horror and porn and exploitation.

Hollyhock House to host French film festival

This summer, cinephiles won't need to go further than Barnsdall Art Park in East Hollywood to experience the excitement and drama of sports with a French flair, thanks to Films on the Green, Villa Albertine's free outdoor French film festival presented in partnership with Hollyhock House and sponsored by the Louis Roederer Foundation and TV5MONDE.

"French cinema has been celebrated recently in Hollywood with successful films like 'Anatomy of a Fall.' We hope that Films on the Green will help spark a similar

energy in our local communities and bring people together around a shared love of cinema, cultural exchange, and the outdoors," said Mohamed Bouabdallah, cultural counselor of France in the United States and director of Villa Albertine.

First up in the festival on July 21, "My Donkey, My Lover & I" is a comedy where filmgoers follow Antoinette, a devoted school-teacher, as she plans a summer getaway with her secret lover, Vladimir. When unexpected plans arise, she turns her disappointment into a daring escapade in the

Cévennes National Park, accompanied by an unlikely yet endearing sidekick, a donkey named Patrick.

Films on the Green started over 15 years ago as a small film series in local New York City community gardens. Since then, it has blossomed into a beloved summer tradition, hotly anticipated by film buffs and casual viewers alike. This summer the festival will take place in six American cities, a new record for the festival and a testament to the ongoing enthusiasm for diverse and accessible outdoor film experiences. Collaborating with Hollyhock House – Los Angeles' only UNESCO World Heritage site, the Films on the Green festival debuts in L.A. with unparalleled, panoramic views from the hilltop of Barnsdall Art Park.



photo courtesy of Hollyhock House

Films on the Green launches at Hollyhock House on July 21.

The screening begins at 8 p.m. Registration recommended. For information, visit eventbrite.com/e/join-us-for-a-free-outdoor-french

The Ebell welcomes Pelosi to discuss her historic time in service

The Ebell of Los Angeles and Writers Bloc present "An Evening With Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi" on Thursday, Aug. 15, at 7:30 p.m. at the Wilshire Ebell Theatre. Pelosi will speak about her new book, "The Art of Power."

Pelosi tells the story of her transformation from housewife to House speaker – how she became a master



photo courtesy of The Ebell

Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi will discuss her book "The Art of Power."

legislator, key partner to presidents and a visible leader of the Trump resistance. In "The Art of Power," Pelosi describes what it takes to make history, not only as the first woman to ascend to the most powerful legislative role in the nation, but also to pass laws that save lives and livelihoods, from the emergency rescue of the economy in 2008 to transforming health care. She describes the perseverance, persuasion and respect for her members that it took to succeed, but also the joy of seeing America change for the better. Pelosi shares moving moments with soldiers sent to the front lines, women who inspired her and human rights activists who fought by her side. "The Art of Power" is about the fighting spirit that has always animated her, and the historic legacy that spirit produced.

The Wilshire Ebell Theatre is located at 4401 W. Eighth St. Tickets are \$68 and include a copy of "The Art of Power," \$44.52 for ticket-only. A valid ID is required to attend. For information, visit ebellofla.org/event/the-ebell-of-la-writers-bloc-speaker-emerita-nancy-pelosi-08-15-24.



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

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

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City celebrates growth of childcare programs

Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass' Office of Economic Opportunity held a commencement for participants in the Early Childhood Education-Student Advancement Program on July 16.

The event celebrated the success and continuing growth of ECE-SAP – a program that recruits and trains early childhood educators – and highlighted the integration and expansion of the innovative Sesame 3G Mentoring Program.

"We are thrilled to celebrate the growth and success of the Early Childhood Education-Student Advancement Program," Bass said. "This program has educated and inspired more than 200 community college students over the past two years. We're additionally delighted that a newer component of ECE-SAP – the Sesame 3G program – has proven to be an asset to our community, fostering deep connections across generations. These are innovative solutions that strengthen our community bonds and drive the

recruitment of mentors and early-childhood educators."

"This is a wonderful opportunity," added Dr. Lewis Bernstein, founder and president of Sesame 3G. "We are very excited that our collaboration with the ECE-SAP program has been so successful that it has led to this expansion. By adapting our overall goals of three-generation engagement and mentorship to meet Los Angeles' need for early-childhood educators, our Sesame 3G program helps build a community of support. This program addresses the needs not only of the preschoolers and fosters the development of a new generation of early-childhood professionals, but also provides an outlet for retired educators to give back and improve the field."

ECE-SAP was developed by the Los Angeles Mayor's Office of Economic Opportunity in 2021, in partnership with the Los Angeles Community College District and the Child Development Consortium

of Los Angeles. The program aims to increase the number of early-childhood educators through recruitment, coaching and certification, specifically targeting students interested in working with infants and toddlers. ECE-SAP offers mentorship guidance, financial awards, paid internship opportunities and career workshops to support students throughout their educational journey.

The collaboration with Sesame 3G brings together experienced early-childhood professionals, community-college students, and preschoolers. The educators mentor community college students, who in turn mentor preschoolers at child care centers throughout Los Angeles. Dubbed the Co-Generational Connection Program, the 3G initiative began as a pilot in 2022. It is expanding to include 30 three-person teams in its next cohort, engaging 90 participants.

For information, visit opportunity.lacounty.gov.

KCCLA co-sponsors story time at Pio Pico Library

The Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles will host "The House Before Falling Into the Sea," a Korean story time event with Korean American author Ann Suk Wang on July 24, at 4 p.m. at the Pio Pico Library in Koreatown. The event is being held in commemoration of Korean War Armistice Day on July 27.

Wang will introduce "The House

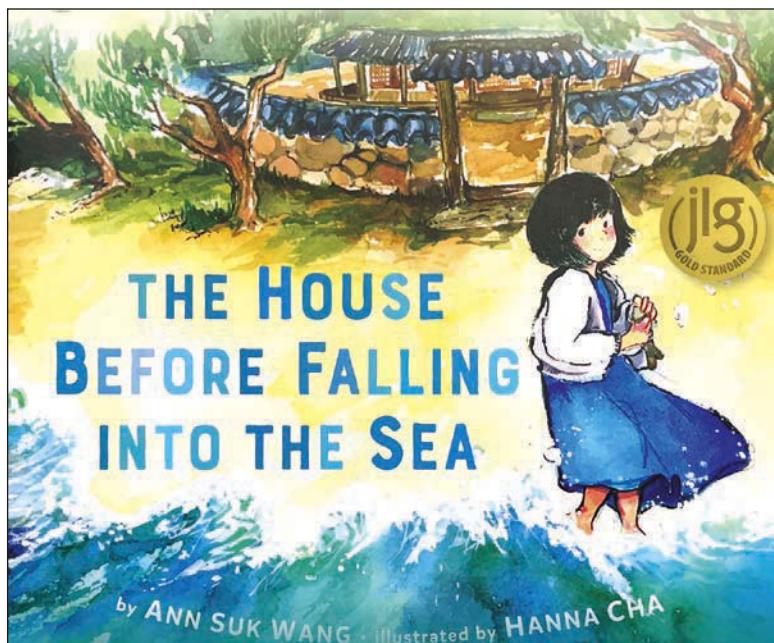
Before Falling Into the Sea," published in March by Dial Books, a division of Penguin Random House. The book, based on a true story experienced by the author's family during the Korean War, conveys messages of solidarity and hope. It was named a Gold Standard Selection by the Junior Library Guild and received good reviews from Kirkus Reviews and

The Horn Book.

The story time event is co-hosted by the Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles and the Los Angeles Public Library. Wang will present stories about Korean history and culture to children through storytelling accompanied by music. A Q&A session and a book signing will be held.

Wang, born in Korea and a graduate of UCLA and Boston University, is a former journalist. The event is free and open to the public.

The Pio Pico Library is located at 694 S. Oxford Ave. For information, visit kccla.org and lapl.org/branches/pio-pico.



The story time event reads "The House Before Falling Into the Sea" by author Ann Suk Wang.

NHMLAC offers hands-on experiences

The Natural History Museums of Los Angeles County has announced the slate of summer and fall programming for the Natural History Museum in Exposition Park and La Brea Tar Pits in Hancock Park. This mix of family-friendly and adult programming and events features a wide range of exhibitions, hands-on activities, talks and performances both in-person and online. It also features the opening of NHM Commons, including the reveal of Gnatale the Green Dino. In addition, NHMLAC community scientists will spearhead a number of research initiatives and expeditions open to the public that will highlight the museums' ongoing impact and discoveries and allow Angelenos to get involved.

Among the programming is the Butterfly Pavilion, the Spider Pavilion, Dinosaur Encounters, the Summer of Sloths and Ice Age

Encounters. For a full list of experiences and information, visit nhm.org and tar pits.org. The Natural History Museum is located at 900 Exposition Blvd. The La Brea Tar Pits is located at 5801 Wilshire Blvd.



Fun for all ages will be available at the Natural History Museums of Los Angeles County locations this summer and fall.



photo courtesy of Westside Food Bank
Children receive nutritious food through the Westside Food Bank, which is supported by donations and volunteers.

Westside Food Bank ensures children still get summer meals

Westside Food Bank's Summer Children's Nutrition Program replaces meals children regularly receive during the school year, ensuring children do not go hungry when school is out.

The food bank is seeking support for the program for children in need and is asking the public for assistance. With the help of volunteers, Westside Food Bank prepares pre-packaged meal boxes of nonperishable food items that require little or no preparation, making them easy to consume for children. Each meal box, accompanied by a produce bag, contains the equivalent of 10 meals. The meal boxes include various nutritious items with a focus on protein and dairy, while the produce bags feature fresh fruits such as apples and oranges. Westside Food Bank's partner agencies collect the pre-packed meal boxes and distribute them to families with

children alongside their regular food distributions.

"School's out for summer, but hunger doesn't take a vacation," Westside Food Bank president and CEO Genevieve Riutort said.

"[The] support nourishes bodies, nurtures hope and provides the stability children need to thrive. Together, we can ensure that every child in our community enjoys a healthy and happy summer."

The food bank's Summer Children's Nutrition Program fills a critical need at a time when 30% of Los Angeles County households struggle with food insecurity, and 41% of those households include children under 18 years old. During the summer, many families do not have access to meals for their children, putting an additional strain on tight budgets.

For information and to donate, call (310)828-6016 ext. 38, or visit wsfb.org/summer2024.

ГОРОД ЗАПАДНЫЙ ГОЛЛИВУД

ОБЪЯВЛЕНИЕ О ВЫБОРАХ

НАСТОЯЩИМ УВЕДОМЛЯЕМ, что во вторник, 5 ноября 2024 года, в городе Западный Голливуд пройдут всеобщие муниципальные выборы на следующие должности:

Два (2) члена городского совета на полный срок четыре года

Период выдвижения кандидатов на данные должности начнется 15 июля 2024 года и закончится 9 августа 2024 года в 5 часов вечера.

Если лицо, занимающее избираемую должность в настоящее время, не подаст документы о переизбрании до 9 августа 2024 г. (за 88 дней до проведения выборов), избиратели будут иметь возможность не позднее, чем за 83 дня до проведения выборов, т.е. до 14 августа 2024 г., выдвинуть других кандидатов на данную должность. Такое продление срока не распространяется на вакантные позиции.

В случае отсутствия кандидатов или в случае выдвижения только одного кандидата на избираемую должность, назначение на эту должность может производиться согласно параграфу §10229 избирательного кодекса штата Калифорния.

Избирательные пункты будут открыты в течение установленного периода голосования в соответствии с параграфами 4007 и 14401 избирательного кодекса штата Калифорния.

Мелисса Краудер

Секретарь городского управления

18 июля 2024 года

L.A. students create performance inspired by Getty exhibition

Getty, About...Productions and Plaza de la Raza announced "Ancestral Connections: Yanculia/Restoration." The production is an original performance collaboratively created by Los Angeles high school students as part of the Youth Theater Summer Intensive program built around the Getty exhibition, "Picture Worlds: Greek, Maya and Moche Pottery."

Developed in response to the exhibition, the performances will integrate poetry, movement, video projections and music. The free performances will take place at Plaza de la Raza on July 18 at 7 p.m. and the Getty Villa on July 20 at 3 p.m.

Latino students will work with professional teaching and guest artists during the five-week youth theater workshop at Plaza de la Raza Cultural Center for the Arts and Education in Lincoln Heights. Led by Eddie Ruiz, students will explore performing art forms and storytelling through a global cultural lens. Professional video designer Ly Eisenstein will enhance the performance with student-created images, handmade masks and photos of pottery from the exhibition.

Students will develop and rehearse a creative production encompassing their perspectives on

the mythological themes of the antiquities exhibition. They will also take field trips to the Getty Villa Museum to explore "Picture Worlds: Greek, Maya and Moche Pottery" and meet with David Saunders, associate curator of antiquities at the Getty Villa Museum and co-curator of the exhibition.

"In developing the 'Picture Worlds' exhibition and exploring Greek, Maya and Moche narrative and visual traditions, I've already had the good fortune to work with the About...Productions team over the past two summers, and the engagement of the students has been really enriching," Saunders said. "Now that the exhibition is on display, I'm really excited to bring the students into the galleries, to look closely at the stories that are depicted, and to see how the imagery informs this year's performances."

"This collaboration between the Getty, About...Productions and Plaza is providing public high school students with a unique opportunity to explore storytelling forms through the remarkable 'Picture Worlds' exhibition, and rigorous arts instruction that includes writing, theater techniques, visual arts, cultural explorations and pub-

lic performances," said Theresa Chavez, producing artistic director of About...Productions. "The students' transformation is a result of this powerful combination of elements and their engagement in a collaborative process."

Plaza de la Raza is located at 3540 N Mission Road.

The Getty Villa is located at 17985 Pacific Coast Highway.

For information, visit getty.edu.



photo courtesy of Theresa Chavez

Los Angeles High School students will present a performance inspired by the Getty exhibition "Picture Worlds" on July 18 and 20.

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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

LOCATIONS: **Citywide, West Hollywood, California**

REQUEST: **The Planning Commission** will hold a public hearing to consider a zone text amendment to adopt new policies, regulations, development standards, and definitions for studio and micro-units.

PERMIT(S): Zone Text Amendment, and any other required permits.

APPLICANT(S): City of West Hollywood

TIME/PLACE OF HEARING: **Thursday, August 1, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.**

West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers
625 N. San Vicente Boulevard
West Hollywood, CA 90069

ZONES: Citywide

ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS: Categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Section §15061(b)(3) (Review for Exemption)

Complete digital agenda packets will be available on Thursday, July 25, 2024, and additional information regarding participation options can be found on the posted agenda or the calendar page on-line at www.weho.org

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

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

To comply with the American with Disabilities Act of 1990, If you require special assistance to participate in this meeting (e.g., a signer for the hearing impaired), you must call, or submit your request in writing to the Office of the City Clerk at (323) 848-6800 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

For further information regarding this item, contact Jerry Hittleman, Senior Contract Planner at (323) 848-6475, jhittleman@weho.org or Tahira Farris, Senior Planner at (323) 848-6472, tfarris@weho.org

Melissa Crowder, City Clerk

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



photo courtesy of Barnsdall Art Park Foundation

The Barnsdall Arts Center will celebrate its reopening on July 20 with a reception featuring artists and live music.

Getty acquires Flemish Renaissance masterpiece

On July 2, The J. Paul Getty Museum acquired at an auction in London "Madonna of the Cherries" by Quentin Metsys. Long believed to have been lost, the 16th century painting's recent rediscovery offered Getty an opportunity to acquire one of the most significant paintings of the Flemish Renaissance to appear on the market in decades. The painting will go on view in the Getty Center's North Pavilion in the coming weeks.

"The tender beauty and accessibility of Metsys' representation of the familial bond between the Virgin Mary and Christ Child represents a major innovation in early Netherlandish painting that greatly heightens the emotional impact of the image," Getty Museum Director Timothy Potts said. "Painted at the height of his career, and preserved today in excellent condition, 'Madonna of the Cherries' is among Metsys' most appealing and influential compositions. Acknowledged as a masterpiece in its day, the painting became especially famous in the 17th century, after which its whereabouts were lost. I have no doubt that its spiritual and artistic resonance will

make it one of the most beloved works in our collection."

The painting depicts the Virgin Mary and child in loving embrace while seated on a regal throne. Christ, portrayed as a robust nude infant, wraps both arms around his mother's neck and kisses her. The Virgin Mary firmly presses him to her breast and delicately flourishes a stem of cherries between the pinched fingers of her right hand. Through the large arched window at left, a Romanesque palace beside a lake is visible.

Rich with symbolism, the cherries have celestial connotations as the fruit of heaven, while their color signifies the future blood of Christ's passion and sacrifice on the cross. The still life in the foreground elaborates on the theme of Christ's future sacrifice, with a yellow apple referring to Christ's role as the new Adam.

"This painting represents Metsys' distinct personal style derived from his absorption of Netherlandish visual traditions and keen appreciation of significant Italian artistic developments," said Anne Woollett, curator of paintings at the Getty Museum.

The first recorded owner of Madonna of the Cherries was prominent early 17th century art collector Cornelis van der Geest who, according to contemporary accounts, resisted efforts by the archdukes to obtain the painting from him. All traces of the painting were lost following its sale to an anonymous buyer in 1668. It resurfaced at auction in Paris in 1920 but was no longer recognizable due to several additions, such as a thick layer of discolored varnish and overpainting, including a green curtain painted over the background landscape. It reappeared once again in 2015 at a Christie's auction, still marred by the later additions, and labeled as a studio version. After a subsequent conservation treatment, which revealed its exceptional quality and condition, scholars recognized it as the prime version of Metsys' masterpiece.

This is the second painting by Metsys to enter the Getty Museum collection, following the 2018 acquisition of "Christ as the Man of Sorrows."

The Getty Center is located at 1200 Getty Center Drive.

For information, visit getty.edu.



photo courtesy of Getty

The 16th century oil painting "Madonna of the Cherries" was believed to have been lost until recently.

iPalpiti returns for 27th festival

iPalpiti announced its 27th festival, where 24 multi-award-winning classical musicians travel from around the world to Southern California for a week's residency in Beverly Hills. Soloists, ensembles and the iPalpiti orchestra of interna-

tional laureates will perform under the baton of esteemed Maestro Eduard Schmieder, co-founder and music director of iPalpiti.

The weeklong festival features two concerts at Greystone Mansion in Beverly Hills on July 24, and,

and another performance at the historic Ambassador Auditorium in Pasadena on July 27 for its closing concert, "On Wings of Peace." With the distinguished history of this "Carnegie Hall of the West," iPalpiti joins its great roster of artists, from the Vienna Philharmonic to Pavarotti to Rubinstein to Menuhin.

Globe-spanning countries represented by this year's laureate musicians include Belarus, Czech Republic, Serbia, Germany, Italy, France, Monaco, Ireland, Sweden, Finland, Israel, China, Korea, Japan, Ecuador, Venezuela, Iran, Turkmenistan and the U.S. iPalpiti – Italian for "heartbeats" – is dedicated to the promotion of peace and

understanding through music and to the artistic career advancement of exceptionally gifted young professional musicians.

For information, visit ipalpiti.org/ipalpiti-festival-2024.

Greystone Mansion is located at 905 Loma Vista Drive.

Ambassador Auditorium is located at 131 South St. John Ave.



photo courtesy of iPalpiti

iPalpiti's annual festival brings together 24 classical musicians from around the world for performances in Beverly Hills.

VINTAGE

PARKLABREA NEWS

Riders grant wishes for children with life-threatening illnesses

Motorcycle riders made wishes come true in this photograph in the July 5, 2001, issue of the Beverly Press and Park Labrea News. Actor and motorcycle enthusiast Lorenzo Lamas autographed the T-shirt of Arham Diaz at a special Make-A-Wish Foundation event that year at the Petersen Automotive Museum. Lamas was among a group who rode to the museum in commemoration of the centennial anniversary of Indian Motorcycles, which made a \$50,000 donation to the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Lamas visited with Diaz, a fan of the actor's television show "Renegade" who was battling leukemia.

Concert celebrates legendary Broadway collaborators

It has been 50 years since Boublil and Schönberg first met and began a collaboration that would change the course of musical theatre history with their musicals "Les Misérables" and "Miss Saigon."

Set for July 28 at 7:30 p.m., "Do You Hear The People Sing?" is the definitive celebration of the work of Boublil and Schönberg and includes not only hits from "Les Misérables" and "Miss Saigon" but also "Martin

Guerre," "The Pirate Queen" and their very first musical together, "La Révolution Française."

The Hollywood Bowl pays tribute with beloved songs from across the legendary duo's catalogue, including "Master of the House," "I Dreamed a Dream," "The American Dream," and more in "The Music of Les Misérables, Miss Saigon, and More: Boublil and Schönberg's Do You Hear the

People Sing?"

Kevin Stites conducts an all-star cast of special guests from Broadway and the West End that includes Patrick Wilson, Skylar Astin, Emily Bautista, Jon Jon Briones, Nikki Renée Daniels, Rachel Tucker and Marie Zamora, together with a sixty-piece orchestra and choir.

For tickets and information, visit hollywoodbowl.com. The Hollywood Bowl is located at 2301 Highland Ave.

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Merger may involve store closures

From page 1

drastically reduce competition, exacerbate rising grocery prices and negatively impact thousands of workers.

"This supermarket mega merger comes as American consumers have seen the cost of groceries rise steadily over the past few years. Kroger's acquisition of Albertsons would lead to additional grocery price hikes for everyday goods, further exacerbating the financial strain consumers across the country face today," said Henry Liu, director of the FTC's Bureau of Competition, in a press release. "Essential grocery store workers would also suffer under this deal, facing the threat of their wages dwindling, benefits diminishing and their working conditions deteriorating."

The two companies released a list of 579 stores they agreed to sell to a third party as part of the agreement. The divestment is aimed at appeasing the concerns raised by the FTC and other antitrust regulators. The list includes 63 Pavilions, Vons, Albertsons and Safeway stores in California that will be sold to C&S Wholesale Grocers, a grocery supply company based in New Hampshire. The sale includes the Pavilions in West Hollywood at 8969 Santa Monica Blvd. and the Pavilions in Beverly Hills at 9467 W. Olympic Blvd.

While the future of the sale depends on the outcome of the federal lawsuit, C&S Wholesale Grocers said that if the sale goes through, current workers at Pavilions will keep their jobs.

"In order to ensure these stores continue to thrive, we will be welcoming hundreds of highly skilled grocery retail veterans and tens of thousands of store associates from Kroger and Albertsons who are currently responsible for these

stores," said Lauren La Bruno, vice president of communications for C&S, in an email. "Their skill and knowledge, along with our leading wholesale and supply expertise will undoubtedly ensure that these stores continue to successfully serve their communities for many generations to come."

Though C&S plans to acquire the two Pavilions, it is not clear under what name the two locations will rebrand. Additionally, La Bruno did not comment on specific plans for the Pavilions in West Hollywood and Beverly Hills, citing that the transaction is not final given the pending court cases.

However, the possible sale comes as the property owners for the Beverly Hills Pavilions location plan a development project that would vastly change the layout of the location. In March, the Aflalo Family Trust submitted a preliminary application for an eight-story, 110-unit mixed-use residential building with ground floor retail space, rooftop deck and three-level underground parking structure.

While a project of this scope would usually be prohibited in Beverly Hills, the developers are hoping to utilize the builder's remedy, a state provision that allows developers to bypass local building restrictions when the proposal contains a certain percentage of affordable housing units and the city's housing element does not meet state requirements. The proposed project at 9467 W. Olympic Blvd. reserves 22 units for low-income residents.

The project is being designed by Ottinger Architects, a firm that designed plans for a similar – and controversial – 19-story builder's remedy project at 125-129 S. Linden Drive that has faced multi-

ple roadblocks in receiving approval from the city.

Property owner of the 9467 W. Olympic Blvd. site Sammy Aflalo said the current plans include space for a future grocery store on the ground floor. According to Aflalo, the future supermarket would face Olympic Boulevard, with separate retail businesses facing South Beverly Drive.

He said the lease for the current Pavilions lasts for another five years, and the property owners do not have the right to terminate the lease early to begin development. However, he said Albertsons expressed interest in terminating the Pavilions lease early if it could move into the redeveloped location, but added he is unsure exactly how the possible sale of Pavilions might affect the development plans.

"I really don't know. As of a couple months ago we were talking to Pavilions ... and they said they wanted to be in the new site and that they were flexible on terminating their lease possibly earlier if we could work out a deal in the new site. We do have a space earmarked for a grocery store there. About 18,000 square feet of retail space that we're designing so it's appropriate for a grocer," Aflalo said.

"The idea was that [Pavilions] was going to give us some direction and let us know what their desires are for the space. I don't know that that's something they'll do on behalf of C&S anymore. So it's really up in the air. But we are going to develop the site and we are going to put the space in for a grocery store."

Aflalo acknowledged potential pushback from nearby residents, but emphasized a commitment to completing the project.

"We do want to keep the com-



photo courtesy of Pavilions

The Pavilions at 8969 Santa Monica Blvd. in West Hollywood will be sold to C&S Wholesale Grocers under the merger, though it is not clear under what name the store will rebrand.

munity happy and we would be willing to make concessions in order for it to be well-received or as well-received as any development could be," Aflalo said. "I know quite often that the community that might be resistant to the development ends up being patrons of the businesses and they end up loving it, so I know it's going to be great for the community but I'm sure we will have some hurdles to overcome for it to be well-received by them."

He also acknowledged potential challenges in getting the project approved by the city.

"I'm hoping that [the city is] becoming more realistic about what the laws are at the state level and how it applies to projects like this, because we do intend to build this, and we want to do it amicably with the city of Beverly Hills. But if they do oppose the project then we will take any remedies necessary in order to build it – any legal remedies," Aflalo said.

The proposed project at the current Pavilions isn't the only possible redevelopment in the immediate area. Aflalo said he has also

submitted preliminary applications for three other mixed-use development projects at the same intersection – a 10-story building at 9430 W. Olympic Blvd., a 10-story building at 9441 W. Olympic Blvd. and an eight-story building at 333-353 S. Beverly Drive. If approved, the four developments would significantly transform the intersection of Olympic Boulevard and Beverly Drive with over 350 new housing units.

"We wanted to really enhance the intersection," Aflalo said. "Right now, they're older buildings that don't really operate properly – including vacant offices that just don't really have as much of a need in this post-COVID era with remote work. And there's obviously a housing crisis as well, so we're eliminating obsolete offices and replacing them with much-needed housing, and eliminating an old grocery store that can't really compete and operate with more modern grocers. We're going to be able to deliver a product to a grocery store that's state of the art, that will serve the community and will drive more revenue for the city."

Program expanded for public transit subsidies

The Los Angeles Department of Transportation, in partnership with Metro, is expanding the Universal Basic Mobility pilot program with phase II of the Mobility Wallet program.

The Mobility Wallet, the largest program of its kind in the nation, addresses systemic barriers to safe, efficient and reliable transportation for low-income Los Angeles residents. Mobility Wallets are pre-loaded payment cards that provide subsidies for transportation including public transit, ride-sharing services, micro-mobility, taxis and purchases at bike shops.

Phase I of the program, which ran from May 2023 to April 2024, provided 1,000 low-income residents in South L.A. with a prepaid debit card with \$150 per month to spend on transportation needs. Phase II of the Mobility Wallet program will identify 1,000 new, low-income residents within the South L.A. pilot zone, as well as an additional 1,000 low-income residents across L.A. County to receive the Mobility

Wallet subsidy. Applications for Phase II are open through Aug. 31 by visiting metro.net/mobilitywallet1.

"As we urgently work to ensure that our transit system is safe for riders, we also must continue to expand access and reach to the communities that need it most," Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass said. "I commend LADOT General Manager Laura Rubio-Cornejo and Metro CEO Stephanie Wiggins for leading this important work."

"LADOT is proud to continue advancing mobility equality with a new round of Mobility Wallets as part of our Universal Basic Mobility pilot program," Rubio-Cornejo added. "Mobility Wallets empower individuals to choose the transportation solutions that work best for them. We're excited to double participation in South L.A. – LADOT's UBM pilot area – and expand this opportunity to residents across the county."

To be eligible for phase II of the program, applicants must be 18



photo by Edwin Folven

The Mobility Wallets subsidize transit on buses, trains, ride-sharing services and other modes of public transportation.

years old, live in L.A. County and may not have participated in phase I. The annual household income requirement is based on Metro's Low Income Fare is Easy program. Participants will be randomly selected from all eligible applicants.

Participants in Phase I purchased over 140,000 trips with their mobility wallets. For information, visit metro.net/mobilitywallet1.

Supervisor Hahn becomes chair of Metro Board

On July 10, Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn, 4th District, assumed the chair of the Metro Board of Directors and delivered a speech outlining her priorities for her year-long term with a

focus on safety.

"We know that new lines and stations will ultimately fail if riders' top concern isn't whether the Metro system goes where they need it to, but whether they will reach their

destination safely," Hahn said to an audience of elected leaders and Metro employees.

Hahn spoke about her plan to ride Metro more often as chair.

"When my father was a supervi-

Trees may be removed in Beverly Hills

From page 1

affect neighboring properties and the surrounding community. The replacement trees will take many years to mature and will not provide equivalent environmental value. Accordingly, the Planning Commission prejudicially abused its discretion when it found that there would be no adverse effects associated with the removal of these trees," the appeal stated.

The decision will now be reviewed by the City Council in a meeting on Sept. 10.

The property at 1001 N. Roxbury Drive was bought by StubHub cofounder Eric Baker for nearly \$40 million in 2020. Prior to being a vacant lot, the property was home to a 1941 regency revival house designed by Carlton L. Burgess. The house was beloved by many local resi-

dents for its unique architectural style, but was demolished in 2022 despite public outcry. In 2022, the City Council voted 4-1 against granting historical status to the home, which would have prevented it from being demolished. Councilman John Mirisch was the lone vote in favor of preserving the house.

"It is often said home is a sacred place, and it's not just the individual house that we live in," Mirisch said following the council's decision in 2022. "I think this is a sad day for Beverly Hills. I fear that today will go down in history as a moment when we ... failed our children and our grandchildren but also our parents and grandparents. From my perspective, 1001 Roxbury is indeed a remarkable, superior work."

sor, he would take a different route to the office through his district every day. And every time he came across a pothole, he would report it to his staff and tell them that, the next time he drove that road, he expected it to be fixed," Hahn said. "So, I am going to take a page out of my dad's book. I haven't ridden

Metro as much as I should have in the past, but I am going to make it a point to ride more while I am chair. And at our board meetings, I am going to talk about what I experience as a Metro rider. That will mean calling out problems I see, as well as praising the things that go right."

Drones considered in West Hollywood

From page 1

Meister said.

"Public safety should be our No. 1 priority," Councilman John Heilman said. "We need to give the sheriffs the technology they can use to prevent crime and to catch people who threaten our community. There have been too many armed robberies and residential burglaries in our community. Providing additional resources to the sheriff's department will help them address this criminal behavior."

The program was approved in a split 3-2 decision by the City Council on July 15. The council authorized \$750,000 for technology enhancements that also include additional fixed cameras and a real-time watch center. A similar, permanent drone camera program already exists in neighboring Beverly Hills. City officials have touted the program as an innovative local security measure.

"We appreciate our partnership with the city of West Hollywood and the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department and congratulate them for launching a pilot drone camera program," Beverly Hills Police Department Chief Mark Stainbrook said. "This aligns with our commitment to using technology for community safety. Our drone program has been effective in preventing crime and responding to emergencies. West Hollywood's initiative strengthens regional collaboration and our shared goal of maintaining a safe environment."

In their dissenting votes, both Vice Mayor Chelsea Byers and Councilwoman Sepi Shyne cited concerns over public outreach on the issue.

"The technology package approved July 15 is a significant investment to make that will alter the way our city engages in law enforcement activity. It is my feel-

ing that this shift warrants an equally significant level of community engagement before full pursuit," Byers said. "We are talking about surveillance technology and the subsequent privacy and civil rights issues at a scale totally new to our city. I wanted to see our city go above and beyond in terms of engaging our community on this topic, educating and creating awareness and providing meaningful ongoing opportunities where concerns and feedback can be addressed."

"This is going to be an entirely different culture creation for the city of West Hollywood without enough public outreach," Shyne said. "I would be more comfortable supporting this if we did a statistically-valid survey – a mailing out to all our residents letting them know there are going to be cameras up and down Santa Monica Boulevard and wherever else, and drones in use, with signs – that basically, the LGBTQ city of freedom is now becoming the city of Beverly Hills."

But the council majority said that residents had already made their feelings clear.

"We have discussed this at a number of public meetings over the last few years," Meister said. "We've also had several public safety town halls, where residents and business owners have told us they don't feel safe. Public safety is and should be the No. 1 priority of government. If we don't have a pulse on that, based on constant community feedback, then the problem is not lack of meetings, it's not hearing what people are telling us."

"The public has spoken repeatedly about the need to address public safety," Heilman said. "Unfortunately, residents and businesses who have raised these con-

cerns have sometimes been ignored. We can't delay actions that could improve the safety of our community."

Erickson said that the critique of "not doing enough outreach" was levied by residents who were upset about the direction to add bike lanes to parts of Gardner and Willoughby avenues.

"A few meetings ago, we were critiqued for not doing enough outreach about bike lanes and other transportation improvement measures, even though the facts show that we've been doing outreach since 2019 – and even before that," Erickson said. "People can't have it both ways, depending on what side of the proverbial aisle one is on regarding issues. The city has done outreach and, I would argue, goes much further than other cities with their approaches to community feedback. And, as I said, we plan to do a robust outreach program for the upcoming months before we roll out any of these programs so the community is well-versed in what we're doing."

Erickson added that the drone pilot program will be reassessed during the year it's instituted, during which the drones will fly for 40 hours a week, although when those hours will be has not yet been determined.

"The city made one of the largest single investments in community safety ever," Erickson said. "Public safety is a priority for everyone on the City Council. I appreciate how we all come to the meeting with varying opinions and parse our concerns and questions with respect for everyone."

Specifics to the drone pilot program will be announced as it is rolled out over the next six months. Community updates are expected to be reported to the City Council throughout the process.



rendering courtesy of Gensler

A proposed development at the Melrose Triangle has stalled for the last few years.

'Swamp' raises questions about mosquitos in WeHo

From page 1

to a request for comment by press time. It is uncertain what the status of the development project is, or if it will even go forward as it was initially approved by City Council years ago.

Vice Mayor Chelsea Byers said that the situation is an example of a project getting tied up in development red tape.

"The project at the corner of Santa Monica and Doheny is an example of the consequences of delayed development," Byers said. "We have to work as hard as we can to streamline and expedite new construction in our city."

In regards to the proposed development, Councilwoman Lauren Meister said that the company is likely to return to the council for an amended or new development agreement.

"I'll share my comments at that time. However, [I'm] obviously not happy about the new ecosystem growing in the hole we call the Melrose Triangle," Meister said.

However, it is uncertain how long it will take for the area to be developed.

"Unfortunately, the city doesn't own the lot, nor does the city have the authority to force someone to build," Heilman said.

"We have seen a number of development projects which are currently stalled due to high interest rates and challenges obtaining financing. It's frustrating for the community and the council when projects don't move forward. For projects with a development agreement, we are able to build in financial penalties which get imposed when the project doesn't meet certain deadlines."

"I encourage individuals to call the Charles Company and let them know your concerns and that you'd like them to finally move on building the project they promised – and were approved to do so by the City Council – years ago," Mayor John Erickson said.

County launches Youth Development Networks

The Los Angeles County Department of Youth Development announced on July 10 the launch of regional Youth Development Networks.

Youth development helps young people develop the skills, knowledge and support they need to reach their full potential, navigate challenges and contribute positively to their communities. According to the department, when a young person has access to youth development resources in their community, they are more likely to do well in school, avoid justice system involvement and develop life skills that set them up for success in adulthood.

Youth Development Networks are designed to create an ecosystem of resources for young people where they live so they can thrive and con-

tribute positively to their communities. This support goes beyond academics to encompass socio-emotional well-being, personal growth and career readiness.

DYD's initial investments in 34 community-based organizations in the Antelope Valley, East Los Angeles, Long Beach, the San Fernando Valley and South Central Los Angeles are the building blocks

for a comprehensive system of care that nurtures the potential of youth in Los Angeles County.

Through strategic regional investments in community-based youth development services, the Department of Youth Development aims to ensure every young person has fair and equitable access to essential resources. For information, visit dyd.lacounty.gov/development.

Candidates file paperwork

From page 3

extend my best wishes to all those running, and I look forward to discussing important issues to our community as the months progress," Erickson said.

"People running for council should attend city meetings and reach out to leaders in the community," Heilman said. "We always have several people who run who are well meaning but who have little history of involvement in the city and don't seem to know much about the community and what the city does."

Former Councilman John D'Amico has endorsed Hang and

offered advice to those running.

"There seem to be two kinds of candidates in this race: those that are yearning for an ill-defined moment in the past when everything seemed better, and those that know elections are always about making the changes we need to address the problems of today," D'Amico said. "My money is on the candidates interested in today, not those pining for yesterday."

Larry Block did not respond to a request for comment by press time. Contact information for Ramesses II Setenpre could not be found.

Beverly Hills marks Bastille Day in Beverly Canon Gardens

The city of Beverly Hills hosted a Bastille Day observance on July 14 at Beverly Canon Gardens. Beverly Hills Mayor Lester Friedman was joined at the event by Consul General of France Julie Duhaut-Bedos. Bastille Day is a national holiday in France marking the anniversary of the storming of the Bastille, which was used to hold political prisoners, in 1789.



photo courtesy of the city of Beverly Hills

Beverly Hills Mayor Lester Friedman joined Consul General of France Julie Duhaut-Bedos at the Bastille Day observance.

Answers From Page 23

1. S	2. K	3. I	4. S	5. A	6. B	7. A	8. C	9. I	10. G	11. A	12. Z	13. A
14. C	15. I	16. T	17. E	18. N	19. O	20. T	21. O	22. N	23. I	24. D	25. I	26. S
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Crossword Puzzle by Myles Mellor

Across

59. Greasy

60. Sins

61. Sportscaster, Jim

62. Swing about

63. Imagines

64. Sign on a door

65. Wrigglers

Down

1. Gob

2. Fruit weight in EU

3. "Don't rub ____"

4. Playwright O'Casey

5. Liqueur flavorers

6. Incentive, of a kind

7. Itsy-bitsy bits

8. Base of a crocus stem

9. Nittygritty

10. Spirit in a sling

11. Feelings of modesty

12. Pasta choice

13. Away from port

19. Multivitamin supplement

21. Enjoyed immensely

25. Material for uniforms

26. Made of wood

27. Part-time apartment

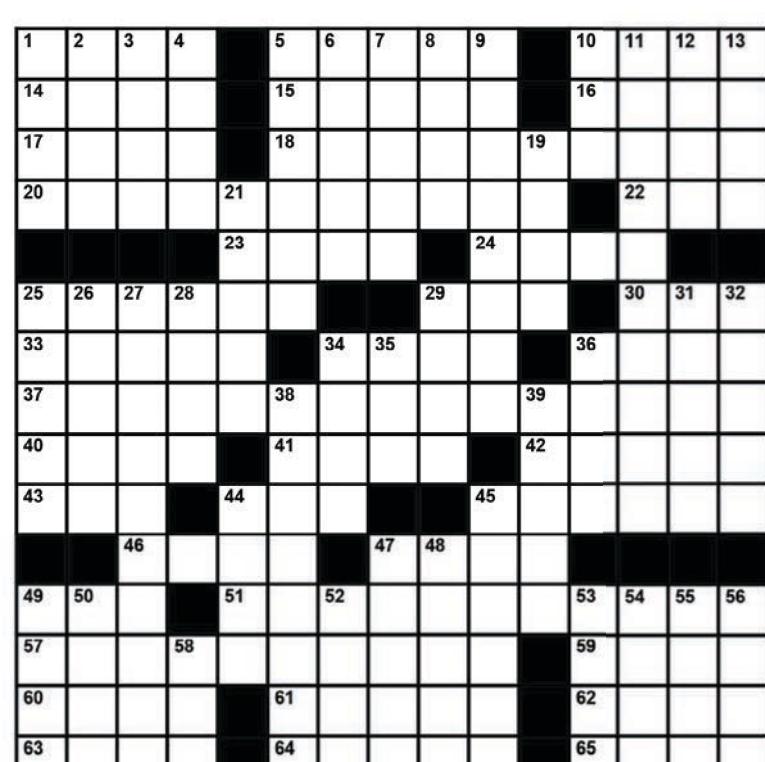
28. General store on "The Waltons"

29. Budding entrepreneurs, for short

31. Intensely interested

32. Cone-shaped heaters

34. Pest



35. "How ____ Has the Banshee Cried" (Thomas Moore poem)

36. "Zorba the Greek" Oscar winner Kedrova

38. Burnt, or practically so

39. One of Nintendo's Mario Brothers

44. Borscht ingredient

45. Cry baby

47. Canonized mortal

48. Draw, for kids

49. They're not returned

50. Remedy

52. Mama's mama

53. Schnozzola

54. Floor covering

55. Jewish mo.

56. Bread types

58. Dummy

answers on page 22

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(left to right) Dylan Dordick, Esq., Taylor Dordick, Esq., Gary A. Dordick, Esq., Nava Dordick, Esq., Michelle Dordick, Esq.

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