



Partly cloudy,  
rain possible  
on Saturday

• Beverly Hills allows  
Metro work during  
holidays pg. 2

• WeHo expands  
pickleball program.  
pg. 11

## BHHS teacher says she was fired after criticizing Trump

■ Security footage sheds light on alleged incident

BY TABOR BREWSTER

A Beverly Hills High School teacher said she was fired after making a Facebook post that criticized President-Elect Donald Trump and a recent demonstration where pro-Trump students gathered

on the school's campus. Joanie Garratt retired in 2023 after teaching full-time at the school for nearly 30 years, and was teaching AP U.S. history as a substitute teacher on a long-term assignment when she made the post. She said she

See **Teacher** page 29



photo by Tabor Brewster

Joanie Garratt, a retired Beverly Hills High School teacher who was working as a long-term substitute, she said she was fired for speaking out against the president-elect and a recent pro-Trump campus incident.

## Beverly Hills lights up the holiday season

■ Festivities on Rodeo Drive run through Jan. 5

BY TABOR BREWSTER

Beverly Hills officially rang in the holidays on Nov. 14 with its annual holiday lighting ceremony on Rodeo Drive. More than 8,000 people attended the celebration, which included musical performances, holiday-themed entertainment – including candy cane street sweepers, nutcracker stilts and roller-skaters – and a fireworks show grand finale.

Each year, Downtown Beverly Hills lives up to its “Golden Triangle” nickname as it is illuminated in thousands of holiday lights between November and January. To kick off the holiday season, the lights are officially turned on at the lighting celebration each year. This year's theme is “Rodeo Nights, Holiday Lights,” an homage to the world-renowned street where the event is hosted.

Musical performers included The Red Hot Band, BlueGrass



photo courtesy of the city of Beverly Hills

The Rodeo Drive holiday lighting ceremony included an appearance by Santa Claus and a fireworks finale.

Strings, Holiday Harmony the ScatterTones, the Beverly Carolers, a Yuletide Irish dance Hills High School Drumline, ensemble, UCLA a capella group

See **Beverly Hills** page 30

## Four injured in Beverly Hills carjacking crash

■ Future BHUSD Board member Stuart among those hit by car

BY TABOR BREWSTER

A carjacking on Nov. 14 near the Rodeo Drive holiday lighting ceremony ended in a hit-and-run collision that injured four pedestrians, terrifying members of the community during an event meant to spread joy.

According to the Beverly Hills Police Department, officers received a call reporting a carjacking in the 400 block of North Bedford Drive at approximately 7:06 p.m. James Portul, 22, of Pittsburgh, allegedly used force to steal a black BMW X3 from a woman before fleeing in the vehicle, police said. Shortly after, Portul lost control of the vehicle and crashed into four pedestrians near the intersection of Wilshire Boulevard and Camden Drive before fleeing on foot. According to the BHPD, officers assigned to patrol the holiday event quickly detained Portul in the 200 block of South Beverly Drive. Portul was booked for carjacking and hit-and-run with injury.

Police said two men, a woman and a boy were transported to the hospital by the Beverly Hills Fire Department.

Russell Stuart, a local business owner who was recently elected to the Beverly Hills Unified School District Board of Education, was one of the four victims. He was critically injured in the collision, breaking both of his arms and “all of [his] ribs,” among other injuries, he said.

“I’m just incredibly blessed to be here,” Stuart said in an interview with the Beverly Press. “It’s such a different essence in life to know that it was almost gone,



photo courtesy of Russell Stuart

School board member-elect Russell Stuart was critically injured when the car collided with him as he was buying a balloon for his daughter.

and I just have a new appreciation for everything.” Stuart said he was attending the “Rodeo Nights,

See **Carjacking** page 30



photo by Rance Collins

Fountain Avenue is primarily a four-lane road for now.

## Fountain Avenue's future considered post-election

■ WeHo streetscape project could add bike space, reduce lanes

BY RANCE COLLINS

Fountain Avenue may not have been on the agenda, but residents did not miss the opportunity to discuss the proposed streetscape

redesign during the Nov. 18 City Council meeting.

“I just don’t know how we got here,” resident Cathy Blaivas said. “I really feel like community was left out, and I really hope that it doesn’t proceed much further without really, truly engaging the community.”

The Nov. 5 election saw

See **Fountain** page 29

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CALENDAR

Adoption and foster parenting

All For Kids is celebrating National Adoption Month by holding a virtual workshop for people interested in adoption and foster care on Thursday, Nov. 21, from 4-5 p.m. The event is hosted by an All For Kids team member and foster parent. The program is also available as a virtual orientation. To RSVP for the live workshop or to request the virtual program, call (800)730-3933, or visit [allforkids.org](http://allforkids.org).



California art

7811 Gallery is holding its “Made in California” exhibition from Thursday, Nov. 21, through Thursday, Jan. 9. A diverse mix of art by five California-based artists will be on display including Jill Freeman, Sandy Lee, Marisa Murrow, Simon Silva and Lesley Anne Spowart. 7811 Melrose Ave. 7811gallery.com.

LACMA art tour

Enjoy a tour of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art’s exhibit “Simone Leigh” on Friday, Nov. 22, at 1 p.m. in the museum’s Resnick Pavilion. The traveling exhibition organized by the ICA Boston and co-presented by LACMA and the California African American Museum is the first com-



prehensive survey of Leigh’s richly layered work. LACMA’s presentation features works from approximately 20 years of Leigh’s production in ceramic, bronze, video and installation, as well as artworks from her 2022 Venice Biennale presentation. The tour is free with museum admission. 5905 Wilshire Blvd. [lacma.org](http://lacma.org).

Children’s storytime

Families are invited to “Read With STAR” on Friday, Nov. 22, at 3 p.m. at the Fairfax Branch Library. Children are invited to share in the joy of storytelling and reading. The library offers similar storytime programs at different times throughout the week. 161 S. Gardner St. (323)936-6191, [lapl.org/whats-on/events/read-star-volunteer-richaunti](http://lapl.org/whats-on/events/read-star-volunteer-richaunti).

Films of Sergei Parajanov

American Cinematheque is holding “Three Homelands: A Sergei Parajanov Retrospective” from Saturday, Nov. 23, through Wednesday, Dec. 18, at the Egyptian Theatre and the Los Feliz Theatre. The series begins on Nov. 23 at 7 p.m. with “Shadows of Forgotten Ancestors” at the Egyptian Theatre. Also included in the series are “The Color of Pomegranates,” “The Legend of Suram Fortress” and “Ashik Kerib.” Showtimes vary; see schedule. General admission is \$18. Egyptian Theatre, 6712 Hollywood Blvd.; Los Feliz Theatre, 1822 N. Vermont Ave. [americancinematheque.com/series/three-homelands-the-transcaucasian-cinema-of-sergei-parajanov](http://americancinematheque.com/series/three-homelands-the-transcaucasian-cinema-of-sergei-parajanov).



woman who falls in love with a drifter, Baku, who later drifts out of her life. Two years later, while working in Tokyo, Asako sees Baku again, or rather a young businessman named Ryohei who bears a striking resemblance to her old flame. They begin building a happy life together until traces of Asako’s past start to resurface. The story was adapted from a novel by Japanese author Tomoka Shibasaki, who will speak at the screening. Tickets are \$15. 2220 Beverly Blvd. [acropoliscinema.com](http://acropoliscinema.com).



Holocaust film

Holocaust Museum L.A. is showing the film “Family Treasures Lost and Found” on Sunday, Nov. 24, from 2-4 p.m. The documentary follows a woman’s journey to uncover her family history, and how the investigation un-covers story after incredible story of her ancestors. A conversation with filmmaker Karen Frenkel follows the screening. 100 The Grove Drive. [holocaustmuseumla.org](http://holocaustmuseumla.org).

Academy Museum home movies

Movie fans won’t want to miss the Academy Museum’s “Behind the Scenes: Hollywood Home Movies from the Academy Film Archive” on Sunday, Nov. 24, at 4 p.m. in the Ted Mann Theatre. To celebrate home movies, the program offers a rare glimpse into the lives of Hollywood stars. 6067 Wilshire Blvd. [academy-museum.org](http://academy-museum.org).



photo by Edwin Folven

A public safety kiosk will be in the Wilshire/La Cienega station under the agreement between Metro and the city of Beverly Hills.

Beverly Hills approves Metro work during holiday season

■ Agreement includes public safety kiosk at subway station

BY TABOR BREWSTER

The Beverly Hills City Council on Nov. 19 conditionally approved construction of Metro’s ongoing D Line subway extension project between Thanksgiving and New Year’s Day. The council granted Metro’s request of waiving the city’s holiday moratorium, which usually prohibits construction during the holiday season in public right-of-

way areas. Work that will occur during the holiday season in public areas includes material and concrete deliveries from Monday to Friday between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. Wilshire Boulevard will be reduced to one lane in each direction during those times. Usual work will occur underground and in Metro’s staging yards. The city and Metro did not receive any feedback opposing non-noisy activities and lane reductions during late-night hours. Conditions of the waiver See **Metro** page 30

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CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

MUNICIPAL CODE AMENDMENTS RELATED TO ENHANCE AND CLARIFY THE SPECIAL EVENTS PROCESS AND MAKING RELATED ADJUSTMENTS TO THE CODE ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATIVE CITATION FEE SCHEDULE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-25

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the West Hollywood City Council will hold a public hearing on **MONDAY, December 2, 2024**, to hear anyone wishing to speak regarding the introduction on first reading to adopt an ordinance amending the West Hollywood Municipal Code to enhance and clarify the special event process. A revision to the Master Fee Resolution for Fiscal Year 2024-25 will also be considered for violations of special events within the City’s Administrative Citation Fee Schedule.

The Public Hearing will be held at **6:00 p.m.** or as soon thereafter and located at:

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

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.

A copy of the proposed ordinance and amended fee schedule resolution will be available with the online City Council Agenda Packet, beginning Wednesday, November 27, 2024. Please visit <https://www.weho.org/councilagendas> to view the December 2, 2024, City Council Agenda Packet.

For further information regarding this item, contact Danny Rivas, Director of Community Safety at (323) 848-6424, or via email at [DRivas@weho.org](mailto:DRivas@weho.org).

BY ORDER OF the City of West Hollywood,  
Melissa Crowder, City Clerk



# Council committee OKs housing element

■ Single-family neighborhoods remain protected

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

The Los Angeles City Council’s Planning and Land Use Management Committee approved a package of motions on Nov. 19 aimed at gaining final certification from the state for the city’s housing element.

The housing element is a plan required by the state of California outlining where the city plans to build housing through 2029. Los Angeles was required to submit a plan that accommodates at least 255,432 new units of housing. The City Council committee approved a new version of the Housing Element Rezoning Program on Nov. 19 meets those needs by allowing housing to be built along major street corridors and in some communities with mixed zoning regulations, while excluding single-family neighborhoods. City planning officials said at the meeting that the department has already received an indication from the state that the plan approved by the committee will satisfy requirements.

The approval came after more than three hours of public comment in which people advocated for different ways to provide affordable housing and meeting the state’s needs. Some commenters, including Los Angeles City Councilwoman Nithya Raman, 4th District, asked for broad sections of

the city to be opened for housing development to meet the needs of the growing city and to address homelessness. Others called for the character of single-family neighborhoods to be protected. The PLUM Committee unanimously approved a plan the excludes zoning changes in R1 single-family communities.

The PLUM committee is composed of chair Councilman John Lee, 12th District; vice chair Councilwoman Heather Hutt, 10th District; and Councilmembers Katy Yaroslavsky, 5th District; Imelda Padilla, 6th District; and Kevin de Leon, 14th District. De Leon, who lost the Nov. 5 election and is leaving the council in December, was absent from the committee meeting. The committee members did not comment prior to voting on the measures. Lee said approving the plan was a major step forward.

“Obviously [this is] a huge milestone for the Planning Department and the city,” Lee said. “I want to thank all people involved. Again, this is a big moment for the city.”

“This plan is a critical step toward addressing our housing crisis, and I am grateful to my colleagues on the Planning and Land Use Management Committee for joining me in supporting its passage,” Yaroslavsky said. “This plan strikes the right balance needed to meet our housing goals while focusing development where it is needed most.”

Many people in the local community hailed the committee’s decision as a win for residents across the city. Cindy Chvatal-Keane,

president of the Hancock Park Homeowners Association and a member of United Neighbors, said a lot of communities came together to lobby for protections for single-family neighborhoods.

“We were very clear. There was no need to include single-family neighborhoods,” Chvatal-Keane said. “We all worked together as a community and with the Planning Department and our council office and the mayor’s office ... to make sure affordable housing was created while protections were created for single-family neighborhoods. We are thrilled.”



photo by Edwin Folven

Residential single-family neighborhoods such as Windsor Square and Hancock Park will not experience zoning changes under the plans.

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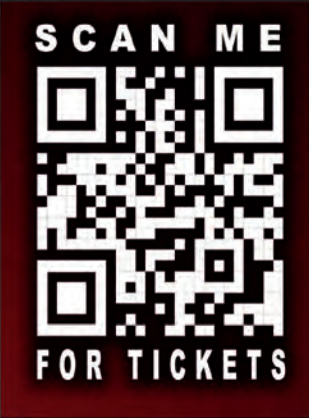


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photo courtesy of The Great Los Angeles Walk

The walk gives people in Los Angeles the opportunity to experience the city in a new way.

## The Great L.A. Walk returns

Hundreds of people will hit the sidewalks once again on Saturday, Nov. 23, for The Great Los Angeles Walk 2024 – the annual event held the Saturday before Thanksgiving that dispels the myth that “nobody walks in L.A.”

This year’s 19th annual Great Los Angeles Walk will celebrate the local collegiate rivalry between USC and UCLA, a football game that will play out later that evening at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena. Attendees will travel from USC via nearby Exposition Park to the UCLA campus starting at 9 a.m..

This year’s walk will meet at a little-known Los Angeles landmark – the city’s first palm tree, which harkens back to the 1800s, now standing in Exposition Park, facing the Memorial Coliseum. From there, participants will walk through the park and past the California Science Center,

California African American Museum, Natural History Museum, Memorial Coliseum and the future Lucas Museum of Narrative Art to get to Vermont Avenue. Walkers will then head north to Washington Boulevard, then west to Culver City.

After Culver City, participants will go north on Overland, scoot over to Westwood and walk to UCLA, where they will finish the day at the campus’ famed Bruin statue.

All told, this year’s walk will be a little under 15 miles. Attendees are encouraged to explore the city in a safe way. It’s not a race – attendees are encouraged to take their time, explore and learn about the city. The walk is free and open to the public. It is up to the participants to decide how much or how little of the walk they want to do.

For information, visit great-lawalk.com.





photo by Edwin Folven

The fire heavily damaged three businesses in the strip mall at the northeast corner of Highland and Fountain avenues.

## Major fire destroys strip mall on Highland Avenue

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

A fire on Nov. 16 that was declared a major emergency by the Los Angeles Fire Department destroyed an auto parts store and two restaurants in a strip mall at Highland and Fountain avenues. LAFD spokesman Brian Humphrey said 911 callers reported that a battery exploded inside the auto parts store, causing the fire. The exact cause remains under active investigation, he added. The LAFD received multiple calls around 4:20 p.m. about an explosion and fire inside the AutoZone store at 1306 N. Highland Ave. Firefighters arrived to find heavy smoke coming from the store, Humphrey said. All employees and customers of the AutoZone and neighboring Fat Sal's and Sushi Ajito safely evacuated the L-

shaped structure, which shared a common attic, he added. For the first 30 minutes, firefighters attempted to extinguish the flames in the AutoZone, which quickly spread to the other units. When the structure became visibly compromised, firefighters transitioned to defensive operations to keep the fire from spreading, Humphrey said. Approximately 125 firefighters battled the blaze, extinguishing the flames in a little over two hours. All of the businesses were deemed unoccupiable. No injuries were reported, and no estimate of the loss was available. Inquiries to AutoZone and Sushi Ajito were not returned by press time. Fat Sal's reopened on Nov. 18 at 1154 N. Highland Ave. in a temporary space until the ownership identifies a new permanent location in Hollywood.

## Murder charge filed in fatal Fountain Avenue crash

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

West Hollywood resident and social media personality Garrett Richard Bruno, 33, has been charged with murder and reckless driving for a fatal collision on Oct. 10 at Fountain and Spaulding avenues. The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office filed the charges on Nov. 15 and sheriff's department investigators served a search warrant the same day at Bruno's residence. Bruno has been hospitalized since Oct. 25 after he crashed while riding a scooter and sustained a serious head injury. According to media reports, he is in a coma.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department confirmed Bruno is currently in the hospital and provided no further information about his status or the case. The warrant for his arrest was issued on Nov. 15 and Bruno will be arraigned when he recovers enough to be placed into custody, according to the District Attorney's Office. The charges stem from a vehicle collision that occurred shortly after 4 p.m. on Oct. 10 in which a Ford SUV driven by Bruno collided with an SUV at Fountain and Spaulding avenues. The violent collision resulted in the death of Esther Abouab, 83, and caused minor injuries to Joe Abouab, the driver of the other vehicle. Bruno also sustained minor injuries and was taken to a hospital before being released. At the time, authorities said they were awaiting the results of toxicology tests before determining whether Bruno would be arrested, and have not released the



photo courtesy of bystander

The collision on Oct. 10 claimed the life of an 83-yr-old female victim.

results of those tests.

Bruno faces one count of murder, one misdemeanor count of reckless driving causing bodily injury and one misdemeanor count of battery on a firefighter. The third charge stems from an altercation Bruno allegedly had with a firefighter while he was being treated. Bruno, who has 61,000 followers on his Garrett Travels Instagram account, has been a polarizing figure in West Hollywood due to his support for Donald Trump and his MAGA viewpoints. Days after the fatal collision, footage was posted online by the Daily Mail showing Bruno snorting a white powder in public. Bruno later posted on social media that the powder was prescription ketamine that he was taking for mental health treatment. Law

enforcement authorities are not commenting on the video or providing any information about the alleged scooter accident in which Bruno was injured. West Hollywood Mayor John Erickson, who was present at the scene after the collision, said the incident was traumatizing and he remains supportive of the Abouab family. "As someone who lives on Fountain and was near the site of this crash and watched it happen as they pulled the car and the debris away ... I'm glad to see justice hopefully being served here," Erickson said. "The news that this individual will be charged ... isn't nearly enough to ever bring back what was taken away from them, but I hope the justice system works on behalf of this family."

## Suspects sought for separate Wilshire Division robberies

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Authorities are investigating two robberies in early November in the Los Angeles Police Department's Wilshire Division in which suspects stole valuable property from victims. During a robbery on Nov. 7, a male suspect stole a victim's Rolex watch as he entered an apartment complex in the 6200 block of Third Street. On Nov. 6, a group of suspects stole camera equipment and jewelry from three victims who parked their car on Spaulding Avenue near Wilshire Boulevard. The robbery on Nov. 7 happened as a male victim walked into the Palazzo Apartments at 6260 W. Third St. A male suspect in his mid-20s followed the victim into the complex and began complimenting the victim on his Rolex watch, police said. When the victim questioned the suspect about what he was doing in the complex, the suspect told him he was waiting for his girlfriend, authorities added. The victim told the suspect to leave, but the man pulled out a handgun and demanded the watch. Investigators said the victim complied and the suspect fled on foot. The victim described the suspect as Black, approximately 25 years old, 5 feet 10 inches tall and 170 pounds. He was wearing a gray and white hooded sweatshirt, black pants and black shoes. Detectives are also investigating a robbery on Nov. 6 involving four

suspects who stole camera equipment from victims planning to film a video near "Urban Light" at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. Around 7:30 p.m., the three victims parked on Spaulding Avenue, across Wilshire Boulevard from the museum. They noticed a vehicle with four men inside slowly driving down the street, police said. As one victim, who detectives said is a musician, was standing behind his car unloading equipment, the vehicle pulled up and three men jumped out. One suspect stole gold necklaces from the victim. Another suspect pointed a gun at the two victims who remained inside the car, police said. The men stole the camera equipment and jewelry before fleeing. The victims described the suspects as Hispanic men in their 20s. The suspects were driving a 2022-23 white Ford Explorer with tinted windows and no license plates. The victims told police the suspects wore blue face masks and hats that read "security." Investigators are canvassing the neighborhoods around the robbery scenes, looking for security camera footage that may help identify the suspects and their vehicles. Patrol officers are also actively looking for the suspects. Anyone with information about the robberies is urged to call detectives with the LAPD's Wilshire Division at (213)922-8205 or (213)473-0476.



D LINE SUBWAY EXTENSION PROJECT  
Section 2 – Beverly Hills

### We're building better transit from DTLA to the Westside.

#### November Updates

South Canon Dr at Wilshire Bl will be reopened by the end of November 2024.

Join us for the next Beverly Hills station construction update meeting.

#### WHEN

Wednesday, December 4, 2024, at 6pm

#### WHERE

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



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# Council says minimum wage, vacation rentals can now only be altered by voters in West Hollywood

■ Petition-backed ordinances adopted by City Council

BY RANCE COLLINS

The petition power of West Hollywood voters proved to be strong at the city’s Nov. 18 City Council meeting. In September, measures related to the West Hollywood minimum wage and to limitations on vacation rentals received the necessary signatures to go before the City Council – which was tasked with determining whether to pass the ordinances, put them on the next election ballot or direct city staff to conduct an impact report. After some discussion, the council decided to go with the first option.

The City Council has drawn hard lines in the sand when it comes to vacation rentals in the past, severely limiting Airbnb and Vrbo-style units. The ordinance prohibits vacation rentals, which applies to units that are rented for 30 consecutive days or less. Any changes to this ordinance would now have to be voted on by residents.

Similarly, another ordinance codified West Hollywood’s minimum wage, the highest in the country at \$19.08, and any changes in the future, too, will be left to the voters. Additionally, hotel workers were extended various labor protections and standards were enacted to guarantee sick leave and vacation time.

Mayor John Erickson viewed the codification by the petitioners as validation for the council’s actions.

“I think that what we saw was significant support for extremely landmark policy decisions that the City Council has done – the enacting of short-term rental lands, our historic minimum wage ordinance, hotel worker protections,” Erickson said. “These items have been threatened [at] every election based on conservative Republican interests from the Chamber of Commerce or other entities. And now the only way to change it is to ask the voters themselves.”

“Across the country, we see how the growing economic divide is making cities more difficult to live in and daily life is an increasing struggle,” Vice Mayor Chelsea Byers. “If we want West Hollywood to be an inclusive city, we have to pair our world-class businesses and premiere economic landscape with a high minimum wage, and strong worker and housing protections. This decision shows that this vision is deeply held and the community recognizes the importance of these laws and will go to great lengths to strengthen and protect these laws.”

“I am delighted that voters agree with the direction we have taken to prioritize higher wages for workers

as well as housing by restricting Airbnbs,” Councilwoman Sepi Shyne said. “As a champion for both these positions, it feels validating to know where the majority of our electorate stands on these issues.”

Councilwoman Lauren Meister, while she voted in favor of adopting the direction of the petitions, she questioned the process.

“Frankly, not a big fan of outside interests using these types of tactics to get what they want – but this was already an approved ordinance and three of my colleagues were quite enthusiastic about it, so it was obviously going to pass without further vetting,” she said.

In recent years, United Here Local 11, a hotel workers union, has been among the top contributors to various City Council campaigns, including that of Erickson and Councilman-Elect Danny Hang. United Here representatives appeared at the meeting in support of the ordinance’s approval, with resident Danielle Wilson speaking on behalf of the union.

“I am so proud of the coalition we built to bring this item before you,” Wilson said. “We have workers. We have renters. We have people from the Trans Latina Coalition. We have the Stonewall Democrats. We have our neighbors, our friends,

## WeHo may allow outside patrons at neighborhood hotel restaurants

■ Ordinance would affect four hotels in the city

BY RANCE COLLINS

Currently, restaurants at neighborhood hotels are limited to hotel guests in West Hollywood. There are only four hotels in residential districts in the city - The Chamberlain, the Montrose at Beverly Hills, the Petit Ermitage and Le Parc at Melrose. On Nov. 18, the West Hollywood City Council directed city staff to devise framework for a motion that would allow outside patrons at these establishments without a conditional use permit. The La Perc already has a conditional use permit that allows it to cater to some outside guests.

Vice Mayor Chelsea Byers said the motion furthered “our goals of being an inclusive city.”

“I am sensitive to the concerns of surrounding neighbors and workers who should not feel pressure from this increased capacity so we will be keeping an eye out for feedback and continue looking for ways to improve,” Byers said.

Some of the perimeters that will be addressed in the future staff report will concern parking, noise and any additional impact on residents in the neighborhoods. Mayor John Erickson said he will withhold making a final decision until it comes back before the council. His primary concern was the current staff report suggested waving conditional use permit fees, which amount to \$6,841 per hotel.

“I think if we’re opening up businesses like this that further expose neighbors to parking and noise issues, we should not be waving any fees, because I think that hotels can pay for this stuff, and that way it’s kind of a way to meet in the middle, as residents are on edge about this,” Erickson said. “Although I am generally supportive, I voted ‘no’ last night because I never was in agreement to provide the blanket recommendation we’d waive fees. I kind of want the whole package before me, and I’ll have to wait and see what happens

when this comes about in the final pathway.”

He said that he did not anticipate parking would be an issue, since the hotels already have lots and valet parking available. He also suggested that, if parking or other issues arose, there could be “creative solutions,” like only allowing the restaurants to operate for breakfast and lunch for outside patrons.

Several residents and hotel workers spoke on the item, with W Hotel Hollywood cook Eddie Diaz, sporting a United Here Local 11 T-shirt, advocating against it.

“I formerly worked at hotels and restaurants right here in West Hollywood,” Diaz said. “We should not be making it easier for hotels to make big changes like this to the restaurants. As a restaurant worker myself, I can tell you that the increasing food traffic is a big change that workers like myself should be asked about. Some of



photo by Edwin Folven

United Here Local 11, who waged a strike in the summer of 2023, helped circulate a petition to leave changes in the West Hollywood minimum wage and hotel worker protections up to voters.

who signed petitions, who were so moved they just came and showed up at this meeting for the very first time. We have Ukrainian activists who flew out here from Chicago to speak to our Russian-speaking community. And together, we have made history.”

“The content of this ordinance can make a real difference in the fight to protect communities and lower the cost of housing,” said Maura O’Neill, an organizer for Better Neighbors L.A., which advocates for long-term housing and curbing illegal short-term rentals.

Resident June Paniouchkine said that West Hollywood’s high mini-

mum wage has allowed her to live in the city. Previously, Paniouchkine worked at the Sunset Strip superfood store Sunlife Organics.

“It was because of that minimum wage that I was able to go through my UCLA studies, I was able to graduate this summer with a degree in public affairs and I was able to avoid living in my car,” she said. “Having that minimum wage, working in West Hollywood, communicating from far, far away ... in order to have that job and now be able to live in this city, was immense privilege that this City Council was able to afford me living here.”

these places are extremely understaffed. They overwork their employees. These big companies can afford to go through the regular process that already exists.”

Councilwoman Sepi Shyne voted against the item.

“Residents have expressed concerns about this issue with regard to potential excess noise and potential parking issues,” Shyne said. “There is also already a mechanism in place for these hotels to apply for a change in their [conditional use permit] and I do not agree with the fee waiver given these hotels are making so much profit already. I would prefer that our staff time be dedicated to our small business initiative.”

Resident Adam Darvish said that the Petit Ermitage, located on Cynthia Street, “has crime going on almost every weekend.”

“This last Saturday night, the police cars were lined up in front of the hotel. There’s nothing that the

hotel did wrong, but it attracts criminals to that area,” Darvish said. “A lot of tourists come to that hotel. So, the more traffic that comes, the more problems for us residents.”

“I do not believe that allowing non-hotel guests to be served at these hotel restaurants will have a major impact – because if the interest is there, then it is likely already happening and unenforceable,” Councilwoman Lauren Meister said. “By approving this item, we are telling staff to proceed with further evaluation by planning staff and the planning commission and to invite public input. It’s not a done deal until it comes back to us with a full staff report and again, public input. This will also give us an opportunity to place conditions, including regarding parking capacity, if needed.”

The final proposal is expected to come before the council at a later date.



photo by Rance Collins

Hotels like the Montrose at Beverly Hills in West Hollywood could soon allow outside guests to visit restaurants.

## Lieu reelected to key House leadership post

U.S. Rep. Ted W. Lieu (D-Los Angeles County) was reelected on Nov. 19 as vice chair of the House Democratic Caucus, the No. 4 position in House Democratic leadership. Lieu is the highest-ranking Asian American serving in Congress.

“I want to once again thank my colleagues for electing me to be vice chair of the House Democratic Caucus. It has been an incredible privilege to serve in this role this past Congress, and I look forward to building on our work in the next term,” Lieu said. “As I said during caucus elections, I have a lot of hope for the future. Yes, the election was not what we had hoped for. But what lifts me up is our caucus. The energy, enthusiasm and experiences that each of our members offer keep me going. It is an honor to be in

this fight with them.

Lieu is currently the only veteran and only immigrant in House leadership. Prior to becoming vice chair in the 118th Congress, Lieu served as co-chair of the Democratic Policy and Communications Committee in the 116th and 117th Congresses. In that role, he helped shape messaging around key Democratic priorities. In his first term in Congress, Lieu was elected Freshman Class president by his colleagues.

“Alongside our Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries, Democratic Whip Katherine Clark, Caucus Chair Pete Aguilar and the rest of the leadership team, I look forward to working with our colleagues, our constituents and all our fellow Americans to chart a path forward that stays true to our American values,” Lieu said.

Lieu, who served on active duty in the U.S. Air Force, is also a member of the Foreign Affairs and Judiciary committees. For information, visit lieu.house.gov.



photo courtesy of U.S. Rep. Ted W. Lieu

U.S. Rep. Ted W. Lieu serves as vice chair of the House Democratic Caucus.



# Beverly Hills takes steps to calm traffic

■ Council considers changes on Clifton Way, Coldwater Canyon Drive

BY TABOR BREWSTER

The Beverly Hills City Council at its Nov. 19 study session considered issues relating to transportation and traffic on two different streets within the city. The council received two reports on traffic along Clifton Way and Coldwater Canyon Drive.

City staff shared the results of a six-month traffic-calming study on Clifton Way between Robertson and La Cienega boulevards. The six-month demonstration included two traffic circles and four curb extensions at six intersections along Clifton Way. The city collected data on vehicle speeds and stop sign compliance with tube counters and video analysis.

According to the city staff report, traffic on Clifton Way decreased by 1% overall, and most vehicle speeds remained consistent. However, the maximum speeds

recorded on Clifton Way decreased from the 45-50 mph range to 35-40 mph range.

Transportation planner Jessie Holzer Carpenter said the decrease in high speeds was significant because higher vehicle speeds are more likely to result in fatal and severe injury collisions.

“A reduction in maximum speeds has the potential to significantly improve safety and livability,” Holzer Carpenter said.

The study found there was no consistent change in stop sign compliance along Clifton Way. The two intersections with traffic circles saw a modest reduction in vehicles not stopping at all.

“However, those two intersections also had modest increases in rolling stops as compared with complete stops,” Holzer Carpenter said.

The study also surveyed the community for feedback. The city

received 214 responses from residents. According to the results, traffic circles were more favorable among the community than curb extensions. Approximately 52% of respondents believed the traffic circles were successful while 40% of respondents believed the curb extensions were successful.

Overall, 60% of respondents indicated interest in keeping traffic-calming measures on Clifton Way while 40% favored removing them.

In a Nov. 7 meeting, the Traffic and Parking Commission voted 3-0 to recommend keeping the project. The commission suggested upgrading the traffic circles to permanent materials and maintaining the curb extensions with modifications to make vehicle navigation easier.

According to the staff report, the current maintenance cost for the traffic-calming measures is \$8,000 per year. Construction of permanent



photo by Tabor Brewster

City staff announced the results of a traffic-calming study on Clifton Way, which included the installation of curb extensions at four intersections.

traffic circles would cost \$50,000-\$75,000 per intersection with landscaping or \$25,000 per intersection without landscaping. Construction of permanent curb extensions would cost \$100,000-\$300,000 per intersection.

After input on the curb extensions, the council ultimately voted to continue the study. The council hopes to seek further results on narrower curb extensions to allow more space for cars to navigate through each turn. One intersection will receive a significantly smaller curb extension to compare results and feedback, one curb extension will be removed and one will be converted to a traffic circle.

“I don’t like the curb extensions at all but I think if we’re testing we should test,” Mayor Lester Friedman said.

The City Council was also presented the results of a study on proposed crosswalks on Coldwater Canyon Drive. Some residents have

raised concerns over the lack of crosswalks on the street and high vehicle speeds. The city contracted Fehr and Peers, a transportation solutions firm, to study the feasibility of traffic signals, stop signs and pedestrian hybrid beacons – crossing signals that are activated by a button – along Coldwater Canyon Drive.

The study analyzed the number of pedestrians crossing at five intersections along a one-mile stretch of Coldwater Canyon Drive as well as the number of collisions at each intersection. However, the study found that the data did not meet the criteria to install traffic signals, stop signs. However, it found that pedestrian hybrid beacons could be considered.

The council ultimately voted to study the installation of one pedestrian hybrid beacon on Coldwater Canyon Drive. The study will determine the best intersection to place the beacon with the least impact on residents.

## County Commission for Women seeks Woman of the Year


In commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Los Angeles County Commission for Women and the 40th anniversary of the Women of the Year Commemorative Ruby Celebration Gala, the Commission for Women will select an exceptional woman leader from each supervisorial district. The leader will have a proven track record of advancing women’s rights, promoting equity and/or fighting for social and economic justice. She will be honored at the

upcoming Women of the Year 40th Anniversary Commemorative Ruby Celebration Gala, which will be held on March 10, 2025, at the Biltmore Los Angeles Hotel.

This year’s theme is “Moving Forward Together! Women Educating and Inspiring Generations,” and will recognize the significant impact and inspiring work these women have made in the community.

The deadline to submit nominations is Friday, Nov. 29, at 5:00 p.m.

The Los Angeles County Commission for Women will only welcome nominations of women leaders whose achievements meet the established eligibility criteria. Nominations can be submitted by visiting [forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=mKeuf9BqyU-waPy8rtNB9i0PnTZZ\\_apIk\\_eKIItvuFVJURFRGQUIKMEiSSTI5WVk5R1hYRU5OTjEwNS4u&utm\\_content=&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_name=&utm\\_source=govdelivery&utm\\_term=&route=shorturl](https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=mKeuf9BqyU-waPy8rtNB9i0PnTZZ_apIk_eKIItvuFVJURFRGQUIKMEiSSTI5WVk5R1hYRU5OTjEwNS4u&utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=&route=shorturl).



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING


DATE: Thursday, December 12, 2024

TIME: 1:30 PM, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard

LOCATION: Meeting will be held in person at:  
Commission Meeting Room 280A  
Beverly Hills City Hall  
455 North Rexford Drive  
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

Members of the public may also participate via teleconference; details provided below.

PROJECT ADDRESS: 9737 Wilshire Boulevard (Cross Street: North Linden Drive)



The Planning Commission of the City of Beverly Hills, at its REGULAR meeting on Thursday, December 12, 2024, will hold a public hearing beginning at **1:30 PM**, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard to consider the following:

**Conditional Use Permit Amendment.** A request for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to allow a vehicle sales use at **9737 Wilshire Boulevard**. The project site is zoned Commercial (C-3) and, pursuant to Beverly Hills Municipal Code (BHMC) §10-3-1604, vehicle sales are permitted only if authorized by a CUP.

This project has been assessed in accordance with the authority and criteria contained in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA, Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq.), the State CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Sections 15000 et seq.), and the environmental regulations of the City. Upon review, the project appears to qualify for a Class 1 Categorical Exemption (Existing Facilities) in accordance with the requirements of Section 15301 of the state CEQA Guidelines. This exemption is applicable to the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use. Accordingly, the Planning Commission will consider a recommendation to find the project exempt from the environmental review requirements of CEQA.

**How to Participate**

In the interest of maintaining appropriate social distancing, members of the public can participate in, watch or listen to the commission meetings through the following methods:


- **In Person:** Submit a speaker card to the Recording Secretary at the meeting.
- **Oral Comment:** Call (310) 288-2288, select Option 1 when prompted. You will be placed on a brief hold, and called upon to make a comment at the appropriate time.
- **Video Comment:** <https://beverlyhills.org/BevPublic>, enter passcode: 90210 when prompted.
- **Written Comment:** Email [commentPC@beverlyhills.org](mailto:commentPC@beverlyhills.org)
- **Audio Only:** Call (310) 288-2288, select Option 2 when prompted.
- **Watch LIVE:** BHTV Channel 10 on Spectrum Cable or [www.beverlyhills.org/watchlive](http://www.beverlyhills.org/watchlive)

It is recommended that written public comments be submitted to the Planning Commission Recording Secretary by 11:30 AM on the meeting date. Public comments will also be taken during the meeting when the topic is being reviewed by the Planning Commission. Written comments should identify the Agenda Item number or topic in the subject line of the email. In order to be read at the meeting, written comments will be allowed with a maximum of 350 words, which corresponds to approximately three (3) minutes of speaking time.

If a comment is received after the agenda item is heard, it will not be a part of the record. Any written comments received by end of the day on Tuesday, December 3, 2024, will be attached to the agenda report regarding this item. Any comments received after Tuesday, December 3, 2024, but prior the public hearing, will be distributed to the Commission under separate cover. According to Government Code Section 65009, if you challenge the City’s action in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City, either at or prior to the public hearing. Please note that any comments received prior to or during the public hearing will be considered as part of the public record.

If there are any questions regarding this notice, please contact **Philip Coronel, Associate Planner** in the Planning Division at (310) 285-1173, or by email at [pcoronel@beverlyhills.org](mailto:pcoronel@beverlyhills.org). Copies of the associated application materials are on file in the Community Development Department, and can be reviewed by contacting the project planner listed above.

Philip Coronel, Associate Planner



Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Beverly Hills will make reasonable efforts to accommodate persons with disabilities. If you require special assistance, please call (310) 285-1126 (voice) or (310) 285-6881 (TTY). Providing at least forty-eight (48) hours advance notice will help to ensure availability of services. City Hall, including the Council Chamber and Room 280A, is wheelchair accessible. The City Hall Council Chamber and Room 280A are also equipped with audio equipment for the hearing impaired.

ORDINANCE NO. 24-33

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA, REENACTING CHAPTER 5.66 OF TITLE 5 AND SECTIONS 19.36.331,

19.80.120 AND 19.90.020 OF TITLE 19 OF THE WEST HOLLYWOOD MUNICIPAL CODE TO REENACT THE CITY’S EXISTING VACATION RENTAL REGULATIONS AND REENACT THE RECENTLY EXPIRED HOME SHARING REGULATIONS AND TO PREVENT THEIR FUTURE AMENDMENT WITHOUT SUBSEQUENT VOTER APPROVAL, PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA ELECTIONS CODE SECTION 9215(a)

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to authority provided by the California Elections Code, a petition has been filed with the City Council of the City of West Hollywood, seeking to enact an initiative measure/ordinance which would reenact Chapter 5.66 of Title 5 and Sections 19.36.331, 19.80.120 and 19.90.020 of Title 19 of the West Hollywood Municipal Code to reenact the City’s existing vacation rental and home sharing regulations and to prevent their future amendment without subsequent voter approval, (the “Measure” or “Ordinance”); and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to California Elections Code section 9215, an initiative petition must be in filed with the City in valid form and signed by not less than ten percent (10%) of the registered voters of the City in order to qualify a local initiative measure for the ballot; and

**WHEREAS**, according to Los Angeles County voter records, the minimum signature requirement in order to qualify this Measure for the ballot is 26,036 registered City voters; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Clerk, through the Los Angeles County Registrar of Voters, has certified that the form of the petition complies with California law and, based upon an examination of voter registration records, has ascertained that the petition is signed by the requisite number of voters to qualify this Measure/Ordinance for the ballot under the Elections Code; and

**WHEREAS**, this Measure’s/Ordinance’s proponents have completed all other necessary prerequisite steps qualify and place it on the ballot; and

**WHEREAS**, since this Ordinance has qualified for placement on the ballot, pursuant to California Elections Code Section 9215, the City Council is legally required to either (i) adopt this Ordinance without alteration, or (ii) submit it to the voters at its next regularly scheduled election occurring not less than 88 days after the date of the order of election or at a special election pursuant to Elections Code Section 1405; and

**WHEREAS**, in lieu of placing the Measure/Ordinance on the ballot, the City Council has voted to adopt it without alteration.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA, DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Pursuant to California Elections Code Section 9215(a), the City Council hereby adopts the initiative ordinance without alteration to reenact Chapter 5.66 of Title 5 and Sections 19.36.331, 19.80.120 and 19.90.020 of Title 19 of the West Hollywood Municipal Code to reenact the City’s existing vacation rental regulations and reenact the recently expired home sharing regulations and to prevent their future amendment without subsequent voter approval; which shall read as follows:

“SECTION 1. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE

Housing affordability and access is one of the most important issues facing West Hollywood. By reenacting certain rules restricting the use of residential property for vacation rentals, the City seeks to promote the health, safety, and welfare of West Hollywood’s residents by ensuring that short-term vacation rentals do not contribute to the housing crisis in the City.

The purpose of this ordinance is to reenact certain existing vacation rental and home share regulations in full through the popular vote. Reenacting these regulations through the popular vote is intended to ensure that future city councils cannot repeal or amend these regulations without the consent of the voters. Cal. Elec. Code § 9217. This ordinance provides that a city council can amend the vacation rental regulations only to strengthen the restrictions on the use of residential property for vacation rentals set forth herein.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT OF WEST HOLLYWOOD MUNICIPAL CODE, SECTION 19.36.331

Section 19.36.331, titled “Vacation Rentals,” of Chapter 19.36 of Article 19-3 of Title 19 of the West Hollywood Municipal Code is substantively reenacted as follows, with the exception that subparagraph (3) of subsection (C) is restated for technical purposes only. Section 19.36.331 is also amended as follows (new text is shown by underlining and deleted text is shown by ~~strikethrough~~):

§ 19.36.331. Vacation Rentals.

A. Vacation Rentals Prohibited. No person shall offer, facilitate an offer, aid, or provide a vacation rental to any transient.

B. Advertisement. No person shall maintain, produce, post, or publish any advertisement of a vacation rental prohibited by this section. It shall be a violation of this section for any person to falsely advertise, produce, post, or publish, or aid or facilitate such action, any vacation rental showing a location of the vacation rental within the city, but where the actual vacation rental is located outside of the city.

C. Hosting Platform Responsibilities.

1. Hosting platforms shall not complete any booking transaction for any vacation rental in the city if the hosting platform receives a fee for the booking transaction.

2. Hosting platforms shall not collect or receive a fee, directly or indirectly through an agent or intermediary, for facilitating or providing services ancillary to a vacation rental, including, but not limited to, insurance, concierge services, catering, restaurant bookings, tours, guide services, entertainment, cleaning, property management, or maintenance of the dwelling unit.

3. Safe Harbor. A hosting platform operating exclusively on the internet, which operates in compliance with this subsection, shall be presumed to be in compliance with this section, except that the hosting platform remains responsible for compliance with the administrative subpoena provisions of this chapter.

4. The provisions of this section shall be interpreted in accordance with otherwise applicable state and federal law(s) and will not apply if determined by the city to be in violation of, or preempted by, any such law(s).

D. Exception. This section shall not apply to home sharing that takes place in accordance with Chapter 5.66 of the West Hollywood Business License Code.

E. The City Council is only authorized to amend subsections (A), (B), subparagraphs (1), (2), and (4) of subsection (C), and subparagraph (D) to the extent the amendment increases, enhances, or expands upon the restrictions this section places on vacation rentals.

SECTION 4. REENACTMENT OF WEST HOLLYWOOD CODE, SECTION 19.80.120

Section 19.80.120 of Chapter 19.80 of Article 19-8 of Title 19 of the West Hollywood Municipal Code is reenacted in full as follows:

§ 19.80.120. Vacation Rentals.

Notwithstanding Section 19.80.070 (Initial Enforcement Action) and Section 19.80.080 (Legal Remedies), the following applies to enforcement of Section 19.36.331:

A. Administrative Penalty. Any host who violates any provision of Section 19.36.331, any person other than a hosting platform who facilitates or attempts to facilitate a violation of Section 19.36.331, or a hosting platform that violates its obligations under Section 19.36.331(C), shall be subject to administrative fines and penalties pursuant to Chapter 1.08 of this Code.

B. Criminal Penalty. Any host violating any provision of Section 19.36.331, any person other than a hosting platform who facilitates or attempts to facilitate a violation of Section 19.36.331, or a hosting platform that violates its obligations under Section 19.36.331(C), shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, which shall be punishable by a fine not exceeding \$1,000, or by imprisonment in the County Jail for a period not exceeding six months or by both such fine and imprisonment.

C. Any person convicted of violating any provision of Section 19.36.331 in a criminal case or found to be in violation of Section 19.36.331 in a civil or administrative case shall be ordered to reimburse the city and other participating law enforcement agencies their full investigative costs, pay all back transient occupancy tax.

D. Any interested person may seek an injunction or other relief to prevent or remedy violations of Section 19.36.331. The prevailing party in such an action shall be entitled to recover reasonable costs and attorney’s fees.

E. The city may issue and serve administrative subpoenas, in accordance with Chapter 1.40, as necessary to obtain specific information regarding vacation rental listings located in the city, including, but not limited to,

F. The names of the persons responsible for each such listing, the address of each such listing, the length of stay for each such listing and the price paid for each stay, to determine compliance with Section 19.36.331. Any subpoena issued pursuant to this section shall not require the production of information sooner than 30 days from the date of service. A person that has been served with an administrative subpoena may seek judicial review during that 30-day period.

SECTION 5. AMENDMENT AND REENACTMENT OF WEST HOLLYWOOD CODE, CHAPTER 5.66

Chapter 5.66, titled “Home Sharing,” in Title 5 of the West Hollywood Municipal Code is reenacted in full and amended as follows (new text is shown by underlining and deleted text is shown by ~~strikethrough~~):

§ 5.66.010. Definitions.

For purposes of this chapter, the following terms shall have the following meanings: “Guest” shall mean the same as “transient” as defined in Section 3.32.020 of this code. “Home sharing” shall mean the renting or offering for rent a room or part of a room in a primary residence for a period of thirty days or less while the owner or leaseholder resides in the unit during the guest’s stay.

“Host” shall mean any natural person who engages in home sharing.

“Primary residence” shall mean any residential unit that the owner or leaseholder resides in for at least two hundred seventy days per year. A host can only have one primary residence.

“Rent” shall mean the transfer of any good, service, or other thing of value in exchange for the use of all or part of a dwelling for home sharing purposes.

“Reside” shall mean is present in the location for at least four hours within every twenty- four-hour period.

“Short term rental platform” shall mean any internet-enabled application, mobile application, website, or any other digital platform used to connect guests with hosts.

§ 5.66.020. Home Sharing Prohibited.

1. Home sharing shall not take place in any residential dwelling unit where the property owner and homeowners’ association has not given their express, written approval to do so.

2. Home sharing shall not be allowed to take place in any rental unit.

3. Home sharing shall not be allowed to take place in any inclusionary housing or other income-restricted housing unit.

4. No person shall offer, facilitate an offer, or conduct home sharing in any location not approved for residential use, including, but not limited to, any vehicle, trailer, tent, storage shed, or garage.

5. No person shall offer, facilitate an offer, or conduct home sharing at any property that has been subject to the Ellis Act within the prior seven years.

6. No person shall offer, facilitate an offer, or conduct home sharing at any property unless it has obtained a valid business license to conduct home sharing at the property.

§ 5.66.030. Application Contents.

*Home Sharing.* In addition to any other information prescribed by the Director, an application for a home sharing business license shall include the following information:

1. Applicant’s name, address, twenty-four-hour phone number, email address, Social Security number or tax ID number,

2. Proof of primary residency at the address to be used for home sharing.

3. The names and contact information of all persons that use the unit as their primary residence.

4. Affirmation that the applicant has read and agrees to abide by the requirements set forth in this chapter.

5. Proof that the applicant has obtained a “Transient Occupancy Registration Certificate” as required by Chapter 3.32 (Transient Occupancy Tax) of this code.



# BHPD awarded \$100,000 traffic safety grant

The Beverly Hills Police Department announced on Nov. 13 that it received a \$100,000 grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety to support its ongoing enforcement and education programs to reduce serious injuries and fatalities on local roads. The grant program will run through September 2025.

“We are grateful to receive this grant, which will strengthen our traffic enforcement efforts and improve road safety,” Chief Mark G. Stainbrook said. “By increasing enforcement of traffic laws and focusing on high-risk areas, we aim to reduce dangerous driving behaviors, prevent crashes, and make our roads safer for everyone.”

The grant will fund several additional programs and resources, including: DUI checkpoints and patrols targeting suspected impaired drivers; high visibility distracted driving enforcement operations targeting drivers violating California’s handsfree cell phone law; enforcement operations focused on dangerous driving behaviors that threaten the safety of bicyclists and pedestrians; enforcement operations targeting the top crash-causing violations – speeding, failure to yield, stop sign and red-light running, and improper turning or lane changes;

community presentations on traffic safety topics such as distracted driving, impaired driving, speeding and bicycle and pedestrian safety; officer training and recertification for the standard field sobriety test, advanced roadside impaired driving enforcement and drug recognition expert programs. This program was funded by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. For information, visit [beverly-hills.org/548/police-department](http://beverly-hills.org/548/police-department).



photo by Edwin Folven

<p>6. The Uniform Resource Locator (URL) (i.e. the web site address) for any and all advertisements of the rental on the business license application.</p> <p><b>§ 5.66.040. Advertising Requirements.</b></p> <p>1. All advertisements for home sharing shall prominently display the West Hollywood home sharing business license number.</p> <p>a. Any host that creates or maintains an advertisement in violation of this requirement shall be in violation of this chapter.</p> <p><b>§ 5.66.050. Operating Requirements.</b></p> <p>1. The licensee named on the home sharing business license shall reside in the dwelling unit during the entirety of the guests’ stay.</p> <p>2. The licensee shall respond in person telephonically within one hour and in person on-site within a reasonable period of being contacted by any law enforcement, fire department, or other city official.</p> <p>3. The licensee shall provide an immediate update to the Code Compliance Division in writing if their contact information has changed.</p> <p>4. A sign shall be installed on the inside of all exterior doors that lists the following:</p> <p>a. Address of the dwelling unit; b. Name and phone number of the licensee; c. Emergency and non-emergency contact numbers for the West Hollywood Sheriff's Department, Fire Department, and Code Compliance Division.</p> <p>5. Working smoke and carbon monoxide detectors shall be installed in the home sharing unit as required by the West Hollywood Building Code.</p> <p>6. Emergency exit routes shall be prominently displayed on the inside of any exterior door for units located in multi-family structures of more than one story.</p> <p>7. An operable fire extinguisher shall be located in an easily accessible location in the kitchen.</p> <p>8. During home sharing activities, the unit shall have a maximum occupancy of two people more than twice the number of bedrooms as listed on city or county records.</p> <p>9. Licensees shall not engage in home sharing activities while the unit is under an open Notice of Violation for any health and safety related violation.</p> <p>10. Home sharing shall not take place during any time in which the unit is infested with rodents, roaches, bedbugs, mold, or any other vermin or pests.</p> <p>11. Clean and laundered bedding and towels shall be provided to home sharing guests upon commencement of their stay.</p> <p>12. West Hollywood visitor on-street parking passes shall not be used by or provided to any home sharing guest.</p> <p>13. Hosts shall maintain liability insurance in the amount of \$500,000, unless the host exclusively uses a short term rental platform that provides equal or greater coverage.</p> <p><b>§ 5.66.060. Record Keeping and Tax Remittance</b></p> <p>1. The licensee shall maintain records of home sharing activities as required by Chapter 3.32 of this code.</p> <p>2. The personal identification and contact information of all home sharing guests may be redacted from records submitted to the city except when an audit pursuant to Chapter 3.32 has been initiated.</p> <p>3. Licensees shall remit all owed transient occupancy taxes in full at the time they are due pursuant to Chapter 3.32 of this code.</p>	<p><b>§ 5.66.070. Violations and Penalties</b></p> <p>1. The licensee shall be held responsible for administrative citations for violations of the municipal code committed by the home sharing guests.</p> <p>2. Violations of this chapter are subject to the administrative penalty provisions of Sections 1.08.030 through 1.08.070 of this code.</p> <p>3. Two or more violations of this chapter or any noise or nuisance violations that arise from home sharing activities in any three hundred sixty-five-day period may result in:</p> <p>a. The immediate revocation of the home sharing business license.</p> <p>i. This revocation may be appealed pursuant to Chapter 5.08 of this code.</p> <p>b. Disallowing the renewal of the West Hollywood business license.</p> <p>i.This determination may be appealed to the Department Director whose decision is appealable pursuant to Chapter 5.08 of this code.</p> <p>4. If fraudulent information is found to have been provided on the business license application, the business license shall immediately be revoked and the applicant shall be prevented from applying for a similar business license for a period of six months.</p> <p>a. This revocation may be appealed to the Director by submitting a written request detailing the basis for the appeal and any additional documentation that the appellant would like to be considered.</p> <p>b. This written request shall be submitted within thirty calendar days from the date the revocation letter was sent.</p> <p>c. If a licensee fails to submit an appeal within the prescribed time, the revocation is deemed final.</p> <p>d. The Director’s decision may be appealed pursuant to Chapter 5.08 of this code.</p> <p>e. While the appeals process is pending, the licensee shall not engage in any home sharing or short term rental activities.</p> <p><b>§ 5.66.080. Permission Revocation.</b></p> <p>A property owner or homeowners’ association who has provided written approval to conduct home sharing may revoke such approval by submitting the revocation in writing to the licensee and the city. The valid written revocation shall not result in the revocation of the license, but shall disqualify the license from being renewed until written approval is again provided.</p> <p><b>§ 5.66.090. Subpoenas.</b></p> <p>The city shall have the power to use all legal options at its disposal to gather information and enforce compliance with the provisions of this code, including the power to issue subpoenas.</p> <p><b>§ 5.66.100. Common Interest Developments.</b></p> <p>Nothing in this chapter shall limit the ability of a common interest development to prohibit home sharing or enforce their covenants, conditions, and restrictions.</p> <p><b>SECTION 6. SEVERABILITY</b></p> <p>If any section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance or any part thereof is for any reason held to be invalid, unlawful or unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance, or any part</p>	<p>thereof. The City Council of the City of West Hollywood hereby declares that they would have passed each section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, subdivisions, paragraphs, sentences, clauses or phrases be declared unconstitutional.</p> <p><b>SECTION 7. CONFLICTING MEASURES</b></p> <p>This measure is intended to be comprehensive. It is the intent of the people of the City of West Hollywood that, should this measure and one or more measures relating to regulation of vacation rentals and home shares appear on the same ballot, the provisions of the other measure or measures shall be deemed to conflict with this measure. In the event that this measure receives a greater number of affirmative votes, the provisions of this measure shall prevail in their entirety, and all provisions of the other measure or measures shall be null and void.</p> <p><b>SECTION 8. LIBERAL CONSTRUCTION</b></p> <p>This measure is an exercise of the initiative power of the people of the City of West Hollywood to implement the regulations set forth in the Ordinance, and it shall be liberally construed to effectuate these purposes.”</p> <p><b>SECTION 9. <u>Effective Date.</u></b> Pursuant to California Elections Code Section 9215(a), the City Council hereby adopts this initiative Ordinance and it shall go into effect thirty (30) days after adoption.</p> <p><b>SECTION 10. <u>CEQA.</u></b> The City Council hereby finds and determines that adoption of this Measure is not a discretionary action of the City Council within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) and the State CEQA Guidelines and is, therefore, not subject to CEQA review. <i>See, Tuolumne Jobs and Small Business Alliance v. Superior Court</i>, (2014) 59 Cal. 4<sup>th</sup> 1029.</p> <p><b>SECTION 11. <u>Publication.</u></b> The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this Ordinance and cause publication to occur in a newspaper of general circulation which is published and circulated in the City in a manner permitted under State law.</p> <p>PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of West Hollywood at a regular meeting held this 18<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2024 by the following vote:</p> <p>AYES: Councilmember: Heilman, Meister, Shyne, Vice Mayor Byers, and Mayor Erickson. NOES: Councilmember: None. ABSENT: Councilmember: None. ABSTAIN: Councilmember: None.</p> <p><u>//John M. Erickson//</u></p> <p>JOHN M. ERICKSON, MAYOR</p> <p>ATTEST: <u>//Melissa Crowder//</u> MELISSA CROWDER, CITY CLERK</p> <p>STATE OF CALIFORNIA ) COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ) CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD )</p> <p>I, Melissa Crowder, City Clerk of the City of West Hollywood, do hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance No. 24-33 was duly passed, approved, and adopted by the City Council of the City of West Hollywood at a regular meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of November 2024.</p> <p>I further certify that this ordinance was posted in three public places as provided for in Ordinance No. 24-03, adopted the 20<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2024.</p> <p>WITNESS MY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL THIS 18<sup>th</sup> DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2024.</p> <p>_____ MELISSA CROWDER, CITY CLERK</p>
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# City Council approves ordinance making L.A. a ‘Sanctuary City’

The Los Angeles City Council voted unanimously on Nov. 19 to establish Los Angeles as a “Sanctuary City” and prohibit any city resources, including property or personnel, from being utilized for immigration enforcement.

The approved ordinance, based on a motion by Councilmembers Nithya Raman, 4th District; Eunisses Hernandez, 1st District; and Hugo Soto-Martinez, 13th District; comes on the heels of the election of Donald J. Trump, who has expressed broad support for mass deportations across the country.

The city of Los Angeles is home to more than 1.35 million immigrants, comprising over 34% of the city’s population. In fact, a majority of school children in the Los Angeles metro area, including U.S. citizens and non-citizens, have at least one immigrant parent. While

the City Council had previously passed a resolution declaring Los Angeles a “City of Sanctuary” in 2017, no sanctuary policies were codified into municipal law. The city’s current relationship with federal immigration agencies is shaped by an executive directive issued by former Mayor Eric Garcetti and internal LAPD policies. The policies are subject to change under future administrations and have yet to be enshrined as permanent protections for Los Angeles immigrants.

The newly adopted ordinance permanently enshrines sanctuary policies into municipal law and prohibits the use of city resources, including property and personnel, from being utilized for immigration enforcement, and prohibits cooperation with federal immigration agents engaged in immigration

tion approved, Soto-Martinez said residents will see significant progress in repairing streetlights.

“We’re using discretionary funds to fill in the gaps, but these are basic city services that we need to improve across the city,” Soto-Martínez added. “It shouldn’t take six months to fix a broken street-light, and all of our residents deserve safe, well-lit streets.”

The \$200,000 in funding will come from Assembly Bill 1290 Fund No. 53P, which supports redevelopment projects-services in the 13th District. In addition to the overtime funding, Soto-Martínez emphasized the need for long-term strategies to fix the street lighting system. He called for inflation-adjusted fees or alternative sources to ensure the Bureau of Street Lighting is adequately funded, and the prioritization of critical services such as street lighting in the city budget. Also, the councilman called for expanding efforts to make streetlights less desirable to thieves by replacing copper wiring with solar-powered lights and theft-resistant alternatives.

enforcement. The ordinance also prohibits the direct and indirect sharing of data with federal immigration authorities.

“More than one out of three people who live in Los Angeles, including my own parents, are immigrants. One in 10 are undocumented,” Soto-Martinez said. “We refuse to stand by and let Donald Trump deport our neighbors, family, friends and coworkers.”

“I came to this country with my mother as an immigrant when I was six years old, arriving in the United States because we sought a better life, and I am so grateful for the opportunities this country has given me and my family,” Raman said. “Immigrants make up the very fabric of Los Angeles and they deserve to feel safe and protected in the city they call home, no matter who is in power. Prohibiting the use of city resources for federal immigration enforcement shouldn’t depend only on executive actions that could be overturned by a future mayor or police chief. This is common sense policy for L.A.”

“I am who I am today because of immigrants – people like my parents, extended family and the community who raised me,” Hernandez added. “The same is true for Los Angeles, a city built on the dreams and labor of generations of immigrants. We will not allow hateful rhetoric or destructive policies to tear families apart or dim the light of their contributions. Today, we declare to the nation that Los Angeles thrives because of immigrants, and we are better because of their work and contributions.”

# City Council OKs funds for 13th District streetlight repairs

The Los Angeles City Council voted unanimously on Nov. 19 to approve \$200,000 in overtime funding to expedite streetlight repairs across the 13th District, represented by Councilman Hugo Soto-Martinez.

Repairing a broken streetlight takes six to eight months on average in the city of Los Angeles. The significant delay is due to a city-high 32% vacancy rate in the Bureau of Street Lighting, a lack of funding for street light repairs and the proliferation of copper wire theft, according to Soto-Martinez. The fee that funds street light maintenance in most of the city hasn’t been adjusted for inflation for decades, leaving the department severely underfunded. Approximately 70-75% of broken streetlights are out due to a need for routine maintenance.

The supplemental overtime funding will allow the Bureau of Street Lighting to deploy more personnel to repair broken streetlights faster, harden streetlights to prevent theft and address the backlog in repairs. With the \$200,000 allocation approved, Soto-Martinez said residents will see significant progress in repairing streetlights.



Street lamps in L.A. are often vandalized for thieves to steal the copper wiring. These lamps are part of an art installation in front of the Bureau of Street Lighting office on Santa Monica Blvd.

## 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:

West Hollywood, California
- REQUEST:

The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to consider a proposed zone text amendment to amend the Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) Ordinance to implement recent state regulations and legislation governing the construction and use of Accessory Dwelling Units.
- PERMIT(S):

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

City of West Hollywood
- TIME/PLACE OF HEARING:

Thursday, December 5, 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:** Proposed Ordinance is statutorily exempt under California Public Resources Code (CPRC) Section §21080.17, as the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) does not apply to the adoption of an Ordinance by a city or county implementing the provisions of Section §65852.2 of the Government Code, which is the State Accessory Dwelling Unit law, and is Categorically Exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Sections §15061(b)(3) (Common Sense Exemption).

**Complete digital agenda packets** will be available on Wednesday, November 27, 2024, and additional information regarding participation options can be found on the posted agenda or the calendar page on-line at [www.weho.org](http://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 Tahirah Farris, Senior Planner at (323) 848-6472, or via email at: [tfarris@weho.org](mailto:tfarris@weho.org)

Melissa Crowder, City Clerk

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



# WeHo tickled over pickleball success

■ City gives Tennacity more serves at Plummer Park

BY RANCE COLLINS

Pickleball will continue to have a place in West Hollywood. In fact, the sport may soon get its own dedicated courts. The company Tennacity had its contract extended by the city at the Nov. 18 City Council meeting. Tennacity facilitates both tennis and pickleball experiences for West Hollywood, providing lessons, tournaments and camps.

In recent years, pickleball has become one of country’s favorite pastimes. Pickleball courts have been erected in backyards and parking lots, and Tennacity has helped Plummer Park become a local destination for the sport.

“Tennacity has done a great job of serving the community,” Councilman John Heilman said. “They know how to do the basics like scheduling, but they have been exceptional in creating new programs and innovative ways to serve West Hollywood. I’m glad we finally approved their extension and I’m excited about the future programs they will bring to our city.”

“Recreation is such a meaningful part of the quality of life for people in West Hollywood,” Vice Mayor Chelsea Byers said. “I am grateful

to the community and Tennacity for working together to identify solutions as I know this has been an important ongoing conversation. This is a creative community who wants to make West Hollywood the best place to recreate, and I am supportive of working with them to accomplish these goals.”

“What’s really come to light for me is ... how important recreation is to the lifeblood of the community,” Tennacity founder Josh Osswald said. “Recreation is re-create. And that’s what people come to do ... I’ve spent my lifetime in racquet sports, as a player, as a coach, working the desks, managing it ... it’s been a real pleasure. I’m very thankful to you guys for giving us an opportunity these past three or four years for me to get a chance to do something that’s really my life’s work.”

The item received widespread support from community members, many of whom spoke at the council meeting. Resident David Flate said that Tennacity has improved its footprint in the city’s recreation infrastructure.

“The program got better and better as of the last six months,” Flate said. “There is more play. There are more league nights. There’s more open play. It’s a totally fun experience up there.”

“Pickleball has grown tremendously in popularity since I have

been in office and provides a healthy way for community to connect,” Councilwoman Sepi Shyne said. “I directed staff to work with Tenacity to create dedicated courts at the meeting and bring back an item for the future council to vote on.”

City staff will return to council with an item that would commit courts six and seven at Plummer Park specifically for pickleball.

“Through the surveys and the outreach, we have found that most tennis players and all pickleball players agree on one thing: it is important for there to be designated pickleball on courts six and seven,” resident Cole Ettman said. “This will help meet the demand for pickleball and force to better community amongst players.”



photo by Rance Collins  
The courts at Plummer Park are typically abuzz with pickleball or tennis matches.

## Hollywood Food Coalition partners with TV City to host Thanksgiving community dinner

Hollywood Food Coalition is holding its annual Thanksgiving Community Dinner on Wednesday, Nov. 27, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Television City, in partnership with the studio’s owner Hackman Capital Partners.

The event provides a holiday meal including traditional turkey and trimmings for people experiencing homelessness and food insecurity. The food is donated by Sysco and prepared by Sodexo. In addition to the meal, guests will receive clothing and supplies donated by the Los Angeles Football Club and Temple Emanuel of Beverly Hills, and will enjoy entertainment and live music

by H.B. Barnum and Urban Voices zProject. Hollywood Food Coalition worked with community partners to invite participants to the event.

“At Hollywood Food Coalition, we believe that everyone deserves to feel supported and valued, especially during the holiday season. Our annual Thanksgiving Community Dinner is about more than just sharing a meal. It’s a chance to foster a sense of community and belonging for those facing hardships,” Hollywood Food Coalition executive director Arnali Ray said. “We are deeply grateful for the generous support of our volunteers, sponsors and

partners whose contributions help make this event a meaningful celebration of hope, connection and nourishment for our neighbors in need.”

The event is made possible through support by Hackman Capital Partners, Television City, Waymo, Sysco, Entertainment Partners, CoStar Group, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles, Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath, ThxPhil Business Management, Kaiser Permanente, Superior Grocers, Los Angeles City Councilwoman Katy Yaroslavsky and Kilroy.

The Hollywood Food Coalition is seeking donations. For information, visit [hofoco.org/thanksgiving](http://hofoco.org/thanksgiving).

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# Cheeseburger! Cheeseburger! And a Bears game

CHICAGO — All my dreams are dirty. All my friends are rich. My pretty girlfriend's more into books than into me, and my dog might actually be a wolf. So, life is no storybook, trust me. I just try to make the best of things. When life gets really rough, I flee back here to my hometown. I treat Chicago the same way Hemingway treated whiskey.

Chicago is my second city, L.A. now being my first. The things I like about both cities are similar: the food, the politics, the surfing.

At heart, both are still frontier towns. One has too much water, one not enough. One is beautiful, and so is the other.

As protection, I've brought along a couple of L.A. sidekicks – John and Chuck – and I warn them right off how the winds off the lake can behead you.

If Chicago got any colder in winter, Napoleon might invade it.

To make a memory, we step out on the Skydeck of the Willis Tower, 103 floors up. Yikes.

To tap old sources of strength, we hit the famed Billy Goat Tavern, Chicago's central library of neuroses and funk.

"Cheeseburger! Cheeseburger!" Belushi screamed in the classic SNL sketches. "Coke No Pepsi."

This is the place where all that began, the fever dream of a mad Greek who once put a hex on the Cubs, which is redundant, like jam-jams on a polar bear.

Still, it worked pretty well.

Want to taste the real Chicago? Forget Gibson's or Cindy's, or those fancy fusion restaurants nobody really likes. Go to the Billy Goat and order a double-cheeseburger and a round of drinks.

Stopped by Soldier Field as well, the city's official psyche ward. It



by  
Chris  
Erskine

was full up this day — no vacancies, the Packers in town for brunch. Who was going to feast on whom? That was the only question.

Remember how Proust had one bite of a cookie and wrote his masterpiece? That's how I feel about Bears football. Super inspired, though I do have one note: Why build a new stadium? This one's just fine, thank you. Instead, spend that \$3 billion on teachers and line-backers.

Anyway, the Bears lead at the half, with fans booing the owner (McCaskey), then cheering a retired speedster (Devin Hester), who dropped an f-bomb in his big speech (that's a thing now).

Then, as if karma, the Bears muff a last-second kick and everyone is sad again.

As fans leave, the ushers hand out lithium.

"You gonna be OK?" I ask the shell-shocked stranger behind me. He nods while staring off into space. I think he's still there, Section 152, Row 8. Can someone please help him out?

Look, this football team doesn't just need a new coach, it needs an intervention.

I'm just the guy for that. This L.A. dude, Caleb Williams, came in here like a carpetbagger, pocketing all the gold and riches. I think they deeded him Tribune Tower.

Yet, he's kind of heavy legged, as

quarterbacks go, and he still holds the football far too long. Dink and dunk, dude. It's a dink-and-dunk league.

More worrisome, he mopes around the sidelines, bringing to mind another failed carpetbagger, Jay Cutler. Trust me, Chicago won't dig that.

If anyone is going to mope, it's these great and loyal fans.

You see, after a tough Bears loss, this amazing city starts thinking about what's ahead: Seven months of winter, the Bulls, the corruption. In fact, at the snack stand, the attendant offers us half off if we pay in cash, then stuffs the \$20 in her pocket.

Mayor Daley lives!

Remember, the winters here are Russian. That's not all bad. Even now, State Street looks like something Tchaikovsky wrote. Everywhere you look, a sugar plum. Gorgeous.

My friends and I also took a chilly boat tour, perhaps the greatest such tour in America, past the Wrigley Building, the old Montgomery Ward catalog center, to the industrial spaces that are now lofts.

Right now, America should be turning lofts back into industrial spaces. But that's a rant for another day.

We also sampled a few other saloons with my Hallmark-loving sister, Holly, and various Irish princesses (her daughters).

Me, I'm partial to ratty old places that have been here since Al Capone. We find just that in Miller's Pub. You can't get wings better than this, or colder beer, or snider comments about sports and



photo by Chris Erskine

Step out on the see-through Skydeck, 103 floors up. Yikes.

local politics.

So forward my mail to Miller's Pub; I just took over.

Because these local sports teams will forever test your faith in God.

But, dear Lord, this city has grit and texture and pizza as deep as the driven snow.

My kind of town, Chicago is.

*The Happy Hour Hiking Club's next jaunt will be the Saturday after Thanksgiving, at 2 p.m., along some leafy horse trails north of Glendale, with drinks after in Montrose. Everyone welcome, though space is limited. To RSVP, please email Letters@ChrisErskineLA.com.*



photo by Chris Erskine

This is the Chicago watering hole that inspired the SNL skit.

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# Cedars-Sinai issues flu season safety tips for older adults

The flu might be a miserable weeklong illness and inconvenience for many people, but it can have serious consequences for older adults.

“It’s not just sniffles or cold-like symptoms. It can turn into pneumonia or an even more severe illness for older adults that can lead to hospitalization and, unfortunately, sometimes their demise,” said Dr. Leslie Ramirez, a physician with Cedars-Sinai’s Senior Advantage program, which specializes in caring for medically complex Medicare Advantage patients 65 and older.

Because the body’s immune system weakens with age, Ramirez

said, viruses like influenza can cause more serious illness in older adults. Once hospitalized, they’re at even higher risk for developing bedsores and skin infections from lack of movement. And unlike younger people whose condition rapidly improves once an illness passes, it can take weeks for older adults to regain their strength.

“If they’ve been in the hospital for a while, when they return home, they can struggle getting in and out of bed, getting to the bathroom or sitting down and standing up,” Ramirez said. “It complicates their care and increases the burden on the family members trying to help them.”

Ramirez said the flu can trigger a huge inflammatory response in the lungs of older adults who may not be able to continue breathing on their own. They might need supplemental oxygen and fluids because we tend to eat and drink less when we’re ill. Dehydration can be very harmful in older patients, causing their blood pressure to drop, as well as respiratory distress.

Older adults also are more likely to have multiple chronic health issues – heart, lung and kidney conditions – and an influenza infection can make all of those worse.

Older adults should contact their provider as soon as they experience flu-like symptoms – fever, chills, body aches, maybe a sore throat or diarrhea – or get tested for the flu at a nearby urgent care, Ramirez said. With a confirmed diagnosis, patients might be eligible for Tamiflu, an antiviral treatment that can help shorten the length of illness and decrease severity. But the medication must be started within five days of symptom onset.

It’s also important to rest and drink plenty of water. Chicken noodle soup or broth also can help with hydration. Acetaminophen can help reduce a fever, ibuprofen can ease body aches and over-the-counter cough suppressants can help ease a cough. But always check with a provider before taking a new drug to ensure it won’t interact with your current medications or chronic conditions.

Ramirez also encourages everyone to get the flu vaccine, available at local pharmacies and at Cedars-Sinai.

For information, visit [cedars-sinai.org](http://cedars-sinai.org).



Cedars-Sinai is encouraging older adults to take steps to prevent them from catching the flu this year.



photo by Edwin Folven

Holocaust Museum L.A. will honor supporters on Dec. 3 in Beverly Hills.

## Holocaust Museum prepares for gala

Holocaust Museum Los Angeles will honor Ben Grossmann and Alex Henning, co-founders of the technology studio Magnopus, along with third-generation Holocaust survivors Amy Conroy and Amanda Markowitz Wizenberg, at the “Shaping the Future” gala, on Tuesday, Dec. 3, at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel.

Grossmann and Henning, both Oscar winners, collaborated with the museum to create an innovative augmented reality app that allows users worldwide to engage with the “Sobibor” exhibit, earning 2024 Collision Awards for Animation and Motion Design.

Conroy and Markowitz Wizenberg, who frequently share their family histories, advocate against antisemitism through activism and social media.

The gala will include a conversation between Jessica Yellin, founder of News Not Noise, and video game designer Luc Bernard focusing on the innovative use of gaming in Holocaust education. Bernard has developed video games that address the topic, including the Fortnite Holocaust Museum – a virtual museum integrated within the game Fortnite. The groundbreaking initiative educates players about the Holocaust and features Holocaust Museum L.A.

Actor and comedian Ben Gleib, the grandson of Holocaust survivors, will host the museum’s 16th annual gala.

The Beverly Wilshire Hotel is located at 9500 Wilshire Blvd. For information, visit [holocaustmuseumla.org/gala](http://holocaustmuseumla.org/gala).

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# Caruso hands out all the fixins’

On Thursday, Nov. 21, Rick Caruso is providing families of local community organizations Operation Progress LA, STRIVE and Justice for Murdered Children 350 honey baked hams, turkeys, cornbread, stuffing, mashed potatoes and gravy from noon-2 p.m. at Strive Community Center.

The Caruso Family Foundation, which has been partnering with a network of local organizations since 1991 to empower and transform the lives of underserved children and their families in Southern California, has partnered with – Operation Progress LA, a nonprofit organization whose mission it is to empower youth and families from South Los Angeles through mentorship, and STRIVE, an academy-par learning environment and facility providing exemplary academic and guidance to youth and their families in the Watts community of Los Angeles – to make these efforts possible.

Every Thanksgiving, the Caruso Family Foundation sponsors this vital event and Rick and his family personally hand out meals to ensure every family enjoys a warm and festive Thanksgiving. This tradition reflects their unwavering commitment to community support and resilience.

The Strive Community Center is located at 9124 Main St.



photo courtesy of the city of Beverly Hills

The Beverly Hills City Council honored members of the Mizrahi and Sephardic communities on Nov. 19.

# BH celebrates Mizrahi and Sephardic communities

The Beverly Hills City Council celebrated Mizrahi and Sephardic Heritage Month during its meeting on Nov. 19. Mayor Lester Friedman and the City Council recognized the rich cultural contributions of Mizrahi and Sephardic communities to the diversity of the city. At the meeting, Councilman Craig Corman, joined Susan Eshaghian, vice president of administration for the Iranian American Jewish Federation; Human Relations Commission member Vered Elkouby Nisim; Susan Azzizadeh, former president of the Iranian American Jewish Federation; Vice Mayor Sharona Nazarian; Sapir Taib, representing JIMENA Jews Indigenous to the Middle East and North Africa; Mayor Lester Friedman; Councilman John Mirisch; Zohreh Mizrahi, of the Iranian American Jewish Federation; Danna Balas, founder of Menchies Frozen Yogurt; Councilwoman Mary Wells and Dillon Hosier, CEO of ICAN: Israeli-American Civic Action Network.

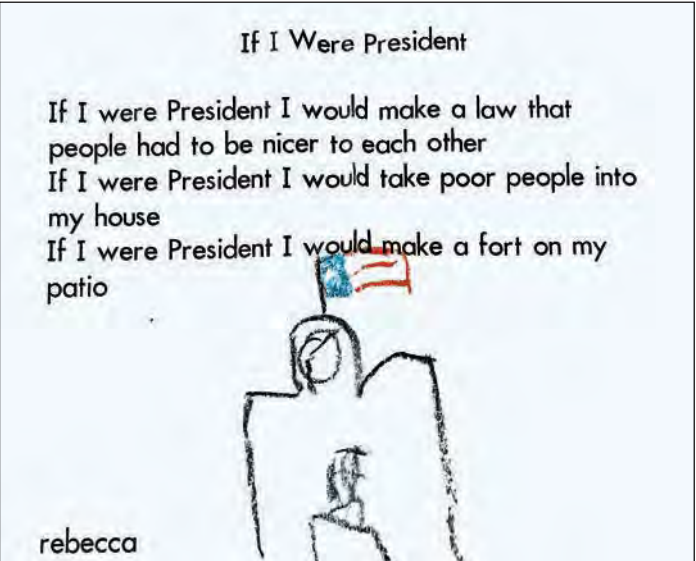
## Notable Quotes

“If I Were President”

“If I were President I would make a law that people had to be nicer to each other  
If I were President I would take poor people into my house  
If I were Presdient I would make a fort on my patio”

Rebecca Villalpando  
(b. Nov. 21, 1994)

Rebecca Villalpando, daughter of publishers Michael and Karen Villalpando, wrote (and typed!) this in 2001 as a 2nd grader. She turns 30 years old today. Happy Birthday, Rebecca!



# Immersive ‘Little Women Ballet’ takes the stage

“Little Women Ballet” returns with their winter site-specific immersive experience, the last in the Trilogy, with five unique performances between Nov. 22-24, at Heritage Square Museum. On Dec. 7, “Little Women Ballet” will debut a full-length Ballet with two performances at the Wilshire Ebell Theatre. Pioneering more ballets about women and their stories, “Little Women” is an original ballet, manifesting the coming of age of sisters Meg, Jo, Beth and Amy as they navigate an ever-changing world of war, poverty, love and loss as they learn to embrace their artistic gifts and share them with the world as a source of comfort.

The November site-specific immersive experience features the winter and holiday season for audiences to enjoy being encapsulated into the beloved story of Louisa May Alcott’s “Little Women.” Each of the trilogy’s performances at Heritage Square feature a new seasonal theme, music, décor, desserts and refreshments and different parts of the Little Women novel told through vignettes of the Little Women story presented in ballet form. Audiences will venture into this classic tale for an immersive ballet experience. Join Meg, Jo, Beth and Amy inside the Victorian houses of Los Angeles as they tell their story of sisterhood, love, loss and family. Meet all the characters up close, go on an immersive walking tour of the Heritage Square Museum, enjoy autumn-themed desserts and refreshments, and join the cast in Victorian dancing at the end of



photo by Edie Tyebkhan

An immersive “Little Women” experience will perform Nov. 22-24.

each performance.

When attendees arrive, each guest receives a goodie bag with items to be used throughout the experience, including a colored ribbon which lets the guests know the route they will follow. Pioneering more ballets about women and their stories, “Little Women Ballet” pairs heartwarming life lessons with progressive ideas about women’s roles in 19th century America. Be part of the story as Little Women Ballet dancers perform in the historic mansions and beautiful private grounds of this iconic landmark.

The winter “Little Women Ballet” site-specific immersive experience takes place with five performances on Friday, Nov. 22 at 6:30 p.m.; Saturday, Nov. 23 for two performances; 3 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.; and Sunday, Nov. 24 for two performances; 3 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$60 per person. Heritage Square Museum is located at 3800 Homer St.

Then, on Saturday, December 7, 2024, at the Wilshire Ebell Theater, “Little Women Ballet” presents a full-length original ballet based on the novel, for two performances only: 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. In partnership with ArtistsPlus Productions and The Ebell of Los Angeles, tickets range from \$28-\$40. The Wilshire Ebell Theatre is located at 4401 W. 8th St.

For information and to purchase tickets, visit [littlewomenballet.com](http://littlewomenballet.com).

’tis the Season for

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# Crews push ahead with D Line subway work

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority is working on the D Line subway extension project at numerous locations along Wilshire Boulevard. Motorists are advised about temporary lane closures along the route.

Near the Wilshire/Western station, crews are restoring sidewalks and the streetscape. Wilshire Boulevard is reduced to two lanes in each direction through January 2025 between Oxford Avenue and St. Andrews Place. Left turns are prohibited from Wilshire Boulevard to Western Avenue and from eastbound Wilshire Boulevard to northbound St. Andrews Place. The tem-

porary traffic pattern supports street restoration near the Wilshire/Western construction yard.

Street restoration also continues in late November near the Wilshire/La Brea station. Lane reductions will be implemented near the intersection, where crews are working within K-rail enclosures. Farther west, crews are working through March 2025 in a K-rail work zone in the middle of Wilshire Boulevard between Courtyard Place and Masselin Avenue. Wilshire Boulevard is reduced to two lanes in each direction between Ridgely Drive and Curson Avenue.

Near the Wilshire/Fairfax station, street restoration work continues

through March 2025. A K-rail work zone will remain on the north side of Wilshire Boulevard between San Diego Way and Orange Grove Avenue. Wilshire Boulevard will be reduced to two lanes in each direction in the area.

A K-rail work zone is also located on the north side of Wilshire Boulevard between San Vicente and La Cienega boulevards. Street restoration in the area is anticipated

to run through early 2025. Crews are also working on construction staging yards at Wilshire/La Cienega and Wilshire/Gale. Instrumentation, utility work and street maintenance are ongoing.

Work is progressing on the Wilshire/Rodeo subway station in Beverly Hills. Crews may be working at street level along Wilshire Boulevard. Crews are also working on the Century City/Constellation subway station. Traffic lane closures are in place on Constellation Boulevard during daytime hours for

station construction and material deliveries. Eastbound and westbound vehicle access on Constellation Boulevard is being maintained between Century Park West and Century Park East. Utility relocation work and street restoration is ongoing on Avenue of the Stars, south of Constellation Boulevard.

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.



photo by Edwin Folven  
Work is ongoing near the future Wilshire/Rodeo subway station in Beverly Hills.

## Letters to the Editor

### Condemnation continues over MAGA mob at Beverly Hills High

Re “Black students allege MAGA mob targeted them at BHHS demonstration,” Nov. 14 issue

Great piece on that vile episode at BHHS. Between this and the firing of [teacher] Joanie Garratt, we see where the school district is headed. Hideous.

I went to Beverly a thousand years ago, and my kids did too. Never in my wildest imagination would this have happened when I was there or when my kids were there. Never.

Great reporting. Tabor [Brewster] is absolutely terrific.

Andrea Grossman  
Beverly Hills  
founder  
Writers Bloc

Part of the fascist playbook is violence and/or the threat of violence to intimidate those who disagree with them. Hitler had his Brown Shirts and his Beer Hall Putsch. Trump had his Proud Boys and red-hatted MAGA supports in his attempted coup. And now Trump’s toxic brew of racism, sexism and nativism has spread to Beverly Hills High School with red-hatted Trump supporters attempting to intimidate Black students and their teacher at the school they share.

In the 1930s, novelist Sinclair Lewis wrote “It Can’t Happen Here,” but now it has. In wealthy, formerly safe, formerly great Beverly Hills.

Freedom of assembly and freedom of speech to not extend to ter-

rorizing one’s classmates. I hope the Beverly Hills Unified School Board and the Beverly Hills Police Department take firm action against the demonstrators.

Daniel Fink  
Beverly Hills

Re “Longtime Beverly Hills High School teacher says she was fired after criticizing Trump, MAGA mob on Facebook,” Nov. 15

“This is truly shameful!!! Sad to hear this from the BHHS. It’s always been a great school.

The school board should speak to the parents of the kids involved ... Call a mandatory meeting! This is learned behavior from the parents, which will continue throughout their lives.

Debbie Joyce

### Thank you, WeHo, for honoring veterans

Re “WeHo pays homage to veterans,” Nov. 14 issue

Thanks to everyone who came out to our Veterans Day Nov.11 program, it was outstanding. A total 81 people came to honor our Sal Guarriello Veterans Memorial Park observance for our 21st anniversary of our beautiful park.

Thanks to everyone, and thank you Mayor John Erickson and staff.”

Andy Harland  
West Hollywood  
co-chairman  
Sal Guarriello Veterans  
Memorial Park Committee

## 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:

<b>LOCATIONS:</b>	<b>West Hollywood, California</b>
<b>REQUEST:</b>	<b>The Planning Commission</b> will hold a public hearing to consider a proposed zone text amendment to streamline the approval of Electric Vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure to ensure full compliance with Assembly Bill 970 (AB 970) and designate EV Charging Sites and EV Services Stations as a primary use in designated commercial zones.
<b>PERMIT(S):</b>	Zone Text Amendment, and any other required permits.
<b>APPLICANT(S):</b>	City of West Hollywood
<b>TIME/PLACE OF HEARING:</b>	<b>Thursday, December 5, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.</b> West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers 625 N. San Vicente Boulevard West Hollywood, CA 90069
<b>ZONES:</b>	CC1 (Commercial, Community 1); CC2 (Commercial, Community 2); SSP (Sunset Specific Plan); and PDCSP (Pacific Design Center Specific Plan).
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS:</b>	Categorically Exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Sections §15061(b)(3) (Review for Exemption).

**Complete digital agenda packets** will be available on Wednesday, November 27, 2024, and additional information regarding participation options can be found on the posted agenda or the calendar page on-line at [www.weho.org](http://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 Christine Shen, Senior Planner at (323) 848-6803, [cshen@weho.org](mailto:cshen@weho.org) or Paige Portwood, Associate Planner at (323) 848-6401, [pportwood@weho.org](mailto:pportwood@weho.org)

Melissa Crowder, City Clerk

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



# RESTAURANT NEWS

## Per La offers Thanksgiving-to-go

This Thanksgiving, Ristorante Per L'ora, located inside Hotel Per La in Downtown Los Angeles, is making the holiday easier with its Thanksgiving To-Go Meal. Whether hosting friends and family at home or just wanting a delicious meal, the Italian-inspired restaurant makes it easy to celebrate this season.

The menu features a variety of options sold a la carte, including a 12-14-pound roasted turkey for \$120 that feeds 4-6 people. Enjoy salads like the autumn salad and endive salad for \$45 each, along with sides such as whipped honey butter (\$16), smoked potato purée (\$14) and brown butter carrots (\$21 for 4 people). Don't forget dessert, with choices like a pear ricotta crostata or pumpkin pie, both priced at \$41.

With convenient pickup options, the meal will create more time to spend time with loved ones and less

time worrying about the kitchen. Guests can pick up their meals through Ristorante Per L'Ora's website at [hotelperla.com/ristoranteperlora](http://hotelperla.com/ristoranteperlora). Hotel Per La is located at 649 S. Olive St.

## The Abbey cooks up all the fixins'

Thanksgiving just got tastier and easier. The Abbey West Hollywood invites the community to elevate their holiday feast by pre-ordering the three-course Thanksgiving meal. Skip the stress of cooking and enjoy a luxurious, chef-prepared dinner at home. The meal is available for pickup on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 28, from 11 a.m.-7 p.m. The starter is the decadent lobster bisque. The main course includes a hickory smoked turkey breast, truffled mashed potatoes, haricot vert casserole, brioche stuffing, cranberry sauce, turkey gravy and a buttermilk biscuit.

Dessert is a choice of pumpkin or apple pie. To secure an order, visit [chownow.com/order/23766/locations/34866](http://chownow.com/order/23766/locations/34866). The Abbey West Hollywood is located at 692 N. Robertson Blvd.

## November specials throw light on Parkers'

Parkers' Lighthouse, the premier waterfront dining destination nestled in Long Beach's vibrant Shoreline Village, invites guests to join in celebrating four decades of exceptional dining with a lineup of festive events and a special 40th Anniversary throwback menu for November. Parkers' Lighthouse brings back favorite dishes from its early years, crafted with contemporary flair by the chef team and offers an exclusive three-course Thanksgiving feast perfect for the season. Throughout November, Parkers' Lighthouse will offer a lineup of classic favorites that guests know and love. The November throwback menu includes the Parkers' Deluxe



photo courtesy of the Peninsula Beverly Hills  
Enjoy a slice of pie for the holiday at the Peninsula Beverly Hills.

## Peninsula Beverly Hills prepares a feast

On Thanksgiving Day from 11 a.m.-7 p.m., the exclusive The Peninsula Beverly Hills invites travelers and Angelenos alike to gather loved ones and enjoy an unforgettable dining experience at The Belvedere – the hotel's elegant European brasserie. Here, guests can indulge in a lavish three-course meal of their choice full of elevated classics including organic turkey breast, creamy butternut squash

bisque, a delicious pecan tart or a decadent apple pie.

The hotel also offers a glamorous three-course, family-style Thanksgiving dinner that can be relished in the comfort of the home. Preorders are open now, and all orders must be received by Nov. 22 to be ready for pickup on Thanksgiving Day from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. The Peninsula Beverly Hills is located at 9882 S. Santa Monica Blvd.

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For information, visit [parkerslighthouse.com](http://parkerslighthouse.com) or call (562)432-6500. Parkers’ Lighthouse is located at 435 Shoreline Village Drive, Long Beach.

THE Blvd serves guests three-course prix-fixe

Give thanks this Thanksgiving with a tantalizing feast in THE Blvd priced \$150 per adult and \$65 per child ages 6-12. Chef Rafael Alcala’s three-course prix-fixe menu begins with the choice of a red kuri squash soup, fig and persimmon salad or parmesan and nutmeg Parisian gnocchi. For the entrée, choose between the maple spiced glazed “Diestel” turkey, roasted rib of beef, eggplant short rib or pecan-crusted Alaskan halibut. Then to end things on a sweet note, choose between a house-made pumpkin pie or sticky pudding. The meal will be available on Nov. 28 from 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Live music

will enhance the meal from noon-3 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. For information and to book, visit [exploretock.com/theblvd](http://exploretock.com/theblvd). THE Blvd is located at 9500 Wilshire Blvd.

Suzanne Tracht opens the ‘Jar’ on Thanksgiving

Chef Suzanne Tracht and her highly acclaimed restaurant Jar, present a Thanksgiving dinner take-out menu ready for pick up on Wednesday, Nov. 27. All items come with easy instructions for heating and preparing for the holiday home table. The menu features dishes inspired by Suzanne’s family traditions and American holiday flavors. Thanksgiving dinner take-out from Jar includes Suzanne’s signature chestnut chickpea soup; cornbread and turkey sausage stuffing with shiitake mushrooms; homemade cranberry sauce; Yukon gold mashed potatoes; turkey gravy; Tuscan kale with Porcini broth and extra virgin olive oil; Jar’s creamed corn; roasted and

See page 18

Farmers Market provides all holiday needs

Thanksgiving is right around the corner. Whether making a feast at home, in charge of bringing the dessert or not in the mood to cook this year, the Original Farmers Market has it covered.

Look no further than the grocers at 3rd & Fairfax for creating the perfect holiday feast. It has everything from natural and organic Willie Bird and Diestel turkeys from Marconda’s Puritan Poultry and Farmers Market Poultry, to fresh and seasonal produce, freshly baked breads and desserts, and the perfect wine. And Du-par’s Restaurant and Marmalade Cafe are offering complete Thanksgiving meals for take-out, delivery and dine-in. Cooking the turkey, but not the sides? Magee’s Kitchen has delicious side dishes like mashed potatoes and mac n’ cheese ready to heat and serve. And don’t forget the pie! Stop by Du-par’s bakery to pick up pumpkin, pecan,



photo courtesy of the Original Farmers Market

Grab everything necessary for a Thanksgiving feast at the Original Farmers Market.

apple, mincemeat and assorted fruit pies for your Thanksgiving feast. For information, visit [\[marketla.com/market-buzz/leave-the-cooking-to-us\]\(http://marketla.com/market-buzz/leave-the-cooking-to-us\). The Original Farmers Market is located at 6333 W. Third St.](http://farmers-</a></p></div><div data-bbox=)

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**Holiday Kids Pajama Drive!**

Donate a new, unwrapped pair of Kids Pajamas\* and receive a **FREE** pound of Ground Beef or Homemade Sausages!

**Pajama Drive runs through November 30th.**

\*Valued at \$10 or more. Pajama sizes Infant to Age 18.

In December, items collected will be donated to agencies servicing homeless and low income families in Los Angeles.

Also accepting children's security blankets, slippers, robes, storytime books and toothbrush/toothpaste sets.

One FREE pound of Ground Beef or Sausages per customer per visit please.

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From page 17

sliced breast of Mary’s turkey with confit of leg and thigh; and a special treat of Kaluga hybrid caviar with Suzanne’s potato pancakes, crème fraîche and chives. All items are available à la carte to customize a home Thanksgiving dinner. Substitutions are not accepted for this dinner. Don’t forget to order Jar’s classic cocktails to go. The Jar Manhattan and Jar Naughty Martini are available to take out for \$21 (2 servings) in addition to a robust list of wine selections.

Jar is located at 8225 Beverly Blvd. For information and to pre-order, visit [exploretock.com/jar-restaurant/experience/301273/menu/thanksgiving](http://exploretock.com/jar-restaurant/experience/301273/menu/thanksgiving). Preorders must be made by 3 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 24, with pick-up on Wednesday, Nov. 27 only from noon-3 p.m. Note that Jar is closed Thanksgiving Day.

## Make authentic Spanish paella at home

Available in three different sizes accommodating two to six servings, Teleferic Barcelona has Paella Kits that effortlessly elevate any dinner party. Each kit has everything needed to make an authentic Spanish paella at home, from the specialty Bomba rice to the stainless-steel paella pan. Just follow the simple steps provided, add a preferred protein, and become a Spanish paella maestro – no passport required. Teleferic’s paella kits range from \$49 to \$120 plus shipping and are available for shipping nationwide, as well as pick up or local delivery at its local Brentwood location, 11930 San Vicente Blvd. For information, visit [telefericbarcelona.com/paella-kits](http://telefericbarcelona.com/paella-kits).

## Union Station rings in the season

Los Angeles Union Station’s ninth annual tree lighting cere-

mony will be held on Monday, Nov. 25 from 6-9 p.m. in the station’s historic Ticket Concourse. The event will feature a tree lighting countdown with Santa Claus and Metro CEO Stephanie Wiggins; live musical performances from Kingston Ska Collective with Members of Western Standard Ska Orchestra and Los Rebeldes Romanticos; photo opps with Santa and the elves; as well as arts and crafts, and milk and cookies courtesy of McDonald’s of Southern California at the “North Pole” on the station’s North Patio. For information, visit [unionstationla.com/happenings/9th-annual-tree-lighting-ceremony](http://unionstationla.com/happenings/9th-annual-tree-lighting-ceremony). Union Station is located at 800 N. Alameda St.

## Fall favorites at BOA

BOA Steakhouse, a reinvention of the traditional American steakhouse, is serving up limited-time fall dishes currently at all locations. Incorporating seasonal ingredients such as baby beets, sunchoke and candied walnuts, these new dishes bring out the vibrant flavors of fall. For information, visit [boast-eak.com](http://boast-eak.com). Area BOA locations include its West Hollywood restaurant, located at 9200 Sunset Blvd.

## Rooftop views make the holiday scenic at Videre

For Thanksgiving, Videre is serving an organic turkey dinner with class sides such as roasted root veggies and sourdough stuffing, finished with a “not your mothers” pumpkin pie. Videre rooftop has gorgeous 360 views of L.A., unique cocktails crafted by talented mixologists, a live DJ and multiple areas to gather, including a fireside lounge, penthouse, cabanas and the bar. For information, visit [viderela.com](http://viderela.com). Videre is located atop the Kimpton Hotel Wilshire at 6317 Wilshire Blvd.

## Carpentry gets its due at Japan House

Japan House Los Angeles has debuted a brand-new exhibition, “Masters of Carpentry: Melding Forest, Skill and Spirit.” The exhibit welcomes visitors into the world of the Japanese daiku, or master carpenters – the guardians of the timeless traditions and cultural heritage of Japan’s wood craft. Exhibition press release.

Daiku, the revered masters of Japanese carpentry and woodcutting, have long honored nature, seeking the benevolence of mountain deities in gathering their materials. This JAPAN HOUSE touring

exhibition pays homage to the Japanese carpenters – builders of temples, shrines and teahouses – showcasing their tools and their indispensable joinery, from the delicate to the robust, inherent in this important cultural architecture.

The exhibit will be open through Jan. 22. For information, visit [japanhousela.com/exhibitions/masters-carpentry-melding-forest-skill-spirit-woodworking-daiku-takenaka-dougukan](http://japanhousela.com/exhibitions/masters-carpentry-melding-forest-skill-spirit-woodworking-daiku-takenaka-dougukan). Japan House is located at Ovation Hollywood, 6801 Hollywood Blvd., levels 2 and 5.



photo courtesy of Japan House

Display like this of a structural model of Sa-an Teahouse will be featured at the “Masters of Carpentry” exhibition.

# 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:

<b>LOCATIONS:</b>	<b>845 N. San Vicente Boulevard, West Hollywood, California; and 840-854 Hilldale Avenue, West Hollywood, California</b>
<b>REQUEST:</b>	<b>The Planning Commission</b> will hold a public hearing for a request to demolish 10 dwelling units on four contiguous Hilldale Avenue parcels, merger of the four parcels, and construction of a three-story, 10-unit residential building with six affordable units. Request also includes the subdivision of the site into airspaces parcels, construction of a rear pool deck and subterranean space on the Hilldale site for exclusive use by the urban inn (San Vicente Bungalows) located at 845 San Vicente Boulevard, and an amendment to the conditional use permit for San Vicente Bungalows to allow the expansion of the ancillary uses for the urban inn to the rear pool deck and subterranean space.
<b>PERMIT(S):</b>	Certificate of Appropriateness, Conditional Use Permit Amendment, Demolition Permit, Development Permit, Lot Line Adjustment, Subdivision Permit, and any other required permits.
<b>APPLICANT(S):</b>	Todd Elliott, Todd Elliott, Inc.
<b>TIME/PLACE OF HEARING:</b>	<b>Thursday, December 5, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.</b> West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers 625 N. San Vicente Boulevard West Hollywood, CA 90069
<b>ZONES:</b>	R3A (Residential, Multi-Family Medium Density) (840-854 Hilldale Avenue) R4B (Residential, Multi-Family High Density) (845 San Vicente Boulevard)
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS:</b>	Categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Sections §15331 (Historical Resource Restoration/Rehabilitation) and Section §15332 (In-Fill Development Projects)

**Complete digital agenda packets** will be available on Wednesday, November 27, 2024, and additional information regarding participation options can be found on the posted agenda or the calendar page on-line at [www.weho.org](http://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 Antonio Castillo, Senior Planner at (323) 848-6854, or via email at: [acastillo@weho.org](mailto:acastillo@weho.org)

Melissa Crowder, City Clerk

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





photo by Edwin Folven

The Hollywood Christmas Parade Supporting Marine Toys for Tots returns on Dec. 1 with marching bands, movie cars, celebrity guests, equestrian groups and large colorful balloons.

# Hollywood Christmas Parade ushers in the holiday season

Actor, musician and philanthropist Jeremy Renner will serve as grand marshal for the 92nd Hollywood Christmas Parade Supporting Marine Toys for Tots, which will be held on Dec. 1 beginning at 6 p.m. in front of the landmark TCL Chinese Theatre.

The live parade is presented in association with the city of Los Angeles. The route extends east along Hollywood Boulevard, south on Vine Street and west on Sunset Boulevard before concluding at Orange Drive.

Renner is an award-winning actor and philanthropist with a commitment to giving. In 2023, he founded the RennerVation Foundation, a youth-focused non-profit dedicated to creating meaningful opportunities for at-risk youth and children in foster care.

The foundation’s mission is to impart joy, growth and a sense of belonging, offering young individuals experiences and resources that allow them to embrace the fullness of childhood. Renner is known for films including “The Hurt Locker” and the “Avengers” series, as well as the TV show “Mayor of Kingstown.”

“I’m honored to serve as the grand marshal for this year’s Hollywood Christmas Parade and excited to partner with Toys for Tots to bring joy to children in need. Their mission aligns closely with the work we do at the RennerVation Foundation, creating meaningful experiences for at-risk youth,” Renner said. “This season of giving is about spreading hope, and I’m thrilled to share this moment with my family and

friends from the foundation as we work together to make a difference.”

The Hollywood Christmas Parade Supporting Marine Toys for Tots will celebrate the holiday season with movie cars, marching bands, dazzling equestrians, larger-than-life character balloons, colorful floats and humorous specialty acts, culminating with the appearance of Santa Claus and his reindeer.

The parade is hosted by Dean Cain and Laura McKenzie, with Montel Williams and Elizabeth Stanton. It supports Marine Toys for Tots Foundation. Walk-up attendance is free along most of the route. Grandstand bleacher seating is available near the start of the parade and requires tickets, which are \$120. For tickets, visit ticketmaster.com/hollywood-christmas-parade-hollywood-california-12-01-2024/event/090060D49BC617F4. For information, call (833)727-2331, or visit thehollywoodchristmasparade.org.

# The Grove lights up for the holidays

The West Coast’s most anticipated event of the season, the 23rd Annual Christmas at The Grove Tree Lighting Celebration presented by FOX 11, is set to dazzle guests on Monday, Nov. 25. The renowned shopping, dining and entertainment destination will be transformed into a winter wonderland, inviting Angelenos to enjoy an unforgettable evening of festive performances and holiday cheer.

In partnership with Acura, Chase Freedom and REVOLVE, the star-studded show will be hosted by Lance Bass and feature legendary music director Rickey Minor. The celebration will include live musical performances by Ryan Tedder, Maren Morris, Rachel Platten, Robin Thicke, Jesse McCartney, Abi Carter and Sheléa, all singing beloved holiday classics from the likes of Christmas icons Nat King

Cole and Dean Martin.

Guests will also be treated to special performances from Cirque du Soleil’s KOOZA and Asher Entertainment, a very merry welcome from Santa Claus, a flurry of picture-perfect snowfall, the lighting of The Grove’s iconic 100-foot white fir Christmas tree and an enchanting drone and fireworks finale.

The evening is also in partnership with non-profit organization Para

Los Niños to support educational programs that cultivate future leaders in Los Angeles. Caruso will match donations up to \$100,000 through contributions committed through its website, amplifying the impact of each gift during the season of giving.

For information on The Grove’s Tree Lighting Celebration and more holiday happenings, visit thegroveela.com. The Grove is located at 189 The Grove Drive.



photo courtesy of The Grove

Nov. 25 will mark the beginning of the season with The Grove’s annual Christmas tree lighting.

# LACMA serves as a ‘Digital Witness’

The Los Angeles County Museum of Art is presenting “Digital Witness: Revolutions in Design, Photography and Film,” which examines the impact of digital image manipulation tools from the 1980s to the present through the works of nearly 200 artists, designers and makers. Assessing, for the first time, simultaneous developments and debates in the fields of photography, graphic design, and visual effects, the exhibition illuminates today’s visual culture where digital editing tools are more accessible than ever before.

“Digital Witness” is presented as part of PST ART: Art & Science Collide, a landmark regional event exploring the intersections of art and science, both past and present. The exhibition is co-curated by Britt Salvesen, department head and curator of the Wallis Annenberg Photography Department and Prints and Drawings, and Staci Steinberger, curator of Decorative Arts and Design, at LACMA.

The exhibit will be on display from Nov. 24-July 13. For information, visit lacma.org/art/exhibition/digital-witness-revolutions-design-photography-and-film. LACMA is located at 5905 Wilshire Blvd.

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## Lowell Milken Center names ARTEFFECT Ambassadors

The Lowell Milken Family Foundation has announced the 2024-25 cohort of ARTEFFECT Ambassadors, a visual arts educa-

tion online fellowship for educators working directly with 6th-12th grade students.

The 34 fellows in the second

annual cohort are from 21 states and include 26 visual arts teachers. Los Angeles educators Anna August, an art teacher at Sinai Akiba Academy, and Pnina Benperlas, a Hebrew teacher at Milken Community School, have been selected for the program.

The cohort represents diverse educational, professional and geographic backgrounds, including specializations in visual arts, social studies, STEAM and administration. The Lowell Milken Center for Unsung Heroes works with students and educators to discover and develop the stories of unsung heroes from history.

The ambassadors will participate in a series of online professional development sessions. The virtual

sessions – four of which are also open to all educators and are free to join – explore the impact of unsung heroes – individuals not commonly known who took extraordinary actions in service to others and society. Themes and subject areas include STEAM, character education, social impact and visual storytelling.

“The ambassadors fellowship continues to foster visual arts education by directly engaging educators with remarkable stories of unsung heroes,” said Dr. Toni Guglielmo, director of AREFFECT. “Through the teaching and learning in this program, students are equipped with new insights that allow them to make a positive impact on their communities by championing unsung heroes.”

In the online sessions, participants will explore approaches for

considering and creatively interpreting the stories of unsung heroes as role models through the visual arts. They will use lesson plans focused on unsung heroes that provide step-by-step modeling to create artworks. Members will engage with other educators nationwide to expand their instructional practices.

“Unsung heroes from prior generations demonstrate the power of one person to profoundly better the lives of others and positively impact the course of history,” Lowell Milken Center and ARTEFFECT Founder Lowell Milken said. “This is of critical importance as generations young and old, local and global, need positive role models from the past to serve as beacons to light the path to a secure future.”

For information, visit [lowellmilkencenter.org/competitions/arteffect/ambassadors](http://lowellmilkencenter.org/competitions/arteffect/ambassadors).



photo courtesy of LMC

The program brings the stories of the unsung heroes into classrooms through the visual arts.

## Music Man Foundation furthers arts education through grants

The Music Man Foundation announced \$2.7 million in funding on Nov. 19 for 15 nonprofits and opened new opportunities for nonprofits to apply for 2025 grants.

“These grants are going to nonprofits that are driving permanent changes in the way music is used in their respective fields. That might look like shifting the culture around how music education in schools can support young people in all areas of their lives, or reducing recidivism in the juvenile justice system through music programs, or working with policymakers to increase public investment in the arts,” said Sarah Lyding, executive director of the Music Man Foundation. “The foundation is proud to amplify their work.”

The Southern California Meredith Willson Awards support nonprofits with the potential to permanently change the way music is used to improve education, health care and community wellbeing. The awards are named for Meredith Willson, who wrote “The Music Man” and “The Unsinkable Molly Brown” musicals, and in whose honor the Music Man Foundation was established. Two-year grants were awarded to Arts for Healing and Justice Network, Education Through Music-Los Angeles, Harmony Project, Heart of Los Angeles, LA Opera, LA Phil, Riverside Arts Academy and Tonality.

Seven new Strengthening the Sector grants were also awarded to

support initiatives increasing public funding for the arts, advocacy for arts education and pro-artist policies, and awareness about the profound impact of arts on health. Arts for LA, California for the Arts, the L.A. County Department of Arts and Culture for Arts Ed Collective, Lifetime Arts, National Association for Music Education, National Guild for Community Arts Education and SoCal Grantmakers received funding.

The Music Man Foundation announced a new grant opportunity for the 2025 national Meredith Willson Awards. Up to \$2 million will be awarded to nonprofit organizations functioning nationally including two-year grants from \$100,000 to \$1 million for three to eight organizations. Interested nonprofits must submit a leadership letter by Jan. 24, 2025. For information, visit [musicmanfoundation.org](http://musicmanfoundation.org).



photo courtesy of Education Through Music-Los Angeles

Education Through Music-Los Angeles received a two-year grant to support programming.

## Sanderson partners with AJU as senior advisor

American Jewish University has announced that it has engaged Jay Sanderson to serve as senior advisor to the organization. The engagement with Sanderson follows the launch of a strategic planning initiative – which will culminate in a comprehensive plan to amplify AJU’s growth and impact – and marks a significant investment in the university’s future. Sanderson will analyze the evolving needs of the global Jewish community and the university’s role in meeting the needs.

Sanderson is a recognized global Jewish leader and the former president and CEO of the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles, where he headed numerous high-impact initiatives including one of North America’s first community

security initiatives and comprehensive social services network. He also previously served as executive vice president of the Brandeis Bardin Institute, which subsequently merged with the then-University of Judaism to create the modern American Jewish University. With decades of experience in Jewish community building, Sanderson brings a unique perspective and a wealth of knowledge to his consultancy role at AJU, school administrators said.

“We are thrilled to welcome Jay Sanderson to AJU, and back to Brandeis, as we embark on this vital process,” AJU president Jeffrey Herbst said. “His deep understanding of the issues facing the Jewish community across the country and

his proven track record of visionary leadership will be invaluable as we navigate the opportunities and challenges ahead and chart a bold course for AJU’s future.”

Sanderson will advise AJU on developing strategic initiatives to increase the intellectual vitality of the North American Jewish community during a time of rising antisemitism and increased fragility of Jewish institutions.

“AJU is at a pivotal moment in its history,” said Larry Platt, chair-elect of the AJU Board of Directors and co-chair of the Strategic Planning Committee. “AJU’s engagement with Jay Sanderson will help guide new initiatives for AJU’s next chapter.”

For information, visit [aju.edu](http://aju.edu).

## L.A. Library celebrates graduates in Online Degree Program

The Los Angeles Public Library celebrated the 10th anniversary of the Online Degree Program and the 1,000th student to graduate during a ceremony on Nov. 15.

The library’s Career Online High School offers adults 19 and older the opportunity to earn a high school diploma. Los Angeles Public Library is the first public library in the nation to offer adults an opportunity to earn an accredited high school diploma and career certificate online. Among the graduates at the ceremony were Herbert and Alva Pineda, a husband-and-wife who graduated together, and two brothers, Hector Montes and Abraham Montes

Jasso.

For information about the pro-

gram, visit [lapl.org/collections-resources/online-learning](http://lapl.org/collections-resources/online-learning).



photo courtesy of the Los Angeles Public Library

The graduating class was joined by Stacy Lieberman, left, president and CEO of the Library Foundation; former poet laureate Luis J. Rodriguez; Valerie Lynne Shaw, president of the Board of Library Commissioners; Jacqueline Hamilton, seated right, Los Angeles deputy mayor of neighborhood services; and City Librarian John F. Szabo.

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# BHEF selects Davis for new leadership role

The Beverly Hills Education Foundation has named Tiffany Davis as director of development and operations. Davis will focus on elevating the foundation’s image and expanding its presence while strengthening partnerships and solidifying the financial future of the BHEF endowment. Funds raised through BHEF support student initiatives, program enhancements and scholarships. Davis will work closely with the BHEF Board of Directors in the new assignment.

“I am extremely honored that the BHEF Board of Directors has entrusted me in this role. I bring a uniquely qualified perspective to the position as a previous nonprofit director, experienced fundraising event producer, former classroom teacher and Beverly Hills resident,” Davis said. “I have a strong understanding of all facets of this community – school, residential, government and business – and I plan to help unite all of them through one common goal of elevating education excellence to new heights.”

The BHEF Board of Directors recently welcomed new members.

The 2024/2025 Board Executive Committee includes president Tina Wiener, vice president Jill Eggerman, secretary Hilla Carrel and treasurer Lee Eggerman. The additional board members are Hayden Adams, Isack Fadlon, Azy Farahmand, Fred Farahmand, Donna Gillman, Rose Kaiserman, Becky Kershman, Jenn Pedersen, Dela Ronen, Sophia Rumanes, Ellie Yadegar and Leah Yadegar.

“With her knowledge of the community and strong background with nonprofits and fundraising, Tiffany Davis is the perfect person at the perfect time to elevate BHEF and take it to the next level. We are thrilled to have her on-board at BHEF,” Wiener said.

Davis is a business owner and professional entertainment event producer with 20 years of experience managing entertainment nonprofit organizations and producing concerts, conferences and fundraising galas. She is an active Beverly Hills community leader, former City Council candidate, chair of the Next Night Street Festival from 2022-24 and chair of the Next



photo courtesy of the BHEF

Tiffany Davis has been appointed director of development and operations for the Beverly Hills Education Foundation.

Beverly Hills Committee in 2022, Davis also serves in multiple positions in the Rotary Club of Beverly Hills and is a graduate of the Citizen Police Academy and Team Beverly Hills.

For information, visit [bhef.org](http://bhef.org).

# Music Center welcomes Urban Bush Women to the stage

The Music Center will make history when it kicks off its 2024-25 dance season of Glorja Kaufman Presents Dance at The Music Center on Nov. 22-24, with a first-ever dance presentation in the performing arts center’s beloved Mark Taper Forum. The storied Brooklyn-based dance company Urban Bush Women has the honor of becoming the first-ever professional dance theatre company in The Music Center’s momentous 60 years to perform at the 739-seat theatre. Adding to the excitement, UBW will be making its Music Center debut with the West Coast premiere of “SCAT!... The Complex Lives of Al & Dot, Dot & Al Zollar,” a love story set in a fictional jazz club where two people make their journey to Kansas City as part of the Great Migration. “SCAT!” is presented in association with Center Theatre Group.

“What an incredible time Angelenos are having at The Music Center as we celebrate our 60th year and open the doors of the landmark Mark Taper Forum for Glorja Kaufman Presents Dance at The Music Center for the first time,” said Rachel S. Moore, president and CEO of The Music Center.

“SCAT!” is conceived, directed and co-choreographed by UBW founder Jawole Willa Jo Zollar – as her final work for the company. Growing up in the mid-20th century performing in Black neighborhoods in a segregated Kansas City, Zollar tells a powerful tale of the aftermath of the Great Migration in the 1940s and 50s when aspirations are impacted by the harsh realities of American life. According to UBW, “SCAT!” is a poetic performance orature in the style of African American Toasts (the couplet form of rhyming, which boast and toast the epic hero or heroine) and was influenced by novelist Chinua Achebe who combined the concept of the orality of African storytelling with literature. The electrifying 90-minute dance work is set to an original jazz score by Craig Harris and performed by live musicians.

Tickets to Urban Bush Women are available for purchase now by visiting [musiccenter.org/ubw](http://musiccenter.org/ubw) or by calling (213)972-0711. The Mark Taper Forum is located at 135 N. Grand Ave.



photo by Maria Baranova for the Fisher Center at Bard

“SCAT!” will perform at the Mark Taper Forum Nov. 22-24.



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# Beverly Grove resident co-chairs UCLA Lambda Alumni Association

California State University, Los Angeles associate professor Bobby T. Rimas, of Beverly Grove, was elected on Nov. 18 to serve as co-chair of the UCLA Lambda Alumni Association. The University of California, Los Angeles Lambda Alumni Association Board of Directors elected Rimas, who will start his term in January.

UCLA Lambda Alumni Association is one of the oldest and most well-established LGBTQ+ alumni organizations in the United States. The association offers social and professional networking where UCLA LGBTQ+ alumni and community members meet and support one another socially and professionally. UCLA Lambda Alumni also supports students by raising scholarship funds, and conducts external community outreach, which includes LGBTQ+ activism beyond the UCLA campus. Established in 1989 by Doug Walters and Corinne Lightweaver, the UCLA Lambda Alumni Association has a long history of LGBTQ+ activism and is home to the first LGBTQ+ college publication.

“I am very humbled and honored to be elected to help lead the UCLA Lambda Alumni Association and hope that my service to the university, its alumni and students will make UCLA and my family proud,” said Rimas, who has served on the UCLA

Lambda Alumni Association Board of Directors since August 2018.

Rimas is also a paralegal at the Larson LLP law firm and serves on the Palm Springs Human Rights Commission. He is past chair and president of the UCLA Pilipino Alumni Association and past president of the Los Angeles Paralegal Association. For information, visit [alumni.ucla.edu/alumni-networks/lambda-alumni](http://alumni.ucla.edu/alumni-networks/lambda-alumni).



photo courtesy of Bobby T. Rimas

Bobby T. Rimas’ term as co-chair of the UCLA Lambda Alumni Association begins in January.

# ‘Tis The Season!



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# ‘Heretic’ is the film we need this season

Sometimes, a film arrives that invites personal reflection on religious choice without condescension or hubris. This time around, that’s “Heretic,” a thrilling drama disguised as a cat-and-mouse horror flick. I didn’t have Hugh Grant as a maniacal, albeit polite, villain on my 2024 bingo card, but he’s a welcome addition.

Sisters Barnes (Sophie Thatcher) and Paxton (Chloe East) are quite green. They follow a script to promote the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, but mocking, general disinterest and questions about underwear are more the norm. That is until their last stop of the day.

Mr. Reed (Grant) engages these mostly unarmed young women with ruminative, rehearsed remarks

about Mormon pioneers. The sisters can defend against superficial criticism but full-blown apologetics are beyond their pay grade.

Like plenty of big bads before him, Mr. Reed is a villain who makes valid points. But what he chooses to do with that information isn’t above reproach. For anyone who viewed the trailer, the sisters will be forced to choose a path. Their allegedly demure host forces them to choose a door based on their degree of religious conviction, hopefully leading out of the house he trapped them in.

That choice doesn’t arrive until halfway through the film. And what happens afterward isn’t quite the elaborate, violent mouse trap marketing teasers. The point of it all is a mystery with several possibilities

## ON SCREEN WITH TIM POSADA

during each act. “Act” might be a key to enjoying this thinker. The entire story would make a splendid stage play. “Heretic” doesn’t rely on jumps, brutality or special effects. Setting certainly helps, but it’s all in the performances, two of which ascend. Thatcher and East might be the protagonists, but Grant dominates the screen. Call the film chatty, but I prefer thoughtful. This is typical Grant: matter-of-fact, proper, slightly awkward. But as an antagonist, you wonder if Julia Robert’s Anna made it out of Notting Hill alive.

As for the sisters, Thatcher plays the more confident of the two. But the one performance with the most nuance belongs to East. From the opening scene, the sisters dance around everyday topics that might seem taboo, as if each of them is testing the waters on how deep their friendship will be. Neither are judgmental, but Sister Paxton seems more afraid, more submissive. In this kind of film, that leaves room for growth. How exactly? That’s half the fun.

To call “Heretic” fun should be qualified. Mr. Reed’s grand reveal come the third act drives the story.



photo courtesy of A24

Hugh Grant, as Mr. Reed, is terrific in “Heretic.”

Is something supernatural, paranormal or wicked at work? Don’t spoil the story for yourself.

On a personal note, few films effectively take me back nearly two decades to my time as a seminary student exploring these questions. A few years after that I would enter a cultural studies doctoral program learning about theorists critical of religious claims. My knowledge of Latter-day Saints beliefs and practices is limited, but “Heretic’s” interest in the notion of belief need not limit the film’s broader draw.

As of now, Scott Beck and Bryan Woods have yet to outdo their best idea, “A Quiet Place.” That screenplay is near perfect. But as directors, the pair greatly improved since

last year’s “65.” “Heretic” might be dull for impatient spectators, but it’s mature work from largely unproven auteurs.

As the holiday season approaches, “Heretic” might prompt some fascinating discourse. For the daring, watch it and discuss how exactly folks know what they believe is true. I recommend doing so during the meat carving. After that, pass the cranberry sauce and consider how beholden any practitioner is to the sins of their forebears from hundreds or maybe thousands of years ago.

Then debate if miracles really do happen between bites of sweet potato casserole. Season’s greetings! Sincerely, Mr. Reed.



photo courtesy of A24

Chloe East, left, as Sister Paxton, and Sophie Thatcher, as Sister Barnes, face consequential circumstances in “Heretic.”

# El Capitan welcomes ‘Moana 2’

Moana and Maui return to the big screen in Disney’s newest adventure, “Moana 2” at the El Capitan Theatre Nov. 26-Dec. 15. Before the movie, guests can see Moana on stage and take photos with our Moana and Maui statue photo ops.

Guests can be among the first to see “Moana 2” with our early screenings on Tuesday, Nov. 26 with screenings at 2 p.m., 5 p.m., 8 p.m. and 11 p.m.

A fan event screening for Disney’s “Moana 2” will take place at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 27.

Tickets are \$65 and include a character straw clip, color changing water bottle, collectible popcorn tin with popcorn, fountain beverage and event credential.

Start the morning with special sunrise screenings at 7:30 a.m. on select Saturday and Sundays and choose the exclusive Voyager Ticket offer for \$55 that includes a “Moana 2” themed blanket, Wayfinder surprise toy and tote bag.

A special Wayfinder bundle is available for \$125 and includes four tickets, one “Moana” popcorn tin

with refill and four drinks.

Specialty concession items will be available for purchase for ticketed guests, while supplies last.

Daily showtimes for Disney’s “Moana 2” Nov. 27-Dec. 15 are 10 a.m., 1 p.m., 4 p.m., 7 p.m. and 9:55 p.m. A 7:30 a.m. screening is available on select Saturday and Sundays.

Tickets are on sale now at [elcapitantheatre.com](http://elcapitantheatre.com) and [fandango.com/el-capitan-theatre-aacon/theater-page](http://fandango.com/el-capitan-theatre-aacon/theater-page). All seats are reserved. Tickets are \$18 for guests of all ages and include an 85-ounce bag of popcorn. The El Capitan Theatre is located at 6838 Hollywood Blvd.



photo courtesy of Disney

“Moana 2” will screen at the El Capitan Theatre Nov. 26-Dec. 15.

# L.A. Auto Show rolls into the Convention Center

The L.A. Auto Show, taking place from Friday, Nov. 22 through Sunday, Dec. 1, is the destination for the hottest automotive and lifestyle-themed attractions that are driving the nation’s passions and shaping how communities come together.

New for 2024, All Roads Stage is a dynamic activation that brings together diverse voices from across the automotive world. Featuring influencers, builders and trailblazers from various automotive segments, the stage highlights the creativity and love that defines car culture. A companion to the All Roads Stories original video series, the All Roads Stage continues that celebration of car culture and will feature a rotating selection of vehicles and organizations including Sasha Selipanov’s new NILU hypercar, Unplugged Performance’s heavily customized Tesla Cybertruck, social phenom MrCarSounds and his custom BMW E92 M3 and TWR Performance’s Supercat, a project led by Head Designer Khyzyl Saleem in collaboration with famed customizer Magnus Walker.

“For decades, the Los Angeles Auto Show has been the epicenter

of car culture and a tireless advocate for the innovation that defines our industry,” said Terri Toennies, president and chief operating officer of the Los Angeles Auto Show. “Our city helps shape the trends and styles of automotive culture both here in America and throughout the world, and this range of new and returning exhibits is a must-see for anyone with a passion for all things automotive.”

Founded in 1907, the Los Angeles Auto Show is recognized as one of the world’s most influential automotive events. The show celebrates the enduring love that Angelenos have for their cars and offers a global platform for industry debuts, technology and innovation.



photo courtesy of the L.A. Auto Show

The annual show highlights new and exciting automobiles from around the world.

Doors open to the public Nov. 22 –Dec. 1 and the show runs for 10 full days, including Thanksgiving Day. It is a must-attend event for prospective car buyers, industry executives, influencers, car enthusiasts and for families wanting to enjoy an unforgettable day out during the holiday season. Held at the Los Angeles Convention Center, the L.A. Auto Show contributes several hundred million dollars to the city’s economy, stimulates the local job market and is the number one revenue generator for the center.

The Los Angeles Convention Center is located at 1201 S. Figueroa St.

For information and tickets, visit

# CTG welcomes ‘Cat Kid’ musical

“Cat Kid Comic Club: The Musical” is performing at the Kirk Douglas Theatre Nov. 22-Jan. 5.

Cat Kid and Molly Pollywog have started an epic club to teach 21 rambunctious baby frogs how to make their own comics. Their fishy father Flippy is overjoyed that his kids will learn to unleash their creativity, but when the frogs’ constant bickering and outrageous imaginations send their comics comically off the rails, Flippy flips out. Will the club survive? Will the frogs ever get along?

And will creativity finally save the day? All will be answered in this madcap musical based on Dav Pilkey’s irreverently hilarious book series.

This hilarious musical adaptation of Dav Pilkey’s Dog Man spin-off series, “Cat Kid Comic Club,” is written by Kevin Del Aguila and Brad Alexander – the team that brought you “Dog Man: The Musical.”

For information, visit [centerthetheatregroup.org](http://centerthetheatregroup.org). The Kirk Douglas Theatre is located at 9820 Washington Blvd., Culver City.



photo courtesy of Center Theatre Group

The Kirk Douglas Theatre will feature a fabulous cast of characters this holiday season.



<div>ORDINANCE NO. 24-34</div> <div>AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA, REENACTING CHAPTER 5.127 AND SECTIONS 5.130.020, 5.230.030 AND 5.130.050 OF CHAPTER 5.130 AND ADDING SECTION 5.130.170 TO CHAPTER 5.130 OF TITLE 5 OF THE WEST HOLLYWOOD MUNICIPAL CODE TO REENACT THE CITY'S EXISTING HOTEL WORK PROTECTION AND MINIMUM WAGE ORDINANCES AND TO PREVENT THEIR FUTURE AMENDMENT WITHOUT SUBSEQUENT VOTER APPROVAL, PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA ELECTIONS CODE SECTION 9215(a)</div> <div>WHEREAS, pursuant to authority provided by the California Elections Code, a petition has been filed with the City Council of the City of West Hollywood, seeking to enact an initiative measure/ordinance which would reenact Chapter 5.127 and Sections 5.130.020, 5.130.030 and 5.130.050 of Chapter 5.130 and add Section 5.130.170 to Chapter 5.130 of Title 5 of the West Hollywood Municipal Code to reenact the City's existing hotel worker and minimum wage ordinances and to prevent their future amendment without subsequent voter approval, (the "Measure" or "Ordinance"); and</div> <div>WHEREAS, pursuant to California Elections Code section 9215, an initiative petition must be in filed with the City in valid form and signed by not less than ten percent (10%) of the registered voters of the City in order to qualify a local initiative measure for the ballot; and</div> <div>WHEREAS, according to Los Angeles County voter records, the minimum signature requirement in order to qualify this Measure for the ballot is 26,036 registered City voters; and</div> <div>WHEREAS, the City Clerk, through the Los Angeles County Registrar of Voters, has certified that the form of the petition complies with California law and, based upon an examination of voter registration records, has ascertained that the petition is signed by the requisite number of voters to qualify this Measure/Ordinance for the ballot under the Elections Code; and</div> <div>WHEREAS, this Measure's/Ordinance's proponents have completed all other necessary prerequisite steps qualify and place it on the ballot; and</div> <div>WHEREAS, since this Ordinance has qualified for placement on the ballot, pursuant to California Elections Code Section 9215, the City Council is legally required to either (i) adopt this Ordinance without alteration, or (ii) submit it to the voters at its next regularly scheduled election occurring not less than 88 days after the date of the order of election or at a special election pursuant to Elections Code Section 1405; and</div> <div>WHEREAS, in lieu of placing the Measure/Ordinance on the ballot, the City Council has voted to adopt it without alteration.</div> <div>NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA, DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:</div> <div>Pursuant to California Elections Code Section 9215(a), the City Council hereby adopts the initiative ordinance without alteration to reenact Chapter 5.127 and Sections 5.130.020, 5.130.030 and 5.130.050 of Chapter 5.130 and to add Section 5.130.170 to Chapter 5.130 of Title 5 of the West Hollywood Municipal Code to reenact the City's existing hotel worker protection and minimum wage ordinances and to prevent their future amendment without subsequent voter approval; which shall read as follows:</div> <div>SECTION 1. TITLE</div> <div>This measure shall be known and may be cited as the Hotel Worker Minimum Wage and Protection Ordinance (the "Ordinance").</div> <div>SECTION 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE</div> <div>The people of the City of West Hollywood hereby find and declare the following:</div> <div>Income equality is one of the most pressing economic and social issues facing the City of West Hollywood. By reenacting certain hotel worker protections and minimum wages, the City seeks to promote the health, safety, and welfare of thousands of hotel workers by ensuring they receive fair compensation for the work they perform.</div> <div>The purpose of this Ordinance is to reenact certain existing hotel worker protections in full through the popular vote. Reenacting these protections through the popular vote is intended to ensure that future city councils cannot repeal or amend these protections without the consent of the voters. Cal. Elec. Code § 9217. This Ordinance provides that a city council can amend the provisions of the Ordinance only to increase or enhance the hotel worker protections or benefits set forth herein. Nothing in this Ordinance shall be construed to prevent or otherwise impair a city council from enacting other measures, separate from the provisions of this Ordinance, that provide additional or different protections or benefits for hotel workers.</div> <div>SECTION 3. REENACTMENT AND AMENDMENT OF WEST HOLLYWOOD MUNICIPAL CODE, CHAPTER 5.127</div>	<div>Chapter 5.127, titled "Hotel Worker Protection," of Title 5 of the West Hollywood Municipal Code is reenacted in full and amended as follows (new text is shown by <u>underlining</u> and deleted text is shown by <del>strike</del>through):</div> <div>§ 5.127.010. Definitions.</div> <div>As used in this chapter:</div> <div>"Additional bed room" means a guest room with an additional bed or beds other than those regularly within the guest room, such as a cot or rollaway bed.</div> <div>"Adverse employment action" means an action that detrimentally and materially affects the terms, conditions, or privileges of employment, including but not limited to any act to discharge, reduce in compensation, reduce work hours, alter established work schedules, increase workload, impose fees or charges, or change duties of a hotel worker.</div> <div>"Affected hotel" means: (A) in the event of a change in control as defined in (4)(A) below, the hotel or discrete portion of the hotel that has been the subject of the change in control and remains in operation following the change in control; or (B) in the event of a change in control as defined in (4)(B) or (4)(C) below, the hotel that remains in operation following the change in control of that hotel. "Affected hotel" does not include portions of a hotel that are leased to third parties, or operated by third parties, for on-site services unaffiliated with the hotel employer's overnight lodging accommodations, including retail stores, spas, restaurants and bars.</div> <div>"Change in control" means:</div> <div>A) any sale, assignment, transfer, contribution, or other disposition of all or substantially all of the assets used in the operation of a hotel or a discrete portion of the hotel that continues in operation as a hotel;</div> <div>B) any sale, assignment, transfer, contribution, or other disposition of a controlling interest (including by consolidation, merger, or re-organization) of a hotel employer or any person who controls a hotel employer; or</div> <div>C) any other event or sequence of events (including a purchase, sale, lease, or termination of a management contract or lease) that causes the identity of the hotel employer at a hotel to change. For purposes of this chapter, a change in control shall be defined to occur on the date of execution of the document effectuating the change in control.</div> <div>"Checkout room" means a guest room to be cleaned by a hotel worker due to the departure of the guest assigned to that room.</div> <div>"City" means the City of West Hollywood.</div> <div>"City Manager" means the City Manager of West Hollywood, or designee.</div> <div>"Eligible hotel worker" means a hotel worker employed by an incumbent hotel employer at the time of a change in control and who has been so employed for at least two months prior to the change in control.</div> <div>"Emergency" means an immediate threat to public safety or of substantial risk of property loss or destruction.</div> <div>"Guest" means a registered guest of a hotel, a person occupying a guest room with a registered guest, or a visitor invited to a guest room by a registered guest or other person occupying a guest room.</div> <div>"Guest room" means any room or suite of rooms intended to be used by a guest of a hotel for sleeping purposes.</div> <div>"Hotel" means a commercial facility not approved as a dwelling unit with guest rooms or suites, provided with or without meals or kitchen facilities, rented to the general public for overnight or other lodging generally not intended to be the guest's domicile. Also, may include accessory guest facilities, such as, but not limited to, swimming pools, tennis courts, indoor athletic facilities, accessory retail uses and meeting facilities. This definition includes private clubs with guest rooms available for overnight lodging.</div> <div>"Hotel employer" means any person who owns, controls, or operates a hotel in the city, and includes any person or contractor who, in a managerial, supervisory, or confidential capacity, employs hotel workers to provide services at a hotel in conjunction with the hotel's purpose.</div> <div>"Hotel worker" means any person who is employed by a hotel employer to provide services at a hotel. "Hotel worker" does not include a managerial, supervisory or confidential employee.</div> <div>"Hotel worker retention period" means the period of time beginning on the date of a change in control and extending to ninety days from the first date that an affected hotel is open to the public after a change in control.</div> <div>"Incumbent hotel employer" means a hotel employer who owns, controls, or operates a hotel prior to a change in control of the hotel or of a discrete portion of the hotel that continues to operate as a hotel after the change in control.</div> <div>"Laid-off hotel worker" means any individual who, in a particular week, performs at least two hours of work within the geographic</div>	<div>boundaries of the city for a hotel employer, has a length of service with the hotel employer of six months or more in the twelve months preceding March 16, 2020, and whose most recent separation from active service, or failure to be scheduled for customary seasonal work, occurred on or after March 16, 2020, and before any termination of the Declaration of Emergency proclaimed by the City Council on March 16, 2020, and was due to a government shutdown order, lack of business, a reduction in force or other, economic, non-disciplinary reason. For purposes of this chapter, a laid-off employee does not include a manager, supervisor, or confidential employee.</div> <div>"Length of service" means the total of all periods of time during which an employee has been in active service, including periods of time when the employee was on leave or on vacation.</div> <div>"Personal security device" means a portable emergency contact device, including, but not limited to, a panic button, that is designed so that a hotel worker can quickly and easily activate such device to summon to the hotel worker's location prompt assistance by a hotel security officer, manager or supervisory hotel staff member designated by a hotel employer.</div> <div>"Room attendant" means a hotel worker whose principal duties are to clean and put in order guest rooms in a hotel.</div> <div>"Room cleaning" means the performance of services or tasks that are required to prepare or maintain the cleanliness of the physical hotel guest room before, during, or after a guest's stay. Room cleaning does not include tasks associated with preparing already-made beds for sleep, maintaining or delivering inventory (e.g. mini-bar, toiletries, towels, extra linens), or inspecting completed room cleaning. Room cleaning does not include preventative or as-needed maintenance activities such as repair, replacement, and general maintenance of appliances, electronics, furniture, doors, windows, carpets, walls, plumbing, and other fixtures. Making unmade beds, regardless of whether a change of linen is required, is not an excluded activity.</div> <div>"Successor hotel employer" means a hotel employer who owns, controls, or operates a hotel after a change in control.</div> <div>"Violent or threatening conduct" means: (A) any conduct that involves the use of physical violence or that would reasonably be interpreted as conveying a threat of the use of physical violence, and includes, but is not limited to, rape, assault (including sexual assault), and battery (including sexual battery), as defined by the California Penal Code, as well as any threat or attempt to commit such an act; or (B) any sexual conduct, or solicitation to engage in sexual conduct, directed by a guest at a hotel worker without the consent of the hotel worker and includes, but is not limited to, indecent exposure as defined by the California Penal Code.</div> <div>"Workday" means any consecutive twenty-four hour period commencing at the same time each calendar day.</div> <div>§ 5.127.020. Measures to Protect Hotel Workers from Violent or Threatening Conduct.</div> <div>a. Personal Security Devices.</div> <div>1. A hotel employer shall provide a personal security device to each hotel worker assigned to work in a guest room or restroom facility where other hotel workers are not present in the guest room or restroom facility. The personal security device shall be provided at no cost to the hotel worker.</div> <div>2. A hotel worker may activate a personal security device whenever a hotel worker reasonably believes that violent or threatening conduct or an emergency is occurring in the hotel worker's presence. Immediately prior to or upon activating the device, the hotel worker may cease work and leave the immediate area of danger to await assistance. No hotel worker shall be subject to an adverse employment action for activating a personal security device or for ceasing work to await assistance absent clear and convincing evidence that the hotel worker knowingly and intentionally made a false claim of emergency.</div> <div>3. A hotel employer shall assign a security guard, manager, or supervisory hotel staff member to provide immediate on-scene assistance in the event that a personal security device is activated.</div> <div>b. Hotel Workers' Rights. A hotel worker who brings to the attention of a hotel employer violent or threatening conduct by a hotel guest shall be afforded the following rights:</div> <div>1. A hotel employer shall immediately allow a hotel worker sufficient paid time to report the violent or threatening conduct to a law enforcement agency and to consult with a counselor or advisor of the hotel worker's choice.</div> <div>2. A hotel employer shall not prevent, or attempt to prevent, a hotel worker from reporting violent or threatening conduct to a law enforcement agency.</div> <div>3. A hotel employer shall not take or threaten to take any adverse employment action against a hotel worker based on the hotel worker's decision not to report violent or threatening conduct to a law enforcement agency.</div> <div>4. Upon request by a hotel worker, a hotel employer shall provide reasonable accommodations to a hotel worker who has been subjected to violent or threaten-</div>
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<p>ing conduct. Reasonable accommodations may include, but are not limited to, a modified work schedule, reassignment to a vacant position, or other reasonable adjustment to job structure, workplace facility, or work requirements.</p> <p>c. <i>Notice.</i> A hotel employer shall place on the back of the entrance door to each guest room and restroom facility in a hotel a sign written in a font size of no less than eighteen points, that includes the heading “The Law Protects Hotel Workers From Threatening Behavior,” provides a citation to this chapter of the West Hollywood Municipal Code, and notifies guests that the hotel employer provides personal security devices to its employees.</p> <p>d.<i>Training.</i> A hotel employer shall provide training to its hotel workers regarding how to use and maintain a personal security device, the hotel employer’s protocol for responding to activation of a personal security device, and the rights of hotel workers and obligations of the hotel employer as set forth in this section. Such training shall be provided to hotel workers on the later of the effective date of this chapter or within one month of the hotel worker’s date of hire.</p> <p>e. <i>Records.</i> A hotel employer shall retain records of incidents where the personal security devices were activated for a period of three years from the incident.</p> <p><b>§ 5.127.030. Measures to Provide Fair Compensation for Workload.</b></p> <p>a. <i>Workload.</i> For hotels with fewer than forty guest rooms, a hotel employer shall not require a room attendant to clean rooms amounting to a total of more than four thousand square feet of floor space in any eight-hour workday, unless the hotel employer pays the room attendant twice the room attendant’s regular rate of pay for each and every hour worked during the workday. For hotels with forty or more guest rooms, a hotel employer shall not require a room attendant to clean rooms amounting to a total of more than three thousand five hundred square feet of floor space in any eight hour workday, unless the hotel employer pays the room attendant twice the room attendant’s regular rate of pay for each and every hour worked during the workday. If a room attendant is assigned to clean seven or more checkout room or additional bed rooms during any eight-hour workday, each such checkout room or additional bed room shall for purposes of this subsection count as five hundred square feet, regardless of the actual square footage of each room.</p> <p>The limitations contained herein apply to any combination of spaces, including guest rooms, meeting rooms, and other rooms within the hotel, and apply regardless of the furniture, equipment, or amenities in such rooms.</p> <p>b. <i>Workload Proration.</i> The workload amount set forth in subsection (a) shall be reduced on a prorated basis if a room attendant works less than eight hours in a workday, shall be increased on a prorated basis for each hour of overtime that a room attendant works in excess of eight hours in a workday, and shall be calculated on a prorated basis by room attendant if a room attendant is assigned to clean rooms jointly with one or more other room attendants.</p> <p>c. <i>Voluntary Overtime.</i> A hotel employer shall not require or permit a hotel worker to work more than ten hours in a workday unless the hotel worker consents in writing to do so. A hotel worker’s consent shall not be valid unless the hotel employer has advised the hotel worker in writing seven days prior to the hotel worker’s consent that the hotel worker may decline to work more than ten hours in a workday and that the hotel employer will not subject the hotel worker to any adverse employment action for declining to work more than ten hours in a workday. This subsection shall not apply in the event of an emergency.</p> <p>d. <i>Preservation of Records.</i> Each hotel employer shall maintain for at least three years a record of each room attendant’s name, rate of pay, pay received, rooms cleaned or total square footage cleaned for each workday, overtime hours worked for each workday, and any written consents provided pursuant to subsection (c) above. A hotel employer shall make these records available for inspection and copying to any hotel worker or hotel worker’s employee representative, except that the names and other personally identifying information of individual hotel workers shall be redacted except to the extent that the records identify the hotel worker who is making the request.</p> <p><b>§ 5.127.040. Right of Hotel Worker Recall.</b></p> <p>a. <i>Notice to Laid-Off Hotel Workers.</i> A hotel employer must offer its laid-off hotel workers in writing, by mailing to their last known physical address, and by email and text message to the extent the hotel employer possesses such information, all job positions which become available after this chapter’s effective date for which the laid-off hotel workers are qualified. A laid-off hotel worker is qualified for a position if the employee:</p> <div><div><div>1. Held the same or similar position at the site of employment at the time of the laid-off hotel employee’s most recent separation from active service with the hotel employer; or</div><div>2. Is or can be qualified for the position with the same training that would be provided to a new hotel worker hired into that position.</div></div></div> <p>b. <i>Preference.</i> The hotel employer must offer positions to laid-off hotel workers in an order of preference corresponding to categories (1) and (2) in the preceding sentence. Where more than one hotel worker is entitled to preference for a position, the hotel employer must offer the position to the laid-off hotel worker with the greatest</p>	<p>length of service for the hotel employer.</p> <p>c. <i>Offer Acceptance or Declination.</i> A laid-off hotel worker who is offered a position pursuant to this chapter must be given no less than ten business days in which to accept or decline the offer. A hotel employer may make simultaneous, conditional offers of employment to laid-off hotel workers, with the final offer of employment conditioned on application of the priority system set forth in subsection (b) of this section.</p> <p>d. <i>Notice of Non-Selection.</i> A hotel employer that declines to recall a laid-off hotel worker on the grounds of lack of qualifications and instead hires someone other than the laid-off hotel worker must provide the laid-off hotel worker a written notice of the non-selection within thirty days of the date of hire documenting the reasons for such decision. The written record must be retained for no less than three years and made available to the city or laid-off hotel worker upon request.</p> <p>e. <i>Notice of Rights.</i> A hotel employer must provide each laid-off hotel worker with a written notice of the date of their lay off and their rights under this chapter. The hotel employer must provide such written notice within thirty days of the effective date of this chapter, if the layoff took place before that date, or at the time of the layoff if the layoff occurs after that date. Such notice shall be provided in person or to the laid-off hotel worker’s last known mailing address, and by email to the extent the hotel employer possesses that information.</p> <p>f. <i>Records Retention.</i> A hotel employer must retain the following records for at least three years regarding each laid-off hotel worker: the employee’s full legal name; the employee’s job classification at the time of separation from employment; the employee’s date of hire; the employee’s last known address of residence; the employee’s last known email address; the employee’s last known telephone number; and a copy of the written notice regarding the layoff provided to the employee. For purpose of this chapter, the three years is measured from the date of the written notice provided under subsection (d), above.</p> <p>g. <i>Effect of Sale or Assignment.</i> The provisions of this section also apply when the ownership of the hotel employer changes due to a sale, assignment transfer, or other disposition of substantially all assets of the hotel employer, after the laid-off hotel worker separates from employment provided the enterprise is conducting the same or similar operation as before the sale or assignment.</p> <p>h. Notwithstanding the definitions in this chapter, the City Council may by resolution apply the terms of this section to future periods of declared local emergency, or other periods of government shut down order, significant economic downturns or other similar events that result in significant economic, non-disciplinary layoffs.</p> <p><b>§ 5.127.050. Hotel Worker Retention.</b></p> <p>a. <i>Notice of Change in Control.</i> Within five days of a change in control, a successor hotel employer shall post written notice of the change in control at the location of the affected hotel. This written notice shall remain posted during any closure of the affected hotel and for six months following the first date on which the affected hotel is open to the public under the successor hotel employer. This written notice shall include, but not be limited to, the name and contact information of the incumbent hotel employer, the name and contact information of the successor hotel employer, and the effective date of the change in control. This written notice shall be posted in a conspicuous place at the affected hotel and shall be readily visible to eligible hotel workers, other employees, and applicants for employment.</p> <p>b. <i>Eligible Hotel Worker Recall.</i> Within fifteen days of a change in control, an incumbent hotel employer shall provide a successor hotel employer with a list of eligible hotel workers. This list shall include the name, date of hire, and job classification of each eligible hotel worker. A successor hotel employer shall be required to maintain and hire from this list during the hotel worker retention period. A successor hotel employer shall, during the hotel worker retention period, offer each eligible hotel worker employment for no less than ninety days, except that:</p> <div><div><div>1. A successor hotel employer shall not be required to offer employment to an eligible hotel worker if the successor hotel employer has reasonable and substantiated cause not to retain that eligible hotel worker based on that eligible hotel worker’s individual performance or conduct while employed by the incumbent hotel employer; and</div><div>2. If a successor hotel employer determines during the hotel worker retention period that it requires fewer hotel workers than were required by the incumbent hotel employer, the successor hotel employer shall retain eligible hotel workers pursuant to the terms of a relevant collective bargaining agreement, if any, or by seniority and experience within each job classification to the extent that comparable job classifications exist.</div></div></div> <p>c. <i>Terms and Conditions of Employment.</i> An eligible hotel worker retained pursuant to this section shall be employed under terms and conditions established by the successor hotel employer as required by law and shall not be discharged except for good cause based on individual performance or conduct.</p> <p>d. <i>Offer.</i> An offer of employment made pursuant to subsection (b) shall be made in writing and shall remain open for at least ten business days from the date of the offer.</p> <p>e. <i>Verification.</i> A successor hotel employer shall retain written veri-</p>	<p>fication of each offer of employment made pursuant to subsection (b). This verification shall include the name, address, date of hire, and job classification of the eligible hotel worker to whom the offer was made. A successor hotel employer shall retain the required verification for no less than three years from the date the offer is made.</p> <p>f. <i>Performance Evaluation.</i> At the end of the hotel worker retention period, a successor hotel employer shall provide each hotel worker retained pursuant to this section with a written performance evaluation. If the hotel worker’s performance was satisfactory, the successor hotel employer shall consider offering the hotel worker continued employment under the terms and conditions established by the successor hotel employer and as required by law. A successor hotel employer shall retain the written performance evaluation required under this subsection for no less than three years from the date it is issued.</p> <p>g. <i>Exceptions.</i> The rights to retention set forth in this section do not apply to any managerial, supervisory, or confidential employee, and do not include the right to retain any supervisory or management responsibility upon recall.</p> <p><b>§ 5.127.060. Public Housekeeping Training.</b></p> <p>a. Certification and Designation. The City Manager shall establish a process whereby the city will certify and designate at least one “Public Housekeeping Training Organization.” The certification and designation of the Public Housekeeping Training Organization shall be carried out by the City Manager subject to ratification by the City Council.</p> <p>b. Requirements. In order to become certified as a designated Public Housekeeping Training Organization, the organization shall meet requirements set forth by the City Manager that shall include, but not be limited to, the following:</p> <div><div><div>1. The Public Housekeeping Training Organization must have experience providing training to hotel workers or immigrant low-wage workers, utilize interactive teaching strategies that engage across multiple literacy levels, and provide trainers and educators who are culturally competent and fluent in the language or languages that hotel workers understand.</div><div>2. The Public Housekeeping Training Organization shall offer a “Public Housekeeping Training Program” that includes no less than six hours of training, including live and interactive instruction, on the following elements, except that the City Manager may determine that any element below is separately and sufficiently required by state or local law, in which case the element may be eliminated and the total training time reduced accordingly:</div></div><div><div><div>A. Hotel worker rights and hotel employer responsibilities under this chapter;</div><div>B.Best practices for identifying and responding to suspected instances of human trafficking, domestic violence, or violent or threatening conduct;</div><div>C. Best practices for effective cleaning techniques to prevent the spread of disease;</div><div>D.Best practices for identifying and avoiding insect or vermin infestations; and</div><div>E. Best practices for identifying and responding to the presence of other potential criminal activity.</div></div></div><p>3. The Public Housekeeping Training Organization may coordinate with a hotel employer to ensure that training content aligns where appropriate with the hotel employer’s policies and procedures. Ultimate discretion regarding training content shall remain with the Public Housekeeping Training Organization, subject to requirements set forth by the City Manager.</p><p>4. The Public Housekeeping Training Organization shall administer a “Public Housekeeping Examination” to hotel workers who complete its training program. The Public Housekeeping Examination shall test basic proficiency in the required training elements.</p><p>5. The Public Housekeeping Training Organization shall promptly issue a “Public Housekeeping Certificate” to any person who successfully completes its Public Housekeeping Training Program and Public Housekeeping Examination. A Public Housekeeping Certificate shall be valid for a period of five years.</p><p>6. The Public Housekeeping Training Organization shall offer a right of review to an individual who completes the Public Housekeeping Training Program but does not successfully complete the Public Housekeeping Examination.</p><p>c. <i>Training Program.</i> A hotel employer shall contract with a certified Public Housekeeping Training Organization to, no less than annually, conduct a Public Housekeeping Training Program, administer a Public Housekeeping Examination, and issue a Public Housekeeping Certificate to each person who has successfully completed the Public Housekeeping Training Program and Public</p></div>
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<p>Housekeeping Examination. A hotel employer shall document compliance with the training requirement set forth in this section by completing and signing a form as required by the city to certify that the training was conducted. The Public Housekeeping Training Organization that provides such a training shall submit a report to the city within five days of the training to document the date on which the training was held and the names of all hotel workers who received Public Housekeeping Certificates.</p> <p>d. <i>Certificate.</i> No hotel employer shall employ a hotel worker to work as a room attendant for more than one hundred twenty days unless the hotel worker presents the hotel employer with a valid Public Housekeeping Certificate.</p> <p>e.<i>Records.</i> Each hotel employer shall retain records sufficient to demonstrate compliance with this section, including a copy of a valid Public Housekeeping Certificate for each hotel worker then assigned to work as a room attendant.</p> <p><b>§ 5.127.070. Limited Waiver for Certain Hotel Employers.</b></p> <p>a. <i>Waiver Application.</i> The City Manager shall grant a waiver from the requirements of this chapter to any hotel employer who demonstrates that compliance with this chapter would require the hotel employer, in order to avoid bankruptcy or a shutdown of the hotel employer's hotel, to reduce its workforce by more than twenty percent or curtail its hotel workers' total hours by more than thirty percent. The City Manager shall grant such a waiver only after reviewing a hotel employer's financial condition at the hotel employer's expense. A waiver granted under this section shall be valid for no more than one year. A determination by the City Manager to grant or deny a request for waiver under this section may be appealed to a hearing examiner in accordance with established city practices for hearing examiner review.</p> <p>b. <i>Notice of Waiver Application.</i> Prior to submitting a waiver application pursuant to this section, a hotel employer shall provide written notice of the waiver application to all hotel workers employed by the hotel employer. Within three days of receiving a waiver determination from the City Manager under this section, a hotel employer shall provide written notice of the determination to all hotel workers employed by the hotel employer.</p> <p><b>§ 5.127.080. Notice.</b></p> <p>A hotel employer shall provide written notice of the hotel workers' rights set forth in this chapter to each hotel worker at the time of hire or on the effective date of this chapter, whichever is later. Such written notice shall be provided in English, Spanish, and any other language spoken by five percent or more of the hotel workers employed by the hotel employer.</p> <p><b>§ 5.127.090. Retaliatory Action Prohibited.</b></p> <p>No person shall take an adverse employment action against a hotel worker for exercising rights protected under this chapter. There shall be a rebuttable presumption that an adverse employment action taken against a hotel worker within ninety days of the hotel worker's exercise of rights under this chapter was taken in retaliation for the exercise of such rights.</p> <p><b>§ 5.127.100. Administrative Regulations.</b></p> <p>The City Manager is hereby authorized to promulgate and enforce administrative regulations in the implementation and enforcement of this chapter. Violations of the administrative regulations adopted pursuant to this section shall constitute violations of this chapter and shall subject the violator to the penalties set forth in this chapter.</p> <p><b>§ 5.127.110. Supersession by Collective Bargaining Agreement.</b></p> <p>The provisions of the following sections, or any part thereof, may be waived pursuant to a bona fide collective bargaining agreement, but only if the waiver is expressly set forth in clear and unambiguous written terms:</p> <p>a. Measures to provide fair compensation for workload (Section 5.128.030);</p> <p>b. Right of hotel worker recall (Section 5.128.040); and</p> <p>c. Hotel worker retention (Section 5.128.050).</p> <p>Neither party to a collective bargaining relationship may waive or supersede any provision of this chapter by means of unilaterally imposed terms and conditions of employment.</p> <p><b>§ 5.127.120. Civil Remedies.</b></p> <p>a. <i>Civil Action.</i> The city or any aggrieved person may enforce the provisions of this chapter by means of a civil action.</p> <p>b. <i>Injunction.</i> Any person who commits an act, proposes to commit an act, or engages in any pattern or practice that violates this chapter may be enjoined therefrom by a court of competent jurisdiction. An action for injunction under this subsection may be brought by any aggrieved person, by the City Attorney, or by any person or entity who will fairly and adequately represent the interests of an aggrieved person or persons.</p> <p>c. <i>Damages and Penalties.</i> Any person who violates the provisions of this chapter is liable for any actual damages suffered by any aggrieved person or for statutory damages up to the</p>	<p>amount of \$100 per aggrieved person per day, except that statutory damages for failure to maintain records shall not exceed \$1,000 per day in total. For willful violations, the amount of monies and penalties to be paid under this subsection shall be trebled.</p> <p>d. <i>Attorneys' Fees and Costs.</i> In a civil action brought under this section, the court shall award the prevailing party reasonable attorneys' fees and costs, including expert witness fees, except that, notwithstanding Section 998 of the Code of Civil Procedure, a prevailing defendant shall not be awarded fees and costs unless the court finds the action was frivolous, unreasonable, or groundless when brought, or the plaintiff continued to litigate after it clearly became so.</p> <p>e. <i>Cumulative Remedies.</i> The remedies set forth in this chapter are cumulative. Nothing in this chapter shall be interpreted as restricting, precluding, or otherwise limiting a separate or concurrent criminal prosecution under this code or state law.</p> <p><b>§ 5.127.130. Amendments</b></p> <p>This chapter may not be repealed or amended without approval of the voters of the City of West Hollywood, except that the City Council is authorized to amend this chapter only to the extent the amendment strengthens, enhances, or expands upon the protections or benefits this chapter provides for employees.</p> <p><b>SECTION 4. REENACTMENT OF PORTIONS OF WEST HOLLYWOOD MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 5.130.020</b></p> <p>Subsections (a), (b)(1), and (c)(1) of Section 5.130.020 in Chapter 5.130 of Article 5 of Title 5 of the West Hollywood Municipal Code are substantively reenacted as follows. The remaining subsections of Section 5.130.020 are restated for technical purposes only.</p> <p><b>§ 5.130.020. Minimum Wage Payment Requirements.</b></p> <p>a. On January 1, 2022, the established minimum wage rate in West Hollywood is \$17.64 per hour, as increased in accordance with subsection (c) below.</p> <p>b. The minimum wage rate goes into effect according to the following schedule:</p> <p>1. As of January 1, 2022, hotel employers shall pay hotel workers a wage of no less than the established minimum wage rate as set out in subsection (a). The paid sick leave, vacation, or personal necessity time set out in Section 5.130.030 goes into effect for these hotel workers on this date. For purposes of this subsection, the following definitions apply:</p> <p>“Hotel” means a commercial facility not approved as a dwelling unit with guest rooms or suites, provided with or without meals or kitchen facilities, rented to the general public for overnight or other lodging generally not intended to be the guest's domicile. Also, may include accessory guest facilities such as, but not limited to, swimming pools, tennis courts, indoor athletic facilities, accessory retail uses and meeting facilities. This definition includes private clubs with guest rooms available for overnight lodging. “Hotel” includes any contracted, leased, or sublet premises connected to or operated in conjunction with the hotel's purpose.</p> <p>“Hotel employer” means any person who owns, controls, or operates a hotel in the city, and includes any person or contractor who, in a managerial, supervisory, or confidential capacity, employs hotel workers to provide services at a hotel in conjunction with the hotel's purpose. “Hotel employer” includes a person or entity who owns, controls, and/or operates any contracted, leased or sublet premises connected to or operated in conjunction with the hotel's purpose, or a person or entity who provides services at the hotel.</p> <p>“Hotel worker” means any individual whose primary place of employment is at one or more hotels and who is employed directly by the hotel employer, or by a person who has contracted with the hotel employer to provide services at the hotel. “Hotel worker” includes an employee who works in a restaurant or food and beverage service at a hotel, regardless of whether the restaurant is hotel-owned or operates out of a contracted, leased, or sublet space in a hotel. Except for purposes of implementing this schedule in Section 5.130.020(b), in all other subsections of this section and throughout the rest of this chapter, “hotel employer” is included in the definition of “employer,” and “hotel worker” is included in the definition of “employee”:</p> <p>2. Employers with Fifty Employees or More.</p> <p>A. On January 1, 2022, employers with fifty employees or more shall pay employees no less than the hourly wage of \$15.50 per hour.</p> <p>B. On July 1, 2022, employers with fifty employees or more shall pay employees no less than the hourly wage of \$16.50 per hour. The paid sick leave, vacation, or personal necessity time set out in Section 5.130.030 does not go into effect for these employees until this date.</p> <p>C. On January 1, 2023, employers with fifty employees or more shall pay employees no less than the hourly wage of \$17.50 per hour.</p>	<p>D. On July 1, 2023, employers with fifty employees or more shall pay employees the established minimum wage rate under subsection (a).</p> <p>3. Employers with Less Than Fifty Employees.</p> <p>A. On January 1, 2022, employers with less than fifty employees shall pay employees no less than the hourly wage of \$15 per hour.</p> <p>B. On July 1, 2022, employers with less than fifty employees shall pay employees no less than the hourly wage of \$16 per hour. The paid sick leave, vacation, or personal necessity time set out in Section 5.130.030 does not go into effect for these employees until this date.</p> <p>C. On January 1, 2023, employers with less than fifty employees shall pay employees no less than the hourly wage of seventeen dollars (\$17.00) per hour.</p> <p>D. On July 1, 2023, employers with less than fifty employees shall pay employees the established minimum wage rate under subsection (a).</p> <p>c. Annual Increases.</p> <p>1. For hotel employers, on July 1, 2022 and annually thereafter, the minimum wage rate identified in subsection (a) of this section will increase based on the CPI-W, as determined by the applicable location index determined and adopted by City Council resolution. The city shall announce the adjusted rates annually on or before each April 1 and publish a bulletin announcing the adjusted rates, which shall also take effect on July 1 of each year.</p> <p>2. For all other employers (excluding hotel employers), on July 1, 2023, the minimum wage rate identified in subsection (a) of this section will increase based on the CPI-W, as determined by the applicable location index determined and adopted by City Council resolution. On January 1, 2025, the minimum wage rate identified in subsection (a) of this section will increase based on the average of the twelve-month percent change for each of the eighteen months from January 2023 to June 2024 of the CPI- W, as determined by the applicable location index determined and adopted by City Council resolution. On January 1, 2026 and annually thereafter, the minimum wage rate identified in subsection (a) of this section will increase based on the average of the twelve-month percent change for each of the twelve months from July to June of the prior year of the CPI-W, as determined by the applicable location index determined and adopted by City Council resolution. The city shall announce the adjusted rates annually on or before each October 1 and publish a bulletin announcing the adjusted rates, which shall also take effect on January 1 of the next year.</p> <p>3. Employees who are learners, as defined in Labor Code Section 1192 and consistent with wage orders published by the California Industrial Welfare Commission, shall be paid not less than eighty-five percent of the minimum wage rounded to the nearest nickel during their first one hundred sixty hours of employment, after which learners shall be paid the applicable minimum wage pursuant to this section.</p> <p>d. Every employer shall post in a conspicuous place at any workplace or job site where any employee works, the bulletin published each year by the city informing employees of the current minimum wage rate and of their rights under this chapter. Every employer shall post notices in English, Spanish, and any other language spoken by at least five percent of the employees. Every employer shall also provide to each employee at the time of hire, the employer's name, address, and telephone number in writing.</p> <p>e. Every employer shall retain payroll records pertaining to employees for no less than three years.</p> <p>f. For purposes of this section:</p> <p>1. Multiple employers that form a single integrated enterprise shall be considered a single employer under this section if so deemed under the Fair Labor Standards Act.</p> <p>2.The number of employees shall be determined as follows:</p> <p>A. For existing employers, the number of employees shall be calculated based on the average number of employees employed per quarter ending the most recent calendar year.</p> <p>B. For new employers, an initial determination of size shall be based upon the actual number of hires at the time of the business's opening. After the business has opened, the employee count shall be determined by the average number of employees per week who worked for compensation in the first ninety days.</p> <p>C. The number of employees shall be determined using the employer's total number of individual employees</p>
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<p>within the United States, regardless of where those employees work.</p>		
<p><b>SECTION 5. REENACTMENT OF WEST HOLLYWOOD MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 5.130.030</b></p>		
<p>Section 5.130.030 in Chapter 5.130 of Article 5 of Title 5 of the West Hollywood Municipal Code is reenacted in full as follows:</p>		
<p><b>§ 5.130.030 Paid Sick Leave, Vacation, or Personal Necessity.</b></p>		
<p>a. Employers shall provide at least ninety-six compensated hours off per year for sick leave, vacation, or personal necessity to full time employees to be made available at the employee’s request.</p>		
<p>1. A full time employee is classified as someone who works at least forty hours a week or in accordance with the employer’s policies, if more generous. A full time employee shall accrue at least ninety-six/fifty-two hours of compensated time off each week in a calendar year that the employee has been employed by the employer. Compensated time off does not accrue for work in excess of forty hours a week. Full time employees that work less than forty hours a week will receive the compensated time off in proportional increments.</p>		
<p>2. A part time employee is classified as someone who works less than forty hours per week or in accordance with the employer’s policies, if more generous. A part time employee shall accrue compensated time off in increments proportional to that accrued by someone who works forty hours a week, in accordance with subparagraph (1) of this subsection.</p>		
<p>3. General Rules for Compensated Time Off.</p>		
<p>A. An employee must be eligible to use accrued paid compensated time off after the first six months of employment or consistent with company policies, whichever is sooner.</p>		
<p>B. An employer may not unreasonably deny an employee’s request to use the accrued compensated time off.</p>		
<p>C. Unused accrued compensated time off will carry over until the time off reaches a maximum of one hundred ninety-two hours unless the employer’s established policy is more generous.</p>		
<p>D. An employer may not implement any employment policy to count accrued compensated time off taken under this section as an absence that may result in discipline, discharge, suspension, or any other adverse action.</p>		
<p>b. Employers shall also permit full time employees to take at least eighty additional hours per year of uncompensated time off to be used for sick leave for the illness of the employee or a member of his or her immediate family where the employee has exhausted his or her compensated time off for that year.</p>		
<p>1. A full time employee is classified as someone who works at least forty hours a week or in accordance with the employer’s policies, if more generous. A full time employee shall accrue at least eighty/fifty-two hours of uncompensated time off each week in a calendar year that the employee has been employed by the employer. Uncompensated time off does not accrue for work in excess of forty hours a week. Full time employees that work less than forty hours a week will receive the uncompensated time off in proportional increments.</p>		
<p>2. A part time employee is classified as someone who works less than forty hours per week or in accordance with the employer’s policies, if more generous. A part time employee shall accrue uncompensated time off in increments proportional to that accrued by someone who works forty hours a week, in accordance with subparagraph (1) of this subsection.</p>		
<p>3.General Rules for Uncompensated Time Off.</p>		
<p>A. An employee must be eligible to use accrued uncompensated time off after the first six months of employment or consistent with company policies, whichever is sooner.</p>		
<p>B. An employer may not unreasonably deny an employee’s request to use the accrued uncompensated time off.</p>		
<p>C. Unused accrued uncompensated time off will carry over until the time off reaches a maximum of eighty hours, unless the employer’s established policy is more generous.</p>		
<p>D. An employer may not implement any employment policy to count uncompensated time off taken under this section as an absence that may result in discipline, discharge, suspension, or any other adverse action.</p>		
<p><b>SECTION 6. REENACTMENT OF WEST HOLLYWOOD MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 5.130.050</b></p>		
<p>Section 5.130.050 in Chapter 5.130 of Article 5 of Title 5 of the West Hollywood Municipal Code is reenacted in full as follows:</p>		
<p><b>§ 5.130.050. Service Charges.</b></p>		
<p>A. Service Charges. Employers shall distribute all service charges in their entirety to the employee(s) who performed services for the customers from whom the service charges are collected. No part of these amounts may be paid to employees whose primary role is supervisory or managerial. No employer or agent thereof shall deduct any amount from wages or other compensation required by this chapter due an employee on account of a service charge or require an employee to credit the amount of a service charge, in whole or in part, against and as a part of the wages or other compensation required by this chapter due the employee.</p>		
<p>1. Amounts collected as service charges shall be paid to employee(s) equitably and according to the services that are or appear to be related to the description of the amounts given by the employer to the customers. Employees whose roles are primarily non-managerial or non-supervisory, and who directly or indirectly contributed to the chain of services performed for the customers from whom the service charge is collected, may share in the distribution of the service charge amounts. Except as otherwise required by law, amounts collected as healthcare-related surcharges shall be: (A) deposited within seven days of their collection into segregated accounts controlled exclusively by employees, including, but not limited to, flexible spending accounts, health savings accounts, or premium-only cafeteria plans; or (B) paid to employees in wages. No part of any amount collected as a surcharge for healthcare, or any other employee benefit shall revert to the employer.</p>		
<p>2. Notwithstanding the foregoing:</p>		
<p>A. Amounts collected for hotel banquets or hotel-catered meetings shall be paid to the employees who actually work at the banquet or catered meeting;</p>		
<p>B. Amounts collected for hotel room service shall be paid to the employees who actually deliver food and beverage associated with the charge; and</p>		
<p>C. Amounts collected for hotel portage service shall be paid to the employees who actually carry the baggage associated with the charge; provided, however, that employers that had, prior to the effective date of this chapter, an existing practice of pooling and distributing the amounts specified in this subdivision to non-management/non-supervisory employees other than the above listed employees in subdivisions (a) through (c) may continue such practice to the same extent.</p>		
<p>c. All service charges must be disclosed to consumers with clear and conspicuous notice prior to the time that the customer makes a purchase or selection, in such a way that customers might easily and reasonably deduce what the service charge is for.</p>		
<p>d. If an employer characterizes and separately designates a service charge as optional, the designation must be written in a manner that requires the customer to affirmatively add the optional payments. The employer shall not automatically add such optional payment amounts to a customer receipt, invoice, or billing statement in a manner that requires the customer to affirmatively opt out of paying such amounts.</p>		
<p>e. The employer shall disclose in writing to each employee its plan of distribution of service charges and shall report to employees on each payroll date on the amount of service charges collected and amounts distributed to employees for the pay period in question.</p>		
<p>f. The amounts shall be paid to the employees no later than the next payroll following collection of the amounts from customers, except that any amounts collected in cash shall be paid to employees at the close of business on the day the amounts are collected.</p>		
<p>h. An employer that permits customers to pay service charges by credit card shall pay the employees the full amount of the service charge that the customer indicated on the credit card slip, without any deductions for any credit card payment processing fees or costs that may be charged to the employer by the credit card company.</p>		
<p>i. The employer shall keep records showing compliance with the provisions of this section for no less than three years from the date of collection of service charge amounts from the customer.</p>		
<p>j. This section does not apply to any tip, gratuity, money, or part of any tip, gratuity, or money that has been paid or given to or left for an employee by customers over and above the actual amount due for services rendered or for goods, food, drink, or articles sold or served to customers.</p>		
<p><b>SECTION 7. CREATION OF WEST HOLLYWOOD MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 5.130.070</b></p>		
<p><b>Section 5.130.170 in Chapter 5.130 of Article 5 of Title 5 of the West Hollywood Municipal Code is created as follows:</b></p>		
<p><b><u>§ 5.130.170. Amendments.</u></b></p>		
<p>Subsection (a), paragraph (1) of subsection (b), and paragraph (1) of subsection (c) of section 5.130.020, section 5.130.030, and section 5.130.050, may not be repealed or amended without approval of the voters of the City of West Hollywood, except that the City Council is authorized to amend those provisions only to the extent the amendment strengthens, enhances, or expands upon the protections or benefits those provisions provide for employees.</p>		
<p><b>SECTION 8. SEVERABILITY</b></p>		
<p>If any section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance or any part thereof is for any reason held to be invalid, unlawful or unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance, or any part thereof. The City Council of the City of West Hollywood hereby declare that they would have passed each section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, subdivisions, paragraphs, sentences, clauses or phrases be declared unconstitutional.</p>		
<p><b>SECTION 9. CONFLICTING MEASURES</b></p>		
<p>This measure is intended to be comprehensive. It is the intent of the people of the City of West Hollywood that, should this measure and one or more measures relating to improving and protecting the welfare and/or setting the minimum wage of employees at hotels appear on the same ballot, the provisions of the other measure or measures shall be deemed to conflict with this measure. In the event that this measure receives a greater number of <u>affirmative votes</u>, the provisions of this measure shall prevail in their entirety, and all provisions of the other measure or measures shall be null and void.</p>		
<p><b>SECTION 10. LIBERAL CONSTRUCTION</b></p>		
<p>This measure <u>is an exercise</u> of the initiative power of the people of the City of West Hollywood to implement the hotel worker protections and minimum wage increases set forth in the Ordinance, and it shall be liberally construed to effectuate these purposes.”</p>		
<p><b>SECTION 11. Effective Date.</b> Pursuant to California Elections Code Section 9215(a), the City Council hereby adopts this initiative <u>Ordinance and it shall go</u> into effect thirty (30) days after adoption.</p>		
<p><b>SECTION 12. CEQA.</b> The City Council hereby finds and determines that adoption of this Measure is not a discretionary action of the City Council within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) and the State CEQA Guidelines and is, therefore, not subject to CEQA review. See: Tuolumne Jobs and Small Business Alliancev. Superior Court, (2014) 59 Cal. 4<sup>th</sup> 1029.</p>		
<p><b>SECTION 13. Publication.</b> The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this Ordinance and cause publication to occur in a newspaper of general circulation <u>which is published and circulated</u> in the City in a manner permitted under State law.</p>		
<p>PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the <u>City Council of the City of West</u> Hollywood at a regular meeting held this 18th day of November, 2024 by the following vote:</p>		
<p>AYES: Councilmember: Heilman, Meister, Shyne, Vice Mayor Byers, and Mayor Erickson. NOES: Councilmember: None. ABSENT: Councilmember: None. ABSTAIN: Councilmember: None.</p>		
<p>//John M. Erickson// JOHN M. ERICKSON, MAYOR</p>		
<p>ATTEST: //Melissa Crowder// MELISSA CROWDER, CITY CLERK</p>		
<p>STATE OF CALIFORNIA ) COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ) CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD )</p>		
<p>I, Melissa Crowder, City Clerk of the City of West Hollywood, do hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance No. 24-33 was duly passed, approved, and adopted by the City Council of the City of West Hollywood at a regular meeting held on the 18th day of November 2024.</p>		
<p>I further certify that this ordinance was posted in three public places as provided for in Ordinance No. 24-03, adopted the 20<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2024.</p>		
<p>WITNESS MY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL THIS 18<sup>th</sup> DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2024.</p>		
<p>MELISSA CROWDER, CITY CLERK</p>		



# Christmas trees ‘Jingle’ into Los Angeles

Mr. Jingles Christmas Trees is excited to welcome customers for the 2024 holiday season, offering a full suite of services including in-person shopping, online ordering, home delivery, drop-off, installation and tree removal. Established in 2012, Mr. Jingles is a second-generation, family-owned Christmas tree business with locations across Los Angeles. Each holiday season, Mr. Jingles sources freshly cut trees directly from farms in Oregon, Washington, North Carolina, Wisconsin and Canada, ensuring the highest quality for each customer. Locations will open on Nov. 23.

This year, customers can shop in-store or conveniently order online for pickup or delivery, making it easier than ever to find the perfect tree. Mr. Jingles also offers professional delivery and installation services for indoor and outdoor venues

such as office buildings, restaurants, shopping centers, and local businesses. For larger venues, Mr. Jingles provides commercial-grade fireproofing and tagging, ensuring that each space is safe and ready for the season.

Mr. Jingles Christmas Trees is the ultimate destination for holiday decorating needs. Whether customers prefer to shop in person or from the comfort of home, Mr. Jingles offers a wide selection, including six types of fresh Christmas trees ranging from two to over 20 feet, as well as fresh wreaths, garlands, mistletoe (available at select locations), lights and ornaments. To ensure a seamless holiday experience, Mr. Jingles provides online ordering, delivery, installation and removal services.

In-store, friendly and knowledgeable staff assist customers in

selecting the perfect tree, ensuring they find exactly what they’re looking for. To make things even easier, staff members securely tie trees to customers’ vehicles at no extra charge. Mr. Jingles is dedicated to bringing holiday magic to homes everywhere this season.

Mr. Jingles offers online ordering and delivery services for a convenient holiday experience. Their comprehensive delivery and installation package includes tree stand application, transportation, setup, and installation, ensuring that each tree is perfectly placed and ready to enjoy. The Jingles delivery team contacts customers with an estimated arrival time within the booking window and confirms again upon arrival. For those who prefer the in-store experience, delivery can be scheduled at the register after selecting a tree – making the



photo courtesy of Mr. Jingles Christmas Trees

Pick up a spruce of holiday cheer at Mr. Jingles.

process completely hassle-free and festive.

At the end of the holiday season, Mr. Jingles provides a hassle-free Christmas tree recycling service. The team handles every step: they come directly to your home or business, empty the water from your tree stand, carefully remove the tree

and even vacuum up any remaining needles, leaving your space clean and refreshed.

Locations include 1841 N. Highland Ave., 11404 Santa Monica Blvd. and at the Original Farmers Market, 6333 W. Third St. For information, visit [mrjingleschristmastrees.com](http://mrjingleschristmastrees.com).



photo courtesy of All Saints' Beverly Hills

Tesseractae will perform “La Selva Selvaggia” on Nov. 24 at All Saints’ Beverly Hills.

## Explore music of the Baroque period at All Saints’ Beverly Hills

Experience the vibrant innovation of the early Baroque period with the ensemble Tesseractae in its upcoming concert “La Selva Selvaggia” on Sunday, Nov. 24, at 5 p.m. at All Saints’ Beverly Hills.

The performance is part of the All Saints’ Music Guild’s concert series and takes place in the church’s historic sanctuary at 504 N. Camden Drive. It will explore the groundbreaking “fantastic style” that emerged as Italian instrumental music crossed the Alps in the early Baroque period. Once described by German theorists as

improvisatory, wild and bizarre, the stylistic shift combined innovative techniques with Renaissance traditions. The program showcases compositions by Palestrina, Arcadelt, Kapsberger, Riccio, Rognoni, Frescobaldi and Castello, revealing how Renaissance improvisation evolved into the dynamic forms of the early Baroque sonata and toccata.

“We’re thrilled to welcome Tesseractae back to All Saints,” said Canon Dr. Craig Phillips, director of music. “Their artistry with voices and period instruments brings this

rich history to life in a way that is both captivating and authentic.”

Formed in 2010, Tesseractae explores the beautiful repertoire of the Renaissance and Baroque, from intimate chamber music to large-scale orchestral works. Based in Los Angeles, the ensemble specializes in historically informed performances of music from the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries.

Tickets, available at the door and through Eventbrite, are \$35 for adults, \$25 for seniors and \$20 for students. All Saints’ Beverly Hills is located at 504 N. Camden Drive. For information, visit [allsaintsbh.org](http://allsaintsbh.org) and [eventbrite.com/e/la-selva-selvaggia-tickets-1012377908577?aff=ebdsoporg-profile](http://eventbrite.com/e/la-selva-selvaggia-tickets-1012377908577?aff=ebdsoporg-profile).

VINTAGE

PARKLABREA NEWS

Governor shows support during visit to St. Vincent Meals on Wheels

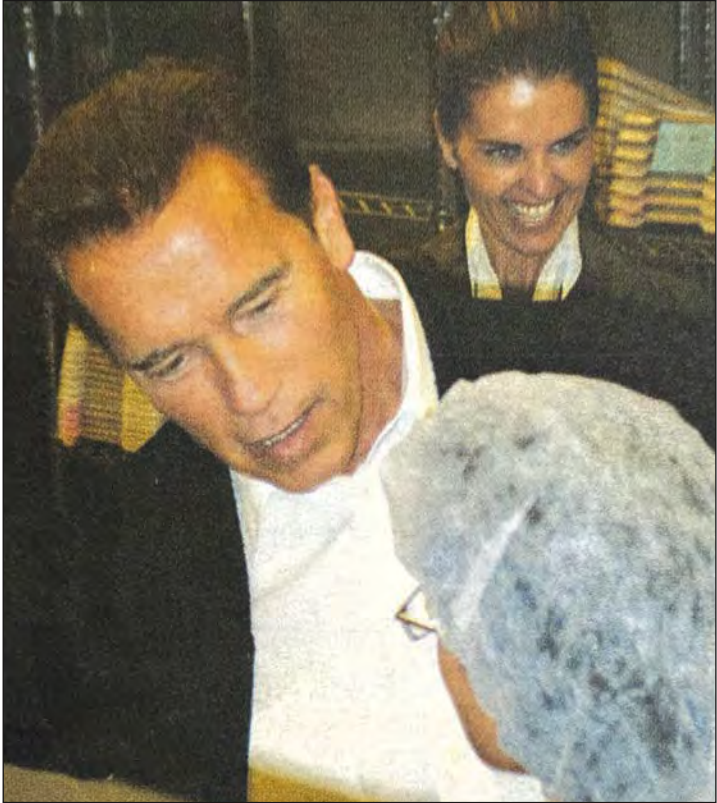


photo by Edwin Folven

Then-Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and his former wife Maria Shriver visited St. Vincent Meals on Wheels in this photograph in the Nov. 23, 2006, issue of the Beverly Press and Park Labrea News. St. Vincent Meals on Wheels delivers more than 100,000 meals each month to homebound seniors, extending a lifeline to people often living in isolation. During their visit, Schwarzenegger and Shriver met with the late Sister Alice Marie Quinn, who founded St. Vincent Meals on Wheels in 1977. The organization, located at 2303 Miramar St. near the now-shuttered St. Vincent Medical Center, remains the largest Meals on Wheels program in America and is always seeking volunteers. For information, visit [svmow.org](http://svmow.org).

## LACMA maps out the ‘Infinite’

The Los Angeles County Museum of Art is presenting “Mapping the Infinite: Cosmologies Across Cultures,” an expansive exhibition that brings together nearly 120 works from around the world to explore how humans have endeavored to explain the universe’s origins, mechanics and meaning over 12 millennia.


Throughout the course of human history, narratives have been

devised to explain the universe’s significance and processes, often looking to the heavens as a mirror for concepts of time and space. Over time, these cosmologies, whether created within the realms of myth, philosophy, religion or science, have been regularly superseded by newer narratives. Spanning from the Stone Age to the present, “Mapping the Infinite” considers layered histories of cosmology through the prism

of art, architecture, and design across Mesopotamia, Greece, Rome, South and Southeast Asia, East Asia, the Islamic Middle East, the Indigenous Americas and Northern Europe.

“Mapping the Infinite” is presented as part of PST ART: Art & Science Collide, a landmark regional event exploring the intersections of art and science, both past and present.

For information, visit [lacma.org](http://lacma.org). LACMA is located at 5905 Wilshire Blvd.



10 Reasons Why I Don’t Want An Estate Plan

1. I want large sums of my hard-earned money to go to a law firm.

2. I want the government to decide who gets my life savings.

3. What for? My house is only worth a half-million dollars.

4. I really don’t care who raises our children.

5. I want a total stranger to go through all of my personal papers and financial affairs.

6. I like family fights – especially unnecessary ones.

7. I don’t care who inherits my hard earned money.

8. I’ve been messy in life; I’ll be messy in death.

9. They say you can’t take it with you, but what if you can?

10. Probate. Must be fun.

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

KRAMER LAW GROUP

Stephen W. Kramer

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[www.thekramerlawgroup.com](http://www.thekramerlawgroup.com)



# POLICE BLOTTER

The following crimes occurred in West Hollywood, Beverly Hills and the areas patrolled by the LAPD’s Wilshire and Hollywood divisions between Nov. 7 and Nov. 16. The information was compiled from crimemapping.com. To report a crime, call local law enforcement agencies: Los Angeles Police Department, Wilshire Division (213)473-0476, Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department West Hollywood Station (310)855-8850, and the Beverly Hills Police Department (310)550-4951.

## Beverly Hills Police Department

### Nov. 10

At 8 p.m., a vandalism incident was reported in the 100 block of S. Reeves.

### Nov. 11

At 2:23 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 9700 block of Wilshire.

### Nov. 12

At 10 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 200 block of N. Clark.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 700 block of N. Palm at 1 p.m.

At 7:43 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of Beverly.

### Nov. 13

A vandalism incident was reported in the 200 block of S. Lasky at 10 p.m.

### Nov. 14

At 12:19 a.m., a suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs near Dayton and Cañon.

An arson fire was reported in the 8700 block of Wilshire at 11:30 a.m.

At 8 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of N. Cañon. Additional thefts were reported in the same area at 8:52 and 8:56 p.m.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 100 block of S. Reeves at 1:55 p.m.

### Nov. 15

At 5:21 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 200 block of S. Palm.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 400 block of N. Rexford at 10:15 a.m.

At 12:05 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of Beverly.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 200 block of Elm at 1:20 p.m.

At 1:22 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 700 block of Oakhurst.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked near Doheny and Whitworth at 3:30 p.m.

### Nov. 16

An unknown suspect stole auto parts in the 300 block of S. Rexford at 12:03 a.m.

At 12:30 a.m., a suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs in the 400 block of Beverly.

A vandalism incident was reported near Wilshire and Almont at 2:28 a.m.

## West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station

### Nov. 10

At 12:30 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 600 block of N. Robertson.

A suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 8800 block of Santa Monica at 1 a.m.

At 8:30 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1200 block of N. La Brea.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 1000 block of N. La Brea at 11:40 a.m.

At 1 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 7200 block of Fountain.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 7700 block of Santa Monica at 7:30 p.m.

At 9 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 900 block of Genesee.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 7200 block of Fountain at 11 p.m.

### Nov. 11

A suspect assaulted a victim in the 1000 block of Alfred at 9:20 a.m.

At 3:19 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8900 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 9100 block of Phyllis at 8 p.m.

### Nov. 12

A suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 800 block of Larrabee at 12:30 a.m.

At 7:30 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim near Santa Monica and Curson.

### Nov. 13

At 2 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1300 block of N. Fairfax.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 900 block of N. San Vicente at 6:30 a.m.

At 3:40 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 600 block of N. San Vicente.

### Nov. 14

At 9:30 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1400 block of Crescent Heights.

An unknown suspect pickpocketed a victim near Hancock and Santa Monica at 8 p.m.

### Nov. 15

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1000 block of N. Fuller at 7:15 a.m.

At 6:15 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 8900 block of Melrose.

## Los Angeles Police Department

### Nov. 7

At 10:45 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a bicycle in the 5500 block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6700 block of Selma at 4 p.m.

At 8 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 800 block of S. Lucerne.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 6800 block of Hollywood at 7:47 p.m.

At 9:45 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 5000 block of Dockweiler.

### Nov. 8

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 6000 block of Franklin at 3 a.m.

At 11 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 4000 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 8400 block of Fountain at 2:40 p.m.

At 4 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 400 block of S. Citrus.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1700 block of N. Hudson at 5:30 p.m.

### Nov. 9

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 300 block of N. Orange Grove at 7:40 p.m.

At 11 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1300 block of N. Martel.

### Nov. 10

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1700 block of N. Wilcox at 12:05 a.m.

At 11:14 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 100 block of N. La Cienega.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8500 block of Olympic at 11:54 a.m.

At 12:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1000 block of N. Croft.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 100 block of S. Fairfax at 1:30 p.m.

At 4 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near Third and Fairfax.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 800 block of N. Cole at 5 p.m.

At 5:45 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 100 block of The Grove.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1500 block of N. Sierra Bonita at 7 p.m.

At 10 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 100 block of The Grove.

### Nov. 11

At 3:30 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 6500 block of Willoughby.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft near Hollywood and Vine at 4 a.m.

At 8 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 5600 block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8500 block of Olympic at 9:01 a.m.

At 9:30 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6200 block of Hollywood.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8400 block of Beverly at 9:43 a.m.

At 1 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6100 block of Hollywood.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6200 block of Sunset at 2:26 p.m.

At 3:59 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5200 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5100 block of Wilshire at 4:45 p.m.

At 4:50 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 400 block of S. La Brea.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 6400 block of Maryland at 5 p.m.

At 5:05 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 7000 block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8400 block of Beverly at 5:15 p.m.

At 5:27 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 8400 block of Melrose Place.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 100 block of N. Sycamore at 6:30 p.m.

At 7 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 6200 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5200 block of Wilshire at 7:16 p.m.

At 9:30 p.m., an unknown suspect

stole a vehicle parked in the 1500 block of Vine.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 400 block of Olympic at 9:30 p.m.

At 10:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1200 block of N. Gower.

### Nov. 12

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1400 block of N. Las Palmas at 3 a.m.

At 9 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 300 block of N. Van Ness.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1700 block of N. Highland at 11 a.m.

At 4:59 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1100 block of N. Gower.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near Franklin and Whitley at 7:45 p.m.

At 9 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 700 block of S. Spaulding.

### Nov. 13

At 1 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 7300 block of Hawthorn.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 5400 block of Romaine at 4:15 a.m.

At 5:10 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 900 block of S. Citrus.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 800 block of S. Longwood at 8 a.m.

At 1:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1500 block of N. Ivar.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of Arnaz at 2 p.m.

At 7:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 6600 block of Santa Monica.

### Nov. 14

An unknown suspect robbed a victim near Fourth and Wilton at 5:45 a.m.

At 10:53 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 5600 block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1700 block of Canyon at 1:12 p.m.

At 6:05 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 300 block of N. Arden.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6000 block of Hollywood at 10 p.m.



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# Fountain project remains controversial

From page 1

Mayor John Erickson reelected and business license commissioner Danny Hang elected. Both candidates were staunch proponents of adding bike lanes on Fountain Avenue, as well as expanding the sidewalks and reducing the street to two lanes of traffic. Currently, Fountain Avenue is primarily four lanes, with sections reduced to two lanes in favor of street parking during certain hours of the day.

“There was such a huge fire the other day at Fountain and Highland that the fire department had to call for backup [from the West Hollywood Fire Department],” resident Mikie Friedman said. “Imagine how slow it would’ve been for fire responders if there had only been one lane in each direction.”

Vice Mayor Chelsea Byers, however, said she thinks the redesign would help with community safety.

“Street safety became a defining issue in the election and we saw how many new people in the community got engaged as a result,” Byers said. “We know the safety

solutions we bring to Fountain need to include everyone. With the election behind us, we can get to work having the conversations needed to bring our community together and move us forward.”

“The votes in the election give the Fountain Avenue Streetscape project and protected bike lanes a mandate since opponents made that the hill they were willing to die on and they lost their campaigns to two candidates who were proud and loud supporters of protected bike lanes, better safety and ADA sidewalk improvements on Fountain,” Councilwoman Sepi Shyne said.

Councilman John Heilman, though, did not see Erickson and Hang’s electoral success as a mandate.

“I don’t think the election results indicate that people in the community support the decision to remove parking and reduce Fountain to one lane in both directions,” Heilman said. “The council majority’s half-baked scheme to alter Fountain still doesn’t make sense. No one is able

to explain where residents along the street who have no parking are supposed to go. No one can explain where cyclists are supposed to go once they reach Fountain.”

To the west, Fountain Avenue ends at La Cienega Boulevard, a street with a steep incline that climbs up to Sunset Boulevard to the north and intersects with Santa Monica Boulevard to the south. Santa Monica Boulevard currently has bike lanes at its intersection with La Cienega Boulevard.

“No one can explain why we should spend millions of dollars on a plan that makes no sense,” Heilman continued.

“Unfortunately, some people are so wedded to their position that they are unwilling to look at whether having a bike lane on Fountain makes any practical sense.”

A recent fatal collision at the intersection of Fountain and Spaulding avenues sparked further intense debate among residents over the future of Fountain Avenue. In October, opposing rallies were even led by City Council candi-



photo by Rance Collins

Lanes for vehicles may be reduced on Fountain Avenue under plans for a redesign of the roadway.

# Teacher claims she was fired for online post

From page 1

received a phone call on Nov. 13 from one of the school district’s assistant superintendents notifying her of her termination.

Garratt stated in the Facebook post on Nov. 7 that she was “disheartened by a recent event on campus the day after the election. A MAGA faction dressed in full Trump regalia (banners draped around them, flying banners, red hats) not only had a MAGA rally on campus but harassed and intimidated many other non-MAGA students and specifically targeted the class where the Black Student Union was meeting, yelling all kinds of racial slurs. Some students arrived at school truly upset and even crying only to be bullied later by their classmates. And don’t blame the administration for this. They are dealing with it. This comes from their leader, His Majesty, King.”

Garratt stated in an interview with the Beverly Press that she did not bring up the election “at all” in class during her teaching assignment, and her statements critical of Trump and the incident were limited to social media.

A Beverly Hills Unified School District representative would not confirm or deny Garratt’s termination.

On Nov. 6, dozens of pro-Trump students crowded the school’s courtyard to celebrate Trump’s victory. A TikTok video that went viral captured the moment students roared in applause as others shouted, “four more years” and waved Trump flags. At one point, a school security guard could be seen holding up a Trump flag.

Days later, Beverly Hills High School set new parameters to further restrict gatherings on campus. It banned flags attached to flagpoles, profanity and threatening language. Additionally, “students may not assemble, create moving mobs or form circles for the purpose of shouting, jumping and physically contacting others,” Beverly Hills High School principal Drew Stewart wrote in a message sent to BHHS families on Nov. 7.

At a school board meeting on Nov. 12, several Black students and Bella Ivory, the school’s fashion design teacher, alleged that pro-Trump students involved in the courtyard demonstration later targeted a classroom where members of the Black Student Union were present. According to Ivory, the pro-Trump students banged on the door, rattled the doorknob and shouted hateful language toward the Black students.

Ivory did not respond to a request for comment by press time.

Security footage obtained by the Beverly Press shows dozens of pro-Trump students walking down a school hallway. At one point, a student holding a Trump flag at the front of the group stops near the door of Ivory’s classroom. One student knocks on the door, however it is unclear if he is associated with the pro-Trump students. As the group passes, several more students knock on the door, appear to motion to people inside the classroom and one tries to open the door. However, it is unclear if the students knocking are associated with the pro-Trump group. The video does not contain audio.

Some Black students who spoke at the school board meeting said they have repeatedly encountered racism at Beverly Hills High School, which intensified during the week of the election. They recounted being called the n-word and facing discrimination.

“I’ve had to deal with a lot of racism my entire life, but coming to Beverly [Hills High School], I’ve unfortunately had to experience a lot more,” Jurnee Burrell-Williams, a senior and president of the Black Student Union, said.

Garratt said she received a phone call from a school district administrator on Nov. 13, the day after the school board meeting. She said the administrator told her the school did not want her to return for the remainder of her substitute teaching assignment due to her online post.

“I was really shocked with what happened,” Garratt said. “I did not

see this coming by a longshot.”

Garratt said she has received an outpouring of support from her colleagues at Beverly Hills High School, including from some coworkers she did not expect. She posted on Facebook announcing her termination and received dozens of supportive comments, many of which came from school parents and former students in the school district.

“I think the entire faculty [at] Beverly Hills High School is aware of what has happened,” Garratt said.

She added that she believes many other teachers fear retaliation

for criticizing the president-elect and his supporters online.

“I just think they’re very afraid. A lot of us feel that we’re muted,” Garratt said.

According to BHUSD School Board policy, “an employee’s personal beliefs and activities, including religious, political, cultural, social or other beliefs or activities, or lack thereof, shall not be grounds for disciplinary action against the employee, provided that the beliefs or activities do not violate law, board policy or administrative regulation.”

In a statement issued to the BHUSD community on Nov. 15, Superintendent Michael Bregy addressed the incident.

“During recent demonstrations at Beverly Hills High School, our staff closely monitored all activi-

ties. When actions became disruptive, we responded quickly, implementing measures to de-escalate the situation and reestablish a setting where everyone felt comfortable and respected,” Bregy wrote. “As a district, we firmly denounce any form of exclusionary, mocking or threatening behavior, standing for a community where every individual is welcomed. Actions that are discriminatory or obstructive have and will result in appropriate consequences. Equally, false accusations by students or staff are unacceptable and will be addressed accordingly. We cannot condemn actions that did not occur or those that are lawful under [the] California Education Code. It is not our role to judge opinions but rather, to nurture positive exchanges.”

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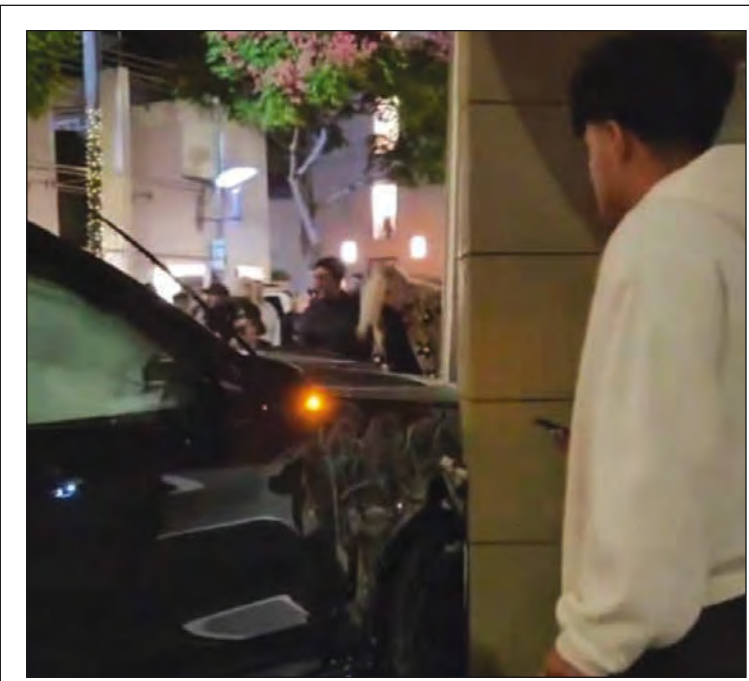


photo courtesy of Citizen

A 22-year-old man was arrested after he carjacked a BMW and crashed, hitting four pedestrians near the intersection of Wilshire Boulevard and Camden Drive, according to police.

# Carjacking ends in crash that injures four people

From page 1

Holiday Lights” event with his wife and 6-year-old daughter. As he was taking his dog home from the event, he stopped to buy his daughter a balloon at the corner of Wilshire Boulevard and Camden Drive.

“I already had the balloon in my hand. I heard a screech of tires and turned my head slightly, saw a very large object next to me and I literally went blank. The next thing I remember I was at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center with one of the Beverly Hills firemen,” Stuart said.

As of Nov. 20, Stuart was still at the hospital being treated for his injuries. The other three victims were reportedly released from the hospital the same night.

Stuart said his 8-month-old dog was also injured in the colli-

sion, being dragged under the car and receiving a laceration over his eye.

Stuart expressed gratitude to the BHFD and BHPD first responders who arrived at the scene.

“So many parts of our infrastructure – from the drone program, to our camera system, to the Real Time Watch Center, to the men and women on the ground who’ve got the badges and the guns that we all see – all of that infrastructure kicked in,” Stuart said. “Not only did the fire department get me to deal with my life-threatening injuries, the police had this guy in custody within minutes, while we had thousands of people on Rodeo Drive for this lighting ceremony.”

# Registration opens for annual homeless count volunteers

Volunteer registration is open for the 2025 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count in January. The 2025 homeless count will take place on the evenings of Jan. 21, 22 and 23. Volunteers can register at [count.lahsa.org](http://count.lahsa.org).

“Last year’s homeless count marked the first decrease in street homelessness that Los Angeles has seen in years,” LAHSA CEO Dr. Va Lecia Adams Kellum said. “As we gear up for this year’s count, community support is crucial. We need thousands of volunteers to join us in counting our unhoused neighbors so we can better understand where they

are, the services they need most and what it will take to bring them home.”

Conducted annually, the homeless count typically involves thousands of volunteers spread across the 4,000 square miles of Los Angeles County in late January to conduct the unsheltered count. Traveling in small groups, volunteers tally the number of unsheltered individuals, tents, vehicles and makeshift shelters they see in their assigned census tracts.

The Unsheltered Count will begin on Tuesday, Jan. 21, in the San Fernando Valley and metro Los Angeles. Volunteers in the San Gabriel Valley and East Los Angeles will count on Wednesday, Jan. 22. Finally, the count will wrap up Thursday, Jan. 23, in the Antelope Valley, West and South Los Angeles, and the South Bay/Harbor region.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development requires a biennial point-in-time count of people experiencing homelessness. The annual Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count also includes the youth count and the housing inventory count. For information, visit [lahsa.org](http://lahsa.org).



# Metro continues subway work in Beverly Hills

From page 2

approval include the nighttime work hours, no work on Thanksgiving, Christmas Day and New Year’s Day, no road closures during L.A. Marathon weekend in March, the creation of a public safety center kiosk and a public restroom redesign.

Based on the conditions of the waiver approval, the Wilshire/La Cienega Station will include a public safety center kiosk, which will be a structure occupied by the city’s law enforcement officers and safety personnel to enhance public safety in the station. The city will be responsible for deploying staff at the kiosk. One Metro customer service employee can use the kiosk’s office space at a time. The city will oversee and pay for the kiosk’s design, and Metro will construct the kiosk. The construction costs will be reimbursed to Metro from the city. Utilities will be paid by the city, and the city will also reimburse Metro for annual maintenance and repair costs. The city will submit preliminary plans for the kiosk to Metro by Dec. 31, and final plans by Feb. 28, 2025.

“We are looking for Section One, the La Cienega Station, to have a welcoming presence but also have a presence that gives people security that they are coming to a place that they’ll be safe and that we provide quality information,” Beverly Hills director of public works Shana Epstein said.

City Council members expressed



photo by Edwin Folven

Street level work on the D Line subway project will continue along Wilshire Boulevard in Beverly Hills through the holidays.

support for the waiver agreement and the public safety kiosk.

“I’m very happy that we have the kiosk and that it would have a bathroom for our own employees as well as having that presence at the station when it first opens,” said Councilwoman Mary Wells, who served on the Metro Liaison Ad-Hoc Committee alongside Mayor Lester Friedman.

“Metro should see that public safety is important, that they’re losing ridership because trains are not safe, because buses are not safe. So when you have communities that actually want to make it safer for

people to use public transportation, instead of putting roadblocks in the way, [Metro] should be fully embracing those,” Councilman John Mirisch said.

The city manager will negotiate with Metro to come to an agreement on a maximum cost for the public safety kiosk, among other specifications.

# Beverly Hills celebrates the holidays along Rodeo Drive

From page 1

NBC “Songland” winner Greg Scott and “American Idol” finalist Vonzell Solomon.

Guests also enjoyed two wine gardens and food and beverages from 208 Rodeo, a local restaurant specializing in California cuisine.

“The Rodeo Drive holiday lighting celebration was a dazzling family friendly evening,” Rodeo Drive Committee President Kay Monica Rose said. “There were over 9,000 at this year’s event. Against the backdrop of the world’s leading fashion houses and brands, the iconic street is dressed in awe inspiring vintage ornaments. Even the palm trees and rose bushes are embellished with sparkling lights. The street was alive with wonder and our custom holiday decoration will be on Rodeo through Jan. 5.”

“The holiday season is truly one of the most memorable times of the year,” Beverly Hills Mayor Lester Friedman said. “We can all come together as family, friends and neighbors to celebrate a little happiness during a time when we need a little light in our lives as we see

some of the darkest events occurring throughout our world.”

The event was hosted by the Rodeo Drive Committee in collaboration with the city of Beverly Hills. Friedman, Rose and members of the Beverly Hills City Council, Rodeo Drive Committee, Chamber of Commerce and Conference and Visitors Bureau joined together onstage to welcome Santa Claus and count down to the illumination.

The lights will remain on display throughout the Golden Triangle until Jan. 5, 2025. Additionally, Beverly Cañon Gardens Park, located at 241 N. Cañon Drive, will host a “Glowing Gardens” holiday display which includes tree ornament sculptures. Beverly Gardens Park, located at 9439 Santa Monica Blvd., will host a “Lights on the Lily Pond” show every 15 minutes between 6-9:30 p.m. Greystone Mansion and Gardens, located at 905 Loma Vista Drive, will host a family friendly holiday celebration on Saturday, Dec. 2, and Sunday, Dec. 3, from 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

# WeHo opens garden plot waitlist

The city of West Hollywood’s Community Gardens waitlist for planter beds has opened online and in-person. In-person waitlist sign-up is available at the Plummer Park Community Center, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd., and the West Hollywood Park Aquatic and Recreation Center, 8750 El Tovar

Place. Community participation is limited to West Hollywood residents. Applicants must provide two forms of proof of residency. Residents who are selected must pay a \$120 annual license fee as well as a \$20 key deposit. For information, call (323)848-6534, or email [recreation@weho.org](mailto:recreation@weho.org).

NOTICE OF TEMPORARY HOSPITAL CLOSURE  
Effective January 1, 2025

This is to provide public notice that DOCS Surgical Hospital, located at 6000 San Vicente Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90036, will be closing temporarily on January 1, 2025, in order to complete construction of an entirely new hospital facility to replace the existing facility. The new facility, which will be a state-of-the-art hospital facility located at the same address and which will meet all seismic safety and other legal requirements, is expected to open after approximately one year.

The three nearest facilities offering comparable services are as follows:

Cedars-Sinai Medical Center  
8700 Beverly Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90048

Kaiser Permanente  
West Los Angeles  
Medical Center  
6041 Cadillac Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90034

Southern California Hospital at  
Culver City  
3828 Delmas Terrace  
Culver City, CA 90232

DOCS Surgical Hospital provides services to Medicare patients, as do all of the above facilities.

Further information regarding the Hospital’s temporary closure may be obtained by contacting the facility or its owner:

Facility:  
DOCS Surgical Hospital, LLC  
6000 San Vicente Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90036  
Tel. (323) 930-1040

Owner:  
DOCS Surgical Hospital, LLC  
8436 W. Third St. Suite 900  
Los Angeles, CA 90048  
Tel. (310) 746-5918  
Attn: Khawar Siddique, Co-CEO

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