



Rain expected  
on Thursday  
and Friday

Volume 35 No. 6

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

February 6, 2025

## INSIDE

- BH considers rules for synthetic turf pg. 3
- WeHo streamlines Sunset Strip billboards pg. 7

# Pali High enrollment suspended by BHUSD

■ District will admit students who lost homes

BY Tabor Brewster

After enrolling several dozen students from Palisades Charter High School whose homes were not destroyed by the fire, the Beverly Hills Unified School District changed its policy to only enroll students whose homes were lost in the fire or deemed "uninhabitable," effectively denying more than 100 additional Pali High students from enrolling within the school district. In a statement, BHUSD Superintendent Dr. Michael Bregy said the district would stop enrollment for non-residents, with the

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The BHUSD Board of Education revised its policy on enrollment for students displaced by recent fires.

photo by Tabor Brewster

# Friedman vows resistance to Trump agenda

■ New congresswoman reflects on first month in Washington

BY RANCE COLLINS

When Rep. Laura Friedman (D-Glendale) entered the race to represent California's 30th Congressional District, there was a Democratic president, vice president and the party held control of

the Senate. Now, Friedman has entered Congress as a member of the minority party with a decidedly different role than her predecessor, Sen. Adam Schiff (D-Calif.).

Friedman's district is one of the most populous and diverse in the country. It's also one of the most heavily Democratic. Both former Vice President Kamala Harris and Friedman won it by roughly 40 points.

The agenda of the Trump admin-



Rep. Laura Friedman (D-Glendale) has positioned herself as a leader in the opposition against the policies of President Donald Trump.

photo courtesy of Laura Friedman

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# Tar Pits project clears significant hurdle

■ County approval is part of lengthy reimaging process

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors on Feb. 4 approved the final environmental impact report for the master plan to reimagine the La Brea Tar Pits.

The approval is the latest step in a multi-year process of making the project a reality, but museum officials and county leaders stressed there is still a long way to go. While the final EIR serves as a platform to continue examining the scope of the project, the timeline is contingent upon many factors, including continued planning, and has not yet been finalized, according to Dr. Lori Bettison-Varga, president and director of the Natural History Museums of Los Angeles County.

"We are thrilled that the EIR has been approved – a critical milestone in our project and demonstrates the county's support," Bettison-Varga said in a statement. "Our continued plan-



rendering courtesy of NHMLAC

Renderings have been released depicting renovations at the reimagined La Brea Tar Pits site.

ning will inform the final scope and cost of the project, which will determine our fundraising goals. However, the Museum Foundation continues to fundraise

in a very targeted way, and we know the certification of the EIR helps instill support and confidence in our efforts. We are grate-

See Tar Pits page 25



photo by Tabor Brewster

Actor Bob Odenkirk performed at the Fonda Theater on Jan. 31 to raise money for comedians impacted by recent fires.

# Comedy Gives Back after devastating fires

■ Nonprofit hosts fundraiser for displaced comics

BY TABOR BREWSTER

The devastating fires that destroyed thousands of homes and businesses in the Pacific Palisades and Altadena have

impacted the lives of many artists and creatives in Los Angeles, the hub of the entertainment industry. Home studios, comedy clubs and eccentric art museums have been lost, forever altering the cultural landscape of Southern California. To assist comedians who have been impacted by the fires, nonprofit Comedy Gives

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## CALENDAR

### Wildfire resource webinar

Faith and Community Empowerment is holding a virtual Los Angeles wildfire resource webinar on Thursday, Feb. 6, at 5:30 p.m., focusing on insurance, mortgages and economic relief. California State Treasurer Fiona Ma and Los Angeles County Assessor Jeff Prang will offer information for renters, homeowners, small business owners and nonprofits. The event also includes representatives from the Los Angeles County Department of Economic Opportunity and Small Business Administration. Registration is required. [bit.ly/FACERESOURCE](http://bit.ly/FACERESOURCE)

### Getty Graduate Symposium

The Getty Research Institute hosts the seventh annual Getty Graduate Symposium on Friday, Feb. 7, from 9:45 a.m.-6 p.m., showcasing the work of emerging scholars from art history graduate programs across California. Organized in three sessions, the symposium includes nine individual presentations, panel discussions and Q&A sessions with the audience. Tickets are free and are required for admission. Following the event, the symposium will be available on the Getty Research Institute YouTube channel at [youtube.com/c/gettyresearch](https://www.youtube.com/c/gettyresearch). 1200 Getty Center Drive. [getty.edu](http://getty.edu).

### Conscious Life Expo

The 23rd Conscious Life Expo returns to Los Angeles from Friday, Feb. 7,

through Monday, Feb. 10. The four-day expo features visionaries, authors and global influencers exploring advancements in health, science, physics, UFO disclosure, spirituality and healthy lifestyles. It includes 200 interactive workshops, free lectures, live concerts, 250 vendors and a healthy food court. Daily passes start at \$40; three-day passes start at \$90. Hilton Hotel LAX, 5711 W. Century Blvd. [consciouslifeexpo.com](http://consciouslifeexpo.com).

### Culinary history

The Culinary Historians of Southern California is holding "Brasseries, Bistros and Bouillons" on Saturday, Feb. 8, at 10:30 a.m. in the Los Angeles Central Library's Mark Taper Auditorium. The first place to be considered (after the fact) a restaurant opened in Paris in the 1760s and sparked the rise of the first great restaurants decades later. As they began to draw tourists to Paris at the start of the 19th century, numerous other public dining options opened including cafés, wine shops, workers' restaurants, women's restaurants, bouillons, crèmeries, brasseries, tree house restaurants and bistro, some of which have remained part of Parisian dining. Food historian Jim Chevallier presents an overview of early dining options and their development and influence into the 20th century. Admission is free but reservations are requested. A themed reception follows the event. 630 W. Fifth St. [chsocal.org](http://chsocal.org).

### TAG Gallery art talk

TAG Gallery is holding an artist talk on the solo exhibition "Sharon Cannon: The Painting Knows" and the group exhibition "In The Abstract" featuring works by TAG artist members on Sunday, Feb. 9, from 2-4 p.m. Cannon and artists Elyse Wyman and Somalia Etemad will discuss their work. "The Painting Knows" is a series of abstract works exploring an active and organic dialogue between the artist and the painted surface. "In the Abstract" showcases an eclectic interpretation of abstraction through varied mediums. 5458 Wilshire Blvd. [taggallery.net/tag-events](http://taggallery.net/tag-events).



### Kenneth Turan book signing

Author Kenneth Turan will discuss and sign "Louis B. Mayer and Irving Thalberg: The Whole Equation (Jewish Lives)" on Sunday, Feb. 9, at 3 p.m. at Diesel, A Bookstore in Brentwood. Turan brings to life the extraordinary partnership of Mayer and Thalberg and their role in creating the film industry. The event is free and will be held in the courtyard. Seating is limited. The book will be available for purchase. 225 26th St., Ste. 33. [dieselbookstore.com](http://dieselbookstore.com).

### BHPD Coffee with a Cop

Meet officers from the Beverly Hills Police Department during Coffee with a Cop on Wednesday, Feb. 12, from 9-11 a.m. at Faregrounds. The event provides a unique opportunity for the community to engage with officers in an informal setting, enjoy a cup of coffee and have meaningful conversations. 459 N. Roxbury Drive. [beverlyhills.org/police](http://beverlyhills.org/police).

### Greg Lee tribute

The Grammy Museum presents "Reel

To Reel: Dance Wid' Me: A Tribute to Greg Lee" on Wednesday, Feb. 12, from 7-9 p.m. Lee, of the ska band Hepcat, died on March 19, 2024. On Oct. 20, 2024, the El Rey Theatre hosted "Dance Wid' Me: A Tribute to Greg Lee" featuring performances by



Dirty Reggae Bunch with members of The Aggrolites, Hepcat, Dance Hall Crashers, The Cover-Ups, Let's Go Bowling, Ocean Eleven, Colin & Kelly and numerous special guest singers and musicians. Highlights from the sold-out tribute concert will be shown at the Grammy Museum followed by shared reflections from some of Lee's friends and fellow musicians. Tickets are \$30.59. 800 W. Olympic Blvd. [grammymuseum.org](http://grammymuseum.org).

### Autry Museum art workshop

Join the Autry Museum of the American West for "Stenciling With Siyowin," an art workshop on Thursday, Feb. 13, from 6-9 p.m. Multimedia street artist Siyowin will lead an exploration of her artistic practice and help participants create stencil art inspired by their passion and lived experience. The program is part of the Autry's After Hours series and includes entry to the galleries. Museum admission is \$18 for adults; \$8 for children. 4700 Western Heritage Way. [theautry.org](http://theautry.org).

### Cambodian Rock Band

East West Players presents the Los Angeles premiere of Lauren Yee's groundbreaking play "Cambodian Rock Band" from Thursday, Feb. 13, through Sunday, March 9, at the David Henry Hwang Theater, downtown. Part play and part rock concert, the production tells the story of a Khmer Rouge survivor returning to Cambodia after three decades. As his daughter prepares to prosecute one of the regime's most notorious war criminals, they must confront their shared history through the healing power of music. The play features songs by L.A.-based band Dengue Fever, whose performances inspired Yee's work. Showtimes are at 8 p.m., Thursday (preview week only), Friday, Saturday and select Mondays, with additional 2 p.m. matinees on Saturday and 5 p.m. performances on Sunday. Tickets start at \$15. 120 Judge John Aiso St. [eastwestplayers.org](http://eastwestplayers.org).

### Alabaster

The Fountain Theatre presents "Alabaster," a funny and poignant new play about healing and the power of women running from Sunday, Feb. 16, through Sunday, March 30. For three years since the death of her family in a tornado that left her covered in scars, June has been creating "outsider" art in an isolated Alabama farm-



house with only her goats for company. When a New York photographer working on a series about women with scars arrives, the attraction between June and Alice is palpable – but what they need from each other transcends anything physical. Casey Stangl directs the production written by Audrey Cefaly. Showtime on opening night is 7 p.m. Regular showtimes are 8 p.m., Friday, Saturday and Monday; 2 p.m., Sunday. Tickets are \$25. 5060 Fountain Ave. (323)663-1525, [fountaintheatre.com](http://fountaintheatre.com).



photo courtesy of Palisades Charter High School  
Palisades Charter High School, pictured before the fires, is seeking to relocate to a new site.

## Schools damaged in wildfires receive help with relocation

### ■ Mayor Bass, LAUSD assist campuses searching for space

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass issued an emergency executive order on Feb. 4 to assist students, schools and child care facilities displaced by the fires and ensure other schools and facilities can accept additional students and children.

"I am exercising my emergency powers to keep families and their communities together," Bass said. "The last thing families need is bureaucracy that causes more disruption to their children's lives, and I won't allow it."

The emergency executive order increases enrollment caps by 20% to allow displaced children and youth to transfer to other schools and facilities for three to five years. Schools and child care facilities damaged or destroyed by the fires are able to immediately receive a 180-day permit allowing them to relocate and operate anywhere in the city. Currently, such permits allow a 90-day relocation. Schools and child care facilities seeking to operate longer than 180 days in another location will be approved through an expedited review process that eliminates hearings and appeals. Schools can also receive implementation guidance and application assistance from city departments.

An LAUSD spokesman said three campuses sustained significant damage in the Palisades fire: Palisades Charter Elementary School, Marquez Charter Elementary School and Palisades Charter High School. Palisades Elementary and Marquez Elementary are charter schools affiliated with the LAUSD and Palisades Charter High School is an independent charter school. Palisades Elementary has been relocated to Brentwood Science

Magnet and Marquez Elementary has been relocated to Nora Sterry Elementary in West Los Angeles for the remainder of the academic year. The district has offered free leasing of its spaces to Palisades Charter High School, the spokesman said.

"We are working to return all our students to the classroom as quickly, safely and reasonably as possible, and we continue to support our affected students who are still displaced, evacuated or who otherwise cannot attend their current school by offering options such as enrollment in LAUSD's Virtual Academy, or the option to enroll at a different school within L.A. Unified (in the scenario where a family is displaced but can attend another district school from their new location)," read a statement from the LAUSD.

Palisades Charter High School is currently closed and is seeking to relocate to another location. Principle Pam Magee posted an update on Facebook on Feb. 4 stating the school's campus will not be ready for repopulation until this fall, and "final arrangements" are being formulated to "secure an alternative location" that will be ready in approximately six weeks. Palisades Charter High School is offering full-time virtual learning options in the meantime. Further information was not available regarding the space Palisades Charter High School is seeking to secure. A request for comment from Magee and administrators at Palisades Charter High School on details of the relocation plan was not returned by press time.

Gov. Gavin Newsom signed an executive order of Jan. 14 allowing students in areas affected by the fires to enroll in other school districts. Forty-seven students from Palisades Charter High School have already enrolled in the Beverly Hills Unified School District.

For information, visit [lausd.net](http://lausd.net) and [palihigh.org](http://palihigh.org).



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Michael Villalpando  
PUBLISHER

Karen Villalpando  
EDITOR & PUBLISHER

Edwin Folven  
[editor@beverlypress.com](mailto:editor@beverlypress.com)  
EDITOR

Rance Collins  
[rance@beverlypress.com](mailto:rance@beverlypress.com)

Tabor Brewster  
[tabor@beverlypress.com](mailto:tabor@beverlypress.com)  
REPORTERS

Chris Erskine  
COLUMNIST

Michael Krikorian  
Tim Posada,  
Rebecca Villalpando  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Lionel Ochoa  
GRAPHIC ARTIST



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# Beverly Hills moves to ban synthetic turf

■ Artificial grass can remain in backyards

BY TABOR BREWSTER

The Beverly Hills Planning Commission moved to create an ordinance banning synthetic turf in front yards within the city during its Jan. 30 meeting. While the ordinance has yet to be adopted, the commissioners agreed that the city should no longer allow synthetic turf in front yards, and the ordinance will return to the Planning Commission at a future date.

The city previously allowed synthetic turfs in lawns when it comprised 70% or less of the total landscaped front yard, as a result of state mandated efforts to promote water conservation and drought-

resistant landscaping which prohibited a local jurisdiction from outlawing synthetic turf. However, the city's changes to turf restrictions come after the passing of California Senate Bill 676 – authored by Sen. Ben Allen (D-Santa Monica) – which restores local control over the regulation of synthetic grass and artificial turf. While the bill allows local governments to ban synthetic turf, it also prevents them from banning drought-tolerant landscaping using living plants.

Allen penned the bill amid increased concerns over the potential harmful effects of artificial turf – and the “forever chemicals” they contain – on the environment and human health. The Planning Commission cited the safety concerns as the primary reason for restricting artificial grass.

“All of the concerns that have

been raised about artificial turf can be resolved by having other plant materials other than grass,” Commission Vice Chair Jeff Wolfe said. “There are plenty of other ground covers, there are plenty of other native California plants that can be done and resolve all of the issues around a grass lawn that were raised and still solve the issue around water.”

The ordinance will ban the use of synthetic turf in front lawns, but will provide a grace period for lawns that already have artificial grass installed. City staff will study an appropriate time frame to allow existing turf lawns before returning with a draft ordinance at a future Planning Commission meeting.

Although the commission was in favor of banning artificial grass, it received several public comments opposing a potential ban.



photo courtesy of the city of Beverly Hills

Synthetic turf is used as an alternative to grass in front lawns. However, a new ordinance will ban its use in Beverly Hills after concerns over harmful chemicals have emerged.

“As a 45-year resident of Beverly Hills, I’d like to convey my support for the continued use of artificial turf in our residences. Turf has aesthetic appeal, is low-maintenance, doesn’t require pesticides and conserves water,” Kathy Afshani said.

“Our family is strongly opposed

to the city of Beverly Hills denying our right to artificial grass in our front lawn to save water and beautify our city. Please let us save water,” Soraya Afra said.

The commission received one public comment supporting a ban on synthetic turf.

## Caruso unites private sector to aid fire recovery

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Developer and businessman Rick Caruso has launched Steadfast LA, an organization bringing together the expertise, influence and power of the private sector to expedite the rebuilding of communities affected by wildfires.

Caruso, who owns and operates The Grove, Palisades Village and the Americana at Brand, among many other properties, said the magnitude of the challenge is too

vast for government alone to handle. The nonprofit Steadfast LA will collaborate with local, state and federal government to minimize delays, encourage action and develop solutions. Steadfast LA is composed of leaders in real estate, finance, construction and infrastructure.

“Rebuilding these communities and getting people back in their homes isn’t just our responsibility – it’s our job, and we’re rolling up our sleeves to make it happen, full

stop,” said Caruso, chairman of Steadfast LA. “This isn’t about meetings and paperwork. It’s about getting our hands dirty, breaking through obstacles and physically rebuilding – brick-by-brick, street-by-street. Public and private collaboration at an unprecedented scale is what it’s going to take. Together, we can and will fix this. With the government providing the tools and the private sector bringing urgency, expertise and hard work, we can cut through red tape, lay founda-

tions and make sure these communities don’t just come back, but come back stronger. This is more than a project – it’s a mission to prove that real leadership means results, not just promises.”

Steadfast LA will use a multifaceted strategy focusing on efficiency, accountability, resources and action. In terms of infrastructure, the goal is to build stronger, smarter and more resilient systems. Rebuilding efforts will focus on rapidly restoring homes, businesses and communities affected by the wildfires. Steadfast LA aims to

See Caruso page 25



photo courtesy of Caruso  
Rick Caruso serves as chairman of Steadfast LA.

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From February 9 through February 15, 2025, celebrate Valentine's Day week by dining at participating Beverly Hills hotel restaurants and bars, where a portion of the proceeds will support Los Angeles wildfire relief efforts.

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L.A. County District Attorney Nathan Hochman was joined by LASD and LAPD officials during a press conference announcing the human trafficking arrests and charges.

## Law enforcement cracks down on human trafficking

The Los Angeles Police Department, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and law enforcement agencies throughout California held an anti-human trafficking operation from Jan. 36-Feb. 1.

Part of Operation Reclaim and Rebuild, the effort was held during National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month in January. It focused on rescuing victims and apprehending perpetrators, and resulted in 547 arrests statewide. Police said 177 victims of sexual exploitation were rescued including 11 minors. The Los Angeles Police Department, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and Long Beach Police Department made more than 230 arrests during the operation. Los Angeles County District Attorney Nathan Hochman announced on Feb. 4 that charges have already been filed against at least six people as a result of the enforcement effort.

"Every agency's dedication in this operation highlights their unwavering resolve to prosecute these appalling crimes," Hochman said. "Human traffickers are essentially modern-day slave masters who should be on clear notice that we will find them, arrest them, prosecute them and seek maximum time behind bars for their despicable acts of preying on young girls

and boys. This is not a threat but a promise. Every case stemming from this operation presented to our office's Human Sex Trafficking Section will be thoroughly reviewed for filing consideration. Our fight against this injustice is unwavering, and we will continue to stand firm until human trafficking is eradicated from our streets."

Hochman added that the office's Bureau of Victim Services is available to assist by calling (800)380-3811.

"The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department remains committed to combating human trafficking and protecting the vulnerable," Sheriff Robert Luna said. "Our dedicated personnel work tirelessly to rescue victims, hold traffickers accountable and raise awareness. However, this fight requires collaboration. Partnering with law enforcement statewide is essential to strengthening enforcement, supporting victims and preventing trafficking."

Law enforcement authorities plan to remain vigilant about human trafficking and will devote additional resources to addressing the crime. Anyone with information regarding human trafficking is urged to call Crime Stoppers at (800)222-TIPS, or visit lacrimestoppers.org.

## BHPD arrests crew linked to burglaries statewide

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Beverly Hills Police Department detectives have arrested multiple suspects who are believed to be part of a burglary crew targeting cities throughout California.

The BHPD arrested three suspects on Jan. 16, and two others were tied to the burglaries through an investigation and search warrants. Beverly Hills investigators were part of a multi-agency operation that served search warrants at the suspects' residences in Los Angeles. Officers from the Glendale Police Department arrested one suspect during the joint operation.

Police said the suspects are linked to burglaries in Beverly Hills, Los Angeles, Glendale, San Marino and Burbank, as well as Ventura, Orange, Kern, Alameda and San Mateo counties. They are identified as Joaquin Vergara-Contreras, 29, Juan Antonio Silva Loaeza, 43, Elias Moncada Reyes, 30, Matias Jesus Soto-Barraza, 22, and Leidy Dayana Manrique, 30. Vergara-Contreras, Loaeza and Reyes were arrested by BHPD officers and have been charged with residential burglary. Glendale police arrested Soto-Barraza while serving a search warrant and charges have not yet been filed. Manrique, who is currently in custody in Ventura County on other



photo by Edwin Folven

The BHPD worked with other law enforcement agencies when serving search warrants at the suspects' residences.

charges, was additionally charged with residential burglary and receiving stolen property.

During the searches, BHPD detectives seized stolen property connected to the burglaries including firearms, jewelry, watches, luxury handbags and designer clothing. Evidence was also seized that police said connects the suspects to the crimes such as clothing, cell phones and signal jammers, which are used to disable alarm systems.

BHPD Lt. Kevin Orth said on Feb. 4 that the case remains under

investigation and no new details are being released. Detectives are following up on leads and are seeking information from witnesses and anyone who believes they may have been a victim. Anyone with information is urged to call the BHPD at (310)550-4951. Anonymous reports can be made by texting TIP BHPDALERT to 888777 followed by the tip information, calling Crime Stoppers at (800)222-8477 and visiting lacrimestoppers.org.

## Man convicted in overdose deaths of two women

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Los Angeles County District Attorney Nathan Hochman announced that a 43-year-old man was found guilty on Feb. 4 on two counts of murder for the fentanyl overdose deaths of two women in November 2021. The overdoses allegedly occurred at the defendant's apartment in the 8600 block of Olympic Boulevard in Los Angeles, on the border with Beverly Hills.

A jury found David Brian Pearce guilty of two counts of first-degree murder for the deaths of Christy Giles and Hilda Marcela Cabrales-Arzola. Pearce was also accused of sexually assaulting seven other women from 2017-21 and was convicted of three counts of forcible rape, one count of sexual penetration by use of force, one count of sodomy by use of force, one count of rape of an unconscious woman and one count of sexual penetration by foreign object.

"A serial rapist was held accountable for the deaths of Christy Giles and Hilda Marcela Cabrales-Arzola, both of whom tragically died as a result of fentanyl poisoning, and the victimization of seven other women

across Los Angeles," Hochman said. "I thank the trial team, deputy district attorneys Catherine Mariano and Seth Carmack, for their tireless pursuit of justice and determination to give a voice to the women who bravely came forward to report the crimes committed against them. The office will prosecute to the fullest extent of the law those who illegally supply fentanyl and destroy lives, especially those who commit sexual assaults."

Pearce is scheduled to be sentenced on March 13. He faces 148 years to life in state prison.

A second man, Brandt Walter Osborn, 46, was charged in the case as an accessory. However, a jury was unable to reach a unanimous verdict in the case against Osborn, Hochman said.

Prosecutors said that Pearce, Osborn and Michael Ansbach, an acquaintance, met Giles and Cabrales-Arzola on Nov. 13, 2021, at a warehouse party in East Los Angeles. Approximately two hours later, Giles and Cabrales-Arzola accompanied Pearce, Osborn and Ansbach back to Pearce's apartment. While at the residence, Pearce provided Giles, Cabrales-Arzola

and Ansbach gamma-hydroxybutyrate, also known as GHB, and fentanyl.

Approximately 35 minutes after arriving at the apartment, Cabrales-Arzola called a rideshare service to leave the location, but neither Cabrales-Arzola nor Giles left the residence. Pearce carried Giles out of the apartment 11 hours later and carried Cabrales-Arzola out about an hour and a half after moving the first victim, authorities said. Pearce later drove the women to separate hospitals in Culver City and West Los Angeles, where he dropped them off and fled. Giles was dead when she was dropped off at the hospital, prosecutors said. Cabrales-Arzola was resuscitated and died 11 days later, one day prior to her 27th birthday.

During the police investigation, it was discovered that Pearce committed numerous drug-related sexual assaults against multiple women. Seven victims testified against Pearce during the trial.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department and prosecuted by the Los Angeles County District Office's Sex Crimes Division.

## 'Timepiece Gentleman' to spend time behind bars

A man known as "The Timepiece Gentleman" who defrauded clients who entrusted him to sell their luxury watches on consignment was sentenced on Jan. 31 to five years and eight months in federal prison.

Anthony Farrer, 36, formerly of downtown Los Angeles, ran a Beverly Hills luxury watch consignment business, authorities said. The defendant pleaded guilty in October to one count of wire fraud and one count of mail fraud. He has been in federal custody since November 2023. Farrer's business, also known as The Timepiece Gentleman, was formerly located at 150 S. Rodeo Drive, Ste. 120.

"The so-called 'Timepiece Gentleman' was actually a con-man whose time living lavishly ran out when the high-end watch owners he victimized brought his crimes to the attention of law enforcement," said Akil Davis, assistant director in charge of the FBI's Los Angeles Field Office.

Authorities said Farrer used his business to connect purchasers and sellers of expensive watches. The alleged crimes occurred from November 2022 to November 2023. Clients shipped watches by Rolex, Richard Mille and Patek Philippe to Farrer, who agreed to display them at his Beverly Hills

store and offer them for sale online via social media.

Instead of selling the watches and giving clients the money, minus a 5% fee, Farrer sold the watches and kept the proceeds. He also used client watches as collateral for loans he obtained.

Additionally, prosecutors said Farrer offered to purchase watches for clients and stole the money. He allegedly used their funds to buy or lease luxury automobiles and apartments, and to buy luxury goods. The losses were estimated at more than \$5.6 million. The case was investigated by the FBI, IRS and Beverly Hills Police Department.

## BHPD calls attention to state's crosswalk daylighting law

The Beverly Hills Police Department is reminding residents about California Assembly Bill 413, commonly known as the "Crosswalk Daylighting" law, which went into effect throughout the state on Jan. 1, 2024. The law aims to enhance pedestrian safety by improving visibility at intersections.

The law prohibits parking within 20 feet of any marked or unmarked crosswalk and within 15 feet of crosswalks with curb extensions (bulb-outs).

The new law was enacted to address California's disproportionately high pedestrian fatality rates. According to the California Office of Traffic Safety, the state records the highest number of pedestrian deaths in the nation, approximately

25% above the national average.

Throughout 2024, only warnings were issued for violations to allow time for public education and awareness. However, as of Jan. 1, 2025, citations are now being issued for non-compliance.

Residents are reminded to consider the new law when parking near intersections. Similar to restrictions near fire hydrants and other no-parking zones, the law does not require the presence of posted signs or painted red curbs to enforce compliance. To view the full text of AB 413, visit [leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202320240AB413](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240AB413).

To report violations in the city of Beverly Hills, call BHPD Parking Dispatch at (310)550-4875.



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## L.A. trans community responds with fear, resilience to Trump orders

### ■ Sweeping actions limit trans rights

BY RANCE COLLINS

The trans community became a focal point during the 2024 election – although no trans person was at the center of the conversation. Instead, President Donald Trump and other Republican candidates zeroed in on hot-button, though largely niche, controversies like trans people in competitive sports and gendered restrooms.

In the first days of the Trump administration, several sweeping actions have specifically targeted trans and nonbinary people. One order sought to define gender as one's biological sex. The use of pronouns in email signatures was banned for government agencies. Trans people have been banned from military service. Gender affirming care has also been restricted for people under the age of 19. On Feb. 5, Trump barred trans students from competitive school sports.

The Los Angeles area has a large transgender community, as well as many medical, financial and mental health resources. In the wake of the orders, West Hollywood resident Chanel Blac Lumiere has felt the community coming together to help one another.

"I've been getting a lot of check-ins, and it's also pushed me to check in with other folks," she said.

"I think the community is becoming more informed. I think the community is also having more conversations with each other as it relates to what's happening and just taking on each other [with] a simple, 'Hey, just, how are you doing today? Did you eat? Did you have some water? How is your mental health?'"

Mell McCracken, who identifies as nonbinary, is the executive director of No Matter What Recovery, and deals directly with helping community members' mental health.

"I'm definitely encouraging people to find safe spaces, whether that's within LGBTQ+ communities or with allies they trust," McCracken said. "I'm also urging folks to get more involved in social action. There are plenty of ways to engage in social justice and fight for trans rights while still protecting yourself. Phone banking, calling representatives, organizing and volunteering are all great ways to channel understandable outrage into effective, meaningful action."

Jeaneen Russell has launched with her 13-year-old trans son the organization and social media initiative Protect Trans Kids. She recently attended a local Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays chapter meeting.

"Trans kids are literally scared for their lives," Russell said. "And not just about getting treatment – but how this administration is emboldening people to show their hate and transphobia. It makes me

sick to my stomach that kids like mine are being targeted and made to feel like their lives aren't worth living. How dare this administration think they know what's better for our kids' overall wellbeing than their own parents, the dozens of medical and mental health professionals we consult with, and the kids themselves ... My child's basic human rights and existence are not up for debate."

McCracken said that "medical gatekeeping" is among the biggest concerns she's hearing from the trans community.

"So many people are having trouble accessing providers and legal barriers are making it harder to get and keep the medical care and prescriptions they rely on. In many places, laws are being introduced or passed that outright restrict access to gender-affirming healthcare. Trans and nonbinary people are being increasingly targeted, often made to feel like their humanity is invalid or overlooked," McCracken said.

Los Angeles Trans Advisory Council member Shane Ivan Nash likened the actions to Nazi Germany.

"These attacks echo chilling historical precedents, most notably the 1933 destruction of the Institute for Sexual Science in Berlin by the Nazi regime," Nash said. "Founded by Magnus Hirschfeld, a pioneer in sexology and LGBTQ+ advocacy, the institute was a haven for early transgender research and support. Its obliteration, including the first Nazi book burning that was at the institute marked one of the first cultural casualties of rising fascism – a symbolic and literal attempt to erase

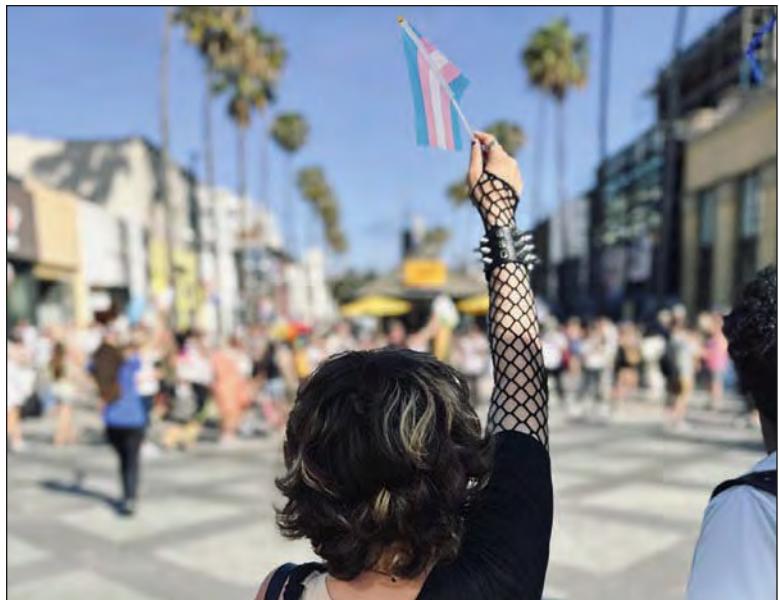


photo courtesy of Jeaneen Russell

Jeaneen Russell's son participated in Pride last year.

queer existence."

Joie Gyondla, a 55-year-old trans woman, said that she has decided not to renew her passport, uncertain that she will be able to checkmark the proper gender identity.

"My driver's license reflects my identity and the way I present, which is a trans woman. I present female," Gyondla said. "I've had a lot of medical treatment and gender affirming surgeries to align with my authentic self, and to be forced to have a passport that says that I'm male, not only creates gender dysphoria, which is something I've worked so hard to overcome, but it creates this amount of unsafety and almost like persecution."

She said that she is considering how she can help and protect the next generation.

"I've been thinking for a long time about fostering. I have an extra

bedroom, so I'm [now] in the process of being licensed to foster. I'm going to specifically ask for a trans kid, because they're out there. So it's [all about] how we can support one another," she said.

Alicia Arballo, a trans substitute teacher who was targeted in 2023 a group of parents at Saticoy Elementary School in North Hollywood, said there are some "silver linings" in the Los Angeles area.

"All of this attention has given our community a visibility we've really never had before," Arballo said. "We have well-run organizations like GLAAD and the Trevor Project, providing money and resources towards those in litigation. With regard to those legislative fights, entities such as the

See page 7

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## WeHo streamlines Sunset billboard process

■ New positions will be added to oversee signage

BY RANCE COLLINS

On Feb. 3, the West Hollywood City Council once again found itself discussing approval of a billboard on the Sunset Strip. It has become a regular occurrence at meetings, and lengthy hearings often get into the minutia of the size and scope of these projects.

But in addition to approving a double-sided digital billboard on 9200 Sunset Blvd., the City Council also authorized city staff to establish three new positions in the Community Development Department dedicated to billboards. This comes as a further evolution in the Sunset Boulevard Arts & Advertising Program, which sought to "reimagine" outdoor signage on the Strip.

With the creation of the positions, the City Council hopes to streamline development and approvals for

signage.

"The council recognized that we need to have a dedicated unit at city hall focused on signage regulation," said Vice Mayor John Heilman, who helped initiate the item. "The current staffing results in inconsistencies and lack of clarity. I'm glad the council approved my direction to consolidate the staffing for signage within the Community Development Department. This will provide greater accountability and transparency for the signage program."

Billboards have been lucrative for West Hollywood, as deals for building signage include a percentage of revenue returned to the city.

"The billboard program brings with it a direct investment back into the city that allows us to have budget surpluses and also re-invest back into our communities," Councilman John Erickson said. "I support bringing on my staff to ensure these projects get across the finish line and also support us doing this on other major items, such as

our lagging infrastructure across the city."

"I'm super happy about the future administration of our billboard program," said Councilman Danny Hang, who co-authored the item. "It just makes sense to house the program with a dedicated team. It's going to make the whole process smoother. And with optimal milestones in place, we can get projects approved faster, which means the city starts generating revenue faster. It's a smart move and was a unanimous vote."

For the rest of the year, contracted staff will continue to work with the projects that are currently in process. A full transition to in-house staff is set to be completed by the end of the year.

The billboards approved for 9200 Sunset Blvd., which houses the restaurant BOA and the social club Soho House, will be on the western side of the building. Originally, they were proposed to be static billboards, but during the meeting the council negotiated to upgrade them to digital.



rendering courtesy of the city of West Hollywood

A two-sided digital billboard was approved by the West Hollywood City Council on Feb. 3.

"The proposed sign was using outdated materials and wasn't maximizing the revenue for the city," Hang said. "We ultimately agreed on permitting a sign with modern technology which will generate substantially more revenue for city services."

"Now that it will be digital, it'll be a bold and creative piece that

adds to the cool vibe of Sunset Boulevard and be a strong revenue generator for West Hollywood," Hang said. "It's going to help fund social services programs, infrastructure improvements, arts programs and so much more. It's a win for both the city's culture and economy, and I'm excited to see it come to life."

## EPA, FEMA offer updates on work in fire zones

Los Angeles County, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Environmental Protection Agency are providing information about the status of debris removal in the Palisades and Eaton fire burn



photo courtesy of the EPA

After EPA teams inspect and remove hazardous waste from properties in the burn zones, a sign is placed on-site indicating that non-hazardous debris removal can begin.

From page 7

Transgender Law Center and ACLU are providing strong, schooled lawyers to fight the fight. We have a broad coalition with strong vocal leaders like Raquel Willis, Laverne Cox, Chris Mosier, Chase Strangio, Schuyler Bailar and so many others who have power platforms creating small organized protests and actions."

She, too, advocates for people to find ways to get involved.

"Nothing can get us out of our negative mindset better than service. There are many fighting on your behalf, and while it might not be this day, our day will come," Arballo said.

McCracken said that it is important that allies step up and provide support.

"Listen. Deeply. Sometimes, the most important thing allies can do is simply listen," McCracken said. "People often rush to offer solutions and well-meaning advice, thinking it will help. While I know these suggestions come from a good place, the emotional support people really need can sometimes get lost beneath a focus on solutions and action."

Nash called out the "silence" he felt from other members of the larger LGBTQ+ community.

zones. Both hazardous and non-hazardous debris removal is occurring concurrently.

Phase one of debris removal program is led by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The program removes common household items that may require safe disposal such as lithium-ion batteries, common batteries, paint, cleaners, solvents, oils, pesticides, asbestos and pressurized fuel cylinders including propane tanks.

The multi-step process starts with an EPA team surveying the property to identify debris and mark it for disposal. Properties with a large amount of hazardous waste and those that present a higher danger to health and the environment are being addressed first. A second team then secures loose debris in a secure receptacle and removes items.

The collected debris is taken to a transfer site where it is sorted and

routed to a final disposal location. Throughout the process, local, state and federal partners are testing air, water and soil at sites to ensure safety.

After EPA teams have removed hazardous debris, a sign is placed on properties indicating the removal has been completed. Once phase one is finished, phase two of the process starts for homeowners who have opted into the free govern-

ment-led debris removal program. To opt-in to the program, property owners must file a Right of Entry form that allows a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers team to remove remaining non-hazardous debris. The deadline to join the program is March 31. Homeowners who do not opt-in to the debris removal program are required to remove debris at their own expense. Los Angeles County Public Works director Mark Pestrella said on Feb. 5 that 6,498 Right of Entry forms have been received from property

owners in the Palisades and Eaton fire zones.

The Army Corps of Engineers announced on Feb. 5 that it has started phase two of debris removal at five campuses within the Pasadena Unified School District, and work will start soon on residential properties.

To file a Right of Entry form, visit [recovery.lacounty.gov/debris-removal/roe](http://recovery.lacounty.gov/debris-removal/roe). For information on cleanup operations, visit [epa.gov/ca/2025-california-wildfires](http://epa.gov/ca/2025-california-wildfires).

## NOTICE OF COMMISSION VACANCIES



### \*Architectural and Design Review Commission - One Vacancy

(Term begins: July 1, 2025)

### Cultural Heritage Commission - One Vacancy

(Term begins: January 1, 2026)

### Traffic and Parking Commission - One Vacancy

(Term begins: July 1, 2025)

### Public Works Commission - Two Vacancies

(Terms begin: July 1, 2025 and January 1, 2026)

(\*Architectural and Design Review Commission: position must be filled by a landscape architect, Beverly Hills residency not required for this vacancy.)

**DEADLINE TO APPLY FOR THE ABOVE COMMISSION IS ON  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2025 AT 5:00 P.M.**

For more information on the Commission position and obtain an application online, please visit the City's website at [www.beverlyhills.org/applyforacommission](http://www.beverlyhills.org/applyforacommission) or call the City Clerk's Office at (310) 285-2400 to obtain the application form by mail or e-mail. Selected applicants will be required to complete a background check.

Huma Ahmed  
City Clerk

## Beverly Hills commission approves mixed-use building

### ■ Development sits on L.A. border

BY TABOR BREWSTER

The Beverly Hills Planning Commission on Jan. 30 approved a development plan review and density bonus permit for a six-story mixed use building at 8800 Burton Way.

The building will be designed by architect Farhad Ashofteh and will be 69 feet tall with ground floor commercial space, five floors of apartments and a rooftop deck with a lounge, spa and barbecue area. The development will contain 24 residential units, three of which will be reserved for very low-income residents. Plans also include two levels of underground parking and ground floor parking with 42 total spaces.

Under Beverly Hills municipal code, a building at 8800 Burton Way would usually be limited to 20 units, five stories and 55 feet tall. However, because the development includes three affordable housing units, it can exceed usual restrictions.

tions under the state's density bonus law.

The development at the corner of Burton Way and Robertson Boulevard will replace a one-story building currently containing Black and White Car Rental.

"The project adds to both the commercial section of Robertson and the multi-family area of Burton Way with much-needed housing," representative Murray Fischer said.

The project received mixed feedback in public comments during the public hearing. Proponents said it would enhance the surrounding neighborhood.

"This project presents a significant opportunity to enhance the character, livability and long-term value of this key location, aligning with the city's goals for urban revitalization, smart growth and housing," said Jacob Cohan, a nearby property owner. "The current car rental facility is an overwhelming and outdated use of this prime site – one that generates excessive vehicle activity, contributes to congestion and does little to enhance the aesthetic appeal of Beverly Hills."

"I have lived opposite Black and

White Car Rental since 1999," resident Yaroslaw Horilczenko said. "Even though I would miss the management and staff as they have always been pleasant and courteous to me, the location has regularly attracted homeless and other characters at night who have caused disturbances and the need for me to call Beverly Hills Police on many occasions. Having more people in the neighborhood would no doubt make me and other residents feel safer ... I can imagine the many benefits and endorse the construction."

Some who opposed the project voiced their disdain for affordable housing in Beverly Hills.

"This is a safe neighborhood and very-low income households tend to increase the crime in an area. Additionally, this is an affluent area and many of us have worked extremely hard and made sacrifices to be able to live here," resident Caitlin Lee said. "It should not be given away for free to very low-income households who have not made the same sacrifices."

The commissioners ultimately voted unanimously to approve the



photo by Tabor Brewster

The development will replace a car rental business at 8800 Burton Way.

project.

"I welcome this project," Commissioner Myra Demeter said. "Turning a parking lot for exotic cars into residential and retail – it is a plus one in terms of our mixed use overlay zone, which is something we're hoping more applicants will take advantage of. This is exactly

what the mixed-use overlay zone was made for. I do agree and hope that it will revitalize some of the retail on Robertson Boulevard by bringing in more people, by bringing a beautiful structure – walkable, bicycles, etcetera. Our South Robertson area really could use some interest."

## Protests disrupt Los Angeles

### ■ Community rallies behind immigrants

BY RANCE COLLINS

Large-scale protests have occurred throughout Los Angeles since Feb. 2, as residents speak out against policies promoted and enacted by the Trump administration.

An emphasis on combating mass deportations and restrictive immigration policies highlighted the demonstrations. On Feb. 2, protesters took over the 101 Freeway in Downtown Los Angeles, waving flags from Mexico and other Latin American countries. The march started on Olvera Street and ended at Los Angeles City Hall. An estimated 10,000 people participated. Of the many signs spotted on the freeway, one read "Gritamos por los que no pueden," or "We shout for those who cannot."

Businesses throughout the county took part in nationwide "Day Without Immigrants" on Feb. 3, which sought to showcase how far-reaching an affect immigrants have on the economy.

"Immigrants are the soul of Joan's on Third," owner Joan McNamara said. "They have come here to dream, seek safety and opportunity and to build better lives for their families. We recognize the invaluable contribution of our immigrant community. Without you, we would not be here. A day without immigrants is a day for us all to reflect and honor the strength of our community."

On the same day, L.A. students walked out of school to protest the deportations by Immigration and Customs Enforcement, marching to City Hall.

A protest in Washington, D.C. on the same day was attended by sev-

eral California Democratic Representatives, who focused on the access Trump advisor Elon Musk has been given to the information held by the United States Treasury Department.

"It is total corruption for an unhinged, unqualified, unvetted billionaire like Elon Musk and sycophants to come into our treasury, to try to take control of our government, to have access to our social security numbers, our medical benefits, all of the information we use when we're trying to get a ... tax return," Rep. Sydney Kamlager-Dove (D-Culver City) said. "And you're taking our money? Homie don't play that."

City Hall was also the focal point of a protest on Feb. 5, which was part of another nationwide effort, promoted on social media, to combat Trump and the Republican-led Congress' policies. Groups from around the country were instructed to gather at government buildings. Thousands gathered on Spring Street.

"I'm glad people are protesting the inhumane actions of the Trump Administration," West Hollywood Vice Mayor John Heilman said. "He continues to demonize immigrants, African-Americans, women and the LGBTQI community. He has shown contempt for the very government he is supposed to be leading. He has started a tariff war with neighboring countries who supply essential goods and food for our country, driving up prices for the American people and leaving us less secure. He has nominated people for key positions who are absurdly unqualified and often, mired in scandal. The Republicans in Congress should be ashamed of themselves because they continue to bow to his demands and enable his destructive actions."



Thousands took over the 101 Freeway to protest immigration policies on Feb. 2.

photo by Carter Blackwood



## CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

### A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO MODIFY THE BASIS AND METHOD OF LEVYING ASSESSMENTS WITHIN THE SUNSET STRIP BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BY ESTABLISHING A PROCEDURE FOR WAIVER OF PENALTIES AND INTEREST ON DELINQUENT ASSESSMENTS AND SETTING A TIME AND PLACE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED MODIFICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on **February 18, 2025**, the City Council will hold a public hearing to consider adopting a Resolution related to establishing a procedure for waiver of penalties and interest on delinquent assessments as it pertains to the Sunset Strip Business Improvement District.

The public hearing will commence at **6:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter** as the matter can be heard, as part of the open session of the City Council meeting in the West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room - Council Chambers, 625 N. San Vicente Boulevard, West Hollywood, California. Anyone wishing to speak regarding the Resolution may attend the hearing or submit written comments no later than 12:00 p.m. on the above Council meeting day via email to [publiccomment@weho.org](mailto:publiccomment@weho.org) or via E-Comment by visiting [www.weho.org/wehotv](http://www.weho.org/wehotv).

Written comments should be addressed to City Clerk, City of West Hollywood, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood, California 90069.

A copy of the proposed Resolution will be available with the online City Council Agenda Packet, beginning Wednesday, February 12, 2025. Please visit <https://www.weho.org/councilagendas> to view the February 18, 2025 City Council Agenda Packet.

Dated: February 6, 2025

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

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



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# Why? Why? Why? Questions for the Cosmos

There should be a handbook for modern life – a cheat sheet, a user’s manual.

Something to explain data plans, or how the internet gets into my house.

I assume by a long wire that squirrels chew on as it disappears into the trees, where it spools uncontrollably to the ground. But I couldn’t swear to that. I couldn’t swear to anything these days.

We need something to explain why everyone is loving “Small Things Like These,” the best-seller that the New York Times calls one of the best books of the 21st century.

I mean, it’s short and sweet. I just don’t get all the fuss.

What we need is a handbook to explain all these various developments, which come at us faster and faster every day.

Like, why sports teams now open their seasons overseas, depriving loyal hometown fans of the honor.

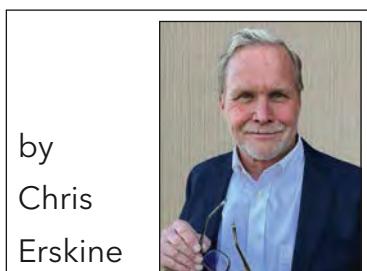
Speaking of sports, I don’t get why “your phone is your ticket.” And I don’t get why sometimes you can transfer digital tickets to friends and sometimes you can’t. Dear gawd.

I don’t get PACs. I’ve tried several times.

I don’t get how an Apple Watch can accurately measure your blood oxygen.

I don’t get “cloud credits” or DeepSeek.

I mean, I sort of get “open source



by  
Chris  
Erskine

coding,” but probably not as fully as I should.

I don’t get how “cutting the cord” from your greedy cable company still winds up costing you \$150 a month for a few decent shows.

I don’t really get why nav systems are free. I assume that they won’t be for much longer. For now, I am very relieved that phone-based navigation systems are free.

After all, hospitals charge 20 bucks just to park. Why should hospitals, which print their own currency, charge so much just to visit a sick loved one?

By the way, I don’t get Spotify.

Look, I’m not totally witless. I know when to use a comma, how to re-wire a lamp. I even get Einstein’s theory on mass and energy, Hubble’s discovery of twerking galaxies, even Erdős’ concept of collaborative distances.

Probably the best thing about me is that I haven’t even peaked yet. I’m just getting better and better.

Yet, I just don’t get Spotify. Trust me, I’ve really tried.

And why do my kids laugh when

I admit: “I just don’t get Spotify?”

I don’t get why insurance companies that claim to be broke can afford to buy up half the commercials on TV.

Hey, Jake from State Farm, can you bundle me that? Coach Reid, any ideas? Or that big, dorky dodo bird? Liberty! Liberty! Liberty!

I don’t get “reinsurance,” which insurance companies buy to cover their losses – insurance for the insurance industry. What? That’s textbook bananas.

Try as I might, I don’t get Nicki Minaj or even the great Waka Flocka Flame.

I don’t get French bulldogs. What makes them French exactly – their barks, their ascots, their kisses, their general joie de vivre?

I don’t get why toilets seats are always 10 degrees colder than the ambient air around them.

I don’t know why I need 17 different parking apps. Or whether meters are really necessary at all.

I don’t get why charcoal is better than gas. Or why making out is sometimes better than sex.

Wonder if Nicki Minaj would know?

Mostly, I don’t get why life has to be such an endless string of challenges: money, health, property taxes, software upgrades, tuition, drought, floods, wildfires.

I don’t get why churches burn and casinos thrive. And why bad things happen to good people. In fact, the worst things seem to happen to the very best people, don’t they?

It’s uncanny. So, can someone explain that big mystery, as it relates to what we always hope is a kind and benevolent cosmos?

Amid all of life’s technical



photo by Chris Erskine

Among life’s mysteries: How is this book such a sensation?

changes, the biggest questions are still mostly unanswerable. All we can do is guess.

But I do know this: Small children find joy in the simplest things: a thimble, a Popsicle, a puppy, some string.

And, no matter your age, I know that fellowship is the best how-to book we’ve got, better than the Bible even, certainly better than any NYT best-seller.

You humans continue to amaze me, even as life confounds us. So maybe that’s the answer – and the antidote.

Friends. Simple as thimbles ... the ultimate string.

For past columns, please go to [ChrisErskineLA.com](http://ChrisErskineLA.com). To schedule speaking engagements, email the columnist at [Letters@chriserskineLA.com](mailto:Letters@chriserskineLA.com)



photo courtesy of CHLA

The Valentine’s fundraiser brings in funds to help patients at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles.

## Send Valentine’s Day cards to CHLA patients

February is finally here, which means Children’s Hospital Los Angeles is kicking off its annual Valentine’s Day Card Drive for patients at [chla.org/valentine](http://chla.org/valentine). Bring smiles and good cheer to patient families, and for every Valentine’s Day card sent by Feb. 14, an anonymous donor will donate \$1 to the hospital, up to \$50,000.

“When a child is hospitalized, they miss out on fun school activities like exchanging Valentines with their friends and classmates,” Carol Hamamoto, Child Life and Expressive Arts & Therapies Manager said. “That’s why we created a Valentine’s Day tradition at CHLA with balloons and goodie bags that con-

tain thoughtful Valentines from our community. The cards, with uplifting messages, sweet poems, and sometimes silly jokes, are a fun way to celebrate and so appreciated by our patients.”

At [chla.org/valentine](http://chla.org/valentine), choose a card bearing one of three space-themed images – a unicorn jumping over the moon, a rocket-riding koala bear or a one-eyed alien in a spaceship – and write a personal Valentine’s Day message to a patient. The printed card and messages, along with goodie bags and balloons, will be hand delivered to patients on Valentine’s Day.

Children’s Hospital Los Angeles is located at 4650 Sunset Blvd.

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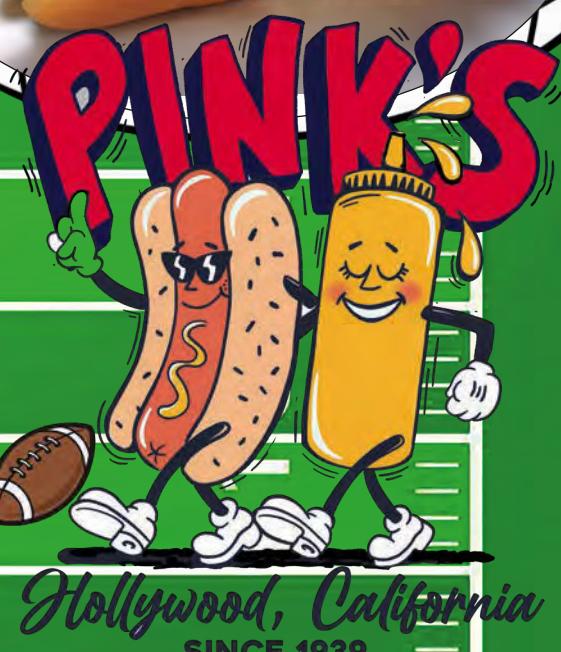
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# TV City opens doors for fire relief effort

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Victims of the Palisades and Eaton fires came to the Television City studio lot on Feb. 1 for the first in a series of relief efforts organized by Meghan Grimm, founder of Clyde Staffing Ventures.

Guided by volunteers serving as personal assistants, residents affected by the fires selected clothing, shoes, accessories and housewares from a large collection of donated items. They were pampered with hair and beauty treatments and served fresh-cooked meals. Entertainers, including magicians from the Magic Castle, brought joy to those who have suffered with performances and fun activities were held for families with children. Grief counselors were also present to help those in need.

Clyde Staffing's community relief effort is the brainchild of Grimm, a former personal assistant to Madonna and actress Jennifer Lawrence who started her own company that links experienced assistants with clients in a variety of entertainment and business sectors. With direct ties to the entertainment industry and people throughout the country, Grimm said she saw an immense desire among people to help the fire victims. She started collecting donations from people around the United States with the initial goal of providing to a relief organization. Through a social media campaign and word-of-mouth, she amassed so many donations that the project quickly took on a new magnitude.

"While I was not affected directly, I had a lot of friends and colleagues lose their homes, and being someone who has a very large network and the ability to bring people together, I knew that I could make something really large and impact-

ful happen," Grimm said. "I started collecting Amazon packages at my house from friends all over New York and the East Coast and San Francisco. Everyone over there said, 'How can we help, how can we help?' I started collecting boxes in my living room and before I knew it, I couldn't see the floor."

Zach Sokoloff, vice president of asset management for Hackman Capital Partners, owner of Television City, learned of Grimm's campaign through his wife, who was collecting items to make a contribution. It quickly became clear that it was a much bigger endeavor, so Television City opened its doors and provided approximately 15,000 square feet of space to house Clyde Staffing Ventures' relief effort.

"We're all Angelenos. This is a tragedy that has struck the entire city, and I think when your fellow Angelenos need help, we all have to find a way to step up. That's what we've done at TVC," Sokoloff said. "At a time of need, when our fellow Angelenos are hurting in ways that are hard to fathom, it was very important for us to find a way to pitch in. We were thrilled to be able to open up the studio for a distribution center. We are also incredibly grateful to Meghan and the Clyde Staffing team. They did an unbelievable job."

Grimm worked with organizations including the Boys and Girls Club of Pasadena and the American Red Cross to connect with fire victims, who were invited to the relief effort at Television City. She also encouraged fire victims to contact them at clydecommunityreliefcenter.com. Those with proof of residency in the fire burn zones were also invited. On Feb. 1, Grimm traveled to a Red Cross evacuation center in Altadena and provided transportation for dozens of people

to and from the studio, adding that she filled "two school buses." Grimm estimated that approximately 500 residents and volunteers participated in the relief effort on Feb. 1, and she is anticipating an even larger group on Saturday, Feb. 8. Plans call for the relief effort to continue on Saturdays moving forward. However, the timeline and details are still being worked out.

Sokoloff added that the entertainment industry has always come together in times of need and it has been inspiring to see the relief effort flourish.

"I don't think it's a coincidence that so much of the community has stepped up in the entertainment industry. As long as there are people in need, we will be part of the relief efforts," Sokoloff added.

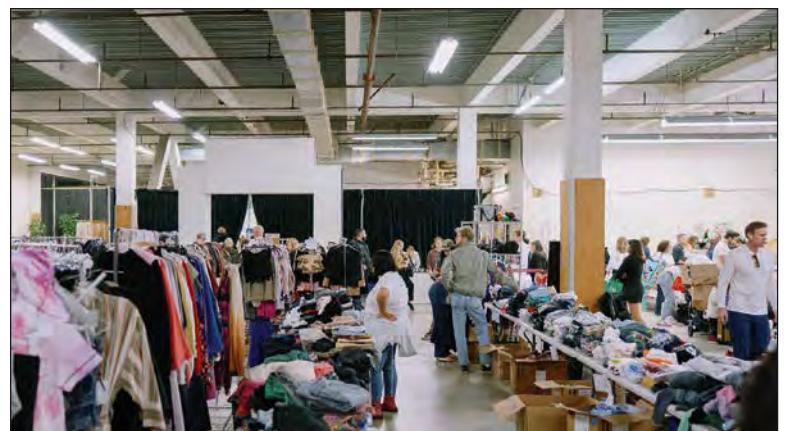


photo courtesy of Meghan Grimm

Fire victims selected clothing and housewares, and were offered beauty treatments as part of the relief effort.

Grimm said she was amazed at the extent of the support she has received and is planning to focus on more philanthropic efforts in the

future. Celebrity donors include Blake Lively, Scarlett Johansson,

See Donations page 13

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### UPCOMING EVENT ON THE CLOOBECK STAGE

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## Notable Quotes

"Fathers, be good to your daughters  
Daughters will love like you do  
Girls become lovers who turn into mothers  
So, mothers be good to your daughters too."

John Mayer (1977 -)

from the song "Daughters," written by Mayer in 2003

Wishing my daughter Emily Marie Villalpando Jilg a happy 33rd birthday!  
And give Posey a kiss from me! Love, Dad



## Metro advises about ongoing subway work in February

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority is offering updates on construction of the D Line subway extension project as work continues in February.

Street restoration is ongoing near the intersection Wilshire Boulevard and Western Avenue. Through March, Wilshire Boulevard is reduced to two lanes in each direction between Oxford Avenue and St. Andrews Place and left turns are restricted from westbound and eastbound Wilshire Boulevard to Western Avenue and from eastbound Wilshire Boulevard to northbound St. Andrews Place. The traffic pattern supports street restoration near the Wilshire/Western staging yard.

Street restoration is also ongoing around the Wilshire/La Brea subway station. Crews are working within K-rail work zones near the intersection. Construction is also ongoing underground on the station and above ground on the station entrance and exit and the northwest corner of Wilshire Boulevard and La Brea Avenue.

Crews are also working within a work zone on Wilshire Boulevard near Fairfax Avenue. Wilshire Boulevard is reduced to two lanes in each direction through March at La Jolla Avenue, where a K-rail

enclosure is in place in the center of the Wilshire/La Jolla intersection. Crews are working on an underground cross passage between the tunnels in the area.

Near the Wilshire/La Cienega subway station, a K-rail work zone has been implemented on the north side of Wilshire Boulevard between San Vicente and La Cienega boulevards. A work zone is also in place along the east side of La Cienega Boulevard north of Wilshire Boulevard. The traffic control measures support ongoing civil restoration work including construction of new curbs, sidewalks, pedestrian ramps and tree wells, as well as construction of the La Cienega station structure. Wilshire Boulevard is reduced to two lanes in each direction between San Vicente and La Cienega boulevards. Instrumentation and utility work is also ongoing in the area.

Metro is planning to begin piling and potholing activities soon at the Wilshire/Rodeo station. Work will take place between Cañon and Beverly drives and involves the closure of a single curb lane on Wilshire Boulevard to install piles around the station box perimeter. Beverly Drive will be closed at Wilshire Boulevard when work takes place.

At the Century City/Constellation station, placement of structural concrete for the station is substantially complete and construction of the interior and roof structures is ongoing. Eastbound and westbound vehicle access on Constellation Boulevard is open between Century Park West and Century Park East. Motorists are advised about traffic lane closures in place on 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](mailto:purplelineext@metro.net), or visit [metro.net](http://metro.net).



photo by Edwin Folven

A K-rail enclosure remains in place in the center of the Wilshire/La Jolla intersection to support underground work on a cross passage between the tunnels.

## Letters to the Editor

### Instructor Romeo Carey deserves BHUSD Board's support

Re "BHHS students protest teacher's absence," Jan. 30 issue

As former chair of the Human Relations Commission who created the city's Anti-Bully Video Competition, it is important to state that Mr. Romeo Carey, Beverly Hills High School director/teacher of KBEV, was instrumental in the success of this program.

My experience with Mr. Carey is just one of many thousands that exist in the history of our schools. Like many in our community, we are shocked that the board and superintendent have put Mr. Carey on administrative leave and are threatening to fire him, this without the existence of any student or parent complaints or allegations.

Beverly Hills High is no longer the revered academic school it once was. Beverly Hills High is not known for sports or for its music programs, but rather it is programs such as robotics, culinary arts and KBEV that bring praise, recognition and awards to our district.

I ask the board to reflect, listen to students, parents and the community, and to instruct your superin-

tendent to find a solution that rescues the possibility of losing this unique educator who has led KBEV and students to great success for over 20 years.

Ilona Sherman  
Beverly Hills

### Thank you for sharing information on Friends of Greystone

Re "Friends of Greystone donation brings smiles to Beverly Hills first responders," Jan. 30 issue

I wanted to express our sincerest gratitude for printing our article in [the] newspaper. Your quick response means a lot to the Friends of Greystone organization [and] to get this coverage. Supporting our Beverly Hills Fire and Police Departments always has been of importance to our organization.

Your support in giving us a platform to share our message means the world to us. We are deeply thankful for the opportunity.

Susan Rosen  
Friends of Greystone

## Donations

From page 12

Paris Jackson, Shay Mitchell, Meghan Trainor, Kaia Gerber and Justin Jesso. Grimm specifically thanked A-Frame Agency, The Wall Group, event planner Mark Seed, Poppy Seed Health, Town and Country rentals and William Morris Endeavor for their support.

"The story for me is just the power of the network and the

power of the community," Grimm said. "There have been a lot of emotions, people are really grateful, because I don't think a lot of them expected to walk into a space that was more than just shopping. It was really amazing."

Fire victims in need and people who want to donate or volunteer are encouraged to visit [clydecommunitystylecenter.com](http://clydecommunitystylecenter.com).

## CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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

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

**REQUEST:** **The Planning Commission** will consider a zone text amendment to adopt new policies, regulations, design standards, and definitions for Shared Housing Buildings and Shared Housing Units.

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

**APPLICANT(S):** City of West Hollywood

**TIME/PLACE OF HEARING:** **Thursday, February 20, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.**

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

**ZONES:** Citywide

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

**Complete digital agenda packets** will be available on Thursday, February 13, 2025, 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.**



## BIG GAME DAY

### Bowl over to Skybar

**K**nown for its iconic views, Skybar is hosting its second annual Big Game Day Viewing Party on Feb. 9 with live sounds by the EC Twins and pizza specials by Doughbrik's. The event is free to attend with RSVP. Doors open at 11 a.m. Enjoy the game on multiple screens and on the main projector, alongside craft cocktails, Doughbrik's pizza and live DJ sets by the EC Twins. Early Bird Cabana Seating is available starting at \$75 for those looking to make the night extra special. Must be 21 or over to attend. For tickets, visit posh.vip/f/1d378?t=pr. Skybar is located at 8440 Sunset Blvd.

### 'Brews' 'Rock' out for watch party

**R**ock & Brews, on top of its game-winning take out and

dine in packages, will be offering two exclusive shots inspired by the teams playing in the Super Bowl. Priced at \$6 each, the Fly, Eagles Fly is made with vodka, pineapple juice, blue curaçao and lime juice; and the Chiefs Kingdom is made with vodka, pineapple juice, grenadine and lime juice.

The shots will be extra festive by matching the team colors. Rock & Brews is the perfect place to watch and enjoy the big game with their touchdown worthy food offerings, team inspired shots, large TV walls and high energy ambience.

Rock & Brews is located at 143 Main St., El Segundo. For information, visit rockandbrews.com.

## VALENTINE'S DAY

### Romance is elevated at The Belvedere

**E**mbrace romance this Valentine's Day at The

Belvedere with a decadent four-course dinner, exquisitely crafted by executive chef Luis Cuadra, on Friday, Feb. 14. Delight in the enchanting melodies of a live pianist while elevating your evening with free-flowing champagne or expertly paired wines. Can't join on Valentine's Day? Celebrate early or extend the magic with a special prix-fixe menu available on Feb. 13 and 15. For information, visit peninsula.com/en/beverly-hills/special-offers/dining/vday-bv-dinner-2025. The Belvedere at The Peninsula Beverly Hills is located at 9882 Santa Monica Blvd.

### BOA offers specialty Valentine's menu

**B**OA Steakhouse is offering a set menu for \$115 per person at each L.A. locations, including West Hollywood. The first three courses feature several options to choose from, with dessert being a decadent dark chocolate mousse, complemented by specialty Valentine's Day cocktails. Diners can also



photo courtesy of Meoris

The Love Letter dessert is a red velvet, oolong tea ganache with vanilla cream and strawberry compote.

### Merois writes a 'Love Letter'

**M**erois will be offering a prefix menu for Valentine's Day including oysters, Nigiri sushi, Maine lobster spring rolls, black truffle chicken meatballs; and a choice of entree including Australian wagyu fillet mignon, black sea bass and Shanghai Maine lobster; as well as the Love Letter

dessert: a red velvet, oolong tea ganache with vanilla cream and strawberry compote. Priced at \$175 per person with seatings from 5:30-9:30 p.m. For reservations and information, visit sevenrooms.com/experiences/meroiswesthollywood/valentines-day-10466929773. Merois is located at 8430 Sunset Blvd.



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enhance their experience with a la carte additions, such as a Porterhouse steak to share, lobster tail, or a Japanese wagyu flight. For information and to make a reservation, visit [opentable.com/r/boa-steakhouse-sunset-west-hollywood](http://opentable.com/r/boa-steakhouse-sunset-west-hollywood). BOA Steakhouse is located at 9200 Sunset Blvd.

## Love comes a-la-carte at Osteria Mamma

For Feb. 14, Osteria Mamma has created an all-new a-la-carte menu with offerings that range from delicious pastas like the Gnocchi Finocchi in a creamy shrimp porcini sauce, lobster ravioli in creamy shrimp sauce and the Rotoli Della Vergogna – zucchini roll with fontina cheese, an assortment of pizzas, salads and appetizers, desserts – as well as mains like Spadaccino – grilled swordfish fillet in potato cream sauce and grilled branzino. The menu is available Feb. 14-16. Reservations recommended, walk-ins available. For information, visit

[osteriamamma.com](http://osteriamamma.com) Osteria Mamma is located at 5732 Melrose Ave.

## Crustacean serves up the perfect aphrodisiacs

Crustacean will have an aphrodisiac Valentine's Day menu in addition to its a la carte menu from Feb. 14-16. Highlights include Kumamoto oyster shooters, strawberry salmon crispy rice, seared scallops, surf and turf (filet mignon and lobster ravioli), and campfire strawberries. For information and reservations, visit [crustaceanbh.com/reservations](http://crustaceanbh.com/reservations). Crustacean is located at 468 N. Bedford Drive.

## Gracias Madre says 'Te Amo'

The Te Amo prix-fixe Valentine's Day menu at plant-based Gracias Madre includes a starter, main and dessert for \$45. Guests

can select from the Caesar salad, hearts of palm ceviche, or the queso fundido made with cashew cheese made in-house. The main course includes a mushroom quesadilla, burrito en salsa or potato pimento flautas. Guests can finish off the meal with a rich chocolate brownie or tres leches cake. There is an option to add a purista margarita for an additional \$10. Reservations recommended, walk-ins available. For information, visit [graciasmadre.com](http://graciasmadre.com). Gracias Madre is located at 8905 Melrose Ave.

## Love is for everyone at Ristorante Per L'Ora

This Valentine's Day weekend, Ristorante Per L'Ora located inside of Hotel Per La in Downtown L.A. is offering a special menu featuring handcrafted cocktails and Italian-inspired dishes to celebrate the occasion. On Thursday, Feb. 13, the Italian-inspired restaurant will offer a Galentine's Day special: squid ink

See page 16

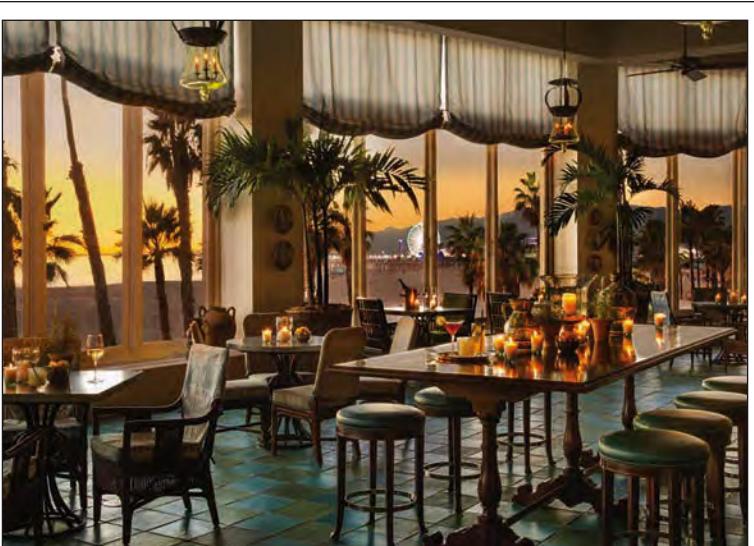


photo courtesy of Hotel Casa Del Mar  
Terrazza offers the perfect backdrop for Valentine's Day.

## Take in three-course lovers' meal at Terrazza

Celebrate Valentine's Day by the sea at Terrazza at Hotel Casa del Mar. The romantic Santa Monica hotel is offering a special Valentine's Day three-course dinner for lovers to enjoy while taking in views of the Pacific Coast.

Start the meal off with an appetizer such as big eye tuna crudo, okinawa sweet potato, or oysters and caviar. For the main entrée, choose from pan

seared halibut, prime filet mignon, lobster ravioli or eggplant steak. Finish it off with chocolate lover's cake with chocolate buttercream and raspberries among other festive desserts. The Valentine's Day Dinner menu is \$125/person. For reservations, visit [resy.com/cities/santa-monica-ca/venues/terrazza/events/valentines-day-2025-02-14](http://resy.com/cities/santa-monica-ca/venues/terrazza/events/valentines-day-2025-02-14). Hotel Casa del Mar is located at 1910 Ocean Way.

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## Authentic Polish restaurant opens at Farmers Market

Stara Pierogi and Sausage, an authentic celebration of Poland's culinary traditions, has opened at The Original Farmers Market. The name "Stara" is a Polish word used to describe something that is traditional and established. The recipes

for traditional Polish pierogi were passed down to owner Kamila by her great-grandmother Olga and are still made the same way.

Kamila and her family moved to Los Angeles nearly five years ago and quickly noticed the lack

of traditional Polish restaurants in the area. After visiting the market with her daughters, the family knew it was the perfect place to bring a taste of home to L.A. With the support of her husband, and their three children, ages 15 to 23, Stara will be a true family-run business.

Stara's menu is filled with comforting Polish dishes, from savory pierogi in multiple variations to crispy pork schnitzel, croquettes, mashed potatoes and classic Polish sausage. Its sausage is sourced directly from Chicago, home to the largest Polish population in the U.S., ensuring every bite stays true to tradition.

Adding a unique touch, Stara will feature a bronze gnome sculpture at its location- a nod to Wroclaw's famous gnome statues, which are known to signal excellent dining spots. This will be the first of its kind in America.

Stop by Stara Pierogi and Sausage to experience the rich and warm flavors of Poland in the heart of Los Angeles. The Original Farmers Market is located at 6333 W. Third St. For information, visit [farmersmarketla.com/merchants/stara-pierogi-and-sausage](http://farmersmarketla.com/merchants/stara-pierogi-and-sausage).



photo courtesy of The Original Farmers Market

The team from Stara is ready to greet guests.

From page 15

lobster agnolotti. On Friday, Feb. 14, and Saturday, Feb. 15, guests can indulge in a four-course meal featuring carefully curated menu items designed to elevate the evening. Additionally, Bar Clara, located on top of Hotel Per La will offer a special single's menu alongside its regular menu on Saturday, Feb. 15 until 10 p.m. Ristorante Per L'Ora is located at 649 S. Olive Ave. For information, visit [hotelperla.com/ristorantepperlora](http://hotelperla.com/ristorantepperlora).

## Grab the 'Gals' for a Descanso weekend

Offering a head start on romance, Descanso's multi-course menu will be available a day early, from Thursday, Feb. 13 until Sunday, Feb. 16, providing many opportunities to indulge in a romantic dining experience. And all "Single Ladies" are invited to join Galentine's weekend, with a special menu available for brunch on Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. For information and reservations, visit [descansorestaurantla.com/reservations](http://descansorestaurantla.com/reservations). Descanso is located at 5773 Wilshire Blvd.

## No one gets ghosted at Written Hand

Kimpton Everly Hollywood's new restaurant concept, Written Hand, is hosting Bivalentine's Day - a playful culinary celebration where the only thing getting ghosted is an empty martini glass. For \$75 per person, guests can enjoy a prix fixe menu featuring expertly prepared oysters paired with briny freezer martinis. Ford's Gin is supplying the oysters for the evening, offering an interactive experience with a mobile oyster shucker working the room and shucking oysters tableside. It's the perfect setting to toast love - or simply a love of oysters and martinis. For information and reservations, visit [openable.com/restaurant/profile/1390246](http://openable.com/restaurant/profile/1390246). Written Hand

is located inside Kimpton Everly Hollywood at 1800 Argyle Ave.

## 'Dunkin' to Valentine's

Love is in the air and Dunkin' is celebrating with the return of seasonal favorites in honor of the sweetest day of the year. Dunkin' has rolled out the pink carpet for Valentine's Day, with two heart-shaped fan-favorites making a comeback. Dunkin' fans will fall in love all over again with the Cupid's Choice Specialty Donut, filled with Bavarian Kreme and topped with strawberry-flavored icing and festive sprinkles, and the Brownie Batter Specialty Donut, filled with chocolatey, brownie batter-flavored butter creme and topped with chocolate icing and Valentine's Day sprinkles.

Through Feb. 18, everyone's favorite filled donuts, including Boston Kreme and Jelly, will come in a festive heart-shaped shell, while any donut typically topped with sprinkles, such as Chocolate Frosted and Strawberry Frosted, along with the MUNCHKINS Donut Hole Treats, will be adorned with pink, white and red heart sprinkles.

For information and locations, visit [dunkindonuts.com](http://dunkindonuts.com).

## It's a five-course romance at CIRCA 55

Only on Feb. 14, The Beverly Hilton is hosting a five-course romantic dinner at its rooftop restaurant, CIRCA 55. Set above the city's rolling hills, executive chef Matthew Morgan has prepared a carefully curated menu, inclusive of exquisite starters and decadent desserts for a date night to remember. Reservations are available between 4-9:30 p.m. The price is \$164.26 per person with gratuity and taxes included. For information, visit [openable.com/r/circa55-rooftop-restaurant-and-lounge-beverly-hills](http://openable.com/r/circa55-rooftop-restaurant-and-lounge-beverly-hills). CIRCA 55 at The

Beverly Hilton is located at 9876 Wilshire Blvd.

## Georgian's Sirena is for the gals

On Feb. 13, Sirena will be offering a "Calling All Sirens" rose and seafood tower special. "Santa Monica's First Lady" will be the backdrop for girl groups clinking glasses and sharing a tower of oysters, shrimp cocktail, Hamachi crudo, spicy tuna tartare, snow crab claws, sweet potato chips and a selection of dips including Mascarpone scallion dip, cocktail sauce, mignonette and drawn butter. Sirena at The Georgian Hotel is located at 1415 Ocean Ave. For information, visit [sirenabythesea.com](http://sirenabythesea.com).

## Toast love at Rokusho for the holiday

Hollywood's own Rokusho will be welcoming Valentine's Day diners with a glass of champagne and a rose. Chef Carlos Couts has curated a five-course prix fixe menu (\$120 per person), with balanced flavors reflecting that "love is an art, delicate yet powerful."

The menu features thoughtfully curated dishes, starting with options like tuna tataki with miso-mustard sauce or avocado and tatsoi salad. The second course offers cold appetizers that celebrate fresh ingredients and bold flavors such as Hamachi crudo with yuzu kosho, salmon belly tartare, or lobster and nori tacos. Followed by a hot course, guests can choose from spiced kabocha tempura, short rib gyoza or spicy tuna crispy rice. The main course offers loved-up couples three options: the 10-course omakase selection, charcoal-grilled wagyu, or uni and truffle mazemen. The evening concludes with the matcha panna cotta, served with yuzu gel and black sesame brittle, or the decadent hojicha chocolate



photo courtesy of The Original Farmers Market

Dupar's Restaurant has a pancake special for the Year of the Snake.

## It's a 'Lucky 8' Lunar New Year at Farmers Market

Celebrate the 2025 Year of the Snake with exclusive "Lucky 8" specials at The Original Farmers Market, ranging from dining, grocery and drinks all priced utilizing the number eight. Offers are valid through Feb. 10 (prices do not include tax or tip).

Specials include By Candlelight's \$8.88 t-shirts; Dupar's Restaurant's two pancakes with chocolate chips, strawberries or bananas with two

bacon strips or turkey sausages for \$8.88; Hoku Shushi's spicy tuna over crispy rice for \$8.88; Local Ice's ice cream pints for \$8.88; Sticker Planet's fuzzy dragon sticker for \$0.88; and WildFlora's Stay Wild or Botanical tumblers for \$8.

For information, visit [farmersmarketla.com/market-buzz/lunar-new-year-lucky-8-offers](http://farmersmarketla.com/market-buzz/lunar-new-year-lucky-8-offers). The Original Farmers Market is located at 6333 W. Third St.

les- c a / v e n u e s / l a d y - h a w k . Ladyhawk is located at 623 N. La Peer Drive.

## Make Valentine's 'Wayfarer'

Grab your special someone and celebrate your love for all things food with chef Victor Morales' Valentine's Day specials at The Rooftop at The Wayfarer Hotel DTLA. The menu features honey ancho chile glazed beef short rib, branzino, grilled ribeye and Cornish game hen. End the night with something sweet like chocolate flan, chocolate cake or macarons. Available Valentine's weekend Feb. 14-15 from 11 a.m.-11 p.m. To make a reservation, visit [openable.com/restaurant/profile/1081723](http://openable.com/restaurant/profile/1081723). Wayfarer Hotel DTLA is located at 813 S. Flower St.



photo courtesy of Cat and Fiddle

Enjoy sticky toffee for the holiday.

## It's the Cat and Fiddle and Cupid for Feb. 14

This Valentine's Day, Cat and Fiddle is offering a prefix menu with choices of soup or salad, entrée and dessert. The menu is available for dine in, requiring a reservation or pick up Feb. 14 from noon-9 p.m. Pre-order by Feb. 13 to guarantee availability.

Start with the cream of asparagus soup and enjoy mains, such

as the popular beef Wellington or special items such as blackened salmon with pan-fried new potatoes and parmesan broccoli. For information and reservations, visit [thecatandfiddle.com/#reservations](http://thecatandfiddle.com/#reservations). To pre-order takeaway, visit [chownow.com/order/25199/locations/37245](http://chownow.com/order/25199/locations/37245). Cat and Fiddle is located at 742 N. Highland Ave.

## Oscars prep: Five noms between 'Sing Sing,' 'A Different Man,' 'Maria'

This year's Oscars don't share the love much beyond a few entries that sweep most categories. Still, a few made their way in, though not entirely in the ways they hoped for.

### "Sing Sing"

A24's "Sing Sing" is easily better than two of the best pic noms. Rather than a visceral story set in a maximum security prison, it avoids the brutality of most prison stories while preserving the emotional frustration of isolation and anxiety.

Divine G (Colman Domingo) is at the heart of Sing Sing's Rehabilitation Through the Arts program, designed to help inmates through biannual performances.

New recruit Divine Eye (Clarence "Divine Eye" Maclin playing himself) proves a challenge for Divine G, who takes the craft very seriously.

The driving plot line is rather basic, featuring inmates coping with incarceration while they memorize lines and spitball blocking. But the performances – several from actors playing themselves and some who participated in the program – are incredible, especially Domingo, who deserves this one.

It was a top contender for so long but time forgot it. At least Domingo earned a nom for his incredible efforts, along with two more for adapted screenwriting and original

### ON SCREEN

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song, both unlikely to win. Too bad. This is a top film of the year that deserves far more than the scraps it received.

### "A Different Man"

What has Sebastian Stan been doing all this time? His performance as Trump and in this film made 2024 a wild year for the man most folks recognize as Buck in the Marvel Cinematic Universe. That role ain't going away anytime soon, but can he please embark on more experimental ones like this.

"A Different Man" narratively functions like a horror film without any of the genre's signature moves. It's occasionally violent, grotesque at one point, but the protagonist's journey is visceral. It's dramatic and ambiguous come the final scene.

Edward (Stan) is an anxious, insecure recluse with neurofibromatosis, which disfigures his face. At the suggestion of a doctor, he joins a clinical trial that might cure him. It works, but Edward doesn't wish for anyone to know who he once was. Now going by Guy, he seeks out the beautiful playwright

artists to engage in mutual appreciation and collaboration," KAASC President Yun Sun Jeon added.

An opening reception will be held on Feb. 6 from 6:30-9:30 p.m. in the KCCLA Art Gallery, located at 5505 Wilshire Blvd. For information, visit [kccla.org](http://kccla.org).

"It's a meaningful opportunity for Korean and American senior



photo courtesy of A24

Sebastian Stan, left, and Adam Pearson star in "A Different Man."

## KCCLA exhibition celebrates 80 years of Korean national liberation

The Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles, in partnership with Korean Artists Association of Southern California, presents "Beneath a Shared Sky: A Legacy of Art" running from Feb. 6-27 at KCCLA.

The special exhibition celebrates the 80th anniversary of Korean national liberation. It features 40 works by artists Boon Yen Cho, Robert Cunningham, Tim Doyle, Eric Johnson, Jin Sil Kim, Sunny H. Kim, Jung Yeon Shin and Ben Zask. The exhibition highlights shared cultural heritage and artistic achievements. Through paintings, sculptures and mixed media, the exhibition fosters intergenerational dialogue and celebrates enduring bonds of friendship and collaboration between the United States and Korea.

"This exhibition honors the artistic contributions of first-generation Korean artists while promoting cross-cultural exchange within L.A.'s diverse art community," KCCLA director Sangwon Jung said.



The exhibition includes 40 works by a diverse group of artists, including this piece by Jung Yeon Shin.

## Ken Block exhibit to open at Petersen



photo courtesy of Petersen Automotive Museum

Extreme performance vehicles will take center stage on Feb. 15.

The Petersen Automotive Museum announced the newest upcoming exhibit, "People's Champ: The Impact of Ken Block" in collaboration with 43i, opening Feb. 15.

This exhibit features one-of-a-kind vehicles that, together with Block, became famous all around the world for extreme performance stunts, "breaking the internet" year after year – thanks to a legend, behind their wheel. From winning rally cars to gymkhana cars, as well as a collection of incredible stories that Block wrote on asphalt, one burn out at a time: don't miss out on this wonderful exhibit.

Pre-purchase tickets at [petersen.org/tickets](http://petersen.org/tickets). The Petersen Automotive Museum is located at 6060 Wilshire Blvd.



photo courtesy of A24

Sebastian Stan, left, and Adam Pearson star in "A Different Man."

Ingrid (Renate Reinsve) next door and tries his hand at acting. Then Oswald (Adam Pearson) arrives. Like Edward, he too has neurofibromatosis, but it doesn't seem to affect his ability to hold a crowd's attention or successfully complete life's goals.

Stan's performance here is far more interesting than in "The Apprentice." The Golden Globes agreed, honoring him with a Golden Globe for a musical or comedy, though considering this a comedy is frankly a silly claim. Alas, Stan earned no nom here. In fact, "A Different Man" is only being considered for makeup and hairstyling. That's fine, though "Wicked" already has that one on lock. The sin is Stan's far better than two other best actor noms, not including himself.

### "Maria"

Angelina Jolie was likely hoping

for more accolades for her portrayal of opera singer Maria Callas in her final days. Before she passes, the once prominent performer hopes to find her voice once more, which lends itself to many a poetic waxing about art's grand purpose in the universe. Unfortunately, such monologues coupled with a middling pacing, leave Jolie little to work with.

She is a fine performer who shows us another layer of her abilities on screen. But no amount of acting can undo this film's pretentious approach to death and art. It's a nice try, but hardly a memorable endeavor worthy of top honors.

Still, its cinematography is the best part. Edward Lachman ("Carol," "Far From Heaven") is on his fourth nomination. Perhaps it has a chance, though "The Brutalist" and "Nosferatu" have more supporters on their side.

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## Beverly Vista Middle School named a 'School to Watch'

Beverly Vista Middle School has been officially recognized as a "School to Watch" by the California League of Middle Schools, a prestigious designation that highlights exemplary middle schools across the state for their commitment to academic excellence, student engagement and continuous improvement. The announcement follows a rigorous application and evaluation process that began in March 2024 and culminated with a school visit.

The "Schools to Watch" recognition is awarded to middle schools that demonstrate strong leadership, innovative teaching practices and a dedication to fostering student success. BVMS stood out for its focus on high-quality instruction, a well-rounded curriculum and a nurturing school culture that supports students academically and socially.

"Being recognized as a 'School to Watch' is a tremendous honor and a testament to the hard work and dedication of our students, staff and community," BVMS Principal Richard Waters said. "This achievement validates the efforts we have

put in since our district's reconfiguration in 2019, proving that in just five years, we have built one of the strongest middle school programs in the nation. I could not be more proud of our Bulldogs."

On Jan. 28, a team from the "Schools to Watch" California division visited BVMS to conduct classroom observations and interviews with students, teachers, parents, site and district administrators and board of education members based on the National Forum, which established criteria that are the basis for the Schools to Watch Program. The program focuses on school improvement efforts characterized by a continuous trajectory toward success.

The team provided overwhelmingly positive feedback, highlighting several areas of excellence: a welcoming school culture where students feel safe and supported; advancements in math instruction and plans for new curriculum adoption; robust athletics and numerous extracurricular programs that enrich student experiences; highly engaged staff who are dedicated

and committed to student success; clean and well-maintained facilities that reflect pride in the school environment; a diverse selection of elective courses offered through the Pathways to Success program; strong site and district-level support from the administration; and the board of education.

"Our vision has always been to provide an outstanding middle school experience that prepares students for success in high school and beyond," said Dr. Dustin Seemann, assistant superintendent of education services. "This designation affirms our commitment to academic rigor, student-centered learning and ensuring all students have access to high-quality education."

BVMS joins an elite group of middle schools across California and the nation selected for exemplary practices and commitment to continuous growth. Schools that earn the designation hold the title for three years and serve as model institutions for others looking to improve middle school programs.

"BVMS has set a remarkable



photo courtesy of BHUSD

The middle school was praised by the California League of Middle Schools for its student life, academic and athletic programs.

standard in a short amount of time," BHUSD Superintendent Dr. Michael Brey said. "This achievement reflects the dedication of our students, educators and families. We are incredibly proud and look forward to continuing to elevate the learning experience for all BVMS students."

Beverly Vista Middle School remains dedicated to providing all students with a dynamic and enrich-

ing educational experience. The school is actively working on expanding its rigorous curriculum and further strengthening instructional practices in math education. As part of its ongoing commitment to excellence, BVMS will continue to refine its instructional strategies, enhance student learning experiences and implement innovative programs that foster academic and personal growth.

## State superintendent encourages educators to stay focused amid federal aid disruption

On Feb. 3, California Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond and the California Department of Education issued a public statement via social media and sent a letter to all California

local educational agencies announcing that a temporary restraining order has been granted in the federal lawsuit filed by Attorney General Rob Bonta and 22 other state attorneys general, in which Thurmond is

a declarant. The TRO prevents the Trump administration from freezing critical federal assistance for education, health care, law enforcement and disaster relief.

On Friday, Jan. 31, a judge in the

U.S. District Court for the District of Rhode Island issued the TRO, blocking the federal government's efforts to pause or terminate existing federal assistance to the states until a subsequent hearing. It follows a Jan. 29 statement by White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt that suggested that a pause in federal assistance would continue to be implemented, in spite of an earlier Office of Management and Budget memo to the contrary.

In the superintendent's statement and letter, Thurmond encourages all California schools, districts and county leaders to stay the course and focus on local programs that are successfully improving student outcomes.

"I encourage all educators to remain focused on accelerating the achievement of our students. Together, we have reduced chronic absenteeism for all student groups, and we have begun to close persis-

tent achievement gaps, especially for our socioeconomically disadvantaged students. We must build upon these efforts to make sure that all our young people are able to learn, grow and thrive. Now is not the time to be distracted by external efforts to demean and divide," Thurmond said. "As I visit schools across our state, I am always impressed by the programs that our local educational agencies have designed to put state and federal dollars to work for kids. Please continue to stay the course with local programs that are producing results. Now is the time when our students need consistency, support and community more than ever. We know that our kids deserve our best, and we will continue to have your back every day so that you can give your best. Together, we will keep working to move the needle for student achievement, no matter what."

For information, visit [cde.ca.gov](http://cde.ca.gov).

## Foster youth organization gets permanent home

For the past 16 years, local nonprofit Happy Trails for Kids has brought thousands of foster youth together for camp retreats and outdoor activities that provide a desperately needed sense of normalcy and community. The camps have always been held at rented facilities which offered memorable experiences but lacked the consistency of a permanent campsite. Now, that's changing.

After two years of working to identify an optimal site in L.A. County, Board of Supervisors chair Kathryn Barger and her senior staff pinpointed a vacant property once used for a variety of public health purposes in Acton.

On Jan. 14, the County Board of Supervisors unanimously agreed to legally deed the 135-acre property to Happy Trails.

"I can't think of a better way to change people's lives than to repurpose [the Acton site] for foster youth, to give them hope, to give them the opportunity to thrive, and to let them know that they matter," Barger said.



rendering courtesy of Happy Trails for Kids

The L.A. County Board of Supervisors unanimously agreed to legally deed the property in Acton to Happy Trails for Kids.

Work is now underway to renovate and transform the site into a crucial hub for year-round recreational and educational programming for many of the thousands of children in Los Angeles County in foster care.

"Happy Trails for Kids has made

it our mission to restore the essence of childhood," executive director Lindsay Elliott said. "This camp will have a major lasting impact for generations of foster youth throughout Southern California."

For information, visit [happytrailsforkids.com](http://happytrailsforkids.com).

## Summer food program applications open Feb. 18

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond has announced that applications will be available for the Summer Food Service Program and the Seamless Summer Option on Feb. 18. The SFSP and SSO are federally funded, state-administered programs that serve free meals to children 18 and younger when school is out of session. Summer meals provide children with access to essential nutrition during school closures and summer break. In summer 2024, SFSP and SSO operators served

more than 15 million meals to children throughout the state.

"The partnerships that the California Department of Education has with local community organizations throughout the state are vital to the success of the summer meal programs," Thurmond said. "Our ability to reach California's most vulnerable children would not be possible if organizations did not apply to participate as sponsors or meal service sites."

Summer meal sites can be estab-

lished in communities in which at least 50% of the children qualify for free or reduced-price school meals.

All meals meet the U.S. Department of Agriculture nutrition requirements, and no paperwork or personal information is required for children to participate. Organizations eligible to participate in summer meal programs include schools, camps, nonprofits and government agencies. Applications are due May 15.

For information, visit [cde.ca.gov/lis/nf/sf/index.asp](http://cde.ca.gov/lis/nf/sf/index.asp).



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Opening Reception: Feb. 6, 6:30pm

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✓ Feb 12th, 6:30 PM

✓ KCCLA Ari Hall

✓ KCCLA Webstie RSVP

## LACCD announces new chancellor and vice chancellor

The Los Angeles Community College District announced the appointment of Dr. Nicole Albo-Lopez as deputy chancellor and Dr. Leigh T. Sata as vice chancellor and chief facilities executive. In the new roles, Albo-Lopez and Sata bring extensive leadership experience and commitment to student success.



photo courtesy of LACCD

Dr. Leigh T. Sata previously served as a vice president of operations and capital projects at California College of the Arts.

The appointments also strengthen the district's mission of providing quality and accessible higher education for communities across the Los Angeles region.

"Dr. Albo-Lopez and Dr. Sata collectively bring decades of experience, leadership and dedication to student success, which I am confident will greatly benefit LACCD and signal a new era of excellence for our district," Interim Chancellor Dr. Alberto J. Román said. "Their deep commitment to students and experience in driving impactful changes will be instrumental in LACCD's efforts to meet the needs of our diverse communities and strengthen our role as a leader in higher education."

Albo-Lopez previously served as the vice chancellor of educational programs and institutional effectiveness, demonstrating leadership in overseeing strategic planning, accreditation, curriculum development, student support services and

institutional effectiveness across LACCD's nine community colleges. Under Albo-Lopez's leadership, EPIE successfully managed large, complex annual budgets and implemented comprehensive district-wide initiatives, including the Los Angeles College Promise Program and expansion of dual enrollment partnerships.

"I began my educational journey at a community college and understand firsthand the transformative power of accessible higher education," Albo-Lopez said. "As deputy chancellor, I will continue advancing LACCD's commitment to educational excellence, ensuring our operations consistently improve to better serve our diverse student population. At this critical moment, LACCD must continue strengthening our regional leadership position to ensure students of all backgrounds can access a high-quality education."

Before his appointment as inter-

im LACCD vice chancellor, Sata served as vice president of operations and capital projects at California College of the Arts, where he led a campus unification initiative and oversaw major construction projects. His expertise includes facilities management, strategic planning and fostering collaboration among governing boards, campus leaders and the broader design and construction community. With a doctoral dissertation focused on sustainability planning and implementation, Sata is committed to innovative, student-centered solutions that enhance the educational experience — an approach he will bring to his role as vice chancellor.

"I am dedicated to fostering collaboration and innovation to create an environment where every student can thrive," Sata said. "With decades of experience in higher education leadership, I am excited to support LACCD's mission of providing accessible, high-quality education. As vice chancellor, I will focus on strengthening partner-



photo courtesy of LACCD

Dr. Nicole Albo-Lopez previously served as the vice chancellor of Educational Programs and Institutional Effectiveness at LACCD.

ships, advancing strategic initiatives and overseeing facilities planning and development to ensure our campuses provide the best possible learning environments for students."

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

## Fund helps community college students affected by wildfires

The L.A. Strong: Disaster Response Fund has raised more than \$2.26 million to support community college students and educators affected by recent disasters, including the Eaton and Palisades fires.

The foundation for the Los Angeles Community Colleges launched L.A. Strong less than 48 hours after the Eaton and Palisades fires began to provide immediate support to LACCD students and employees while preparing for long-term recovery.

Individual donors and partners include the Ballmer Group, ECMC Foundation, California Community Foundation, College Futures Foundation, Chegg.com Impact Fund at Tides Foundation, Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation, Cal Wellness and the Michelson 20MM Foundation.

"The outpouring of generosity from our community has been truly inspiring. Funds are providing critical relief to our students and employees who have lost so much, helping them regain stability and continue their educational and professional journeys," LACCD interim chancellor Dr. Alberto J. Román said.

The foundation will distribute grants to impacted individuals and

regional partner foundations. More than \$140,000 has already been provided to directly assist 63 students and 40 employees in the LACCD who have lost housing or are facing other hardships due to the fires. Direct payments to affected students and employees began mid-January and continue daily, with the number served expected to increase in the weeks ahead as outreach continues and the spring term begins.

"Our students and employees are facing immense challenges in the wake of the Palisades and Eaton disasters, but the strength of our community is evident in this incredible response," LACCD Board of Trustees president Kelsey Iino said.

L.A. Strong is the only locally vetted fund for community college students and employees recognized by Philanthropy CA as a trusted and impactful giving opportunity. The fund offers multiple ways to donate and provide support. Donors can direct contributions to students or staff and faculty, or may split gifts to benefit both groups. For information on donation, visit [fundlacolleges.org/fire](http://fundlacolleges.org/fire). To apply for relief, visit [app.bybeam.co/fundlacolleges/identity/signin](http://app.bybeam.co/fundlacolleges/identity/signin).

## BHUSD unveils 'Pathways to Success'

The Beverly Hills Unified School District announced the release of the 2025-2026 Pathways to Success Academic Course Guide, detailing an expansive range of academic opportunities from middle school through high school.

This year's guide, titled "From Bulldogs to Normans," simplifies the academic planning process by showcasing extensive elective options, graduation requirements and letters from school leaders. Additionally, the guide highlights key resources, including the College and Career Center, which supports students in navigating post-secondary planning.

"This guide supports our commitment to educational excellence and helps students and families make well-informed decisions aligned with their academic goals," BHUSD Superintendent Dr. Michael Bregy said. "Early planning creates a clear roadmap for success, and we are here to provide

a comprehensive look into what BHUSD offers — whether you're an eighth grader, a prospective TK family or a community member. As you set the foundation for a future filled with opportunities, this guide will be an invaluable resource."

The Pathways to Success guide offers detailed understanding of BHUSD's rigorous educational framework. It is available online at [bhuds.org/pathways](http://bhuds.org/pathways).



photo courtesy of BHUSD  
The academic course guide details class requirements and electives for BHUSD students.

## LACMA hosts children in County Park Care Camp for a day filled with art

The Los Angeles County Museum of Art hosted a field trip on Jan. 29 for the L.A. County Park Care Camp, welcoming more than 300 children and camp staff.

An initiative of the L.A. County Parks and Recreation Department, the camps were created in response to the recent wildfires and offer a supportive space for children and teens affected by the Eaton fire.

The children arrived on nine buses and were divided into small groups before participating in a variety of activities around the museum campus. The museum's education team designed special mindfulness activities to foster emotional awareness and promote wellbeing through art. Campers explored LACMA's outdoor public artworks including Chris Burden's "Urban Light" and joined guided tours of exhibitions such as "We Live in Painting: The Nature of Color in Mesoamerican Art." The event

concluded with campers reflecting on their experiences through drawing, writing and conversations.

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

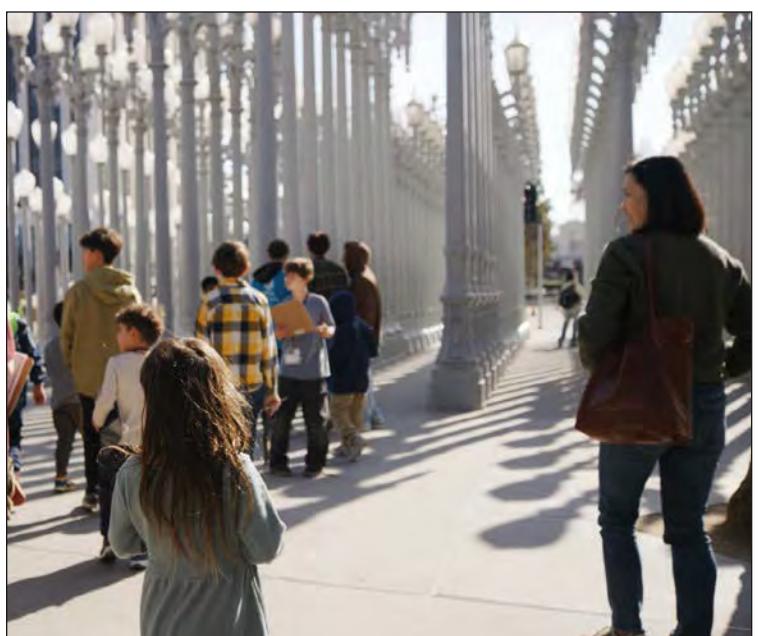
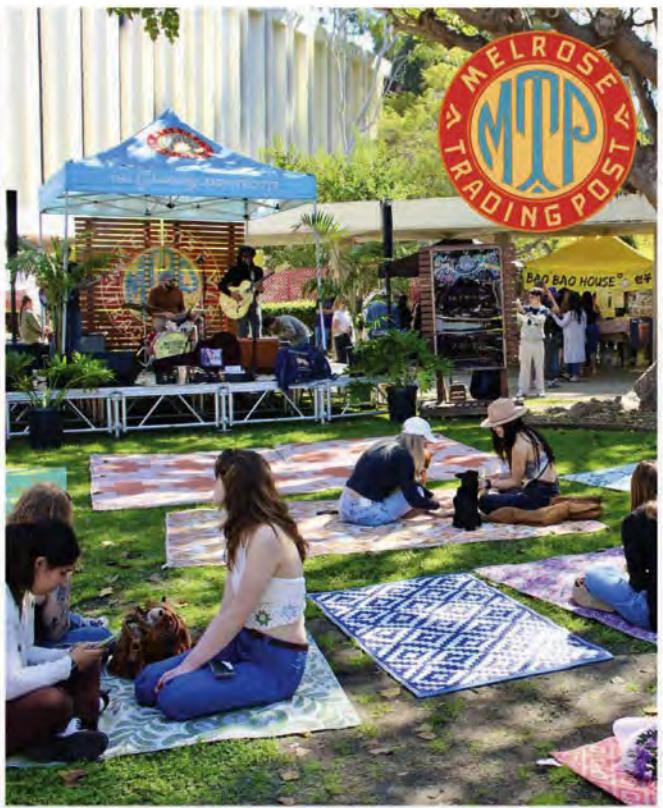


photo courtesy of the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation  
Children learned about outdoor art on the LACMA campus including Chris Burden's "Urban Light."

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## Celebrate the Year of the Snake at South Coast Plaza

South Coast Plaza is celebrating Lunar New Year through Feb. 18, welcoming the Year of the Snake with a vibrant centerpiece exhibit in Jewel Court, a captivating photo exhibition presented by the Chinese Consulate and numerous promotions and activities.

As South Coast Plaza celebrates the new year with wishes of abundance, there is also a reflection on the Los Angeles community and an embrace of the powerful symbolism of the snake to usher in a year of rebirth and transformation. Through Feb. 18, the Year of the Snake exhibit transforms Jewel Court into a dazzling cultural exhibition with auspicious symbols to welcome the New Year, including snake and wood elements with gold accents and red envelopes for prosperity; a coiled snake safeguarding the treasures of the money tree crafted from green leaves symbolizing protection and luck; and a cascade of gleaming gold coins flowing as red

envelopes drop from above to bring fortune. The centerpiece is accompanied by the Chinese knot, a symbol of a smooth, long and joyful life.

South Coast Plaza is also holding "Nihao, China! See You in Guangdong," a photo exhibition on view through Feb. 9 on Level 2 of the Nordstrom Wing. What does Guangdong, a southern province of China, truly look like? Four award-winning Southern California photographers embarked on a 10-day journey to explore its vibrant culture, rich traditions and everyday life. Curated by GD Today in collaboration with the Chinese Consulate, the exhibition showcases 48 images from the trip and reveals the diverse experiences of Guangdong, from traditional opera and kung fu to dim sum culture and modern street life.

Numerous special offers and promotions are also available through Feb. 9. To commemorate the Year of the Snake, guests can receive an

exclusive tea set crafted by LIULI Crystal Art exclusively for South Coast Plaza. Customers who make a qualifying minimum purchase of \$3,888 in same-day purchases from any South Coast Plaza boutique and restaurant (excluding department stores) are eligible.

With combined spending over \$8,888, guests will receive an exclusive red envelope gift set featuring South Coast Plaza red envelopes and a beautifully crafted aromatic harmony gourd symbolizing good fortune, health and longevity. Purchases on multiple receipts from the same day can be combined to qualify. The Gift With Purchase Redemption Desk is located on level one in the Saks Wing.

The Enter-to-Win Extravaganza runs through Feb. 9. South Coast Plaza's yearly contest offers a chance to win luxury prizes from boutiques and restaurants, including an \$800 shopping spree at South Coast Plaza. Enter-to-win



photo courtesy of South Coast Plaza

South Coast Plaza's Lunar New Year festivities include special decorations, activities and promotions.

forms are available at all four concierge locations. The drawing is scheduled on Feb. 25 and winners will be notified on Feb. 27.

Special activities include a Children's Lantern Craft session held on weekends through Feb. 9. Exclusive Year of the Snake paper

lantern craft kits are on sale at Carousel Court for \$8 each. Children can create the craft on-site or take it home.

South Coast Plaza is located at 3333 Bristol St., Costa Mesa. For information, visit [southcoastplaza.com](http://southcoastplaza.com).



photo by Jamie Pham/© Los Angeles Zoo

Visitors can see Cape vultures in a setting at the L.A. Zoo that replicates their natural range.

## New movies debut on Sunset Strip billboards

The city of West Hollywood has announced the debuts of the next exhibitions in the Moving Image Media Art program. "Black Woman Rest," a short film from artist Patrisse Cullors makes its worldwide debut at 9157 Sunset Blvd. (Streamlined Arbor billboard) and will air at the top of every hour for 10.5 minutes. "Una Pagina Mas by Artist noé olivas" will make its worldwide debut at 8775 Sunset Blvd. (Sunset Spectacular billboard) and will air at the top of and 30-minutes past every hour for approximately 5 minutes. "مشه Cheshmeh," a short film in three unique parts from artist Alexandre Ali Reza Dorriz will make its worldwide debut at 8743 Sunset Blvd. (Invisible Frame billboard). "مشه Cheshmeh part A" airs at the top of every hour, "مشه Cheshmeh part B" airs at 20 minutes past and "مشه Cheshmeh Part C" airs at 40 minutes past the top of every hour, each for 3.5 minutes. All works will be on exhibition through May 31.

MIMA is an on-going exhibition series of moving image artworks on multiple digital billboards at various locations along Sunset Boulevard. The goals of the MIMA program are to inspire conversation

and enhance the human experience of the Sunset Strip.

The Moving Image Media Art Program is a West Hollywood exhibition series administered by the Arts Division, as part of its Art on the Outside Program, and is presented with the Sunset Arts and Advertising Program. MIMA offers artists the opportunity, and the funding, to create art that engages with the unique visual landscape of the Sunset Strip. Artists exhibited in the program are selected from the

MIMA Prequalified List, a rolling, open-call for moving image media artists, curators and non-profit arts organizations, with applications reviewed bi-annually by the city of West Hollywood's Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission, in May and November. The MIMA Prequalified List includes a diverse list of artists of all career levels; from emerging to internationally recognized. For details, visit [weho.org/community/arts-and-culture/visual-arts/mima](http://weho.org/community/arts-and-culture/visual-arts/mima)



photo courtesy of the city of West Hollywood  
"Black Women Rest" will be featured at 9157 Sunset Blvd. through May 31.

## Cape vultures soar in new habitat at the Los Angeles Zoo

The Los Angeles Zoo is opening the new Cape vulture exhibit on Feb. 6, bringing the species back for public viewing in a habitat specifically designed to replicate their natural range. Guests can see the seven birds in the Animals of Africa section of the zoo.

"This was an unused exhibit that has been fully renovated to meet the needs of this species. It gives guests an up-close look at this African vulture and how they live and behave," Los Angeles Zoo CEO and director Denise Verret said. "The new space will undoubtedly help Angelenos continue to foster a deeper connection to wildlife and an appreciation for a species that plays a vital role in the environment."

The L.A. Zoo has cared for Cape vultures since 1985. Visitors have been able to see Cape vultures in the "Angela Collier World of Birds Show." The new exhibit space allows a closer look at their roosting, nesting and social interactions.

"This habitat incorporates elements that are specifically designed for the species like colony nesting nooks in the rock wall and ample room for sunbathing," L.A. Zoo curator of birds Rose Legato said. "Not only does it put the birds' natural behaviors on full display, the design showcases the high priority that the zoo places on animal care and wellbeing. I'm excited for our guests to experience the space and observe this special vulture."

The new Cape vulture habitat was made possible by a \$3 million gift from the Fritz B. Burns Foundation and support from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Plaques recognizing the donations adorn the facade of the viewing pavilion.

Cape vultures are named for their South African range, which includes the Cape region. Like other vulture species, they are carrion feeders. By swooping in to remove dead animal remains, they act as nature's "clean-up crew," disposing of large carcasses that could carry diseases like rabies, botulism and anthrax. Cape vultures can digest meat in any stage of decay,

with strong immune systems that allow them to safely eat dangerous pathogens that would sicken or kill other animals.

Cape vultures have wingspans of up to eight and a half feet. The birds are approximately three feet tall and weigh 15-24 pounds. The vultures have sharp hooked beaks enabling them to tear flesh, and large feet to hold down carcasses while eating. The Cape vulture is more closely related to eagles and hawks than to turkey vultures and California condors.

The species is categorized as "vulnerable" by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and, like many vultures, continues to be threatened by human activities such as hunting, poisoning, habitat fragmentation and loss and climate change. The Los Angeles Zoo has a long history working with the species and has produced more Cape vulture offspring than any other Association of Zoos and Aquariums accredited facility.

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

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## 'L.A. on Wheels' focuses on diversity among people and transportation modes

The Natural History Museums of Los Angeles County has launched the fourth season of the NHM Online series "L.A. on Wheels."

As the next season of the continuing Being L.A. initiative, the video series will celebrate L.A.'s diversity in its people and in its methods of transportation.

In a city defined by its sprawling landscapes and vibrant neighborhoods, the ways Angelenos move tell a story of innovation, resilience and connection. From bicycles to skateboards, lowriders to food trucks and everything in between, Los Angeles is a dynamic hub where transportation becomes an art form and a reflection of cultural identity.

"L.A. on Wheels" explores how Angelenos have transformed movement into a celebration of

creativity and community, capturing the rhythm and ingenuity of the city and offering a window into the ways mobility connects us to each other as part of the rich tapestry of life in L.A. It's a celebration of the wheels that keep Los Angeles rolling forward, fueled by passion and powered by connection.

The first video of the 2025 season is available for viewing by visiting [nhm.org/stories/biking-while-black](http://nhm.org/stories/biking-while-black). It focuses on Biking While Black, Yolanda Davis-Overstreet's organization that advocates for safer streets and fosters a movement rooted in justice, equity and joy.

Throughout 2025, "L.A. on Wheels" will present features on the Derby Dolls, Velo Pasadena Bikeshop, Kanya Sesser, Hot

Wheels, Lady Lowriders and CicLAvia. NHM will also host an in-person event later this year in support of the initiative.

The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County is located at 900 Exposition Blvd. For information, visit [nhmlac.org](http://nhmlac.org).



photo courtesy of NHM

A video currently available in the series focuses on Biking While Black, Yolanda Davis-Overstreet's organization advocating for safer streets.

## Holocaust Museum L.A. presents 'Die Plage' collage

Holocaust Museum L.A. presents "Die Plage," a large-scale collage by visual artist and minimalist composer Harley Gaber, opening Feb. 6. The installation, which focuses on his World War II canvases, will be on display at Holocaust Museum L.A. for the first time.

Gaber (1943-2011) worked on "Die Plage" from 1993-2002, shaped by multiple trips to Germany in which he combed archives, explored historical sites and visited former concentration camps to inform his process and body of work. He used collaging techniques and mixed media to create arresting images that juxtapose perpetrators and victims in a work spanning 4,200 canvases. Six hundred canvases will be on display at Holocaust Museum L.A., covering six walls in striking grid-like formations, per the artist's original design and intention. The exhibition will also feature Gaber's personal objects, family photographs and examples of his musical scores.

Described as "a major work of art, of great splendor and profundity; a powerful immersive experience to behold ... a vast, absorbing installation," "Die Plage" "captures the tumult and terror of those years through a thoughtful, aggressive barrage of images."

Born in Chicago to a Jewish family, Gaber relocated to New York and became one of America's early minimalist composers. His groundbreaking album, "The Winds Rise

in the North," has been hailed by musician Keith Fullerton Whitman as, "one of the holy grails of minimalism in music in the 20th century." In 1978, Gaber moved to California. He stopped composing and focused on creating photo collages. He returned to composition in 2008 and produced two musical works before his death in 2011.

After his death, the Gaber estate gifted "Die Plage" to the Dan J. Epstein Family Foundation in Chicago, which manages the artist's body of work and is the primary sponsor of the exhibit at Holocaust Museum L.A. HMLA's "Die Plage" exhibit will be on display until June 30.

The museum will hold an opening event on Feb. 6 at 6:30 p.m. featuring a panel discussion with Dan Epstein, founder and president of the Dan J. Epstein Family Foundation; Judy Margles, director emerita of the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education; Mark Breitenberg, arts educator and friend of Gaber; and Melissa Martens Yaverbaum, exhibition curator. The discussion will be moderated by Jordanna Gessler, Holocaust Museum L.A.'s chief impact officer. The Bauman Trio will perform music that inspired Gaber's compositions.

To RSVP, visit [holocaustmuseumla.org/event-details/exhibit-opening-die-plage](http://holocaustmuseumla.org/event-details/exhibit-opening-die-plage).

Holocaust Museum L.A. is located at 100 The Grove Drive.



photo courtesy of Holocaust Museum L.A.

The installation highlights minimalist composer Harley Gaber's World War II canvases.

## CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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

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

**REQUEST:** **The Planning Commission** will hold a public hearing to provide a recommendation to the City Council regarding a proposed zone text amendment to create a new entitlement, a Ministerial Housing Permit, to adequately support implementation of new ministerial housing development projects in compliance with state law.

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

**APPLICANT(S):** City of West Hollywood

**TIME/PLACE OF HEARING:** **Thursday, February 20, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.**

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

**ZONES:** Citywide

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

**Complete digital agenda packets** will be available on Thursday, February 13, 2025, 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 Michelle Montenegro, Associate Planner (323) 848-6813, or via email at: [mmontenegro@weho.org](mailto:mmontenegro@weho.org)

Melissa Crowder, City Clerk

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

# POLICE BLOTTER

The following crimes occurred in West Hollywood, Beverly Hills and the areas patrolled by the LAPD's Wilshire and Hollywood divisions between Sept. 13 and Sept. 19. 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

### Jan. 26

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 100 block of S. McCarty at 3:29 p.m.

At 6 p.m., a vandalism incident was reported in the 300 block of S. Spalding.

### Jan. 27

At 12:19 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 400 block of N. Foothill.

A vandalism incident was reported in the 9600 block of Olympic at 3 a.m.

At 3:07 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 1100 block of Summit.

An unknown suspect committed a commercial burglary in the 100 block of N. La Cienega at 6:45 a.m.

At 3:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 9100 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 100 block of S. Crescent at 10:30 p.m.

At 11 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 8900 block of Dayton.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 200 block of N. Almont at 11 p.m.

### Jan. 28

An unknown suspect burglarized a mail room at a building in the 200 block of S. Tower at 6:09 a.m.

At 11:20 a.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 400 block of N. Crescent.

A vandalism incident was reported in the 200 block of S. Reeves at 5:45 p.m.

At midnight, an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 200 block of S. Robertson.

### Jan. 29

At 7 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 700 block of N. Elm.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 500 block of N. Bedford at 4 p.m.

At 11 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 500 block of N. Hillcrest.

### Jan. 30

At noon, An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 200b block of N. Oakhurst.

### Jan. 31

At 2:52 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 9000 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect committed a residential burglary in the 200

block of S. Gale at 8:07 p.m.

### Feb. 1

At 1:19 a.m., a suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs in the 500 block of N. Palm.

A suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs in the 400 block of N. Rexford at 6:20 a.m.

At 10:57 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 9000 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 400 block of S. La Peer at 1 p.m.

At 2:10 p.m., a vandalism incident was reported near Dayton and Cañon.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 600 block of N. Rodeo at 6:51 p.m.

At 10:22 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 900 block of N. Rexford.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim near Wilshire and Whittier at 11 p.m.

## West Hollywood Sheriff's Station

### Jan. 26

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

At 2:02 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8800 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8900 block of Santa Monica at 2:23 a.m.

At 2:45 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8400 block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 1000 block of N. Edinburgh at 6 p.m.

At 6:10 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1400 block of N. Hayworth.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 8400 block of Santa Monica at 7:20 p.m.

### Jan. 27

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8300 block of Sunset at 7:51 p.m.

At 8:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8300 block of Sunset.

### Jan. 28

At 10:44 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8400 block of Santa Monica.

### Jan. 29

An arson fire was reported in the 7100 block of Santa Monica at 1:30 a.m.

At 2:43 p.m., an unknown suspect

committed a petty theft in the 8900 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7100 block of Santa Monica at 5:35 p.m. An additional petty theft was reported in the same area at 6:30 p.m.

At 6:15 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7100 block of Santa Monica.

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

At 8:35 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 300 block of Huntley.

### Jan. 30

At 1:30 p.m., a suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 7200 block of Fountain.

### Jan. 31

At 11:11 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8600 block of Sunset.

### Feb. 1

At 10:45 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8300 block of Sunset.

## Los Angeles Police Department

The LAPD is currently experiencing technical difficulties in posting incidents on the crimemapping.com website and is working to provide updates as soon as possible.

## New laws proposed to prevent price gouging

In response to price gouging in the wake of the wildfires, Los Angeles County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath, 3rd District, and Chair Kathryn Barger, 5th District, introduced a motion on Feb. 4 to increase penalties for price gouging, enhance enforcement and prevent predatory rental pricing.

The recent wildfires destroyed thousands of homes, displaced families and exacerbated LA County's already dire housing crisis, the supervisors said. Authorities have received reports of skyrocketing rent prices and landlords exploiting displaced residents, underscoring the urgent need for stronger protections.

The motion directs county counsel to draft a resolution increasing the maximum civil penalty for price gouging violations to \$50,000 per incident. It also initiates a report-back on legal options to address price-fixing practices, including rental algorithm software that artificially inflates housing prices.

"After a disaster, no one in Los Angeles County should have to worry about being taken advantage of by predatory price gouging," Horvath said. "The fires have already displaced thousands of

Angelenos. We must act urgently to protect renters, homeowners and small businesses from skyrocketing prices. L.A. County is strengthening measures to hold bad actors accountable and ensure that our communities can recover without the added burden of unfair housing practices."

"Rental housing prices have skyrocketed because opportunists are preying on wildfire survivors when they are most vulnerable," Barger added. "Price gouging is illegal and enforcement can be difficult, but I'm hopeful that increasing fines to the tune of \$50,000 will stop this criminal activity in its tracks. Partnering with online rental platforms and applications to increase users' awareness of price gouging laws will bring greater awareness and protect consumers. Accessible and affordable housing should not be a casualty of these wildfire disasters."

Key provisions of the motion include expanding enforcement of L.A. County's anti-price gouging laws, initiating a report-back on the use of price-fixing software that raises rents through automated algorithms, deploying disaster service workers to assist in investigating

## L.A. Superior Court expands electronic filing in civil cases

The Superior Court of Los Angeles County will expand its phased implementation of electronic service on Feb. 10 to include appeals documents in limited and unlimited civil cases. Known as eService, the court will use the program to transmit, deliver and serve required appeals documents.

The expansion builds on the court's phased implementation of eService, which began in December with juvenile dependency appeals and later expanded to include family law, probate and mental health appeals. Represented parties will be required to accept eService, while self-represented parties will have the option to receive electronic notices.

The eService program enables attorneys and self-represented litigants to receive case documents electronically from the court, streamlining case progression and increasing efficiency and timeliness. Attorneys

will be automatically enrolled in eService, which will provide faster notification and document delivery. Case documents can be securely accessed electronically from any location. Secure links with multi-factor authentication ensure document integrity. The eService program provides automatic proof of service for recipients.

As part of the next phase of eService implementation, the Superior Court of Los Angeles County will begin sending electronic notices for appeals documents in limited and unlimited civil cases starting Feb. 10. In the coming months, full implementation of eService for all family law, probate, mental health, and civil documents will occur, with anticipated completion by July 1.

For information, visit selfhelp.courts.ca.gov/jcc-form/EFS-005-CV and lacourt.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

This notice is provided in compliance with California law.

## Driver sought in fatal collision

Detectives with the Los Angeles Police Department's West Traffic Division are seeking the public's help in identifying a hit-and-run driver who struck and killed a pedestrian.

The driver of a light-colored SUV or crossover vehicle was traveling west on Venice Boulevard on Jan. 29 around 9 p.m. when the vehicle struck a male pedestrian who was crossing Venice

Boulevard at St. Andrews Place within a marked crosswalk., police said.

Los Angeles Fire Department paramedics responded and transported the victim to a hospital, where he died. The victim was not identified pending notification of next of kin.

Anyone with information is urged to call the West Traffic Division at (213)473-0234.

## Entries open for WeHo Pride

The city of West Hollywood has opened the application portals for its WeHo Pride 2025 celebration in May and June. WeHo Pride Weekend will take place on May 30-June 1 in and around West Hollywood Park, located at 647 N. San Vicente Blvd.

The weekend will include a free Street Fair, the Women's Freedom Festival, the Dyke March, the WeHo Pride Parade and the ticketed OUTLOUD at WeHo Pride music festival and Friday Night at OUTLOUD.

The WeHo Pride Street Fair will take place on May 31-June 1 and will celebrate Pride with diverse participation of LGBTQ+ community groups and allied organizations as part of visibility and expression. The Street Fair is free and will feature a vibrant variety of exhibitors along Santa Monica Boulevard. There will be live entertainment and performances on a community

stage, highlighting the LGBTQ+ community. The Street Fair is open to everyone and is a great occasion to take part in WeHo Pride's LGBTQ+ community experience. WeHo Pride Street Fair applications are currently open for vendors, artists and performers. The Street Fair promises to be bigger and better than ever before. With a wide range of activities and options, there is sure to be something for everyone. Organizations interested in applying to participate as an exhibitor at the WeHo Pride Street Fair can apply at [eventeny.com/events/vendor/?id=27403](http://eventeny.com/events/vendor/?id=27403), no later than April 15. Food and beverage vendors interested in participating in the event can reach out to [vendor@dlsevents.com](mailto:vendor@dlsevents.com) for more information.

Get festive as WeHo rolls down Santa Monica Boulevard for the WeHo Pride Parade on June 1. The WeHo Pride Parade is an imagina-

tive and colorful annual tradition along Santa Monica Boulevard that embraces LGBTQ+ representation, inclusion and progress. Full of music, dancing, colorful floats, festive marching contingents and creative flair, the parade celebrates LGBTQ+ people and their contributions to community and culture. The parade is a lively, energetic experience with good cheer and great vibes, and a whole lot of rainbows. Whether participating in the parade or joining in the fun as a spectator, there's something for everyone at the WeHo Pride Parade. Organizations and individuals interested in submitting an application to participate as an entrant in the annual WeHo Pride Parade can apply at [form.jotform.com/220595937379169](http://form.jotform.com/220595937379169), no later than April 15, 2025. Get creative and think outside of the box. The WeHo Pride Parade welcomes floats, bands, drill teams, dance teams, entertainment entries and marchers.

There are a variety of ways for brands to sponsor WeHo Pride, as



photo by Jon Viscott

The Street Fair in West Hollywood will take over Santa Monica Boulevard on May 31-June 1.

Organizations interested in becoming a WeHo Pride sponsor can reach out to [sponsorship@jijila.com](http://sponsorship@jijila.com).

Additional details about WeHo Pride 2025 will be posted as they become available at [wehopride.com](http://wehopride.com).

## LA Phil-performed album takes home multiple Grammys

On Feb. 3, The Recording Academy announced the winners of the 67th Grammy Awards. "Revolución diamantina," the first full album of orchestral works by Mexican composer Gabriela Ortiz, performed by the Los Angeles Philharmonic and led by music and artistic director Gustavo Dudamel, earned multiple accolades, marking a record-breaking achievement for the orchestra with a single album.

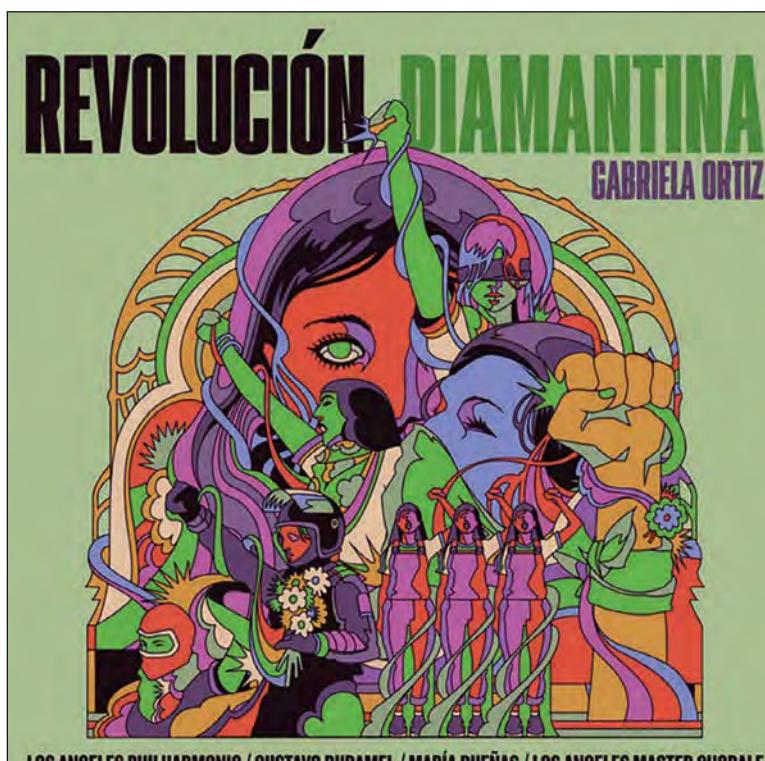
"Revolución diamantina" is the second release in the collaboration between the Apple-owned Platoon label and Dudamel with the LA Phil, documenting part of the orchestra's Pan-American Music Initiative, a multi-year project exploring more than 30 new commissions and numerous creative partnerships to emphasize the importance of Latin American heritage. The Los Angeles Philharmonic and Dudamel were awarded the Grammy for Best Orchestral Performance, and the album, engineered by Alexander Lipay and Dmitriy Lipay, was awarded the Grammy for Best Classical Compendium. Ortiz also took home the award for Best Contemporary Classical Composition for "Revolución dia-

mantina."

"Gabriela Ortiz's compositions embody a rare fusion of primal energy and deep emotional resonance, speaking directly to both the body and the soul," Dudamel said. "For years, I've dreamed of dedicating an album solely to her incredible music, and now, with the LA Phil and Platoon, we've made that dream a reality. These Grammy awards are a recognition of her singular artistry, and of the unique, shared journey we've embarked on together through the beauty of music."

"It's an honor to have this album – created with my dear friends and collaborators, the LA Phil, Gustavo Dudamel and María Dueñas – recognized with these awards," Ortiz said. "My deepest gratitude goes to the Recording Academy, the extraordinary musicians and producers who brought this recording to life, and everyone who has supported my music and vision. Music has always been my way of connecting with the world, and this moment inspires me to continue creating from the heart."

To listen to "Revolución diamantina," visit [platoon.lnk.to/revoluciondiamantina](http://platoon.lnk.to/revoluciondiamantina).



"Revolución diamantina" was performed by the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

## Museum of Tolerance hosts 'Art as Therapy' event

Oct. 7 survivors, IDF soldiers and artist Tomer Peretz visited the Museum of Tolerance for an "Art

as Therapy" program on Feb. 2. Ten IDF soldiers from Israel's Golani Brigade participated in an

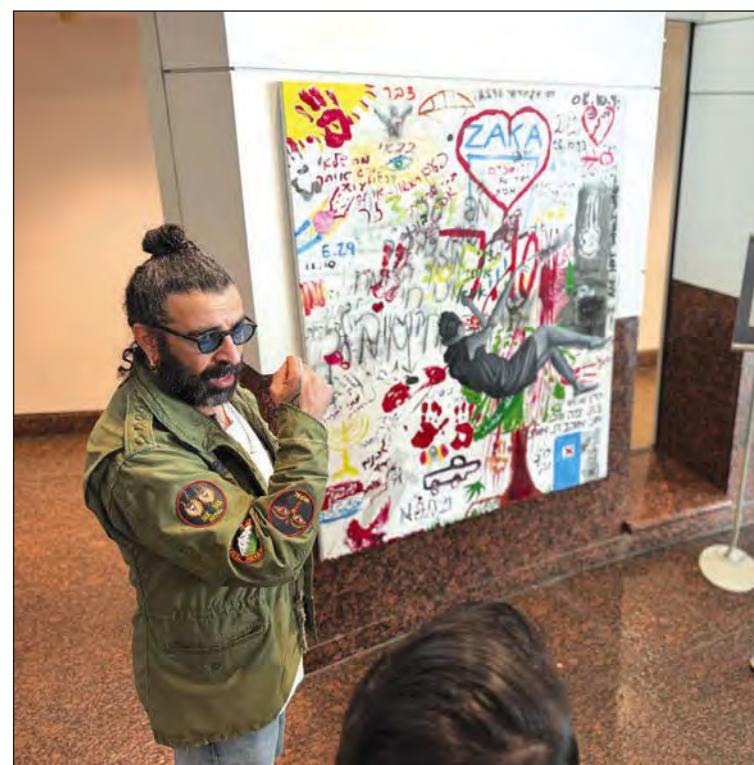


photo courtesy of the Museum of Tolerance  
Artist Tomer Peretz led an art therapy session with IDF soldiers at the museum.

art therapy session with Peretz.

The soldiers are veterans of the Oct. 7 terrorist attacks who fought on the frontlines of one of the deadliest sites – more than 40 soldiers were killed in one morning. Peretz, a veteran of the Golani 13 Brigade who served in this same unit 20 years ago, led the intimate and therapeutic session. Peretz is a celebrated artist whose innovative "Art as Therapy" program has been recognized for helping individuals channel their trauma and emotions through creativity. His work transcends traditional boundaries, using art as a vehicle for healing and transformation.

For the 10 veterans, the journey to the Museum of Tolerance was more than an opportunity to share their experiences – it was a step toward processing unimaginable trauma. The opportunity offered a glimpse into the soldiers, who showcased the power of creative expression in healing from the scars of war.

The Museum of Tolerance is located at 9786 W. Pico Blvd. For information, visit [museumoftolerance.com](http://museumoftolerance.com).



## 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**

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

## Getty interns take center stage in new exhibition

The J. Paul Getty Museum presents "Our Voices, Our Getty: Reflecting on Manuscripts," an exhibition of manuscripts accompanied by reflections written by interns from the 2024 Getty Marrow Undergraduate Internship program.

The exhibition is on view at the Getty Center through April 27.

This is the second time that Getty interns and museum professionals have collaborated in this way, following on the success of "Our Voices, Our Getty: Reflecting on Drawings" in 2023.

"This was an exciting opportunity for interns to work through the creation of an exhibition and interpret art in a relatable way," said Elizabeth Morrison, senior curator of manuscripts at the Getty Museum. "We are delighted that this exhibition showcases the diverse voices of our interns and hope that it will inspire visitors to also bring their personal experiences and thoughts to these historic objects."

Using nature as a theme, the 16 interns from universities across the country were encouraged to examine and respond freely to manuscripts that featured the natural world. None of the manuscript pages featured in the exhibition have been shown before at the Getty Center, resulting in a variety of personal and creative commentary – intimate emotional responses, poetic explorations, letters to loved ones and imaginative fiction.

Maya Le from Bowdoin College was reminded of her family when reflecting upon "A Hedgehog." The illuminated page tells the story of how a hedgehog gathered grapes for its young by spearing them on its spikes.

"My dad loves grapes too – he loves them so much that for his birthday, my mom once made him grape pancakes," Le said. "I'm reminded that among the many ways to love, the best ones are often simple (and involve grapes)."

Since 1993, the Getty Marrow Undergraduate Internship program

has provided paid full-time internships in core areas of museum work such as curatorship, conservation, education, publications and public programming to students from backgrounds that have been underrepresented in the arts. To date, Getty has introduced more than 3,700 interns to career possibilities in the arts and continues to support early career professionals through the Getty Marrow Emerging Professionals program.

A separate display in the same gallery will feature the Getty Museum's recent acquisition of a leaf from the "Hours of Louis XII," depicting the Virgin Mary lamenting over Christ's dead body. The acquisition was discovered to be the companion page of an acquisition Getty made in 2004, a portrait of the French king Louis XII surrounded by his patron saints. Both pages will be shown together, reunited for the first time in almost 200 years.

The Getty Center is located at 1200 Getty Center Drive.



photo courtesy of Getty

The exhibition features manuscripts such as "A Hedgehog from Bestiary" (circa 1270) alongside reflections written by interns.

## VINTAGE PARKLABREA NEWS

### Local street renamed in honor of comedy icon



Legendary actor George Burns was shown in the Feb. 9, 1995, issue of the Beverly Press and Park Labrea News at a dedication ceremony for Gracie Allen Drive, located on the Cedars-Sinai campus and named in honor of Burns' late wife and partner in the famous comedy duo Burns and Allen. A portion of Alden Drive was renamed Gracie Allen Drive that year where the street intersects with George Burns Road – a portion of Hamel Road on the hospital campus that was renamed in honor of Burns in 1986. Burns was a longtime supporter of the hospital. The comedian, who was 99 at the time of the Gracie Allen street dedication, was accompanied by then-Los Angeles County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, left, and Cedars-Sinai Board Chairman Irving Feintech. Burns died the following year in 1996 at the age of 100. The streets on the Cedars-Sinai campus remain as a permanent tribute to the legendary comedy duo.

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## 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>	1216 N. Flores Street, West Hollywood, California
<b>REQUEST:</b>	<b>The Planning Commission</b> will hold a public hearing regarding a request for a subdivision of a previously approved, 14-unit, residential building into a common interest development (condominium). A subdivision request was previously approved and has since expired before the final map was filed.
<b>PERMIT(S):</b>	Subdivision, and any other required permits.
<b>APPLICANT(S):</b>	QES, Inc. (Eric Lieberman) on behalf of property owner 1216 N. Flores LLC
<b>TIME/PLACE OF HEARING:</b>	<b>Thursday, February 20, 2025</b> at 6:30 p.m. West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers 625 N. San Vicente Boulevard West Hollywood, CA 90069
<b>ZONES:</b>	R4B (Residential, Multi-Family High Density)
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS:</b>	Categorically exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Regulations pursuant to CEQA Section §15332 (In-Fill Development Projects)

**Complete digital agenda packets** will be available on Thursday, February 13, 2025, 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 Laurie Yelton, Associate Planner at (323) 848-6890, or via email at: [lyelton@weho.org](mailto:lyelton@weho.org)

Melissa Crowder, City Clerk

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

# Tar Pits plan OK'd by Board of Supervisors

From page 1

ful to have already received \$22 million from the county to support this project."

Los Angeles County Supervisor Holly Mitchell, 2nd District, who represents the area where the La Brea Tar Pits and Museum are located, said the reimaging plan presents an opportunity to offer a multitude of benefits.

"I'm excited that Natural History Museum is taking another step forward in their reimaging project to make this unique world wonder an even greater place for education, community gathering, research and inspiration," Mitchell said. "I look forward to seeing the plans for both the buildings and the campus landscape unfold in the coming months and years."

Bettison-Varga called the project transformative and said it will honor the scientific significance of the tar pits and maintain the site as a community landmark.

"I believe that the work of La Brea Tar Pits and our institution as a whole is more important than ever before. Our goal remains to evolve the site to better serve Los Angeles and beyond, to safeguard this critical scientific resource and to create a dynamic space to engage local and global audiences in conversations at the intersection of nature, society and sustainability while improving the park experience for our local community," she added. "We are so grateful to the community members

who shared their insights, concerns and feedback. A number of refinements were made in response to public input to the draft EIR. These plans will improve the exhibition space, add classroom and research areas, enlarge the Central Green, renovate the site's entrances, preserve historical features of the Page Museum and improve the landscaping with native trees and plants."

The plan calls for major changes at the 13-acre La Brea Tar Pits and Museum and surrounding park. Designed by the architecture firm Weiss/Manfredi, the project includes an overall site redesign, expansion and upgrades for the Tar Pits complex, a Central Green, renovations to the existing Page Museum and development of a new museum building, according to the EIR.

The existing museum will be renovated with an enlarged exhibition space, additional collections storage, ground floor café and retail space. The central atrium will be renovated to provide additional exhibitions, an additional classroom and visible laboratory space.

The EIR states that the new two-story 40,000 square foot museum building will be located northwest of the Page Museum and will include an extended central lobby, exhibit spaces, two theaters, research and collections laboratories, administration spaces and a loading dock. The Page Museum and new museum building will be

connected on the first floor but disconnected on the second floor, with the upper level rising from an earth berm. The separate facilities will be accessible using sloped outdoor walkways from the Central Green and through the interior of the new museum building. Pedestrian entrances lead into the central lobby from the Central Green and parking lot.

The project will renovate existing facilities surrounding the actual tar pits located on the western portion of the site with new viewing areas. A shaded canopy will stretch down Wilshire Boulevard and curve around to South Curson Avenue, creating a new welcome pavilion and shaded entry plaza, according to the EIR. A pedestrian bridge and walking path will be constructed over the Lake Pit facing Wilshire Boulevard. Directly east of the Lake Pit, a new garden bioswale will manage stormwater and include vegetation at a site where the mammoth and mastodon sculptures on public display will be relocated.

The EIR identified impacts and mitigation measures necessary when the construction process occurs. The project will require the removal, relocation or replacement of 150-200 trees at the site. The planting strategy includes the introduction or relocation of a similar number of trees as would be removed, according to the EIR.

Five organizations including the



rendering courtesy of NHMLAC

The proposed plan will make major changes to the layout of the park surrounding the tar pits.

Los Angeles Audubon Society and the Climate Reality Project, as well as 27 residents and individuals, submitted comments on the draft EIR, many focusing on the tree removal and changes to the park space, which is a destination for many people in the surrounding neighborhood. The EIR outlines steps that will be taken to mitigate concerns. However, some people believe the site can be renovated without sacrificing key elements.

"What this proposal would do is completely transform the park. It is basically the ruination of the park," said Greg Goldin, president of the Miracle Mile Residential Association. "I am definitely in favor of making the museum as

good as possible, but you don't have to do that by wiping out the park."

Bettison-Varga said the project is still evolving.

"From the start, NHMLAC has been committed to ensuring the planning process is open and inclusive, welcoming public participation," she said. "A guiding principle has been to prioritize broad and diverse community outreach at every stage, from the selection of the architectural design team to the environmental impact review process, and that will not change. We are committed to transparency and inclusiveness and will continue to invite the community into this process."

# Caruso stays steadfast in support for city

From page 3

build community by strengthening neighborhoods and supporting displaced families. The nonprofit will also focus on ensuring transparency and collaboration with the public and implementing long-term solutions.

Steadfast LA's day-to-day efforts are led by executive director Najla Kayyem, a real estate expert in the development, management and operations of housing and retail. The nonprofit also includes Nicole Avant, former U.S. ambassador to the Bahamas, businesswoman and philanthropist; Andy Cohen, global

co-chair of Gensler; Jack Dangermond, president of Esri; Olivier de Givenchy, west region head of J.P. Morgan Private Bank; Greg Econn, president of Venbrook Insurance Services; Kobi Fuller, general partner of Upfront Ventures; Mike Hopkins, head of Prime Video and Amazon MGM Studios; Lew Horne, president for advisory services for CBRE; Jason Keller, managing director and head of residential investments for Oaktree Capital Management; Joe Lonsdale, managing partner of 8VC and co-founder of Palantir;

Adam Mendelsohn, founder and CEO of Upland Workshop; George J. Mihlsten, of Latham & Watkins; Harry Robinson, senior partner with McKinsey; Ted Sarandos, CEO of Netflix; Carey Smith, chair, president and CEO of Parsons Corporation; and Corinne Verdery, CEO of Caruso.

Steadfast LA is calling on business leaders, community members and civic partners to join. As chairman, Caruso will lead the effort and ensure that it maintains the operational autonomy to drive action and high-impact results. For

information about partnering with Steadfast LA, visit [steadfastla.com](http://steadfastla.com).

Steadfast LA was launched less than a week after Gov. Gavin Newsom announced LA Rises, a private sector initiative led by Los Angeles Dodgers chairman Mark Walter, Earvin "Magic" Johnson and LA 28 president Casey Wasserman. The organization supports the rebuilding of Los Angeles by fundraising and expanding access to philanthropic and private capital, formulating financing strategies to close the gap between available resources and the cost to rebuild, collaborating with other philanthropic and community organizations to maximize the impact of ongoing rebuilding and recovery efforts and supporting

unified communication efforts so property owners have all the necessary information when rebuilding.

The Mark Walter Family Foundation and the Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation provided an initial commitment of up to \$100 million to help fund recovery. LA Rises plans to raise additional funds through private donations. California Rises, a statewide recovery initiative founded by Newsom and First Partner Jennifer Siebel Newsom after the 2018 Camp Fire, is also contributing to LA Rises.

In regards to working with Steadfast LA, a spokesperson for the governor's office said Newsom welcomes philanthropic efforts that help Los Angeles recover.

# BHUSD restricts enrollment

From page 1

exception of displaced families whose homes were impacted.

"To ensure that we can prioritize support for those most in need, under the direction of the Board of Education, effective immediately and for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year, BHUSD will welcome students who lived in fire-impacted areas and have lost their homes (or deemed [un]inhabitable), including homes within the 90272 zip code," Brey said.

According to Assistant Superintendent for Student Services Laura Collins-Williams, the district received a total of 151 requests from students from Pacific Palisades schools to enroll in the BHUSD after Gov. Gavin Newsom signed an executive order allowing students whose schools were impacted by the recent fires to enroll in other school districts. The Beverly Hills Unified School District enrolled 47 students, and then paused enrollment to evaluate resources.

vast majority did not lose their homes. However, the district had already enrolled 47 students, without finalizing a method as to how they would prioritize enrollment. The final decision on prioritizing enrollment for students whose homes were destroyed came on Feb. 3, almost three weeks after Newsom signed the executive order.

"Since the executive order was

issued, Beverly Hills Unified School District has welcomed nearly 50 displaced students into our schools," Brey said. "To continue providing a safe, stable and high-quality educational experience, we paused new admissions last week to carefully evaluate our staffing, facilities and classroom capacities. This assessment was necessary to ensure we can responsibly meet the needs of both

current and incoming students. Conclusively, it was determined that with nearly 50 new enrollments, we have maximized the capacity of our current staffing. Any further increase in enrollment would require hiring additional teachers. We recognize this is an incredibly difficult time for families and our hearts are with those as they navigate the challenges of rebuilding and finding stability."

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# Comedy Gives Back provides relief

From page 1

Back held a sold-out "Alt Comedy All Stars" benefit show on Jan. 31 at the Fonda Theater. The show featured comedians Zach Galifianakis, Patton Oswalt, Doug Benson and a "Mr. Show" reunion with cast members Bob Odenkirk, Brian Posehn and Tom Kenny, among many others.

Comedy Gives Back was founded in 2011 by industry professionals Zoe Friedman, Amber J. Lawson and Jodi Lieberman. Originally created as a way to raise money for charities through comedy, the organization evolved into a nonprofit that serves as a safety net for comedians. All of the ticket sales from the recent fundraiser went toward the organization's fire relief efforts, including financial grants, relocation assistance and mental health services for impacted comedians.

"We did this show last year and it was such a success that we decided to do it again this year. Once the

fires happened, we just shifted it and said that the money raised from tonight will go to help comedians who were affected in the fires," Lieberman said. "We do know a bunch of comics who did lose their homes. We want to be there for them."

Odenkirk, a former "Saturday Night Live" writer and creator of "Mr. Show" who is known for his role as Saul Goodman on "Breaking Bad" and its spin-off "Better Call Saul," stressed the importance of comedy during trying times.

"We need a release valve. We need a release for our anxiety and uncertainty that we have right now," Odenkirk said. "It's always important, comedy."

He added his personal connection to comedy, as it provided an escape during a difficult childhood.

"For me, since I was a little kid in a home with an uncertain vibe to it, laughing with my brothers and sis-

ter saved us all. When I first saw Monty Python, that was such a revelation, that there were adults who also thought life was funny and worth making fun of. It was reassuring to me. I was about 11 years old at the time. It was a big revelation to see adults making fun of themselves and of the world," Odenkirk said.

Kenny, a comedian best known as the voice of "SpongeBob SquarePants," echoed Odenkirk's thoughts on the importance of comedy during uncertain times.

"When the a-holes are winning, I think you need comedy to just help you deal, I know I do," Kenny said. "Same with music. Comedy and rock 'n' roll are the two coping mechanisms that have never failed me my whole life. No matter what's going on, music and comedy, the stuff you laugh at and the stuff you listen to is what will always get you through. You'll live to fight another day."

Oswalt, whose credits include "Ratatouille" and "BoJack Horseman," said the event was important given the devastation from the fires.

"We hosted a few evacuees, family members, friends who had to flee, so I definitely felt the impact," Oswalt said. "There is nothing wrong with feeling despair and exhaustion, but despair and exhaustion win if you then also don't celebrate, and have parties and tell jokes and laugh at the darkness."

Benson said he was forced to evacuate his home due to the Sunset fire, which erupted on Jan. 8 near Runyon Canyon. He thanked first responders for quickly controlling the blaze and hoped that his standup has a positive impact for people who have been affected by the fires.

"Comedy is important during these tragedies because it's just humanity's way of dealing with it," he said. "If you can still manage to laugh that means there's still hope and you can continue on. While it's hard to know exactly what to talk about doing comedy in and around

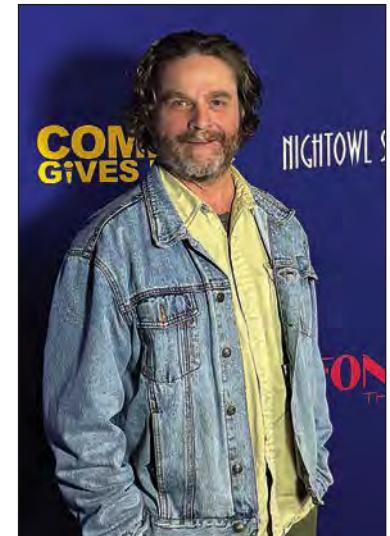


photo by Tabor Brewster

"The Hangover" star Zach Galifianakis was among the lineup of comics for the "Alt Comedy All Stars" benefit show.

these circumstances, I'm grateful that any stupid thing I might say might make somebody's day better."

To donate to Comedy Gives Back, visit [comedygivesback.com](http://comedygivesback.com).

## Friedman settles into new leadership role

From page 1

by some ridiculous thing he says, and I think that is not an accident. I think that there might be a strategy behind this. But we can't let them distract us when they're dismantling democracy ... There's too much at stake," she said. "If they just did one thing at a time, they know that we'd be too organized. But [when] they throw all this outrageous stuff out there, they feel like we're just going to throw up our hands and give up. We can't. We're not going to."

She pointed to a memo issued by Trump on Jan. 27 that froze federal loans and grants, igniting a fury that led to a reversal from a federal judge and ultimately, on Jan. 29, a reversal of the freeze from Trump.

"It's them saying that they don't care what the Constitution says. They don't care about the checks and balances that the framers were very clear about wanting to put into place so that they didn't have a monarch. What Trump is saying is that, in his mind, Congress is only advisory, and that it's up to him to decide what to fund or what not to fund. And that has never, ever been the interpretation of the legislative or executive powers," Friedman said. "They thought they could do this, and they lost. And I do think that it was a real testament to the fact that people are paying attention ... that we as a nation are not going to put up with that kind of chaos. But they've already stated that they're not backing down, so we have got to be just as vocal and just as determined to preserve checks and balances."

She said that shutting down the government, as she feels Trump and his close advisor Elon Musk want to do, would inhibit vital aid for wild-

fire recovery.

"Shutting government down means you're standing on your roof with a sprinkler. Government working well means that you have a giant response. We need the protections that government can offer," she said.

After Trump toured the wildfire sites on Jan. 24, he suggested that there might be conditions put on any federal aid to the California relief effort.

"We didn't [place conditions] a few months ago in North Carolina. We didn't do it in Florida. We didn't do it in Louisiana ... We've never tried to punish the victims of any of these disasters by pointing out whatever we thought may have been shortcomings in their governance. But this is so clearly because Trump thinks that California doesn't support him. That's really all it comes down to," Friedman said. "I wouldn't do that to any other state. I wouldn't want to see a world where we start taking out our grievances against a political party by withholding aid from residents of a community. But that's exactly what we're seeing now. I mean, to be clear, if this was a Republican state, they wouldn't be talking about conditions."

Friedman said that she thinks many of her Republican colleagues are "terrified."

"They only reason you're not hearing more of an uproar from Republicans is that I think so many of them are just terrified that he will speak out against them, or that his billionaire friends will, as they've been threatening publicly, will put money in against them in their [reelection] campaigns."

On the subject of immigration, she said that immigrants need to know their rights.

"With this president, all bets are off," Friedman said. "[They should] do everything that they can to operate within the bounds of what's legal and find people who can help advocate for them."

The Trump administration has also taken definite stands against transgender individuals, with executive orders banning trans women from sports, banning trans people from serving in the military and banning the use of pronouns in federal employee's emails signatures.

"The extremist right wing, their

position is that transgender people are basically freaks and predators and not worthy of protections," she said, adding the importance of standing up for and defending trans people. She added that some of the Republican party's more vocal members have taken on performative tactics even in the halls of Congress.

"They're literally watching the bathrooms to see if they think that we are feminine enough to use the bathroom," Friedman said.

Even still, she said she does have some friends across the aisle, including some she previously worked with in the California State Assembly.

"I've been really developing those relationships, because we're going to need allies," she added.

No matter the head winds,

Friedman said she feels optimistic about the future.

"We also need to continue to live our values here in California and support the policies that we think are equitable and just and righteous. I have a lot of faith in our democracy, and I have a lot of faith in our political system, and I do think that the way that we win is by being vocal and by standing by all of the values that we have," she said.

"Let's not forget that the Republicans have a very, very slim majority in Congress. We're talking about a couple people. On the Democratic side, you have an incredible amount of unity of people who understand the danger that this administration poses ... And the hope is that in a year and a half, we win 10 seats in Congress. That's all we need to have a Democratic majority in the House to stop the worst of what Donald Trump wants to do. That's what people should be aiming towards – help us win back the house in a year and a half."

In the meantime, Friedman is adjusting to life in D.C. She said she is ready to get to work in her Congressional committee assignments, which include water, highway, rail and the committee that oversees FEMA – but the weather has taken some adjusting.

"I don't know how human beings live in this weather," she chuckled. "I'm enjoying exploring. It's an incredible place. It's steeped in history. It's really an incredible dream to be able to be there."

Friedman was most excited to show her new Washington-based staff Los Angeles.

"I wanted to drive them around for five hours, because there's so much to show them. I'm so proud. I [was] saying things like, 'Oh, I've got to just take you over to the Hollywood Bowl. I'm going to take you up to Hollyhock house. Here's The Abbey in WeHo.' I feel so proud of my district. It's definitely a place that's worth fighting for," she said.

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### Crossword Puzzle by Myles Mellor

#### Across

- All-purpose vehicles, for short
- “Interesting ...”
- Actress Perlman
- Woolly mammals
- Bartlett
- Hearing organs
- Fruit-peeling device
- Good fellers
- Impulsive
- Thwarts
- Fresh from the trail
- Physical prefix
- “Brown-eyed girl” singer, Morrison
- “Take \_\_\_ Train” (Duke Ellington hit)
- Fire engine gear
- Medicinal amt.
- Bakery need
- It may come in buckets
- Environmental watchdogs, for short
- Instances of continuing stubborn refusals to change
- Night school subj.
- Biz school course
- Guys’ partners
- French holy woman, abbr.
- Walks along
- Cracker spread
- “Murder, \_\_\_ Wrote”
- Prevaricates
- Topic for Vogue
- Gloomy
- Insurer for military personnel
- “The Sabbath” painter Chagall
- Gold-medal gymnast Comaneci
- Albert of sportscasts
- “Facto” intro
- Selects
- Camembert cheese region
- Well-put
- Just in case
- Postal Service (abbr.)
- The one yonder
- Otherworldly
- Appear to be
- Bewitch
- Writer Rita \_\_\_ Brown
- A newlywed’s title
- Summer TV offering
- Lukas of “Rambling Rose”
- While lead-in
- Far from ruddy
- Perhaps a little too neat
- Trattoria course
- Lamprey
- Mended a sock
- Kind of gland
- Style
- Varieties
- Rob
- Giant rival

#### Down

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- Mount St. Helens residue
- Your father
- Inventor of AC power
- Hardy form of wheat
- Out of fashion
- Cut canines
- Land area
- Roadside grazer
- Make soaking wet
- “Rock the Boat” music
- Jelled
- Spartacus was one
- Harmony
- Super-heavyweight’s sport
- Pre-1917 ruler
- Tall tale
- France, in the time of Caesar
- Unemployed
- Is unwell
- Political cartoonist Thomas
- Mamma \_\_\_ (Abba song)
- Many a download
- Letters after Q

answers on page 26

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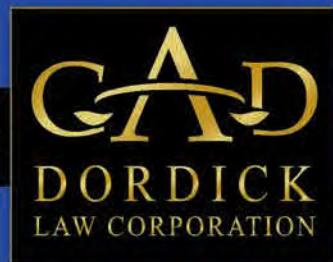
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