



Volume 35 No. 31

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

INSIDE

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July 31, 2025

BHPD pursuit leads to arrests in WeHo garage

■ SWAT and K-9 units deployed to locate suspects

BY TABOR BREWSTER

Following a pursuit that led Beverly Hills police officers to the western end of the Sunset Strip in West Hollywood and an hours-long search of a parking garage, two men were arrested for evading police on July 25. One suspect was

also arrested for an outstanding warrant.

At approximately 2:38 p.m., Ahmeen Stevenson, 18, and Armon Brinson, 22, both from Oakland, attempted to evade BHPD after officers noticed a license plate belonging to a different vehicle on

See BHPD page 22



Police surrounded a parking garage at 9229 Sunset Blvd. on July 25 following a pursuit.

photo by Tabor Brewster

Falling roof, protests plague Tesla Diner

■ Traffic congestion in surrounding area raises concerns

BY SAM MULICK

Since the July 21 opening, Tesla's Hollywood drive-in diner and theater has experienced protests, traffic congestion and at least one public safety incident.

Approximately 70 protesters

gathered outside the Tesla Diner at 7001 Santa Monica Blvd. on July 26 and 27 and erected two inflatable dolls of Elon Musk exhibiting a Nazi salute, a reference to the Tesla CEO and former head of the Department of Government Efficiency appearing to perform the salute during a January speech. Other protesters held signs that read "DOGE kills, Musk steals," "Fascist coup" and "Boycott Tesla."



Protesters against Elon Musk plan to return after gathering outside the Tesla Diner on July 26 and 27.

photo courtesy of David Widaman



DescansoRestaurant.com
213.672.2444 | 5773 Wilshire Blvd

L.A. remembers Wallis Annenberg

■ Community mourns visionary philanthropist

BY TABOR BREWSTER

Wallis Annenberg, the trailblazing philanthropist whose prolific donations shaped many landmarks across Southern California, died on July 28 at the age of 86 due to complications from lung cancer. The impact of her death was felt immediately – as many local institutions proudly bear her name for her generous contributions that advanced wildlife protection, the arts and humanitarian causes in Los Angeles.

Annenberg was born in Philadelphia in 1939, the daughter of publishing magnate Walter Annenberg. In 1989, Walter Annenberg established the Annenberg Foundation, which provides funding to nonprofit organizations. In 2002, following her father's death, Wallis Annenberg became a vice president and board member for the foundation, before becoming chairwoman, president and CEO in 2009.

Annenberg spoke with the



Wallis Annenberg
Wildlife Crossing

photo courtesy of the National Wildlife Federation

Wallis Annenberg's philanthropy included funding for wildlife initiatives, community care for older adults, education and the performing arts.

Beverly Press in 2021 about her philanthropic work.

She cited the Winston Churchill quote, "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give" as a guiding motto.

"I don't want to simply sit around in some opulent home.

That's never been of interest to me," Annenberg said in 2021. "I want to give. I want to help others. I want to be an engine of change in the world."

Annenberg's commitment to positive change is evident

See Wallis Annenberg page 21

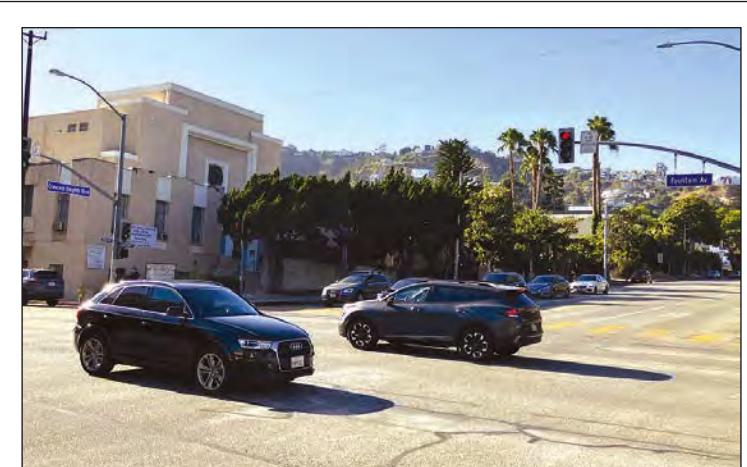


photo by Sam Mulick
A second collision on Fountain Avenue within nine days occurred on July 19 near the Crescent Heights Boulevard intersection.

WeHo sheriffs give update on Fountain Avenue safety

■ Residents call for improvements after death of cyclist

BY SAM MULICK

Community members called for safer streets at the July 28 West Hollywood Public Safety Commission meeting in the wake

of another collision on Fountain Avenue.

On July 19, a Black BMW traveling southbound on Crescent Heights Boulevard crossed Fountain Avenue and struck a person riding a motorized scooter heading eastbound on Fountain Avenue around 11 p.m., said West Hollywood

See Fountain page 21



FLAVORS OF
MICHOACÁN

CALENDAR

Art of Nora Berman

Babst Gallery is holding "Creatrix," an exhibition by artist Nora Berman running Thursday, July 31, through Saturday, Aug. 30. Berman overlays images of spinning flowers and pendulums onto multi-camera views of the artist painting during her weekly livestreams on Twitch. For the exhibition, she has expanded the digital world into the gallery space, affixing ceramic roses from the ceiling so they appear weightless. At the bases of her video-sculptures are metal chains and thousands of meme-coins made out of gold-covered chocolate. 413 S. Fairfax Ave. babstgallery.com.

'Superman! the Musical'

It's a Bird, it's a Plane ... it's "Superman! the Musical" running from Friday, Aug. 1, through Sunday, Aug. 10, at The Broadwater in Hollywood. From the Academy Award-winning writers of "Bonnie and Clyde," "Kramer vs. Kramer" and "Superman" (1978), and the composer of "Annie" and "Bye Bye Birdie," comes a rarely seen musical that brings the man of steel to the stage in a hilariously unique story. The production explores the differences of alter ego Clark Kent and who he becomes when he dons the famous "S." The musical has a live band playing compositions by Charles Strouse. Showtimes are 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday; 3 p.m., Sunday. Tickets are \$35. 1076 Lillian Way. fostercatproductions.com.



Friends of BH Library

Friends of the Beverly Hills Public Library is holding a book sale from Sunday, Aug. 3, through Sunday, Aug. 17, with all kids' books priced at \$1 or more half-off. The sale raises funds for services and programs at the library. Bookstore hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Saturday; noon-4 p.m., Sunday. 444 N. Rexford Drive. friendsofbhpl.org.

City College Vintage Market

Join the opening of the City College Vintage Market on Sunday, Aug. 3, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Produced by the team behind Los Feliz Flea, the new outdoor market transforms a Los Angeles City College parking lot off Vermont Avenue into a lively space with a curated selection of vendors and unique small businesses offering vintage fashion, collectibles, home decor, art and vinyl. The City College Vintage Market will be held every Sunday at 4133 Marathon St. Admission is \$4. citycollegevintage-market.com.

Cam at the Grammy Museum

The Grammy Museum presents "The Drop: Cam" on Monday, Aug. 4, from 7:30-9 p.m. Grammy Award-winning singer-songwriter Cam will celebrate the release of her album "All Things Light" and will perform in the Clive Davis Theatre. Tickets are \$38.24. 800 W. Olympic Blvd. For information, visit grammymuseum.org.

Beverly Hills Chamber

The Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce is holding its August "Get to Know Your Chamber" event on Tuesday, Aug. 5. Learn about the benefits and opportunities available to members and what the chamber is doing to assist them. New, current and future Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce members are welcome. Networking begins at 8:15 a.m., followed by a presentation at 8:30 a.m. Participation is free, but registration is required. 9400 S. Santa Monica Blvd. members.beverlyhillschamber.com.

Women filmmakers book signing

Author Kevin Smokler will discuss and sign "Break the Frame: Conversations with Women Filmmakers" on Tuesday, Aug. 5, at 7 p.m. at Book Soup. "Break the Frame" is a collection of 24 career-spanning interviews with celebrated and rising American women filmmakers. Each conversation considers the director's complete filmography as a map of their evolving artistry and evidence of contributions to a historically misogynist industry. Smokler will be joined in conversation by filmmakers Jessica Sharzer and Felicia Pride. 8818 Sunset Blvd. booksoup.com/event/kevin-smokler.

Marla Jones

Marla Jones presents "Traveling the World in Song" on Tuesday, Aug. 5, at 7 p.m. at the Catalina Jazz Club. Jones is joined by guest singers Sadie Abraham, Max Diamond, Amy Goldring, Colin Ho, Sarah Mendelsohn, Michelle Pakravan, Finn Slootweg and Isaac TiuJones. The Andy How Trio also performs. Doors



open at 7 p.m.; show starts at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20, with one entree or a two-drink minimum. 6725 W. Sunset Blvd. catalinajazzclub.com.

LA Phil classic concert

Classical music fans won't want to miss "Dudamel Conducts Ellington and Ravel" on Tuesday, Aug. 5 at 8 p.m. at the Hollywood Bowl. The LA Phil is joined by pianist Seong-Jin Cho. While on a 25-city tour of the U.S. in 1928, Ravel took a pivotal trip to Harlem with George Gershwin as his guide. The sounds of the upper Manhattan jazz clubs wove their way into the French composer's two beloved piano concertos, each paired with a swinging symphonic work by jazz great Duke Ellington in the concert at the Hollywood Bowl. Tickets start at \$13. 2301 N. Highland Ave. laphil.org.

Japanese art

Japan Foundation, Los Angeles welcomes artist Yoshio Ikezaki for a lecture and painting demonstration on Wednesday, Aug. 6, from 7-8:30 p.m. Ikezaki has been creating contemporary monochrome art works using sumi-e techniques for years and also makes washi paper and sumi ink for the artworks. In a rare opportunity, Ikezaki will take guests behind the scenes of his creative process, showing how he prepares washi paper and sumi ink, and giving a live demonstration on the concepts of "the five different shades of black," or "Ma and Yohaku." The event is offered through a partnership with Kylin Gallery. Registration is required. 5700 Wilshire Blvd, Ste. 100. jflalc.org.

Pickleball

The Greater Miracle Mile Chamber of Commerce invites the community to a ribbon cutting ceremony for PIKL LA on Thursday, Aug. 7, at 5:30 p.m. Network with businesses, play pickleball and celebrate the Miracle's Mile's newest pickleball facility. 639 S. La Brea Ave. partiful.com/e/k6bKbF4vSlMKonAFL4hL.

Art Deco Society tour and show

Join the Art Deco Society of Los Angeles in celebration of "Some Like It Hot" with a tour of the Hollywood Pantages Theatre and the show on Thursday, Aug. 7. The doors will open at 6 p.m. for the group prior to the theater opening to the public.

Experience the history and exuberance of one of Los Angeles' only remaining Art Deco interiors with a pre-curtain lobby tour, conversation with the wardrobe supervisor and an opportunity to see a Tony Award-winning costume from the production. Guests will also enjoy a no-host bar, followed by the song and dance spectacular set during the Jazz Age. General admission tickets are \$100; advance purchase required. 6233 Hollywood Blvd. artdecola.org.

'Searching for Robert Hennessey'

Enjoy encore performances of "Searching for Robert Hennessey" performed by Michael-Shaun Hennessey on Saturday, Aug. 9, at 4 p.m. and Sunday, Aug. 10, at 7 p.m. at the Fanatic Salon Theater in Culver City. The production is a true story about a gay actor's search for his father while living in the projects, escaping a cult, battling AIDS and kissing John Stamos. Hennessey takes audiences on an unforgettable journey filled with false leads, near misses and a mind-blowing twist. Tickets are \$18. 3815 Sawtelle Blvd. eventbrite.com/e/searching-for-robert-hennessey-tickets-1478678911429.



photo by Edwin Folven

The Beverly Hills Police Officers Association sent Police Chief Mark Stainbrook a cease and desist letter on July 18.

Labor negotiations continue amid turmoil involving BHPD

BY TABOR BREWSTER

The Beverly Hills City Council will consider a proposed agreement with the Police Management Association, a labor union representing Beverly Hills Police Department captains and lieutenants, at a formal meeting on Aug. 5 at 7 p.m.

The meeting follows similar negotiations between the city and the Beverly Hills Police Officers Association, a different labor union representing all sergeants and officers in the BHPD. The existing agreements between the city and both unions expired on June 30.

The negotiations are taking place amid tension between Beverly Hills Police Chief Mark Stainbrook and officers in the department. The BHPOA issued a vote of no confidence in Stainbrook on June 11, after members raised concerns about his leadership. Additionally, on July 18, the BHPOA sent Stainbrook a cease and desist letter that alleged he circulated false rumors and took retaliatory actions against BHPOA President Christian Bond.

Beverly Hills Deputy City Manager Keith Sterling said the city is reviewing the letter, and several of the concerns the BHPOA has raised will be addressed through the labor negotiations.

"Some of the items that the POA has raised through their vote of no confidence have been part of the negotiations between the city and the POA. Others address the relationship between Chief Stainbrook and association members," Sterling said.

However, the BHPOA's attorney Stuart Adams said the concerns raised in the cease and

desist letter should be considered separately from the labor negotiations.

"There are city spokespersons saying that this is related to the negotiations. This has nothing to do with the negotiations," Adams said. "This came totally separate, apart from negotiations [and] was not an intended tactic for negotiations. We never would have sent it if we hadn't been told, 'this is what the chief did.' This is entirely a reaction to an action by the chief."

According to the letter, Stainbrook communicated with Beverly Hills Unified School District Superintendent Dr. Alex Cherniss "to disseminate false and damaging information," about Bond after a position opened up at the school district that was a potential employment opportunity.

"We were provided information that the chief reached out to individuals that had been discussing potential after-retirement job opportunities with the [BHPOA] president, Chris Bond," Adams said. "We were told by the individual to whom the chief spoke that this is what he said. If that is in fact what he said, then it's on its face defamatory."

Sterling said Stainbrook and the city manager have developed a plan to address concerns by the POA Board that are not specific to the negotiations, including improving communication and enhancing hiring efforts.

"The chief has been meeting with individual police officers to keep lines of communication open and solicit feedback and will be presenting additional recruitment strategies to the City Council in the coming weeks," Sterling said.

WeHo seeks input on Plummer Park

West Hollywood has launched a community-driven process to reimagine Plummer Park. Residents and community members have opportunities to share input and ideas to guide the park's future.

The city will host a series of four "Topical Chats and Community Conversations" over two days on Aug. 2 and Aug. 9. The collaborative sessions at Plummer Park's

Fiesta Hall and Vista Lawn, located at 7377 Santa Monica Boulevard, will focus on identifying the priorities and needs of park users through focused conversations about specific topics.

City staff and the consultant team will be available to answer questions about plans at Plummer Park. For information, visit go.weho.org/plummerparkplan.

BEVERLY PRESS PARKLABREA NEWS

Founded 1946

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COUNCIL



The Beverly Press and Park Labrea News are weekly newspapers, published on Thursdays. Mail subscription is \$120 annually. Decreed newspapers of general circulation, entitled to publish legal advertising, Feb. 10, 1960 by Superior Court Order No 736637. Decreed newspapers of general circulation, entitled to publish legal advertising in the City of Beverly Hills and the County of Los Angeles, Dec. 22, 2020 by Superior Court Case Number 19STCP04891. Government Code 6008.

Former VP Harris rules out California gubernatorial bid

■ U.S. Rep. Laura Friedman responds

BY TABOR BREWSTER

Former Vice President Kamala Harris announced on July 30 that she will not run for governor of California in the 2026 election.

"In recent months, I have given serious thought to asking the people of California for the privilege to serve as their governor. I love this state, its people and its promise. It is my home. But after deep reflection, I've decided that I will not run for governor in this election," a statement from Harris read.

Harris was considered a possible contender for both the 2026 California gubernatorial election and the 2028 presidential election. The former senator, California Attorney General and Vice President lost the 2024 presidential election to Donald Trump, receiving 48.3% of the popular vote.

Harris did not explicitly rule out another presidential campaign in 2028. However, she stated, "for now, my leadership – and public service – will not be in elected office."

Rep. Laura Friedman (D-Glendale), who represents California's 30th congressional district – which includes West Hollywood, Hollywood and the Miracle Mile – responded to the news of Harris' decision in an interview.

"We've got a lot of great candidates in that governor's race. There's a lot of very qualified individuals who have proven themselves through public service over the years. I don't think that leaves any kind of hole in our election for next year. There's a lot of great choices for people on the ballot," Friedman said.

Candidates who have declared their intention to succeed term-limited Gov. Gavin Newsom include former president pro tempore of the California Senate Toni Atkins, former U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Xavier Becerra, Riverside County Sheriff Chad Bianco, businessman Stephen Cloobeck, California Lieutenant Governor Eleni Kounalakis, former Congresswoman Katie Porter, State Superintendent Tony Thurmond, former L.A. Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and California Democratic Party Vice Chair Betty Yee.

When asked if Harris should run for president in 2028, Friedman responded by saying she was disappointed that there wasn't a Democratic primary after Joe Biden announced he would no longer run in 2024.

"I think it was a huge flaw for us that may have cost us the election. So whether or not she should run, I certainly don't think she should expect to just automatically receive the nomination. I want to see – as a voter myself and someone who will throw my support eventually behind a candidate – I want a healthy field of candidates and a healthy debate between those candidates and that's my expectation going into the next election," Friedman said. "Like anyone else, she's welcome to run and I want to hear what she has to say, and there's a whole lot of candidates that I'm excited about."



photo by Rance Collins

Former Vice President Kamala Harris toured a wildfire relief center in Westwood following the January wildfires.

County supervisors seek to unmask ICE agents

■ Questions surface about how to enforce anti-mask ordinance

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved a motion on July 29 to create an ordinance prohibiting any law enforcement officer or agent, including federal agents, from wearing a mask or face covering while interacting with the public during the course of duties.

The motion by Supervisor Janice Hahn, 4th District, was introduced in response to enforcement operations by Immigration and Customs Enforcement and U.S. Border Patrol agents targeting immigrants throughout the county.

"Law enforcement officers should never wear personal disguises or conceal their identities while interacting with the public in the course of their duties. But



photo by Edwin Folven

L.A. county and city officials have criticized federal authorities for wearing masks during immigration operations.

since the Immigration and Customs Enforcement raids began in Los Angeles County on June 6, 2025, that is exactly what has been happening," Hahn said. "Residents have witnessed count-

less incidents of men in plain-clothes or wearing tactical gear, with their faces covered by masks or balaclavas and sunglasses, while they raid communities and

See **Ordinance** page 22



The City of West Hollywood Invites the Community to Provide Public Comment at its Upcoming Rent Stabilization Commission Meeting about the City's Methodology for Calculating Security Deposit Interest Rates for Tenants in Rent Stabilized Units.

Are you a tenant or owner of a rent stabilized unit in West Hollywood?

What's important to you about Security Deposit Interest Rates?

Join us on August 14 at 7PM for the Rent Stabilization Commission Meeting and share your input and ideas!

ATTEND THE MEETING IN PERSON
West Hollywood
City Council Chambers
625 N. San Vicente Blvd.
West Hollywood

TO ATTEND VIA ZOOM OR SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS
Make a request by
Thursday, August 14 at 12PM to
RSDPublicComment@weho.org.

For more information, contact City of West Hollywood Rent Stabilization Division at
RSD@weho.org or (323) 848-6450.



photo by Patrick Toth

Fatburger has restaurants throughout Los Angeles County, including a location at 7450 Santa Monica Blvd. in West Hollywood.

Charges dropped against former Fatburger CEO

■ U.S. Attorney's Office declines to comment

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Federal charges were dropped on July 29 against former FAT Brands Inc. CEO Andrew Wiederhorn, who was charged in May 2024 with 15 counts alleging tax evasion and fraud. Charges were also dropped against FAT Brands Inc. and employees Rebecca Hershinger and William Amon, who were also named in the federal indictment.

The case was filed by prosecutors in the United States Attorney's Office of the Central District of California, which has jurisdiction in Los Angeles County. The prosecution was initially led by Assistant United States Attorney Adam P. Schleifer, who was unexpectedly terminated in March, with media reports stating at the time it was at the direction of President Donald Trump. No reason was given for the dismissal of the charges. A spokesman for the U.S. Attorney's Office had "no comment."

Wiederhorn, of Beverly Hills, was represented by the law firm Gibson Dunn. He consistently maintained his innocence, said he was not involved in any criminal

conduct and there were no financial losses.

"From Day One, we have maintained Andy's innocence," said Nicola Hanna, of Gibson Dunn, counsel for Wiederhorn and a former U.S. attorney for the Central District of California. "We are extremely grateful that the U.S. Attorney's Office listened to our arguments and determined, in the interests of justice, that all charges should be dropped."

"I am grateful to the U.S. Attorney's Office for taking a fresh look at this case and to the attorneys who worked tirelessly on my behalf and on behalf of the other defendants," Wiederhorn said. "With this indictment behind us, I look forward to focusing on the continued growth and success of FAT Brands."

Wiederhorn served as the company's CEO until stepping down in 2023 and is currently board chairman for FAT Brands Inc., which owns Fatburger, Johnny Rockets and more than a dozen casual dining brands. The global restaurant franchising company has more than 2,300 locations worldwide. With the federal case dismissed, FAT Brands plans to continue to build on recent growth and anticipates opening more than 100 new stores this year, read a statement from the company.

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Violent crash in Beverly Grove leaves four hurt

■ Speed was a likely factor in solo-vehicle collision

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Four people were injured on July 25, including one man who was hospitalized in critical condition, after their vehicle crashed into a tree on Crescent Heights Boulevard near Beverly Boulevard.

The solo-vehicle collision occurred at approximately 2:23 a.m. when the driver of a white BMW heading southbound lost control in the 100 block of North Crescent Heights Boulevard. The vehicle caught fire after striking a tree. Multiple witnesses called 911 and one used a fire extinguisher to douse the flames. Los Angeles Fire Department spokesman Brian Humphrey said firefighters extricated four people from the vehicle, including three men and a woman, all in their 20s.

He said a 29-year-old man sus-

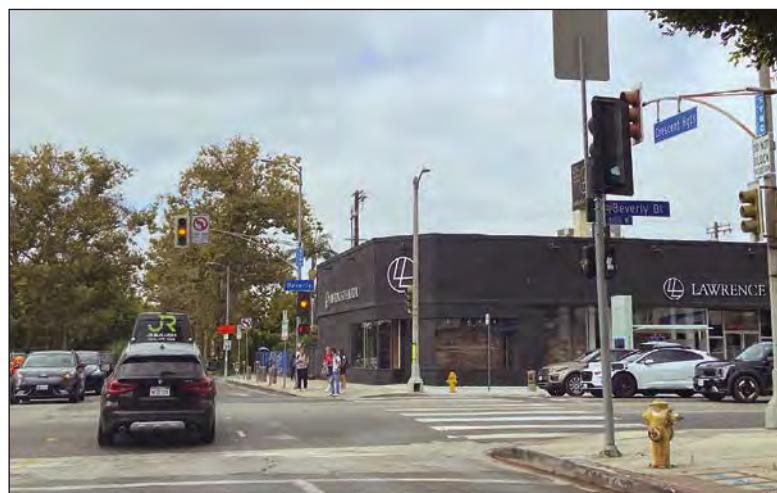


photo by Edwin Folven

The crash occurred on Crescent Heights near Beverly Boulevard.

tained critical traumatic injuries, while a 20-year-old man was hospitalized in serious condition, and a 21-year-old man and 23-year-old woman were listed in fair condition. Humphrey did not have updates on their recovery.

The vehicle was reported to be speeding before the crash.

Detectives with the Los Angeles Police Department's West Traffic Division are investigating the collision, including whether alcohol or drugs were a factor.

Anyone with information about the collision is urged to call investigators at (213)473-0234 or (213) 473-0222.

Court offers virtual hearings in certain juvenile cases

The Los Angeles County Superior Court has launched a pilot program using the latest version of LACourtConnect in select juvenile courtrooms for attorneys and litigants who wish to appear remotely. The pilot program offers updated free remote courtroom appearance technology that is easy to use.

Participants can use the LACourtConnect welcome page, select Juvenile Justice as the litiga-

tion type and locate a hearing using a case number, calendar or name search.

LACourtConnect, known as LACC, is a simplified and modernized remote appearance platform that enables attorneys and litigants to appear for court hearings virtually using Microsoft Teams, without needing advanced registration. Key features of LACC include same-day check-in, enabling participants to

check in a few minutes before a hearing; standard Microsoft Teams features with greater platform stability and ease of use and the My Checked-In Hearings feature, which allows users to manage multiple hearings in one location. LACC also offers the Attorney of Record feature allowing attorneys with multiple proceedings on the same day to check check-in at one time. For information, visit lacourt.ca.gov.

YOUR PARK, YOUR VOICE

ТВОЙ ПАРК, ТВОЙ ГОЛОС | TU PARQUE, TU VOZ

JOIN US FOR UPCOMING EVENTS

PLUMMER PARK COMPREHENSIVE IMPROVEMENT PLAN

You're invited to these upcoming community discussions about the following topics:

Saturday, August 2

Sports & Recreation
9-11 AM, Fiesta Hall

Saturday, August 9

Culture & History
9-11 AM, Fiesta Hall

Education & Programs
1-3 PM, Fiesta Hall

Nature & Open Space
1-3 PM, Vista Lawn

go.weho.org/plummerparkplan

Education & Programs
1-3 PM, Fiesta Hall

Nature & Open Space
1-3 PM, Vista Lawn



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A Community Service of
Temple Israel of Hollywood





Liz Reilly of Flicka on Larchmont Boulevard passed away on July 23.

National Night Out Against Crime brings communities together on Aug. 5

Law enforcement agencies in Beverly Hills, Los Angeles and West Hollywood are holding events on Tuesday, Aug. 5, during National Night Out Against Crime, which brings community members and police personnel together in a show of solidarity.

Community members can meet police officers and enjoy family-friendly activities in Beverly Hills from 5-8 p.m. in the 400 block of North Rexford Drive. BHPD booths and displays will highlight special units including K9, SWAT and the department's 911 dispatchers. The Beverly Hills Fire Department will also participate along with community organizations. The National Night Out Against Crime celebration in Beverly Hills includes food trucks and family-friendly activities such as a kids playhouse and slides, face painting and balloon art, interactive demonstrations and games. For information, visit beverlyhills.org/1351/national-night-out.

The Los Angeles Police Department's Wilshire Division is holding a National Night Out Against Crime celebration from 5-8 p.m. at Pan Pacific Park, 7600 Beverly Blvd. The event is organized in conjunction with the community group Melrose Action. Connect with neighbors, meet local

law enforcement and first responders and enjoy games, giveaways, music and food. For information, visit instagram.com/lapdwilshire station/reel/DMhB2bFAnGV.

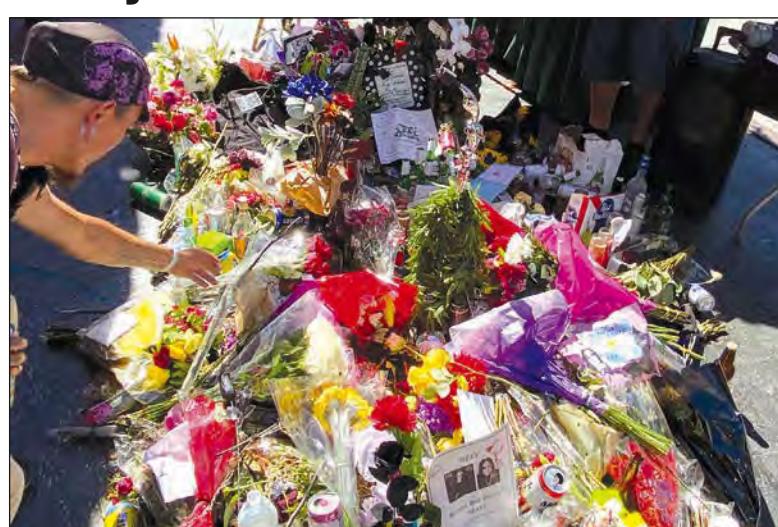
West Hollywood is holding National Night Out Against Crime celebrations throughout the city from 3-9 p.m. Block parties and barbecues with live entertainment will take place throughout the city and attendance is free. National Night Out participants include members of the West Hollywood

City Council, neighborhood watch groups, the West Hollywood Gateway, the West Hollywood Public Safety Commission and Russian-Speaking Advisory Board, as well as the city's Recreation Services Division. Events are held in coordination with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Los Angeles County Fire Department and city of West Hollywood. For information and a list of locations, visit weho.org/nno.



The LAPD's Wilshire Division is holding a National Night Out Against Crime event at Pan Pacific Park, where residents can meet officers that patrol their neighborhoods.

Ozzy remembered on Walk of Fame



Ozzy Osbourne's Walk of Fame star is located at 6780 Hollywood Blvd., just east of Highland Avenue.

Founder of Flicka boutique on Larchmont mourned

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Many people in the community are mourning longtime Hancock Park resident and Larchmont Village businesswoman Liz Reilly, founder of the Larchmont Boulevard boutique Flicka, who died on July 23 at the age of 77.

"My mother and founder of Flicka passed at 7:23 [p.m.] on July 23. She opened the store in 1992 with my sister Lisa Sato with great passion, creativity, enthusiasm and passion for what she was creating in her beloved Larchmont Village," Reilly's daughter Kristen Sato said in a message to the community posted on social media. "Most will remember her beautiful smile, infectious laugh, beautiful buying, thoughtful gift wrapping and of course, her iconic windows. She was also an incredible daughter, sister, mother, friend, homemaker, artist, hostess and life of the party. Her superpower was making everything around her beautiful. Thank

you all for the years that you supported her and our store. Please keep her fondly in your memories."

Sato, who has owned and operated Flicka since 2013, said her mother was always very creative and the clothing boutique was a source of great pride. Born in Sweden, Reilly came to the United States as a youth and graduated from Los Angeles High School. Sato said Reilly moved to Hancock Park in 1976.

"When it came to being creative, she just had a magic about her," Sato added.

Reilly died peacefully at home with family and friends by her side, Sato said. She was preceded in death by her husband John Reilly, and is survived by daughters Kristen and Lisa Sato, and Caitlin Reilly.

Flicka is located at 204 N. Larchmont Blvd. For information, call (323)466-5822.



Rethinking Pet Vaccines: A Science-Based, Minimalist Approach

In veterinary medicine, our understanding of vaccines has come a long way. What used to be an automatic, annual routine is now being reconsidered through a more evidence-based lens. Many vets – myself included – are moving away from one-size-fits-all vaccine schedules.

Core vaccines like canine DAPP (also called DHPP) and feline RCP create long-lasting immune responses. After the initial puppy or kitten series and an adult booster, most pets don't need annual revaccination. Studies show protection often lasts three years or more – and leading organizations like AAHA and WSAVA agree.

Here's where I may part ways with some colleagues: I believe over-vaccination is still common. Many clients are surprised when I recommend discontinuing certain risk-based vaccines that previous veterinarians insisted were essential – especially for pets with minimal exposure. The reality is, vaccines are sometimes used as "practice builders," particularly in corporate settings where frequent visits drive revenue. And while most pets tolerate vaccines well, side effects can and do occur.

Let me be clear: **I am not a vaccine skeptic. I believe core vaccines, given on time, are essential.** Mild reactions – like temporary lethargy, swelling, or reduced appetite – occur in about 3 out of every 1,000 cases and can often be managed with a diphenhydramine (Benadryl) injection. True serious reactions, such as anaphylaxis, are extremely rare. I administer 10 to 20 vaccines daily and may see only one or two serious reactions per year. Still, we owe it to our patients to vaccinate with intention – not just out of habit.

For dogs, I recommend staying current on DAPP and rabies. Distemper and parvovirus are among the most dangerous infectious diseases in dogs, and protecting my patients from them is non-negotiable. If a dog is unvaccinated for rabies and bitten by wildlife, public health laws may mandate euthanasia – yes, it's that serious. Bordetella, Leptospirosis, and Influenza are considered risk-based vaccines in California and should be discussed with your veterinarian based on lifestyle.

I still see some clinics recommending Bordetella every six months – a practice about 30 years out of date. AAHA guidelines support yearly vaccination for at-risk dogs, and anything more frequent starts to feel like over-vaccination. If your vet recommends it every six months, it's fair to ask why.

For cats, the decision is more nuanced. **Older, indoor-only cats may not need frequent vaccines, though I still recommend FVRCP and rabies in case they escape.** FeLV is best reserved for outdoor cats or households that frequently foster or adopt.

At Paw Priority, we vaccinate thoughtfully: boost when needed, skip when safe, and offer titers when questions arise. This isn't about doing less – it's about doing better.

About Dr. Ameis

Dr. Ezra Ameis is an emergency veterinarian and the owner of **Paw Priority in West Hollywood**, a clinic providing general practice, urgent care, and acupuncture. To suggest a topic or ask a pet-related question, email: hello@pp.vet.



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WeHo condemns antisemitic signage

■ Woman holds signs with hateful messages

BY SAM MULICK

The city of West Hollywood condemned antisemitic signage held by a woman at the intersection of Crescent Heights Boulevard and Santa Monica Boulevard on July 26.

In a video posted to Instagram by eyewitness Tanya Tsikanovsky, an unidentified woman holds multiple signs at the intersection with antisemitic messages promoting violence against Jews and condemning Israel's ongoing war against Hamas in the Gaza Strip.

Mayor Chelsea Byers decried the signage in an Instagram post.

"To be clear – this is disgusting

messaging does not reflect West Hollywood's values," she wrote.

The city also issued a statement condemning the signs.

"The city of West Hollywood unequivocally condemns all forms of antisemitism and hate speech. During the past weekend, antisemitic signage was displayed along Santa Monica Boulevard at North Crescent Heights Boulevard. Code enforcement staff from the city's Neighborhood and Business Safety Division responded and verified that no signage was left in the public right of way. Acts of hate such as this are deeply disturbing and are in direct conflict with the values of our community," read a statement issued by West Hollywood public information officer Sheri Lunn.

"The city's core values are rooted

in respect, equality and support for all people. We maintain a zero-tolerance policy toward hate, discrimination and intolerance, and we remain firmly committed to fostering an inclusive, respectful and safe environment," Lunn said.

"The West Hollywood Sheriff's station is aware of this, and deputies continue to patrol the community regularly to ensure public safety," Lunn added. "The city urges residents, businesses and visitors to remain vigilant. If you see something, say something. To report suspicious activity, contact the West Hollywood Sheriff's Station at (310)855-8850. In an emergency, always call 911."

No antisemitic signage has appeared at the intersection since the incident.

BHPD motor officer receives top honors

The Beverly Hills Police Department recognized Motor

Officer Mike Guzman, who recently showcased his elite riding skills at



photo courtesy of the BHPD

Motor Officer Mike Guzman has competed in seven motorcycle riding skills competitions in 2025.

the fourth annual Iron Horse Shoot Out in Amarillo, Texas. Competing against nearly 50 top riders from across the country, Guzman secured five first-place finishes, sweeping the event's prestigious categories of Challenge Ride, Four-Man Team Ride, Metric Expert Division, Overall Team and All-Around Champion (Police Division).

Guzman has participated in 16 motor rodeos since March 2024 and has competed in seven competitions in 2025, consistently performing at the top level. The BHPD actively promotes officer readiness, precision riding and critical handling skills that translate into safer roadways in Beverly Hills. For information, call the BHPD at (310)550-4951.



photo courtesy of Tanya Tsikanovsky via Instagram

A woman held antisemitic signage and placed signs along bushes on Santa Monica Boulevard on July 26.

Notable Quotes

"The mystery of language was revealed to me.

I knew then that 'w-a-t-e-r' meant the wonderful cool something that was flowing over my hand. That living word awakened my soul, gave it light, joy, set it free!"

Helen Keller (1880-1968)

"The Story of My Life" 1902, ch. 4

Source: Bartlett's Familiar Quotations

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LAHSA reports WeHo homeless population increase

■ Interim Housing Project set to open in September

BY SAM MULICK

The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority reported that 101 people were experiencing homelessness in West Hollywood during the 2025 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count. The point-in-time data collected from Feb. 18-20 indicated that 79 people were experiencing homelessness and 22 other individuals were living in vehicles, tents or makeshift dwellings. The number is an increase from a reported total of 76 people experiencing homelessness in 2024.

Overall homelessness dropped 4% countywide in 2025, according to LAHSA. To address homelessness, West Hollywood partners with nonprofits and the West Hollywood Sheriff's Station to provide services aimed at reducing and helping those who are unhoused. The city reported that between October 2016-September 2024, 367 people in West Hollywood were newly

housed and the city distributed 3,450 rental assistance grants to keep people in current housing.

"The city's sustained investments in outreach, behavioral health services, case management, rent stabilization, housing retention and other services are saving lives," a city statement read. "This work is supporting unhoused community members in moving into permanent supportive housing and improving community-wide well-being."

The data comes in advance of the opening of the Holloway Interim Housing Project in West Hollywood, which will provide temporary housing and services for 20 chronically homeless adults, and will be managed by Ascencia, a nonprofit homeless services agency. The project is set to open in September, executive director of Ascencia Dr. Laura Duncan said.

"Interim housing is one of many support services for unhoused people while they search for available, affordable permanent housing under the 'Housing First' model, which we know works," Duncan added. "Interim housing is not

available to most people experiencing homelessness because there just aren't enough temporary beds throughout L.A. County. Hence, these interim housing beds will be prioritized for the most vulnerable people experiencing homelessness in the city of West Hollywood. Studies show that housing of any type improves health outcomes and prevents deaths."

The Holloway Interim Housing Project will be located at the former Holloway Motel property at 8465 Santa Monica Blvd. For information on the city's Homeless Initiative, visit weho.org/services/human-services/strategic-initiatives/homeless-services.

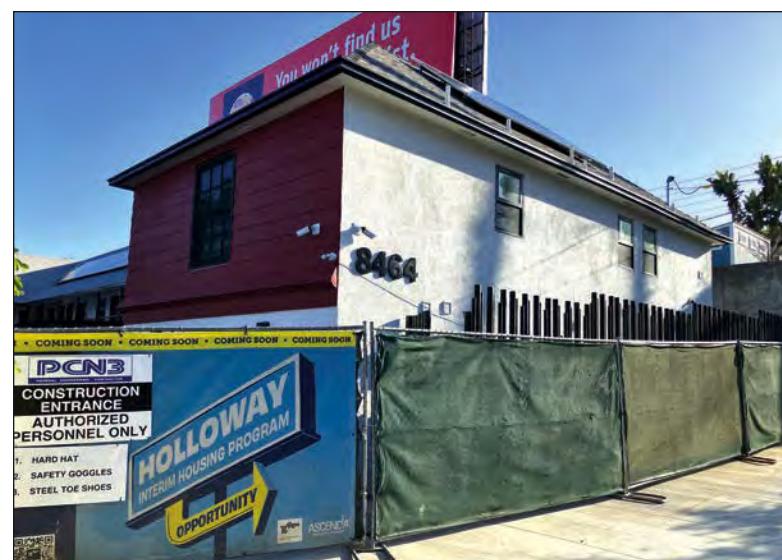


photo by Sam Mulick

The Holloway Interim Housing Project is expected to open in September and will offer interim housing to homeless individuals in West Hollywood.

California sues Trump over Planned Parenthood cuts

■ Five California clinics shut down

BY SAM MULICK

California Attorney General Rob Bonta filed a lawsuit against the Trump administration on July 29 over an attempt to defund Planned Parenthood. The lawsuit, filed with 22 other states, alleges that Trump exceeded his authority by attempting to withhold Medicaid reimbursements for Planned Parenthood clinics across the state in the "Big Beautiful Bill" budget act.

"This provision, which targets Planned Parenthood, is a direct attack on the health care access of millions of low-income Americans, disproportionately affecting women, LGBTQ+ individuals and communities of color," Bonta wrote in a statement. "This provision specifically blocks Medicaid reimbursements for essential healthcare services, such as cancer screenings, birth control and STI testing at Planned Parenthood health centers."

Planned Parenthood clinics in California serve about 700,000 patients each year, with nearly 80% of patients using Medi-Cal, according to Bonta. In a separate lawsuit, a federal judge ruled on July 28 that Planned Parenthood clinics must continue to be reimbursed for Medicaid funding. If Trump's budget provision was enacted, California Planned Parenthood clinics would have lost \$300 million in federal funding. Despite the ruling, five California clinics will remain closed, according to a statement from Andrew Adams, chief of staff for Planned Parenthood Mar Monte, reported by Calmatters. Bonta is suing to further prevent implementation of the law and protect California's Medicaid program.

In addition to the ruling, U.S. Rep. Laura Friedman (D-Glendale) introduced a bill that would repeal the federal ban on Medicaid reimbursements for Planned Parenthood.

"This bill will reverse a cruel, politically motivated ban on Medicaid payments that's jeopardizing access to not just reproductive health care, but cancer screenings, birth control, STI testing and more," Friedman said. "We're fighting to ensure people can continue getting the essential care they count on, no matter who they are or where they live."

West Hollywood City Councilman John Erickson, a former vice president of public affairs, communications and marketing at Planned Parenthood Los Angeles, said the federal defunding was a targeted attack.

"The Trump administration's effort to target Planned Parenthood for providing abortions was not only politically motivated, but dangerous to public health and fundamentally unjust," Erickson said. "This wasn't just about abortion – it was about stripping away access to a broad range of essential health services, including cancer screenings, STI testing and treatment, birth control and preventive care. These attacks disproportionately harmed communities of color, LGBTQ+ individuals, and people with low incomes – many of whom rely on Planned Parenthood as their primary source of care."

Erickson added that the loss of federal funding would be devastating for people in L.A. County who depend on Planned Parenthood for necessary medical care.

"Without that support, clinics may be forced to cut services, shorten hours or close altogether – putting everything from cancer screenings to contraception to abortion care at risk. Here in West Hollywood, where many residents – including LGBTQ+ individuals – rely on inclusive, nonjudgmental providers, the absence of Planned Parenthood would create a major gap in the health care landscape," he said.

As of press time on July 30, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services had not appealed the ruling.

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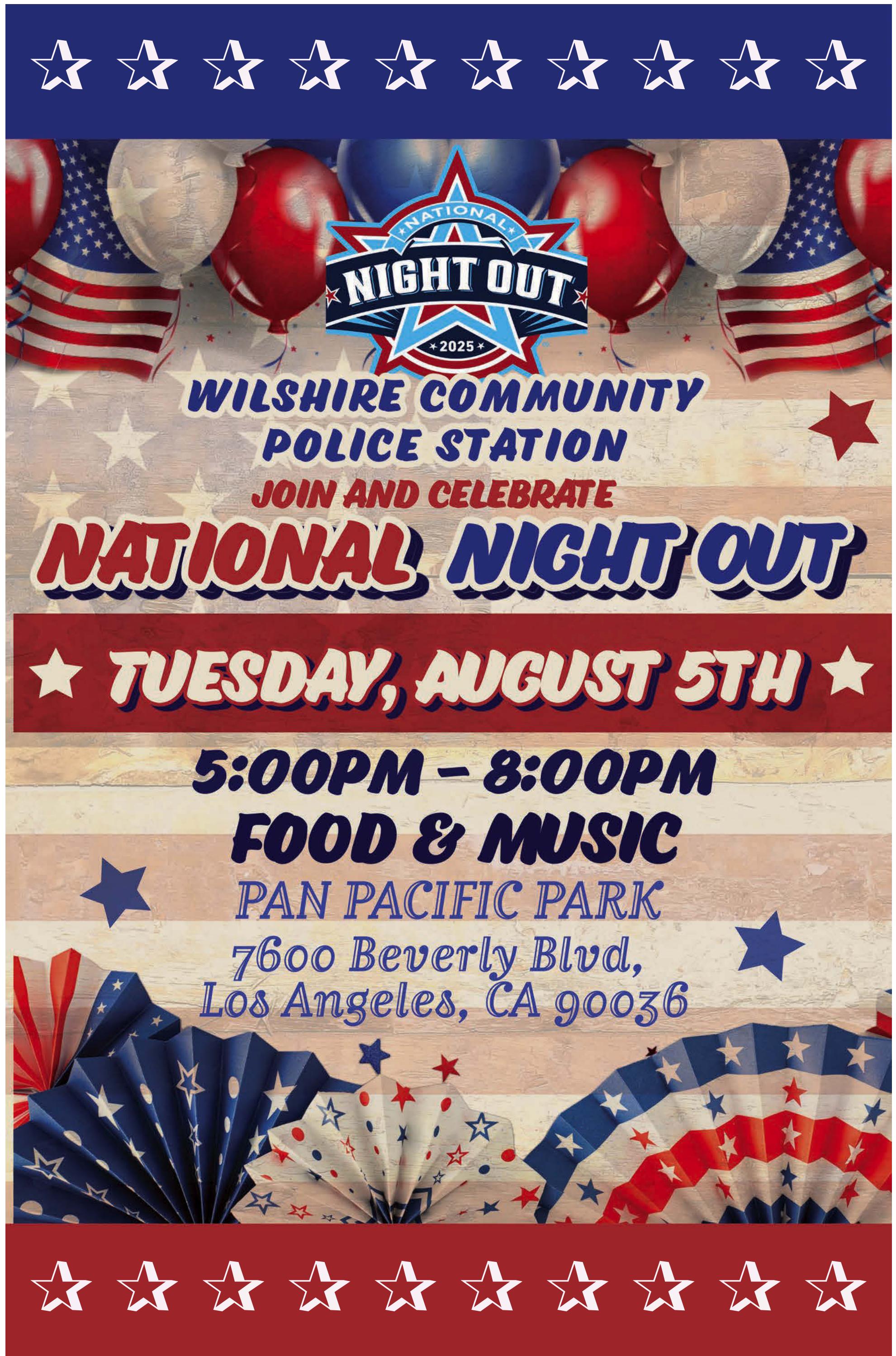
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A love letter to babes, baseball and cotton candy

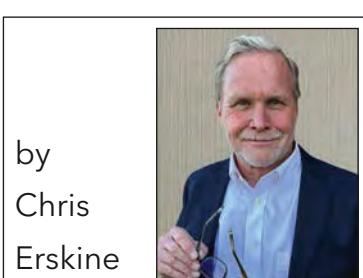
My granddaughter dressed herself for camp the other day in tube socks and a unicorn tiara. And I thought: "Is there anyone cooler than a 4 year old who just doesn't care?"

Because the essence of cool – its oozy nitrogenous base – is not caring. Little kids are great at not caring. The rest of us worry too much.

Here's the culprit: A functional society is based on the well-being of the group, not the individual, which is instilled in us from the moment we sign up for pre-school, soccer or church camp.



Tube socks and a tiara. That's really quite brave.



by
Chris
Erskine

Yet, really epic cool – Jagger's swagger or Sandler's smirk – is all about individual expression, which comes from not being conventional. That's so rare. And really quite brave, I suppose (I'm too conventional to know).

Look, I know that's a lot to digest. But I get these rushes of suburban revelation, and I feel obligated to share. They're not for everyone, obviously. So, fortunately, I have you.

Thank you.

Here's the thing about being a writer: If you ponder the love lives of poodles – are they picky? are they tender? – you might be a writer.

If you wonder why your saliva suddenly tastes a little salty, and what that means about your pistachio intake, you might be a writer.

If most of your dreams are nightmares, you might be a writer.

If not, you're probably not a writer. Congrats, you're safe. Count your blessings and carry on.

Of course, towering over all other literary types: the sports-writer.

I used to be one. Gave it up for Lent, but I still get my salty sports-

writer impulses, my urges to weigh in on these Dodgers, for instance, or the Clippers, who are turning into an NBA old folks home.

What fun!

There have been some truly magnificent sportswriters over the years. A guy by the name of Red Smith, another guy named Jim Murray. Frank DeFord. Tom Verducci. My pal Plaschke for sure.

They were screwy, seething, semi-functional human beings. And their words danced across the sports page.

I'm more of a carp. I live on scraps, muck, mosquito larva. I became a sportswriter when I realized that everything I said had a ketchup squirt of sarcasm to it.

Or, as I dub them: snarkasms.

Case in point: I spotted Dodger chief executive Stan Kasten at the ballyard recently. He was all grim faced and put upon, being out among the fans as he was (that's really no place for royalty, Stanley).

Fellow exec Lon Rosen looked even more miserable, like some kid just stole his scooter.

I read the other day that Rosen doesn't think Dodger games are too loud and frantic.

As you know, baseball once purred like a farmhouse cat. There was the murmur of the crowd between pitches, the churchly moan of the old town organ. Once in a while, some kid whistled a little loud.

Now baseball sounds like a frat party where someone is lighting off sticks of dynamite.

Oh well. I suppose there's a reason the Dodgers draw 4 million fans each year, right? Maybe they enjoy all the strobes and atomic bombs.

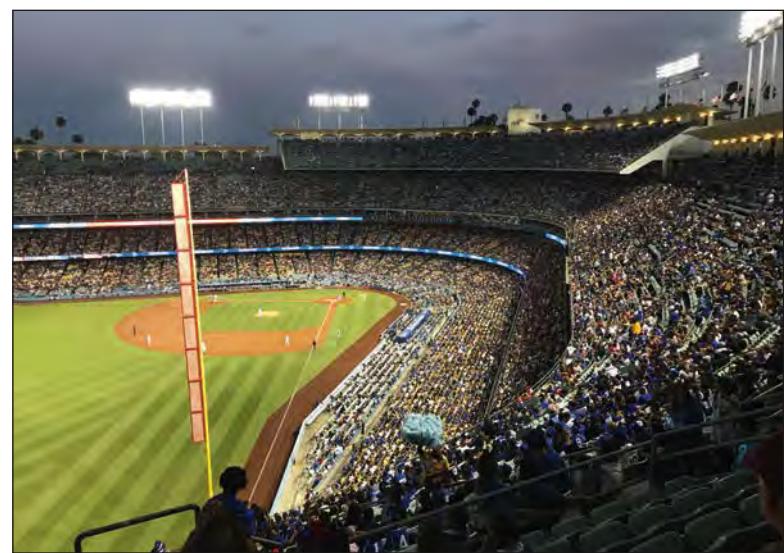


photo by Chris Erskine

Baseball used to be such a sedative. Now it's a stimulant.

Maybe this is America, circa 2025.

I prefer baseball as a sedative; now it's a stimulant ... a meth. At one point in every Dodger game, I can feel my soul trying to flee my body.

"What happened to all the purists?" the lovely and patient older daughter asked the other night.

Great question. Food is too fussy. Concerts too glam. New sedans too larded with indecipherable tech.

Give me basic any day. Give me dogs, as I proselytized last week ... goldens, beagles, mutts.

"We don't deserve dogs," noted my pal Druck.

Yeah, but we sure do need them.

We also need newborns, like my new grandkid, Mookie: No tattoos. No nose rings. At least so far.

We also need music stripped of pretense. Harry Chapin. John

Sebastian. Paul Simon.

Similarly, we need real baseball back, soulful and sublime: the thwack of the catcher's mitt; the cry of the vendor hawking cotton candy.

Spotted a funny story the other day about a California woman who was mistakenly listed as the return address for Amazon products, so her driveway was soon overflowing with items she didn't order.

Is that the new American Dream or what?

My American Dream? A cold beer in my left hand, two Dodger Dogs in my right.

And the murmur of Dodger fans – among the best in baseball – spotting the first signs of a late-inning rally.

Baseball at its cool, oozy best.

For past columns or books, please visit ChrisErskineLA.com

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Dodger Stadium Adult Camp gives fans the opportunity to play baseball on the field at Dodger Stadium.

Play baseball at Dodger Stadium adult camp Sept. 10-13

Back by popular demand, the Dodgers are staging Dodger Stadium Adult Camp from Sept. 10-13.

The special four-day event gives fans the chance to live out their Big League dreams by playing games on the field at Dodger Stadium. Additionally, adult campers will participate in one-of-a-kind programming including a home run derby, instruction and coaching from Dodger legends, a stadium tour and a photograph with the 2024 World Series trophy.

The camp also offers a first – an exclusive pregame welcome party on Sept. 10 that includes a meet-and-greet with Orel Hershiser. Campers will also receive visits from other Dodger broadcast talent, taking attendees behind the scenes of game's production.

Sept. 10 is also Shohei Ohtani Bobblehead night presented by Yakult, and each camper will receive a ticket to the game and an Ohtani bobblehead.

A three-day tournament of games

runs from Sept. 11-13, concluding with a championship game, award ceremony and send-off dinner. Sept. 11 will also feature an under-the-lights Home Run Derby.

The Dodger Stadium Adult Camp is open to people ages 18 and older and will take place at Dodger Stadium, 1000 Vin Scully Ave.

Participants will be coached by 1981 World Series champions Steve Garvey, Bill Russell and Ken Landreaux, and 1988 World Series champions Rick Dempsey and Mickey Hatcher. More coaches and special guests will be announced.

Participants will have access to some of Dodger Stadium's player facilities. Campers will have the opportunity to take photos with and get autographs from the instructors. Campers will receive a Dodger uniform, meals and Dodger swag.

Previous Dodger Stadium Adult Camps have sold out. Fans can reserve their spot at the 2025 camp by visiting dodgers.com/adult-camp.

D Line service resumes after subway is linked east of Wilshire/Western

Following a temporary 70-day service suspension, Metro's D Line resumed service on July 26 between the Wilshire/Western and Wilshire/Vermont stations. The temporary closure enabled crews to complete critical connections between the existing D Line system east of Wilshire/Western and the new D Line extension project.

Plans call for a full closure of Wilshire Boulevard at Western Avenue from 9 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 8, through 6 a.m. on Monday, Aug. 11, for final repaving. A detour route will be in place and local access will be maintained between Wilton Place and St. Andrews Place. Motorists are encouraged to use Crenshaw Boulevard and Western Avenue to Olympic Boulevard to bypass the closure.

Street restoration work is also

ongoing around the Wilshire/La Brea, Wilshire/Fairfax and Wilshire/La Cienega stations. Motorists are advised about lane closures around the subway stations. At Wilshire/La Cienega, a K-rail work zone has been moved to the curb lanes on the south side of Wilshire Boulevard and will be in place for approximately four months. Crews are restoring curbs, sidewalks, pedestrian ramps and tree wells on Wilshire Boulevard between San Vicente and La Cienega boulevards. Two lanes will remain open in each direction on Wilshire Boulevard and a five-foot pedestrian walkway will be maintained along the south side of the street.

At the Wilshire/Rodeo station, crews are working underground and at street level. On Saturday, Aug. 2, from 7 a.m.-11 p.m., crews

will install temporary decking in an alley off Wilshire Boulevard between North Cañon and Beverly drives. The decking will support construction of an underground structure adjacent to the station.

Work is progressing at the Century City/Constellation station. Crews are preparing to remove deck panels and restore the street along Constellation Boulevard between Century Park East and Solar Way. Temporary traffic control will be in place through Aug. 15 to support LADWP water and power utility installation for the subway station. Lane reductions and closures may be in place during day and night non-peak traffic periods.

Work has also begun to construct appendage structures adjacent to the future Century City/Constellation station. The cur-



photo by Edwin Folven

A K-rail work zone has shifted to the south side of Wilshire Boulevard between San Vicente and La Cienega boulevards.

rent traffic closures will continue following the completion of the deck removal work in the fourth quarter of 2025.

For questions and concerns about

the D Line Extension project, call the 24-hour project hotline at (213)922-6934, email the project team at purplelineext@metro.net or visit metro.net.

LAHSA appoints City Attorney's Office veteran as interim CEO



photo courtesy of LAHSA

Gita O'Neill will begin serving as interim chief executive officer for LAHSA on Aug. 26.

The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority Commission on July 25 appointed Gita O'Neill as interim chief executive officer, effective Aug. 26. O'Neill brings more than two decades of executive-level experience in the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office, where she has led complex transitions, provided strategic guidance and maintained stability across large public systems. Her expertise aligns directly with LAHSA's mission and the agency's current leadership needs.

"I am honored to step into the role of Interim CEO for LAHSA at such a critical juncture," O'Neill said. "The challenge of homelessness in our community is immense, and the system is undergoing significant changes. Increasing trust in LAHSA hinges on our ongoing commitment to transparency, particularly in

LAHSA's core function of contracting. I am deeply committed to working collaboratively with the LAHSA team, our JPA partners and the community to ensure that we are providing the most effective and compassionate services possible to those experiencing homelessness, and that we navigate this transition with strength and purpose. I look forward to contributing to the ongoing efforts to create lasting solutions."

Throughout her public service career, O'Neill has developed a strategic perspective on highly complex and interdependent issues, notably in homelessness response and housing. As the city attorney's first director of homeless policies and strategies, she played a key role in developing "A Bridge Home," Los Angeles's first citywide shelter system. She also supported emergency operations during the COVID-19 pandemic. Her broad understanding of Los Angeles's diverse communities and proven track record in navigating complex challenges will be invaluable as LAHSA continues its vital work to

address the homelessness crisis, particularly as the system undergoes significant shifts, members of the LAHSA board said.

"I am honored to step into the role of Interim CEO for LAHSA at such a critical juncture."

*Gita O'Neill,
interim chief executive officer*

"Gita O'Neill's extensive experience and deep understanding of the challenges facing our homeless services system make her an ideal leader for LAHSA during this crucial time," LAHSA Commission Chair Wendy Greuel said. "Her commitment to transparency, stakeholder trust and equitable outcomes will be invaluable as we navigate this transitional period and work to stabilize the system."

The LAHSA Commission is hir-

ing O'Neill on a 12-month contract.

"Ms. Gita O'Neill brings deep expertise and leadership during a difficult transitional period for LAHSA as the county pulls its funding from the agency and the federal government continues to act with uncertainty," Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass said. "Our commitment to saving lives and restoring communities remains as urgent and unwavering as ever."

"This appointment comes at a pivotal moment as L.A. County launches its new homelessness department, and I am confident that close coordination between our agencies will drive meaningful progress," added Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Chair Kathryn Barger, 5th District.

O'Neill will oversee LAHSA's daily operations, work collaboratively with government partners, service providers and community stakeholders, and advance the agency's mission to coordinate and implement homelessness services across Los Angeles County. For information, visit lahsa.org.

Letters to the Editor

More viewpoints surround Fountain Avenue traffic improvements

Re "Calls for safer streets grow louder in WeHo," July 24 issue

Yes, there are too many accidents on Fountain. And what happened to Blake Ackerman is tragic, and my heart goes out to his family and friends.

But ... I really don't understand why our know-it-all council members Hang, Byers and Erickson are so convinced that the ONLY solution is narrowing the streets and adding bike lanes. Why are they not at least considering other solutions?

There are many other options, and yet they turn a completely deaf ear to anyone who suggests them and says that these people are anti-safety. What's in it for them? Why are they so hell bent on this one plan without considering other alternatives? Is it tunnel vision, or is there something more nefarious going on?

And, has a traffic safety study been done? Where is it? Let's see it!

Why isn't making the sidewalks ADA compliant the priority that it should be and was until Erickson changed it from Phase 1 to Phase 2?

Of course, "the bicycle coalition" and "streets for all" members are going to be at the meeting at Plummer Park on Aug. 19 in force in hopes of pushing through their biased opinion. I am hoping that people who see reason and are more open minded will be there in force also.

*Mikie Friedman
West Hollywood*

Reducing traffic lanes on Fountain will cause nothing but gridlock on Santa Monica Boulevard, Sunset and all the smaller streets in the area.

I live just off of Fountain on Ogden Drive. I see the traffic on Fountain in the mornings backed up from Fairfax almost past Plummer Park. BOTH LANES.

Where are all these cars supposed to go? The fire department can barely get through traffic now on Santa Monica Boulevard with-

out adding even more congestion. You can forget them trying to go down Fountain if it's only one lane.

What is needed is more law enforcement day and night. Not just the lone motorcycle sheriff for a few days after an accident happens.

*Michael Yanak
West Hollywood*

If the bicycle lobby used their exceptional exuberance and connections to advance public transportation, like an above-ground rail line from Glendale to West L.A., then perhaps the streets would be safer for ALL.

Instead of focusing on the few bike riders, public transportation would allow more people to get out of their cars. If there were viable alternatives in place, bike lanes might not be necessary, or at least easier to implement. Not everyone or every trip can be on a bike. We need to advocate for better transportation for ALL.

We need rail lines along the busiest traffic corridors, and we

need them as soon as possible. Above ground lines are quicker and cheaper to build.

I would also suggest that before West Hollywood makes permanent changes to Fountain Avenue, they close down a lane for a week and see what happens. I would guess that it would push any danger onto side streets and the current east-bound backup on Melrose and Holloway (at La Cienega) would be exacerbated, as well as other unforeseen problems.

*Harlan Levinson
West Hollywood*

Scooter crash was farther away than noted

Re "Man arrested in second WeHo hit-and-run within eight days," July 24 issue

Not to nitpick but writing that the accident occurred "blocks" from City Hall is kind of a stretch. It's 24 blocks to be precise. As a matter of fact, Formosa Avenue is as far from City Hall as City Hall

is from the Beverly Hills city border.

*Tom Pease
West Hollywood*

Larchmont plan must include more housing, fewer parking lots

Re "Larchmont 2030 plan calls for responsible development"

There's a 10-story building at 321 Larchmont, built in 1961. In this photo, there's a four-story building from 1964. Across the street is another four-story building. Three blocks west, Rossmore is lined with residential towers from the 1920s. Meanwhile, there are a dozen surface parking lots on this stretch of upper Larchmont.

Isn't maintaining free housing for empty automobiles (on a street that developed around mass transit) more injurious for the neighborhood than maintaining density levels established a century ago?

*Eric Brightwell
Los Angeles*

RESTAURANT NEWS

Fridays are 'Good for You' at Andaz WeHo

Andaz West Hollywood announced its brand-new weekly R&B series "Good for You Fridays" experience built for the effortlessly cool – perfect for date night, catching up with the crew, or even flying solo and making new connections.

Taking place every Friday starting Aug. 1 from 9 p.m.–2 a.m. inside Riot House (formerly a rock 'n' roll playground for legends like Led Zeppelin and Jim Morrison), the night features live sets from local favorites DJ Forgi and DJ Damage, spinning smooth and sultry R&B all night long. Expect good energy, unique cocktails and a crowd that knows how to vibe.

The event is free with RSVP, with a full bar and food menu available for purchase. To RSVP, visit [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com). Andaz West Hollywood is located at 8401 Sunset Blvd.

Katana slices Dine L.A. deals

Katana is the essential hot spot in Los Angeles. It's distinctive – energetic, exclusive and stylish. Katana serves imaginative Japanese cuisine in a seductive setting, accented with elements like a live DJ and dramatic candlelight. In addition to the alluring dining room and sushi bar, it features a unique patio scene with an elevated terrace overlooking the famous Sunset Strip.

For Dine L.A. Week – July 25–Aug. 8 – Katana is offering a selection of favorites for \$65, including the choice of appetizers like yellowtail serrano – yellowtail sashimi, garlic ponzu and serrano pepper; or hanabi – spicy tuna atop crispy rice. The special Dine L.A. menu also includes robata such as ebi bacon – jumbo shrimp wrapped with bacon and chili garlic sauce; tsukune – chicken meatballs; and gyu – aged ribeye. The sushi highlights on the Dine L.A.

The Culver Hotel patio is perfect for pups

The Culver Hotel offers a welcoming atmosphere where every guest – two-legged or four – is treated like a regular. Tucked adjacent to Culver City's pedestrian promenade, the expansive patio is a lush garden getaway where locals and travelers alike can dine al fresco – with their pups in tow. Shaded by striped umbrellas and vintage birdcages, the hidden gem welcomes BFF's – best furry friends – noon or night with special touches designed just for them.

While diners indulge in a classic Hollywood meal paired with signature cocktails, refreshing wine spritzes and draft microbrews under the flowering trees, their furry companions can indulge in the hotel's signature "barcuterie board" – a wooden paw-print platter topped with peanut butter dip, crunchy treats, fresh fruits and vegetables and other small bites for \$11. It's the perfect pairing to an effortless afternoon or relaxed



photo courtesy of The Culver Hotel

Guests at the Culver Hotel can bring their furry friends for a signature "barcuterie board" on the patio.

evening in Culver City's most charming setting.

The hotel's Saturday Garden Parties – where guests sip on rosé wine flights and Kikori whiskey cocktails paired with bite-sized canapés and a weekly pop-up by The Floral Boutique from 3–6 p.m.

– are in full swing until Labor Day, presenting another great opportunity to bring Fido along.

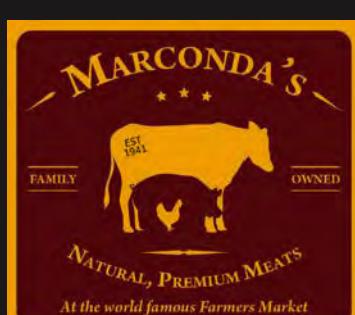
Walk-ins are accepted and reservations can be made at culverhotel.com/downtown-culver-city-restaurants. The Culver Hotel is located at 9400 Culver Blvd.



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menu include tuna/salmon/albacore and the White Lotus Roll – shrimp tempura, avocado and asparagus topped with albacore, crispy onions and wasabi truffle soy.

For information, visit discoverlosangeles.com/eat-drink/katana/dinela. Katana is located at 8439 Sunset Blvd.

Terrazza takes Dine L.A. to the coast

Terrazza at Hotel Casa del Mar will have lunch and dinner menus for Dine L.A. Restaurant week, as well as a special menu at Patio del Mar through Aug. 8. The restaurant with breathtaking ocean views offers visitors the perfect opportunity to take in the summer at Santa Monica's classic beach-front hotel.

The dinner menu for Dine L.A. at Terrazza includes a first course choice of market salad with dates, pomegranate, sunflower seeds and Manchego, or a soup of the day. For the second course, options include Mary's Farm Chicken with lentils,

root vegetables, Hen of the Woods Mushrooms and chicken jus; scallops with farro, fall squash, Brussels sprouts and pepitas; or busiati with short rib ragu, oyster mushroom and parmagiano. For a third course, Dine L.A. guests can enjoy tiramisu with espresso ladyfingers, mascarpone cream and chocolate, or ricotta cheesecake with passionfruit and caramel sauce.

For information, visit hoteldelmar.com/dining/terrazza. Hotel Casa Del Mar is located at 1910 Ocean Way.

The Wayfarer raises the Rooftop for Dine L.A.

The Rooftop at The Wayfarer is a hidden oasis in Downtown Los Angeles. Sip, eat and chill 12 stories up with friends, family or solo. Serving lunch, brunch and dinner, with a full bar and delicious cocktails, The Rooftop offers a Dine L.A. menu until Aug. 8.

See page 15

Farmhouse at Descanso Gardens showcases California's bounty

Farmhouse at Descanso Gardens, the new farm-to-table dining destination nestled within SoCal's iconic botanical garden and living museum, invites guests to experience brunch in the breathtaking urban oasis. Inspired by the bounty of California's boutique farms and the surrounding gardens, the ever-changing menu of brunch specials highlights the freshest flavors of the moment.

A collaboration between chef partner Rich Mead, known for his long-standing relationships with local sustainably focused farmers, and executive chef Adam Cherney, the brunch menu reflects a shared commitment to ingredient-driven cuisine.

"No two brunches are exactly the same, and that's the beauty of it," Cherney said. "The menu evolves constantly, depending on what looks best at the Santa Monica Farmers Market or what's



photo courtesy of Farmhouse at Descanso Gardens

Sonoran grain rice pudding "Arroz Bionico" is one of the brunch options at Farmhouse at Descanso Gardens.

growing in our local farms – that's what keeps it exciting for us and our guests."

Guests can enjoy their meal in the airy dining room, featuring a dramatic indoor/outdoor bar crafted from Descanso Gardens' fallen oak trees, or al fresco on the lush patio surrounded by the gardens' natural beauty. Expect vibrant dishes like chickpeas with braised greens, spiced tomato sauce and farm egg served with grilled local bread, and

decadent options such as Sonoran grain rice pudding "Arroz Bionico," made with Tehachapi Heritage Grain Project's naturally drought-tolerant and low-gluten organic grain, topped with coconut, heirloom melon, red plums, apricot and candied cocoa nibs.

For information, visit farmhousedg.org. Farmhouse at Descanso Gardens is located at 1418 Descanso Drive, La Cañada Flintridge.



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Mayor Bass encourages Angelenos to 'Dine L.A.'

Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass encouraged Angelenos to participate in Los Angeles' Restaurant Week known as "Dine L.A." as an opportunity to support local businesses and explore the city's renowned restaurants. Created and produced by the L.A. Tourism and Convention Board, Dine L.A. provides vital support to local restaurants and the broader hospitality sector. Bass has worked to open Los Angeles for business by increasing access to resources, technical assistance and new business opportunities. Bass and Los Angeles City Attorney Hydee Feldstein Soto patronized

Downtown L.A. restaurant Maccheroni Republic, calling on Angelenos to participate in Dine L.A.

"L.A. has the best restaurants in the world, and many of them are hurting from so many challenges, from the impacts of the reckless raids to the lingering fallout of the pandemic, we must support our neighborhood gems," Bass said. "That's why I stopped by for lunch at a Dine L.A. restaurant today and hope Angelenos from all over will go out to try a new spot or visit a cherished favorite as Dine L.A. kicks off. L.A. is strongest when we come together, and I hope that's

what you experience when you dine out during Dine L.A."

Dine L.A.'s Summer 2025 event takes place through Aug. 8 and features 480 restaurants, the highest participation yet, across 88 neighborhoods and 33 global cuisines, with 80 new participants this year. The extensive array of participating restaurants reinforces L.A.'s status as a global culinary capital. Los Angeles is home to numerous Michelin-recognized restaurants, with many of the establishments participating in Dine L.A. The program takes place twice a year and invites diners to explore the city's excellent restaurant landscape with

a wide variety of specialty lunch and dinner menus across price points at hundreds of local restaurants across Los Angeles.

"Dine L.A. is more than just a celebration of L.A.'s food, it's a moment to support the chefs, restaurateurs and teams who continue to shape the city's culinary culture," Dine L.A. Executive Director Stacey Sun said. "Restaurants across Los Angeles have shown incredible resilience in recent years, and this program offers a meaningful way for locals and visitors alike to show up, dine out and rediscover what makes our dining scene so special."

To view the list of restaurants participating in Dine L.A., visit discoverlosangeles.com/dinela.



photo courtesy of the city of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass is encouraging residents to visit local restaurants through Aug. 8 during Dine L.A.

Lucas Museum takes center stage at Comic-Con International

On July 27 at Comic-Con International in San Diego, George Lucas offered an exclusive look at and new details about the highly anticipated Lucas Museum of Narrative Art, set to open in 2026 in Los Angeles. Joined onstage by Oscar-winning filmmaker Guillermo del Toro and legendary artist and production designer Doug Chiang, and moderated by artist, actress and producer Queen Latifah, the panel marked one of the most talked about and widely attended sessions in Comic-Con history,

drawing more than 6,000 people on the final day of the convention.

Co-founded by Lucas and Mellody Hobson, the Lucas Museum of Narrative Art will be the world's first institution dedicated to the exploration of narrative art, celebrating illustrated storytelling across eras and cultures, from ancient cave drawings and children's book illustrations to comic books and digital media.

"Society cannot exist without a common belief system. And that's where illustration is vital to show

you what that means in everyday life," Lucas said, emphasizing how the museum "is a temple to the people's art."

Del Toro, a Lucas Museum board member and celebrated champion of visual storytelling, spoke to the emotional depth and social power of narrative art.

"Imagine if we only had classical music, and rock 'n' roll was never created. This is rock 'n' roll and rock 'n' roll needs to be enshrined," del Toro said.

Chiang, Lucasfilm's senior vice president and executive design director, provided a fascinating testament to the importance of exposing young people to comic art and illustration.

"Comic art and magazine illustration were kind of looked down upon ... but it was a way for me to enjoy art, and it invited me to learn more about art. And what I love about what George and Mellody are doing with this museum is they are acknowledging and giving respect to artists who really haven't been highlighted before," Chiang said.

"The connection that I hear in our various conversations is emotion – an emotional connection that the art evokes from you," Latifah said. "That's one of the most important things to never forget. I think when people step into this museum, they will be emotionally affected by it."

During the panel, Latifah highlighted some of the art in the collection, including the first-ever "Flash Gordon" comic strip, an original splash page from "Black Panther" (1968) and original "Peanuts" strips from the 1950s and '60s.

For information, visit lucasmuseum.org.



photo courtesy of Eric Charbonneau/Lucas Museum of Narrative Art

George Lucas gave a Comic-Con audience a sneak peek at the highly anticipated Lucas Museum.

The Petersen welcomes Trent Abbott to executive committee

The Petersen Automotive Museum has named Trent Abbott, vice president of global development at Hagerty, as the newest member of its Checkered Flag 200 Executive Committee.

Checkered Flag 200 has been the museum's leading membership

group since 1994, uniting passionate auto enthusiasts and major collectors from around the world. As a member of the executive committee, Abbott joins an elite group of automotive leaders and enthusiasts who will help develop and organize events and coordinate meaningful contributions from fellow CF200 members.

With more than 25 years of experience in the high-net-worth space, Abbott has worked extensively in investment, insurance and the collectibles market. At Hagerty, Abbott specializes in managing risks related to extensive vehicle collections by offering comprehensive insurance coverage for cars used both domestically and internationally. A lifelong automotive enthusiast, he frequently participates in vintage car rallies and regularly attends major concours events and auctions.

"Trent brings a unique mix of business skill and automotive enthusiasm to our CF200 Executive

Committee," said Bruce Meyer, founder and chairman of the CF200. "His passion for collecting and racing, combined with his industry knowledge, makes him a valuable addition to the other highly skilled individuals who will help lead the museum into the future."

Abbott is joined on the CF200 board by founder and chairman Meyer, as well as executive committee members Mark Alfano, Robert Bistagne, David Brynian, Caroline Cassini, Kip Cyrus, Bill Hammerstein, Jim Hull, Dan Kahn, Matt Malamut, Tom McIntyre, Ron Rader and Doug Weitman.

"It's an incredible honor to join the CF200 Executive Committee," Abbott said. "This is an exciting chance to work with friends and peers on a great cause and to make a difference in the hobby I love so much."

The Petersen Automotive Museum is located at 6060 Wilshire Blvd.

For information, visit petersen.org.



photo courtesy of the Petersen Automotive Museum
Trent Abbott is the vice president of global development at Hagerty.

The first 200 chili cheese dogs will be given away free and proceeds from sales of the next 200 will be donated to charity.

Celebrate National Chili Dog Day at Pink's

Head over to Pink's Hot Dogs on La Brea Avenue on Thursday, July 31, and sink your teeth into a classic chili cheese dog to celebrate National Chili Dog Day. Pink's is giving away free classic chili cheese dogs to the first 200 customers, one per person. The next 200 chili cheese dogs will be sold at regular price, with all proceeds benefiting the charity No Kid Hungry. Owner Richard Pink said it is part of the



photo courtesy of Chantecaille/Elisa Ferrari
Visitors to Beverly Gardens Park on Aug. 1 can try the new Chantecaille lip crème and say goodbye to the Great Elephant Migration.

Kiss the Great Elephant Migration goodbye

To celebrate the conclusion of The Great Elephant Migration in the U.S., Chantecaille and Elephant Family USA are inviting visitors to "kiss" the elephants goodbye with an immersive experience to celebrate the new Lip Crème. Donations from Lip Crème purchases support the conservation work of Elephant Family USA, specifically The Great Elephant Migration.

On Friday, Aug. 1, from 2-7 p.m. at Beverly Gardens Park (in front of the Lily Pond), guests will have the opportunity to take an exclusive photo with the elephants, try the new Lip Crème and receive complimentary gifts.

The Lily Pond in Beverly Gardens Park is located at 9439 Santa Monica Blvd.

For information, visit chantecaille.com.

Wife and the Somm say cheers to brunch

Just when you thought the experience at Wife and the Somm, tucked away in the vibrant neighborhood of Glassell Park, couldn't get any more inviting, owners and restaurateurs Christy Lucchese – "Wife" – and Chris Lucchese – "Somm" – have added yet another lovingly crafted culinary addition at their hidden gem – Sunday Brunch.

A natural extension of their culinary vision, Sunday Brunch at Wife and the Somm captures everything guests love about the neighborhood haven from farm-fresh ingredients, seasonally inspired menus, an impeccable, ever-evolving wine list, and now, a dash of daylight and sunshine. Guests are invited to indulge in chef Frank Ryan Saporito's vibrant brunch menu that blends California's local bounty with his signature style of refined comfort, complemented by specialty drinks and a full Coravin Wine Program featuring premium by-the-glass pours rarely available elsewhere.

Designed to celebrate the peak of the season, the new Wife and the Somm brunch menu is divided into thoughtfully curated categories. Highlights from the new Sunday Brunch menu include a tempting array of dishes that showcase the season's finest ingredients with thoughtful, elevated touches. From the bakery, guests can begin with warm slices of Clark Street Bakery's country loaf, served warm with whipped butter, or savor the comforting charm of a house made sweet or savory biscuit of the day, served warm and accompanied with whipped butter and seasonal jam. From the pasture, indulgent options abound, from eggs with caviar, crowned with N25 Royal Ossetra, to hearty chilaquiles layered with salsa verde, over-easy eggs and queso fresco. For a protein-packed plate, diners can enjoy steak and eggs with a 4-ounce Wagyu flank steak and chimichurri, or the egg sandwich featuring Beeler's Duroc

bacon, cheddar and garlic aioli on grilled Clark Street country loaf. The toast selection is equally indulgent, with offerings such as Royal Ossetra Caviar featuring eight grams of N25 caviar, crème fraîche toast points, Sicilian olive oil and sea salt, house cured salmon toast topped with dill cream cheese, radish blossoms, shallots and shaved fennel, and bone marrow toast, layered with pickled shallots, chimichurri and lemon zest. For those craving a sweet finale, the French toast, made with Clark Street Bakery Pullman-style challah, seasonal jam, maple syrup and whipped butter, is the perfect nostalgic treat to round out a meal.

A rotating menu of desserts crafted by Christy Lucchese includes her beloved Basque cheesecake, lemon olive oil cake and the family-favorite chocolate soufflé with velvet sauce.

Guests can sip on thoughtfully crafted brunch beverages such as the Primo Spritz, made with



photo courtesy of Nick Gingold/Craft Media L.A.

Wife and the Somm's brunch options include toasts with a variety of toppings.

Treveri sparkling wine and Aperitivo di Vino, or indulge in a classic mimosa featuring Perricone Farms orange juice. Of course, Wife and the Somm's full wine list is available, and for those seeking an elevated experience, the Coravin Wine Program offers an

opportunity to enjoy rare and premium wines by the glass, expertly selected by Sommelier Chris Lucchese.

For information, visit wifeandthesomm.com. Wife and the Somm is located at 3416 Verdugo Road, Glassell Park.

Panini Kabob Grill launches on Sunset



photo courtesy of Panini Kabob Grill

The new restaurant on Sunset Boulevard offers Mediterranean cuisine.

Panini Kabob Grill, a popular Mediterranean scratch kitchen known for its generous portions, fresh ingredients and delicious dishes, opened its newest location on Sunset Boulevard on Tuesday, July 29. Located at 6240 W. Sunset Blvd, Ste. R101, directly across from the Hollywood Palladium and within walking distance of the Hollywood Walk of Fame, the new PKG outpost marks the brand's

26th location and the 13th in the greater Los Angeles area.

The new restaurant serves affordable and fresh Mediterranean cuisine served in an inviting and fun environment with dine-in and patio seating. Additionally, the location features nearby parking options including a garage.

Signature dishes such as kabob entrées – starting at \$18.99 – include antibiotic-free and hormone-free charbroiled chicken, beef koobideh, fresh Atlantic salmon, flat iron steak, jumbo shrimp, tofu and grass-fed

lamb kabobs. A family style dine-in special – starting at \$54.99 – highlights the brand's dedication to traditional cooking, while modern twists like its Ka-Boxes – starting at \$9.99 – offer an entrée and an appetizer all in one for a meal on-the-go. Guests can also enjoy a variety of made-to-order pastas, paninis, wraps, salads, soups and appetizers such as the house-made \$9.99 hummus trio and \$9.99 tzatziki with additional vegan and vegetarian options.

For information, visit paninikabobgrill.com.

From page 13

Indulge in a three-course meal featuring your choice of craft cocktail, starters like mango habanero wings or shrimp aguachile, entrees like torta burger, chicharrón crispy pork belly, or pescado con papas and desserts like cajeta filled churros or chocolate flan.

Lunch and dinner are served Wednesday–Sunday each week. \$45 Per Person.

For information, visit wayfarerdtla.com/restaurants-dtla/rooftop-bar-downtown-la. The Wayfarer is located at 813 S. Flower St.

TLV Tapas celebrates National Watermelon Day

To mark National Watermelon Day on Aug. 3, TLV Tapas Bar in Tarzana is offering a seasonal special that captures the essence of summer.

The Watermelon Yellowtail Tartar layers golden watermelon with fresh yellowtail, mint, cilantro, serrano, pine nuts, herb-infused oil and ponzu. The result is a dish that's bright, tangy and refreshing, making it perfect for warm evenings. The special will be available for a limited time on the menu for the next few weeks.

Also on the menu is the Tropit, a tropical cocktail made with vodka, watermelon, guava and pineapple. The cocktail is a customer favorite as it transports guests into a tropical vacation.

For information, visit tlv-tapas.com. TLV Tapas is located at 5442 Yolanda Ave.

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Newsom celebrates Cradle-to-Career program

In July 2021, Gov. Gavin Newsom signed legislation to establish the California Cradle-to-Career Data System within the Government Operations Agency. In the four years since, C2C has achieved exciting milestones, launching a first-of-its-kind informational tool to help students better understand their options for education and career planning in April 2025.

"Over the last four years, Cradle-to-Career has made massive strides in their work to connect available data and existing information to the students who can use it to leverage their careers," Newsom said. "I look forward to what comes next and the achievements California's future leaders will accomplish."

"In just four years, California's

official data system became a model for inclusive decision-making, meaningful community engagement and unprecedented collaboration," said Mary Ann Bates, executive director at the California Cradle-to-Career Data System. "Californians deserve tools for their education and career planning that reflect their experiences. We started by listening first, and then building a dashboard based on what people said they needed. We continue to learn from the input people are sharing as they explore the student pathways data dashboard."

The system is overseen by a 21-member governing board representing perspectives across the state, along with processes that ensure substantial public representation. The Cradle-to-Career Data System

links existing education, workforce, financial aid and social service information to better equip policy makers, educators and the public to close opportunity gaps and improve outcomes for all students throughout the state. Public dashboards and other tools provide transparency into how students are educated and enter the workforce, along with corresponding insights into how policies and programs can better serve more students and families.

Cradle-to-Career is providing timely, accurate and reliable information on education and workforce outcomes. Hearing from researchers who are eager to dive deeper into the dashboard, C2C will launch the first phase of its query builder tool by the end of 2025. The query builder complements the stu-



photo courtesy of the office of Gov. Gavin Newsom

The Cradle-to-Career Data System collects information for California students.

dent pathways dashboard by providing users with the ability to explore the information powering the dashboard. The query builder

rollout will occur in phases, with new features building on previous releases.

For information, visit c2c.ca.gov.

AJU honors 10 distinct education graduates

American Jewish University celebrated the graduation of 10 students with a Bachelor of Arts in Education in Early Childhood Education on Aug. 10 at Adat Ari El in Valley Village. This year's graduates are poised to shape the future of Jewish early childhood education by creating inclusive learning environments in early childhood centers and day schools nationwide.

As one of AJU's Masor School

for Jewish Education and Leadership courses, the BAEd ECE program empowers early childhood educators to nurture children's growth by designing meaningful learning experiences, fostering positive relationships, collaborating with families and upholding the highest professional and ethical standards.

"Jewish early childhood educators create the spaces where chil-

dren first encounter Jewish life – its language, its values and its joy," said Dr. Bruce Powell, dean of AJU's Masor School for Jewish Education and Leadership. "Our graduates step into this sacred work with deep purpose. They are teaching our youngest learners and helping ensure that Jewish life remains strong for generations to come."

This year's graduating cohort is united by a passion for building vibrant Jewish learning environments for young children. They will go on to serve in Jewish early childhood centers and day schools nationwide. Graduates include Chaya Berklin, Rachel Berman, Lauren A. Branco, Diane Cohen, Tali Elhadad, Liat Tova Feller, Kristina Mamontov, Danit Sharonne Reitman, Aidie Shusterman and Jill Akemi Vidal.

"There is a great need for Jewish early childhood educators," said Dr. Tamar Andrews, director of Early Childhood Education Programs at AJU. "This year's graduates spent the past two years developing the tools to lead, to innovate and to nurture. Their fieldwork has already begun to make an impact in the education of our youngest generation, and I have no doubt they will continue to make a difference in classrooms and communities across the country."

For information, visit aju.edu.



photo courtesy of American Jewish University

American Jewish University honored graduates who studied early childhood education.

BHHS alumna throws first pitch at Dodger Stadium

Professional ice hockey player and Beverly Hills High School alumna Dominique Petrie (class of 2018) threw the ceremonial first pitch at Dodger Stadium on July 23, marking a milestone in an inspiring athletic journey that began at BHHS.

Before the professional spotlight and championship titles, Petrie was a dedicated Norman. She trained on the basketball court and competed on the tennis team at BHHS.

As a student athlete, Petrie helped lead the girls basketball team to CIF championships in 2017 and 2018. She went on to play Division I hockey at Harvard University, earning recognition as a standout athlete and leader. In 2024, she joined the Professional Women's Hockey League's Minnesota Frost team, where she played a pivotal role in winning the league's national championship and raising the Walter Cup.

Petrie returned to the BHHS campus this summer, proudly bringing the Walter Cup back to the community where her journey began. She reconnected with coach-

es and students, serving as a living example of the power of passion, perseverance and preparation.

"Dominique embodies the very best of BHUSD," BHUSD Superintendent Dr. Alex Cherniss said. "Her journey is a powerful reminder to our students that excellence is not just a goal, but a mindset. When you combine talent with character and grit, anything is possible. We are proud to celebrate her accomplishments and the inspiration she brings to our entire district."

For information, visit bhhs.org.



photo courtesy of BHUSD

BHUSD hosts leadership retreat at Hawthorne Campus

While students are still enjoying the summer break, the leadership team at Beverly Hills Unified School District is preparing for an exciting and transformative school year.

This week, Superintendent Dr. Alex Cherniss welcomed administrators from all BHUSD schools to the district's annual leadership retreat, a multi-day session focused on strategic planning, collaboration and student-centered preparation. With many new staff members joining the BHUSD team, the retreat served as a welcome and kickoff.

"Our commitment to educational excellence begins long

before the first day of school," Cherniss said. "We use this time to come together as a leadership team to align our vision, sharpen our goals and prepare to support every student, every day."

The retreat included sessions on academic planning, instructional leadership and operational readiness, ensuring that every school is prepared for success this fall.

"Although school's out, our leadership team is all in," Cherniss said. "We are energized, united and ready to make this year one of the best yet."

For information, visit bhhs.org.

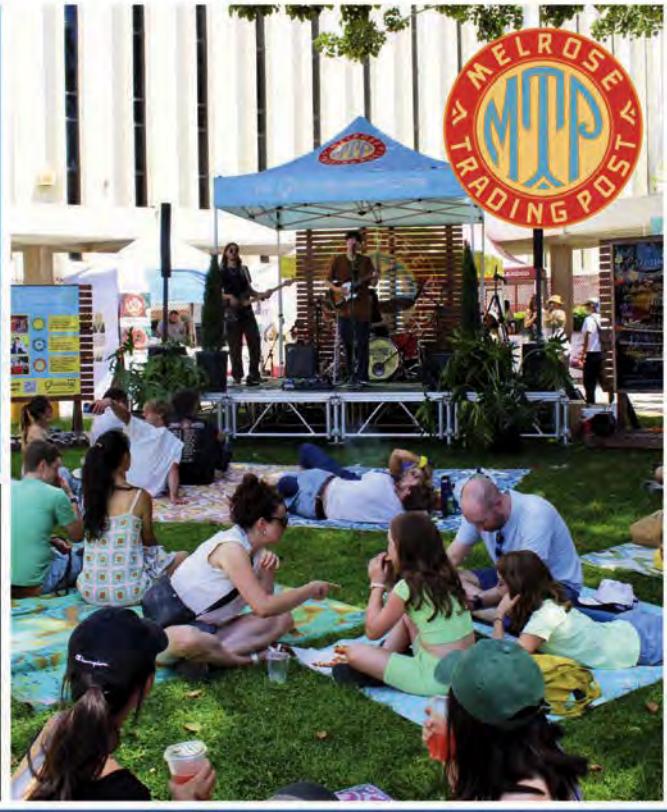


photo courtesy of BHUSD

District and school leaders are preparing for the upcoming academic year at the BHUSD.

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The fifth attempt at 'Fantastic Four' breaks the curse

Dating back to the mid-1990s, the Fantastic Four curse began. First came a production never meant for release, then two terrible entries a decade later. Another 10 years, another attempt that fell flat. After the standard decade gestation, the First Family of Marvel enters the MCU, finally breaking that curse.

"Fantastic Four: First Steps" is a slick, visually stunning ride with fantastic performances. Unlike past attempts, its strength lies in the comics, not how it softens anything for the big screen. That's to be expected from helmer Matt Shakman, who directed all nine episodes of "WandaVision."

Most MCU films and TV series

ON SCREEN
WITH
TIM POSADA

are set in what's now called the sacred timeline, while "First Steps" exists on an alternative Earth. Set in the 1960s, this Fantastic Four are already household names following a space mission that gave each of them powers. A playful montage sequence quickly initiates us to the quartet's many victories and achievements, wonderfully accented by the year's most catchy score by Michael Giacchino ("Up," "Inside Out").

Ben Grimm (Ebon Moss-Bachrach) underwent the most overt change as the rock-like Thing, strong enough to pull a freighter. Johnny Storm (Joseph Quinn) lights up the sky as the Human Torch. Reed Richards, or Mr. Fantastic (Pedro Pascal), elongates his body, but his primary strength is still an incomparable intellect.

And Sue Storm (Vanessa Kirby) wows as the Invisible Woman, who can hide or generate force fields, but the biggest news is a baby on the way. For any comics lovers, the addition of Franklin Richards is a

Award, recognizing his acclaimed five-decades-long career in broadcasting and 45 years as a sportscaster at KCBS/KCAL in Los Angeles. The award was presented by Laker and NBA legend James Worthy.

For information, visit televisionacademy.com/awards/la-emmys.



photo courtesy of Marvel Studios

The Silver Surfer (Julia Garner) is a standout in "Fantastic Four: First Steps."

Winners of the 2025 Los Angeles Area Emmy Awards announced

The 2025 Los Angeles Area Emmy Awards were presented on July 26 at the Skirball Cultural Center in Los Angeles, hosted by Kelvin Washington, host and anchor for Spectrum News 1 in Los Angeles.

The awards ceremony, produced by Bob Bain and Bob Bain Productions, honored locally produced programs in the categories of live and breaking news coverage, crime and social issues, culture and history, the arts, health and science, human interest, music, sports and the

environment.

Jim Hill received the 2025 Los Angeles Area Emmy Governors



photo by Phil McCarten/Invision/AP Content Services.
The 2025 Los Angeles Area Emmy Awards recognized local news programs.



photo courtesy of Marvel Studios

"Fantastic Four: First Steps" is a solid MCU film with a compelling cast and story.

big deal that will likely play a major part in future films.

Things are going great for the Fantastic Four. That is until a silver alien descends upon New York, floating on a surfboard. This Silver Surfer (Julia Garner) drops quite a warning: "I herald his beginning. I herald your end. I herald Galactus."

Then she's gone. So what are this planet's mightiest heroes to do? Head off into space and learn more about a being who devours planets to quell its impossible hunger.

If you recall the last time the Surfer/Galactus story graced screens in 2007, the filmmakers feared a comics-accurate depiction of Galactus, instead favoring inference. Not in "First Steps." Galactus (Ralph Ineson) is enormous and entirely on display. He enjoys plenty of screen time and gets his hands dirty on Earth in a major showdown.

This Silver Surfer is another highlight as well. Pause while we debunk bad intel. No, Marvel Studios didn't gender-swap the Silver Surfer. This is the character Shalla-Bal, not Norrin Radd. Hope that clears things up. Garner's performance is powerful, though she doesn't receive enough screen time once Galactus lands.

As for the dynamic four, they share proportionate screen time. Pascal is always charming (and everywhere), but not a conventional

choice. He slays in the role. The Thing often sports a gruff voice, while Moss-Bachrach favors a Chicago accent that feels more human for a CGI character. Again, it works. He delivers a playful, heartfelt performance.

Quinn doesn't look like a traditional heartthrob, yet his Human Torch is both a strong combo of cocky and family centered. Conversely, Kirby looks the part more than any other Susan Storm casting. She's ripped from the comics. Good thing too, since she's a central figure here as the team's strength and moral core.

The real star, however, isn't any one performance but the film's commitment to a retro-futuristic world. This is the Fantastic Four if the film released when the characters debuted in 1961 and somehow acquired a modern-day budget. Spaceship design, flying cars, even H.E.R.B.I.E., Reed's robot helper – the details require multiple viewings to let them all process.

That doesn't mean the story or performances are weak. This is a solid MCU film with a soul and a pulse. But set design and CGI accent the whole package so well. Everything pairs nicely to create a fantastic big screen experience and enough enthusiasm for the Fantastic Four's central role in the next "Avengers" films. Screw superhero fatigue. More of this, please.

Straight TALK with Sharona

Join Beverly Hills Mayor Sharona Nazarian and Shana Epstein, Director of Public Works for the City of Beverly Hills, as they discuss key updates and initiatives for **our community.**

From infrastructure projects to neighborhood improvements, hear firsthand about the plans shaping our City's future.

BEVERLY HILLS

THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 2025
5:30 P.M. - 6:30 P.M.

IN-PERSON:
City Hall Municipal Gallery
455 N. Rexford Dr., Beverly Hills, CA 90210

VIRTUAL OPTION AVAILABLE!

To submit your questions in advance, email StraightTalkWithSharona@beverlyhills.org

For more information and to attend virtually, visit beverlyhills.org/straighttalk

Light refreshments will be served.

Getty appoints new head of modern and contemporary collections

Getty announced on July 24 the appointment of Idurre Alonso as head of modern and contemporary collections at the Getty Research Institute.

"We are thrilled to see Idurre take on this important role," said Andrew Perchuk, interim director of the Getty Research Institute. "Her extensive experience and outstanding scholarship make her uniquely qualified to lead the curatorial team, and we're confident she will elevate its work to new levels of excellence."

Alonso has served as curator of Latin American Collections at the Getty Research Institute since 2015, where she has played a pivotal role in advancing scholarship, acquisitions and curatorial innovation in the fields of Latin American and Latinx art.

Her exhibitions at the Getty have received widespread recognition, including "Alfredo Boulton: Looking at Venezuela, 1928–1978" (2023) and "Reinventing the Américas: Construct, Erase, Repeat" (2022), both celebrated for their groundbreaking scholarship and for challenging traditional exhibition narratives. In the projects, Alonso introduced new methods of display while incorporating local and Indigenous perspectives, reinforcing her commitment to reframing dominant histories.

Alonso's leadership has also extended internationally. She co-leads the Latin American and Latinx Art Initiative, fostering scholarly and institutional collaborations to strengthen global networks in the field. Her exhibitions "Photography in Argentina:

Contradiction and Continuity" (2017) and "The Metropolis in Latin America, 1830–1930" (2017) were the first Getty shows to travel to Latin America, an unprecedented milestone for the Getty Museum and the GRI.

During her tenure, Alonso has spearheaded the acquisition of more than 150 new additions to the collection, including significant archives that have helped reshape the institution's holdings. Her curatorial approach has focused on diversifying the Latin American and Latinx collections by amplifying the voices of underrepresented artists – particularly women such as Alice Rahon, Grete Stern and Gertrudis de Moses – and addressing historical omissions.

Before joining the Getty Research Institute, Alonso served

as curator at the Museum of Latin American Art from 2003–14, where she organized a wide range of exhibitions. She holds a bachelor of arts and master of arts degree in art history from the Universidad del País Vasco in Spain, where she also earned a Ph.D. Alonso has edited seven books and regularly presents her research at major international conferences and symposia, including those organized by the College Art Association, the Association for Latin American Art and the Western Museums Association.

"I am honored to take on this new role and to continue expanding the scope of modern and contemporary collections at the GRI. I look forward to deepening our commitment to inclusive and globally connected narratives and to working with an extraordinary team to build on the strong foundation we have established over the years," Alonso said.

The Getty Center is located at 1200 Getty Center Drive. For information, visit getty.edu.



photo courtesy of Getty
Idurre Alonso has served as curator of Latin American Collections at the Getty Research Institute since 2015.

Social Impact Summit honors John Legend, Sean Penn

The 2025 Social Impact Summit: Philanthropy, Power and Purpose, hosted by The Hollywood Reporter and the Social Impact Fund on July 24 featured a star-studded event that gathered more than 500 culture-makers, production companies, nonprofit leaders, talent agencies and notable figures from the entertainment and creative industries to inspire accessible, inclusive philanthropy by breaking down barriers to meaningful change.

Comedian George Lopez kicked off the summit as keynote speaker, welcoming guests to an afternoon of powerful philanthropic change. He informed participants that while he's known as a philanthropist, he prefers keeping his contributions private and spoke passionately about the current immigration crisis in Los Angeles affecting friends and neighbors.

One of the summit's milestone moments was when 13-time Grammy Award-winner John Legend was honored as



photo courtesy of Monica Schipper/
The Hollywood Reporter

Singer-songwriter John Legend accepted the Philanthropist of the Year award.

Philanthropist of the Year, recognizing his longtime commitment to advancing equity and criminal-justice reform. Legend spoke about the current immigration situation and dubbed fellow philanthropists Susan Burton, Ann Lee and Sean Penn, Norris Henderson, Mike De La Rocha and Desmond Meade as "firefighters" – an ode to a legendary conversation that once took place between trailblazing social-justice warriors Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Harry Belafonte, who described America as a "burning house."

"Our government is disappearing our friends and neighbors – our kids' caregivers in the park – and then occupying our streets to silence the voices of those exercising their constitutional rights – and responsibilities, I might add – to dissent," Legend said. "Day after day, our government is abandoning the shared values that have inspired us to become our best, to serve as a beacon for the world, to serve as the hope of the tired, of the tempest-tossed, of all who yearn to breathe free."

Legend also turned his attention and admiration to real-life firefighters as he addressed the devastating Los Angeles fires that occurred in January. Legend reflected on the time spent with incarcerated firefighters on the frontlines helping to contain the Palisades and Eaton fires. Legend concluded his remarks by recognizing his grandmother, Elmira Lloyd, mother Phyllis Stephens, his wife Chrissy and children Luna, Miles, Esti and Wren. A \$25,000 grant was awarded to Legend's Show Me Campaign by the Social Impact Fund in recognition of his honor.

For information, visit hollywoodreporter.com/vcategory/social-impact-summit.

Zoo welcomes Tasmanian devils in Animals of Australia exhibit

For the first time in five years, the Los Angeles Zoo is once again home to wildly popular Tasmanian devils. Working in partnership with the Australian government, the zoo received two male Tasmanian devils named Danny Zuko and Crush in July, and they can be seen in the Animals of Australia exhibit.

"The L.A. Zoo has a long history of caring for this species and we are thrilled to once again have the opportunity to share them with our guests," said Candace Scimenti, curator of mammals for the L.A. Zoo. "Australia is home to so many unique species and wildlife plays a pivotal role in Australian

culture. We are honored to provide an experience that will help people better understand these wonderful animals and the challenges they face in the wild. It will be exciting to see our guests connect with this endangered species."

The Tasmanian devils, both male, were born at Aussie Ark, a nonprofit conservation organization in New South Wales that manages breeding and rewilding programs for Australia's most iconic and endangered species such as the Tasmanian devil, eastern quoll and long-nosed potoroo. Tasmanian devils are indigenous only to Tasmania, an island state of



photo by Andrea Delegal/courtesy of L.A. Zoo
Two naturally curious and active Tasmanian devils are on view at the L.A. Zoo.

Australia located just south of the mainland. Their typical habitat includes eucalyptus forests, woodlands and coastal scrublands. They find shelter under stones, in caves, bushes, burrows and hollow logs.

With a stout build and oversized head, Tasmanian devils might appear clumsy at first glance, but the marsupials reign as Tasmania's top predator and have the strongest bite force relative to body size of any mammal. They are naturally curious and active. Guided by a sharp sense of smell and hearing, they track down live prey and find carrion. Though they are primarily scavengers, they are also capable hunters of small birds and mammals.

While mostly solitary, Tasmanian devils will sometimes gather around a carcass, often leading to noisy, dramatic feeding frenzies filled with growls and screeches. The intense gorge sessions let them consume a large amount of food at once. Like many scavenger species, Tasmanian devils play a vital role in keeping their ecosystem healthy.

Threats to Tasmanian devils include human-wildlife conflict, conflicts with dogs and dingos and a rare disease known as devil facial tumor disease that only affects Tasmanian devils.

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



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Rodeo Drive Celebrates Fashion returns Aug. 4-10

The Rodeo Drive Committee announced on July 24 the third edition of Rodeo Drive Celebrates Fashion, returning Aug. 4-10 with a dynamic week-long program of exclusive events, immersive experiences and fashion-forward activations that turn the spotlight on the exemplary craftsmanship, creativity and innovation in fashion that continue to distinguish Rodeo Drive among the world's most visited luxury destinations.

This year's edition marks the first official street-wide initiative under the leadership of newly elected Rodeo Drive Committee President Kathy Gohari. The 2025 celebration also coincides with the 30th anniversary of the beloved teen movie hit "Clueless" and honors its celebrated costume designer Mona May, whose visionary looks helped define an era and inspire generations of designers and stylists.

"In celebrating fashion on Rodeo Drive, we are also celebrating those who shape its cultural influence – from visionary designers to the storytellers behind the scenes," Gohari

said. "It's a privilege to honor Mona May, whose iconic costume designs for 'Clueless' forever changed how we see youth fashion and style. Rodeo Drive Celebrates Fashion invites the world to rediscover the spirit, craftsmanship and innovation that define our legendary street."

To launch the week of events, a special edition of "Rodeo Drive – The Podcast" will debut on Monday, Aug. 4, featuring an inspiring conversation between May, the 2025 honoree of Rodeo Drive Celebrates Fashion and Beverly Hills Mayor Sharona Nazarian. They will discuss fashion, film, culture and creativity. Listen at rodeo-drive-bh.com/podcast.

During Rodeo Drive Celebrates Fashion, the glamorous "street of dreams" will come alive with special invitations to bespoke boutique experiences, pre-fall collection previews, personalized styling sessions and exclusive product launches at many of the luxury boutiques and fashion houses.

"As summer comes alive in

Beverly Hills, we welcome residents and visitors to experience why Rodeo Drive continues to set the global standard for luxury fashion," Nazarian said. "This celebration is more than a showcase of world-class design, it's a vibrant fusion of creativity, community and the signature hospitality that defines our city."

On Rodeo Drive, vibrant colored street pole banners announcing Rodeo Drive Celebrates Fashion designed by French artist Richard Orlinski – the biggest selling contemporary French artist in the world since 2015 – accompany and echo the outdoor "Rodeo Drive x Richard Orlinski" exhibition of large scale and spectacular faceted sculptures of Kongs and panthers, on view through January 2026 and accessible to all.

"This is a moment to raise a glass to Rodeo Drive. There is nothing comparable," Gohari said. "From spectacular storefronts and couture-level service to once-in-a-lifetime collaborations, Rodeo Drive connects through fashion, craftsman-



photo courtesy of the Rodeo Drive Committee

Mona May, costume designer for "Clueless," left, is being recognized by Beverly Hills Mayor Sharona Nazarian and Rodeo Drive Committee President Kathy Gohari as this year's Rodeo Drive Celebrates Fashion Honoree.

ship and community. But beyond its glamour, it's the emotional connection – the memories made, the dreams inspired – that truly defines

the Rodeo Drive experience."

For information, visit rodeo-drive-bh.com/events/rodeo-drive-celebrates-fashion-2025.

LA Phil plans final gala with Dudamel

The LA Phil has announced that its "2025 Gala: Gustavo's Fiesta" will take place on Oct. 14 at the Walt Disney Concert Hall and will celebrate Gustavo Dudamel's final gala as music and artistic director.

The evening's program will feature spirited and joyful works that

reflect the festive spirit of the occasion, the vibrancy of the season and Dudamel's extraordinary tenure with the orchestra. The celebration will also include a special performance by Youth Orchestra Los Angeles, known as YOLA, a cornerstone of Dudamel's artistic

vision and a defining part of his enduring legacy with the philharmonic and the city of Los Angeles.

The program opens with Ravel's vibrant and festive *Feria*, followed by selected movements from two of Dudamel's favorite symphonies: Beethoven's Symphony No. 7 and Dvořák's Symphony No. 9. It continues with the magical and dreamlike "Le Jardin Féerique" from Ravel's "Ma Mère l'Oye," and culminates in the exhilarating and hypnotic "Noche de Encantamiento" from Revueltas's "La noche de los Mayas."

The festivities continue post-gala with Venezuelan trombonist Oscar Dudamel – father of Gustavo Dudamel – performing a bold fusion of salsa, bolero and classical music from his debut studio album "Sueño Alcanzado" ("Dream Fulfilled") at the gala afterparty. Produced in Caracas and released on the Platoon label, the album is

dedicated to Gustavo Dudamel, who as a child dreamed of playing salsa music like his father. The title track, "Sueño Alcanzado," is the emotional centerpiece and narrative foundation of the album and features a special guest appearance by the acclaimed conductor.

Dudamel will leave the LA Phil

at the end of the 2025-26 season and join the New York Philharmonic as its music and artistic director. Additional details about "2025 Gala: Gustavo's Fiesta" will be announced soon.

The Walt Disney Concert Hall is located at 111 S. Grand Ave. For information, visit laphil.com.



photo courtesy of the LA Phil

LA Phil Music and Artistic Director Gustavo Dudamel will lead the orchestra during "2025 Gala: Gustavo's Fiesta" on Oct. 14.

VINTAGE PARKLABREA NEWS

Neighbors fight crime during National Night Out



McGruff the Crime Dog met with young residents during a National Night Out Against Crime block party in West Hollywood in this photograph in the Aug. 3, 2000, issue of the Beverly Press and Park Labrea News. McGruff, who appeared in an anti-crime public service campaign in the 1980s and was known for the catchphrase "Take a Bite Out of Crime," was a crowd pleaser at the event. National Night Out Against Crime is held annually on the first Tuesday in August, bringing together law enforcement officials and first responders with residents and community members. National Night Out celebrations are being held on Aug. 5 in Beverly Hills from 5-8 p.m. in the 400 block of North Rexford Drive; in the LAPD's Wilshire Division from 5-8 p.m. at Pan Pacific Park, 7600 Beverly Blvd.; and in West Hollywood from 3-9 p.m. in different neighborhoods throughout the city (visit weho.org/nno for a full list of West Hollywood locations).

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POLICE BLOTTER

The following crimes occurred in West Hollywood, Beverly Hills and the areas patrolled by the LAPD's Wilshire and Hollywood divisions between July 20 and July 26. The information was compiled from crimemapping.com. To report a crime, call local law enforcement agencies: Los Angeles Police Department, Wilshire Division (213)473-0476, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department West Hollywood Station (310)855-8850, and the Beverly Hills Police Department (310)550-4951.

Beverly Hills Police Department

July 20

At 2:12 a.m., a suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs in the 300 block of Beverly.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 400 block of N. Palm at 4 a.m.

At 5:16 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 9500 block of Olympic.

An unknown suspect committed a residential burglary in the 100 block of N. McCarty at 9:43 a.m.

At 3 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a garage in the 100 block of N. Hamilton.

A vandalism incident was reported in the 400 block of S. Rexford at 3:10 p.m.

At 3:20 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 9800 block of Hillgreen.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 9600 block of Sunset at 4:27 p.m.

At 8:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 400 block of S. Roxbury.

July 21

At 3:53 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a commercial burglary in the 3200 block of N. Robertson.

An unknown suspect committed a residential burglary in the 100 block of N. Almont at 4:45 a.m.

At 5:20 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 100 block of N. Almont.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 400 block of N. Oakhurst at 12:31 p.m.

At 2 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 400 block of N. Rodeo.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 400 block of N. Bedford at 2:59 p.m.

At 3:20 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 9000 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of N. Palm at 7:55 p.m.

July 22

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 400 block of N. Roxbury at 6:20 a.m.

At 10:49 a.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 400 block of S. Roxbury.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 400 block of N. Maple at noon.

At 6:39 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 9000 block of Wilshire.

July 23

At 9 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 200 block of S. Palm.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 300 block of S. McCarty at noon.

July 24

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 200 block of N. Crescent at 10:06 a.m.

At 2:49 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 400 block of N. Rodeo.

July 25

At 12:56 a.m., a suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs in the 100 block of S. Oakhurst.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of Santa Monica and Crescent at 10:48 a.m.

July 26

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 400 block of N. Oakhurst at 3:17 a.m.

At 9 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a theft in the 300 block of N. La Peer.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 9800 block of Santa Monica at 9 a.m.

At 10:48 a.m., an arson fire was reported in the 200 block of S. Le Doux.

West Hollywood Sheriff's Station

July 20

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

At 11:50 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 7900 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 9000 block of Santa Monica at 2 p.m.

July 21

At 5:19 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 8500 block of Holloway.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8200 block of De Longpre at 2:51 p.m.

At 3:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 800 block of N. Palm.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 900 block of N. Palm at 10:30 p.m.

July 22

At 4 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 7700 block of Norton.

At 4 p.m., an unknown suspect

burglarized a vehicle parked in the 7700 block of Norton.

July 23

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 900 block of N. Kings at 1:50 a.m.

At 12:20 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 500 block of West Knoll.

July 24

At 5:30 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a vehicle burglary in the 8900 block of Melrose.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8400 block of Santa Monica at 11:45 a.m.

At 12:10 p.m., an unknown suspect

committed a burglary in the 9000 block of Phyllis.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8900 block of Melrose at 5:30 p.m.

July 25

At 9:10 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8400 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1200 block of N. La Brea at 4:30 p.m.

July 26

At 1 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 1100 block of N. Curson.

An unknown suspect burglarized a

vehicle parked in the 8300 block of Fountain at 1 a.m.

At 1 a.m., a petty theft occurred in the 8400 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8400 block of Santa Monica at 1:27 a.m.

At 1:47 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 7900 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 9000 block of Beverly at 8:20 a.m.

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

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 1200 block of N. La Brea at 10 a.m.

Former Hollywood Hills man sentenced for fraud

A former Hollywood Hills man who currently lives in Arizona pleaded guilty on July 28 to money laundering and conspiracy to obstruct justice for his role in a scheme to defraud investors.

Vincent Anthony Mazzotta Jr., 54, also known as Vincent Midnight, Delta Prime and Director Vinchenzo, conspired to defraud investors by falsely promising high-yield profits from investments in cryptocurrency markets using automated trading robots powered by artificial intelligence, according to court documents. Mazzotta pleaded guilty to one count of money laundering and one count of conspiracy to obstruct justice.

United States District Judge Dale S. Fischer scheduled a Dec. 15 sentencing hearing. Mazzotta will face a maximum penalty of 10 years in federal prison on the money laundering count and a maximum penalty of five years in federal prison on the conspiracy to obstruct justice count.

"New types of investments such as Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies may seem alluring, but they also carry the risk of criminals using their relative novelty to prey on victims," United States Attorney Bill Essayli said. "I encourage investors to be skeptical when approached by anyone promising novel riches. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

Mazzotta and co-defendant David Saffron falsely promised victims short-term, high yield returns from cryptocurrency trading if the victims invested with cryptocurrency investment companies Mind Capital, Cloud9Capital and others, prosecutors said. They also created a fictitious government entity called the Federal Crypto Reserve and solicited thousands of dollars to hire the FCR to "investigate" Mind Capital, Cloud9Capital and other crypto-investment firms that had disappeared with the victims' investments. Mazzotta and Saffron defrauded victims of more than \$13 million.

According to court documents, Mazzotta also conspired with others to obstruct justice. Specifically,

non-existent or false identities, and "verified" property addresses include addresses that are incorrect or non-existent, Feldstein Soto said.

The lawsuit, also filed for violations of the California Unfair Competition Law, seeks a permanent injunction barring Airbnb from charging illegal rents during the current state of emergency and from misrepresenting host identities or property locations. It also requests restitution to consumers who were charged illegal rents and seeks civil penalties of up to \$2,500 for each violation to deter price-gouging and unlawful representations to consumers.

"It's unconscionable that Airbnb permitted prices to be jacked up on thousands of rental properties at a time when so many people lost so much and needed a place to sleep," Feldstein Soto said. "Although Airbnb subsequently took steps to curtail price gouging, evidence indicates that illegal gouging on the site continues and may be ongoing. This lawsuit sends a clear message that we will not allow people, particularly at their most vulnerable moments, to be exploited without consequences."

Additionally, the suit alleges that Airbnb misleadingly represents to prospective renters that it has "verified" the accuracy of the identities of hosts and locations of properties on the site. In reality, Airbnb's "verified hosts" include "hosts" with

Mazzotta worked with other co-conspirators after Saffron's initial arrest to conceal and destroy evidence at Saffron's apartment, including an iPad and the contents of a personal safe. Mazzotta also conspired to falsify the records of his business, Runway Beauty Inc., to conceal his involvement in the investment fraud scheme from a federal grand jury, prosecutors said.

For information, visit justice.gov/usao-cdca.

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.

L.A. City Attorney sues Airbnb for alleged price gouging law violations

Los Angeles City Attorney Hydee Feldstein Soto announced on July 18 that a civil enforcement action has been filed against Airbnb alleging that the home rental platform increased rental prices of at least 2,000 properties in L.A. in the wake of the January wildfires in the Pacific Palisades and Altadena, in violation of California's Anti-Gouging Law.

The protections of the law went into effect on Jan. 7, 2025, when Gov. Gavin Newsom declared a state of emergency in Los Angeles. The law prohibits the prices of essential goods and services — including rental housing — from being increased by more than 10% after an emergency is declared.

Since then, the governor, Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors have repeatedly extended the state of emergency, making it illegal for Airbnb to increase the pricing of rentals by more than 10%.

Additionally, the suit alleges that Airbnb misleadingly represents to prospective renters that it has "verified" the accuracy of the identities of hosts and locations of properties on the site. In reality, Airbnb's "verified hosts" include "hosts" with

non-existent or false identities, and "verified" property addresses include addresses that are incorrect or non-existent, Feldstein Soto said.

The lawsuit, also filed for violations of the California Unfair Competition Law, seeks a permanent injunction barring Airbnb from charging illegal rents during the current state of emergency and from misrepresenting host identities or property locations. It also requests restitution to consumers who were charged illegal rents and seeks civil penalties of up to \$2,500 for each violation to deter price-gouging and unlawful representations to consumers.

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For information, visit cityattorney.lacity.gov.

Wallis Annenberg remembered fondly

From page 1

throughout Los Angeles and California. Projects that benefitted from her formative contributions included the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts in Beverly Hills – a world-renowned community arts center that received more than \$75 million from Annenberg. Since its opening in 2013, “The Wallis” has featured performances by local entertainers, musicians and dancers, as well as artists from around the world.

“Wallis believed wholeheartedly in the capacity of the arts to unite people from all walks of life and believed that those connections could bring about meaningful change,” The Wallis Director and CEO Robert Van Leer said. “In honoring her memory, we commit to continuing her work by championing diverse voices and nurturing the next generation of artists and audiences. Her vision will continue to inspire us as we carry forth her mission at the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts.”

“Wallis Annenberg was a force for good whose generosity and vision helped shape our city and beyond,” Beverly Hills Mayor Sharona Nazarian said. “Her commitment to the arts brought us The Wallis, a vibrant cultural landmark that has become a cornerstone of our community. But her impact didn’t stop there. Through her support for wildlife conservation, education and civic spaces, she championed causes that made our region more compassionate, creative and connected. On behalf of the city of Beverly Hills, we extend our deepest condolences to the Annenberg family. Her legacy lives on in the countless lives and communities

she touched.”

One of Annenberg’s philanthropic goals was to create a better world for animals – both wild and domesticated. Since 2017, the 30,000-square-foot Annenberg PetSpace in Playa Vista has provided medical care for shelter animals and connected them with caring homes. In 2026, the Wallis Annenberg Wildlife Crossing will officially open above the 101 Freeway in Agoura Hills, allowing mountain lions, coyotes, foxes, rodents, bears, deer and many other animals to cross the freeway without facing the dangers of highway traffic. The near-\$100 million project will connect two important, interconnected habitats – Simi Hills and the Santa Monica Mountains – and it will be the largest crossing of its kind anywhere in the world.

“The whole idea may seem pretty simple, but it’s really profound and transformative,” Annenberg said in 2021. “These crossings restore ecosystems that had been fractured and disrupted. They reconnect lands and species that should never have been broken apart and need to be made whole again. I believe it goes beyond mere conservation, toward a kind of environmental rejuvenation that is long overdue.”

Beth Pratt, California regional executive director for the National Wildlife Federation and a lead fundraiser for the wildlife crossing, praised Annenberg for her unwavering commitment to nature.

“I am just heartbroken,” Pratt said. “Wallis Annenberg was a remarkable human being. I am so grateful for her friendship and mentorship. She made the impossible

possible. And did so much good on this planet. I will miss you, Wallis.”

“Wallis Annenberg’s vision for wildlife conservation inspired millions of people across California and around the world. Her generosity and the work of the Annenberg Foundation is helping build the world’s largest wildlife crossing, reigniting interest in what she called ‘environmental rejuvenation,’ and showing how people and wildlife can thrive together,” said Collin O’Mara, president and CEO of the National Wildlife Federation. “The National Wildlife Federation, our more than 7 million members and supporters, and the conservation community extend our deepest condolences to the Annenberg family.”

Annenberg’s philanthropic work also included advancing education – supporting her father’s namesake USC Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism and donating to create Wallis Annenberg Hall. The Wallis Annenberg Building at the California Science Center opened in 2004 as an annex to the science center’s school, with eight classrooms, administrative offices, a multipurpose room and school library.

In 2022, the Annenberg Foundation opened the Annenberg GenSpace at the Wilshire Boulevard Temple, a community space in Koreatown that brings older adults together for programming, classes and events.

Annenberg’s commitment to the greater Los Angeles community did not go unnoticed. In 2022, President Joe Biden awarded Annenberg the National



rendering courtesy of the National Wildlife Federation

The Wallis Annenberg Wildlife Crossing will open in 2026 over the 101 Freeway in Agoura Hills.

Humanities Medal. Across Los Angeles and California, many leaders mourned her passing.

“This is a loss that resonates beyond words here in Los Angeles,” Mayor Karen Bass said. “Wallis Annenberg’s selfless leadership and visionary spirit transformed our city in profound and lasting ways. There are unhoused Angelenos sleeping inside because of her. There are young people throughout the city expanding their horizons and exposure to the arts and sciences in new and exciting ways because of her. There are institutions, museums as well as public spaces like beaches and parks that are enhanced and improved because of her. Put simply – Los Angeles is stronger because of her. Her legacy of generosity will live on forever through the many lives changed by her service.”

“Wallis believed in community – in supporting innovators who could create and scale environments that helped all in it, whether that meant older people facing social isolation,

kids in need of support, pets needing a home or wild animals trying to cross a dangerous freeway. She always recognized that money could only go so far, and that it was people who would make all the difference,” Gov. Gavin Newsom said. “California is better for all that she did, and for her enormous heart and unbelievable generosity.”

In 2021, Annenberg said she had no interest in retiring, and her charitable work continued into her final months. Following the January 2025 wildfires, the Annenberg Foundation committed over \$5 million to fire relief.

Annenberg summed up her forward-thinking approach to philanthropy in the 2021 Beverly Press interview.

“I think good philanthropy has to be mindful of the times we live in,” Annenberg said. “That’s why we try so hard to keep up with pressing needs – like the need to expand easy access to vaccinations. And the need to promote diversity and inclusion. And the need to heal our fragile climate and environment.”

Fountain Avenue safety discussed at meeting

From page 1

Sheriff’s Lt. Ashley Turner. Turner said the person on the scooter sustained minor scrapes on their face but did not have further information on whether the rider was hospitalized. The BMW driver remained at the scene, she added.

The collision occurred in the wake of a July 10 hit-and-run on Fountain Avenue that claimed the life of 27-year-old bicyclist Blake Ackerman. Another hit-and-run occurred in West Hollywood on July 18 at the intersection of Santa Monica Boulevard and Formosa Avenue, where a motorcyclist was hospitalized. The recent traffic collisions in the city have reignited

debates for increased bike lanes on Fountain Avenue.

During the meeting, the West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station reported 97 traffic citations on Fountain Avenue in June compared to 11 on Santa Monica Boulevard and four on Sunset Boulevard. Members of the commission asked the sheriff’s department to do more to deter speeding along Fountain Avenue.

“We have [motorcycle] deputies that concentrate specifically on enforcement ... Most of the time has been spent on Fountain in the last couple of months,” Lt. Fanny Lapkin said.

The sheriff’s department deploys

multiple units to enforce traffic laws along Fountain Avenue and respond to resident concerns about speeding, Lapkin said, but did not elaborate on additional safety measures. Lapkin also said the sheriff’s department could not provide further information on the arrest of Douglas Morton Adams, the 73-year-old driver who is suspected of the hit-and-run that claimed Ackerman’s life. However, she highlighted the help of Shanna Meade, a Florida resident visiting West Hollywood who followed Adams and gave deputies information that led to his arrest.

West Hollywood residents expressed the need for increased

safety measures on Fountain Avenue at the public safety meeting.

“From the beginning of the discussions about Fountain Avenue bike lanes, Gardner Avenue bike lanes, the community has been pitted against each other – pro-bike lanes, con-bike lanes. And the truth of the matter is, as you have heard in this room tonight, we all want the same things,” West Hollywood resident Cathy Blaivas said. “We need safety on Fountain now, not X amount of time after a community meeting on [Aug. 19] to discuss a streetscape plan. We need safety now.”

“It is time we take immediate action to address the speed of cars and catch the scofflaws,” resident Lynn Hoopingarner said. “The city could immediately implement cameras and speed traps to address safe-

ty today. It’s time to institute a comprehensive safety improvement plan instead of putting lipstick on a pig.”

Members of the commission expressed condolences to the Ackerman family and said they will continue working to implement safer streets.

“These are unfortunate and painful reminders of the risk on our streets and we all have to remain focused on improving infrastructure and enforcement,” public safety commissioner Brandon Blau said.

West Hollywood will host a Fountain Avenue Streetscape Project community meeting on Aug. 19 from 6-8 p.m. at the Plummer Park Community Center, where residents can view updated streetscape plans and share their views on the street’s conditions.

Cedars-Sinai ranks high among top U.S. hospitals

Cedars-Sinai Medical Center has been named to the Honor Roll for the 10th consecutive year in U.S. News & World Report’s Best Hospitals 2025-26 rankings.

The U.S. News rankings, released on July 29, are based on patient outcomes, patient experience, technology, ability to handle complex medical conditions and a variety of other health-related measures. U.S. News selects the top-performing hospitals for the Honor Roll based on rankings and ratings in multiple specialties, procedures and conditions. Cedars-Sinai had 11 specialties ranked nationally in the hospital rankings. The specialty rankings mean Cedars-Sinai is

among the top 50 hospitals in the nation in the specific clinical areas.

Three Cedars-Sinai specialties were ranked in the top five nationally: Gastroenterology and GI Surgery (No. 2), Orthopedics (No. 5) and Pulmonology and Lung Surgery (No. 5). Six specialties were ranked in the top 10 nationally including Gastroenterology and GI Surgery (No. 2), Orthopedics (No. 5) and Pulmonology and Lung Surgery (No. 5), Cardiology, Heart and Vascular Surgery (No. 6), Diabetes and Endocrinology (No. 9) and Obstetrics and Gynecology (No. 8).

Three specialties also were No. 1 in California including Cardiology, Heart and Vascular Surgery, Gastroenterology and GI Surgery, and Orthopedics. Cedars-Sinai’s Obstetrics and Gynecology department was also ranked No. 1 in Los Angeles (highest U.S. News ranking in the region).

“At Cedars-Sinai, we are fortunate to have passionate, talented health care professionals who work tirelessly to meet the needs of our patients and the community,” said Dr. Peter L. Slavin, president and CEO of Cedars-Sinai Health System and the David and Meredith Kaplan Presidential Chair. “Their dedication is the reason our clinical programs are ranked among the top in the nation.”

For information, visit cedars-sinai.org.

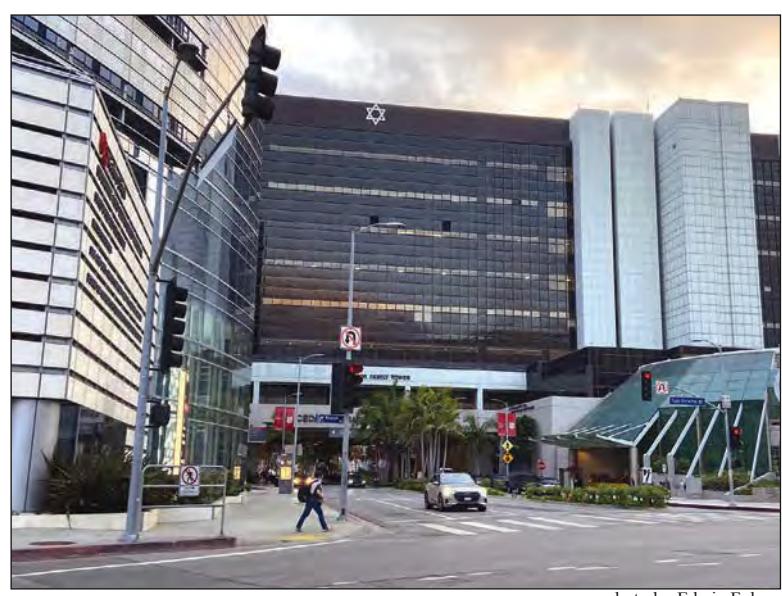


photo by Edwin Folven

Cedars-Sinai has been named to the Best Hospitals Honor Roll for the 10th consecutive year.

Ordinance will prohibit agents from wearing masks

From page 3

detain residents. And they have refused to reveal their identities or even a badge when asked, leading to fear of impersonators. When law enforcement officers conceal their identities, they create confusion, incite fear and undermine public trust."

The motion calls for county counsel to report back in 60 days with language for a draft ordinance, which will then be considered again by the board. Exemptions to the anti-mask ordinance would be the use of gas masks, fire and smoke protection masks and medical grade masks when necessary. It would also require all law enforcement officers, including federal agents operating within Los Angeles County, to wear visible identification and agency affiliation when interacting with the public.

Four supervisors voted yes on the ordinance, with Board Chair Kathryn Barger, 5th District, abstaining. During consideration prior to the vote, Barger expressed concerns that such an ordinance may not stand up in court, and raised questions about who would enforce the law. County legal representatives said violations would theoretically be prosecuted by the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, but the exact mechanics of who would enforce

the law and how it would work are still to be determined.

"My understanding is that the U.S. Constitution Supremacy Clause does not allow the state or the county to regulate the actions of the federal government as it relates to this," Barger said. "I want to make sure we do something that the impact is going to protect this vulnerable population. That's why I'm bringing it up because I know that people have asked 'who is going to enforce it?' I just want to put on the table what I see as the pitfalls so the public doesn't have any false impression about what we can and can't do, which is why we will be doing a legal analysis and our report back, and we will hopefully research and address all these issues."

Supervisor Lindsey Horvath, 3rd District, supported Hahn's motion and denounced the ICE raids.

"Thank you to supervisor Hahn for bringing forward this motion pushing to close the loophole on the wildly inappropriate actions of federal immigration enforcement officers as well as any other law enforcement officers who are choosing to conceal their identity here in Los Angeles County while doing their jobs," Horvath said. "Our law enforcement officers at the local, state and federal levels must operate in commitment and in

practice, in the open with their badges and insignia identifying who they are. They should not hide, they should not conceal and they certainly should not pretend to be something other than what they are. If the work they're doing is in the best interest of the public, why do they feel the need to hide? We demand more from our law enforcement officers, and we demand more from all law enforcement agencies operating within Los Angeles County."

Personnel with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and Los Angeles Police Department are not allowed to wear masks while on duty, per department policy, except during undercover operations and situations where masks are warranted for safety. Supervisor Holly Mitchell, 2nd District, said that standard should apply to federal officers as well and added that she also supports pending state legislation that would bar law enforcement officers to wear masks.

"There's no other law enforcement entities that I know that wear masks," Mitchell said. "I would suggest that other branches of law enforcement should challenge their brothers, and if unmasking and showing your badge is good enough for every other branch of law enforcement, I'm not sure why ICE feels that they are different."

BHPD arrests two suspects after pursuit into WeHo

From page 1

their car, police said.

"When they attempted to make a stop, they fled, and we went into pursuit," BHPD Lt. Kevin Orth said.

According to witnesses, the chase ended minutes later in West Hollywood, as the suspects exited their car near a parking garage at 9229 W. Sunset Blvd. and fled on foot.

Although two suspects were arrested, a witness said he saw four men exit the vehicle.

"Around 2:52 [p.m.], four men came out of a white Mercedes which was driving eastbound," said Moka Mofor, who works across the street.

"Four guys got out of the car and ran westbound."

Orth did not confirm whether or not there were additional suspects involved.

Although Mofor said he did not see the suspects enter the parking garage at 9229 Sunset Blvd., police—including deputies from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department—surrounded the building and conducted a search. At least a dozen police vehicles were present at the site by approximately 4 p.m., and multiple officers with SWAT equipment and at least one K-9 unit entered the parking structure. Police

could be seen stopping vehicles as they exited the garage and checking back seats and trunks for the suspects as a police drone flew overhead.

Orth said the two suspects were found in a storage shed and arrested at approximately 5:40 p.m. Both men were charged with felony reckless evading, which is punishable by up to three years in state prison, and resisting, delaying or obstructing a police officer, which is punishable by up to one year in jail. Stevenson was also found to have an outstanding warrant, though the BHPD did not provide information on the warrant.

WeHo encourages donations to immigrant organizations

The city of West Hollywood is activating the West Hollywood Responds program to encourage contributions to agencies and organizations that provide support and assistance to immigrants.

The West Hollywood City Council, at the regular meeting on July 7, discussed recent immigration enforcement activity in the Los Angeles region and West Hollywood and provided direction to city staff on a variety of priori-

ties including educating West Hollywood businesses and employees regarding knowing-your-rights and legal aid assistance related to federal immigration enforcement actions; promote the city's social services, specifically food delivery and immigration-related assistance services, to employees of businesses located in West Hollywood and encouraging community contributions to agencies and organizations that are assisting people impacted by federal immigration enforcement actions.

The city of West Hollywood activated its West Hollywood Responds program to raise awareness about people impacted by federal immigration enforcement actions and to encourage contributions to agencies and organizations that provide services.

The city assembled a list of organizations on its website at weho.org/wehoreponds, including the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California, the Center

for Constitutional Rights, the Immigrant Legal Resource Center and the Los Angeles LGBT Center.

The city of West Hollywood condemns recent U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement raids, which are disruptive, discriminatory and deeply destabilizing. The hostile actions target immigrant families in communities, instill fear in neighborhoods and erode collective trust in the federal government's obligation to adhere to the rule of law and due process.

The city of West Hollywood, with the city of Los Angeles, county of Los Angeles and other local cities, filed a motion to intervene in a federal challenging unlawful immigration raids. A federal court issued two temporary restraining orders against the federal government finding that these actions on July 11, including ongoing raids and the denial of legal counsel to detained immigrants, likely violated constitutional protections.

For information, visit weho.org/wehoreponds.

nesses. Other spotlights have included Novikov, Monogrammit, Lodge Bread Co., LaserAway, Toppings Yogurt and Specialty Hardware + Plumbing.

For information, visit beverly-hills.org.

Answers From Page 23

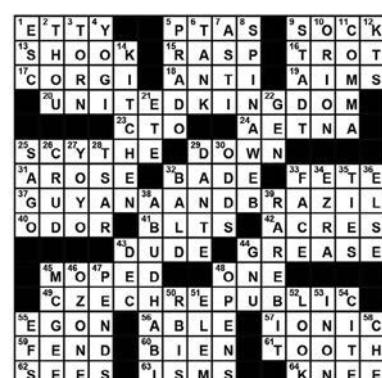


photo courtesy of Joel Lava
Tesla Takedown protesters erected two inflatable dolls of Elon Musk during the protest on Santa Monica Boulevard.

Demonstrators continue protests at Tesla Diner

From page 1

loons that performed the Nazi salutes.

Musk questioned the validity of the protests in a July 27 post on X.

"This is obviously a paid attack with no popular support, as it is just a few people with public passersby ignoring them. Only question is who's paying them?" Musk wrote.

"If he thinks that people need to get paid to come out and protest him, he's sorely mistaken," Widaman said. "We pay for our own parking, we pay for our own supplies. As a matter of fact, we're actually paying money to take part in this."

The group plans to continue protesting outside the diner during weekends, he added.

In addition to the protests, traffic has been congested outside the diner with Tesla drivers and members of the public lining up to use the charging stations and dine at the restaurant.

"Our office has been in touch with the Department of Transportation to increase its presence in the area to deter idling and loitering," said Nick

Barnes Batista, a spokesperson for Los Angeles City Councilman Hugo Soto-Martinez, 13th District.

Soto-Martinez criticized Musk.

"Elon perfectly captures what's wrong with our economic and political system," Soto-Martinez added. "The richest man in the world can spend months dismantling our institutions and then move on to his next hobby project like nothing happened."

On July 28, a 21-year-old woman sustained minor injuries at the diner when a part of the rooftop patio came loose and struck her in the head. The woman refused transport to the hospital and left the scene, Los Angeles Fire Department spokesperson Lyndsey Lantz said. However, she plans to file a lawsuit against Tesla for the incident, according to a report from TMZ.

Tesla representatives did not respond to requests for comment. Additionally, restaurateur Bill Chait, co-operator of the restaurant, did not respond to a request for comment.



photo courtesy of the city of Beverly Hills
Mayor Sharona Nazarian's "Spotlight with Sharona" initiative highlights local businesses across the city.

Beverly Hills Mayor Nazarian spotlights Gravitas club

Beverly Hills Mayor Sharona Nazarian on July 23 held a "Spotlight with Sharona" event at Gravitas, a private members-only club at 435 N. Camden Drive. "Spotlight with Sharona" is one of Nazarian's initiatives to highlight outstanding local busi-

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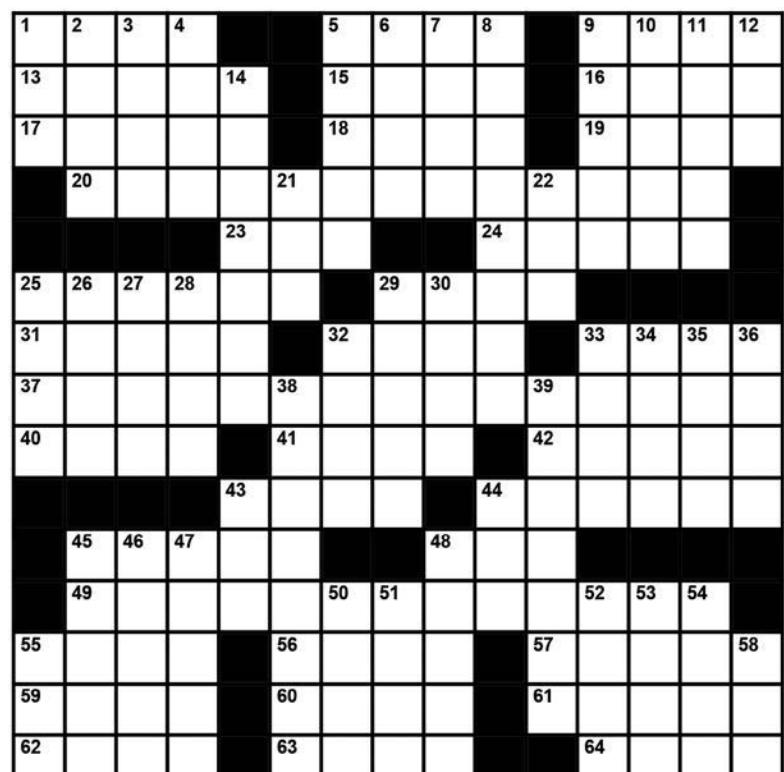
Crossword Puzzle by Myles Mellor

Across

1. ___ Hillesum, author of diaries during the Nazi occupation of Holland
5. School orgs.
9. Argyle, for one
13. Quivered
15. Carpentry tool
16. Slow gait
17. Short-legged dog
18. ___-aging cream
19. Goals
20. It's part of Europe
23. Corp. exec.
24. Prudential competitor
25. Grass cutting implement
29. On the ground
31. Stopped sitting
32. Summoned
33. Gala gathering
37. South American countries
40. Scent
41. Diner orders
42. Land measures
43. ___ ranch
44. John Travolta dance movie
45. Was gloomy
48. Four quarters
49. Home to Bohemia
55. Austrian painter Schiele
56. Versatile
57. Type of Greek architecture
59. Ward (off)

Down

60. "Très ___!"
61. Kind of fairy
62. Imagines
63. Systems
64. Capped joint
20. ___
21. ___
23. ___
25. ___
26. ___
27. ___
28. ___
32. ___
38. ___
41. ___
43. ___
50. ___
51. ___
56. ___
60. ___
63. ___
64. ___



35. Links
36. Ultimatum ender
38. Gulf emirate
39. Dish served on toast
43. End of the year month, for short
44. Horned grazer
45. Janis Joplin's "Me and Bobby ___"
46. Air purifiers use it
47. Dangles
48. Starts, for business purposes
50. Diamond stats

51. Gr. 1-6
52. Try to spot, with "for"
53. Privy to
54. Give as an example
55. Flunking letters
58. Cuban revolutionary

answers on page 22

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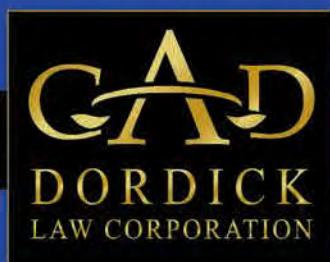
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