



Sunny, with temps in the mid-70s

BEVERLY PRESS

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Volume 35 No. 33

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

August 14, 2025

City considers bonds for One Beverly Hills project

■ Council may authorize up to \$550 million

BY TABOR BREWSTER

On Aug. 19, the Beverly Hills City Council will consider whether to assist with financing for the \$5 billion One Beverly Hills project by establishing a special district at the site and authorizing the issuance of up to \$550 million in bonds.

The One Beverly Hills project, an expansive 17.5-acre redevelopment next to the Beverly Hilton between Wilshire Boulevard and Santa Monica Boulevard, includes two new condo towers at 412 and 453 feet tall and the luxury Aman hotel, which will be 124 feet tall.

See **One Beverly Hills** page 21



rendering courtesy of Foster and Partners

The One Beverly Hills project includes two condominium towers, a luxury hotel and 10 acres of outdoor space.

Driver in fatal hit-and-run faces felony charges

■ Victim's husband decries low bail amount for suspect

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

A 30-year-old man is charged with felony vehicular manslaughter for allegedly hitting and killing a female pedestrian on Sunset Boulevard in June and fleeing the scene.

The suspect, Davontay Robins, appeared in court for an arraignment hearing on Aug. 12 but the hearing was continued to Oct. 16. The defendant posted \$50,000 bail after being arrested on July 22 and remains free on bond pending the October hearing.

Robins is accused of hitting 37-year-old Erika "Tilly" Edwards around 9 p.m. on June 29 as she crossed Sunset Boulevard near Sierra Bonita Avenue. Edwards was walking to her car after leaving a fundraiser for the LGBTQ+ community. Witnesses described the vehicle that struck Edwards as a Mercedes-Benz G-Class SUV, commonly referred to as a G-Wagon. The SUV was heading east and was last seen turning



photo by Edwin Folven

A memorial on Sunset Boulevard commemorates Erika Edwards, who was struck and killed on June 29.

right from Sunset Boulevard onto southbound Gardner Street.

Detective David Holmes, with the Los Angeles Police Department's West Traffic

Division, said investigators located security camera footage and tracked it to an address in Hollywood. Robins was arrested

See **Defendant** page 22

ICE arrest reported in Beverly Hills

■ Landscaper taken into custody on Hillcrest Road

BY TABOR BREWSTER

A man was reportedly arrested by what appeared to be federal immigration agents in Beverly Hills on Aug. 6. According to media reports, agents used pepper spray and a Taser to subdue a landscaper outside a home in the 600 block of Hillcrest Road.

Video shared by Fox 11 Los Angeles showed a masked man in tactical gear standing on the street as a man off-screen can be heard screaming while people shouted "why are you doing that." Witnesses said the incident appeared to be a targeted arrest, and reported that the agents said the man was wanted for a "serious sexual offense." However, the man's family told Fox 11 that he had no criminal record.

"As these activities were not coordinated with the Beverly Hills

Police Department, we cannot confirm the specific circumstances surrounding this incident," Beverly Hills Deputy City Manager Keith Sterling said.

Although the BHPD did not participate in the arrest, BHPD Lt. Kevin Orth said the department was called to the scene. He said officers arrived to the scene at approximately 11 a.m. after receiving a report of a man screaming. Orth added that when officers arrived, the incident had concluded. He said the BHPD does not receive notification from federal authorities about immigration arrests and raids.

Immigrations and Customs Enforcement did not respond to a request for comment.

The apparent arrest follows months of immigration raids across Los Angeles, including in the neighboring city of West Hollywood. On July 15, the city of Beverly Hills announced it joined a federal lawsuit seeking to stop the ongoing ICE raids filed by several Southern California cities and the American Civil Liberties Union. The lawsuit challenging the raids includes Beverly Hills, Los Angeles, West Hollywood, Santa Monica, Culver City and several

See **Masked agents** page 21



photo by Tabor Brewster

The arrest occurred in the 600 block of Hillcrest Road on Aug. 6.



photo courtesy of Project Angel Food

Project Angel Food's new facility will allow the organization to serve 4 million meals annually to Angelenos in need.

Project Angel Food forges ahead amid funding cuts

■ Friedman tours nonprofit's new Hollywood facility

BY SAM MULICK

U.S. Rep. Laura Friedman (D-Glendale) decried federal health care cuts on Aug. 12 while

touring the construction site of Project Angel Food's new Hollywood facility.

The \$51.5 million renovation, located at 960 Vine St., will allow Project Angel Food to expand services and triple the amount of meals it delivers to people suffering critical illnesses

See **Project Angel Food** page 21

The City of West Hollywood Presents

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City of West Hollywood
West Hollywood 40

CALENDAR

Autry ‘Sizzling Summer Nights’

The Autry invited the public to “Sizzling Summer Nights 2025: The Echo Park Project” on Thursday, Aug. 14, from 6-9 p.m. Dance the night away with one of L.A.’s best salsa and Latin fusion bands. The outdoor event includes free salsa lessons with instructor April Connella, access to the museum galleries, a separate children’s dance floor and tacos, margaritas and light refreshments available for purchase. Join the Autry for a night of live music and salsa dancing. General Admission \$22; \$5 for members. 4700 Western Heritage Way. theautry.org.



The Wildwoods

The Nebraska folk-Americana trio The Wildwoods performs on Friday, Aug. 15, at 7 p.m. at the Hotel Café. The Wildwoods continues to bring sonic beauty and simplicity to an increasingly complicated and cluttered musical landscape. “Dear Meadowlark,” the band’s fourth full-length album, takes the hallmarks of the folk-Americana sound and combines it in indie sensibilities. At its core, “Dear Meadowlark” highlights three 20-something musicians celebrating the emotional allure of familiarity and comfort. Tickets are \$25.50. 1623 Cahuenga Blvd. hotelcafe.com.



‘August 29’

Latino Theater Company joins forces with the Los Angeles City College Theatre Academy to present “August 29” running from Friday, Aug. 15, through Sunday, Aug. 24, at the Los Angeles Theatre Center. The production is named for the date in 1970 when Los Angeles Times columnist Ruben Salazar was killed while covering a Chicano-led anti-war demonstration in East L.A. A university professor relives the late 1960s-early 1970s movement days while writing a book on the life of Salazar, who comes to life to help her recall the past and to challenge her to renew her activism. A showing of the short film “Requiem 29” will be shown prior to each performance. Showtimes are at 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday; 4 p.m., Sunday. Admission is pay what you can. 514 S. Spring St. latinotheater-co.org.

‘Queer Lens’ at The Getty

The Getty is holding “Queer Lens on Los Angeles: Artists’ POV” on Sunday, Aug. 17, at 1 p.m. From 1969-72, Anthony Friedkin created “The Gay Essay,” a seminal photo series of the burgeoning gay liberation movements in Los Angeles and San Francisco. Through images of night-clubs and the house party scene of the 1980s and 1990s, Reynaldo Rivera intimately captured the Latinx, drag and transgender communities of East L.A. and Echo Park. As a photographer emerging in 1990s L.A., Catherine Opie documented the built and social environments of queer identities. Curator Ryan Linkof joins the artists in conversation about the vibrant tapestry of queer lives in Southern California. A book signing and light refreshments follow the event, which is also available online. Admission is free. Harold M. Williams Auditorium, 1200 Getty Center Drive. getty.edu.

Family concert at The Ford

The L.A. Soundscapes Family Concerts series returns to The Ford on Sunday, Aug. 17, at 11:30 a.m. with UniverSOUL Hip Hop presents WonderLAnd, an immersive, family-friendly cultural celebration featuring movement, joy and connection. The historic outdoor venue transforms into a whimsical wonderland, creating a space for imagination and creativity. The one-of-a-kind event blends street dance, storytelling and interactive experiences in a dynamic three-part journey with sensory-friendly art activations, a captivating main stage performance and communal dance party. Tickets are \$13. 2580 Cahuenga Blvd. East. theford.com.



Reggae Night at Hollywood Bowl

Don’t miss “Reggae Night XXIII Damian Marley and Stephen Marley,” part of the KCRW Festival, on Sunday, Aug. 17, at 7 p.m. at the Hollywood Bowl. Damian and Stephen Marley continue the family tradition of bringing a spirit of curiosity to reggae music, fusing it with hip-hop and other musical stylings. The two brothers play the iconic music of their father Bob Marley, as well as hits from their own Grammy-winning



careers. Tickets start at \$37. 2301 Highland Ave. hollywoodbowl.org.

Miscast Shakespeare

The Porters of Hellsgate is celebrating the return of the Radically Miscast Shakespeare free reading series with “Pericles” on Monday, Aug. 18, at 7 p.m., and “The Merchant of Venice” Monday, Sept.15, at 7 p.m. at the Madnani Theatre in Hollywood. The readings are conceived and produced by associate artistic director Dawn Alden. Brian Carroll directs “Pericles,” Shakespeare’s seabound travel play. Admission is free. 6760 Lexington Ave. portersofhellsgate.com.

Illinois Gov. JB Pritzker

Writers Bloc presents Illinois Gov. JB Pritzker in discussion with screenwriter and author Billy Ray on Monday, Aug. 18, at 7:30 p.m. at the Wilshire Ebell Theater. The candid discussion focuses on Pritzker’s thoughts on what is necessary to lead the Democratic Party into the upcoming elections. Pritzker has been outspoken about the direction the country is taking and what the voters must demand of Democratic leadership. Activist and award winning screenwriter Ray’s credits include “The Hunger Games,” “Captain Phillips,” “The Comey Rule” and “The Last Tycoon.” He also authored the upcoming novel “Burn the Water.” General admission tickets are \$38. 4401 W. Eighth St. writersblocpresents.com.

Catalina Jazz Club

Vocalist Sharon Marie Cline performs on Wednesday, Aug. 20, at the Catalina Jazz Club. The exceptional vocalist from Jacksonville, Florida brings a unique sense of jazz history to her songs. With a voice that can make audiences cry, laugh and fall in love with her, Cline and her band have quickly become a favorite among Los Angeles jazz musicians. Enjoy a soulful jazz vocalist who harkens back to the Golden Age of jazz while also bringing a distinctive, soulful, heartfelt flare to music. Doors open at 7 p.m.; show starts at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$39.50, with one entree or a two-drink minimum. 6725 W. Sunset Blvd. catalinajazzclub.com.

Eartha Kitt tribute

Enjoy “An Evening with Eartha Kitt Live!” on Wednesday, Aug. 20, at 8 p.m. in the Velvet Martini Lounge, Upstairs at Vitello’s. The special cabaret entertainment performance was conceived and written by Thomasina Gross, who also stars in the production. Slip into the velvet-draped world of Eartha Kitt, a sensual, subversive and unforgettable icon brought to life in the electrifying one-woman cabaret show. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. for cocktails and dinner. Tickets start at \$25. 4349 Tujunga Ave., Studio City. eventbrite.com/e/an-evening-with-eartha-kitt-live-tickets-1531286502149.

MAK Center talk

The MAK Center for Art and Architecture is holding a conversation between Deem Journal co-founder Nu Goteh and artist and cultural strategist Maceo Paisley on Thursday, Aug. 21, at 6 p.m. at the Schindler House in West Hollywood. They will explore the social practice of print, Deem’s approach to fostering collective understanding and how each issue contributes to an evolving editorial arc while expanding into new thematic territory. The dialogue offers a rare behind-the-scenes look at Deem’s editorial and design process. RSVP is requested. makcenter.org.



photo courtesy of Marc Mulcahey

Security footage shows a man unlocking multiple mailboxes at a building on Sweetzer Avenue and stealing packages and letters.

Mail thefts become a growing problem at WeHo building

■ Investigators caution residents to safeguard mailboxes

BY SAM MULICK

Three mail thefts in the past six months at a West Hollywood condominium building have residents on edge.

A man wearing an orange sweatshirt entered the housing complex in the 1200 block of Sweetzer Avenue on March 28 and July 30, unlocked mailboxes and put letters and packages into a black duffel bag, according to security footage from the building. On May 26, a different man and woman entered the building and stole mail, added Jeffrey Waack, treasurer of the building’s homeowners association.

The suspects stole a \$6,000 check, foreign protein supplements and packages. They are likely in possession of a master mail key that can access all the building’s mailboxes, Waack said. The HOA reached out to the U.S. Postal Service to change the locks, but was placed on a waitlist behind 100 other buildings, he added.

Marc Mulcahey, a victim of the thefts, said neighbors are concerned for their safety following the break-ins and called on the city of West Hollywood to do more to protect residents.

“In my building, there’s a lot of elderly people, retired people, people that aren’t very mobile,” he said. “I worry for their safety.”

Mulcahey added that on the morning of the July 30 break-in, a friend notified him of a separate mailroom burglary in a building on Holloway Avenue the same night.

Residents reported the thefts to the West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station, which advised homeowners there was not much that could be done beyond keeping track of the thefts and reporting them. Sgt. Evelio Galvez encouraged residents to install additional doors, remove mail daily and use security cameras so footage of mail thefts can be sent to investigators. He also said that mail thefts are a consistent problem in the city and residents should be aware.

“It’s not something new,” he said. “It has been happening.”

Waack said he understood the

See Mail thefts page 22

BHPD arrests man accused of scam against elderly victim

The Beverly Hills Police Department is cautioning the public about a scam that targeted an elderly victim in the city.

On July 1, the resident was defrauded by two members of an organized crime group who posed as financial institution employees and federal government agents. The suspects convinced the victim that his money was unsafe in bank accounts due to a supposed “virus” or “hack” of his electronic devices. Claiming to act in the victim’s best interest, the suspects instructed him to withdraw funds and give them to “federal agents” for safekeeping.

The growing scam trend has victimized the elderly community. In this case, the victim gave \$59,000 to the suspects, who arrived at his residence on two separate occasions to collect the funds. The suspects even manipulated caller ID systems to display the actual name of the victim’s financial institution, further legitimizing their scheme, police said.

Once the victim realized he had been deceived, he contacted the Beverly Hills Police Department

and a criminal investigation was launched. Using department resources, private surveillance footage and the city’s extensive network of security cameras and license plate readers, investigators identified two suspects and their vehicles.

A joint effort by BHPD and the Simi Valley Police Department resulted in the arrest of one suspect during a traffic stop in Simi Valley. The suspect was identified as Hsinfu Lin, 22; a resident of the city of Richmond in the Bay Area. He is charged with grand theft, theft by false pretense and financial elder abuse.

Police are still searching for the second suspect and investigators believe there may be additional victims, as police determined Lin traveled throughout Southern and Northern California. People who receive suspicious calls requesting money transfers or cash withdrawals should contact their financial institution directly and report the incident to local law enforcement. To contact the BHPD, call (310)550-4951.

BEVERLY PRESS
PARK LABREA NEWS

Founded 1946

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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.

No bones about it – dog owners angry over Hart Park renovations

BY SAM MULICK

Dog owners expressed outrage over proposed design changes to William S. Hart Park, a popular West Hollywood park for dog walking, at an Aug. 11 Hart Park Ad-Hoc Subcommittee meeting. Residents expressed concerns over the relocation of the dog park and argued that the addition of a plaza would invite more homeless people into the park.

Redesign plans include leveling the park to bring the off-leash area closer to De Longpre Avenue and adding a plaza above the off-leash area. Following City Council recommendations from a June 30 subcommittee meeting, city staff updated plans to increase space for the off-leash play area – which includes separate big and small dog spaces. The city also proposed engineered wood fiber as ground material for the off-leash area and an increased security presence to deter people from loitering in the plaza.

Dog owners raised the issue of an increased presence of homeless people in the park. Director of Community Safety Danny Rivas said the city plans to place a security ambassador kiosk at the site after the city learned that unhoused people have been encouraging others to sleep at the park. Officials from the West Hollywood Care Team, a mobile behavioral health provider, added that they made 26 outreach attempts to assist homeless community members at Hart Park in the past two weeks.

The newly-proposed design would increase the total off-leash area by 1,237 square feet and consist of areas for small dogs and large dogs separated by a movable fence. West Hollywood Urban Design and Architecture studio manager Ric Abramson reaffirmed that city staff has received numerous communications from pet owners asking for a specified small dog area.

“We live there every day, and so we’re not kidding about really wanting to be able to be involved in some of the decisions.”

*-West Hollywood resident
Susan Grayson Stone*

West Hollywood resident David Yocum, who has walked his dogs at Hart Park since 2001, voiced frustration with the city relocating the off-leash area, claiming the changes would fundamentally change Hart Park.

“[What] really makes me frustrated is, ‘you’re getting a larger dog park,’” he said. “No, you’re shrinking our park, but more importantly, you’re changing the dynamic of our park. Yeah, you’re putting in a small dog park, which is great, but

don’t say that you’re making it bigger – that’s not true.”

Other community members echoed his concerns and advocated for no renovations to be made at all. Director of Public Works Helen Collins stated that the park is currently inaccessible to disabled community members and the renovations are necessary to avoid litigation. She added that renovations over \$160,000 must legally include disability compliance. Abramson added that there is no formal cost estimate for the project yet, but one will be ready for an October City Council meeting.

Yocum and other dog owners at the meeting maintained that daily Hart Park goers have not been included in the redesign process. However, city staff and council listed 16 different meetings dating back to 2018 where they sought to inform the public on the redesign and solicit feedback.

Abramson also outlined plans to remove six trees from the park as part of the renovation process, while also adding 13 trees after community members expressed concern that the off-leash area would lose necessary shade.

Councilmembers Danny Hang and Lauren Meister were present as the City Council subcommittee representatives. Hang commended city staff for proposing creative ideas to satisfy as many dog owners as possible, including the addition of a movable fence between the large and small dog areas and an increase in



photo by Sam Mulick

The newly-proposed design would increase the total off-leash area at Hart Park by 1,237 square feet.

overall playing space. Hang also supported integrated seating design in the park and stressed the importance of amending the park to be accessible for disabled community members. Meister said the city will need to further consider how the large and small dog areas will be separated, including the timing of opening the fence between the two areas, especially if the dogs exhibit fence aggression across the area’s barrier.

Before the meeting adjourned, multiple community residents interrupted the proceedings and expressed displeasure with the subcommittee, calling for the renovations to be delayed until more community input could be implemented into the project. Yocum said that earlier renovation plans only included sidewalk expansions and that community members only recently found out that the park floor plan would change. West Hollywood resident Susan Grayson Stone, who uses the park at least twice a day to

walk her dogs, said the council is still not valuing community input.

“The message I take away is that you guys aren’t really interested in a dialogue,” she said. “We live there every day, and so we’re not kidding about really wanting to be able to be involved in some of the decisions, or at least informed of the decisions that are going to be made in a space that we use twice a day, three times a day.”

Meister said the council has been informing the public of the redesign’s details and soliciting input from the community on the project for years, including reviewing different design plans at Hart Park.

“I see it differently,” she said. Updated redesign plans and subcommittee recommendations will be submitted to the City Council in October for approval. Following approval, the City Council will approve a contractor for the project with the goal of awarding a construction contract in mid-2026.

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photo courtesy of Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department
Santa Barbara County Sheriff's deputies seized luxury goods from Jonathan Tudor's West Hollywood residence.

West Hollywood man faces charges in luxury car scam

■ Authorities are seeking additional victims

BY SAM MULICK

A West Hollywood man was arrested on July 29 for posing as a luxury car executive and scamming victims out of tens of thousands of dollars.

Jonathan Tudor, 64, of West Hollywood hosted a private event in November 2024 at a Santa Barbara hotel where he persuaded victims, at least two of whom were West Hollywood residents, to sign contracts and wire payments of roughly \$16,000 for luxury vehicles that were never delivered. Tudor posed as a BMW executive and claimed to offer highly discounted, exclusive deals. He was arrested in Santa Barbara and is being held without bail at Santa Barbara County Jail. On July 31, Santa Barbara County District Attorney Jon Savrnock announced that he filed a felony complaint against Tudor with 44 counts, including theft from an elder, securities fraud, grand theft, witness tampering, money laundering and forgery. Tudor was also charged with an aggravated white-collar fraud enhancement.

Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department detectives began their investigation on March 30,

and executed a search and arrest warrant at Tudor's residence in the 8200 block of Norton Avenue in West Hollywood on July 29. Deputies seized luxury items from Hermès, Gucci, Fendi and Louis Vuitton valued at more than \$250,000. They believe the items were purchased with money stolen from victims.

"There is no evidence that the vehicles in this scheme existed," read a Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department statement.

Santa Barbara County Deputy D.A. Brian Cota said most of the victims were from Santa Barbara and that he plans to file an amended complaint at the next hearing after more victims came forward. Tudor is set for a preliminary hearing on Aug. 26 in Santa Barbara before Superior Court Judge Von Deroian.

Cota added that people should be extra cautious to avoid fraudulent schemes.

"If someone is offering you a deal that's too good to be true, the old adage is it probably is," he said. "The internet allows you to check on a lot of things ... If it doesn't pass the smell test, it's good to probably move on."

The Santa Barbara Sheriff's Department is investigating the case and anyone who believes they may have been a victim of Tudor is urged to contact Detective Kody Kiesow at (805)681-4150.

D.A. Hochman says street takeover participants face jail and fines

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Los Angeles County District Attorney Nathan Hochman held a press conference on Aug. 11 to announce that prosecutors are taking a zero tolerance approach to street takeovers and warned organizers, drivers and spectators that they will face charges and significant penalties if they are convicted.

Hochman was joined by officers and deputies from the Los Angeles Police Department, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and California Highway Patrol in making the announcement.

"Street takeovers often lure young people looking for a thrill or to be entertained," Hochman said. "But these reckless stunts are terrorizing our local communities, sometimes leading to death and often leading to looting, vandalism

and other crimes. It doesn't matter whether you are an organizer, a driver or a spectator, you all share a responsibility in this illegal activity and we are committed to stopping street takeovers to restore public safety."

Hochman cited the example of Dante Chapple Young, 30, who participated in a street takeover on Dec. 25, 2022, in South Los Angeles. Chapple Young lost control of his vehicle and drove through a group of onlookers, killing a 24-year-old woman. He pleaded no contest to one felony count each of vehicular manslaughter with gross negligence and assault with a deadly weapon in May 2024 and was sentenced to 13 years in state prison.

Hochman said as part of Chapple Young's agreement to plead no con-

See **Street takeovers** page 22

Pro-Palestinian protesters swarm The Grove

■ Demonstrators also gather at Egyptian Consulate on Wilshire

BY TABOR BRESTER

Dozens of pro-Palestine demonstrators gathered outside the Egyptian Consulate in the Miracle Mile on Aug. 9 before marching through The Grove shopping mall.

The protest began at approximately 3 p.m. on Saturday outside a building at 6300 Wilshire Blvd., the offices for consulates of several countries including Egypt, South Africa, Belgium and Turkey.

The protest was organized by the Palestinian Youth Movement of Los Angeles. Protesters demanded Egypt open the Rafah border crossing to allow humanitarian aid into Gaza.

"The Egyptian government is no longer only complicit in this genocide but has become an active agent in the killing of Palestinians as they refuse to open the Rafah border for aid," a protester said in a video posted to social media.

By approximately 5 p.m., dozens of protesters had marched to The Grove at Third Street and Fairfax Avenue. Video posted on social media showed many people in the mall's open air pedestrian courtyards waving Palestinian flags, banging on drums and chanting phrases including "while you're shopping, bombs are dropping." Some demonstrators could be seen wearing masks and keffiyehs.

Several Los Angeles Police



photo courtesy of the Palestinian Youth Movement of Los Angeles via Instagram
Dozens of protesters disrupted shopping at The Grove on Aug. 9.

Department officers in riot gear were present at the scene. No arrests were reported.

The Grove is owned and operated by Caruso, a real estate company founded by developer and former mayoral candidate Rick Caruso. The company condemned the protest in a statement.

"The Grove has a long history as a place where people can visit knowing it is a safe and welcoming environment. That's why we were so upset when an unauthorized group disrupted and protested yes-

terday without our permission. This behavior is unacceptable, we have no tolerance for it and we are deeply sorry for any discomfort and uneasiness it may have caused," a Caruso spokesperson said. "Safety is paramount at all our properties and we are grateful for the swift response of our security team and the LAPD, who promptly removed the unwelcome protestors. Our priority is, and always will be, to ensure a safe, respectful and welcoming environment for all our guests."



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Section 1 – Beverly Hills

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August Updates

Civil restoration work continues on the south side of Wilshire Bl. Two lanes of traffic in each direction maintained during peak hours.



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Beverly Hills serves pickleball program

■ Tennis courts will be converted to popular game

BY TABOR BREWSTER

The Beverly Hills City Council on Aug. 5 approved the finalization of the city’s pickleball pilot program. The program was initially launched in January 2020 and introduced pickleball to public courts in Beverly Hills. Pickleball is a racket sport with two or four players similar to tennis and played on a smaller court with a hollow plastic ball.

“I fully appreciate how much pickleball creates community,” Councilwoman Mary Wells said. “I know so many people, especially at my age, that love playing and they find new communities, new friends that they didn’t have as a source of friends at this stage in their life. It’s really been life-changing for them, and community building. That’s really healthy and many things that we support here in Beverly Hills.”

Under the pilot program, pickleball courts are currently located at the Roxbury Park Tennis Courts and La Cienega Tennis Center. The final stage of the program will maintain the four pickleball courts at Roxbury Park Tennis Center and reconfigure the pickleball courts at the La Cienega Tennis Center, with four new pickleball courts added.

At the La Cienega Tennis Center, four pickleball courts will be reverted back to a tennis court due to noise concerns. Beverly Hills Recreation Services Manager Michael Muse said that the city conducted a noise study which found that the existing pickleball courts at the north end of the tennis

center – adjacent to residential Le Doux Road – exceeded noise regulations.

“That sound study did find that the presence of pickleball on tennis court No. 1 did violate the L.A. County recommended noise guidelines of 50 decibels. Based off of that, the idea was to move pickleball from tennis court No. 1.”

The city will convert two additional tennis courts into pickleball courts – bringing the total number of pickleball courts in La Cienega Tennis Center to 12.

“In general, we’re charging less than any other facility, and that’s why we are getting a lot of people that are non-residents attending.”

Mayor Sharona Nazarian

The total one time cost of the court reconfiguration is \$99,360. The annual cost for pickleball program is \$25,600. The city’s revenue from both tennis and pickleball renovations has grown year-over-year since 2021. In 2024, the city earned approximately \$337,000 in revenue from pickleball reservations and \$376,000 in revenue from tennis reservations. In 2024, there were 28,426 pickleball reservations compared to 30,754 tennis reservations.

Several residents spoke at the meeting, some in favor and some opposed.

Resident Michael Lipman, a pickleball player, said although

approving the pilot program might make tennis players unhappy, it was the right decision.

“It just seems fair,” Lipman said. “As the numbers show, the number of tennis players and pickleball players are almost equal at this point. Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the country.”

Tennis players expressed concerns about having three pickleball courts at the tennis center, and the loud noise that pickleball produces.

“Lately it has been very difficult to book tennis courts and I worry that converting more tennis courts into pickleball courts would only exacerbate the situation,” resident Teresa Cheng said.

To address the high volume of tennis and pickleball players, the City Council suggested exploring raising the reservation fees for non-residents and introducing per-player fees, which city staff will analyze. It currently costs \$10 an hour for residents to reserve a pickleball court and \$14 an hour for non-residents to reserve a court.

“In general, we’re charging less than any other facility, and that’s why we are getting a lot of people that are non-residents attending,” Mayor Sharona Nazarian said.

A new pickleball center with eight courts just opened in the Miracle Mile, offering an alternative for non-Beverly Hills residents. PIKL Los Angeles opened at 639 S. La Brea on July 20 and provides pickleball courts for \$60 to \$80 an hour.

Beverly Hills will also look at the possibility of providing pickleball paddles that are designed to limit noise and work with community members to incorporate feedback.



photo by Tabor Brewster

The city of Beverly Hills is converting more tennis courts to pickleball courts for the final stage of the pilot program.



Puppy-Dog Eyes and the Feline Gaze: How Pets Evolved to Win Us Over

If you’ve ever melted at your dog’s wide, soulful look – or your cat’s slow blink – you’ve experienced the results of thousands of years of evolution. Dogs and cats took very different paths to domestication, but both have developed ways to connect with us that feel personal and deeply meaningful.

Dogs: The Eyebrow Advantage

In 2019, researchers discovered that domestic dogs have a small facial muscle, the levator anguli oculi medialis, that lets them raise their inner eyebrows. Wolves, their closest wild relatives, largely lack this muscle. The eyebrow raise makes their eyes look larger and more infant-like, triggering a nurturing response in humans. Over generations, humans unconsciously selected for dogs that made expressions we found appealing, making this muscle movement a key part of their communication toolkit.

Cats: The Art of the Slow Blink

Cats followed a very different domestication path. While dogs were actively selected for cooperative behaviors, cats likely self-domesticated around 9,000 years ago by hunting rodents near human settlements. Humans valued their pest control skills, while cats enjoyed steady food sources. Lacking eyebrow-raising muscles, cats rely on subtler cues – one of the most powerful being the slow blink. This relaxed narrowing of the eyes signals trust and safety, and studies show cats are more likely to approach people who slow blink at them.

Why These Traits Work

Puppy-dog eyes mimic human infant facial features – large, round eyes and certain brow movements – that in humans trigger caregiving instincts. Cats’ slow blinks and relaxed faces signal safety and calm, tapping into our social wiring to respond warmly to relaxed, trusting expressions.

The Chemistry of Connection

Oxytocin – often called the “love hormone” – is a neuropeptide that spikes during positive social interactions, from parent-child bonding to romantic affection. It promotes trust, reduces stress, and reinforces emotional bonds. In 2015, a study published in Science by Nagasawa et al. found that when dogs make prolonged eye contact with their owners, oxytocin levels rise in both species. This mutual gaze creates a feedback loop: the more you look at each other, the more oxytocin flows, strengthening the bond. Notably, the same effect wasn’t seen in wolves, suggesting it evolved specifically during domestication.

Why This Matters

Your dog’s raised brow or your cat’s slow blink is more than a passing moment; it’s a finely tuned communication tool that taps into your brain’s bonding chemistry. Understanding this doesn’t just make us better pet parents – it reminds us that the love we feel for them, and they for us, is built into our shared biology.

About Dr. Ameis

Dr. Ezra Ameis is an ER veterinarian and independently owns and operates **Paw Priority** in West Hollywood, which provides general practice, urgent care and acupuncture. Please email us with your pet-related questions and topics you’d like covered: hello@pp.vet



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Soto-Martinez secures funds for streetlight repair

The Los Angeles City Council voted unanimously on Aug. 12 to approve \$500,000 in overtime funding to expedite street light repairs across Councilman Hugo Soto-Martinez’s 13th District.

Repairing a broken streetlight takes more than nine months on average in Los Angeles. The signifi-

cant delay is due to three primary factors. The fee that funds 90% of streetlight maintenance hasn’t been adjusted for inflation for decades, leaving the department severely underfunded. The Bureau of Street Lighting had a city-high 32% vacancy rate until recent years when job vacancies were eliminated entirely.

Copper wire theft has increased to record levels in recent years. However, 60% of broken streetlights are out due to routine maintenance.

The supplemental overtime funding will allow the Bureau of Street Lighting to deploy more personnel to repair broken streetlights faster, reinforce streetlights to prevent future theft and address a backlog that has left entire neighborhoods in the dark. With the \$500,000 allocation approved, Soto-Martinez expects significant progress in repairing streetlights to occur as nights get longer during fall and winter.

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

The \$500,000 in funding comes from AB 1290 Fund No. 53P (CD 13 Redevelopment Projects-Services). In addition to the overtime funding, Soto-Martinez emphasized the need for long-term strategies to fix Los Angeles’ streetlighting system. He called for sustainable funding models with inflation-adjusted fees or alternative funding sources to ensure the Bureau of Street Lighting is adequately resourced; staffing solutions that prioritize critical city services such as street lighting in the city budget; and expanding preventive measures to make streetlights less susceptible to theft by replacing copper wiring with solar-powered lights or theft-resistant alternatives.

For information, visit cd13.lacity.gov.



photo by Edwin Folven

The city of Los Angeles is grappling with streetlight repairs, which take months on average.

Applications open for Steadfast LA Small Business Initiative

Steadfast LA has opened applications for the Small Business Initiative.

The program, which was initially announced on Aug. 6, is made possible by a \$1 million donation from Banc of California. Grant administration is led by LiftFund, an independent nonprofit community development financial institution with more than 30 years of experience providing financial and technical assistance to small businesses.

Business owners impacted by the Eaton and Palisades fires can apply online at liftfund.com/la-small-business-initiative. The grant application portal opened on Aug. 11, and grants will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis and determined by the applicants’ need. Small business owners who previously submitted interest forms have been notified by email that the applications are open.

A full list of eligibility and required documents to apply can be found on the program website. Qualifying businesses must be

located in Palisades, Malibu or Altadena, and the applicant must reside in L.A. County or neighboring counties. Applicants must also have experienced physical or financial disruption due to the January 2025 wildfires and operate from a storefront location (no online-only businesses).

Grant application assistance is available by calling LiftFund at (888)215-2373.

In addition to financial support, Steadfast LA will continue highlighting the resilience of fire-impacted entrepreneurs through a social media campaign designed to encourage consumers to shop local and support businesses during recovery.

LiftFund provided rapid deployment of nearly \$400,000 in emergency grants within days of the January wildfires. The continued investment in small business recovery underscores the need for sustained, long-term support to rebuild and move forward with resiliency.

For information, visit steadfast-la.com.



photo by Edwin Folven

Property owners in the Pacific Palisades, Malibu and Altadena burn zones may qualify for grants.



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Culver City meets Venice for CicLAvia

On Sunday, Aug. 17, from 9 a.m.–4 p.m., CicLAvia will celebrate its 61st car-free open streets event catalyzing vibrant public spaces, active transportation and good health through car-free streets. CicLAvia – Culver City meets Venice connects Culver City, Mar Vista and Venice, welcoming everyone of all ages and abilities to enjoy a day-long 6.75-mile pop-up park. Always free, participants can enjoy the day by walking, jogging, biking, skating or simply spectating at CicLAvia. Participants can show up anywhere along the route to enjoy the open streets, take the time to explore and see where the day takes them.

Imagine streets alive with joy, laughter and the freedom to roam. CicLAvia is a nonprofit that has been opening streets throughout Los Angeles County for nearly 15 years now. It transforms city streets into a car-free celebration of community, connection and possibility – places where participants can slow down, connect and appreciate the city in a new way. CicLAvia is about reimagining city streets as welcoming spaces for everyone –

places for walking, running, rolling, spectating and enjoying the moment.

CicLAvia – Culver City meets Venice includes four hubs with activities and programs along the route. Hubs are walking zones (mandatory dismounts) and meeting points along the route including the Arts District Hub located on Washington Boulevard, west of McManus; Downtown Culver City Hub located on Culver Boulevard near the Culver Hotel; Mar Vista Hub located on Venice Boulevard west of Beethoven; and the Venice Beach Hub located along Windward Circle. Hubs offer family-friendly activities, restrooms, free water refilling stations, free basic bike repair, bike parking, places to sit and meet with friends and family, and first aid. Free pedicab rides are available at each hub’s information booth. In addition to the four hubs, a pit stop is located on Washington Place, east of McLaughlin Avenue, with water, restrooms and basic bike repair available.

“We’re excited to continue our partnership with Culver City, as

CicLAvia travels through Downtown Culver to Venice Beach,” CicLAvia executive director Romel Pascual said. “You will see and experience, in both Culver City and on Venice Boulevard, the bike and pedestrian safety measures that have transformed the area in recent years.”

The 2025 CicLAvia Season continues on Sept. 14 with CicLAvia – Historic South Central meets Watts, on Oct. 12 with CicLAvia – Heart of L.A. and Nov. 23, CicLAvia – Melrose Avenue.

For information, visit ciclavia.org/ciclavia_culver_city_meets_venice25.



photo courtesy of CicLAvia

Venice and Washington boulevards will transform into a bike and pedestrian thoroughfare on Aug. 17.

Margot McKinney boutique sparkles at The Peninsula

A ribbon-cutting ceremony on Aug. 8 celebrated the luxury Margot McKinney boutique at The Peninsula Beverly Hills. The Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce and Beverly Hills Mayor Sharona Nazarian joined luxury jewelry designer Margot McKinney and The Peninsula Beverly Hills Managing Director Offer Nissenbaum at the ceremony. On display at the boutique are three of McKinney’s incredible masterpieces that debuted at TEFAF Maastricht

earlier this year including the Marina collier, which features a massive 241.14 carat cushion-cut green beryl and a large baroque pearl suspended from a 65.72 carat aquamarine. The Margot McKinney boutique in the luxury five-star Peninsula Beverly Hills is McKinney’s first independent store outside Australia. The Peninsula Beverly Hills is located at 9882 South Santa Monica Blvd. For information visit margotmckinney.com/pages/the-peninsula-beverly-hills.



photo © Patrick Rivera, all rights reserved

Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce President Todd Johnson, left, and The Peninsula Beverly Hills Managing Director Offer Nissenbaum cut the ribbon with luxury jewelry designer Margot McKinney and Beverly Hills Mayor Sharona Nazarian.

Notable Quotes

“The answer to the runaway Presidency is not the messenger-boy Presidency. The American democracy must discover a middle ground between making the President a czar and making him a puppet.”

Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr. (1917-2007)
Author, The Imperial Presidency, 1973

Source: Bartlett’s Familiar Quotations

Arthur Schlesinger was an American historian and social critic. He authored many books including “A Thousand Days” published in 1965, outlining the workings of the John F. Kennedy presidency, as Special Assistant to the President. His book, “The Imperial Presidency” has been described as “the most prominent school of thought on executive powers and a lens through which to understand and critique the executive branch.

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Dealing with a bad schnitzel, dealing with life

I warn Smartacus that I bought new running shoes, so if he spots me moving with even greater grace, sliding sideways into cocktail parties, or jumping deftly into moving box cars, he'll understand exactly why.

"Fifty-four bucks," I explain, "at that Big 5 on Foothill."

Of course, \$54 is a remarkable price for running shoes. Presumably, they have no glue or stitching. They are held together, as we all are, by hope.

For 40 years, I've put every cent I've earned into my kids, my dogs, my relationships (Bittner, Billable Bob, White Fang). Little is left over for personal indulgence, so you can understand the excitement I feel over these amazing shoes, lovingly made by macaque monkeys in



by
Chris
Erskine

some Balinese sanitarium.

They're wonderful. Thank you, macaque monkeys!

Sure, you'll still see me crow-hopping over street curbs while walking the dog, my schnitzel sore and throbbing. FYI, one sister is getting a hip replaced soon, the other sister a knee. Bad wheels run in our family.

So, what's a schnitzel? Good

question, Doc. Let me put it into layman's terms:

The schnitzel is your most-extraordinary muscle, the keel to your massive ship. It runs from the back of the tongue, past the tonsils, then loops to the knee, banjos back up to the pancreas, tickles the spleen, before splashing down – like a water park canoe – down around your left Achilles.

If you gank a schnitzel, as I did playing touch football, you've petrified your entire body. You can't swallow. You can't dance. You can't snuggle the dog.

When you chew, you feel a grinding pain in your pelvis that makes your ears wiggle.

Now you see why I'm excited by these cushiony new running shoes? For 54 bucks, I've extended my life.

Other than the schnitzel, I've pretty much managed to resist old age. No wait, I think it might be here. There's someone on the porch. An apparition? Another Amazon pirate?

Worse. Old age.

At dinners with friends, we used to talk for hours about our kids. Now we talk about our pickleball injuries and our prostates.

"Wow," you must be saying. "Fun dinners! Can I come?"

Sure, tag along sometime. I'll tell you all about my triglycerides.

Here's the thing: If you have sidekicks, you have everything. Batman had Robin. Ginger had Mary Ann. Nixon had Agnew.

My Agnew? Smartacus.

My son is a marvelous young man, largely nocturnal. He oinks when he's happy, whistles when he's sad.

His real gift? How composed he is in difficult situations. Smartacus hardly ever loses his temper, except to hurl thunder-bolt invectives at



photo by Chris Erskine

These new shoes are held together by hope.



photo by Chris Erskine

Roll the wrists, finish high and proud," I taught Smartacus.



photo courtesy of Mayor Karen Bass' office

Mayor Karen Bass highlighted the importance of giving youth a place to go where they stay active in positive programs during summer.

Summer Night Lights program helps L.A. reduce crime

On Aug. 12, Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass celebrated the end of the 2025 Summer Night Lights, a program that provides safe and community-centered programming to prevent violence in neighborhoods throughout the city.

"Crime continues to drop in Los Angeles, with the city on pace to reach a 60 year low in homicides. We are seeing these results because of programs like Summer Night Lights that contribute to our comprehensive approach to public safety," Bass said. "Since 2008, Summer Night Lights has continued to provide safe spaces for neighbors to come together, access important resources and engage our neighbor-

hoods in positive and meaningful ways."

"Summer Night Lights has shown us that when the community fills our parks, connections and safety follow," L.A. City Council President Marqueece Harris-Dawson, 8th District, said. "Thanks to the work of community intervention workers, who bridge divides, prevent violence and offer a hand wherever it's needed. Many departments come together to make this program work and engage the community."

The program includes free meals, sports and fitness, family-friendly activities and connections to community resources such as financial literacy workshops and mental

health services. Last summer, SNL had more than 80,000 participants. This year, SNL welcomed more than 110,000 participants at 42 local parks and recreation centers across Los Angeles.

Recent Los Angeles Police Department data show the tangible impact of the program. The Office of Gang Reduction and Youth Development's programming, including Summer Night Lights, contributed to a 26% reduction in gang-related homicides in the city of Los Angeles in 2023 according to LAPD's 2023 Homicide Report.

For information, visit lagryd.org/summer-night-lights.html.

PIKL LA ups the game with new pickleball courts



photo courtesy of the Greater Miracle Mile Chamber of Commerce

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on Aug. 7 for PIKL LA, a new pickleball facility located at 639 S. La Brea Ave. Los Angeles City Councilwoman Katy Yaroslavsky's business development deputy Thao Tran, above, presented a proclamation to PIKL LA and members of the Greater Miracle Mile Chamber of Commerce joined the ceremony. PIKL LA offers daily clinics and private lessons where players can enhance skills and game strategies. The clinics are designed for beginners and seasoned players alike. PIKL LA also offers courts by reservation, as well as leagues and tournaments. For information, visit piklla.com.

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D Line subway project makes progress in August

Metro continues work on the D Line subway extension project at many locations along Wilshire Boulevard.

Street restoration work is ongoing around the future stations at Wilshire/Western, Wilshire/La Brea, Wilshire/Fairfax and Wilshire/La Cienega. Lane closures may be in place on Wilshire Boulevard near the construction sites.

At the Wilshire/La Cienega station, a K-rail work zone has been implemented on the south side of Wilshire Boulevard, which is reduced to two lanes in each direction between San Vicente and La Cienega boulevards. Also, intermittent single-lane bump outs may be utilized on Wilshire and La Cienega boulevards, reducing eastbound or westbound traffic to a single lane during off peak hours. Lane reductions for eastbound Wilshire

Boulevard start at Carson Road. Lane reductions in both directions will not occur simultaneously, except during nights and weekends. Hamilton and Gale drives will also be intermittently closed at Wilshire Boulevard.

At the Wilshire/Rodeo station, cross passage construction is ongoing for approximately three weeks on Wilshire Boulevard between Linden and Bedford drives. The work includes permanent sewer installation, saw cutting, roadway grinding, trenching, trench backfill and final street restoration. Work hours are 9 a.m.-4 p.m. during the day, and 8:15 p.m.-7 a.m. at night. Wilshire Boulevard will be reduced to two lanes in each direction during the daytime work.

Ongoing station construction also continues at Wilshire/Rodeo. K-rail enclosures will remain in

place throughout August along the north and south curb lanes to support ongoing station construction and facilitate appendage construction.

Through Sept. 26, the south sidewalk on Wilshire Boulevard between Cañon and Crescent drives will be closed for construction. Wilshire Boulevard will be reduced to two lanes in each direction in the area, with phased sidewalk restrictions and pedestrian detours in place. Local access will be maintained.

Crews are preparing to start removing deck panels and restore the street along Constellation Boulevard between Century Park East and Solar Way near the Century City/Constellation station. The work is scheduled to begin in September and is expected to last approximately two months. Traffic control will be



photo by Edwin Folven

Work continues within a K-rail work zone at the Wilshire/Rodeo station in Beverly Hills.

implemented in five phases, progressing from east to west. Following deck removal, traffic control measures will be reestablished on Constellation Boulevard to support continued construction activity. Further traffic control information will be provided through notices and direct stake-

holder outreach once the deck removal schedule and specific closure details are finalized.

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.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND SUMMARY OF NOTICE

DATE: Thursday, August 28, 2025

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

LOCATION: **Meeting will be held in person at:**

Commission Meeting Room 280A

Beverly Hills City Hall
455 North Rexford Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

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

PROJECT ADDRESS: Citywide

The Planning Commission of the City of Beverly Hills, at a **REGULAR** meeting on **August 28, 2025**, will hold a public hearing beginning at **1:30 PM**, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard to consider:

- AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS ADOPTING INTERIM OBJECTIVE DESIGN STANDARDS (IODS) AND AMENDING CHAPTER 3 (ZONING) OF THE BEVERLY HILLS MUNICIPAL CODE RELATED TO MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT;**
- A RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING ADOPTION OF INTERIM OBJECTIVE DESIGN STANDARDS (IODS) BY THE CITY COUNCIL; AND**
- FINDING THE PROJECT EXEMPT FROM THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)**

The Planning Commission will consider recommending amendments to the Beverly Hills Municipal Code (BHMC) for multi-family residential development and adoption of interim objective design standards that would:

- Recommend the adoption of Interim Objective Design Standards (IODS)** by City Council Resolution to address massing, privacy, landscaping, materials, and other architectural features for housing projects with at least one affordable housing unit. Projects that meet the objective standards would be exempt from the City’s discretionary architectural review process to implement Housing Element Program 12.1.
- Update Multi-Family Regulations for Housing Element Implementation** by amending Article 1 (Definitions), Article 28 (Multiple-Family Residential Development), Article 28.5 (R-4 Permits), Article 30 (Architectural Review), and Article 31 (Development Plan Review) of the zoning code to reference the new Objective Design Standards. Consistent with Housing Element Program 12.1 to minimize possible housing constraints, these amendments simplify façade modulation requirements, reduce minimum unit sizes, and clarify that multi-family buildings with existing nonconforming density may be rebuilt to their existing unit count, per state housing preservation requirements. The amendments also include clarification and simplifications of existing regulations.

These proposed changes do not alter existing allowable density, building height, or setback requirements in multi-family residential zones. Following the Planning Commission’s review and recommendation, the draft ordinance will be considered for adoption by the City Council.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Staff anticipates that the Planning Commission will find the Ordinance does not require additional environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Guideline Section 15162 (Subsequent EIRs and Negative Declarations). The provisions of this Project (including the IODS document and related code amendments) are within the scope of and consistent with the Addendum to the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Amendments to the Adopted 2021 - 2029 City of Beverly Hills Housing Element (State Clearinghouse No. 2021090102), which was adopted by the City Council on March 18, 2024 and certified by the State Department of Housing and Community Development on May 1, 2024. The Project also appears to qualify for the Class 5 Categorical exemption under CEQA Guidelines Section 15305 as a minor alternation in land use limitations because the amendments do not result in any changes to allowable density or land use, and the residential areas of the City to which the Amendments apply have an average slope of not more than 20 percent.

How to Participate

Members of the public can participate in, watch, or listen to the commission meetings through the following methods:

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

It is recommended that written public comments be submitted to the Planning Commission Recording Secretary by 11:30 AM on the meeting date. Public comments will also be taken during the meeting when the topic is being reviewed by the Planning Commission. Written comments should identify the Agenda Item number or topic in the subject line of the email.

In order to be read at the meeting, written comments will be allowed with a maximum of 350 words, which corresponds to approximately three (3) minutes of speaking time. If a comment is received after the agenda item is heard, it will not be a part of the record.

Any written comments received by end of the day on Wednesday, August 20, 2025, will be attached to the agenda report regarding this item. Any comments received after Wednesday, August 20, 2025, but prior the public hearing, will be distributed to the Commission under separate cover.

According to Government Code Section 65009, if you challenge the City’s action in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City, either at or prior to the public hearing. Please note that any comments received prior to or during the public hearing will be considered as part of the public record.

If there are any questions regarding this notice, please contact **Chloe Chen, Principal Planner** in the Planning Division at **(310) 285-1194**, or by email at cchen@beverlyhills.org. Copies of the project materials are on file in the Community Development Department and can be reviewed by any interested person at 455 North Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills, CA 90210.

Chloe Chen
Principal Planner



Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Beverly Hills will make reasonable efforts to accommodate persons with disabilities. If you require special assistance, please call (310) 285-2400 (voice) or (310) 285-6881 (TTY). Providing at least forty-eight (48) hours advance notice will help to ensure availability of services. City Hall, including the Council Chamber and Room 280A, is wheelchair accessible. The City Hall Council Chamber and Room 280A are also equipped with audio equipment for the hearing impaired.

RESTAURANT NEWS

Hotel Maya turns 50

This summer marks a major milestone for Long Beach’s beloved waterfront destination as the newly independent Hotel Maya Long Beach celebrates its 50th anniversary. Since opening in 1975, Hotel Maya has been more than just a resort; it is a vibrant expression of Long Beach’s coastal spirit and Latin American heritage. Nestled on 14 acres of lush grounds boasting sweeping views of the Pacific Ocean, Long Beach skyline and the iconic Queen Mary, the 199-room property has welcomed generations of travelers and locals alike. From its signature Latin-inspired restaurant, Fuego, to the city’s largest man-made beach, Playa at the Maya, the hotel has been the backdrop for numerous occasions, from weekend escapes to unforgettable waterfront weddings.

“Hotel Maya has become an iconic landmark in Long Beach, known for its bold personality and timeless appeal,” general manager

Greg Guthrie said. “Reaching 50 years marks a proud milestone for us and we are excited to celebrate the legacy we’ve built while continuing to offer memorable guest experiences for years to come.”

“Hotel Maya has been a cornerstone in Ensemble’s evolution and a defining part of the Long Beach waterfront,” said Kam Babaoﬀ, founding partner of Ensemble and owner of Hotel Maya. “When we undertook its transformation years ago, our goal was to honor the hotel’s rich heritage while creating a vibrant destination that reflects the diversity, creativity and warmth of this city. As we celebrate its 50th anniversary, I’m grateful to those who shaped its beginnings in 1975 and proud to carry forward a legacy rooted in community, culture and unforgettable guest experiences.”

The hotel also looks ahead with plans to renovate its guest rooms and lobby this fall, introducing a fresh Tulum-inspired vibe that blends coastal serenity with modern luxury. Later this year, the property will completely transform its main

lobby and signature restaurant Fuego, with all work slated for completion by June 2026. Standing as a testament to the lasting appeal of one of Southern California’s most iconic destinations, Hotel Maya celebrates its 50th anniversary with a story that continues to unfold.

For information, visit hotelmaya-longbeach.com. Hotel Maya is located at 700 Queensway Drive.

TLV Tapas offers free VIP membership

For a limited time, TLV Tapas Bar is offering one month of VIP membership absolutely free, meaning no payment, just perks.

As a VIP, diners get to enjoy 25% off the entire menu every Wednesday for the whole table (one VIP per table). Guests get priority access to prime-time reservations, invitations to exclusive members-only events and surprise perks for birthdays or anniversaries.

TLV Tapas Bar blends elevated Mediterranean dining with a vibrant, upscale vibe, and VIP membership offers a chance for din-

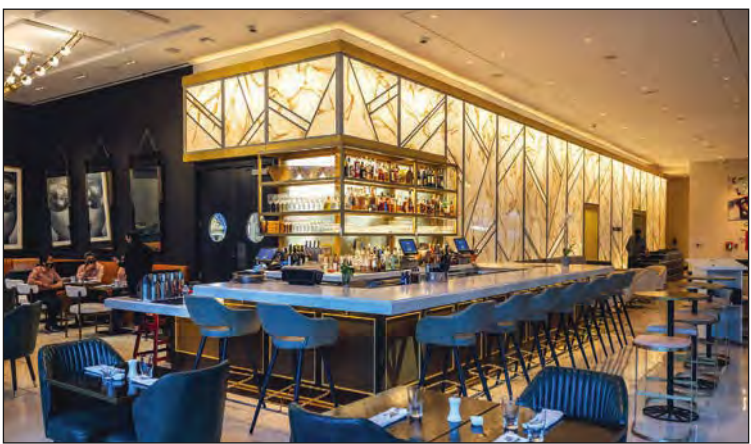


photo courtesy of the Godfrey Hotel Hollywood

About Last Knife will host Drag Bingo at the Godfrey Hotel on Aug. 18 and Sept. 15.

Experience Drag Bingo at the Godfrey Hotel

On Aug. 18 and Sept. 15, About Last Knife, The Godfrey Hotel Hollywood’s signature restaurant, is hosting its next iteration of the beloved Drag Bingo with Roxy Wood, known as “The Bingo Babe.” From 6-8:30 p.m., guests can enjoy complimentary bingo cards, daubers and markers, while Roxy guides them through multiple games with her infectious energy and charm for a night of laughter and serious prizes.

About Last Knife is an enigmatic restaurant on the lobby level that pays homage to steakhouse and gastro pub classics with elevated flavors inspired by executive chef Olivier Rouselle’s world travels. Retro-glam aesthetic ALK gives a nod to Hollywood’s historic past and present while commanding a sophisticated yet warm vibe.

For information, visit alkhollywood.com. The Godfrey Hotel is located at 1400 Cahuenga Blvd.

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ers to experience it without paying a dime upfront. All future guests need to do is to sign up, book a table for Wednesday and start enjoying the VIP treatment, free for the first month.

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

Angry Chickz unveils latest menu item

Angry Chickz just gave fans another reason to crave their fiery favorites. Available now, the cult-favorite brand introduced a bold new side: thick, buttery toast – grilled golden and designed to soak up every bit of flavor from the signature spicy chicken.

The new toast is thicker, toastier and made to deliver a full-on flavor punch alongside the brand’s fan-favorite bowls and tenders. Available for \$2 on its own or as part of a combo, it’s a comfort-food upgrade that’s already making waves.

With National Sandwich Month underway and back-to-school season ramping up, the timing couldn’t

be better. It’s a fresh take on a Southern classic, reimagined for today’s spicy food lovers.

For information, visit angrychickz.com. Angry Chickz is located at 5065 Hollywood Blvd.

Erewhon smoothie benefits CHLA

Erewhon recently launched their latest celebrity smoothie with TV personality and supermodel, Heidi Klum. “The Kluminator” is available at Erewhon tonic bars for \$19 through Aug. 21.

The tasty smoothie contains MALK’s brand new coconut milk, which contains just four clean and simple ingredients and is free of gums, oils and fillers found in many other alternative milks. The kiwi-forward summer smoothie is bright, refreshing and hydrating, and perfect for hot summer days.

A portion of proceeds will benefit Children’s Hospital Los Angeles, a nationally ranked children’s hospital focused on providing freestanding acute care in East Hollywood.

For information, visit erewhon.com. Erewhon is located at 339 N. Beverly Drive and 7660 Beverly Blvd.

Jeni’s launches limited-time ice cream flavor

Beloved ice cream brand Jeni’s is launching “Opaque” – a daring new collaboration flavor with hyper-realistic artist Cj Hendry.

The bold new collaboration redefines the sensory experience of ice cream. Jet black in color and made with black cocoa, espresso fudge and balsamic cherry jam, Opaque strips away the traditional vibrancy of ice cream to focus purely on flavor and texture. The naturally black creation invites ice cream lovers to uncover what lies beneath the surface – an unexpected and immersive tasting experience, one all-black bite at a time.

Jeni’s and Cj Hendry will bring the bold flavor to scoop shops nationwide, including L.A., starting Aug. 14.

Jeni’s Splendid Ice Cream is located at 445 N. Beverly Drive and 123 N. Larchmont Blvd.



photo courtesy of Jeni’s Splendid Ice Cream

The new “Opaque” flavor at Jeni’s is made with black cocoa, espresso fudge and balsamic cherry jam.

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Dine with ‘The Rock’ at Madame Tussauds Hollywood

Can you smell what Madame Tussauds is cookin’? Global superstar Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson is the latest star to be immortalized in wax at Merlin Entertainments’ Madame Tussauds Hollywood, with his new figure debuting at the Hollywood Rooftop Bar and Restaurant.

Perched high above Hollywood Boulevard, the rooftop restaurant and bar offers one of Los Angeles’ premiere open-air dining experiences where guests can enjoy sweeping views of Tinseltown, rub shoulders with waxed A-listers and channel their inner superstar in true Hollywood style.

Inspired by Johnson’s attire at the 2021 People’s Choice Awards, the new figure is styled in a red silk shirt with rolled-up sleeves paired with burgundy dress trousers and loafers. It is Johnson’s 14th figure at Madame Tussauds wax museums.

“Dwayne Johnson continues to set the bar across entertainment, and now he’s headlining our rooftop dining experience showcasing star-studded moments,” said Shirlie Belloso, chef at Madame Tussauds Hollywood. “His figure brings his signature charisma and presence to one of L.A.’s most iconic backdrops. It’s a must-see for fans and foodies alike.”

Just in time for the final weeks of summer, Madame Tussauds Hollywood Rooftop Restaurant and Bar is turning up the heat with a fresh seasonal menu items. The outdoor hotspot has become a go-to for cocktails and bites. The Strawberry Blazing Mule is a fiery twist on the classic Moscow Mule, featuring notes of strawberry and a subtle habanero kick. For those looking to cool down, the Spritz Club offers a bubbly, refreshing take on a cucumber smash.

On the food menu, the BBQ Burger is quickly rising to fan-favorite status, piled high with savory BBQ and melty cheese, while the crispy Brussels sprouts, drizzled in hot honey mustard sauce and topped with pumpkin seeds, have become so popular they regularly sell out.

Guests are now invited to enjoy a weekend brunch experience on Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. featuring bottomless mimosas, breakfast burritos and stuffed French toast.

Madame Tussauds Hollywood is located at 6933 Hollywood Blvd. For information, visit madametussauds.com/hollywood.



photo courtesy of Madame Tussauds

A new wax figure of Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson is featured at the Rooftop Bar and Restaurant at Madame Tussauds Hollywood.

Concern Foundation Block Party raises more than \$2.5 million

The games were officially on as the Concern Foundation hosted its milestone 50th annual Block Party on the historic backlot of Paramount Studios Hollywood, raising more than \$2.5 million for ground breaking cancer research. With more than 4,000 guests in attendance, the night proved to be a spirited celebration of community, courage and commitment to curing cancer.

The golden anniversary celebration, “Game On! Together Let’s Beat Cancer,” paid tribute to long-time sponsors, board members and community philanthropists Lisi and Steve Teller for their outstanding contributions to the community, and honored Special Lifetime Achievement Honoree Dr. Alexandra M. Levine, professor of hematology and chief medical officer emerita at City of Hope, all while transforming the Paramount Backlot streets into a vibrant game night experience. The event featured a life-size Candyland stage, retro bowling and interactive games including Jenga and Chutes & Ladders, symbolizing the challenges and victories in the journey toward a cancer-free future.

Guests indulged in a Trivial Pursuit of flavor, with tastings from over 90 acclaimed restaurants, wineries, breweries and spirit brands, including crowd favorites

Alexander’s Steakhouse, BOX Chicken, City Club Los Angeles, Dulan’s on Crenshaw Soul Food, Emporium Thai, Herb Alpert’s Vibrato Grill & Jazz, Lawry’s The Prime Rib, Maple Block Meat Co., Nobu Malibu, Pink’s Hot Dogs, Poppy + Rose, Settecento DTLA, The Grill on the Alley, Uchi West Hollywood, Wife and the Somm, and Yamashiro Hollywood.

Sweet treats came courtesy of Bertha Mae’s Brownie Co., Chocolate and the Chip, CVT Soft Serve, Jeni’s Splendid Ice Creams and My/Mochi Ice Cream. Premium coffee and tea were poured by Caffè Luxxe, Pasquini Espresso Co. and Weaver’s Coffee & Tea.

The evening’s spirited beverage experience included standout sips from Buzzbar, Gin&Juice by Dre and Snoop, Empress 1908 Gin, Milagro Tequila and Leon y Sol Tequila, and featured wineries such as Ballers Champagne and Bido Wines. Common Space Brewery, Duvel and La Chouffe kept beer enthusiasts refreshed, while Acqua Panna Natural Spring Water, Last Shot, Robeks Juice, S. Pellegrino Sparkling Mineral Water, Vitaminwater and other premium non-alcoholic brands ensured everyone stayed hydrated.

For information, visit concernfoundation.org.



photo courtesy of Concern Foundation

The 50th annual Concern Foundation block party offered food, games and fun for a good cause.



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

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| LOCATIONS: | West Hollywood, California |
| REQUEST: | The Planning Commission will consider a zone text amendment to encourage and facilitate the conversion of existing non-residential to new residential uses. The proposed zone text amendment aligns with the goals and objectives of the West Hollywood Housing Element. |
| PERMIT(S): | Zone Text Amendment, and any other required permits. |
| APPLICANT(S): | City of West Hollywood |
| TIME/PLACE OF HEARING: | Thursday, September 4, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers 625 N. San Vicente Boulevard West Hollywood, CA 90069 |
| ZONES: | Citywide |
| ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS: | Categorically Exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Section §15061(b)(3) (Review for Exemption/ Common Sense Exemption) |

Complete digital agenda packets will be available on Thursday, August 28, 2025, and additional information regarding participation options can be found on the posted agenda or the calendar page on-line at www.weho.org

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

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

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

For further information regarding this item, contact Jordan Parrish, Contract planner at (323) 848-6808, JParrish@weho.gov

Melissa Crowder, City Clerk

Мы сообщаем вам об обсуждении проекта. Для дополнительной информацииR4B ffi на русском языке звоните: 323-848-6826.

POLICE BLOTTER

The following crimes occurred in West Hollywood, Beverly Hills and the areas patrolled by the LAPD’s Wilshire and Hollywood divisions between Aug. 3 and Aug. 10. 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

Aug. 3

At 11:58 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 500 block of N. Rexford.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 9000 block of Wilshire at 2:22 p.m.

At 4:47 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim near Beverly and Carmelita.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 400 block of S. Spalding at 5:50 p.m.

At 9 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 400 block of N. Oakhurst.

Aug. 4

At 8:39 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of N. Beverly.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle in the 400 block of N. Oakhurst at 3:30 p.m.

Aug. 5

At 1:30 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a residential burglary in the 9300 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim near Oakhurst and Dayton at 3 p.m.

At 3:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft near Olympic and Rexford.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 9700 block of Santa Monica at 8:11 p.m.

Aug. 6

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

Aug. 7

At 9:56 p.m., a suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs near Santa Monica and Cañon.

Aug. 8

At 7:37 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 100 block of N. Crescent.

An unknown suspect committed a commercial burglary in the 300 block of N. Beverly at 2:37 p.m.

At 3:38 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft near Crescent and Gregory.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 400 block of S. Roxbury at 4:19 p.m.

At 9:45 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 600 block of N. Linden.

Aug. 9

At 7:56 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 100 block of S. Willman.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 1100 bock of Hillcrest at 8:06 a.m.

Aug. 10

An unknown suspect committed a residential burglary in the 1100 block of Hillcrest at 3:58 a.m.

At 7:50 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 400 block of N. Beverly.

A vandalism incident was reported near Olympic and Elm at 4:13 p.m.

At 6 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle in the 100 block of Oakhurst.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 200 block of N. Crescent at 7:51 p.m.

West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station

Aug. 3

At 10:58 a.m., a suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 900 block of Westbourne.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 8400 block of Sunset at noon.

At 11:15 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8900 block of Santa Monica.

A suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 8800 block of Betty at 11:30 p.m.

Aug. 4

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 900 block of N. Kings at 5 a.m.

At 12:15 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft near Santa Monica and La Brea.

Aug. 5

At 6 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 7500 block of Lexington.

Aug. 6

At 2:15 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle in the 500 block of N. Croft.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 7100 block of Santa Monica at 2:15 p.m.

At 6:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle in the 800 block of N. Palm.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 8100 block of Santa Monica at 11:10 p.m..

Aug. 7

At 12:40 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle near Santa Monica and Formosa.

A suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 1200 block of N. Gardner at 12:40 a.m.

At 1:23 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 9000 block of Beverly.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 9000 block of Beverly at 2:24 p.m.

Aug. 8

At 12:30 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle in the 700 block of N. Doheny.

An unknown suspect assaulted a

victim in the 8900 block of Santa Monica at 1:30 a.m.

At 7:20 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8900 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 600 block of N. Robertson at 11 p.m.

Aug. 9

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 1000 block of Carol

at 9:50 a.m.

At 2:15 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 900 block of N. Fairfax.

Aug. 10

At 5:46 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 800 block of Westbourne.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 600 block of N. San Vicente at 9:45 a.m.



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

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| LOCATIONS: | West Hollywood, California |
| REQUEST: | The Planning Commission will consider a proposed zone text amendment amending the Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) Ordinance for consistency with state ADU guidelines concerning deed restrictions for ADUs and Junior Accessory Dwelling Units (JADUs). |
| PERMIT(S): | Zone Text Amendment, and any other required permits. |
| APPLICANT(S): | City of West Hollywood |
| TIME/PLACE OF HEARING: | Thursday, September 4, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers 625 N. San Vicente Boulevard West Hollywood, CA 90069 |
| ZONES: | Citywide |
| ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS: | Statutorily exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Public Resources Code Section §21080.17. The proposed ordinance is also categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section §15061(b)(3) of the State CEQA Guidelines. |

Complete digital agenda packets will be available on Thursday, August 28, 2025, and additional information regarding participation options can be found on the posted agenda or the calendar page on-line at www.weho.org

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

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

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

For further information regarding this item, contact Tahirah Farris, Senior Planner at (323) 848-6808, JParrish@weho.gov

Melissa Crowder, City Clerk

Мы сообщаем вам об обсуждении проекта. Для дополнительной информацииR4B ffi на русском языке звоните: 323-848-6826.

‘Weapons’ tops off the summer movie season

Zach Cregger raised plenty of eyebrows with 2022’s “Barbarian,” a claustrophobic, suspenseful horror flick with a killer twist. Of course, whatever he did next would invite enthusiasm and suspicion. Rest easy. “Weapons” fends off the sophomore slump. Call it a horror mystery, call it Tarantino-lite, call it a strong way to end summer. It ain’t the best horror flick of the year, but it’s a sometimes gross, sometimes

thrilling, sometimes campy romp to the end. The premise alone could hook anyone. An elementary school teacher enters her classroom to discover only one student in attendance. Soon, the whole town learns that the absentees ran away the night before. The only evidence of these incidents is front door cams of children running away, their arms



photo courtesy of Warner Bros. Pictures
Julia Garner and Josh Brolin keep “Weapons” compelling and suspenseful.

Natural History Museum highlights intricacies of spiders

It’s a spider lover’s favorite time of the year again – tarantula mating season – and the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County is ready. Almost every species of tarantula in the United States will be on the move in search of a mate from August-November, and some experts believe more may be seen this year than ever before. While they may look intimidating, tarantulas are largely harmless to humans, are important for species diversity and provide a fascinating subject for curious audiences. The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles provides multiple opportunities to learn about tarantulas and spiders. Mark your calen-

dars for the opening of NHM’s Spider Pavilion on Sept. 12. The one-of-a-kind seasonal pavilion gives visitors a rare glimpse into the secret life of spiders. Stroll through the open air pavilion and see hundreds of orb weavers and their amazing webs. Enter the spider den to peer into enclosed habitats that house different species from tarantulas to jumping spiders. Along the way, hear amazing stories and get answers to all arachnid questions from museum educators. The Natural History Museum is located at 900 Exposition Blvd. For information, call (213)763-DINO, or visit nhm.org/experience-nhm/exhibitions-natural-history-museum/spider-pavilion.



photo courtesy of the NHMLAC
Tarantula mating season runs from August-November, when visitors to the Natural History Museum can learn about the arachnid species.

ON SCREEN WITH TIM POSADA

flailing in a uniform way. The town is convinced Ms. Justine (Julia Garner) is at fault, especially distraught parent Archer (Josh Brolin), though no evidence seems to really lead anywhere. This is a Grimm fairytale, an urban legend, a simple yet horrifying story that unfolds slowly.

Perhaps too slowly. Again, it’s a strong film, but the first half is a true slow burn. Perhaps one creepy moment of no more than 30 seconds graces those 45 minutes. And when something thrilling finally transpires, we cut to another character’s point of view.

“Weapons” follows six different characters until the final 10 minutes. Most storylines present different vantage points during the same time period, revealing a touch more with each new entry. First comes background. Then eerie vibes creep in, while the mystery builds. Finally, a full explanation before an intense conclusion.

Cregger’s “Barbarian” took more cues from “Psycho,” while this one’s an homage to the postmodern cinema that film majors craved in the early 2000s. Who needs chronology? No single protagonist can do a story justice. Tell the story without concern for three-act structure.

That’s Cregger’s jam. It means the trailers misinformed us all about



photo courtesy of Warner Bros. Pictures
Zach Cregger’s “Weapons” keeps audiences on the edge of their seats.

Garner and Brolin’s prominence throughout the film, but horror should always subvert such expectations. It might be the last refuge for original filmmaking that can still turn a profit.

There’s a lot going on here. The film demands further discussion on a range of topics: gun control, school trauma, town hysteria, abuse of power and addiction. Some topics are overt (keep an eye out for a particular dream sequence), while the premise and sequences like the last 10 minutes can be read in various ways.

Does it all land with ease? Not really. Consider the whole film dart board, each character’s story targeting a specific topic. The outcome will likely work for many (most critics are certainly on board). But criticism about pacing, structure and continual suspensions of the genre’s most enticing draws is certainly valid.

Occasionally, “Weapons” channels last year’s “Longlegs,” which

might be a crowning achievement or a kiss of death. At the heart of that comparison is a remarkable performance by Amy Madigan (yes, that Amy Madigan from “Uncle Buck,” “Field of Dreams” and “Gone Baby Gone”), though to say more about her would spoil all. She deserves praise for committing to her role.

Avoid spoilers. Get offline. Look up nothing. You don’t even need a trailer. Half the fun is trying to figure out where it’s all going and how it will end. “Weapons” is a solid film, terrifying, brutal, thrilling, even comical. “Barbarian” was a more straightforward horror installment (at least compared to “Weapons”), complete with all the jolting, anxiety-inducing visuals. But “Weapons” is a timely, clever shoot for the stars. It need not reach the level of masterpiece or even the year’s best to end summer right ... and set an uncanny tone for sending the kids back to school.

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LAUSD affirms student safety as classes resume

With more than half a million students returning to classes on Aug. 14 at Los Angeles Unified School District campuses, the district and leaders from cities throughout Los Angeles County committed to ensuring that schools remain safe and supportive spaces for all children and families, regardless of immigration status.

“Schools are safe spaces,” LAUSD Superintendent Alberto M. Carvalho said. “From preschoolers taking their first steps into a classroom to high school seniors preparing for graduation, every child deserves to learn in an environment free from fear. Immigration enforcement near schools disrupts learning and creates anxiety that can last far beyond the school day. We are united in our commitment to protect our students’ safety, dignity and right to an uninterrupted education.”

In response to ongoing immigration enforcement activity, the district is working with municipal partners to enhance communication as appropriate between the Los Angeles School Police Department and local law enforcement entities, and reaffirm vigilance as students return to school. Former Los Angeles School Police Department Chief Steven K. Zipperman will lead a workgroup composed of district staff and external partners to

ensure the district is coordinating and providing community support.

“As our students return to school, we are calling on every community partner to help ensure that classrooms remain places of learning and belonging,” Carvalho added. “Children have been through enough – from the pandemic to natural disasters. They should not have to carry the added weight of fear when walking through their school gates.”

Carvalho urged the restriction of immigration enforcement near LAUSD schools to allow students to focus on education.

“When children witness peers, parents or other individuals detained, the image is not easily erased,” Carvalho said. “These moments imprint on young minds, distracting them from academic lessons and replacing intellectual curiosity with worry. These issues do not just affect students from certain backgrounds – they impact all students, parents and educators working to ensure children can attend school and learn. Immigration enforcement at or near schools impedes and distracts from that purpose.”

The LAUSD has launched the “We Are One” campaign, providing families with information and “Know Your Rights” resources, legal referrals, mental health sup-

port and emergency preparedness tools. Information is available in English and Spanish at lausd.org/weareone and by calling the 24-hour Family Hotline at (213)443-1300.

“Because of action by this White House, many families throughout our city are terrified,” Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass said. “That’s why I’m joining Los Angeles Unified School District officials to reaffirm our commitment to student safety with transportation, trained staff and long-standing policies that shield our communities from discriminatory enforcement. L.A. will always stand together.”

“As we begin a new school year, L.A. Unified leadership is reaffirming that all students are welcome in our classrooms, and we will continue to do everything in our power to keep our school communities safe and uphold the values this country was founded on,” LAUSD Board Member Nick Melvoin said.

The LAUSD has also expanded transportation options for families upon request and implemented crisis response teams to provide mental health and counseling support, including in-home services. Virtual learning options are available for students in TK-adult programs. For information on safety measures and available resources, visit lausd.org/weareone.



photo courtesy of the Los Angeles Parks Foundation
Volunteers work in the LAPF's Griffith Park demonstration garden.

Foundation hopes to open schoolyards for use as parks

The Los Angeles Parks Foundation is looking ahead to the start of a new school year.

Last week, the L.A. Recreation and Parks Commission unanimously approved a proposed joint powers agreement between the Department of Recreation and Parks and the Los Angeles Unified School District that establishes a city-wide policy and pathway for opening LAUSD campuses for use as park spaces on weekends and school holidays.

Earlier this year, the Los Angeles Parks Foundation released Pathways to Play, a report defining what Community Schools Parks are and illustrating how people of all ages can find community, activity and value in neighborhood schools by experiencing them as public park spaces, particularly in the city's densest and most under-served urban neighborhoods. The foundation is working to ensure indoor and outdoor school spaces become available for park use, as

is the case in many other cities. The multi-year and citywide agreement is an important first step in Los Angeles’ journey toward widespread use of public school campuses as park spaces.

The LAUSD Board of Education will consider the agreement in late August, and more information will be available about the Community Schools Parks proposal as the 2025-26 school year progresses.

The Los Angeles Parks Foundation is also looking for volunteers to work in the Griffith Park demonstration garden, located at 2650 N. Commonwealth Ave. The next volunteer opportunity will be on Sept. 13. Roll up your sleeves for a mix of fall garden activities such as repotting more milkweed for next year’s monarchs, refreshing the soil with mulch, harvesting seeds and tending to seasonal tasks that keep the demonstration garden thriving. For information, visit laparksfoundation.org.

Students get hands-on experience at CHLA conference



photo courtesy of Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Students participated in workshops at Children's Hospital Los Angeles on Aug. 2.

More than 130 high school students and their families took part in the third annual High School Healthcare and Leadership Conference at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles on Aug. 2. This year, the conference hosted ninth-12th grade students from over 20 different L.A.-area high schools, more than double the number of schools represented at last year’s event.

“Here, today, you are all welcome, and we want to encourage you to pursue your dreams,” said CHLA orthopedist Dr. Bianca Edison, addressing a room of students and their parents during the conference at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles.

CHLA’s Department of Surgery organized the event in collaboration with the University of Southern California McMorro Neighborhood Academic Initiative and USC’s Medical Counseling, Organizing and Recruiting program.

The conference was designed to inspire and encourage L.A. youth who are interested in health care careers. Throughout the day, health care industry speakers, including 50 CHLA staff and faculty members, led presentations and activities to promote career and leadership opportunities among the students. The staff involved ranged from

Sages & Seekers connect young people and seniors

Registration is open for Sages & Seekers’ 2025 fall programs. The nonprofit links older adults with students for enrichment, mentorship and positive interactions.

For “sages” (adults 60-plus), the program provides an opportunity to share life experiences with an interested listener. The forum engages participants in a thoughtful examination of life and how personal challenges are overcome. Through interaction, students develop a greater appreciation of older adults and their legacies. Both generations discover commonalities and shatter stereotypes.

“Seekers” (young people ages 14-24) who enjoy speaking with people from older generations are also sought. Candidates include young people looking to pursue a career working with senior citizens and those looking for someone to talk to who listens and is nonjudgmental.

Sages & Seekers holds online and in-person programs throughout the year. The fall programs start in late September and the registration deadline is Sept. 17. For information, email susana@sagesandseekers.org or visit sagesandseekers.org/enroll.



photo courtesy of Elly Katz
Sages & Seekers brings together young people and older adults for positive relationships.

anesthesiologists, neonatologists and surgeons to financial advisors, quality and clinical effectiveness leaders, and clinical dietitians.

“Here, today, you are all welcome, and we want to encourage you to pursue your dreams.”

*CHLA orthopedist
Dr. Bianca Edison*

The students were eager to take part in the opportunities.

“Working in pediatrics was always a dream for me, and to be able to learn from actual pediatri-

cians and connect with other students is amazing,” said Canise, an incoming senior in high school.

The conference also involved informational sessions for parents, focusing on how they can support their children’s career aspirations. Parents were equally excited about the offerings at the conference. Denise Weibel, whose daughter attended the conference, is also a registered nurse in CHLA’s Steven and Alexandra Cohen Foundation Newborn and Infant Critical Care Unit.

“My daughter has an interest in health care, but other than her mom being a nurse, she didn’t know about all the different roles there are,” Weibel said. “Most people think about a doctor or a nurse, but there is so much more that you can do.”

For information, visit chla.org.



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BHUSD celebrates opening day

The Beverly Hills Unified School District gathered on Aug. 8 for its annual opening day celebration at the El Rodeo Elementary Auditorium. Staff from every school site and department came together for the first time since summer break started, filling the space with energy, anticipation and a shared commitment to the year ahead.

Opening day featured a celebration of the people who make BHUSD a place where students can thrive. Joined by the Beverly Hills City Council, Mayor Sharona Nazarian and community leaders, the school district welcomed new staff members and strengthened the connection between schools and the city of Beverly Hills.

Continuing a valued tradition, BHUSD honored staff members for years of dedicated service, recognizing those who have made a lasting difference in the lives of stu-

dents.

Maria Perez, Jimmie Sanford, Darren Sargent, Sabrina Slaughter, Nicole Snijdewind, Henry Steiman, Eric Telles, Denise Witherspoon, Thomas Zoeschg, Amy Bell, Raymond Bennette III, Nell Boucher, Robert Croll, Rio Gibson, David Hewitt, Emily Hurst, Kerry Mazor and Shemia Moore were honored for 10 years of service.

Lisa Block, Elisa Ibarra, Fred Pinto and Njeri Snyder were honored for 15 years of service.

Phillip Babcock, Edwina Casiano, Teresa Cortes, Afarin Delijani, Alejandro Garduno, Sherry Haimoff, Irma Honore, Jeanette Honore, Ellen Kwon, Brenda Lopez-Parker, Rodney Mitchell, Dan Moroica, Zohreh Partovi, Elaina Reilly, Marcy Scholer, Michelle Stradford and Heather Woodring were honored for 20 years of service.

Nicole Ewing, Michael Federman, Kathleen Greenleaf, Heather Godin, Kevin Painter, Gabrielle Radonsky and Sharon Ringo were honored for 25 years of service, Kelly Kertesz, Celeste McDonald, Jennifer Reilly and A. Gregg Riesenber were honored for 30 years of service Vivian Minor was honored for 35 years of service.

Howard Edelman and Marla Weiss were honored for 40 years of service.

The prestigious Apple Awards recognized staff members who went above and beyond during the 2024-25 school year:

Ted Yoo and Roel Hinojosa received the award for Beverly Hills High School. Elizabeth Schultz and Vergine Aiazian received the award for Beverly Vista Middle School. Liat Canes received the award for El Rodeo Elementary School. Tiffany Graham received the award for Horace Mann Elementary School. Marilu De Arcos and Reiona Smith received the award in the district



Photo courtesy of BHUSD
Representatives from the city of Beverly Hills joined BHUSD Superintendent Dr. Alex Cherniss, left, for the opening day celebration.

office.

“The true measure of our success will never be found in test scores alone, but in the connections we make with our students,” Superintendent Dr. Alex Cherniss said. “When a child knows they are

cared for and seen, they will remember you decades from now. That is the legacy we build together, and it is why this is the greatest district and the greatest city in the world.”

For information, visit bhUSD.org.



photo courtesy of Cathedral High School
Cathedral High School will celebrate its centennial with a Phantom Pour event on Sept. 6.

Cathedral High School presents centennial toast event

Cathedral High School invites alumni, families and friends to raise a glass at the first annual Phantom Pour, a wine tasting fundraiser taking place on Sept. 6, from 5–9 p.m. at Cathedral High School.

The inaugural Phantom Pour honors the lasting legacy of two beloved former members of the Phantom family, Willie Marin and Brother Timothy. Their commitment to Cathedral’s mission continues to inspire generations of Phantoms. The evening will be ded-

icated to celebrating their substantial contributions to Cathedral High School while raising critical scholarship funds to support students facing financial hardship.

Proceeds will directly benefit Cathedral High School’s scholarship fund, providing tuition relief to students whose families are experiencing financial challenges. With over 70% of students receiving financial assistance, every ticket and donation offers a gift of hope and a pathway to success.

At the event, guests can enjoy curated wine tastings by featured vintners; gourmet hors d’oeuvres including charcuterie boards, Spanish-style empanadas, salads and seasonal fruit; live jazz music and dancing; a commemorative gift and two raffle tickets valued at \$100 each and a vibrant silent auction to further support the cause.

Tickets are \$100. For information and tickets, visit cathedralalumni.com/wine.

VINTAGE
PARKLABREA NEWS

L.A. pools offer opportunities to beat the heat

A photograph in the July 21, 1955, issue of the Park Labrea News showed swimmers at the West Wilshire Swimming Pool, now known as the Pan Pacific Park Pool. Located at 141 S. Gardner St., residents were encouraged to take a plunge and cool off during the summer heat. The Pan Pacific Park Pool is operated by the Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks and offers lessons and open swimming. Lessons and open swimming are also offered at the Hollywood Pool, 1122 Cole Ave. For information, visit laparks.org/aquatics.

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WeHo celebrates cityhood with ‘Summer Sounds 2025’

West Hollywood continues the 2025 Summer Sounds free outdoor concert series. The final concert in the series will celebrate 40 years of West Hollywood cityhood and will take place on Aug. 17 at 4 p.m. at Plummer Park. The 2025 Summer Sounds free outdoor concert series is organized by the city of West Hollywood’s Arts Division. Summer Sounds concerts are free to attend; RSVPs are not required but are requested. Reserved seating is not available. Attendees are encouraged to bring blankets and low chairs. Food will be available for purchase. During the concert, there will also be activities and free giveaways.

Brainstory, a psychedelic soul trio from the Inland Empire, and the Motown On Mondays LA DJs will perform on Aug. 17 at 4 p.m. Brainstory includes brothers Kevin and Tony Martin, along with long-

time friend and musical brother Eric Hagstrom, who blend jazz with raw, soulful energy. The band’s roots trace back to music school and local gigs, but their sound and connection have deepened through years of touring and creating music together. With two studio albums, Brainstory continues to evolve, fusing vintage soul, psychedelia and modern groove into a sound that’s entirely their own.

Motown On Mondays LA celebrates the timeless music created by Motown Records from the 1960s to 1990s. Powered by some of the top DJs in Los Angeles, they are known for unforgettable dance parties that unite people through feel-good soul music. Established in 2011, MOMLA is one of the chapters of the Motown On Mondays global family, which has parties in more than 40 cities around the world.

West Hollywood’s Arts Division

delivers a broad array of arts programs including Art on the Outside, arts grants, city poet laureate, drag laureate, free theater in the parks, library exhibits, Summer Sounds and Winter Sounds, urban art, WeHo Pride Arts Festival and WeHo Reads.

Plummer Park is located at 7377 Santa Monica Blvd. For information, visit weho.org/summer-sounds.



photo courtesy of Buyepongo

Latino band Buyepongo will perform on July 27 at Plummer Park as part of West Hollywood’s Summer Sounds.

Academy Museum announces fall programming

The Academy Museum’s fall programming just launched – complete with new screenings, special events and exclusive guests.

The museum has packed it with cinematic treats, from epic retrospectives to one-night-only events including “Jaws” (1975) on the big screen as part of the opening of “Jaws: The Exhibition” and a celebratory 30th anniversary screening of “Toy Story” (1995). The museum is also debuting a film series to complement the “Hollywoodland” exhibition.

Plus, they’ll have special in-person appearances by Cheech Marin, Peter Weller, Karyn Kusama, Michael Mann and iconic filmmakers in the museum’s state of the art theaters.

“The Cinematic Worlds of Sarah Greenwood and Katie Spencer” is a lush, nine-film series honoring the Oscar-nominated production designer and set decorator duo behind “Barbie” (2023) and more, inspired by the exhibition, “Barbie to Anna Karenina.”

“Around the World with Luis Buñuel” celebrates the influential director with an exploration

through his groundbreaking films made in France, Mexico and Spain.

“Born with Cinema: Gaumont at 130” traces 130 years of cinematic influence. The decade-spanning series honors the legacy of the world’s oldest operating film studio, Gaumont.

“The Man Who Made Creatures: Carlo Rambaldi” spans “E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial” (1982) to “Alien” (1979). The tribute series to master effects artist Carlo Rambaldi spotlights three decades of monster magic and innovation.

“Heat in 4K” celebrates the 30th anniversary of Michael Mann’s gripping L.A. crime epic “Heat” (1995) starring Al Pacino and Robert De Niro as rivals bound by obsession.

“Meet Me in St. Louis in 35mm Nitrate” lets visitors fall into the golden glow of classic Hollywood with the timeless musical “Meet Me in St. Louis” (1944), screened in glorious 35 mm nitrate for an extra touch of visual magic.

The Academy Museum is located at 6067 Wilshire Blvd. For tickets and information, visit academymuseum.org.



photo courtesy of the Academy Museum

The upcoming programming includes a special screening of the 1975 blockbuster “Jaws” to coincide with the upcoming “Jaws: The Exhibition.”

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

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| LOCATIONS: | West Hollywood, California |
| REQUEST: | The Planning Commission will consider a zone text amendment to amend the Zoning Ordinance, supporting the 2021-2029 6th Cycle Housing Element Program 21 (Zoning Ordinance Amendments) which aims to implement recent State laws to facilitate the development of housing for people experiencing homelessness and persons with special needs. |
| PERMIT(S): | Zone Text Amendment, and any other required permits. |
| APPLICANT(S): | City of West Hollywood |
| TIME/PLACE OF HEARING: | Thursday, September 4, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers 625 N. San Vicente Boulevard West Hollywood, CA 90069 |
| ZONES: | Citywide |
| ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS: | Categorically Exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Section §15061(b)(3) (Review for Exemption/ Common Sense Exemption) |

Complete digital agenda packets will be available on Thursday, August 28, 2025, and additional information regarding participation options can be found on the posted agenda or the calendar page on-line at www.weho.org

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

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

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

For further information regarding this item, contact Tahirah Farris, Senior Planner at (323) 848-6472, Tfarris@weho.gov

Melissa Crowder, City Clerk

Мы сообщаем вам об обсуждении проекта. Для дополнительной информацииR4B ffi на русском языке звоните: 323-848-6826.

Project Angel Food faces federal cuts

From page 1

to 4 million meals. The project is scheduled to be up and running by Dec. 25, Project Angel Food CEO Richard Ayoub said.

The organization recently lost 30% of federal funding but has no plans to interrupt service to more than 2,500 daily clients.

“If it wasn’t for Project Angel Food and the other groups and non-profits that are feeding our vulnerable residents, including our senior citizens, people would be starving in Los Angeles,” Friedman said. “Unfortunately, the majority in Congress is willing to sacrifice meals for seniors, and that’s just wrong.”

The organization lost nearly half a million dollars in funds due to federal funding cuts to HIV programs and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The nonprofit

is asking private donors to make up the gap, Ayoub said.

“Because we started in response to the AIDS crisis, we will never abandon that population,” he said. “We’re banking on ‘if you build it, they will come’ and that the funds will come. The meals are going to continue uninterrupted to all of our clients.”

The renovation project will include kitchen space to cover the entire first floor and will include expanded space for volunteers, client services and storage. The project was funded in part by \$400,000 from the city of West Hollywood, \$2 million raised by L.A. County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath, 3rd District, and \$10 million donated by the Chuck Lorre Family Foundation.

Due to federal cuts affecting other

food distribution organizations in the area, such as Jewish Family Services – which closed two meal centers due to federal cuts, Project Angel Food will likely see an increased demand for medically tailored meals, Ayoub said. About 98% of Project Angel Food’s clients are living at or below the poverty level and 62% are over the age of 60.

“We’re not just bringing them food, we’re bringing them love because they may not have seen anyone [since] our last visit,” he added.

The renovated headquarters will also feature a three-story mural by artist Robert Vargas, a Boyle Heights native. Project Angel Food is inviting the public to view the mural’s painting, which will occur daily from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. through Aug. 29.



photo courtesy of Project Angel Food

Rep. Laura Friedman spoke about the urgent need to support Project Angel Food amid federal cuts to health care.

“This live art installation – to be created over two weeks in full public view – will honor the organization’s volunteers and staff who have been nourishing the health and spirit

of thousands of Angelenos living with critical illness for over 35 years,” Project Angel Food spokesperson Alison Graham said in a statement.

One Beverly Hills seeks city financing

From page 1

Approximately 10 acres of open landscaped areas, with four acres reserved for condo residents and 4.5 acres open to the public, contribute to the green space. Additional features include a conference center, retail and dining space and the renovation of The Beverly Hilton hotel. The project was approved by the then-City Council on June 8, 2021, in a 4-1 vote, with Councilman John Mirisch voting against it. While most City Council members lauded the project for its transformative vision, Mirisch argued that the project did not provide enough benefits to residents, and took issue with the lack of affordable housing. The project is expected to be completed in 2028.

Property developer Cain International is now asking the city to assist with the financing of One Beverly Hills by authorizing the issuance of bonds that will be repaid by a special tax levied on property owners within the project boundaries.

The city will consider establishing a Community Facilities District on the property site. According to Beverly Hills Director of Finance Jeff Muir, a CFD is “a public financing tool authorized under the state’s Mello-Roos Act that allows for the funding of specific public infrastructure and services through

special taxes on the properties that directly benefit,” Muir said. “The special tax is only levied on the properties in the district.”

The planned CFD includes parcels that will contain the Beverly Hilton, conference center, Aman hotel and condominium towers. It does not include the adjacent Waldorf Astoria hotel, Los Angeles Country Club, El Rodeo Elementary School or other properties nearby.

The city will also consider authorizing the issuance of up to \$550 million in bonds to finance the project that would be repaid through the taxes levied within the CFD.

“The ‘not-to-exceed’ bond authorization of \$550 million provides a conservative ceiling, giving the project flexibility for future market conditions while the developer’s actual target for net proceeds is approximately \$260 million,” Muir said.

If the city authorizes the issuance of bonds, the actual bonds issued must still be approved by the City Council at a later date.

Muir emphasized that the bonds will be repaid solely by special taxes levied on the properties within the CFD boundaries. The taxes would be based on residential and non-residential square footage and be paid by property owners, including future condo owners.

According to Muir, the bonds are “special limited obligations of the CFD and not debts of the city or its general fund.”

“The key principle here is that the CFD provides a secure, long-term funding source for these significant public benefits paid for by the development itself,” Muir said. “All costs associated with the formation process are paid for by the developer.”

Additionally, the developer has agreed to a \$10 million contribution towards future public facilities improvements to be made in conjunction with the issuance of bonds.

According to Larry Green, development managing director for Cain International, the One Beverly Hills project includes infrastructure that benefits the public like street and sidewalk improvements on Wilshire and Santa Monica Boulevards, new traffic signals, utility improvements, street trees and the realignment of Merv Griffin Way.

“Community Facilities Districts are a proven way across California to fund essential public improvements,” Green said in a statement. “The proposed CFD at One Beverly Hills is crucial for the delivery of critical infrastructure and public benefits – upgraded streets, utilities and public spaces – while costs are borne only by prop-

erty owners within the project. No other residents or the city take on any financial risk. That is how the Mello-Roos Act is designed to function: helping cities enable developers to finance required public improvements without using public funds. We are fully committed to the project.”

The Beverly Hills City Council voted on July 15 to set an upcoming public hearing to determine whether to create the CFD and authorize the issuance of bonds. Councilman Craig Corman recused himself, stating that he is a member of the Los Angeles Country Club which is within 500 feet of the project. Vice Mayor John Mirisch was the lone “no” vote against moving forward with the possibility of authorizing the bonds.

Mirisch argued that instead of a one-time \$10 million reinvestment in the city, the project should consider increasing the annual environmental mitigation and sustainability fee paid to the city, which is a fee paid to offset potential negative impacts the project may have.

“It wouldn’t have to be a huge amount, but it certainly over the years would be a gift that would keep on giving,” Mirisch said.

The city last created a CFD and levied a special tax in the Golden Triangle and on Rodeo Drive in 2002 to finance upgrades to the area.

“This is a new process for us as a council. None of us have really experienced it yet. I think that good things can come out of it. Look at

Rodeo Drive and the bond that we created there – the significant impact that it had in a positive way for our community,” Mayor Sharona Nazarian said. “I’m hoping that this will also have the same kind of process.”

The Aug. 19 City Council meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in Beverly Hills City Hall, 455 N. Rexford Drive.

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.

Masked agents arrest man on Hillcrest Road in Beverly Hills

From page 1

other municipalities, and alleges that the federal government has engaged in unconstitutional and unlawful stops without reasonable suspicion or probable cause.

“Since these illegal raids started in LA on June 6, I have maintained that every person in the United States, regardless of immigration status, is entitled to constitutional protection from the types of enforcement activities we have seen,” Los Angeles City Attorney Hydee Feldstein Soto said. “We will always stand up to protect our communities and to

uphold the rule of law.”

On July 11, U.S. District Judge Maame Ewusi-Mensah Frimpong granted a temporary restraining order on immigration detentions unless the agent has reasonable suspicion that the person stopped has violated the law. It prohibits agents from making stops solely based on race, language spoken or presence at a particular location. The Trump administration on Aug. 7 filed an emergency appeal asking the Supreme Court to overturn the ruling.

U.S. Sen. Padilla introduces Mental Health for Latinos Act

As the nation observes Minority Mental Health Awareness Month, U.S. Sens. Alex Padilla (D-Calif.) and Ruben Gallego (D-Ariz.), along with U.S. Reps. Andrea Salinas and Nanette Barragán, introduced the Mental Health for Latinos Act, legislation to improve mental health outcomes among Latino communities.

Barriers to mental health care within Latino communities cause far too many individuals to suffer in silence. Only 47.4% of Latino adults ages 18 or older with mental illness received services in 2023. Between 2010-20, the suicide rate among male Latino adults (ages 20-64) increased by 35.7%, and the rate among women specifically

increased by 40.6%.

“No one should suffer in silence,” Padilla said. “We need to break down the barriers that keep Latinos from getting the mental health care they need, when stigma and language access can make it even harder to ask for help. The Mental Health for Latinos Act would improve mental health outcomes by reducing stigma in the Latino community and encouraging people to reach out for help.”

As the nation confronts a worsening mental health crisis, the legislation reinforces the message that there is zero shame in asking for help and that seeking support is a sign of strength. For information, visit padilla.senate.gov.

Street takeovers prompt strong action

From page 4

test, he consented to tell his story in a public service announcement, warning people about the dangers and consequences of street takeovers.

“I never thought it could be me. It was going to be another normal day,” said Chapple Young, dressed in a blue jail-issued jumpsuit in the PSA. “I was doing doughnuts, and that day changed my life forever. Unfortunately, that woman lost her life and it’s something I deeply regret doing and being responsible for.”

The district attorney said the public service announcement is available to Los Angeles-area schools, and he wants as many young people as possible to see Chapple Young’s perspective.

“I would ask every principal of every high school, if you would like a copy of it, we will get you a copy and you should play this to your high school in an assembly,” Hochman said. “I think in Mr. Chapple Young’s announcement ... as he’s going to be serving the next 13 years behind bars for his action ... I’m hoping that might reach some young people before

they show up, before they get harmed, before they even die.”

Street takeovers, which involve hundreds of people spontaneously showing up at a pre-determined location, taking over intersections and performing dangerous stunts with vehicles, have occurred throughout the city and are difficult for police to stop. Hochman said authorities are going after the people who organize street takeovers on social media. He cited a case involving Erick Romero Quintana, 22, who is charged with 16 counts of conspiracy to commit reckless driving. Quintana is accused of organizing 16 street takeovers across South Los Angeles from November 2022 to November 2023 and using social media to notify participants and spectators. On Oct. 28, 2023, Quintana allegedly helped organize three street takeovers that occurred over a period of a few hours.

“Mr. Quintana wasn’t a driver, he wasn’t a spectator, he was the promoter – the social media promoter who thought that by hiding behind his computer, by hiding

behind the internet, we weren’t going to find him,” Hochman said. “Maybe he thought we didn’t care about what he was doing on social media to promote this illegal, destructive and ultimately deadly type of practice, but we do care. He’s been now charged with 16 counts of conspiracy to commit reckless driving. That means that he conspired, he agreed with another person or multiple people, to commit these various illegal acts. What this illustrates is we are going to go after different participants.”

Los Angeles Police Department Deputy Chief Donald Graham confirmed street takeovers are becoming more frequent, and added that the LAPD is working with law enforcement partners to stop them. He said the LAPD has responded to 496 street takeovers so far in 2025 has made 15 felony arrests and 200 misdemeanor arrests.

“This is not merely the ‘racing for pinks’ thing we recall from the movie ‘Grease.’ This has evolved into organized crime, organized retail theft ... and obviously, as we’ve discussed, violence and loss



photo courtesy of Melrose Action

A Jan. 7, 2023, street takeover blocked La Cienega Boulevard and Third Street in Beverly Grove.

of life,” Graham said. “We will continue to investigate those crimes, and we will find you.”

Individuals who participate in street takeovers face reckless driving charges with up to 90 days in county jail and a \$1,000 fine, and speed exhibition charges, which carry a sentence of up to 90 days in jail and a \$1,000 fine. Hochman issued a specific warning to specta-

tors at street takeovers, stating they will be arrested, charged, jailed and fined for simply being present.

“If you treat our streets like your own personal playground, you will find yourself in a courtroom,” Hochman added. “We want to prevent any further tragedies from happening and we will continue to work together to curb illegal street takeovers.”

Defendant charged in Hollywood hit-and-run

From page 1

on July 22 at his residence a few blocks from the crash scene, Holmes said. He declined to provide the specific location. Police found the Mercedes G-Wagon at an auto body repair shop in South Los Angeles where Robins took it after the collision. Some of the parts had already been removed and a portion of the exterior was spray-painted.

Robins is charged with vehicular manslaughter with gross negligence and hit-and-run driving resulting in death or serious injury, both felonies, as well as misdemeanor driving on a suspended or revoked license due to a prior DUI conviction. Holmes said excessive speed was the primary factor in the collision. Police do not know if Robins was under the influence of alcohol or drugs at the time. No information was available about Robin’s previous DUI conviction.

The victim’s husband, Kris Edwards, attended the hearing on Aug. 12. Reached afterward, he said Robins’ bail should have been much higher and he is upset the defendant remains free. The Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office

asked that bail in the case be set at \$100,000, but the initial bail amount was upheld. The bail system requires a defendant to post 10% of the amount in order to be released – in this case \$5,000.

“It cost me more to bury my wife than it did for him to get out of jail and be free,” Edwards said. “He got out for \$5,000 and it blows my mind. He took a life, fled the scene and then tried to cover it up. He tried to get away with it.”

Los Angeles City Councilman Hugo Soto-Martinez, 13th District, said Edwards’ death is a tragedy.

“In Los Angeles, traffic violence kills more people each year than homicides, yet we don’t treat it with the same urgency,” Soto-Martinez said. “We need real accountability for those who commit acts of traffic violence, and we must invest in structural solutions that make our streets safer. Every death like this is preventable, and we cannot allow more innocent lives to be needlessly lost on our roads.”

Robins faces six years in prison and a \$10,000 fine on the vehicular

manslaughter with gross negligence charge, four to six years in prison for the felony hit-and-run charge and up to six months for driving on a suspended or revoked license.

Edwards said the family is planning to file a civil lawsuit against the defendant and is working with attorneys and a private investigator. He added that it has not been easy to obtain information about Robins, adding the defendant, “scrubbed his social media after the collision.” Edwards said he saw Robins for the first time at the hearing on Aug. 12 and it was “overwhelming.”

“It was good to put a face to it, to get a sense of who I am dealing with. I am going to be going to court for every hearing and it’s going to be a long case,” he said. “But it’s hard not to go straight to anger. In a small way, it was a feeling of relief. [My wife] taught me not to be angry, so as much as I want to be angry I am not going to. I’m trying to keep her story alive and tell as many people as I can about what happened to my wife, and keep shining a spotlight on what he did.”

Mail thefts plague WeHo condominium building

From page 2

sheriff’s department’s position and called for more individual accountability.

“These days, if something is stolen, it’s most likely you’re never going to get it back. I see no accountability, like there used to be,” Waack said. “I wish there was more that they could do, but [it’s] all they could do.”

To further mitigate the thefts, Waack said the HOA is in the process of installing a second door to the mailroom that will have an automatic lock, expected to be in place in a few months. Residents have also been encouraged to notify neighbors immediately when mail arrives and take neighbors’

packages directly to their doors.

Lucas Watanabe, a spokesperson for the Los Angeles Division of the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, said the division cannot share details regarding specific mail thefts. However, residents concerned about mail security can rent mailboxes at a local post office, should remove mail from mailboxes daily and hand any outgoing mail directly to mail carriers.

“The Inspection Service is actively monitoring this area, and we encourage residents to report any mail theft to us by either calling (877)876-2455 or by filing a report online at mailtheft.uspis.gov,” he said.

BHUSD launches new website

The Beverly Hills Unified School District announced the launch of a newly redesigned district and school website, completing seven sites in two months. The refresh delivers a modern look, improved navigation and new features to better connect students, families, staff, alumni and the community.

The new website includes a unified district calendar – a single location where all external school events are posted. In collaboration with the Beverly Hills High School Alumni Association, a new Beverly Hills High School Virtual Hall of Fame transforms the existing on-campus display into an accessible, interactive online experience.

Additionally, one unified menu easily allows users to switch between school sites

“We designed this website refresh with our community in mind,” BHUSD public information officer Colby Gilardian said. “From a unified calendar to an interactive alumni hall of fame, these features make it easier to find what you need

while showcasing the pride and excellence of our district.”

Superintendent Dr. Alex Cherniss emphasized the district’s commitment to continual improvement.

“Our schools deserve a digital presence that reflects the quality of education and opportunity we provide,” Cherniss said. “This launch is a major step forward in making sure our communication tools match the exceptional work happening every day in BHUSD.”

For information, visit bhUSD.org.

Supervisors plan to expand education on vaccines

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved a motion on Aug. 5 by Supervisor Lindsey Horvath, 3rd District, to protect community health and maximize local resources for vaccine education and access as federal funding for immunization programs face cuts. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Hilda Solis, 1st District.

Los Angeles County’s Department of Public Health is facing a 26% reduction to its Vaccine Preventable Disease Control Program under a new Centers for Disease Control and Prevention funding agreement. The reductions threaten critical local efforts to educate residents and prevent the spread of communicable diseases, the supervisors

said. Measles cases in California have already surpassed last year’s total, signaling the urgent need to maintain outreach, especially in underserved communities.

“[This] action is about keeping people healthy and preventing the spread of disease – something that should never be up for debate,” Horvath said. “Even as federal funding is pulled back, Los Angeles County is stepping up, stretching every resource we have to make sure communities stay informed and protected.”

The board directed the Department of Public Health to report back in 60 days on the impact of federal vaccine funding cuts, to identify high-need communities and outline a plan to sustain

services. DPH will also coordinate with partners to expand vaccine education, fight misinformation and connect residents with low-cost options.

“Now more than ever, as the safety net for our most vulnerable, the County of Los Angeles must be prepared for the fiscal and ever changing federal policy challenges,” Solis said. “[This] motion ensures we move intentionally and proactively to ensure everyone, including families with children, older adults and residents with underlying health conditions are adequately informed and protected from often life-threatening, vaccine-preventable diseases.”

For information, visit ph.lacounty.gov/vaccines.

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| 16 | N | E | 17 | R | A | N | K | 18 | H | A | U | L | E | R | |
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| 22 | S | A | R | A | 23 | O | R | F | F | | | | | | |
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Crossword Puzzle by Myles Mellor

Across

1. Goose, in Tuscany
4. Light bulb unit
8. “Yippee!”
13. Fool
14. 17th US state
15. Metallic auto-trim
16. Compass pt.
17. Foul
18. Truck
19. Tammy Wynette hit
22. Title girl in a 1986 Starship hit
23. “Carmina Burana” composer
24. Really bad
28. In a way
33. Golden state, for short
35. Codger
36. Martina McBride hit
42. Succotash ingredient
43. Inner self
44. Disarrange, in a way
48. Gloomy state
52. Crossed bars
54. Part of the Corn Belt
55. Dixie Chicks hit
61. Meyers, for example
62. Spelling contests
63. Slate workers, for short
64. Car bars
65. Sailors
66. Born (Fr.)
67. ___ manual

Down

1. “The ___ File” spy thriller
2. Cambridge grad.
3. Fatigued
4. Promise
5. The Pequod’s captain
6. Baby
7. Asian capital
8. Landings
9. Jack-in-the-pulpit, e.g.
10. Granada greeting
11. Portentous signal
12. Done, to Donne
15. Blow hard
20. Emerging
21. Spanish for gold
25. Directional assistance
26. A pint, maybe
27. Veterans Memorial designer Maya
29. Pacific island group
30. Casting requirement
31. Ode title starter
32. It’s a mess
34. Fed. pharmaceutical watchdogs
36. Post-E.R. place
37. ___ compos mentis
38. A.M.A. members
39. Trio from Cincinnati
40. Actress, Long
41. Mil. authority
45. Some are secret
46. Liable to snap
47. Laotian money
49. Geological epoch
50. Largest country in Western Europe
51. Mouthed off
53. Monies owed
55. Moistens
56. Nagy of Hungary
57. Forbidding
58. Uncluttered
59. “Buona ___” (Italian greeting)
60. Shampoo in a can noise
61. Shaq’s alma mater

answers on page 22

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

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