



Sunny, with
temps in the
mid-80s

BEVERLY PRESS

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Volume 35 No. 32

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

August 7, 2025

BHUSD considers proposal to back Israel, fight antisemitism

■ District may fly Israeli flags on campuses

BY TABOR BREWSTER

The Beverly Hills Unified School District Board of Education on Aug. 5 discussed a resolution to combat antisemitism and strengthen the district's support for Israel. The resolution, titled "Combating Antisemitism through Education,

Awareness, Remembrance, and Support" includes initiatives such as recognizing Jewish Heritage Month in May, commemorating Holocaust Remembrance Day, celebrating the state of Israel, "recognizing the true Jewish history of the state of Israel" and displaying the

See **BHUSD** page 21



photo by Tabor Brewster

The BHUSD is considering a resolution that would strengthen support for Israel. The city has shown support with an Oct. 7 memorial flag display.

Towering trees return to Miracle Mile medians

■ Decorative signs also planned on Museum Row

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Palm tree-lined medians are returning to the Miracle Mile as part of the final stages of Metro's D Line Extension project. The first segment of the subway line from Wilshire/Western to Wilshire/La Cienega is anticipated to open by the end of the year, and crews are repairing Wilshire Boulevard and reinstalling the medians that were an important fixture before subway construction.

Metro's contractor for the first segment of the subway extension project – Skanska-Traylor-Shea – is planting approximately 200 trees, with approximately 100 delivered or planted so far, Metro spokesman Dave Sotero said. A portion of the trees, which include a mixture of palms and shade trees such as London plane, silk floss and fern pines, are being planted on the sidewalks and station plazas, Sotero said.

"Replacing street medians and



photo by Edwin Folven

Palms are being planted on the medians along museum Row, where the Wilshire/Fairfax Metro subway station is located.

trees were always part of Metro's long-term plans to restore street conditions following construction of the project. What's more, Metro adopted a tree policy in 2022 for its transit projects that commits the agency to planting twice as many trees as were removed during the construction period,"

Sotero said. "This measure is an important part of Metro's sustainable tree replacement strategy when tree removal is deemed unavoidable to build our projects. Metro's tree policy also prioritizes California natives and includes a list of desired trees. A mixture of

See **Medians** page 21

WeHo council provides Fountain Avenue update

■ Improvements recommended ahead of public meeting

BY SAM MULICK

At the Aug. 4 West Hollywood City Council meeting, City Manager David Wilson gave councilmembers safety recommendations for Fountain Avenue.

The discussions came in the wake of a July 10 hit-and-run on

Fountain Avenue that claimed the life of 27-year-old bicyclist Blake Ackerman. At the beginning of the Aug. 4 meeting, Mayor Chelsea Byers announced the meeting would be adjourned in remembrance of Ackerman, and Councilwoman Lauren Meister read a message from a friend of the cyclist. Ackerman's death, along with other recent traffic collisions, have reignited debates in the city for increased bike lanes on Fountain Avenue.

In recent years, West Hollywood added signalized traffic crosswalks in major traffic corridors to promote pedestrian safety, including on Fountain Avenue, City Manager David Wilson said at the meeting. The speed limit was reduced on Fountain Avenue to 30 mph and radar speed signs were added. The city also installed in-road warning lights on crosswalks on Fountain Avenue, which flash when a pedestrian is crossing, Wilson said.

Wilson also recommended the council implement more immediate solutions to Fountain Avenue before the completion of the entire streetscape project. He recommended eliminating peak hour parking restrictions on Fountain Avenue, changing traffic signal timing cycles to automatically cycle from green to red instead of relying on sensors and to implement longer pedestrian intervals at crosswalks, which would provide additional time for pedestrians to cross before a traffic light changes.

Vice Mayor John Heilman encouraged city staff to analyze how removing peak parking restrictions on Fountain Avenue would impact already congested traffic at the intersection of Holloway Drive and La Cienega Boulevard.

See **WeHo Council** page 22



photo by Edwin Folven

West Hollywood has installed safety measures on Fountain Avenue over the years including high-visibility crosswalks and radar speed signs.



photo by Edwin Folven

Hundreds of people came together with the LAPD at the National Night Out event at Pan Pacific Park.

Communities unite for National Night Out

■ LAPD, BHPD and WeHo Sheriff's Station host events

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Hundreds of people gathered in Pan Pacific Park on Aug. 5 for National Night Out Against Crime hosted by the Los Angeles

Police Department's Wilshire Division.

Music played, kids enjoyed a bounce house and games and community members mingled with police officers. Pink's Hot Dogs, Rocco's Neighborhood Pizza and Chick-Fil-A served food, and booths offered information about city services and

See **National Night Out** page 22



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FLAVORS OF
MICHOCÁN

CALENDAR

‘I Am Putin’

“I Am Putin” makes its world premiere at Theatre 68 Arts Complex (The Rosalie Theatre) from Friday, Aug. 8, through Sunday, Aug. 17. The new play explores the cost of war, power and rebellion, delving into the heart of tyranny, dissent and the human toll of authoritarian power. “I Am Putin” dares to look beyond the headlines, stepping inside the psyche of one of the world’s most polarizing leaders. It tells Putin’s story and the stories of those who resist him: a defiant military commander who dares to revolt and two young Russians risking everything in pursuit of freedom. The play asks, “do we hear their cries?” and “what happens to a nation and its people under the weight of silence, fear and propaganda?” Showtimes are at 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday; 2:30 p.m., Sunday. Tickets start at \$20. 5112 Lankershim Blvd., North Hollywood. theatresixtyeight.stagey.net/projects/12552?tab=tickets.

‘Achilles in Arcadia’

Enjoy the world premiere engagement of “Achilles in Arcadia” running from Friday, Aug. 8, through Sunday, Sept. 21, at the Skylight Theatre. Written by Chris Collins and directed by Kiff Scholl, the play is set in Arcadia, a city in the San Gabriel Valley with a population that is 59% Asian American. “Achilles in Arcadia” is a tale of love and revenge – hell hath no fury like a son scorned. Admission is \$20 on Fridays; \$25 on Saturdays and Sundays. Showtimes are at 8 p.m.,



Friday and Saturday; 2 p.m., Sunday. 1816 N. Vermont Ave. (213)761-7061, achillesinarcadia.com.

‘Wine in the Wilderness’

Theatricum Botanicum presents “Wine in the Wilderness” by Alice Childress running from Saturday, Aug. 9, through Sunday, Oct. 12. As race riots occur on the streets outside his Harlem home in 1964, painter Bill Jameson works feverishly to complete a triptych depicting his vision of Black womanhood. As he struggles to find final inspiration, his friends discover the perfect model in Tommy, a woman they meet at a bar after she’s been burned out of her home in the riots. Jameson’s artistic vision is challenged by the arrival of the unexpected muse, who refuses to be bound by shallow assumptions of Black womanhood. Showtimes are at 7:30 p.m., with a 3:30 p.m. matinee on Oct. 5. See schedule for dates. Tickets start at \$15. 1419 N. Topanga Canyon Blvd. (310)455-3723, theatricum.com.



Gipsy Kings

The Grammy-Award winning Gipsy Kings featuring Nicolas Reyes return to the Greek Theatre on Saturday, Aug. 9, at 8 p.m. Led by Reyes, the Gipsy Kings continue to dominate the world music charts, melding deep-heated flamenco, rumba, salsa and pop and continuing a tradition. The band has embraced western classics by Bob Marley, the Doobie Brothers and The Eagles while incorporating dramatic cues from Brazilian and Caribbean culture. Tickets start at \$71.35. 2700 N. Vermont Ave., lagreektheatre.com.

‘Classic Cars and Coffee’

Car lovers are invited to Forest Lawn-Glendale for the second annual “Classic Cars and Coffee” on Sunday, Aug. 10, from 7:30-10:30 a.m. The event will include classic cars, light refreshments and prizes. It coincides with the closing of the “Persona: Exploring Self-Portraiture” exhibition, featuring the work of more than 20 contemporary artists and historic self-portraits spanning 125 years. Admission and parking are free. The car show will be held in the Forest Lawn Museum parking lot. 1712 S Glendale Ave. forestlawn.com/museum.



L.A. Filmforum

Los Angeles Filmforum presents “Restoring Memory: East Asian Narratives in Non-Fiction Shorts” on Sunday Aug. 10, at 1:30 p.m. at 2220 Arts + Archives. Marking the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II, the program showcases three non-fiction essay films by Changmin Lee, Kyuri Jeon and Lee Kai-Chung that explore the layered interplay of history, memory and identity in East Asia’s wartime legacies. Tickets are \$15. 2220 Beverly Blvd. lafilmforum.org.

‘Broadway Babes’ benefit singalong

Celebration Theatre is holding the “Broadway Babes” singalong, a high-energy fundraiser on Sunday, Aug. 10, from 4-5:15 p.m. at Beaches Tropicana in West Hollywood. The 21

and older event includes Broadway performances and plenty of opportunities for the community to sing to benefit a hilarious world premiere production about queer love and chosen family. Celebration Theatre is partnering with IAMA Theatre Company on the upcoming co-production of “Foursome by Matthew Scott Montgomery” and hopes to raise \$10,000 during the afternoon of musical mayhem and community joy. Special guests include Bruce Vilanch, Montgomery, Sam Pancake and Tonatiuh. Tickets start at \$25. 8911 Santa Monica Blvd. givebutter.com/singalong.

Miracle Mile Chamber

Join the Greater Miracle Mile Chamber of Commerce for a “Tour and Treats” at The Elan Hotel Evening Social on Thursday, Aug. 14, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Network with GMMCC members and enter a raffle for a chance to win prizes from Kamla Hotels. Tickets are \$25 for members, \$55 for nonmembers. 8435 Beverly Blvd. miraclemilechamber.org/event/tour-and-treats-elan-evening-social-2025.

Japanese ceramic art

Japan Foundation, Los Angeles welcomes Kumamoto-based ceramist Kenta Takaki for an artist talk on Thursday, Aug. 14, at 7 p.m. Amakusa porcelain inspired Takaki to emphasize the purity of the clay and the grace of vessel forms. His works range from elegant pure white porcelain vessels to dishes that mimic paper and sculptural works depicting various forms of tofu. The program will open with a presentation by Japanese art historian Meher McArthur, followed by a conversation with the artist. Admission is free but registration is required. 5700 Wilshire Blvd, Ste. 100. jflalc.org.

Contracting webinar

L.A. County is holding a series of virtual training sessions for small businesses from Thursday, Aug. 14, through Thursday, Aug. 28. The “Get Contract Ready with the County of Los Angeles” training academy focuses on techniques, principles and best practices from Los Angeles County staff and the Contractor Development and Bonding Program. Admission is free but registration is required. eventbrite.com/e/2025-get-contract-ready-with-the-county-of-los-angeles-tickets-1492808122279.

Robert Landau Art Deco exhibit

Denberg Fine Arts is holding a special closing event for “Art Deco Los Angeles Robert Landau Photographs” on Saturday, Aug. 16, from 3-5 p.m. The event includes a private exhibition walk-through with Landau and scholar Alan Hess. 417 N. San Vicente Blvd. (310)360-9360, denbergfinearts.com/current-exhibition.

Virginia Robinson Gardens

The Virginia Robinson Gardens is holding “Sound Bowl Meditation” with Devon Cunningham on Saturday, Aug. 16, from 2-3:30 p.m. Participants can embark on a meditative journey of pure relaxation through sound bowl healing meditation. The sound bowls energize chakras within the body and work with each person’s individual needs and intentions to align and create a deeper connection. Sound bowl healing meditation relieves stress, anxiety and insomnia. The cost is \$35. 1008 Elden Way. robinsongardens.org.



photo by Tabor Brewster

Many senior residents of the current building at 412 N. Oakhurst expressed concerns over the project that will replace the existing apartment building.

Beverly Hills denies appeal of 412 N. Oakhurst project

■ Council votes 3-2 to move forward with development

BY TABOR BREWSTER

The Beverly Hills City Council voted 3-2 on Aug. 5 to deny an appeal contesting the Planning Commission’s approval of an eight-story residential building at 412 N. Oakhurst Drive.

Mayor Sharona Nazarian, Councilman Lester Friedman and Councilwoman Mary Wells voted to deny the appeal and uphold the project’s approval. Vice Mayor John Mirisch and Councilman Craig Corman voted against denying the appeal.

The project sits directly on the border between Beverly Hills and Los Angeles, and required approval from both jurisdictions. The Beverly Hills Planning Commission approved the project on Dec. 12, 2024. The plans have also been approved by the city of Los Angeles.

The building will contain 52 units, 12 of which will be located

within the city of Beverly Hills. Ten of the units in the building will be reserved for affordable housing, with three in Beverly Hills. The affordable housing units allow the project to exceed usual density under the density bonus law. Two levels of subterranean parking and one surface-level structure would provide 75 parking spaces, 18 of which will be in Beverly Hills. The building also includes a gym, rec room, storage space and a second-floor courtyard. The project was designed by Los Angeles architect Zoltan Pali, who designed the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts.

Many residents of the current building at the address – which will be demolished to make way for the new project – expressed concerns over their displacement. The current building is home to many senior residents. Rabbi Ruben Milikan filed the appeal on behalf of the concerned residents, with the goal of overturning the approval. However, the appeal was ultimately denied on Aug. 5.

L.A. County Assessor’s Office receives top national honors

The Los Angeles County Assessor’s Office was awarded three top national achievement awards by the National Association of Counties that spotlight innovation in government programs.

The awards serve as a model for best practices in public service nationwide that strengthen communities and enhance the lives of residents. The Assessor’s Office received awards for its Transition to a New Technology Platform, Online Filing for Disaster Relief Claims initiative and the Assessor Data Science Program.

The Assessor’s Office successfully transitioned to a new \$120 million cloud-based technology system, a major milestone in the department’s decade-long mission to modernize its technology infrastructure. The new system replaced a decades-old DOS-based mainframe that still featured green screens.

With the Assessor’s Office’s program for online filing for disaster relief claims, the assessor’s Public

Affairs and Information Technology divisions collaborated to build a new online submission system that has resulted in thousands of property owners receiving property tax relief and cash refunds in a timely manner.

The Assessor’s Data Science Program offers groundbreaking, data-driven solutions aimed at improving transparency, equity and accuracy in property assessments across Los Angeles County.

“These awards are a testament not just to innovation, but to the dedication of public servants working every day to deliver smarter, more responsive government,” L.A. County Assessor Jeff Prang said. “It is a tribute to the hard-working men and women of the Assessor’s Office. We’re honored to receive the recognition and will continue to find more efficient ways to provide excellent public service to the residents of Los Angeles county.”

For information, visit assessor.lacounty.gov.

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Help Shape the Future of Fountain Avenue!

Fountain Avenue Streetscape Project Community Meeting

Tuesday, August 19, 2025, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Plummer Park Community Center, Rooms 5 & 6
7377 Santa Monica Boulevard

Learn more and sign up for updates:
go.weho.org/fountain



Mark Mead cleared of misconduct by BHUSD

■ Students express concerns about future of KBEV

BY TABOR BREWSTER

The Beverly Hills Unified School District announced on Aug. 1 that Mark Mead, the district’s executive director of school safety, has been cleared of wrongdoing following a third-party investigation into his conduct regarding an incident on the Beverly Hills High School campus in November 2024.

Mead was accused by a student of assault during a pro-Trump rally held by students on campus following the 2024 presidential election. A video uploaded by KBEV, the school’s student-run news broadcast service, appeared to show Mead with his hand around the student’s neck. However, the district said that the findings of the investigation, conducted by Best Best and Krieger Law, “confirm that the concerns brought forward in this matter were not substantiated.”

Mead will remain in the school district in a different role.

Following reporting by KBEV on the alleged assault in late 2024, journalism teacher and KBEV director Romeo Carey was placed on paid leave for three months before being reinstated. Many students, parents and the ACLU of Southern California expressed concerns that the suspension was a potential act of retaliation and censorship.

In June, the district announced Carey’s retirement. Shortly after his

departure, the district no longer allowed KBEV students to facilitate the live public broadcast of BHUSD Board of Education meetings – a longtime practice that students said provided them with real-world experience. The district instead created its own YouTube channel to livestream the public meetings, with comments disabled.

According to BHUSD Board Member Russell Stuart, the decision to remove KBEV from the meetings was made by the board.

“We made the decision over the summer because Romeo Carey had tendered his resignation and we were kind of in flux when it came to instructors,” Stuart said.

In an interview, Stuart added that the district is considering a realignment of KBEV’s focus under the helm of its new instructor Kyle Newman. Newman is a filmmaker and author known for the 2009 comedy “Fanboys.”

The KBEV studio is also currently undergoing a renovation that Stuart said is essential to maintain a state-of-the-art facility and expand its capabilities. However, students, parents and alumni have expressed concerns over the potential loss of equipment and archived footage from the program’s 56-year history. Stuart said the district is working to digitize all of the tapes that were found in the studio.

“We’re definitely not going away from the news, or from the Norman News and the Norman Update – we’re always going to do that. But there’s been a lot of interest in expanding the offerings of the KBEV class,” Stuart said. “The pro-

gram, at least from my 10,000 foot view, was very one-dimensional.”

Stuart said that students have expressed interest in a program that includes a broader focus on entertainment production in addition to news. However, current and former KBEV students are expressing concerns over the future of the program.

A current KBEV student, who did not wish to be identified out of fear of retaliation, said district leadership has warned student journalists against publishing news that reflects poorly on the school district and its employees.

A current parent of a KBEV student, who also wished not to be identified, said the district has shown disrespect and lack of regard for students by eliminating their role in school board meetings and restructuring the program without their input. The parent said the Board of Education and current administration has overlooked the feelings of many KBEV students who found their place in high school through the program.

Nikkie Sedaghat, a class of 2010 graduate of Beverly Hills High School who was involved in KBEV for four years, said the decision to remove students from the board meetings was a loss for the program.

“It’s a shame, because the students are responsible for producing and creating that content. To tell students that they can no longer film those programs has a big effect on how they produce future content and what becomes of the actual studio,” Sedaghat said.



photo by Tabor Brewster

Current and former students in Beverly Hills High School’s KBEV broadcast program are expressing concerns after longtime teacher Romeo Carey’s departure.

On Aug. 5, the BHUSD Board of Education approved a policy that expands district oversight of district-affiliated social media pages, including KBEV. The resolution prohibits “personal opinions or commentary.”

Sedaghat added that she is worried about the future of the program given the board’s recent actions.

“Without giving students the freedom and the rights to create the content, you’re sending a message that their speech, that their thoughts, that their ideas are no longer allowed to be broadcast,” Sedaghat said.

Class of 2012 alumnus Max Schwartz credited his success in high school and at the USC Annenberg School of Journalism to the KBEV program and Carey’s leadership. He echoed Sedaghat’s concerns over the future of the program.

“It’s important for the students to

be able to learn how to do things in that kind of environment,” Schwartz said. He added that KBEV students’ participation in board meetings is an essential lesson in the importance of the Brown Act – which mandates that meetings of local legislative bodies be open to the public.

Both former students agreed that KBEV was a foundational experience in high school. Schwartz described it as “the crown jewel of Beverly Hills High School.”

“KBEV shaped me in more ways outside of school than it even did in school, with the guidance and leadership of Romeo Carey as a mentor and as a leader,” Sedaghat said. “KBEV was seen as a safe place. People wanted to go there. It was enjoyable to be there. It was student-led, and we were free to create the content that we wanted. That kind of independence at that age in high school is really formative.”

L.A. lays out blueprint for wildfire recovery

Los Angeles County leaders on Aug. 4 unveiled “L.A. County Forward: Blueprint for Rebuilding,” a comprehensive roadmap focused on unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County, where many of the neighborhoods hardest hit by the January wildfires are located. Previewed in July, the blueprint fully details a coordinated roadmap to accelerate recovery, create conditions for an equitable reconstruction and give residents greater clarity, certainty and support on the path to returning home.

As the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers completes debris-removal operations, Los Angeles County is stepping forward with a new plan to guide the critical next phase of wildfire recovery. At its core, the county’s plan is centered on actions that reflect current needs and help pave the path to reconstruction, including lowering building costs, speeding permitting and inspections and protecting communities from future fire danger.

“As we turn the page from recovery to rebuilding, we’re doing it with a clear plan, strong partnerships and the urgency this moment demands. This report creates a step-by-step guide to accelerate rebuild-



photo by Edwin Folven

Neighborhoods in Altadena and Pacific Palisades are preparing to move into the rebuilding phase.

ing and provide support to impacted families,” Gov. Gavin Newsom said.

“The blueprint is an essential roadmap forward, a shift from debris removal to reconstruction that will help residents and businesses navigate the path home with greater clarity and support,” added Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Chair Kathryn Barger, 5th District.

Key initiatives include supporting a feasible financial path to

return, accelerating permitting and inspections, growing the pool of builders and materials to achieve scale and lower costs, ensuring critical infrastructure is in place and mobilizing the workforce and coordinating delivery. It also seeks to bring back everyday services and public assets, and restore essential services such as grocery stores, childcare, health care and critical public infrastructure.

For information, visit recovery.lacounty.gov.

New county law sets maximum temperature for housing units

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved an ordinance on Aug. 4 establishing a maximum indoor temperature for rental units in unincorporated areas of the county. The ordinance, the first of its kind in the region, will protect renters from extreme heat.

Introduced by Supervisor Hilda Solis, 1st District, and supported by Supervisor Lindsey Horvath, 3rd District, the measure sets a maximum indoor temperature of 82 degrees Fahrenheit in units. The measure also gives tenants the right to install portable cooling devices such as plug-in air conditioners, fans or blackout curtains without fear of eviction, retaliation or additional charges. Additionally, the ordinance protects immigrant tenants by prohibiting landlords from using passive or portable cooling devices as a reason to raise rent, charge fees or engage in harassment or eviction.

“We know that extreme heat is not just uncomfortable. It is dead-

ly. As climate change accelerates, our communities are on the front lines of intensifying heat waves,” Solis said. “Everyone deserves to feel safe and stay healthy in their own home, and [this] action makes that a reality.”

The ordinance responds to worsening climate conditions across Los Angeles County. Unincorporated areas of the San Gabriel, San Fernando and Antelope valleys are experiencing rising temperatures and longer heat waves.

“As climate change intensifies and temperatures rise, Los Angeles County is taking bold action to protect renters and safeguard community health,” Horvath added. “Setting a maximum indoor temperature of 82 degrees isn’t a luxury – it’s a basic right. Everyone deserves to feel safe in their own home. This ordinance puts us on a path to ensure entire units are protected from extreme heat and establishes a public health standard rooted in science, equity and care.”



photo by Tabor Brewster

The Beverly Hills Police Officers Association alleges that Beverly Hills is facing a public safety crisis – a claim that the city has denied.

Beverly Hills OKs contract with BHPD management

■ Negotiations continue with Police Officers Association

BY TABOR BREWSTER

The city of Beverly Hills on Aug. 5 approved a labor agreement with the Beverly Hills Police Management Association, which represents Beverly Hills Police Department captains and lieutenants.

According to the city, the four-year agreement includes a 5% pay increase for each year, additional paid time off and an increase in deferred compensation.

“We are very pleased to reach this agreement with the PMA. Public safety will always be our most important responsibility and priority.”

*-Beverly Hills Mayor
Sharona Nazarian*

“We are very pleased to reach this agreement with the PMA,” Mayor Sharona Nazarian said. “Public safety will always be our most important responsibility and priority.”

Although the city approved the contract with one police union in the city, the Beverly Hills Police Officers Association – which represents sergeants and officers – remains in negotiations. The negotiations take place amid increased tension between the BHPOA and the city.

BHPD Chief Mark Stainbrook has been accused of retaliating against BHPOA leadership by interfering with potential post-retirement employment opportunities.

The BHPOA recently created a website, saferbeverlyhills.com, which encourages residents to support the union’s demands in labor negotiations.

“Your tax dollars pay for a budget to fund 159 sworn officers. Today, we have just 131. That’s a 21% shortfall – and a dangerous gap when every second counts,” the website reads. “Worse, our tenured, trained and highly qualified officers are now leaving for competing cities, with

higher wages and a clear public safety contract.”

The website also claims that police officers in Beverly Hills make substantially less salary than officers in cities including Irvine and Santa Monica.

“Beverly Hills is short on officers, low on morale, and it’s only getting worse,” the website reads. “Without a competitive contract, we can’t hire or keep the talent needed to protect this city. The City Council’s delay puts public safety at risk – plain and simple.”

The city released a statement refuting the claims made by the BHPOA.

“The safety and security of Beverly Hills is not at risk. With a current annual Police Department budget of \$117 million (an increase of well over \$30 million since 2020), Beverly Hills has always prioritized public safety above all else. Throughout the city, crime has decreased an average of 20% year over year,” the city’s statement read. “Currently, the city is offering a four-year agreement to the BHPOA providing a more than 22% increase in compensation. With leading response times, state-of-the-art technology and some of the most well compensated officers in the state, the Beverly Hills Police Department continues to set the standard for law enforcement agencies across the country.”

The city also claimed that the Beverly Hills Police Officers Association disseminated “inaccurate information” in regards to salaries compared to other cities and other public safety issues.

BHPOA vice president Zachary Travnitz argued it was the city’s statement that was inaccurate.

“Some of the statements in there [by the city] are not exactly factual and some of them may be slanted. We will be updating our website to reflect our disagreement with some of the comments made in their statement,” he said.

The City Council on Aug. 5 also approved an increase to signing bonuses awarded to new officers to bolster recruitment. The updated program will provide a \$45,000 bonus to officers who transfer to the BHPD from other departments and a \$35,000 bonus to new trainees. The city previously offered \$20,000 to officers who transferred from other departments and \$15,000 to trainees.

Gunman arrested for shooting man who drove into crowd outside nightclub

■ Suspect faces two felony charges

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Police arrested a man on Aug. 3 who allegedly shot a driver accused of crashing his car into a crowd of people outside a nightclub in East Hollywood on July 19.

The suspected gunman, Efrain Villalobos, 28, of Lawndale, was captured by security cameras at the scene and images of him were widely broadcast by the media. Villalobos, who wore distinctive large loop ear gauges, was identified by police shortly after the crime. On Aug. 3, police received a tip that he may be in the city of Redondo Beach, and officers from the Redondo Beach Police Department took Villalobos into custody around 1:15 p.m. Los Angeles Police Department detec-

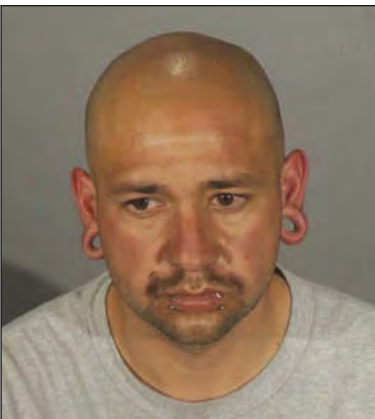


photo courtesy of the LAPD

Efrain Villalobos is accused of shooting a man who drove into a crowd on July 19, injuring 37 people.



photo by Edwin Folven

The crash and shooting occurred outside The Vermont Hollywood, located on Vermont Avenue just south of Santa Monica Boulevard.

tives responded and took custody of Villalobos, who is being held without bail. The Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office charged him with assault with a firearm and possession of a firearm by a felon, both felonies. He pleaded not guilty on Aug. 5 and has a preliminary hearing set for Aug. 15.

Fernando Ramirez, 29, the man accused of driving his Nissan Versa into the crowd outside The Vermont Hollywood nightclub, is facing 74 felony charges, including 37 counts of attempted murder and 37 counts of assault with a deadly weapon. Thirty-seven people were injured during the incident, including multiple people hospitalized in critical or serious condition. People outside the club pulled Ramirez from his vehicle after the crash and punched and kicked him. Villalobos walked

up and shot Ramirez in the back before fleeing the scene, police said.

Ramirez, of San Clemente, was among the people hospitalized after the crash. He was released to police on July 29 and placed in the Men’s Central Jail. Ramirez is being held on \$37.2 million bail and is scheduled to appear in court for arraignment on Sept. 4.

The investigation determined that Ramirez was ejected from the nightclub prior to returning and driving into the crowd. His vehicle also struck people standing at a taco stand and in a valet area outside the club, located on Vermont Avenue just south of Santa Monica Boulevard. The incident remains under investigation. Anyone with information is urged to call LAPD detectives at (213)484-3451.

Soulja Boy arrested in Melrose area on gun charge

■ Rapper released pending outcome of investigation

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

A 35-year-old rapper known as Soulja Boy was arrested in the Melrose area on Aug. 3 after police pulled over a vehicle in which he was a passenger around 2:30 a.m. and found a firearm.

The rapper, whose name is DeAndre Cortez Way, was booked

at the LAPD’s Wilshire Division and later released. Formal charges are pending, and the case remains under investigation.

The vehicle was pulled over by Wilshire Division officers near Melrose and Genesee avenues. It is unclear whether Way possessed the gun or it was found in the car, and no information was provided about

the other occupants. Way, a Chicago hip-hop artist known for his song “Crank That (Soulja Boy),” has a previous arrest for firearm possession and pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge.

Anyone with information is urged to call the Wilshire Division at (213)473-0476. During weekends and offhours, call (877)LPD247.

Man found dead on Fairfax Ave.

A man in his 50s was found dead on the street outside 1065 Fairfax Avenue in West Hollywood around 6 p.m. on Aug. 4. According to the Sgt. Luevano of the West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station, the man was lying on the ground and his fingers appeared to be turning blue. Deputies administered Narcan for a possible overdose but the man remained unresponsive. Members of the Los Angeles Fire Department were on the scene performing CPR for about 20-30 minutes but he remained unresponsive and was pronounced dead about 30 minutes after officers arrived on the scene. The man’s identity was not disclosed, nor was the cause of death.

Anyone with information related to the man’s death can contact the West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station at (310)855-8850.

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Pendry Hotel reblooms as Sun Rose West

■ Musician Adam Blackstone will serve as creative director

BY SAM MULICK

The Pendry West Hollywood luxury hotel has rebranded as the Sun Rose West Hollywood. The 149-room hotel at 8430 Sunset Blvd., owned by Preferred Hotels & Resorts as part of the L.V.X. Collection, was renamed on Aug. 1. The Sun Rose also announced that Grammy and Emmy winning musician Adam Blackstone will lead the hotel’s Live at the Sun Rose music venue as creative director. The hotel is at the site of the former House of Blues, a historic music venue on the Sunset Strip that was open from 1994-2015. The hotel’s renaming is inspired by the intimate 150-seat Live at Sun Rose music venue, which has hosted artists such as Stevie Wonder, Justin Timberlake and John Legend in recent years.

“We are excited to expand the hotel’s dining, wellness and nightlife offerings and we’ll be unveiling amazing new programs over the coming months,” said Sara Merkin, spokesperson for the hotel. “The Sun Rose West Hollywood is poised to be the epicenter of entertainment, dining and wellness on the Sunset Strip, which will undoubtedly see positive ripple effects to our surrounding community.”

“Live at The Sun Rose will continue to carry on this music legacy, with a lineup of both A-list and emerging talents,” Merkin added. “The addition of music legend Adam Blackstone as creative director is a major coup for The Sun Rose West Hollywood. He will be lending his artistic expertise not only to our music venue, Live at The Sun Rose, but the hotel as a whole.”

The hotel, which houses Wolfgang Puck’s Merois restaurant, will also retain the same dining staff and programming, said Byron Puck, President of Wolfgang Puck Fine Dining Group.

“Guests can look forward to the vibrant flavors of our pan-Asian fusion concept, Merois, featuring a seasonally rotating menu,” he said. “In addition, our bespoke food and beverage offerings throughout the hotel will continue to provide full-service, elevated experiences that reflect our commitment to excellence.”

The rebranding comes amid recent restaurant closures in West Hollywood including Chin Chin, Pink Taco and Le Petit Four.

For information on the Sun Rose West Hollywood, visit thesunrose-hotel.com.



photo by Sam Mulick

The Pendry Hotel rebranded as the Sun Rose West Hollywood and announced new artistic programming with Adam Blackstone at the helm.



photo courtesy of the city of West Hollywood

Community members can beat the heat at the Plummer Park Community Center Senior Lounge.

Heat wave prompts WeHo to open cooling center at Plummer Park

With high temperatures expected across Southern California, West Hollywood will open the cooling center at Plummer Park. The cooling center will be open on Aug. 7 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

The cooling center is located at the Plummer Park Community Center Senior Lounge, located at 7377 Santa Monica Boulevard. The cooling center in West Hollywood is activated when temperatures rise to 90 degrees or above. Staff members at Plummer Park are available to direct people to the cooling center.

The city of West Hollywood provides free transportation to Plummer Park through the Cityline service. Cityline is a friendly and accessible alternative to the larger bus system and all shuttles are ADA-accessible. Cityline operates Mon.-Sat. from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. and shuttles arrive approximately every 30 minutes. For information and a detailed route map, visit weho.org/cityline. Route maps are also available on shuttles.

High heat can make the weather dangerous as well as uncomfortable. The city reminds residents and community members to take precautions to keep as cool as possible during hot days. If possible, stay out of the sun, avoid strenuous activity, drink plenty of water and wear lightweight clothing.

The city reminds community members that pets and children are particularly vulnerable to high-heat conditions. Every year, children and pets suffer and die when left unattended in parked vehicles. On a 78-degree day, the temperature inside a parked vehicle can soar to 120 degrees in just minutes, and on a 90-degree day, the interior temperature can reach as high as 160 degrees in less than 10 minutes – even with windows cracked open.

High heat is also extremely hazardous for pet paws. Ground temperatures can be much hotter than the surrounding air and pavement and sidewalks absorb heat quickly. A seven-second test to check whether pavement is too hot can help assess if conditions are too hot to take a furry friend out for a walk. Touch the pavement with the back of your hand for seven seconds. If the surface is too hot to hold for the full seven seconds, then it is also too hot for paws. Avoid concrete, brick and asphalt during the heat of the day and, instead, walk when the ground is cooler, early in the morning or late in the evening.

Plummer Park is located at 7377 Santa Monica Blvd. For tips about coping with high-heat days as well as information about where to stay cool around West Hollywood, visit weho.org/coolingcenters.

Margot McKinney.

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Friedman gives legislative update

■ Work includes WeHo infrastructure funding

BY SAM MULICK

U.S. Rep. Laura Friedman (D-Glendale) gave her first legislative update in West Hollywood since taking office at the Aug. 4 West Hollywood City Council meeting. Friedman said she has personally requested federal funding for West Hollywood infrastructure improvements including the Hart Park Improvement Project, which would renovate the parking lot and walkways to increase accessibility, and the Los Angeles County Fire Station Replacement Project, which would reconstruct the more than 75-year-old Fire Station 8 in West Hollywood. Friedman, who as a state assemblywoman authored a law passed in 2023 that helps California cities implement speed cameras, said she has continued advocacy in Congress by supporting the Safe Streets for All and Safe Routes for School programs, both of which are under threat from the Trump administration. She also highlighted her advocacy in restor-

ing \$19.7 million in federal HIV prevention funding to L.A. County after the Trump administration canceled the allocation. “I remain committed to fighting for our democracy. We are worth fighting for,” she said. “I have been pushing back everyday against the Trump administration’s attacks on our communities. That is my paramount job and it means upholding the law and our roles in congress.” Friedman highlighted her office’s work in aiding wildfire relief, protecting medicaid and working on economic and housing development. She also spoke about her office’s work in helping local communities impacted by recent Immigrations and Customs Enforcement raids as well as tariffs imposed by the Trump administration. Recently, Friedman introduced legislation to fully restore medicaid reimbursements for Planned Parenthood, identify and unmask ICE agents, ensure that natural disaster victims receive the full amount of aid they are entitled to from Federal Emergency Management Agency and create a national film tax credit. She also condemned the Trump

administration’s cuts to health care, adding that the cuts have reduced hospital staff and insurance coverage. Friedman thanked members of the West Hollywood City Council for advocacy on behalf of the community and collaboration with her office. “Out of all the communities I represent, I think that this City Council is at the very, very top for your level of engagement and communication with me and my office,” she said. “This is a community that shows up for people who need someone else to show up for them.” Council members took turns thanking Friedman for her work. “We hear so often the bad news coming out of D.C. and for you to be here and deliver all the good news that you’re creating, we really appreciate you so much and for delivering for the residents of West Hollywood,” Mayor Chelsea Byers said. Councilwoman Lauren Meister thanked Friedman for her work in aiding wildfire survivors as well as speaking at the West Hollywood “No Kings” rally on June 14. “We know that you are busy and could be anywhere and you chose to come and speak at our rally,” Meister said. “We appreciate it.”



photo by Jon Viscott

U.S. Rep. Laura Friedman (D-Glendale) presented information on her legislative advocacy to the West Hollywood City Council on Aug. 4.

Lindsey Horvath considering L.A. mayoral run

■ Supervisor’s term ends in 2026

BY SAM MULICK

Los Angeles County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath, 3rd District, is considering running for Los Angeles mayor in 2026, according to a spokesperson from her office. Though Horvath has already opened her re-election campaign for a second term as county supervisor, she has not ruled out a mayoral campaign. “The supervisor, whenever people ask her to consider something, she takes it seriously,” the spokesperson said. Horvath was elected to a four-year term on the board of supervisors in 2022 after serving as the mayor of West Hollywood and a City Council member. As supervisor, Horvath authored L.A. County’s homelessness emergency declaration, led the development of the Los Angeles County Water Plan and helped expand county government. In 2023, she also became the board’s youngest-ever chair.

If Horvath runs for mayor, she will face against current Mayor Karen Bass. Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council board member Asaad Alnajjar has also declared his candidacy. Real estate developer Rick Caruso, who was defeated in the 2022 mayoral race by Bass, has not announced a can-

didacy for either mayor or California governor, though he is widely speculated to run for either office. Horvath, a former West Hollywood resident who now lives in Los Angeles, has yet to make any official announcement regarding a mayoral run.



photo courtesy of the office of Lindsey Horvath

Supervisor Lindsey Horvath, 3rd District, previously served as West Hollywood Mayor.

Bass selects leader for El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument



photo courtesy of Mayor Karen Bass’ office
Domenika Lynch currently serves as executive director of the Aspen Institute Latinos and Society Program.

Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass announced on July 29 the appointment of Domenika Lynch as the new general manager of El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument, which includes the historic Olvera Street and Pico House. With extensive experience leading mission-driven philanthropic organizations and creating spaces where communities thrive, Lynch will advance Bass’ vision to reenergize El Pueblo and prepare the site to welcome the world as Los Angeles hosts upcoming major sporting events. Her appointment marks a significant milestone, as she will become the first Latina to lead El Pueblo. With a strong track record in stakeholder engagement, fundraising, strategic planning and

coalition-building across sectors, Lynch has dedicated her career to uplifting and expanding opportunity for the Latino community and underrepresented communities across the country. Lynch brings more than two decades of experience in community building, fundraising and implementing strategic visions that steward resources toward communities most in need. She currently serves as executive director of the Aspen Institute Latinos and Society Program, where she convenes cross-sector leaders to advance economic mobility and systems change for a more prosperous country. Lynch’s appointment will be considered by the Arts, Parks, Libraries and Community Enrichment Committee, followed by presentation to the full City Council at a date to be determined for confirmation. For information, visit elpueblo.lacity.gov.

The Ones You Don’t Forget: Why I Believe in Preventive Testing

I spent four years working overnight in veterinary emergency rooms. One thing ER teaches you quickly: many crises aren’t sudden. They’re the result of slow, silent processes that weren’t caught in time.

When I practiced in New York, I had a case I’ll never forget. Sadie was a six-year-old golden retriever – sweet, adorable, and just a little off: mild lethargy, a few episodes of vomiting. I still remember how gently she walked over to greet me in the exam room. She climbed into my lap – how many dogs do that with a stranger in a white coat? Her physical exam didn’t show anything dramatic, but something didn’t sit right.

Her owner asked, “Can’t you tell from the exam? Is bloodwork really necessary?” Wanting to sound confident, I reassured him she’d likely be fine. A week later, she returned pale and weak. Bloodwork showed severe anemia from IMHA. I admitted her to the ICU and did everything I could – including transfusions – but we lost her the next day. I still think about Sadie. The sweet ones stay with you. So do the regrets.

That case and hundreds of others shifted my approach when I opened my hospital. I still see emergencies, but I’ve become a strong believer in preventative medicine and routine screening: bloodwork, urinalysis, and x-rays – especially as pets reach middle age. These aren’t glamorous tests, but they offer real insight into how the body is functioning before it visibly fails.

Why It Matters

Most animals won’t tell you when something’s wrong. By the time they do, they’re often already in trouble. Routine diagnostics let us look under the hood – before the check engine light comes on.

- Bloodwork detects changes in blood cells, liver, kidney, pancreas, and electrolytes – often before symptoms appear.
- Urinalysis reveals bladder infections, crystals, diabetes, or kidney issues.
- X-rays uncover heart enlargement, lung changes, tumors, organ enlargement, spinal problems, bladder stones, or GI obstructions.

These aren’t just for sick pets. They’re for pets who seem fine – because that’s when we have the best chance to intervene early.

What I’ve Learned

In emergency medicine, I met too many families for the first time during a crisis. These days, I’d rather catch problems early – even if it means a slightly awkward conversation about lab work when a pet seems healthy. I’m not someone who recommends testing just to check a box. But around age six, I begin suggesting yearly screening. It means simpler care, less suffering – and often, avoiding that 4 a.m. ER visit.

About Dr. Ameis

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



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Steadfast LA partners with Banc of California on wildfire relief

Steadfast LA, a nonprofit founded by businessman Rick Caruso to accelerate rebuilding after the January wildfires using private-sector solutions, announced a small business initiative on Aug. 6 launched with a \$1 million donation from Banc of California's Wildfire Relief and Recovery Fund.

The initiative supports retailers, restaurants and independent businesses in Altadena, Malibu and the Pacific Palisades impacted by the Eaton and Palisades fires with direct grants of up to \$50,000.

Caruso officially introduced the initiative on Aug. 6 at CNBC's Small Business Playbook 2025 event with Gordon and Shirley Wong, owners of Knoll's Pharmacy in the Palisades, which was destroyed in the fire. Caruso noted that independently owned small businesses are the backbone of the economy in Los Angeles.

"These small businesses were about much more than commercial or economic activity. They were local hallmarks that gave neighborhoods their soul and fostered a sense of community. We cannot abandon them. This is about ensuring they have the tools, resources and support they need to come back," said Caruso, founder and chairman of Steadfast LA. "We also want this initiative to send a broader signal that not only are these local institutions going to reopen, but these communities as a whole have a bright and optimistic future ahead."

Eligible small businesses in Altadena, Malibu and the Pacific Palisades can apply for direct grants – administered by an independent third party – to help them reopen and support operations. Banc of California donated the initial \$1 million to fund the initiative, with Steadfast LA providing added support and soliciting further donations.

"As the largest independent bank

based in Los Angeles, we know that small businesses are the foundation of our local economy," said Jared Wolff, chairman and CEO of Banc of California. "Their success and sustainability are integral not just for jobs and the economy, but provide the optimism and confidence that communities need to move forward. We're proud to support small businesses that desperately need help right now, to stand with Steadfast LA and to help turn our vision for a brighter future for Southern California into a reality."

Steadfast LA will also use social media to showcase small businesses' remarkable resilience, highlight additional needs and encourage consumers to support them.

"These businesses aren't faceless storefronts. They are the fabric of the community," Caruso added. "They are made up of people: owners, employees and loyal customers. They deserve an advocate to help address the challenges they're facing through no fault of their own. Through this initiative, they'll have one."

Small business owners interested in applying for a grant can review the eligibility criteria and submit information at steadfastla.com/steadfast-la-small-business-initiative.



photo by Tabor Brewster

Small business owners in areas devastated by the January wildfires may be eligible for grants under the new Steadfast LA initiative.

WeHo to host Hart Park meeting

The city of West Hollywood invites community members to attend an upcoming West Hollywood City Council Hart Park Ad-Hoc Subcommittee Meeting about proposed improvements at William S. Hart Park & Off-Leash Dog Area. The discussion will include updates on community safety protocols and practices in Hart Park and additional information about options for the surfacing of the Off-Leash Dog Area, including engineered wood fiber chips.

The West Hollywood City Council Hart Park Ad-Hoc Subcommittee Meeting will take place on Aug. 11 from 6:30-7:45 p.m. at the West Hollywood Library Community Meeting Room located at 625 N. San Vicente Blvd. Community members who are interested in providing public comment are encouraged to attend. E-mail comments on matters before the Hart Park Ad-Hoc Subcommittee may be sent to city of West Hollywood Project Architect Michael Barker at mbarker@weho.org no later than 12 p.m. on Aug. 11.

Construction is estimated to begin early 2026.

For information about the Hart Park Improvement Project, visit go.weho.org/hartparkproject.

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Visit the Paso Robles Wine Garden on the Plaza every Thursday in August beginning at 5:30pm to sample the best of Paso Robles' wines. Then visit Bar 326 inside the Market all month to purchase a glass of a curated selection from Paso Robles wineries. Cheers!



WeHo approves Santa Monica Boulevard property purchase

BY SAM MULICK

The West Hollywood City Council on Aug. 4 approved the purchase of a property at 7710 Santa Monica Blvd. with an unknown future use.

The measure allowed city staff to allocate \$2 million and all related costs up to \$150,000 from unallocated 2026 general fund reserves for the purchase. The property is currently home to the Hommes and Gardens Estudio and adjacent to a city-owned parking lot on the southwest corner of Santa Monica Boulevard and Spaulding Avenue with Mechta Deli housed between the studio and parking lot. During the meeting, a debate ensued regarding the status of the deli's property, located at 7712 Santa Monica Blvd., which was not included in the purchase.

Property development manager Brian League said the city is working on acquiring 7712 Santa Monica Blvd. and hopes the city's purchase of the studio property will encourage the property owner to negotiate. However, he said the council will have to make further recommendations if the city is

unable to acquire the in-between property.

"We have this one ready to bring forward for recommendation and working on the other one and staff didn't want to slow down this acquisition," he said.

Councilwoman Lauren Meister expressed concern that the council was going forward with the purchase despite the unknown status of 7712 Santa Monica Blvd. and added that the staff report was not fully transparent because it described the studio as adjacent to the parking lot.

"I'm concerned about the businesses that are affected by these purchases," Meister said.

Councilman John Erickson refuted Meister, saying the staff report was accurate because the word "adjacent" does not necessarily mean directly next to something. He added that purchasing the proposed property gives the city an advantage in further property negotiations.

"Nothing has been decided yet," he said. "This is a gift that the city is looking to buying these properties and puts us in a very good negotiating standpoint for an individual

owner who is just being a little more difficult."

Meister also asked staff to clarify rumors that the property, which is across from L.A. County Fire Station 8, would be used to house a new fire station for the city. However, project development administrator Alicen Bartle said the city cannot designate a specific use for the property prior to a California Environmental Quality review. Meister said her concerns over the report's transparency did not deter her from supporting the project.

Resident Victor Omelczenko called for more transparency in staff reports during public comment on the item.

The purchase was unanimously approved by the council.



photo courtesy of Hommes and Gardens Estudio

7710 Santa Monica Blvd. is currently home to Hommes and Gardens Estudio.

Notable Quotes

"If atomic bombs are to be added as new weapons to the arsenals of a warring world, or to the arsenals of nations preparing for war, then the time will come when mankind will curse the names of Los Alamos and of Hiroshima."

"I am become death, the destroyer of worlds."

J. Robert Oppenheimer (1904-1967)
American Physicist who was often called the "father of the atomic bomb"

August 6, 2025 marked the 80th anniversary of the atomic bomb being dropped on Hiroshima, Japan.

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Source: Brainy Quotes

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Heritage Auctions welcomes new director in Beverly Hills



photo courtesy of Heritage Auctions

Julia Lauren Battle will serve as director of client relations and business development in Heritage Auctions' Beverly Hills office.

Heritage Auctions announced that Julia Lauren Batlle has joined the entertainment department as director of client relations and business development in the company's Beverly Hills office.

Battle has nearly seven years of experience with William Morris Endeavor in Los Angeles, where she most recently served as chief of staff for the agency's Talent Division. She managed client relations for A-list film and television stars, oversaw high-profile brand partnerships with Cartier and Prada and led cross-departmental initiatives to optimize operations and elevate client success.

Battle is a graduate of Southern Methodist University's Meadows School of the Arts, where she earned a bachelor of arts in journalism with minors in arts management and Italian. Her early career experience in public relations, editorial writing and event management, including roles at Jackson Public Relations

and D Magazine, further shaped her commitment to arts and culture.

"Julia brings energy, precision and a strong sense of collaboration," Heritage Auctions executive vice president Joe Maddalena said. "Her background in managing elite clientele and navigating complex partnerships will bring even greater momentum to our Entertainment Department."

"I'm honored to join Heritage and contribute to a place where passion for the arts meets purpose," Battle said. "I look forward to working with collectors and colleagues to bring extraordinary works to auction."

Battle is currently seeking consignments for Heritage's upcoming Entertainment, Hollywood and Music Memorabilia auctions. Heritage Auctions' office in Beverly Hills is located at 9478 W. Olympic Blvd. For information, call (305)333-2791, or email julialbattle@ha.com.

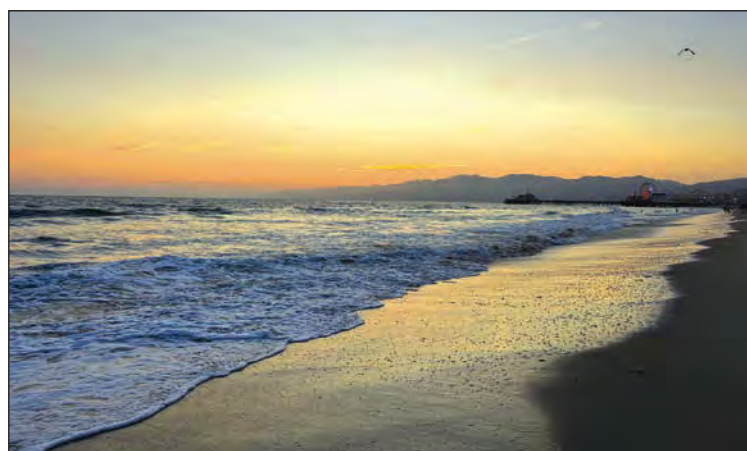


photo by Tabor Brewster

Heal the Bay has hosted beach cleanups and spearheaded programs to remove trash from Santa Monica Bay to protect the marine environment.

Heal the Bay celebrates 40th anniversary with block party

Heal the Bay is celebrating 40 years with free weekend events on the Third Street Promenade in Santa Monica from Friday, Aug. 8, through Sunday, Aug. 10.

The event recognizes four decades of environmental advocacy and community impact with a weekend-long birthday party dubbed "Party on the Prom." It includes a 1980s-themed Listening Lounge, an '80s-style block party with a dance floor and live DJ, and an outdoor screening of "The Goonies." Events are free and open to the public. Guests can sip and stroll with alcoholic beverages on the Promenade in the new Summer Entertainment Zone.

The 1980s Listening Lounge, curated by Santa Monica Beach Radio, runs from 4-6 p.m. on Aug. 8 in the 1200 block of Third Street.

Promenade. The Heal the Bay Block Party runs from 6-9 p.m. on Aug. 9 in the 1400 block of Third Street Promenade, outside the Apple store. Enjoy games, food, music, family fun and a DJ set by @rvdioactive. The free screening of “The Goonies” begins at sunset on Aug. 10 in the 1400 block of Third Street Promenade, kicking off a 12-week summer film series.

In 1985, Heal the Bay became a steward of Santa Monica Bay, stopping the discharge of partially treated sewage into the ocean. Forty years later, the organization has removed more than 2 million pieces of trash from the coastline, monitored water quality at more than 700 beaches and educated more than 280,000 students.

For information, visit health-bay.org.

West Coast Funk and Soul Xperience staged in WeHo

The West Coast Funk and Soul Xperience 25 – a live multimedia street dance art experience will be held in West Hollywood on Aug. 16 at Plummer Park from 7-9 p.m. Presented by No Easy Props, this is the story of west coast street and club dance, music and culture, narrated by a young girl growing up in L.A. watching “Soul Train,” the Jacksons and New Edition. From locking and the funky robot, hip-hop came pop-locking and breaking, usher-

ing in the new school trendy days. Now all grown up, she pays homage to the past to embrace her future as MC. A separate performance will take place in Culver City on Aug. 23 at the Ivy Substation.

The mission of The West Coast Funk and Soul Series is to document and preserve the history of street dance in the West Coast through a collection of short films featuring West Coast street dance luminaries that pay homage to the

history of funk n soul dance styles from the West Coast through the lens of people who contributed to them, lived them and witnessed them, as well as professional dance training by West Coast legends, panel discussions and live events that spotlight and showcase the style and flavor of the west coast culture.

Plummer Park is located at 7377 Santa Monica Blvd. For tickets, visit tickettailor.com/events/noeasyprops/1775809.

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Living large in a quirky college town

EUGENE, Ore. – I love orange chicken and Bermuda shorts. I love 12-string guitars.

Some things just trigger the heart, right?

So it is with this ramshackle coffee shop on the edge of campus. It’s like when Tolkien has a fever ... the colors, the warp. The homemade scones are big as burgers, and the barista looks like she hasn’t slept in months.

“Everyone up here is rebelling,” explains Smartacus, who is about to begin his final year in Eugene, the land that fashion forgot.

My son is talking about the scruffy pedestrian in Portland who opened his takeout burger and flung the unwanted tomato into the street. But he also could’ve been talking about the young woman in Eugene with a raccoon tail poking out of her hemp satchel.

Thing is, if everyone is rebelling, is that really rebellion? Or is that, suddenly, conformity? For sure, this is a freaky-deaky place. I like it more and more, even as it defies my attempts at explanation.

Hey, who am I to weigh in on anything?

On our way up, the flight attendant explains that if the flotation device doesn’t inflate, you can manually blow into the tube.

And I think: “I can’t even blow up a balloon. What makes you think I can blow up my own life vest while sharks nibble at my knee?”

I’ve played out this scenario many times. They say not to inflate the life vest until you exit the plane, and I just know – sure as winter wheat – that several of these



by
Chris
Erskine

dweebs will inflate their vests the moment they put them on, clogging the aisles. Suddenly, I’m kicking at windows, desperate to save Smartacus.

The old place was every parent’s nightmare, a dingy old house where 10 young scholars bunked last year. It represented Dante’s seven circles of filth. College at the time of cholera.

Generally, a trip to Eugene does not inspire faith in America. It inspires bemusement, sure. Or, like my Bermuda shorts, it inspires envy.

Yep, this is one of those travel-ogues I’m rather fond of. Ride with me across the Pacific Northwest for a minute, as we check out the sights, the vibe, the peanut butter-and-jelly burgers.

As we’ve established, it’s always 1969 here. Hair is at all angles,

never brushed. Showers and shavers are discouraged, possibly illegal. You can’t tell the dogs from the cats.

But, brother, are these folks folksy. Like the woman at the Safeway deli making 20 Italian subs, who chats me up about how fresh their bread is. “Have you tried the sushi?” she asks. “I took it home to my daughter. She loved it.”

Or the beertenders at Max’s bar, serving up icy \$4 drafts on a quiet summer evening. They are all a little ticked off about something or other – a boss, a boyfriend – which is what I look for in a good beertender: honesty, candor, psychosis.

Kind of like the sleepy barista I was telling you about.

Look, nobody ever had a soulful moment at a Starbucks, or a berry scone that blew your mind. At Starbucks, or any chain, all you get is exactly what you ordered yesterday and the day before. You don’t get Tolkien, that’s for sure.

And there was this frazzled clerk at the U-Haul rental counter, darting this way and that, pumping gas on “a very bizarre day.”

“Some Arabs came in earlier,” he says. “Wanted to buy the place.”

You can certainly see why. There’s the thriving U-Haul concession. And the busy gas pumps. And the carwash (free with an \$8 purchase). Go ahead, put a price on paradise.

Anyway, we got Smartacus moved from one apartment to another, in preparation for his final year here. His gleaming new place is just renovated. The old place was every parent’s nightmare, a dingy old house where 10 young scholars bunked last year. It represented Dante’s seven circles of filth.



photo by Chris Erskine

Smartacus and I loaded up the U-Haul for my son’s final season in Eugene.

College at the time of cholera.

So, it’s been a productive trip, getting my son from a dump with a dysentery fridge, into the new place, with brand new toilets and a dream kitchen.

We toast our success at a nice restaurant, Sweet Waters, as sparkling as the adjacent river. It’s hot on the patio, and the servers have their hair off their necks, as one does in August.

Yep, it’s too warm by half out here, which is something you could

say about the entire Pacific Northwest these days, that it’s now almost as deep-fried as California.

It’s far too hot to be ordering a chewy red wine, which takes custody of my mouth, turns my tongue into a fist and slams it back toward my throat.

Guess I’m partial to beverages that swallow you back.

Like quirky little Eugene does. Gulp.

For books or more columns, please go to ChrisErskineLA.com



photo courtesy of Our Big Kitchen L.A.

Volunteers prepared 1,000 meals for Our Big Kitchen L.A. on July 23.

Our Big Kitchen L.A. cooks 1,000 meals for its 1,000th cooking session

On July 23, Our Big Kitchen Los Angeles celebrated a remarkable milestone: the 1,000th community cooking session at its Pico Boulevard kitchen. The evening brought together volunteers for an open session of connection and community. Highlights included a cocktail bar, upbeat music, words of gratitude and the preparation of 1,000 meals for People Concern, Food on Foot and Hollywood Food Coalition.

The session kicked off with opening remarks from executive director Yossi Segelman.

“When you signed up today, you thought it was just going to be a regular session. But what you probably didn’t know is that today, it’s our 1,000th session – and we’re going to be making 1,000 meals,” Segelman said to the crowd.

At the core of the session were the volunteers, suited up in aprons, hairnets and hats, and split into

two kitchen teams: one preparing meatballs and the other chopping fresh vegetables. Volunteers jumped in, working side by side. People showed up for their community, rolled up their sleeves and put in the work, organizers said.

“I am grateful for each of you who allows us to change the way that people are fed, to be fed with dignity. And because of you, over 1,000 people will be eating,” program leader Chani Lazaroff said.

Before the event ended, Segelman shared the story of OBKLA’s beginnings. Segelman, his wife Chaya and a handful of volunteers packed and delivered meals by hand. He personally thanked each ambassador and volunteer for being part of the achievement and surprised them by bringing out a celebratory “1,000” cake, which was met with cheers and applause.

For information and for ways to support, visit OBKLA.org.

‘Sunset Strip After Dark’ celebrates stories, memories

The city of West Hollywood’s annual Historic Preservation Celebration will take place on Aug. 13 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Whisky a Go Go, located at 8901 Sunset Blvd.

“Sunset Strip After Dark” will celebrate the stories, events and memories that have unfolded along the historic Sunset Strip over the decades. Admission is free and open to the public; refreshments will be provided. No RSVP is required.

The evening will feature Alison Martino, West Hollywood resident, and the founder of Vintage Los Angeles, who will lead a presentation exploring the Strip’s fascinating history. Martino is a respected documentarian, writer and on-air host/producer for Spectrum News 1. Her passion for preserving and

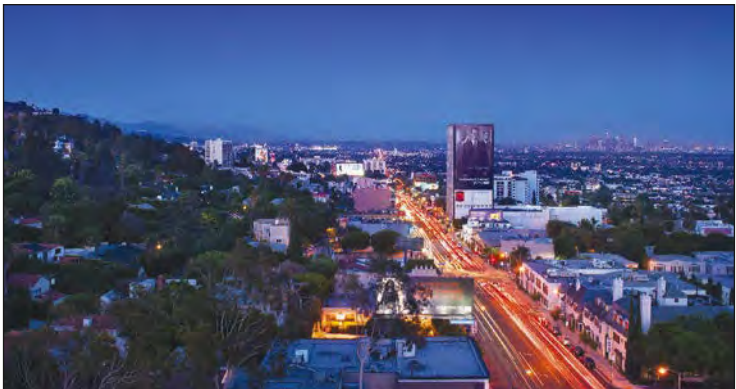


photo courtesy of the city of West Hollywood

The event will feature a presentation of the Sunset Strip’s history by documentarian Alison Martino.

sharing the cultural legacy of Los Angeles and West Hollywood has made her a beloved voice in storytelling about local history.

For information about the

Historic Preservation Celebration, contact Antonio Castillo, city of West Hollywood Senior Planner, at (323)848-6854 or acastillo@weho.org.

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Wilshire closure planned for repaving at Western Avenue

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority is working on the D Line subway extension project at many locations on Wilshire Boulevard.

Final repaving near Wilshire/Western will require a full closure of Wilshire Boulevard at Western Avenue from 9 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 8, through 6 a.m. on Monday, Aug. 11. Local access will be maintained between Wilton Place and St. Andrews Place. Motorists are encouraged to use Crenshaw Boulevard and Western Avenue to Olympic Boulevard to bypass the closure.

Crews are also working on the station entrances and exits at the Wilshire/La Brea and Wilshire/Fairfax stations, and work may necessitate lane closures on Wilshire Boulevard. Street restoration is also ongoing at the Wilshire/La Cienega station. On Saturday, Aug. 9, from 6 a.m.-10 p.m., Eastbound Wilshire Boulevard will be closed between La Cienega Boulevard and Hamilton Drive. La Cienega Boulevard will also be reduced to a single lane in each direction between Gregory Way and Clifton

Way. Left turns will be restricted in the Wilshire/La Cienega intersection, with the exception of eastbound Wilshire Boulevard to northbound La Cienega Boulevard. The traffic control supports utility work in the intersection.

A K-rail work zone in the curb lanes on the south side of Wilshire Boulevard will be in place for approximately four months between La Cienega and San Vicente boulevards. Curbs, sidewalks and pedestrian ramps are being installed in the area.

At the Wilshire/Rodeo station, K-rail enclosures will remain in place along the curb lanes on Wilshire Boulevard to support ongoing station construction and facilitate appendage construction in August. Through Sept. 26, the south sidewalk on Wilshire Boulevard between Cañon and Crescent drives will be closed for construction.

At the Century City/Constellation station, crews are preparing to remove deck panels and restore the street along Constellation Boulevard between Century Park East and Solar Way. Temporary traffic control will be in place through Aug. 15 to support

LADWP water and power utility installation for the subway station. Traffic control will be implemented in five phases progressing from east to west. Following the deck removal, traffic control measures will be reestablished on Constellation Boulevard to support construction.

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



photo by Edwin Folven

Wilshire Boulevard will be closed just west of Western Avenue from Aug. 8-11.

Evening with the Mayor returns to Greystone

Join the Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce for the annual “Evening with the Mayor,” featuring Beverly Hills Mayor Sharona Nazarian delivering the “State of the City Address” at the Greystone Mansion on Thursday, Sept. 25, from 4:30-7 p.m.

Register early to secure a place at the Evening with the Mayor event. Nazarian draws a thriving and enthusiastic crowd, and past events in her series such as “Spotlight with Sharona” have sold out in advance. With limited seating available at the iconic Greystone Mansion, early registration is recommended.

Sponsorship opportunities are

available. Event highlights include exquisite libations and delectable hors d’oeuvres, live music in a distinctive setting, engaging conversations, networking opportunities and interactive exchanges with business and government officials.

The event is \$75 for chamber members and Beverly Hills residents. General admission is \$100. A special rate of \$50 is available for city staff and first responders. To register, visit beverlyhillschamber.chambermaster.com/eventregistration/register/29071.

Greystone Mansion & Gardens is located at 905 Loma Vista Drive.



photo courtesy of the Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce/DVR Productions

The annual event includes cocktails and hors d’oeuvres at Greystone Mansion & Gardens.

Letters to the Editor

Article on Annenberg should have included her mother’s name

Re “L.A. Remembers Wallis Annenberg,” July 31 issue

The article on Wallis was well written. Except the second paragraph.

Annenberg was the daughter of [Walter] Annenberg – no mother?? Just because he was famous,

she most definitely had a mother. I find this very objectionable.

Susan Adler Jannol
Los Angeles

Editor’s Note: Wallis Annenberg’s mother was Bernice Veronica Dunkelman. According to the New York Times, Annenberg lived with her mother in Washington following Dunkelman’s divorce from Walter Annenberg in 1950.



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

LOCATIONS:	545-547 N. Sweetzer Avenue, West Hollywood, California
REQUEST:	The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing regarding a proposed request for vesting tentative tract map for a subdivision of a previously approved, three-story, nine-unit residential building into a common interest development (condominium). The development of a multi-family building on this property has been constructed and is not part of this application.
PERMIT(S):	Subdivision Permit, and any other required permits.
APPLICANT(S):	Eric Goldsmith
TIME/PLACE OF HEARING:	Thursday, August 21, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers 625 N. San Vicente Boulevard West Hollywood, CA 90069
ZONES:	R3B (Residential, Multi-Family Medium Density)
ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS:	<i>Categorically Exempt per CEQA Section §15301 (Existing Facilities)</i>

Complete digital agenda packets will be available on Thursday, August 14, 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 Roger Rath, Associate Planner at (323) 848-6425, or via email at: RRath@weho.org

Melissa Crowder, City Clerk

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

RESTAURANT NEWS

Truly Pizza returns to Patio del Mar Aug. 31

Hotel Casa del Mar is serving something “Truly” special for Labor Day weekend. The iconic hotel is thrilled to welcome back Truly Pizza to Patio del Mar for another exclusive coastal pop-up. The first pop-up sold out, so don’t miss your chance to reserve a spot. Savor a menu that blends the refined charm of Casa del Mar with Truly’s innovative, artisanal pizza creations. The limited engagement features handcrafted dishes, award-winning pizzas and desserts, all set against the stunning backdrop of the Pacific Ocean – a perfect blend of community spirit, exceptional California flavors and the simple joy of gathering. The Truly Pizza pop-up will be available at Patio del Mar, the hotel’s al fresco dining venue, on Aug. 31 and Sept. 1 from 11 a.m. to sunset. For information, visit hotel-

casadelmar.com/dining/patio-del-mar. Hotel Casa del Mar is located at 1910 Ocean Way, Santa Monica.

Savor summer at The Grove and The Americana

As the summer winds down, The Grove and The Americana at Brand are packed with exciting experiences to help make the most of the season. From fresh store openings to hot Dine LA offerings, the outdoor destinations have something for everyone. At The Grove, get behind the wheel of a Rivian and experience the future of vehicles up close: Through Dec. 31, the new partnership will offer immersive pop-up experiences, demo drive opportunities, interactive vehicle displays and exclusive giveaways and offers. Additionally, Rivian owners enrolled in Caruso Signature will enjoy a complimentary annual parking reward.

Levain Bakery opens in Beverly Hills

On Friday, Aug. 8, at 8 a.m., Levain Bakery will celebrate its Beverly Hills grand opening – and third opening in the Los Angeles area – with a team ribbon cutting. The first 100 people in line will receive a custom Levain Bakery Beverly Hills tote bag filled with fun bakery swag celebrating the Beverly Hills community. Levain will offer a brand-new limited-edition cookie flavor available exclusively at the new Beverly Hills bakery – peanut butter dark chocolate chip. The cookie, available for just one month, is a new twist on a classic, and a tribute to Levain’s original dark chocolate peanut butter chip cookie. “This cookie brings our classic peanut butter cookie recipe to life in a very big, very Levain way,” founders Pam Weekes and Connie McDonald said. Peanut butter dark chocolate chip features a blend of rich and



photo courtesy of Levain Bakery

Levain Bakery’s grand opening in Beverly Hills on Aug. 8 will include a limited-edition peanut butter dark chocolate chip cookie.

creamy and chunky peanut butter overloaded with chocolate chunks. All proceeds from Levain Bakery’s Beverly Hills opening day will support Our Big Kitchen Los Angeles, whose mission is to combat hunger by providing meals, love, unity and community. OBKLA mobilizes volunteers in Los Angeles to cook and package

meals for those facing food insecurity. Levain Bakery has donated proceeds from its bakery openings since 2009 and has an ongoing commitment to giving back to the local community as they continuously strive to be a force for good in each neighborhood they join. For information, visit levainbakery.com. Levain Bakery is located at 130 S. Beverly Drive.

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Sézane opens at The Grove this summer. Discover the brand’s Parisian-inspired wardrobe, featuring timeless essentials, iconic accessories and limited-edition styles created exclusively for California – coming soon.

For information, visit thegrovela.com and americanaatbrand.com. The Grove is located at 189 The Grove Drive. The Americana At Brand is located at 889 Americana Way, Glendale.

The Peninsula launches girlfriends’ getaway package

Staycations offer many benefits both expected and surprising, including the ultimate self-care experience. As girlfriend getaways are experiencing a renaissance and women solo trips are on the rise, staycations are providing women a unique, immersive way to connect with friends and themselves.

The Peninsula Beverly Hills – the city’s most exclusive hotel that is celebrating its 34th anniversary this year – announced “Charming As

Ever,” a limited-time package that creates the perfect setting for a trip that will leave a lasting impression. Thoughtfully designed by women for women who want to toast a milestone, escape the daily demands of life, or refresh with friends, the two-night stay package – available for stays from Aug. 8–Nov. 17 – encourages self-celebrating and finding joy in the details. After being welcomed with a glass of Laurent Perrier champagne upon arrival, guests can look forward to: a Biologique Recherche Signature Facial at The Peninsula Spa and a champagne afternoon tea experience set in The Living Room with the refined soundtrack of a live harpist; a signature scent hand-poured by Voyage et Cie, the property’s favorite candle maker; in-room features like a floral arrangement inspired by French gardens, a handwritten welcome note, The Lovely List – a handpicked collection of the hotel’s favorite hidden gems around Beverly Hills and a turndown service featuring a beloved book by one of the hotel’s favorite female voices.

For information, visit peninsula.com/en/beverly-hills/special-offers/rooms/charming-as-ever. The Peninsula Beverly Hills is located at 9882 S. Santa Monica Blvd.

Taste wine at Barnsdall Art Park through September

Barnsdall Art Park Foundation’s iconic fundraiser, Barnsdall Fridays Wine Tasting, is continuing its 16th iteration through Sept. 26 to round out the summer season. All proceeds for the annual fundraising series support cultural programming, landscape, infrastructure and historic preservation within the park. The event provides essential funding to help sustain Barnsdall Art Park amidst the city of Los Angeles’ ongoing financial issues, which put many aspects of the site at risk.

The event, which continues to attract sell-out crowds, is held on Olive Hill and the West Lawn of Hollyhock House, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright and the only UNESCO World Heritage site in Los Angeles, every Friday until Sept. 26 from 5:30–9 p.m.

Enjoy breathtaking sunsets while savoring exceptional wines from long-established artisanal partner at Silverlake



photo courtesy of Barnsdall Park

The wine tasting and live music events at Barnsdall Art Park run every Friday through Sept. 26.

Wine and delight in delicious offerings from an array of local food trucks.

Experience carefully curated DJ performances and, for the month of September, the city of Los Angeles’ Department of Cultural Affairs will be presenting selected performers for live performances paired with exquisite wines. The performers will be announced at a later date.

On Sept. 5, enjoy “The Passion of Buenos Aires” (Tango, Cumbia, Cuarteto) paired with wines from Argentina. On Sept. 12, “Sunset in

Paris” will feature classic and contemporary French jazz) paired with wines from France. Sept. 19 will host “Celebrating the Feast of San Gennaro” (song stylings of Italian Americans like Sinatra, Tony Bennett and Louie Prima) paired with wines from Italy. On Sept. 26, visitors can enjoy “Summer’s Gone” (the sounds of Southern California beaches) paired with wines from California.

For information and tickets, visit barnsdall.org. Barnsdall Art Park is located at 4800 Hollywood Blvd.

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Discover Paso Robles wine country at the Farmers Market

Travel Paso, the official destination marketing organization for Paso Robles, Calif., is partnering with the Original Farmers Market on Thursdays, Aug. 7, 14, 21 and 28, for a pop-up experience allowing visitors to discover Paso Robles. The pop-ups include complimentary wine samples from Paso Robles’ most coveted wineries. Visitors can also meet Paso Robles residents and enter a sweepstakes to win a trip to the destination.

The wine garden pop-up will be located on the Market Plaza, near the Clock Tower, from 5:30-8:30 p.m. on each Thursday in August, and will align with the market’s Summer Music Series from 7-9 p.m. Bar 326 in the Farmers Market will feature a Paso Robles wine menu throughout August.

“The Original Farmers Market is a great venue for Paso Robles to host its summer campaign – Let’s Go to Paso,” said Stacie Jacob, president and CEO of Travel Paso. “Paso Robles is a 3.5-hour drive

away, making it the perfect getaway for Angelenos looking to escape the city, retreat to rural California and connect to a community filled with makers and innovators.”

Home to more than 200 wineries, Paso Robles is a dynamic wine country destination known for majestic rolling hills, vineyards and a welcoming blend of small-town charm and world-class food, wine and art. Located midway between Los Angeles and San Francisco and bordered by coastal Highway 1 and Highway 101, Paso Robles offers a mix of wine and cowboy country, along with beach access and Michelin-starred dining.

Participating Paso Robles wineries include Bodega de Edgar, Hope Family Wines, Linne Calodo, McPrice Myers, Robert Hall and Thacher.

The Original Farmers Market is located at 6333 W. Third St. For information on participating wineries and the music schedule, visit travelpaso.com and farmersmarket-la.com.



photo courtesy of Travel Paso

Paso Robles is home to many of the top wine producers in California.

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Vinyl fair spins back to Sunset Strip

The Sunset Strip’s rich rock ‘n’ roll legacy takes center stage this summer with Spinning Sunset: A Vinyl Wax Fair, an all-day celebration of music, culture and community. Held on Saturday, Aug. 16 from 1-7 p.m., the free event transforms the iconic boulevard into a buzzing hub of vinyl vendors, DJ sets, exclusive memorabilia and music-inspired experiences from local businesses up and down The Sunset Strip.

Spinning Sunset will transform The Pink Dot parking lot on the Sunset Strip into a daytime vinyl

and music memorabilia market showcasing indie record shops, vintage clothing vendors and exclusive band merch, and hosting curated vinyl DJ sets throughout the day. Surrounding businesses will also host vinyl-based events and specials, turning the Strip into a living tribute to L.A.’s rock ‘n’ roll soul.

Participants can enter a giveaway through an optional RSVP component on Eventbrite, and prizes from Sunset Strip hotspots such as Dialog Cafe, Sunset Marquis, EDITION, KEYS, IDG and the Mondrian will be given out to atten-

dees at the event.

Hotel Ziggy is hosting the official Spinning Sunset After Party from 6-9 p.m. Keep the party going with vinyl DJs and themed drink specials. Stick around after for Zap Sessions, a live music show from 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

Stop over at Andaz West Hollywood’s Riot House restaurant for the official Spinning Sunset Happy Hour, with a specially curated menu and discounted food and drinks.

The one-day Sunset House LA – The Rebel Lens Gallery + Vinyl Spinning pop-up fuses iconic music photography, editorial storytelling and vinyl DJ sets for a multi-sensory tribute to Sunset Strip music culture.

Katana will have The Sunset Heat, a specialty cocktail crafted with El Cristiano Blanco, agave, lime, fresh watermelon and tajin.

Soul Cycle will host themed spin classes. Exercise on The Sunset Strip with spin classes themed to different music genres.

Cavatina at Sunset Marquis will launch a new Sunset Vinyl Vibes Menu. Dive into menu items named after iconic artists and albums along the Strip including “Kick Start My Heart Tater Tots” by Motley Crue, along with Van Halen and The Doors. Customers can also indulge in a Heaven’s Door Whiskey Flight for \$35.

At Pink Dot and Urbn Leaf, enjoy discounts on specialty items

only available Aug. 16.

Book Soup will offer 10% off all in-store purchases including vinyls, books and merch.

At The Viper Room, ask for the Viper Vinyl drink special — available exclusively during Spinning Sunset.

Head to BOA Steakhouse to try

four new cocktails only available on Aug. 16 – the Sunset Sour, L.A. La Poire, Dobel Diablo and a Cali G&T. Plus, a DJ will be spinning tunes during the experience.

Pink Dot is located at 8495 Sunset Blvd.

For information, visit thesunset-strip.com/spinningsunset.



A vinyl fair on Aug. 16 will honor the rock ‘n’ roll legacy of the iconic Sunset Strip.

Stars gather for ‘Point Break’


“Breaking Bad” star Aaron Paul and director and actress Lauren Paul attended Cinespia’s screening of “Point Break” at Hollywood Forever Cemetery on Aug. 2. Upcoming screenings include “The Lost Boys” and “An American

Werewolf in London” on Aug. 9, “Psycho” on Aug. 23 and “The Silence of the Lambs” on Aug. 31.

For information, visit cinespia.org. Hollywood Forever Cemetery is located at 6000 Santa Monica Blvd.



photo courtesy of Cinespia



RFQual #26-350-2
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PUBLIC WORKS
DEPARTMENT
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REQUEST FOR PREQUALIFICATION
OF BIDDERS AND
PREQUALIFICATION INSTRUCTIONS
FOR:
NOTICE OF THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF A QUALIFIED TRADE
CONTRACTORS LISTS FOR
WILL ROGERS PARK WATER
FOUNTAIN EQUIPMENT
REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Notice is hereby given that the City of Beverly Hills (“CITY”) has determined that all bidders for Notice of the Establishment of a Qualified Trade Contractors Lists for WILL ROGERS PARK WATER FOUNTAIN EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT (“Project”) must be pre-qualified prior to submitting a bid. It is mandatory that all Contractors who intend to submit a bid, fully complete the prequalification questionnaire, provide all materials requested herein, and be approved by the CITY to be on the final qualified Bidders list.

No bid will be accepted from a Contractor that has failed to comply with these requirements. If two or more business entities submit a bid as part of a Joint Venture or expect to submit a bid as part of a Joint Venture, each entity within the Joint Venture must be separately qualified to bid. The last date to submit a fully completed questionnaire is **2:00 PM Thursday, September 18, 2025**.

Contractors must register as a vendor at the following website in order to download the prequalification package, and to receive clarifications and notifications when issued. The Prequalification package may be viewed on, and downloaded from the City’s PlanetBids portal: <https://vendors.planetbids.com/portal/39493/portal-home>

This item is listed as: *Notice of the Establishment of a Qualified Trade Contractors Lists for WILL ROGERS PARK WATER FOUNTAIN EQUIPMENT*

REPLACEMENT PROJECT. Answers to questions contained in the questionnaire are required. The CITY will use these documents as the basis of rating Contractors with respect to whether each Contractor is qualified to bid on the Project, and reserves the right to check other sources available. The CITY’s decision will be based on objective evaluation criteria. The CITY reserves the right to adjust, increase, limit, suspend or rescind the prequalification rating based on subsequently learned information. Contractors whose rating changes sufficiently to disqualify them will be notified, and given an opportunity for a hearing consistent with the hearing procedures described below for appealing a prequalification rating.

While it is the intent of the prequalification questionnaire and documents required therewith to assist the CITY in determining bidder responsibility prior to bid and to aid the CITY in selecting the lowest responsible bidder, neither the fact of prequalification, nor any prequalification rating, will preclude the CITY from a post-bid consideration and determination of whether a bidder has the quality, fitness, capacity and experience to satisfactorily perform the proposed work, and has demonstrated the requisite trustworthiness.

All qualifications submittals are required to be submitted electronically via PlanetBids. The electronic submittal system will close exactly at the date and time set forth in this request for qualifications.

Any questions regarding the questionnaire and qualification package should be submitted via PlanetBids by 2:00PM, Thursday, August 28, 2025. Questions sent via email or over the phone; with the exception of those related to accessing or using PlanetBids, will not be answered.

Contractors are responsible for submitting and having their documents accepted before the closing time set forth in the request for qualifications. **NOTE:** Pushing the submit button on the electronic submittal system may not be instantaneous; it may take time for the Contractor’s documents to upload and transmit before the documents are accepted. It is the Contractor’s sole responsibility to ensure their documents are uploaded, transmitted, and arrive in time electronically. The City of Beverly

Hills will have no responsibility for documents that do not arrive in a timely manner, no matter what the reason.

The prequalification packages submitted by Contractors are not public records and are not open to public inspection. All information provided will be kept confidential to the extent permitted by law. However, the contents may be disclosed to third parties for purpose of verification, or investigation of substantial allegations, or in an appeal hearing. State law requires that the names of contractors applying for prequalification status shall be public records subject to disclosure, and the first page of the questionnaire will be used for that purpose.

Each questionnaire must be signed under penalty of perjury in the manner designated at the end of the form, by an individual who has the legal authority to bind the Contractor on whose behalf that person is signing. If any information provided by a Contractor becomes inaccurate, the Contractor must immediately notify the CITY and provide updated accurate information in writing, under penalty of perjury.

The CITY reserves the right to waive minor irregularities and omissions in the information contained in the prequalification application submitted, and to make all final determinations. The CITY may also determine at any time that the prequalification process will be suspended for the Project and the Project will be bid without prequalification.

Contractors may submit all qualifications submittals electronically via Planet Bids. Contractors who submit a complete prequalification package will be notified of their qualification status no later than ten business days after submission of the information.

The CITY may refuse to grant prequalification where the requested information and materials are not provided by the due date indicated above. There is no appeal from a refusal for an incomplete or late application, but re-application for a later project is permitted. Neither the closing time for submitting prequalification packages for this Project will be changed in order to accommodate supplementation of incomplete submissions, or late submissions, un-

less requested by the CITY in its sole discretion.

In addition to a contractor’s failure to be pre-qualified pursuant to the scoring system set forth in the prequalification package, a contractor may be found not prequalified for either omission of or falsification of, any requested information.

Where a timely and completed application results in a rating below that necessary to pre-qualify, an appeal can be made by the unsuccessful Contractor. An appeal is begun by the Contractor delivering notice to the CITY of its appeal of the decision with respect to its prequalification rating, no later than two business days following notification that it is not pre-qualified. The notice of appeal shall include an address where the Contractor wishes to receive notice of the appeal hearing. Without a timely appeal, the Contractor waives any and all rights to challenge the decision of the CITY, whether by administrative process, judicial process or any other legal process or proceeding.

If the Contractor gives the required notice of appeal, a hearing shall be conducted no earlier than five business days after the CITY’s receipt of the notice of appeal and not later than five business days prior to the date of the Notice Inviting Bids for this Project. Prior to the hearing, the Contractor shall, in writing, be advised of the basis for the City’s pre-qualification determination.

The hearing shall be conducted by a panel consisting of three members of the Public Works Department senior management staff (the “Appeals Panel”). The Appeals Panel shall consider any evidence presented by the Contractor, whether or not the evidence is presented in compliance with formal rules of evidence. The Contractor will be given the opportunity to present evidence, information and arguments as to why the Contractor believes it should be pre-qualified. Within one day after the conclusion of the hearing, the Appeals Panel will render a written determination as to whether the Contractor is pre-qualified. It is the intention of the CITY that the date for the submission and opening of bids will not be delayed or postponed to allow for completion of an appeal process.

LACMA among three museums to receive Pearlman collection

The Henry and Rose Pearlman Foundation announced on Aug. 4 that its entire collection will be gifted to the Brooklyn Museum, Los Angeles County Museum of Art and the Museum of Modern Art in New York. Comprising an exceptional group of Impressionist, Post-Impressionist and modern artworks, the Pearlman Collection will be gifted across the three institutions in a novel sharing arrangement that will enhance public access through continually changing contexts.

Henry Pearlman (1895-1974) began purchasing avant-garde art in 1945 with a landscape by Chaïm Soutine, which led to a self-guided education in 19th- and 20th-century European art and a passion for col-

lecting. From the start of the collection, he and wife Rose maintained a fundamental interest in sharing their experience of art as widely as possible, instilling populist values in their children and grandchildren that are the foundation's inspiration for making the extraordinary gift.

As part of the gift, 29 works will join the Brooklyn Museum's collection, with exceptional paintings and sculpture by Chaïm Soutine, Paul Gauguin, Edgar Degas and Amedeo Modigliani, including the latter's 1916 portrait Jean Cocteau and an extremely rare limestone sculpture, Head (c. 1910-11). LACMA will receive six works, including Edouard Manet's "Young Woman in a Round Hat" (c. 1877-79) and Vincent van Gogh's

"Tarascon Stagecoach" from 1888, the first paintings by either artist to enter the collection. The MoMA will receive 28 works with a primary focus on Paul Cézanne, including the paintings "Mont Sainte-Victoire" (1904-06) and "Cistern in the Park of Château Noir" (c. 1900), as well as 15 of Cézanne's most luminous watercolors. In recognition of the Pearlmans' generous spirit, the collection will travel as an exhibition before being placed under the care of the respective institutions. From February to July 2026, the exhibition "Village Square: Gifts of Modern Art from the Pearlman Collection to the Brooklyn Museum, LACMA, and MoMA" will be on view at LACMA, and in fall 2026 the collection will travel to the Brooklyn Museum. In the near future, MoMA will also present an exhibition of the Pearlman gifts.

"For years we have explored every model we could imagine for



photo by Bruce White

Vincent van Gogh's "Tarascon Stagecoach" (1888) is among the paintings being gifted by the Henry and Rose Pearlman Foundation.

Greystone play reading series begins Aug. 20

The city of Beverly Hills presents a series of play readings at the theater at the historic Greystone Mansion, 905 Loma Vista Drive. The plays feature the talents of the actors and playwrights of Theatre 40, the professional theater company of Beverly Hills.

Written and directed by Mitch Paradise, "T'Shuvah" is a play of love, loss and return. It will be performed on Aug. 20.

Michael, who has led a less than ambition-driven life, is home visiting his elderly parents. There is still

much unresolved between him and his father, Arnold, and at this late date, there are still issues between Arnold and his wife Phyllis as well. Arnold, though not a care giver personality, has been thrust into the role as Phyllis is showing signs of dementia. In an evening often driven by grievance, real and imagined, much is ultimately resolved through love, laughter, tears and Scrabble.

The cast includes Sharron Shayne, Scott Facher, Larry Eisenberg and Miss Eliot Hambsch.

In "The Dream," written by David Hunt Stafford and performed on Aug. 27, a woman wakes from a nightmare in which she sees a deceased person lying in tall brush along a remote location in an unincorporated area of the county. She wakes her husband to tell him of her troubling dream. "I saw a dead body..." or did she? "It was only a dream." Or was it?

On Sept. 3, "The Blue Tooth Virgin," written by Russell Brown, takes an inside look at the politics of the creative process. Two friends, both writers, face the daunting challenge of delivering negative criticism, but learn that the process can become a catalyst for self-discovery and growth. Sam, an aspiring screenwriter, and David, a successful magazine editor, have been pals for years. When David doesn't appreciate Sam's latest screenplay, it opens a fissure in their friendship, one that spreads through to the rest of their lives. Ultimately, both men must reevaluate their motivations to write, their need for praise and validation and what it means to see yourself as you actually are.

All play readings in the series take place on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for Beverly Hills residents and \$15 for non-residents. For tickets, visit beverlyhills.org/1420/play-readings.



photo courtesy of Greystone Mansion

The play reading series at Greystone Mansion includes "T'Shuvah," "The Dream" and "The Blue Tooth Virgin."

Academy Museum presents new film series

The Academy Museum presents a new film series, public events and education programs for August.

As part of the Spotlights Screening Series, the museum will host a 40th anniversary screening of "Pee-wee's Big Adventure" on Aug. 9. The museum will host a production design and miniature prop-making drop-in workshop through Aug. 16, inspired by the exhibition "Barbie to Anna Karenina: The Cinematic Worlds of Sarah Greenwood and Katie Spencer." Families can design and create their own miniature props.

On Aug. 10, the museum's Teen Council will showcase short films made by teens from throughout Los Angeles who were challenged to create a short film inspired by their favorite director.

Guest programmed by curators Zehra Zehra and Kilo Kish, the museum will also offer a series entitled "...American Girl: Seeking" until Aug. 16. These films offer nuanced perspectives on how

women of color navigate the complexities of systems and institutions.

The museum will host Academy Award-winning sound mixers Ron Bartlett and Doug Hemphill on Aug. 22 in conversation as they discuss their works of mixing "Blade Runner 2049."

The museum also continues its

ongoing series, including "Oscar Sundays," Family Matinees, Available Space and Branch Selects. The "Summer of Camp!" series will also continue through Aug. 30.

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





photo courtesy of the Academy Museum

The Academy Museum will host a 40th anniversary screening of "Pee-wee's Big Adventure" on Aug. 9.

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Students visit Robinson Gardens for science fair

The Virginia Robinson Gardens recently held a summer science fair for students from the San Gabriel Valley Boys and Girls Club and Our Spot, a free after-school program for low-income teens in L.A. County Department of Parks and Recreation programs. Beverly Hills Rotary Club members Joanie Garratt and Wanda Presburger planned the event with Science Committee members Kerstin Royce and Patti Reinstein, and well as dedicated staff.

Children arrived with program directors Josué Arias and JR Dzubak, who also serve as kindness officers in the programs. The Kindness Program involves a curriculum that teaches young people about the importance of being kind and incorporating kind acts in their lives. The Boys and Girls Club’s motto is “kindness.”

Students enjoyed the Go Wild Reptile show, which offered information about the animals’ habitat and interesting facts, and allowed students to touch the



photo courtesy of the Virginia Robinson Gardens

Young visitors to the Virginia Robinson Gardens enjoyed fun educational activities and toured the grounds.

creatures. While some were initially hesitant, most of the students built the confidence necessary to give the reptiles a gentle touch. A boa constrictor was a big hit at the event.

The students also toured the garden with docents Tom O’Connor, Branden Santos and Pam Davis.

Docents April Walton and Santos led tours of the estate for adults. The group also had lunch and received posters, thanks to the generosity of Marc Lott.

The Virginia Robinson Gardens is located at 1008 Elden Way in Beverly Hills. For information, visit robinsongardens.org.

El Rodeo and Horace Mann host town halls

On July 31, El Rodeo and Horace Mann Elementary Schools welcomed families to campus for town hall meetings with their new admin-

istrative teams ahead of the 2025-26 school year.

At El Rodeo Elementary, principal Kim D’Aloisio and assistant

principal Billy Cameron introduced themselves to the school community and shared their vision for the year ahead.

At Horace Mann Elementary, principal Dr. Steven Suttle and assistant principal Adrienne Kim met with families to discuss their leadership approach and commitment to supporting every student.



photo courtesy of BHUSD

Parents and students met with El Rodeo Principal Kim D’Aloisio at the town hall on July 31.

“This is what makes BHUSD special,” BHUSD Superintendent Dr. Alex Cherniss said. “When families and school leaders come together from the very beginning, it sets the tone for a strong, connected year. We’re grateful for this start and excited for what’s ahead.”

The gatherings provided space for dialogue, shared goals and community-building as both schools prepare to begin the new academic year with energy and unity.

For information, visit bhUSD.org.

Los Aguilar marks historic performance at the Hollywood Bowl

History will be made at the Hollywood Bowl this summer when Pepe Aguilar, Ángela Aguilar and Leonardo Aguilar perform together for the first time on the Bowl stage – bringing their voices, stories and deep cultural heritage to life for Los Angeles audiences on Aug. 15 and 16 at 8 p.m. Backed by the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra under the baton of Enrico Lopez-Yañez, the two-night event marks a major moment in the world of Latin music and family tradition.

The special engagement will include solo performances from Ángela and Leonardo – two stand-out voices of a new generation of regional Mexican music – as well as a powerful set by Pepe Aguilar, featuring his greatest hits and cornerstone songs of Mexico’s treasured musical tradition. Each artist will perform with the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra.

The evening’s most anticipated moments will come when Pepe, Ángela and Leonardo Aguilar take the stage together for their first trio performances at the Hollywood Bowl. Accompanied by Mariachi, the family collaborations deliver an emotional once-in-a-lifetime experience that honors their multi-gener-

ational legacy and showcasing the enduring richness and spirit of Mexican music.

Few families have shaped Mexican music and culture quite like the Aguilars. Pepe Aguilar stands as a cultural visionary – fusing the soul of Mexican tradition with a bold, modern presence. A four-time Grammy and five-time Latin Grammy winner, his work across mariachi, ranchera and bolero continues to evolve with meaning, power and artistic integrity. His daughter, Ángela Aguilar, is

one of the most prominent female artists in regional Mexican music. The Grammy Award and five-time Latin Grammy nominee is admired for striking vocals, a powerful stage presence and fearless crossover collaborations with artists such as Steve Aoki and Alicia Keys. Leonardo Aguilar, a two-time Latin Grammy nominee, infuses classic norteño music with a powerful, youthful command that has captivated audiences and dignitaries alike, including performances before U.S. presidents.

The Hollywood Bowl is located at 2301 Highland Ave. Tickets to Los Aguilar are available online at hollywoodbowl.com or via phone at (323)850-2000.



photo courtesy of the Hollywood Bowl

The Aguilars have made a prominent impact on Mexican music and culture.

California to receive nearly \$1 billion in impounded education funds

State Superintendent Tony Thurmond and the California Department of Education announced on July 31 that the CDE has received confirmation that it will receive the entirety of the nearly \$1 billion in previously impounded federal education funds for the 2025-26 school year. It comes after weeks of delays caused by the Trump administration’s decision to withhold critical funding allocations to states across the nation.

“California schools have been waiting for these resources to serve students, and now nearly \$1 billion of illegally impounded federal education funds will finally reach our classrooms,” Thurmond said. “The Trump administration’s delay created unacceptable uncertainty for our schools and harmed many of our most vulnerable students. However, we are moving swiftly to ensure these funds support students, educators and school communities without further interruption.”

On July 25, CDE received official grant award notifications for several key federal programs.

The CDE has also received GANs for the following formula-based funding sources, as well as an updated GAN for the 21st

Century Community Learning Centers grant program: Title I-C, ESEA; Migrant Student Education; Title II-A, ESEA: Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants; Title II, WIOA: Adult Education and Family Literacy Act; Title III-A, ESEA: English Language Acquisition; and Title IV-A, ESEA: Student Support and Academic Enrichment State Grants.

With the release of the grant award notifications, the CDE is moving quickly to draw down and distribute funds to local educational agencies across the state.

The release of the funds means California has been awarded the full allocation of federal education funding for the 2025-26 school year. The funds are critical for sustaining and expanding educational opportunities, especially for English learners, migrant students, adult learners and those relying on community learning centers, Thurmond said.

The CDE will continue working with California’s congressional delegation to ensure that future federal funding is secured in the fiscal year 2026 budget.

For information, visit cde.ca.gov/nr/fa.

The Ford honors Latin music traditions

Boleros de Noche enchanted a packed house at The Ford on Aug. 2 as part of the LA Phil’s 2025 Latin music concert series and Mexican Nights at The Ford. The evening brought together soulful performances by La Marisoul with Los Hermanos Carlos and the dynamic ensemble Bolero Soul, delivering a heartfelt tribute to the golden era of romantic Latin music. With the backdrop of the iconic outdoor venue, the show honored the enduring legacy of bolero and created powerful new

memories for fans. For information visit theford.com.



photo by Brandee Allen, The Ford

Boleros de Noche drew a large audience to The Ford on Aug. 2.

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'Bad Guys' get a second chance

"The Bad Guys" was a solid film with creative animation. Not DreamWorks' best but nowhere near lower tier. As for the sequel? It's a vast improvement on something that already worked well enough: better animation, enjoyable new characters that don't outshine the established ones, more funny gags and heisting, so much heisting. That's how it should be.

Quick recap. Last we saw the

crew, they turned their lives around. Rather than rob the town, these once legendary criminals hope for a second chance as regular, upstanding citizens, scary critters (a wolf, shark, spider, etc.) living practically amongst anthropomorphic animals and humans. But nobody will hire infamous former crooks.

In lieu of a regular 9-to-5, perhaps they can help local P.D. identify a new crew involved in a string

ON SCREEN

WITH
TIM POSADA

of specific heists. Then again, they might just get pulled into one final job, begrudgingly, of course.

If you enjoyed the first "Bad Guys," based on the children's graphic novel series by Aaron Blabey, this sequel is a heightened version of the same. Many elements of the plot reappear. The reformed criminals struggle with doing the right thing, but as always, Wolf (voiced by Sam Rockwell) has a plan.

The team mostly knows their roles. Shark (Craig Robinson) takes on any identity that the job requires, from blending in as a shark with a mustache or a French baker bellowing "cappuccino" to really sell the role. Piranha (Anthony Ramos) is a master escape artist, though he gets a bit gassy when he's stressed. And Tarantula (Awkwafina) puts all eight legs to work as an incomparable hacker.

But Snake (Marc Maron) is MIA. Rather than argue with Wolf about the plan or general resistance to giving up the life, he's out and about. While everyone else struggles with everyday life, he's never been happier. Why?

The supporting gang is all back, too. Diane Foxington (Zazie Beetz) still roots for the bad guys privately and as governor, occasionally drawing upon her past as a cat thief, even though she's a fox. And Commissioner Misty Luggins (Alex Borstein) still doubts the bad guys are up to good.



photo courtesy of DreamWorks Animation

The gang is back in "The Bad Guys 2," a solid film with top tier animation.

As for villains, let's keep those folks under wraps to avoid spoilers. Half the fun is seeing how the story unfolds. Rest assured, conniving guinea pig Dr. Marmalade (Richard Ayoade) is back with more to do.

The key strength: all that heisting. Unlike the previous film, the team plans and executes more often and ends up in precarious situations that require adaptation.

Then there's the grand finale. The third act is bigger, like a Bond film bound by the loose rules of animation. It never feels like too much. That's the power of animation that need not mimic reality. Instead, it lends itself to visual sequences that are stunning and thrills that feel pressing.

Perhaps one frustration this time around is a recurrence of distrust. Like the first film, nobody trusts the bad guys, who must fight for public trust once more. Luckily, such excessively familiar moments don't last long. And the film's ending ensures this trope won't return

in any future installments, which feel ready to do more exciting things.

Like the previous entry, the animation is top tier. Walking, talking animals and humans coexist in this narrative landscape with ease and cohesion, thanks to a visual style that rejects photo realism. Character design tips a hat to classic Looney Tunes, while closeups soften edges by replicating watercolor brushstrokes.

Animation's shift away from realism needs to continue. Perhaps Pixar and Disney will get on board soon. A banger could be on the horizon.

Don't expect "The Bad Guys 2" to reach the impressive heights of "How to Train Your Dragon," "The Wild Robot" or "Puss in Boots: The Last Wish," but it's not far off. The premise feels more child-centric (and young viewers will certainly find much to enjoy), but the story, visuals, action and humor sport universal appeal.

Viola Davis, Henry Winkler to headline Televerse TV fan festival

The Televerse will feature the Television Academy Hall of Fame induction, featuring Viola Davis and Conan O'Brien, an acting class with Henry Winkler and an inside look at Alicia Silverstone's new series, "Irish Blood" in the Television Academy's inaugural immersive festival experience from Aug. 14-16 at the JW Marriott at L.A. LIVE.

In addition to reunions of beloved series "Bones" and "Queer as Folk," fans can attend advance screenings and panel discussions of highly anticipated new shows, "Anne Rice's Talamasca: The Secret Order," "The Rainmaker" and "Devil in Disguise: John Wayne Gacy."

Sports fans and broadcasting aficionados can literally go "inside baseball" with "Game On: Inside the Booth with the Los Angeles Dodgers," featuring play-by-play broadcaster Joe Davis, Hall of Fame pitcher Orel

Hershiser and sports reporter and correspondent, Kirsten Watson.

The JW Marriott Live is located at 900 W Olympic Blvd. For tickets and information, visit televerse.com.

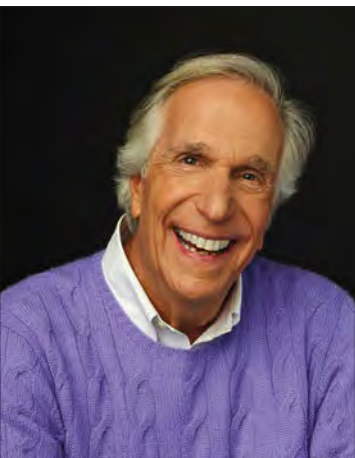


photo courtesy of the Television Academy

Actor and author Henry Winkler will give an acting class during the inaugural Televerse television fan festival.

Straight TALK with Sharona

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

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



Light refreshments will be served.

MOCA appoints Ann Goldstein as interim director

The board of trustees of the Museum of Contemporary Art appointed Ann Goldstein to serve as interim director, effective Aug. 18, following Johanna Burton's departure to lead the ICA Philadelphia at the University of Pennsylvania.

The board also announced the launch of a comprehensive international search for the museum's next director. To ensure a seamless leadership transition throughout the recruitment process, the board of trustees has established a specialized MOCA Directorial Search Committee.

Goldstein will return to the institution where her career took shape to oversee all curatorial and museum advancement responsibilities

including upcoming shows and strategic initiatives. In her new role, Goldstein will work closely with the staff's senior leadership including Michael Harrison, deputy director and chief financial officer, and Clara Kim, chief curator and director of curatorial affairs, to ensure the continuity of MOCA's mission and programs.

"No one knows MOCA like Ann. Her deep institutional knowledge and passion for our collection and community coupled with her international directorial expertise makes her the ideal leader to maintain the museum's momentum," said Carolyn Clark Powers, chair of the board of trustees. "While Johanna Burton's departure marks a moment of transition for MOCA, thanks to

her leadership the museum is well positioned for the future."

Born and raised in Los Angeles, Goldstein joined MOCA in 1983 when the museum was in its early stages. She rose within the institution over a 26-year period to senior curator. In 2009, she left MOCA to serve as director of the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam until 2013, overseeing the reopening of the museum after a renovation project and expansion. She joined the Art Institute of Chicago in 2016 as deputy director and Dittmer Chair and Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art, advancing the museum's mission and international reputation through exhibitions, acquisitions and in an ambassadorial role that



photo courtesy of Ann Goldstein
Goldstein previously served as a senior curator at MOCA and also worked as director of the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam.

The Museum of Contemporary Art is located at 250 S. Grand Ave. Admission is free. For information, visit moca.org.

KCCLA film series highlights key stories of independence

The Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles is hosting a special screening of the Korean historical action film "The Battle: Roar to Victory" (2019) on Wednesday, Aug. 20, at 6:30 p.m. in the center's Ari Hall.

As part of the Stories of Korean

Liberation in Films series, the center is showing Korean films that highlight key events and figures from the country's anti-Japanese independence movement during the colonial era. The series, running through November, also commem-

orates the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation from Japanese rule in 1945.

"The Battle: Roar to Victory" dramatizes the real-life 1920 battle in Manchuria, where Korean independence forces decisively defeated the Japanese army. Led by Gen. Hong Beom-do, the victory was among the earliest and most symbolic triumphs of the Korean independence movement. The film vividly captures the tactical brilliance, courage and sacrifice of the independence fighters through intense action sequences and powerful storytelling.

The film, which stars Yu Hae-jin, Ryu Jun-yeol and Cho Woo-jin, resonated with audiences for the emotional portrayal of unsung heroes and the collective spirit of resistance. It honors those whose names may not appear in history books, but whose sacrifices paved the way for freedom and peace in modern Korea.

"'The Battle: Roar to Victory' is a story of how ordinary people created extraordinary history during a time when the nation had lost its sovereignty," KCCLA Director Haedon Lee said. "We hope this screening offers an opportunity to reflect on the courage and determination of those who fought for Korea's independence."

The Stories of Korean Liberation in Films series continues with "MAL-MO-E: The Secret Mission" (2019) on Oct. 8, and "Dongju: The Portrait of a Poet" (2016), a film about the life of poet Yun Dong-ju, on Nov. 19.

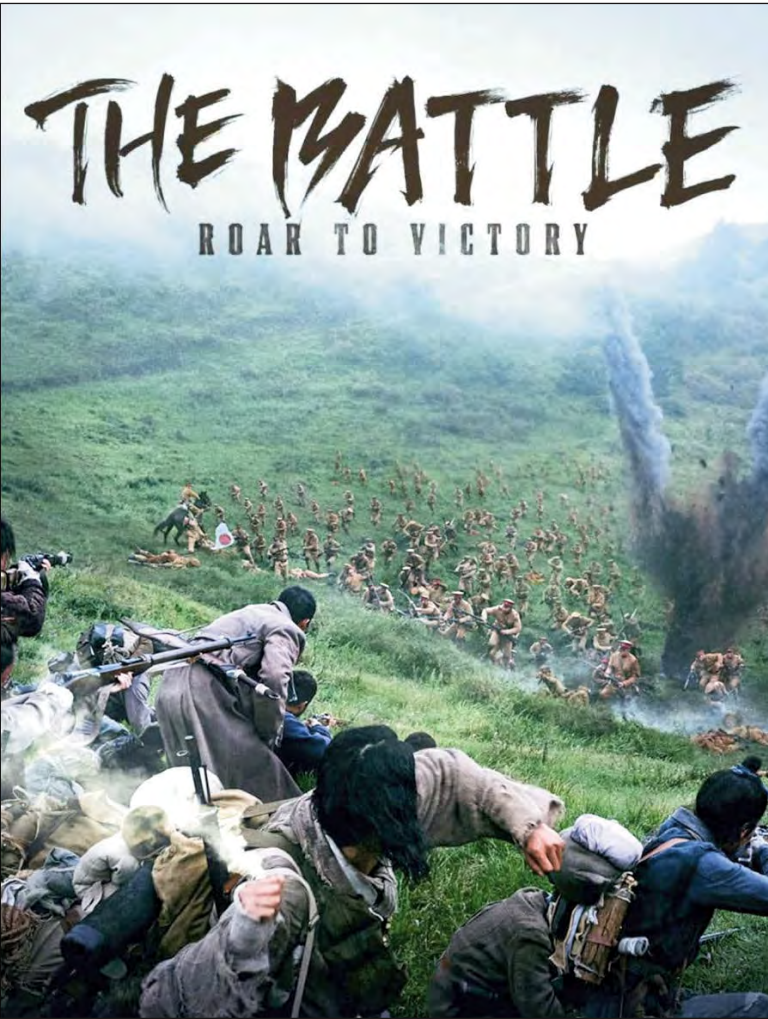


photo courtesy of IMDb
"The Battle: Roar to Victory" (2019) is the next film in KCCLA's series

All screenings will be held at 6:30 p.m. at Ari Hall at KCCLA, 5500 Wilshire Blvd. Admission is free but reservations are required. For information and to RSVP, visit kccla.org.

Grandeza Mexicana Folk Ballet Company returns to The Ford

The LA Phil's "Mexican Nights at The Ford" concert series culminates with Serenatas y Bodas de México, a magical night of music and folkloric dance led by Grandeza Mexicana Folk Ballet Company on Aug. 16 at 8 p.m. The unique performance brings to life the traditions, rituals and romance of weddings across different states of Mexico – each with its own cultural flavor and expression. The presentation includes a special choreographic collaboration with César Macíme and Teocalli Ballet Folklórico México.

Featuring more than 30 dancers, live mariachi music by Mariachi Tesoro de San Fernando and the premiere of a moving new piece honoring Oaxaca's muses – the third gender recognized in Zapotec

culture – the evening transports audiences to the heart of México. The Ford is located at 2580

Cahuenga Blvd. East. For tickets, visit theford.com or call (323)850-2000.



photo courtesy of the Ford
Grandeza Mexicana Folk Ballet Company will conclude The Ford's "Mexican Nights" series.

drew upon her extensive network of relationships with artists, collectors, donors, colleagues and external stakeholders.

"MOCA has a remarkable legacy of serving our community and I'm proud it is part of my DNA as a museum professional. I am honored to return to MOCA and greatly look forward to helping the museum through this transition and to working in sync with the museum's dedicated staff and board to share all that MOCA has to offer with the world," Goldstein said. "I am energized by the opportunity to support the museum and its programs, including the widely anticipated, extraordinary MONUMENTS exhibition, which is an essential, unprecedented and epic project born from the visionary collaboration of artists and curators looking unflinchingly at U.S. history."

Musical explores music and culture of Spanish Harlem

MUSE/IQUE, led by artistic and music director Rachael Worby, continues the 2025 season with four performances of "Like It Like Harlem: Salsa, Boogaloo and the Making of a New Musical Playground in New York" on Aug. 8-9 at 7:30 p.m., and Aug. 10 at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at the Mark Taper Forum at the Music Center.

Presented with Center Theatre Group, guest performers include vocalist Rogelio Douglas, Jr., vocalist-violinist Yvette Gonzalez-Nacer and Oscar Hernández, piano and concert consultant.

When Puerto Ricans and Cubans arrived in New York City in the mid-20th century, they ushered in a cultural renaissance in the neighborhood that became popularly known as "Spanish Harlem,"

but also known to many simply as "El Barrio" – the neighborhood. The story of East Harlem is the story of how American music is made. It's where mambo, salsa and boogaloo converged to give rise to iconic hits like "I Like It Like That," "Oye Cómo Va" and "Boogaloo Blues," and where artists found pride, passion and possibility on every block.

In the performance, MUSE/IQUE celebrates the power of community to inspire bold, authentic expression, and pays tribute to legendary artists such as Tito Puente, Celia Cruz, Johnny Pacheco and Pete Rodriguez.

Single tickets are \$75. The Music Center is located at 135 N. Grand Ave. For information, visit muse-ique.com.



photo courtesy of MUSE/IQUE
Pianist Oscar Hernández is among the guest artists in "Like It Like Harlem" at the Mark Taper Forum.

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‘Rodeo Drive – The Podcast’ celebrates ‘Clueless’

The Rodeo Drive Committee announced on Aug. 4 the launch of “Clueless on Rodeo Drive – The Mayor and the Costume Designer talk Fashion – As if!,” a special edition of “Rodeo Drive – The Podcast” in celebration of Mona May, costume designer of “Clueless” on the occasion of the 1995 teen movie’s 30th anniversary.

Thirty years ago, high schoolers dressed down, and then came the movie “Clueless.” In her yellow plaid kilt and many other colorful and stylish outfits, Cher Horowitz, the good-natured if meddlesome high schooler played by Alicia Silverstone, made audiences laugh with her, love her and envy the looks created by May.



photo by Andres Garzas

“Clueless” costume designer Mona May is a special guest on a new episode of “Rodeo Drive – The Podcast.”

“Everybody dressed grunge in 1994 when we were preparing the movie, and the movie set a new rule of dressing. You know, I created a whole other fashion landscape,” May told Lyn Winter, host of “Rodeo Drive –The Podcast,”

May is joined by Beverly Hills Mayor Sharona Nazarian, who shares fond memories of the film, her personal love of fashion and pride in the leading role played by Beverly Hills in “Clueless,” which was shot in multiple locations including the Electric Fountain, the Witch’s House and, of course, the iconic street Rodeo Drive.

“I think what makes Rodeo Drive so special is that people still want to be able to come and walk here as Cher did in the movie, that it’s still relevant. The stores are still spectacular. I mean, where else can you find Frank Gehry and Louis Vuitton coming together to make these beautiful buildings come to life? It’s just so exciting,” Nazarian said.

May also shares her journey to becoming a costume designer and getting her big break with “Clueless,” followed by work on movies including “Romy and Michelle,” “Never Been Kissed,” “Wedding Singer,” “Enchanted,” “House Bunny,” and “Stuart Little.”

“The Fashion of Clueless,” a book by May about her experience with the movie, will be published on Oct. 21.

The special edition of “Rodeo Drive – The Podcast” is presented by the Rodeo Drive Committee with the support of Beverly Wilshire, A Four Seasons Hotel.

To listen, visit rodeodrive-bh.com/podcast.

‘Some Like it Hot’ swings into the Pantages

The Tony-Award winning “Some Like it Hot” makes its Los Angeles premiere at the Hollywood Pantages Theatre for a limited three-week engagement through Aug. 17.

Tickets are available at broadwayinhollywood.com and ticketmaster.com. Tickets may also be purchased in person at the Hollywood Pantages Theatre.



photo courtesy of Broadway in Hollywood/Matthew Murphy

“Some Like it Hot” will run for three weeks at the Hollywood Pantages Theatre.

Leading the tour are Matt Loehr as Joe/Josephine, Tavis Kordell as Jerry/Daphne, Leandra Ellis-Gaston as Sugar, Edward Juvier as Osgood, Tarra Conner Jones as Sweet Sue, Jamie LaVerdiere as Mulligan, Devon Goffman as Spats and Devon Hadsell, who was a member of the original Broadway company, as Minnie.

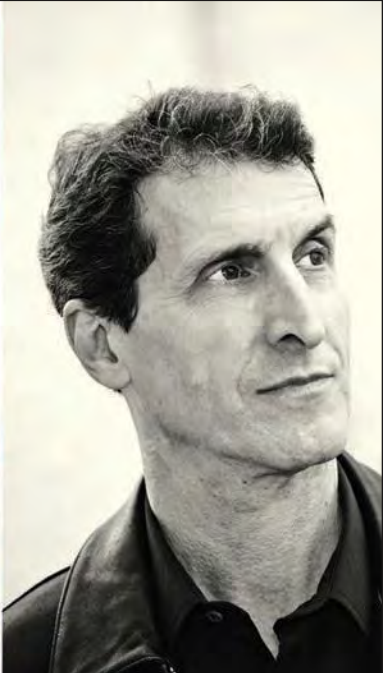
Rounding out the company are Ayla Allen, Ashley Marie Arnold, Kelly Berman, Ian Campayno, Darien Crago, Austin Dunn, Adena Ershow, Drew Franklin, Tim Fuchs, Rachael Britton Hart, Devin

Holloway, Bryan Thomas Hunt, Emily Kelly, Brianna Kim, Stephen Michael Langton, Jay Owens, Ranease Ryann, Nissi Shalome, Michael Skrzek and Tommy Sutter.

The “Some Like it Hot” North American tour opened on Sept. 20 at Proctors in Schenectady, N.Y., and is currently playing in more than 30 cities including Chicago, San Diego, and Los Angeles.

Set in Chicago when Prohibition has everyone thirsty for a little excitement, “Some Like it Hot” is the story of two musicians forced to flee the Windy City after witness-

Writers Bloc presents JB Pritzker, Billy Ray



photos courtesy of Writers Bloc Presents

Illinois Gov. JB Pritzker and screenwriter Billy Ray will discuss the future of the Democratic Party on Aug. 18.

Writers Bloc presents Illinois Gov. JB Pritzker and screenwriter-author Billy Ray in a candid discussion on Aug. 18 about Pritzker’s thoughts on what’s necessary to lead the Democratic Party into the coming elections. Pritzker has been outspoken about the direction the country is taking, and what the voters must demand of Democratic leadership. One of the most respected writers in Hollywood, Ray is an activist and award-winning screenwriter whose credits include “The Hunger Games,” “Captain Phillips,” “The Comey Rule,” “The Last Tycoon” and many others. He is the author of the upcoming novel, “Burn the Water.”

The discussion will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 18, at The Ebell of Los Angeles, 4401 W. Eighth St.

General admission tickets are \$38. For tickets and information, visit writersblocpresents.com

VINTAGE PARKLABREA NEWS

Demonstrators show support for reproductive rights



Activists demonstrated at La Cienega and Beverly boulevards in support of reproductive rights in this photograph from Aug. 4, 1994. The protest was held in response to the murder of a doctor and volunteer that year at a reproductive health clinic in Pensacola, Florida. A candlelight vigil was held after the protest, which was organized by members of the National Organization for Women, Planned Parenthood, Stonewall Democratic Club and the Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center in West Hollywood. On the same day as the demonstration, the West Hollywood City Council adjourned its meeting in memory of Dr. John Britton and volunteer escort James Barrett, who were murdered by an anti-abortion extremist in Florida.

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POLICE BLOTTER

The following crimes occurred in West Hollywood, Beverly Hills and the areas patrolled by the LAPD’s Wilshire and Hollywood divisions between July 27 and Aug. 2. The information was compiled from crimemapping.com. To report a crime, call local law enforcement agencies: Los Angeles Police Department, Wilshire Division (213)473-0476, Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department West Hollywood Station (310)855-8850, and the Beverly Hills Police Department (310)550-4951.

Beverly Hills Police Department

July 27

At 2:50 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 9000 block of Beverly.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 400 block of N. Rexford at 8:53 a.m.

At 8:09 a.m., a vandalism incident was reported in the 9800 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 200 block of S Camden at 5:58 p.m.

At 9:30 p.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim near Carmelita and Camden.

July 28

At 1 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 100 block of S. Reeves.

A vandalism incident was reported in the 300 block of S. Cañon at 1:25 a.m.

At 4:05 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 8900 block of Dayton.

A suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs near Santa Monica and Crescent at 4:34 a.m.

At 8:28 a.m., a suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs near Coldwater Canyon and Beverly.

An unknown suspect committed a vehicle burglary in the 400 block of S. Roxbury at 10:05 a.m.

At 3:07 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 200 block of N. Rodeo.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 400 block of N. Rodeo at 4:18 p.m.

July 29

At 2:01 a.m., a vandalism incident was reported near Wilshire and La Cienega.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of S. Spalding at 1 p.m.

At 2:10 p.m., a vandalism incident was reported in the 400 block of N. Camden.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 9000 block of Wilshire at 3:51 p.m.

At 8:40 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 200 block of S. Beverly.

July 30

At 6:52 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 9800 block of Santa Monica.

July 31

At noon, an unknown suspect committed a commercial burglary

in the 300 block of N. Cañon.

Aug. 1

At 12:53 a.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim near Maple and Burton.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of S. Reeves at 1:14 p.m.

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

A suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs near Beverly and Oakhurst at 6:22 p.m.

At 11:13 p.m., a suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs near Dayton and Rexford.

Aug. 2

At 9:15 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 300 block of N. Oakhurst.

West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station

July 27

At 1 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8900 block of Santa Monica.

July 28

At 12:30 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 1200 block of N. Formosa.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 8400 block of Sunset at 5:25 a.m.

At 9 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a motorcycle in the 900 block of N. Stanley.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 7800 block of Santa Monica at 10:20 a.m.

July 29

At 6:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 8400 block of Santa Monica.

July 30

At 1:57 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 8500 block of Holloway.

A suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 7200 block of Fountain at 2:30 a.m.

At 8 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8500 block of Holloway.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 600 block of Sweetzer at 1 p.m.

July 31

At 4:55 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 8500 block of Holloway.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 7700 block of Lexington at 6 a.m.

LASD Oversight Commission names leadership

The Los Angeles County Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission recently elected Commissioner Hans Johnson to serve as chair. It also reelected Commissioners Luis S. Garcia and Arthur Calloway II to serve as co-vice chairs. They will serve through fiscal year 2025-26.

Johnson takes over from former chair Robert C. Bonner, who served on the commission since its inception in 2017 until his term ended in July after Board of Supervisors Chair Kathryn Barger opted not to renew it. Under Bonner’s leadership in 2024-25, the commission pursued revisions to its governing ordinance to ensure effective oversight. It issued subpoenas for confidential documents about deputies’ use of force, which the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department has challenged in court, and it also filed a resolution in support of Assembly Bill 847, which seeks to enable civilian oversight commissions to access confidential personnel information needed to perform their duties and to go into closed session to review information.

“Strong oversight is public safety. In serving Angelenos and this commission, my goals are to strengthen collaboration with the department and how it seeks and values our input; to secure a new mandate to do our job as a commission, to shine a light on the hard truths of deputy gangs and eradicate this lasting cancer in the department, to align the commission’s committees with our strategic plan and to share the lessons of our work with oversight commissions throughout California and the United States,” said



photo courtesy of the L.A. County Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission

The L.A. County Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission has announced the appointment of co-vice chair Arthur Calloway, left, chair Hans Johnson and co-vice chair Luis S. Garcia.

Johnson, who served as co-vice chair before becoming chair.

Johnson is president of Progressive Victory, a national consultancy on advocacy strategy and good governance practices in the nonprofit sector. He has worked for more than 20 years in more than 20 states with local advocates for non-violence who track hate crimes and train public safety officers and first responders in LGBTQ awareness, inclusion and cultural competency. He has worked extensively with foundations, labor unions, congregations and fair housing and human rights organizations in every U.S. state and the District of Columbia.

Garcia is a senior consultant at Advocates for Human Potential, a behavioral health consulting firm. He is also a licensed clinical social worker and founder of Sentir

Psychotherapy, where he provides private-practice psychotherapy.

Calloway is the newest member of the commission, having been appointed by the board of supervisors in September 2024. An Air Force veteran, he is an advocate for racial justice and domestic violence prevention.

The commission was created by the board of supervisors in 2016 to provide independent oversight of the LASD; investigate and provide ongoing analysis of sheriff’s department policies, practices and procedures; create robust opportunities for community engagement; and to make recommendations to the board, sheriff and public. The commission’s work helps improve LASD’s transparency and accountability. For information, visit coc.lacounty.gov.

Former Hollywood man sentenced for EBT card theft

A man from Romania who formerly lived in Hollywood was sentenced on Aug. 4 to 10 years in federal prison for skimming tens of thousands of Electronic Benefit Transfer cards in California and New York.

Catalin-Marius Graur, 43, was sentenced by United States District Judge Mark Scarsi, who also ordered him to pay \$165,697 in restitution. Graur pleaded guilty in October 2024 to one count of conspiracy to commit bank fraud.

Graur, a Romanian citizen who

entered the U.S. on a tourist visa in 2020 but overstayed his visa, travelled across Los Angeles and the Inland Empire installing sophisticated skimming devices in ATMs and point-of-sale terminals to record users’ account information. The defendant was arrested in New York City in an Airbnb rental apartment in June 2024. At the time, Graur had more than \$37,000 in cash and 1,488 stolen access device numbers.

Graur worked with multiple members of a transnational crimi-

nal organization from Romania to carry out the scheme. A search warrant for the residence of one of Graur’s accomplices revealed that Graur had sent him more than 36,000 stolen EBT card numbers over three years.

EBT card recipients, whom Graur specifically targeted, receive benefits designed specifically to help low-income households pay for housing, food and other necessities. The case was investigated by the FBI and the United States Secret Service.

At 8:16 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 7800 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 600 block of N. Robertson at 10:15 a.m.

Aug. 1

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1100 block of N.

Curson at 10 a.m.

At 10:50 a.m., a suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 1200 block of N. La Brea.

Aug. 2

At 1:45 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 600 block of N. Robertson.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 9000 block of Sunset at 2:07 a.m.

At 7 a.m., a suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 900 block of N. Palm.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 600 block of N. Robertson at 12:02 p.m.



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Medians return to Wilshire Boulevard

From page 1

shade and palm trees will be planted on all station plazas, sidewalks and medians.”

Metro is working with the city of Los Angeles on a long-term plan for maintaining the medians. Plans are also being worked out to install decorative signs at each end of the Miracle Mile district – similar to signs once located on the medians.

“Art Deco signs were originally installed on sidewalks but were later moved to the median prior to the start of construction. These signs were regularly struck and damaged by passing cars,” Sotero said. “Per community requests, Metro plans to reinstall signs on the sidewalk west of Fairfax and East of La Brea prior to the opening of the project. Metro is now seeking a commitment from the city to power and maintain these signs.”

Los Angeles City Councilwoman Katy Yaroslavsky, 5th District, is also looking at ways to activate areas around the subway stations when the D Line opens, spokesman Leo Daube said. The “activations” around the subway stations may include farmers’ markets and spaces for special events involving local businesses, he added.

“The decision to restore the medians was made years ago and it’s really exciting to see,” Daube said. “We’ve seen years and years of construction on the Miracle Mile and certainly it’s been tough for everybody. We are starting to see what the street will look like with these trees being planted. We are seeing the wait and the heartache everybody has been going through will be worth it.”

The subway extension project will extend the existing D Line (formerly called the Purple Line) from Wilshire/Western to the Westwood VA hospital station. It will include seven new stations and is being built in segments. No date has been scheduled for the opening of the first segment from Wilshire/Western to Wilshire/La Cienega, but Metro has stated it will open by the end of 2025. The second segment to Wilshire/Constellation, which includes the Wilshire Rodeo subway station, is scheduled to open in 2026. Section three, including the Westwood/UCLA Station and Westwood/VA Hospital Station, is scheduled to open in 2027, ahead of the Los Angeles Olympic

Games in 2028. When complete, the D Line will provide a high-speed connection between Downtown L.A. and the Westside, and will provide better access to major job centers and transit destinations such as Cedars-Sinai and UCLA.

While the new tree-lined medians signal a new chapter in the Miracle Mile, not everyone is pleased. Some wanted more shade and believe the new palm trees do little to address rising temperatures and climate change.

“These are not trees, they are emblems. They are meant to give a certain graphic appeal to the street. They have nothing to do with a thought-out urban forest,” Miracle Mile Residential Association president Greg Goldin said.

Carthay Circle resident Ann Rubin has also been critical of Metro’s decision on what trees to plant as part of the D Line extension project.

“We are seeking a robust street-tree and landscaping plan that brings year-round shade for cooling, improved health and delight and beauty for commuters and visitors to this prominent and histori-



photo by Edwin Folven

The medians on Wilshire Boulevard are being landscaped and will potentially include signage for the Miracle Mile.

BHUSD explores resolution in support of Israel

From page 1

flag of Israel on all BHUSD campuses each year.

Following a discussion, the board did not vote on the resolution’s approval, and it will return to a public hearing at a later date after it is examined further.

The resolution was met with both support and opposition from members of the community. Several speakers – including at least three who are Jewish – expressed concerns over the resolution’s perceived vague language and potential First Amendment violations. Some speakers argued that the resolution may backfire, effectively fomenting antisemitism by conflating all Jewish people with the state of Israel.

“I come to you today as the son of an Israeli immigrant with half of my family living in Israel and over a decade of orthodox Hebrew school under my belt,” BHUSD parent Daniel Lifschitz said. “For many years, antisemites have pushed something called the dual loyalty trope to foster hatred and suspicion of Jews. The trope posits that Jews are inherently required to be loyal to and defend the state of Israel, and because their true allegiance is elsewhere, Jews cannot be trusted to participate in American civil life. Jewish people in turn have spent decades attempting to disabuse people of this notion, explaining that Zionism and antisemitism are separate concepts and that criticism of one does not necessitate hatred of the other. The resolution put forth by the board to combat antisemitism seeks to destroy all those decades of work by completely eliminating any distinction between anti-Jewish and anti-Israel sentiment. It also vaguely intones that there is some nebulous false version of Jewish history that will now be banned from discussion, zero specifics provided. It makes the shocking and unprecedented demand that we fly the flag of a foreign state and pledge unwavering support for that foreign state

no matter what it does. That is not merely illiberal and authoritarian, but most likely illegal and an invitation for litigation.”

Lifschitz suggested eliminating several aspects of the resolution and reworking it to remove explicit support for the state of Israel.

Former BHUSD parent Andrea Grossman, who is Jewish, said she was dismayed that the resolution would be put forward by the public school district.

“Did the person who drafted this claptrap have any understanding of the Establishment Clause within the First Amendment? Here’s its meaning: The Establishment Clause, part of the First Amendment, prevents the government from establishing a state religion or favoring one religion over another. It is essentially a mandate to separate church and state, prohibiting government actions that promote, endorse or inhibit religion,” Grossman said. “Not all taxpayers who support the school district are Jewish. Not all students here are Jewish. Why should a Catholic kid, or a Protestant kid, or a Muslim kid, God forbid, be required to pay attention to the Jewish calendar? And why should my kids, who are Jewish, pay attention to a Jewish calendar in a public school? Who decides what the ‘true history’ of any people is? Who determines that? And who writes the history? And more disturbing, why should a public school fly a flag that’s not an American or California flag?”

BHUSD parent Andrew Katz, who is Jewish, supported the intent of combating antisemitism in schools, however, added that requiring the display of Israeli flags and observing Israel’s Independence Day “puts a target” on the backs of Jewish people. He also pointed out a recently approved BHUSD policy which substantially limits the discussion of “sensitive topics” in classrooms – including subjects like race, reli-

gion, gender identity and sexual orientation. He said the school should support initiatives including education on the historical struggles of other marginalized communities.

“It’s great for schools to be able to celebrate Jewish Heritage Month and hang Israeli flags in classrooms. It’s mean for them not to be able to celebrate Pride Month, nor hang the different LGBTQIA+ flags in classrooms,” Katz said. “It’s important to commemorate the murders of over 1,000 innocent Israelis in Israel on Oct. 7. It’s mean to ignore the lynching of many thousands of Black people in the United States from Reconstruction through the ‘50s, and the deaths of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor and Trayvon Martin and other Black people in modern times.”

Although the proposed resolution received criticism from at least four parents and community members, it also received support from at least two parents.

“For many Jews, Beverly Hills School District is the choice to make sure that it’s a safe place for Jewish kids to feel Jewish, to be Jewish, to express their Judaism ... This resolution is very much needed to create that safe environment,” said a parent who identified as Jewish, American and Israeli. He added that he strongly disagreed with Lifschitz’ distinction between anti-Israel sentiment and antisemitism. However, he added that the school district should also “figure out other ways to take care of other minorities to feel safe and included.”

“I think it’s very important to have Jewish education, antisemitism education, because some teachers are unaware of it,” BHUSD parent Lisa Babcock, who is Jewish, said. She alleged that several teachers in the district have ignored antisemitism, and claimed that one teacher denied the events of Oct. 7.

Following public comment,

BHUSD Superintendent Dr. Alex Cherniss acknowledged the differing viewpoints on the language of the resolution, but expressed support for its approval.

“The intent of this resolution is to support our Jewish students,” Cherniss said. “Antisemitism is at an all-time high. This resolution makes a statement that the school district wants to educate our students, our families about antisemitism and ways to combat that through knowledge and facts and education.”

The resolution was strongly supported by Board Member Sigalie Sabag. Board Vice President Judy Manouchehri supported the resolution but added that it could be “fine tuned.” Board Member Russell Stuart also supported the resolution but said he did not disagree with examining the changes suggested by Lifschitz.

Board Member Dr. Amanda Stern said she supported the intention of combating antisemitism, but expressed concerns over potentially violating the First Amendment and contradicting the board’s recent policy on sensitive topics.

“We recently passed a policy that does mention the need to be careful with sensitive topics as well as partisan materials, so I wonder how it is that something of this nature could not be deemed as something that is sensitive or something that covers partisan materials,” Stern said.

Board President Rachelle Marcus also supported the basis of the resolution in combating antisemitism, but added that it should be further examined to address concerns expressed by the community.

Marcus and Manouchehri agreed to create a two-person subcommittee to re-work the resolution with the concerns in mind.

“I will work with Mrs. Marcus as the subcommittee to bring this back with what I hope to be something that all five board members will support,” Manouchehri said.

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.

National Night Out unites communities

From page 1

service providers.

Capt. Mike Rippe, commanding officer of the Wilshire Division, said National Night Out Against Crime is an important event that promotes solidarity between the community and the police department. Personnel at the station look forward every year to National Night Out, held annually nationwide on the first Tuesday of August.

“National Night Out is about everyone coming together, talking to each other, breaking bread, realizing who the people are that really support the community. It’s a huge thing,” Rippe said. “The community aspect of it has increased so much. We’ve solved so many more problems working together. You have all these community groups that come together, and they actually seek out problem solving strategies. That, to me, is huge.”

Formerly held in Poinsettia Park, the Wilshire Division’s National Night Out event moved this year to a larger space in Pan Pacific Park. Eric Calhoun, senior park director, said it is the perfect location for a community event, as the park attracts a large number of local residents. Calhoun added that it facilitates promotion of the many community-centered programs offered at Pan Pacific Park, including fall youth sports leagues. Registration opens this weekend at laparks.org, he added.

“I’ve been working really hard to build this really good relationship with LAPD, and with running one of the biggest parks in the city, safety and security is always my priority. So I have an amazing relationship with the Wilshire Division and I think it was a no brainer for both of us,” Calhoun said. “We’re so central – not just central to Los

Angeles but central to the district, central to the Wilshire Division. I think it really opens it up to get more community members engaged with our police officers.”

Gary Jacoby, a resident of Downtown Los Angeles, said he traveled to the National Night Out event in the Wilshire area.

“I’ve been coming out to this area the last 10 years and I think they’ve got some great things for National Night Out,” Jacoby said. “It’s a lot of fun. I try to come every year.”

“I like communal events. It’s great to see the dogs, support the LAPD. It’s a nice event,” added Josh B., who said he works in the Fairfax District. “It’s great to just be out and enjoying the sunshine.”

Park La Brea resident Alex Kim stopped by with his young son Aiden, who received an honorary badge.

“I come to the park a lot and didn’t know it was happening. It’s great to see all the officers,” Kim said.

Officer Yolanda Rea, who oversees the Wilshire Division’s Cadet Program, encouraged youth to apply. She said it teaches leadership skills and prepares them for life. Cadets receive a leadership certificate from the city of L.A. and the program counts as community service toward college admission. To join the Cadet Program, call the Community Relations Office at (213)473-0220.

National Night Out Against Crime events were also held in West Hollywood and Beverly Hills. West Hollywood marked the city’s 42nd annual National Night Out with block parties throughout the city. The West Hollywood



photo by Tabor Brewster

The National Night Out in Beverly Hills included police displays and programming for residents and families.



photo by Sam Mulick

U.S. Rep. Laura Friedman, right, and Assemblyman Rick Chavez Zbur attended the West Hollywood Heights Neighborhood Association National Night Out celebration, hosted by neighborhood association chair Elyse Eisenberg, center.

Heights Neighborhood Association hosted a Mexican fiesta-themed celebration with food and free giveaways. U.S. Rep. Laura Friedman (D-Glendale), Assemblyman Rick Chavez Zbur (D-Hollywood) and West Hollywood Mayor Chelsea Byers attended the celebration.

“We’re only strong as communities in that we take care of each other and to me, that’s what National Night Out is all about,” Friedman said. “Law enforcement and public safety in general, they help people on their worst days.”

“Public safety is about making our community safe, and that’s about a partnership between people in the community and our public safety officers,” Zbur said. “Safer communities are about that dialogue, about understanding each other, not putting each other in boxes and making sure that public safety officers are understanding communities and our communities know who is on the front lines pro-

tecting us.”

In Beverly Hills, the National Night Out celebration took place outside City Hall and included family-friendly activities such as face painting and balloon art, food trucks, a SWAT truck display and interactive demonstrations. The celebration was attended by many families, the Beverly Hills Police and Fire Departments and members of the Beverly Hills City Council.

“Public safety is our No. 1 priority. It was amazing seeing everyone at National Night Out,” Beverly Hills Mayor Sharona Nazarian said. “Thank you to all who joined us for a fun-filled evening with our Beverly Hills Police and Fire Departments. From games and food to great conversations, it was a night that brought our community together in the best way.”

Reporters Tabor Brewster and Sam Mulick contributed to this article.

WeHo council considers Fountain Avenue plans

From page 1

Councilman John Erickson called on Lt. Fanny Lapkin, of the West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station, to answer questions on Fountain Avenue traffic enforcement.

Lapkin said the sheriff’s department increased traffic enforcement since January and that 46 traffic citations were issued on Fountain Avenue the day that Ackerman was struck and killed. However, she said that ticketing alone would not solve Fountain Avenue’s problems.

“Enforcement is a way of educating, and we say sometimes the only way people learn is through their pocketbook. But no. That’s not something I can say that ‘yes, ticketing is going to get our way

out of this,’” she said.

Lapkin also said despite increasing enforcement and tripling citations on Fountain Avenue, the sheriff’s department is too short staffed to deploy more deputies to the corridor, especially with public safety concerns in other parts of the city.

“Even if I put a deputy 24/7, we’re not going to be able to fix everything,” she said. “It has to do with individual drivers, it has to do with people taking responsibility.”

West Hollywood does not currently have red light cameras and separate speed cameras are not allowed for local cities by state law, Lapkin said.

The West Hollywood City Council will discuss redesigns to Fountain Avenue and provide direction at the Sept. 15 City Council meeting.

West Hollywood will host a Fountain Avenue Streetscape Project community meeting on Aug. 19 at the Plummer Park Community Center, where residents can view updated streetscape plans and share their views on the street. The city will also host a Transportation and Mobility Commission meeting on Aug. 20 and a Public Facilities, Recreation and Infrastructure Commission meeting on Aug. 26 for the public to learn more about the project and provide feedback.

Padilla bill opens pathway to permanent residency

U.S. Sen. Alex Padilla (D-Calif.), ranking member of the Senate Judiciary Immigration Subcommittee, held a press conference on July 25 in Los Angeles alongside immigration advocates, impacted families and community leaders to announce legislation to expand a pathway to lawful permanent residency for millions of long-term U.S. residents.

Amid the Trump administration’s indiscriminate immigration enforcement in California and across the country, the bill would offer a forward-looking update to the outdated immigration system to counter President Trump and

Stephen Miller’s demonization of undocumented immigrants.

Padilla’s legislation would update the existing registry statute of the Immigration and Nationality Act by adjusting the registry date to meet current circumstances so that an immigrant may qualify to apply for lawful permanent resident status if they have lived in the U.S. continuously for at least seven years before filing an application, do not have a criminal record and meet all other current eligibility requirements to receive a green card.

“Americans know there’s a better path forward than the Trump admin-

istration’s cruel scapegoating of hardworking immigrants and fear-mongering of California communities,” Padilla said. “We believe that if you’ve lived here for over seven years, paid taxes for years, contributed to your community for years and you don’t have a criminal record, then you deserve a pathway to legalization. This legislation creates no new bureaucracies or agencies – it’s simply an update to a longstanding pathway to reflect today’s reality and provide a fair shot at the American Dream.”

For information, visit padilla.senate.gov.

Schiff bill helps homeowners recover from natural disasters

U.S. Sens. Adam Schiff (D-Calif.) and Michael Bennet (D-Colo.) introduced the Mortgage Relief for Disaster Survivors Act, which would grant homeowners in areas that have received disaster declarations from the president, governors or tribal leaders 180 days of mortgage forbearance to support household recovery, along with an option of a 180 day extension without accumulation of interest or penalties.

The act would provide mortgage relief for disaster survivors across the country, helping alleviate financial hardships. Anyone residing in an area that has received a disaster declaration from any of the authorities described above from Jan. 1 would be eligible to request forbearance.

“Earlier this year, we watched as families in Los Angeles were devastated by wildfires, and to date, many homeowners are still struggling to rebuild from this disaster. I am proud to introduce this bill so that those who have been affected by natural disasters receive the assistance they need when they need it the most. As natural disasters become more frequent due to climate change, it is critical that we pave a path to stability for homeowners in times of crisis. This is an issue that impacts both red and blue states alike, and I’ll push hard to ensure Congress passes this legislation,” Schiff said.

“After a natural disaster, sur-

vivors often have many extra expenses for temporary relocation and basic needs, and may also be facing job loss or medical bills. This bill will ensure that disaster survivors can begin rebuilding their lives before they are required to resume making mortgage payments if they are unable to do so at the outset,” said Alys Cohen, director of federal housing advocacy for the National Consumer Law Center.

The bill is endorsed by the Consumer Action, National Consumer Law Center, National Low Income Housing Center, National Housing Law Project, Consumer Watchdog, Consumer Federation of America and Neighborhood Housing Services LA.

For information, visit schiff.senate.gov.

Answers From Page 23



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Crossword Puzzle by Myles Mellor

Across

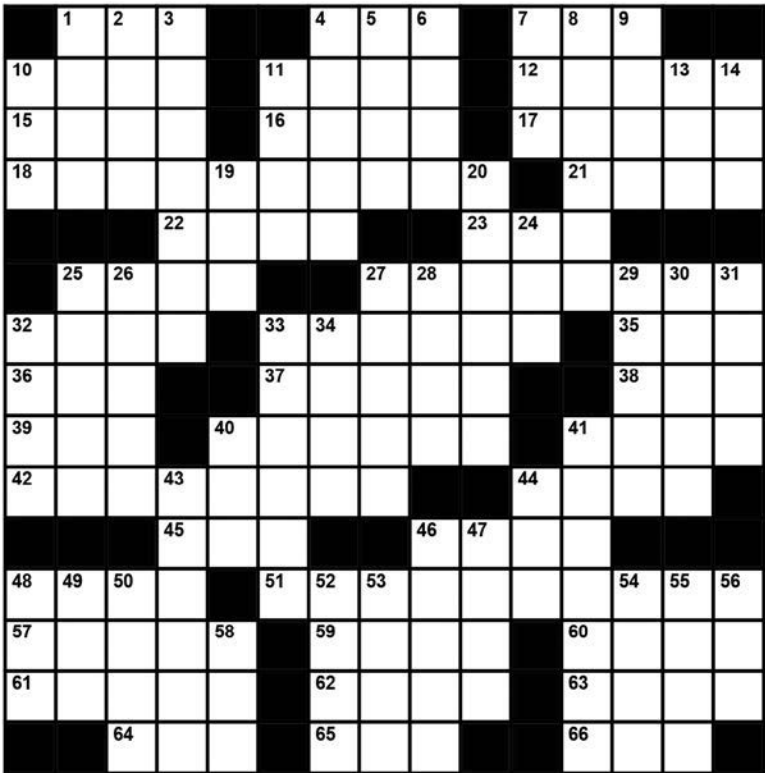
- Grasped
- 'Nova' network
- She played Emma in 'The Avengers'
- First name in espionage
- 'Whoopee!'
- It's a wrap
- Famed lab assistant
- 60 minutos
- Wife-to-be
- In a very bright and awesome man-
ner
- Charlie Parker's music
- Leak
- Rock music style
- Granny
- Promoted
- Folder
- Groups of bees
- Third in the family
- Old Olds
- Lunch slice
- Private, not-for-profit bus.
- Prankish imaginary being
- Pain in the toe
- Cries of aversion
- 'Really?'
- Tight tangle
- Sun Devils' sch.
- Guardianship
- Gossip
- Pizza topping
- Japanese cartoon art

59. Injure

- On ___ with
- Ceremonial gowns
- Designer Klein
- People in charge, abbr.
- A Cadillac
- Bar staple
- Easy mark

Down

- "The Forsyte ___" (Galsworthy)
- The gamut
- Area of conflict
- Ring
- Chip off the old ice block
- Stamp
- Kind of port
- Gortner of 'Falcon Crest'
- Song for Carmen
- Start for east, west or wife
- Ace
- Sharp tool
- Pince-___
- Extended time away from wk.
- Sycophant
- High points, abbr.
- Nobelist Bohr
- Skyward
- Golf course architect, Tom
- Pasta grains
- One of the Beatles
- Figure of ___
- Spanish for God



- Having no cost, in Cologne
- Phlegm
- Pulls it off
- ___-relief
- Takes out clothing stitches
- Trucking specialty
- White wine aperitif
- Web mag
- Courageous
- Be up
- A, in Acapulco

- Turns sharply
- Actor Sharif
- Wacky
- Org. for Nancy Lopez
- Light
- Borghese's obsession
- Slalom maneuver

answers on page 22

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