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temps in the
high 70s

BEVERLY PRESS

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August 8, 2024

Beverly Hills fumbles DuPont court order

■ City misses deadline, admits quality of
turned over messages is ‘not acceptable’

BY TABOR BREWSTER

In the ongoing DuPont Clinic lawsuit against the city of Beverly Hills, court documents reveal that the city did not turn over messages regarding the clinic by June 24, as ordered by the court. While the city did eventually turn over some of the requested messages, the format and quality of the messages raised questions from DuPont’s legal team, which called the city’s actions “bizarre and unprofessional,” and said the city has still not turned over every piece of information as ordered.

The DuPont Clinic lawsuit alleges that the city colluded with anti-abortion activists to have its lease rescinded to prevent it from opening in 2023. The women’s reproductive health clinic would have offered services for all trimesters, and was originally scheduled to open in fall 2023 at 8920 Wilshire Blvd. The company



photo by Tabor Brewster

The women’s reproductive health clinic was scheduled to open in fall 2023 at 8920 Wilshire Blvd.

that owns the property, Douglas Emmett, rescinded the lease on June 12, 2023, following anti-abortion protests in the city. Some anti-

See **City** page 21

Communities take a stand against crime

■ BHPD, LAPD and
LASD join residents
in a show of unity

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Thousands of community members joined law enforcement officials in Beverly Hills, Los Angeles and West Hollywood on Aug. 6 in a show of unity and support on National Night Out Against Crime.

National Night Out events are held annually on the first Tuesday of August, bringing together neighbors and the first responders who serve them. The informal setting allows people to engage in conversation, discuss concerns and learn about police programs. National Night Out events include barbecues and block parties, resource fairs and law enforcement demonstrations. In Beverly Hills, the city held a lively party in the 400 block of North Rexford Drive, in front of the library and fire department headquarters. It included music, food trucks, information booths and family activities. The Beverly Hills Police Department staffed displays from



photo by Tabor Brewster

Officers from the BHPD’s Motor Unit welcomed families at the annual event on Rexford Drive.

the SWAT Team, Real Time Watch Center Drone Program and Mobile Command Center, and the BHPD Motor Unit performed a skills demonstration on motorcycles.

“It’s an opportunity for the community and the police to get together in a positive, healthy, happy way and just get to know

See **National Night Out** page 21

County gives \$3 million to renovate Log Cabin

■ Refurbishment is
expected to be
complete in 2026

BY RANCE COLLINS

On Aug. 5, representatives from the city of West Hollywood gathered to receive a \$3 million facsimile check for the West Hollywood Recovery Center from Los Angeles County. The ceremony came ahead

of an official motion by L.A. County Board of Supervisors Chair Lindsey Horvath, 3rd District, that specifically set aside the funds from the American Rescue Plan to support the renovation of the Log Cabin, the historic building that serves as a home base for WHRC.

“The West Hollywood Recovery Center does incredible work offering life-changing services to our community members on their recovery journey,” Horvath said.

“Recovery services are a vital community service and for 23 years, WHRC has served as a gold standard of care and support.”

The building was constructed as a clubhouse for the Boy Scouts of America in 1936, and it was later home to a Lions Club chapter. But since the 1970s, the Log Cabin has served as a recovery “beacon,” according to WHRC president Shawn Gillespie.

“The West Hollywood Recovery Center provides a focal point for the recovery community and for anyone seeking recovery,” Gillespie said. “WHRC provides a safe meeting place for 12-step groups and provides assistance with addiction recovery, prevention and education to those in need.”

Gillespie said that he has attended recovery meetings throughout the country, as well as Canada and Europe. When he tells people he is from Los Angeles, they always ask if he has gone to the Log Cabin for meetings.

“Often they tell me about when they were in L.A., attending a meeting at the Log Cabin was on their short lists of must dos. To be a part of the refurbishment is an honor,” he said.

See **Log Cabin** page 22



photo courtesy of the office of Lindsey Horvath

West Hollywood officials and leadership from the West Hollywood Recovery Center were presented a check by Supervisor Lindsey Horvath, 3rd District, on Aug. 5.



photo courtesy of James Dastoli

Citrus Square includes buildings with significant architecture, including residences built in the chateausque architectural style.

State picks Citrus Square for historic recognition






■ Nomination heads to
National Parks Service
for approval

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

The Citrus Square neighborhood, comprised of Spanish colonial, French Renaissance,

Tudor and Mediterranean revival, art deco, chateausque and streamline modern homes and buildings, may soon be added to the National Register of Historic Places. The California State Historical Resources Commission voted 6-0 on Aug. 2 to recommend the designation,

See **Citrus Square** page 22



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photo by Tabor Brewster

The proposed merger would result in the sale of local Pavilions stores, including the location at 9467 W. Olympic Blvd. in Beverly Hills.

L.A. council members oppose Kroger-Albertsons merger

Five Los Angeles City Councilmembers introduced a resolution on Aug. 1 calling for the city of Los Angeles to formally oppose the proposed \$24.6 billion merger between Kroger Company and Albertsons. The merger could result in the sale of 14 Los Angeles supermarkets to C&S Wholesale Grocers, leaving their future uncertain.

“We’re sending a clear message to our federal leaders that the city of Los Angeles is unequivocally opposed to the Kroger-Albertsons merger,” said Councilwoman Traci Park, one of the resolution’s signatories. “We can’t risk losing community-serving assets that provide pathways into middle-class jobs with union wages and good benefits.”

In February, the Federal Trade

Commission sued to block the Kroger-Albertsons merger, alleging that it would eliminate competition, leading to higher prices and decreased quality for essential household items, while also threatening the livelihoods of grocery workers.

“The merger between Kroger and Albertsons is bad for our consumers, our communities and our workers. The city must do what we can to protect our most vulnerable, and stop this plan from happening,” Councilwoman Heather Hutt said.

Councilman John Lee underscored the direct impact on local communities.

“The proposed merger between Kroger and Albertsons threatens the existence of stores that our communities depend on to feed their families. It threatens the livelihood of thousands of workers and their families and the health of our local neighborhoods. Healthy competition leads to better customer prices and better wages for workers. This merger will fail at both,” he said.

Councilman Hugo Soto-Martinez also voiced his concerns.

“We will not tolerate a plan that will result in fewer choices, higher prices and lower wages,” he said.

“We can’t stand still as large national companies make decisions based on their bottom lines that harm our neighborhoods, our constituents and our families,” Councilman Tim McOsker added. “The prospective Kroger-Albertsons merger is detrimental to our communities and our local workforce – both today and in the future. It is crucial for the city of Los Angeles to stand strong in our legislative policy to oppose this merger and prevent the erosion of good jobs and neighborhood-serving stores.”

Monique Hightower, a store clerk and member of United Food and Commercial Workers Local 770, which represents thousands of grocery workers in Southern California and has actively mobilized against the merger, emphasized the severe consequences for employees and customers.

“If Kroger and Albertsons were allowed to become one big company, it would result in store closures, food and pharmacy deserts, layoffs and higher prices, especially since the company’s plan to divest 579 stores, including my Albertsons store, to C&S Wholesale Grocers,” Hightower said. “The potential closure of our stores would be disastrous for employees like me, who rely on our jobs to support our families, and customers who depend on us for their daily necessities.”

The resolution was referred to the Rules, Elections and Intergovernmental Relations Committee for further consideration.

Freehand Gallery

Freehand Gallery is holding its summer sale from Thursday, Aug. 8, through Saturday, Aug. 31. The annual sale has been a tradition for 44 years. Everything in the store is discounted by at least 20 percent, with select items discounted up to 50 percent. Explore Freehand Gallery’s collections of jewelry, ceramics, glassware, clothing and one-of-a-kind handmade items. 8413 W. Third St. (323)655-2607, freehand.com.



Outdoor skating

Downtown Santa Monica, Inc. presents the inaugural “Roll @ Santa Monica,” a seasonal roller skating rink operating from Saturday, Aug. 10, through Monday, Oct. 14. The 4,800 square-foot outdoor rink is operated by Willy Bietak Productions. An opening ceremony on Aug. 10, from noon-2 p.m. features the L.A. Skate Hunnies, skate performances, music and entertainment. The L.A. Skate Hunnies will also participate in second Wednesdays-themed skate nights on Aug. 14, Sept. 11 and Oct. 9, from 6-10 p.m. Skating lessons are offered every Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m.-noon. Regular hours of operation are noon-10 p.m., Sunday through Thursday; noon-1 p.m., Friday and Saturday. Admission is \$15 per person (includes skate rental). 1324 Fifth St. rollatsantamonica.com.



Eliza James

8000 Sunset Strip is holding a performance by Eliza James on Saturday, Aug. 10, from 1-3 p.m. James plays the pop electric violin. Aside from studios and television work, she has performed with artists including Stevie Wonder, Shakira, Nicki Minaj, John Legend, Pink, Daft Punk, Kanye West and Paul Anka. The concert is part of the center’s Summer Music Festival, which is held on Saturdays on the first level. 8000 Sunset Blvd. 8000sunset.shopkimco.com.



Children’s concert at The Getty

See Lucy Kalantari & the Jazz Cats in concert on Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 10-11, at 4 p.m. in the Getty Center’s Central Garden. The performance is part of the Getty’s Garden Concerts for Kids series. Get ready for an elegantly silly time with the bilingual (English and Spanish) swingin’ sounds of the Grammy-winning band. Composer and bandleader Kalantari engages audiences with interactive jazz while singing her original foot-tapping songs highlighting the joys of life, community and resilience. Admission is free. 1200 Getty Center Drive. getty.edu.



Khruangbin at Hollywood Bowl

The LA Phil presents two nights of Khruangbin and special guest Unknown Mortal Orchestra on

CALENDAR

Saturday, Aug. 10, at 8 p.m., and Sunday, Aug. 11, at 7:30 p.m. at the Hollywood Bowl. Over the last decade and four albums, Khruangbin has combined musical influences from all over the world. Taking inspiration from their hometown of Houston, Khruangbin integrates Thai funk, spaghetti western film scores, Bakersfield country, Kingston dub, West African disco and G-funk. Opening the concerts is Unknown Mortal Orchestra. Tickets start at \$27. 2301 N. Highland Ave. laphil.org.

‘Human Error’

Rogue Machine presents the Los Angeles premiere of “Human Error” running from Saturday, Aug. 10, through Sunday, Sept. 8, at the Matrix Theatre. Written by Eric Pfeffinger and directed by Joshua Bitton, the production follows Madelyn and Sameer, NPR-listening, latte-sipping blue-state residents who are planning a family. They learn that because of a mix-up at a fertility clinic, Madelyn’s embryo was accidentally implanted in another client. The couple must foster a relationship with the other couple, NASCAR-loving NRA cardholders. Can the polar opposites make it through nine months of gestation? Showtimes are at 8 p.m., Friday, Saturday and Monday; 3 p.m., Sunday. Tickets are \$45. 7657 Melrose Ave. (855)585-5185 roguemachinetheatre.org.

LACMA Fiber Maker’s Circle

Calling all fiber aficionados. Join the Los Angeles County Museum of Art’s Fiber Maker’s Circle on Sunday, Aug. 11, from 12:30-3:30 p.m. Bring a current project or use supplies from the museum. Led by experienced fiber artists, the workshop teaches new techniques and is open to all ages and skill levels. Admission is free. 5905 Wilshire Blvd. lacma.org.



‘The Good Half’

Enjoy a premiere of the film “The Good Half” on Tuesday, Aug. 13, at the Saban Theatre. Nick Jonas stars as Renn, an emotionally distant writer who returns to his hometown of Cleveland for his mother’s funeral after having spent years successfully avoiding interactions with his high-strung sister (Brittany Snow), bumbling but well-meaning father (Matt Walsh), and untrustworthy step-father (David Arquette).

While in town, he forges a new relationship with a charming and energetic stranger who pushes him to realize that he can’t avoid conflict forever – with his family or himself. Doors open at 6 p.m., the movie starts at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$20. 8440 Wilshire Blvd. wheremusicmeetsthesoul.com/events/the-good-half-movie-premiere-beverly-hills-aug-2024.

Contracting webinar

L.A. County is holding “Get Contract Ready,” a virtual small business contracting workshop on Wednesdays, Aug. 14, 21 and 28, from 4-5:30 p.m. The free series is a component of the L.A. Regional Contractor Development and Bonding Program. It will focus on techniques, principles, best practices and lessons learned from county staff on navigating the complex and complicated construction contracting system. Registration required. Call (213)258-3000, or email mwisinfo@imwis.com.



Australian Pink Floyd Show

The 2024 Australian Pink Floyd Show tour comes to the Orpheum Theatre on Wednesday, Aug. 14, at 8 p.m. The show offers a memorable live experience for audiences with state-of-the-art lighting and video, pinpoint lasers, huge inflatables and flawless live sound that is a benchmark of Pink Floyd shows. Tickets start at \$44.25. 842 S. Broadway. ticketmaster.com/event/09006032D42E4660.

Holocaust film

Join Holocaust Museum L.A. for a screening of “Who Will Remain?” on Thursday, Aug. 15. From 6:30-8 p.m. at AMC The Grove 14 theaters. Israeli actress Hadas Kalderon created the film to better understand her grandfather, Yiddish poet Avrom Sutzkever. She traveled to Lithuania using her grandfather’s diary to trace his early life in Vilna and his survival of the Holocaust. The screening is part of the Teicholz Film Series. Admission is free but reservations are required. 189 The Grove Drive. holocaustmuseum-la.org/event-details/teicholz-film-series-who-will-remain.

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Two new candidates join race for BHUSD Board

BY TABOR BREWSTER

Two additional candidates, contractor Sigalie Sabag and attorney Kevin Lipton, have filed paperwork for the Nov. 5 Beverly Hills Unified School District Board of Education election. The candidates join incumbent candidate and current board president Dr. Amanda Stern, attorney Dela Peykar Ronen and firearms store owner Russell Stuart in the race for three open positions on the school board.

Sabag owns United Group Construction and has lived in Beverly Hills for 15 years. She has two adult children and two children currently enrolled in BHUSD schools.

Sabag said her top priority is

ensuring BHUSD’s academic excellence.

“I love the community. I love our district,” Sabag said. “The school board is extremely important to make any kind of changes or keep anything the way we want it to be. What was very important to me is that the [high school and middle] school is not a Blue Ribbon School currently. It hasn’t been for many years now, which is unfortunate. We definitely need to bring our status up to a Blue Ribbon School.”

She added that there should be increased communication between parents, teachers, students and the school board.

“I think I differ [from the other candidates] in regards to being a

mother for almost 36 years. I have experienced many schools. So I know what works, what doesn’t work. I’m very involved with speaking to the kids, speaking to the parents, being a businesswoman and guiding employees and what needs to happen in the business world,” Sabag said.

Lipton is the founder and president of Beverly Hills-based Lipton Legal Group, a firm that specializes in personal injury, employment and real estate law.

According to the firm’s website, Lipton is a Beverly Hills native who holds a business degree from USC and a law degree from Southwestern Law School. Lipton also works with local charities and “aims to foster innovation and



photo courtesy of Lipton Legal Group

photo courtesy of Sigalie Sabag

Attorney Kevin Lipton and contractor Sigalie Sabag have declared their candidacy in the upcoming BHUSD Board election.

development in his community.”

Lipton could not be reached for comment by press time.

Beverly Hills residents will vote for the open school board seats in the Nov. 5 general election.

More candidates declare in WeHo Council election

BY RANCE COLLINS

The nomination period for the West Hollywood City Council election is expected to end on Aug. 14

at 5 p.m., an extension from Aug. 9 due to incumbent Councilwoman Sepi Shyne’s decision not to run for reelection. So far, 10 candidates have pulled nomination papers.

As previously reported, Mayor John Erickson, business license commissioner Danny Hang, Block Party WeHo owner Larry Block, Los Angeles County employee Rachel Schmeidler, Free WeHo Coalition founder West Seegmiller and resident Ramesses II Setenpre have pulled papers.

Public safety commissioner George Nickle has since picked up his application, as has business license commissioner Jordan Cockeram, facilities, recreation and infrastructure commissioner Dorian Jackson and Boomtown Marketing founder Stefanie LaHart.

“I decided to run for West Hollywood City Council following my experience late last year with the vacant house fire at 1030 N. Sierra Bonita Ave,” LaHart said.

LaHart said that, even though the

house had been a significant concern for community members for over 18 months and there were repeated engagements with the sheriff and Block by Block ambassadors, “no one took responsibility to resolve the issue.”

“This negligence culminated in a massive fire on Thanksgiving Day, endangering thousands of residents and hundreds of homes. I stepped up to be the voice for our neighborhood,” LaHart said. “My advocacy ultimately led to the clearing and securing of the property and pushed the City Council to start holding developers accountable.”

LaHart noted that she is a 30-year resident of the city, has witnessed the city’s evolution and was “deeply invested in its future,” and said holding developers accountable, helping small businesses and public safety were among the chief issues to which she wanted “to bring accountability, action and

proactive solutions.”

Candidate Jackson said she has watched the city “evolve and grow” over the 18 years she has called the community her home.

“I deeply cherish it,” Jackson said. “I have both lived and worked in West Hollywood. My decision to run for City Council felt like a calling. I am committed to being an active participant in our city’s ongoing story. With a background in public policy and a genuine love for WeHo, I want to be the voice that, along with my fellow residents, celebrates our successes while being unafraid to tackle our challenges. I want to give my time to WeHo.”

Jackson said she wants to listen to resident needs and research solutions “that embrace the rich diversity and spirit of our community.” She noted that residents are struggling with a high cost of living,

See **WeHo candidates** page 21



Beverly Press/Park Labrea News file photo

Ten candidates are running for West Hollywood City Council.

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photo by Edwin Folven

The fight occurred in a convenience store parking lot in the 7900 block of Santa Monica Blvd.

Man dies in fight after minor collision in WeHo

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

A 68-year-old man died on Aug. 6 after being involved in a fistfight in a convenience store parking lot in West Hollywood, authorities said.

An investigation determined two men got into a minor collision around 1 p.m. in the parking lot of the 7-Eleven store at 7950 Santa Monica Blvd. The men got out of their vehicles, argued and became involved in a fistfight.

When deputies and paramedics arrived, the 68-year-old man, identified as Armando Gabriel, of Los Angeles, was

found unconscious lying on the ground. He was taken to a hospital, where he was later pronounced dead. The other man, identified as Ramon Casas, 48, of Bell Gardens, was also taken a hospital for treatment for unspecified injuries. He was later arrested and booked for murder. Casas is being held on \$2 million bail.

Detectives with the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department’s Homicide Bureau are leading the investigation. Anyone with information about the incident is encouraged to contact investigators at (323)890-5500.

Long Beach man pleads guilty for role in Beverly Hills robbery

A Long Beach man pleaded guilty on Aug. 1 to participating in the March 2022 daylight smash-and-grab robbery of a Beverly Hills jewelry store in which merchandise valued at \$2.7 million was stolen.

Jimmy Lee Vernon III, 32, pleaded guilty to one count of interference with commerce by robbery (Hobbs Act). He has been in federal custody since September 2022.

According to his plea agreement, on March 23, 2022, Vernon committed a robbery of the Luxury Jewels of Beverly Hills store. Vernon used heavy tools to smash the store’s display case while employees were present, causing fear of injury to people inside the store.

Vernon then removed jewelry and other items from the store display cases valued at approximately \$2,674,600. The merchandise consisted of approximately 19 bracelets, seven pairs of earrings, four necklaces, a pair of obelisks, eight rings and 20 watches, court documents state.

After the robbery, Vernon and his accomplices ran out of the store, leaving behind their Kia vehicle – which had been reported stolen out of Long Beach four days before the robbery, according to other court documents. During the robbery, Vernon’s cellphone fell out of his sweatpants pocket while

he smashed the jewelry store’s window, and was later recovered by law enforcement, according to an affidavit previously filed in this case.

Two days after the robbery, one of Vernon’s accomplices posted on his Instagram account numerous photographs that included large stacks of money and a message praising his “robbery gang,” court documents state.

United States District Judge George H. Wu scheduled an Oct. 10 sentencing hearing, at which time Vernon will face a statutory maximum sentence of 20 years in federal prison.

As for Vernon’s co-defendants, Deshon Bell, 22, of Long Beach, pleaded guilty in December 2023 to one count of Hobbs Act robbery and was sentenced on Feb. 26 to one year and one day in federal prison. Ladell Tharpe, 39, of Long Beach, has pleaded not guilty to the charges against him and faces an Oct. 8 trial date.

The FBI and the Beverly Hills Police Department investigated the matter.

Assistant United States Attorneys Kevin J. Butler of the Violent and Organized Crime Section and Kevin B. Reidy of the Major Frauds Section are prosecuting the case.

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

Tagging along Walk of Fame angers leaders

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Graffiti scrawled across a banner paying tribute to the Walk of Fame in the 7000 block of Hollywood Boulevard has angered members of the community including the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce, which erected the sign in 2022.

Taggers have nearly covered the entire piece, which is located on the south side of the street between the sidewalk and a parking structure for the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel. Ana Martinez, vice president of media relations for the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce, said a majority of the graffiti was scrawled on the sign last week. Chamber administrators are currently in the process of determining what to do next. The sign is a vinyl banner so the graffiti can’t be wiped off. However, it can be remanufactured, Martinez added.

“I’m not sure what we are going to do. We are weighing our options,” she said. “It’s pretty bad and so disrespectful.”

Graffiti was scrawled on the sign in late July, and taggers returned and scrawled more sometime last week. Martinez surmised they struck overnight on Aug. 1. She said staff from the Hollywood Partnership notified her about it on Aug. 2.

Lt. Victor Arellano, with the Los Angeles Police Department’s Hollywood Division, said graffiti frequently occurs in Hollywood but the damage to the sign is particularly bad. He said officers patrolling the Hollywood Entertainment District were notified and are watching the area.

“[We will keep] a sharper eye on it,” he added. “Let’s see if we can catch them.”

Arellano said graffiti is proliferating in the Hollywood area, which he said sometimes increases during summer when young people are out of school. The graffiti on the Walk of Fame tribute sign appears to be from tagging crews as opposed to gangs, he added.

“These taggers, that’s their call sign, or whatever you want to call it. Unless we paint it over quick,



photo by Edwin Folven

A banner paying homage to Walk of Fame history was covered in graffiti by taggers.

they will come out and start marking it up again.”

Graffiti is removed by multiple organizations in the Hollywood area. The Hollywood Partnership, which oversees the business improvement district, offers graffiti removal through its dispatch center on Hollywood Boulevard. The Hollywood Partnership’s ambassadors also walk the district proactively looking for graffiti. People are encouraged to call (567)HLYWOOD to report locations for cleaning.

“It’s one of our core services,” said Mackenzie Carter, vice president of marketing and communications for the Hollywood Partnership. “We are actually seeing an increase in graffiti removal requests. A majority of it is on public property. So far this year, we have removed 8,016 instances on public property, and 4,247 instances on private property.”

Los Angeles City Councilman Hugo Soto-Martinez’s office also links residents to graffiti removal services conducted by the Los Angeles Conservation Corps, spokesman Nick Barnes-Batista said. Teams proactively conduct abatement services at sites where graffiti is common.

“We encourage folks to submit

311 requests about any graffiti issues they see, and then follow up with our office with the 311 request number,” he said. “We have a contracted clean up team through L.A. Conservation Corps that provides supplemental graffiti abatement services in addition to the graffiti abatement provided directly by the city. Murals registered with the city can also be coated with anti-graffiti sealer to prevent graffiti and expedite cleanup if graffiti does occur.”

Sharyn Romano, with the Los Angeles Beautification Team, also said she has seen an uptick in graffiti in Hollywood. The LABT is a nonprofit city contractor providing services in Hollywood, Silver Lake, Atwater Village and Glassell Park.

“Graffiti ebbs and flows, and right now it seems to be on the rise,” Romano said. “We send out crews every day. We are doing the best we can to remove it with the resources we have.”

Romano said one problem is graffiti removal programs have not received an increased in funding for five years, and the cost of insurance, paint and supplies has gone up considerably. It translates into less graffiti being removed overall throughout the city, she added. Another problem is properties that

See **Graffiti** page 22

Melrose burglars use power tool to break into store

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

A burglary crew broke into an apparel store on Melrose Avenue during the early morning hours of Aug. 5, using a power tool to get inside, police said.

The break-in occurred around 2:40 a.m. at That’s A Awful Lot of Cough Syrup, a hip-hop apparel store located at 7669 Melrose Ave. Authorities said five men approached the front of the shop, which is protected by a roll-up security gate. They used a power saw to cut a hole in the gate and smashed a window to gain access to the building. Police said the suspects stole property and fled, but did not specify what was stolen. No arrests were made.

Witnesses provided descriptions of the suspects and their vehicle, a small white Mazda SUV. Witnesses described the suspects as being Hispanic. They were wearing facemasks and hooded sweatshirts in an attempt to conceal their identities.

Detectives are investigating a separate burglary that occurred in the Melrose area on Aug. 3 at



photo by Edwin Folven

Thieves cut open a security gate and burglarized a store at 7669 Melrose Ave.

Spokes ‘N Stuff at 7777 Melrose Ave. A suspect cut a lock on a storage shed and stole a bicycle. The crime was reported around 6 p.m. No suspect description or further information was available.

Anyone with information about the burglaries is urged to call detectives at (213)922-8205 or (213)473-0476. During weekends and off-hours, call the LAPD’s hotline at (877)LAPD247.

WeHo puts preemptive sales tax measure on November ballot

BY RANCE COLLINS

On Aug. 5, the West Hollywood City Council approved a ballot measure for the November election that could safeguard potential sales taxes for city use. The use of a one-quarter cent tax would only take effect if a further district sales tax is enacted. Essentially, this item would earmark that tax to go to the city and not to the county or state. Beverly Hills voters approved a similar measure in 2020.

“Under state law, there is a maximum amount of sales tax which can be charged by local jurisdictions,”

Councilman John Heilman said. “However, the sales tax can be imposed by any taxing agency including the county. If it is imposed by the city, the revenue stays within the city and can be controlled by the city. If the sales tax is imposed by another taxing agency such as the county, it doesn’t stay within West Hollywood and the city has no say in how the money is used ... The ballot measure essentially preserves those funds for the West Hollywood community if some other governmental agency tries to take them. And if that happens, the increased sales tax revenue will stay

in West Hollywood and the city can use the funds for a variety of purposes such as enhancing public safety, cleaning up streets and addressing other quality of life issues of concern to the community.”

Heilman stressed that there would “be no immediate increase in sales tax paid by consumers.”

“An increase will only go into effect if some other governmental agency within the county tries to increase the sales tax or, if at some point in the future, there is an urgent need for the funds,” Heilman said.

Los Angeles County’s Measure H, a 10-year one-quarter cent sales tax for homelessness prevention, went into effect in 2017 and is set to expire in 2027. The measure has limited the amount of sales tax cities within the county can collect. Another county ballot measure will appear in November that could repeal Measure H altogether. The West Hollywood item comes as an effort, according to a staff report, aims to prevent any district from further infringing on the statutory sales tax cap.

“This proposed ballot measure does not change the existing 10.25% sales tax rate currently col-



photo by Jon Viscott

A ballot measure was approved for the Nov. 5 election by the West Hollywood City Council.

WeHo upgrades permitting system

The city of West Hollywood is launching a new, comprehensive enterprise permitting and licensing management system this month. This advanced software will transform the city’s permitting, planning, regulatory licensing and code enforcement processes, making these more user-friendly.

The new permitting system will replace multiple software platforms that have been previously used in isolation, which will streamline operations and improve service delivery for residents, businesses, vendors and stakeholders who interact with the city’s permitting processes.

The following areas and functions will be improved: building and safety permitting, plan check review and inspection services, current planning and historic preservation, long-range planning, engineering, neighborhood and business safety code enforcement and business licensing/permitting, revenue, film permitting and special event permitting.

From Aug. 14-19, to accommodate the upgrade, certain services will be taken offline and there will be a temporary pause in application acceptance and permit issuance, impacting: planning, and building and safety – at West Hollywood City Hall, planning, and building and safety counters will remain operational during the upgrade to provide limited services, but staff will not be able to accept new applications or issue permits. In addition, applications submitted by email on or after Friday, Aug. 9 may be delayed until after the new system is launched on Aug. 19 neighborhood and business safety, code enforcement, business licensing/permitting – at West Hollywood City Hall, neighborhood and business safety/code enforcement counters will remain operational during the upgrade, but staff will not be able to process applications or issue permits, such as regulatory business licenses, extended hours permits, special events permits and

encroachment permits.

All applications and permitting services are anticipated to resume on Monday, Aug. 19, at 10 a.m., once the new system is launched. The city understands this may cause an inconvenience, and the city appreciates patience from community members as it completes work to implement the upgrade. City staff members will be available to discuss questions and concerns from community members before, during, and after the upgrade; call West Hollywood City Hall at (323)848-6400.

The city’s new permitting system, developed in partnership with Tyler Technologies, results from an extensive proposal evaluation process. The platform will consolidate multiple systems, enabling city divisions to share information more efficiently. The system will feature an online portal as a central communication hub between the public and city staff. From initial application submissions to permit/license issuance, it will provide a robust workflow, outlining each step of the process allowing applicants and city staff to track progress in real-time.

Highlights of the new permitting system include: customer portals to track application and project submittals; fully electronic plan submittals and reviews; guided assistance for applicants through the application process; integration with the Los Angeles County Assessor’s Office for updated parcel information; mobile responsive interface to support city staff in the field; and seamless payment options offered within the platform.

For information about the city of West Hollywood’s permitting and technology upgrade, call Eugene Tsipis, West Hollywood’s information technology manager, at (323)848-6399 or at etsipis@weho.org. For people who are deaf or hard of hearing, call TTY (323)848-6496.

Council honors Rotary Club President



photo courtesy of the city of Beverly Hills

The Beverly Hills Mayor and City Council recognized Lillian Raffel, outgoing Rotary Club President, at the formal meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 6. Councilman Craig Corman, Vice Mayor Sharona Nazarian, Mayor Lester Friedman, Stuart Raffel, Lillian Raffel, Councilmember John Mirisch and Councilmember Mary Wells celebrated the achievements of Raffel.



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L.A. County passes ‘bubble zone’ law

BY RANCE COLLINS

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved a motion on Aug. 6 that created a “bubble zone” for individuals seeking access to health care centers, schools and houses of worship. The policy, modeled after a similar ordinance in Colorado, is meant to safeguard people so they can safely enter and exit an establishment that might be subject to protestors.

“Los Angeles County has a responsibility to ensure our community members can safely receive medical care, practice their faith or access their schools,” said Board of Supervisors Chair Lindsey Horvath, 3rd District, who authored the motion. “Even here in Los Angeles County, we have seen how intimidation is used to prevent community members from entering facilities to receive essential services – bubble zones are how we meaningfully protect personal safety.”

“It’s always great to see expanded and enhanced protections for patients, health care providers, students and places of worship,” Beverly Hills for Choice founder Andrea Grossman said. “But as we’ve seen in Beverly Hills, a handful of extremists can show up and make noise and threats, and before you know it, a legal health clinic can shutter before it has a chance to open.”

Thirty years ago, President Bill Clinton signed the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act into law, which was intended to provide similar protections. The law prohibited physical force, threat of force or intentional damage to reproductive centers and houses of worship. States, counties and cities have, in the years since, enacted extensions to the law. Other municipalities

have gone a different direction.

“Cities who object to existing legal protections ... have managed work-arounds to avoid clinics from opening and providing care,” Grossman said.

The new county law, like its Colorado model, makes it a misdemeanor to obstruct entry or exit from facilities, as well as to distribute paraphernalia without consent within eight feet or counsel anyone within 100 feet of a facility. Additionally, the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department has been instructed to inform and train personnel on the new ordinance. The Chief Executive Office was directed to conduct a forum to educate the 88 cities within the county.

The goal, according to Horvath’s office, “is to have localities bring forward their own bubble zone local ordinances.”

Protests have occurred outside synagogues and other houses of worship since the start of the Israel-Gaza war last October. Horvath noted that many Jewish and Islamic constituents have expressed that they feel unsafe.

During the Aug. 6 Board of Supervisors meeting, one community member spoke against the motion at the meeting.

“Buffer zones are designed to put me in jail, and they take away the right for pregnant women to hear their options,” Teresa Saydah said. “I am one of the pro-life volunteers who stand outside abortion centers. I offer a brochure on free service as I say, ‘If you know anyone’s who’s pregnant, here are some free resources. I would love to help you.’ For that, I would be put in jail. Buffer zones also limit the ability for pregnant women to have a compassionate conversation about their options, and it denies them information on resources

available to assist them at pregnancy help centers and in their community.”

Celinda Vasquez, a representative from Planned Parenthood, thanked the board for building upon “creating L.A. County as a safe haven and further protecting the patients and the workforce that provides basic health care every single day to your county residents.”

“We have seen a terrible, terrible increase in threats – safety threats – to the people who are simply accessing basic health care,” Vasquez said. “And in a post-Dobbs world, your actions [will] build again upon the safe haven.”



Beverly Press/Park Labrea News file photo

The Holocaust Museum of Los Angeles is one building that would be protected under the county’s new “bubble zone” law.

LAFD offers emergency response training

The Los Angeles Fire Department’s West Bureau will hold Community Emergency Response Team training in September, and residents are encouraged to register.

CERT offers emergency preparedness training for civilians. The training starts on Sept. 17 and will be held on Thursdays from 7-9:30 p.m. at Fire Station 82, 1800 N. Bronson Ave. The sessions will be led by Firefighters Nathan Espinosa and Kurt Howard.

The course covers an introduction to disaster awareness, ICS and disaster psychology, disaster med-

ical operations, fire suppression and hazardous materials, light search and rescue, and terrorism and CERT.

Participants must attend all classes to receive a certificate of completion. Download the CERT manual before the classes start by visiting ready.gov/sites/default/files/2019.CERT_Basic_PM_FINAL_508c.pdf.

To register, visit eventbrite.com/e/lafd-cert-west-bureau-cert-group-1-tickets-949867237477?aff=ebdsshcopyurl&utm_campaign=social&utm_content=attendeeshare&utm_medium=discovery&utm_term=.



photo by Edwin Folven

The seven-week course is led by firefighters from LAFD Station 82 in Hollywood.

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Laughter is the best medicine

■ ‘Comedy Gives Back’ this August

BY TABOR BREWSTER

In 2011, Zoe Friedman, Amber J. Lawson and Jodi Lieberman started Comedy Gives Back, an organization that uses comedy as a platform for positive change. The three friends – who knew each other through their accomplished careers in the comedy industry – ran into each other one night after a show at The Hollywood Improv on Melrose Avenue. According to Friedman, it started with one question.

“[Amber J. and Jodi] came up to me and they said, ‘do you think we can change the world through comedy?’” Friedman said.

Friedman immediately responded, “yes.” She had personally seen the impact comedy could have throughout her entire life.

“I was more or less born into comedy,” Friedman said. Her parents founded the original Improv comedy club in New York City in 1963, and she grew up around famous comics. She eventually worked at the club and started a comedy career of her own, holding senior positions for the “Late Show with David Letterman” and Comedy Central.

“We all collectively believed that comedy was a transformative art form that created community, intelligence, raised the vibration of the planet and hopefully could open minds and hearts,” Friedman said.

Along with Lawson – a performer and producer who specializes in tech and digital content – and Lieberman – a talent manager and former head of programming for the Just For Laughs comedy festival in Montreal – the three founded Comedy Gives Back with the intention of raising money for charities. The organization rallied standup comedians together to perform at benefit shows and livestreamed telethons, fundraising for nonprofits like Feeding America

and Malaria No More.

“We joke that three chicks walked into a comedy club and decided to change the world,” Friedman said.

However, in 2018, the group had an “aha” moment when they realized there was no safety net for the comedians who regularly performed at their fundraising events.

“[There was] MusiCares for musicians, and the Actors Fund for actors, and nothing for comedians,” Friedman said. “We made a pivot. We applied for our own [nonprofit] designation. We started the new vision and the new mandate to be the safety net for the standup comedy community.”

The organization held its first fundraiser as its own nonprofit in 2019, but a year later, the COVID-19 pandemic shook the entertainment industry and left many comedians struggling to make ends meet. Comedy Gives Back immediately sprung into action, organizing virtual events through Zoom and offering financial relief grants to comics in need of support.

“A lot of comics got to know us during the pandemic,” Lieberman said. “We had about 1,300 applications for our grants and we gave out over 1,000 \$500 grants.”

According to the group, its efforts during the pandemic helped raise awareness of the nonprofit and its safety net opportunities. Now, Comedy Gives Back is well known throughout the comedy world.

“We are an overnight sensation 10 years in the making,” Lawson quipped.

Since the pandemic, standup comedy has exploded in popularity, further expanding the reach of Comedy Gives Back.

“Comedy in the last couple of years has really taken a leap,” Lieberman said. “Comedians are the new rockstars.”

But with greater success for

comics comes more pressure under the public eye, which may lead to mental health struggles, the group added. In addition to temporary financial relief during the pandemic, the group helps comedians connect with mental health resources and substance abuse treatment options.

“We are bringing health and wellness and mental wellbeing to the comedy community with various modalities and tools,” Lawson said.

One of the organization’s unique resources is the Comedy Gives Back Healthnet, an online portal that connects comedians with doctors via telehealth. For example, a touring comic on the road can get a quick, low-cost diagnosis and proper treatment for a sore throat when they’re scheduled for a show that night far from their hometown, Friedman said. She added that the program was made possible by the support of comedian Bert Kreischer.

Kreischer is just one of the many big names in comedy who have enthusiastically supported Comedy Gives Back. One of the group’s earliest and most dedicated supporters was the late Richard Lewis, a legendary Los Angeles comic who was open about his personal struggles, and a lifelong friend of Friedman.

“He was a big part of my family and my life growing up. When we started, I went to him and told him what we were doing. It was almost as if I could not have gotten the description out fast enough when he said, ‘Oh my god, if only we had something like this when I was younger.’ He really understood our mission and stood with us in the mission,” Friedman said.

She added that Lewis served as a board member for the organization.

On Aug. 17 and 18, in partnership with Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services and Councilman Bob Blumenthal, the group will host the Brody Stevens Festival of Friendship, a multiday event that raises awareness for suicide preven-



photo courtesy of Comedy Gives Back

Comedy industry professionals Amber J. Lawson, left, Zoe Friedman and Jodi Lieberman founded Comedy Gives Back in 2011.

tion and fundraises for Comedy Gives Back’s mental health services.

The festival honors Brody Stevens, a comedian from Reseda who was beloved in the community who took his own life in 2019.

“Brody was somebody who was incredibly transparent and forthcoming about his mental health struggles,” Friedman said. “When he took his own life, it was really devastating to the community. His friends and family started an event called the Festival of Friendship Walk in Reseda. We joined forces with them a couple years ago and have built this weekend event called Brody Fest.”

The group hopes that the yearly

event will raise awareness and funds for mental health resources so that no comedian is lost to suicide ever again.

“Being alone on stage is the job. Being alone off stage is unacceptable,” Lawson said.

The event features a benefit walk and softball game starting at 1 p.m. in Reseda Park on Saturday, Aug. 17, and a fundraising show at The Comedy Store at 8 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 18.

To register or donate, visit comedygivesback.com/brody-stevens.

Reseda Park is located at 18411 Victory Blvd.

The Comedy Store is located at 8433 Sunset Blvd.

Beverly Press takes home 5 awards at CNPA ceremony

The staff of the Beverly Press and Park Labrea News placed in five categories at the annual California News Publishers Association awards in July. Edwin Folven placed 2nd for Homelessness Reporting for his story “City finds housing for people at Sixth Street encampment” which published in the Feb. 22, 2023 issue. Folven placed 2nd for Best News Photo for his photo, right, which published with the story “Outpouring of support swells for Israel” on Oct. 11, 2023. A 5th place award was received by Folven for his Enterprising News

Story “Authorities warn that Temporary Thrills Kill” about street takeovers which published on May 24, 2023.

Rance Collins placed 3rd in the category of Profile Story for “PRIDE PROFILE: Arballo stands tall in the face of adversity.”

Collins took home a 4th place award in Film and TV Writing for his piece “‘Wonderful Life’ provides hope for the holidays” which published in the Dec. 20, 2023 issue.

Columnist Chris Erskine was a guest speaker at the event, lending a humorous bent to the art of report-

ing. Publishers Karen and Michael Villalpando were proud of their staff and congratulated them on their well-deserved recognitions.



photo courtesy of CNPA



photo by Edwin Folven

From left, Rance Collins, Chris Erskine, Karen and Michael Villalpando, Tabor Brewster and Edwin Folven.

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photo courtesy of the LA Phil

See a Hollywood Bowl concert for \$1

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors unanimously voted on Aug. 6 to raise awareness about \$1 Hollywood Bowl tickets available to the general public.

The Hollywood Bowl is operated by the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation in coordination with the Los Angeles Philharmonic. It offers a \$1 ticket program so the public can enjoy L.A. Phil concerts on any Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday during the summer.

The motion, authored by Supervisor Kathryn Barger, 5th District, calls for more to be done to promote the \$1 ticket program as well as the recently expanded park-and-ride and shuttle services, with online tickets starting at \$7 per person.

The \$1 ticket campaign will be disbursed through the Department of Public Social Services, Department of Children and Family Services and the Los Angeles County Public Library system.

To limit costs when attending shows, the Hollywood Bowl is one of the few venues across the county that allows patrons to bring in their own food and beverages.

“For more than 100 years of serving our community with innovative artistic programs at the Hollywood Bowl, we are excited to expand our commitment to accessibility by offering more than 12,000 additional \$1 tickets, raising the total to 36,080 ... ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to experience the joy of live music,” L.A. Phil president and

River Fest makes a splash at L.A. State Historic Park

Friends of the L.A. River, also known as FoLAR, invites the public to the third annual River Fest, a free all-ages environmental arts and community festival on Sunday, Aug. 11, from 3-9 p.m. at L.A. State Historic Park.

The event will showcase connections between nature, climate change, culture, history, people and the L.A. River. With heavy emphasis on the arts, River Fest will offer a variety of local artists with live music and dance performances, a visual art gallery and eco-activities for the whole family. The event will also feature top L.A. food trucks, and a marketplace with 50 booths from local environmental, arts, Indigenous and partner organizations like Water Replenishment District, REI Co-op and 100 Acre Partnership.

Debuting this year is the Lewis Lounge, a tribute to FoLAR founder and poet Lewis MacAdams. It features poetry based on the theme, “How do you connect to the river?” A curated poetry jam will be hosted by Mike the Poet Sonksen.

“The L.A. River connects so many diverse communities across its 51 miles and River Fest 2024 is



photo courtesy of FoLAR

River Fest on Aug. 11 celebrates connections between the community and the L.A. River.

about bringing those communities together to celebrate the ways in which the river continues to inspire us,” FoLAR CEO Candice Dickens-Russell said. “With an incredible lineup of artists, advocates and community members, we hope River Fest will give all Angelenos the chance to experience the L.A. River’s unique ability to enhance our collective wellbeing

... and to have some fun together along the way.”

FoLAR will host the 34th annual Great L.A. River CleanUp this fall, with multiple locations throughout the entire river with opportunities to help support the waterway and make meaningful connections.

River Fest is free, but registration is required. To register, visit folar.org/riverfest.

Help City of Hope patients during blood drive at Farmers Market

The Original Farmers Market is holding its first blood drive with City of Hope on Tuesday, Aug. 13, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. on the market’s plaza.

The City of Hope bloodmobile will be parked near the Clock Tower, welcoming donors to contribute to a vital cause. Every donation collected will directly support City of Hope cancer patients, offering them much-needed resources.

Donors must bring a valid photo ID, be in good health with no COVID-19, cold or flu-like symptoms. Donors should eat a healthy meal/snack and drink plenty of water. Vaccination is not required to donate.

Blood donations are encouraged for anyone 17 and older; 16-year-olds may also donate blood with parental consent. Donors must weigh at least 110 pounds and be in good general health. The minimum weight required for 16-year-old donors is 135 pounds.

All donors will receive complimentary parking for the day and a \$10 Farmers Market Gift Certificate. While walk-ins are welcome, donors are encouraged to make appointments.

To schedule an appointment, call (626)218-7171, or visit idonate-blood4hope.org/index.cfm?group=op&step=2&opid=7546&opidh=A986941F1579FCEE1A3DD2397

F86D8C&idt=45498.3591319.

The Original Farmers Market is located at 6333 W. Third St. For information, visit farmersmarket-la.com.



photo courtesy of the City of Hope

The City of Hope bloodmobile will be parked at the Farmers Market.

Notable Quotes

“We knew the world would not be the same. A few people laughed, a few people cried. Most people were silent. I remembered the line from the Hindu scripture, the Bhagavad Gita... ‘I am become Death, the destroyer of worlds.’ I suppose we all thought that, one way or another.”

Robert Oppenheimer
1904-1967
Recalling the explosion of the first atomic bomb near Alamogordo, New Mexico, July 16, 1945. From Len Giovaniti and Fred Freed, “The Decision to Drop the Bomb,” 1965.

This week marks the 79th anniversary of the U.S. detonation of two atomic bombs on Aug. 6 and 9, 1945 over the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The bombings killed between 150,000 and 246,000 people, most of whom were civilians. The bombings remain the only use of nuclear weapons ever used in armed conflict.

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Pray for peace.
Demand peace.

*Source: Bartlett’s Familiar Quotations

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Subway work keeps steady pace along Wilshire Boulevard

Metro subway construction is ongoing in August along Wilshire Boulevard between the Wilshire/Western and Century City/Constellation stations.

Street restoration work continues near the Wilshire/Western subway station construction yard at the eastern end of the project. Crews are restoring sidewalks and the streetscape in the area. Wilshire Boulevard is reduced to two lanes in each direction between Oxford Avenue and Saint Andrews Place and left turns are prohibited from Wilshire Boulevard to Western Avenue.

Near the Wilshire/La Brea station, crews are restoring streets, curbs and sidewalks. Through August, South Sycamore Avenue will be closed at Wilshire Boulevard from 7 a.m.-3 p.m. to support restoration work. Wilshire Boulevard is reduced to two lanes in each direction between Highland and La Brea avenues. Intermittent closures are also being implement-

ed on Detroit Street at Wilshire Boulevard through October and a K-rail work zone remains in place on the south side of Wilshire Boulevard to support street restoration work.

Through October, a K-rail work zone is located in the middle lanes of Wilshire Boulevard between Fairfax and Spaulding avenues. The zone supports street restoration and traffic switch work. Wilshire Boulevard will be reduced to two lanes in each direction in the area. Left turns from Wilshire Boulevard to La Cienega Boulevard will be maintained.

Water line utility work is also scheduled near Wilshire/La Cienega. The waterline utility work will occur along Wilshire Boulevard between San Vicente and La Cienega boulevards. Properties between La Cienega and San Vicente boulevards, and Gregory and Clifton ways, may experience overnight water service disruption. All affected properties

will be notified in advance of work starting.

Crews are also completing electrical utility work in the area. Intermittent full closures on Gale and Hamilton drives north and south of Wilshire Boulevard may be implemented to support utility work and for decking removal. Strut removal, concrete work and material deliveries continues in August at Wilshire/La Cienega.

Crews plan to implement a full closure of Cañon Drive south of Wilshire Boulevard until the holiday work moratorium beings in November. The closure supports decking removal and street restoration. Potholing on Wilshire Boulevard for future piling work is anticipated to start in August and piling may begin in early September.

Crews are also removing temporary dewatering infrastructure and beginning roadway restoration including paving and stripping of the roadway. Northbound Lasky



photo by Edwin Folven

A work zone remains in place in the middle of Wilshire Boulevard at La Jolla Avenue.

Drive will be restricted for approximately two weeks between Robbins and Durant drives from 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday through Friday. A detour will be available for motorists through the alley at Charleville Boulevard and South Lasky Drive.

In Century City, crews are pouring structural concrete 24 hours

through September at the new subway station. Work zones and partial traffic lane closures will be in place on Avenue of the Stars. Left turns will be restricted from northbound Avenue of the Stars onto westbound Constellation Boulevard.

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

Input from WeHo residents sought on traffic plan

The city of West Hollywood invites community members to attend an upcoming meeting to review parking along Vista and Gardner streets as part of the Willoughby, Vista/Gardner and Kings Street Design Concept Plan.

The community meeting and

parking-focused discussion will take place on Thursday, Aug. 22, at 6 p.m. in Rooms 5 and 6 at the Plummer Park Community Center, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd. No advance RSVP is needed.

The purpose is to provide community members with information

regarding the proposed parking reconfiguration along Vista/Gardner outlined in the Street Design Concept Plan and to receive feedback on proposed changes. City staff will provide a brief presentation on design alternatives being considered and will request feedback from the community.

The city of West Hollywood's mobility projects are guided by the Pedestrian and Bicycle Mobility Plan, launched in 2019, which advocates for comfortable, safe, healthy and convenient places to walk and bicycle in a balanced, multimodal transportation network serving pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders and motorists. The Street Design Concept Plan was identified as a priority project in the Pedestrian and Bicycle Mobility Plan.

The project's primary objective is to enhance the neighborhood and protect the safety of pedestrians and cyclists through strategic street improvements across the corridor. The comprehensive streetscape initiative aims to create safer, more accessible routes for walking and biking while reducing cut-through

traffic. By transforming Kings Road and Vista/Gardner streets into connecting corridors, the Street Design Concept Plan facilitates a seamless link between residential and commercial areas and east-west routes such as Santa Monica Boulevard and Fountain Avenue.

The Street Design Concept Plan is the first project stage in the development of the Willoughby, Vista/Gardner and Kings Street Design Capital Improvement Project. With the recent approval of the Street Design Concept Plan by the West Hollywood City Council, the plan moves to the design and engineering phase, where concepts will be developed in more detail. It includes the development and incorporation of detailed engineering plans, specifications and cost estimates that will serve as a blueprint for project construction.

The next stage of the project will determine the feasibility of the conceptual project elements from the Street Design Concept Plan and allow for additional insight into refinements for the project's final design.

For information, visit engage.weho.org/willoughby and go.weho.org/willoughby.



photo by Rance Collins

Parking reconfiguration along Vista and Gardner streets will be under review at the meeting.

Sheriff's Station volunteers get new patrol car in West Hollywood

Volunteers at the West Hollywood Sheriff's Station are patrolling the city in a new vehicle recently provided by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. Station volunteers perform a variety of support duties such as staffing the front desk, assisting in filing reports and helping station personnel. Those who undergo more exten-

sive training are assigned to patrol duties, looking for suspicious activity and crime and alerting deputies. Volunteers must be 18 years old and are required to undergo a criminal background check. The positions are unpaid and the volunteers are unarmed. For information, call (310)855-8850, or visit lasd.org/west-hollywood.



photo courtesy of the West Hollywood Sheriff's Station

West Hollywood Sheriff's Station volunteers assist deputies in a variety of roles, including patrol.

Beverly Hills asks designers and developers to submit preapproved ADU plans by September

The city of Beverly Hills invites architects, designers and developers to submit designer-owned preapproved plans for detached Accessory Dwelling Units as part of the first phase of its new "Preapproved ADU Program." The program was created to encourage the production of ADUs that aligns with the state's recent require-

ments.

"We are excited to welcome thoughtful designs that consider the distinctive character of the Beverly Hills community," said Michael Forbes, director of community development. "We hope this new program will prove to be a successful avenue for those interested in constructing an ADU while utiliz-

ing a high-quality plan in an efficient way that meets our city standards."

During the first phase of the program, the city will review submissions for code compliance and once approved, feature them on the city's website. In the second phase, property owners will then be able to choose their plans, accelerating the

approval process for construction and reducing costs while meeting city building and safety requirements.

Property owners using preapproved plans must still contract with the designer to use their plans, secure a building permit, and add specific property details.

The city is accepting applications until Tuesday, Oct. 1, at 5:30 p.m. For additional information or to apply, visit beverlyhills.org/preapprovedadu.

Establishing a Family Trust

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RESTAURANT NEWS

Pez Coastal Kitchen makes summer refreshing

At Pez Coastal Kitchen, melons are featured all August long. Indulge in refreshing watermelon, honeydew and cantaloupe-infused cocktails and salads. And don't miss the new frozen cocktails, like watermelon mojito and other frozen delights. Happy hour specials are also available Tuesday-Friday from 3-6 p.m., especially geared toward Dodger fans looking to cheer on Los Angeles' boys in blue. On Aug. 21, Duckhorn Vineyards will offer a special collaboration dinner with the restaurant, with a four-course meal paired with Duckhorn wines. To make a reservation for the experience, visit exploretock.com/pez-modern-coastal-kitchen. For information on Pez Coastal Kitchen, visit pezpasadena.com or call (626)210-0775. Pez Coastal Kitchen is located at 61 N. Raymond Ave., Pasadena.

Sprinkles brings back 'Luscious Mango'

Padma Lakshmi's fan-favorite Luscious Mango cupcake created in collaboration with Sprinkles is back. Though Aug. 18, this decadent treat will be available at Sprinkles locations nationwide, including Los Angeles. For \$6 each, guests can savor a mango cake filled with creamy mango curd, topped with a yogurt frosting spiced with cardamom and cinnamon. Inspired by the beloved Mango Lassi, this cupcake is a summer delight the blends vibrant flavors with activist, philanthropist and culinary icon Lakshmi's culinary expertise. "The Mango Lassi flavor brings to life memories from South Asia, featuring the vibrant taste of fresh mango curd and the sweet aroma of cardamom and cinnamon," Lakshmi said. "I'm excited for everyone to share a very special

piece of my heritage." For information, visit sprinkles.com/collections/cupcakes/products/chef-series-luscious-mango. Sprinkles has several Los Angeles locations, including its ATM at Ovation Hollywood, located on Floor G at 6801 Hollywood Blvd. Sprinkles at The Grove is located at 189 The Grove Drive. Beverly Hills Sprinkles is located at 9635 S. Santa Monica Blvd.

Prima Donna to close on Aug. 31

Prima Donna will offer its last service on Aug. 31. Spun up in partnership with Mosaic, Prima Donna opened only days after the New Year's Eve closure of Etta to strong reviews both for its food and mission to retain 100% of the Etta staff. The end of Prima Donna's run will make way for a planned handover of The Shay hotel's F&B program to a new operator, to be announced in the coming weeks. The handover will also include the rooftop bar, currently operated as Canopy Club – another concept created and



photo courtesy of Pez Cantina

Tender beef short rib is on the menu at Pez Cantina.

Summer specials shine at Pez Cantina

Pez Cantina has announced an all-new summer special. For a limited time, savor the tender beef short rib served with sweet corn and heirloom tomato pico, baby elotes and a zesty salsa manchamantel. Don't miss out on the delicious summer dish while it's still hot on the menu.

Every Saturday at 7 p.m., Pez Cantina brings the rhythm and flavors of Havana to life with Havana Nights, complete with live music by Azúcar Band. For information on Pez Cantina, located at 401 S. Grand Ave., visit pezcantina.com or call (213)258-2280.

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opened in the days following Etta Collective’s closure of Celestina. Mosaic, who will continue overseeing the interim concepts through Aug. 31, is actively working with the incoming operator to again arrange for the continued employment of much of the current staff. For information and to make reservations, visit whataprimadonna.com or call (209)364-7543. Prima Donna is located at 8801 Washington Blvd., Culver City.

Juniper blooms on the Sunset Strip

Nestled beneath the bustling energy of the Sunset Strip, Juniper Lounge and Garden is a new dining experience with botanical beverages and market-driven dishes by culinary director Ginger Pierce. Paired perfectly with the light, airy atmosphere of the Lounge, the Garden creates a fluid indoor to outdoor space for guests and neighbors to unwind and enjoy nature from sunrise to sunset. The Garden introduces a new menu utilizing ingredients sourced from the on-site 100% organic garden, fea-

turing dishes such as: stuffed California dates with locally smoked bacon and Laura Chenel goat cheese; cucumber salad with radishes, pickled onion, harissa-citrus vinaigrette and herbs; seared local tuna with avocado goddess dressing, shaved fennel, radish and chili crunch; and smoked lamb ribs with medjool date BBQ sauce. The extensive beverage menu features uplifting cocktails (also available in large format), zero-proof sips, as well as a robust selection of approachable spirits, local craft beers and biodynamic wines from California and the Mediterranean. With a capacity of 299, the space adapts from intimate gatherings at the private dining tables to large occasions set in the garden, creating an ideal setting for celebrating. Open Thursday-Sunday, Juniper Lounge and Garden also will have performances from talented local musicians, DJs and a vibrant schedule of events providing an essential Los Angeles retreat. For information, visit 1hotels.com/west-hollywood/taste/juniper-lounge-and-garden or call (424)281-1881. 1 Hotel is located at 8490 Sunset Blvd.

See page 15

Venice gets a delivers ‘Pizza Girl’

Pizza Girl, the Southern California-based e-commerce, catering and Italian kitchen product business from founder and co-CEO Caroline D’Amore (daughter of Joe D’Amore of Los Angeles’ beloved D’Amores Pizza), announces the debut of its first brick-and-mortar location in Venice Beach. Situated in the base of neighborhood hotspot Hotel Erwin, the new Pizza Girl shop, open daily, welcomes guests to grab a slice or whole baked pizza to-go, relax and dine in the indoor seating area, or purchase a Pizza Girl personal pizza grill or pasta sauce to use at home.

“I am thrilled and honored to be opening the doors of our company’s first pizza shop location, especially here by the beach where I grew up,” D’Amore said. “As a humble small business, Pizza Girl truly started as a passion project for me, and to see it grow into what it has today – with e-commerce success, products on the shelves of some of the best retailers in town, a presence at major events and parties, to now a physical brick-and-mortar location

– I couldn’t be prouder, and I’m so excited for Los Angeles to witness the family, friendship and love behind Pizza Girl.”

Pizza Girl is located at 1697 Pacific Ave., Venice, and is open Sunday-Thursday 11 a.m.-10 p.m., and Friday-Saturday 11 a.m.-midnight. For information, visit pizzagirl.com.



photo courtesy of Pizza Girl

Caroline D’Amore has opened Venice’s latest pizza place.

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Music Center BLKNWS residency to close this weekend

The Music Center presents “BLKNWS in Residence,” a first-of-its-kind summer residency featuring acclaimed L.A. artist and filmmaker Kahlil Joseph and spear-headed by The Music Center’s Digital Innovation Initiative, will close Aug. 11.

Highlights of Joseph’s ambitious, multi-component project – which blurs the lines of art, journalism, entrepreneurship and cultural critique – includes the transformation of Jerry Moss Plaza at The Music Center into “The Garvey Garden,” a sprawling garden-themed lounge area adorned with artificial grass and outdoor furniture; a pop-up “BLKNWS Library Café” that brews a vibrant atmosphere of communing and study, with beverages available for purchase from Sip & Sonder and a specially curated collection of books for sale and books to read onsite while lounging at The Garvey Garden; and daily screenings of never-before-seen

broadcasts of Joseph’s groundbreaking BLKNWS “conceptual news program” that challenges, inspires and redefines Angelenos’ understanding of historic and current culture from a Black lens.

“BLKNWS in Residence” is free, except for retail and beverage purchases, and open to the public.

“This unique residency furthers The Music Center’s mission to be a multidisciplinary arts center for the 21st century, a home for classical art forms as well as a dynamic hub for ever-evolving creativity and enriching community engagement,” said Rachel S. Moore, president and CEO of The Music Center. “By immersing visitors into the world of BLKNWS, Kahlil Joseph is redefining the Black narrative through his lens. Angelenos of all backgrounds and identities who spend time at The Garvey Garden will discover the joyful and simple art of co-existing, sharing

stories and making connections. This unparalleled fusion of art, culture and innovation at a reimagined summer oasis in the heart of Downtown L.A. will be an unforgettable experience.”

“BLKNWS in Residence” is the latest public art installation presented by The Music Center’s Digital Innovation Initiative, an exciting 10-year pilot program launched in 2022, which was designed to explore and create free digital and virtual reality experiences throughout Los Angeles. DII launched its first public exhibit, “We ARE Here: A Celebration of Legacy,” offering Angelenos the opportunity to learn – through AR and with hands-on artistic experiences in Gloria Molina Grand Park – about the legacies of Black, Indigenous and People of Color communities and individuals who have contributed to Los Angeles County’s rich diversity. Additional DII exhibits have includ-



photo courtesy of The Music Center

The Music Center Plaza has transformed into “The Garvey Garden” for the summer.

ed Our Common Home, which addressed issues of climate change by integrating participants’ live facial expressions and physical movements into digital artworks created in real time and projected on Jerry Moss Plaza’s LED screens, and Cosmogony, a fantastical digital performance that was broadcast live

from a dance studio located 6,000 miles away in Geneva, Switzerland.

For information about The Music Center presents “BLKNWS in Residence,” visit musiccenter.org/BLKNWS. For more information about The Music Center’s Digital Innovation Initiative, visit music-center.org/dii.

The Ebell hosts historic evening with Nancy Pelosi



photo courtesy of The Ebell

Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi will discuss her new book “The Art of Power” on Aug. 15.

The Ebell of Los Angeles and Writers Bloc present “An Evening With Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi” on Thursday, Aug. 15, at 7:30 p.m. at the Wilshire Ebell Theatre. Pelosi will speak about her new book, “The Art of Power.”

Pelosi’s book tells the story of her transformation from housewife to Speaker of the House of Representatives – how she became a master legislator, key partner to presidents and a visible leader of the Trump resistance. Pelosi describes what it takes to make history as the first woman to ascend to the most powerful legislative role

in the nation, and to pass laws that saved lives and livelihoods, from the emergency rescue of the economy in 2008 to transforming health care. She describes the perseverance, persuasion and respect for her members that it took to succeed.

The Wilshire Ebell Theatre is located at 4401 W. Eighth St. Tickets are \$68 and include a copy of “The Art of Power,” \$44.52 for ticket-only. A valid ID is required to attend. For information, visit ebellofla.org/event/the-ebell-of-la-writers-bloc-speaker-emerita-nancy-pelosi-08-15-24.

Vagabon performs under the stars during Skirball Center’s Summer Concerts series

The Skirball Cultural Center is hosting a performance by Vagabon as part of its Sunset Concerts series on Thursday, Aug. 8, at 8 p.m.

Vagabon is the stage name of Laetitia Tamko, a Cameroonian American singer, songwriter and indie-rock artist. Vagabon’s music blends elements of indie rock, folk, electronic and house music. Her sound is characterized by atmospheric guitar melodies, introspective lyrics and a distinctive vocal style.

Doors open at 6:30 pm. Concertgoers should arrive early to eat, drink, shop and view current exhibitions. Enjoy a set by dublab DJ Aaron Paar while relaxing in the Skirball’s hillside courtyard before the concert.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. The Skirball Cultural Center is located at 2701 N. Sepulveda Blvd. For information, visit skirball.org.



photo courtesy of the Skirball Cultural Center

Enjoy the music of Cameroonian American vocalist Vagabon at the Skirball Cultural Center.

Autry prepares a ‘Feast’ of new plays

What started as a small festival celebrating three Indigenous playwrights in 1994 has grown to become one of the most renowned Native theaters in the country. Join in celebrating the 30th Festival of New Plays from the Autry Museum of the American West on Aug. 9, the full day of programming begins at 4 p.m. with a staged reading of “Never Say Die” by Jennifer Bobiwash. A reception will follow at 6 p.m. in the plaza.

A reading of “Feast for the Dead” by Madeline Easley will start at 7 p.m. The plot concerns Kay. After the fall of the Indian Child Welfare Act in the days leading up to the

zombie apocalypse, Kay was illegally adopted out of her Tribe by a wealthy family who then abandoned her when they escaped the carnage by sea. Seven years later, Kay is a thriving citizen of a Confederacy of Tribes who took over governance of Turtle Island after the settler government fell. Just as suddenly as they appeared, the zombies disintegrate, and the one percent return from the sea, ready to re-colonize. The only solution? Revive the centuries-old, Huron-Wendat tradition of holding a Feast for the Dead.

For information, visit [theautry](https://theautry.org).

[org/events/live-performances/30th-festival-new-plays-feast-dead](https://theautry.org/events/live-performances/30th-festival-new-plays-feast-dead). The Autry Museum is located at 4700 Western Heritage Way.



photo courtesy of The Autry Museum

Madeline Easley wrote the play “Feast for the Dead.”

‘Star Trek’ flies into Fine Arts Theatre

On Labor Day weekend, the historic Fine Arts Theatre celebrates the six-decades-long enduring cultural impact of “Star Trek” with a Super 70mm “Star Trek” 60th anniversary series screening of the first six motion pictures featuring the original series cast members William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy, DeForest Kelley, James Doohan, Nichelle Nichols, George Takei and Walter Koenig. The Fine Arts Theatre is located at 8556 Wilshire Blvd.

Starting on Friday, Aug. 30 through Sunday, Sept. 1, the series will mark the 1964 production of the original “Star Trek” pilot episode that eventually became known as “The Original Series.”

Launching with 1979’s “Star Trek: The Motion Picture” directed by Academy-Award winner Robert Wise, the series will also unspool 1982’s “Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan,” 1984’s “Star Trek III: The Search for Spock” – celebrating its 30th anniversary this year – 1986’s “Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home,” 1989’s “Star Trek V: The Final Frontier” and 1991’s “Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country.”

In honor of this unprecedented event, the Fine Arts Theater will screen ultra-rare 70mm prints of “Star Trek II-VI,” as well as presenting the restored “Star Trek: The Motion Picture: The Director’s Edition” in 4K digital.

In addition to bringing these

spectacular journeys into the far reaches of time and space back to the big screen, the Fine Arts Theatre will be hosting several of the talented and integral creative forces behind the legendary theatrical series, including guests Adam Nimoy, son of Leonard Nimoy and director of “For The Love of Spock” documentary, director/co-screenwriter Nicholas Meyer (“Wrath of Khan,” “The Voyage Home” and “The Undiscovered Country”); star Robin Curtis (“The Search for Spock” and “The Voyage Home”); star Catherine Hicks (“The Voyage Home”); executive producer Ralph Winter (“The Search for Spock,” “The Voyage Home,” “The Final Frontier,” “The Undiscovered Country”); producer Steven-Charles Jaffe; and score composer Cliff Eidelman (“The Undiscovered Country”).

“The Fine Arts Theatre is all about preserving the grand tradition of motion picture exhibition for current and future patrons of the cinema,” said Jerry A. Blackburn, director of public programming. “I cannot think of a more perfect example of fulfilling our purpose than returning the cycle of ‘Star Trek’ feature films between 1979 and 1991 back to the 70mm widescreen for which they were originally intended.”

The Fine Arts Theatre is located at 8556 Wilshire Blvd. For information, visit fineartstheatrebh.com.

Richard Orlinski sculptures have roared on to Rodeo Drive

The first pieces from renowned French contemporary artist Richard Orlinski have been unveiled on Rodeo Drive.

More of his colorful animal sculptures crafted from resin will be placed along the iconic palm tree-lined Rodeo Drive as part of the Second Annual Rodeo Drive Celebrates Fashion.

The full public exhibition will be on display until November.

The Rodeo Drive Committee partnership with Orlinski was made possible with the help of the city of Beverly Hills, Sevan Bolikian, exhibition producer and curator, Cynthia Hajjar, member of the advisory council of the Alliance Française of Los Angeles and president of UFE Los Angeles, Orlinski’s team, Kathy Gohari and

the Beverly Wilshire, A Four Seasons Hotel.

For information, visit rodeo-drive-bh.com/events/rodeo-drive-celebrates-fashion-2024.



photo courtesy of the Rodeo Drive Committee

Orlinski’s “Wild Kong” is now visible on Rodeo Drive.

CicLAvia bridges West and East Hollywood

CicLAvia returns to Hollywood with car-free open streets at CicLAvia’s 54th event on Sunday, Aug. 18, between 9 a.m.-4 p.m. The public is invited to enjoy 6.6-miles of car-free open streets connecting East Hollywood, Hollywood and West Hollywood via Hollywood Boulevard (between Orange Drive and Hillhurst/Virgil avenues), Highland Ave (between Hollywood and Santa Monica boulevards), and Santa Monica Boulevard (between Highland Avenue and San Vicente Boulevard).

All people-powered modes of movement are invited to this unique, temporary park for the day that will feature activities, street games, local businesses, and art and cultural activations for all ages. Always free, CicLAvia participants can show up anywhere along the route at any time to enjoy the open streets. This is an exciting opportunity

to explore WeHo, Hollywood, and East Hollywood from a new perspective.

CicLAvia—Meet the Hollywoods features five hubs along the route filled with plenty of activities and programs. Hubs are walking zones (mandatory bike dismounts) and meeting points with family-friendly activities, restrooms, free water refilling stations, free basic bike repair, bike parking and first aid. Within this route, participants can find the West Hollywood Hub, Plummer Park Hub, Walk of Fame Hub, Hollywood Blvd Hub and East Hollywood Hub. Free pedicab rides are available at each hub’s information booth, allowing for travel between hubs.

“Our Meet the Hollywoods program is exemplary of what CicLAvia Sundays are all about,” said CicLAvia executive director

Romel Pascual. “Locals and tourists have the opportunity to experience iconic areas that may be familiar to them, but with an unexpected twist: in the absence of cars and polluting traffic, they have the freedom and safety to walk, bike, skate and stroll at their preferred pace.”

Inspired by Bogotá’s weekly ciclovia, which celebrates its 50th year anniversary in 2024, CicLAvia has been temporarily closing streets to car traffic and opening them as public parks in Los Angeles since 2010. CicLAvia car-free streets connect the neighborhoods where residents live, work, shop, learn and play. Active participants at CicLAvia use people-powered mobility to navigate public streets in a safe and joyful way. Along the way there is shopping at local businesses and access to cultural and architectural gems. Participants use open streets as spaces to connect with each other, while making a positive impact on the environment and creating a more sustainable and climate resilient city and region. Over the past 13-plus years CicLAvia has helped communities re-imagine a greener and cleaner Los Angeles, promoting equitable transportation options, healthier lifestyles and closer connections to community.

Only people-powered vehicles are allowed. No electric scooters, electric skateboards, hoverboards, electric unicycles, motorcycles and other non-people-powered vehicles are allowed at CicLAvia. Class 1 e-bike pedal-assist are allowed. Class 2 e-bikes are allowed when the throttle is powered off. Class 3 e-bikes are allowed when pedal-assist is powered off. Motorized wheelchairs are allowed.

Participants assume all known and unknown risks of participation in CicLAvia. More information regarding participants rights can be found at ciclavia.org/ciclavia-safety.



photo courtesy of CicLAvia

Hollywood will be the focal point of the Aug. 18 CicLAvia event.

Local restaurants receive Michelin Star recognition

The 2024 edition of the Michelin Guide California touts seven new one Michelin Star restaurants and three new two Michelin Star eateries. The full selection was announced Monday night at the Ritz-Carlton, Half Moon Bay.

Aubergine, Sons & Daughters and Vespertine were each awarded two Michelin Stars, with Culver City’s Vespertine also being the newest Green Star restaurant in the selection. California now holds 13 two Michelin Starred restaurants and 16 Green Stars.

“California continues to shine bright as we see the culinary scene evolve and highlight emerging tal-

ent and cuisines,” said Gwendal Poullennec, the international director of the Michelin Guides. “This year we are thrilled to welcome 10 new restaurants to the family of Michelin Starred restaurants, in addition to one new Green Star.”

“Our inspectors continue to be impressed with this year’s selection and we toast and celebrate the excellent chef and restaurant teams being recognized. The wide array of culinary offerings will excite foodies both near and far and continue to put California on the map.”

In total, 85 Michelin Starred restaurants comprise the 2024 edition of the Michelin Guide

California.

Aubergine is located in Carmel-by-the-Sea, while Sons & Daughters is in San Francisco. Holbox, located at 3655 S. Grand Ave., Meteora, located at 6703 Melrose Ave., and Uka, located inside Ovation Hollywood at 6801 Hollywood Blvd. Level 5, all received one Michelin star. Also listed on the Michelin Guide was Leopardo, located at 470 S. La Brea Ave., at the site of the former La Brea Bakery.

Vespertine is located at 3599 Hayden Ave., Culver City. For information, visit vespertine.la or call (323)320-4023.

summer long. The Victorian is located 2460 Main St., Santa Monica. For information, visit thevictorian.com or call (310)392-4956.

Cannonball into new rooftop experience

A new rooftop pool bar, Cannonball, is open at Kimpton Everly Hollywood. The hotel’s newly refurbished fifth-floor rooftop pool offers a quintessential SoCal indoor-outdoor experience. With views of the city similar to those from the guestrooms, the pool area keeps guests

connected to the heart of Hollywood. Next to the pool, the outdoor lounge hosts evening events like special screenings, chef demonstrations and live music performances. Guests can indulge in the limited-time menu from the summer pop-up, Cannonball and enjoy craft cocktails including: Yuzu You Boo – St. Germain, yuzu and prosecco; Pineapple Ranch Water – tequila, Pineapple Jarritos and lime; and Old Salty Dog – vodka, Fever Free grapefruit soda and pink sea salt. For information, visit everlyhotelhollywood.com/boutique-hollywood-hotel-amenities/pool. Kimpton Everly Hollywood is located at 1800



photo courtesy of the city of Beverly Hills

Councilman Craig Corman, contest winner Craig Farotto, Mayor Lester Friedman, contest winner Adrienne Naor, Councilman John Mirisch and Recreation and Parks Commission Chair Amie Sherry celebrated the 11th annual Picklefest.

Dilly dilly! Beverly Hills picks winners at annual Picklefest

The 11th annual Picklefest contest took place on Sunday, Aug. 4, at the Beverly Hills Farmers’ Market, where 10 pickling enthusiasts showcased their skills. Picklefest is an engaging competition that celebrates food preservation and creativity, with participants submitting a variety of pickled creations ranging from pears to mini cucumbers.

Craig Farotto clinched first place in the category of “I Can Pickle That” while Andrienne Naor took home top honors for the “Best Dill Pickle in Beverly Hills.” Alan Bronowicz and Adrienne Naor secured second and third place, respectively, in the “I Can Pickle That” category, while Scott

Klass and Ron Sasiela claimed the second and third place titles for the “Best Dill Pickle in Beverly Hills.”

The judging panel comprised esteemed individuals including Mayor Lester Friedman, Councilmen John Mirisch and Craig Corman, Recreation and Parks Commission Chair Amie Sherry and Von Vargo from the Crazy Cucumber.

In addition to Picklefest, visitors enjoyed the usual offerings of the weekly Farmers’ Market, a certified outdoor market that features premium, locally grown fruits and vegetables, juices, bread and specialty goods.

For information, visit beverly-hills.org/farmersmarket.

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From page 13

Victorian goes to ‘Wild Wild Westside’

The Victorian in Santa Monica has started its “Wild Wild Westside” party every Saturday from 4-10 p.m. With sponsored beverages from Besa, a live DJ and singing performances, along with cornhole, card games, a petting zoo, an outdoor grill and bull riding – this westside venue is not an average backyard hoedown. Guests, 21 years and older, can enjoy this indoor, out-door, mansion all

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. 3. 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 28

At 3:02 a.m., a vandalism incident was reported in the 300 block of N. Elm.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 200 block of N. Rodeo at 1:54 p.m.

At 2:42 p.m., a vandalism incident was reported in the 400 block of N. Rodeo.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 9500 block of Wilshire at 4:21 p.m.

At 4:57 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 300 block of N. Beverly.

July 29

At 1:24 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim near Wilshire and Gale.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of N. Cañon at 8:34 a.m.

At 11:10 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 9600 block of Brighton.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8500 block of Wilshire at 12:35 p.m.

At 2:05 p.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 300 block of N. Elm.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 400 block of N. Rodeo at 4:43 p.m.

At 7 p.m., a vandalism incident was reported in the 9200 block of Alden.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 400 block of N. Oakhurst at 10:34 p.m.

July 30

At 12:25 a.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 400 block of N. Rexford.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 400 block of Roxbury at 3:10 p.m.

At 4:06 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 400 block of N. Rexford.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of N. Cañon at 4:21 p.m.

At 4:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 9500 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 200 block of S. Spalding at 4:43 p.m.

At 5:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 3090 block of N. Beverly.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 9500 block of Wilshire at 5:44 p.m.

July 31

At 5:30 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 9100 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 300 block of N. Crescent at 5:03 p.m.

At 8:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 100 block of S. Spalding.

Aug. 1

At 2:55 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 200 block of S. Spalding.

Aug. 2

At 11:59 a.m., a vandalism incident was reported in the 200 block of N. Rodeo.

Aug. 3

At 12:53 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 400 block of N. Doheny.

West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station

July 28

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

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 8900 block of Santa Monica at 1:50 a.m.

July 29

At 12:16 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 1200 block of Flores.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 8400 block of Santa Monica at 4:04 a.m.

At 10:20 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim near Kings and Sunset.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1000 block of La Brea at 3:45 p.m.

At 5 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8400 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 9000 block of Beverly at 7:12 p.m.

At 9 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim near Santa Monica and La Cienega.

July 30

At 11:50 p.m., a suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 800 block of N. Larrabee

July 31

At 1:31 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8800 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim near Melrose and San Vicente at 6:19 a.m.

At 5 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8300 block of Sunset.

Aug. 1

A suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 8400 block of Santa Monica at 8:48 p.m.

At 10 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 9000 block of Cynthia.

Aug. 2

An unknown suspect robbed a victim near Sunset and Olive at 2 a.m.

At 8:33 a.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 8300 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 800 block of N. Palm at 12:30 p.m.

Aug. 3

At 2 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8900 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect stole a bicycle in the 1000 block of Genesee at 2:35 a.m.

Los Angeles Police Department

July 27

At 8:15 a.m., an unknown suspect

stole a vehicle parked in the 300 block of N. Hayworth.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1000 block of Hauser at 3:15 p.m.

At 7 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 6300 block of Lexington.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 300 block of N. Mansfield at 8 p.m.

At 9:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5400 block of Wilshire.

July 28

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 300 block of N. Ogden at 2 a.m.

At 3 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near Oakwood and Orange.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft near Las Palmas and Hollywood at 3:45 a.m.

At 5 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 5300 block of Olympic.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1500 block of N. Formosa at noon.

At 12:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 400 block of S. La Brea.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6800 block of Hollywood at 1:55 p.m.

At 2:20 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6800 block of Hollywood.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 100 block of The Grove at 2:40 p.m.

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

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5200 block of Wilshire at 7:15 p.m.

At 8 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5500 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 200 block of N. Larchmont at 9 p.m.

July 29

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

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 6300 block of Oakwood at 1 p.m.

At 1:26 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1100 block of S. Rexford.

An unknown suspect burglarized a

vehicle parked in the 800 block of N. Ogden at 2:45 p.m.

At 4:30 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1600 block of N. Formosa.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 5000 block of Elmwood at 8 p.m.

At 11 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 800 block of N. Spaulding.

July 30

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7900 block of Beverly at 4:55 p.m.

At 8 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 1700 block of N. McCadden.

July 31

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 700 block of N. Kings at 2 a.m.

At 12:21 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6800 block of Hollywood.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 900 block of N. Sycamore at 1 p.m.

At 2:32 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 400 block of S. La Brea.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 800 block of N. Sierra Bonita at 3 p.m.

At 4:40 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5200 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1400 block of N. La Brea at 5 p.m.

At 6 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 500 block of S. Hauser.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8500 block of Olympic at 6:27 p.m.

At 10 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 1600 block of S. Robertson.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1100 block of N. Dunsmuir at 10 p.m.

Aug. 1

At 1 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8600 block of Burton.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6300 block of Sunset at 8:30 a.m.

At 3:11 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7900 block of Beverly.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 100 block of The Grove at 8:16 p.m.

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Nine movie pitches based on Paris Olympics moments

The 2024 Paris Olympics run-neth over with heartbreaks, new records and inspiring moments. But the coverage feels bigger than the games themselves. Blame social media and news outlets’ desire to capture audiences hungry for any possible story.

Regardless of how we got here, some things have been quite entertaining, others enraging. Nine moments stand out not merely because of a record set but their cinematic appeal. They could make for some truly intriguing flicks based on or loosely inspired by real events in France 2024.

9. Working title: “Snoop”

Yes, Snoop Dogg did not compete in the Olympics, but his role as a torchbearer before opening ceremonies and his ongoing presence throughout the games is the kind of feel-good story we all desperately need right now.

Proposed creators: The entire “Ted Lasso” team of writers, producers and even actors.

8. Working title: “The Specialist”

For the first time in 16 years, men’s gymnastics earned a medal. All their work came to the memorable climax when Stephen Nedorosic, soon renowned as the “pommel horse guy,” saved the day. He spent most of his camera time napping. Then he approached the horse rocking some goofy glasses

and an unassuming demeanor for a gymnast. Write him off at your peril.

Proposed director: Wes Anderson, think of what he could do to fix all the unflattering light and how those glasses would grow even more.

7. Working title: “Second Intention”

So Egyptian fencer Nada Hafez was seven months pregnant during competition. And Azerbaijani archer Yaylagul Ramzanova was at six-and-a-half months. This isn’t exactly common but hardly the norm. USA’s Kerri Walsh too struck gold in 2012 at volleyball unaware of her own pregnancy. Any one of these would make intriguing stories, but how about a film that crosses time? Think “Cloud Atlas” – a story with multiple leads in different times. Their struggles, obstacles and victories all juxtapose each other like any hyperlink film.

Proposed studio: Warner Bros. because of its role in “Magnolia,” “Cloud Atlas” and “Dunkirk.”

6. Working title: “Colleagues”

Apparently former gymnast MyKayla Skinner (silver in 2020) had choice words for the current artistic gymnastics team regarding overall ability and work ethic, even blaming SafeSport, a response to

ON SCREEN WITH TIM POSADA

the gymnastic sex abuse scandal, for preventing coaches from pushing competitors. Biles and others responded. Blocking, backtracking, bemoaning followed.

Proposed director: Ryan Murphy for his work on FX’s “Feud.”

5. Working title: “The Idiot Debate”

One of the most exhausting moments has to be the debate surrounding Algerian boxer Imane Khelif’s eligibility as a woman to compete based on the private findings of a rather shady national boxing org. The “Harry Potter” author who must not be named also chimed in. Allegedly testosterone levels offer an advantage, while the jury’s out on whether Michael Phelps’ genetic advantages just make him more interesting.

Category: Parody to reflect just how asinine this is.

4. Working title: “Pass”

On a totally unrelated note, very little controversy seems to follow Dutch volleyball player Steven van de Velde, who was convicted of raping a 12-year-old when he was 19. Actually, plenty of folks are pissed, just not the bigots more worried about a woman’s alleged chemical makeup. People suck. This movie would suck.

Proposed director: Roman Polanski.



courtesy of wikicommons

The 2024 Olympic Games in Paris have featured many triumphant moments that would make great stories on the silver screen.

3. Action film: “The Silver”

Turkish silver medalist Yusuf Dikec stood out amongst his competitors in the 10m air position team event. Without special eyewear – save standard glasses – the quite casual 51-year-old soon earned comparisons to John Wick, as if he took the week off to shoot some targets before returning to his primary game: humans.

Category: Action thriller.

2. Working title: “The GOAT”

Simone Biles keeps making history. Certainly a biopic of some kind will arrive, but live action won’t show off anything the cameras covering these events haven’t already caught. She’s bigger than life, beyond reality. So how ‘bout a film that matches her energy?

Think “Spider-Verse” animation abstractly portraying each movement, turn, flip and landing. There’s nothing like it. It could be a game changer, though not like her.

1. Working title: “The Pole”

Did anyone catch the French pole vaulter who went viral for an unexpected reason? While video coverage suggests a certain appendage hooked the crossbar, ending Anthony Ammirati’s hope for a medal, the actual story is less embarrassing (his shins and knees touched first, the other thing just took out the crossbar), but a tall tale spread like Cupid’s disease. What’s more dramatic than the true story behind the one we believe to be true?

Proposed lead star: Jon Hamm 20 years ago.

‘Summer in the City’ continues at the Academy Museum



photo courtesy of the Academy Museum

“La Bamba” will screen on Aug. 17.

This month, the Academy Museum is continuing its “Summer in the City: Los Angeles, Block by Block,” series – which showcases L.A. location films celebrating dozens of neighborhoods around the Southland. Join for a pre-screening conversation with actor and Academy Governor Lou Diamond Phillips, actor Esai Morales, and actor and musical director Daniel Valdez for the screening of “La Bamba” (1987) in 4K on Aug. 17.

Additionally, the Academy Museum showcases 75 years of experimental filmmaking in Los Angeles, drawing from the Academy Film Archive. “Los Angeles Site Seeing: Views of the City” and the Academy Film Archive will offer an unconvention-

al tour of the city, highlighting diverse locations from the Watts Towers to a 1963 Santa Monica supermarket.

Also wrapping up this month is “Tellers of Tales: The Films of Powell & Pressburger,” bringing the visual jewels of British filmmaking duo Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger to life in our theaters.

Films are shown in 16mm,

35mm, 70mm or digital laser projection in the Ted Mann Theater or David Geffen Theater. In some cases, films have been restored by the Academy Film Archive or another film partner. Select screenings include guest appearances, introductions and/or conversations. For information, visit academymuseum.org. The Academy Museum is located at 6067 Wilshire Blvd.

El Capitan hosts special engagement of ‘Alien: Romulus’

The El Capitan Theatre presents a special engagement of “Alien: Romulus” from Aug. 16-25, including a fan event screening on Aug. 16.

Special Thursday early screenings are available on Aug. 15 at 4 p.m., 7 p.m. and 9:55 p.m. Tickets for showtimes on Thursday Aug. 15 are \$20 for adults and \$17 for children and seniors.

The fan event screening will take place at 7 p.m. on Aug. 16. Tickets are \$40 and include one reserved seat, popcorn, a fountain beverage, “Alien: Romulus” hat and an event credential and lanyard.

Regular daily showtimes for “Alien: Romulus” are 10 a.m., 1 p.m., 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. On Friday and Saturday, the film will also be shown at 9:55 p.m.

The El Capitan Theatre is located at 6838 Hollywood Blvd. For tick-

ets and information, visit elcapitantheatre.com.



photo © 2024 20th Century Studios. All Rights Reserved

“Alien: Romulus” comes to the El Capitan Theatre in Hollywood from Aug. 16-25.



“FREE” K-CULTURE ACTIVITIES

EXHIBITION	K-POP	PERFORMANCE
Minhwa: The Elegance of Korean Folk Paintings	K-POP Academy in Berkeley, Boulder, Salt Lake City and LA	Performing Arts Screenings Ballet & Opera Series 'La Bayadère'
Appreciate the significance of Korean folk painting, sharing the spirit and beauty of traditional arts.	Learn how to dance and sing the K-pop by joining the 2024 K-pop Academy.	Join us for an unforgettable night as we present the timeless ballet, La Bayadère.
✓ Aug 8 - Aug 22, 9 AM - 5 PM *Opening on Aug 8, 6 PM ✓ KCCLA Art Gallery (2F) ✓ WALK-IN	✓ Aug 12 - Sept 6 ✓ UC Berkeley, CU Boulder, U of U and KCCLA ✓ KCCLA Website Application	✓ Aug 22, 7 PM *Pre-introduction starts at 6:30 PM ✓ KCCLA Ari Hall (3F) ✓ KCCLA Website RSVP

JFSLA ensures students are ready for class

Jewish Family Service Los Angeles hosted its annual “Tools For School” event on Sunday, July 28, at the JFS SOVA Warehouse in Van Nuys.

Partnering with American Red Cross and USC, JFSLA distributed free school supplies to underserved students who were pre-selected for the event. In a fun-filled day of activities, snacks and crafts, children “shopped” for school supplies in preparation for the upcoming school year.

JFSLA Young Leaders distributed approximately 400 backpacks filled with essential school supplies

such as crayons, markers, colored pencils, rulers, erasers, pencils, pencil sharpeners, writing paper, binders, notebooks and highlighters. The event also featured face painting, temporary tattoos, crafts, snow cones and cotton candy.

“Tools For School ensures that every child has the supplies they need to embark on the upcoming school year with confidence,” said Rochell Rotenberg and Adam Dehrey, co-chairs of JFSLA Young Leaders. “The turnout was phenomenal. The joy and excitement on the children’s faces, as

they fill brand new backpacks with pencils and crayons, is unforgettable.”

Organized by JFSLA Young Leaders, Tools For School supports JFSLA’s SOVA clients and families, ensuring that children have access to educational resources. SOVA, JFSLA’s food pantry program, provides free nutritious groceries, personal care items and community resources.

For nearly 170 years, Jewish Family Service Los Angeles has supported the diverse communities of Los Angeles. For information, visit jfsla.org.



photo courtesy of JFSLA

Members of the JFSLA Young Leaders program filled backpacks with school supplies for students.

ArtsMatter Symposium examines trends in arts education



photo courtesy of the L.A. Promise Fund

Teachers came together to discuss arts education during the two-day symposium.

More than 600 teachers collaborated on Aug. 5-6 at the ArtsMatter Professional Development Symposium, a two-day program with workshops in music, dance, theater, visual and media arts.

The symposium, hosted by L.A. Promise Fund and the Los Angeles Unified School District, continues the work of Prop 28, which provides \$1 billion in state funding for arts education in public schools serving pre-K-12th grades. Reports estimate that the need for art teachers will continue to rise to keep pace with Prop 28 funding. This year’s symposium theme is

inspired by Getty’s “PST ART: Art & Science Collide,” for which L.A. Promise Fund is a K-12 partner.

Workshops hosts represented arts-oriented nonprofits, universities and institutions across the greater Los Angeles region, including the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, J. Paul Getty Museum, Museum of Contemporary Art, Hammer Museum, UCLA, Art & Healing Initiative, Shakespeare Center of Los Angeles, P.S. Arts and Film Independent. For information, visit artsmatter.lapromisefund.org.

‘Happy Fall’ to perform at the Renberg Theatre

Romance, stunts... and puppets. Rogue Artists Ensemble, celebrated for creating original, immersive, multi-dimensional experiences known as “hyper-theater,” has announced details for its summer co-production with the Los Angeles LGBT Center and Contemporary American Theater Festival.

The world premiere of Rogue Artists Ensemble’s “Happy Fall: A Queer Stunt Spectacular,” written by Lisa Sanaye Dring and conceived and directed by Sean Cawelti, will premiere Aug. 17 at the Los Angeles LGBT Center’s Renberg Theatre in the Lily Tomlin/Jane Wagner Cultural Arts Center, where performances will continue through Sept. 8. Four preview performances are set for Aug 10-11 and Aug. 15-16.

David Ellard, Kurt Kanazawa and Amir Levi star in a story about the professional and romantic rise and fall of two queer, closeted stuntmen in the Hollywood world of faux masculinity. Placing the intoxication of film trickery and its toll on the body and psyche center stage through puppetry, live video, illusions and physical acts, this production is a tribute to the

resilience of the LGBTQIA+ community. Based on true-life stories and direct testimonies, “Happy Fall” illuminates issues of racial and cultural identity in the industry and uncovers the real price of a love story, unmasking the importance – and danger – of being true to oneself. Rounding out the cast are ensemble members Lucas Brahme, Carlos R. Chavez, Gabriel Croom, Kelsey Kato, Maia Luer, Candy Pain, Tiana Randall-Quant and Jerry Zou.

“As a lover of cinema and how movies are made, I’ve had a lifelong fascination with stunt shows,” Cawelti said. “Their mix of humor, strong men and audience participation was a formative theatrical

ingredient in my youth, perhaps one that also titillated my dormant queerness. As a young kid, I used to create mini stunt shows with special effects and puppets and tell wild stories. For me, the daring fearlessness of the stunt performer is akin to what it felt like when I was navigating coming out and understanding my own authenticity. This play has truly been a labor of love and is a very personal piece to me.”

The Los Angeles LGBT Center’s Renberg Theatre is located at The Village at Ed Gould Plaza, 1125 N McCadden Place. Tickets start at \$39. For information and to purchase tickets, visit bit.ly/happyfall24.



photo courtesy of Rogue Artists Ensemble

Kurt Kanazawa and David Ellard star in “Happy Fall.”

El Rodeo opens its doors



photo courtesy of BHUSD

The grand opening of the elementary school will take place on Aug. 11 at 11 a.m.

Beverly Hills Unified School District will host a grand opening for the new El Rodeo Elementary School on Aug. 11 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. The event will include a ribbon cutting at 11:30 a.m., market stands, soccer activities, face paint-

ing, limited edition and custom merch, crêpes and smoothies, and the opportunity to explore the new campus.

El Rodeo Elementary School is located at 605 Whittier Drive. For information, visit er.bhusd.org.

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‘Find your true north’ on ‘Rodeo Drive – The Podcast’

The Rodeo Drive Committee announced on Aug. 1 the launch of “Find Your True North: Maximilian Büsser and the Watchmaking World of MB&F,” the third episode in season five of “Rodeo Drive – The Podcast.”

Watchmaking may date back two centuries, but in the hands of Maximilian Büsser, it has been revived as a contemporary art form. Büsser is the founder of MB&F, or Max Büsser and Friends, which he describes as a “horological concept laboratory.” MB&F has opened a gallery on Two Rodeo Drive, filled with his collective’s kinetic art and mechanical art devices, like “World Sky” by Breakfast Studio with whirring discs that spin between functions: camera, mirror and weather report; and the MB&F’s HM11 Architect, inspired by an organic Charles Haertling house in Colorado, and comprising multiple “rooms.”

“We deconstruct traditional, beautiful, high end watchmaking and reconstruct it into sculpture, which gives time,” Büsser tells Lyn Winter, on the latest episode of “Rodeo Drive - The Podcast.”

Büsser shares his journey from being a directionless teen in Switzerland to reaching the top of the watch business at Jaeger-LeCoultre and Harry Winston, and then realizing he needed to “find his true north.”

“I started imagining this fairy tale, I was going to have my own little company, where I would create only what I believed in. I didn’t want any investors. I didn’t want anybody telling me about growth and profits and all that stuff. It was all about, we’re going to create some incredible watchmaking, even though we know there are no clients out there for it,” Büsser said.

MB&F has since built a strong clientele willing to pay top dollar

for the company’s unusual time-pieces. But it was not always easy. Büsser reflects on the financial ups and downs, life lessons learned along the way, and the things he wished he had told his father. Finally, he revels in the joy of crafting mechanical instruments with a group of friends who share his obsession with “balance wheels,” “perpetual calendars” and other analog components of horology.

Winter closes by asking if there is a future for such an old world craft, and Büsser talks about the appeal of his company’s products to young people.

“MB&F is all about, ‘live your dreams.’ Do whatever you believe in. It is possible. Look at us. It seemed totally impossible. But we managed. And so it resonates so strongly with a younger client base. And I love it,” he said.

Season five of “Rodeo Drive – The Podcast” is presented by the



photo courtesy of MB&F

Watchmaker Maximilian Büsser discussed all things horology on the most recent episode of “Rodeo Drive – The Podcast.”

Rodeo Drive Committee with the support of The Hayman Family, Two Rodeo Drive, Beverly Wilshire, A Four Seasons Hotel,

and the Beverly Hills Conference and Visitors Bureau. To listen, visit rodeodrive-bh.com/podcast.



photo courtesy of KCCLA

Artist Song Chang Soo’s “Magpie and Tiger” is included in the new exhibit.

KCCLA explores traditional Korean art styles

The Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles presents the exhibition “Minhwa: The Elegance of Korean Folk Paintings” running from Thursday, Aug. 8, through Thursday, Aug. 22, in the center’s Art Gallery.

The exhibition is presented in collaboration with the Minhwa Department at Dongduk Women’s University and the Korean Folk Art Association Los Angeles. “Minhwa: The Elegance of Korean Folk Paintings” is the second in a series of traditional Korean art showcases to promote traditional Korean arts beyond popular culture. It highlights the value of Korean folk painting and shares the spirit and beauty of traditional arts with new audiences.

The exhibition is particularly notable for featuring 45 works by artists from the Minhwa Department

at Dongduk Women’s University and the Korean Folk Art Association Los Angeles. The artists, led by professor Song Chang Soo of Dongduk Women’s University and Sung Kee Soon, president of the Korean Folk Art Association Los Angeles, have utilized traditional themes to present traditional and creative works imbued with unique Korean characters and humor. Song was directly mentored by Song Kyu Tae, a pioneering figure in Korean Minhwa painting.

“This special exhibition, planned to introduce the charm and beauty of Minhwa ...

*Professor Song Chang Soo
Dongduk Women’s University*

“This special exhibition, planned to introduce the charm and beauty of Minhwa, a genre that has recently gained recognition in contemporary art, seeks the interest, encouragement and warm support of Korean Americans in the region,” Soo said.

“We anticipate this exhibition will provide a valuable opportunity to appreciate the diverse works of 45 artists active in both Korea and the United States,” KCCLA director Sangwon Jung said.

An opening reception will be held on Aug. 8 from 6-8 p.m. at KCCLA, 5505 Wilshire Blvd. For information, visit kccla.org.



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VINTAGE PARKLABREA NEWS

Activists band together to support women’s right to choose



Pro-choice activists flooded the intersection of Beverly and La Cienega boulevards in this photograph in the Aug. 4, 1994, issue of the Beverly Press and Park Labrea News. The group was protesting the murder of a doctor at a Florida reproductive clinic that year. Carrying signs that read “Keep Abortion Legal” and “Protect the Doctors,” the activists called for more protections. They represented the National Organization for Women, Planned Parenthood, Stonewall Democratic Club and the Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center. Many of the demonstrators were from West Hollywood, which previously declared itself a pro-choice city.

Getty presents ‘The Book of Marvels’

The J. Paul Getty Museum presents “The Book of Marvels: Wonder and Fear in the Middle Ages,” an exhibition of illuminated manuscripts that depict and describe different places, peoples and customs around the world from the perspective of medieval Europeans.

On view at the Getty Center until Aug. 25, the exhibition will feature two closely related illustrated copies of “The Book of the Marvels of the World,” debuting one recently acquired by the Getty Museum in 2022, the second lent by the Morgan Library & Museum in New York.

Written in medieval France as an encyclopedia of global wonders, the text weaves together tales of peoples both near and far, based on ancient sources, medieval folklore and the supposed travels of eyewitnesses. The global locations highlighted in the manuscript were paired with scenes of fantastical stories and creatures that medieval Europeans would have found captivating and even bizarre. The places seen in the illuminations blurred the line between fact and fiction, with the locales situated

far from Europe often viewed as dangerously different.

“This exhibition highlights Getty’s recently acquired ‘The Book of the Marvels of the World,’ which provides many graphic insights into medieval Europe’s varied and often insular perspectives on the wider world,” Getty Museum Director Timothy Potts said. “This important exhibition will invite audiences to think about how fear of difference colored perceptions of diverse places and cultures in medieval times, as it can still today.”

The twin manuscripts containing the Book of Marvels will highlight the images of Scythia and India, two of the numerous locations mentioned in the text. The Scythians, known as fearsome nomadic warriors, inhabited a vast area stretching from China to north of the Black Sea from around 900 -200 BCE. In the “Book of the Marvels,” they are portrayed simply as brutal attackers from a land far removed in time and geography from medieval Europe, when in fact, Scythians possessed a sophisticated culture with impressive achieve-

ments in technology and the arts.

During the European Middle Ages, about 500-1500 CE, India was a place of highly developed and interlocking cultures, languages, and religions, yet was mischaracterized as a land of savage peoples and strange customs in the pages of medieval manuscripts. The depictions of Scythia and India in the exhibition offer examples of how manuscripts like the “Book of the Marvels” reduced the identities of unfamiliar peoples and instilled pre-conceptions in the minds of readers.

“The compelling but mostly fictitious descriptions in ‘The Book of the Marvels’ were intended to entice European readers with wonder, while simultaneously repelling them and reinforcing their ideas of superiority,” said Elizabeth Morrison, senior curator of manuscripts at the Getty Museum. “The exhibition shows how imagery can actively contribute to a process of exclusion in which individuals and groups are seen primarily in terms of their difference from one’s own community.”

Additional objects, drawn from the Getty’s collection, will expand on the themes seen in the “Book of Marvels” manuscripts. Also on view will be an encyclopedic text from medieval Germany containing

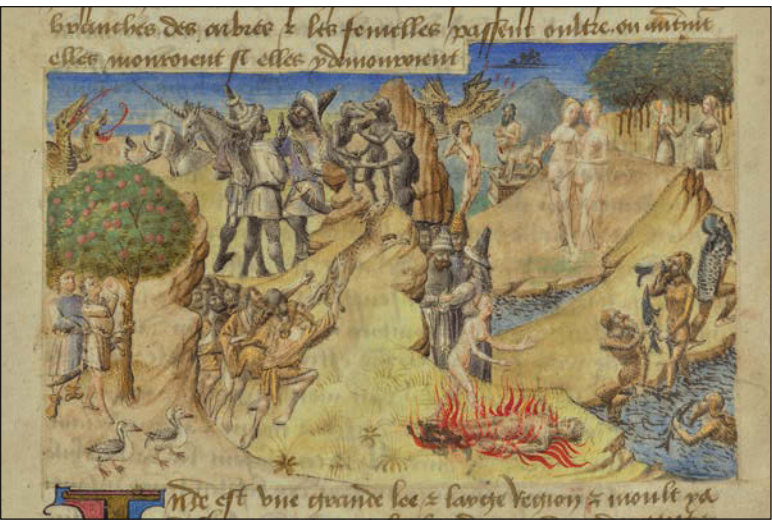


photo courtesy of Getty

“The Book of Marvels of the World” illuminates how different parts of the world were viewed by medieval Europe.

Sages & Seekers expands through partnership with ONEgeneration

Sages & Seekers has announced that after 15 years, founder and executive director Elly Katz is stepping down, handing stewardship of the award-winning programs to Jenna Hauss, president and CEO of ONEgeneration.

Hauss and Katz have been colleagues and friends for nearly a decade. Hauss brought the eight-week program bringing older and younger adults together to the Los Angeles area in 2015 in a partnership to enrich the intergenerational activities at ONEgeneration.

“Two years ago, I spoke with Jenna as I began to contemplate the next chapter in my life. Without hesitation, Jenna said,

‘ONEgeneration would love to be involved,’” Katz said. “When I turned 74, I began in earnest to plan my transition out of the executive director role, and picked up the conversation with Jenna about integrating our two perfectly aligned non-profits.”

ONEgeneration’s mission is to support and enrich the lives of older adults, children and families throughout diverse communities. Sages & Seekers programs develop empathy, combat social isolation and dissolve age-related segregation while meeting the needs of young and older adults. Hauss and Katz have co-created a plan for the sustainability, evolu-

tion and expansion of Sages & Seekers as a permanent program of ONEgeneration. Not only will all the current sites and participants continue to be served, but the proven Sages & Seekers methodology will continue to be licensed and shared with organizations across the country and abroad.

“The Eisner Foundation has proudly supported both ONEgeneration and Sages & Seekers for many years, as each attempt to bring people together intergenerationally,” said Trent Stamp, CEO of The Eisner Foundation. “At this moment when our society seems more divided than ever, we are excited that this new partnership will expand efforts to break down barriers and make our communities stronger.”

For information, visit sagesandseekers.org and onegeneration.org.

Frimkess career explored at LACMA

The Los Angeles County Museum of Art will present “Magdalena Suarez Frimkess: The Finest Disregard,” the first-ever museum survey of the Venezuelan-born, L.A.-based artist’s prolific career, from Aug 18-Jan 5, 2025.

Spanning over five decades, the exhibition explores ceramics, paintings and drawings, including an important selection of works made collaboratively with her husband, Michael Frimkess, and numerous works never-before shown in public. With insights into the artist’s fascination with illustrations from art books, popular media, animation, autobiography and the comedy of everyday life.

For information, visit [lacma.org/art/exhibition/magdalena-suarez-](http://lacma.org/art/exhibition/magdalena-suarez-frimkess-finest-disregard)

frimkess-finest-disregard. LACMA is located at 5905 Wilshire Blvd.



photo courtesy of Museum Associates/LACMA

“Mickey” by Magdalena Suarez Frimkess, from the collection of Ryan Conder, is part of an exhibit dedicated to the artist’s work.



photo courtesy of Elly Katz

Sages & Seekers brings together younger and older adults for positive interactions and relationships.

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National Night Out unites communities

From page 1

each other on a personal basis,” BHPD Chief Mark Stainbrook said. “A lot of times when the police meet you it’s not under the best circumstances. So it’s a fun night. We think there are about 3,000 people [here], a lot of families out – a really good time.”

Personnel from the Los Angeles Police Department’s Wilshire Division joined community members at Poinsettia Park, where a National Night Out Against Crime event was hosted by the neighborhood advocacy group Melrose Action. Hundreds of people mingled on the park’s lawn enjoying live music and food by Pink’s Hot Dogs, the Taco Cartel Truck and Van Leeuwen Ice Cream. Members of the Wilshire Division’s command staff and senior lead officers met with community members, and a resource fair offered information

about city departments and community organizations.

“The whole idea of National Night Out Against Crime is to get the community out to meet each other, form bonds, form alliances, form friendships. In that way, people are able to help one another,” said Capt. Jeff Hollis, commanding officer of the Wilshire Division. “You build your neighborhood, you build your community. People are able to watch out for each other. It helps prevent crimes.”

Melrose Action founder Perter Nichols said it is important to provide a venue for neighbors and police officers to get to know each other, so they know who to call when they have concerns. Melrose Action has been hosting the National Night Out Against Crime event in Poinsettia Park for 16 years.

“It’s one slog at a time, trying to make things better for everyone. Everybody benefits from community coming together,” Nichols said. “It’s important to get people together to show support and we always try to make sure everybody has a good time.”

In West Hollywood, National Night Out Against Crime was celebrated at barbecues and block parties in neighborhoods throughout the city. Deputies from the West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station and Block by Block ambassadors met with residents at community events held by neighborhood associations and neighborhood watch groups. The West Hollywood Recreation Services Division showed “Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem” at Plummer Park, and held a fair with family activities. Hundreds of people gath-



photo by Edwin Folven

Personnel from the LAPD’s Wilshire Division spoke with community members at Poinsettia Park.

ered for the celebration, which was staffed by volunteers from West Hollywood teen programs.

“It’s very fun, because I love working, and this is a very busy day,” said Sophia, a high school-

aged volunteer with WeHo Teens. “[Volunteering] teaches you a lot of things, like being responsible, communicating with people. I like kids, and seeing a lot of kids makes me happy.”

City misses court deadline for messages

From page 1

abortion organizers communicated directly with city employees and council members. DuPont Clinic has filed separate litigation against Douglas Emmett.

The city was previously ordered by Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Anne Richardson on May 13 to turn over messages relating to DuPont Clinic, including “personal emails, text messages, messaging applications, social media accounts and any other personal communications responsive to DuPont’s requests,” by June 24.

However, according to court documents obtained by Beverly Press and Park Labrea News, the city did not turn over any messages by June 24. By July 11, the city turned over some messages, though not in the form of screenshots. Instead, the city’s communications were turned over in the form of videos of city employees and officials scrolling through messages on their phones. According to the documents, the city turned over additional “static screenshots” on July 25, the same day as a conference in court to resolve the

dispute.

“The city has failed abysmally in complying with the court’s order. The city’s production has still not been completed as of the date and time of this filing, and the method of the city’s production is so bizarre and unprofessional that it seems deliberately designed to be as obstructive as possible to DuPont,” DuPont’s attorney Jessica Corpuz wrote in a court statement filed on July 25.

“All of the videos are taken from oblique angles, quite shaky and are often obstructed by scrolling thumbs or the angle of the phone screen,” Corpuz continued. “In many videos, the scrolling occurs so quickly that it is impossible to read the messages. In at least a dozen instances, messages are cut off because the person did not scroll far enough through their messages. The videos are totally inadequate as evidence of the actual communications at issue.”

The city’s attorney Bart L. Kessel responded to the situation in a court statement also filed on July 25.

“The only explanation the city has for missing the court’s June 24 dead-

line is that it simply took longer than expected to gain the cooperation of the third parties, interview them and collect the responsive documents and information,” Kessel wrote.

“The city acknowledges that its production was late and that some of the video images are less than perfect,” he added.

Although Kessel acknowledged the city did not meet the deadline and that some of the video quality was “not acceptable,” he also argued that the method of collection through video footage was reasonable.

According to Kessel, the decision to document text messages through video was made by BHPD Lt. Eugene Kim, who recorded the video and interviewed each subject. Kessel wrote that the city disclosed to DuPont on July 2 that Kim would be performing the collection through video and that DuPont did not object until July 12. However, Kessel also argued that DuPont’s evaluation of the city’s search was premature, and should have taken place after the hearing on July 25.

“The city is willing to provide plaintiffs with static images of any text messages that it intends to use in opposing the pending anti-SLAPP motion so long as it has sufficient time to obtain the images from the third parties,” Kessel wrote.

City Attorney Laurence Wiener added on Aug. 7 that the deadline was missed because certain people whose communications were requested were not present in the city during the search.

“Due to the absence of individuals from the city, we were unable to meet the original deadline,” Wiener said. “The court has extended the deadline, and the city will provide the documents in the format requested by the plaintiffs by the new deadline.”

Wiener did not elaborate on which specific individuals were absent from the city.

Per the court order, the city has until Aug. 16 to turn over messages requested by DuPont, in screenshot format. The anti-SLAPP hearing has been continued to Nov. 13.

“DuPont is very frustrated with how the city of Beverly Hills has outright refused to comply with the court’s order to produce its personal communications related to interference with the DuPont Clinic’s lease,”

Corpuz said on Aug. 7. “The results of the informal discovery conference are encouraging and DuPont looks forward to receiving a full and complete production by the city.”

Beverly Hills reproductive rights advocate Andrea Grossman has been critical of the city’s actions in the DuPont case. She organized the pro-choice group Beverly Hills for Choice, which has called for an independent investigation into whether the city colluded with anti-abortion protesters last year to have the lease revoked.

“I am not an attorney. But in reading the statements from DuPont’s attorneys and from the attorneys representing the city, I can only wonder why the city seems so cavalier about the production of communications,” Grossman said. “The city was late, and according to the statements, sent some arguably unusable videos of text messages. What the city sent may or may not be acceptable or appropriate in terms of the court. What I see is a waste of time and resources on the part of a BHPD officer. Not a good look for the city. And where is the communications from the chief of police and some of his officers, as ordered? This is why we ask for an investigation, and for accountability.”

Superintendent Lyle heads mountain recreation area

The National Park Service selected Jody Lyle as the new permanent superintendent of Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. Lyle began her term on July 28.

Lyle first started working with the NPS in 1992 as an environmental educator for Joshua Tree National Park. She came to SMMNRA in July 2020 as the chief of staff and transitioned to her current role as deputy superintendent in October 2023.

“Jody is an experienced leader who has a gift for bringing people together around shared goals and getting results in a way that builds relationships,” Pacific West Regional Director David Szymanski said. “She is an excellent communicator, an inclusive leader and collaborative partner.”

As superintendent, Lyle will oversee the park’s leadership team, a \$9 million-dollar annual budget, 70 employees, numerous partnerships, and all park operations including resource manage-

ment, science, law enforcement, interpretation, facility management and administration.

“I’m honored to lead Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area into the future, especially as we approach the 50th anniversary of the park in 2028,” Lyle said. “I look forward to working with our talented staff, dedicated volunteers and visitors, and an amazing group of government, non-profit and Tribal partners.”

Lyle’s diverse career with the NPS spans more than 30 years and eight different assignments.

Between 1992-2007, she worked in environmental education, public affairs, community relations, law enforcement and



Superintendent Jody Lyle

fire management at Joshua Tree, Lassen Volcanic, Glacier, Sequoia and Kings Canyon national parks. In 2007, Lyle transferred to the office of communications in Washington, D.C. where she served as the chief of digital content and the web editor-in-chief for the agency’s website, nps.gov.

In 2015, Lyle moved to Yellowstone National Park as the chief of strategic communications, leading a dynamic team responsible for media relations, digital communications and internal communications for the world’s first national park. From 2019-2020, she served as the acting superintendent of Cane River Creole National Historical Park in Louisiana.

Lyle was born and raised in Southern California and received a Bachelor of Arts in film studies from the University of California at Irvine. She lives with her husband in Thousand Oaks. For information, visit nps.gov/samo.

WeHo candidates field expands

From page 3

which makes it difficult to remain in the city.

“Friends with young children and older residents alike are finding it increasingly hard to afford suitable housing. Additionally, empty storefronts are becoming a blight, impacting the safety and vibrancy of our neighborhoods. Addressing these issues requires promoting affordable housing, supporting local businesses and ensuring social justice and equity for all residents so no one is left behind,” she said. “Being of service to West Hollywood isn’t just a goal. It’s a passion I hold close to my heart.”

Setenpre has launched a website, which advocates to “Make WeHo Gay Again,” describing himself as a devout atheist, secularist, apostate, eco-socialist, Egyptian-American in exile, belly dancer, farmer, violinist, linguist, drag queen, massage therapist, homoerotic artist and philosopher.

“I’m running for City Council

because the city of WeHo government has ghosted me time and time again,” Setenpre wrote on the website. “If they’re too incompetent to represent or respond to their constituents and voters, then I’ll run and represent myself. I’ve done it before in the heart of [Texas], and I’ll do it again in the city of ‘So-dumb and gay-more-ah.’ I believe there needs to be transparency in government, because the city is giving small-town corruption vibes.”

Nickle, who was the first candidate to declare his intention to run for City Council, said that he is unhappy with the “direction the city is moving.”

“It is less safe, less affordable for residents and businesses and less livable,” Nickle continued. I love West Hollywood and I had to step up and run because I have better plans for our city than the current council majority.”

Cockeram did not respond to a request for comment by deadline.

Citrus Square gets nod from state commission

From page 1

which will go to the National Parks Service for approval.

Citrus Square is located between Highland and La Brea avenues, and Third Street and Rosewood Avenue. It is comprised of mostly single-family homes and duplexes on the east side near Highland Avenue, with single-family homes and medium-sized apartment buildings on the west side close to La Brea Avenue. The neighborhood was developed between 1924-1948 as a single tract by George Allen Hancock, who also developed Hancock Park. Most of the original buildings remain intact, maintaining the area’s character and cohesiveness, supporters said.

The nomination was submitted by preservation advocate James Dastoli, who catalogued and researched all of the approximately 600 structures in the neighborhood. Dastoli previously worked on a successful nomination to get the Miracle Mile Apartments Historic District, located between La Brea Avenue and the Park La Brea Apartments, named to the register. “The Citrus Square District is a historically and architecturally significant grouping of multifamily and single-family residences that form an excellent example of an intact, auto-oriented residential neighborhood from the early 20th century,” Dastoli said. “The initial

“I know this area very well, and it’s pretty outstanding. It’s very architecturally cohesive, and the automobile suburbs, you know, are quite ubiquitous in Los Angeles.”

-State Historical Resources Commission Vice Chair Janet Hansen

research for the district was heavily based on the findings of SurveyLA, the comprehensive historic resources survey for the city of Los Angeles. Contributors to the district include apartment houses, courtyard apartments, duplexes and single-family homes. These resources were constructed in a variety of career period revival architectural styles from the 1920s through the 1940s. Most of the buildings are two stories tall, but the district also includes a few impressive 1920s apartment towers.”

State Historical Resources Commission Vice Chair Janet Hansen spoke in favor of the nomination.

“I know this area very well, and it’s pretty outstanding,” Hansen said. “It’s very architecturally cohesive, and the automobile suburbs, you know, are quite ubiquitous in Los Angeles. The ones that remain intact are a real treasure in the city. The Hancock Park area is one of the most intact in Los Angeles. I do believe that the property meets criterion for those reasons, and I support the nomination.”

The State Historical Resources Commission votes to recommend nominations for inclusion on the National Registrar of Historic Places, and the final decision is made by the National Parks Service. The NPS will consider the Citrus Square nomination at a future hearing. Being listed on the National Registrar of Historic Places is only a symbolic recognition and does not create new protections for the neighborhood. Owners will not be subject to new rules or regulations when altering their properties.

“It’s a recognition of places and districts that are historic and special,” said Jeff Carpenter, a 30-year resident of the Citrus Square neighborhood and member of the Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council. “It’s very exciting the commission supported the nomination. It’s a very special neighborhood and we are very proud.”

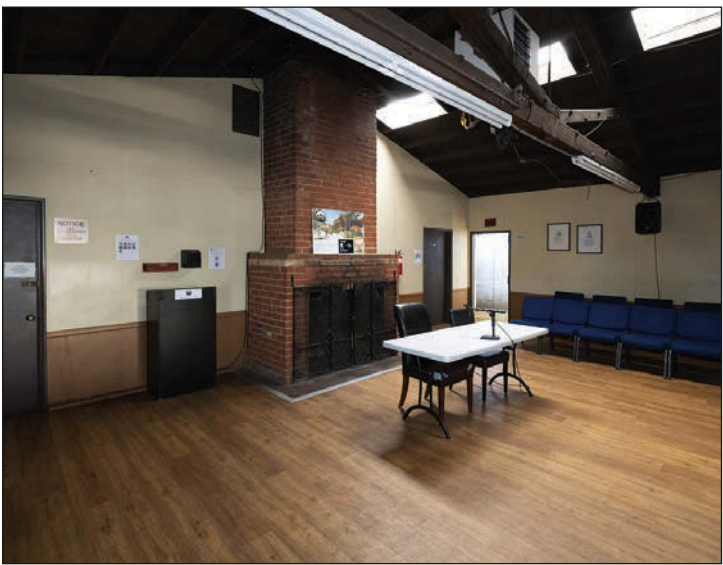


photo courtesy of the office of Lindsey Horvath

The Log Cabin has hosted thousands of recovery meetings since the 1970s.

Log Cabin prepares for long-awaited renovation

From page 1

Mayor John Erickson noted that WHRC hosts roughly 4,500 meetings a year.

“Thousands of people have been helped by life-changing addiction recovery meetings at the historic Log Cabin building,” Erickson said.

The city of Beverly Hills owned the building, even though it sits within the boundaries of West Hollywood. In 2021, it was purchased by the city of West Hollywood. The Log Cabin was determined to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places in 2016.

“We know how important the Log Cabin is for people in the community,” Councilman John Heilman said. “It has been an important resource for people in recovery for a long time. The money from the county will go a long way to helping us preserve and update the facility. The goal is to ensure that the Log Cabin is available for the community for many years to come.”

WHRC Manager Paulo Murillo said that the distinctive building catches the eye of just about anyone passing down Robertson Boulevard. He added

that years ago, before he was sober, he would note the people going in for recovery meetings in the morning when he was just returning from a wild night out.

“The lucky ones end up at that space, and they get clean and sober, and they reinvent their lives,” Murillo said. “That space contributes to saving lives.”

WHRC also operates a building across the street, but it is the Log Cabin, Murillo said, that people notice.

“They know the Log Cabin,” he said. “I think it’s the name, too. When I think of the ‘recovery center,’ it’s so clinical. [The Log Cabin] is different. It’s unique to West Hollywood.”

Gillespie said that the funds will help to modernize the facility and will also expand the structure with two additional rooms to accommodate meetings. The Log Cabin itself will remain intact.

“The goal is to create a sober campus better suited to serving the community’s needs,” he said.

The refurbishment is scheduled to begin in June 2025, and the project is expected to be completed by June 2026.

Cedars-Sinai ‘navigators’ help patients find care

A new donor-funded project is offering free assistance to newly-diagnosed cancer patients across Los Angeles County to help them navigate the appointments, tests, options and challenges that come with a life-altering diagnosis.

Funded by a gift from the Lippin Family Trust and launched by the Tower Cancer Research Foundation, The Ronnie Lippin Cancer Support and Navigation Project is part of Cedars-Sinai Cancer’s community outreach and engagement. Eligible patients do not need to receive their cancer care from Cedars-Sinai to participate.

The project was established in honor of the late trailblazing music publicist and manager Ronnie Lippin, who died of breast cancer in 2006. Her husband, Dick Lippin, founder of The Lippin Group public relations firm, established the grant in collaboration with the foundation.

“I see Tower Cancer Research Foundation and Cedars-Sinai as my partners in a pioneering venture that I believe enriches the lives of peo-

ple needing a guiding hand through this very difficult period in their lives,” Dick Lippin said.

The project funds two “navigators” – multilingual specialists who are fluent in Spanish, Korean, Tagalog and Swahili. The navigators guide patients through all stages of cancer treatment –including arranging transportation to and from medical appointments, accompanying patients to those appointments and scheduling screenings and treatments. If mental health assistance is required, navigators also offer referrals to qualified professionals.

“Cedars-Sinai Cancer serves one of the most diverse patient populations in the country,” said Dr. Dan Theodorescu, director of Cedars-Sinai Cancer. “This new program is in line with our commitment to serve all patients, and will provide patients with a trusted partner who understands their culture and can guide them through this challenging diagnosis in their primary language.”

Any Los Angeles County resi-

dent is eligible to participate in the program, free of charge, regardless of financial or citizenship status, age, sexual identity, belief system or education level. Project leaders are intending to reach geographic areas and groups across Los Angeles County that are documented as having higher rates of late-stage diagnoses.

A 2022 Cedars-Sinai study published in Frontiers of Oncology showed that ethnic groups in Los Angeles had high rates of particular cancers. For example, Black people have higher rates of prostate cancer, triple-negative breast cancer and pancreatic cancer than people who identify with other groups. Latinos have higher incidence rates of certain cancers, including liver cancer and late-stage melanoma than non-Latino white people. Rates of breast cancer among Koreans have increased more significantly than among people who identify with other groups.

“This project’s whole-person approach to helping cancer patients will chip away at disparities by providing timely access to treatment, and equitable allocation of survivorship tools – all provided by trusted navigators working in the community,” said Zul Surani, associate director of community outreach and engagement, and an administrator of the Cancer Research Center for Health Equity at Cedars-Sinai Cancer. “Culturally tailored navigation across the cancer continuum is a massive undertaking and has proven effective through decades of research, and this program aims to reduce the cancer burden across Los Angeles neighborhoods.”

To participate, fill out the Ronnie Lippin Cancer Support and Navigation Project application at coe.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9LauvggxdFa70Cq. For information, visit cedars-sinai.org.



photo courtesy of Getty/Cedars-Sinai

The program will help newly-diagnosed cancer patients navigate treatment options.

Graffiti continues to proliferate throughout Hollywood, L.A.

From page 4

are vacant or under construction attract graffiti taggers and use up a lot of resources.

“Sometimes we end up spending a full day’s work and use hundreds of dollars in paint,” Romano added. “These issues need to be dealt with by Building and Safety and the Planning Department. If the property owner needs help that’s something we can address, but it’s the property owners who should be responsible for cleaning them up. They need to step up [regulations] with these nuisance properties.”

Martinez said if the Walk of Fame tribute sign is replaced on Hollywood Boulevard, the chamber will look into adding a protective coating so graffiti can be more easily removed. She hopes that people will understand it is art and should not be defaced.

“It was very personal. It showed

Johnny Grant (the late Honorary Mayor of Hollywood who presided over hundreds of star ceremonies) and a lot of the people who have stars on the Walk of Fame,” Martinez said. “We are trying to figure it out and see what we can do to make sure it doesn’t happen again.”

Answers From Page 23

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ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE –CHANGE OF NAME
Case Number 24SMCP00386
7/26/2024
Edward D'Abate
9024 Cynthia St.
West Hollywood, CA 90069
Superior Court of California
Los Angeles Superior Court
Santa Monica Courthouse
1725 Main Street
Santa Monica, CA 90401
Petition of Edward D'Abate for change of name
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS
Petitioner: EDUARDO D'ABATE BERRIOS
Proposed Name: EDWARD D'ABATE
THE COURT ORDER that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at a hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING DATE: 10/04/2024
TIME: 8:30 am Dept. K
The address of the court is as noted above.
A copy of this Order to Show Cause must be published at least once each week for four successive weeks before the date set for hearing on the petition in a newspaper of general circulation printed in this county: BEVERLY PRESS.
Signed Lawrence H. Cho, Judge of the Superior Court
Dated: July 26, 2024
Published: 8/1/2024, 8/8/2024, 8/15/2024, 8/22/2024

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Crossword Puzzle by Myles Mellor

Across

1. Astron., for one
4. Ballgame souvenir
8. Bulb-shaped stems
13. Preserve, as vegetables
14. Protein source
15. Spheres
16. Classic novel
19. TV actor, Scott
20. Christmas wish, for many
21. Election loser
25. Paste-up
29. Compass point
30. Something sensational and scandalous
32. Vendor
33. Orbital high point
35. “The heat ____!”
36. Popular Yuletide role
41. Powder
42. Perception
43. In cahoots
46. Cousin of a canvasback
47. On the side of
50. Reduced
52. General Ridgway’s memoirs
54. Creator of Skywalker and Solo
56. Away from the wind, nautical
57. Milne play
62. Put on
63. Torso appendages
64. Sequel to “Angela’s Ashes”

65. Glasgow’s river
66. Mil. education grp.
67. Compass direction, abbr.

Down

1. Diving gears
2. Lock sites
3. Carve
4. Bernadette, e.g., abbr.
5. Kiddie
6. Flying mystery
7. Knock against
8. Chocolate trees
9. Ancient consultant
10. Revolt
11. ____ tai
12. Application datum, abbr.
17. Head of England
18. ____ of State
22. Ready for pickin’
23. Full-spectrum
24. Beersheba locale
26. Conjunction
27. Atlas maker’s subj.
28. Shore soarer
31. Worth
33. Subordinate
34. Curves
36. Touch down times
37. Unguent
38. First name in jazz
39. See ya later!

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40. Sushi selection
44. Sidestepped
45. Crack
47. Steiger’s “Jesus of Nazareth” role
48. Land, as a fish
49. Threatening words
51. British Armed Forces (abbr.)
53. Telegraph code
55. Hollywood sighting, sometimes
57. Part of a winning combination
58. Squeak remover

59. Palmas de ____ (journalist award)
60. Invoice abbr.
61. U.S. Army medal

answers on page 22

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

Gary A. Dordick

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