



Sunny, with temps in the high 70s

BEVERLY PRESS

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September 25, 2025

Hate symbol discovered at Beverly Hills school

■ Swastika outside El Rodeo campus investigated

BY TABOR BREWSTER

The Beverly Hills Police Department is searching for a suspect after a swastika was discovered on a sidewalk outside of El Rodeo Elementary School, according to the Beverly Hills Unified School District.

The BHUSD said it discovered the antisemitic hate symbol on Monday, Sept. 22, and the graffiti was removed immediately. Security footage captured a man in red pants, a white T-shirt and black baseball cap drawing the swastika.

"This incident comes at a particularly sensitive time for Jewish families as Rosh Hashanah begins this evening. We condemn this act in the strongest possible terms," the district said in a statement released on Sept. 22. "This hateful symbol was visible just steps away from a campus where students, staff and families arrive to learn and feel safe. Antisemitism is not abstract, it is real, and it continues to show up



photo courtesy of BHUSD

The district said police are seeking the public's help in identifying the suspect.

in ways that are meant to intimidate. We want to be clear – hate of any kind is not acceptable."

The district did not disclose when the symbol was drawn. However, according to Beverly Hills Mayor

See **BHPD** page 22

Kimmel gets back to work in Hollywood

■ Talk show host's suspension ignites free speech protests

BY RANCE COLLINS

Just one hour before news broke on Sept. 22 that ABC would bring "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" back on air, a large contingent of Los Angeles County representatives and entertainment union members gathered outside the show's Hollywood Boulevard studio to protest its previously indefinite suspension.

The rally was the culmination of several days of protests, both in Hollywood and outside ABC parent company Disney's headquarters in Burbank, which sprung up in response to the company's decision to pull longtime host Jimmy Kimmel off the air. The move came after Kimmel criticized MAGA's reaction to the identification of Charlie Kirk's alleged shooter in his Sept. 15 opening monologue. Kimmel also made, as he often has since his series launched in 2003, topical jokes about the president.

The jokes, however, caught the



photo courtesy of the office of Laura Friedman

State and local leaders gathered outside the "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" studios on Sept. 22.

attention of President Donald Trump's base and administration, and FCC Chairman Brendan Carr criticized Kimmel on a podcast on Sept. 17, adding that his department had a strong case against the series for "spreading misinformation." He also called Kimmel's

words "truly sick." Shortly after, Sinclair Broadcast Group and Nexstar Media Group said they would remove "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" from all affiliate stations, dozens of which the two corporations own. That same day, ABC

See **Kimmel** page 21

WeHo approves entertainment zone study

■ Alcohol may be allowed outdoors in Rainbow District

BY SAM MULICK

The West Hollywood City Council approved a study on Sept. 15 exploring the creation of a space, called an entertainment zone, where public consumption of alcohol would be permitted outdoors. In a

4-1 vote, Councilwoman Lauren Meister dissented.

City staff will now research and evaluate the creation of an entertainment zone and solicit feedback from business owners. The California Legislature approved Senate Bill 969 in 2024 which permits cities to designate areas where the open consumption of alcohol would be permitted on public streets and sidewalks during specific days and hours. Patrons at eligi-

ble bars and restaurants would be able to leave the premises with open alcoholic beverages to be consumed in the designated entertainment zone. Beverages would not be permitted in open metal or glass containers, and outside drinks would not be allowed. The staff report states that the Rainbow District could be designated in part or in whole as an entertainment zone and a pilot program could implement the zone during large events such as WeHo Pride and the Halloween Carnival. The report also said that city staff could determine if other parts of the city are better suited as entertainment zones, but did not specify where. If adopted, the entertainment zone would be reviewed every two years.

Meister cited the concerns of different neighborhood associations in her dissent, as well as public safety risks. A stabbing occurred following a brawl in the Rainbow District on Sept. 14.

"As it is, they have intoxicated people going into their neighborhoods and that's without people having it out on the street," she said. "I think some of these other areas that have entertainment zones have a more defined commercial district

See **WeHo** page 22



photo by Jon Viscott

The West Hollywood City Council approved a study that could designate the Rainbow District as an entertainment zone in the city.



photo by Edwin Folven

The ill-fated red-light camera program still has signs posted on La Brea Avenue. Speed cameras could be the next attempt at controlling traffic.

L.A. moves quickly with speed cameras

■ Program likely to start by mid-2026

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

The Los Angeles City Council advanced plans to install speed cameras throughout the city in 2026, and approved a pilot pro-

gram on Sept. 17 outlining where the first three cameras will be installed.

The cameras capture photographs of vehicles traveling at speeds above the limit, and drivers will receive citations in the mail. Fines will range from \$50 to \$500 depending on how fast a

See **Speed cameras** page 22

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CALENDAR

7811 Gallery exhibition

7811 Gallery presents “Acts of Surface,” a group exhibition with artists Edith Baumann, Chip Barrett and Vincent E. Hernandez running from Thursday, Sept. 25, through Thursday, Oct. 23. Baumann, whose abstract paintings span four decades, offers a minimalist counterpoint marked by restraint and repetition. Multidisciplinary artist Barrett draws from rituals of comfort and endurance, constructing intimate, often tactile works that blur boundaries. Hernandez’s practice explores history, monuments, localism and community through the appropriation of regional narratives. An opening reception will be held on Sept. 25, from 6-8 p.m. 7811 Melrose Ave. 7811gallery.com.

Virginia Robinson Gardens

The Virginia Robinson Gardens is holding a “Sound Bowl Meditation” with Devon Cunningham” on Friday, Sept. 26, from 3-4:30 p.m. Participants are invited to embark on a meditative journey that consists of pure relaxation through sound bowl healing meditation. The sound bowls activate and energize chakras within the body and work with each person’s individual needs to align and create a deeper connection. Sound bowl healing meditation helps relieve stress, anxiety and insomnia. The cost is \$35. 1008 Elden Way. robinsongardens.org



Indigenous stories

The Skirball Cultural Center is holding “The Aunties” on Friday, Sept. 26, at 7:30 p.m. Join an engaging live storytelling performance celebrating the women that shape, heal and uphold Indigenous communities. The event features three Indigenous “aunties” sharing powerful stories. Accompanied by visual storytelling and brought to life with poetry, song and visual art, the performance honors the legacy and contributions of the remarkable women and provides a meaningful exploration of Indigenous culture and heritage. General admission is \$20. 2701 N. Sepulveda Blvd. skirball.org/programs/aunties.



Theatre West’s WestFest

Theatre West’s WestFest 2025 runs from Friday, Sept. 26, through Sunday, Oct. 19. The festival features four full weekends of shows, with a different presentation each week. Opening weekend on Sep 26-28 includes “Let the Sun Shine In,” “Home Depot” and “Tequila Sunrise,” followed by “Clive and Cecily Face the Music and Dance” and “In Whose Eyes” on Oct. 3-5. “Amanda Doesn’t Date Much Anymore,” “Hence the Confusion,” “Current Resident” and “Shadow of Thunder” will be featured on Oct. 10-12, and “The Loan,” “Table for Three,” “The Heartbreaker,” “That Time of Life” and “Leaky Brain Syndrome” will be held on Oct. 17-19. A reception follows each performance. Showtimes are at 8 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays; 3 p.m., Sundays. Suggested donation is \$20. 3333 Cahuenga Blvd. West. theatrewest.org.

‘Rocky Horror’ book

Join author Tim Deegan for a book signing and discussion of “Saving Rocky Horror-From Orphan to Icon” on Saturday, Sept. 27, at 3 p.m. at Book Soup. Learn the inside story of how “The Rocky Horror Picture Show” was saved and became the longest continuously running movie (50 years and continuing) in history, despite severe opposition from Fox studio executives. The book coincides with the 50th anniversary of the film. 8818 W Sunset Blvd. booksoup.com/event/2025-09-27/tim-deegan-rocky-horror.



Chamber Music Palisades

Chamber Music Palisades presents an afternoon concert on Saturday, Sept. 27, from 3-4 p.m. at the Brentwood Presbyterian Church. The group’s first matinee concert of the season features the Zelter String Quartet with flutist Susan Greenberg. The program includes masterpieces by Mozart, Beethoven, Mendelssohn and Ravel, and “City of Angels,” a modern piece by Los Angeles composer Todd Mason. The concert series is supported in part by the Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs. Admission is free. 12000 San Vicente Blvd. cmpalisades.org.

Flamenco at WeHo Library

Ecos de España presents a program of Spanish classical and flamenco music and dance on Saturday, Sept. 27, from

4-5 p.m. at the West Hollywood Library. The program includes a variety of different dances ranging from a classical Paso Doble – the dance of the bullfight – to the oldest, most emotionally profound of all flamenco rhythms – Seguirilla. Each dance is introduced with historical and cultural content. The show also features a flamenco guitar and classical guitar performance. Learn flamenco dance steps after the program. 625 N. San Vicente Blvd. (310)652-5340, susanaelena.com.

Stella Cole

BroadStage welcomes global viral sensation Stella Cole on Saturday, Sept. 27, at 7:30 p.m. Cole’s captivating interpretations of 20th-century American jazz standards, popular songs and show tunes from the Great American Songbook captivate audiences. She brings her vocal quality, storytelling ability and extraordinary talent to BroadStage for a special Los Angeles album release performance. Tickets start at \$45. 1310 11th St., Santa Monica. broadstage.org



Freda Payne

Two-time Grammy nominee Freda Payne comes to the Catalina Jazz Club stage on Saturday, Sept. 27 at 8:30 p.m. Payne pays tribute to the legendary ladies of jazz Sarah Vaughn, Nancy Wilson, Dinah Washington, Peggy Lee, Dakota Staton, Gloria Lynne, Lena Horne and Ella Fitzgerald. The show was conceived, written, directed and produced by Don B. Welch. Enjoy a night of unforgettable music, dance and storytelling. Tickets are \$62.15; dinner or a two-drink minimum is required in addition to tickets. 6725 W. Sunset Blvd. catalinajazzclub.com.

Music and Movement

The Leonard on Beverly, a new senior living community, will host “Aging With Harmony: Music Therapy and Movement,” a hands-on session demonstrating the healing power of music and movement led by therapists from Music Matterz and movement coaches from Bodyline Pilates on Tuesday, Sept. 30, at 2 p.m. The wisdom of healthy living through music and movement will energize and inspire attendees to keep a balance between mind, body and spirit. Reservations are suggested. 135 N. Crescent Heights Blvd. (213)497-1295, theleonard-marketing@clearwaterliving.com.

‘Dear Everything’

Enjoy “Dear Everything: A Musical Uprising for the Earth” on Tuesday, Sept. 30, at 7:30 p.m. at the El Rey Theatre. Presented by V-Day in association with the American Repertory Theater, “Dear Everything” offers a riveting story driven by galvanizing and emotional pop and folk music. The cast of 11 actors and singers is backed by the Los Angeles Children’s Choir. Tickets are \$25. 5515 Wilshire Blvd. deareverythingonstage.org.

Geffen Playhouse

Geffen Playhouse presents the world premiere of “littleboy/littleman,” with previews beginning on Wednesday, Oct. 1, at 9:30 p.m. When Nicaraguan brothers Fito and Bastian clash over their visions of the American Dream, their choices send them on a collision course with fate, risking not just their futures, but their bond. Showtimes vary; see schedule. Tickets start at \$36. 10886 Le Conte Ave. (310)208-2028, geffenplayhouse.org.



photo courtesy of West Hollywood Bicycle Coalition

Flower vases were shattered and photos were taken from Blake Ackerman’s ghost bike memorial on Fountain Avenue.

Ghost bike memorial vandalized in WeHo

■ Bicyclist community restores tribute to Blake Ackerman

BY SAM MULICK

The West Hollywood bicyclist community responded after the ghost bike memorial for Blake Ackerman was vandalized on the morning of Sept. 16.

The memorial is part of a tradition to honor cyclists killed while cycling on streets by placing a white-painted bicycle near the crash site. Ackerman’s memorial was placed and dedicated on July 16 by the West Hollywood Bicycle Coalition, Streets Are For Everyone, family and friends. The 27 year old died from a hit-and-run collision on Fountain Avenue on July 10. Photos of Ackerman and his friends, bouquets of flowers placed in the bicycle’s basket and in vases along the ground and Hawaiian leis decorated the bicycle memorial adjacent to a U.S. Postal Service blue collection box along Fountain Avenue, near the Gardner Street intersection where Ackerman was struck.

Kevin Burton, co-founder of the West Hollywood Bicycle Coalition, said different parts of the memorial were damaged and removed.

“I would call it vandalism,” Burton said. “There was a ceramic flower vase that was shattered, and pictures and some other items were just piled on the ground underneath the mail collection box. Somebody didn’t want to take them away with them, apparently, so they stuck them there. So I would say with certainty, it wasn’t wind or a car driving by. It was an intentional act by some individual.”

The incident occurred the morning after the West Hollywood City Council approved adding a bike lane on Fountain Avenue as part of Phase 1 of the Fountain Avenue Streetscape Project – a major redesign of the street that ignited heated debate within the city. The city will now move toward constructing an east to west bike lane with physical barriers separating cyclists from adjacent vehicles.

“I didn’t see it happen. I haven’t talked to the person, so I can only speculate on what the motive might be,” Burton added. “I would speculate that this is a person who opposes the safety improvements approved by the council, which include protected

bike lanes that would, in my opinion, have saved Blake that evening because they separate field traffic physically from bicycle traffic.”

Streets Are For Everyone executive director Damian Kevitt agreed that Ackerman’s death demonstrates the urgency of safer streets for bicycles.

“Blake Ackerman’s ghost bike has become a symbol, a rallying cry for why we need to rethink the status quo, not just about Fountain Avenue, but about the dangers of how we get around in general,” he said. “This is a growing movement with more and more people realizing that how we are currently doing it isn’t working. Sometimes you need to be reminded that sometimes it’s a matter of life and death and Blake’s ghost bike is just that.”

Burton also said that he believes the traffic calming measures of the streetscape project will prevent collisions and increase safety for both cyclists and pedestrians. The bicyclist community frequently gathers to honor cyclists who are killed, separate from advocating for increased cyclist safety, he added.

“The purpose there is to not forget what has happened at that location, to honor the bicyclist who was killed, because it’s the bicyclist community in general who places these ghost bikes,” Burton said. “And we had been maintaining the memorial all along – flowers would wilt and that kind of thing. So we have been keeping it up and we intend to continue doing that.”

The West Hollywood Bicycle Coalition hosted a ceremony to restore Ackerman’s ghost bike memorial on Sept. 24.

Several recent collisions occurred on Fountain Avenue, including two on Sept. 20. Around 3 p.m., a blue Ford Escape traveling northbound on Gardner Street collided with a black Cadillac CTS driving east on Fountain Avenue. Both drivers sustained minor injuries but no one was transported to the hospital, West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station Traffic Sgt. Matthew Davis said. Additionally, around 6 p.m., a blue Subaru Forester traveling north on Flores Street collided with a silver Chevy Bolt traveling west on Fountain Avenue. One driver suffered minor back pain but refused to be transported to the hospital. It is currently unknown who was at fault for either collision, Davis said.

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Commission considers Louis Vuitton project

■ Development at former Cheval Blanc site in Beverly Hills reviewed

BY TABOR BREWSTER

On Thursday, Sept. 25, the Beverly Hills Planning Commission will consider whether to approve a sprawling project on Rodeo Drive that would be Louis

Vuitton’s latest flagship store. The development, designed by renowned architect Frank Gehry, is located at the site of the Cheval Blanc Hotel, a luxury hotel project by Louis Vuitton that was approved by City Council but ultimately overturned by Beverly Hills residents in a narrow vote in May 2023. Compared to Cheval Blanc, the new project is less than half the square footage and maximum

height, and does not contain a hotel.

The project, titled the Louis Vuitton Rodeo Drive Experiential Flagship store, includes 105,214 square feet of retail, museum, exhibition and rooftop dining space across four land parcels – 456 N. Rodeo Drive, 468 N. Rodeo Drive, 449-453 N. Beverly Drive and 461-465 N. Beverly Drive.

The separate parcels will be connected with an underground service tunnel and two pedestrian bridges above the public alley. The structure will be three stories tall at approximately 45 feet, with additional rooftop elements extending an additional 15 feet for a total of 60 feet tall.

The Rodeo Drive portion of the project will contain 45,433 square feet of retail space in addition to a rooftop terrace. The store includes 6,217 square feet reserved for “very important client” salons on the second and third floors and rooftop. According to city staff, the rooftop will host “invitation-only special events and product launches” approximately 12 times per year.

The 54,723 square-foot portion of the project on Beverly Drive will include a museum and exhibition space, with a gift shop, book store and related retail. A 150-seat fine dining restaurant with both indoor and outdoor space will be included on the rooftop of the Beverly Drive section of the project.

The 4,327 square-foot basement level will contain back-of-house support spaces including employee lockers and changing rooms. An



photo by Tabor Brewster

The expansive new project will replace a currently unoccupied space at 468 N. Rodeo Drive, in addition to three other parcels.



rendering courtesy of Gehry Partners LLP/Gruen Associates

The 105,214 square-foot project was designed by renowned architect Frank Gehry.

underground parking garage will provide 29 parking spaces. The parking spaces will be operated by valet only and will be exclusively available to restaurant guests and “very important client” salon visitors. Both the restaurant and the very important client salons will require reservations. The museum will also operate on a reservation-only basis.

The project features Gehry’s signature contemporary architectural style, and parallels the Walt Disney Concert Hall in its swooping, reflective structures that make up the building.

“Beverly Hills is the most beautiful city in the world, and Rodeo Drive is our crown jewel. It’s only

becoming that LVMH would propose a new development designed by the legendary Frank Gehry,” Beverly Hills Mayor Sharona Nazarian said. “While this is a by-right project and will first go before our Planning Commission, I am eager to learn more as it moves through the process. Rodeo Drive has always set the standard for excellence, and this proposal reflects that spirit of innovation.”

City staff has recommended that the Planning Commission approve the project. The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, Sept. 25, at 1:30 p.m. in room 280A of Beverly Hills City Hall, 455 N. Rexford Drive.

Rabbi sues city over project at 412 N. Oakhurst Drive

■ Lawsuit alleges CEQA violations in Beverly Hills

BY TABOR BREWSTER

Rabbi Ruben Milikan filed a lawsuit against the city of Beverly Hills which seeks to overturn the approval of an eight-story residential development at 412 N. Oakhurst Drive. The development will require the demolition of an existing building that is home to many senior residents.

The lawsuit alleges that the city violated the California Environmental Quality Act, known as CEQA. It alleges that the city “fail[ed] to conduct an adequate analysis of the project’s impacts on, among other things, historic and cultural resources, parking, land use consistency, construction-related impacts” in addition to the negative impacts on the senior residents the project will displace.

“The city of Beverly Hills should not abandon the seniors of the city, because they have lived here for years and years. They have contributed to the city, and now, I believe they are abandoned,” said Milikan, who is also

a resident of the current building. “Where is the compassion?”

Many residents of the current building at the address have expressed concerns over their displacement.

“412 N. Oakhurst is my home,” 86-year-old resident Etsu Garfias said at a Planning Commission meeting. “Strong ties have been forged with this community and neighborhood. Lifelong friendships, health care resources, religious ties, patrons of local markets and shops – all critical and essential elements of our lives, more so as seniors ... Do not make us victims of a multimillion-dollar demolition project that throws us out of our home without a care for the human cost of displacement.”

The project is located directly on the border between Beverly Hills and Los Angeles, and required approval from both jurisdictions. The Beverly Hills Planning Commission approved the project on Dec. 12, 2024. The plans were also approved by the city of Los Angeles in November 2023.

The building would contain 52 units, 12 of which would be located within the city of Beverly Hills. Ten of the units in the

See Project page 21



photo by Tabor Brewster

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



Open Space Element Update

WHAT?

The Open Space Element guides management and development of parks, recreational facilities, and natural resources to support and enhance the quality of life of residents.

Per state law, the Open Space Element must be updated to include analysis related to equity, climate resilience, rewilding, and preservation.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Share your ideas about potential opportunities and impacts related to the maintenance and conservation of natural and recreational resources. Head to the website below and provide input for the update process!

Want to Receive Updates?

Sign up as an interested party by visiting the website below, or email longrange@beverlyhills.org.

Stop by our table at the **Beverly Hills Farmers’ Market** on **October 12, 2025** to find out more about the Open Space Element Update in Beverly Hills!



See more information at:
beverlyhills.org/OpenSpaceElement



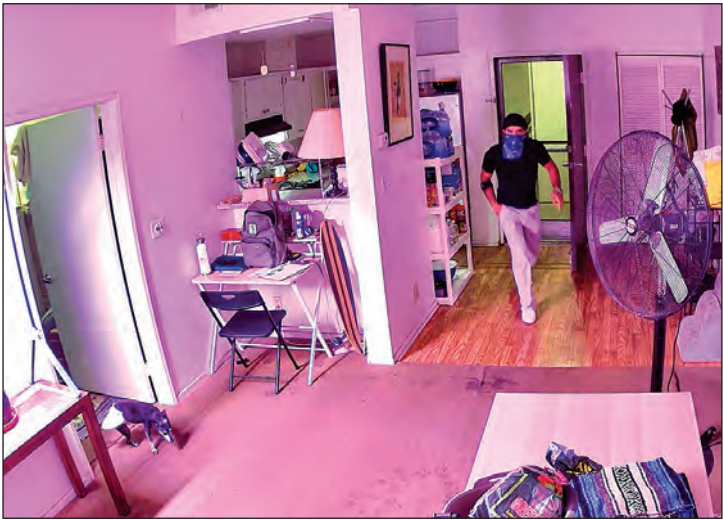


photo courtesy of the LASD

Video released by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department shows Anmol Bhatia, 27, entering his former roommate's apartment.

Man arrested for burglarizing apartment and killing dog

■ Suspect from West Hollywood taken into custody by BHPD

BY SAM MULICK

A West Hollywood man was arrested on Sept. 21 for burglarizing an apartment and killing his former roommate's dog.

On Sept. 4, Anmol Bhatia, 27, broke into his former roommate's apartment in the 1200 block of Harper Avenue, burglarized the apartment and attacked the resident's dog until it stopped moving, according to a bulletin from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. Deputies arrived after Bhatia left the scene, where the resident of the apartment showed them surveillance footage of the incident. In a video shared by the sheriff's department, Bhatia enters the apartment with a cloth over his face and advances toward the resident's dog.

On Sept. 21, a member of the

public identified Bhatia on Rodeo Drive in Beverly Hills, recognizing him from media reports and notified authorities. Officers from the Beverly Hills Police Department responded to the scene, where Bhatia attempted to flee on foot southbound on Rodeo Drive. After a brief pursuit, he was detained behind a parking lot in the 9300 block of Wilshire Boulevard, according to BHPD Sgt. Audra Alatorre.

Deputies from the West Hollywood Sheriff's Station then took custody of Bhatia and booked him on suspicion of burglary, vandalism and animal cruelty.

Bhatia formerly lived in the apartment, according to media reports. Authorities did not specify what was stolen from the apartment or any motive behind the burglary and attack.

The investigation is ongoing and anyone with information is urged to contact detectives at the West Hollywood Sheriff's station at (310)855-8850.

Cause of death sought for girl found in trunk

■ Car abandoned in Hollywood Hills was registered to singer D4vd

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

The Los Angeles County Department of Medical Examiner is continuing the investigation into the death of Celeste Rivas Hernandez, a 15-year-old girl from Riverside County whose body was found on Sept. 8 in the trunk of a Tesla registered to the singer-songwriter known as D4vd, whose real name is David Anthony Burke.

The body was in an advanced state of decomposition and authorities believe it had been in the trunk for an extended period of time. The medical examiner's office conducted an autopsy, but the cause of death was not determined pending the outcome of additional tests, which were not completed as of press time. In many cases, the tests take several weeks to complete.

The case is also being investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department's Robbery-Homicide Division.

Hernandez, of Lake Elsinore, was reported missing by her family in April 2024 when she was 13 years old. Her body was found the trunk of the Tesla three days after the vehicle was towed on Sept. 5 from the 1400 block of Bluebird Avenue in the Hollywood Hills to the Hollywood Tow lot at 1015 N. Mansfield Ave.

LAPD investigators searched a house on Sept. 18 where Burke previously stayed approximately two



photo by Edwin Folven

Employees of Hollywood Tow called police after they noticed a foul odor coming from a vehicle at the lot.

blocks from where the Tesla was found in the Hollywood Hills, but the LAPD released no further information about the case.

Burke canceled his ongoing U.S. tour on Sept. 19 and canceled his upcoming European tour two days later. Police have been in contact with the 20-year-old singer, according to media reports.

Anyone with information about the case is urged to call investigators with the LAPD's Robbery-Homicide Division at (213)486-6890. During weekends and off-hours, call the LAPD's hotline at (877)LAPD247.



photo courtesy of the RCSD

Celeste Rivas Hernandez was reported missing in April 2024.



photo by Edwin Folven

A building on Third Street across from Cedars-Sinai was damaged during a fire on Sept. 20.

Firefighters douse flames in building on West Third Street

A fire erupted on Sept. 20 in a vacant two-story commercial building at 8620 W. Third St., adjacent to south Willman Drive and across from office towers on the Cedars-Sinai Medical Center campus. The fire was reported at approximately 1:30 p.m. and firefighters arrived to find heavy smoke coming from the second story, LAFD spokesman Brian

Humphrey said. Approximately 75 firefighters responded and extinguished the flames in 42 minutes. The building, constructed in 1937, formerly housed an optical center and nail salon. The structure was red tagged, meaning it is uninhabitable, and remains boarded. No injuries were reported. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

WASTE CONTAINER AUDITS BEGIN OCTOBER

To keep our community clean and green, the City of Beverly Hills is conducting routine waste container audits to ensure proper sorting.

LOOK OUT FOR A "GOOD JOB" OR "OOPS" TAG ON YOUR CONTAINER TO SEE IF YOU SORTED CORRECTLY.

For more information, visit [BEVERLYHILLS.ORG/ORGANICS](https://www.beverlyhills.org/organics)

For questions, call askBH at (310) 285-1000.

SustainableBH



“In the beginning of the year and when it ends; we remember them...”
- Rabbi Sylvan Kamens and Rabbi Jack Riemer

Kever Avot V’Imahot

Sunday, September 28, 2025, 10:00AM at Hillside Memorial Park

Service Led By Rabbi Calvin Dox-DaCosta and Cantorial Soloist Shelly Fox, Temple Israel of Hollywood,
Rabbi-Cantor Alison Wissot, Temple Judea, Cantor Jenni Asher, with Musical Accompaniment.
Ba’al Tekiah (Shofar) Michael Gropper

We invite you to join us for a very special Kever Avot V’Imahot Service as we come together to honor our loved ones who have left behind their legacy of tradition, love, and kindness. While they may no longer be with us physically, they live on in our hearts and minds. We will forever carry the lessons they have taught us and the values they have instilled in us.

Understanding that you are not alone, we welcome you to join our Grief Support Group immediately following the service to share your stories, memories, and support with one another, facilitated by Maggi Scharf, M.Ed., CPCC, Certified Grief Educator.

Refreshments will be served. A Shomer will be available for prayer assistance and a florist will be on site.
The park will be open from 8:00AM to 5:00PM.

For more information or to view the livestream, visit www.hillsidememorial.org/kever-avot



As a Community Service of Temple Israel of Hollywood, Hillside proudly serves the broader Los Angeles Jewish and Interfaith Community
Rafael Ochoa, General Manager | 6001 W. Centinela Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90045 | 888.311.9277 | hillsidememorial.org | FD 1358

LAUSD plans potential housing development on Fairfax Avenue

■ Some nearby residents oppose project

BY SAM MULICK

The Los Angeles Unified School District is considering building affordable housing at the former site of a West Hollywood middle school.

On Sept. 16, the LAUSD Board of Education issued a request for qualifications and proposals to evaluate developing affordable housing at four-LAUSD owned sites, including one located at 1049 Fairfax Ave., the former home of the West Hollywood Opportunity Center, which closed in 2021. The other sites are vacant lots located in Woodland Hills, MacArthur Park and South L.A.

The possible development is part of an initiative to provide more affordable housing to LAUSD employees on district-owned sites. Beginning in 2023, the district gauged development interest at nine district-owned sites and narrowed the options to four following feasibility studies conducted by real estate firm Volz Company and architectural firm Gensler. The district also conducted surveys and focus groups from 2023-24 that determined housing insecurity was prevalent and there was a significant demand for affordable housing among district employees.

“The property at 1049 Fairfax Avenue was selected because it does not include an active school site, and its size, central location and proximity to retail, amenities and transit make it a strong candidate for development,” an LAUSD spokesperson said. “The site is also consistent with surrounding multi-family uses, making multi-unit housing an appropriate fit within the neighborhood context.”

LAUSD affordable housing developments have come under scrutiny in recent years due to teachers earning too much to qualify to live there and for moving staff

members away from the areas in which they work. Affordability levels and income ranges for the property will ultimately depend on the proposals received, according to the spokesperson.

“The intent is to include options that allow LAUSD employees, including teachers, to qualify,” he said. “Eligibility is determined by household income, which takes into account both total income and household size.”

The district also stated that the property presents the challenges of mature trees limiting construction and existing buildings needing to be removed. Another consideration would be the need to limit construction impacts on the nearby Savant Senior Living community, located at 1025 N. Fairfax Ave.

LAUSD Board Member Nick Melvoin, 4th District, said he supports the district evaluating the West Hollywood property to see if it would be suited for the development.

“This effort is one way to support our employees while making productive use of public land. I support exploring options that expand affordable housing for LAUSD staff, while also preserving neighborhood quality of life,” he said. “The district remains committed to robust community engagement so that residents’ input shapes any proposal. If you have specific questions or concerns, I encourage you to participate in the district’s community meetings to ensure your voice is heard as the district considers next steps.”

Allegra Allison, a longtime resident in the area, said she opposed the possible development at the Fairfax location, arguing that the construction would disrupt the area and that West Hollywood is not suited for an affordable housing development due to the high day-to-day costs of living in the city.

“As far as I can tell, [a nearby flower shop and candle shop] are the only real retail businesses. There are a number of gyms and bars – they are pricey amenities. The neighborhood-serving markets are Whole Foods, Gelson’s and Bristol Farms,” she said. “We

already all fight for parking on street cleaning days. Everyone drives around the blocks waiting for that space. In my bungalow courtyard, there are eight bungalows with no parking. The businesses have almost no parking. They’ll be out of business quickly. With construction staging, of course they’ll have to remove the trees. We have no parks nearby.”

Allison refuted the district’s claim that the neighborhood is walkable and safe, pointing out that the nearby 7/11 located at 7950 Santa Monica Blvd. is frequented by homeless individuals. Allison also said the surrounding neighbors have not been adequately informed of the development.

“The news, in August, of the development was so sudden to our neighborhood and it already looks like a done deal,” she said. “The existing community, it seems, has just not been given any consideration. It would have been good and noble to take [it] all into consideration.”

The district hosted two meetings at the site on July 15 and Aug. 19 to inform the community of possible plans. However, West Hollywood resident Victor Omelczenko said that he only received a flyer notifying him of the July 15 meeting the night before and faced difficulties navigating the site to find the location of the meeting. Additionally, the August meeting was held on the same night as a highly-attended community meeting to discuss the Fountain Avenue Streetscape Project.

Jean-claude Vandercruyssen, a 17-year neighborhood resident, said that years of construction would negatively impact the economy and health of the neighborhood. He added that he feels the community has been frozen out of the decision.

“It seems like they made up their mind, even though there are [other] properties that [are] a better fit for them, and [it’s a] done deal,” he said. “We did not have anything to say – they just pretend they are looking at four but no, they made up their mind.”

The spokesperson said that if a developer is selected for the property, they will continue community outreach throughout the development planning and the project will be required to comply with city laws and regulations related to noise and traffic.



photo courtesy of Allegra Allison

An LAUSD affordable housing development may replace the former site of the West Hollywood Opportunity Center on Fairfax Avenue.



Vet Prescriptions: What Your Vet Can't Say, But You Should Know

I’m not going to make many friends in my profession with this article – but pet owners deserve to know the truth.

Veterinary medications are expensive – and your vet hospital may be part of the problem. Many pet owners don’t realize: **you have options**. In California, your veterinarian is legally required to write a prescription if you request one.

There are two main types of veterinary drugs:

- Human meds vets use – Seizure medications, heart drugs, antibiotics, and some anti-inflammatories. Examples: phenobarbital, furosemide, metronidazole, meloxicam, gabapentin, enalapril, prednisone, trazodone.
- Veterinary-only products – These aren’t found at human pharmacies. Examples: Vetmedin, Rimadyl, Nexgard, Cerenia, Vetoryl, Vetsulin, Optimmune, Galliprant, Animax.

Many human crossover meds are available at regular pharmacies – often for a fraction of what clinics charge. I always recommend the **GoodRx** app. You’d be shocked how affordable some of these are at Costco, CVS, or your neighborhood pharmacy. I encourage clients to check the app.

Even veterinary-only meds are often available through reputable online pet pharmacies or Costco at a steep discount. Some clinics charge **40–80%** more for the same products, even when they can be shipped right to your door.

When I opened my urgent care clinic, I made a conscious – and, I believe, ethical – choice about the future of this profession: **we make money on services, not products**. Many clinics still stock large quantities of meds due to outdated habits. Stocking something like a new heartworm preventative requires a **\$3,000–\$4,000** minimum buy-in, just to carry all sizes. That creates pressure to push one brand – even if others are just as good. That’s not how medicine should work. **We don’t stock heartworm meds in-house – we help clients buy them at a fair price elsewhere.**

So why do meds cost more at many vet clinics?

Independent clinics buy in small quantities from veterinary distributors at high prices. Pharmacies buy in bulk – millions of units – at steep discounts. Clinics also face inventory risk, expiration loss, and have to maintain secure, climate-controlled storage.

That said, in emergencies, in-house medication is crucial. If your pet is vomiting, has an infection, or is in pain, waiting three days – or racing to a pharmacy at 9 p.m. – may not be worth saving \$10.

But for **long-term refills**? I recommend getting them elsewhere. Ask for the script. Compare prices. Good clinics won’t be offended – we’ll help you.

At my hospital, we keep markups modest and only stock what’s truly needed. I’m a veterinarian – not a drug rep. My job is to care, not to up-sell.

About Dr. Ameis

Dr. Ezra Ameis is an ER veterinarian and independently owns and operates Paw Priority in West Hollywood, providing general practice, urgent care, and acupuncture.



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Beverly Hills Planning Commission denies historic home exemption for short-term rental ban

■ Commissioners vote 3-2 to reject ordinance

BY TABOR BREWSTER

The Beverly Hills Planning Commission voted 3-2 on Sept. 11 against creating a historic home exemption for the city’s ban on short-term rental properties. Commissioners Myra Demeter, Terri Kaplan and Chair Jeff Wolfe voted against the exemption, while Vice Chair Lou Milkowski and Commissioner Gary Ross voted to approve the exemption. The final decision on whether to create an exemption will be made by the City Council.

On July 15, the Beverly Hills City Council approved an ordinance that prohibits short-term rentals, including Airbnb and Vrbo, within the city. Under the ordinance, short-term rentals include all lease agreements of less than one year. However, council members expressed interest in making an

exception for historic homes after some owners of properties with historic landmark designation raised concerns over the ban, arguing that revenue from short-term rentals

helps fund expensive maintenance on the properties.

The Planning Commission was tasked with examining the possibil-

See **Short-term** page 21



photo by Tabor Brewster

The Planning Commission recommended not creating an ordinance that would exempt historic homes – including the Witch’s House at 516 Walden Drive – from the ban on short term rentals.

Jury awards Gucci heiress \$115 million

■ Beverly Hills attorney Gary Dordick represented victim

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

A jury on Sept. 16 awarded \$115 million to Gucci heiress Alexandra Gucci Zarini, 40, in a childhood sexual abuse civil case filed against her former stepfather Joseph Ruffalo. Beverly Hills-based attorney Gary Dordick represented Zarini in the case and said the judgment was justified based on the severity of the abuse, which occurred over a 16-year period from 1991 to 2007 when his client was 6 through 22 years old.

“It is really, really despicable conduct, and he should definitely be made to pay for what he did,” Dordick said. “I had asked the jury for \$100 million and on the compensatory damages, and they came up with \$85 million, which certainly is well within reason, and then they awarded \$30 million additional in punitive damage. To many

people, they will look at that and they’ll think that’s an outrageous amount of money for one person. Unfortunately, however, the damages were just catastrophic. This was a childhood sexual abuse case, and it was despicable harm that was done to my client. So the damages are actually reasonable in light of the conduct involved.”

Dordick noted that he worked alongside his daughter Taylor Dordick on the case.

“My daughters and I continue to be very passionate about protecting the rights of individuals, and I feel really fortunate that I get to practice law with my family and do what we love to do,” he added.

The legal battle unfolded over five years. Zarini, founder and chair of the luxury brand AGCF, described the judgment as a landmark victory that signals hope for victims of similar trauma. Zarini plans to donate all of the money she receives from the judgement to charitable organizations addressing childhood sexual abuse.

“My heartfelt thanks and grati-

tude go to the jury for this courageous verdict. This victory in the civil justice system marks a significant step forward in the fight for accountability and child protection, despite the failures of the criminal justice system and law enforcement to deliver justice so far,” Zarini said.

“To every child who has been hurt, you are not alone. Your story matters, and your courage can change the world. Let’s stand together to build a world where no child knows this pain, where every child finds hope and justice.”

Dordick said the abuse occurred at multiple locations, including Beverly Hills, Palm Desert and

London. Zarini did not report the abuse until much later. Ruffalo was never charged criminally due to a lack of corroborating evidence, Dordick said.

“Unfortunately, as is the case in most child sex abuse situations, the children don’t report it,” Dordick said. “Sadly, it’s truly outrageous the number of people in our society who have ... experienced some type of sexual abuse. And we see that because we use confidential jury questionnaires, and you would be appalled to learn of the number of people that have had some connection with sexual abuse in their lives. The jury heard the testimony of my client and it was a tremendous vindication for her that 12 strangers from the community lis-

tened to her testimony and truly appreciated the devastation that she suffered and made a significant award that tells her that they heard her, they believe her and they want to make sure she’s going to be OK.”

Chicago-based attorney Donna Rotunno defended Ruffalo in the case. Rotunno previously defended film producer Harvey Weinstein in a case in which Weinstein was convicted in 2020 of rape and sexual assault in New York.

“We will always respect a jury verdict even if we do not agree with it,” Rotunno said in a statement. “I do feel the legislation needs to change with respect to allowing the filing of claims decades later, leaving little opportunity for an accused to adequately defend oneself.”

Project Angel Food readies for annual honors

Project Angel Food’s 2025 Angel Awards, hosted by Caroline Rhea, will take place on Sept. 27 at Paramount Pictures Studios in Hollywood. Academy Award-nominated actress Jennifer Tilly will be honored with the 2025 Angel Award and Cedars-Sinai will be recognized with the Leadership in Love Angel Award. Guest of Honor is Rock & Roll Hall of Famer Belinda Carlisle, who will headline the program with some of her No. 1 hits.

Other guests will include Kathy Hilton, Steven Weber, Amy Yasbeck, Cameron Mathison, Cheryl Tiegs, Marc Malkin and L.A. County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath, 3rd District.

Project Angel Food’s Angel Awards are made possible with generous support from sponsors Wells Fargo, Cedars-Sinai and Paramount Pictures. All proceeds support Project Angel Food’s vital mission to nourish the health and spirit of individuals facing critical and life-threatening illnesses.

Project Angel Food prepares and delivers more than 1.5 million medically-tailored meals to 7,152 clients each year with love, care and dignity. Since its founding in 1989 during the AIDS crisis by Marianne

Williamson, Project Angel Food has delivered more than 20 million meals. Its new campus, The Chuck Lorre Family Foundation Campus, located at currently under construction, will enable Project Angel Food to meet increasing demand with expanded capacity and enhanced service delivery.

For information, visit angelfood.org. The kitchen is currently, temporarily, located at 230 W. Ave.



photo courtesy of Project Angel Food

Project Angel Food provides medically-tailored meals for people suffering from critical and life-threatening illnesses.

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Notable Quotes

“A Bill of Rights is what the people are entitled to against every government, and what no just government should refuse, or rest on inference.”

Thomas Jefferson (April 13, 1743-July 4, 1826)

On Sept. 25, 1789, 236 years ago, the U.S. Congress passed the Bill of Rights. A founder father and co-authored of 1776 Declaration of Independence, Jefferson became the president of the United States in 1801.

*source: National Archives, archives.gov

‘West Side Story’ grows younger at the LA Opera

■ Iconic stage musical remains as relevant as ever

BY RANCE COLLINS

Some performance art’s impact evolves with each incarnation. How we perceive a story shifts – sometimes based on our own personal development, and other times because of an ever-changing world. When “West Side Story” hit Broadway in 1957, it was – clearly – a remarkably different world than that of its source text, the 1597 William Shakespeare play “Romeo and Juliet.” Thrusting an infusion of racial tension between dueling white and Puerto Rican gangs (the Jets and the Sharks, respectively) in an impoverished New York City neighborhood was timely as the Civil Rights movement unfolded across the country.

The Best Picture-winning film adaptation, released in 1961, was a mammoth success that further elevated the profile of the stage musical and its powerhouse score, composed by Leonard Bernstein with lyrics by Stephen Sondheim. But as the decades passed, the dynamic choreography, sweeping visuals and seminal tunes took precedence over its story. Its message against discrimination felt, naively so, less necessary in a world where Barack Obama could become president.

But then some ugly truths came

to surface. America, which once postured itself as post-racism, felt a little less like the one Anita waxes on about in the musical’s first act, and more like the one she bitterly accepts at its close. Suddenly, the story was more than a tragic favorite. It was sadly relevant all over again. The dance moves and the angst were no longer of a different time, but instead ideas seemingly crafted for this exact moment.

Four years ago, filmmaker Steven Spielberg put his own mark on the enduring musical with a big budget remake. Like its movie predecessor, it received critical acclaim and a bevy of Oscar nominations. Now, the LA Opera has brought back the stage show in a fresh production.

As a refresher, the story centers around Tony and Maria. Tony is a former Jet, while Maria is the sister of the Sharks’ leader Bernardo. When they meet and fall for one another, the tensions between the rival gangs boil over, leading to tragedy.

I like to think myself an expert on the 1961 film. In 2011, I caught a sold-out 50th anniversary screening at the Egyptian Theatre during the TCM Classic Film Festival. In attendance was star George Chakiris, producer Walter Mirisch and Natalie Wood’s vocal dubber Marni Nixon. I had never seen the movie all the way through, but from the moment the lights dimmed and Bernstein’s iconic orchestrations

blared through the darkened theater, I was transfixed. As if a live performance, the audience applauded after each song, and actors Wood, Chakiris, Russ Tamblyn and Rita Moreno all received rapturous responses upon their first appearances. It was magic.

I made it a point from there on out to go to every possible screening of the movie I could – and boy, was I lucky. It plays frequently. I’ve seen it in a movie theater at least a dozen times. As recently as last year, I caught it in a pristine 70-mm print at the Academy Museum, with Moreno giving a Q&A. I also, of course, saw Spielberg’s version twice in theaters.

Suffice to say, I’m a fan. And I was not about to miss the opportunity to finally see it on stage.

I want to get a little bit of critique out of the way: I think the construction of the original film is the best presentation of its story. A few key changes were made to the ordering of the numbers, specifically moving around several songs to establish what producer/director Robert Wise called a “single rising line of tension.” I believe, especially, that switching the placement of “Cool” and “Gee, Officer Krupke” makes a tremendous difference to the narrative. As the second-to-last musical number, “Gee, Officer Krupke” just feels tonally counter to the intensity of the show in its second act, after two main characters have been murdered. Additionally, the reconfiguration of “Somewhere” as a duet in the 1961 film greatly deepens the feeling between star-crossed lovers Maria and Tony, while the rewriting of “America” to be a square off between the Shark boys and girls was a stroke of genius. None of these changes are in the LA Opera’s adaptation, which largely sticks to the source.

That aside, there is nothing more exciting than hearing and seeing this musical performed live. It is, arguably, the greatest score in Broadway history. The weakest number might be “One Hand, One Heart,” and yet that is still one of the most popular wedding tunes. “Tonight” is a standard. The dance



photo by Cory Weaver/LAO

Yurel Echezarreta (center) shines as Bernardo.

number “Mambo” is rousing. “America” is invigorating.

The power really hit me with “Maria,” beautifully crooned by Duke Kim, who portrays Tony. It’s not necessarily a showy song. The melody is simple, and that name is repeated on numerous occasions, and yet somehow its beauty transcends. Perhaps better than any song before or since, it aptly represents youth’s first experience of love’s purity. As Kim let out that final falsetto note, the audience reacted just short of a standing ovation, and the performers had to wait patiently to move the proceedings along.

The performances are uniformly solid. The always showy role of Anita, Bernardo’s girl, which won both Moreno and the 2021 film’s Ariana DuBose Oscars, is excellently handled by Amanda Castro. Chino, the arranged-fiancé of Maria – typically a thankless role – is given new depth in the hands of Juan Posada. Gabriella Reyes brings the appropriate feeling to Maria’s angelic presence, while Yurel Echezarreta is a charming and chiasmatic Bernardo.

Most previous productions ended with a quasi-funeral procession – wiping away one hate-filled incident, and leaving a barren set, ready for another to begin. In this staging, the cast closes by looking directly at the audience, as the strings of “Somewhere” quietly fade away. It turns the pertinent story of racism on its head, almost imploring the audience to look inward.

Which brings us to what “West Side Story” says about our current moment. America is more divided than the Jets and Sharks ever were, and the impressionistic use of dance and song amidst switchblades and guns doesn’t feel as cheeky as it might have 20 years ago. Without changing much at all – except updating costumes, really – feels almost, well ... new.

The 1961 film’s tagline was, “Unlike other musicals ‘West Side Story’ grows younger!” I wish that I could say that the message of the show is no longer as necessary. I wish that I could say that any revival is more a nostalgia piece than a comment on the modern day. I wish that I could say we don’t need “West Side Story” anymore.

But we do. As Tony sang “Something’s Coming” this time around, I longed for his sunny optimism. As Maria sang “I Have a Love,” I wished for that singular emotion to have the last word. As the bombastic “The Rumble” orchestrations brought a wave of death, I hoped for it all to – somehow, someway – end differently.

One day, perhaps it will, at least in real life.

Until then, “West Side Story” remains a time and place for us to reflect, though its pulse reminds us that there is not time to spare. At least, not in America.

“West Side Story” will run through Oct. 12 at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, located at 135 N. Grand Ave. For tickets and information, visit laopera.org.



photo by Cory Weaver/LAO

Duke Kim and Gabriella Reyes play star-crossed lovers Tony and Maria.

L.A. Jewish Health celebrates residents at bar and bat mitzvahs

Ten Los Angeles Jewish Health residents celebrated their bar and bat mitzvah in September, making it the largest cohort of skilled nursing residents to complete the program in LAJH’s history. The seniors, ranging in age from 76-98, participated in the centuries-old tradition, which is typically celebrated by 12- or 13-year-old children.

Held at LAJH’s Grancell Village campus, the event drew a capacity crowd of friends, relatives, loved ones and staff who came to support the seniors as they chanted in

Hebrew and reflected on their Jewish roots. In addition to reading from the Torah, the residents spoke about their Jewish journeys and about the meaning of their lives over the decades.

“I was born into a family that had very conservative Jewish ideas, and girls could not be bat mitzvahed,” Cherie Goodman said. “I am proud of who I am and glad today I could enjoy that experience.”

“My grandfather was a rabbi in Russia, and my father was quite religious, too,” Phyllis Gottlieb said.

For Robert Orgen, having a bar

mitzvah required overcoming significant obstacles. “Judaism means the world to me, but after my stroke, nobody had the time or patience to try to teach me Hebrew until I met with LAJH Chief Mission Officer Rabbi [Karen]

Bender,” Orgen said. “I’ve wanted this more and more every day, and it has fulfilled my dream.”

The residents studied with Rabbi Bender for a full year to prepare for the bar and bat mitzvah ceremony. Under her tutelage, they learned to read sacred text and lead prayers, and gained a deeper understanding of the significance of the day.

LAJH CEO and President Dale Surowitz expressed admiration for the bar and bat mitzvahs’ resilience, strength and positivity.

“What you have accomplished is absolutely amazing and demonstrates to all of us that age is only a number,” Surowitz said. “You are an inspiration to all of us.”

For information, visit lajhealth.org.



photo courtesy of Los Angeles Jewish Health

The honorees were recognized for resilience, strength and positivity.

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‘Sound of Music’ stars reflect on its legacy

BY RANCE COLLINS

It has been six decades – officially – since “The Sound of Music” was released in movie theaters. Based on the hit Broadway show, the movie is a fictionalized account of the real-life von Trapp family, who fled Austria after the Nazi invasion. While a heavy chunk of the movie was shot on location in Salzburg, all of the interiors were shot right here in Los Angeles, at the Fox Studios lot in



photo courtesy of IMDb

Kim Karath, Angela Cartwright and Debbie Turner portrayed Gretl, Brigitta and Marta in “The Sound of Music.”

Century City. The movie focuses on Maria, the novice nun turned governess of the von Trapp children. The Von Trapp’s mother has died, leaving them in the charge of their strict father, Captain von Trapp. Maria brings music back into the household, and the captain softens. She and the captain fall in love, of course, just as the Nazis take over Austria. In celebration of the movie’s diamond anniversary, several events have marked the film’s iconic place in culture, including the annual Hollywood Bowl sing-a-long and a theatrical rerelease. For actresses Angela Cartwright, Debbie Turner and Kym Karath – who played Von Trapp children Brigitta, Marta and Gretl when age 11, 7 and 6, respectively – its multi-day return to the silver screen didn’t last nearly long enough. “I think people today want to go to the theater and see a movie that makes them feel good like this,” Cartwright said. “There’s enough stuff on television that’s ... horrific stuff, but [people want] to go to a movie with your family and to enjoy the music and the whole thing.” Turner said that the film’s limited theatrical rerelease had been so successful, that friends were unable to get tickets. “It sold out in like a day,” she said. “Are you listening, Disney?” Cartwright cracked, subtly imploring “The Sound of Music” rights holder to put the movie back in theaters again.

These former child stars landed their roles in the movie after an extensive search in which thousands were considered – just about every young performer in Hollywood was auditioned. “We went, we met with them, and then we got a call back, and we had to sing,” Cartwright recalled. “I think I went back twice, and then they screen tested me for Brigitta and Louisa with a blonde wig. I’m really glad I didn’t have to wear a blonde wig through the whole movie.” The cast rehearsed on the Fox lot for three months and recorded the soundtrack. “They built faux sets. [They] were just plywood,” Cartwright said. “We had a mattress on the floor where we practiced ‘My Favorite Things.’ We had plywood stairs they built for ‘So Long, Farewell.’” While professionals were used for the closeups, the children also became expert puppeteers for the elaborate “The Lonely Goatherd” puppet theater scene. Turner and Karath, slightly younger than the rest of the crew, were in charge of the scene’s backdrops and pushing in various scenery. “They didn’t let us do the hard stuff,” Turner laughed. “It was very hard for me to push the prince. The prince was heavy.” The movie filmed on location in Austria from March to July of 1964, then the company relocated to Century City and continued production through August. Though over half of the film was shot on



photo courtesy of IMDb

The film’s Von Trapp family was led by Julie Andrews and Christopher Plummer (center).

one end of the globe and the other half was shot on the other, the cast continues to marvel at how well the scenes – filmed months apart – blend together. This, they explain, was the true magic of Old Hollywood at work. “They had that down,” Karath said. “Within the studio system, they could do anything and make it look [real]. I mean, they were actually incredible given how little comparative technological expertise they had.” The trio, along with their other movie siblings, have maintained a close bond even all these years later. While the older von Trapp daughter portrayers Charmian Carr and Heather Menzies both died several years ago, Cartwright, Turner and Karath remain close to their on-screen brothers Nicholas Hammond and Duane Chase. “It was brilliant casting,” Karath said. “I have to say, [they] put together a family ... somehow, we

became family. I mean, [Wise] couldn’t have envisioned that, but somehow, we did. And I still see the family resemblance between all of us.” Decades later, “The Sound of Music” endures as the one of the most popular films ever made. Its music is almost synonymous with the American songbook, with tunes such as “My Favorite Things,” “Do-Re-Mi” and “So Long, Farewell.” But it’s the core message of the film that its stars credit with its continued relevance. “It’s like alchemy. There’s a magic that happens, and it’s a combination of things that make something be magical,” Karath mused. “But it’s based on a true story. So it’s cemented by this ... true story of a very courageous family that basically made the right choice in the face of Nazism, and they didn’t have to. They weren’t Jewish. They just couldn’t stomach what it was that there was going on.”

Sunday Socials

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Whether you’re a senior, a teen, or anywhere in-between, all community members are invited to this exciting new intergenerational initiative. **This is a chance to build new friendships, share ideas, and celebrate our Beverly Hills community.**

Students May Receive Volunteer Hours for Participating!

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Save the Date for the next Sunday Socials with Sharona:

- December 7, 2025
- February 8, 2026

Light refreshments will be served and RSVP is required at beverlyhills.org/SundaySocials

INTERGENERATIONAL GAMES DAY

Sunday, September 28, 2025

Roxbury Park Community Center

11:00 am – 1:00 pm

The ultimate L.A. guy: outdoorsy, effortlessly cool

No one can belabor a moment quite like I can, but Robert Redford's death last week lingers for me, like a scrapbook I just can't seem to close.

See, I love movies, almost more than anything, and Redford made the most-American movies, not in a rah-rah John Wayne mode, but in the cantankerous cowboy spirit of the rugged individualist.

Tom Cruise makes movies like pep rallies. As with many stars, he can't resist cheesy showmanship.

Redford made dark/hopeful movies about underdog heroes – malcontents who robbed trains, cheated mobsters, took on skeezy presidents, swatted home runs that took out entire power grids.

Over and over, Redford made smart movies that also gave you the warm-and-fuzzies. You don't see much of that anymore.

Of course, we shouldn't need movie heroes as role models. That's silly and shallow.

The real role models are dads,



by
Chris
Erskine

moms, coaches, teachers, soldiers, nurses. Yet, when they fall short, or don't seem quite mythic enough, we turn to the movies.

My movie hero Mt. Rushmore? Jimmy Stewart. Lee Marvin. Robert Redford. Jack Nicholson.

I'd put Redford over Nicholson, by a fraction of a fraction. That's not to disparage Jack. I'd just give Bob the edge, when it comes to the movies I love.

For those who came of age in the '70s, Redford's passing feels like a death in the family. Redford was a rascally American ideal. He was such a Californian, even his hair seemed made of furrowed sand. I am as hetero as an old Corvette. Yet even I found him kinda beautiful.

But who cares – so was Warren Beatty? I just never wanted to be Warren Beatty, or anyone else. I sure wouldn't have minded being Redford for a bit. Not just for the boyish good looks either. Indeed, back in the mid-1970s, when I feared almost everything, we all wanted to be as easy-going and self-assured as Robert Redford.

Lord, he could pick roles.

Reportedly, he turned down a \$10,000-a-week TV gig early in his career to play a stage play that paid pennies, even though he had two young kids to support.

He reportedly drove director Mike Nichols batty in his quest to play neurotic Benjamin Braddock in "The Graduate," one of the few roles for which he seemed unsuited. Nichols finally had to level with him: "Look at you. Did you ever strike out with a girl?"

Still, you have to wonder whether Anne Bancroft might've been his match, the lusty alcoholic in animal-print skirts, waving her cigarette like a scimitar.

Coo-coo-ca-choo...

His other choices were spot-on perfect.

To me, he'll always be the greatest Gatsby. Ironically, Gatsby looked for success in all the wrong places. Redford found success in the non-conventional, in going against the flow.

His greatest co-star? Some would say Paul Newman, others would say Barbra Streisand or Meryl Streep.

I'd say Jane Fonda, in "Barefoot in the Park" and "The Electric Horseman." They seemed suited to each other, in aura and temperament. If they were never lovers in the flesh, they certainly were in spirit.

"Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid" remains my favorite Redford movie. It became the gold standard for quippy male companionship. In the presence of the other guy, they were never afraid.

"You just keep thinkin', Butch. That's what you're good at."

"Jeremiah Johnson" is probably



photo courtesy of Columbia

With Streisand in "The Way We Were," one of his many dazzling co-stars.

my second-favorite Redford flick. In the entire movie, he speaks maybe 50 words. His co-stars are the mountains, the pines, the cutting winds. It is a rugged Rudyard Kipling poem.

Even in day-to-day life, you got the feeling Redford could never get far enough away from L.A.'s hustle and sooty air.

He still thrived, though, in gritty urban thrillers such as "Three Days of the Condor," where he gets by on his bookish wits, with the support of Faye Dunaway, his willowy and willing hostage.

And though he made a convincing TV producer in "Up Close and Personal," he seemed better suited to the feral investigative reporter he played in "All the President's Men," working long dark nights to bring down the bad king.

See, sometimes Redford played the bad guy ("Butch Cassidy," "The

Sting," "Indecent Proposal"). More often, he played the hero.

But he never played conventional sorts. He was too sly and nuanced for that, too suspicious of power and hollow American ideals.

In the end, he was his own template.

And he turned out to be the ultimate L.A. guy: creative, outdoorsy, effortlessly cool, amid too much summer sun.

Rest in peace, Roy Hobbs.

There goes the best there ever was.

Thanks to all those who supported the Rose Bowl Quarterback Club last week. Just ahead: An Oct. 2 meeting featuring Ronnie Lott, who missed the last meeting, benched by fog at Burbank Airport. For info, please Google "Rose Bowl Quarterbacks Club."



photo courtesy of Warner Bros.

In "All the President's Men," with Dustin Hoffman.



photo courtesy of Los Angeles Hayride

The Los Angeles Hayride offers a variety of autumn offerings and spooky encounters.

LA Hayride returns to terrify all comers

Thirteenth Floor Entertainment Group returns to Griffith Park at the iconic Los Angeles Haunted Hayride for its 17th season, with the Mistress of the Dark herself, Elvira, played by Cassandra Peterson. The hayride will run through Nov. 2.

For the first time ever, Elvira has taken up residence in Midnight Falls, transforming the maze into "Elvira's Trick or Treat Mayhem." Discover Elvira-themed photo ops, exclusive merchandise and the sound of her unmistakable voice echoing throughout as she takes over Midnight Falls' radio station.

The iconic Haunted Hayride will also be blending nostalgic scenes from the original hayride with all-new soundscapes and eerie encounters, delivering a chilling balance of scares and classic Halloween spirit. The fright continues deep in the backwoods with Hellbilly Halloween, where a cannibalistic family celebrates the season with gruesome tricks and horrifying treats. Be sure to visit Monáe Manor, for another hauntingly stylish house party hosted by icon Janelle Monáe.

"We are thrilled to announce LA Haunted Hayride's collaboration with Elvira this year. We are all ready for her to 'move in' and enhance the retro Halloween horror experience throughout LA Haunted Hayride," general manager Jen Bendik said. This is a year guests won't want to miss."

In addition to the hayride and mazes, guests can immerse themselves in the cursed community of Midnight Falls, browse the general store for exclusive merchandise, and indulge in Halloween-themed food, mocktails, activities and attractions. New this year, the Cider Mill Experience lures visitors into a cozy lounge bathed in autumn glow, where warm apple cider and fresh apple cider donuts offer a fleeting comfort amidst the shadows.

Guests can also enjoy a retail shop, scary-go-round, mini escape games, a seance show, axe throwing and a s'mores station.

For tickets and information, visit losangeleshauntedhayride.com. The Los Angeles Haunted Hayride is located at Griffith Park, 4730 Crystal Springs Dr.

BEVERLY HILLS

HANDY WORKER PROGRAM

The Handy Worker Program provides reimbursements (up to a maximum of \$1,000 per application, per household) to help lower-income tenants of multi-family units in the City make much-needed minor home improvements. Qualifying repairs include items such as shower grab bars, door handle replacements, or wheelchair ramps.

Applications are processed on a first-come, first-serve basis prioritizing senior households, and until annual funding has been exhausted.

Application Process:

1

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2

Complete the approved work.

3

Submit the Completed Work Application along with the required documentation.

4

Receive your reimbursement.

DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS CHANCE TO SPRUCE UP YOUR HOME!

Stop by the Planning Division table at the Beverly Hills Farmers' Market on October 12, 2025, to find out more about the Handyworker program!

For more information, visit: [BEVERLYHILLS.ORG/HANDYWORKER](https://beverlyhills.org/handyworker)
✉ LongRange@beverlyhills.org

Letters to the Editor

WeHo bike lanes will make traffic worse

Re “WeHo approves Fountain Avenue bike lanes,” Sept. 18 issue

As any reader of these letters knows, I think bike lanes on Fountain Avenue are a bad idea that will only make traffic in West Hollywood and adjacent cities worse.

I hope West Hollywood, Beverly Hills and Los Angeles traffic departments will be keeping track of how many people use the bike lanes. I almost never see any riders in existing lanes on Santa Monica or Beverly boulevards, and also [in] traffic flow on Fountain Avenue.

There are standard engineering methods used by the Department of Transportation’s Federal Highway Administration to measure traffic flow, but I think those of us who travel on Fountain Avenue – in my case fortunately infrequently – won’t need engineering studies to know that this ill-advised plan made things worse.

And yes, I will not be shy about saying, “I told you so.” I hope I’m wrong.

Daniel Fink
Beverly Hills

Many homeowners support more homes near transit

Re “Homeowners denounce SB 79 vote,” Sept. 18 issue

The headline on your writeup of SB 79 should be “Homeowners associations denounce SB 79 vote.” That’s who’s quoted in the article. If you spoke to regular homeowners, you’d find many of us support building more homes near transit even if it means our neighborhoods might have to change.

I’m tired of my friends getting priced out and moving to red states, and I’m worried my kids will never

be able to afford to live here. And anyway, SB 79 doesn’t apply to any of the neighborhoods covered by those homeowners’ associations. I wish it did, because then my house would be worth millions more.

Oren Hadar
Los Angeles

Fireworks cause harm during the holidays

Re “Beverly Hills green lights holiday party budget,” Sept. 18 issue

It appears that the city of Beverly Hills has a worse learning curve than we thought. The inclusion, once again, of live fireworks for the holidays demonstrates the city is just not paying attention.

Many other cities, with smaller budgets, have replaced live fireworks with drone displays. This is much better for the environment and more animal friendly. It is not a fun holiday for hundreds of cats and dogs across the city hiding under beds.

Beverly Hills should be leading by example, not ignoring the impact of antiquated explosions that subtract from the quality of life for two- and four-footed citizens.

Rodney Kemerer
Beverly Hills

WeHo’s ban on live animal sales protects public health

Re “WeHo City Council bans retail sale of live animals,” Sept. 18 issue

The City Council of the great city of West Hollywood did the right thing. Animal markets and other forms of animal industries pose serious risk of future zoonotic disease pandemics and current regula-

tion does not sufficiently protect public health against these threats, concludes a new 15-country study by Harvard Law School and New York University. Often ignored is the serious public health risk involved with the exotic animal or pet trade, especially the risk of generating new zoonotic disease outbreaks.

Over 70% of emerging infectious

diseases originate in wildlife. Live animal markets, where humans and various animal species in close proximity, can easily act as breeding grounds for pathogens to develop the ability to jump species, resulting in potentially lethal disease outbreaks. Examples of diseases linked to the wildlife trade or markets that jump species include SARS, MERS, COVID-19, Ebola,

MPOX and various strains of avian influenza including H5N1. Many lizards, reptiles and amphibians sold as pets are a well-known source of salmonella infections including typhoidal strains that are potentially fatal if not treated in time.

Cy Husain
Los Angeles



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

LOCATIONS:	West Hollywood, California
REQUEST:	The Planning Commission will consider a proposed zone text amendment regarding two parking-related bills: AB 894 (shared parking) , which requires local jurisdictions to allow property owners to make their underutilized parking spaces available to the public, local agencies, or other entities, and AB 1317 (unbundled parking), which requires the owners of qualifying residential properties that provide parking to unbundle parking from the price of rent. This ordinance implements these bills into West Hollywood’s municipal code.
PERMIT(S):	Zone Text Amendment, and any other required permits.
APPLICANT(S):	City of West Hollywood
TIME/PLACE OF HEARING:	Thursday, October 16, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers 625 N. San Vicente Boulevard West Hollywood, CA 90069
ZONES:	Citywide
ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS:	Categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Section §15061(b)(3) of the State CEQA Guidelines.

Complete digital agenda packets will be available on Thursday, October 9, 2025, and additional information regarding participation options can be found on the posted agenda or the calendar page on-line at www.weho.org

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

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

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

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

Melissa Crowder, City Clerk

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

RESTAURANT NEWS

BOA partners with Four Sixes Ranch

BOA Steakhouse, the upscale dining destination from award-winning restaurant group, Innovative Dining Group, has teamed up with legendary Texas-based 6666 Ranch to offer an exclusive 18-ounce ribeye. The allocated, premium cut is now available at all BOA restaurants, including West Hollywood, Santa Monica, Manhattan Beach and Austin.

6666 Ranch, also known as Four Sixes and featured in the hit show “Yellowstone,” is an industry leader, recognized for raising elite Black Angus cattle, with a commitment to quality, sustainability and innovation. Until now, 6666 Ranch’s celebrated beef has only been available direct-to-consumer or through select pop-ups, such as at the Wynn Las Vegas. The partnership will bring the renowned steak to a wider audience in a fine dining setting worthy of its pres-

tige.

“Innovative Dining Group and 6666 Ranch have a shared prioritization of excellence, while also balancing tradition and innovation, making this partnership a clear match,” IDG Founder and Co-CEO Lee Maen said. “We’re thrilled to offer something that will excite guests based on reputation alone, and delight them with a top-grade culinary experience.”

The exclusive 18-ounce ribeye is dry-aged and hand-selected, with an emphasis on marbling, tenderness and rich flavor. At BOA, the steak is presented on a custom plate and served alongside signature sides, such as the famous tableside Caesar salad, truffle mashed potatoes and lobster mac and cheese, adding to the unique and distinctive experience.

Continuing BOA’s mission to push the boundaries of modern steakhouse dining, the collaboration prioritizes ingredients, innovation and elevated hospitality. The BOA x Four Sixes Ribeye goes beyond a menu addition – it’s a

Voodoo Doughnut brews up Coffee Day magic

Voodoo Doughnut, a pioneer in creative handcrafted doughnuts, invites customers to celebrate National Coffee Day on Monday, Sept. 29. Guests can savor the bold flavors of Voodoo’s exclusive Magic Roast coffee and indulge in this year’s seasonal favorite – the pumpkin spice latte doughnut. Celebrate National Coffee Day with free coffee, limited-edition doughnuts and exclusive deals at participating Voodoo Doughnut locations.

Offers include a free cup of Brewed Magic Roast with any purchase, from 6 a.m.-noon (available in-store only).

Additionally, guests can enjoy a \$2 pumpkin spice latte doughnut, filled with pumpkin spice fluff, dipped in exclusive Magic Roast espresso frosting and topped with a swirl of caramel frosting and a dollop of pumpkin spice fluff (available in-store and for online order pick-up). Voodoo



photo courtesy of Voodoo Doughnut

Celebrate National Coffee Day with a pumpkin spice latte doughnut on Sept. 29.

Doughnut will also offer \$5 off pink mugs and \$5 off 12-ounce bags of Magic Roast Coffee (available in-store and via VoodooDoughnutShop.com). For information, visit voodoodoughnut.com. Voodoo Doughnut is located at 7101 Melrose Ave.

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partnership that sets a new standard for premium beef in fine dining. For information, visit boasteak.com. BOA Steakhouse West Hollywood is located at 9200 Sunset Blvd.

Pink’s gives back with Union Rescue Mission Hot Dog

To honor its inspiring annual Over the Edge event, Pink’s is proud to serve up something special. For two full days – Sept. 26 and 27 – the iconic stand will feature the Union Rescue Mission Hot Dog for \$8.88 (a \$4 savings). The mouthwatering creation is a 9-inch all-beef stretch dog piled high with mustard, onions, chili and guacamole. One hundred percent of the proceeds go directly to the Union Rescue Mission of Los Angeles. “As a family business serving Angelenos for 85 years, Pink’s is deeply committed to giving back to the city we love,” co-owner Richard Pink said. “The Union Rescue Mission is the largest facility of its kind in the nation, providing shelter, food, clothing, medical care and job

training to men, women and children experiencing homelessness. Their mission is simple but profound – to give people on the streets who ‘just need a break’ the chance to find hope, dignity and a way forward.” For information, visit pinksholly-wood.com. Pink’s Hot Dogs is located at 709 N. La Brea Ave.

Wake up with National Coffee Day at Dialog Cafe

National Coffee Day is Sept. 29, and Dialog Cafe is offering a special deal just for the day. The restaurant will offer \$1 vanilla lattes served all day at both Dialog Cafe locations. Diners can order the lattes iced or hot, limited to one order per person. The special offer is only available to walk-in customers. Owned by brothers Narbeh and Tadeh Ghazalian and helmed by Chef Gino Pineda (Barbrix Wine Bar, All’Acqua), Dialog Cafe has been in business for 18 years and

See page 14

Black Lagoon pop-up emerges for October

Black Lagoon, the award-winning Halloween pop-up celebration from industry veterans Erin Hayes and Kelsey Ramage, has revealed its full cocktail lineup and official spirit partners for the 2025 season. Now in its fifth year, the darkly imaginative bar takeover expands to 38 cities across North America this October, offering fans more sinister sips and haunted thrills than ever before. Conceived in 2019 at The Dungeon, a cult-favorite dive bar in New Orleans, founders Hayes and Ramage knew they were onto something wickedly unique and deliciously dark. Black Lagoon officially launched its first bar pop-up in 2021. Five years later, it has now cast its veil of darkness over major cities throughout the U.S. and Canada, expanding to 38 locations for the 2025 season. This year’s cocktail menu features spine-chilling originals including “Griselda’s Revenge” –



photo courtesy of Black Lagoon

Guests at Melrose Umbrella Co. in October can try the limited time “Nocturna Colada.”

Fords Gin, Lustau Vermut Blanco, Giffard Liqueur Mangue, tarragon, lemon, Bitter Queens Thai Spice and soda; “Nocturna Colada” – Kraken Black, Kraken Gold, Mr Black Liqueur, passionfruit, coconut, pineapple and Bitter Queens Coffee Cardamom Bitters; “Corpse Flower” – Lalo Tequila Blanco, ube, Giffard Banane, lime and Lustau Amontillado Sherry; and Death’s Door (non-alcoholic) – spirit-free alternative, Giffard Pineapple, miso falernum, lime and soda.

For its fifth season, Black Lagoon continues its reign as North America’s premier Halloween bar pop-up. In Los Angeles, the Halloween-themed tour will pop-up in three bars: Melrose Umbrella Co., 7465 Melrose Ave., from Oct. 1-Nov. 2; The Corner Door, 12477 Washington Blvd., Culver City, from Oct. 1-Nov. 2; and The Ordinarie, 210 The Promenade North, Long Beach, from Oct. 3-Nov. 2. For information, visit blacklagoonpopup.com.

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Descanso Gardens lights up for Halloween with ‘Carved’

Descanso Gardens invites visitors to celebrate the Halloween season at “Carved,” a family-friendly event running from Oct. 3-30. With luminous jack-o'-lanterns, massive hand-carved gourds and striking light installations, “Carved” blends fresh creations with longtime favorites that enchant visitors of all ages.

“‘Carved’ has become such a beloved tradition for our community,” Descanso Gardens CEO Juliann Rooke said. “This year brings exciting new surprises while preserving the magical atmosphere our guests look forward to each fall.”

Throughout October, “Carved” transforms the gardens into an illuminated landscape of ghoulish jack-o'-lanterns, giant hand-carved pumpkins and creative light displays. Visitors can discover new vignettes in the Pumpkin Forest, seasonal treats at Harvest Acres and festive lighting at the Descanso Railroad. Chainsaw Jenna is back with her signature artistry, sculpting massive logs into haunting ghosts and witches. Also returning is “Rhizome,” the mesmerizing light sculpture by Tom and Lien Dekyvere that has become a guest favorite.

Hours are 6-10 p.m., with timed

entry offered every 30 minutes from 6-9 p.m. Adult tickets are \$20-\$38 for members; \$27-\$45 for non-members. Children’s (2-12) tickets are \$10-\$23 for members; \$17-\$30 for non-members. Children under 2 are free. Tickets must be purchased in advance.

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



photo © Kathryn Rapier
Enjoy spooky fun with jack-o'-lanterns at Descanso Gardens.

From page 13

went viral for its famous Dialog Breakfast Burrito (\$13.95) and crowd favorite Chicken Caesar Wrap (\$14.95).

For information, visit dialog-cafe.la. Dialog Café is located at 8766 Holloway Drive.

Fall festivities abound at The Grove and The Americana

As autumn arrives, The Grove and The Americana at Brand are go-to destinations for seasonal fun. From festive food and drink specials to outdoor events, there’s something for everyone at the iconic L.A. outdoor shopping destinations.

Grab a friend for the final Pilates in The Park session at The Grove on

Oct. 14 or toast to Bourbon Heritage Month at Americana at Brand. Whether you're planning a family day out or a weekend with friends, enjoy shopping, dining and seasonal experiences at both locations.

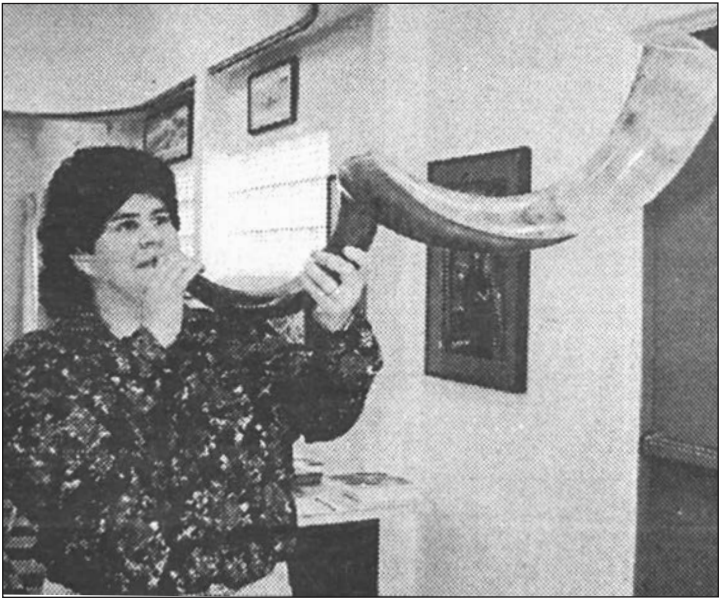
Visitors to The Grove can explore See’s Candies fall collection. The California-founded chocolatier offers seasonal favorites and festive packaging, perfect for cozing up or gifting – available through Oct. 31.

At The Americana at Brand, indulge in the apple series at Salt & Straw. The creamery’s September menu celebrates apple cider season with five cinnamon-spice-and-apple-inspired flavors, featuring cider in sorbet, donuts, spiked custards and more – available through Oct. 21.

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

VINTAGE PARKLABREA NEWS

Jewish community observes High Holy Days



Rebecca Weinreich sounded the shofar (ram’s horn) to mark the start of Rosh Hashanah in this photograph in the Sept. 24, 1998, issue of the Beverly Press and Park Labrea News. Weinreich joined a festive Rosh Hashana celebration that year at the Workmen’s Circle educational center on South Robertson Boulevard. Rosh Hashanah, a celebration of the Jewish New Year, started this year at sunset on Sept. 22, signaling the beginning of the High Holy Days, the most significant period of the year for the Jewish community. The High Holy Days continue with Yom Kippur, also known as the Day of Atonement, beginning at sunset on Oct. 1 and continuing through sunset on Oct. 2.



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

LOCATIONS:	Citywide, West Hollywood, California
REQUEST:	The City Council will hold a public hearing to consider adopting a zone text amendment to the accessory dwelling unit regulations in compliance with state law and implementation of the city’s Housing Element Program No.13.
PERMIT(S):	Zone Text Amendment, and any other required permits.
APPLICANT(S):	City of West Hollywood
TIME/PLACE OF HEARING:	Monday, October 6, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers 625 N. San Vicente Boulevard West Hollywood, CA 90069
ZONES:	Citywide
ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS:	Statutorily exempt from CEQA under Public Resources Code Section §21080.17 and categorically exempt pursuant to Section §15061(b)(3) of the State CEQA Guidelines.

Complete digital agenda packets will be available on Wednesday, October 1, 2025, and additional information regarding participation options can be found on the posted agenda or the calendar page on-line at www.weho.org

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

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

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

For further information regarding this item, contact Tahirah Farris, Senior Planner at (323) 848-6472; or via email at: tfarris@weho.org

Melissa Crowder, City Cler

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

La Popular premieres at Ovation Hollywood

■ Restaurant brings Mexico City to L.A.

BY TABOR BREWSTER

On Sept. 22, L.A.’s freshest import from Mexico City, La Popular, debuted in Ovation Hollywood, bringing a taste of elevated Mexican cuisine to one of L.A.’s most popular destinations for tourists and residents alike.

The new restaurant, led by Eduardo Gómez Senderos’ Grupo Carolo, shines in the L.A. sunlight and boasts a picture-perfect view of the Hollywood Sign, just steps away from the Walk of Fame. With a club-like atmosphere that features plenty of indoor and outdoor space, La Popular fittingly feels like Hollywood’s newest attraction.

Executive Chef Jhon Arevalo has curated a vibrant menu that emphasizes sharable plates that pair excellently with the lively setting. The salsa tray features four different styles of salsa, with llorona, torea-

do, lorenza, avocado salsa verde and warm, house-made tortilla chips. The corn off the cob salad pays homage to traditional elote, with mixed greens, avocado, onions, cotija, Tajín and lemon vinaigrette for a bright twist on a Mexican classic.

Seafood takes the center stage in many of the plates at La Popular. If you’re a fan of raw tuna in poke bowls, sushi rolls or as sashimi, look no further than the ahi tuna tostadas – a combination of crispy leeks, chipotle aioli, soy vinaigrette and avocado atop a flaky tortilla base. The ceviche brings together shrimp and Mahi Mahi with avocado, citrus, serrano peppers, pickled onions and cilantro for another light and refreshing appetizer that shines as a dip for plantain chips.

My personal favorite item on the menu is the creamy chipotle shrimp taco – so creamy it verges on quesadilla territory. Stuffed with refried beans, Mexican rice and folded flat, I’m still thinking about it days later.

Speaking of tacos, this is where

La Popular’s menu really finds its groove. The ribeye tacos are simple, tender and delectable, and the tinga tacos bring just enough heat to balance out the guacamole and queso fresco. By the way, if you like street corn as an appetizer, you can also get it on a tortilla.

The options don’t stop there. The vast menu also includes enchiladas, burritos, tortas, quesabirria and desserts like flan, butter cake and churros. Warm, crispy and dipped in a hot chocolate sauce, the churros are a perfect way to finish the meal, or a great snack all on their own.

Of course, no Mexican dinner is complete without a margarita to sip between bites. Thankfully, La Popular has plenty of options at its full bar. The cocktail menu places emphasis on drinks that bring forward refined agave-based spirits – a “barrel-to-glass” approach, according to the restaurant. The house margarita certainly does the trick. With Monte Alban Silver, agave, lime and Cointreau, the no-non-



photo courtesy of La Popular

The plates at La Popular bring bold Mexican flavors to the table in sharable portions.

sense marg lets the tequila shine without any of the cloying sweetness that too often befalls a margarita at a sit-down Mexican restaurant. If you do like something sweeter, try the chile pineapple mango variation – a spicy tropical paradise in a glass with fresh juices that still aren’t overbearing on the tequila.

Next time you find yourself in

the heart of Hollywood catching a show at the Pantages, the Egyptian, El Capitan or the Chinese Theatre and you’re looking for something that’s not just fast food, stop by La Popular for Mexican fare that won’t disappoint.

For information, visit lapopular-cdmx.com/locations/hollywood. La Popular is located at 6801 Hollywood Blvd. Suite 255.

Getty announces new PST ART creative director

Getty announced that Justine Ludwig – who has served in curatorial and institutional leadership roles in Dallas, Cincinnati and New York – has been named the inaugural creative director of PST ART. Getty’s PST ART is the nation’s largest art event, a collaboration of dozens of cultural, educational and community-based organizations presenting thematically linked exhibitions and programs that together explore a major theme in Southern California’s cultural history.

“With PST ART now occurring every five years, we’re delighted to welcome Justine Ludwig to the team that will lead this initiative into the future,” said Katherine E. Fleming, president and CEO of the J. Paul Getty Trust. “Collaboration and large-scale vision are the hallmarks of PST ART, and the qualities that Justine has demonstrated throughout her impressive career.”

Most recently, Ludwig served as executive director of Creative Time, a public arts organization that has realized more than 350 radical public art projects in collaboration with thousands of artists and organizations in New York City, across the country and around the world. At Creative Time, she developed a new programming space, CTHQ; established the R+D fellowship program that supports artists working in part-

nership with a wide range of disciplines; and realized projects including “Moving Chains,” an unprecedented 110-foot-long kinetic sculpture by Los Angeles-based artist Charles Gaines. Previously, Ludwig was deputy director and chief curator of Dallas Contemporary, where she curated exhibitions and oversaw activities in curatorial, social media, market-

ing and public relations. From 2008-15, she worked in the curatorial department at the Contemporary Arts Center in Cincinnati.

“I have long admired the ambition and achievements of PST ART, which has transformed Los Angeles’ creative community and reaffirmed L.A. on the world stage,” Ludwig said. “PST ART

offers a unique opportunity to think differently and deeply, empowering the entire community to show the best that art has to offer. It demonstrates how collaboration and collective vision allow for the realization of transformative projects. It’s a great privilege to be able to work with and learn from the vibrant cultural community across Southern California.”

PST ART recently completed its third edition, “Art & Science Collide,” presenting hundreds of

exhibitions, programs and events throughout Southern California over a five-month period beginning in fall 2024. With the support of \$20 million in grants from Getty, more than 70 cultural institutions – ranging from small community-based centers to the region’s largest museums and scientific institutions – participated in the unprecedented exploration of the intersections of art and science – past, present and in the imaginable future.

For information, visit getty.edu.



photo by Ali Cherkis

Justine Ludwig will be the creative director for the nation’s largest art event.

Our Bakery is filled with goodies for Rosh Hashana & Yom Kippur



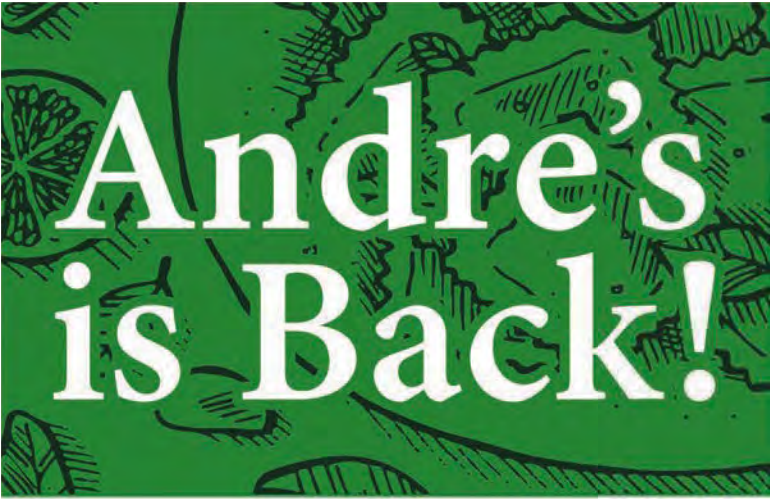
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Exhibition highlights Chicanx artwork from Durón Family Collection

Loyola Marymount University’s Laband Art Gallery presents “Seeing Chicanx: The Durón Family Collection,” on view through Dec. 6.

The expansive show presents a selection of nearly 50 Chicanx artists who have called Southern California home. Curated by Karen Mary Davalos, a leading scholar of Chicana/o/x art history, and drawn from the private collection of Armando and Mary Salinas Durón, the exhibition offers a multi-faceted portrayal of the Los Angeles’ Chicanx art scene from the 1970s to present day. Davalos has selected approximately 50 works from the Durón collection to encapsulate the cultural, social and artistic ripple effects of the historic Chicano Movement (1965-80). Originally exhibited at Monterey Museum of Art in 2024, the traveling exhibition highlights key contemporary works from the collection to provide a visual history of the Chicanx community’s creative vitality in California.

“Seeing Chicanx: The Durón Family Collection” encompasses a wide range of artistic styles and approaches. The exhibited works span from naturalistic and figurative representations to abstraction, expressionism and conceptual art, showcasing a variety of media including paintings, drawings, photography and sculptures.

“If you think you know Chicano art, think again,” Davalos said.

The exhibition’s focal image,



photo courtesy of Loyola Marymount University/The Durón Family Collection

Gilbert “Magu” Luján’s (1940-2011) “Cruising Turtle Island” (1986) is included in the exhibition.

“Trees on Lorena Street” (2008) by Roberto Gutierrez, is an example of the personal and intimate portrayals of Chicanx life and stories. The painting depicts Boyle Heights, Los Angeles’ vibrant working-class community of predominantly Mexican heritage.

Recognizing the scarcity of Latinx arts patrons and the imperative of claiming their cultural heritage, the Duróns embarked on their journey as Chicanx art collectors in the early 1980s. Their collection stands as a counter-narrative to dominant and stereotypical representations of Mexican-heritage populations.

Hosting this exhibition at LMU is especially meaningful because it allows the university to celebrate the achievements of two distinguished alumni, and welcome back to campus Davalos, a former longtime faculty member. Armando Durón (class of 1976) and Mary Salinas (class of 1975) met as undergraduates and were drawn together by their shared deep commitment to social justice and eagerness to take on leadership roles in student government. Post-graduation, they spearheaded the revitalization of LMU’s Mexican American Alumni Association, which transformed into the Latino Alumni Association.

Davalos will lead a tour of the exhibition on Saturday, Sept. 27, from noon-1 p.m. The Laband Art Gallery is located on the campus at 1 LMU Drive. For information, visit cfa.lmu.edu/labandgallery/exhibitions/seeingchicanxtheduronfamily-collection.



photo by Tabor Brewster


The tour of Hollywood Forever Cemetery will include the gravesites of Hollywood figures such as Col. Griffith J. Griffith.

Art Deco Society hosts annual Hollywood Forever tour

For the 42nd year, the Art Deco Society of Los Angeles “digs up the dirt” on Hollywood history – including a few scandals – via a living history walking tour of the 126-year-old Hollywood Forever Cemetery at 6000 Santa Monica Blvd. Visit the gravesites of early Hollywood stars, movie moguls and the pioneers who shaped Los Angeles to hear fascinating tales about their lives (both accomplishments and misdeeds) from historians and living history performances.

Featured on the tour are those who mapped Hollywood – including Col. Griffith J. Griffith and Hollywood founder Harvey Wilcox – and those who put Hollywood on the map – silent film swashbuckler Douglas Fairbanks, heartthrob Rudolph Valentino, the first African American Oscar Winner Hattie McDaniel, actress and William Randolph Hearst mistress Marion Davies, filmmaker Cecil B. DeMille, screen siren Barbara La Marr, slain director William Desmond Taylor and more than 20 other legendary Los Angelenos (including one dog).

Tours will commence every 20 minutes between 9-11 a.m. on Oct. 5. Tickets are \$20 for ADSLA members (member tickets at the door, if available, are \$25 in cash) and \$30 for general admission (\$35 in cash if available at the door). For information, visit art-decola.org/events-calendar/hollywoodforeverwalkingtour-2025.



ORDINANCE NO. 25-O-2920

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS AMENDING THE BEVERLY HILLS MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING SPECIFIC NOISE SOURCES AND REGULATIONS, AND MAKING A DETERMINATION OF EXEMPTION UNDER THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS HEREBY ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Section 5-1-202 (Machinery, Equipment, Fans, and Air Conditioning) of Article 2 (Specific Noise Sources and Regulations) of Chapter 1 (Noise Regulations) of Title 5 (Public Health, Welfare, and Sanitation) of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code is hereby retitled, and new subsections B. and C. are hereby added to Section 5-1-202, to read as follows:

“5-1-202: MACHINERY, EQUIPMENT, FANS, AIR CONDITIONING, AND GENERATORS.

It shall be unlawful for any person to operate any machinery, equipment, pump, fan, air conditioning apparatus, or similar mechanical device, other than emergency or standby generators installed and operated as provided below, in any manner so as to create any noise which would cause the noise level at the property line of any property to exceed the ambient noise level by more than five (5) decibels based on a reference sound pressure of 0.0002 microbars, as measured in any octave band center frequency, in cycles per second, as follows: 63, 125, 250, 500, 1,000, 2,000, 4,000, and 8,000 and for the combined frequency bands (all pass).

Emergency or standby generators installed and used only during emergencies, utility power outages, or routine testing shall not be operated in any manner to create any noise that would cause the noise level at the property line of any property to exceed the ambient noise level by more than

ten (10) decibels measured and tested according to the procedure described in subsection A. Required routine testing for stationary generators shall be conducted only on weekdays (Monday through Friday) between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. to minimize disruption to the surrounding community. The installer or general contractor shall be responsible for determining the generator’s location on-site, taking into account all relevant factors (e.g., proximity to property lines, sound barriers, etc.), and for conducting sound measurement and attenuation calculations before installation to ensure the generator complies with all applicable State and local requirements, including the provisions of this section.

If any enclosure or sound barrier is required to mitigate or reduce the noise level to the required level as specified in this section, the enclosure or barrier shall meet all the manufacturer’s requirements and recommendations. This includes but is not limited to, ventilation, the exhaust system, and clearance around the unit. The enclosure or sound barrier shall also comply with all applicable code requirements, including but not limited to location, height, construction material, and fire ratings, as well as any aesthetic requirements adopted by the Building Official or his or her designee. Any such enclosure or barrier must receive prior approval by the Building Official or his or her designee before installation. The minimum required clearance for Fire Department access to the property, as specified by the City’s Fire Official, must be provided around any generator installation.”

Section 2. CEQA. The City Council finds that the adoption of this Ordinance is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to the General Rule (14 C.C.R. Section 15061(b)(3)) because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility the adoption of this Ordinance may have a significant effect on the environment.

Section 3. Severability. If any section, subsection, subdivision, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Ordinance or

the application thereof to any person or place, is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the final decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Ordinance shall be and remain in full force and effect.

Section 4. Publication. The City Clerk shall cause this Ordinance to be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation published and circulated in the City within fifteen (15) days after its passage in accordance with Section 36933 of the Government Code, shall certify to the adoption of this Ordinance, and shall cause this Ordinance and her certification, together with proof of publication, to be entered in the Book of Ordinances of the Council of this City.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall go into effect and be in full force and effect at 12:01 a.m. on the thirty-first (31st) day after its passage.

Adopted: September 16, 2025

Effective: October 17, 2025

SHARONA R. NAZARIAN, PSYD

Mayor of the City of Beverly Hills, California

ATTEST:

HUMA AHMED

City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

LAURENCE S. WIENER

City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

NANCY HUNT-COFFEY

City Manager

YES: Councilmembers Wells, Corman, Friedman, Vice Mayor Mirisch, and Mayor Nazarian

NOES: None

CARRIED

A preview of fall’s best and mid offerings

■ It’s a hot start to fall, so how about some hot takes along with some obvious assessments of the fall film lineup

‘One Battle After Another’

P.T. Anderson doesn’t flop. He’s an incredible director who knows how to elicit remarkable performances from his leads. He’s sure to do so once more with very accomplished names like Leonardo DiCaprio, Benicio del Toro and Sean Penn. In theaters Sept. 26.

‘Steve’

Cillian Murphy leads a dramedy about mental health in a school for troubled teens. Netflix is hit or miss, but in Murphy we must trust. Streaming on Netflix Oct. 3.

‘Tron: Ares’

This is a toothless proposition since most folks don’t care about this film. In theaters Oct. 10.

‘Good Fortune’

Aziz Ansari’s directorial debut (well, sophomore release, if you

count his first attempt that was undone by complaints against Bill Murray’s onset behavior) seems like a charming, slightly sacrilegious outing, featuring Keanu Reeves as a meddling angel in the lives of a couple folks. Starring Ansari, Seth Rogen, Sandra Oh and Keke Palmer, it appears to be a solid outing. In theaters Oct. 17.

‘The Black Phone 2’

How many times have horror sequels arrived with a new director at the helm? And how often does that coincide with a lackluster experience? That’s not the case here. Scott Derrickson returns, along with Mason Thames and Ethan Hawke as a vengeful ghost version of his Grabber in the first film. If you dug the first one, the second is sure to land. In theaters Oct. 17.

‘Springsteen: Deliver Me From Nowhere’

ON SCREEN

WITH
TIM POSADA

Mad love for Bruce Springsteen. But musician biopics are often tedious and paceless, trying to cram an entire life’s story into two hours. Early reviews are great, but this entire genre is DOA. Sorry, but hard pass. In theaters Oct. 24.

‘Ballad of a Small Player’

A psychological thriller as a follow-up to 2022’s “All Quiet on the Western Front,” starring Colin Farrell. Hard yes. Streaming on Netflix Oct. 29.

‘Predator: Badlands’

“Prey” was an incredible film that revived the dying “Predator” saga, and an animated anthology film continued that streak. “Badlands” once more takes these viscous hunters to a new locale. These stories are in exceptional hands. In theaters Nov. 7.

‘The Running Man’

Don’t call this a remake. It’s a proper adaptation of Stephen King’s novel. Edgar Wright directing and Glen Powell in the lead – that’s quite the combo. In theaters Nov. 7.

‘Frankenstein’

Guillermo del Toro is one of the most creative and inventive filmmakers right now. But he does miss on occasion. Hopefully, his take on “Frankenstein” lands, but early

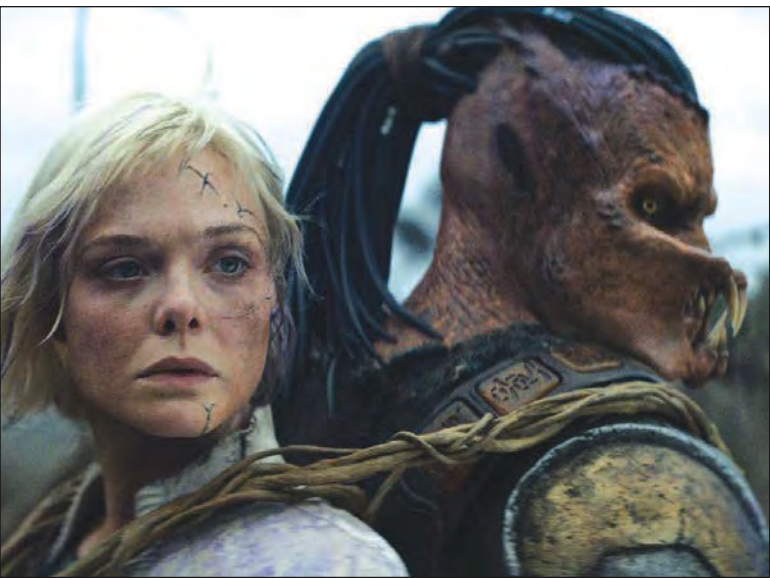


photo courtesy of 20th Century Studios

Elle Fanning and Dimitrius Schuster-Koloamatangi star in “Predator: Badlands,” a new addition to the long-running franchise.

reviews are unforgiving. In theaters Oct. 17, and streaming on Netflix Nov. 7.

‘Now You See Me: Now You Don’t’

Don’t. Just don’t. In theaters Nov. 14.

‘Eternity’

In 2025, the rom-com has failed us. Maybe a cute afterlife romance, starring Elizabeth Olsen and Miles Teller, can do the trick. But it’s hard to believe anything can save a genre that feels like a decades-old relic. In theaters Nov. 14.

‘Keeper’

Osgood Perkins’ (“Longlegs,” “The Monkey”) second film of 2025 tackles an old-fashioned haunted house. But in anything Perkins, expect things to get really, really weird, for better or worse. In theaters Nov. 14.

‘Wicked: For Good’

Does anyone really think this won’t be good? Trolls tried to drag the first one. It still slayed in 2024. It’ll repeat that trend this year. In theaters Nov. 21.

‘Sisu: Road to Revenge’

At some points, folks might finally admit cult film “Sisu” was fine, not great. Certainly, the sequel will deliver plenty of over-the-top Nazi killing, which is always needed catharsis. Reaching U.S. cinemas Nov. 21.

‘Zootopia 2’

“Zootopia” was incredible, an original and clever story. Then Disney slept on it for years, only permitting a bland Disney+ series to fill in the long gap. Maybe the new one will be a hit, but the magic has somewhat diminished after so many years of waiting around. In theaters Nov. 26.

‘Wake Up Dead Man’

Rian Johnson is sure to add “Knives Out” to the honorable list of perfect trilogies. There’s no chance this one misses. In theaters Nov. 26, and streaming on Netflix Dec. 12.

‘Ella McCay’

So the “As Good as It Gets” director (who also co-created “The Simpsons” and “Taxi”) returns in a film featuring Jamie Lee Curtis, Woody Harrelson, Albert Brooks and Kumail Nanjiani with Emma Mackey in the lead. A thousand times, yes. In theaters Dec. 12.

‘Is this Thing On?’

Auteur Bradley Cooper is back. This time, Will Arnet (also a co-writer here) plays a man at a crossroad who takes up a unique hobby to ease his emotional burden. It’s hard to say if this will work or not, but Cooper is a truly memorable director whose work is becoming more and more narratively original. In theaters Dec. 19.



photo courtesy of Universal Pictures

Glinda the Good Witch (Ariana Grande) and Elphaba (Cynthia Erivo) return in “Wicked: For Good.”

L.A. Carnival Awards Luncheon salutes honorees

MARIKEL Productions, in collaboration with International Eye Los Angeles, is holding the 2025 Los Angeles Carnival Awards Luncheon on Saturday, Sept. 27, from 2-6 p.m. at Friendship Auditorium, 3201 Riverside Drive.

The inaugural event will honor performers whose creative excellence brought “L.A. Carnival on the Shaw” to life in June 2025 along Crenshaw Boulevard.

Based on a traditional Caribbean carnival, “L.A. Carnival on the Shaw” stemmed from a multicultural initiative launched in 2023 to engage, activate and revitalize business along the Crenshaw Strip and in Leimert Park Village.

The 2025 awardees for outstanding individual performer are Danza Mexico, directed by Janet Velasquez; Ko’s Korean Dance Studio, directed by Sue Hee Ko; L.A. Success Steel, directed by Jules “Tinloy” Sanchez; Samba Los Angeles, directed by Tyler Chen;

and Anani Cultural Healing Arts, directed by Najara Apraku and Yael Zareta. The talented artists presented top quality creativity and contributed through cultural expression and community work. An honorable mention will be made to Rocco the Clown Troupe, led by Jesse Philpott; Route 66 Bike Ensemble from In Safe Hands Group; and Leimert Park Drum Healers, led by

Chinedu Udengwu.

The luncheon includes performances by the awardees. Funds raised will be re-invested into the groups, supporting advocacy work to amplify the voices of under-resourced neighborhoods and marginalized communities. General admission is \$50. For information, visit zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/la-carnival-awards-luncheon.



photo courtesy of the Los Angeles Carnival Awards

“L.A. Carnival on the Shaw” includes cultural performances illustrating the diversity of the city.

Dive into ‘Avatar: The Way of Water’

The El Capitan Theatre in Hollywood presents 20th Century Studios’ “Avatar: The Way of Water” in 3D for a limited engagement from Oct. 3-7.

“Avatar: The Way of Water” reaches new heights and explores undiscovered depths as James Cameron returns to the world of Pandora in an emotionally packed

action adventure. Set more than a decade after the first film, the breathtaking movie launches the story of the Sully family and introduces audiences to the majestic ocean Tulkun.

Daily showtimes are 10 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets are \$16. The El Capitan Theatre is located at 6838 Hollywood Blvd. For information and tickets, visit elcapitantheatre.com.



photo © 2025 20th Century Studios

“Avatar: The Way of Water” takes viewers to new heights and undiscovered depths.

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Getty announces landmark gift for K-12 school visit program

The J. Paul Getty Trust announced on Sept. 18 a \$12 million gift from the Camilla Chandler Family Foundation to support the Getty Museum’s Education Department and its ongoing work with students and educators across Los Angeles.

The fund will be established as the Mia Chandler Endowment for School Visits and supports Getty’s free bus service for Title I and similarly eligible schools for field trips to the Getty Center and the Getty Villa. The record gift is the largest financial contribution Getty has received since J. Paul Getty’s original bequest.

“We are thrilled to introduce the Mia Chandler Endowment for School Visits and to carry on Mia’s legacy of championing arts and education,” said Katherine E. Fleming, president and CEO of the J. Paul Getty Trust. “Education and access are at the heart of Getty’s

mission. This transformational gift will greatly deepen and amplify the work of our education department as we continue to find innovative ways to provide the lifelong inspiration of art to young people across Southern California and beyond.”

Camilla “Mia” Chandler was a leading voice in the Los Angeles arts community, and her passion had a profound impact on students and youth throughout the city. She built on the Chandler family’s remarkable influence in shaping the civic and cultural life of Los Angeles through her many philanthropic commitments to education, the environment and the arts. She is recognized for her decades-long work with LACMA, starting as a docent and becoming a founding trustee and the board’s first female president. Her pioneering efforts included providing funds for bus service for field trips by elementary school students in underserved

areas. Chandler was a devoted supporter of the Southwest Museum and Los Angeles Music Center, as well as a longtime trustee of Caltech, the Nature Conservancy and Wellesley College. The endowed fund at Getty honors her lifelong commitment to the arts and education in Los Angeles.

“My mother was always interested in sharing her appreciation of fine arts from her early days as a docent at the Southwest Museum to her long association with the Los Angeles County Museum of Art,” Chandler’s son Alexander Spear said. “It was always important to her that school-aged children had access to the exhibits under the guidance of knowledgeable docents. This gift to the Getty is a very fitting tribute to her legacy enabling children from a variety of economic backgrounds to have that exposure for years to come. I think she would be very pleased.”

Getty offers fully subsidized bus transportation for eligible school groups within a 30-mile radius, ensuring that transportation barriers do not prevent students at under-resourced schools from accessing



photo courtesy of Getty

The \$12 million gift will provide a permanent, dedicated fund to support school visits to the Getty Center in the face of rising costs and continued pressure on arts education funding in schools.

BHHS appoints Adam Verdi as basketball coach

Beverly Hills High School announced the appointment of Adam Verdi as the next head coach of the boys basketball program, pending board approval.

A proud graduate of the BHHS Class of 1999, Verdi brings a legacy of Norman pride, championship experience and an unwavering commitment to student-athletes. As a Norman, he played for the BHHS basketball team and now returns to lead the very program where his passion for the game began.

Verdi began coaching at BHUSD in 2010 and has served in several key roles across the district, including as an athletic assistant coach at both BHHS and BVMS, as well as providing support as a physical education assistant at Beverly Vista Middle School. From 2016-2025, he led the BHHS Junior Varsity Boys Basketball team, consistently coaching student-athletes with character, discipline and skill.

Stepping into this role, Verdi

brings not only technical expertise, but a vision grounded in tradition, competition and care for his players.

“Being a Norman is in my DNA,” Verdi said. “This program shaped me as a student, an athlete and a man. Now, I have the honor of leading it. We’re going to build something our school and our city can be proud of. We’re going to work, compete and win. The Norman way. I’m excited to continue leading our student-athletes, building lasting relationships and getting to work.”

“Coach Verdi has heart, history and a real connection to our students,” Superintendent Dr. Alex Cherniss said. “He already knows our kids, their strengths, their potential and what it means to be a Norman. This is the perfect time for him to lead. His commitment to our student-athletes and deep roots in this community make him the ideal choice to move our program forward.”

For information, visit bhUSD.org.

ward.”

Verdi looks forward to connecting with players, families and the broader community as the program prepares for an exciting new season.

For information, visit bhUSD.org.



photo courtesy of BHUSD

Adam Verdi graduated Beverly Hills High School in 1999 and has coached in the district since 2010.

New law prohibits ICE raids at schools

Gov. Gavin Newsom has signed Assembly Bill 49 – the California Safe Haven Schools Act – which was authored by Assemblyman Al Muratsuchi (D-Torrance), chair of the Education Committee, Latino Caucus Chair Sen. Lena Gonzalez (D-Long Beach) and Assemblywomen Liz Ortega (D-San Leandro) and Celeste Rodriguez (D-San Fernando).

The new law strengthens protections for students and families by prohibiting immigration enforcement officers from entering school campuses without proper identification and a valid judicial warrant or court order. The bill also prohibits local education agencies from disclosing personal information about students, their families, teachers and

school staff to immigration authorities.

“I thank Gov. Newsom for signing my AB 49, the Safe Haven Schools Act, which reaffirms every student’s constitutional right to attend public schools regardless of immigration status,” Muratsuchi said.

Nearly one in eight California students have at least one parent who is undocumented, and an estimated 133,000 public school students are undocumented themselves. AB 49 was sponsored by CHIRLA, Asian Americans Advancing Justice Southern California, the Santa Clara County Office of Education and State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond.

For information, visit a66.asmdc.org.

BHUSD reimagines counseling department

At the Sept. 9 Board of Education meeting, the Beverly Hills Unified School District unveiled the transformation of its college and career counseling department, a comprehensive effort to revamp student support from elementary school through high school graduation. Led by Director of Counseling Kristi Bond and supported by the BHUSD Board of Education, the restructuring ensures every student has access to the academic, college guidance and wellness needed to thrive.

BHUSD’s reimagined counseling efforts are already receiving state and national recognition.

On Sept. 1, every BHUSD school earned the PBIS Gold designation, recognizing excellence in fostering safe, positive and supportive school climates. PBIS aligns closely with the counseling department’s mission to support students’ social-emotional growth and readiness to learn.

Beverly Hills High School’s counseling team was also awarded the prestigious Recognized ASCA Model Program designation by the American School Counselor Association. Only 18 high schools

in California hold the distinction, marking BHHS as a leader in comprehensive, data-driven counseling practices.

The BHUSD Board of Education



photo courtesy of BHUSD

The BHUSD presented the newly restructured counseling department at a Sept. 9 board meeting.



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<div data-bbox="122 236 183 298"></div> <div data-bbox="252 236 546 261"><p>ORDINANCE NO. 25-O-2923</p></div> <div data-bbox="159 313 606 515"><p>AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS AMENDING THE BEVERLY HILLS MUNICIPAL CODE TO SUNSET THE CHARITABLE SOLICITATIONS COMMISSION AND FINDING THE ORDINANCE EXEMPT FROM THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)</p></div> <div data-bbox="159 534 616 618"><p>THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:</p></div> <div data-bbox="112 640 687 1072"><p>Section 1. Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 2 of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code established a Charitable Solicitations Commission (the “Commission”) to review and provide recommendations to the City Council regarding applications for permits for charitable or religious solicitation purposes, to evaluate the fiscal health of nonprofit organizations and recommend eligible organizations for community grant funds and funding allocations, and perform such other functions and duties as designated by the City Council from time to time. Accordingly, the City Council has appointed members and alternates to serve on the Commission, and the Commission has subsequently conducted duly noticed public meetings and reviewed and analyzed the issues that the City Council had instructed the Commission to consider and provided recommendations to the City Council about those issues.</p></div> <div data-bbox="112 1100 687 1504"><p>Section 2. At a duly noticed Regular Meeting on March 18, 2025, the City Council determined that, due to changes in solicitations regulation, enforcement and access to information since the Commission’s establishment in 1962, the Commssion’s responsibilities have shifted to administrative functions which are currently handled primarily by the Beverly Hills Police Department. Therefore, the Commission is no longer necessary and should be discontinued. Further, the City Council determined that, although the Commission should be discontinued, the Beverly Hills Municipal Code should be amended to include the Commission’s existing policy requiring that, for permitted solicitations for charitable events, at least 50 percent of contributions be used for charitable purposes.</p></div> <div data-bbox="112 1532 687 2051"><p>Section 3. This Ordinance and the elimination of the Commission were assessed in accordance with the authority and criteria contained in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the State CEQA Guidelines, and the environmental regulations of the City. The City Council finds that the elimination of the Commission and the adoption of this Ordinance will not have a significant environmental impact and is exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, which states that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. This exemption is applicable because this Ordinance is making a change to the Beverly Hills Municipal Code that eliminates an administrative body that provides recommendations to the City Council regarding charitable solicitation issues. Therefore, it can be seen with certainty that this Ordinance and the elimination of the Commission have no potential to cause a significant effect on the environment.</p></div> <div data-bbox="112 2079 687 2225"><p>Section 4. The City Council hereby repeals in its entirety Article 6 (“Charitable Solicitations Commission”) of Chapter 2 (“Commissions and Committee”) of Title 2 (“Administration, Personnel, and Procedures”) of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code.</p></div> <div data-bbox="112 2253 687 2427"><p>Section 5. The City Council hereby repeals Section 4-3-805 (“Review of Applications by Charitable Solicitations Commission”) of Article 8 (“Charitable Solicitations”) of Chapter 3 (“Other Activities Requiring Regulatory Permits”) of Title 4 (“Regulation of Certain Types of Businesses and Activities”) of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code.</p></div> <div data-bbox="112 2455 687 2629"><p>Section 6. The City Council hereby amends Section 4-3-806 (“Commission Recommendation”) of Article 8 (“Charitable Solicitations”) of Chapter 3 (“Other Activities Requiring Regulatory Permits”) of Title 4 (“Regulation of Certain Types of Businesses and Activities”) of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code to read as follows:</p></div> <div data-bbox="201 2660 675 2716"><p>4-3-806: CHARITABLE SOLICITATIONS PERMIT AUTHORIZED:</p></div> <div data-bbox="201 2738 681 2912"><p>The City official empowered to act on the application shall grant or deny the permit based on the criteria set forth in Section 4-3-807 within fourteen (14) days after filing of the application, and shall grant or deny the renewal of an existing permit prior to the expiration of such permit.</p></div>	<div data-bbox="717 236 1288 407"><p>Section 7. The City Council hereby amends Section 4-3-811 (“Restrictions and Prohibitions”) of Article 8 (“Charitable Solicitations”) of Chapter 3 (“Other Activities Requiring Regulatory Permits”) of Title 4 (“Regulation of Certain Types of Businesses and Activities”) of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code to read as follows:</p></div> <div data-bbox="806 438 1223 494"><p>4-3-811: RESTRICTIONS AND PROHIBITIONS:</p></div> <div data-bbox="806 515 1237 571"><p>Any solicitation regulated by this article shall comply with the following provisions:</p></div> <div data-bbox="806 593 1284 736"><p>A. Solicitation upon private residential premises is prohibited at premises that contain a conspicuously posted sign stating “no solicitation” or “do not disturb”, unless the solicitor has been invited to the premises by the owner or occupant thereof.</p></div> <div data-bbox="806 758 1284 929"><p>B. Solicitation by means of a box or other receptacle shall be prohibited in, upon or adjacent to any street, alley, sidewalk, park, or other public place; or in or upon any place of business or other place open and accessible to the public; unless the permit specifically authorizes this type of solicitation.</p></div> <div data-bbox="806 951 1257 1006"><p>C. Solicitation of funds for a purpose other than designated in the permit shall be prohibited.</p></div> <div data-bbox="806 1028 1288 1112"><p>D. Solicitors shall not misrepresent their physical or mental health, or make other false or misleading representations.</p></div> <div data-bbox="806 1134 1280 1277"><p>E. Solicitors shall not touch, come into physical contact with, or affix any object to the person of any member of the public, without first receiving express permission therefor from such member of the public.</p></div> <div data-bbox="806 1299 1276 1411"><p>F. Solicitors shall not persistently and importunately solicit any member of the public after such member of the public expresses a desire not to be solicited.</p></div> <div data-bbox="806 1432 1288 1575"><p>G. Solicitors shall not solicit from persons who are standing in lines, seated in public areas, waiting at bus stops or similarly stationary for a specific purpose that would not allow evasion of the solicitation.</p></div> <div data-bbox="806 1597 1284 1709"><p>H. Solicitors shall not intentionally or deliberately obstruct the free movement of any member of the public on any street, sidewalk, or other place, or in any place open to the public generally.</p></div> <div data-bbox="806 1731 1251 1787"><p>I. All solicitations made by mail shall include a copy of the solicitation permit.</p></div> <div data-bbox="806 1808 1278 1892"><p>J. Charitable events involving solicitations of funds shall have a copy of the permit prominently displayed on the premises.</p></div> <div data-bbox="806 1914 1284 2057"><p>K. Solicitors shall have in their possession at all times, when engaged in the activity regulated by this article, a copy of the solicitation permit, and shall display said copy upon request of any person being solicited.</p></div> <div data-bbox="806 2079 1288 2194"><p>L. At least 50 percent (50%) of contributions collected pursuant to a solicitation permit in connection with an event shall be used for a charitable purpose.</p></div> <div data-bbox="717 2222 1288 2393"><p>Section 8. The City Council hereby amends Section 4-3-813 (“Records and Reports”) of Article 8 (“Charitable Solicitations”) of Chapter 3 (“Other Activities Requiring Regulatory Permits”) of Title 4 (“Regulation of Certain Types of Businesses and Activities”) of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code to read as follows:</p></div> <div data-bbox="806 2424 1173 2452"><p>4-3-813: RECORDS AND REPORTS:</p></div> <div data-bbox="806 2473 1284 2759"><p>A. The permittee shall compile and retain for a period of not less than three (3) years detailed records and a financial statement showing the amount of funds raised by the solicitation, the amount expended in collecting such funds, including a detailed report of the wages, fees, commissions, and expenses paid to any person in connection with such solicitation, and the disposition of the balance of the funds collected by the solicitation.</p></div> <div data-bbox="806 2781 1284 2924"><p>B. Within sixty (60) days of the expiration of the permit, the permittee shall file a complete and detailed report of the information required by subsection A of this section with the Beverly Hills police department. Such report shall be a public</p></div>	<div data-bbox="1322 236 1893 494"><p>record and be available for public inspection. Failure to provide the report to the Beverly Hills police department in accordance with the provisions of this paragraph is a violation of this Code and shall subject the violator to the penalties set forth in title 1, chapter 3, article 3 of this Code, including, without limitation, the payment of administrative fines imposed pursuant to title 1, chapter 3, article 3 of this Code.</p></div> <div data-bbox="1322 515 1893 686"><p>Section 9. The City Council hereby amends Section 4-3-815 (“Charitable Solicitation Reporting”) of Article 8 (“Charitable Solicitations”) of Chapter 3 (“Other Activities Requiring Regulatory Permits”) of Title 4 (“Regulation of Certain Types of Businesses and Activities”) of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code to read as follows:</p></div> <div data-bbox="1411 714 1852 773"><p>4-3-815: CHARITABLE SOLICITATION REPORTING:</p></div> <div data-bbox="1411 795 1893 1022"><p>Any event planner or hotel event coordinator that executes a contract to assist a charitable organization with a charitable event or solicitation shall notify the Beverly Hills police department of the charitable event or solicitation. The notification shall be contained in a report submitted to the Beverly Hills police department twice a month that includes the following information:</p></div> <div data-bbox="1411 1044 1870 1221"><div>A. Name of the organization.</div><div>B. Date of the event.</div><div>C. Location of the event.</div><div>D. Solicitor/organization contact information.</div></div> <div data-bbox="1322 1268 1893 1411"><p>Section 10. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 2-2-105 D of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code, former members of the Commission shall not be required to wait one year after the end of their term of service on the Commission before applying to serve on another City commission.</p></div> <div data-bbox="1322 1439 1893 1644"><p>Section 11. Severability. If any section, subsection, subdivision, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any person or place, is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the final decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Ordinance shall be and remain in full force and effect.</p></div> <div data-bbox="1322 1672 1893 1902"><p>Section 12. Publication. The City Clerk shall cause this Ordinance to be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation published and circulated in the City within fifteen (15) days after its passage in accordance with Section 36933 of the Government Code, shall certify to the adoption of this Ordinance, and shall cause this Ordinance and her certification, together with proof of publication, to be entered in the Book of Ordinances of the Council of this City.</p></div> <div data-bbox="1322 1930 1893 2020"><p>Section 13. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall go into effect and be in full force and effect at 12:01 a.m. on the thirty-first (31st) day after its passage.</p></div> <div data-bbox="1322 2048 1602 2107"><p>Adopted: September 16, 2025 Effective: October 17, 2025</p></div> <div data-bbox="1322 2147 1755 2206"><p>SHARONA R. NAZARIAN, PSYD Mayor of the City of Beverly Hills, California</p></div> <div data-bbox="1322 2237 1479 2321"><p>ATTEST: HUMA AHMED City Clerk</p></div> <div data-bbox="1322 2352 1594 2436"><p>APPROVED AS TO FORM: LAURENCE S. WIENER City Attorney</p></div> <div data-bbox="1322 2464 1636 2551"><p>APPROVED AS TO CONTENT: NANCY HUNT-COFFEY City Manager</p></div> <div data-bbox="1322 2579 1842 2694"><p>YES: Councilmembers Wells, Corman, Friedman, Vice Mayor Mirisch, and Mayor Nazarian NOES: None CARRIED</p></div>
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POLICE BLOTTER

D.A. announces judgment against Lowe's

The following crimes occurred in West Hollywood, Beverly Hills and the areas patrolled by the LAPD's Wilshire and Hollywood divisions between Sept. 12 and Sept. 20. 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

Sept. 14

A vandalism incident was reported near Santa Monica and Bedford at 1:50 a.m.

At 9 a.m., an unknown suspect stole auto parts in the 100 block of N. Clark.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 100 block of N. Doheny at 2 p.m.

At 7:02 a.m., a vandalism incident was reported near Wilshire and Robertson.

Sept. 15

A suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs near Wilshire and Beverly at 2:31 a.m.

At 3:27 a.m., a suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs in the 8500 block of Charleville.

Sept. 16

At 1 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 600 block of Hillcrest.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 300 block of S. Reeves at 11 p.m.

Sept. 17

At 2:36 a.m., a vandalism incident was reported in the 200 block of S. Carson.

A vandalism incident was reported in the 300 block of S. Elm at 8:46 a.m.

Sept. 18

At 12:45 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim near Olympic and Camden.

A vandalism incident was reported in the 400 block of S. La Peer at 4:30 p.m.

At 6 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a garage in the 200 block of N. Gale.

A suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs near Wilshire and La Cienega at 11:12 p.m.

Sept. 19

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 300 block of N. Cañon at 1:08 p.m.

At 5:15 p.m., a suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs near Wilshire and Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect committed a residential burglary in the 200 block of S. Hamilton at 8 p.m.

West Hollywood Sheriff's Station

Sept. 12

At 1 a.m., an unknown suspect

assaulted a victim in the 9000 block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 900 block of N. Fairfax at 3 a.m.

Sept. 13

At 12:20 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8400 block of Santa Monica.

Sept. 14

At 3 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 7900 block of Santa Monica.

Sept. 15

At 2:23 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 9000 block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 9000 block of Beverly at 9:50 a.m. Another theft was reported at 10:17 a.m.

At 1:21 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 8700 block of Rangeley.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 8500 block of Santa Monica at 3:30 p.m.

At 4 :40 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 7100 block of Santa Monica.

Sept. 16

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 7300 block of Santa Monica at 1 p.m.

At 6:15 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 1200 block of Poinsettia.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8500 block of Melrose at 9 p.m.

At 11 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8900 block of Santa Monica.

Sept. 17

At 8:15 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1200 block of N. La Brea.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 8900 block of Santa Monica at 9:23 a.m.

At 3:40 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim near Gardner and Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near Santa Monica and Formosa at 9:35 p.m.

Sept. 19

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8400 block of Santa Monica at 9:30 a.m.

At 11:08 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim near Santa Monica and La Peer.

Sept. 20

At 12:30 a.m., a suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident near Santa Monica and Hilldale.

Los Angeles County District Attorney Nathan Hochman announced that national home improvement and hardware retailer Lowe's has been ordered by the court to pay \$1 million to resolve a civil lawsuit alleging the company charged prices higher than the lowest advertised or posted price and falsely advertised accurate prices for products. Lowe's has 110 stores in California, including a store at 4550 W. Pico Blvd.

"This settlement protects shoppers, ensures fair pricing at checkout, but equally important, holds retailers accountable for illegal business practices," Hochman said. "Thanks to our Consumer Protection Division, particularly Deputy District Attorney Louis Morin who handled the case, and our partner district attorney's offices throughout California, every violation has been addressed and reforms are in place statewide. Let this be a warning to retailers, my office will continue to hold corporations accountable and defend Los Angeles County consumers from unfair business practices."

From 2018-22, Lowe's received price accuracy violations in 10 counties, with 4.4% of items overcharged, and an average overcharge of 19.3%, according to the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office. The lawsuit was led by the San Diego County District Attorney's Office and included the assistance of the district attorney's offices in Los Angeles, Sonoma, Orange, San Bernardino and Alameda counties.

Under the final judgment, entered on Sept. 5, the settlement includes

injunctive relief, including mandatory store-level changes, enhanced staff training and periodic price audits. The judgment also includes civil penalties of \$1 million, with the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office's portion set at approximately \$166,666. The retailer is ordered to pay investigative costs and restitution of approximately \$61,000. The settlement explicitly prohibits Lowe's from charging at the time of sale an amount greater than the lowest advertised price for a product, violating the Business and Professions Code by charging more than the price posted on the product or shelf tag and making any statement representing an advertised price and then charging a higher price at the point of sale. As part of the settlement, the company did not admit liability.

Driver sought in hit-and-run on La Brea Avenue

Detectives with the Los Angeles Police Department's West Traffic Division are searching for a driver involved in a hit-and-run traffic collision that left a pedestrian dead on Sept. 12.

The collision occurred at approximately 10:20 p.m. on La Brea Avenue near Venice Boulevard. A dark or silver colored Honda RX was traveling northbound on La Brea Avenue at a high speed when the vehicle struck a pedestrian crossing the street just south of Venice Boulevard, police said. The driver continued northbound on La Brea Avenue without stopping.

Los Angeles Fire Department paramedics transported the victim to a hospital, where he was pronounced dead. The victim's identity is being withheld pending the notification of next of kin. Police believe speed was a factor in the collision.

Motorists are reminded that if they are involved in a collision, they

must pull over and stop as soon as it is safe, notify emergency services and remain at the scene. A reward of up to \$50,000 is available for information leading to the driver's identification, apprehension and conviction.

Anyone with information is urged to call LAPD West Traffic Detectives at (213)473-0234. During weekends and off-hours, call the LAPD's hotline at (877)LAPD247.

Man charged in Century City murder

A male suspect was arrested for murder on Sept. 12 for allegedly killing a woman in her Century City apartment earlier the same day.

The unidentified female victim was found around 6:30 a.m. on Sept. 12 by Los Angeles Fire Department personnel who responded to reports of smoke coming from the apartment in the 10300

block of Bellwood Avenue. The victim sustained burns and appeared to have been stabbed, and firefighters notified police. The victim was taken to a hospital, where she was pronounced dead.

Detectives from the Los Angeles Police Department's West Bureau Homicide Unit conducted an investigation and identified Willian

Santos, 33, as the suspect. Detectives worked with the FBI/LAPD Fugitive Task Force and the California Highway Patrol to locate Santos, who was arrested at approximately 8 p.m. on Sept. 12 in the city of Lebec, approximately 70 miles north of Los Angeles.

Investigators did not provide any further information about a motive. Santos is being held without bail and is next expected to appear in court on Oct. 29. .

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Kimmel reinstated after public outcry

From page 1

and Disney announced Kimmel’s “indefinite suspension.” The protests began almost immediately, social media campaigns encouraged people to cancel their subscriptions to Disney+ and Hulu, and open letters signed by numerous entertainment luminaries circulated, with names including Meryl Streep, Jennifer Aniston and Tom Hanks.

The backlash centered on what many argued was a violation of free speech. Unlikely allies in that opinion were found in Republican Sens. Ted Cruz (R-Texas) and Rand Paul (R-Kentucky). Hollywood, meanwhile, showed up in force. The Writers Guild of America led the picketing at Disney Studios, while grassroots groups such as Refuse

Fascism took to the megaphone on Hollywood Boulevard.

For L.A. residents, the impact stretched beyond free speech implications. Roughly 200 workers are employed by “Jimmy Kimmel Live!,” which is taped at the historic Hollywood Masonic Temple. Many entertainment unions are represented by the series’ workers, including WGA, SAG-AFTRA, the Teamsters, the Directors Guild of America, the American Federation of Musicians and IATSE. The show is a visible part of the Hollywood tourism scene, with frequent “man on the street” interviews filmed on the Walk of Fame. Visitors, too, often make a Kimmel taping part of their itinerary.

On Sept. 22, state and local representatives across Los Angeles County showed a united front at a rally organized by Rep. Laura Freidman (D-Glendale), who represents Hollywood. Also in attendance were other congressional members such as Reps. Ted Lieu (D-Los Angeles County), Brad Sherman (D-Los Angeles) and Judy Chu (D-Los Angeles).

“I would remind every corporation in America that many of their business models cannot survive in a world where the government gets to tell them what to say,” Friedman said. “We all know – if everyone remembers back to their school days – if you give a bully your lunch money, they just come back the next day and demand it again. There’s a time when we all have to stand up and say no, and that includes the people who run broadcast networks and other companies.”

“When is this going to stop ABC? You have a choice,” Lieu said. “You can continue to be bullied, or you can stand up for yourself, stand up for the First Amendment and invoke the protection of the First Amendment, an amendment that generations of Americans have given the blood, sweat and tears to defend.”

Local leaders, including Los Angeles City Councilman Hugo Soto-Martinez, 13th District, and Los Angeles County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath, 3rd District, voiced support as well.

“I want to be very clear, this fight is not about one talk show or one network,” Horvath said. “This is about every single worker, every artist, every union member, every

voice that deserves to be heard without bowing to the Trump administration. We know their playbook, whether it was the McCarthy era in this country or autocrats around the globe. They think fear will silence us, but we are here on Hollywood Boulevard in one of the most iconic American sites of entertainment, of free speech and democracy. And we are not going back.”

“We’re not only just fighting for our democracy and our right to free speech, but we are here to stand with our siblings from the labor movement,” Soto-Martinez said. “Two-hundred jobs hang in the balance thanks to this blatant government censorship.”

Union leaders were also present at the protest.

“Our democracy depends more than anything else on our rights to speak freely without retaliation from the government, especially when that speech challenges those in power,” WGA president Meredith Stiehm said.

Most attendees and onlookers in Hollywood – and several honking drivers – were supportive of the rally’s cause, though there was one sign demanding, “Jimmy apologize!” and another man with a loudspeaker walked by called out, “The face of evil right here. Pure evil – a group of people memorializing murder.” As the rally concluded, one person forcefully demanded Lieu explain his Sept. 19 vote in support of a Congressional resolution honoring Kirk, to which the congressman stated he had voted to condemn political violence.

Roughly one hour after the protest ended, ABC/Disney announced its decision to bring Kimmel back on air, with the host’s first episode back airing Sept. 23, though Nexstar and Sinclair said their affiliates would air news programming instead.

“We have spent the last days having thoughtful conversations with Jimmy, and after those conversations, we reached the decision to return the show on Tuesday,” Disney said in a statement.

Los Angeles leaders applauded the move but urged caution regarding the protection of free speech during the Trump administration.

“The last thing any of us want is for the broadcast networks in the United States to be seen as just another arm of the Trump administration,” Friedman said. “The last thing we want our artists to believe is that they will be fired simply for making a joke at Donald Trump’s expense. So that’s what the rally was about [on Sept. 22]. We haven’t seen any apologies from the Trump administration. We haven’t seen any explanations from them. We haven’t seen Brendan Carr come out and say that there was any misunderstanding. In fact, it’s gone further with Donald Trump saying that he expects several different comedians to be taken off the air. And then he’s also said right out in public that he thinks that broadcast licenses should be yanked if these broadcasters allow speech that he personally disagrees with. I don’t know about you, but I don’t want Donald Trump deciding what I can watch on TV.”

“The attempt to censor Jimmy Kimmel and free speech in America has failed,” Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass said. “Systematically, this administration has attempted to shred the very fabric of freedom and liberty in this country by targeting and censoring voices that disagree with the President. The problem for them is that this will only make them louder. I stand with Jimmy and look forward to the show.”

This story will be updated at beverlypress.com as it develops.

Short-term rentals remain banned in Beverly Hills

From page 6

ity of an exception through the creation of a separate ordinance.

According to city staff, there are 45 historic landmarks in Beverly Hills, 18 of which are single-family homes. Approximately 16 of those homes include accessory dwelling units or similar structures that could potentially be rented out on a short-term basis.

“The historic houses of Beverly Hills hold the magic of a bygone era, when Hollywood royalty settled here and turned our city into one of the world’s most fabled locations,” said Deborah Blum, owner of a 1913 Craftsman-style home that is a designated historic landmark. “Over a century later, people still want to see the actual places where all the glamor and enchantment took place. This is especially important now, as our city contemplates a tide of massive development. Our City Council recognizes that preserving our historic homes protects our identity and the singular heritage that makes Beverly Hills Beverly Hills.”

Blum was the only homeowner of a historic property who provided feedback to the Planning Commission. Commissioners who voted against creating an exemption said allowing some homeowners to rent their properties on a short-term basis while prohibiting others would create an unfair environment for residents seeking to rent their properties.

“We have many not just old, but homes that by their construction are expensive to maintain. What about all those people who could benefit from the ability to put their ADU or their guest house out for short-term rentals? It’s really inherently unfair to them,” Kaplan said.

Ross, who voted in favor of creating an exemption, said he understood both sides of the issue but added that owners of historic properties take on greater responsibilities and should therefore be granted the exception.

“We have 18 historic structures that people have the opportunity to come to and experience our city in that unique fashion, and I don’t want to punish homeowners who have taken that leap of faith, and are helping to preserve the charm

of our city which is quickly going away,” Ross said.

Robert Bibeaault, chief marketing officer for the Beverly Hills Conference and Visitors Bureau, spoke on behalf of hotels in Beverly Hills, which opposed the exemption.

“Unlike hotels, which operate under strict regulatory and financing reporting requirements, short-term rentals are frequently unlicensed, transient and operate under the radar. This results in under-reported or uncollected [transient occupancy taxes], ultimately depriving the city of essential revenue that would otherwise be used to benefit the community,” Bibeaault said. “Moreover, the proliferation of short-term rentals reduces demand for traditional hotel accommodations, directing revenue from established, tax-paying businesses. This creates an uneven playing field and threatens the economic sustainability of our industry, which is already navigating the challenges of post-pandemic recovery.”

Housing advocates – including the group Better Neighbors L.A., which opposed the exemption – have criticized short-term rentals and argue that they can exacerbate housing affordability issues. Short-term rentals often negatively impact the housing market, as they reduce the overall number of units and can potentially make existing units less affordable, the group said.

Additionally, residents in Beverly Hills have expressed concerns over short-term rental properties that often become nuisances, where loud parties are held by out-of-town visitors.

Nearby cities have taken a similar approach against short-term and vacation rentals, including West Hollywood and Santa Monica. In 2024, West Hollywood passed an ordinance requiring a one-year minimum lease on single-family homes and condominiums.

The Planning Commission’s recommendation to deny the ordinance will be forwarded to the City Council, which will make a final determination on whether to adopt or deny a short-term rental ordinance for historic homes.

Project faces legal challenge in Beverly Hills

From page 3

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

Milikan appealed the Beverly Hills Planning Commission’s approval of the project, but the appeal was denied by the City

Council on Aug. 5 in a 3-2 vote. Vice Mayor John Mirisch and Councilman Craig Corman voted against denying the appeal.

Mirisch and Corman argued that the city should approve the project with added conditions that would require the developer, Oakhurst Skyline LLC, to assist displaced seniors with relocation.

“I think we’re putting the seniors in a vulnerable position if we don’t do anything about it, I think that’s the main issue,” Mirisch said at the City Council meeting. “We have people, real living people in front of us and people who have Alzheimer’s who cannot be in front of us because they’re too infirm to do so, and it is our duty to protect them.”

Milikan echoed Mirisch’s comments after filing the lawsuit.

“Any senior [whose] homes are demolished, the city has to protect them,” Milikan said. “That is the moral and ethical [lesson] that the bible tells us – ‘do not abandon me in times when I am old and frail.’ And unfortunately, the city of Beverly Hills abandoned the seniors.”

Beverly Hills Deputy City Manager Keith Sterling responded to the lawsuit on behalf of the city.

“We are confident in our procedures regarding that development and plan on defending the lawsuit,” Sterling said.

A representative for the developer did not respond to a request for comment by press time.



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WeHo entertainment zone analyzed

From page 1

but our residential neighborhoods are just way too close for this to be something that I could support.”

Neighborhood leaders echoed her concerns.

“I do not support creating an entertainment zone for the Sunset Strip as the restaurants and clubs are not as concentrated, and Sunset is a very different beast from Santa Monica Boulevard,” said Elyse Eisenberg, chair of the West Hollywood Heights Neighborhood Association. “I don’t think it’s a good idea at all. We have enough drunk people wandering the streets of WeHo. Pickpockets, already a serious problem in the city, will come out in force if this is implemented.”

“We just had a stabbing on Santa Monica Boulevard the other night. Do we really need to add fuel to the fire?” Norma Triangle Neighborhood Watch co-captains Bobbie Edrick and Jim Banks wrote in a letter to the council. “We already have a designated ‘entertainment zone’ with the ‘Rainbow District.’ And we can tell you from a neighborhood perspective, we

get a very large brunt of what goes on in that area and it’s only gotten worse over the years. Trash, noise, crime, violence – as pointed out with the stabbing that happened the other night. Sanctioning open drinking on the streets would be adding to a situation that we don’t fully have control of now.”

In June, Santa Monica became the first city in Southern California to launch an entertainment zone, which operates on the Third Street Promenade on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Additionally, Long Beach implemented a pilot program and San Francisco has 21 entertainment zones adopted or pending across the city.

Andrew Thomas, CEO of Downtown Santa Monica Inc., said the Third Street Promenade was uniquely suited to host an entertainment zone and the impact has been positive.

“Unlike programs that convert roadways, the promenade was purpose-built as a pedestrian space, and this program enables us to capitalize on one of the country’s best-

known public spaces,” he said. “The entertainment zone has been a terrific addition to Downtown Santa Monica. Promenade restaurants are seeing real benefits, and visitors love the opportunity to stroll outdoors with their favorite beverage while enjoying the weather, street performers and community events. It has added another layer of vibrancy and created a new way for people to experience the promenade. As with any new program, there are operational details to refine; however, the feedback from both businesses and the community has been overwhelmingly positive overall.”

Genevieve Morrill, president and CEO of the West Hollywood Chamber of Commerce encouraged the council to consider both the Rainbow District and the Sunset Strip as part of the program.

“This initiative is both timely and essential as many of our businesses continue to face financial challenges in maintaining profitability and ensuring long-term sustainability,” she said. “While our geography differs from



photo by Jon Viscott

Visitors to the Rainbow District would be able to publicly consume alcohol if the area is designated an entertainment zone.

enclosed models such as the Third Street Promenade, I have no doubt that West Hollywood’s staff can design innovative approaches uniquely suited to our commercial corridors. We encourage you to consider both the Rainbow District and the Sunset Strip as part of this program. The Strip, in particular, would greatly benefit from renewed energy and support for its businesses.”

Councilman John Erickson, who initiated the item, said the study was important to conduct to deter-

mine if safety concerns outweighed the benefits of implementing an entertainment zone.

“When our businesses thrive, our cities and communities do as well, and I hope that we all stand to gain because of this potential for our community,” he said. “I’m not particularly sold on any area but would love to ensure that Santa Monica Boulevard and Sunset, and even parts of Melrose, would be able to take advantage of this new opportunity to help our amazing businesses.”

Speed cameras planned in Los Angeles

From page 1

driver is traveling.

The cameras were made possible under California Assembly Bill 645, legislation authored by then-Assemblywoman Laura Friedman (D-Glendale) to give cities and counties a greater ability to address traffic fatalities caused by speeding. Friedman, who now serves as the U.S. Representative for the 30th Congressional District, said the law will make a difference in protecting lives.

“I was proud to author AB 645, which created a pilot program allowing certain cities to opt into using speed cameras to protect children and families near schools and high-injury roads,” Friedman said. “Making sure our community is safe has been a top priority of mine, and in Congress I’m continuing to make it a priority by advocating for

federal investments in programs like Safe Streets For All – because when we have safe roads, we have safer communities.”

Other cities, including San Francisco, have already begun implementing the speed cameras. Los Angeles, Glendale, Long Beach, San Jose and Oakland were also approved to participate in the pilot program under AB 645.

The Federal Highway Administration estimates that approximately 6,500 pedestrians and 900 bicyclists were killed nationwide in collisions with motor vehicles in 2023, the latest year for which nationwide statistics are available. In Los Angeles, 304 people were killed in traffic collisions in 2024. According to an L.A. city staff report on the speed cameras program, speed accounts for nearly

one-third of traffic fatalities, and automated speed enforcement studies show reductions in fatal crashes ranging from 53%-71%.

The pilot program in L.A. will roll out in the coming weeks and months, with the goal of the cameras being operational by mid-2026. The motion approved by the City Council noted the locations of the first three cameras, which will be placed on Vista Del Mar between Imperial Highway and Napoleon Street in Playa Del Rey, on Mulholland Drive between 15951 Mulholland Drive and 16200 Mulholland Drive in the Santa Monica Mountains, and on Slauson Avenue between Culver Boulevard and Braddock Drive in West Los Angeles.

AB 645 calls for 125 speed cameras to be installed in neighbor-

hoods throughout Los Angeles where speeding has been an issue. The City Council directed the Los Angeles Department of Transportation to report back on procuring a contractor to implement and oversee the program, and to finalize a list of the 125 locations where cameras will be installed. The \$500,000 cost of the cameras will be covered by funds from Measure M, a half-cent sales tax approved by voters in 2016.

The city of Los Angeles previously utilized cameras to address drivers running red lights. The red light camera program was operation from 2004-11, when the city ended it because operational costs had increased and it was determined the program was not effective enough to warrant continuation. Signs notifying drivers about the program are still posted along some city streets, including La Brea Avenue, but the cameras were removed years ago.

The LADOT did not return

requests for further information on the speed cameras program by press time.

BHPD investigates hate symbol outside school

From page 1

Sharona Nazarian, the symbol was “placed on a sidewalk several weeks ago and was just recently discovered.”

It is unclear exactly how much time elapsed between the symbol being drawn and when it was discovered. The Beverly Hills Police Department did not respond to a request for comment by press time.

“In Beverly Hills, the safety and security of our community remains

our top priority,” Nazarian said. “As the High Holy days approach, BHPD works diligently to ensure the protection of our community and has increased patrols around houses of worship during this time. We stand in unity against hate, discrimination and antisemitism. Never again is now.”

The school district added that it has made “significant improvements” to security including

advancing surveillance and emergency training and will continue to address safety concerns and update the community as the investigation continues.

“Every student deserves to come to school without fear,” BHUSD Superintendent Alex Cherniss said. “Our district will act with transparency, responsibility and care when hate harms our community. Your safety is our top priority.”

The Beverly Hills Unified School District asked anyone with information to contact the BHPD by calling (310)550-4951.

The antisemitic incident comes amid increased concerns over safety in the school district following a controversial resolution that would have required the display of Israeli flags on school campuses. After the district received antisemitic messages and direct threats over the resolution, which was aimed at combating antisemitism, Cherniss reversed the board’s decision to require the display of the flag of Israel.

Answers From Page 23



WeHo presents film honoring ‘earthquake heroes’

West Hollywood will recognize Emergency Preparedness Month with a free community screening on Sept. 27 of “Quake Heroes,” a motivational documentary that blends Hollywood storytelling with real-life heroism from the January 1994 Northridge earthquake.

The film was created by the Statewide California Earthquake Center and RomaScope, with support from the Federal Emergency

Management Agency and many sponsors, to inspire individual and community resilience.

The lobby will open at 10 a.m. with preparedness resources, and the film will begin at 10:30 a.m.

National Preparedness Month is a nationwide campaign that raises awareness about the importance of planning ahead before disaster strikes. The screening of “Quake Heroes” will highlight this message

while also equipping community members with the knowledge and resources needed to strengthen personal and neighborhood preparedness. The American Red Cross and Statewide California Earthquake Center will offer information for emergency readiness. The event will be held in the West Hollywood City Council Chambers, 625 N. San Vicente Blvd. To RSVP, visit quakeheroes.eventbrite.com.

NOTICE OF TEMPORARY HOSPITAL CLOSURE
Effective January 1, 2025

This is to provide public notice that DOCS Surgical Hospital, located at 6000 San Vicente Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90036, will be closing temporarily on January 1, 2025, in order to complete construction of an entirely new hospital facility to replace the existing facility. The new facility, which will be a state-of-the-art hospital facility located at the same address and which will meet all seismic safety and other legal requirements, is expected to open after approximately one year.

The three nearest facilities offering comparable services are as follows:

Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
8700 Beverly Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90048

Kaiser Permanente
West Los Angeles
Medical Center
6041 Cadillac Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90034

Southern California Hospital at
Culver City
3828 Delmas Terrace
Culver City, CA 90232

DOCS Surgical Hospital provides services to Medicare patients, as do all of the above facilities.

Further information regarding the Hospital’s temporary closure may be obtained by contacting the facility or its owner:

Facility:
DOCS Surgical Hospital, LLC
6000 San Vicente Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90036
Tel. (323) 930-1040

Owner:
DOCS Surgical Hospital, LLC
8436 W. Third St. Suite 900
Los Angeles, CA 90048
Tel. (310) 746-5918
Attn: Khawar Siddique, Co-CEO

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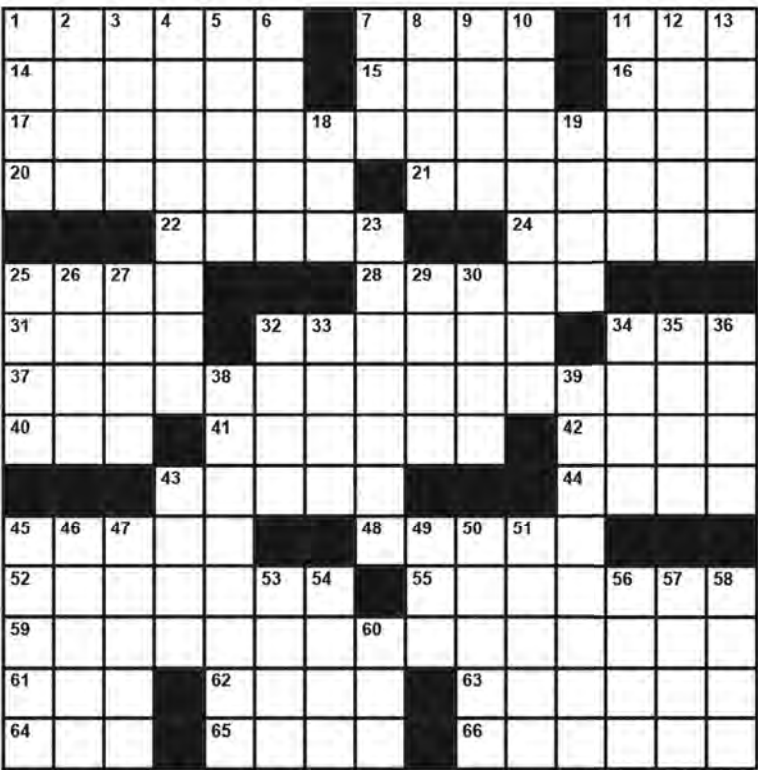
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Crossword Puzzle by Myles Mellor

- Across
1. Biblical region
7. Cuts off
11. Govt. housing org.
14. Egyptian god
15. Artist Chagall
16. Singer DiFranco
17. Reform opponents, often
20. Gun store
21. First Russian spaceship
22. Spy for Moses
24. Spreads
25. Stare at
28. Tracks
31. Pike
32. Irony
34. Rent out
37. Broke off relations
40. Man-mouse connector
41. Pilot Earhart
42. Ceremony on "The Bachelor"
43. Biscotti flavoring
44. New Ager who often sings in Gaelic
45. Enraged
48. Poles, e.g.
52. SA river
55. Like some shoes
59. Historic commuter track
61. Ethyl or benz follower
62. Head
63. Old album holder
64. ___ Spiegel (German magazine)

65. Catch
66. Tougher
- Down
1. Sparkling wine
2. US abbr.
3. Capone's problem
4. Go before
5. Athletic venue
6. Tennis star Rafael
7. K-O connection
8. Rolled items
9. Get ready for a presentation
10. Morals
11. Lacks, in brief
12. Loosen the laces
13. Circular plates
18. Project conclusion?
19. Greek vowels
23. Baby quieters
25. Estimator's phrase
26. Church or movie follower
27. Soap brand
29. Henry number
30. Type of code or rug
32. Almost a final
33. Some vitamin C sources
34. Safari sight
35. Online DIY jewelry source
36. Former ABC sitcom
38. Mets manager, Willie
39. Hulk Hogan, for one



43. "___ it the truth!"
45. Like oak leaves
46. Papas of "Zorba the Greek"
47. More obnoxious
49. Letter, for short
50. Flooded
51. You have it!
53. Hello and so long
54. Knowing about
56. Overdue
57. Chancel
58. Appraiser
60. Cry in cartoons

answers on page 22

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