



Clear and warm, temps in the mid-90s

- TV City hearing scheduled on Sept. 12, pg. 2
- Friedman secures transportation funds pg. 6

Twenty-three years later, Sept. 11 is not forgotten

■ Ceremonies commemorate lives lost in attacks

BY TABOR BREWSTER

More than two decades have passed since the harrowing events of Sept. 11, 2001, when the world watched in horror as planes hijacked by terrorists flew into the World Trade Center, the Pentagon

and a field in western Pennsylvania. On the 23rd anniversary, communities in Southern California will remember the 2,977 victims with ceremonies in Beverly Hills and Los Angeles.

On Wednesday, Sept. 11, at 5:30

See **Ceremonies** page 25



photo by Tabor Brewster

Beverly Hills will commemorate the victims of the Sept. 11 attacks with a ceremony at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 11.

Pioneering Cedars-Sinai physician mourned

■ Dr. George Berci dies at 103

BY TABOR BREWSTER

George Berci went by many impressive titles. Doctor, medical innovator, mentor and Holocaust survivor – just to name a few. The beloved Cedars-Sinai surgical pioneer “lived a life worthy of a Hollywood film,” as described by the Beverly Press and Park Labrea News in 2021. Berci died on Aug. 30 at the age of 103. He is survived by four children and six grandchildren.

Berci was born in Szeged, Hungary, on March 14, 1921. As a child growing up in both Austria and Hungary, Berci was passionate about music, and dreamed of becoming a professional violinist, but his mother encouraged him to become a doctor. However, by 1942, Berci was forced to work as a conscripted laborer for the Nazis.

In 1944, Berci, along with many other Jews, was loaded on a train headed towards a concentration camp, when suddenly an Allied bombing gave him a chance to escape.

“Everybody disappeared,” Berci said in a 2021 interview with the Beverly Press and Park Labrea News. “So, we disappeared too.”

Berci then worked for the Hungarian underground resistance movement, risking his life to help Jews in hiding by delivering false documents.

“This was extremely dangerous,” he said. “But I did it because it had to be done.”

He earned his medical degree from the University of Szeged in 1950, the beginning of a groundbreak-

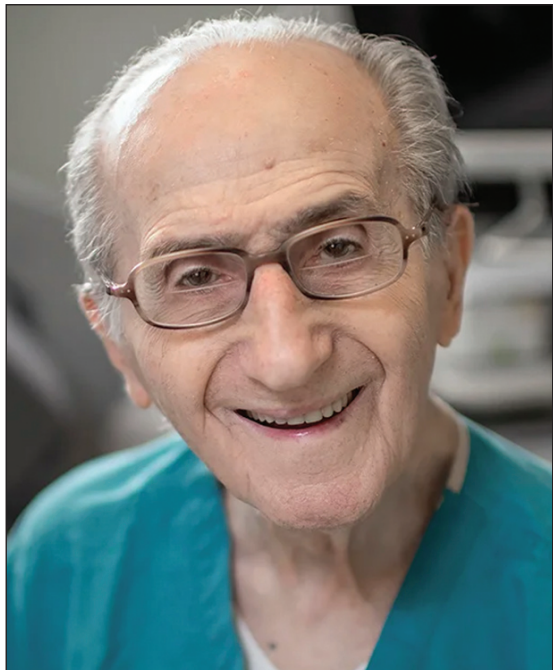


photo courtesy of Cedars-Sinai

The accomplished Cedars-Sinai doctor and Holocaust survivor is remembered for his groundbreaking contributions to the surgical field.

ing career in medicine. By 1953, he cofounded one of the first experimental surgical divisions in Europe. As a surgeon, Berci helped treat injuries during the 1956 Hungarian Revolution and pioneered a method

See **Berci** page 25

WeHo considers major stand on gun sales

■ New law would limit firearm transactions near locations where alcohol is sold

BY RANCE COLLINS

On Sept. 4, the nation was once again rocked by a mass shooting. As of press time, at least four people were killed at Apalachee High School in Winder, Georgia.

West Hollywood is working to

draw a line in the sand on gun violence. The city’s Planning Commission will consider an item on Sept. 19 recommended by Mayor John Erickson that would severely limit the sale of firearms within the city.

The ordinance would prohibit gun sales within 1,000 feet of an establishment that offers alcoholic beverages. In West Hollywood, a city lined with restaurants, convenience stores and bars, this would essentially make gun sales very

limited within the city limits. The nearest gun store, though, is in Burbank, and Erickson said the item is largely a gesture to state and federal legislatures, showing where West Hollywood stands on the issue.

“I think local cities need to enact all types of ways that we can curb the epidemic of gun violence,” Erickson said.

It’s a proposal championed by community leaders, including State Sen. Ben Allen (D-Santa Monica).

“I support the city’s ability to enact policy that keeps its residents as safe as possible,” Allen said. “We know that firearms and alcohol are a lethal combination. If it is deemed safer to keep these establishments more physically separated, and the city has brought the public and stakeholders to the table, I encourage them to take these steps.”

Erickson stressed the importance of standing in defiance to the gun lobby, even as judges appointed by conservative politicians create obstacles for meaningful gun reform legislation, he said.

“We have a radical [United States] Supreme Court that views and rules in favor of gun owners in any way, shape and form, and we in

See **WeHo** page 26



photo by Jon Viscott

The West Hollywood Planning Commission will consider a ban on gun sales within 1,000 feet of any place offering alcoholic beverages.



photo by Tabor Brewster

La Cienega Park Community Center will serve as a cooling center in Beverly Hills during the excessive heat warning.

End-of-summer heat wave scorches greater L.A. area

■ Cooling centers offer refuge from high temperatures

BY TABOR BREWSTER

The hottest temperatures of the summer are expected to blanket Los Angeles this week, with an

excessive heat warning issued by the National Weather Service for nearly all of L.A. County until Friday at 8 p.m.

“Heat causes more deaths in the U.S. annually than floods, storms and lightning combined. Those most likely to get ill during the heat include older adults,

See **Cooling** page 26

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photo by Edwin Folven

The Planning Commission will consider a modernization and expansion plan for the historic Television City lot.

TV City project set to go before Planning Commission on Sept. 12

The Los Angeles Planning Commission is scheduled to consider the Television City 2050 project at a hearing on Thursday, Sept. 12, at 8:30 a.m.

Hackman Capital Partners, owner of the historic studio at Beverly Boulevard and Fairfax Avenue, is proposing to modernize and expand facilities at the approximately 25-acre studio site. The TVC 2050 Project would establish the TVC 2050 Specific Plan to allow for the continuation of existing studio uses and new production facilities.

If approved, the plan would per-

mit up to a maximum of 1,724,000 square feet of sound stage, production support, production office, general office and retail uses. It would also allow for traffic circulation improvements, parking, landscaping and open space. Specifically, the plan would permit up to 1,459,623 square feet of new development, the retention of 264,377 square feet of existing uses and the demolition of up to 479,303 square feet of existing production facilities. The existing building’s façade along Beverly Boulevard, which is designated a Los Angeles historic-cultural monument, will be preserved and rehabilitated.

The Planning Commission will consider the project and appeals to certification of the environmental impact report. The public will have an opportunity to provide input on the project and can submit written materials in advance. Following the Planning Commission hearing, the project will be considered by the Los Angeles City Council

The Planning Commission meets at Los Angeles City Hall, Room 304, 200 N. Spring St. The agenda will be posted at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting at planning.lacity.gov/about/commissions-boards-hearings.

Beverly Hills celebrates joy of reading

Join Beverly Hills Reads for a community-wide literary event centered around best-selling author, Georgia Hunter’s book, “We Were the Lucky Ones.”

Read the book, then meet the author on Sept. 15, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at El Rodeo Elementary School, 605 Whittier Drive. The author discussion will be moderated by Julie Goler and will include an audience Q&A. Reservations are required. To register, visit bhUSD.org/beverlyhillreads.

Beverly Hills Reads is presented by the city of Beverly Hills’ Community Services Department and Human Relations Commission, in partnership with the Beverly Hills Unified School District and the Beverly Hills Education Foundation. The initiative aims to inspire and celebrate reading among individuals of all ages.

For information, visit bhUSD.org/beverlyhillreads.

‘A Night in November’

Contemporary Irish Arts Center Los Angeles presents Alan Smyth in “A Night in November” on Thursday and Friday, Sept. 5-6, at 8 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 7-8, at 7:30 p.m. at the Pico Playhouse. The multi-award-winning one-person play, set in Northern Ireland, centers on Kenneth McCallister, a bored protestant dole clerk who, after witnessing the hatred and bigotry of his own community, sets out on a voyage of discovery and redemption. Racism, sectarianism, belonging and soccer collide in an often hilarious and deeply moving examination of unconscious bias and national identity. Tickets are \$28.52. 10508 W. Pico Blvd. eventbrite.com/e/a-night-in-november-tickets-952545959607.

Theatricum Botanicum

Will Geer Theatricum Botanicum opens its “Under the Oaks” salon series with performances of “Hills Like White Elephants” on Friday, Sept. 6, Thursday, Sept. 12, and Saturday, Sept. 13, at 7:30 p.m. An interdisciplinary adaptation of the short story by Ernest Hemingway, the unique events under the stars feature a classical string quartet, acting, singing and music by composers Caroline Shaw, Philip Glass and Louis Andriessen. Tickets are \$35. 1419 N. Topanga Canyon Blvd. theatricum.com.



‘TH IR DS’

Last Exit Productions presents the world premiere of “TH IR DS” from Friday, Sept. 6, through Sunday, Sept. 29 at the Zephyr Theatre. Written by Ben Edlin with story by Deborah Aquila and Ben Edlin, the production is set in an alternate timeline of American history in which the Civil War was never fought and America is divided into three separate countries:

CALENDAR

the Union, the Confederate and Pacific States of America. When a historic drought threatens, Catherine Shepard, the world’s most powerful water tycoon and a citizen of the Pacific States, must travel into the Confederacy to negotiate a secret deal with the government to provide their people with clean water before it’s too late. Showtimes are at 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday; 2 p.m., Sunday. Tickets are \$35. 7456 Melrose Ave. thirdsthe-play.com.

Dance at The Ford

Dance lovers won’t wat to miss Michelle Dorrance and Friends featuring Jillian Meyers and Josette Wiggan on Friday, Sept. 6, at 8 p.m. at The Ford. The program includes collaborative world premieres and Dorrance’s award-winning choreography. Some of the best tap dancers in the country unite to bring the audience a unique evening of music and cutting-edge tap dance. Tickets start at \$25. 2580 Cahuenga Blvd. East. theford.com/events/performances/3403/2024-09-06/michelle-dorrance-friends.



Japanese film

The Japan Foundation, Los Angeles is showing “The Wound and the Gift” (2014) on Saturday, Sept. 7, at 11 a.m. Directed by Linda Hoaglund, the film is about the growing movement to rescue animals abandoned by human beings. The narrative core of the film is a Japanese fable, conveyed in animated original illustrations, about a wounded crane saved by peasants who repays the rescuers with a profound gift. Admission is free. 5700 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 100. jflalc.org.

Helix Collective

Helix Collective’s 10-piece ensemble performs “Level Up! Game Music” on Saturday, Sept. 7, at 3 p.m. in Fiesta Hall in West Hollywood’s Plummer Park. The ensemble performs game music to stunning video of game play and art from the

Assassin’s Creed and Riot Games to revolutionary indie games. Tickets are \$17.85. 1166 N. Vista St. eventbrite.com/e/level-up-tickets-927008496367?aff=oddttdtcreator.

Pet books

Join authors W. Bruce Cameron, Cathryn Michon and their dog, Tucker, to celebrate the launch of their new books on Saturday, Sept. 7, from 4-6 p.m. at Wallis Annenberg PetSpace. The authors will sign copies and read from “I’m Still Here: A Dog’s Purpose Forever” by Michon and “Ripley: Fire Station Five” by Cameron. 12005 Bluff Creek Dr., Playa Vista. annenbergpetspace.org/events/3691815.

Little Ethiopia Mobility March

Join a fun-filled day at the Little Ethiopia Mobility March on Sunday, Sept. 8, from 10 a.m.-noon. The group will gather at Fairfax Avenue and Pico Boulevard for a celebration of culture, community and movement. The event promotes accessibility and inclusivity. Admission is free. eventbrite.com/e/destination-little-ethiopia-presents-little-ethiopia-mobility-march-tickets-937163831247.

Arts and crafts

Enjoy art, crafts and conversation on Tuesday, Sept. 10, from 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at the Santa Monica Bay Women’s Club. Bring an unfinished project or start a new one. Paint, draw, embroider, collage and crochet. The group meets weekly on Tuesday. A donation of \$3 is requested. 1210 Fourth St., Santa Monica. (310)390-7101, or email joanie.tee@gmail.com.

Egyptian art

The Getty is holding “Eternal Faces: Portrait Sculpture from Egypt’s Late Period,” a free webinar on Tuesday, Sept. 10, at noon. Egyptologist Campbell Price will explore the multifaceted roles of portrait sculptures. The event coincides with the exhibition “Sculpted Portraits from Ancient Egypt,” on view through Jan. 25 at the Getty Villa. Registration is required. getty.edu/visit/cal/events/ev_4236.html.

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photo by Edwin Folven

A suspect robbed a victim on Aug. 31 who was sitting in her vehicle near Melrose and Martel avenues.

Police warn about hold-ups committed in Melrose area

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Police are cautioning about two robberies that occurred during the past week in the Melrose area. The suspects used force and threats during the unrelated hold-ups and were not armed, police said. The incidents illustrate the need to exercise caution when in public and to be aware of surroundings, said Lt. Mark Ro, with the LAPD’s Wilshire Division. One incident occurred on Aug. 31 around 7 p.m. in the 7400 block of Melrose Avenue, near Martel Avenue. A female victim was alone in her parked vehicle when three male suspects walked up and one stole her purse.

“She was just sitting in her car. She tried to retain her purse but the suspect pushed her off,” Ro added. “What I’d like the public to know is to be careful. This type of robbery happens at gas stations a lot when people get out of their vehicle and leave their purse or phone on the seat. In this case, the victim said she didn’t notice when he approached.”

Officers later arrested two of

the suspects, identified as Byron Windham, 24, and Aslon Miles, 23, of Los Angeles. The third man is still sought by police. Ro said the second incident was an “e-commerce robbery” where a victim was selling jewelry online and met a buyer on Sept. 2 around 3 p.m. in the 900 block of North Formosa Avenue. “They agreed to meet and the suspect did not want to pay for the jewelry,” Ro added. “The victim confronted him and the suspect verbally threatened that he had a gun, although no gun was seen. We see a lot of these e-commerce robberies coming up, and I like to remind people that they should do these transactions through reputable websites and meet in a public place like Starbucks or somewhere that is well-lit. When they tell you to go to a secluded parking lot or somewhere like that, be careful, because sometimes bad things happen.”

Anyone with information about the robberies is urged to call detectives at (213)922-8205 or (213)473-0476.



photo courtesy of BHPD

Drivers who passed through the BHPD checkpoint were contacted by officers trained to detect drug and alcohol impairment.

One arrested and five cited at BHPD sobriety checkpoint

The Beverly Hills Police Department held a diverse license and sobriety checkpoint on Aug. 30 from 7 p.m.-2 a.m. at North Santa Monica Boulevard and Crescent Drive. A total of 1,800 vehicles passed through the checkpoint and 391 were screened. One driver was

arrested for DUI and five drivers were cited for driving without a license. DUI checkpoints are held at locations where there have been a high number of impaired driving-related crashes. The checkpoints promote public safety by taking suspected impaired drivers off the road.

Beverly Hills watch robbery suspect arraigned

BY TABOR BREWSTER

One of two suspects in a \$1 million watch robbery in Beverly Hills pleaded not guilty to federal charges on Tuesday, Sept. 3. The suspect, Jamer Mauricio Sepulveda Salazar, 21, of Colombia, was allegedly part of a “crime tourism” group that came the United States to carry out high-profile robberies and then return to South America. Sepulveda Salazar and Jesus Eduardo Padron Rojas, 19, of Venezuela, allegedly robbed a man at gunpoint as he dined with his family on the patio of THE Blvd restaurant outside the Beverly Wilshire Hotel at 9500 Wilshire Blvd. on Aug. 7.

According to the police report, the man was eating dinner with his wife and two daughters when a suspect approached him at approximately 6:41 p.m. and pointed a semi-automatic handgun at him. A second suspect approached and took his Patek Philippe watch, which according to the victim is valued \$1 million. Both suspects fled the scene and were later arrested. Sepulveda Salazar was charged with one count of interference with commerce by robbery and one count of possessing a firearm in furtherance of a crime of violence. If convicted on all counts, Sepulveda Salazar faces a maximum sentence



photo by Tabor Brewster

The robbery occurred on Aug. 7 as a man dined with his family on the patio of THE Blvd restaurant.

of life in prison. A trial for Sepulveda Salazar is scheduled to begin on Oct. 22. The suspects were also linked to a separate watch robbery on Aug. 5, in which a \$30,000 Rolex was stolen at gunpoint from a person in the 400 block of Doheny Road. The Beverly Hills Police Department searched the South Los Angeles Airbnb where the pair were reportedly staying. In the raid, authorities located a handgun belonging to ex-LAPD officer

Christopher Dornier, who killed four people and injured three during a series of targeted attacks in 2013. Los Angeles Police Department Chief Dominic Choi said that the gun was not Dornier’s department-issued weapon. However, it is unclear how the weapon ended up in the suspects’ possession. According to Los Angeles Magazine, the firearm was reported stolen by Dornier while he was an LAPD officer, before he went on the 2013 rampage.

Police arrest naked unhoused man in Wilshire area

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

A homeless man who was seen naked in public multiple times and is alleged to have committed crimes in the neighborhoods south of Olympic Boulevard and east of La Brea Avenue was arrested on Aug. 25 and is being held on burglary charges. The man, identified as Dushaun Barnett, 51, allegedly burglarized a garage at a residence in the 1300 block of South Redondo Blvd. around 7:55 a.m. on Aug. 25 and stole tools and clothing. As officers conducted an investigation at the scene, they were approached by a neighbor who told them there was a naked man in his backyard, police said. Officers arrested Barnett, who

they determined had earlier burglarized the garage based on video and witnesses. Lt. Mark Ro, with the LAPD’s Wilshire Division, said the suspect has a long criminal history involving robbery, burglary, theft, grand theft auto and narcotics and parole violations. Ro said Barnett was charged with second-degree burglary for the break-in on Redondo Boulevard. He is believed to have been homeless for a prolonged period of time and has frequented neighborhoods throughout the Wilshire area. The department’s Mental Evaluation Unit was notified and police are working with L.A. County mental health authorities to ensure the suspect is held and treated as the criminal proceedings progress.

“Because of the underlying concerns with mental health issues, I believe he is still in custody,” Ro said. “Certainly, we understand the public safety concerns and want to make sure they are addressed.” Ro said the department’s sexual assault unit is also investigating and the suspect for lewd conduct for being naked in public. “He was mostly doing it away from people and was seen from a distance as opposed to confronting people or knocking on doors, but obviously that is more than enough to cause concern,” Ro added. The lieutenant encouraged residents to get to know the senior lead officers assigned to their neighborhoods, who can be reached by calling (213)473-0200. The SLO for the area is Officer Hebel Rodriguez, who can be reached by calling (213)793-0715, or emailing 35738@lapd.online.

“I always encourage our communities to correspond with and get to know their SLOs, who can help get ahead of some of these quality-of-life issues, which can sometimes grow into bigger problems,” Ro said. “Good things will always happen when the community works with their local police.” Anyone with information about incidents involving the suspect is urged to call detectives at (213)922-8205 or (213)473-0476. During weekends and off-hours, call the LAPD’s hotline at (877)LAPD247.



photo courtesy of YouTube

Police located security footage from residences showing the man frequently appearing naked in public.

D.A.’s office doubles down on addressing hate crimes

The Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office has announced a significant step forward in addressing and combating hate crimes. With hate crimes on the rise, the office is committed to holding perpetrators accountable, addressing the root causes of bias and fostering community reconciliation, District Attorney George Gascón said.

Gascón made the announcement at a press conference on Aug. 29 with Robin Toma, executive director of the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations, and members of LADA’s Hate Crimes Unit.

Recent statistics underscore the alarming trend of hate crimes in California. Los Angeles County files more hate crime cases than any other county in California. To report hate crimes and for information on resources, call 211 or visit lavshate.org.



THANK YOU, NEIGHBORS



Dear Neighbors,

For over 70 years, Television City has called the Beverly/Fairfax neighborhood home. We are proud to be part of this community and stewards of this iconic studio.

We know you’ve witnessed your fair share of change in the neighborhood. And as a long-time member of this community, we share a common goal to improve the quality of life for all residents and stakeholders.

Thousands of our neighbors agree – the TVC Project will preserve Television City as a studio, modernizing its soundstages and production space to keep up with the changing needs of the industry. It will beautify the public realm to create a more walkable community and improve public safety. And it will invest in community landmarks like Pan Pacific Park, to support family-friendly activities and open space in the neighborhood.

At TVC’s first public hearing, over 75% of speakers spoke enthusiastically in support of the Project. This is a testament to the community outreach we’ve conducted – listening to your concerns and modifying the project to respond to this feedback. I am grateful for your participation and support.

We invite you to come to the studio for a behind-the-scenes tour and learn more about our exciting plans for this historic studio lot. Please scan the QR code to sign up for a tour.

We hope to see you soon.

A handwritten signature in white ink, reading "Michael Hackman".

Michael Hackman
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The screening will be followed by a Q & A

Council calls for report following Supreme Court Grants Pass decision

■ City still grapples with tents on sidewalks

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

The Los Angeles City Council approved a motion on Sept. 3 calling on the city attorney and chief legislative analyst to provide a detailed report analyzing the impact of a recent federal ruling on public homelessness and its impact on how the city is addressing the problem.

The motion was authored by Councilwoman Traci Park, 11th District, in conjunction with Council President Paul Krekorian and Councilmembers John Lee, Monica Rodriguez, Kevin de Leon and Curren Price. Specifically, the motion calls for a report on how the United States Supreme Court ruling in the case of City of Grants Pass, Oregon v. Johnson affects city of Los Angeles laws on sleeping, lying and storing property on public sidewalks and streets, and living in vehicles. The Supreme Court ruling, issued on June 28, allows cities and counties to ticket and arrest people for illegally camping on streets and sidewalks. The ruling gave municipal and county governments discretion to decide whether or not to enforce anti-camping laws on public rights of way.

The ruling was widely denounced by local city and county officials, including Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass and Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors chair Lindsey Horvath, 3rd District, who said homelessness would not be criminalized in L.A. The city and county currently use programs such as Inside Safe and Pathway Home to provide outreach and resources for people on the streets before moving them into interim housing and later permanent units. In the wake of the ruling, city and county

leaders gathered with representatives of the Los Angeles County Homelessness Authority and recommitted to the current plan.

On Sept. 3, the City Council asked for an in-depth analysis of the city’s regulations. The report will be used to determine how to potentially proceed with addressing homelessness in the future. Prior to the motion’s approval, Councilman Hugo Soto-Martinez, 13th District, asked for an amendment to the motion seeking a report on current laws in the 87 other cities in Los Angeles County that restrict sleeping in the public right-of-way, as well as the estimated annual costs for enforcement by police and city personnel, and expenses related to courts, jails and the processing of citations involving unhoused individuals. The council unanimously approved the amended motion without further comment.

Park, whose district in the Venice area has been the site of many homeless encampments and high-profile crimes involving unhoused individuals, said the city needs to do more to address the problem. The report will help the city chart a new path forward, she said.

“In the two months since the Supreme Court affirmed Los Angeles’ right to protect health, safety and accessibility on its sidewalks and public spaces, cities across our region have taken action, updating their laws to effectively address encampments, while Los Angeles has not reassessed a single rule,” Park said. “I’m pleased that my request for a report back from our city attorney was approved unanimously so that we can get the information we need to chart a path forward in the aftermath of Grants Pass.”

Councilmember Katy Yaroslavsky, 5th District, supports looking into changes that could

improve efforts to curb homelessness. However, she remains committed to providing resources and establishing interim housing to give people a place to go, spokesman Leo Daube said.

“This report is really about our abilities as a city and what tools are available due to this decision,” Daube added. “The thing that makes progress on homelessness is getting people off the street and into housing, and that’s what we’re focused on. But there may be more tools in the toolbox to do a better job.”

The council is seeking the report as soon as possible. No timeline was given for when it will return to the City Council.



photo by Edwin Folven

Planters were placed on Romaine Street to keep people from returning to the site of a previous encampment.

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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

LOCATIONS:	Citywide, West Hollywood, California
REQUEST:	The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing regarding an ordinance of the City Council of the City of West Hollywood amending the West Hollywood Municipal Code to prohibit an establishment that offers firearms for sale from being located within 1,000 feet of an establishment offering alcoholic beverage sales.
PERMIT(S):	Ordinance, and any other required permits.
APPLICANT(S):	City of West Hollywood
TIME/PLACE OF HEARING:	Thursday, September 19, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers 625 N. San Vicente Boulevard West Hollywood, CA 90069
ZONES:	Citywide
ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS:	Categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Section §15061(b)(3) (Review for Exemption)

Complete digital agenda packets will be available on Thursday, September 12, 2024, and additional information regarding participation options can be found on the posted agenda or the calendar page on-line at www.weho.org

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

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

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

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

Melissa Crowder, City Clerk

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

WeHo prepares to launch fall Civic Leadership Academy

The city of West Hollywood invites community members to apply for the fall cohort of the Civic Leadership Academy, which begins Sept. 18 and runs through Nov. 20.

Responding to a community desire for more insight into West Hollywood’s day-to-day operations and civic processes, this unique multi-session program launched in spring 2024. It provides each cohort of approximately 25 community members with an in-depth understanding of how West Hollywood’s local government operates and delivers services. The Civic Leadership Academy empowers participants to advance community priorities and shape the future of local governance.

The city will host its next Civic Leadership Academy cohort, enrolling community members in a curriculum of weekly in-person learning sessions. All sessions will take place in West Hollywood and refreshments will be provided at each session.

The Civic Leadership Academy offers an in-depth exploration of city policies and operations, providing vital context to community stakeholders. Each week, attendees will interact with city leaders, staff, community service organizations and city partners. Sessions will feature workshops, roundtables, lectures, tours



Beverly Press/Park Labrea News file photo
Learn about government during the Civic Leadership Academy.

and networking opportunities. Each session will include a Q&A session. The program is built upon a foundation of open discussions and knowledge-sharing to empower an informed, involved, and engaged community.

Civic Leadership Academy participants can be residents, employees, appointed officials, city staff and stakeholders. Attendees who participate in at least eight sessions will receive a certificate of completion.

The city is currently accepting applications for the fall Civic Leadership Academy. Enrollment is limited and applications are reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis. Apply by visiting engage.weho.org/leadershipacademy.

Housing considered for project on Sunset

■ Initial plans called for creative office and commercial space

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

A mixed-use office and commercial project proposed on the northeast corner of Sunset Boulevard and Highland Avenue in Hollywood may be altered to include affordable housing, according to the developer and the Los Angeles Department of City Planning.

The project, called the CMNTY Culture Campus, is proposed by Thomas St. John Group. It was announced in 2022 at 1518-1536 N. Highland Ave. and 6751-6767 W. Sunset Blvd, at the site of a strip mall and adjacent commercial buildings. It was initially proposed to include 430,000 square feet of creative office space, 10,000 square feet for music studios and production areas, 10,000 square feet of artist

hospitality space, 10,000 square feet of education and performance space, 4,400 square feet of retail space and a 500-seat outdoor performance venue. Thomas St. John Group has now partnered with Lincoln Property Company to explore new uses at the site, including affordable housing, and has started the application process with the planning department.

Specifics about the affordable housing, including the number of units, have not yet been released and the developer did not return a request for comment. However, Lincoln Property Company confirmed in a statement that housing is being explored at the property.

“This site sits in the center of one of the most dynamic locations in the nation and we are thrilled for the opportunity to join the development team. The potential for this property in the heart of Hollywood is tremendous, and we’re actively exploring highest and best use site strategies

that will create value and deliver a landmark project for the city, its residents and the local community,” said Rob Kane, senior executive vice president and market leader for Southern California for Lincoln Property Company. “While originally envisioned as a creative office project with music recording and video production as a core component, shifting market dynamics make residential an attractive alternative for the site.”

Kane is leading the process of pursuing alternative residential uses. The architectural firm HKS is creating the residential plan.

The planning department confirmed that the project is in the pre-application review phase and the developer submitted a form on Aug. 14 regarding changes that would include housing. It was assigned to a planner with the department’s Affordable Housing Services Section on Aug. 28. A Department of City Planning Application is pending and once it is filed, the planning entitlement process for the project will begin.



photo by Edwin Folven

A project proposed for the northeast corner of Sunset and Highland Avenue may replace commercial buildings with housing.

ing and once it is filed, the planning entitlement process for the project will begin.

Nick Barnes-Batista, a spokesman for City Councilman Hugo Soto-Martinez, said the office did not have any new information about the housing component for the project.

“Our office would welcome proposals for much-needed affordable housing in Hollywood,” he added.

For information on the planning department’s review of the project, visit planning.lacity.gov/development-services/eir/cmnty-culture-campus-project.



photo courtesy of Mayor Karen Bass’ office

Mayor Karen Bass recently toured CHIRLA’s new building near Downtown Los Angeles.

L.A. secures funds to help immigrants and refugees

The Department of Homeland Security announced that Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass has secured federal support for the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights, also known as CHIRLA, Clínica Romero and the Central American Resource Center to assist immigrant families who have recently arrived in Los Angeles in need of supportive services.

“The Coalition for Humane

Immigrant Rights, Clínica Romero and the Central American Resource Center have been on the frontlines providing assistance to new immigrant arrivals in our city,” Bass said. “I want to thank Secretary Mayorkas and the Department of Homeland Security for their partnership and for providing these organizations in the L.A. region with support to provide life-saving assistance.”

Bass appealed directly to

Department of Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas, Acting Deputy Secretary Kristie Canegallo, FEMA Administrator Deanne Criswell and White House officials to secure the support.

“We are committed with these resources to continue to receive our migrant community with efficiency and dignity they deserve,” CHIRLA executive director Angelica Salas said.



OUTDOOR WARNING SYSTEM Audible Siren **TEST** Notification

The City of Beverly Hills has completed installation of its Outdoor Warning System (OWS) in furtherance of the City Council’s goal of enhancing public safety.

Twelve sirens have been placed strategically around the City to ensure maximum sound coverage for outdoor emergency notifications. The OWS will primarily serve as a wildfire notification tool that may be utilized for any natural or man-made disaster.

AUDIBLE TESTING DATES

(no action required of the community):

Sunday, September 29TH

During the ‘Just in Case BH’ Emergency Preparedness Event (3:15 PM Tested At Locations 1, 4 and 2)

ROXBURY PARK
471 S Roxbury Dr.
Beverly Hills, CA 90212

Thursday, October 17TH

All 12 sirens will be tested throughout the City

Testing will take place at approximately 10:30 AM.

AUDIBLE TONES WILL BE HEARD INDICATING IT’S A TEST.

To learn more, visit [BEVERLYHILLS.ORG/OUTDOORWARNING](https://beverlyhills.org/outdoorwarning) or contact the Office of Emergency Management at (310) 285-1021.



Welcome back to college, Daddy-O

EUGENE, Ore. -- There is something inherently shameless about a college town. You comb your hair with your fingers and set your ratty old couches out on the curb for months. There is no such thing as hygiene up here. Rule of thumb: You empty the kitchen trash only after it's spilled to the floor for three days. Then it's time to empty the trash.

Welcome back to college, Daddy-O. Don't judge.

Yet, I can't help myself.

More and more, college itself seems a dubious expense. A liberal arts degree carries so little weight anymore that my son might be better off if I gave him the \$200k for a crypto startup or a lawn-care business. The administrations spend frivolously on cushy dorm suites and rec centers, then barely pay the grad assistants.

The faculty is feral and mostly out-of-touch with the lightning-quick changes taking place in the



by
Chris
Erskine

real world. The kids know way more tech than they do.

I did run across an anthropology major who hopes to get into Beverly Hills real estate. And a budding geologist who wants to work in lithium.

So it's not like these kids don't have big dreams. My son Smartacus, heading into his senior year, wants to buy the Chicago White Sox and run them into the ground for tax reasons. I said, "Son, someone's beaten you to it."

"What about the Angels?" he asks.

Ditto. The innocence of college students still stirs me. At the big game on Saturday, one young scholar tucked little bottles of Fireball bourbon in the stretchy waist of her Lululemons. Now that's industrious. Sipping warm bourbon on a scorching hot day seems a rite of passage that every young American woman should experience, then regret.

In Erskine 101, we teach: "If you don't accumulate a few regrets in life, have you ever even lived?"

As such, these kids seem to drink bad beer constantly, just like college students always have. The young women trend toward icy cranberry-vodkas. And they do stuff with Red Bull that might be a cocktail, might be a solvent. As I said earlier, it's not my role to judge.

"Did you hear about the Idaho football fan?" I ask. "He died while drinking his milk."

"What happened?" they ask. "The cow fell on him," I explain.

Now, as you know, my brain is a gated community. I am so suburban they mow me once a week. I struggle in a world of constant data breeches and TVs that no one can work.

To be out among these terrific kids is a bit of culture shock. It's like traveling to a far-off land with no cops, no curfews, no laws. Tip jars in college bars always overflow with kindness. Did I mention the lack of hygiene?

Yet, I have to think these young renegades are just what the future requires. If nothing else, college teaches them not to think exactly like their parents have for the past thousand years. College teaches them to break those bonds, go out



photo by Chris Erskine

Collegians enjoy the big game, on the cusp of another festive fall semester.

on their own, eat bad pizza and those awful boneless wings, then re-invent the future.

Stay tuned for how all that works out.

Meanwhile, I am bunking at a cozy AirBnB where the bed takes up most of the living space and the bathroom is 50 paces away in the garage.

Basically, it is a hippy-dippy paradise, much like college itself. As I write this, a hummingbird skinny dips in the backyard fountain, making that click-click-click the little birds do, like fingernails taping glass.

Up here, there are so many flowers, they haven't even named them all. And all the homes seem like starter homes. In L.A., there are no more starter homes. Here, I think the mayor lives in one.

Bottom line, I really like it here in Eugene. It seems faintly collec-

tivist. Lots of smokers. Everyone wears beards, even some of the women. A few of the young men wear long cocktail dresses. Eugene is basically an all-inclusive alternative lifestyle resort receptive to anything.

"Never call the police!" one posted flyer urges.

Well, OK. Whom should I call? Your mother?

In the end, I'm not going to judge whether all this is good or bad, right or wrong. College just is. It remains the last great American perk ... the final bacchanal before adulthood, which as we know lasts almost forever.

"I'm in no rush to get a job," a senior named Caitlin tells me. "Everyone tells me to take my time."

Please do.
For more columns, please go to ChrisErskineLA.com.



photo courtesy of Descanso Gardens

"Carved" includes intricate jack-o'-lanterns and hand-carved giant pumpkins for the Halloween season.

'Carved' jack-o'-lanterns illuminate Descanso Gardens this fall

This fall, Descanso Gardens invites visitors to immerse themselves in the wonder of two returning beloved events – "Carved" and "Enchanted Forest of Light" – offering new surprises and enhanced experiences for all ages.

"We are thrilled to welcome everyone back to Descanso Gardens for 'Carved' and 'Enchanted,'" CEO Juliann Rooke said. "These events have become treasured traditions and this year, we've gone above and beyond to introduce new features that will make the experience even more magical. We look forward to seeing you and your loved ones create unforgettable memories in our beautifully illuminated gardens."

"Carved" is an illuminated pumpkin spectacle. Step into a dazzling world on a route with more pumpkin-themed fun. The model trains of the Descanso Railroad will glow with special lighting, and visitors will encounter a whimsical family of wood spirits carved from five massive logs by Chainsaw Jenna. Marvel at intricate jack-o'-lanterns, hand-carved giant pumpkins and the stunning "Rhizome" installation by artists Tom and Lien Dekyvere.

"Carved" runs from Oct. 4-30 and is open from 6-10 p.m. Entry times are at 6 p.m., 6:30 p.m., 7 p.m., 7:30 p.m., 8 p.m., 8:30 p.m. and 9 p.m.

"Enchanted Forest of Light," debuting Nov. 17 for the holiday season, promises a nighttime gar-

den of wonders. Journey through "Enchanted Forest of Light," where inventive light installations transform familiar spaces into extraordinary, dreamlike landscapes. The model trains of the Descanso Railroad will be lit especially for the holiday season, with returning favorites like the magical "stained glass" houses by Tom Fruin, geometric structures by HYBYCOZO, a vibrant Flower Power installation and the beautifully lit Ancient Forest. Enjoy the seasonal ambiance with hot drinks and delectable treats available for purchase.

"Enchanted Forest of Light" runs from Nov. 17-Jan. 5 (closed Nov. 28, Dec. 24-25) and is open from 5:30-10 p.m. Entry times are 5:30 p.m., 6 p.m., 6:30 p.m., 7 p.m., 7:30 p.m., 8 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.

Tickets for "Carved" are currently on sale. Member presale for "Enchanted Forest of Light" begins on Sept. 10 at 10 a.m., with tickets available to non-members starting on Sept. 17 at 10 a.m. Adult tickets are \$28-\$38 for members, \$35-\$45 for non-members. Children's tickets are \$18-\$38 for members, \$25-\$30 for non-members. Children under 2 are free.

An exclusive preview party fundraiser for "Enchanted Forest of Light" will be held on Saturday, Nov. 16. Tickets are \$250 per person. Descanso Gardens is located at 1418 Descanso Drive, La Cañada Flintridge. For tickets and information, visit descansogardens.org.

LA CIENEGA PARK PLAYGROUND DESIGN SURVEY

THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS WANTS YOUR FEEDBACK!

Please scan the QR code to take the survey and share your thoughts on playground needs at La Cienega Park.

Questions? Please call (310) 285-1000.
beverlyhills.org/playgroundsurvey

Rev. Cooper Ledesma retires from Hollywood UMC

■ Church’s longtime pastor leaves legacy of community

BY RANCE COLLINS

During her decades-long ministry, Rev. Kathy Cooper Ledesma has served as a compassionate and loyal faith leader in the Hollywood community. As the senior pastor of Hollywood United Methodist Church, when a parishioner was sick or nearing the end of their life, she would be there for them, often at their bedside, as she was for Suzanne Dodd.

“When push comes to shove, Rev. Kathy is there,” said Ruth Williamson, who leads the worship and arts team at the church. “[She was] praying around Suzanne’s bed and keeping vigil.”

Cooper Ledesma visited Dodd at the hospital every day, a partner in her fight against cancer until Dodd died in February. Just a few months prior, Cooper Ledesma had done the same for long-time member Richard Settle, who had long been the unofficial photographer for HUMC.

“I saw him the day before he died, and Rev. Kathy was there,” Williamson said. “She had tears in her eyes. She really felt for each and every person she was ministering to.”

On Sept. 8, Cooper Ledesma will retire, preaching her last sermon at HUMC and marking the end of a chapter that started in 1986, when she came to church as a pastoral intern.

“I arrived in the first week of September, and the second week of September, the first person in the congregation to be diagnosed with full-blown AIDS was made known. That was the very beginning of the pandemic as it affected the church,” Cooper Ledesma said. “We were the only church in Hollywood that was actively doing outreach with folks who were gay and dying. A lot of churches were just saying, ‘No, we don’t want you. Go away.’ They were not welcoming.”

During her initial years associated with the church, Cooper Ledesma assisted with crafting patches for the AIDS Quilt, stitched in the campus’ backrooms – and then later packing lunches for Project Angel Food – which also started at the church, packing nutritious meals for HIV/AIDS patients.

“It was a time when Ronald Reagan wouldn’t even mention the word AIDS. He wouldn’t say it. It was hard time,” she recalled.

Cooper Ledesma was an Alabama-born kid. Her father died when she young, and she moved with her mother to South Los Angeles. She said that while the move was something of a culture shock for the family, it set the stage for her ministry.

“[Living in L.A.] helped us to understand the diversity of God’s people and the beauty that comes in that diversity,” she explained.

But initially, Cooper Ledesma’s sights were set on the courtroom.

“I had always been on a trajectory from junior high on to go to law school,” she said. “I was going to be a lawyer no matter what.”

Cooper Ledesma was a political science major at Occidental College – where, it should be noted, she had classes with future President Barack Obama – but while her heart for social justice remained, her involvement in campus ministries shifted her focus.

“The college chaplain suggested that [after graduating] I apply for a two-year internship with Bread for The World, a Christian citizens organization combating hunger, based in Washington, D.C. And so, I did, and I got the job. And while there ... God just did something in the back of my head saying, ‘Maybe law school is not what I’m calling you to do. Maybe you should go to seminary instead.’ And ultimately, that was the decision I made,” she said.

So, in 1984, she began her master’s program in urban ministries with the Claremont School of Theology. It was while she was there that she was assigned as an intern to HUMC. She remained an active member for several years. She got married in the church, and her children were baptized in it. But she took a roundabout route to becoming the church’s senior pastor.

“In 1990, I was assigned to St. Luke’s United Methodist in Highland Park. It was a bilingual congregation, so I had an English speaking and a Spanish speaking congregation, and I served them for seven years,” she said. “Then in 1997, I was assigned full time to the California Council of Churches to do public policy outreach with churches on hunger and homelessness.”

During this period, then-HUMC Rev. Ed Hanson asked if Cooper Ledesma would help with the children’s and youth ministries at the church. This opened the door for her to become the senior pastor upon Hanson’s retirement in 2006.

Almost immediately after taking the position, HUMC was thrust into the national spotlight. When Proposition 8 was passed in California, banning same-sex marriage in the state, Cooper Ledesma led the congregation in taking a stand against it.

“It was a fulcrum in society, and it was also an issue that we worked on with intentionality and the denomination. We worked for marriage equality,” she said.

The church’s stance was so controversial that the notoriously conservative Kansas-based Westboro Baptist Church threatened to picket

the church.

“We just said, ‘Come on over. We’ll give you sandwiches and water.’ And ultimately, Megan Phelps-Roper, who left the cult and who was their communications person, came to worship with us and [credited us with] reevaluating what she’d been taught all those years,” Cooper Ledesma said.

She was married to her husband, fellow minister Rev. Rene Ledesma, who died in 2014, for 26 years. The couple had two children, her son James – a baker – and trans daughter Jolie – who has followed her mother’s footsteps, working with the homeless community in Denver, Colorado.

During her 18 years as senior pastor at HUMC, she said she worked to create an open, accepting community, which also included outreach to homeless neighbors. One in particular, a woman named Raquel who lived for years on the corner of Highland and Franklin avenues outside the church, touched Cooper Ledesma’s heart.

“We did everything we could to care for her, to love her up, to get her conserved, and nothing worked,” she remembered. “Finally, through the efforts of Housing Works ... the county mental health department got moving and got her in the process to be conserved.”

Raquel is now in an assisted living facility, and Cooper Ledesma continues to speak with and visit her on a regular basis.

The list of Cooper Ledesma’s involvement in community organizations is almost endless. She has



photo courtesy of Hollywood United Methodist Church

Rev. Kathy Cooper Ledesma has served as the senior pastor at Hollywood United Methodist Church since 2006.

served on the Los Angeles County Bring LA HOME! Blue Ribbon Panel on Ending Homelessness. She was a part of the interfaith advisory group for People Assisting the Homeless and the faith-based Hollywood Homeless Task Force. She’s a member of homeless assistance organization Hollywood 4WRD. She was on the community advisory panel of the LAUSD HIV/AIDS Education and Prevention Unit. She was on the county’s Safe Surrender Task Force, which resulted in the creation of policies encouraging women to safely surrender unwanted babies to local hospitals and fire stations. She co-chaired the Cal-Pac UM Conference “Imagine No Malaria” task force. She was an appointee to the county’s mental health commission.

For her efforts, she was recently recognized by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.

“Since 2006, [Cooper Ledesma]

has worked to intentionally grow the urban congregation located at one of the two busiest intersections in all of Los Angeles into a vibrant, progressive, reconciling United Methodist community in the heart of Hollywood,” Board of Supervisors Chair Lindsey Horvath, 3rd District, said.

But, most importantly, Cooper Ledesma’s gave her congregants a home in an ever-changing metropolis – in some cases, spanning significant portions of their lives, and sometimes right to the end.

“You have folks you can come home to [at HUMC],” she said. “It doesn’t matter what a person has been facing out in the wild lands of Hollywood. You know on Sunday mornings you can come home.”

Cooper Ledesma’s final service on Sunday, Sept. 8, will start at 11 a.m. Hollywood United Methodist Church is located at 6817 Franklin Ave. For information, visit hollywoodumc.org.



photo by Richard Settle

Rev. Kathy Cooper Ledesma and church member Pauley Perrette welcomed Sen. Cory Booker (D-New Jersey) and then-California Attorney General Kamala Harris to Hollywood United Methodist Church in 2016.

THE EBELL

of Los Angeles

Open House

A free community event and celebration of arts. All are welcome.

September 15, 11:00 am - 4:00 pm

LA VOICES

SUNDAYS AT THE EBELL

RSVP encouraged but not necessary.
Enter at: 4400 Wilshire Boulevard Los Angeles, California 90005
📞 323-931-1277 x 125 ✉ tickets@ebellofla.org 🌐 EbellofLA.org

Scan to learn more

‘Skelebrate’ Halloween with Boney Island at NHM

The playful Halloween “skelebration” known as Boney Island is back for a second spooky season at NHM. The popular L.A.-based immersive light-up attraction returns to NHM for its second straight year, allowing guests to once again wander the dashingly transformed Nature Gardens for a night of supernatural fun while exploring ghoulishly glowing exhibits, fascinating creatures of the night and NHM’s prehistoric past.

The hauntingly whimsical interactive experience for all ages will

feature familiar sights for long-time Boney Island fans – skeletons performing rope tricks and levitating through hoops, shadow puppetry and more. NHM will continue to expand offerings for the event with artistic performances, real fossils, live animal presentations and other ghoulishly glowing installations.

This year’s presentation features food options by local food trucks and vendors, nightly bar services for ghoulish guests over the age of 21, family-friendly photo opportunities throughout the Nature

Gardens, museum collection showcases and Boney Island branded merchandise at the “BOO-tique” – an NHM gift store pop-up.

Boney Island is open on select dates from Oct. 3-31.

Tickets go on sale on Sept. 3 and are \$25 for adults – \$20 for members – and \$15 for children – \$10 for members. Advanced reservations are encouraged as most nights are expected to sell out, but limited tickets will be available onsite during regular museum hours and at the gate. For information, visit nhm.org/boneyisland.

The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County is located at 900 Exposition Blvd.



photo courtesy of NHM

The Natural History Museum will bring back its spooktacular Halloween event from Oct. 3-31.

Abdul pairs up with Boyz II Men

Paula Abdul will perform at the Hollywood Bowl on Sept. 13-15. The former Laker Girl-turned-pop icon joins the best-selling R&B group in history, Boyz II Men, for three fireworks-filled nights of New Jack Swing, pop, and R&B classics. Paula Abdul opens with dance-floor favorites, like “Rush, Rush,” and “Straight Up,” followed by Boyz II Men’s sophisticated harmonies, sincere songwriting, and some of the biggest songs of all time. Hear hits like “Opposites Attract,” “One Sweet Day,” “I’ll Make Love to You” and “Motownphilly” on a perfect late summer night.

Global icon Abdul is a music superstar, dancer, renowned choreographer and TV personality, most notably recognized as an original judge on “American Idol.” She has sold 60 million records and earned numerous awards and recognitions including 17 MTV Video Music Award nominations with five wins, two Grammy Awards, three American Music Awards, two Emmy Awards for Outstanding Choreography, two People’s Choice Awards as Favorite Female Music Performer and five Juno

Awards. She was the first entertainer to receive the Nickelodeon Kids’ Choice Awards Hall of Fame Award. Most recently she was featured performing her classic hit “Straight Up!” at the iconic Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade.

For tickets and information, hollywoodbowl.com/events/performances/2983/2024-09-13/fireworks-finale-boyz-ii-men. The Hollywood Bowl is located at 2301 Highland Ave.



photo courtesy of LA Phil

Paula Abdul will co-headline the Hollywood Bowl next weekend.

Creative Arts Emmys presented

The Television Academy and executive producer Bob Bain has announced presenters for the first night of the 76th Creative Arts Emmy Awards. The awards will be held over two consecutive nights on Sept. 7-8, at the Peacock Theater at L.A. LIVE. An edited presentation of the ceremonies will air Saturday, Sept. 14, at 8:00 p.m. on FXX.

This year’s presenters are a diverse blend of beloved television stars and up-and-coming talents representing Emmy-nominated shows and popular television series across various viewing platforms and genres.

Presenters for Saturday, Sept. 7, include B-Boy Victor Montalvo, Jonathan Bennett, LeVar Burton, Maksim Chmerkovskiy, Barbara Corcoran, Mark Cuban, Nikki Glaser, Derek Hough, Phil Keoghan, Kristen Kish, Lucy Liu, Jane Lynch, Katie Maloney, Tig Notaro, Masi Oka, Melissa Peterman and Hannah Waddingham.

Following its Saturday, Sept. 14, Creative Arts Emmys telecast, the 76th Creative Arts Emmy Awards will stream on Hulu Sept. 15- Oct. 9.

For information, please visit Emmys.com.

Beverly Hills

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October 3rd • 10 AM

— Yom Kippur —

October 11th • 8 PM

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3:00PM PT

?

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR WOULD LIKE TO RSVP VIA EMAIL, PLEASE REACH OUT TO:

RSVP@ELISEFORCONGRESS.COM

Participation Levels:

CO-HOST - \$25,000 (Give or Raise) - Includes Roundtable, Photo Opportunity, & Front Row Seating

VIP SPONSOR - \$5,000 - Includes Photo Opportunity & VIP Seating

PREMIUM ATTENDEE - \$1,000 0 Includes Premium Seating

GENERAL ATTENDEE - \$500 | STUDENTS - FREE!

Students attend Complimentary • Accompanying Guest - \$36

Notable Quotes

“Senators say they fear the N.R.A. and the gun lobby. But I think that fear must be nothing compared to the fear the first graders in Sandy Hook Elementary School felt as their lives ended in a hail of bullets.”

Gabrielle Giffords (b. 1970)
U. S. House of Representatives
Arizona, 8th District
2007-2012

Gun control advocate Gabrielle Giffords was gravely wounded in an assassination attempt at a political event on Jan. 8, 2011

In yet another tragic school shooting, we mourn the loss of life yesterday at Alapachee High School in Winder, Georgia.

*Source: Brainy Quotes

Subway work still in step in September

Metro subway work is ongoing throughout September along Wilshire Boulevard and in surrounding areas. Work on the D Line subway extension project may prompt lane closures at multiple locations.

At Wilshire/Western, street restoration is in full swing in September near the subway tunnel construction staging site. Wilshire Boulevard is reduced to two lanes in each direction between Oxford Avenue and Saint Andrews Place.

Street restoration work is also ongoing along Wilshire Boulevard near La Brea Avenue. Wilshire Boulevard will be intermittently reduced to two lanes in each direction through Sept. 6 between La Brea and Highland avenues. A K-rail work zone is located on the south side of Wilshire Boulevard from La Brea to Mansfield Avenue. The work zone and traffic control support the replacement of sidewalks, curbs, gutters and streetlights on the south side of Wilshire Boulevard.

From Sept. 7 through Nov. 18, Eastbound Wilshire Boulevard will be reduced to a single lane between La Brea and Mansfield avenues. Westbound Wilshire Boulevard between Mansfield and La Brea avenues will be reduced to two lanes for two months. Intermittent K-rail bump outs along westbound Wilshire Boulevard may be in place during peak hours, reducing westbound Wilshire Boulevard to a single lane. Weekend and overnight eastbound directional closures may also be implemented. The temporary traffic control supports street restoration and the construction of a utility access hatch at Wilshire Boulevard and Orange Drive.

Crews are working underground

and completing street restoration along Wilshire Boulevard and Fairfax Avenue. A K-rail work zone remains on Wilshire Boulevard between Fairfax and Spaulding avenues through October. Wilshire Boulevard is reduced to two lanes in each direction in the area.

Near Wilshire/La Cienega, street restoration work is ongoing along Wilshire Boulevard. Waterline utility work will be taking place in September along Wilshire Boulevard between San Vicente and La Cienega boulevards. The waterline work may require water service disruption to properties between La Cienega and San Vicente boulevards, and Gregory Way and Clifton Way. The work is anticipated to take place intermittently through October. All water service interruptions will occur overnight, and all affected properties will be notified in advance.

Work is ongoing on the Wilshire/Rodeo station, where crews have closed Cañon Drive for deck removal and street restoration. Crews are also working on Wilshire Boulevard between Beverly and Crescent drives on underground structures adjacent to the station.

Construction work for cross passages will be ongoing on Wilshire Boulevard for the next two to three weeks, as well as street restoration between Linden and Roxbury drives, and between Roxbury and Bedford drives. The work includes sawing, roadway grinding, trenching, trench backfilling and street paving and requires lane closures in both directions from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and 8 p.m.-7 a.m.

Work is also ongoing at the Century City station. Placement of structural concrete is substantially

complete and construction of the interior and roof structures is ongoing underground beneath Constellation Boulevard.

Partial traffic lane closures are in place on Constellation Boulevard to support daytime station construction and material deliveries. Eastbound and westbound vehicle access on Constellation Boulevard is maintained between Century Park West and Century Park East.

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



photo by Edwin Folven

Lane closures are implemented on Cañon Drive south of Wilshire Boulevard.

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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 a zone text amendment to update replacement requirements of above lower-income protected units in new housing projects and incorporate unit demolition protections in compliance with state law.
PERMIT(S):	Zone Text Amendment, and any other required permits.
APPLICANT(S):	City of West Hollywood
TIME/PLACE OF HEARING:	Monday, September 16, 2024 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:	Categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Section §15061(b)(3) (Review for Exemption).

Complete digital agenda packets will be available on Wednesday, September 11, 2024, 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 Michele Montenegro, Associate Planner at (323) 848-6813; or via email at: mmontenegro@weho.org

Melissa Crowder, City Clerk

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

Metro stresses importance of staying safe around the rails

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority is observing Rail Safety Month in September by reminding the public about safety and encouraging people to practice safe behavior around Metro trains and tracks.

Metro’s Rail Safety Program team will host multiple community events throughout the month to educate the public, including pedestrians and drivers, on train safety. Also, Metro Safety Kid videos will be shared on social media platforms, including YouTube, TV Connect, Spotify, Instagram, Facebook and TikTok.

Rail safety messages in English and Spanish will also be placed on

light rail trains traveling on the A and K Lines through Los Angeles. Metro’s essential safety tips include: always stay behind the yellow line; look both ways; never walk on train tracks; no bike riding on the platform; never go around lowered gates; and don’t jump from the platform.

Metro will participate in a Rail Safety Event organized by the San Bernardino Historic Society on Sept. 21-22 at Union Station, from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Metro’s Rail Safety Programs increase awareness about rail safety through education, workshops and travel trainings in communities along Metro’s A, E and K lines. For information, visit metro.net/railsafety.



photo courtesy of Metro

The public is reminded about the importance of safety around Metro rail crossings.

RESTAURANT NEWS

GMCLA turns Holy Water into cocktails

West Hollywood cocktail bar Holy Water debuted a boozy fun give-back cocktail – Sing out, Louise! – served through Sept. 30, every time someone orders the specially named cocktail, Holy Water will donate \$5 to Gay Men’s Chorus Los Angeles.

For over 45 years, GMCLA has been entertaining audiences with its unique blend of artistic showmanship and social activism. With three major concerts and dozens of public events each year, plus a transformative school program for students, the 250 singers of GMCLA love to “Sing Out, Louise!” – proudly creating beautiful music to build powerful community.

The Sing out, Louise! cocktail (\$16) is made with Meili vodka, campari, raspberry gomme, kola syrup, lime and club soda. It’s available as a refreshing mocktail as well.

For information, visit holywater-weho.com or call (323)577-5281. Holy Water is located at 8275 Santa Monica Blvd.

Ocean Prime offers \$39 prix fixe lunch

Ocean Prime Beverly Hills’ prix fixe lunch is available on weekdays until 4 p.m., perfect for

business professionals or tourists alike searching for an elevated, mid-day dining experience. The \$39 prix fixe lunch includes a starter and an entrée, completed with a freshly baked cookie. Options guests can choose from include lobster bisque with butter poached lobster, French onion soup with brandy and aged Swiss, grilled shrimp salad with endive, peaches, watercress, sunflower seeds, parmesan and honey citrus vinaigrette. For the main course, guests can enjoy teriyaki salmon with shiitake sticky rice and soy butter sauce, and a 6-ounce filet with a gouda potato cake, chili seared spinach and cabernet jus (\$5 upcharge for this entrée).

For information, visit oceanprime.com/locations-menus/beverly-hills/menus or call (310)859-4818. Ocean Prime is located at 9595 Wilshire Blvd.

Ring in a decade with Gracias Madre

Gracias Madre, the West Hollywood staple, is celebrating its 10-year anniversary with a special event on Sunday, Sept. 8 from noon-9 p.m. Guests will enjoy exclusive dishes that appeared on their first menu 10 years ago (along with pricing from their original menu), drinks and live entertainment. Join the fun for a day of dining, drinks and music performances on the restaurant’s patio in West

Hollywood. Celebrate Gracias Madre’s decade-long dedication to the plant-food movement, showcasing traditional Mexican cuisine, made from scratch with local, non-GMO and organic ingredients along with the popular bar program featuring diffuser-free agave spirits highlighting independent producers and small batch distillers. Tickets are \$25 and include two purista margaritas and access to the patio, live music, tastings with Rancho West Beer and an activation for ecoSpirits. For tickets and information, visit eventbrite.com/e/gracias-madres-10-year-anniversary-celebration-tickets-999747410417. Gracias Madre is located at 8905 Melrose Ave.

Beverly Bar brings elevated luxe to the luxury city

Beverly Bar in Beverly Hills is sure to please every palate with their versatile brunch, lunch, dinner and happy hour menus. Offering fresh sushi, spectacular pizza, juicy burgers and tacos, Beverly Bar is new American, with an elevated spin to please the luxe crowd of Beverly Hills. Beverly Bar’s crowd-pleasing small plates make sharing easy. Whether catching up with close friends or on a chatty first date, happy hour cocktails pair perfectly with bite-sized tuna crispy rice, poppable shishito peppers and wagyu pepperoni pizza. Those wanting something filling can go for the baja grilled shrimp taco trio or the Mary’s organic fried chicken



Aussie wagyu strip loin and braised oxtail duo will be a menu highlight for the Brendan Collins: Dinner With Friends event on Sept. 19.

BOA’s Brendan Collins teams up with Norma chef Jason Fullilove

Chef Brendan Collins’ one-night-only Dinner With Friends on Thursday, Sept. 19, at BOA Steakhouse in West Hollywood will feature chef Jason Fullilove of Norma. Fullilove and Collins are partnering to host a multi-course dining experience that showcases Collins’ elevated British pub fare and expertise in meat, alongside Fullilove’s commitment to fresh, seasonal ingredients and his creative approach to African American soul food with global influences. Menu highlights include a Yellowtail Crudo with passionfruit and agua chili, Sweet Pea Agnolotti with Alaskan king crab, sugar snaps and pea tendrils, King Salmon “Viennoise” with herb crust duxelles and sauce mousseline, award-winning Aussie wagyu strip loin and braised oxtail duo with coconut rice arancini, apricot muhammara, ginger salmoriglio spice and verjus-braised cabbage, followed by a dessert of Raspberry and dark chocolate tarte with raspberry coulis and dark chocolate gelato. Guests can enjoy the tasting menu experience, or individual dishes a la carte. For information and to make a reservation, visit sevenrooms.com/experiences/boawesthollywood/thursday-september-19th-4914687141969920. BOA Steakhouse is located at 8200 Sunset Blvd.

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sandwich. Guests can't forget to order the butter cake as soon as they sit down – it takes an hour to cook and they won't regret it.

From laid-back hangouts with friends to magical nights out with a loved one, Beverly Bar delivers the ultimate backdrop for an unforgettable dining adventure. With a menu that excites and an atmosphere full of charm, this hotspot keeps drawing in those seeking a versatile and vibrant dining experience that truly has it all.

For information, visit beverly-bar.com or call (310)464-1532. Beverly Bar is located at 434 N. Camden Drive.

Shay lands José Andrés for food, beverage operations

The Shay, part of Destination by Hyatt, has hired José Andrés Group as the exclusive food and beverage operations manager for the property, effective Sept. 1. In this role, JAG will manage all aspects of the food and beverage experience at The Shay, including two new restaurants, in-room dining, the lobby bar, meetings and events. This fall, JAG will debut Zaytinya at the lobby level, which features innovative mezze inspired

by the rich regional diversity of Turkey, Greece and Lebanon. Building on chef José Andrés' deep knowledge of Mediterranean cooking and years of research and travel, the menu will feature shared small plates of authentic and inventive fare, creative cocktails, and unique Mediterranean wines. Additionally, JAG will soon unveil a new signature restaurant and bar perched atop The Shay, which boasts coveted views and the only rooftop pool in Culver City. For information about The Shay, visit theshayhotel.com. For information José Andrés Group, visit joseandres.com. The Shay is located at 8801 Washington Blvd., Culver City.



photo courtesy of Nobu Los Angeles
The chefs at Nobu Los Angeles use a six-step method for preparing sushi.

‘Charitybuzz’ dinners benefit City of Hope

City of Hope, one of the largest and most advanced cancer research and treatment organizations in the United States, has announced that its Music, Film and Entertainment Industry Spirit of Life honoree Jay Marciano and chef Evan Funke have partnered with Conan O’Brien, David Blaine and chef Evan Funke to host three exclusive dinners – “Charitybuzz Hosts: Good Evenings” – at Funke to support City of Hope’s efforts to conquer cancer.

Marciano – chairman and CEO of AEG Presents, a global leader in live events – will be honored with City of Hope’s prestigious Spirit of Life Award on Oct. 22, at the historic Shrine Auditorium and Expo Hall in downtown Los Angeles. Hosted by Fred Armisen, the evening will feature performances from Elton John and David Blaine, and food by Chef Funke.

The dinners, to be held in

Funke’s private dining room in Beverly Hills, are a unique opportunity to experience old-world handmade pasta techniques in an intimate setting that promises auction winners an evening of conversation, food and fun with a once-in-a-lifetime host for you and your lucky guests, with all proceeds benefiting City of Hope.

Three evenings, scheduled for Oct. 17, 21 and Nov. 19, will take place this fall and are up for auction.

Each auction package is sold as a pair of seats for a private dining experience for 18 guests and consists of a prix fixe, bespoke menu created by Funke.

In addition to the dinner series, Marciano has extended his fundraising efforts to include once-in-a-lifetime opportunities that are accessible to every fan wishing to support City of Hope’s mission to make hope a reality for all touched

by cancer. This includes the opportunity to bid on a pair of tickets to the Spirit of Life gala, an event that is typically available only to members of MFEI.

“I’m honored that these incredible individuals have committed their time and talents for three unforgettable evenings in support of City of Hope,” Marciano said. “Offering people experiences of a lifetime is at the heart of what we do: connecting them to magic, emotion and energy to create moments they will remember forever. Doing so in service of City of Hope’s work to eradicate cancer makes it that much more meaningful.”

City of Hope’s Spirit of Life gala will conclude Marciano’s year-long fundraising initiative to benefit City of Hope’s cancer research. For gala tickets and sponsorship, visit jaymarcianospiritoflife.com or email mfei@coh.org.

Nobu chefs use top-notch sushi-making techniques

The sushi chefs at Nobu Los Angeles, located in the heart of West Hollywood, use a specific six-step sushi making technique for each piece of their nigiri. It starts with wetting their hands and placing the fish horizontally on the palm. Then they add a pinch of wasabi and a loose ball of rice on top of the fish and gently press on the sides and top of the rice with two fingers. Turning over the piece of nigiri, they curve their hand around the shape of the sushi rice with their index finger and thumb, shaping the fish around the rice underneath. Then they place their index and middle fingers gently on top of the fish and repeat

these two final steps after flipping the fish 180 degrees. Although this process seems lengthy for a simple piece of nigiri, it ensures that the rice is still fluffy, and the piece of fish is shaped for the perfect bite. There are many additional aspects that are included in the art of sushi making such as rice preparations (Chef Nobu uses monk fruit instead of sugar when seasoning his rice), garnishes from caviar to Matsuhisa dressing, and the cut of the fish.

For information about Nobu Los Angeles, located at 903 N. La Cienega Blvd, visit noburestaurants.com/losangeles/home or call (310)657-5711.

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Academy ‘Dreams’ all September

On Sept. 7, the Academy Museum and filmmaker Werner Herzog will present the Los Angeles Restoration Premiere of the 1982 film “Burden of Dreams” by Les Blank at 7:30 p.m., with Herzog and director Les Blank’s son, Harrod Blank, joining in person. The film provides an intimate, poetic look at Herzog’s grueling production of “Fitzcarraldo” (1982) amidst numerous challenges, capturing the struggle and intricacies of filmmaking. Widely regarded as one of the best films about film-making, “Burden of Dreams” offers both a harrowing and humorous perspective on the quest to achieve an artistic vision.

Join the Academy Museum this month for Academy Museum Free Day on Saturday, Sept. 29, where the museum is offering complimentary general admission to all guests

in celebration of our third anniversary. Visitors will also receive free admission to Charlie Chaplin’s silent comedy “The Gold Rush” (1925) at 2 p.m. and a drop-in Tactile Filmmaking workshop from 10:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m., where visitors can add their unique marks to a community-created, direct-on-film animation. Enjoy music, tacos from Fanny’s, fruit vendors on the Walt Disney Company Piazza and a photo booth in the Sidney Poitier Grand Lobby. The Academy Museum Store will also offer a limited-time 20% discount on select merchandise in-store and online, valid only on Sept. 29.

Also this month, the Academy Museum will present “James Baldwin at the Movies,” a series showcasing films adapted from James Baldwin’s writings and documentaries featuring the novelist,

essayist, and activist himself on the occasion of his centenary; “Hollywoodland: The Origins of the Studios,” a film series highlighting a seminal film from each of the eight studios featured in the exhibition Hollywoodland: Jewish Founders and the Making of a Movie Capital; and “Hasta La Raíz | K’a Pa Ruxe’el | Até A Raiz | Nan Rasin Lan: To the Root,” a series that offers a glimpse into the varied experiences Latino adolescents and young adults face, unearthed through the universal experience of self-discovery. Additionally, visitors who purchase general admission to the museum are welcome to join us for same-day screenings of films in the “Hollywoodland: The Origins of the Studios” series during their visit, free of charge.

For information, visit academy-museum.org. The Academy Museum is located at 6067 Wilshire Blvd.



photo courtesy of the Academy Museum

“The Gold Rush” with Charlie Chaplin screens on Sept. 26.

‘Jimpresions’ transform Gary Marshall Theatre

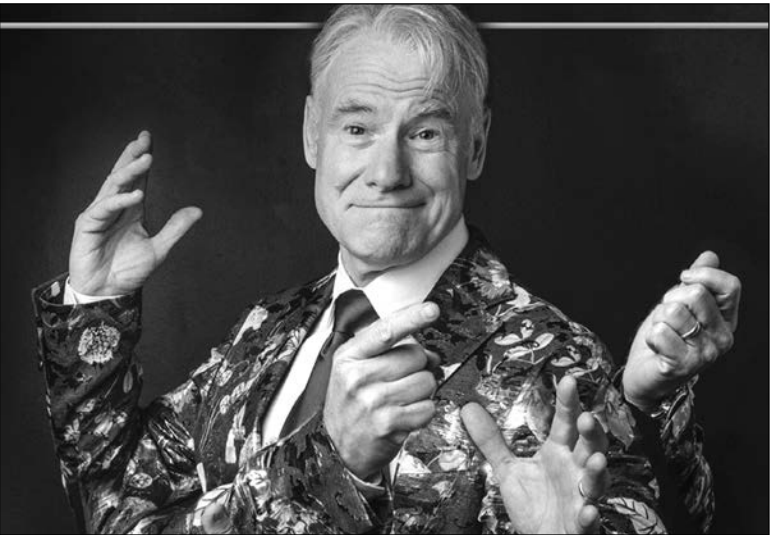


photo courtesy of the Garry Marshall Theatre

Jim Meskimen will perform his one-man show on Sept. 13.

Garry Marshall Theatre continues to celebrate the 50th anniversary of “Happy Days” in 2024 with a one-night-only special event starring Jim Meskimen, son of Marion Ross, a.k.a. Mrs. Cunningham. Meskimen is known around the world for his impeccable impressions of some of the most famous voices in history. His one-man show “Jimpresions” is set to take over the Garry Marshall Theatre stage for one night only on Friday, Sept. 13 at 8 p.m.

Meskimen’s connection to Marshall began in 1972, when his real life mom, Ross, was cast as Marion Cunningham in the iconic television show “Happy Days.” As an actor himself, Meskimen first

worked with Marshall at age 17 – when he was featured in the iconic “Jump the Shark” episode of “Happy Days.” Meskimen went on to work with Garry again in two of Marshall’s films, including a favorite of Marshall’s, “The Other Sister.”

Meskimen has been a professional actor/impressionist for over 35 years. His voices have been heard in animation (“Family Guy,” “Phineas & Ferb” and “Marvel Avengers Assemble”), talk shows (“Jimmy Kimmel,” “Bill Maher,” “Jay Leno” and “David Letterman”) and on scripted TV (“For All Mankind,” “Mom,” “The Big Bang Theory” and “Night Court”).

GMT’s presentation of “Jimpresions” will showcase special stories of Meskimen’s early years being raised by the real Mrs. C, his days on set with Ron Howard

on his films “The Grinch” and “Apollo 13,” a moving homage to Robin Williams and original songs in a parade of celebrity voices. Meskimen also loves to interact with his audience onstage in an exciting, improvised game of “Movie Line Trivia!”

Improvisational, musical and absolutely hilarious, the mind-boggling, quick-changing personas of “Jimpresions” is a brilliant glimpse into so many of our treasured voices in entertainment and beyond.

Tickets are now on sale at garry-marshalltheatre.org or by calling (818)955-8101. In-person box office hours are Tuesday-Friday 12-4 p.m. and two hours prior to show times. The Gary Marshall Theatre is located at 4252 Riverside Drive, Burbank.

Letters to the Editor

Opposition to WeHo bike lanes pedals on

Re: “Bike lane controversies plague WeHo street plan,” Aug. 29 issue

As chair of the Eastside Neighborhood Watch Association, I must take exception to Mayor Erickson’s self-serving characterization of the residents who are speaking out against the half-baked plans to remove scores of parking spaces from Gardner and reduce Fountain Avenue to one lane in either direction to install “protected” bike lanes.

The mayor’s remark that residents were being “riled up” with “mistruths” is condescending and trivializes legitimate concerns of the residents. Erickson is particularly annoyed that public safety commissioner George Nickle has correctly pointed out that the county fire department was never asked for input on the proposed Fountain lane reduction, which will have adverse fire and paramedics response times. That is not a “mistruth,” that is a legitimate concern.

The mayor can apparently only view opposing viewpoints through the prism of his re-election ambitions and his attacks on Eastside residents undermine faith in local government. We deserve a more mature approach from our elected officials.

Steve Martin
chair of the Eastside

Neighborhood Watch Association
West Hollywood

[Mayor] John Erickson says he likes free money. He also likes free trips. He’s gotten three of them. In the past year, he’s gone to Rome, Paris and Chicago ... none of which he paid for. He left West Hollywood multiple times, missing multiple meetings, not caring to hear from us ... enjoying himself traveling the world and partying ... all on somebody else’s dime.

The Gardner, Vista, Fountain, Willoughby loss of parking meeting pointed out very clearly how losing so many parking spaces will hurt residents, particularly older adults and people with disabilities. We cannot ride bikes nor scooters. We need to drive and we need our parking spaces. We cannot be forced to walk long distances just because there are no parking spaces near our residences. But John doesn’t care ... it’s free money.

The number of bikes that are in West Hollywood is minuscule, so why favor them and not those of us who really need help? Because it doesn’t fit into his agenda? Because the money coming into West Hollywood is more important than the people who live here?

The other thing is that he lied when he said that residents knew that they were going to lose their parking spaces. They did not know. They were completely blindsided. So, if he tells [the

California Air Resources Board] that we were informed, that is not true, and it could even be illegal. He and Danny Hang suggested that people park in Plummer Park at night, walk several blocks home and then move their cars at 6 a.m. Whatchutzpah. Another example that they care nothing about people, nor their safety. I wonder if John and Danny would enjoy doing that themselves?

He is not a friend to the people who live in West Hollywood. In fact, he is their worst enemy. And ... if anyone is playing politics, it is him and not the other candidates that he is accusing.

Our City Council majority led by John Erickson may not want to hear from the residents of West Hollywood, but we are going to continue meeting and forcing him to hear us. He is a public servant who was voted into office, not by unions, not by developers, not by biking coalitions, but by us voters. And we can vote him (and “I don’t mind inconveniencing motorists for bike safety” Chelsea Byers) out again too.

Mikie Friedman
West Hollywood

The mayor of West Hollywood – IN PRINT – said he couldn’t care less what residents thought of this initiative. It is getting pushed through. So, the only way to have our voices heard is to PUSH HIM OUT. Otherwise we are the lemmings he sees us as.

There were many voices offering opinions and ways to mitigate problems – but Erikson and Chelsea Byers did not want to hear them. So, that begs the question, “Why?” Is it because these politicians are so much for clean air? Or is it because these career politicians received donations and promises on future “gifts” if they get these measures approved and on the books. Byers was especially frustrating at the meeting – looking to talk to people “one on one” outside instead of in front the residents. This is what charlatans do – the old divide and conquer method. But when they have the power in a situation, you can bet they’ll team up to make somebody feel small in their protestations.

The “I’ll rely on city staff for that information ... blah blah” rhetoric is a usual refrain I hear at City Council meetings, instead of listening to residents.

Steve Bruscinio
West Hollywood

As someone who regularly bikes on these roads and has been hit by a car, it’s a shame to see so many people who claim to be “progressive” still addicted to their cars and need to store 4,000 pounds of metal in the public right of way.

Bicyclists don’t cause traffic congestion, pollute the air or cause people to become obese due to sitting constantly but based on the comments above you’d think they

were the second coming of the Third Reich.

Jesse Budlong
West Hollywood

[Mayor] John Erickson, speaking like the political hack he continuously shows himself to be, refers to free money from the state. The state, mayor, is us as taxpayers. Politicians need to stop living a life of zero accountability for recklessly spending our money like drunken sailors on shore leave. Then there’s Erickson’s multiple condescending dismissals of resident concerns. He, like others, continues to play for an audience outside West Hollywood’s borders. [Vice mayor Chelsea] Byers similarly operates in a naive utopian pipe dream that West Hollywood exists as a standalone island in the middle of this vast megalopolis.

I offered at that meeting that one way to calm traffic and create safer conditions for everyone is to enforce the laws that are on the books. Another is a visionary one that suggests bikers, pedestrians, motorists and scooter riders can all live in harmony on existing infrastructure if each were led to a place of personal responsibility and situational awareness. None of the council majority have that sense of leadership, creativity and big vision.

Alan Strasburg
West Hollywood

Mastro's provides full-service experience

BY RANCE COLLINS

Perhaps it was the live music. Maybe it was the plush seating. It could've even been the grand staircase entrance. But there was just something undefinable about Mastro's elegance.

Located in the heart of Beverly Hills on Roxbury Drive, Mastro's elevates experiences with top-tier cuisine and expertly curated drinks.

So, spoiler: I liked it.

Chris was the man of the hour – or really two or so hours – guiding Boyfriend and I through the robust

menu and making sure each course had that added oomph of specialness. It was in the details. After finishing our appetizers – I'll get to that dish in a moment – he brought out warm towels to wipe our hands, but Chris brought the perk up a level by dashing the towels with lemon. Staying fresh, after all, through as round a meal as Mastro's offers is essential.

The concierge-style service separates the restaurant from other high-end establishments. Chris treated us like we were dignitaries from "hello," not just scribbling orders or

reading off a memorized series of facts on a menu item. Instead, he made the evening a journey – each order and every comment became a moment worth marinating. If Chris had other customers, I was not aware of them. The Mastro's protocol places the diner first, and the attention goes on your needs.

As a singer and piano player harmonized through jazz-inspired versions of Top 40 hits, Boyfriend and I debated what direction we wanted to take our evening ... was this going to be a seafood or a red meat kind of night? Of course, going to Mastro's and skipping the steak is just short of sacrilegious, so we decided that the oysters, shrimp and caviar would have to wait for another evening. At Mastro's we wanted to cut straight to the beef.

For starters, we chose the wagyu meatballs with melted burrata cheese. This Italian-inspired appetizer was "just" spicy enough without tipping the scales into octane ratings. I like a little heat in my food, mind you – I have this theory that it keeps my sinuses clear. Boyfriend decidedly is not a heat fan. Doused in a delicious cheese sauce, however, the two large meatballs struck a perfect balance. Crispy bread with a sprinkling of parmesan was included – and made for perfect post-meatball dipping.

To accompany our main course, we ordered truffle butter mashed potatoes with mushrooms – an off-the-menu offering for the evening – which was smooth, creamy and a delightful primer for the rest of the evening. Other side options include varieties of potatoes, broccolini, asparagus, mac and cheese, and French fries.

While there are several single-portion steak options – including filets, a New York strip and ribeye – Boyfriend and I heeded Chris' advice and chose a Bistecca Alla Fiorentina porterhouse, cooked medium. The massive, bone-in 36-ounce serving was carved and sliced at the table by Chris. The two



photo by Rance Collins

The Bistecca Alla Fiorentina porterhouse makes for a perfect shared main course.



photo by Rance Collins

The butter cake and key lime pie are among the delicious dessert options.

distinct sides, one filet mignon and one New York strip, offered the meat lover's gambit – from the marbled to the lean. The meat was excellent quality, and without any additional sauce, just a bit of garlic butter, it was perfectly flavorful. Boyfriend always says that if the meat is good quality, seasoning should be minimal. The meat is enough. Of course, Mastro's puts the A in Grade A.

We forced ourselves to finish the night with dessert, not that it took much convincing. As soon as Chris described the delectable key lime pie and butter cake, we were sold. Each of these desserts is specifically fashioned to our tastes. While he is inclined to enjoy the tart, zesty notes of lime, I am far more of a sweet-tooth fiend. I enjoyed my bite of the key lime – which was topped with housemade whipped cream – but I set my sights on the butter cake. It was crisp at the edges and warm and gooey inside. The warmth was countered perfectly with vanilla ice cream, which was served alongside the dish. While I have tried the butter cake at just about any place I've ever gone where it's available, this was far and away the best one I've ever tasted.

During the meal, Chris gave us a full explanation of the wines to pair with our food. Mastro's is known for its stellar wine selection, and while we ultimately went the cocktail route – I'd recommend the sweet, fruity Dreamberry made with rock red berry, triple sec, sweet and sour, fresh lemon juice and strawberry monin – our sommelier waiter understood wine like no other.

"We have a world of wine, so you can go to any country and have a great experience here," Chris said.

For our meal, Chris would have recommended a Paso Robles cabernet.

"It's big and lush and free, just soft tannins, and it pairs wonderfully with a steak," he explained.

It was this kind of explanation that left us continually impressed with the first-class service at Mastro's. And no matter what drink one may choose, when you pair great service with great food, you get a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

It's not just about any one element. It's just everything.

For information about Mastro's, visit mastrorestaurants.com or call (310)888-8782. Mastro's in Beverly Hills is located at 246 N. Cañon Drive.



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Bill offering free bachelor’s degrees nears approval

A historic bill that would allow students to pursue a tuition free bachelor’s degree at California’s community colleges has passed the state Legislature and is under consideration by Gov. Gavin Newsom.

Assembly Bill 2093 would be the first of its kind in the United States. Authored by Assembly Assistant Majority Leader Miguel Santiago (D-Los Angeles), the legislation would expand the California Promise Program, which has improved accessibility and equity in higher education by offering two-years of tuition-free education for all first-time and returning full-time students at community colleges.

“As a former [Los Angeles Community College District] Board of Trustees president, the nation’s largest community college district, I have seen firsthand how tuition can be a deciding factor for too many people declining to pursue a higher education,” Santiago said. “This is why I have pushed for free community college for the first

two years. But as we’ve seen a recent decline in bachelor’s degree earners for the first time in 10 years, it’s clear that it is time for a tuition-free four-year degree. Also, it is important to ensure low-income students can pursue a multiyear education without worrying about student debt.”

“AB 2093 creates the first free bachelor’s degree in the United States,” LACCD Board president Nichelle Henderson said. “I am proud that California is once again leading in making education more accessible and equitable. This bill will help more bright and talented students from underserved communities to pursue higher education, where they can acquire the necessary skills to thrive in good-paying jobs. Gov. Newsom has been a strong supporter of community college students, and we hope that we can count on his support once again.”

The proposed legislation would make use of existing Promise Grant funding, offering districts flexibility to waive fees for bachelor’s degree

students. By providing the option, the bill ensures that more students have an opportunity to earn a four-year degree without incurring significant debt. The bill will also save the state millions of dollars in student financial aid because tuition costs are reduced at community colleges as compared to tuition costs at California State University, University of California and private institutions. Baccalaureate degrees at community colleges are currently under \$11,000 for a four-year degree.

The state’s community colleges currently offer over 40 baccalaureate degrees in numerous occupational fields. The LACCD currently has five bachelor’s degrees approved, with one additional provisional approval, for a total of six in dental hygiene and aviation technology, respiratory therapy, biomanufacturing and biotechnology.

“As chancellor of the Los Angeles Community College District, our district and many others around the state could not be



photo by Edwin Folven

AB 2093 will create more options for students seeking a bachelor’s degree at campuses such as Los Angeles City College.

more enthusiastically supportive of AB 2093,” LACCD Chancellor Francisco C. Rodriguez said. “Offering a true tuition-free baccalaureate degree at California’s community colleges is a game changer for our students, their families and is a boost to the state’s

economy. By eliminating financial barriers and incentivizing enrollment at community colleges, AB 2093 opens doors to higher education and the economic opportunities that come with it.”

Newsom has until Sept. 30 to sign or veto the bill.

HAWKS introduces teens to nature

Leah Thomas, a celebrated environmental justice activist, and Hiking Adventures with Kids co-created a transformative nature workshop with a group of Latina teens from the student group Chicas Verdes in the lush and beautiful park at Franklin Canyon in Los Angeles on Aug. 24.

The event was initiated by Thomas who was inspired by the Chicas Verdes teens and the impact they were having in their communities. Thomas wanted to co-create an unforgettable experience for them in nature and teamed up with HAWKS, a pioneering movement that helps youth trade screen time for transformative outdoor experiences.

Throughout the day the teens were able to connect with each other and nature through poetry, hiking, journaling, searching for animals, foraging and connection.

They talked to Thomas about topics important to them and their communities including food and environmental justice.

The event was generously sponsored by beloved wellness and outdoor brands Vita Coco, Sweetgreen, Parks Project, and REI. Thomas incorporated VitaCoco’s Seedlings for Sustainability initiative into her workshop, and REI dressed Thomas and provided hiking essentials for the girls.

“I had an amazing time with HAWKS and Chicas Verdes,” Thomas said. “Working with these two groups to help increase accessibility to nature and encourage the next generation to build a meaningful relationship with the earth was incredible. I was so lucky to be a part of this experience.”

For information, visit hawkskids.com.

Kids Book Festival turns second chapter in WeHo

The 2nd Annual Los Angeles Kids Book Festival is returning to West Hollywood Park on Sunday, Sept. 8, 2024, from 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

The free event celebrates children’s literacy and fosters a love for reading for kids of all ages,

presented by the American Born Chinese Foundation, a nonprofit organization supporting children’s bilingual literacy, along with the city of West Hollywood. This year’s festival offers a rich array of activities for children of all ages, including over 70 exhibitors,

live book readings by celebrated authors, interactive storytelling sessions, musical performances, arts and crafts, and other activities. There will be plenty of books and other interesting vendors, meet-and-greets with authors, face painting, photo booth, dancing, games, slime making, plenty of savory and sweet food trucks and free giveaways.

The festival will also introduce new authors and illustrators, providing fresh perspectives and stories that captivate and inspire.

Visit lakidsbookfestival.com to register for tickets and receive festival updates, as well as keeping up with the complete list of exhibitors and activities.

West Hollywood Park is located at 647 N. San Vicente Blvd.



photo courtesy of L.A. Kids Book Festival

A variety of activities will be available for the whole family at the Los Angeles Kids Book Festival.



photos courtesy of HAWKS

Environmental justice activist Leah Thomas made Franklin Canyon her classroom on Aug. 24.



*Come as you are.
Discover what you can become.*



Join us for Open House
Sunday, September 29
from 1 to 4 p.m.
No registration required !

immaculateheart.org

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MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL

NHM is abuzz with giving opportunities

The Natural History Museums of Los Angeles County on Aug. 29 announced a new public fundraising campaign for the Natural History Museum’s new wing and community hub, NHM Commons, which opens on Nov. 17 to the general public. The Buzzworthy Benefactors campaign allows individual donors, with contributions starting at \$2,500, to be recognized in a beautiful display featuring NHM’s iconic winged creatures – the honeybee, butterfly, dragonfly and ladybug – when NHM

Commons opens in November. “The Buzzworthy Benefactors campaign is a celebration of community, progress and access. By becoming an NHM Commons donor, participants will be honored with a custom-designed winged insect flying high on the wall adjacent to the Judith Perlstein Welcome Center for visitors to enjoy for years to come” said Katherine Kotcheff, NHM’s Campaign Director. As a participant in this campaign, donors will be recognized as a part

of this welcoming and inclusive community installation with a prized disc that will always be available for viewing anytime visitors enter the museum and will be a testament to the lasting contributions to science, education and culture. Donors may also choose to honor the legacy of their family, loved one or favorite organization. The wall of Buzzworthy Benefactors will be covered in donors identified as green dragonflies, \$2,500, blue honeybees, \$5,000, silver ladybugs, \$7,500 and gold butterflies, \$10,000, bringing a colorful and remarkable feature to the community space. The Buzzworthy Benefactors campaign offers the NHM community the opportunity to be a part of (natural) history-in-the-making and support the continuing efforts to open new doors for visitors and local communities. The donors will be featured prominently in a no-ticket-required space that will see hundreds of thousands of visitors each year and provide several free experiences before entering the main part of the museum.



rendering of NHMLAC

The new donation campaign will support the opening of the Natural History Museum’s newest wing, the NHM Commons.

ZEGNA relocates to exquisite new location in South Coast Plaza

ZEGNA, a global leader in luxury menswear, has announced the relocation of its South Coast Plaza store. Under the artistic direction of Alessandro Sartori, the new location embodies a style that prioritizes contemporary design principles and the needs of modern men. The shopping experience mirrors the ethos behind ZEGNA’s Luxury Leisurewear collection, which has practicality and versatility at heart. The new 233-square-meter store embodies the aesthetic of the brand: a harmonious blend of luxury and unparalleled craftsmanship. A sophisticated interior welcomes customers. Faithful to the brand’s legacy and artistry, the store showcases artwork inspired by the “Born in Oasi Zegna” book, which recalls more than 100 years of ZEGNA’s unprecedented history through a curated series of imagery and

inspiring anecdotes. The store is also complemented with design elements from Zanotta, Cassina and Riva 1920, while the façade features ZEGNA’s iconic wooden frame. Located in South Coast Plaza, the ZEGNA store presents the brand’s latest menswear collections, featuring luxury leisurewear staples such as the Alba overshirt, timeless formalwear and Triple Stitch shoes. The pieces combine style and pragmatism, catering to the ever-changing needs of a contemporary lifestyle. Embodying the pinnacle of craftsmanship and creative expression, ZEGNA’s Made to Measure experience is also available at the South Coast Plaza location. South Coast Plaza is located at 3333 Bristol St., Costa Mesa. For information, visit southcoastplaza.com/directory/erm enegildo-zegna.



photo courtesy of ZEGNA

ZEGNA offers luxurious menswear and shoes.

Cinespia hosts a Labor Day ‘Shining’



photo courtesy of Cinespia

Cinespia celebrated Labor Day weekend with screenings of “The Shining” and “Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince” on Aug. 31 and Sept. 1 at Hollywood Forever Cemetery, located at 6000 Santa Monica Blvd., that hosted talent such as Daisy Edgar Jones, AnnaSophia Robb (pictured), Duke Nicholson and Lorraine Nicholson. “Chicago” on Sept. 7 and “Pee-Wee’s Big Adventure” on Sept. 14 are the next events scheduled for Cinespia. For tickets and information, visit cinespia.org.

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POLICE BLOTTER

The following crimes occurred in West Hollywood, Beverly Hills and the areas patrolled by the LAPD’s Wilshire and Hollywood divisions between Aug. 20 and Aug. 31. The information was compiled from crimemapping.com. To report a crime, call local law enforcement agencies: Los Angeles Police Department, Wilshire Division (213)473-0476, Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department West Hollywood Station (310)855-8850, and the Beverly Hills Police Department (310)550-4951.

Beverly Hills Police Department

Aug. 25

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 300 block of S. Reeves at 2:52 a.m.

At 5:26 a.m., a suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs near Santa Monica and Roxbury.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 9000 block of Wilshire at 8:48 a.m.

Aug. 26

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of N. Cañon at 8:27 a.m.

At 10 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 200 block of S. Camden.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 9500 block of Brighton at 1 p.m.

At 5:45 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 600 block of N. Rodeo.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of N. Cañon at 6:01 p.m.

At 6:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 600 block of N. Elm.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 400 bl block of N. Beverly at 6:55 p.m.

Aug. 27

At 8 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a commercial burglary in the 400 block of N. Beverly.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 300 block of S. La Cienega at 9 a.m.

At 9 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 500 block of Chalette.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 200 block of N. Rodeo at 12:15 p.m.

At 7:02 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 9500 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 8400 block of Gregory at 8:30 p.m.

At 8:45 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim near Santa Monica and Camden.

A suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs in the 300 block of N. Cañon at 9:28 p.m.

Aug. 28

At 1:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8600 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 400 block of Foothill at 5:30 p.m.

At 9:30 p.m., an unknown suspect

burglarized a vehicle parked in the 100 block of N. Clark.

Aug. 29

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of N. Cañon at 4:36 a.m.

At 11:25 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1100 block of Loma Vista.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of N. Cañon at 1:52 p.m.

Aug. 30

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 300 block of S. Almont at 2:30 p.m.

At 10:16 p.m., a suspect was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs near Santa Monica and Cañon.

Aug. 31

At 5:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a residential burglary in the 300 block of N. Palm.

West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station

Aug. 23

At 2:16 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8900 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 1400 block of N. Fairfax at 4:20 a.m.

At 4:29 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 1400 block of N. Hayworth.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8400 block of Santa Monica at 7:15 a.m.

At 4:33 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 600 block of N. Robertson.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 7100 block of Santa Monica at 8 p.m.

Aug. 24

At 1:50 a.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim near Santa Monica and San Vicente.

A suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 600 block of N. Robertson at 3:20 a.m.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1000 block of Fuller at 8:44 a.m.

Aug. 25

At 12:30 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8900 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 600 block of N. Robertson at 1:10 a.m.

At 1:45 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8900 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim near Genesee and Romaine at 3 a.m.

At 2:33 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7100 block of Santa Monica.

A vehicle ws stolen near Fairfax and Norton at 5:50 p.m.

Aug. 26

At 1 a.m., a suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 1300 block of N. Harper.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1000 block of N. Ogden at 5:30 a.m.

At 10 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 1200 block of N. Sweetzer.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 1100 block of N. La Brea at 1:05 p.m.

Aug. 28

At 1:29 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1200

block of N. Laurel.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft near Fountain and Vista at 10 a.m.

At 11:30 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 900 block of N. Larrabee.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 1300 block of N. Fairfax at 4:30 p.m.

At 11:50 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8900

See **Police Blotter** page 22

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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

LOCATIONS:	Citywide, West Hollywood, California
REQUEST:	The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to consider a recommendation to the City Council to adopt a General Plan Amendment replacing Appendix A with the updated 2024 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan in the Safety and Noise Element of the West Hollywood General Plan 2035.
PERMIT(S):	General Plan Amendment, and any other required permits.
APPLICANT(S):	City of West Hollywood
TIME/PLACE OF HEARING:	Thursday, September 19, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers 625 N. San Vicente Boulevard West Hollywood, CA 90069
ZONES:	Citywide
ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS:	Categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Section §15061(b)(3) (Review for Exemption)

Complete digital agenda packets will be available on Thursday, September 12, 2024, 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 Anthea Rosenbaum, Intern, Long Range Planning at (323) 848-6475, arosenbaum@weho.org or Tahirah Farris, Senior Planner at (323) 848-6472, tfarris@weho.org

Melissa Crowder, City Clerk

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

Police Blotter

block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7100 block of Santa Monica at 11:55 p.m..

Aug. 29

At 10:30 a.m., a suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 500 block of N. Kings.

A locker burglary occurred in the 8500 block of Sunset at 6:30 p.m.

Aug. 30

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 8900 block of Sunset at 4:03 a.m.

At 4:13 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of N. Westbourne.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 8800 block of Melrose at 3:30 p.m.

At 6:50 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8700 block of Sunset.

Aug. 31

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 8900 block of Santa Monica at 12:50 a.m.

At 1:55 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8200 block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 600 block of N. Robertson at 1:57 a.m.

At 2:36 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 8900 block of Santa Monica.

A suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 1200 block of N. Genesee at 7 p.m.

Los Angeles Police Department

Aug. 20

At 2:15 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 2000 block of High Tower.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1700 block of N. Highland at 4:20 p.m.

At 5:20 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 100 block of N. La Cienega.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 600 block of N. Plymouth at 11 p.m.

At 11:48 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 2000 block of N. Highland.

Aug. 21

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 600 block of N. La Brea at 10 a.m.

At 10:01 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 2000 block of Glencoe.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 6000 block of Hollywood at 3:15 p.m.

At 4 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5500 block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5600 block of Carlton at 10 p.m.

Aug. 22

At 2 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a vehicle burglary in the 1800 block of S. Curson.

Aug. 23

At 3 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1200 block of Beachwood.

A vehicle theft was reported in the 500 block of N. Stanley at 7 p.m.

Aug. 24

At 12:30 a.m., an unknown suspect pickpocketed a victim in the 1500 block of N. Wilcox.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 5400 block of Wilshire at 12:10 p.m.

Aug. 25

An unknown suspect pickpocketed a victim near Selma and Cahuenga at 9:30 a.m.

At 4:20 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near El Centro and Leland.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 5900 block of Barton at 6:40 p.m.

At 9 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 400 block of S. Ogden.

Aug. 26

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 2000 block of N. Fuller at 7 a.m.

At 9:33 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8400 block of Beverly.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6800 block of Franklin at 1:45 a.m.

At 12:16 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 900 block of N. La Brea.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 600 block of S. Cochran at 7 p.m.

At 10 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 1400 block of N. Gardner.

Aug. 27

At 4:15 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1300 block of N. Curson.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1300 block of N. Mansfield at 8 p.m.

Aug. 28

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1700 block of N. Fuller at 12:45 p.m.

At 5:33 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 300 block of S. Burnside.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 7000 block of Oakwood at 6 p.m.

At 8:30 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 700 block of S. Wilcox.

A petty theft occurred in the 1000 block of N. McCadden at 10:01 p.m.

At 11 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1900 block of N. Wilcox.

Aug. 29

At 8:35 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft near Cochran and Third.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7000 block of Sunset at 3:30 p.m.

At 4:30 p.m., a vehicle was stolen in the 1100 block of Lodi.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6300 block of Hollywood at 6 p.m.

At 7 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 6500 block of Drexel.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked near the corner of Wilshire and La Jolla at 10 p.m.

At 10:30 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 6000 block of Metropolitan Plaza.

Aug. 30

At 5:15 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the

1500 block of N. Vine.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 900 block of S. Sierra Bonita at 11:04 a.m.

At 11:15 p.m., an unknown suspect pickpocketed a victim in the 2300 block of N. Highland.

Aug. 31

At noon, an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1300 block of N. Cherokee.

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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

LOCATIONS:	Citywide, West Hollywood, California
REQUEST:	The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to provide a recommendation to the City Council on a Council-initiated zone text amendment, with a two-year sunset provision, to allow issuance of demolition permits for vacant properties that pose public safety risks. This amendment applies to residential and commercial properties, whether or not they have existing entitlements.
PERMIT(S):	Zone Text Amendment, and any other required permits.
APPLICANT(S):	City of West Hollywood
TIME/PLACE OF HEARING:	Thursday, September 19, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers 625 N. San Vicente Boulevard West Hollywood, CA 90069
ZONES:	Citywide
ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS:	Categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Section §15061(b)(3) (Review for Exemption)

Complete digital agenda packets will be available on Thursday, September 12, 2024, 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 Anthea Rosenbaum, Intern, Long Range Planning (323) 848-6475, or via email at: arosenbaum@weho.org

Melissa Crowder, City Clerk

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

The Autry presents PST ART exhibition ‘Future Imaginaries’

The Autry’s new PST ART exhibition “Future Imaginaries: Indigenous Art, Fashion, Technology” explores the rise of futurism within contemporary Indigenous art as a means of enduring colonial trauma, creating alternative futures and advocating for Indigenous knowledge systems as vital to achieving social justice in the present and sustainable communities going forward.

As the artist Rose Simpson explains, from her perspective, the idea of apocalypse is “an opportunity for innovation and for reflection and renewal. In a sense... Indigenous people have been at a

privilege when it comes to any kind of hardship because we’ve already survived.”

With the rise of the Red Power and the American Indian Movement in the 1970s, Native artists began looking to science fiction and imagined futures as a means of reclaiming agency within an increasingly technological society. By re-imagining aspects of pre-contact culture such as sovereignty, Indigenous technologies and sustainable lifeways in dialogue with both contemporary life and future imaginaries, Indigenous artists today are redefining what constitutes Native American art, helping

their communities to heal from intergenerational trauma and creating pathways to a better life for Indigenous peoples and the shared planet.

Featuring works of art ranging in size from jewelry and elaborately dressed mannequins to monumental sculptures and room-sized installations, “Future Imaginaries” will intersperse works throughout the museum, creating unexpected encounters and dialogues between contemporary Indigenous creations and historic works from the Autry collections.

The exhibition comprises approximately 58 works, including 50 loans, most directly from the artists. At least nine new works are being created for the exhibition, including the site-specific installations “ReVolt 1680/2180: Sirens and Sikas” by Virgil Ortiz and



photo courtesy of The Autry

The artwork on display in the exhibition explores themes of futurism and Indigenous knowledge.

Getty announces public programs for PST ART

Getty announced on Sept. 3 full details of an ambitious slate of programs and events to accompany the more than 70 exhibitions that make up PST ART: Art & Science Collide, offering audiences in Southern California numerous pathways to experience, and partic-

ipate in, what is now the nation’s largest arts initiative. Events will kick off on Sept. 15 with a free monumental daytime fireworks performance at Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, entitled WE ARE: Explosion Event for PST ART, by artist Cai Guo-Qiang.

The wildly diverse programs range from a runway fashion show featuring futuristic creations by Indigenous designers to a commemorative rocket launch of a replica of the Sputnik satellite, from a summit on climate change for high-school activists to the LA Phil and Master Chorale premiere of a multimedia work by Doug Aitken, from participatory workshops on synthetic bioengineering to an evening of deep-space communication hosted by comedian Reggie Watts and organized by NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

“The dazzling spectrum of programs we’re announcing will unite audiences in communal experiences across the region, and further animate the thematic exhibitions of Art & Science Collide,” said Katherine E. Fleming, president and CEO of the J. Paul Getty Trust. “Designed for people of all ages and backgrounds, these programs will ensure that everyone can find something in Art & Science Collide to excite, illuminate and engage.”

For information, visit pst.art.



photo courtesy of Cai Studio

PST ART will kick off with a free daytime fireworks show at the L.A. Memorial Coliseum on Sept. 15.

Debbie Allen, Matt Bomer to be honored at Angel Awards

Project Angel Food will honor actress, dancer, choreographer, director, singer, producer and philanthropist Debbie Allen with the Humanitarian Angel Award at the Angel Awards on Saturday, Sept. 28, in Hollywood. Emmy-nominated actor Matt Bomer will be recognized with the 2024 Angel Award. In addition, L.A. Care Health Plan and its CEO, John Baackes, will receive the Sheryl Lee Ralph Legacy Award. Multi-platinum, Grammy-nominated singer Deborah Cox will give a special performance, as Project

Angel Food celebrates its landmark 35th Anniversary.

“The Angel Awards are a testament to the incredible individuals who inspire us and propel our mission forward,” Project Angel Food CEO Richard Ayoub said. “It’s an evening of celebration, gratitude, and unity, where we come together to support the work of Project Angel Food that nourishes our vulnerable neighbors, delivers health and hope, and uplifts our entire community.”

The 2024 Angel Awards Gala will be held at Milk Studios, located

at 855 N. Cahuenga Blvd. For information, visit angelfood.org/events/2024-angel-awards.

VINTAGE PARKLABREA NEWS

Legendary Hollywood comedians get stamp of approval



Comedian Lou Costello’s daughter Paddy Costello-Humphreys unveiled a postage stamp honoring Abbott and Costello in the Sept. 5, 1991, issue of the Beverly Press and Park Labrea News. The unveiling ceremony for the U.S. Postal Service’s new Hollywood Comedians series was held at the Chinese Theatre and included USPS representatives and Bill Welsh, left, then-president of the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce. In addition to Bud Abbott and Lou Costello, the series honored Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy, Jack Benny and Edgar Bergen. The stamps were designed by the late New York Times caricaturist Al Hirschfeld.



10 Reasons Why I Don’t Want An Estate Plan

1. I want large sums of my hard-earned money to go to a law firm.
2. I want the government to decide who gets my life savings.
3. What for? My house is only worth a half-million dollars.
4. I really don’t care who raises our children.
5. I want a total stranger to go through all of my personal papers and financial affairs.
6. I like family fights – especially unnecessary ones.
7. I don’t care who inherits my hard earned money.
8. I’ve been messy in life; I’ll be messy in death.
9. They say you can’t take it with you, but what if you can?
10. Probate. Must be fun.

If you don’t do it for yourself, please do it for those you care about.

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Ceremonies commemorate victims of Sept. 11

From page 1

p.m., the city of Beverly Hills will hold a ceremony at its 9/11 Memorial Garden, located outside the fire station at 445 N. Rexford Drive.

“Our annual Sept. 11 ceremony is an event that makes us pause and reflect on those who lost their lives during that horrific day,” Beverly Hills Mayor Lester Friedman said. “Even 23 years later, our heart remains heavy as we never forget the American heroes who were taken too soon from us.”

“The events of Sept. 11, 2001, will live forever in our memories and we come together as a community on Sept. 11 in a commitment to never forget,” Beverly Hills Fire Chief Greg Barton said.

The memorial garden was dedi-

cated in 2011 on the 10-year anniversary of the attacks. It features a 30-foot floor beam pulled from the wreckage of the World Trade Center in New York. Additionally, two pillars representing the fallen Twin Towers stand behind the beam. No city funds were used to create the site, as it was entirely funded by private donations. This year, a new sign was added to the memorial, further enhancing its visibility to pedestrians and passersby.

“I often spend time reflecting at the memorial and believe it is vital that our city continues to observe this solemn anniversary each year,” Beverly Hills Vice Mayor Sharona Nazarian said. “Many innocent lives were profoundly affected and

devastatingly taken on that day. Our memorial site not only serves as a powerful reminder of the events of Sept. 11 and the significant impact they had on the world, but it is also a place of healing – a space where we can come together, stand united and strengthen our commitment to never forget.”

In L.A., the Los Angeles Fire Department will hold a remembrance ceremony on Sept. 11 at 9 a.m. at the Frank Hotchkin Memorial Training Center, located at 1700 Stadium Way. The ceremony will be attended by LAFD Chief Kristin M. Crowley, LAPD Chief Dominic H. Choi and Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass. It will feature a 10-bell salute, bagpipe performance and helicopter flyover.



photo by Edwin Folven

The annual memorial will take place at Beverly Hills’ 9/11 Memorial Garden, located outside the fire station at 445 N. Rexford Drive.

New interim housing site opens in East Hollywood

Los Angeles City Councilman Hugo Soto-Martinez, 13th District, joined representatives from the mayor’s office, homeless service providers and unhoused Angelenos on Aug. 22 to celebrate the opening of the Jan Clayton Center, a new 52-bed interim housing site in the 4900 block of Sunset Boulevard. The complex has a 30-year history as a recovery facility and is operated by the nonprofit service provider Volunteers of America.

The Jan Clayton Center’s 52-beds consist primarily of single-occupancy rooms, with bathrooms shared between two rooms. Residents have access to wrap-around services, including mental

health and addiction resources and job placement assistance. On-site case managers provide personalized support to help residents navigate resources and work toward permanent housing and long-term stability. Volunteers of America has monitors on site 24 hours and surveillance cameras to ensure the safety of all residents, staff and neighbors. Access control measures are in place, including ID checks and a single secure entry point to prevent unauthorized guests.

In July and early August, outreach workers from Volunteers of America worked with Soto-Martinez’s staff, LAHSA and service providers to bring dozens of

unhoused individuals inside from the streets of Hollywood, East Hollywood and Silver Lake.

“By investing in interim housing and services that are proven to work, we’re bringing people off the streets and housing the homeless in Hollywood,” Soto-Martinez said. “These 52 beds are just the start. Opening temporary and permanent affordable housing at a record rate – both in our district and the city overall – will get us out of this crisis.”

“We must continue breaking the status quo with urgent action to bring Angelenos inside and build more housing – that’s what has led to the first decrease in homelessness in L.A. in years,” Mayor Karen Bass said. “I want to thank Councilmember Soto-Martinez for his work thus far and his partnership. This project will help more people come inside to be connected with services and onto a path to permanent housing. Together, we are saving lives.”

“This is one of the first times I’ve actually felt safe, and stable – with a room to myself at night,” said Frank Salgado, who is living at the Jan Clayton Center and has struggled with homelessness for decades. “Now, I need job placement services and case management resources to get back on my feet and find permanent housing.”

For information, visit cd13.lacounty.gov/meet-hugo.



photo courtesy of the 13th District council office

The Jan Clayton Center offers 52 beds of interim housing on Sunset Boulevard.

Allen bill protects environment from hazardous paint

California Sen. Ben Allen’s (D-Santa Monica) Senate Bill 1143 received final bipartisan approval from the California Legislature on Aug. 30 to expand the state’s safe management of hazardous paint products through the PaintCare program.

“We have another tremendous opportunity for California to build on successful EPR policy,” Allen said. “Since its establishment in 2012, PaintCare has helped manage the reuse, recycling and end-of-life management of millions of gallons of paint. However, current limitations on accepted paint products are needlessly confusing consumers, burdening local governments and harming our environment. SB 1143 would remove these limitations to better streamline PaintCare’s operations in California.”

Roughly 850 million gallons of architectural paint are sold annually in the United States, and it is esti-

mated that 10% of the paint goes unused and becomes a large source of household hazardous waste. To help manage the excess paint, PaintCare was launched in 2012 and has collected 34.6 million gallons of paint at 795 year-round drop off sites. The program also maintains a public education initiative providing tips on buying the appropriate amount of paint for a particular job and how consumers can use excess paint.

The state limits which types of products PaintCare may collect, placing an undue financial strain on local governments and confusing consumers, Allen said. It may also lead to the improper disposal of hazardous paint that contaminates soil and waterways, he added.

SB 1143 expands PaintCare to cover every type of paint product available to consumers. It would bring management of all excess hazardous paints under one program

to enhance efficiency and ensure appropriate producer responsibility for a significant source of household hazardous waste.

Berci was a pioneering figure

From page 1

of endoscopy that allowed surgeons to see larger images by using a miniature camera attached to an endoscope.

Berci joined Cedars-Sinai in 1967, recruited for his achievements by then-chair of surgery Dr. Leon Morgenstern. Berci began as a visiting scholar before becoming the full-time director of the multidisciplinary surgical endoscopy unit. At Cedars-Sinai, Berci continued to revolutionize the field of endoscopy by creating technological advancements that greatly improved illumination.

“George was a towering figure in our profession,” said Dr. Edward H. Phillips, executive vice chair of the Jim and Eleanor Randall Department of Surgery, a longtime collaborator with Dr. Berci and a close friend of the Berci family. “His profound legacy lives on in the hundreds – if not thousands – of medical students and surgeons influenced by his innovations and ideas.”

Berci authored 12 books, more than 200 scientific papers and produced more than 40 films. His work was recognized with countless awards from distinguished medical associations, including the Cedars-Sinai Lifetime Achievement award in 2017. There’s even an award in endoscopic surgery named in his honor given by the Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons, an organization in which he served as president.

“Dr. Berci’s contributions have left an indelible mark on the medical community, and his legacy will continue to influence the practice

“George was a towering figure in our profession. His profound legacy lives on in the hundreds – if not thousands – of medical students and surgeons influenced by his innovations and ideas.”

-Dr. Edward H. Phillips, executive vice chair of the Jim and Eleanor Randall Department of Surgery at Cedars-Sinai

of surgery for generations to come,” SAGES said in a message to members. “His passing is a significant loss to all who knew him and to the broader medical field.”

Berci continued to work well into his later life – at age 100 he was still writing and teaching two days a week at Cedars-Sinai. His passing marks an end to a nearly 75-year career unparalleled in contributions to his field.

“Dr. Berci spent more than half of his long and extraordinary life in service at Cedars-Sinai, where he will be remembered fondly for immeasurable contributions to the surgical field as well as his commitment and passion for medicine,” said Dr. Cristina R. Ferrone, chair of the Jim and Eleanor Randall Department of Surgery.



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Crossword Puzzle by Myles Mellor

Across

1. Deep cut
5. Street in New York's Chinatown
9. Dish rival
14. Similar to
15. Another name for Cupid
16. Continental money
17. Meaningful sign
18. Diamond complement
19. Impertinent ones
20. Make aq formal statement of facts
23. "Shepherd Moons" soft-rock queen
24. "Baseball Tonight" channel
25. Famed lab assistant
28. German cathedral city
33. Not wanted on the face
36. In a state of readiness
39. Garden tool
40. Just enough to get by
44. Slant
45. Great expectations
46. Q followers
47. Embossing utensil
50. Common contraction
52. Longtime Kentucky hoops coach
55. "J'accuse" author
58. Carries weight
63. Toast
65. Its motto is "Lux et veritas"
66. Swenson of "Benson"
67. Hot casino destination in China
68. Paper holder

Down

69. Düsseldorf denial
70. Moves a baby off breast feeding
71. Managed care grps.
72. Norman with a club
1. Drop of a liquid
2. Anouk of "La Dolce Vita"
3. Double-edged dagger
4. Son of William the Conqueror
5. Gershwin's "The ___ Love"
6. Exclude
7. Metric unit
8. Poplars, for example
9. Big name in small planes
10. Jemima, for one
11. Vigor
12. Eliminate as excessive
13. Senegal's capital?
21. Pioneer transportation
22. Health ___
26. Bit of binary code
27. Like a German chocolate cake
29. Vacuum tube (abbr.)
30. Locks
31. Stretches one's budget
32. Snug retreat
33. Goes back out
34. Way to go
35. Confederate wear
37. Top executive
38. Catch a glimpse of
41. Night school subj.

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42. Keyword improvements for a website (abbr.)
43. Former Rodeo maker
48. Father of the Titans
49. Big ___, Calif.
51. Extravagantly indulgent
53. TV series about detectives Shawn and Gus
54. Sacred hymn
56. Eye ___
57. 1973 Rolling Stones hit

58. ___ Raton, Fla.
59. McGregor of "Moulin Rouge"
60. Muse of history
61. Sales callers
62. Yin's opposite
63. Upscale German car
64. "Another rainy day" singer from the UK

answers on page 26

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

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