



FALL
Daylight
Saving Time
ends Nov. 3

BEVERLY PRESS

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

October 31, 2024

Newsom announces film and TV tax credit boost

■ Incentives aim to keep productions local

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Local leaders in the entertainment industry are applauding an announcement by Gov. Gavin Newsom on Oct. 27 that he is expanding the tax credit program for film and television, a move intended to keep productions and jobs in California.

Newsom announced the expansion at Raleigh Studios in Hollywood, which is owned and operated by Hackman Capital Partners. The California Film and Television Tax Credit Program is increasing from \$330 million to \$750 million annually, making California's program the largest in the nation. The governor said it is an important component of enabling California to compete with other states such as New York.

"California is the entertainment capital of the world, rooted in decades of creativity, innovation and unparalleled talent," Newsom said. "Expanding this program will



photo courtesy of Hackman Capital Partners
Hackman Capital Partners CEO Michael Hackman, right, and Senior Vice President of Asset Management Zach Sokoloff welcomed Gov. Gavin Newsom at Raleigh Studios in Hollywood.

help keep production here at home, generate thousands of good-paying jobs and strengthen the vital link

See **Tax credits** page 21

New LACMA building shows its form

■ Opening announced for April 2026

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

The full form of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art's sweeping new David Geffen Galleries can be seen more clearly now with the removal of exterior scaffolding and supports, which are expected to completely come down by the end of the week, museum officials said. The glass-lined concrete building is 90% complete and has moved into the final phases of construction, with major work anticipated to conclude by the end of December.

LACMA also formally announced on Oct. 25 that art from the museum's expansive collection will be installed in the new galleries throughout 2025 and the building will open to the public in April 2026. LACMA members will have an opportunity to tour the building and see the "raw" structure prior to the art installation in 2025.

"Being so close to opening our new galleries and to having so much more art on view is incredibly exciting," LACMA CEO and



photo by Edwin Folven

The steel supports under the portion of the building crossing Wilshire Boulevard have been removed, showing the full form of the structure.

Wallis Annenberg director Michael Govan said. "So many people have contributed to making this vision for LACMA and Los Angeles a reality, and we are grateful to each and every one. When the scaffolding comes down, L.A. will finally see 360 degrees of Peter Zumthor's amazing architectural achievement and begin to sense how wonderful this building is going to be inside. We can't wait to open to the public in April 2026."

The new building will display the museum's art in a way it has never been seen before. Artworks that can withstand exposure to sunlight will be viewed in a new natural setting courtesy of specially fabricated windows lining the exterior of the galleries. The windows will provide panoramic views of the city and allow people passing by on Wilshire Boulevard a glimpse inside. Other areas inside the building will house art-

See **LACMA** page 22

Two candidates compete to replace Schiff

■ Balekian, Friedman offer differing visions for district's future

BY RANCE COLLINS

On Nov. 5, residents in the 30th Congressional District will head to the polls to decide which candidate will replace Rep. Adam Schiff (D-Burbank) in the United States House of Representatives. The Beverly Press conducted wide-ranging interviews with both potential successors.

Alex Balekian

Physician Alex Balekian is a Republican running for Schiff's open seat. The area, which covers a large swath of Los Angeles County including Hollywood, West Hollywood and Burbank, has been an overwhelming Democratic stronghold for decades. But Balekian thinks he's the Republican that can break through.

"I am not aligned with Paul Ryan or Liz Cheney or Donald Trump. I am aligned with my neighbors here [in District 30], most of whom are

immigrants, and it's those immigrant values of home and family, first and foremost – quality education for kids, working hard to start a small business and be your own boss, and build the American Dream – that is my core value system."

Many of Balekian's views run counter to the positions of Rep. Adam Schiff (D-Burbank), who is vacating the seat and is now a candidate for the U.S. Senate.

"Adam Schiff has been a friend to the Armenian population, and that is why he was reelected over a 22 year period. So that same support that he gave to my Armenian community, I will continue," he said.

The biggest issue Balekian thinks the district is facing is crime.

"I think criminals should be caught and charged and prosecuted and punished," Balekian said. "I am very explicit in my support of Nathan Hochman for [District Attorney] and also my support of Prop 36 so that we can get different penalties for criminals."

Proposition 36 would increase some penalties and upgrade some crimes to felony charges.

Balekian takes issue with many of his opponent's positions, particu-

See **Candidates** page 22



photo by Rance Collins

The Beverly Hills home where the double murder took place has become a location frequented by people interested in the case.

Menendez brothers seek clemency from governor

■ Resentencing hearing scheduled on Dec. 11

BY TABOR BREWSTER

Los Angeles County District Attorney George Gascón announced on Oct. 30 that he supports a request for clemency

from Gov. Gavin Newsom for Erik and Lyle Menendez, who were sentenced to life in prison without the possibility for parole for the 1989 murder of their parents in Beverly Hills.

"I strongly support clemency for Erik and Lyle Menendez, who are currently serving sentences of life without possibility

See **Menendez** page 21



photos courtesy of Alex Balekian/Laura Friedman

Republican Alex Balekian is facing Democrat Laura Friedman in the 30th Congressional District race.

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CALENDAR

Fowler Museum

Patrick A. Polk will moderate a talk by professor Cesar Favila about his publication "Immaculate Sounds: The Musical Lives of Nuns in New Spain" on Friday, Nov. 1, from 1-3 p.m. at the Fowler Museum at UCLA. The lecture will take place among the exhibition "Descanse en Paz: Memorial Paintings from 19th-Century Mexico," where Mexican monja coronado ("crowned nun") portraits are on view. Favila explores penitential songs called saetas through the lens of sound and voice studies. The program is co-sponsored by the UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music. Admission is free. 308 Charles E Young Drive North. fowler.ucla.edu.



LA Phil Día de Los Muertos

Celebrate the Day of the Dead during "Día de Los Muertos with Dudamel" on Friday, Nov. 1, through Sunday, Nov. 3, at the Walt Disney Concert Hall. The performances offer a festive exploration of Latin American music for Día de los Muertos with Brazilian composer Heitor Villa-Lobos' "Chôros No. 10, Rasga o Coração," and Gabriela Ortiz's 2019 "Yanga." The Tambuco Percussion Ensemble and Los Angeles Master Chorale will perform. Showtimes are at 8 p.m. on Nov. 1-2;



2 p.m., Nov. 3. Tickets start at \$92. 111 S. Grand Ave. laphil.org.

MOCA First Fridays

First Fridays at MOCA Geffen returns on Friday, Nov. 1, from 5-8 p.m. The event includes DJ sets by KCHUNG hosts Tony Watson, Pink Dolphin and Black Museumist. Visitors can also tour "Olafur Eliasson: OPEN," the first major solo exhibition by Icelandic-Danish artist Eliasson in Los Angeles. Admission is free. 250 S. Grand Ave. moca.org.

'DIVA The Play'

United Stages presents the world premiere of "DIVA The Play," written and performed by Vivienne Powell, from Friday, Nov. 1, through Sunday, Nov. 10, at the Zephyr Theatre. The production tells the story of renowned Australian opera singer Louisa McCrae, reliving her life through the lens of a fractured mind. Through memories, she is transported back to powerful moments that shaped her extraordinary life. Can she hold onto the memories long enough to revive her broken heart? Tickets are \$25. 7456 Melrose Ave. buytickets.at/na71/1382198.

Godzilla

The Japan Foundation Los Angeles invites monster movie fans to a lecture by Godzilla scholars Steve Ryfle and Ed Godziszewski on Saturday, Nov. 2, at 11 a.m. The lecture coincides with the "Godzilla-thon! Movie Marathon" on Sunday, Nov. 3, starting at 11 a.m. at the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures. The speakers will explore how the five films in the "Godzilla-thon!" respond to geopolitical, economic and environmental changes and challenges. Admission is free but registration is required. 5700 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 100. jflalc.org/event-details.php/207/godzilla-in-context-the-monster-japan-and-america.



and mechanical astrolabes. Learn more about the fascinating instruments and create a volvelle. The free program complements Getty's PST ART exhibitions "Rising Signs: The Medieval Science of Astrology" and "Lumen: The Art and Science of Light." The workshop will be repeated on Nov. 17, Dec. 8 and Dec. 15 at 11 a.m. 1200 Getty Center Drive. getty.edu.



'Survivors'

"Survivors," a play about hate, hope and courage during the Holocaust, will be held on Monday, Nov. 4, at 10:30 a.m. at the Saban Theatre. The production by Wendy Kout teaches Holocaust history and tolerance through the enacted testimonies of 10 Holocaust survivors. Historical photographs and iconic radio addresses are projected to authenticate and underscore the rise of fascism and the hatred of the Nazis, and the liberation of the camps. The survivors enact their eyewitness accounts and encourage hope and tolerance. Arts For Change producers Genie Benson and Kout are partnering with Holocaust Museum L.A. and the Holocaust Education Center of StandWithUs on the production. 8440 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills. artsforchange.world.

Hollywood PAL gala

The Hollywood Police Activities League is holding its annual gala on Thursday, Nov. 7, at Avalon Hollywood. The evening features music, dining and awards presentations. Proceeds provide funding for officer and volunteer-led youth programs. A cocktail reception starts at 6 p.m.; the dinner and awards presentation begin at 7 p.m. Tickets start at \$400. 1735 Vine St. (323) 467 7114, hollywoodpal.goodworldnow.com/e/hollywood-pal-gala-2024.

'Pacific Overtures'

East West Players presents the return of "Pacific Overtures," directed by former EWP artistic director Tim Dang and featuring Jon Jon Briones and Gedde Watanabe, from Thursday, Nov. 7, through Sunday, Dec. 1, at the David Henry Hwang Theater. Set in 1853, "Pacific Overtures" explores the intersection of Western and Eastern cultures during the pivotal moment in Japan's history when it opened to the West. With a unique score by Stephen Sondheim and a book by John Weidman, the show fuses Kabuki theater and Broadway. Showtimes are at 8 p.m., Thursday through Monday; 5 p.m., Sunday; with additional 2 p.m. Saturday matinees. Tickets start at \$15. 120 Judge John Aiso St., downtown. eastwestplayers.org.



Diwali celebration

Auricle Collective and One Love Kirtan invite the public to celebrate Diwali (the Hindu festival of lights) on Saturday, Nov. 2, at 8 p.m. at Veda Yoga. The event features Jaya Lakshmi and Mx Puja Singh and includes devotional mantra singing. All are welcome to sing, dance and engage in meditation. Tickets are \$37.74. tickets.brightstarevents.com/tickets/kirtan-with-jaya-lakshmi-and-mx-puja-singh.

Third Street Elementary

Celebrate Third Street Elementary School's 100th anniversary at a block party on Sunday, Nov. 3, at 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Enjoy carnival games, food trucks, face painting, arts and crafts, activities by the Natural History Museum, a reptile encounter courtesy of STAR Eco, inflatable games by Got Game, pet adoptions and booths by more than 40 local organizations and businesses. Bob Baker Marionettes, Mista Cookie Jar and Third Street students will perform. Admission is free. friendsofthird.org/centennial.

'Cosmic Connections'

Enjoy "Cosmic Connections," a family workshop on Sunday, Nov. 3, at 11 a.m. at the Getty Center. In the Middle Ages, scientists calculated the position of the stars and planets using tools such as volvelles (wheel charts)

Proposition 32 will increase state's minimum wage to \$18

BY TABOR BREWSTER

California's statewide Proposition 32 ballot measure would increase the minimum wage to \$18 per hour for all businesses by 2026. The current minimum wage is \$16, and is set to increase to \$16.50 in January 2025 if Proposition 32 is not approved. Current state law requires a minimum wage increase based on inflation each year. However, Proposition 32, if approved, would increase the minimum wage to \$17 immediately, and \$18 on Jan. 1, 2025, for businesses with 26 or more employees. For businesses with 25 or fewer employees, Proposition 32 would require them to pay employees \$17 per hour on Jan. 1, 2025, and \$18 per hour on Jan. 1, 2026.

The proposition follows a similar minimum wage increase earlier this year for fast food workers. As of April 1, all national fast food chain employers in California are required to pay employees at least \$20 per hour.

Municipalities in California may also set their own minimum wage through local ordinances,

which often exceed the state's minimum. The city of West Hollywood currently has the highest minimum wage in the state at \$19.08 per hour, which is set to increase to \$19.65 on Jan. 1, 2025.

The proposition is supported by the California Labor Federation, Unite Here Local 11, the ACLU of Southern California and the California Democratic Party. The primary organizer behind Proposition 32 is Joe Sanberg, an entrepreneur and anti-poverty activist who spent \$10 million to get the measure on the ballot.

Proponents believe a minimum wage increase is long overdue, since the current minimum wage laws requiring an annual increase were signed in 2016. Advocates cite the high cost of living in California, which has increased since the pandemic.

"Every Californian who works at least a full-time, 40-hour work week should be able to afford life's basic needs. However, there are about two million Californians who are working full time, and more, but earn less

See Prop. 32 page 21

Proposition 6 eliminates last remnants of slavery in state

BY TABOR BREWSTER

Proposition 6 is a statewide ballot measure that would eliminate involuntary servitude in California and close the so-called "slavery loophole." Similar to the 13th Amendment in the U.S. Constitution, the California Constitution prohibits slavery and involuntary servitude, except as punishment for a crime. As a result, inmates in California prisons can be required to do manual labor or face consequences, including revocation

of their privileges while in prison and deferrals of their parole eligibility. The ballot measure would prohibit forced prison labor and eliminate the last remnant of slavery in California. Alabama, Colorado, Tennessee and Vermont have adopted similar measures in recent years.

The measure is supported by the ACLU, Anti-Recidivism Coalition, the California Democratic Party and the California Labor Federation. The California Republican Party is one of the few organizations opposed to the measure.

Voters asked to decide lengthy list of measures on Nov. 5 ballot

BY RANCE COLLINS

Prop 33

Los Angeles residents are no stranger to rent control laws, although there are state-imposed limitations on how rent control can be applied by cities. For instance, apartments built after 1995 cannot be subject to rent control, nor can single-family homes. If a new tenant moves in, the price of the unit can reset.

If approved, Prop 33 will give cities control of how they can manage rents on any type of housing, for new or existing tenants.

The potential law is on the ballot as an attempt to mitigate the high rent prices faced by Californians. Opponents say that the proposition will actually worsen the housing crisis, giving developers less incentive to build. They also argue that it will ultimately have the opposite effect of its intention and drive-up rental prices. A similar

proposal has been up twice before and has not been passed by state voters. According to CalMatters, opponents include the California Small Business Association, the California Senior Alliance, California YIMBY, the California Republican Party and the California Chamber of Commerce.

Those in favor believe the ordinance would work as intended, helping everyday people be able to better afford to live in the state. They also argue in favor of giving municipalities control over housing decisions. Supporters include the California Democratic Party, AIDS Healthcare Foundation, UNITE HERE Local 11, Veterans' Voices and the California Nurses Association.

Prop 34

Proposition 34 would require certain providers to use revenue

See Ballot page 21

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2024 Election Endorsements

President of the United States

With our media partner the Los Angeles Times not publishing an endorsement for President of the United States, we believe it is our responsibility to do so. And the choice is obvious. **Vice President Kamala Harris** is the only candidate who is qualified to hold this office. She will uphold the U.S. Constitution and work to codify in the Constitution a woman's right to an abortion. Harris has set forth a forward-looking platform that will support middle class tax cuts. The Harris-Walz administration will ensure the Affordable Care Act remains the law of the land, will work to lower prescription drug costs and strengthen health care for veterans.

Most importantly Harris will work to unite the American people, to focus on moving forward and not looking back. As she says in her stump speech, "Americans have so much more in common than what separates us."

Her experience as a prosecutor, district attorney of California, United State Senator of California and Vice President of the United States makes her the only presidential candidate to have experience in many levels of government.

Conversely, convicted felon Donald Trump seeks retribution, sows hate and division, and is wholly unfit to serve. As president, he incited a deadly attack on the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021. Trump said the Constitution of the United States should be terminated.

His plans to improve the economy are to give tax cuts to corporations and billionaires. He wants to repeal the Affordable Healthcare Act and has "concepts of a plan" to replace it. His behavior demonstrates that he is unfit to be the leader of the greatest country in the world – one he denigrates and calls "the world's trash can."

Whether or not you agree with all of Harris' policies, it is time to put country over party. We whole heartedly endorse Vice President Kamala Harris and Gov. Tim Walz for president and vice president.

United State Senate

Adam Schiff has served as a Unites States Congressman for 12 years. He has consistently demon-

strated he works to better our communities, the environment, championing workers' rights, securing funding for infrastructure projects and holding those in power accountable. He withstood attacks from the former president and did not back down. He led the first House of Representatives impeachment of Donald Trump. As Chairman of the House Intelligence Committee and member of the January 6th Committee, Schiff was on the front lines to preserve democracy, uphold the rule of law, and hold insurrectionists accountable. Schiff will continue to fight for California and is a proven public servant who get things done.

U.S House of Representatives

30th District

Laura Friedman has served in the California Assembly since 2016. In an interview with the Beverly Press, she laid out her plans and vision mapping the interconnectivity of transportation, clean energy and housing. Her holistic, common-sense approach to the problems facing local municipalities, state and country, she can chart a new way forward in Congress.

36th District

Ted Lieu is running for reelection and should retain his seat as a fighter for equality, cyber security and the environment. He is a strong advocate for active U.S. military personnel and for veterans. Lieu secured \$35 million for safety improvements at the VA hospital in Westwood and authored legislation to provide housing for homeless veterans. He will continue to uphold democracy and serve with a keen focus and dignity.

Los Angeles County District Attorney

Nathan Hochman is running to unseat incumbent George Gascón for D.A. Hochman is originally from Beverly Hills and now lives in Brentwood. An extensive interview with Hochman is on page 6 of this issue. He calls himself a hard centrist and is running as an indepen-

dent. Crime has gone up under Gascón, and some of his actions seem more for publicity and self-promotion than fighting crime. He had four years to make Los Angeles County safer. It is time to give Hochman an opportunity to achieve that goal. We endorse Nathan Hochman.

City of West Hollywood City Council

With nine candidates running to fill two open seats, the Beverly Press conducted extensive interviews with all the candidates. To read the profiles, visit our website and our past issues over the past four weeks. We are endorsing **John Erickson** and **George Nickle**. Erickson has made some controversial votes during his term on the City Council, however, he has also represented the city well, locally, nationally and abroad. Erickson also has robust knowledge of how to work with City Hall. He deserves a second term. Nickle, on the other hand, will provide a counterpoint to Erickson on the council, advocating for the city's senior population, the disabled community and renters. As a West Hollywood public safety commissioner, he has City Hall experience.

Beverly Hills Unified School District Board of Education

The Beverly Press endorses incumbent candidate **Dr. Amanda Stern** for Beverly Hills Unified

School District Board of Education based on her prior experience on the school board coupled with her expertise as a school psychologist. We are confident that Stern's thor-

ough understanding of childhood learning and development will help lead BHUSD students toward success as they navigate the challenges of post-pandemic education.



photo by Edwin Folven

Motorists are advised of a water main replacement project on North La Cienega Boulevard from November through January.

La Cienega street project may impact traffic in West Hollywood

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power will conduct a water main replacement project on North La Cienega Boulevard between Fountain Avenue and Santa Monica Boulevard beginning on Nov. 4 and extending for approximately three months.

West Hollywood is raising awareness about the project, which is within the city's borders. The LADWP is replacing 1,300 feet of water main starting at Santa Monica Boulevard and progressing north toward Fountain Avenue. Work will occur Monday through

Friday from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; no work will take place on weekends or holidays. Parking will be restricted while work is in progress. The LADWP will post temporary no parking signs with dates and times of construction. Vehicles parked on the street during work hours are subject to being towed.

Electronic message boards have been placed in the surrounding area to warn the public about potential delays. For information, call (800)DIAL-DWP or visit ladwp.com/support.

Notable Quotes

"As long as I count the votes, what are you going to do about it?"

William Marcy "Boss" Tweed (1823-1878)

Tammany Hall was a political organization formed in 1786. Its political machinery ran New York City. Through a system of political patronage, it was the epitome of corruption. It reached its peak of notoriety in the decade following the Civil War. In 1868, under the control of Tweed, New York City was plunged of over \$200 million while elections were being ruthlessly rigged.

Tweed was eventually prosecuted, convicted and died in prison.

A cautionary tale of one New Yorker for another.
Editor

*Source: Bartlett's Familiar Quotations

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City of West Hollywood
California 1984



photo courtesy of the U.S. Attorney's Office

Authorities released images of the gunmen shooting at the victim's vehicle at a gas station at La Cienega and Beverly boulevards.

Rapper charged in murder at La Cienega and Beverly

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

The U.S. Attorney's Office announced on Oct. 25 that six people have been charged in a murder-for-hire plot that left a man dead at a gas station at La Cienega and Beverly boulevards in August 2022.

The defendants include Grammy Award-winning rapper "Lil Durk," whose real name is Durk Banks, 32, of Chicago. Banks was arrested on Oct. 24 near Miami International Airport on a criminal complaint charging him with conspiracy to use interstate facilities to commit murder-for-hire resulting in death. If convicted, Banks and the five other defendants charged with the crime in a separate indictment face a maximum sentence of life

in federal prison.

The shooting occurred on Aug. 19, 2022, at a gas station at the northeast corner of La Cienega and Beverly boulevards, across from the Beverly Center. Banks, who is part of a Chicago-based rap crew known as Only The Family, was allegedly upset over the November 2020 murder of a close friend, authorities said.

Banks allegedly hired a group of hitmen to target a rival rapper, only identified in court documents as "T.B.," who is an associate of the suspect who allegedly murdered Banks' friend. Banks allegedly paid for the hitmen to travel to Los Angeles and to stay in a hotel, authorities said. The hitmen followed the victim for hours on Aug. 19, 2022, before

See **Charges** page 22

Teen faces charges for homicide in Hollywood

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Police arrested a 19-year-old man late on Oct. 27 for a homicide earlier the same day in which a woman was stabbed to death in an apartment building at 7158 Hawthorn Ave. in Hollywood.

Investigators have not released a specific motive for the stabbing but said the suspect and 48-year-old victim knew each other. Media reports stated that the suspect is the ex-boyfriend of the victim's daughter.

Detective Tyler Adams, with the Los Angeles Police Department's West Bureau Homicide Unit, said the stabbing stemmed from a "dispute," but he could not elaborate pending the investigation.

"It wasn't something random," he added.

Police identified the suspect as Jeremy Paz Monge, who is charged with murder. The Los Angeles County Department of Medical Examiner identified the victim as Maria Sanchez. She was a resident of the building, which is located just west of La Brea Avenue and north of Sunset Boulevard.

Adams said the stabbing occurred around 5 p.m. inside the building, but not in a specific apartment. Media reports stated the suspect confronted the victim near an elevator. Witnesses saw the suspect fleeing the building and driving away in a vehicle. Officers located the car approximately five hours later near Romaine and La Brea. The suspect led them on a pursuit that ended with his arrest near the



photo by Edwin Folven

The stabbing occurred in an apartment building at 7158 Hawthorn Ave.

Santa Monica (10) Freeway and Vermont Avenue, Adams said.

Anyone with information is

urged to call LAPD detectives at (213)382-9470. During weekends and off-hours, call (877)LAPD247.

West Hollywood attack suspect faces long list of felony charges

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

A 28-year-old man is charged with attempted murder and numerous other felonies for a violent attack on a valet employee in September at Barney's Beanery in West Hollywood, and random attacks on six other people along Santa Monica Boulevard.

Los Angeles County District

Attorney George Gascón said defendant Dorian Michael Gray is responsible for the Sept. 14 assault that left longtime Barney's Beanery employee Efrain "Frankie" Zarazua hospitalized in critical condition. Gray is also believed to have assaulted six other victims during a 10-minute period leading up to the attack in the parking lot outside

See **Suspect** page 22

Thursday, November 7TH, 2024 | 7:00 p.m.
City Council Formal Meeting



FIRST PUBLIC MEETING TO SOLICIT PUBLIC INPUT ON THE UPCOMING LABOR NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE CITY'S THREE SWORN EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATIONS

Beverly Hills City Hall Council Chambers, 455 N Rexford Drive

The meeting will also be broadcast virtually, on-demand at **BEVERLYHILLS.ORG/LIVE.**

The City of Beverly Hills is preparing to commence negotiations with its sworn employee bargaining groups, which consist of sworn fire personnel, sworn police personnel and sworn police management.

To see all MOUs, visit beverlyhills.org/mou.

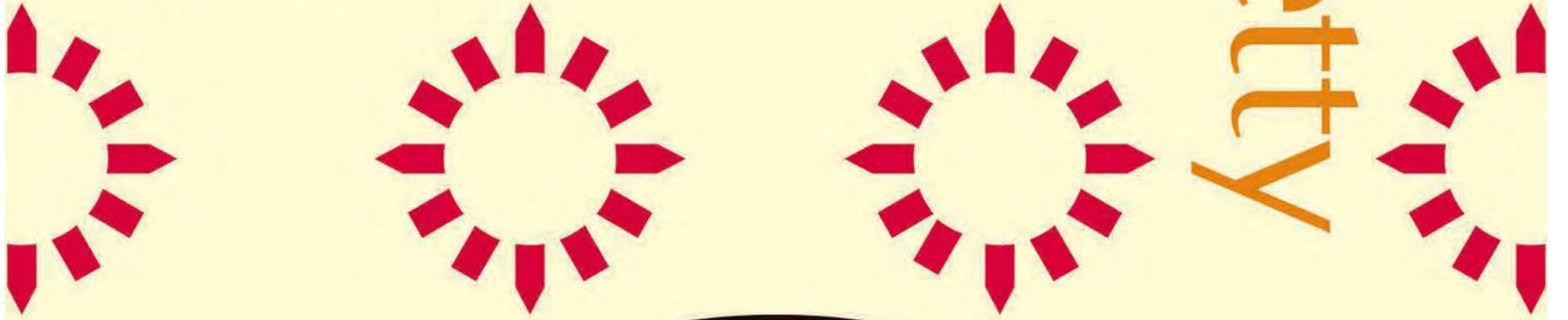
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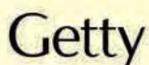
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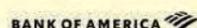


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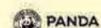
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Nathan Hochman makes his case for D.A.

■ George Gascón declines interview

BY TABOR BREWSTER

With voting already underway in the Nov. 5 General Election, one of the top concerns for many Los Angeles County residents is public safety and crime. Perhaps nowhere is this more evident than the race for Los Angeles County District Attorney. The two candidates, incumbent District Attorney George Gascón and former federal prosecutor Nathan Hochman, represent two different visions for the future of Los Angeles. Gascón has vowed to continue his pledge of criminal justice reform, while Hochman promises a “hard middle” approach to the D.A.’s office. The Beverly Press interviewed Hochman to profile his plan for Los Angeles. The Beverly Press also reached out to Gascón, who declined to do an interview until after the election.

Hochman is running as an independent against Gascón, a Democrat whose progressive policies aimed at curbing mass incarceration Hochman blames for rampant crime. In 2022, Hochman ran as a Republican in an unsuccessful bid for California Attorney General against Rob Bonta. He has served as president of the L.A. City Ethics Commission, a U.S. assistant attorney general in the Department of Justice’s Tax Division and an attorney in private practice, including in the Beverly Hills firm started by his father – Hochman, Salkin, Toscher

and Perez.

Hochman is a Beverly Hills native, attending Hawthorne Elementary School and graduating from Beverly Hills High School in 1981. He spoke admiringly of his education and classmates – many of whom, he pointed out, are now attorneys, business leaders, Hollywood directors and artists. His parents were active in the community, as both chaired the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles, while his mother founded the Beverly Hills Education Foundation. Though Hochman now lives in Brentwood, he said he visits his mother – who has lived in the same Beverly Hills home since 1968 – multiple times a week.

“Beverly Hills and the success of that city and its safety are things that I keep close to my chest and my heart,” Hochman said. “If I’m the D.A., Beverly Hills will be one of the 88 cities and 125 unincorporated areas that would fall under the D.A.’s office jurisdiction, so making sure that things work for Beverly Hills and the rest of the county would be a high priority.”

Hochman has framed the race for the D.A.’s office as a referendum on Gascón’s prosecutorial methods – or lack thereof, he said.

“When Gascón claims that ‘crime is down but fear is up,’ well he’s half right. Fear is up, because crime is up,” Hochman said.

Hochman cites California Department of Justice crime statistics which show violent crime in L.A. County jumped 12% from 2020 to 2023, while robberies increased by 16%, shoplifting

increased by 133%, auto theft by 23% and burglaries by 8%. However, Gascón has frequently pointed to crime data for the city of Los Angeles, which shows violent crime decreasing.

Hochman has accused Gascón of “gaslighting” the public into believing the county has gotten safer under his watch. He also rejects Gascón’s position that the D.A.’s office has relatively little effect on day-to-day crime in Los Angeles County. He has argued that the police are hesitant to make arrests because Gascón won’t strongly prosecute criminals.

“I think what the D.A. does is he sets down very clearly the laws and the consequences for those laws to criminals who are paying attention,” Hochman said. “If you tell gangs up front you’re not going to prosecute [with] the gang enhancement, it’s not a shock the gangs have gotten stronger in our society and committed more violent crimes motivated by their participation in gangs.”

Sentencing enhancements allow prosecutors to extend prison time for people accused of committing crimes for the benefit of a gang, or committing a crime with a gun. Gascón did away with the policy when he took office in 2020, arguing that the enhancements are an outdated relic of mass incarceration.

Hochman has pledged to bring back policies like sentencing enhancements and rescind Gascón’s other “blanket policies” aimed at de-carceration, including a ban on prosecuting minors as adults

and rejection of the death penalty. Hochman has stated that he would consider the death penalty only in the most egregious cases, including mass shootings, terrorist attacks and the killing of a police officer.

However, Hochman also rejects policies of mass incarceration, saying he takes a “hard middle” approach when it comes to the D.A.’s office by balancing public safety and criminal justice reform. He is in favor of community service and restitution for first-time nonviolent offenders, as well as diversion programs for those convicted of crimes related to drug addiction.

“Gascón has failed his own criminal justice agenda including holding police accountable,” Hochman said. “When he came into office he criticized his predecessor for not prosecuting dozens of police officers who engaged in shootings of unarmed, usually Black men. He hired a special prosecutor at \$750,000 a year to review these dozens of cases. In the three and a half years in which that prosecutor has operated, he’s only brought two cases and those cases are caught up in the courts.”

He added that he will hold police accountable while restoring the partnership between law enforcement and the District Attorney’s office.

“Back in the ‘90s, when I was a federal prosecutor, one of the things I did was go after dirty cops,” Hochman said. “I and a team of prosecutors went after over 20. The lead deputy sheriff was stealing guns, drugs and money from drug dealers. We convicted them all. I have no tolerance for any law enforcement officer that crosses the line. On the other hand, I believe

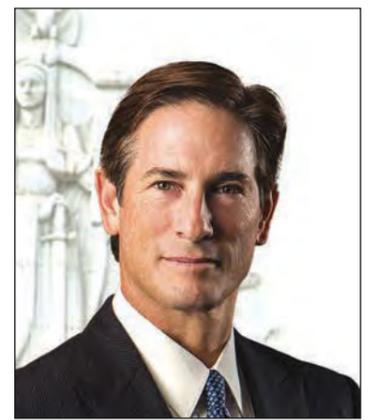


photo courtesy of Nathan Hochman

Former federal prosecutor Nathan Hochman is running to unseat Los Angeles County District Attorney George Gascón.

that the overwhelming numbers of law enforcement officers are doing a dangerous and difficult job extremely well, and those law enforcement officers deserve our respect, our admiration and if I’m the D.A. our partnership.”

With an influx of protests and demonstrations since the beginning of the Israel-Hamas war last year, Hochman also emphasized a balance between protecting free speech and prosecuting disruptive riots and hate crimes.

“I’m a big believer in the First Amendment. If people want to shout what I would consider to be vile and reprehensible things, and they want to shout it on a sidewalk and hold up banners and flags and whatnot, not only do they have a right to do that – with certain time, place and manner restrictions – but I’ll protect that right,” he said. “But when words turn into illegal conduct – if they want to shut down a

See page 7

TRAFFIC ADVISORY:

Metropolitan Water District (MWD) Pipeline Project Construction

November 11-22, 2024 | N. Santa Monica Blvd. and Wilshire Blvd. Impacted

Water will not be disrupted during this pipeline work

Traffic will be impacted as lane restrictions will be in place due to equipment and crews

WORK AREA: Lane reductions in place on Wilshire Blvd. and N. Santa Monica Blvd.

WORK AREA: Lane reductions on N. Santa Monica Blvd. from Century Park East to Merv Griffin Way

..... City Boundary

Hotel Access Only

Road Closure (No Access)

For more information, please contact Metropolitan Water District (MWD) at (213) 217-6809

Beverly Hills launches pay-by-phone parking

BY TABOR BREWSTER

In August, fake QR codes were posted to parking meters in Redondo Beach, an attempt by scammers to steal money from unsuspecting customers who believed they were paying for parking. Over the past month, mobile payment stickers on parking meters have appeared throughout Beverly Hills. Some read “text 200SHAM,” to a mobile phone number, potentially causing confusion that the stickers were fake. However, the new stickers on parking meters in Beverly Hills are no sham, and SHAM was instead a code for the parking zone – South Hamilton Drive.

The city of Beverly Hills has updated its parking system, adding the pay-by-phone method for city parking meters. The city partnered with parking app Flowbird to add the option to its meters beginning in September. The city will soon add the business triangle zone into its mobile payment system to complete coverage across the city.

“We started the implementation the second week of September. We started implementing different zones every week just to slowly introduce this additional payment option to our customers that allows them to pay through the mobile app or by text,” said Genevieve Row, the city’s parking services manager.

Customers can download Flowbird from the app store or by visiting flowbirdapp.com. Through the app, customers can securely make payments, get notified when their time expires and extend their parking time remotely. Customers can also pay by texting the zone code listed on the meter to the number on the meter. Customers who prefer to pay manually with a card or coins can still do so.

Row said the feedback so far has been positive, and the city has counted almost 2,000 uses since the implementation began.

“This is an option for [customers] that doesn’t require them to touch the meter, to look for change, to get their credit card out. This allows them to do the payment from their

mobile device,” Row said. “It’s just convenient for our customers. We wanted to provide them the ability to do it here because they were already doing it in other municipalities and in other areas.”

Row said parking in the business triangle is expected to be brought online by mid-November.

Assistant Director of Public Works Daren Grilley added that the city is planning to add the mobile payment system to its parking structures.

“It is an option, but if you’re not comfortable with it, the traditional ways of paying – credit card, coin – remain,” Grilley said.



photo by Tabor Brewster

The new system allows mobile payment via the Flowbird app.

From page 6

freeway, an airport, if they want to vandalize a college campus, if they want to harm Jews trying to enter a synagogue on Pico-Robertson – then the D.A. needs to set these lines proactively and very clear that if they cross these lines, which are the laws, here are the real consequences that they will face, and they will absolutely be held accountable for their actions.”

In June, a pro-Palestinian protest outside the Adas Torah synagogue in the Pico-Robertson neighborhood erupted into violence after pro-Palestinian protesters attempted to block the entrance. With both antisemitic and Islamophobic hate crimes rising across the U.S. in the past year, Hochman said it is the D.A.’s role to deter this kind of violence with a proactive approach.

“Mayor Bass immediately said that the violent acts were abhorrent. Gavin Newsom weighed in, and he said that it was completely unacceptable. George Gascón said absolutely nothing,” Hochman said. “It’s not a shock then that days or weeks later, protesters shut down the 405 freeway during rush hour. Because if you don’t make it clear that there are consequences for conduct, it just emboldens the criminals to keep going.”

In March, a 38-year-old West Hollywood resident was violently attacked on Santa Monica Boulevard near Hancock Avenue, in what he believed was an anti-gay hate crime. Recent FBI data shows that hate crimes against the LGBTQ community have been trending upwards for the past few years. Hochman committed to protecting the LGBTQ community in West Hollywood with his proactive method of deterring crimes.

“I have been pro-LGBTQ rights my whole life,” Hochman said. “I have seen the discrimination and hate crimes faced by that community for decades. I would do everything in my power as D.A. to make sure those hate criminals are held accountable to the fullest extent of the law, with the goal to deter them from committing those crimes in our county.”

With the homelessness crisis a top concern for many in Los Angeles, Hochman said the D.A. needs to be a partner in the fight towards solving homelessness. He

pointed toward the successes of the L.A. Sheriff Department’s Homeless Outreach Services Team, which works with unhoused residents to connect them with housing programs. He said that he would have the D.A.’s office become a partner in this process.

While much of this year’s D.A.’s race has been centered on violent crime and public safety, Hochman also committed to prosecuting white collar criminals to the fullest extent of the law.

“I both have 34 years of experience prosecuting white collar criminals, as well as even defending them. I have been trained in how to follow the money. How to build cases, or if I’m a defense attorney, to attack cases, which are often complicated, to show beyond a reasonable doubt that a particular person is guilty of fraud ... I’ll be able to lead by example in the D.A.’s office and emphasize that these fraud crimes are often not victimless crimes. When you steal from the government, or steal from state agencies, you’re depriving the government and state agencies from directing their resources to where they’re truly needed.”

Ultimately, Hochman said he is qualified for the D.A.’s office based on 34 years of experience prosecuting and defending cases, and emphasized taking politics out of the D.A.’s office, bringing his “hard middle” approach that rejects both de-carceration and mass incarceration.

“[Gascón] is trying to cast me as the former Republican and he’s the Democrat, and therefore people should vote for him,” Hochman said. “I’ve been a centrist my whole life. I spent the first 20 years as a Democrat, the next 20 years as a Republican, and now I’m a registered independent running for a nonpartisan position. My party affiliation won’t be on the ballot. You actually want your D.A. to run the office independent of a personal political agenda and resolving cases just on the facts and the law ... If I’m the D.A., I will be a D.A. for everyone and I will treat everyone equally. His whole campaign is in dividing people into political camps. And I must say that criminals don’t ask for your party affiliation before they rob or they shoot you, and victims shouldn’t be asked their party affiliation before you want to help them.”

Beverly Hills TEMPLE of the ARTS

Rabbi's Special Shabbat Dinner Service Guest



Lieutenant Colonel Daniel Elbo Arama, PhD

Lieutenant Colonel Daniel Elbo Arama is the commander of a major military territorial medical center in southern Israel. He is an expert in emergency medicine and also serves as a Senior Volunteer Paramedic with Magen David Adom. He holds certifications in basic and master’s emergency medical services from Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (BGU). Recently, Lt. Col. Elbo Arama received his doctorate, and he continues to pursue postdoctoral research in emergency medicine while working as a lecturer at Ben-Gurion University.

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Pro-ERA installation adorns WeHo library

■ Art piece demands the passage of Equal Rights Amendment

BY RANCE COLLINS

The FINAL IMPACT art installation has been unveiled at the West Hollywood Library, acting as a large plea in the middle of the famously progressive city for the publication of the Equal Rights Amendment. It was commissioned as a collaboration between West Hollywood and the nonprofit Equal Means Equal, which advocates for placing the ERA in the United States Constitution.

The artwork takes up the entire frontside of the library, adorning it with the faces of ERA-proponents like Patricia Arquette and Vice Mayor Chelsea Byers making phone calls. Large text accompanies the images, reading, "Publish the Equal Rights Amendment. Make the Call!"

The ERA has been in the public conversation for over a century, with the first version introduced in 1923. It was approved by the House of Representatives in 1971, and then the Senate in 1972. By 1977, the amendment had received 35 of the 38 state ratifications necessary for publication in the Constitution.

Huntington Meats' pajama drive makes holidays special for children

The public is encouraged to make the holidays a special time of the year for children in need by donating to Huntington Meats' fourth annual Holiday Kids Pajama Drive, which will benefit the Union Rescue Mission in Downtown Los Angeles.

The need is greater now than ever, with more families seeking basic necessities, said Jim Cascone, owner of Huntington Meats and Farmers Market Poultry at the Original Farmers Market, corner of Third and Fairfax. The staff at Huntington Meats has volunteered at the Union Rescue Mission for several years, donating meat and preparing and serving meals for 300-400 people. Cascone said he saw more families with children each year, and started the pajama drive to ensure needs are met during the holidays.

"Going on year four, we continue to feel that this was such a unique idea for the holidays. Toy drives are great, but we forget that some kids may never have received a brand new pair of PJs, which was something many of us took for granted growing up," Cascone said. "It's something I'm committed to. With our connection to the Union Rescue Mission, we

That's when things got messy. The ratification deadline had been set for March 22, 1979, and five states rescinded their ratification, something that remains a legal question mark. The deadline was extended to 1982, and still the remaining states did not come on board.

Following the #MeToo movement, interest in the ERA was renewed, and Nevada, Illinois and Virginia all ratified the ERA. While it remains uncertain the legality surrounding the five rescinding states toward ratification, Equal Means Equal proports that the amendment has met its threshold – and the placement of a deadline, Equal Means Equal argues, was never legal anyway.

The organization's founder is aptly named Kamala Lopez.

"I'm just pleased that people finally know how to pronounce my name," Lopez said.

She said that she first learned about the ERA in 2009, when she found out that women's rights – and by extension the rights of LGBTQ+ Americans – are excluded from the Constitution.

"People had stopped working on it in 1982 because there was an illegal deadline that was placed in the preamble of the amendment, and people thought that that meant that the whole thing was dead," she

said. "Well, it wasn't dead. It was part of the gaslighting that went on around the whole issue. So, when I picked this back up, I decided to go back into the unratified states and try and explain to women and LGBTQ people what getting these last three states would mean – that we would win this 100-year war."

Lopez said that, when the organization was able to achieve the ratification from the last three states, the President of the United States was then able to call the U.S. archivist and ask for publication. She said that's all that's necessary, and it would be the law of the land.

"But unfortunately, Donald Trump was president at the time, and he did not want women to be equal and he did not want gay people to be included, either. He blocked the amendment from being published, and that's something that has never, ever happened in the history of the United States – that a duly ratified amendment was blocked from publication," Lopez said.

Biden has not taken up the issue since becoming president.

"We've been told that he's not willing to extend the political capital to do so, because he doesn't think people know about it, which unfortunately is the case," Lopez said. "Over 85% of Americans believe women are already in the Constitution and already equal."

So, Lopez has made it her prerogative to inform the public. She hopes that, with less than three months left in Biden's tenure, he

feel it's our obligation to help in any way we can."

The Holiday Kids Pajama Drive will run throughout November until the first or second week of December, Cascone said. In addition to pajamas, people are encouraged to donate warm blankets, children's slippers, robes, story books and toothbrush sets. The donations must be new and unwrapped. Customers who donate items valued at \$10 or more will receive a complimentary pound of ground beef or homemade sausages from Huntington Meats, or a dozen fresh eggs from Farmers Market Poultry.

"Our goal is to try make nights a little comfier for those kids that may be experiencing homelessness or are members of a family that just doesn't have the means to purchase their little ones new pajamas," Huntington Meats' head butcher Jon Escobedo said. "We want to do our part to make sure that kids in need across Los Angeles have new pajamas to snuggle in this holiday season."

Huntington Meats is located at Stall 350 and Farmers Market Poultry is located at Stall 216 at the Original Farmers Market, 6333 W. Third St. For information, visit huntingtonmeats.com.

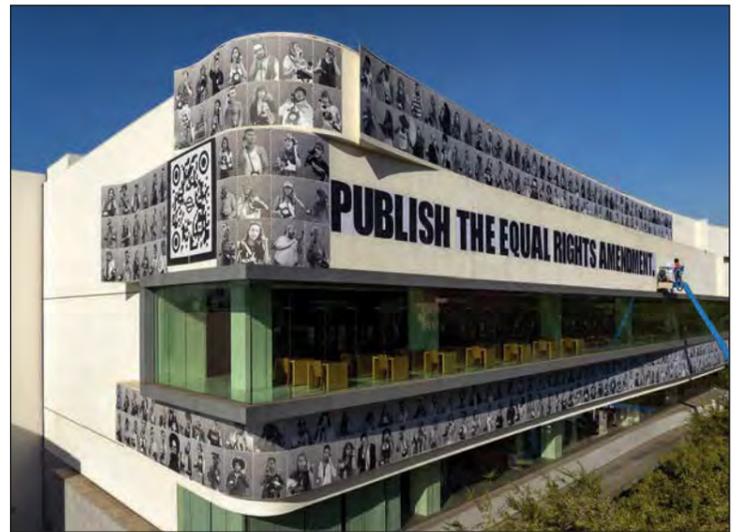


photo by Jon Viscott

The ERA art piece at West Hollywood Library supports equal rights for women and LGBTQ+ people.

will make the call to have the amendment published.

"He will have cemented a legacy that's the equivalent of President Lincoln's if he does this," she said.

She added that the ERA restores women's bodily autonomy "on the basis of equality, as opposed to privacy." She speculated that some lawmakers in Washington, D.C. may also be hesitant to publish because "the United States government gains \$1.7 trillion a year by underpaying women."

Lopez credited West Hollywood with being a long partner in the fight for the ERA.

"The new art installation is impressive as well as impactful," Councilwoman Lauren Meister said. "It's time for equal to mean equal for all of us."

"I've been involved in the fight to publish the Equal Rights

Amendment for many years now, and I'm glad to see West Hollywood standing proudly to help educate others about the ongoing fight for equality in this country," Mayor John Erickson said. "[The installation] was an item I initiated, and I'm glad to see our iconic library wrapped in the images of so many people asking President Biden to pick up the phone and call the archivist of the United States and tell her to publish the ERA."

Lopez said that people who want to tell the White House they are ready for the ERA to be published can call (202)456-1111 or text (302)404-0880.

"If we only got 100 people a day, that would freak them out completely," she added.

The West Hollywood Library is located at 625 N. San Vicente Blvd.



photo courtesy of Huntington Meats

Huntington Meats is accepting donations of new children's pajamas during its annual holiday charity drive.

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WeHo casts its annual Carnival spell

■ Halloween event promises to bring 'relief' in tense year

BY RANCE COLLINS

West Hollywood will once again hold its Halloween Carnival, the second time since the pandemic-forced hiatus from the iconic event. Since 1987, West Hollywood has been seen as the epicenter of the holiday for Los Angeles County. Routinely, hundreds of thousands of attendees pour into the city, many visiting specifically for Halloween.

The Carnival is a large-scale operation for West Hollywood, which has a population of 35,000. While thousands descend on the Rainbow District each weekend, Halloween – like the June Pride fes-

tivities – requires a full-court-press of resources and personnel. As such, city staff is stressing the slogan, “If you see something, say something,” and promoting robust community safety practices. To reach out to the West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station, visitors can call (310)855-8850. For non-emergency concerns, Block by Block has its own hotline at (833)934-6222, and people can also text (323)821-8604.

The Carnival will have a DJ stage, food trucks and activations on Santa Monica Boulevard between La Cienega Boulevard and Doheny Drive. Costumes are, of course, encouraged.

“Halloween Carnival will be a fun relief from election tensions – both national and local,” Councilwoman Lauren Meister

said. “I am going as a childless dog lady for Kamala. Follow the paw prints and you shall likely find me.”

Councilman John Heilman echoed that the event provided a reprieve from the world’s stresses.

“I’m always excited about Halloween,” Heilman said. “I love seeing people having a good time. There are so many creative costumes. With so much darkness in the world right now, it’s great to see people come together just to celebrate and have fun.”

Mayor John Erickson said the success of the 2023 Halloween Carnival has set the stage for an even bigger and better event this year.

“I’m excited we’re back for another year of spooktacular fun,” Erickson said. “I want people to know that the city is working around the clock to ensure the event



photo by Jon Viscott

Thousands attended West Hollywood’s 2023 Halloween Carnival.

is safe and fun and if people see anything, they should say something right away to first responders. Please remember to not drink and drive and have a good time out on the boulevard.”

For information on street closures and other details regarding Halloween, visit weho.org/halloween. For text updates, message the word “Halloween” or a jack-o’-lantern emoji to (323)848-5000.



photo courtesy of the 5th District council office

Councilwoman Katy Yaroslavsky hosts the Great Pumpkin Bash in Pan Pacific Park, giving residents a fun way to turn jack-o’-lanterns into compost.

Great Pumpkin Bash returns to Pan Pacific Park

The city of Los Angeles and Councilwoman Katy Yaroslavsky, 5th District, invite the public to the second annual Great Pumpkin Bash on Sunday, Nov. 3, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. in Pan Pacific Park.

The family-friendly event enables residents to turn Halloween pumpkins into compost. The event includes a Dodgers Strike Zone, Smash Patch, food, face-painting, bounce houses and family activities. Workshops will be held by the Natural History Museum, Melrose Trading Post

and Homeboy Industries. Bring pumpkins and come ready to smash, pitch and compost while having fun.

Every year, an estimated 1.3 billion pounds of pumpkins end up in landfills, contributing to methane emissions and environmental waste. The annual Great Pumpkin Bash is an environmentally safe way to recycle Halloween jack-o’-lanterns.

The pumpkins are turned into compost by LASAN Organics, which uses it as groundcover in Griffith Park. Mulch created

from compost is also available free to L.A. city residents. For information, visit sanitation.lacounty.gov.

Pan Pacific Park is located at 7600 Beverly Blvd. For information and to register, visit eventbrite.com/e/the-2nd-annual-great-pumpkin-bash-tickets-1042225643957?aff=ebdsshcopyurl&utm-source=cp&utm-term=listing&utm-campaign=social&utm-medium=discovery&utm-content=attendeeshare.

BH seniors celebrate Halloween

Beverly Hills Mayor Lester Friedman and Vice Mayor Nazarian stopped by the Senior Halloween Dance at Roxbury Park Community Center on Monday, Oct. 28. Over 200 seniors attended the event hosted by the Beverly

Hills Active Adult Club, which creates social opportunities for seniors and fosters community engagement. Halloween costumes from spooky to classic characters made the event a spooktacular celebration.



photo courtesy of the city of Beverly Hills

Beverly Hills Mayor Lester Friedman, left, Ruth Towns, Richard Weiss, Vice Mayor Sharona Nazarian, Jan Comsky and Phil Seelig celebrated Halloween at the Roxbury Park Community Center on Oct. 28.

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To the dads who never die

I hail from that generation of chain smokers who, as John Cheever put it: "Woke the world in the morning with their coughing."

I can still hear my father coughing himself awake. Never worked out, not once. He'd get breathless from climbing aboard a bar stool and ordering a Gibson.

But my dad was a cheery man, with the ruddy complexion to match. Your English teacher would've called him "sanguine."

Indeed, like me, he was a person of color. We'd start the day pale as



by
Chris
Erskine

a June moon, then gradually take on color as the day went along. You could tell Dad's mood by the level of Irish rouge in his cheeks. We both blushed like maple trees.

From him I learned to tie a fish-hook, bet the underdog, throw a tight spiral, burn the ribs.

He did interesting work, far more challenging and lucrative than mine. He and his CBS colleagues helped birth the NFL, with instant replay and in-your-face camera shots. They were the Steven Spielbergs of Norelco zoom cameras, calling the shots in cold production trucks in the bowels of old, rusty stadiums: Detroit, Chicago, Pittsburgh, Cleveland.

When they were assigned to a Rams game in December, they said a little prayer of gratitude.

They all flew first class and wore expensive overcoats and cheap snow-proof shoes, probably from Sears. On the night before the game, they staged lavish expense-account feasts with the TV booth "talent": Unitas, Hornung, Starr, Butkus, Madden, Summerall.

It was an industry based on medium-rare steaks and chilled

vermouth. They were "Mad Men" to the tenth power. They were Cheever.

It's amazing anyone made it to the booth or production truck the next morning, or that their marriages survived. Alpha announcers ruled the day: Ray Scott, Frank Gifford, Jack Buck. Buck was fighter-pilot funny. Dad also really liked John Madden. At Christmas, Madden would send him a nice scarf.

I wanted to follow in his footsteps but they proved a little too big for me. His job required a steady brain, cat-like reflexes and on-the-record decisions seen by millions of TV viewers and the CBS suits in New York (angry middle-aged men bored with office duties after being at war in some country they couldn't pronounce).

Indeed, the high-pressure stakes of that world would've made me loopy. Dad, on the other hand, slurped it up like soup.

When you have a job that consumes you, there isn't much room for anything else. He liked to fish a little, didn't give a woot if he caught much.

He also love/hated golf. To this day, nobody can hurl a 3-iron like he could.

In spring, he would garden, a strange hobby for a guy like him. He preferred people to sweet peas, a good story to almost anything else. But like me, he needed a moment. So, there he'd be, sweating and planting onions on a cloudy, 50-degree April day.

Dad loved to travel. Mom didn't. In that little tidbit of dueling temperaments, you could decipher



photo courtesy of Chris Erskine

My dad loved to fish, though never cared if he caught much.



photo by Chris Erskine

This season is suited to fathers – the pumpkin carvers, the sweaters, the funny slippers, the hugs, the chili, the fellowship.

their marriage. She felt safe and happy in the suburbs. He felt lonely and bored, a city boy in need of a midnight taxi home.

Three decades ago, Dad died. I wish he'd had a chance to know his grandkids a little more, or meet these two fresh-faced great grandkids in their Halloween garb. Dear shuddering God...

In fact, he was born on Halloween, when strangers go door to door asking for free stuff.

Now, you have to understand, free handouts went against everything my dad's generation believed in. Yet, he loved this holiday – the door bells, the smiles, the crowds, the laughter.

Because his birthday was Halloween, there was never time for a cake, because everyone was off trick-or-treating. He never

complained. Back then, dads never complained. They'd all been to war, remember – a terrible war they'd won. What were they going to do, bellow about some stupid little suburban party?

Yet, "I who have died am alive again today," said a poet of this time of year, when the curtain between life and death flutters in the breeze and departed souls seize the moment.

In fact, I think all the dads are alive this season, if only in the old photos, in our memory banks, in our hearts. This is a season suited to fathers – the sweaters, the funny slippers, the hugs, the chili, the cheery fellowship.

So happy birthday, Pops. Miss you madly ... your laughter, your stories.

Your morning cough.

Beverly Hills celebrates 'Rodeo Nights, Holiday Lights' on Nov. 14

The Rodeo Drive Committee, in collaboration with the city of Beverly Hills announced a dazzling and curated holiday theme "Rodeo Nights, Holiday Lights" as part of its annual Rodeo Drive Holiday Lighting Celebration, on Thursday, Nov. 14. The event is free and open to the public from 5-8 p.m.

As a favorite holiday tradition, thousands are expected to gather on the iconic palm tree-dotted Rodeo Drive to celebrate the beginning of the holiday season in style. Prepare to be enchanted by an unforgettable evening of luminous décor and

exquisite entertainment. The street will come alive with musical guests, candy cane street sweepers, nutcracker stunts, roller skating performers and more festive surprises.

"The holiday season is truly one of the most memorable times of the year. We can all come together as family, friends and neighbors to celebrate a little happiness during a time when we need a little light in our lives as we see some of the darkest events occurring throughout our world," Beverly Hills Mayor Lester Friedman said. "We look forward to bringing back some holiday

cheer to our city streets with exciting performances, magical holiday lights and of course, the fireworks grand finale."

"The Rodeo Drive Holiday Lighting Celebration, 'Rodeo Nights, Holiday Lights,' is an iconic event that embodies the glamour and allure of Rodeo Drive," Rodeo Drive Committee President Kay Monica Rose said.

The mainstage at Brighton Way and Rodeo Drive will feature emcee CoryLive and DJ Lady Sha providing a dynamic music set in-between performances by world-class entertainers. Guests can indulge in an array of delicious dishes and two wine gardens from local favorite 208 Rodeo.

Visit beverlyhills.org/holidaysbh.



photo courtesy of the city of Beverly Hills

The Rodeo Drive Committee and the city of Beverly Hills will celebrate the start of the holiday season with a lighting show on Nov. 14.

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BRIAN COLLIER BAND 12:30-2:15pm
ANISHA BRADY 2:30-4:15pm

NOVEMBER 10, 2024

INTERMISSION Yoga + Soundbath 11:00-11:30 am

SITARA SON 12:30-2:15pm
BECCA KRAFT 2:30-4:15pm

Letters to the Editor

Residents remain vocal about Fountain Avenue redesign

Re "Protesters demand WeHo change Fountain redesign," Oct. 24 issue

The article in last week's Beverly Press describing a protest against the current draft of the Fountain Avenue Streetscape Plan quoted several statements that reveal either an ignorance of information already released by West Hollywood or an unwillingness to await the forthcoming detailed plans before speculating on their proposals.

Opponents frequently cite concerns about emergency responses and claim that the city never consulted the fire department, despite staff having informed the City Council and Public Safety Commission that such consultations had indeed taken place. The fire department advised the city to come back to them when detailed plans are finalized. The battalion chief confirmed these consultations to the Public Safety Commission. It is likely that the [Los Angeles County Fire Department, which serves West Hollywood] will respond in the same way as the Los Angeles Fire Department, which services all of Fountain Avenue east

of Sycamore Avenue, most of which is a single lane in each direction and is congested at rush hour.

On the issue of street parking, staff informed the City Council that there would be a loss of 150 spaces on Fountain Avenue, or 45% of the total. However, 40% of the spaces are currently unused during the day and overnight, as described on the city's engagewho/fountain webpage, so the net loss will be small (about 5%). Although commuter traffic will have to shift away from Fountain Avenue, a residential street, a traffic study done by the city in 2022 predicted only a 5-15% increase in traffic on Santa Monica and Sunset boulevards. In a letter to the editor in the same issue, it was claimed that 56% of parking will be lost on Gardner Street. The staff report to the City Council from December of last year made clear that this initial proposal only referred to the two blocks north of Lexington Avenue, whereas the value was actually 33% for marked parking spaces along Gardner Street as a whole.

The city has stated that additional analysis is occurring, and it seems highly likely that the reduction in spaces can be greatly reduced. Likewise, the detailed plans for Fountain Avenue are yet to be released, so it is premature to speculate on issues like where the west-

bound bike lane will end and connect south to Santa Monica Boulevard – which for safety reasons should be east of La Cienega Boulevard – or routine technical issues such as where garbage and recycling containers will be picked up. Hopefully, discussion of these projects will become more fact-based following the frenzy of the current political campaign.

*Kevin Burton
West Hollywood*

[West Hollywood] Vice Mayor Byers makes statements in this article that contradict statements she has made at the dais. Her No. 1 goal is to "inconvenience drivers" as her main objective when it comes to mobility. She works against the idea of safety for all. If safety is a priority as Erickson, Hang and Byers promote, why aren't the ADA non-compliant sidewalks the first priority as well as having a larger sheriff's department that can enforce the speed and under the influence drivers. An actual designated left turn lane would facilitate less accidents.

The last thing that I wish to see is adding cyclists to the mix until they can resolve how bike lanes are truly protected pathways when automobiles intersect those paths due to

driveways in a residential neighborhood. How does this present a zero-accident set up? As Councilmembers Heilman and Meister point out, the special interest group Streets For All has pushed hard for bike lanes to be implemented.

Nobody is against mobility safety, but it shouldn't come at the cost of others being forgotten. One cause is the need for emergency vehicles not having any seat at the early stages of development. Erickson, Shyne and Byers have also made our sidewalks unsafe for the most important mobility ... allowing e-scooters and delivery robots to ride on our streets without proper infrastructure in place. Streets for All should start realizing that safety for all mobility should happen before any more obstacles are added to streets, and not to politicize bike lanes as a solution that will stop accidents and calm traffic.

*David Eckert
West Hollywood*

If [West Hollywood Mayor] John Erickson opened his ears and listened, he'd probably learn that there are a great number of people for whom the Fountain Avenue project has nothing to do with the

things he dismisses as the motive for opposition to bike lanes on that street.

John Erickson's arrogance will not allow him to listen and learn, especially with corporate players, developers, big law firms and an intransigent labor union spending hundreds of thousands of dollars owning him and his votes on council. Fascinating to watch them do their masters' bidding.

*Alan M. Strasburg
West Hollywood*

Thank you for story on Harry Corre in annual magazine

Re "The WWII Hero of Hancock Park: Veteran Harry Corre looks back," "Our People, Our Places," Sept. 26, 2024

I have enormous gratitude to you and admiration for your interviewing and writing skills.

Thank you for bringing to the community's attention to the incredible story of Harry Corre, now 101 years young.

*Linda Gach Ray
Beverly Hills*



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

DATE: Thursday, November 14, 2024

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

LOCATION: Meeting will be held in person at:
Commission Meeting Room 280A
Beverly Hills City Hall
455 North Roxbury Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90210



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

PROJECT

ADDRESS: 450 North Roxbury Drive (Cross Street: South Santa Monica Boulevard)

The Planning Commission of the City of Beverly Hills, at its REGULAR meeting on Thursday, November 14, 2024, will hold a public hearing beginning at 1:30 PM, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard to consider the following:

General Plan Amendment, Zone Text Amendment, and Development Plan Review. A request for a General Plan Amendment (GPA) and Zone Text Amendment (ZTA) to amend the City's land use map and Beverly Hills Municipal Code (BHMC) Section 10-3-2745 and allow for properties within the Business Triangle an increase in the maximum floor area ratio (FAR) as a result of the conversion of the ground level of an existing parking structure abutting a public street to retail business(es), up to a depth of 70 feet from the front property line, subject to the approval of a Development Plan Review pursuant to BHMC Section 10-3-3100. As part of the project, the applicant proposes to convert existing parking spaces located on the ground floor of an existing parking structure at **450 North Roxbury Boulevard** to retail uses.

This project has been assessed in accordance with the authority and criteria contained in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA, Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq.), the State CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Sections 15000 et seq.), and the environmental regulations of the City. An Initial Study and Negative Declaration has been prepared to evaluate the potential environmental effects that could result from the construction and operation of the Project. The analysis concludes that the project would not result in any significant environmental impacts and that no mitigation is necessary. The Planning Commission will consider adopting the Initial Study and Negative Dec-

laration for the Project. The Planning Commission will also consider forwarding a recommendation to the City Council regarding the General Plan Amendment and Zone Text Amendment, and will consider the Development Plan Review proposal.

How to Participate

In the interest of maintaining appropriate social distancing, members of the public can participate in, watch or listen to the commission meetings through the following methods:

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

It is recommended that written public comments be submitted to the Planning Commission Recording Secretary by 11:30 AM on the meeting date. Public comments will also be taken during the meeting when the topic is being reviewed by the Planning Commission. Written comments should identify the Agenda Item number or topic in the subject line of the email. In order to be read at the meeting, written comments will be allowed with a maximum of 350 words, which corresponds to approximately three (3) minutes of speaking time.

If a comment is received after the agenda item is heard, it will not be a part of the record. Any written comments received by end of the day on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, will be attached to the agenda report regarding this item. Any comments received after Tuesday, November 5, 2024, but prior the public hearing, will be distributed to the Commission under separate cover. According to Government Code Section 65009, if you challenge the City's action in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City, either at or prior to the public hearing. Please note that any comments received prior to or during the public hearing will be considered as part of the public record.

If there are any questions regarding this notice, please contact **Minjee Hahm, AICP, Associate Planner** in the Planning Division at **(310) 285-1136**, or by email at mhahm@beverlyhills.org. Copies of the associated application materials are on file in the Community Development Department, and can be reviewed by contacting the project planner listed above.

Minjee Hahm, AICP
Associate Planner



Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Beverly Hills will make reasonable efforts to accommodate persons with disabilities. If you require special assistance, please call (310) 285-1126 (voice) or (310) 285-6881 (TTY). Providing at least forty-eight (48) hours advance notice will help to ensure availability of services. City Hall, including the Council Chamber and Room 280A, is wheelchair accessible. The City Hall Council Chamber and Room 280A are also equipped with audio equipment for the hearing impaired.

RESTAURANT NEWS

New menu debuts at Kendall's

Kendall's Brasserie at The Music Center debuted an entirely new menu on Oct. 25, featuring elevated takes on Parisian dining. Chef Johnny Sanchez (Water Grill, Napa Rosé) recently joined the team as Kendall's executive chef. The offerings remain true to the restaurant's storied past, with a modern perspective. Inspired by French-influenced California cuisine, Sanchez wanted to showcase the region's high-quality, locally sourced ingredients. Employing a seasonal approach, Kendall's aims to highlight the best of Southern California's produce while staying true to classic French techniques. From seared ahi carpaccio to the classic brick one-half chicken to a unique take on Duck Confit, the menu shines with French standouts. Kendall's Brasserie is located at 135 N. Grand Ave. For information, visit kendalsla.com or call (213)972-7322.

Super Club relaunches at A.O.C.

A.O.C., Los Angeles' pioneering small plates restaurant and a leader in the city's dining scene since 2002, has announced the Lucques Sunday Supper Club at A.O.C., set for Sunday, Nov. 3. "Time and time again our guests have told us how much they miss the Sunday Suppers we used to serve at Lucques," chef Suzanne Goin said. "I have missed them too. I love the immediacy of Sunday Suppers, building a menu around an ingredient that has just this moment come into season or creating a menu that answers the call of a change in weather as the Autumn evenings cool or an Indian Summer extends warm, balmy nights. I love the festive intimacy of friends and family gathered around the table, experiencing the same menu together. We're so thrilled to introduce our beloved Sunday Suppers at A.O.C. this November."

A.O.C. will honor over two decades of amazing menus while spotlighting the best the farmers market has to offer. Goin is creating a seasonal menu from her award-winning cookbook, "Sunday Suppers at Lucques," for the debut of the Sunday Supper Club at A.O.C. In keeping with the tradition, wine director Caroline Styne will select wines from her list to offer as a supplemental pairing. Pricing is \$85 per guest; menu only, exclusive of beverages, taxes and gratuity. Dinner reservations are from 5-8 p.m. and may be secured at [opentable.com/booking/experiences-availability?rid=7348&restref=7348&experienceId=363059](https://www.opentable.com/booking/experiences-availability?rid=7348&restref=7348&experienceId=363059). A.O.C. is located at 8700 W. Third St.

KA'TEEN hosts Dia De Los Muertos dance party

KA'TEEN, the coastal Mexican restaurant in Hollywood will be hosting a special Dia De Los Muertos-themed Jungle Disco Fridays on Nov. 1 starting at 10



photo courtesy of Lady Byrd Café

A vegan burger is among the flavorful options at Lady Byrd Café.

'Byrd' flies in Echo Park

Lady Byrd Café is a charming, neighborhood gem, nestled in the hills of Echo Park. Committed to providing environmentally friendly farm-to-table, fresh, organic ingredients, with a wide variety of options for vegans, meat eaters and those with anyone looking for a delectable and unique dining experience, their selection is sure to impress. Its menu offers a fresh take on American cuisine, utilizing flavors that will undoubtedly please everyone's tastebuds, drawing particular inspiration from French, Italian and Mediterranean cuisines. The owner of the restaurant is entrepreneur and hospitality-aficionado,

Misty Mansouri, who brings over 25 years of impressive experience in the hospitality realm. She has curated a warm, beautiful, outdoor space, including a large, lush garden that's elaborately decorated. Lady Byrd undoubtedly provides a cozy atmosphere that is visually stunning and surely offers comfort to all patrons. Whether on a date or a night out, this is the place for you – little ones and furry friends are welcome as well. Lady Byrd offers breakfast, lunch, aperitivo and dinner, catering to people of all ages. For information, visit ladybyrd-cafe.com or call (323)922-1006. Lady Byes Café is located at 2100 Echo Park Ave.

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p.m. The late-night dinner and dancing series will be the grand finale of the season, with DJ performances curated by Patrik Khac. Guests can savor the holiday specialty, Godorniz en Mole Blanco, paired with the La Llorana cocktail – a delightful fusion of mezcal and hibiscus. For a different experience, try the Mictlan, a tequila cocktail featuring mandarina Oleo saccharum, cempasuchil flower and chile ancho bitters with a touch of agave. KA'TEEN is located at 6516 Selma Ave. For information, visit kateenla.com or call (323)410-6360.

Fall into dining at The Grove

The Grove offers autumn-friendly dining experiences, perfect for cozying up and enjoying a meal with loved ones.

Blue Ribbon Sushi is known for its exceptional sushi and eclectic Japanese dishes, features fresh seafood offerings with a fall twist, like their miso-glazed black cod.

La Piazza offers rustic Italian dishes inclusive of seasonal

favorites like roasted butternut squash ravioli and braised short ribs with fall vegetable.

Straight from Mexico City, Alma is a Los Cabos-inspired restaurant providing culinary experiences to satisfy all senses and features more than 100 mezcals and tequilas on their menu year-round.

Culinary excellence meets Italian charm at the new Sogno Toscano. Visit the café and wine bar to be transported through the enchanting streets of Italy with a curated menu infused with Italian staples and seasonal delights.

For information, visit thegrovela.com/dining. The Grove is located at 189 The Grove Drive.

New sandwiches unveiled at HauteMess

Haute Mess is excited to unveil two new signature sandwiches that are sure to become instant favorites. Whether you're craving rich, smokey brisket, or perfectly spiced pastrami, these new signature sandwiches offer a gourmet

twist on beloved classics that are guaranteed to be the season's must-try bites.

The Brisket di Annerita is Texas-style brisket sandwich that brings a touch of southern bar-b-que to Los Angeles, featuring tender, slow-smoked brisket that's been infused with aromatic spices and smothered in tangy, handcrafted barbecue sauce. The richness of the brisket is balanced with a refreshing, house-made creamy coleslaw, while crispy pickled onions add a perfect crunch. Served on a freshly baked artisan bun, this sandwich is elevated for a truly gourmet experience.

And for a savory indulgence, the Pastrami di Fumo smoked pastrami sandwich offers a gourmet spin on a classic deli favorite. The spiced pastrami is complemented by robust country-style mustard and a creamy, house-made coleslaw that adds a luscious balance. Crispy pickled onions top it off with a satisfying crunch, making this sandwich a refined yet hearty option for pastrami lovers. It's all served on house-made artisan bread, showcasing a perfect balance of bold flavors and

See page 14



photo courtesy of Videre LA

Enjoy fall-themed drinks on the rooftop at Videre LA.

Spooky cocktails crafted at Videre

Get into the Halloween spirit with Videre LA Rooftop's exclusive spooky cocktail. The "Nightmare on Wilshire" combines La Luna mezcal with chocolate-infused Campari and white crème de cacao liqueur for a sweet, smoky delight. For a cozy fall vibe, "Shower Fear" offers

mulled spice syrup, Rittenhouse rye and sparkling cider. And for something truly enchanting, try the "Sip of Sandersons" with Bacardi rum, sweet potato liqueur, vanilla and apple. Videre LA is located at 6317 Wilshire Blvd. For information, visit viderela.com or call (323)852-6002.

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From page 13

gourmet craftsmanship. Both sandwiches highlight Haute Mess' commitment to bold flavors and high-quality, in-house made ingredients, perfect for those seeking a more elevated sandwich option. For information, visit hautemess.la or call (323)621-4556. Haute Mess is located at 7673 Beverly Blvd.

Santa Monica gains Luke's Lobster

Luke's Lobster, the family-owned restaurant group and vertically integrated seafood business based in Maine, known for its sustainably sourced crustaceans and ongoing commitment to quality, has opened its first shack in Southern California.

Founded in 2009 by third-generation lobsterman Luke Holden with its first shack in New York City, the certified B Corp restaurant group and seafood company is now making its entry into the Southern California market. The newest shack has a focused menu of acclaimed favorites like Luke's signature lobster, crab and shrimp rolls prepared the Luke's way: wild-caught, chilled seafood in a New England-style, split-top, toasted buttered bun with a swipe of mayo, a drizzle of lemon

butter and a sprinkle of Luke's Secret Seasoning. For guests who can't choose just one, there's a seafood roll flight of three two-ounce half rolls of lobster, crab and shrimp served with chips and a soft drink. Side options include poppyseed slaw, kettle chips and Maine-made soups like New England clam chowder and lobster bisque. There will also be a variety of local craft beers, including locally sourced Crown & Hops and Three Weavers, as well as wine and nonalcoholic beverage options. And for the little ones, or those not in the mood for a lobster roll, there's a kids' menu with options like grilled cheese and hot dogs.

Luke's Lobster is located at 200 Santa Monica Blvd. Santa Monica. The new Santa Monica shack will be open daily from 11 a.m.-9 p.m. For information, visit lukeslobster.com.

Yogurtland rewards voters

In honor of Election Day, Yogurtland is offering a special discount to those who cast their vote. On Tuesday, Nov. 5, customers who show their "I Voted" sticker at participating Yogurtland locations will receive 15% off their in-store purchase as a thank you for making their voices heard.

Available at participating Yogurtland throughout Los Angeles County, this exclusive promotion is available in-store only, and excludes catering, third-party delivery, online orders and gift cards. For information and locations, visit yogurtland.com.

Pets get their own Kreation

Kreation Organic Juicery, known for its commitment to health and wellness, is excited to announce its newest concept, Kreation Pets. Inspired by her beloved poodle, who suffered from digestive issues, allergies and anxiety, founder Marjan has expanded her mission of clean, nutritious food to include our four-legged friends. Challenged by her dog's health trials and the time-consuming task of preparing balanced meals at home, Marjan realized she wasn't alone. Many pet owners were facing the same struggles and had long been asking Kreation to develop a healthier, natural dog food. Kreation Pets was born out of love and a deep belief that pets deserve the same quality of food that their humans enjoy. The first Kreation Pets is now open at 1300 Highland Ave. Manhattan Beach. For information, visit kreationjuice.com/pages/kreation-pets.

TIME hosts Latino Leaders Dinner in Hollywood



photo courtesy of TIME

Comedian George Lopez gave remarks at the dinner recognizing Latino leaders across many industries.

On Sunday, Oct. 27, TIME hosted the Latino Leaders Dinner at Casita Hollywood in Los Angeles to celebrate the individuals recognized on the 2024 TIME Latino Leaders, a list highlighting trailblazing U.S.-based Latino figures who are reshaping their industries and the world.

The event featured appearances and remarks from actor Camila Mendes, actor and comedian George Lopez, Olympic gymnast Hezly Rivera, content creator Tefi Pessoa, actor Nava Mau, co-host of The View and CNN political com-

mentator Ana Navarro, actor Wilson Cruz, author Cristina Rivera Garza, Sundance Film Festival director Eugene Hernandez and global president of Clinique and Origins at Estée Lauder Michelle Freyre. The night also included a special performance from The Marías front-woman María Zardoya, as well as remarks from TIME CEO Jessica Sibley and TIME Editor-in-Chief Sam Jacobs.

TIME Latino Leaders was presented by exclusive partner Nissan. For information, visit time.com.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

HEARING DATE: Thursday, November 14, 2024
TIME: 1:30 PM, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard
LOCATION: Commission Meeting Room 280A
 Beverly Hills City Hall
 455 North Rexford Drive
 Beverly Hills, CA 90210

The Planning Commission of the City of Beverly Hills, at a **REGULAR** meeting on **Thursday, November 14, 2024** will hold a public hearing beginning at **1:30 PM**, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard to consider:

A DRAFT ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS AMENDING SHORT TERM RENTAL REGULATIONS (TRANSIENT USES) FOR SINGLE FAMILY AND MULTIFAMILY RESIDENTIAL ZONES, AND MAKING A DETERMINATION OF EXEMPTION UNDER THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)

The Planning Commission will be discussing potential changes to the short term rental regulations applicable to single-family and multifamily residential zones, which are referred to as single-family and multifamily transient uses in the current Beverly Hills Municipal Code (BHMC). The Planning Commission previously reviewed this topic at the July 11, 2024 and August 8, 2024 study sessions, and directed staff to return with a draft ordinance that includes but is not limited to the following:

- A prohibition on short term rental uses in any residential zone of the City;
- A minimum initial lease term for the rental of both single-family and multi-family units in the City; and
- Changes to other sections of the BHMC related to short term rentals, such as a penalty fee structure specific to short term rentals.

Staff recommends that the Planning Commission adopt a resolution recommending the draft ordinance to the City Council for adoption.

Environmental Review

This project has been assessed in accordance with the authority and criteria contained in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the State CEQA Guidelines, and the environmental regulations of the City. Since the project does not authorize construction, and actually imposes greater use restrictions on certain properties to protect the public health, safety and

general welfare, there is no possibility that it may have a significant effect on the environment. In addition, the project reflects minor changes in land use limitations, and do not result in changes to land use or density. Accordingly, staff anticipates that the Planning Commission would consider a recommendation to find the project categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to Sections 15061(b)(3) and 15305 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations.

How to Participate

In the interest of maintaining appropriate social distancing, members of the public can participate in, watch or listen to the commission meetings through the following methods:

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

It is recommended that written public comments be submitted to the Planning Commission Recording Secretary by 11:30 AM on the meeting date. Public comments will also be taken during the meeting when the topic is being reviewed by the Planning Commission. Written comments should identify the Agenda Item number or topic in the subject line of the email. In order to be read at the meeting, written comments will be allowed with a maximum of 350 words, which corresponds to approximately three (3) minutes of speaking time.

If a comment is received after the agenda item is heard, it will not be a part of the record. Any written comments received by end of the day on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, will be attached to the agenda report regarding this item. Any comments received after Tuesday, November 5, 2024, but prior to the public hearing, will be distributed to the Commission under separate cover. According to Government Code Section 65009, if you challenge the City's action in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City, either at or prior to the public hearing. Please note that any comments received prior to or during the public hearing will be considered as part of the public record.

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

Chloe Chen, Senior Planner



Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the City of Beverly Hills will make reasonable efforts to accommodate persons with disabilities. If you require special assistance, please contact (310) 285-1126 (voice) or (310) 285-6881 (TTY) prior to the meeting for assistance. Providing at least forty-eight (48) hours advance notice will help to ensure availability of services. City Hall, including the Council Chamber and Room 280A, is wheelchair accessible. The City Hall Council Chamber and Room 280A are also equipped with audio equipment for the hearing impaired.

'FOOD' extravaganza races into Santa Anita

Los Angeles Magazine is delighted to announce the 18th annual L.A. Magazine The FOOD Event, an epicurean extravaganza set in the iconic Santa Anita Racetrack Club House at Santa Anita Park on Sunday, Nov. 3, from 1-4 p.m. This annual culinary and beverage festival has become a much-anticipated tradition in Los Angeles, featuring a delectable array of samplings from some of the city's finest restaurants, along with select wines, spirits and cocktail tastings, craft beer and live music.

The FOOD Event 2024 promises an unparalleled culinary adventure, with a lineup of participating chefs and restaurants that represent the diverse and vibrant Los Angeles culinary scene including Agnes Restaurant & Cheesery, Al Dente Pasta Shop, Arth Bar + Kitchen, Chef Luigi Fineo, City Club LA, Emporium Thai, Engine Co. No. 28, GiGi's Palm Springs,

Harold & Belle's, L'Antica Pizzeria da Michele, Mi Piace, Pez Coastal Kitchen, Rabano, Santa Anita Park, Telefèric Barcelona and Wife and the Somm.

Desserts include Bertha Mae's Brownie Co., Lark Cake Shop, Malibu Meringue, Santai Coffee, Marsatta Chocolate and Nothing Bundt Cakes.

To complement the delectable cuisine, the event will also showcase an impressive selection of wines from renowned wineries, including Adobe Road Winery (Petaluma), Alta Colina Vineyard & Winery (Paso Robles), Moraga Winery (Bel Air Estate), New Zealand Wine Navigator (New Zealand), Opolo Vineyards (Paso Robles), OrganicWines.com (Van Nuys), Thacher Winery and Vineyard (Paso Robles) and WinesofArmenia.com (Van Nuys).

L.A. Magazine is also partnering with & Ani, BMW, Mountain Valley Spring Water, Mezcal 33, Caffè Luxxe, Cali Distillery, Golden Eagle Vodka, Institute of Culinary Education (ICE), Knox & Dobson, Milagro Tequila, Mission Craft Cocktails, Dulce Vida Tequila, Empress 1908 Gin, and Suntory, along with non-profit partner L.A. Works, whose contributions make this epic culinary and beverage celebration possible.

Don't miss this opportunity to savor the finest flavors and indulge in the most delectable offerings that Los Angeles has to offer by celebrating at L.A. Magazine's The FOOD Event 2024 for an unforgettable culinary and beverage journey in the iconic Racetrack Club House at Santa Anita Park.

This is a 21+ event. For information and to get tickets, visit lamag.com/thefoodevent2024.



photo courtesy of Los Angeles Magazine

For the 18th time, L.A. Magazine is bringing the best of the Los Angeles culinary scene to Santa Anita Park.

Napa Valley partnership elevates LA Prime

LA Prime, the renowned restaurant located at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel and Suites, has announced and officially launched a unique collaboration with Flowers Vineyards & Winery from the Sonoma Coast and Faust Winery from Napa Valley. The partnership, available

now through December at LA Prime, promises an exceptional dining experience that highlights the artistry of both food and wine.

Chef Wilson McFarlin leads the culinary efforts at Flowers Vineyards & Winery, bringing a fresh, local approach to his dishes.

He joined Flowers in 2022 after working at top Napa Valley restaurants and as a private chef in Sonoma. Wilson partners with local farms to create seasonal menus and lives in Petaluma with his wife and two daughters.

Westin Bonaventure executive chef Andreas Nieto and chef de cuisine Anh Do will team up with Wilson to curate an exquisite menu that beautifully pairs with elegant wines from Flowers and Faust wineries. Guests can expect a culinary journey that showcases the freshest local ingredients and the sophisticated flavors of California's finest vineyards.

"We are thrilled to join forces with Flowers and Faust wineries," Nieto said. "This collaboration allows us to elevate our dining offerings and present our guests with a truly unforgettable experience that celebrates the best of California's culinary and wine heritage."

Wednesday-Sunday through December, LA Prime will feature a multi-course menu, expertly crafted to complement the exceptional wines from both Flowers and Faust. Each dish will reflect the dedication and passion of the chefs, ensuring an exquisite balance of flavors that highlights the nuances of the wines.

Dishes from Wilson include tombo hamachi with avocado puree, stone fruit relish with espelette pepper, paired with Flowers rosé, Sonoma Coast, and seared ora king salmon, lacinato kale, maitake mushrooms and

romesco sauce, paired with Flowers pinot noir, Sonoma Coast.

Andreas and Anh present a 16-ounce bone-in prime short rib, port butter sauce and root vegetable puree, paired with Faust cabernet sauvignon, Napa Valley, and 10-ounce bone-in prime filet mignon, grilled king oyster mushroom and fava bean puree, paired with Faust The Pact, Napa Valley.

Reservations are recommended. Guests can book their spot by calling (213)612-4743 or visiting laprimesteakhouse.com. LA Prime is located at 404 S. Figueroa St.



photo courtesy of LA Prime

LA Prime offers sweeping views of Los Angeles.

LACMA, Getty named top museums

For The Washington Post's annual museums issue, Los Angeles County Museum of Art and Getty Center/Getty Villa made the list for the top 20 best museums in America. The list is curated by The Post's art critics Philip Kennicott and Sebastian Smee, who rank their favorite museums based on their collections, exhibitions and history of public engagement.

"[The Getty Center and Getty Villa] has a significant collection of European art and, at its satellite museum, the Getty Villa, an important collection of antiquities," Kennicott wrote.

"With some 150,000 objects surveying 6,000 years of human history, its collection has been as influential on the artists of Los Angeles as those of the Museum of Modern Art and the Metropolitan Museum of Art have been on the work of artists in New York," he wrote.

The Getty Center is located at 1200 Getty Center Drive. The Getty Villa is located 17985 Pacific Coast Highway. For information, visit getty.edu. LACMA is located at 5905 Wilshire Blvd. For information, visit lacma.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 Oct. 20 and Oct. 26. 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

Oct. 20

A vandalism incident was reported in the 300 block of S. Camden at 8:38 p.m.

At 12:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 100 block of S. Spalding.

Oct. 21

At 2:09 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 100 block of N. Elm.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 9300 block of Burton at 9:26 a.m.

At 10:27 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 9000 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 200 block of Wetherly at 1:05 p.m.

At 5 p.m., a vandalism incident was reported in the 9700 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 9400 block of Olympic at 7:28 p.m.

At 9:40 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 9400 block of Olympic.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 200 block of S. Hamilton at 10:43 p.m.

Oct. 22

At 3 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 200 block of S. Bedford.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 200 block of N. Rodeo at 11 a.m.

At 4:01 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 9500 block of Wilshire.

Oct. 23

At 6:22 a.m., a vandalism incident was reported near Wilshire and Cañon.

An unknown suspect committed a vehicle burglary in the 600 block of N. Alta at 11:48 a.m.

At noon, an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 400 block of N. Rexford.

Oct. 24

A vandalism incident was reported in the 200 block of N. Rexford at 6:30 a.m.

At 10:45 a.m., a vandalism incident was reported in the 400 block of N. Doheny.

A vandalism incident was reported in the 8400 block of Gregory at 10 p.m.

Oct. 25

At 4:10 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 200 block of N. Crescent.

Norton at 2:10 a.m.

At 3:44 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8900 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 7300 block of Santa Monica at 5:37 p.m.

Oct. 25

At 12:15 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 900 block of N. Sierra Bonita.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 8600 block of Santa Monica at 3 p.m.

At 10:15 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 7600 block of Fountain.

Oct. 26

At 3:40 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8500 block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 7000 block of Santa Monica at 8:45 p.m.

Los Angeles Police Department

Oct. 20

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 500 block of S. Curson at 1:50 a.m.

At 1:55 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1600 block of N. Las Palmas. A second theft was reported in the same area at 2:21 a.m.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 6300 block of Yucca at 5:05 a.m.

At 8:10 a.m., an unknown suspect pickpocketed a victim in the 6300 block of Selma.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 7400 block of Oakwood at 10 a.m.

At 12:45 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 1500 block of N. Wilcox.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 100 block of The Grove at 1 p.m.

At 3 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 7200 block of Franklin.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 6900 block of Hawthorn at 5:25 p.m.

At 5:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 400 block of S. La Brea.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 400 block of S. Hamel at 6 p.m.

At 6 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6100 block of Hollywood.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 400 block of S. Burnside at 6 p.m.

At 8 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1400 block of N. Poinsettia.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1600 block of Vine at 8:02 p.m.

At 8:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 6800 block of Hollywood.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1400 block of N. La Brea at 9 p.m.

At 9:45 p.m., an unknown suspect

stole a vehicle parked in the 700 block of S. Mansfield.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 600 block of S. Detroit at 10:25 p.m.

At 11 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near Gower and Franklin.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6600 block of Santa Monica at 11:12 p.m.

Oct. 21

At 6:45 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 500 block of S. Genesee.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 100 block of N. La Brea at 2:06 p.m.

At 3 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5500 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 6500 block of Selma at 4 p.m.

At 5:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 100 block of S. Doheny.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8400 block of Beverly at 8:36 p.m.

At 9:01 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5900 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 6500 block of Melrose at 9:30 p.m.

At 10 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near Santa Monica and Van Ness.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6600 block of Santa Monica at 10:38 p.m.

Oct. 22

At 2 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 5600 block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 400 block of S. Norton at 3:25 a.m.

At 6:25 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1000 block of Cole.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 400 block of S. Gramercy at 6:38 a.m.

At 5 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near Melrose and Croft.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 7900 block of Melrose at 6 p.m.

At 6 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 100 block of The Grove.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1000 block of S. Hayworth at 9:30 p.m.

At 10:30 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1600 block of Vine.

Oct. 23

At 1 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked near la Brea and Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 5100 block of Clinton at 9:40 a.m.

At 11 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1700 block of Orchid.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 8000 block of

Oakwood at 1 p.m.

At 4 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1200 block of N. Beachwood.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 400 block of S. Detroit at 4:49 p.m.

At 7 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 400 block of S. Burnside.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 1000 block of Cole at 8:15 p.m.

At 10:30 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 800 block of N. Sycamore.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 600 block of S. Dunsmuir at 11:30 p.m.

Oct. 24

At 8:47 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 400 block of S. La Brea

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 400 block of S. La Brea at 2:45 p.m.

At 8:45 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 5700 block of La Mirada.

Oct. 25

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 600 block of N. Highland at 11:15 a.m.

NOTICE OF TEMPORARY HOSPITAL CLOSURE

Effective January 1, 2025

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

The three nearest facilities offering comparable services are as follows:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

This notice is provided in compliance with California law.

Festive frights for foolish mortals

Ghostly greetings my ghouls and goblins. On this most sinister night, I imagine you might crave a festive visual treat to accompany your sweet, sweet loot. Rest assured I did the research.

To prepare for this waning crescent moon, I viewed more than 20 new films, sampled more than 10 others and entirely avoided "Terrifier 3" for my own sanity's sake. From a pumpkin out for revenge in "Carved" to a pro-wrestler fighting home invaders in "Here for Blood," I can say with certainty nothing about this year's horror quite makes sense.

Some of the highs confuse me. Why did "Late Night with the Devil" receive more praise than any other horror flick this year? It's fun, but that ending is cheap. And for a found-footage flick, it doesn't have the courage to follow its themes through.

That isn't a criticism anyone can levy at body-horror film "The Substance," in which Demi Moore and Margaret Qualley bare all before things turn grotesque to hilarious excess. It's another critical

darling, though that runtime is trying after a while. Side note, you might never look at shrimp the same way again.

Perhaps the real heroes are all the low-fi entrees, well-written stories with modest budgets like the French creepy-crawly "Infested" about spiders that terrorize an apartment complex. The leader of that pack has the worst film title: "Daddy's Head." In this Shudder original, a boy's grief is compounded by a spider-like creature with, well, daddy's head that tries to lure him into the woods. It's unsettling and jolting while it delves into the pain of losing a loved one.

Then there's "Monolith," a horror mystery that builds to a tense, ambiguous conclusion. Meanwhile, "New Life," one of the highest-reviewed horror films of the year, is a bit too modest as it explores a strain that quickly turns folks zombie-adjacent. Well, the very few who grace the screen.

Several ultra lo-fi films earned high praise, but they frankly aren't worth more than a single view (if that). "Stopmotion" features a stop-

ON SCREEN

WITH
TIM POSADA

motion animator who starts incorporating more than clay into her figures, who in turn become a bit more than lifeless objects. It's fun, brutal at points, but hardly incredible.

Austrian historical film "The Devil's Bath" is a rough ride. The primary theme is important (a woman's limited role in society), but it explores it in a draining, excruciating way, first with trauma then a slow build and then more trauma.

And then comes "Longlegs," marketed as a serial killer film. That's partly true, but it gets much weirder. Thank Nick Cage for his most unhinged performance in some time. It's an ostracizing experience, but props to Cage for going all in.

Horror allows folks like Cage to try something new, and a few of the year's releases tried out some unique tricks. Dystopian religious thriller "Azrael" doesn't include a single word in English as it features a community whose vocal cords were removed.

Set 45,000 years ago, "Out of Darkness" features a group surviving in a new land against an unknown predator entirely speaking a language created specifically for this film. And "In a Violent Nature" features a slasher film almost entirely from the killer's point of view. It's a clever idea, but the film's added desire to portray some of the most disturbing gore makes the experiment feel less meta and more like just another gore endeavor or trying to outdo the competition.

Once upon a time, the "V/H/S" franchise felt original, but a seventh installment, "V/H/S/Beyond," can no longer claim that status. Still, a few of the short films included are



photo courtesy of 20th Century Studios

"The First Omen" is a top choice for thrills and chills this Halloween.

quite enjoyable, especially the first one, "Abduction/Adduction."

Other films follow suit. "Cuckoo" sports some decent scares and a fun reveal, but it won't win any awards, while mystery horror "Caddo Lake" sets grand sights and then flutters in the final 15 minutes. As for M. Night Shyamalan's "Trap," Josh Hartnett as a serial killer in an elaborate trap, it has some of the most laughably bad acting, but I can't call it a complete waste.

Some other OK options include "Smile 2," "MaXXXine," "Speak No Evil" and "Immaculate," if you can look past Sydney Sweeney's acting in that one. But the real winners of the season premiered some time ago. First, "Strange Darling" subverts the final girl trope in a story told in various chapters out of order. The suspense, the brief moments of brutality and that ending all tie things together quite nicely.

As I noted two weeks ago, "I Saw the TV Glow" is a remarkable film, both beautiful and horrifying in its remarkable analogy about gender dysmorphia. But it's not exactly a horror film, just a solid film. That's also the issue with "Alien: Romulus." It's a fabulous "Alien" entry, the third best actually, but it's equal parts sci-fi and horror.

The true winner of the season might shock you, but I stand by it. "The First Omen" shouldn't be the best. It's a prequel to a franchise with little cultural footprint. Yet it works on so many levels. Shocking, violent, jolting, plot structure and performances all work so well. It stands on its own while paying homage to films dating back to the late 1970s. This is the best choice for Halloween, the most pure viewing experience you can ask for tonight. Enjoy, fellow monsters.



photo courtesy of Mubi

"The Substance" starring Demi Moore is one of the best horror films of the season.

John Williams documentary screens at El Capitan

Meet the man behind the music that changed the world in the special West Coast exclusive engagement of "Music By John Williams" at the El Capitan Theatre Nov. 1-7.

Daily showtimes are 10 a.m., 1 p.m., 4 p.m. and 7 p.m.

From his early days as a jazz pianist to his 54 Oscar nominations and five wins, the documentary takes an in-depth look at Williams' countless contributions to film including many iconic franchises, as well as his music for the concert stage and his impact on popular culture. The film features interviews with artists and filmmakers whose lives have been touched by his timeless music.

Tickets are on sale now at elcapitantheatre.com and fandango.com/el-capitan-theatre-aacon/theater-page. All seats are reserved. Tickets

are \$18 for guests of all ages and include an 8.5 ounce bag of pop-

corn. The El Capitan Theatre is located at 6838 Hollywood Blvd.

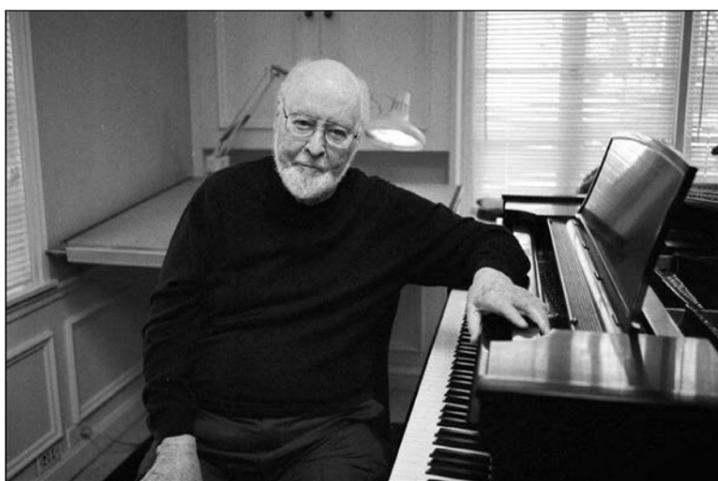


photo courtesy of LucasfilmTD

Composer John Williams has been nominated for 54 Academy Awards, taking home five Oscars.

Pantages goes 'Back to the Future'

"Back to the Future," the beloved, cinematic classic, is now a Broadway musical with its destination set for Los Angeles this November.

Winner of the 2022 Olivier Award for Best New Musical, four WhatsOnStage Awards, including Best New Musical, and the Broadway World Award for Best New Musical, "Back to the Future:

The Musical" is adapted for the stage by the iconic film's creators Bob Gale ("Back to the Future" trilogy) and Robert Zemeckis ("Forrest Gump") and directed by the Tony Award-winner John Rando with original music by multi-Grammy winners Alan Silvestri ("Avengers: Endgame") and Glen Ballard (Michael Jackson's "Man in the Mirror"),

alongside hit songs from the movie including "The Power of Love," "Johnny B. Goode," "Earth Angel" and "Back in Time."

The musical will perform Nov. 5-Dec. 1 at the Hollywood Pantages Theatre, located at 6233 Hollywood Blvd. Tickets start at \$56.75. For information, visit broadwayinhollywood.com/events/detail/back-to-the-future.

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Cedars-Sinai establishes new university

Building on an enduring commitment to graduate and medical education, Cedars-Sinai has established Cedars-Sinai Health Sciences University to prepare generations of academic scientists, physician leaders and allied health professionals for the future of healthcare and biomedical science.

The university will integrate clinical, basic and translational scientific research education in an academic medical center, offering a breadth of advanced research and vocational programs aimed at creating healthcare and scientific leaders. These programs will also spur innovation and nurture thought leaders in medical education.

“The new Health Sciences University builds on Cedars-Sinai’s legacy to foster continual learning as a way to improve the health of communities,” said Dr. Peter L. Slavin, president and CEO of Cedars-Sinai Medical Center and Cedars-Sinai Health System. “We are proudly committed to developing high-achieving academic inves-

tigators and educators in disease-focused science.”

Students will gain a better understanding of human disease, how best to treat individuals and populations, enhance disease prevention and elevate the overall health of communities.

“This milestone moment in Cedars-Sinai’s history will provide students with a unique opportunity to enrich and advance their careers as they receive the highest level of training in the medical sciences and healthcare delivery,” said Shlomo Melmed, executive vice president of Medicine and Health Sciences and dean of the medical faculty. “We are building a university that will offer meaningful career paths that align with Cedars-Sinai’s mission to elevate the health status and wellbeing of patients and communities.”

Cedars-Sinai already is home to more than 315 graduate students and postdoctoral scientists and 540 medical residents and fellows. Current students can earn a PhD in

biomedical and translational sciences and master’s of science degrees in health systems and magnetic resonance in medicine.

A new PhD program in health artificial intelligence in 2025 will build on this foundation.

The PhD in health AI will offer rigorous training in AI algorithms and methods, with a focus on analyzing clinical data to enhance patient care. The hands on, active approach to teaching will reinforce AI concepts through clinical rotations and scholarly collaboration with physicians and medical staff. Graduates will be positioned to directly improve healthcare and patient outcomes through the rigorous development and deployment of AI algorithms and software.

Also new is the Chuck Lorre School of Allied Health, established with a \$30 million gift from the Chuck Lorre Family Foundation to offer allied healthcare careers for individuals in historically marginalized groups in Los Angeles and beyond. In the first phase of the uni-



photo courtesy of Cedars-Sinai

Cedars-Sinai president and CEO Peter L. Slavin said the new university will bolster disease-focused science while improving the health of communities.

versity, students will receive certification in one of four high-demand technical specialties that are chronically understaffed in hospitals: respiratory therapist, pharmacy technician, clinical laboratory technician and radiation therapy technician.

Regardless of the discipline or

area of research, students in the university will be matched with clinical partners who will provide mentorship and training throughout the duration of their programs.

For information, visit cedars-sinai.edu/health-sciences-university.html.

BHEF gets \$30,000 from L’Ermitage

Beverly Hills Education Foundation was chosen to be a L’Ermitage Community Impact Partner. BHEF was previously gifted with \$16,000 in May and another \$30,000 in October to further their mission of elevating education excellence for all BHUSD schools. The L’Ermitage Community Impact Program allocates a 1% impact fee to benefit local community organizations.

L’Ermitage regional director Dana Sholl, general manager Frederic Zemmour, BHEF Board Member Rose Kaiserman, board president Tina Wiener, BHUSD Superintendent Dr. Michael Bregy, BHEF vice president Jill Egerman, BHEF Board Member Tiffany Davis and L’Ermitage Staff celebrated the recognition at the L’Ermitage Beverly Hills on Oct. 29.

For information, visit bhef.org.



photo courtesy of Tiffany Davis

Students graduate from online high school program at L.A. Library



photo courtesy of the Los Angeles Public Library

The Los Angeles Public Library enables adults to receive a high school diploma through an online program.

Los Angeles Public Library will celebrate the 10th anniversary of its Online Degree Program and the 1,000th student to graduate on Friday, Nov. 1, at 11:30 a.m. in the Taper Auditorium, Central Library, 630 W. Fifth St. downtown.

The Career Online High School offers adults ages 19 and older an opportunity to earn high school diplomas. Los Angeles Public Library was the first public library in the nation to offer adults an accredited high school diploma and career certificate online.

The presentation will include City Librarian John F. Szabo; Valerie Lynne Shaw, president of the Board of Library Commissioners; and Stacy Lieberman, president and CEO of the Library Foundation of Los Angeles. Poet and novelist Luis J. Rodriguez will give the commencement speech.

For information about the program, visit lapl.org/diploma.

Celebrate Dia de los Muertos at Wallis Annenberg PetSpace

On Saturday, Nov. 2, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., join Wallis Annenberg PetSpace as it celebrates its first-ever Dia de los Muertos. Join PetSpace for a heartfelt day filled with colorful traditions, creative activities and cherished memories as it honors the pets who have touched lives.

Honor pets by bringing a copy of your favorite photo of them to add to PetSpace’s beautiful communal ofrenda. Supplies will be provided to help craft a meaningful tribute. Engage in fun activities like frame-decorating to personalize your pet’s photo, or take part in paper flower making. Enjoy some delicious snacks and beverages, including special treats for your pets. Guests can also enjoy fun photo-ops, face painting and music.

Attendees are encouraged to bring family, friends and furry companions to the memorable Dia de los Muertos event.

The event is free, but reservations

are recommended. To RSVP, visit annenbergpetspace.org/events/3691817.

Wallis Annenberg PetSpace is located at 12005 Bluff Creek Drive, Playa Vista. Parking is free and available in the adjacent lot.



photo courtesy of Wallis Annenberg PetSpace

The event includes Dia de los Muertos-themed activities for pets and their owners.

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New Getty exhibition reveals treasures from Ancient Thrace

The J. Paul Getty Museum announced the exhibition “Ancient Thrace and the Classical World: Treasures from Bulgaria, Romania and Greece,” an exhibition that explores the cultural relations between the Thracians and their neighbors over the course of two millennia, approximately 1700 BCE–300 CE.

On view at the Getty Villa Museum from Nov. 4 to March 3, the exhibition will feature over 200 objects, including skillfully crafted gold, silver and bronze metalwork, pottery, inscriptions, stone reliefs and other artworks reflecting Thrace and its connections to other ancient cultures in the Mediterranean and beyond.

The land of Thrace lay north of the Aegean Sea, in an area that now comprises Bulgaria and parts of Romania, Greece and Turkey. With few written records preserved, much of what is known today about this culture depends on brief, often biased, accounts from ancient

Greek and Roman authors.

However, archaeological discoveries made in the region since the early 20th century have yielded extensive firsthand evidence of Thracian history, culture and society. These discoveries illuminate Thrace’s rich resources and varied artistic achievements, as well as its unique position – geographically, politically and culturally – between east and west.

“This exceptional exhibition is the first to focus on the interconnections and rivalries between the Thracians and their neighbors, especially Greece and Rome,” Getty Museum Director Timothy Potts said. “For many of our visitors, this will be their first introduction to this fascinating and highly sophisticated ancient culture, which was both feared for its military prowess and cultivated for its rich artistic productions, especially silver and gold vessels. We are immensely grateful to the Bulgarian Ministry of Culture, and

the National Archaeological Institute with Museum at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences for their partnership in making this exhibition possible, and to the other lenders to the exhibition.”

“The exhibition is a rare opportunity for the Getty Villa to introduce American audiences to the world of ancient Thrace – a place and culture which deserves much greater attention. The archaeological material on display, ranging from spectacular gold and silver to pottery and funerary monuments, allows us to present Thrace from a Thracian perspective, at times challenging the views expressed by ancient Greek and Roman authors,” said Sara E. Cole, associate curator of antiquities at the Getty Museum and curator of the exhibition.

A highlight of the exhibition are the many luxury objects found in wealthy burial mounds of the 5th – 3rd centuries BCE. Foremost of these is the complete set of grave goods from the tomb of King



photo courtesy of Todor Dimitrov/Getty

The bust “Portrait of King Seuthes III” created between 310-300 BCE and found in the Golyama Kosmatka burial mound will be on display in the new exhibition.

Seuthes III at Golyama Kosmatka, discovered in 2004 in central Bulgaria. They include a spectacular bronze portrait of Seuthes, who ruled Thrace’s Odrysian kingdom from about 330 to 300/295 BCE. This spectacularly realistic and

well-preserved sculpture may be the earliest monumental image of a historic Thracian individual.

The Getty Villa is located at 17985 Pacific Coast Highway.

For information, visit getty.edu/visit/villa.

Día de los Muertos comes to life

Hollywood Forever Cemetery held its annual Día de los Muertos celebration on Oct. 26. Attendees gathered for the all-day event commemorating the Mexican holiday celebrating life and those who have passed.

People from all over Los Angeles created intricate altars, or ofrendas, to honor deceased loved ones, as guests enjoyed pan de muerto and other food and drinks from many local restaurants and vendors.

Families gathered on the lawn to listen to music from renowned artists including Ambar Lucid and Los Lobos, who dedicated a song to Fernando Valenzuela.

Hollywood Forever will host singer-songwriter Kevin Garrett at its Masonic Lodge on Nov. 6 at 7 p.m., located at 5970 Santa Monica Blvd.



photo by Tabor Brewster

Escape Room opens at Vintage Land

Vintage Land, home of the Los Feliz Flea Market, is launching a cutting-edge VR Escape Room experience on Nov. 2, offering thrill-seekers, flea market shoppers and adventure enthusiasts an exhilarating new way to test their problem-solving skills and immerse themselves in exciting virtual worlds, and can now do so while shopping for unique vintage and antique finds.

The VR Escape Room will be open Tuesdays-Saturdays from noon-9 p.m., providing visitors with a unique, immersive escape room experience without leaving the market grounds. Each VR escape room adventure features a carefully crafted storyline, dynamic challenges and stunning virtual environments, making it a must-try for flea shoppers and passerby-

ers alike.

“We’re always looking for new ways to bring unique and exciting experiences to our visitors,” said Phillip Dane, co-founder of Los Feliz Flea Market.

With a variety of thrilling storylines to choose from, participants can dive into gripping, action-packed scenarios, each requiring teamwork, quick thinking and creativity to solve puzzles and unlock the secrets of the game. Whether a seasoned escape room pro or a first-time player, VR technology will transport guests into another reality, enhancing the suspense and excitement of every challenge.

To book an escape room and learn more about the different VR experiences, visit vintageland.la/vr. Vintage Land is located at 1030 Alpine St.



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New WeHo mural celebrates city's 40th

The city of West Hollywood has announced the installation of a new Art on the Outside mural by artist Timothy Robert Smith on display on the east-facing façade of City Hall, located at 8300 Santa Monica Blvd. at N. Sweetzer Avenue. The hand-painted mural celebrates the 40th anniversary of the city's founding and features celebrated drag performers Jasmine Masters, Cake Moss and Pickle, the city's inaugural drag laureate. The trio is depicted in a photo-realistic style from a dramatic low-angle perspective conveying a larger-than-life presence. They are surrounded by a bright blue sky and fantastical landscape replete with flourishes that allude to daily life in West Hollywood, including a playful dog; the Pickup trolley; a classic car that was once seemingly ever-present along the Sunset Strip; mirrored disco balls; the city's

glowing globe lanterns; a historic clock; and the city's iconic blue orb lantern lampposts that dot the parkway edges of Santa Monica Boulevard. The mural will remain on view at City Hall through June 2026.

Smith is a Los Angeles-based oil painter and muralist known for his innovative approach to perception and space. His work harmoniously combines multiple viewpoints to create a kaleidoscopic vision, challenging our understanding of time and experience. With exhibitions at museums, TEDx conferences and numerous galleries, Smith has garnered recognition from notable media outlets, including Juxtapoz, Artillery, NBC and KCRW. His public artworks have graced various locations across Southern California, Florida and Japan, and have included an immersive installation at The Lancaster Museum of

Art and History, located in Lancaster, where he merged oil painting with light, sound, 3-D sculpted figures and video projections.

The Art on the Outside Program is the city's temporary art program that installs rotating artworks throughout the city. The artworks can include sculpture, murals, digital art and other outdoor works. Most exhibitions remain on display between six months and three years. All projects are subject to the Art on the Outside Program Review and Approval Process. The program is funded through the Public Beautification & Art Fund.

For information about the mural, contact Marcus Mitchell, West Hollywood's public art administrator, at mmitchell@weho.org or at (323)848-3122. For people who are deaf or hard of hearing, call TTY (323)848-6496.



photo by Jon Viscott

Timothy Robert Smith designed West Hollywood's new City Hall mural.



photo courtesy of the city of Beverly Hills

The signature pet event in Beverly Hills offers fun for families and their dogs.

Beverly Hills Doggy Daze returns to Roxbury Park

Join the city of Beverly Hills on Sunday, Nov. 3, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. for Beverly Hills Doggy Daze 90210, an extraordinary celebration of pets in the heart of Beverly Hills at Roxbury Park's "Wiggly Field," located at 471 S. Roxbury Drive.

Step into a world of tail-wagging fun as Beverly Hills invites guests to bring beloved pets or even find a new furry companion through adoption. The free, family-friendly event promises to be a day filled with thrilling activities, top-notch entertainment and a wide array of pet-related vendors that will keep

attendees and their four-legged friends entertained throughout the day.

Presented by the city of Beverly Hills' Community Services Department, Beverly Hills Doggy Daze 90210 is a captivating festival designed to unite dogs, their owners and all animal enthusiasts. The day also serves as an invaluable opportunity for homeless pets to find their forever homes through five rescues, namely The Amanda Foundation, The DoVE Project, Ozzie and Friends Rescue, Wags

and Walks and Yorkie Rescue of America. Participate or witness an enchanting pet parade showcasing adorable animals donning creative costumes and an exciting pet talent contest that will bring great joy to everyone.

Indulge in a shopping spree at over 30 pet-related vendors and specialty booths, offering an extensive range of pet care services, luxurious pet spas, fashionable pet clothing and delectable pet food.

Additionally, an arts and crafts

kids' zone, face painter and library story time will entertain children, and a variety of food and beverage trucks will be available to satisfy cravings throughout the day. Shake Shack will be selling pup cups to spoil four-legged friends with a special treat.

Free parking is available at Beverly Hills High School with pet-friendly shuttles to and from the park from 10:45 a.m.-5 p.m.

Beverly Hills Doggy Daze 90210 sponsors are Lili and Jon Bosse and family, Owen Care and Foo Dee Doo Press, LLC.

For information, visit beverlyhills.org/csevents.

VINTAGE PARKLABREA NEWS

Voters urged to cast their ballots



Opponents of Prop. 8 rallied against the measure during an election night event in Hollywood, and at a rally last night in West Hollywood. Voters approved the measure, but several groups are now planning legal challenges.

Obama's Win Says 'Yes We Can'

But Prop. 8 Says 'No You Can't' to Gay Marriage

BY AMY LYONS
As Barack Obama became the 44th President of the United States and the first African American to win the White House, the resounding chant across the nation was "Yes We Can." The television airwaves were flooded with images of people celebrating in Chicago - including a tearful Oprah Winfrey - and looking somber in Phoenix, the home base of Republican Presidential nominee, Sen. John McCain.
In Los Angeles, the Hyatt Century City was the place to be for Obama supporters, who packed the hotel in a rousing celebration that began shortly after 8:00pm. Obama won by a whopping 349 electoral votes, with McCain pulling in 163 electoral votes. In order to win the presidency, 270 electoral votes are needed.
The mood was somewhat more somber at the Music Box Theatre in Hollywood, where "No on Prop. 8"

supporters began to see the results trickle in when the polls closed in California. The same-sex marriage ban passed by 52.2 percent, but many leaders in the gay community said the fight for equal rights was not over. West Hollywood Mayor Jeffrey Prang staged a rally last night for same-sex marriage supporters.

"There are a lot of people who worked hard and are now angry and frustrated, if those words even begin to express the feelings," Prang said. "But we mobilized more people, changed more minds and came so incredibly close, so we do have reasons to feel good. This is a civil rights movement and no civil rights movement in the history of this country has ever failed. I know we will prevail."

West Hollywood City Councilmember John Duran said the gay rights movement is advancing, even though

See Result page on

Amid chants of "Yes We Can," voters elected Barack Obama president in 2008, as reported in the Nov. 6, 2008, issue of the Beverly Press and Park Labrea News. Also shown are opponents of Proposition 8, a measure to ban same-sex marriage, who rallied in Hollywood on Election Day. Proposition 8 was approved that year but was later overturned after being ruled unconstitutional in state and federal court.

Voters in the Nov. 5, 2024, election have numerous options to cast their ballots, including in-person Vote Centers, which are open daily from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. through Nov. 4, and 7 a.m.-8 p.m. on Election Day, Nov. 5. Voters can also mail ballots and leave them in drop boxes in the community and at Vote Centers. The Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's office has opened Vote Centers at Beverly Hills City Hall, 455 N. Rexford Drive; the Plummer Park Community Center, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood; the Las Palmas Senior Enrichment Center, 1820 N. Las Palmas Ave. in Hollywood; the Anderson Munger Family YMCA, 4301 W. Third St., in Wilshire Center; and the Nowhere-Pico Treasure, 6140 W Pico Blvd., in the Pico-Robertson District. For information and a list of drop box sites and vote centers, visit lavote.net.

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Tax credits used to entice productions

From page 1

between our communities and the state's iconic film and TV industry."

The expansion was welcome news for Hackman Capital Partners, which also owns and operates Television City in the Fairfax District, and Radford Studio Center in Studio City. Hackman Capital Partners CEO Michael Hackman and Senior Vice President of Asset Management Zach Sokoloff welcomed Newsom and Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass to Raleigh Studios.

"The governor's announcement will benefit all studios throughout the state of California. It's an unbelievable demonstration of leadership on the part of Gov. Newsom and Mayor Bass to more than double the existing California production and film tax credit," Sokoloff said. "This is a great first step in showing the commitment of the state leaders to

this industry, and we hope it's just the first of many efforts that they undertake to continue to support the men and women whose livelihoods depend on a thriving entertainment industry in Los Angeles and in California."

The California Film and Television Tax Credit Program helps companies that produce film and television in California reduce costs. Other states offer similar incentives. New York's film tax credit program provides \$700 million annually in incentives, New Mexico's program provides \$120 million and Arizona's program provides \$100 million per year. Sokoloff said studios are also competing with other countries trying to lure production companies with incentives.

"We have to continue to stay a step ahead of other geographies that are nipping at our heels and trying to win business away from Los

Angeles," he added. "We have the best crews in the world. We have the infrastructure here established in Los Angeles, but what we see happening is other geographies are building their own infrastructure, new sound stages, modern elements of entertainment, trying to lure productions from Los Angeles to their hometowns, and we need to keep pace."

Bass applauded the increase in the tax incentive program, which was originally created when she served as Speaker of the California State Assembly.

"Hollywood is the cornerstone of this city and our economy and our message to the industry is clear, we have your back," Bass said. "When I was Speaker of the California State Assembly, I worked to support leaders like now-Councilman Paul Krekorian to create the film tax credit. Despite the economy being in

a difficult spot, we knew that the industry needed support, and if we could at least start the program, then we could grow it. I'm proud to stand with Gov. Newsom and industry leaders to continue this important work supporting this legacy industry."

In response to the increase, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Chair Lindsey Horvath, 3rd District, and Supervisor Kathryn Barger, 5th District, authored a motion to better coordinate efforts between the state, county and city of Los Angeles to keep film and television production in the region. The motion is scheduled to be considered by the board next week.

"Los Angeles County fully supports Gov. Newsom's expansion of the California Film and Television Tax Credit. This vital action, coupled with the county's investments in the small businesses that power the entertainment industry, will help ensure Los Angeles County remains the beating heart of the creative economy," Horvath said.

The California Film and

Television Tax Credit Program has received more requests than credit available every year, which necessitated the increase, Newsom said. Productions receiving tax credits for staying in California this year include Lucasfilm's "The Mandalorian and Grogu," Amazon's "Fallout," HBO's "Latitude" and 20th Television's legal drama "All's Fair." The program has generated more than \$26 billion in economic activity and more than 197,000 cast and crew jobs since 2009.

"There are a number of examples of productions who have taken advantage of the tax credit in order to stay in Los Angeles and that it was one of, if not the decisive factor to keeping them in the city and to keeping individuals working where they live," Sokoloff added. "So this is something that benefits everyone involved in entertainment, and we're just hoping that this is the first step of many to continue to expand the industry here in Los Angeles and position us to be competitive and to be leading this industry as we move forward."

Menendez case reconsidered

From page 1

of parole. They have respectively served 34 years and have continued their educations and worked to create new programs to support the rehabilitation of fellow inmates," Gascón said in a statement.

The D.A.'s office said the brothers' attorney submitted a request for clemency to Newsom on Oct. 30. According to the California Constitution, the governor has the authority to grant clemency in the form of a sentence commutation or pardon. The matter will now be reviewed by Newsom for consideration.

The development follows a decision by Gascón on Oct. 24 to officially recommend the brothers be resentenced for the murders of José and Kitty Menendez. A court hearing for that motion is set for Dec. 11 in the Van Nuys Courthouse.

"We're very sure not only that the brothers have rehabilitated and that they will be safe to be reintegrated into our society, but that they have paid their dues not only for the crimes that they committed, but because of all the other things that they have done to improve the lives of so many others," Gascón said in the press conference on Oct. 24.

Following the announcement from Gascón, Geragos held a press conference with Menendez family members, calling the decision a "monumental victory" for the brothers returning home.

Erik and Lyle Menendez were sentenced in 1996 to life in prison without the possibility of parole for killing their parents, José and Kitty, in the living room of their Elm Drive mansion on Aug. 20, 1989. While the determination that they murdered their parents has not been contested, new evidence has since come to light that some consider should affect the sentencing of the brothers.

Gascón said the office was presented with two new pieces of evidence – a newly surfaced letter written by Erik Menendez before the murders accusing his father of sexual abuse, and a letter from a member of the boy band Menudo accusing José

Menendez of repeated sexual abuse while he was an executive of RCA Records.

Gascón's opponent, former federal prosecutor Nathan Hochman, has painted the move by Gascón as a last-ditch effort to drum up support in a race that he is likely to lose. According to a University of California Berkeley-Los Angeles Times poll conducted from Sept. 25-Oct. 1, Hochman has a 30-point lead against Gascón.

"The timing of his filing of that motion is incredibly suspicious," Hochman told the Beverly Press in an interview. "He could have filed it back in February, March, April or May of 2024. He could have filed it back in 2023. And since there's no deadline, he could have filed it on Nov. 6, 7 or 8, after the Nov. 5 election. Even if he loses the election, he'll still be D.A. until Dec. 1 ... He files it 12 days before the Nov. 5 election, when he knows he's 30 points down in the polls."

Hochman stated that if he were to make a determination on resentencing, he would have to evaluate the "thousands" of confidential records in the prison file, review the trial transcripts of both trials and speak to the prosecutors, defense counsel, family members and law enforcement involved.

"Obviously I'm not in that position right now. I don't have access to those records. But if the case were to land on my desk after I were to be district attorney, that is the process I would go about to form an opinion. By the way, it is the same process I would use for any case," Hochman said.

The Beverly Hills Police Department, in a press release, said that the D.A.'s office did not contact the BHPD when considering the decision to recommend resentencing.

"As the investigating agency for the case, the BHPD presented relevant facts and evidence to the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, which resulted in the filing of criminal charges at that time," the statement read.

Ballot includes multiple propositions, measures

From page 2

from federal prescription drug discounts on patients. In fact, it would set a minimum of 98% of the net revenue to be used directly for patient care – but interestingly, the proposition is so narrow it would seem to apply to only one organization: AIDS Healthcare Foundation, one of the only organizations publicly against the bill (along with Consumer Watchdog).

According to CalMatters, the proposition applies only to providers that have spent \$100 million or more on other expenses besides health care, have racked up a minimum of 500 health and safety violations in the last 10 years, and own and operate apartment buildings.

Led by Michael Weinstein, AIDS Healthcare Foundation has become a prominent political organization, helping fund major campaigns statewide – including this year's Prop 33. Not as many organizations

have expressed an opinion – one way or the other – on Prop 34. The California's Democrat Party did not publish an opinion. Supporters include the California Republican Party, however, as well as the California Apartment Association, the ALS Association and the California Chamber of Commerce.

Prop 36

Proposition 36 would draw a major line in the sand for crime in California. It would, in essence, reclassify misdemeanor drug crimes and thefts under \$950 as felonies. Additionally, treatment-mandated felonies would be added as an additional category of crime, providing the chance for offenders to complete drug treatment programs versus going to prison if they don't contest the charges. However, failure to complete a program

would result in a three-year prison sentence.

The proposition seems to be a direct response to Proposition 46 approved by California voters ten years ago, which declassified some felony charges to misdemeanors to help with overcrowding in state prisons. Supporters say it led to a large increase in shoplifting and burglaries. According to CalMatters, among the organizations in favor of the bill are Walmart, Target, the California Republican Party, California District Attorneys Association, the California Chamber of Commerce and the California Correctional Peace Officer Association.

Gov. Gavin Newsom, though, is against the bill, as is the ACLU of Northern California, the California Democratic Party, the Alliance for Safety and Justice and the League of Women Voters of California.

Prop. 32 seeks increase to statewide minimum wage

From page 2

than \$18 per hour. Most of these Californians who earn less than \$18 per hour are heads of their households. Most of these Californians who earn less than \$18 per hour have kids," Sanberg said. "We can all agree that Californians who work hard, working full time or more, should not live in poverty. But that's exactly how millions of Californians are living because their wages are too low to afford how expensive life

has become in California."

The proposition is opposed by the California Chamber of Commerce, the California Grocers Association and the California Restaurant Association, and the California Republican Party.

Opponents argue that Proposition 32 will force businesses to raise prices, exacerbating inflation and potentially driving job losses. They also believe that the one-size-fits-all

approach to the minimum wage does not account for varying economies throughout the state.

"Just like everybody else in California, our small businesses are employers. They're struggling with high costs right now, and this increase will only add to those costs and create pressures with regards to their budget," California Chamber of Commerce CEO Jennifer Barrera said.



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Candidates square off in 30th District

From page 1

larly in terms of development, housing and the homeless crisis.

"I will solve the homelessness crisis because as a physician, I will diagnose and treat the mental illness and drug addiction, and say that this is not simply a housing issue," Balekian said. "So, some concrete moves that I will make are to reopen the federal mental hospitals when I'm in Congress [to] get those severely mentally ill people off the streets and on treatment, and also the other people who live in the tent cities, 40% of whom have their families in other states. I will essentially move them across state lines and reunite them with their families and pair them with federal dollars to establish rehab and mental health in their home states, because the medical literature shows that when your family's involved, your mental health and drug rehab outcomes are better."

As for building more housing, Balekian thinks that California should look to its unused land.

"There are 100 million acres of land in California, we have developed only 6% of it for residential use. So, if you double that to 12% if you grant new city charters and build new planned neighborhoods and cities, you can double the number of houses and drive down the cost of housing by half and still have 88% of the land left over for farming and for nature," he said.

He also takes issue with the ways in which Democrats in California have invested in energy.

"Utilities in Glendale, they've gone up like 200%. Garbage rates have gone up by 400%. We have been sold this all-electric dream. And people like Laura Friedman, I call them the climate cartel, have overloaded the grid, increased the demand, but have not commensurately increased the supply. So, all we've seen is extortionate increases in electricity rates, and we're still being told that we need to do more for the environment."

Though he is a married gay man, Balekian does not believe identity should have a place in politics.

"When I say ideas over identity politics, I don't want people from West Hollywood to vote for me simply because I'm gay. I don't think that Armenians are going to vote for me simply because I'm Armenian. I want people to get to know me and vote for me because my platform, which is based on my values, aligns with their own, regardless of what their identity is and who they are," he said. "I've said personal decisions – abortion, gay marriage – the government should stay out of it. I will never vote for an abortion ban, and I will never vote for any sort of gay marriage ban."

He places the home above all else in his belief system.

"The home is the primary unit of governance, and so families should decide what they want to do and what they don't want to do. And I don't think the government should again, legislate people's personal decisions," Balekian said.

Balekian describes himself as a Republican largely because he can't successfully run as an independent.

"I have explicitly run as a disenfranchised Republican. I started this race as a no party preference, but had to switch to the Republican ticket because of having infrastructure that I needed to use," he said. "But I have not been shy at all about saying how I do not align myself with the National Republican platform. I do not align myself with all of the Project 2025 or MAGA platforms. And two minutes into knowing me or hearing about me, people are refreshingly surprised, because they are looking at this no longer as Democrat versus Republican. This is now progressive versus non-progressive. And as I mentioned, because of these progressive policies, and my opponent is the Queen Mother of the progressive movement, and started the

Progressive Caucus in the assembly, crime has gotten worse on her watch. We have been too soft on criminals. Homelessness has gotten worse on her watch. And it's not that people are voting for Republicans; people are voting against progressive policies that ruined our state."

Laura Friedman

Long before Assemblywoman Laura Friedman, 44th District, became a figure in the California political scene, she was entrenched in the community, working as a film executive. Now, she is running to become Rep. Adam Schiff's (D-Burbank) replacement.

"I love being in the legislature," Friedman said. "It's incredibly fulfilling work, and there's a lot that we need to do for California, and a lot of the things that we do really are limited by federal policies. So, for me, a natural extension of the work that I've done around issues that I think are crucial for our region that really need to also be addressed federally."

After serving on the Glendale City Council and as the city's mayor, she made the leap to the state legislature, where she has made the interconnectivity between housing, homelessness and transportation her primary objective.

"It's become clear to me over the years of working that there is a real link between mobility and public transportation and housing policy," Friedman said. "You really have to look at these issues holistically. You have to have enough ways of moving people around to deal with a growing population so that you don't end up with everyone stuck in traffic forever in a day. And you also have to remove that huge concern that people have when you want to add new housing in areas where you have a housing shortage. So that's why working on these issues together – working on housing at the same time as you're working on

better mobility – is so important."

Friedman said that immigration should be addressed in a humane way.

"What we need is to secure our borders and we need to fix our asylum system," she said. "It's really a shame that we had a bipartisan border bill that Donald Trump derailed. That is an indisputable fact. I would certainly work in Congress to make sure that that bipartisanly supported and created bill gets passed. It's really a shame that people's misery south of the border was used as a campaign tool by Donald Trump. We need to fix this. We need to make sure that people who should be getting asylum have a much faster road to be granted that asylum. And we need to also make sure that we can vet and keep people out who truly are dangerous and shouldn't be in our country. And for people who are already here – who are working – we need for a lot of these people to be brought out of the shadows. And if they shouldn't be here, if they are criminals, we need to get them out of the country. But if there are people who are here – contributing, working, part of our community – [we need] to have a path to citizenship for them. Because they're ripe for exploitation and wage theft and the underground economy is awful for businesses."

While Friedman's opponent sees her legislative experience as a liability, Friedman said it is this experience that has prepared her to represent the 30th District in Congress.

"It's what people always say when they don't have any experience at all," she said. "I'm someone that the community knows, who has devoted almost two decades to serving the public, and before that as a volunteer – working for nonprofits, working as a volunteer in my community – while I raised a child and had a full-time career in the entertainment industry. I think people know who I am. They know how I vote. They know what my values are, and you can't say any of that about my opponent. I think that serving the public is a noble, noble goal. And I'm really, really proud of the work that I've done."

While Friedman resides in

Glendale, she said she has made a point of connecting with and listening to the needs of the entire district. With recent national attacks on the rights of LGBTQ+ people, Friedman said she recognizes the importance of being a voice for the city of West Hollywood. She questions Balekian's positions on LGBTQ+ rights, characterizing Balekian as an "anti-trans activist" and said "his inner circle of supporters" were "some of the worst anti-trans activists we have here in Glendale."

"I do see our transgender community members being disproportionately the victims of violent hate crimes, facing discrimination in housing, in schools, facing bullying," she said. "This is really not an easy thing – to know how to support your child going through this. These parents need support. The kids need support. And certainly, they don't need the kind of hatred and dehumanization that they're seeing."

For Friedman, the race is about being a voice that will help alleviate many of the problems facing Los Angeles County.

"We [should] continue to be a community where we can have policy discussions and disagreements without people demonizing other people, and trying to stir up hatred and division," she said.

While Friedman may hail from the East Coast, L.A. is her forever home.

"We have people who come here because it is a place where dreams are made, where anything is possible," she said. "It's a county filled with creativity and the creative economy. It's incredibly diverse, which is why I chose to have my family here. I have a diverse family. My daughter is African American, and having that diversity reflected in the community is really important to me."

Friedman adopted her daughter with her husband, a French immigrant – now citizen – whom she met when they were working in the film industry.

"Being in a place where there's all these different cultures coming together, to me, makes for a kind of vibrancy that I love," she said.

LACMA project enters final phase of work

From page 1

works that must be kept away from or only partially exposed to natural light. Plans call for the interior gallery spaces to be reconfigured periodically and the artworks to be changed to maintain a fresh museum-going experience.

The project will also open 3.5 acres of open space and public plazas in the surrounding park, which will be activated with entertainment and educational programming. A series of pavilions will house three restaurants and cafes, the LACMA Store, a 300-seat theater and the W.M. Keck Education Center. With overall the project entering its final phase, the excitement is building ahead of the rapidly approaching opening.

"It has been a project in the making for at least a decade, and the whole campus transformation, it's been in process for 20 years. So, it's very exciting to be coming to its conclusion with major construction completion at the end of December," said LACMA COO Diana Vesga, who has overseen the building project since its inception in 2014. "The scaffolding is now almost entirely removed; it should be removed by the end of this week. The scaffolding has been coming down from north to south in the sequence of completion, and the last part to be removed was what was supporting the building over Wilshire. Now, we all can see the building in its form entirely without the metal that was supporting it, and it's stunning. It's beautiful in its shape and how it elevates and crosses Wilshire with all its perimeter of glass at the exhibition level. Very exciting to see."

plans are still being formulated for the tours, but Vesga said they will give people an opportunity to see a building that itself is a work of art.

"2026 feels like it's just around the corner, considering all the work to install the permanent collection that will start in 2025, as soon as we commission all the building systems," she added. "I think that it is important to put a date for the opening for everyone, to start building the drum roll, to be finally able to walk the galleries with the art and experience the building. The plan is to have members previews to see the building before the art is installed, in its raw form, which is beautiful in and of itself. It's a massive sculpture, an art sculpture of concrete, glass, steel and bronze. It will be beautiful to visit."

For information and updates on the project, visit lacma.org.

injury and two felony counts of battery with serious bodily injury. Authorities described Gray as homeless and said the attacks were random. Gray was arrested on Oct. 18 He pleaded not guilty to the charges and is being held on \$3.25 million bail. If convicted, Gray faces life in state prison.

weapon, two felony counts of aggravated mayhem, two misdemeanor counts of battery, one felony count of assault by means of force likely to produce great bodily

Charges filed against suspects in alleged murder-for-hire plot

From page 4

the shooting occurred at the gas station, according to the criminal complaint. The gunmen fired at least 18 rounds at T.B.'s vehicle while it was at the gas station, killing a victim identified in court documents as "S.R.," a family member of T.B. The gunmen then fled the scene.

Detectives with the Los Angeles Police Department's West Bureau Homicide Unit investigated the case with agents from the FBI and investigators with the U.S. Attorney's Office. The investigation determined that the same day the hitmen traveled from Chicago to California, Banks also traveled to California in a private jet with another conspirator, Kavon London Grant, 28. Later that day, Grant allegedly purchased ski masks for the gunmen and used a credit card in Banks' name for the other co-conspirators' hotel room, authorities said. Grant has been charged in a separate indictment along with alleged co-conspirators Deandre Dontrell Wilson, 33, of Chicago; Keith Jones, 33, of Gary, Indiana; David Brian Lindsey, 33, of Addison, Illinois; and Asa Houston, 36, of Chicago. Grant and the four other defendants each face one count of conspiracy, one count of use of interstate facilities to com-

mit murder-for-hire resulting in death and one count of using, carrying and discharging firearms. Jones faces an additional count of possession of a machine gun.

"Mr. Banks is charged with orchestrating a cold-blooded murder that resulted in the death of a rival's family member," United States Attorney Martin Estrada said. "Not only that, the shooting occurred in the open at a gas station at a busy intersection, endangering many others in the area. Violent gun crime of this sort is devastating to our community, and we will have zero tolerance for those who perpetrate such callous acts of violence."

Answers From Page 27



Suspect charged for violent attack

From page 4

Barney's Beanery at 8447 Santa Monica Blvd.

Gray is charged with one count of attempted murder, one felony count of assault with a deadly

weapon, two felony counts of aggravated mayhem, two misdemeanor counts of battery, one felony count of assault by means of force likely to produce great bodily

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PROBATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: GRACE AVILEZ CASE NO. 24STPB10413

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of

GRACE AVILEZ (AMENDED) A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by YOLANDA MOLINA in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that YOLANDA MOLINA be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 11/15/24 at 8:30AM in Dept. 11 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012 IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.

Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

In Pro Per Petitioner

10/24, 10/31, 11/7

Crossword Puzzle by Myles Mellor

Across

- Water sludge particle
- Symbol of sovereignty
- Special perception
- Date producer
- Short-billed rail
- Bit of a rascal
- James who wrote "A Death in the Family"
- Salon worker
- 49ers and Raiders star and NFL great
- One of TV's Sopranos
- Fork option
- Ordinal ending
- "Pretty ____" movie starring Richard Gere
- Giant and NFL great, first name
- ____ rule (usually)
- Finance magazine
- Tuna type
- Common contraction
- Audio
- Go archeological
- Mediterranean or Baltic, e.g.
- Dentist's advice
- ____-de-France
- Patriot and NFL great
- Board head
- Ability to hit a target
- Exhaust
- Announce
- Acclimated
- 49ers star and NFL great
- Steeler and NFL great

- Tracking method
- "Ghostbusters" character Dr. ____ Spengler
- Middle earth creatures
- Crime lab clue
- Miner's load
- Kind of rock

Down

- On ____ with: equal to
- Como or Garda
- Pinnacle opposite
- Supreme Egyptian god
- Milo or Tessie
- "James and the Giant Peach" author Dahl
- Vigor
- French 101 verb
- Grass cutting implement
- ____ Alto
- Paul's singing partner
- In the movie, they are in black
- Force open
- Fretted
- Charged bit
- "Don't give up!"
- Mid-section
- It means "bone"
- Chairwoman's address
- Poor
- Landers and others
- "Perfect 10" gymnast Comaneci
- Type of hot pepper
- Mountaineer's challenge in Switzerland

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10			
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62						63						64		
							65						67	

- Temper
- ____ the brakes
- End of the week, briefly
- Robin's boss
- PC component
- Find out about
- Pavarotti, notably
- Cockamamie
- Sleepers, for short
- Tic-tac-toe win
- Dispatch
- MapQuest request, abbr.
- Othello's ensign

- Novice
- Book after Proverbs, abbr.
- Pigeonhole's place
- "Are you a man ____ mouse?"

answers on page 22

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

Gary A. Dordick

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