



Sunny, with temps in the upper-70s

BEVERLY PRESS

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Volume 34 No. 24

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

June 13, 2024

Applicant for middle school assistant principal withdraws

■ BHUSD explores other options to fill the position

BY TABOR BREWSTER

After Beverly Hills Unified School District Superintendent Michael Bregy announced former Hawthorne Principal Michelle Dar would be the next Beverly Vista Middle School assistant principal, Dar withdrew her application following a Board of Education meeting on June 4.

"I've withdrawn my application for the assistant principal position at BVMS. I've spent 20 years as an educator and administrator at BHUSD, and another 10 years before that as a student here," Dar said in an email. "Unfortunately, I don't believe there's enough alignment between my vision for BVMS and my values, and that of certain trustees, and I can't properly serve the students and families of this district without that alignment. I wish BVMS well as I plan to stay part of the BHUSD community in my current role as an academic coach."

Dar declined to provide further



photo courtesy of BHUSD

Michelle Dar withdrew her application shortly after the BHUSD Board of Education voted to table her certification.

comment.

Dar's withdrawal came shortly after a BHUSD Board of Education meeting, in which the board voted to table the agenda item concerning the certification of Dar in a 3-1

See **BHUSD** page 22

Pawn shop project raises questions

■ Development will transform vacant Melrose Avenue site

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

The Los Angeles Department of City Planning held an online hearing on June 6 for the Pawn Shop project, which will transform the former Brothers Collateral shop at the northwest corner of Melrose Avenue and Cahuenga Boulevard into a restaurant and sports bar.

The building that housed the pawn shop since 1980 sits vacant while the project makes its way through planning department reviews. It was acquired in 2023 by developer Diego Torres-Palma, who plans to restore the 7,800-square-foot two-story art deco building into a restaurant. Plans call for seating for 260 people on the ground floor and in upstairs private suites. Torres-Palma said he is partnering with Chef Tony Messina to create the menu. Regular hours would be 9 a.m.-2 a.m. Torres-Palma is seeking permission to open early at 6 a.m. approximately 32 times per year to broadcast soccer games and

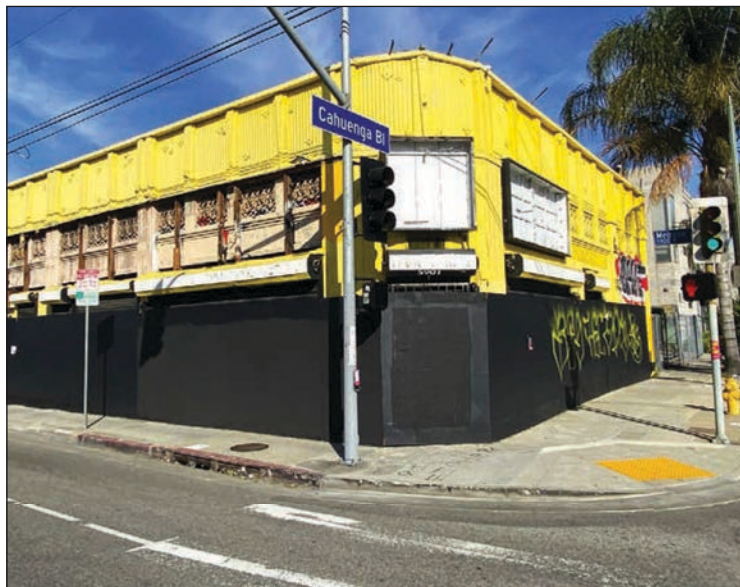


photo by Edwin Folven

The former Brothers Collateral pawn shop remains vacant after being sold last year. The new owner is planning a restaurant and bar.

sporting events from other parts of the world.

"What we're trying to do is give this beautiful building a new look and a new purpose and make it a community engaging place where people have high-level food and watch a game every once in a while," Torres-Palma said. "We

plan on restoring the building, and keeping as much of the character as possible."

Associate zoning administrator John Chiang listened to a presentation from the developer during the June 6 hearing and more than an hour of public testimony.

See **Project** page 21

Freedom rings at Juneteenth celebrations

■ Cities observe America's second Independence Day

BY TABOR BREWSTER

Each year, Juneteenth National Independence Day commemorates the end of slavery in the United States. Although President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation in January 1863, some Black

Americans in the South remained enslaved until 1865. Juneteenth celebrates the day in June 1865 in which Union General Gordon Granger arrived in Texas to announce the enforcement of the Emancipation Proclamation, freeing the last enslaved people in the former Confederacy. While the holiday has been celebrated by Black Americans since 1866, June 19 became a federal holiday in 2021.

This year, Juneteenth will be observed by the cities of Los

Angeles, West Hollywood and Beverly Hills, with each offering unique holiday programming for residents.

"It is important that we recognize Juneteenth as a significant day in our history in which Union troops arrived in Galveston Bay, Texas, to announce the freedom of more than 250,000 enslaved individuals," Beverly Hills Mayor Lester Friedman said. "We, along with other cities and federal agencies across the nation, observe the historic event which marked the end of slavery in the United States."

In December 2023, the city of Beverly Hills established Juneteenth as an official city holiday as part of a labor agreement with city employees. City Hall will be closed on June 19 in observance of the holiday, and the Beverly Hills Public Library will have a Juneteenth book display from June 17-24.

The city will also host a special Juneteenth-themed concert as a part of its summer "Concerts on Cañon" series. The concert at 6 p.m. on June 20 in Beverly Cañon Gardens will feature L.A. soul-funk-R&B band AsbSOULute. The concert is free and open to the public. Beverly

See **Juneteenth** page 21



photo courtesy of Metro

Metro has proposed three potential configurations of the K Line Northern Extension.

WeHo extends support for Metro's K Line rail project

■ Extension could run through heart of city

BY RANCE COLLINS

The Metro K Line Northern Extension could be a game changer for the city of West Hollywood. For several years, three different configurations of the subway line have been batted around, each of which would impact the city in unique ways. Last September, Metro conduct-

ed informational meetings for the community, breaking down the potential routes.


The route favored by the West Hollywood City Council, and which was most popular in community feedback, would go up San Vicente Boulevard and cut across Santa Monica Boulevard, ultimately connecting the Exposition Line with the Hollywood/Highland Red Line station.

See **Metro** page 22





photo by Jon Viscott


The city of West Hollywood will raise the Juneteenth flag outside City Hall on Wednesday, June 19.





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photo by Tabor Brewster

The project would replace an empty lot at 8844 Burton Way.

20-story development proposed on Burton Way in Beverly Hills

BY TABOR BREWSTER

Developer Crescent Heights, Inc. filed a project request for a 20-story mixed-use building at 8844 Burton Way on March 25. The proposed development would contain 200 units, with 40 reserved for affordable housing. The building would be approximately 223 feet tall with ground floor retail space. It would also include three levels of underground parking and two levels of above-ground parking.

The development aims to make use of the builder's remedy, a state provision that allows private developers to bypass certain code restrictions if the building contains a certain percentage of affordable housing units.

A public hearing on the project has not yet been scheduled.

Residents with questions about the proposed development are asked to contact the project planner Edgar Arroyo at earroyo@beverlyhills.org.

Pride shines bright at LADWP

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power joined its

employees and Angelenos to celebrate Pride Month 2024. June 5 marked a historic day for LADWP, as the Progress Pride flag was raised in front of its headquarters, the John Ferraro Building, in downtown Los Angeles for the first time. The department also participated in the L.A. Pride Parade on June 9.

At LADWP, diversity, equity and inclusion are core values. Celebrating Pride Month demonstrates the department's enduring commitment to fostering an inclusive environment where everyone feels safe, respected and enjoys a strong sense of acceptance and belonging.

"LADWP embraces and stands in support of inclusivity and diversity," board president Richard Katz said. "Together, we celebrate this Pride Month."

"LADWP is proud to join the Los Angeles community and others across the world to celebrate Pride Month. Establishing a workforce and community where all can feel supported and accepted is vital. We stand with the LGBTQIA+ community and recognize and celebrate the contributions they make to our workforce and community at large," said Janisse Quiñones, LADWP CEO and chief engineer.

LADWP's PRIDE Employee Resource Group, established in 2023, has spearheaded initiatives in support of the LGBTQIA+ community in the department and continues to champion inclusivity in the workforce. PRIDE members, along with fellow LADWP staff and allies, marched in the 2024 L.A. Pride Parade on June 9 and represented the department for the third year in a row.

The department remains committed to supporting the LGBTQIA+ community and invites all Los Angeles community members to join in making Pride Month one of inclusion and empowerment for all.

For information, visit ladwp.com.

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CALENDAR

Holocaust program

Holocaust Museum L.A. is holding a special screening of the first episode of "The Tattooist of Auschwitz" on Thursday, June 13, from 6:30-9 p.m. at AMC The Grove. Peacock's new limited series tells the powerful true story of Lali Sokolov, a Jewish prisoner who was tasked with tattooing ID numbers on prisoners' arms in the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp. A panel discussion moderated by movie critic Scott Mantz follows the program. Admission is free for museum members, \$15 for nonmembers. 189 The Grove Drive. holocaust-museumla.org.

Coffee With a Cop

Meet officers from the Los Angeles Police Department's Wilshire Division at Coffee with a Cop on Friday, June 14, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., at Nordstrom at The Grove. Residents can meet the Miracle Mile's new senior lead officer Andrew Jones as well as officers and the administrative staff from the station. Participants can ask questions, raise concerns and learn how to improve safety. 189 The Grove Drive. (213)473-0200.

DTLA Dog Days

DTLA Dog Days are back at Pershing Square on Friday, June 14, from 4-8 p.m., and Saturday, June 15, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Hosted by the DTLA Alliance, the event is "furbastic" for dog lovers. The 16th annual festival includes dog-friendly vendors, tasty treats, free dog caricatures, photo ops and DJs on June 14, and puppy yoga, vendors and community dog walks on June 15. 532 S. Olive St., downtown. downtownla.com/dogdays.



Comedy play

HorseChart Theatre presents the campy comedy "Psycho Beach Party" running from Friday, June 14, through Sunday, July 7, at the Matrix Theatre. "Psycho Beach Party" mashes 1950s psychodramas and 1960s surfer flicks into a madcap comedy. Written by Charles Busch, the production stars Adrián González, Chase Rosenberg, Daniel Montgomery, Daniele Gaither, Drew Droege, Harrison Meloeny, Michael P. McDonald, Pete Zias, Sam Pancake, Thomas Hobson and Roz Hernandez. Showtimes are 7 p.m., Thursday through Sunday. Tickets are \$45. 7657 Melrose Ave. (323)496-3390, horsechart.ludus.com.

Salastina

Classical music fans are invited to join Salastina for a performance on Friday, June 14, at 8 p.m. at the Edye Second Space at the Santa Monica College Performing Arts Center. The concert features the music of Johann Nepomuk Hummel and Franz Schubert. In 1819, Hummel organized a concert for the world-premiere performance of one of his works. For the occasion, Schubert wrote the "Trout Quintet" for the same combination of instruments. Guess which one people remember most? Salastina recreates the concert so audiences can judge for themselves. Tickets are \$40. 1310 11th St., Santa Monica. salastina.org/concerts.

LACMA art workshop

Visitors of all ages are invited to join a free painting workshop on Saturday, June 15, from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. in the Los Angeles County Museum of Art's

Boone Children's Gallery. Explore the art of brush painting. Friendly and helpful staff will introduce painting techniques, offer tips and provide high chairs for very young artists. No prior art-making experience is necessary. 5905 Wilshire Blvd. lacma.org.



American Cinematheque

The American Cinematheque is holding a special screening of "American Psycho" (2000) on Saturday, June 15, at 4 p.m. at the Los Feliz Theater. The film stars Christian Bale and Reese Witherspoon. Based on the controversial novel, it offers a sharp satire to the dark side of yuppie culture in the 1980s while setting forth a terrifying and chilling vision. The program includes a live virtual Q&A session with screenwriter Guinevere Turner. 1822 N. Vermont Ave. americancine-mattheque.com.

Janine

Goldenvoice presents R&B artist Janine in concert on Saturday, June 15, at 9 p.m. at the El Rey Theater. Janine first broke into the music industry when her song "Hold Me" reached the top of the charts after being featured on VH1's "Love & Hip-Hop Atlanta." Afterward, the singer/songwriter from New Zealand was signed to Atlantic Records, headlined her first U.S. tour and released the album "Dark Mind." Tickets are \$23. 5515 Wilshire Blvd. theel-rey.com.



Kim Richey

Enjoy "An Evening With Kim Richey" on Tuesday, June 18, at 7:30 p.m. at the Grammy Museum. In partnership with the Americana Music Association, the Grammy Award-nominated artist will appear in the museum's intimate Clive Davis Theater for a conversation and performance. Her music has influences of Americana, folk, country and pop. Sarah Rodman will moderate a discus-

sion with Richey on her 10th studio album "Every New Beginning." Tickets are \$15. 800 W. Olympic Blvd. grammymuseum.org.

Juneteenth at Hollywood Bowl

Celebrate Juneteenth on Wednesday, June 19, at 8 p.m. at the Hollywood Bowl. T-Pain co-curates a one-night-only event spotlighting Black music with special guests and a full orchestra. Guests include Ledisi, D Smoke, Tina Campbell of Mary Mary, LaRussell, DC6 Singers Collective and the Color of Noize Orchestra. Derrick Hodge conducts the orchestra. Doors open at 6 p.m. Tickets start at \$21. 2301 Highland Ave. hollywood-bowl.com.

Todd Rundgren

Enjoy an evening with Todd Rundgren during his 2024 "Me/We Tour" on Thursday, June 20, at the Saban Theatre. As a songwriter, video pioneer, producer, recording artist, computer software developer, conceptualist and interactive artist, Rundgren has made a lasting impact on the form and content of popular music. He is known for the hit singles "I Saw The Light," "Hello It's Me," "Can We Still Be Friends" and "Bang The Drum." Doors open at 6 p.m. Tickets start at \$48. 8440 Wilshire Blvd. wheremusiceetsthesoul.com/events/todd-rundgren-me-we-beverly-hills-june-2024.

Geffen Playhouse

Geffen Playhouse's West Coast premiere of "tiny father," written by Mike Lew, runs from Thursday, June 20, through Sunday, July 14, in the Gil Cates Theater. Directed by Tony Award-nominated Moritz von Stuelpnagel, the cast includes Tiffany Villarín as Caroline and Maurice Williams as Daniel. When a relationship unexpectedly results in the early arrival of a baby girl, Daniel must choose between being a biological parent or becoming a father. With the help of a no-nonsense night nurse, the new dad learns to navigate the protocols and frustrations on his uncertain path to parenthood. Showtimes are 8 p.m., Wednesday through Friday, 3 and 8 p.m., Saturday; and 2 and 7 p.m., Sunday. Tickets start at \$30. 10886 Le Conte Ave. geffenplayhouse.org.

THE MUSIC MINUTE

AN EVENING WITH
JOHN CLEESE
WITH LIVE Q&A

John Cleese, best known for his comedy – Monty Python, Fawlty Towers, A Fish Called Wanda, brings his incredible persona to the Saban Theatre in Beverly Hills.

He is an outstanding speaker thanks in part to his experience running Video Arts, a management training videos company, his co-authorship of two best-selling books on Psychology, his long record of success making TV and radio commercials, his Masters degree in Law from Cambridge University, his 40 year record as a motivational speaker, his teaching as a roving Professor at Cornell, and his recent ground-breaking book on Creativity.

His performance combines an actor's charisma, a writer's wit, a comedian's ability to connect and a deep desire not to bore people.

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photo courtesy of the office of Hugo Soto-Martinez

On June 10, Los Angeles City Councilwoman Nithya Raman, 4th District, Councilman Hugo Soto-Martinez, 13th District, and other leaders and residents helped take down “No Cruising” signage.

‘No Cruising’ signs come down

BY RANCE COLLINS

In 1997, “No Cruising” signs were erected in Silver Lake targeting gay men who neighbors alleged were searching for potential dates in the area. After West Hollywood, Silver Lake is home to the largest concentration of gay bars in the Los Angeles area.

The signs prohibited U-turns and stated that “two times past same point within 6 hours is cruising.” In 2011, the language was removed at the direction of the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council, but nine “No U-turn”

signs remained along Griffith Park Boulevard. On June 10, Los Angeles City Councilman Hugo Soto-Martinez, 13th District, and Councilwoman Nithya Raman, 4th District, took down the last of the signs, bringing an end to an era that officials dubbed “homophobic.”

“This type of homophobia persisted in Silver Lake more than 30 years after the Black Cat protests,” Soto-Martinez said. “This Pride Month, it was an important moment to remove the physical remnants of that bigoted

See Signs page 22



photo by Edwin Folven

MelroseINC CEO Sandy Nasserri and her husband Sean Nasserri cut a ribbon on June 11 to officially open the store’s expansion.

MelroseINC opens new space near Melrose and Highland

“It Always Seems Impossible Until It’s Done” reads a brightly lit neon sign stretching across a wall inside MelroseINC’s new expanded space at 6618 Melrose Ave. It is a proverb that owner Sandy Nasserri said guided her as the project was completed over the past four years.

The computer store, which has been at 6614 Melrose Ave. since 2003, was looted by rioters during the summer of 2020. While it quickly reopened for business, Nasserri said it marked the start of a plan to expand into a space next to the original Melrose Mac store and create a place for the community. The new MelroseINC space includes a computer lab as well as conference rooms, executive offices and a rooftop space for special events. Nasserri said it is the culmination of years of determination and hard work.

“It is significant because it symbolizes the rebirth. We created our space and we actually expanded so that we have a

rooftop and we have executive offices. Something always good comes from something tragic,” Nasserri said.

Nasserri received a proclamation from the city at the grand opening presented by Michelle Flores, field deputy for Councilwoman Katy Yaroslavsky, 5th District. The store is celebrating its 21st anniversary this year and employs approximately 80 people. The new building includes approximately 5,000 square feet of space.

“Every nail hammered ... was a step forward to reclaiming what was lost, and now it’s completely rebuilt,” Nasserri said. “I stand here proud and humbled to present this revitalized space. It will serve as a hub for innovation, collaboration and creativity here at Melrose. This isn’t just a reopening, it is a celebration of resilience, community and boundless possibilities that lie ahead.”

County LGBTQ+ commission holds first meeting

■ New board will advise supervisors on community issues

BY RANCE COLLINS

Los Angeles County’s LGBTQ+ Commission has commenced. On June 11, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors gavelled in the first meeting, headed by the commission’s executive director Sunitha Menon.

“It is an honor to be the first executive director of the LGBTQ+ Commission, and I am grateful for [Supervisor Hilda Solis, 1st District] and [Supervisor Janice Hahn, 4th District] for authoring the original motion to form this commission,” Menon said. “The unanimous support from the Board of Supervisors reflects a shared reality that all LGBTQ+ people in Los Angeles County need dedicated support to ensure our safety and survival. I look forward to working alongside the commissioners to ensure we are uplifting the needs of the over 500,000 members of our community, particularly for our black and brown trans community members, and those who live in areas with less access to life-saving resources and support.”

Menon has worked with Equality California, the largest LGBTQ+ civil rights organization in the country, as the managing director of operations. As the county’s commission leader, Menon will work with the 15-member body to advise on policies and practices in regards



photo courtesy of the office of Lindsey Horvath

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and L.A. County Assessor Jeff Prang attended the first meeting of the county’s LGBTQ+ commission.

to the LGBTQ+ community.

Solis and Hahn first put forth the motion to create the commission in June 2023. Solis said that it was because the supervisors “stood in solidarity” with the LGBTQ+ family that the commission was made possible. Hahn added that she was glad the county “is on the right side of history.”

“There are too many states and local governments across the country who are moving backwards when it comes to LGBTQ rights,” she said.

Board of Supervisors Chair Lindsey Horvath, 3rd District, has a long history with the LGBTQ+ community, having served for many years as a City Council member and mayor to West Hollywood,

the nation’s largest-per-capita LGBTQ+ city.

“This commission will be instrumental in our ongoing journey towards equality by empowering our LGBTQ+ siblings and ensuring their voices are heard and valued,” Horvath said. “I look forward to partnering with our commissioners and executive director to inform policymaking and service provision as we work to further LGBTQ+ rights in Los Angeles.”

The commissioners – appointed by the supervisors – represent a cross-section of the county and the LGBTQ+ community at large, including doctors, nonprofit executives, civic leaders and entertainers.

Los Angeles County Assessor

See Commission page 22

WEHO PRIDE ARTS FESTIVAL

JUNE 14-16, 2024

Join us for the WeHo Pride Arts Festival weekend, part of the City of West Hollywood’s WeHo Pride!












This series of events will activate West Hollywood with two art exhibits, a mini Vogue ball, a poetry installation, and a transmasculine comedy show, along with additional programs like arts grant-funded Prism Comics Q-Con LGBTQ Comic-Con, a free concert from Gay Men’s Chorus of Los Angeles, and interactive typewriter poetry from Pride Poets.



All events are free, no RSVP needed

wehopride.com/artsfestival

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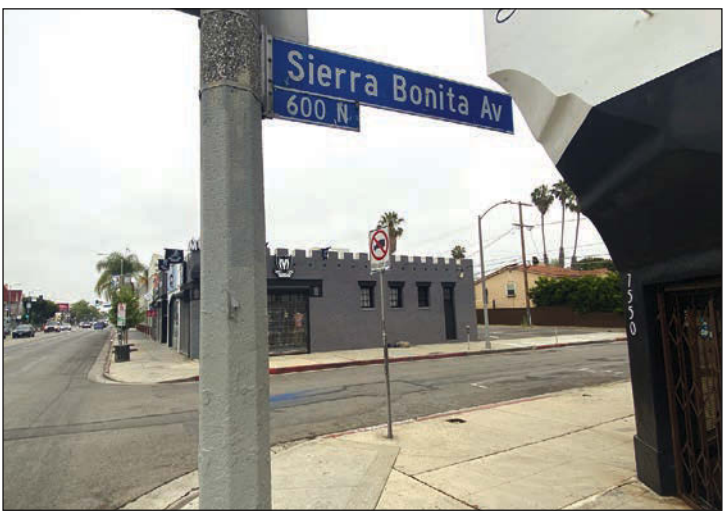


photo by Edwin Folven

A residence in the 600 block of North Sierra Bonita Avenue was burglarized on June 8 and the suspects stole property valued at more than \$100,000, police said.

Burglary crews target homes in LAPD's Wilshire Division

■ Police stress the reporting of suspicious activity

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Police are investigating a residential burglary on June 8 in the 600 block of North Sierra Bonita Avenue just south of Melrose Avenue in which thieves stole jewelry and handbags valued at more than \$100,000.

The residents returned home in the late afternoon and found their home had been burglarized, said Lt. Mark Ro, with the Los Angeles Police Department's Wilshire Division. The suspects entered the backyard, smashed a window and went inside the residence, Ro said. Authorities located security camera video that shows a suspicious vehicle parked near the home during the afternoon of the burglary, but have not identified any suspects.

"We always encourage cameras. There is video with a car, a white SUV. We are looking for additional video," Ro added.

The burglary was one of several that occurred last weekend throughout the Wilshire Division, Ro said. He did not have the exact number of incidents, but said it appears a burglary crew may be

traveling to different neighborhoods to target homes.

On June 11, a similar burglary was reported in the 300 block of S. Las Palmas Ave. in Hancock Park in which two suspects pried open a gate, entered a backyard and broke into a home. Security cameras captured a suspect ringing the doorbell prior to the burglary and a suspicious vehicle with two men inside waiting out front.

"There are burglary crews out there. They use multiple cars and there are multiple suspects. It's very difficult to catch up with them," Ro said.

Police have brought in specialized units to address the burglary crews and are asking the public to be vigilant. Ro recommended home alarms and security systems for homes where residents are away for prolonged periods of time, and said people should watch over their neighbors' properties. Immediately report any suspicious activity in the neighborhood including people sitting in parked vehicles.

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

L.A. County offers free gun locks to boost public safety

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health's Office of Violence Prevention, in collaboration with L.A. County Library, is distributing 1,000 gun safety locks to the public, no questions asked. Residents can request two free gun locks by visiting lockedandunloaded.org. Free gun locks are also available at five L.A. County libraries in Compton, Norwalk, San Fernando, Rosemead and Lancaster. An L.A. County Library card is not required to obtain a free gun safety lock.

"Gun locks can save lives, especially in households with children," said Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn, 4th District. "We are using every strategy we can to prevent gun violence including new policies to prevent guns from ending up in the wrong hands, gun buybacks across my district to get guns off the streets, and now expanding where residents can get free gun locks to take home."

"The simple act of locking and safely storing firearms can prevent a tragedy that far too many families have experienced," Los Angeles County Department of Public Health director Barbara Ferrer said. "Extending the program to provide free gun safety locks to the public in partnership with L.A. County libraries expands our efforts to keep families – and especially children – safe from gun violence."

The Public Health Department launched a program to distribute 60,000 free gun safety locks in 2024 to L.A. County residents. The locks – along with safe storage educational materials and resources – help prevent firearm injuries and deaths, including homicides, suicides and unintentional deaths. In Los Angeles County, a child is killed or injured by gun violence every 30 hours. In 2022, more than 800 L.A. County residents lost their lives to gun violence. For information, visit lockedandunloaded.org.

Boxer Ryan Garcia arrested in Beverly Hills

■ BHPD says fighter caused \$15,000 in damage to hotel

BY TABOR BREWSTER

Professional Boxer Ryan Garcia was arrested on June 8 at the Waldorf Astoria in Beverly Hills for alleged vandalism to the hotel, according to the Beverly Hills Police Department.

"On June 8, at approximately 5:15 P.M., the Beverly Hills Police Department responded to 9850 Wilshire Blvd. (Waldorf Astoria) for an 'intoxicated person' call for service," BHPD Lt. Andrew Myers said. "During the investigation, the intoxicated person was identified as Ryan Garcia. Upon obtaining statements from the hotel management, it was determined that Mr. Garcia was a registered guest of the hotel and had caused damage to a guest room and the hallway of the hotel. Hotel management requested the arrest of Mr. Garcia for property damage."

According to Myers, Garcia was subsequently arrested and transported to a hospital for medical care by the Beverly Hills Fire Department.

Garcia was arrested for felony vandalism, which applies when alleged damages are \$400 or more. Myers said the hotel's "initial estimate" for damages caused by Garcia was approximately \$15,000.

A spokesperson for Hilton – which owns the hotel – issued the following statement.

"We can confirm an incident occurred at Waldorf Astoria Beverly



photo by Tabor Brewster

The boxer was arrested at the Waldorf Astoria Beverly Hills on June 8 and was transported to a hospital for treatment.

Hills and we are cooperating fully with the local authorities," the statement read. "The wellbeing, safety and security of our guests are of paramount importance, and we continue to make every effort to ensure all practices and standards are in line with strict safety and security standards."


Garcia's attorney, Darin Chavez, issued a statement on June 9 in response to the arrest, stating that Garcia "has been grappling with devastating news regarding his mother's health."

Garcia's mother shared on Instagram the week prior that she had recently been diagnosed with breast cancer.



"Ryan has been open about his struggles with mental health over the

years, and at this time he is dealing with an immense emotional burden," Chavez added. "The support and understanding from fans and the public are crucial as he navigates these personal challenges. We are working diligently to provide Ryan with the resources he needs. Our team is committed to ensuring that he receives the appropriate help and care to address both his immediate and long-term well-being. We ask for continued support and compassion as Ryan focuses on his family and his health at this time."

In addition to possible felony charges, Garcia is facing a possible suspension from the New York State Athletic Commission after he tested positive for a banned substance, ostarine, before a match on April 20.



Virtual Workshop:
Regulating Single-use Plastic and Expanded Polystyrene


On March 18, 2024 the Beverly Hills City Council adopted an ordinance prohibiting the distribution of single-use plastic and expanded polystyrene (e.g., Styrofoam) foodware.

The ordinance will reduce plastic waste by requiring food facilities that provide disposable foodware to use compostable or recyclable items. Most businesses, including restaurants, grocery stores, hotels, and pharmacies, will have until March 18, 2025, to comply.

Join the sustainability team to learn about requirements for compliance and business resources, such as the Early Adopter Program, with time at the end for Q&A.

Monday, June 24 2024 | 10 - 11 am

Questions? Feedback? Contact us at askBH@Beverlyhills.org or (310) 285-1000



Join via Zoom: [beverlyhills-org.zoom.us/my/community](https://beverlyhills-org.zoom.us/j/90210)
Passcode: 90210

Call-in: (310) 288-1020

More information here: beverlyhills.org/plasticandfoam

WeHo approves 3D billboard for Sunset Strip

■ Opponents express concern about traffic and pedestrian safety

BY RANCE COLLINS

In recent weeks, the intersection of Sunset and La Cienega boulevards has been a hot topic for the West Hollywood City Council. Last month, approval for a two-sided digital billboard atop the Sterling Building was punted by the council pending further review. On June 10, however, the council approved a 3D billboard that will adorn the neighboring development at 8497-8499 Sunset Blvd, which is called The NOW.

The full-motion advertisement will occupy roughly 2,500 square feet and replace a previously approved static billboard. The city will receive a higher share of the sign's gross revenue under its new configuration, with a projected revenue of \$62.7 million over the 30-year term of agreement. The income generated would be earmarked for programs and services for both Sunset Strip and the city "as a whole," according a staff report.

The NOW is a mixed-use commercial development that will include retail and dining space. The four-story building will be approximately 54,000 square feet and include a below-ground 138-vehicle parking garage. It would include green areas and hillside views of Los Angeles on elevated terraces.

The 3D billboard is incorporated into the design of the building, creating what the report calls a "media cube." It will also be configured to accommodate standard 2D static advertisements, in addition to 2D animated displays. A hefty percentage of the 3D content will be dedicated to city and its arts programs, which adds something the report noted "doesn't currently exist in our art portfolio."

"The signage is exciting and creative. It will definitely enliven the new building," Councilman John Heilman said. "However, we also need to make sure it doesn't create a safety problem for drivers."

During the meeting, some residents addressed the concern that the signage might prove distracting for drivers.

"This is a very dangerous intersection," resident Nik Roybal said. "I don't drive. I use Metro. I walk everywhere in the city. I do not think we have fully taken that into consideration, the safety of those who walk and use that intersection."

Nearby homeowner Ann Leslie Uzdavinis said she and her neighbors worried about the light from the signage and thought that the various developments and proposed advertising on the Sunset Strip should be looked at "cumulatively."

"It is an intersection that already has great light impact on the city and neighboring communities," Uzdavinis said. "It already is dangerous with the numerous distractions that are present and planned, and all of these distractions endanger drivers and pedestrians. This project and nearby projects do impact neighbors both direct and in reflected light, which is something that is rarely discussed at these meetings. My neighbors are impacted directly and in reflected light from billboards further west on Sunset. The impact in our homes is not the same as the impact that's seen at our property line."

Councilwoman Lauren Meister shared some of the residents' concerns, noting that the building is at the end of a steep stretch of La Cienega Boulevard.

"The combination of the incline of La Cienega, the location of the cube and the atypical intersection of streets La Cienega, Sunset and Miller Drive makes this already a not-so-great place for any full motion billboard, let alone a billboard where images are jumping out the screen at motorists or bicyclists or scooters," Meister said.

Due to the community feedback, the City Council added a caveat to the project's approval.

"I added a condition allowing the city to reopen the agreement if there are documented safety issues," Heilman said. "The studies that were completed show there wouldn't be any problems, but it's better to reserve our options should a safety issue arise in the future."

Most residents who spoke at the June 10 meeting, though, were in favor of the project.

"I'm from Wisconsin and most



rendering courtesy of Mithun Hodgetts + Fung

The NOW commercial development is currently under construction at the intersection of Sunset and La Cienega boulevards.

of my family has come to visit me, but they've never seen anything like [the proposed billboard]," resident Michelle Gillam said. "I think it would just be really neat to show them something on the pedestrian walk that's jumping out at them ... and the technological leadership and innovation that it brings to our area is really neat, too."

"I think La Cienega and Sunset is currently not that visually appealing as a pedestrian," resident Christopher Bruce Muller said, expressing excitement over the look of the forthcoming development.

"I also personally think 3D billboards are cool. I'm a live event video technician by trade, and I do predict that these kinds of billboards will be the norm sooner than later, so ... getting that into our city, as one of the first, would be good."

Mayor John Erickson said that the project is taking a "dead square that was dark and dreary" and bringing light to it.

"[It's] a beautiful project, a beautifully designed project and an economically prosperous project for the city when all is said and done," Erickson said.



BEVERLY GARDENS PARK CLOSURE FOR A SPECIAL EVENT

Thursday, June 20, 2024 | 3 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Roads surrounding Beverly Gardens Park will be impacted, including N. Crescent Drive and Park Way.

Please note there will be meter closures and truck staging on Park Way.

For questions, please contact askBH at 310-285-1000.

Robin Tyler blazes through an 'Outstanding' life

■ Comedian and her wife were first lesbian couple married in L.A. County

BY RANCE COLLINS

She was at Stonewall. She and her late wife were the first lesbian couple to be married in the city of Los Angeles. She was the first gay comic to come out on American television. She was part of the first national march on Washington, D.C. for lesbian and gay rights. Robin Tyler has spent her life being a first. A new Netflix documentary, "Outstanding: A Comedy Revolution" is giving Tyler, and other trailblazing comedians, their due, exploring the history of LGBTQ+ stand-up comedy.

Tyler, now 82, was born and raised in Winnipeg, Canada, but moved to New York City in 1962.

"I came to the United States to break into show business," she said. "I heard that people were out of the closet in the United States."

Tyler got a job at Club 82, a

Manhattan nightclub that largely employed female impersonators. With her impression of Judy Garland, she took drag to a different level – as a woman pretending to be a man pretending to be a woman – decades before Julie Andrews attempted the same feat in "Victor/Victoria."

"I was a lesbian being a female impersonator. All you have to do is be female and then just add something. Just one extra gesture," Tyler said.

One night, the club was raided by police and Tyler was thrown in jail. She put in her one phone call to the New York Post to report the incident. The next day the headline read, "Cops Grab 44 Men and a Real Girl in Slacks."

Tyler would pair up as a comedy duo with her then-partner Pat Harrison. Harrison and Tyler eventually moved to Los Angeles to pursue their comedic career, but not before witnessing one of the most consequential events in LGBTQ+ rights history.

"One day, Patti and I heard that there was rioting in Greenwich Village, and so we went down there.

And it was Stonewall," Tyler said. "It was the second night I was there, but I couldn't participate because I was from Canada, and I wasn't a citizen yet. Had I participated and been arrested [again], they would've shown me out."

At that time, Tyler said, immigrants had to sign a paper that said they were not a drug addict, a prostitute, a communist or a homosexual.

"I wasn't a homosexual. I was a lesbian," Tyler said.

After witnessing the Stonewall Riots, she told Harrison that she would never "stand back and just watch" again.

"I think that after that

night ... that's when Robin Tyler the activist was born," she said.

She would become a U.S. citizen so that she could tour Vietnam as part of the USO. After returning, she became an anti-war activist, as well.

Her comedy with Harrison was radical, pushing for equal rights for all and holding oppressive societies accountable. Their college tours made them a popular act, and they were even picked up by ABC to create a variety show, though the project never came to fruition. While on tour, they were what Tyler calls the "first and only lesbian, feminist comedy team," the network wanted something different.

"We weren't each other's girlfriend on television, but they tried to develop us into Sonny and Cher ... and it didn't work out because we were radical," she explained.

They did appear together on the Krofft Comedy Hour, activist demonstrations and self-produced comedy albums. But conforming to network norms was not in Tyler's career plans.

"Closets are vertical coffins," she said. "So, by not being on television, I was able to go out and finally be open. It wasn't that I was closeted, it's that I didn't know how to make it funny."

Harrison suggested that Tyler talk about telling her mom she was a lesbian, and that led to "Always a Bridesmaid, Never a Groom," Tyler's first solo comedy album. She also became the first out lesbian to appear on U.S. national television in 1978, during a comedy special hosted by Phyllis Diller on Showtime.

"Little did I know that someday I'd be a groom, that I'd actually get married," Tyler reflected.

Tyler married Diane Olson on June 16, 2008. They were the first same sex couple to be married in Los Angeles County, and one of the first two same-sex couples to marry in the state. They had been the first plaintiffs, represented by attorney Gloria Allred, in the high-profile lawsuit that led to the California Supreme Court ruling in favor of marriage equality. Olson was an activist in her own right and the granddaughter of California Gov. Culbert Olson, who served from 1939-43.

"You just do it because the wall is there, and you have to punch the wall down," Tyler said of fighting the system.

One direction Tyler does not believe in punching, however, is down. In discussing comedy, she said that comedians who make fun of marginalized communities for humor are "punching down," and said comedic activism only works when you're "punching up."

"If people are laughing at it, they believe it's true," she said. "When you dehumanize people in humor, right, then it gives people permission to attack."

At 82, Tyler is doing comedy shows and participating in a documentary about her own life.

"What's good about a comic is that ... you can go on as long as you can go on. That's the age limit," she said.

And the activism part of her life shows no signs of slowing down, saying that turning out the vote for the November election is more important than it ever has been.

"If Trump gets in, he'll never leave," she warned. She also pointed out that both women and LGBTQ+ people still have not been granted equal protection under the law.

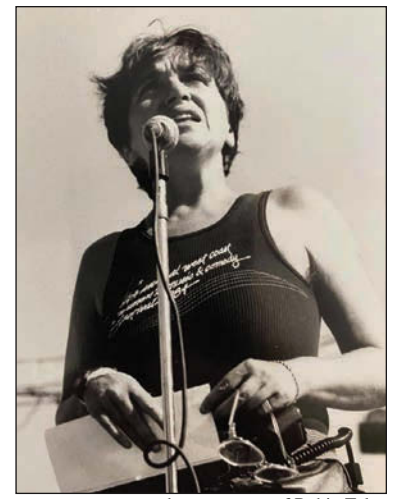


photo courtesy of Robin Tyler

Comedian Robin Tyler has broken barriers for LGBTQ+ people.

"Thank God we pushed the marriage stuff, we would never get it now," she added, alluding to the current makeup of the U.S. Supreme Court.

Both Tyler's wife and comedy partner Harrison died five years ago. Even after their relationship ended, Tyler said Harrison remained "the most important person throughout my life."

"The truth of the matter was she was my soulmate and without a license, we were married," she said.

"It was devastating to lose both Patti and Diane. I don't know how gay men survived AIDS losing their partners and their friends and not having legal relationships ... We have all been through so much. Nothing is stronger than love."

To hear more about the life and stories of Tyler and other ceiling-shattering comedians like her, watch the documentary "Outstanding," premiering on Netflix June 18.



photo courtesy of Robin Tyler

Robin Tyler toured with the USO in the 1970s.



photo courtesy of Maple Counseling Center

Maple Counseling Center opens new clinic

West Hollywood Vice Mayor Chelsea Byers, L.A. City Councilwoman Heather Hutt, Beverly Hills Vice Mayor Dr. Sharona Nazarian, BHUSD Board President Dr. Amanda Stern, Beverly Hills Councilman Craig Corman and BHPD Capt. Max Subin helped Maple Counseling Center celebrate the grand opening of its new community mental health clinic on La Cienega Boulevard with a ribbon tying ceremony on June 9.

"With all the chaos, division and uncertainty around us, it's more important than ever to acknowledge and talk about things. It's OK to not be OK," Nazarian said. "We need the tools and guidance to navigate, and who better than the Maple Counseling Center to provide those skills."

Maple Counseling Center CEO Varina Bleil expressed gratitude for the overwhelming support.

"Our ribbon-tying event served as a unifying force within the community as we celebrated the opening of our new clinic," Bleil said. "We're thrilled to further extend access to quality mental health care to all Angelenos through our new facility."

The new clinic, located at 1945 S. La Cienega Blvd., includes the innovative Briskin-Wilder Welcome Center, providing free personalized guidance from licensed practitioners.



MULTI-FAMILY ADU COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

Engage with Beverly Hills planners in an interactive in-person workshop to discuss potential changes to multi-family Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) regulations. Share your perspective on key standards such as height, floor area, and more. Your participation will be valuable community feedback for our Planning Commission and City Council. Can't attend in-person? Join our virtual-only workshop on Zoom on July 31, 2024, covering the same topic.

WORKSHOP DETAILS

Date: **MONDAY, JULY 8, 2024** | Time: **6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.**

Location: **Beverly Hills City Hall - Municipal Gallery**
455 North Rexford Drive
Beverly Hills, California 90210

✉ For further questions, please contact longrange@beverlyhills.org.



Scan the QR code below or visit beverlyhills.org/adu to participate in the City's community survey on multi-family ADUs.

Encampment near Highland keeps residents on edge

City provides outreach until housing is located

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Residents in the neighborhood near Melrose and Highland avenues are angry about a homeless encampment they said has been in existence since the pandemic.

Multiple tents are located on the sidewalk on Waring Avenue just west of Highland Avenue, blocking the public right of way. The city of Los Angeles has been conducting outreach and periodic cleanup operations, but residents of the surrounding neighborhood said it is not enough. A group of residents has been documenting criminal activity and said people staying in the encampment have been responsible for arson fires, fights, thefts, drug use and lewd conduct. Citrus Avenue resident Jacob Rosenberg said he recently walked out of his house to take his children to school and a naked man from the encampment was in his front yard. Police were called and the man was arrested. Rosenberg also cited problems such as people breaking into homes, peeping through windows and stealing property from yards.

"There has been a concerted effort by us to document the illegal activity going on there. It's right out in the street, right out in our neighborhood," Rosenberg said. "We've seen so many things. I can't grasp why it's tolerated."

Police and residents said approximately six to eight people regularly stay at the site. The city has been offering outreach and is working to find them permanent housing. The encampment is in the 13th District, represented by Los Angeles City Councilman Hugo Soto-Martinez. The councilman's spokesman Nick Barnes-Batista said a CARE+ cleanup, in which tents are removed temporarily, the ground is power-washed and tents are allowed to return, was most recently held on June 6, and plans are in the works for a permanent solution.

"We continue to have regular cleanings scheduled at this site. The People Concern provides regular mental health outreach in this area and a LAHSA team also provides housing referrals at this location so folks are ready to move into hous-

ing as beds open up," he said. "Everyone currently living at the encampment is ready to move indoors [once] the appropriate housing resources become available."

Officers from the Los Angeles Police Department's Wilshire Division are well aware of the encampment and said they frequently stop at the site. When officers see illegal activity, arrests are made.

"We've made numerous arrests and issued numerous citations, but it's not going to clean it up," said Senior Lead Officer De'Antraye Dantzler. "It's not the largest encampment, but it's definitely bad for its size."

"These things can snowball into a big size in a matter of hours, not days," added Lt. Mark Ro, with the Wilshire Division. "The good thing is, the right people are working on addressing it. We are not the lead agency as far as a cleanup, but we have a role to play. We will take action if there is illegal activity."

Rosenberg said the police department has been responsive but "is caught in the middle."

"The law enforcement stuff only goes so far," he added. "We want the city to take action."

Peter Nichols, co-founder of Melrose Action, a neighborhood advocacy organization, added that he has also been monitoring issues with the Waring Avenue encampment because people staying there fan out into the Melrose business district and commit crimes.

"The group ... is clearly problematic with illegal activity," Nichols said. "I am very supportive of people who are in need of services and the city providing them to people who need help, but Los Angeles is facing a dilemma. Only so many people are going to engage with services. I get it that the city is up against a wall, but so are the stakeholders. As an advocate for public safety for all, there is a need to emphasize that there is no excuse for any person to be able to commit illegal activity. It's one thing to be empathetic to someone's plight, and another to abide by illegal activity on public display."

Mayor Karen Bass' office, in conjunction with city, county and private agencies, has been clearing

encampments through the Inside Safe program, in which tents are removed after temporary housing is found for people. Inquiries to the mayor's office asking about the Waring Avenue encampment and whether it may be a future Inside Safe site were not answered.

Rosenberg said he is hopeful the city will soon clear the encampment, and wonders why it has taken so long. He said he is also sensitive to the needs of people living on the streets, but he believes enough is enough.

"The fundamental issue is the people living at the site are not just displaced," he added. "How many years does it have to go on?"



photo by Edwin Folven

Tents blocked the sidewalk on June 12 on Waring Avenue, east of Highland Avenue.

The LA Jewish Film Festival is Coming! June 19-24, 2024

Join us for a spectacular week of very special events and a remarkable line up of celebrities!

Opening Night Gala and Closing Night programs in partnership with Temple of the Arts

OPENING NIGHT GALA! Wednesday, June 19, 2024

The World Premiere of GUNS & MOSES

By Salvador Litvak
(Director of the cult classic, "When Do We Eat?")

7:00 pm - Doors Open for Red Carpet & Reception
7:45 pm - Show Begins
Steve Tisch Cinema Center at SABAN THEATRE
8440 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, CA
Security by Magen Am USA

Q&A to follow with director Salvador Litvak and actors Mark Feuerstein, Michael B. Silver, Mila & Juju Brener, and invited cast Dermot Mulroney and Christopher Lloyd!

A high-octane mystery thriller starring Mark Feuerstein (*Defiance*), with Christopher Lloyd (*Back to the Future*) and Dermot Mulroney (*Shameless*).

"Guns & Moses" is the story of an affable small town rabbi who becomes an unlikely gunslinger after his community is violently attacked. Mo Zaltzman (Feuerstein) is a beloved rabbi in a dusty town in the California high desert. When his congregation is attacked, police quickly arrest a young white nationalist who threatened them in the past, but Rabbi Mo thinks the troubled teen may be innocent. With no one else willing to investigate, Rabbi Mo becomes the detective, and as the bodies pile up, he must learn how to use a gun. At the heart of the film is the unexpected bond between the rabbi and an antisemite, as well as Mo's looming fear that he won't pull the trigger if he has to... and that he will.

2024/Drama-Thriller/USA/93 minutes Directed by Salvador Litvak. Written by Salvador Litvak and Nina Davidovich



CLOSING NIGHT! Monday, June 24, 2024

World Premiere SONG OF ASCENT Matisyahu Documentary Live in Wartime Israel 10/7 & Beyond

7:30 pm - Show Begins
Steve Tisch Cinema Center at the SABAN THEATRE
8440 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills

Q&A in person with rap sensation Matisyahu and filmmakers following the film!



ABOUT THE FILM: Song of Ascent depicts Matisyahu's most recent US tour bookended by two meaningful trips to Israel, and follows his experience at several Kibbutzim, the Nova Festival site, hospitals, and other locations essential to bearing witness to the Oct 7th massacres.

Documentary/2024/Israel/90 mins
Producer/Director/Filmmaker/DP/Editor - Shlomo Weprin
Additional Producers: Matthew Miller, Adam Weinberg, Jonathan Boyer & David Katzin

Grove events take away June gloom

Summer is here at The Grove starting with Pride Bingo on June 13, featuring food, drinks, live music, bingo and luxury prizes. Bingo tickets are \$55. The Dad Core Father's Day event takes dad style to the next level at Michael Kors. It's the perfect chance to find the perfect gift for the man who's mastered dad style. Enjoy 25% off

all men's styles at Michael Kors for a limited time. The Outset's pop-up is open through June 19. The Outset is Scarlett Johansson's popular skincare brand. Discover the brand's 3-step regimen and other healthy-skin products at the pop-up.

For information, visit thegrove-la.com. The Grove is located at 189 The Grove Drive.



photo courtesy of The Grove

A host of summer events are scheduled at The Grove.

For full program information and advance tickets go to www.LAJFilmFest.org



L.A. Jewish Film Festival celebrates stories of cultural heritage

■ Beverly Hills City Councilmembers will attend red carpet

BY TABOR BREWSTER

The Los Angeles Jewish Film Festival will return this year from June 19-24, with special opening and closing night events taking place at the Saban Theatre in Beverly Hills. This year's theme, "Fighting Antisemitism One Film at a Time," celebrates Jewish filmmakers from diverse backgrounds and highlights a wide array of Jewish stories.

The festival began in 2006 in the San Fernando Valley after filmmaker and founder Hilary Helstein noticed that in Los Angeles – a city known for its many festivals celebrating movies of different budgets, production teams and audiences – there was a lack of Jewish representation.

"We saw that there was a need in the city ... All the countries represented here through their embassies and their consulates had festivals to bring culture from those various countries to the L.A. audience. And there had not been a Jewish film festival on that scale," Helstein said.

Helstein worked with organizations such as the Jewish Community Center and the Jewish

Federation of Greater Los Angeles to put the festival together. In the 18 years since its inception, the festival has grown from the Valley to venues across the L.A. area. This year, screenings will take place at theaters in Encino and West L.A., in addition to the Museum of Tolerance and Saban Theatre.

Helstein said this year's festival will showcase Jewish stories from around the world.

"Although it's called Jewish, it's not focused on anything that is 'religious.' The focus is really cultural, it's a connection, it's historical," Helstein said. "As opposed to other countries whose focus is bringing films in from that country, we can bring films in from any part of the world, as long as there's a subject matter in it that relates to Jewish or as we call it, 'Jew-ish.'"

The films include "Guns & Moses," directed by Salvador Litvak, a drama-thriller that tells the story of a small-town rabbi who must defend his desert synagogue after it is attacked. Additionally, the documentary "Colleyville" will show never-before-seen footage of a 2022 incident in which a terrorist took four people hostage inside a synagogue in Texas. The closing night of the festival will host the world premiere of "Song of Ascent," a documentary that recounts the career of Jewish

Reggae artist Matisyahu in the wake of the Oct. 7 attack on Israel.

The opening night gala will be held on June 19 at the Saban Theatre at 7 p.m. with a red carpet ceremony attended by many of the filmmakers and stars. Beverly Hills City Councilmembers John Mirisch and Sharona Nazarian will introduce two of the films.

"I am excited to participate in the Jewish Film Festival at the Saban Theatre this year," Nazarian said. "It is wonderful that we can have these diverse cultural experiences in our community and learn about one another. In a time of such division, it is inspiring to see how the arts can bring us closer together and foster unity."

The gala will be held in partnership with Beverly Hills Temple of the Arts and other Jewish organizations across L.A. Temple of the Arts Rabbi David Baron said the diversity of stories in this year's festival will help dispel the notion of Jews as a monolith.

"In this era of rising antisemitism, it's very important to tell the stories that show the variety of Jewish people across the political spectrum," Baron said. "People like to say that 'if you're Jewish you're this, or if you're Jewish you're that,' and these films depict Jewish people in different ethnicities and in different racial compositions. We have Ethiopian Black Jews, we have Sephardic and Latino Jews, we have Jewish people from all the



photo courtesy of the Los Angeles Jewish Film Festival

The festival features acclaimed guests each year. In 2023, composer Charles Fox was honored by the festival and its founder, Hilary Helstein.

different racial groups. So [to] people who try to paint the Jewish people with one brush, these films display the nuances and differences within our Jewish community."

Helstein echoed Baron's remarks, adding that the festival will give audiences from all different backgrounds the opportunity to learn and heal together.

"The world – and particularly our country – is divided. How can we go out there and try to heal? ... Cinema is a way to reach people through unique art form. To be able to sit in a theater together and share the experience of watching a film with a neighbor – it doesn't matter if they're Jewish, if they're not Jewish, what their background is, skin color is – the point is we're

sharing an experience and we're opening up a dialogue of understanding," Helstein said. "It's not a mistake that we're opening on Juneteenth ... There's minorities who have shared in persecution, being scapegoated. Minorities, immigrants, we've all shared the same experience. At the end of the day, we're all fighting for our place in the world and to be respected by our brothers and sisters, regardless of our race and religion."

For information, visit lajfilm-fest.org. Tickets to the individual screenings and events range from \$13 to \$40 and can be purchased at eventbrite.com/cc/los-angeles-jewish-film-festival-2024-3413719.

The Saban Theatre is located at 8440 Wilshire Blvd.

Caruso hosts annual summit with leaders in finance and hospitality

Caruso, one of the largest privately held real estate development and hospitality companies in the United States and the owner of The Grove, held its annual company summit on May 30-31 at its Rosewood Miramar Beach resort, inviting experts across technology, banking, place-making and design to discuss the future of the company.

As one of the first commercial real estate companies to diversify in retail, residential and hospitality, Caruso continues to innovate by looking to outside industries for ideas on how to grow and advance business and technology practices across a variety of offerings including its customer loyalty program, data analytics, concierge services, parking operations, sustainability efforts and guest and residence services.

"We uphold our position as an industry leader by continuously learning from experts across a diverse range of industries," said Corinne Verdery, CEO of Caruso.

During a fireside chat, Mary Callahan Erdoes, CEO of JPMorgan Chase's Asset and Wealth Management Division, sat down with Rick Caruso, founder and executive chairman of Caruso, to discuss the importance of first-

class business standards, cultivating strong relationships and encouraging outside the box thinking.

The summit also included a panel on the future of technology with Ashton Kutcher, co-founder of Sound Ventures, and Thomas Laffont, co-founder of Coatue, who shared their unique perspectives on current technology trends, AI integration and regulation. The talk was moderated by Carolyn Liikala, vice president of corporate strategy and development for Caruso.

Also, a discussion was held on storytelling and place-making through branding and design with Bob Weis, former president of Walt Disney Imagineering and global entertainment lead at Gensler; David Manfredi, CEO and founding principal at Elkus Manfredi Architects; and Dave Williams, chief design officer at Caruso. Storyteller and author Margaret Chandra Kerrison moderated the discussion. The panelists shared insights on the significance of creating memorable and unique places and experiences for all generations to enjoy, and the many ways that Caruso's properties have evolved to meet the needs of the community.

For information, visit caruso.com.



photo courtesy of Caruso

Rick Caruso, founder and executive chairman of Caruso and owner of The Grove, participated in a fireside chat with Mary Callahan Erdoes, of JPMorgan Chase, during the summit at the Rosewood Miramar Beach resort.

LAUNCH + PAN PACIFIC PRESENT

ALL AGES **FREE**

THE 21ST ANNUAL TARFEST

A DAY IN THE PARK

SATURDAY * JUNE 15, 2 - 8PM
PAN PACIFIC PARK * 7600 BEVERLY BLVD.

*** LIVE MUSIC ***
 FEATURING *Boomyard* **BLVK H3RO**
 REGGAE + AFROBEAT MYSTA CROOKS
KAYLAN ARNOLD

ALSO
DJ NOVENA CARMEL KCRW + MARIACHI QUINTO SOL

*** KIDS * ACTIVITIES** *** ARTISAN * MARKETPLACE**
 WITH LOCAL MUSEUMS + PARTNERS 2PM - 6PM
 CURATED BY RUNWAY BOUTIQUE 2PM - 8PM

ART INSTALLATIONS, GOURMET FOOD TRUCKS + MORE!

Academy Museum honors 'Anita,' a 'Reservoir Dog' and an emerging artist



photos courtesy of the Academy Museum

Paul Mescal, Rita Moreno and Quentin Tarantino will be honored at the annual Academy Museum gala on Oct. 19.

The Academy Museum of Motion Pictures will hold its annual fundraising gala on Oct. 19. The Academy Museum Gala will celebrate the acclaimed museum's third anniversary and will honor Academy Award-nominated actor Paul Mescal; Academy Award-winning actress, singer and dancer Rita Moreno; and two-time Academy Award-winning and six-time Academy Award-nominated writer and director Quentin Tarantino.

The evening will help raise vital funds to support museum exhibitions, education initiatives and public programming, including screenings, K-12 programs and access initiatives in service of the public and the local community of Los Angeles. Supported by Rolex, the official watch partner and founding supporter of the Academy Museum, the gala is being co-chaired by Academy Museum Trustee, physician, producer, philanthropist and entrepreneur Dr. Eric Esrailian; Academy Award-nominated actress, producer, director and activist Salma Hayek Pinault; Academy Award-winning actress Nicole Kidman; Academy Museum Trustee and actress, director, producer and activist Eva Longoria; and Academy Museum Founding Supporter, Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award winner and actor, filmmaker and studio founder Tyler Perry.

"The Academy Museum Gala celebrates the power, global impact, and indelible importance of cinema, and I am thrilled we can gather for a fourth year and honor these three amazing artists – Rita Moreno, Quentin Tarantino and Paul Mescal – whose groundbreaking achievements, filmmaking influence and demonstrated versatility will continue to inspire generations of artists and filmmakers," said incoming Academy Museum director and president, Amy Homma. "We are profoundly grateful to Rolex for their continued support of the museum and cinema worldwide, our co-chairs Dr. Eric Esrailian, Salma Hayek Pinault, Nicole Kidman, Eva Longoria and Tyler Perry for hosting this special evening."

"The Academy Museum Gala celebrates the power, global impact, and indelible importance of cinema ..."

Academy Museum director and president Amy Homma

The three awards presented at this year's Academy Museum Gala reflect the museum's continued mission to advance the understanding, celebration and preservation of film and to contextualize and challenge dominant narratives around cinema. The awards presented at this year's gala include: The Vantage Award,

presented to Mescal, honoring an emerging artist or scholar who is helping to contextualize and challenge dominant narratives around cinema; The Icon Award, presented to Moreno, celebrating an artist whose career has had a significant global cultural impact; and The Luminary Award, presented to Tarantino, given to an artist whose singular contributions have expanded the creative possibilities of cinema.

Additional details about the gala will be announced in the coming months. The Academy Museum is located at 6067 Wilshire Blvd. For information, visit academymuseum.org.

'TARFEST' brings music and art to Pan Pacific Park

The 21st annual "TARFEST" returns to the Miracle Mile on Saturday, June 15, from 2-8 p.m. at Pan Pacific Park, 7600 Beverly Blvd. The festival is produced by the nonprofit arts organization LAUNCH LA and celebrates local musicians, artists and the community. Performers include Mariachi Quinto Sol, KCRW DJ Novena Carmel and the premier reggae and afrobeat party BOOMYARD presented by Delicious Vinyl Island. BOOMYARD will feature Jamaican DJ Mysta Crooks followed by South Florida-born Belizean-Haitian multi-genre artist Kaylan Arnold blending reggae, jazz and hip-hop. The headliner, Jamaican artist BLVK H3RO (pronounced Black Hero), will perform modern reggae sound blending dancehall and afrobeats with soul and R&B.

Free art-making and cultural activities will be held by the Korean Cultural Center, Japan Foundation, Academy Museum of Motion Pictures, Holocaust Museum L.A. and Gloria Molina



photo by Tyler Trouillot

Musical artist BLVK H3RO will perform at the 21st annual "TARFEST"

Grand Park. KP Projects Gallery will host a live painting salon with local artists. Artisan booths curated by Runway Boutique will feature handcrafted jewelry, specialty goods and artisanal wares for purchase. Food trucks will offer meals and beverages for purchase and

Bar Nuda will serve mocktails. Television City Studio's Kids Creativity Lab will offer face painters, balloon artists and other surprises.

Admission to "TARFEST" is free. For information, visit tarfest.com.

Happy Father's DAY

MENU

12oz New York Steak
 topped with Chimichurri Sauce
 Served with Charred Asparagus and roasted
 Rosemary Potatoes
 Dessert
 Slice of Fruit Pie
\$36.95 per person

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TREAT DAD TO ONE OF OUR NEW SELTZERS & LEMONADES!



Do you have a good dad? Bravo.

She's made of borrowed parts. My chin. Her father's eyes. Her mama's chestnut hair. Her other grandpa's keen mind.

My 3-year-old granddaughter seems the summation of some great oral argument, or maybe a poem. She's a California poppy in the middle of a fallow, forgotten field. She's a base hit just when you need it the most.

In life, mysteries pile atop other mysteries. There are creeks within a stream, a universe on the head of a pin. I won't pretend to have all the answers. Only some of them.

"Hey Papa, why is your beard so white?"

"Because I'm old," I tell my granddaughter. "One day, you'll have whiskers too."

"Really?" she says, eyes wide.

"Really," I say.

In this week of fathers, in this week of dad jokes and barbecues, of picnics on the beach, I'd like to cast one vote for fatherhood (and grandfatherhood). And to the joys and sacrifices of a simple and devoted life.

Here's to the dads with motor-oil breath, to the guys who never call in sick. Here's to the dudes who put a little aside each month for weddings and college. Here's to all the unsung heroes who are ridiculed, mocked, blamed and mislabeled for all the world's misfortunes, shrug it off and carry on.

Here's to the dads.

If your life is occasionally enchanted, if some of your dreams come true, and others don't, yet you



by Chris Erskine

hang in there and never quit, thank your dad.

"Quitters never win," my father used to say. "And winners never whine, OK?"

Here are some of his other vital life tips (individual results may vary):

On finding lost items: "Try opening your eyes, not your mouth."

On political ambition: "First they crave money, then they crave power."

On investment strategies: "Never bet the gray horse."

Got yourself a good dad? Bravo. Mazelness. I'd say you won the lottery, but really it's not that rare. Most dads are good dads, some more into it than others. Most of the guys I know (me included) might've had spotty records as spouses. But, man, did we work hard as dads.

We coached our sons, our daughters, taught them to ride bikes, running sideways with them, as if playing shortstop, shuffling-shuffling-shuffling the feet, breathlessly encouraging them to pedal-pedal-pedal, till the kid took off on his or her own, wobbly as a wine glass.

In that moment, we became men. Actually, we became more than men. We became dads.

Then the bike crashed.

Whoops.

"OK, let's try that again."

"I think I'm bleeding, Dad."

"We all are. Let's try that again."

To some, "dad" is a dirty word.

Yet, most of the fathers I know were there for the birthdays, batting practices, the scraped knees. There is nothing in the world they prized more than to work on a hitter's stance, or a Pinewood Derby car, a penalty kick.

"Nose over the ball, plant that left leg, now drive..."

Even homework. One dad I knew took a UCLA extension course after work just to help his daughters with their 5th grade math.

To this day, the greatest moments of our lives happened on ballfields, or campouts, or while setting up soccer goals on damp November mornings.

Sure, sniff all you want over those prosaic suburban tasks, the sheer repetition of it. But when those days are gone...just pictures buried in your phone...you realize they were everything.

Life is fleeting, life is unfair. I mean, if life were fair, why did Van Gogh die young? Or Don Drysdale?

If life were fair, why do the Chicago Cubs, with the best fans in all of sports and that sweet little curio of a ballpark, have to wait an entire century to win the World Series?

As you know, there are 108 stitches on a baseball. And the Cubs win the World Series every 108 years. Cosmic, right? Otherworldly. Sort of haunted. To me, that repre-

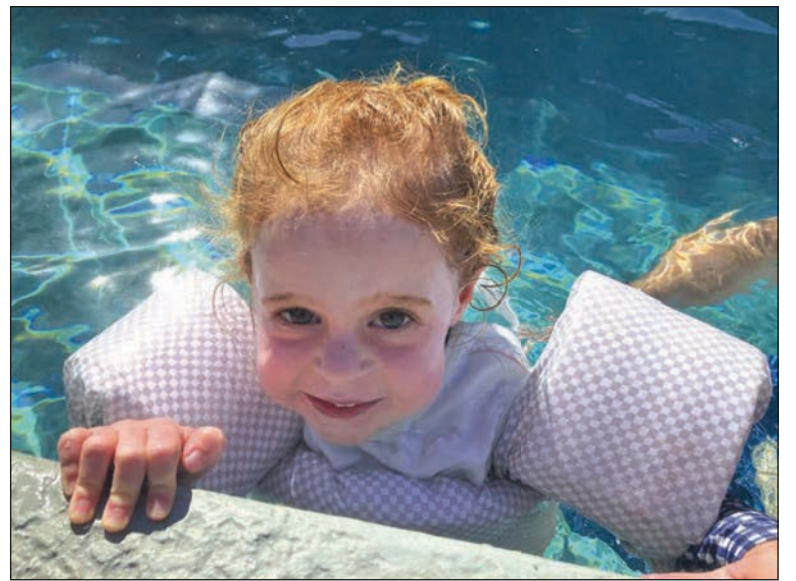


photo by Chris Erskine

Borrowed parts: My chin, her dad's eyes, her mama's chestnut hair.

sents life, and baseball, and fatherly devotion all stitched together in one lovely wad.

As I said, I don't have all the answers. Just a lot of questions.

"Hey Cakes, wanna eat popcorn on the couch?"

"Hey Smartacus, wanna go to the driving range?"

Or, when my lovely and patient older daughter calls: "Papa, the sitter is sick. Can you watch her

tomorrow morning?"

The answer is yes. Always yes. Because, you know, all of this is fleeting, as I said. All the yummy and amazing stuff – the Mickey Mouse pancakes, the Christmas Eves, the Easter mornings ... the art fairs, the soccer playoffs, the dance recitals. Unbelievably fleeting.

Happy Father's Day!

Notable Quotes

"My father was an amazing man. The older I got, the smarter he got."

Mark Twain
1835-1910

Source: USA Today

Happy Father's Day!

Metro outlines traffic impacts from subway work

Work along the subway line continues to impact traffic in the area. Metro crews are working on street restoration work through August around the Wilshire/La Brea station. Detroit Street is intermittently closed at Wilshire Boulevard and a K-rail work zone is in place on the south side of Wilshire Boulevard east of La Brea Avenue. Wilshire Boulevard will be reduced to two lanes of traffic in each direction between Highland and La Brea avenues.

At the Wilshire/Fairfax station, crews are working underground in a staging area near Wilshire Boulevard and Ogden Drive with lane closures in effect. Northbound Orange Grove Avenue is closed at Wilshire Boulevard for construction of the future station entrance.

A work zone will remain at Wilshire Boulevard and La Jolla Avenue through next summer. Crews are working on a cross passage between the twin subway tunnels.

Work is also ongoing at the Wilshire/La Cienega station. Through June 30, Wilshire Boulevard is reduced to one lane in each direction between La Cienega and San Vicente boulevards from 8 p.m.-7 a.m. on weeknights, and 6 a.m.-10 p.m. on weekends.

Wilshire Boulevard may be intermittently reduced to a single lane between Le Doux Road and Hamilton Drive through June 30 from 8 p.m.-7 a.m. on weeknights, and from 6 a.m.-10 p.m. on weekends. The lane closures give crews access to appendage structures,

which are rooms adjacent to the station, near the Wilshire/La Cienega intersection. Motorists are advised that right turns will be restricted from southbound San Vicente to westbound Wilshire Boulevard on weekends.

Near the Wilshire/Rodeo station, crews are working near Cañon and Beverly drives. The work involves appendage room construction, ground improvement and cross passage construction. Nightly closures are in place from 8 p.m.-7 a.m. on Wilshire Boulevard at South Cañon Drive. Wilshire Boulevard is intermittently reduced to one lane in each direction near Beverly Drive. Southbound Avenue of the Stars will be closed nightly from June 17-28 between Santa Monica and Constellation



photo by Edwin Folven

A K-rail enclosure remains in place near Wilshire/La Brea for street restoration work.

boulevards, while crews restore streets and sidewalks.

For questions and concerns about the Purple Line Extension project,

call the 24-hour project hotline at (213)922-6934, email the project team at purplelineext@metro.net, or visit metro.net.

L.A. County Board of Supervisors takes steps towards reparations

With the adoption of the June 4 motion titled Continuing the Work of Reparations in Los Angeles County, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors has taken steps to address the issue of reparations by acknowledging historical wrongdoings and further committing the county of Los Angeles to being an anti-racist entity.

Systemic racism and discriminatory policies have disproportionately harmed people of color and marginalized communities, especially African-Americans, in the U.S. and in Los Angeles County. The motion is a critical step towards acknowl-

edging the injustices that have shaped the lives of many in local communities including any L.A. County resident who is a lineal descendant of an African-American enslaved person – descendants of enslaved people who were abducted from their African homelands by force to be enslaved in North America – or of a free African-American person living in the United States prior to the end of the 19th Century – “Community of Eligibility Residents.”

In June 2023, the California Task Force to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African

Americans, also known as the Reparations Task Force, released its final report. With more than 115 recommendations, the report provides valuable guidance for the county for this important work.

Additionally, in celebration of Juneteenth 2024 and as a representation of the county’s commitment to the hard but necessary work of reparations, the county will provide free admission and access on June 19, 2024, to participating museums and beaches in Los Angeles County to the “Community of Eligibility Residents.”

The Anti-Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion Initiative encourages eligible county residents to take advantage of the opportunity. Information and a form is available for eligible residents by visiting ceo.lacounty.gov/ardi/reparations/#juneteenth2024.

Walk out on ‘Roe’ anniversary

The Women’s March Foundation in Los Angeles has announced a nationwide walk-out on June 24, the anniversary of the overturning of Roe v. Wade, to protest against the patriarchy and demand a society that respects and upholds women’s reproductive rights.

June 24, 2022, marks the day the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade, a pivotal decision that led to restrictive abortion bans across the country, endangering the lives and freedoms of women. The date now serves as a powerful reminder of the ongoing struggle for repro-

ductive justice and the urgent need for action. At noon, participants are encouraged to walk out of their workplaces, schools or homes to speak out about the critical importance of reproductive rights.

Women’s March Foundation is encouraging participants to wear green, a color that symbolizes the fight for reproductive freedom and solidarity among advocates.

A coinciding event will be held at noon on June 24 at the Los Angeles City Hall steps, located at 200 N. Spring St. For information, visit womensmarchfoundation.org.

Letters to the Editor

New ‘Pride’ flag doesn’t do much to unite the community

Re “Rainbows cast over L.A. County,” June 6 issue

I’m proudly gay and support equality for all.

Sadly, I can honestly say that during this “Pride” month, I’ve never been more ashamed of our intentionally divided community.

I’ve marched on Washington, marched in Atlanta, marched in Sacramento, marched in downtown Los Angeles and marched in West Hollywood too many times to count. I’ve represented countless women who were sexually harassed and sexually abused including several of the female anchors and hosts at 21st Century Fox, for whom I quarterbacked the teams that delivered millions in settlements. For my first 40 years, I was proud of our community and proud to wave the Gay flag during Gay Pride.

In the ‘90s the colors of the Gay flag represented all of us – gay, lesbian, bi, transgender, drag queens ... Black, Asian, Hispanic, Native American, Italian, Indian, White ... all of us, all of the amazing colors in the rainbow. Then, while carrying on our backs opportunistic politicians like Gavin Newsom, Nancy Pelosi, Kamala Harris, Karen Bass, John Duran, Lindsey Horvath et al., we were intentionally divided.

First it was the lesbians. They sure as hell needed their “L.” And by golly it should be first. Thus was born the Gay & Lesbian

Community and Gay & Lesbian Pride.

“But what about us?” screamed the bisexual and transgender members of our community. Soon thereafter, we were the slightly fractured LGBT community. “Pride” was adopted as the branding for our annual celebration, but thankfully, the Gay flag was still enough.

Then, the politicians did their thing, injecting race into the equation – as if the literal “all colors of the rainbow” didn’t include Black members of our once united and powerful community. With that, the once-beautiful Gay flag was [changed] again and again, first with hideous black and brown stripes. Then with baby blue and pink. Then with ridiculous white and yellow nonsense to make the Intersex community happy.

Meanwhile, the politicians who intentionally divided the gay community have destroyed our cities while becoming filthy rich.

I’m ashamed of what our gay community, er, I mean our Lesbian, Gay, Bi, Transgender, Queer, Questioning, Intersex, Pansexual, Two-spirit, Androgynous and Asexual ... PLUS! communities have become.

But it’s not too late. If we ignore the corrupt, divisive politicians and focus on local issues instead of one man in Florida, we can reunite the all-inclusive Gay community under the beautiful Gay rainbow flag during Gay Pride – and take back our power.

Michael Sanchez
West Hollywood

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD CITY COUNCIL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS TO PLACE 2024-25 SEWER, SOLID WASTE, AND DELINQUENT SOLID WASTE SERVICE CHARGES ON THE PROPERTY TAX ROLL IN WEST HOLLYWOOD

The City of West Hollywood annually collects sewer, solid waste, and delinquent solid waste service charges on the tax roll, at the same time as the general taxes of the City.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN the City Council of the City of West Hollywood has caused written reports to be prepared and filed with the City Clerk regarding the City’s sewer, solid waste, and delinquent solid waste service charges for fiscal year 2024-2025. Such reports contain a description of each parcel of real property receiving sewer and solid waste services furnished by the City and the amount of the charges for each parcel for fiscal year 2023-2024.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that on July 15, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. the West Hollywood City Council will conduct public hearings on the above described reports and the placement of the sewer, solid waste and delinquent solid waste charges on the property tax roll. At the public hearings, the City Council will hear and consider all objections or protests to the reports and the placement of the charges on the property tax roll. The hearings will be located at the Council Chambers, at 625 N. San Vicente Blvd., West Hollywood, CA 90069. The public may also attend remotely at the teleconference location posted in the agenda materials posted 72 hours before the July 15, 2024 City Council meeting. The reports are on file in the office of the City Clerk and an electronic copy is available on the City’s Direct Benefits Assessments webpage at <https://www.weho.org/city-government/city-departments/finance-and-technology-services/taxes/direct-benefit-assessments> or upon request.

BY ORDER OF the City of West Hollywood,
Melissa Crowder
City Clerk

RESTAURANT NEWS

Have a Beachside meal for Father's Day

Enjoy specials all Father's Day long at Beachside Restaurant & Bar, open from 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Specials include BBQ salmon sandwich, prime rib roast, rosemary pork tenderloin and peach cobbler. For information, visit beachsidemdr.com or call (310)439-3033. Beachside Restaurant & Bar is located at 14160 Palawan Way, Marina Del Rey.

Special items available for father at THE Blvd

Celebrate dads and father figures with brunch in THE Blvd Restaurant on Sunday, June 16 from 11:30 a.m.-5 p.m. featuring special menu items such as the lob-

ster roll, fried chicken and waffles, as well as the smoked wagyu hot dog in addition to other brunch favorites. Stick around for the live jazz music and a cigar roller from noon-3 p.m., before heading outside to experience the annual Rodeo Drive Concours d'Elegance. Book a reservation via OpenTable by visiting opentable.com/r/the-blvd-beverly-wilshire-hotel-beverly-hills. THE Blvd Restaurant is located inside Beverly Wilshire Four Seasons Hotel at 9500 Wilshire Blvd. For information, visit theblvdrestaurant.com or call (310)275-5200.

Mediterranean dining for dad's special day

This Father's Day, Melrose's newest Mediterranean dining concept, Carmel will launch its brunch service. The Tel Aviv influenced and Levantine inspired menu will include chef Asi Moaz's

beloved hummus, which developed a cult following while he helmed NYC's 19 Cleveland. It will be offered in limited quantities and only available to brunch. Brunch hours are from 11 a.m.-3 p.m., kicking off on June 16. Brunch service will expand to both Saturday and Sunday beginning June 22. Carmel is located at 7383 Melrose Ave. For information, visit carmelmelrose.com or call (213)516-4129.

Pendry spoils fathers this holiday

Spoil dad with the ultimate Father's Day dining celebration at Merois, set atop Pendry West Hollywood. The signature restaurant is offering a special wagyu and whiskey tasting, providing an elevated tasting experience while taking in the surrounding cityscape. Guests will also indulge in Merois' delicious menu helmed by famed Wolfgang Puck that spotlights Puck's eye for the sophisticated subtleties of Japanese, Southeast Asian and French/California cuisine. Priced at \$165/person for the whiskey and wagyu tasting and \$120/ person for the wagyu tasting.



photo courtesy of Ocean Prime

Let dad indulge in one of Ocean Prime's steaks for Father's Day.

Prime meal for dad

Ocean Prime only offers brunch three times a year and Father's Day, June 16, is one of those special occasions. Opening at 11 a.m., Ocean Prime Beverly Hills will celebrate by offering their brunch menu with highlights including crabcake eggs benedict, brioche French toast and smoked salmon latke. Additionally, the restaurant will

be offering the following specials during dinner: Woodford Reserve dry aged prime ribeye topped with Woodford Reserve roasted garlic butter and A5 wagyu infused Woodford Reserve double oaked Manhattan. For information, visit ocean-prime.com or call (310)859-4818. Ocean Prime is located at 9595 Wilshire Blvd.

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For information, visit pendry.com/west-hollywood/dining/merois or call (323)918-3410. Pendry West Hollywood at Merois is located at 8430 Sunset Blvd.

BOA serves hearty meal for Father's Day

What better way to treat dad than at BOA Steakhouse where he can indulge in thick-cut, tender steaks and smokey cocktails. Head to BOA this Father's Day for a hearty meal, featuring new menu items from chef Brendan Collins such as the roasted bone marrow or king crab ceviche for starters. For the main event, pa can enjoy a Westholme wagyu ribeye or Japanese F-1 filet. Looking to go all out? Opt in for the 21-day dry aged Tomahawk. Wrap up Father's Day with a sweet treat with choices from warm BOA cookies and ice cream, a classic carrot cake or Collins' renowned sticky toffee pudding. BOA Steakhouse West Hollywood is located at 9200 Sunset Blvd. For information, visit boasteak.com or call (310)278-2050.

SALT grills baby back ribs and more for dad

Enjoy Father's Day specials at SALT from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. and 5-9 p.m. The specials include baby back ribs, Mary's BBQ half chicken, surf and turf, and delicious sides such as lobster tail, truffles fries and lobster mac and cheese. Limited brunch and dinner menus will also be available. For information, visit saltmdr.com or call (424)289-8223. SALT is located at 13534 Bali Way, Marina Del Rey.

Free lobster roles at Saltie Girl

On June 15-16, Saltie Girl in West Hollywood will be celebrating National Lobster Day by giving away 20 free lobster rolls throughout the weekend, golden ticket-style. Guests who order a lobster roll and receive a plate with a sticker underneath will receive their roll for free. For information, visit saltiegirl.com call (310)734-7296. Saltie Girl is located at 8615 Sunset Blvd.

Sip through Martini Day

National Martini Day is June 19. Restaurants celebrating include Crustacean, with its martini and oyster hour from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Enjoy \$10 martinis and \$2 oysters. Beverly Bar is offering their Martini Monday menu on June 19, as well, with eight flavored martinis for \$12 all day. Plus, they have happy hour food from 2-6 p.m. Prima Donna is serving classic martinis with a side of fries for \$15 and a mock martini and fries for \$13, 5:30-7 p.m. Videre rooftop is breaking out their new slushie machine to offer frozen espresso martinis all day.

Crustacean is located at 468 N. Bedford Drive. For information, visit crustaceanbh.com or call (310)205-8990. Beverly Bar is located at 434 N. Camden Drive. For information, visit beverlybar.com or call (310)464-1532. Prima Donna is located at 8801 Washington Blvd, Culver City. For information, visit whatprimadonna.com or call (209)364-7543. Videre is located at 6317

See page 14

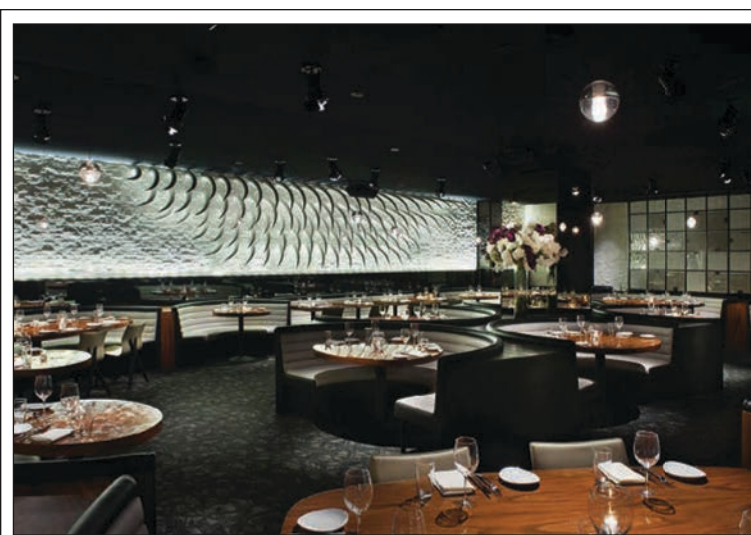


photo courtesy of STK Steakhouse

Take dad to STK Steakhouse on Sunday, June 16.

STK honors dads with indulgent experience

Celebrate Father's Day in style at STK with an indulgent dining experience that any father figure won't soon forget. The modern steakhouse will feature several decadent specials throughout Father's Day weekend, including succulent roasted prime rib surf and turf, accompanied by charred baby carrots, pesto, ricotta, and salsa verde. For the fathers look-

ing for a taste of luxury, a wagyu sampler will showcase the finest of cuts: Masami Ranch bone marrow, A5 French dip, Stone Axe top sirloin and Margaret River wagyu. STK Steakhouse is located inside W Los Angeles - West Beverly Hills at 930 Hilgard Ave. For information, visit stksteakhouse.com/venues/los-angeles or call (310)659-3535.

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Winners crowned in the annual 'Pie Bake a' la Beverly Hills & Piesta'

The city of Beverly Hills and the Beverly Hills Community Services Department held the 19th annual "Pie Bake a' la Beverly Hills & Piesta" on June 9 at the Farmers' Market. The event offered entertainment, a kids pie-eating contest and the coveted pie bake competition. Twenty-four contestants entered pies named after their tasty ingredients such as Harry's Berries Strawberry Pie,

Tipsy Cherry Nectarine Pie, Strawberry Pie, Raspberry Meringue Pie and Pie Dulce de Leche. The first-place winner and recipient of "Best Tasting Pie in Beverly Hills" and \$200 in Farmers' Market money was Xander Eisen, for his Chocolate Banana Cream Pie. Second place, along with \$100 in Farmers' Market money, was awarded to Debbie Soroudi Kaen for her

Apple Pie. Third place and \$50 in Farmers' Market money was given to Kevin Brown for his Boysenberry Pie. The "Most Pie-utiful" recipient was Julie Huff, for her Pearls Apple Pie. Huff also received \$50 in Farmers' Market money.

The panel of judges for the

pie contest included Vice Mayor Sharona Nazarian, Councilmembers John Mirisch and Craig Corman, and Recreation and Parks commissioners JR Dzubak and Tara Riceberg. The pies were judged on appearance, creativity, crust, consistency and flavor.

The "Pie Bake a' la Beverly Hills & Piesta" is presented by the Beverly Hills Community Services Department and is held annually in June at the Beverly Hills Farmers' Market. Next, the Farmers' Market is gearing up for Picklefest on Aug. 4. For information, visit beverlyhills.org/csevents.



photo courtesy of the city of Beverly Hills

Recreation and Parks commissioner JR Dzubak, left, joined third-place winner Kevin Brown, Councilman John Mirisch, first-place winner Xander Eisen, Vice Mayor Sharona Nazarian, "Most Pie-utiful" winner Julie Huff, Councilman Craig Corman and Recreation and Parks commissioner Tara Riceberg at the event. Joining them are Grace Kaen, Hazel Kaen, William Kaen and Julia Nasser, winners of the pie eating contest.

From page 13

Wilshire Blvd. inside the Kimpton Hotel Wilshire. For information, visit viderela.com or call (323)852-6002.

close. For information, visit hideawaybeverlyhills.com or call (310)974-8020. The Hideaway Beverly Hills is located at 421 N. Rodeo Drive.

Oktoberfest brunch available for Father's Day

For Father's Day, Lustig chef Bernhard Mairinger has created a special Oktoberfest Brunch menu, featuring German pretzels, goulash soup, liverwurst, speck brot or a pan seared pierogi, sausages, schnitzel (veal or Jidori chicken), plus specialties including eisbein, kase spätzle, Iberian pork chop or a chef sized pretzel with speck, obatzta and crispy pork belly. Dessert options are available, too. Enjoy schaumrolle, buchteln, golatsche or pofesen. For anyone who dons their best traditional tracht (lederhosen or a dirndl), the first 10-ounce beer is on the house – but please note that the hat alone is not enough. The Oktoberfest Brunch menu is available on June 16 from 11 a.m.-8 p.m. For information, visit lustig-la.com or call (424)501-2005. Lustig is located at 3273 Helms Ave., Culver City.

Dad gets exclusive Agents Only meal all weekend

On both Saturday, June 15 and Sunday, June 16, Agents Only will be offering an unforgettable Father's Day lunch and dinner to celebrate the most important men in our lives. The restaurant will feature a 16-ounce ribeye steak with a chimichurri matcha sauce, topped with lemon roasted sweet peppers paired with a mezcal old fashioned. They will also be offering mezcal and tequila flights, each flight featuring three samplings. The steak special is priced at \$65 per person and the flights at \$28 per flight, exclusive of tax and service. For information, visit hoteldena.com/dine-drink/agents-only or call (626)469-8100. Agents Only is located at 303 Cordova St.

Spend Sushi Day at Katana

Look no further than Katana in West Hollywood for National Sushi Day on June 18. Katana redefines the sushi dining experience with its stylish ambiance and inventive menu. Renowned for its robata grill and an extensive selection of sushi, Katana blends the best of Japanese flavors with a touch of Hollywood glamour. Menu items include Katana Roll (fried spicy tuna with avocado spicy tuna, shrimp tempura topped with tuna, yellow tail and spicy mayo), Spider (softshell crab wrapped in soy paper softshell crab and avocado) and Katana's Robata. Katana is located at 8439 Sunset Blvd. For information, visit katanarobata.com or call (323)650-8585.

Sunday Steak night starts at Hideaway on dad's holiday

On Father's Day, The Hideaway will launch its weekly Sunday Steak night, featuring steaks ranging in price from \$32-95. Highlights include 10-ounce USDA prime ribeye (\$34), 6-ounce USDA prime filet mignon (\$38) and 14-ounce Maragaret River wagyu New York (\$95). For the holiday, the special steaks will be offered all day from 11 a.m. until closing, along with the regular brunch and dinner menus. After Father's Day, Sunday Steak will be offered each Sunday from 4 p.m. to

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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

- LOCATIONS:** 8501 Sunset Boulevard, West Hollywood, California
- REQUEST:** The City Council is requested to adopt a second, project-specific, addendum to the first addendum to the original Initial Study/Negative Declaration (IS/ND) for the Sunset Strip Off-Site Signage Policy and approve an application to construct a new two-sided, full motion video billboard and to substantially remodel the existing commercial building façade and interior, subject to a Development Agreement and permits as part of the Sunset Boulevard Off-site Signage Policy.
- PERMIT(S):** Administrative Permit, Billboard Permit, Development Agreement, Zone Map Amendment, and any other required permits.
- APPLICANT(S):** Jeffrey A. Seymour
- TIME/PLACE OF HEARING:** Monday, June 24, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers 625 N. San Vicente Boulevard West Hollywood, CA 90069
- ZONES:** SSP (Sunset Specific Plan)
- ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS:** Project specific addendum to the first addendum to the original Initial Study/Negative Declaration (IS/ND) for the Sunset Strip Off-Site Signage Policy

Complete digital agenda packets will be available on Tuesday, June 18, 2024, and additional information regarding participation options can be found on the posted agenda or the calendar page on-line at www.weho.org

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

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

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

For further information regarding this item, contact Jennifer Davis, Senior Contract Planner in the Community Development Department at (323) 848-6508; or via email at: jdavis@weho.org

Melissa Crowder, City Clerk

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

Vast menu offerings rolled out for Father's Day at A.O.C.

A.O.C. is celebrating Father's Day, June 16 with brunch featuring Suzanne's holiday special, a skirt

steak B.L.T. on toasted baguette. Everyone's favorites on the menu include sticky buns with walnuts



photo courtesy of A.O.C.

Enjoy a Spanish fried chicken and cornmeal waffle on June 16.

"Suzanne-style" with bacon; Spanish fried chicken with cornmeal waffle, A.O.C. Brioche with melted gruyère, frisée, prosciutto and sunny-side up egg and oven-baked eggs with chickpeas, cavolo nero, feta and Aleppo. Don't miss the dungeness crab omelette with watercress, basil pistou, burrata and crème fraîche; vanilla bean French toast with Tamai's strawberries, mascarpone and Santa Barbara pistachio sand stout-braised beef brisket hash with horseradish cream, poached eggs and pickled red onion. As if that isn't enough to whet your whistle, try the lamb merguez and eggs with soft polenta, English peas and calabrian chili soffrito; scrambled egg focaccia sandwich with Hook's cheddar, Hobbs' bacon and chive crème fraîche; roast turkey focaccia sandwich with mozzarella, green harissa, avocado and Castelvtranos; and Le A.O.C. Burger with Gruyère, dijon, caramelized shallots and crispy onions.

Father's Day dinner includes a

grilled 24-ounce rib eye with potato purée and arugula salad to be shared (2-4 people). À la carte selections from A.O.C.'s seasonal menu feature the latest from the Santa Monica Farmers' Market, including Westholme wayu steak tartare with artichokes, green garlic, black olive and grilled A.O.C. boule; focaccia with burrata, anchovy, Caciocavallo, salsa rustica and Aleppo; Arvin Glenn cherries salad with pistachio, Meyer lemon ricotta and avocado; endive with shaved asparagus, mustard cream, garlic croutons and pecorino; Icelandic cod with sweet potato, green garlic curry and sorrel; pappardelle with Maine lobster, sorrel aioli and sourdough crumbs; and country-style pork chop with cornbread-chorizo stuffing and glazed cherries.

Dessert features chocolate torta with chocolate caramel, peanuts and rice crisp; Murray Family Farm's cherry galette with almond ice cream; butterscotch pot de crème, crème fraîche and salted cashew cookies; coconut and key

lime mess with broken meringue and almond crumble or Dad's Favorite Dessert Platter to share: chocolate torta, butterscotch pot de crème, and assorted chocolates and confections.

Enjoy an inspired selection of Caroline Styne's curated wines and beers and expertly mixed market cocktails by head barman Ignacio Murillo, including Hummingbird with mezcal, pisco, pineapple, coconut, cardamom and lemon grass; Basil Smash with gin, lemon, kiwi and basil; Bardstown Fizz with bourbon, Meyer lemon shrub and soda; suntory barrel-aged Manhattan with Toki whisky, house vermouth and chocolate bitters; and Gaviota with tequila, strawberry, lime and Catalina apéro.

Brunch is served from 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; dinner is offered from 5 p.m.-10 p.m. For information on the A.O.C. West Hollywood location, visit aocwinebar.com or call (310)859-9859. A.O.C. West Hollywood is located at 8700 W. Third St.

John Legend dining experience opens at The London

Just in time for summer rooftop season, The London West Hollywood at Beverly Hills is debuting "Legend and LVE at The London WeHo Rooftop" – a brand new dining experience in partnership with LVE Wines by John Legend. The hotel's beloved poolside rooftop has transformed into a restaurant, serving both à la carte and prix-fixe dinner menus daily. From 5:30-10 p.m. each evening, hotel guests and locals alike will enjoy L.A.'s newest al fresco dining experience, either in a private cabana or a table boasting breathtaking views of the Hollywood Hills and city skyline. This marks the first time the modern luxury hotel has hosted a seasonal poolside rooftop dining experience that is open to the public.

"We are always seeking ways to deliver fun experiences to our guests and locals and are excited to bring this new dining experience to life alongside acclaimed musician, TV host, EGOT winner and fellow Angeleno, John Legend and his incredible LVE wines from Napa Valley and France," executive chef Anthony Keene said.

Keene created a John Legend Selections three-course prix-fixe menu with dishes inspired by "John's Favorite Things" from wife Chrissy Teigen's cookbook *Cravings*, paired with a curated wine list of LVE and Boisset favorites. Starter options include BBQ chicken pizza; croque-mouche; French onion soup gratinée and short rib ravioli, paired with LVE chardonnay Carneros and cabernet sauvignon. Mains include spicy miso pasta with manila clams; fried chicken, spicy honey butter; and beef Wellington (served for two) accompanied with mac and cheese gratinée. The main dishes are paired with LVE cabernet sauvignon. Desserts include berry pavlova and chocolate brownie, paired with LVE French sparkling rosé. Pricing is \$85 for the three-course meal and \$120 with wine pairings included.

Keene also created an à la carte menu with highlights including shared dishes such as surf and turf featuring king crab and grilled wayu and burrata and caviar featuring golden osetra caviar; starters to include charred octopus salad with chili lime crunch and lobster tortellini with sweet corn and trumpet mushrooms; and mains to

include English pea and morel mushroom risotto; and whole branzino with artichokes, lemon, and shaved fennel. The menu also features steaks sliced for sharing, including 8-ounce prime rib cap, 14-ounce bone-in New York and bistecca alla fiorentina 50-ounce dry-aged porterhouse.

The wine list will feature all LVE Wines including summer seasonal favorites like rosé and sparkling wines as well as Boisset Collection wines, John Legend's LVE partner.

The seasonal rooftop restaurant's ambiance will capture a LVE wine-inspired setting, complete with beautifully branded glassware and special decor including a flower wall with neon signage. The summer experience will run through Labor Day Weekend. For information and to book a reservation at "Legend and LVE at The London WeHo Rooftop," visit thelondonwesthollywood.com. The London is located at 1020 N. San Vicente Blvd.



photo courtesy of The London West Hollywood

A new concept made in partnership with John Legend is now on the rooftop of The London West Hollywood at Beverly Hills.

Don't Treat Dad like Chopped Liver!



Treat him to a Canter's Corned Beef Reuben!
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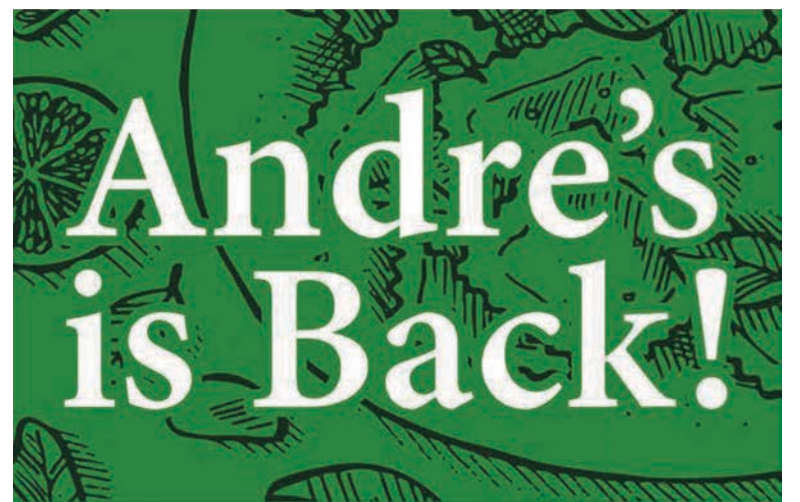
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POLICE BLOTTER

The following crimes occurred in West Hollywood, Beverly Hills and the areas patrolled by the LAPD's Wilshire and Hollywood divisions between June 2 and June 8. 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

June 3

At 5:55 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 100 block of N. La Cienega.

A vandalism incident was reported in the 200 block of Arnaz at 10 a.m.

At 1 p.m., a vandalism incident was reported in the 100 block of S. Linden.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 400 block of N. Bedford at 4:15 p.m.

At 4:45 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of N. Beverly.

A vandalism incident was reported in the 100 block of N. Clark at 6:30 p.m.

At 10:04 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 400 block of S. Maple.

June 4

At midnight, an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 100 block of S. Spalding.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 100 block of S. Cañon at 2:58 a.m.

At 11:50 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of N. Cañon.

A vandalism incident was reported in the 400 block of Rexford at 12:17 p.m.

June 5

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 100 block of Willaman at 1 p.m.

At 3:57 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 100 block of N. McCarty.

June 6

At 2:50 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 9800 block of Charleville.

June 7

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 100 block of N. Gale at 10:45 a.m.

At 4:11 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 200 block of N. Rodeo.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 200 block of S. Palm at 8 p.m.

June 8

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 400 block of N. Rodeo at 2:30 p.m.

At 3:55 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 200 block of N. Cañon.

A vandalism incident was reported in the 400 block of S. Roxbury at 9:30 p.m.

At 10:54 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of N. Cañon.

West Hollywood Sheriff's Station

June 2

At 2 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 600 block of N. Robertson.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim near San Vicente and Santa Monica at 2:10 a.m.

At 2:40 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8800 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect pickpocketed a victim in the 8900 block of Santa Monica at 2:45 a.m.

At 7:25 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a bicycle in the 1300 block of N. Crescent Heights.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 1200 block of N. Fairfax at 2:30 p.m.

At 2:55 p.m., a suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident near Melrose and Robertson.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 600 block of N. Robertson at 3:30 p.m.

At 5 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8900 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim near Santa Monica and Fairfax at 5:44 p.m.

At 10:30 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8900 block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8400 block of Sunset at 11:30 p.m.

June 3

At 1:45 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8800 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8600 block of Santa Monica at 1 p.m.

At 2:40 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8400 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8900 block of Santa Monica at 9:15 p.m.

At 10:48 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 1100 block of N. Detroit.

June 4

A suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 1000 block of Orange Grove at 1:20 a.m.

At 5:59 p.m., a suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 7200 block of Fountain.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 600 block of N. Robertson at 8 p.m.

June 5

At 6:33 p.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 1200 block of N. La Brea.

An unknown suspect committed a robbery near Santa Monica and Larrabee at 10:15 p.m.

June 6

At 1:29 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 7100 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 8800 block of Santa Monica at 11:27 a.m.

At 2 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 500 block of West Knoll.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8100 block of Norton at 11 p.m.

June 7

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

At 9:30 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 900 block of N. Fairfax.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7700 block of Santa Monica at 3:30 p.m.

At 6:51 p.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 1000 block of N. La Brea.

June 8

At 1:20 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8300 block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 600 block of N. Robertson at 2 p.m.

Los Angeles Police Department

June 2

At 12:01 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 300 block of N. Orange.

An unknown suspect pickpocketed a victim in the 6500 block of Sunset at 2:15 a.m.

At 12:53 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 100 block of The Grove.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 300 block of N. Bronson at 2:02 p.m.

At 4 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 6200 block of Hollywood.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 5200 block of Ninth at 6 p.m.

At 6:21 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8400 block of Beverly.

June 3

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7800 block of Melrose at 10:05 a.m.

At 11:45 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 6000 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6500 block of Selma at 2 p.m.

At 3:15 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 1000 block of N. Gower.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 5700 block of

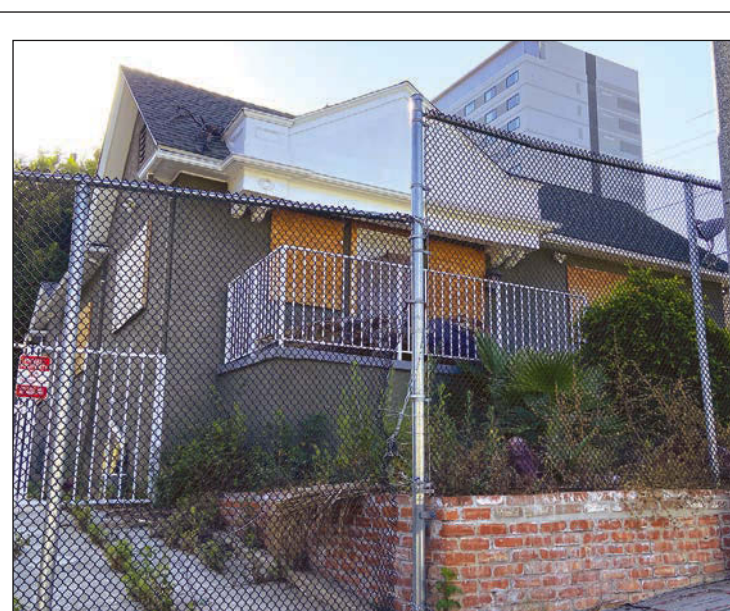


photo by Edwin Folven

The building where the fire occurred near the Hollywood (101) Freeway was fenced and boarded after the blaze.

Firefighters douse blaze in vacant Hollywood building

A fire that erupted on June 8 in a vacant apartment building on Vista Del Mar Avenue in Hollywood was quickly extinguished by Los Angeles Fire Department personnel. Flames were reported around 1:30 a.m. in the two-story building at 1765 N. Vista Del Mar Ave., next to Yucca Street and the Hollywood

(101) Freeway. Firefighters found the building "well involved with fire," LAFD spokesman Brian Humphrey said. The blaze was extinguished in approximately 20 minutes. No one was found inside the building and no injuries were reported. The cause remains under investigation.

La Mirada at 4 p.m.

At 5 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6200 block of Franklin.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 6500 block of Selma at 8 p.m.

At 9 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 900 block of S. Curson.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 7300 block of Melrose at 9:30 p.m.

At 10 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 300 block of S. Cloverdale.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 5200 block of Fountain at 11:55 p.m.

June 4

At 7:30 a.m., an attempted theft was reported in the 8700 block of Gracie Allen.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 6200 block of Sunset at 9:30 a.m.

At 11:18 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8400 block of Beverly.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 6200 block of Orange at 11:50 a.m.

At 2:55 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8500 block of Beverly.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 100 block of The Grove at 3:40 p.m.

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'Bad Boys: Ride or Die' coasts by unnoticed

The "Bad Boys" franchise has never known what it is. In the '90s, the first installment tapped into Will Smith and Martin Lawrence at an opportune moment, providing them with a playful outlet to ad-lib and fight foes. Then came a lengthy break before the bromance returned with even more outlandish action and, honestly, unfunny riffing.

Next up, even more time off. That seemed to work, resulting in the film series' best critical and box office outing. And so a fourth installment would certainly come sooner than later. Perhaps more time off was needed since "Bad

Boys: Ride or Die" relies too much on tropes and alleged humor, nothing that evokes a real laugh.

It just keeps getting real for Miami's finest. Almost 30 years ago, officers Mike Lowry (Will Smith) and Marcus Burnett (Martin Lawrence) could get away with reckless driving and dangerous street fights. But they're way too old for all this. Marcus' body turns on him, though his affinity for hot dogs and jellybeans doesn't help. And the events of 2020's "Bad Boys for Life" leave Mike with a heavy degree of trauma.

Regardless, the besties seem to

ON SCREEN

WITH
TIM POSADA

be doing fine until news breaks that their former captain (Joe Pantoliano) is posthumously being accused of working with drug cartels. Of course, that's a lie, and "Ride or Die" wastes no time establishing the real bad guy, McSteamy – apologies, McGrath (Eric Dane) – a vicious killer with a tech-savvy team.

We learn a touch more about this new foe, but he hardly populates the screen. He doesn't even share any hand-to-hand moments with Mike or Marcus. Other villains reveal themselves throughout the story, but no sympathy for the devil is on display. No depth found here.

Still, some moral ambiguity arises in Mike's son Armando (Jacob Scipio), who previously served as a central antagonist of "Bad Boys for Life." He can ID McGrath, making him a target. So our bad boys must work with an untrustworthy, former cartel hitman. What could go wrong?

As for Mike and Marcus, that's a



Officers Mike Lowry (Will Smith) and Marcus Burnett (Martin Lawrence) are back in "Bad Boys: Ride or Die."

mixed bag. Will Smith is normally a powerhouse on the big screen. In each "Bad Boy" film, he goes out of his way to eliminate that range. As for Martin Lawrence, the improvised and planned comedic bits are more tiresome than refreshing. Rather than feeding off each other to hilarious outcomes, their bickering is more annoying, mere filler between set pieces.

So how is the action? It's OK. It never reaches the lows of driving a Hummer through an entire impoverished community in "Bad Boys II," but it feels loud with thought or invention. Perhaps the "John Wick" flicks just spoiled us all, but loud for its own sake doesn't feel compelling anymore. The thrill isn't gone, it just needs nuance.

For some unknown reason, "Ride or Die" also enjoys a host of cameos from the series' old director to music artists to one unexpected TikTok. Not sure what to make of that, but if you enjoy these films, it will likely enhance the experience, while any potential spectators on the fence will consider it one more nuisance.

Worse films certainly exist, but for a franchise to continue almost 30 years later, it should justify itself just a little bit – perhaps deliver at least one laugh or one truly satisfying actioner moment. "Bad Boys: Ride or Die" is an action comedy procedure – predictable, safe, juvenile. With the talent and finances involved, if only it was a little bit more.



photo courtesy of Sony Pictures

"Bad Boys: Ride or Die" has the action familiar in the series, but leaves viewers wanting more.

West Hollywood captures Pride with a full day of events in Plummer Park

On Saturday, June 15, Pride will be in full swing at Plummer Park in West Hollywood. Saturday will even have four Pride events going on at the same time. All events at the park are free and are supported with arts grants from the city of West Hollywood.

Celebrate queer comic books and graphic novels at Q Con from 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Southern California's only LGBTQ+ comic convention. Meet comics creators, get autographs, enjoy panels, gaming and show cosplay Pride by entering the costume contest for prizes. Q Con is sponsored by the Los Angeles Film School. For tickets and information, visit qconprism.org

Pride Poets will write custom poems celebrating love and the

LGBTQ+ community from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Brian Sonia-Wallace has trained and worked with a cohort of LGBTQ+ poets in pop-ups during the city's WeHo Pride Arts Festival since 2019. The in-person exhibition is part of the WeHo Pride Arts Festive.

The Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles will perform a free one-hour concert in the same park where the organization began 45 years ago. Pack a picnic and celebrate LGBTQ+ pride as GMCLA sings its favorite hit songs from recent season concerts, including a sneak peek at its upcoming June 30 concert performance "Solid Gold: Aretha, Dionne & Whitney." The event will be held outdoors. Attendees may bring low-backed

chairs, cushions or blankets to sit on. No alcohol is allowed in the park.

The "Vitam Picturam (Life in Pictures)" exhibition is open through June 16. The LGBTQ+ photography exhibition that explores the quotidian – framing a snippet of everyday life of and through our queer lens. Expounding on existential issues, tribalism, creativity, love, joy and more, from the humdrum to the fantastical. With a presentation of over 30 local and international artists, the exhibit has been curated by Amina Cruz, Antonio Zaragoza and Ruben Esparza.

For information, visit weho-pride.com/events. Plummer Park is located at 7377 Santa Monica Blvd.



photo courtesy of GMCLA

The Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles will hold a free concert on June 15 at Plummer Park.

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EXHIBITION	CONCERT	FOOD
The 33rd Korean-American Calligraphy Association Exhibition June 13-28, 10 am-5 pm. KCCLA Art Gallery(2F) WALK-IN Showcasing the beauty and inspiration of Korean calligraphy, featuring diverse works by 52 talented artists under the theme "Bring the Soul of Korea into the World"	Kyung Hwa Chung & Kevin Kenner Duo Concert June 20, 7 p.m. KCCLA Ari Hall(3F) KCCLA Website RSVP The concert screening of the K-Classic Artists', legendary violinist Kyung Hwa Chung and her musical partner pianist Kevin Kenner	K-Food Experience at TARFEST June 15, 2 p.m. - 8 p.m. Pan Pacific Park WALK-IN In partnership with KCCLA, TARFEST offers Korean Traditional tea tasting, Dessert-making activities and Hanbok-wearing experience

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LAUSD launches nine new agreements with local cities

The Los Angeles Unified School District announced new education compacts with local governments with the intent to increase coordination and provide greater resources to students and families. The education compacts will align resources and implement innovative programs to equip LAUSD students with the tools they need to be ready for the world. The district's 2022-26 Strategic Plan calls for the establishment of at least 12 education compacts by 2026, with LAUSD on pace to meet and surpass the goal ahead of that date.

"LAUSD is uniquely positioned to partner with leaders at all levels

of government due to our large footprint spanning 710 square miles across 25 different cities and unincorporated parts of Los Angeles County," LAUSD Superintendent Alberto M. Carvalho said. "A special thank you to Mayor [Karen] Bass and the entire Los Angeles City Council for your support and ongoing commitment to the students and families across Los Angeles. Our community will benefit greatly from these partnerships."

"It is imperative that we act to make our schools safer, which is why Superintendent Carvalho and I are signing this agreement," Bass

said. "This compact will coordinate increased safety measures, educate on the dangers of substance abuse, support unhoused students and ensure that students and families feel safe and are safe."

The commitments in each of the education compacts represent a shared goal of improving educational opportunities and enriching the lives of children and families. To date, LAUSD has established education compacts with the cities of Los Angeles and West Hollywood, as well as Bell, Cudahy, Huntington Park, Maywood, San Fernando, Vernon and Carson.

Having now established a partnership with Los Angeles and the other eight cities, the district has strengthened collaboration in areas representing 87% of the student population. An overwhelm-



photo courtesy of LAUSD

LAUSD Superintendent Alberto M. Carvalho signed the compacts on June 5.

ing majority of school communities will have greater opportunities and resources. LAUSD will continue discussions with other local municipalities over the com-

ing year with the goal of establishing partnerships across every jurisdiction within LAUSD boundaries.

For information, visit lausd.org.

State seeks expanded financial aid for college students

Gov. Gavin Newsom and California Community Colleges Chancellor Sonya Christian announced on June 3 that they submitted a proposal to the U.S. Department of Education to enable students without a high school diploma – or the equivalent – to access Title IV financial aid.

If the proposal, known as Ability to Benefit, is approved, an estimated four million Californians without a high school diploma will have access to feder-

al financial aid to attend college classes. It will increase opportunity and access to higher education, training and jobs across the state, Newsom said.

"Regardless of background or credentials, every Californian deserves the opportunity to pursue their dream career and a higher education degree," Newsom said. "In partnership with Chancellor Christian, the state is seeking to make community college more accessible and affordable for students without a high

school diploma."

Students participating in the Ability to Benefit process will receive support for their education goals and access to counseling and academic support, including math and writing workshops, tutoring services and accessibility services.

The proposal coincides with the governor's Master Plan for Career Education, which will align and simplify the TK-12, university and workforce education systems to

provide greater access to education and jobs. The Guided Pathways framework and dual enrollment are being used as strategies to improve student success rates, particularly among low-income students and working adults.

"This initiative has the ability to change lives. It will open college and career opportunities for adult learners seeking to pursue their academic aspirations, regardless of their background or circumstances," Christian said. "By removing barriers to financial support, we're moving students closer to success. That combined with

the tailored supports in this initiative such as basic needs support, educational and career counseling and tutoring, will allow students to realize and unlock their full potential."

California community colleges are structuring programs and support services to provide clearer, more defined paths from entry to completion of a credential or degree. Dual enrollment enables adults seeking a high school diploma or equivalent to concurrently pursue a postsecondary degree or certificate.

For information, visit gov.ca.gov.

Paramount takes Meals on Wheels 'Under the Stars'

Get ready for an unforgettable night as St. Vincent Meals on Wheels presents the third annual "Hollywood Under the Stars" gala fundraiser at the iconic Paramount Studios lot on Saturday, June 22.

The culinary journey teams up with nearly a dozen renowned Angeleno chefs and pâtissiers presenting gourmet tastes like no other. Indulge in a special VIP Hour featuring chef Bret Thompson and Pez Coastal Kitchen, then savor chef-curated tastings from 2024 Culinary Angel Chef Gino Angelini, Angelini

Osteria, Mihir Lad, Arth Bar + Kitchen, chef Keith Corbin, Alta Adams, chef Sam Marvin, Echo & Rig, Nika Shoemaker-Machado, Georgia's Restaurant, chef Gloria Chicas, Room Service Neighborhood, Francesco Zimone, L'antica Pizzeria da Michele and chef Raphael Francois, Tesse. Desserts will be served by this year's 2024 Sweet Angels including Bertha Mae's Brownie Co., Läderach Chocolate, Lark Cake Shop and Malibu Meringue, so guests can continue the celebration

as they sip signature cocktails and dance the night away under the stars to the vibrant beats of a 10-piece live band, courtesy of the de Bois All Stars.

Thanks to the incredible support of corporate and community sponsors, including Delta Dental, US Bank, Albertsons Foundation, Toyota Motors, and dedicated supporters like Rick Llanos & Nelly Llanos and media sponsor, Times Direct, the evening promises to be an incredible celebration of compassion and community.

Longtime St. Vincent Meals on Wheels Circle of Angels donor, Ian McShane ("John Wick: Chapter 4," "Deadwood," "Game of Thrones" and the upcoming "Ballerina") is a classically trained, award-winning actor who has grabbed attention and

acclaim from audiences and critics around the world with his unforgettable gallery of scoundrels, kings, mobsters and thugs. McShane and his wife Gwen will be honored guests at the gala fundraiser. All proceeds go to St. Vincent Meals on

Wheels.

For information and tickets to "Hollywood Under the Stars" or to become an event sponsor visit svmow.org/hollywood. Paramount Studios is located at 5555 Melrose Ave.

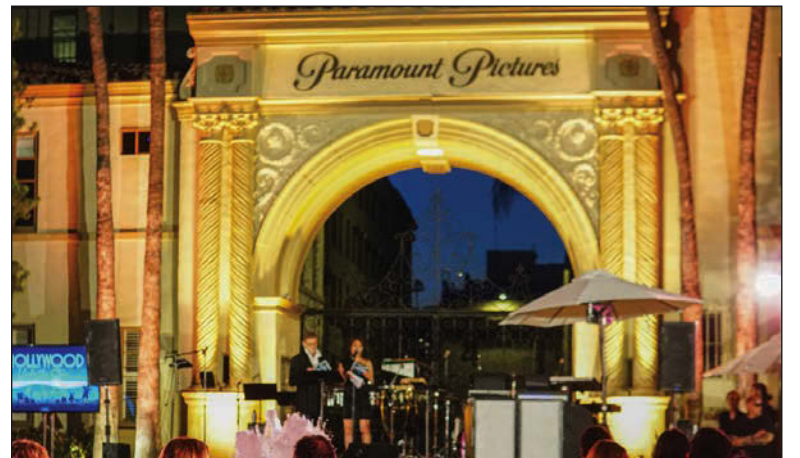


photo courtesy of St. Vincent Meals on Wheels

Paramount will host the "Hollywood Under the Stars" event on June 22.

VINTAGE PARKLABREA NEWS

May Co. Wilshire has latest Father's Day fashions



Terry knap slax were in fashion for dad 70 years ago at May Co. Wilshire in this advertisement in the June 10, 1954, issue of the Park Labrea News. The Father's Day ad stated that the one-piece outfits were "tops for loafing, cat-naps, beach, garden and backyard." The May Co. Wilshire was formerly located at the northeast corner of Wilshire Boulevard and Fairfax Avenue in the Miracle Mile, at the current site of the Academy Museum. This year, Father's Day is on Sunday, June 16. For Father's Day dining and celebrations, see pages 12-15.



10 Reasons Why I Don't Want An Estate Plan

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

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

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LAUSD Board affirms support for the Green Amendment

The Los Angeles Unified School District Board of Education approved a resolution on June 4 in support of Assembly Constitutional Amendment 16, known as the Green Amendment. The resolution, authored by Board Member Rocío Rivas and co-sponsored by all other board members, calls upon state legislators to pass ACA 16 and place the Green Amendment on the 2024 ballot.

The Green Amendment would amend the California Constitution to guarantee every resident the right to clean air and water, a stable climate and a healthy environment. Recognizing the disproportionate impact of environmental injustices on communities of color and low-income communities, the Green Amendment is a crucial step

towards achieving environmental justice and equity.

LAUSD serves a diverse student population, many of whom live in communities overburdened by pollution and environmental hazards. By passing the resolution, the board of education demonstrated its commitment to protecting the health and well-being of students, staff and the community.

“The district’s unwavering commitment to environmental stewardship and the well-being of our students is embodied in the resolution supporting ACA 16, the Green Amendment. By advocating for the constitutional right to a clean and healthy environment, we are not only safeguarding our natural resources but also ensuring a brighter, more sustainable future for generations to

come,” Rivas said. “This resolution reflects the values of our communities and aligns with our ongoing efforts to create green spaces, promote sustainability and educate our youth about the importance of environmental conservation.”

“We have the fundamental right to live but apparently we do not have the fundamental right to live well,” said Scott M. Schmerelson, board vice president. “It is sad to know that some of our students are drinking tainted water at home, living next to hazardous chemicals due to their zip code or live in highly polluted areas. I hope the state of California does the right thing and begins the process to ensure all Californians have the right to clean air and clean water in their neighborhoods.”

For information, visit lausd.org.



photo courtesy of the Center for Early Education

Sixth-grade students performed in their graduation play on June 9 at the Center for Early Education.

Center for Early Education salutes the graduating class of 2024

The Center for Early Education celebrated the class of 2024 during a graduation ceremony on June 9.

The sixth-grade class staged a production of its graduation play, which celebrated the students’ unique talents and honored their years at the school, which is located at 563 N. Alfred St. in West Hollywood. The graduation play is a longstanding tradition at the campus.

The Center for Early Education is offering Summer at The Center, a program starting on Monday, June 17, that includes Camp Adventure day camps and Camp SHAKE sports camps. All rising kindergarten through eighth grade students can enjoy camps at CEE focused on the arts, science, acad-

emics, design and technology. Camp SHAKE returns to CEE with its popular basketball and sports and games camps. Registration is open at centerforearlyeducation.org/summer.

The Center for Early Education, a socio-economically and culturally diverse independent school for students of toddler age through 6th grade, strives to graduate students who are joyful and resilient, lifelong learners. The center embraces a philosophy of education that combines a nurturing, inclusive learning environment with an increasingly challenging academic program that addresses the developmental needs of each child.

For information, visit centerforearlyeducation.org.

LAUSD expands access to vision services

The Los Angeles Unified School District Board of Education approved a resolution on June 4 to significantly expand access to vision services for students. The resolution, authored by Board Member Rocío Rivas and co-sponsored by all other board members, calls for the development and implementation of a comprehensive school-based vision care program.

Recognizing that uncorrected vision problems can hinder academic performance, social-emotional development and overall well-being, the resolution aims to eliminate barriers to care and ensure that all students receive necessary vision services.

The school-based vision care program will offer free initial assessments, diagnosis, prescrip-

tions, prescription glasses and eye care to students, families and the district. The program will prioritize services for schools with designations such as community schools, Black Student Achievement Plan schools and priority schools.

“Vision is a critical component of a child’s overall health and academic success,” Rivas said. “By providing comprehensive vision services directly in our schools, we are taking a proactive step to address disparities and ensure that every student has the opportunity to thrive.”

“LAUSD will always seek to identify no-cost partnerships that will provide expanded access for our students to more holistic health-care, greater community opportunities and deeper academic experiences,” LAUSD Superintendent

Alberto M. Carvalho said. “It takes the entire community working together to give students the support and services they deserve and we commend any partner who joins us in this endeavor.”

“I knew I needed glasses in the second grade because I couldn’t see the chalkboard and got headaches from squinting,” Board Member Tanya Ortiz Franklin said. “My story is unfortunately too common and as the second largest school district in the nation, we must ensure all our students have access to vision care services. Detecting our students’ vision concerns at an early age will not only improve their learning but also enhance their overall health to prepare them for the college, career and life of their dreams.”

For information, visit lausd.org.

Emerson students make Dean’s List

Los Angeles area students were named to Emerson College’s Dean’s List for the spring 2024 semester. The requirement to make Dean’s List is a grade point average of 3.7 or higher for that semester.

Among the students are Leo Wilson, who is majoring in communication studies and is a member of the class of 2024; Jonah

Gershovich, who is majoring in media arts production and is a member of the class of 2027; and Archer Isaacson, who is majoring in political communication and is a member of the class of 2027.

Emerson College’s Los Angeles campus is located at 5960 Sunset Blvd. For information, visit emerson.edu.

Beverly Hills High School celebrates graduation 2024



photo courtesy of BHUSD

Beverly Hills High School class of 2024 graduates threw their caps in the air as they celebrated in a commencement ceremony on May 31 at the school.

Immaculate Heart Congratulates the Class of 2024!

Our graduates were accepted at universities and colleges across the country and abroad, including:

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| American University | Marquette University | University of Arizona |
| Art Center College of Design | Mount Saint Mary’s University | University College Dublin |
| Bard College | New York University | University of California, |
| Berklee College of Music | Northeastern University | All Campuses |
| Boston University | Oberlin College | University of Colorado |
| Bucknell University | Occidental College | University of Edinburgh |
| California Institute of the Arts | Parsons School of Design | University of Hawaii, Manoa |
| California State University, | Pepperdine University | University of La Verne |
| All Campuses | Pratt Institute | University of Massachusetts |
| Columbia University | Princeton University | University of Michigan |
| Connecticut College | Reed College | University of New Hampshire |
| Cornell University | Rochester Institute of Technology | University of Oregon |
| Denison University | Santa Clara University | University of Pittsburgh |
| DePaul University | Sarah Lawrence College | University of Portland |
| Duquesne University | Savannah College of Art & Design | University of San Diego |
| Emerson College | Seattle University | University of San Francisco |
| Fordham University | Smith College | University of Southern |
| Georgetown University | Syracuse University | California |
| Gonzaga University | The George Washington | University of Utah |
| Lewis & Clark College | University | University of Washington |
| Loyola Marymount University | The New School - | Whitman College |
| Loyola University Chicago | Eugene Lang College | Yale University |
| | Trinity College | |



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Los Angeles celebrates Make Music Day

The city of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with LA Commons and Make Music LA will celebrate Make Music Day on Friday, June 21. Programming will feature “Pulsations LA,” a free outdoor concert featuring artists identified as “Cultural Treasures” by the Cultural Treasures of South L.A., a community-based cultural asset mapping initiative. The Make Music Day celebration will be livestreamed globally as part of the Paris 2024 Cultural Olympiad.

The Make Music Day concert will be held on People Street in Leimert Park Village Plaza in front of the historic Vision Theater, featuring musical performances from Kinnara Taiko, Fernando Pullum Community Arts Center Jazz Ensemble featuring vocalist Dwight Trible, tap dance by the Nicholas Dance Studio, poetry by “artist” S. Pearl Sharp and a fam-

ily-friendly drum workshop by Project Knucklehead.

The concert will be part of a global “rhythmic relay” called “Pulsations” as part of the Paris 2024 Cultural Olympiad. Under the creative direction of French-Lebanese trumpeter Ibrahim Maalouf, “Pulsations” will unite artists in 24 countries with a shared heartbeat rhythm that will travel around the world from New Zealand to Paris.

At 8:50 a.m., Los Angeles will pick up the rhythm from Mexico and pass it to Canada as it makes its way around the globe to Paris via livestream. For the complete global livestream schedule, visit makemusicday.org/pulsations

Founded in 1982 as Fête de la Musique, Make Music Day is celebrated in more than 1,000 cities in 120 different countries. The French government and the French people take pride in how the Fête de la

Musique has grown to become an international phenomenon. For that reason, the Paris 2024 Cultural Olympiad has selected Make Music Day as one of its key days of action leading up to the games.

DCA’s Performing Arts Division will present Make Music Day events including a Mariachi lunchtime mini concert at Figueroa Plaza, a show tune singalong at Lankershim Arts Center, a “Soul of Music” young musicians intensive jam session at the Taxco Theater in Canoga Park and a Taiko Drum Circle in Barnsdall Art Park in Hollywood. Visit pulsationsla.com for programs, times and locations.

“We are honored and thrilled to have our Make Music Day Celebrations in Leimert Park, and partake in an amazing experience of global artistry and unity. For decades, South Los Angeles has been a vibrant center of expression



photo courtesy of Cultural Treasures of South L.A.

Events include “Pulsations LA,” a free concert in Leimert Park Village Plaza.

with a rich cultural history,” said Los Angeles City Councilwoman Heather Hutt, 10th District. “This celebration will be a testament to this legacy, inspiring our city for years to come.”

Musicians of all ages, cultures,

genres and skill levels are encouraged to create a free public outdoor concert to play and share music with friends, neighbors and strangers. For information on how to participate in Make Music Los Angeles, visit makemusicla.org.

Black, Jewish communities intersect at Skirball event



photo courtesy of Inheritance Theater Project

“Guess Who’s Coming to the (Juneteenth) Seder?” will be held at the Skirball Cultural Center on June 23.

Enjoy “Guess Who’s Coming to the (Juneteenth) Seder?” on Sunday, June 23, at 3 p.m. at the Skirball Cultural Center, 2701 N. Sepulveda Blvd.

The story follows a couple on their way to a Juneteenth Seder thrown by well-meaning friends trying to marry the cultural inheritances of Juneteenth and Passover. Made in collaboration with hundreds of community co-creators, Los Angeles becomes the stage for the new theatrical event exploring the beautiful complexities of the city.

Supporters include Television City, the Los Angeles Unified School District, the Jewish Federation for Greater Los Angeles, the Skirball Cultural Center and the Motion Picture and Television Fund.

The Skirball Cultural Center is located at 2701 N. Sepulveda Blvd. Admission is free, reservations are required. For information, visit skirball.org/programs/juneteenth-seder-project-interactive-theatrical-experience.

Museum explores undersea world of SpongeBob SquarePants

The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County has launched the latest batch of videos in its “Science of SpongeBob” partnership with Nickelodeon Our World. The videos are available for online viewing and feature four all-new explorations of the scientific information that inspired SpongeBob SquarePants and his home, Bikini Bottom.

The videos cover a wide range of topics, from plankton to super

slugs. Each dives into the real-life equivalent of its SpongeBob counterpart and how it compares to the animated version. Included are “Science of SpongeBob: Marine Protected Areas,” taking audiences on a deep dive into marine protected areas, and “Science of SpongeBob: Plankton!,” examining the real-life microorganisms that are the actual heroes of underwater ecosystems. Also included is “Science of SpongeBob: Super

Slugs and Snails,” focusing on the connection between Gary the Snail and Squidward, and “Science of SpongeBob: Ask the Experts!,” a program featuring scientists from the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County answering questions about the ocean.

The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County is located at 900 Exposition Blvd. For information and to watch the videos, visit nhm.org/spongebob.

L.A. Lawyers Philharmonic marks a milestone with anniversary concert

The L.A. Lawyers Philharmonic is holding its 15th anniversary concert on Saturday, June 22, at 8 p.m. at the Walt Disney Concert Hall.

Founder and conductor Gary S. Greene, Esq., will lead the philharmonic and its chorus, Legal Voices, in the extraordinary concert. The evening will pay tribute to Academy Award-winning composer Richard M. Sherman (1928-2024) with a special performance of a “Mary Poppins” medley, celebrating the musical’s 60th anniversary. The program also includes “South Pacific,” “The Planets” and Beethoven’s “Emperor Concerto” performed by Helen B. Kim, Esq. Tony Award winner Michael Maguire, Esq., will be featured in songs

from “The Music Man” and “Les Misérables.” The orchestra and chorus will perform a Broadway medley that features Irving Berlin’s “Alexander’s Ragtime Band” and Gershwin’s “Someone to Watch Over Me” led by choral director Jim Raycroft.

Concert tickets start at \$20, and 50% of the ticket price is a tax deductible donation. The L.A. Lawyers Philharmonic will donate 25% of proceeds to the Beverly Hills Bar Foundation and the L.A. County Bar Association Counsel for Justice to provide legal services to those who cannot afford them and scholarships for those in need.

For information and tickets, call (323)525-1800, or visit lalawyerphil.org.



photo courtesy of the L.A. Lawyers Philharmonic

Founder and conductor Gary S. Greene, Esq., will lead the philharmonic in its 15th anniversary concert on June 22.

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ZULTYS

Juneteenth events celebrate freedom

From page 1

Cañon Gardens is located at 241 N. Cañon Drive.

The city of West Hollywood established Juneteenth as a city holiday in 2020, and will recognize it this year with a discussion with historian Dylan C. Penningroth in City Council Chambers on Tuesday, June 18 at 6 p.m. Penningroth will discuss his new book, "Before the Movement: The Hidden History of Black Civil Rights." The discussion is hosted in collaboration with the Reparations Club, an independent Black-owned book store in Los Angeles. The event is free and open to the public, and reservations are requested. To RSVP, visit whejuneteenth2024.splashthat.com. The West Hollywood City Council Chambers is located at 625 N. San Vicente Blvd.

Additionally, West Hollywood will raise the Juneteenth flag out-

side City Hall on Wednesday, June 19. West Hollywood City Hall is located at 8300 Santa Monica Blvd.

"Juneteenth is an important day for the city of West Hollywood because it's a way that we not only recognize and commemorate the ending of slavery in the United States, but also the continued work that all cities have to do to create more equitable and prejudice-free laws and policies that we're always trying to accomplish," Mayor John Erickson said. "Juneteenth, especially in the city of West Hollywood, continues to show our commitment not only to diversity but also progress. And I'm really thankful to not only all of our commissioners and advisory board members but members of the public that have helped advocate for and are there during Juneteenth to ensure that we have an incredible

program that we can hang our hats on."

In addition to city events, residents can celebrate Juneteenth at many businesses and community organizations across L.A. This Sunday, June 16, the Greenway Arts Alliance and the Mid City West Neighborhood Council are co-hosting their third annual Juneteenth celebration at the Melrose Trading Post. The event will feature live music, dance performances and poetry readings in honor of the holiday celebrating Black freedom.

"It's a really great effort by a lot of community partners that pull together resources and connections throughout Los Angeles – nonprofits, musicians, poets, dancers and small businesses – to bring everyone together and really showcase and celebrate all the beauty and tal-



photo courtesy of Melrose Trading Post

The Melrose Trading Post will feature a special performance on Sunday, June 16, by the African Dance Company.

ent that we have in our neighborhood," said Natalie Iturbe Jackson, special events and marketing manager for Melrose Trading Post.

Melrose Trading Post is held

every Sunday from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. outside Fairfax High School at 7850 Melrose Ave. Tickets are \$6. For information, visit melrosetradingpost.org/juneteenth-2024.

Project will transform former pawn shop

From page 1

Chiang said he has received 150 letters of opposition and 54 letters of support. Those who spoke in favor said the project will create a new public gathering place and will help revitalize the neighborhood. The project is supported by the Central Hollywood Neighborhood Council and the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce.

"I am very excited about the idea of this project," said Lilian Way res-

ident Jessica Lewis. "We would love to be able to walk a short distance to a vibrant restaurant, have a meal and watch a game."

Opponents cited potential parking issues in the surrounding community, especially south of Melrose Avenue, as well as issues involving patrons leaving late at night. The Hancock Park Homeowners Association took issue with the 2 a.m. closing time and asked that

hours be scaled back. Hancock Park Homeowners Association president Cindy Chvatal-Keane spoke during the meeting and read an email from Ruth Segal, director of the Wagon Wheel School on Cahuenga Boulevard, in which Segal said they are not opposed to the project, only the extended hours. Chvatal-Keane also called for more transparency from the owner about the develop-

"We all have to get along, we all have to be honest one with one another and we don't feel that that is always apparent," Chvatal-Keane said. "We have also requested a yearly meeting with the owner to make sure that what happens in the community with the sports bar is compatible with the quality of life and safety in our neighborhood, because we are directly impacted."

The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council, whose boundary runs along Melrose Avenue, opposes the project due to potential impacts on neighbors south of the site. The Larchmont Village Neighbors Association cited concerns about parking.

"The nature of our opposition is that we oppose the hours as currently stated in the application," said Karen Gilman, of the Larchmont Village Neighbors Association. "We oppose the parking plans or the lack of parking plans as they're currently stated."

Chiang said the developer is "90% to 95%" of the way to meeting

his requirements for a recommendation, but added that he has concerns about the project and asked Torres-Palma to submit modified plans for parking, operating hours and security, which the developer said he plans to do by the end of this week. Torres-Palma said he plans to contract with a valet company to augment the building's 18-space parking lot just north of the building and will submit a new security plan. He added that he is considering scaling back hours to 9 a.m. to midnight, Monday through Wednesday.

Chiang will consider the project for 30 days and will issue a recommendation after July 6. During the 30-day period, the public can submit additional comments to planning department project manager Yasmin Diaz by emailing yasmin.diaz@lacity.org.

After the zoning administrator issues a recommendation, the public has 15 days to file an appeal. If an appeal is filed, the project will go to Central Area Planning Commission for a hearing.

Dance DTLA kicks off June 21 at the Music Center

The Music Center's Dance DTLA series returns this summer for an unforgettable 20th season of dancing under the stars on Jerry Moss Plaza at The Music Center. Join the thousands who love to learn new dance styles with free, easy-to-follow beginner dance lessons by top Los Angeles dance artists and instructors. Then hit the dance floor to practice new moves, keep the vibe going and dance the night away to live DJ sets – absolutely no dance experience necessary.

Celebrating its milestone year, The Music Center's Dance DTLA will turn up the volume on eight Friday nights, June 21-Aug. 16 from 7-11 p.m., with Angelenos' most favorite dance genres from the program's two decades: Bollywood, Colombian cumbia,

disco, hip-hop, line dance, reggaeton, salsa and samba. Each Friday night party finishes with a surprise dance genre lesson – a finale "extravaganza."

Food and beverages will be available for purchase onsite. No outside alcohol is permitted. The season of free Dance DTLA performances will be capped off by a special ticketed party to celebrate both the 20th year of The Music Center's hallmark summer program and the organization's 60th year. This fundraising event, The Music Center's Dance DTLA Birthday Bash, will take place on Saturday, Aug. 24, on Jerry Moss Plaza at The Music Center and will feature three hours of some of the most popular music and dance genres of The Music Center's Dance DTLA over the past two decades along

with special surprises. More details about the event will be announced soon.

Jerry Moss Plaza is located at 135 N. Grand Ave. For information, visit musiccenter.org/dancedtla.



photo courtesy of The Music Center

Starting June 21, dance lessons and fun will be available every Friday night at The Music Center.

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Signs taken down on Griffith Park Blvd.

From page 3

history.”
The Black Cat currently operates as a restaurant, but was once home to one of Los Angeles’ most popular gay bars. Located at 3909 W. Sunset Blvd., a 200-person civil demonstration was held at the bar on Feb. 11, 1967, in protest of police raids on local gay establishments. A raid at the Black Cat had occurred just over a month prior during the New Year holiday when police officers beat and arrested patrons. This protest preceded New York City’s Stonewall Riots by over two years, making it one of the first demonstrations of its kind.

“Los Angeles has a rich history of welcoming the LGBTQIA+ community, but there has also been real and present homophobia – which at times has been inscribed into the city’s physical spaces, as with these no-U-turn signs,” Raman said. “Taking down these signs was an important way to turn the page on that history, and I am proud I was able to work with the community to help make that happen.”
The podcast “Deep Routes,” which is produced as part of Metro’s art program, called attention to the signs during its episode “Silver Lake, Industrial Strength

Queer.” The show’s host Chris Cruse operates the website queermaps.org, which maintains an archive of Los Angeles’ LGBTQ+ history. Nearby resident Donovan Daughtry helped rally community members to get the signs removed.
The decision was heralded throughout the county, including by West Hollywood Mayor John Erickson.
“No Cruising’ signs are a relic of homophobic laws past and continuing to ensure that these ‘No Cruising’ signs get taken down takes away relics of discriminatory laws,” Erickson said.



photo courtesy of the office of Hugo Soto-Martinez

The “No U-turn” signs on Griffith Park Boulevard were relics from a 1997 effort targeting gay men.

Metro rail extension gains support in WeHo

From page 1

On June 10, the City Council received an update on the project, which is nearing the competition of its draft environmental impact report. The council also approved an additional \$100,000 to assist with outreach on the project.
“The work that we’re doing to bring Metro to West Hollywood is really critical for the future of our city,” Mayor John Erickson said. “We’re not only seeing a commit-

ment from Metro with the continued investment, but the potential release soon of the draft EIR, that would go out to the public.”
Erickson added that he recently visited Sacramento and helped secure enhanced infrastructure for “Progress is being made, and we’re seeing continued investment and excitement around hopefully bringing Metro to our city,” he said.
“We’ve demonstrated that there

will be sufficient revenue to build the line,” Councilman John Heilman said. “And West Hollywood’s preferred alignment seems to be the one that serves the most people and has the most support.”
In addition to serving the main artery of the city’s Rainbow District, the San Vicente/Fairfax alignment – as it has been dubbed – would include stops at the Original Farmers Market and the Beverly

Center, adjacent to Cedars-Sinai Hospital. The Fairfax configuration would also connect to San Vicente Boulevard from the Exposition Line, but would continue north along Fairfax Avenue from the Original Farmers Market, missing the Rainbow District and Cedars-Sinai. The La Brea alternative would largely stick to La Brea Avenue, avoiding most of the stops outlined in the other configurations.
Councilman John Heilman said that the process for planning and choosing a subway alternative is “time consuming.”
“There is a lengthy environmental

analysis and an important financial analysis which needs to be completed,” he said. “The Metro Board needs this information to make sure the alignment makes sense and can receive federal funding. I’m excited about moving closer to a decision on the alignment and on expediting the construction of the line.”
Heilman seemed hopeful that the San Vicente/Fairfax line would eventually be chosen.
“The facts show that the alignment serving West Hollywood will outperform existing lines and provide an important north south connection,” he said.

BHUSD considers middle school leadership

From page 1

decision, with Board Member Noah Margo being the one vote against tabling the item. The board did not discuss the agenda item at the meeting.
“They decided that tabling would be for the purpose of either diving into an issue deeper, getting more questions answered ... Usually you table it because the majority of the board is not ready to take a vote on it, one way or the other,” Margo said. “I voted against tabling it. I was ready to take a vote on the item. I was prepared to support the consent calendar item as presented,” Margo said.
He added that the consent calendar item was to ratify Dar as assistant principal.
Board President Dr. Amanda Stern, who was one of three votes in favor of tabling, said the three members tabled the decision because they “still wanted to explore the recommendation.”
She cited the board’s upcoming

finalization of the LCAP – the Local Control Accountability Plan – as a reason for tabling the certification.
“Basically [the LCAP] is like a road map for the school year of goals that the cabinet and administrators and the superintendent all put together. So with that wrapping up ... we wanted to make sure our personnel are aligned with exactly what we’re proposing in the LCAP,” Stern said. “So long story short is, it had nothing to do with any personnel or any personal difficulties with this prospective candidate, but we wanted more time, and so we chose to table it.”
However, Margo said he didn’t think the decision to table was related to the LCAP.
“I don’t think the tabling had anything to do with the LCAP at all,” Margo said. “Speaking on behalf of myself.”
Margo said he had “inclinations” as to why the other board members voted to table the item, but would

not discuss them.
According to Margo, the next steps for finding an assistant principal are mostly in the hands of the BHUSD administration and the Superintendent Michael Bregy.
“We are currently exploring various possibilities and will provide further updates on the hiring process shortly,” Bregy said on June 12.
Margo said he is unsure what will be the next action taken by the school board.
“I don’t know how it’s coming back. I do know the school needs an assistant principal. But they tabled it,” Margo said. “Because it’s a fluid situation and a lot of it is personnel related, I wish I could say more, but I cannot.”
The agenda for a closed session BHUSD special meeting on June 11 listed “Public employee appointment title: BVMS Assistant Principal, Title: Horace Mann Principal,” as an item.

Commission will advise board on LGBTQ issues

From page 3

Jeff Prang made an appearance at the first meeting, saying he was “excited” and wanted “to thank the board of supervisors for their vision and leadership.”
“This type of body is long overdue ... personally, I have been active in the LGBTQ rights movement since the late-1980s,” Prang said. “Today, by some measures, I am the highest ranking out LGBTQ elected official in the county representing the entire county and its 10 million residents. And after West Hollywood [Councilman] John Heilman, I

believe I am the longest serving out LGBTQ elected official in California, perhaps the nation, with 27 years in elective office. This commission is a profoundly important step for creating that civic foundation throughout the county. There is so much talent and experience on this commission, and I am confident that each of you have been thinking about your role and the role of the commission and where you would like to see it go. Given the depth of experience represented here, I am confident your efforts will be fruitful.”

Beverly Hills City Council greets U.S. Senator John Fetterman



photo courtesy of Sharona Nazarian

Beverly Hills Vice Mayor Sharona Nazarian, second from left, and City Councilman John Mirisch, right, met with Pennsylvania Senator John Fetterman at Beverly Hills Synagogue on June 8. Also pictured are leaders from Beverly Hills Synagogue.

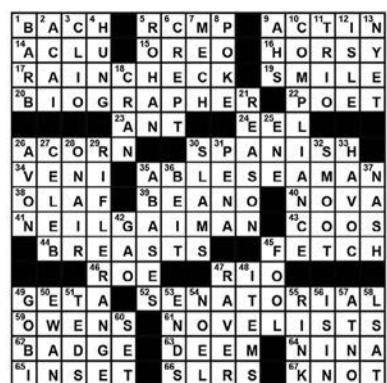
Philanthropists donate \$100 million to Cedars-Sinai

Philanthropists Jim and Eleanor Randall and the Randall Family Foundation have given a transformative \$100 million gift to the Cedars-Sinai Department of Surgery

to propel innovation in surgical care, training and research.
The gift establishes the Jim and Eleanor Randall Department of Surgery and marks a milestone in the medical center’s mission to serve the specialized needs of patients.
“Eleanor and I believe deeply in Cedars-Sinai’s vision and the exceptional work being performed by the Department of Surgery team,” Jim Randall said. “We wish to continue fostering lifesaving campaigns and extend this gift with that full intention.”
Cedars-Sinai is internationally known for its leading surgical innovation and research across many specialties, including major lifesaving cancer, gastrointestinal, transplant, vascular, chest, trauma, oto-

laryngology and reconstructive plastic surgeries.
“We are inspired by the dedication and trailblazing work of Dr. Ed Phillips, whose extraordinary commitment to excellence in patient care serves as an example to the medical world at large,” Jim Randall said.
“This amazing gift from the Randall family reinforces Cedars-Sinai’s position as a leader in academic medicine,” said Thomas M. Priselac, president and CEO of Cedars-Sinai. “It also ensures we remain at the forefront in training future generations of surgical specialists. The Randalls’ visionary investment builds on this institution’s quest to pioneer new surgical methods and technology that will save lives.”

Answers From Page 23



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Crossword Puzzle by Myles Mellor

Across

- “Jonathan Livingston Seagull” writer
- Force whose motto is “Maintiens le droit”- abbr.
- Join the cast of
- Rights org.
- One dunked after school
- Merry-go-round figure, to a child
- Take one, to postpone till later
- Indicator of happiness
- Walter Isaacson, for Jobs
- Coffeehouse reader, perhaps
- Busy insect
- Seafood selection
- ___ squash
- Kind of onion, rice or omelet
- One of a Latin trio
- British Navy rank
- Norway’s patron saint
- Number-calling game
- Astronomer’s sighting
- Author of “The Sandman” graphic novels
- Whispers sweet nothings
- Kentucky Fried Chicken pieces
- Bring in
- Supreme Court case surname
- Océano feeder
- “___ life!”
- Of a legislative body
- “Cry of the Kalahari” writer, Dalia
- Writers

Down

- Thorn
- Berry used in some energy drinks
- Muse of history
- Exhibited
- Lord of the Rings kingdom
- Went slowly
- Kind of engr.
- Stick
- Cries of surprise
- Major HR concern
- Beethoven’s “Archduke ___”
- Oasis
- Foreign refusal
- Herring measuring unit
- Good sense
- Storm dir.
- Bristol’s river
- People person, briefly
- Kind of personality
- Target-practice area
- Verbal attacks
- Baseball’s Tony or Alejandro
- ___-Hawley Tariff Act
- Mayhem
- Degrades
- Words before “resolved,” in min-

utes

- Poet known for inventing words
- Arm of the U.S. Cong.
- April honoree
- Techno party goer
- Things
- Asian desert
- McGregor of “Black Hawk Down”
- “Bill & ___ Excellent Adventure”
- Doesn’t go on
- Season to be jolly
- Skating arena
- “Beauty ___ the eye ...”
- ___ cost (free)
- Future atty.’s exam
- Congel

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 MODERN WORLD GUITAR

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8/8 PAUL VAL
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8/22 JAHGUN & THE JUSTIFYAH BAND
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