



Partly cloudy, with temps around 80

BEVERLY PRESS

INSIDE

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

August 29, 2024

Housing department says Beverly Hills violated law

■ Project appears to be 'barreling toward litigation'

BY TABOR BREWSTER

After the Beverly Hills City Council denied a 19-story mixed-use development with affordable housing from moving forward with its application, the city received a notice from the California Department of Housing and Community Development that its denial violated state housing laws. Additionally, developer Leo Pustilnikov's attorney Dave Rand said the developer is now strongly considering litigation against the city.

"HCD hereby notifies the city that its failure to accept the application for processing is in violation of state housing law," the state wrote on Aug. 22.

The letter also urged the city to allow the project to move forward with its application "without further delay."

The city has until Sept. 20 to submit a response to the state.

"HCD will consider any written



rendering courtesy of Ottinger Architects

The city may be forced to allow a 19-story mixed-use building at 125-129 S. Linden Drive.

response before taking further action authorized by Government Code section 65585, subdivision

See **Beverly Hills** page 25

8850 Sunset project narrowly OK'd in WeHo

■ Council approves Viper Room development

BY RANCE COLLINS

After more than four hours of public input and deliberation, the West Hollywood City Council approved the controversial 8850 Sunset Blvd. project in a 3-2 vote on Aug. 26. The development will replace the block of one-and-two story storefronts, which includes the famed Viper Room, with a mixed-used hotel, residential units, restaurant and retail space.

"We have a development team that is game to help beautify what is frankly dilapidated buildings and a rundown historic music venue and bring it back to life," Mayor John Erickson said.

"This area of Sunset has long been ready for improvements and the approved project will energize this area for decades to come," Vice Mayor Chelsea Byers said.

"New affordable housing units and opportunities for the entire community to benefit are ample and there are enough flexible spaces in the design to meet ongo-

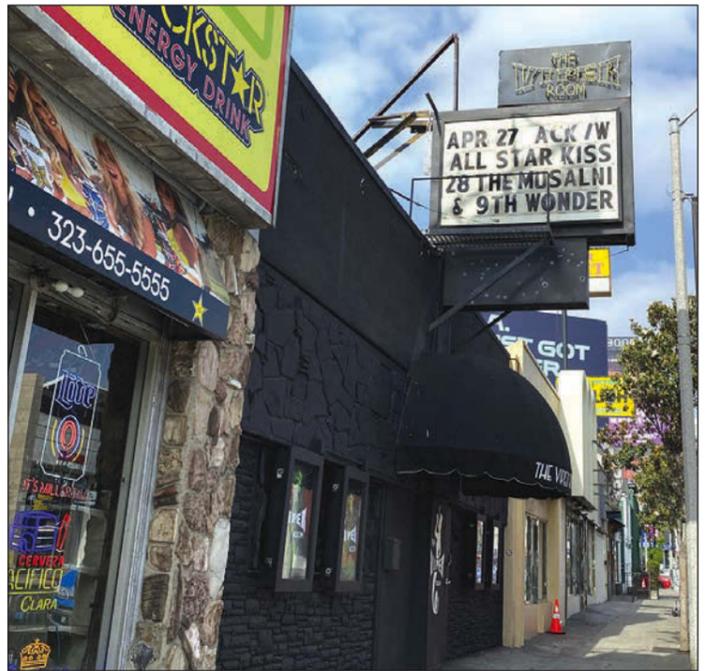


photo by Rance Collins

The current Viper Room will be leveled, and a new Viper Room will be included in the 8850 Sunset Blvd. development.

ing market demands. As a neighbor to the area, I am excited to see the way the Sunset Strip continues to evolve with the times and dream up new ways to excite our

imaginations and support our city."

The project has been in the planning stages for years, and var-

See **Viper Room** page 25

Bike lane controversies plague WeHo street plan

■ Residents object to potential loss of parking

BY RANCE COLLINS

Proposed bike lanes are causing consternation among some West Hollywood residents. On Aug. 22, the city hosted a meeting to review parking considerations for a planned streetscape redesign for

Vista and Gardner streets. The loss of 56% of street parking spaces was of specific concern to residents.

Attempts to reduce vehicular traffic and encourage alternative transportation has been an uphill battle for the West Hollywood City Council, which has approved various programs that would increase bike lanes and pedestrian-friendly spaces. But while the approved redesign of Vista and Gardner streets, as well as Willoughby

Avenue, would widen sidewalks, some community members take issue with other implementations for a "people friendly" redesign - particularly the e-scooter sharing program and parking reductions.

"About 100 residents filled the [meeting] and made it very clear that now they understand the project, they care and they are overwhelmingly against the plans," resident George Nickle said.

Mayor John Erickson said that he wanted "to know what the residents of Gardner think, and not individuals who are trying to turn this into a political issue."

"Sadly, it is election season, and there are a few candidates and individuals that would like to rile up the neighbors with mistruths," he said.

Erickson added that new redesigns are in the works to help minimize parking loss.

"The city will be able to give a dedicated parking district to the residents of Gardner, so they don't have to worry about losing parking at night," Erickson said. "Anyone that would like to know what's actually happening can give me a call and I'll talk to them one on one, and we'll make sure that their needs are heard."

See **WeHo** page 26



photo by Jon Viscott

Roughly 100 residents attended an Aug. 22 meeting regarding parking changes for the Gardner/Vista/Willoughby bike lane project.



photo courtesy of the 2nd District council office

Authorities displayed photos of stolen copper wire that thieves turned in as scrap metal.

Copper wire theft energizes city's search for solutions

■ Council examines more use of solar power in streetlights

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

The Los Angeles City Council approved a motion on Aug. 27 seeking information on potentially converting streetlights to solar power as a response to copper wire thefts, which are becoming

more frequent.

The motion put forth by Councilmembers Heather Hutt, 10th District, and Katy Yaroslavsky, 5th District, was approved on the same day that City Council President Paul Krekorian joined LAPD officials at a press conference to announce a crackdown on copper wire thieves and a series of arrests. Krekorian said copper wire theft

See **Wire theft** page 26

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photo by Tabor Brewster

Water rushed down South Hamilton Drive near La Cienega Boulevard on Aug. 21 as crews worked to locate and repair the pipe.

Metro work identified as cause of Beverly Hills street flooding

BY TABOR BREWSTER

After a water main below the surface of the 100-200 block of South Hamilton Drive burst on the morning of Aug. 21, the city of Beverly Hills said this week that Metro construction accidentally caused the leak.

"The cause of the leak was a [Metro] construction defect and the city is working with Metro's contractor to resolve the issue so it does not occur in the future," Beverly Hills Public Information Manager Lauren Santillana said.

The leak caused water to inundate South Hamilton Drive for approximately two hours. Residents rushed to their cars to relocate them as water reached as far as some ground-floor entryways. Crews from the Beverly Hills Department of Public Works and Metro arrived on the scene quickly to locate the leak. BHPD traffic officers shut down the street between Wilshire Boulevard and Gregory Way as

crews stopped the leak and excavated a large portion of the street to make a repair.

"While working to restore utilities at the future Wilshire/La Cienega Station on the first section of Metro's D Line Subway Extension Project, a contractor reported a waterline leak while tying in the existing waterline to the newly constructed waterline," Metro spokesman Dave Sotero said. "The construction team was successful in resolving the issue by using multiple pumps to divert water into the city of Beverly Hills' storm drain system. There was no threat to public safety or other station construction impacts as a result of this incident."

Nearby, Metro continued work on the Wilshire/La Cienega subway station, as part of the D Line Extension Project. The contractor for the portion of the project is Skanska-Traylor-Shea, a Joint Venture. The station is expected to open in late 2025.

BHPD gala to be held on Sept. 26

The Beverly Hills Police Gala is set for Thursday, Sept. 26, honoring officers from the city. Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres will kick off the event, followed by dinner, awards and a live auction. Individual tickets start at \$500. Proceeds benefit the Beverly Hills Officers

Benevolent Fund. For information about the nonprofit, visit bhpoa.org or call (310)550-4551.

The gala will be held at Espelette in the Waldorf Astoria Beverly Hills, 9850 Wilshire Blvd. For tickets and information, visit e.givesmart.com/events/t17.

'A Woman Named Gloria'

Josefina López's "A Woman Named Gloria" runs from Friday, Aug. 30, through Sunday, Oct. 6, at the CASA 0101 Theater. The production tells the story of the late Gloria Molina, who served in President Jimmy Carter's White House administration as Deputy for Presidential Personnel and was the first Latina woman to be elected as a member of the California State Assembly. Molina was also the first Latina elected to the Los Angeles City Council and Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. Showtimes are at 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday; 3 p.m., Sunday. Tickets are \$25. 2102 E. First St. (323)263-7684, casa0101.org.



Jennifer Holliday

Catalina Jazz Club welcomes Grammy and Tony Award-winner Jennifer Holliday to the stage from Friday, Aug. 30, through Sunday, Sept. 1. Star of "Dreamgirls, the Musical," Holliday marks her first performances at the Catalina Jazz Club. The intimate concerts follow her two-week residency at Café Carlisle in New York City, which showcased her sentimental side.

The Broadway icon interprets the Great American Songbook with passion and soulful flair. Showtimes are 8:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 7:30 p.m., Sunday. Dinner service begins at 7 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, 6 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets start at \$65. 6725 W Sunset Blvd. CatalinaJazzClub.com.



'God Will Do The Rest'

Artists at Play joins the Latino Theater Company to present "God Will Do The Rest" running from Saturday,

CALENDAR

Aug. 31, through Sunday, Sept. 29, at the Los Angeles Theatre Center. A follow-up collaboration to last year's production of "This Is Not a True Story," the world premiere of "God Will Do The Rest," written by Nicholas Pilapil and directed by Fran de Leon, is a warm, funny new play about a multigenerational Filipino American household. Two \$10 previews take place on Aug. 29-30 at 8 p.m. Regular showtimes are at 8 p.m., Thursday through Saturday, 4 p.m., Sunday. Tickets start at \$10 except opening night, which is \$75 and includes a reception. 514 S. Spring St. (213)489-0994, latinotheaterco.org.

Japanese Car Cruise-In

The Petersen Automotive Museum is holding the annual Japanese Car Cruise-In on Sunday, Sept. 1, from 8-11 a.m. Immerse yourself in the ultimate celebration of Japanese automotive culture and enjoy a stunning collection of vehicles including rare classics and the latest innovations. Talk to owners about their experiences and learn about the cars. Coffee and bagels are complementary to all attendees. General admission is \$25. 6060 Wilshire Blvd. petersen.org/events/japanese-car-cruise-in-2024.

Holocaust talk

Holocaust Museum Los Angeles is holding an online Survivor Talk with Jacob Eisenbach on Sunday, Sept. 1, at 3 p.m. Eisenbach and his brother spent the first four years of the war in the Łódź Ghetto until they were deported in 1944. They were then forced to work for the Germans in munitions factories. holocaustmuseumla.org/event-details/virtual-sunday-survivor-talk-with-jacob-eisenbach.

Classical concert

Conductor Gustavo Dudamel leads the LA Phil in "Carmen and Carnival" on Tuesday, Sept. 3, and Thursday, Sept. 5, at 8 p.m. at the Hollywood Bowl. Experience two nights of pure whimsy as Dudamel leads "Carnival of the Animals." Brother-sister piano

duo Sergio Tiempo and Karin Lechner march with lions and waltz with elephants in the playful and imaginative suites by Saint-Saëns. Operalia prize-winner Rihab Chaieb transports the audience to Seville's sensuous town square between two enchanting showcases of symphonic Spanish dances by Roberto Sierra. Tickets start at \$61. 2301 Highland Ave. laphil.org.

'Freedom at the Moulin Rouge'

MUSE/IQUE presents "Freedom at the Moulin Rouge: A Las Vegas Civil Rights Story" led by artistic and music director Rachael Worby on Wednesday, Sept. 4, and Thursday, Sept. 5, at 7:30 p.m. at the Skirball Cultural Center. Featuring Kenton Chen, LaVance Colley, Ashley Faatoalia, Jabu Graybeal and Crystal Starr, the production is an incredible story about the first fully integrated hotel and casino in the country. 2701 N. Sepulveda Blvd. muse-ique.com/freedom-at-the-moulin-rouge.

Music at the Bowl

Don't miss Trombone Shorty, Big Boi and Danielle Ponder performing on Wednesday, Sept. 4, at 8 p.m. at the Hollywood Bowl. Grammy-winning horn player Trombone Shorty puts a New Orleans spin on everything he plays, delivering an explosive performance blurring the lines between funk, jazz and R&B. Big Boi made history as half of OutKast. Opener Danielle Ponder mixes pop, R&B, blues and rock. Tickets start at \$72. 2301 Highland Ave. laphil.org.

Open-Door Playhouse

Open-Door Playhouse will debut the new play "He/She/Us" starting on Wednesday, Sept. 4. The production is part of a series of short plays in podcast form. The cast includes Ivy Jane and Matthew Scott Montgomery. Astrid meets Paolo for the first time in almost a year after they have broken up. Listening is free, donations requested. opendoorplayhouse.org.

THE MUSIC MINUTE



Chinese Acrobats of Hebei

The Chinese Acrobats of Hebei are a multi-talented troupe that features such unique acts as Chinese Poles, Foot Juggling, Towering Chair Balance, and more - All paired with unbelievable martial arts. A beautiful oriental soundtrack drives each jaw-dropping act. This sets an exotic tone for the production. With stunning costumes and props that create a kaleidoscope of color, the Chinese Acrobats of Hebei create a definite "wow" factor for the audience.

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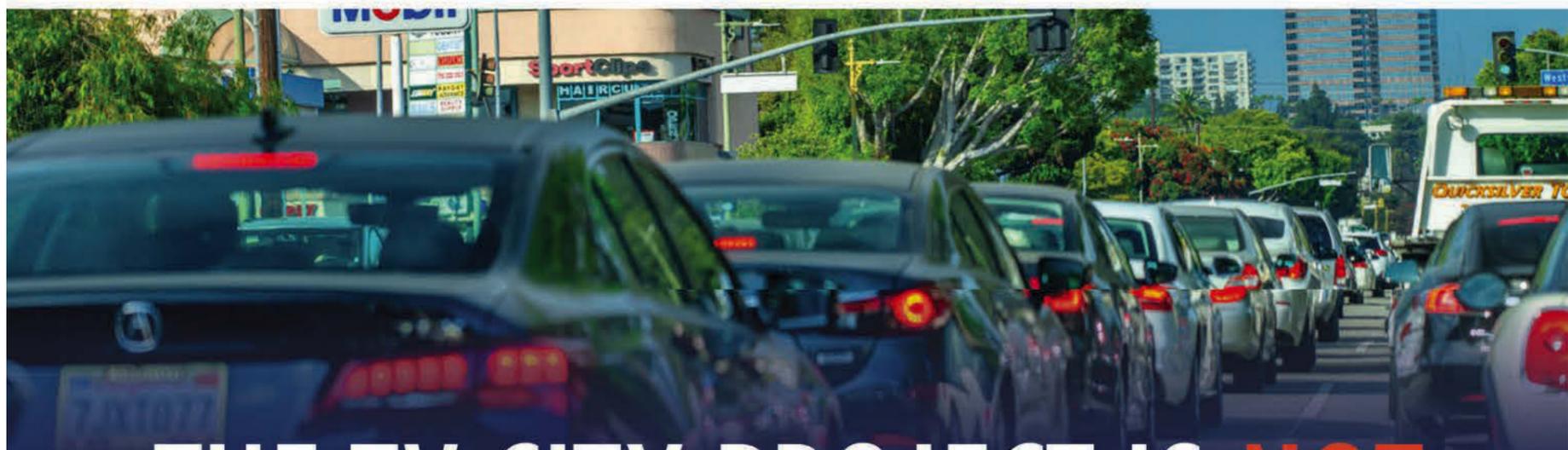
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photo by Edwin Folven

The robbery occurred shortly after 4 a.m. near Lexington and Cherokee avenues.

Victim shot during robbery attempt in Hollywood

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

A man was shot and injured around 4:10 a.m. on Aug. 22 in Hollywood in what police described as a robbery attempt.

The victim was walking in the 1200 block of North Cherokee Avenue near Lexington Avenue when he was approached by three men. A resident called police after hearing people arguing followed by a gunshot, Los Angeles Police Department spokesman Charles Miller said.

Officers from the Hollywood Division arrived and found the injured victim. Miller did not

know if anything was stolen. The victim was taken to a hospital and treated for non-life-threatening injuries.

The suspects fled by the time officers arrived. The victim described the assailants as two Black men and one Hispanic man. One of the men was armed with a semi-automatic pistol, Miller said. They fled in a gray sedan.

The case is being investigated by the LAPD's Robbery-Homicide Division. Anyone with information is urged to call detectives at (213)486-6840. During weekends and off-hours, call the LAPD's hotline at (877)LAPD247.

Worker dies in construction site accident in Bel-Air

A construction worker was killed on Aug. 27 in a work-related accident on a residential property in Bel-Air, authorities said.

The Los Angeles Fire Department was called to a job site at 10663 W. Chalon Road at 10:10 a.m. and located the male victim on a dirt lot near a piece of construction equipment, described by the fire department as a skip loader and auger. The man was pronounced

dead at the scene.

The exact cause of the accident is undetermined. The Los Angeles County Office of Medical Examiner, which is investigating the death, identified the victim as Walter Lopez Gonzalez, 42, of Los Angeles. The California Division of Occupational Safety and Health is also investigating because the death occurred at a workplace, authorities said.

Suspect receives lengthy prison sentence for extortion scheme

A defendant was sentenced on Aug. 16 to 22.5 years in federal prison for extorting Koreatown karaoke businesses and physically attacking victims who refused to pay, including carjacking one victim after striking him with a baseball bat.

Daekun Cho, 39, was sentenced by United States District Judge Fernando L. Aenlle-Rocha, who also ordered Cho to pay \$240,167 in restitution and a special assessment of \$5,700. At the conclusion of a five-day trial, a jury on March 26 found Cho guilty of 55 counts of interference with commerce by extortion, one count of attempted interference with commerce by extortion and one count of carjacking.

From at least 2018 through his arrest in March 2023, Cho demanded "protection" money from karaoke businesses in Koreatown, as well as from drivers of "doumis" – or hostesses – employed by patrons of the karaoke establishments, authorities said. For example, in May 2021, when one of Cho's victims – a doumi driver – refused to pay him more

money, Cho and his accomplice waited for him in a parking lot and struck the victim with metal baseball bats. The suspects then stole the victim's minivan.

During a separate incident in July 2022, a different victim was dropping two doumis off at a karaoke bar in Koreatown when Cho – who appeared to have something in his pocket – approached the victim's car, opened the door with his sleeve so as to not leave fingerprints, got halfway inside the vehicle and told the victim that the company was not permitted to drop off doumis. As the victim drove away, the suspect fired gunshots, breaking the car's back window and injuring a doumi.

In January 2023, Cho assaulted another karaoke driver who for years had paid him in cash and then via Venmo. Cho began accepting electronic extortion payments during the COVID-19 pandemic. When the victim stopped paying, Cho assaulted the man, stole \$1,000 and threatened to kill him, authorities said.

Suspects sought for Rolex robbery on La Cienega

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Detectives from the Los Angeles Police Department's Wilshire Division are investigating a robbery on Aug. 24 that occurred in the 400 block of North La Cienega Boulevard.

The robbery occurred around 2:25 p.m. in a parking lot. Two victims, one male and the other female, were returning to their vehicle when a group of suspects emerged from a vehicle parked next to them. One of the suspects pointed a handgun at the male victim and demanded his Rolex watch. The victim refused and the suspects shoved him to the ground and forcibly stole his watch. One of the suspects also pointed a gun at the female victim and stole a designer purse, police said. The male victim sustained a laceration and black eye during the robbery.

The suspects fled in a black Volkswagen Tiguan. Police determined it was a stolen car after the victims gave them the license plate. No description of the men was provided by police.

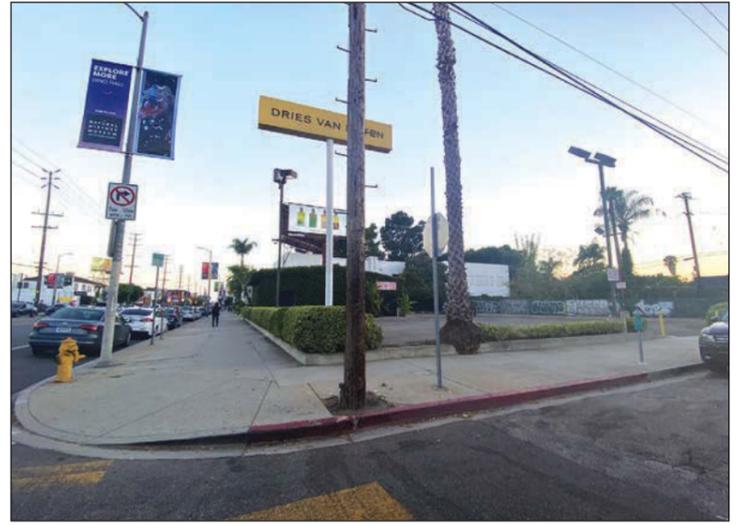


photo by Edwin Folven

The victims were robbed in a parking lot near La Cienega Boulevard and Rosewood Avenue.

Lt. Mark Ro, with the LAPD's Wilshire Division, said groups of suspects are actively driving around looking for people wearing Rolex watches and luxury jewelry and targeting them for robberies. He warned people to take caution when

wearing expensive jewelry in public. Anyone with information about the robbery is urged to call detectives at (213)922-8205 or (213)473-0476. During weekends and off-hours, call the LAPD's hotline at (877)LAPD247.

BHPD reminds drivers to stay sober or get pulled over

The Beverly Hills Police Department's Traffic Bureau will conduct a sobriety and driver's license checkpoint on Friday, Aug. 30, from 7 p.m.-2 a.m. near North Santa Monica Boulevard and Crescent Drive.

All traffic will pass through the checkpoint. Motorists will be stopped and contacted by uniformed officers, who check for alcohol and drug-impairment. Officers will also check to make sure all drivers have a valid license.

DUI checkpoint locations are determined based on data showing locations of impaired driving-related collisions. DUI checkpoints promote public safety by taking impaired drivers off the road, authorities said.

"Impaired drivers put others on the road at significant risk," BHPD Chief Mark G. Stainbrook said. "Any prevention measures that reduce the number of impaired drivers on our roads significantly improve traffic safety."

The BHPD reminds the public

that impaired driving is not just caused by alcohol. Some prescription medications and over-the-counter drugs may interfere with driving, and operating a motor vehicle under the influence of marijuana is illegal. Drivers charged with a first-time DUI face an average of \$13,500 in fines and a suspended license. Funding for the checkpoint comes from a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.



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August Updates

Civil restoration for the Wilshire/La Cienega Station continues with a work zone in the middle lanes of Wilshire Bl. Two lanes in each direction will be maintained during peak hours, but left turns are restricted at Tower Dr, Gale Dr and Hamilton Dr. This traffic control will be in place for 2 to 3 months.

Join us for the next community meeting.

WHEN

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WHERE

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First Amendment expert responds to free speech zones

■ Beverly Hills considers controversial approach

BY TABOR BREWSTER

At its Aug. 21 City Council meeting, the city of Beverly Hills considered adopting “free speech zones” – areas near city-hosted events where protestors and demonstrators would be able to express themselves on a first-come-first-serve basis.

According to a city staff report, the space would be limited and individuals would only be able to utilize the zone once per month. While the city has yet to implement or approve any such policy, the possibility has raised questions from residents and First Amendment experts.

“In America, every place is a free speech zone. You get to speak everywhere. Free speech is not something that is supposed to be separated off from everyone else and limited to certain times and places,” Loyola Law School professor Aaron Caplan said.

Caplan teaches constitutional law and civil procedure at Loyola Marymount. He was a staff attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union, where he litigated First Amendment cases. He said free speech zones are an exceptionally rare idea in the United States, where freedom of speech is federally protected by the First Amendment of the Constitution.

However, some universities have attempted to create free speech zones to mitigate the effects of student protestors. Free speech zones on college campuses have often resulted in law-

suits from groups like the ACLU and the Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression. According to FIRE, as of December 2018, 11 states have passed legislation that outlaws free speech zones on college campuses. California currently does not have any laws barring free speech zones at universities. Free speech zones have

“A free speech zone – it’s obviously about place, and it’s obviously about time and manner. But the question is, is it really neutral with regard to your speech?”

*-Aaron Caplan
professor
Loyola Law School*

also occasionally been put in place at political rallies and conventions in years past, such as both the Democratic and Republican National Conventions.

Free speech zones have been used outside the U.S. In 2008, the Chinese Communist Party established three free speech zones to allow protests during the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing, where speech is usually heavily restricted.

However, it is unclear if any

municipality in the United States has ever enacted a similar policy on free speech zones, or whether it would be legal for Beverly Hills to do so. Caplan explained that the government is allowed to impose “time, place or manner” restrictions on speech, but not restrictions on content of speech.

“A great example is a noise ordinance,” Caplan said. “You can say whatever you want, but it can’t be over 75 decibels. Or it can’t be a certain distance of a school that’s in session, or a hospital. These are things about the time, place or manner of the speech and not about the substance of the speech.”

However, he said that to enforce a free speech zone during a city-hosted event, the city may run into many issues surrounding the content of the speech.

“A free speech zone – it’s obviously about place, and it’s obviously about time and manner. But the question is, is it really neutral with regard to your speech?” Caplan said. “Let’s say I am walking through the [Concours d’Elegance] car show and I have a button on my shirt that says ‘vote for Harris’ or ‘vote for Trump,’ and they’re going to say, ‘if you you’re going to wear that button you have to go stand in the free speech zone.’ They’re going to have to have some kind of definition. They’re saying you can’t demonstrate unless you’re in the free speech zone. Well what does demonstrate mean, if the only way you can tell the difference between someone who’s demonstrating and someone who’s not demon-



photo by Tabor Brewster

A man shouted at BHPD officers as he walked through the National Night Out Against Crime celebration on Aug. 6 in Beverly Hills. The city is considering creating a designated area for demonstrators at its events.

strating is to think about what their words are? If I have a shirt that says ‘have a nice day,’ I’m not demonstrating. If I have a shirt that says ‘free Gaza,’ I am demonstrating. Well now you’re limiting my speech, you’re not just limiting the time place and manner. It’s like saying ‘oh, if your speech is demonstration-type speech, then you have to go stand in a corner.’ So that’s a big problem... If it hinges on the content of the speech, they can’t do it.”

In a statement, the ACLU of Southern California echoed Caplan’s concerns over the potential free speech zones.

“Governments may impose some restrictions on when, where and how people can speak in public spaces, but only if the rules are clearly defined, narrowly tailored to important government interests and allow for other ways for people to get their messages

out,” said Jonathan Markovitz, a senior staff attorney for ACLU of Southern California. “However, any attempt by Beverly Hills to declare broad swaths of public space off limits to protest would be unconstitutional and would needlessly expose the city to the risk of costly litigation that it would surely lose.”

A proposal for free speech zones has not been approved, and city staff will return before the City Council with an additional staff report on the subject.

Beverly Hills Deputy City Manager Keith Sterling emphasized the preliminary nature of the discussion, stating that the idea will need to undergo further examination before anything is approved. He said the issue crosses multiple departments that work on events, including Community Services, Public Works and the BHPD.

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Hollywood Sign gets captured in time

Public can share what sign means to them in digital time capsule

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

A project to capture the timeless nature of the Hollywood Sign in a time capsule has begun, and the public is invited to get involved.

The Hollywood Sign Trust started the effort in early August with what is being called a “digital” time capsule, which will go live online in coming weeks and will feature a collection of photographs, information and personal testimonials about the Hollywood Sign and its impact on Los Angeles. The goal is to create an online space where people can upload digital photographs and share “fan mail” stories about what the sign means to them. The digital time capsule will give people around the world a way to virtually visit the sign and feel close to the landmark, said Jeff Zarrinam, Hollywood Sign Trust chairman.

“We know people have a lot of memories, so we are asking them to give us what they have, anything on any significant thing that has hap-

pened with the Hollywood Sign,” Zarrinam said. “It will give people a chance to see what other people have shared and it will show how much it means to Hollywood.”

The trust is also organizing a “treasure trove” of photographs and historic information in its archives for inclusion in the digital time capsule. The sign debuted in 1923 as an advertisement for real estate sales in the Hollywood Hills, and was only supposed to last for a few years. It stood the test of time, however, and was designated a cultural-historic landmark in 1973.

The Hollywood Sign trust was established in 1978 to renovate the Hollywood Sign, which had fallen into disrepair. The trust continues today as the sign’s caretaker, overseeing maintenance and leading efforts to promote it as an attraction. The sign celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2023, and Zarrinam said the digital time capsule project is the “cap” on the celebration.

The trust plans to eventually create a visitors center for the Hollywood Sign and will add some of the items in the online version to a real time capsule. Plans for the visitor’s center are still being for-

mulated.

“If we tried to take everything about the Hollywood Sign and put it in a real time capsule, we wouldn’t be able to because it would be too big,” he added. “There is nothing concrete yet [with the visitors center], but it is something I have been working on for years. If you can dream it in Hollywood, you can make it happen.”

Zarrinam said legacy businesses and Hollywood celebrities have signed on to contribute testimonials for the digital time capsule, including Carol Burnett, Jay Leno, Alice Cooper and Jimmy Kimmel. The trust will unveil them later, but offered a sneak peek at what people are saying.

“The Hollywood Sign is a great reminder that Hollywood loves us and is always watching over us,” read a testimonial from Kimmel that will be included in the digital time capsule.

“From the earliest days of the entertainment industry becoming established in Los Angeles at the turn of the last century, Musso and Frank and the Hollywood Sign – originally written as HOLLYWOODLAND – have paralleled



photo courtesy of the Hollywood Sign Trust and RD Willis. All Rights Reserved

Current photographs of the Hollywood Sign will be included in the time capsule, including this photo by RD Willis.

each other like the closest of siblings,” wrote Mark Echeverria, COO, CFO and proprietor of the Musso and Frank Grill, which opened in 1919. “As Musso’s reached our 100th milestone in 2019, so too, did our younger brother, the Hollywood Sign, shortly thereafter. Musso’s and the Hollywood Sign, now both centenarians, are today more vibrant and popular than ever. These two icons are the epitome of living history in the greatest town in the world – Hollywood.”

Zarrinam said the response has been overwhelming.

“We are getting a lot of people who are interested,” he added. “It could be an audio file, it could be a photograph, it could be a short story or a poem, an artwork, sculpture or a song.”

Visit hollywoodsign.org to learn more about the digital time capsule project, including information on uploading material.

“Anything they want to share about the sign is something we can put in our digital time capsule,” Zarrinam said.

Crisis response program expands to address homelessness on the Westside

Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass announced on Aug. 26 that CIRCLE has expanded to more neighborhoods on the Westside, making Los Angeles safer and helping to directly confront the mental health crisis and enable officers to focus on fighting crime.

CIRCLE is a proven program that helps free up LAPD resources by sending non-violent 911 mental health calls to mental health workers and individuals with lived experience who provide help and assistance for unhoused individuals experiencing crisis. CIRCLE also operates in Hollywood, Downtown Los Angeles, South Los Angeles, Venice, the Harbor area and the San Fernando Valley.

“We are responding to the mental health crisis with solutions that are long-term and sustainable,” Bass said. “At the same time, we are freeing up our LAPD officers to fight crime. Our work does not stop here. We will continue working on this important issue and continue to make our city safer. I want to thank Councilwoman Yaroslavsky, Councilwoman Park for their partnership, as well as Senator Alex Padilla and Representative Ted Lieu for securing funding to help make this expansion possible.”

“I’m pleased to join Mayor Bass and members of the Los Angeles City Council in celebrating the expansion of the CIRCLE program into West Los Angeles,” Lieu said. “Since its inception, CIRCLE has strengthened public safety response across Los Angeles County by providing intervention and care services for non-violent individuals in crisis. I was honored to secure \$1.5 million for this critical program expansion through the federal appropriations process in 2022. I look forward to continued work with Mayor Bass and other local and state partners to keep our communities safe and work towards our goal of ensuring all our neighbors have access to care and resources they need.”

“The expansion of the CIRCLE program to additional neighborhoods on the Westside is a crucial step in our effort to provide effective, compassionate crisis response,” said Councilwoman Katy Yaroslavsky, 5th District. “By deploying mental health professionals to handle non-violent incidents, we not only offer immediate support to our unhoused neighbors but also allow our police officers to focus on fighting crime. This tailored approach enhances safety and

builds lasting trust in our communities.”

The program was expanded to

Oakwood, Mar Vista, Palms, Playa Vista, Playa Del Rey, Westchester, Manchester Square and Dockweiler Beach. In the last fiscal year, more than 14,000 incidents were diverted to CIRCLE, and teams from the organization placed hundreds of individuals into interim housing, reconnected them with their fami-

lies, obtained permanent supportive housing placements and assisted more than 1,600 individuals in obtaining vital documents such as social security cards and IDs. CIRCLE providers also referred more than 1,000 individuals to mental and behavioral health services. For information, visit mayor.lacity.gov.



photo courtesy of Mayor Karen Bass' office

Mayor Karen Bass was joined by Councilwomen Katy Yaroslavsky, left, and Traci Park to announce the expansion of the CIRCLE program on the Westside.

THE EBELL
of Los Angeles

Open House

A free community event and celebration of arts. All are welcome.
September 15, 11:00 am - 4:00 pm

LA VOICES
SUNDAYS AT THE EBELL

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

Scan to learn more

Blood donations sought after Hurricane Debby

The American Red Cross continues to experience a national blood emergency as remnants of Hurricane Debby and other severe weather events across the country have further complicated efforts to rebuild the nation's blood supply. Those in unaffected areas are urged to make an appointment to donate.

Weather in recent weeks has added to the summer shortfall in donations by forcing the cancellation of nearly 60 blood drives throughout the country, many of which were caused by Debby, causing approximately 1,500 life-saving blood products to go uncollected. Annually, severe weather – such as blizzards, tornadoes, floods and hurricanes – impacts about 90,000 blood donations made to the Red Cross. In California, blood drives have been canceled due to weather, including 14 so far this year.

First-time donors and those who give regularly are critical to blood supply recovery. To make an appointment, download the Red Cross blood donor app, visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-(800)RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767). As a thank you, all who give through Aug. 31 will get a \$20 Amazon gift card by email. See redcrossblood.org/help for details.

Those who give from Sept. 1-15 will receive an exclusive Red Cross raglan T-shirt, while supplies last.



CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD

NOTICE INVITING SEALED BIDS FOR MELROSE AVE. AND NORWICH DR. WEAVER'S WALK PROJECT CIP 2501 IN THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of West Hollywood as AGENCY, invites sealed bids to be received only by submitting electronically at <https://www.weho.org/city-government/city-departments/public-works/bids> or <http://www.planetbids.com/portal/portal.cfm?CompanyID=22761>

for the above stated project and will only receive such bids no later than the hour of **5:00 P.M. on OCTOBER 17, 2024**, at which time or thereafter said bids will be electronically opened and available online. Bids received after this time will be considered to be non-responsive.

No pre-bid meeting is scheduled.

The work to be done consists of furnishing all materials, equipment, tools, labor, and incidentals as required by the Plans, Specifications, and Contract Documents for the above stated project.

Bids must be submitted electronically for the exact item(s) requested in the bid specifications. Copies of the plans, specifications, and contract documents are available for free from the City of West Hollywood website: <https://www.weho.org/city-government/city-departments/public-works/bids> or <http://www.planetbids.com/portal/portal.cfm?CompanyID=22761>

Each bid submitted electronically is required to be accompanied by the Proposal Documents; Proposal, Bidder's Information, Proposal Bid Schedule (enter online), List of Subcontractors (enter online), Registration with the Calif. Dept. of Industrial Relations Form, References, Designator of Sureties, Bid Bond, Bidder's Violation of Law/Safety Questionnaire, Non-Collusion Declaration, Certificate of Non-Discrimination by Contractors, Statement Acknowledging Penal & Civil Penalties Concerning Contractors' Licensing Laws, Addendum Acknowledgement, and all additional documentation required by the Instructions to Bidders. Bids must be submitted on the Agency's bid forms.

The bid must be accompanied by certified or cashier's check, or bidder's bond, made payable to the AGENCY for an amount no less than ten percent (10%) of the total bid price. Any proposal not accompanied by such a guarantee will not be considered.

Any contract entered into pursuant to this notice will incorporate the provisions of the State Labor Code. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 1773.2 of the Labor Code of the State of California, the minimum prevailing rate of per diem wages for each craft, classification, or type of workman needed to execute the contract shall be those determined by the Director of Industrial Relations of the State of California, which are on file at the City Hall, City of West Hollywood, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood, California 90069, and are available to any interested party on request.

Attention is directed to the provisions of Section 1777.5 (Chapter 1411, Statutes of 1968) and 1777.5 of the Labor Code concerning the employment of apprentices by the Contractor or any such subcontractor under him. Affirmative action to ensure against discrimination in em-

ployment practices on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, religion, sexual orientation, or handicap will also be required.

The AGENCY will deduct five (5) percent retention from all progress payments as specified in Subsection 7-3.2 of the standard specifications. The Contractor may substitute an escrow holder surety of equal value to the retention. The Contractor shall be beneficial owner of the surety and shall receive any interest thereon.

The AGENCY hereby affirmatively ensures that minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this notice and will not be discriminated against on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, or religion in any consideration leading to the award of contract.

In entering into a public works contract, or a subcontract, to supply goods, services, or materials pursuant to a public works contract, the Contractor, or subcontractor, offers and agrees to assign to the awarding body all rights, title, and interest in, and to, all causes of action it may have under Section 4 of the Clayton Act (15 U.S.C. Section 15) or under the Cartwright Act (Chapter 2 [commencing with Section 16700] of Part 2 of Division 7 of the Business and Professions Code), arising from purchases of goods, services, or materials pursuant to the public works contract or the subcontract. This assignment shall be made and become effective at the time the awarding body tenders final payment to the Contractor, without further acknowledgement by the parties.

The successful bidder shall be licensed in accordance with the provisions of the Business and Professions Code and shall possess a valid **California State Contractor's License Class A** at the time of bid submittal.

THE SUCCESSFULL BIDDER WHO ENTERS INTO CONTRACT WITH THE CITY SHALL BE BOUND BY ALL TERMS AND CONDITIONS INCLUDED IN THE PROJECT LABOR AGREEMENT LOCATED IN THE APPENDIX.

The City of West Hollywood reserves the right to reject any and all proposals or bids or to waive any irregularities or informalities in any bids or in the bidding should it deem this necessary for the public good, and also the bid of any Bidder who has been delinquent or unfaithful in any former contract with the City of West Hollywood and to take all bids under advisement for a period of ninety (90) days. No bidder may withdraw its bid for a period of ninety (90) days after the date of the opening thereof. The award of the contract, if made, will be to the lowest responsible Bidder as determined solely by the City of West Hollywood.

The California Air Resources Board ("CARB") implemented amendments to the In-Use Off-Road Diesel-Fueled Fleets Regulations ("Regulation") which are effective on January 1, 2024 and apply broadly to all self-propelled off road diesel vehicles 25 horsepower or greater and other forms of equipment used in California. A copy of the Regulation is available at <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/sites/default/files/barcu/regact/2022/off-roaddiesel/appa-1.pdf>. Bidders are required to comply with all CARB and Regulation requirements, including, without limitation, all applicable sections of the Regulation, as codified in Title 13 of the California Code of Regulations section 2449 *et seq.* throughout the term of the Project. Bidders must provide, with their Bid, copies of Bidder's and all listed subcontractors the most recent, valid Certificate of Reported Compliance ("CRC") issued by CARB. Failure to provide valid CRCs as required herein may render the Bid non-responsive.

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

BEVERLY PRESS PARK LABREA NEWS

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The Beverly Press and Park Labrea News are weekly newspapers, published on Thursdays. Mail subscription is \$120 annually. Deceased newspapers of general circulation, entitled to publish legal advertising, Feb. 10, 1960 by Superior Court Order No 736637. Deceased newspapers of general circulation, entitled to publish legal advertising in the City of Beverly Hills and the County of Los Angeles, Dec. 22, 2020 by Superior Court Case Number 19STCP04891. Government Code 6008.

Details emerge after Christopher Dorner's gun found in BHPD raid

■ LAPD Chief says gun was not a department weapon

BY TABOR BREWSTER

After the Beverly Hills Police Department found a weapon belonging to Christopher Dorner – a former LAPD officer who killed four people and injured three during a series of targeted attacks in 2013 – in a raid of an Airbnb in connection with a watch robbery, Los Angeles Police Department Chief Dominic Choi confirmed that the gun was not Dorner's department-issued weapon.

The gun – a Glock 21 .45 caliber handgun, according to a federal criminal complaint – was found by law enforcement on Aug. 10 in a South Los Angeles Airbnb that had been rented by two men allegedly part of a "crime tourism" group. Days earlier, on Aug. 7, the two suspects robbed a man at gunpoint on the patio of THE Blvd restaurant outside the Beverly Wilshire

Hotel at 9500 Wilshire Blvd. According to the police report, the man was eating dinner with his wife and two daughters when a suspect approached him at approximately 6:41 p.m. and pointed a semi-automatic handgun at him. A second suspect approached and took his silver Patek Philippe watch, which according to the victim is valued \$1 million. Both suspects fled the scene and were later arrested. It is unclear if the gun recovered in the Airbnb is the same firearm used in the watch robbery.



photo by Edwin Folven

Authorities found the weapon in an Airbnb after two men allegedly stole a \$1 million watch in Beverly Hills.

Authorities identified the two suspects as Jamer Mauricio Sepulveda Salazar, 21, of Colombia, and Jesus Eduardo Padron Rojas, 19, of Venezuela. The two were allegedly part of a "crime tourism" group that had visited the U.S. to carry out high-stakes robberies before returning to their home countries. The suspects were also linked to a separate watch robbery on Aug. 5, in which a \$30,000 Rolex was stolen at gunpoint from a person in the 400 block of Doheny Road.

It is unclear how the weapon ended up in the suspects' possession. However, according to Los Angeles Magazine, the firearm was reported stolen by Dorner while he was an LAPD officer, before he went on the 2013 rampage.

Beverly Hills recognizes Deputy Consul General of Israel



photo courtesy of the city of Beverly Hills

The Beverly Hills City Council recognized Deputy Consul General of Israel, Amit Mekel for his term in office during the Aug. 20 formal meeting. Councilman Craig Corman, left, Vice Mayor Sharona Nazarian, Mayor Lester Friedman, Mekel, Councilman John Mirisch and Councilwoman Mary Wells stood together in solidarity at the meeting.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

DATE: Thursday, September 12, 2024
TIME: 1:30 PM, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard
LOCATION: Meeting will be held in person at:

Commission Meeting Room 280A
 Beverly Hills City Hall
 455 North Rexford Drive
 Beverly Hills, CA 90210

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

PROJECT

ADDRESS: Citywide

The Planning Commission of the City of Beverly Hills, at a REGULAR meeting on **September 12, 2024**, will hold a public hearing beginning at **1:30 PM**, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard to consider:

A DRAFT ORDINANCE AMENDING BEVERLY HILLS MUNICIPAL CODE TO UPDATE OCCUPANCY PRIORITY STANDARDS FOR ELIGIBLE AFFORDABLE HOUSING UNITS AS RELATED TO THE CITY'S INCLUSIONARY HOUSING ORDINANCE AND STATE LAW REPLACEMENT UNITS, AND ADD A DEFINITION OF DISPLACEMENT; AND FINDING THE ORDINANCE TO BE EXEMPT UNDER THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)

The proposed Ordinance would amend the Beverly Hills Municipal Code (BHMC) to:

1. Update the Occupancy Priority List for income-qualified households seeking occupancy in affordable housing units built under, and not limited to, the City's Residential Density Bonus regulations (Article 15.2 in Title 10, Chapter 3 (Zoning) of the BHMC), Inclusionary Housing Ordinance (BHMC Article 48 in Title 10, Chapter 3 (Zoning) of the BHMC), and State Law (California Government Code Section 66300 et seq.).

2. Include a definition of "displacement" under BHMC §10-3-1528 to mean persons who have been permanently or are at risk of being permanently displaced from their residences within the City of Beverly Hills under certain circumstances.

Once the Planning Commission reviews the draft ordinance and provides a recommendation, the draft ordinance will be reviewed and considered by the City Council at a future meeting.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The draft ordinance was assessed for compliance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the State CEQA Guidelines, and City environmental regulations, and has been determined to be exempt from CEQA per Section 15305 of the State CEQA Guidelines for Minor Alterations in Land Use Limitations. The draft ordinance is also exempt from Section 15061(b)(3) of the State CEQA Guidelines, which applies the 'general rule' that CEQA does

not extend to projects with no significant environmental effect. As a result, staff recommends the Planning Commission find that the draft ordinance is exempt under these provisions from any further review under CEQA.

How to Participate

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

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

It is recommended that written public comments be submitted to the Planning Commission Recording Secretary by 11:30 AM on the meeting date. Public comments will also be taken during the meeting when the topic is being reviewed by the Planning Commission. Written comments should identify the Agenda Item number or topic in the subject line of the email.

In order to be read at the meeting, written comments will be allowed with a maximum of 350 words, which corresponds to approximately three (3) minutes of speaking time. If a comment is received after the agenda item is heard, it will not be a part of the record.

Any written comments received by end of the day on Wednesday, September 4, 2024 will be attached to the agenda report regarding this item. Any comments received after Wednesday, September 4, 2024, but prior the public hearing, will be distributed to the Commission under separate cover.

According to Government Code Section 65009, if you challenge the City's action in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City, either at or prior to the public hearing. Please note that any comments received prior to or during the public hearing will be considered as part of the public record.

If there are any questions regarding this notice, please contact **Christine Delostrinos, Associate Planner** in the Planning Division at (310) 285-1125, or by email at cdeostrinos@beverlyhills.org. Copies of the project materials are on file in the Community Development Department, and can be reviewed by any interested person at 455 North Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills, CA 90210.

Sincerely:

Christine Delostrinos, Associate Planner



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

New documentary cements Jimmy McHugh's place in music history

BY RANCE COLLINS

Jimmy McHugh is a name some may not know, but the man was one of the most consequential composers of the 20th century, penning hits that rivaled the output of Irving Berlin and the Gershwins.

"I Can't Give You Anything But Love," "I'm in the Mood for Love" and "On the Sunny Side of the Street" are among his most popular tunes. His work is largely considered to be part of the Great American Songbook, with songs recorded by the likes of Judy Garland, Frank Sinatra, Bing Crosby, Peggy Lee, the Everly Brothers and even Lady Gaga.

"He is really one of the founding fathers of the popular song," said Lee Newman, managing director of Jimmy McHugh Music and the songwriter's nephew.

In September, a new documentary short, "I Can't Give You Anything But Love: The Jimmy McHugh Story," will be making its Academy Award-qualifying run in Los Angeles, giving the long unsung hero of song his due.

"He wrote for five decades. That's the 1920s, '30s, '40s, '50s and '60s. What the film does is it takes a look at the songs, the stories behind the songs, how they came about, and also what was going on during those decades," said Newman, who also served as a producer on the film.

McHugh started writing songs at Culver City's famed Cotton Club, which was the most prominent jazz venue of its time.

"He was responsible while at the Cotton Club for bringing and introducing Duke Ellington and his orchestra," Newman related.

McHugh met and teamed up with teacher-and-poet-turned-lyricist Dorothy Fields, becoming the first male-female songwriting duo in popular music. They wrote for Broadway musicals together, including the successful "Blackbirds of 1928," which helped kick their respective careers into overdrive. But the stock market crash of 1929 hit McHugh hard.

"He was completely wiped out, and one day he was walking on Riverside Drive in New York City on the Upper West Side. He bumped into his friend, George Gershwin," Newman said. "Gershwin asked him how things were going. And McHugh said, 'Not too well. I haven't got a quarter in my pocket.' And Gershwin said, 'Well, that shouldn't happen to you. Is there anything I can do to help?' And McHugh said, 'Yeah, if you happen to have a piano lying around, I could use that.' So the

next week, Gershwin sent in this gray upright piano, which we still have in the family ... and the first song Jimmy McHugh wrote on that piano was, 'I'm in the Mood for Love.'"

McHugh and Fields returned to Hollywood and started writing songs for films during the early heyday of musicals in the 1930s. When this partnership ended – watch the documentary to find out why – McHugh paired with other esteemed lyricists, including Al Dubin, Harold Adamson and Frank Loesser.

In the 1950s and '60s, he spent time in Las Vegas. He became friends with the Kennedys, writing a song for Jackie Kennedy called "The First Lady Waltz."

"Working on this project was a delightful journey into a purer and more innocent past, and now I find myself playing McHugh's songs over and over again along with other standards from the Great American Songbook."

Susan Morgan Cooper
Director

"But something changed in 1964, and that was the Beatles appearing on 'The Ed Sullivan Show.' That changed things for songwriters like Jimmy McHugh, because Jimmy McHugh wrote songs for singers. The Beatles wrote their own songs. This kind of led to the demise of his career, and in 1969, he passed away," Newman explained. "But what's interesting is that, having written for five decades, his songs live on. They're still being used in movies. They're still being used in television shows. There are new recordings of the songs."

Some of hits are used on stage in "Jersey Boys" and the forthcoming "A Wonderful World: The Louis Armstrong Musical." Even just a few years after his passing, a revival of sorts began thanks to the hit Broadway show "Sugar Babies," a revue that included his tunes and starred Mickey Rooney and Ann Miller.

Susan Morgan Cooper, who also helmed movies like "To the Moon

and Back" and "Fatal Distraction," directed the short.

"I made this documentary to illustrate the scope of McHugh's legacy," Cooper said. "It was an honor to interview Johnny Mathis and Michael Feinstein ... Working on this project was a delightful journey into a purer and more innocent past, and now I find myself playing McHugh's songs over and over again along with other standards from the Great American Songbook."

"You may not know him by name, but here's his story," Newman said.

The film will open at the Lumiere Music Hall in Beverly Hills, located at 9036 Wilshire Blvd., on Sept. 12 and run for one week. For information, visit lumierecinemala.com.



photo courtesy of Lee Newman

Songwriter Jimmy McHugh was a power player in Hollywood's Golden Age, mingling with legends like Marilyn Monroe.



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Notable Quotes

"If there is anybody here I have not offended, I apologize."

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

Upon leaving a party.
Brahms was a German composer, virtuoso pianist, and conductor of the mid-Romantic period.
And apparently somewhat of a comedian, as well.

*Source: Bartlett's Familiar Quotations

Good times and brush strokes in Laguna Beach

LAGUNA BEACH – Some men get old, they get cranky. Some men get old, they become gentle old troubadours. I am both those old men.

I'm not old in the sense that Boston is old, or the Dead Sea Scrolls. I still feel 50 on some days, 40 on others, some days 10. I'm like weather that fluctuates. Or that show "The Bear" – good only sometimes.

Usually what makes me cranky is stop-and-go traffic, plus other cranky people. So when I run across a cranky driver, I become cranky in sort of a closed loop of crank. Seriously, I'm striving to do better with that.

What keeps me young is my son, Smartacus.

The other day, we went to the driving range to launch golf balls to the moon.

For the record, my son hits his 7-iron 220 yards. Every club, 220 yards. Even his putter, 220 yards.



by
Chris
Erskine

My drives? They sound like a rib roast splatting onto pavement. His have the sweet whoosh-ping of a future 14-handicapper.

Life isn't all brute force, I keep telling him. There's some finesse to it, you see – some poetry, some touch. Michael Jordan and Willie Mays were both splendid athletes, as was I for about two weeks my sophomore year, when I couldn't miss a jump shot in PE. Could. Not. Miss. Then it suddenly went away. For the record, I blame Betsy Dorzweiler and that yellow sundress she used to wear to Algebra.



photo by Christopher Allwine

Historical figures are brought to life with amazing costumes, major make-up.

My point: When necessary, Mays and Jordan (and Dorzweiler) could unleash a godlike lightning. What set them apart from a thousand others was the artistry, the finesse, the brush strokes.

"You didn't come this far to only come this far," I keep telling Smartacus (quoting Matthew Reilly, the Australian scribe).

Speaking of journeys, took a date to Laguna Beach the other day, along with her sis (Lynda) and brother-in-law (Blaine).

Our goal: to bring Laguna to its knees with wit, wine and tourist spending.

For a while, we succeeded. You should've seen the meatballs we ordered for lunch, honkin' bowling balls of ground beef swimming in marinara. Shouldn't we all, at some point, swim naked in marinara?

Then the ladies shopped. There are many targets for that in Laguna ... purses, shoes, mint candy. After that, gelato, which (to me) is pure frozen pleasure, only better.

Of course, Laguna is an unusual town, so much money, so much of an artsy vibe. Rarely do those two things co-exist. Billionaires aren't normally Bohemians. Normally, they do not possess a rakish, disarming, minstrel spirit. They do not possess life's pretty brush strokes.

Now, I often find Laguna too buzzy by half, too full of tourists and parking kiosks. If there's one development that has set society back, like 2,000 centuries, it's the parking kiosk, tilted toward the mid-day sun so you cannot in any way read it.

Or, sometimes, you need an app to park, but you're not really connected so you can't download the app.

Now you see where some of the crankiness comes in? It's legit and often appropriate to our times. I can justify it on primary and secondary levels.

Somehow, we power through all

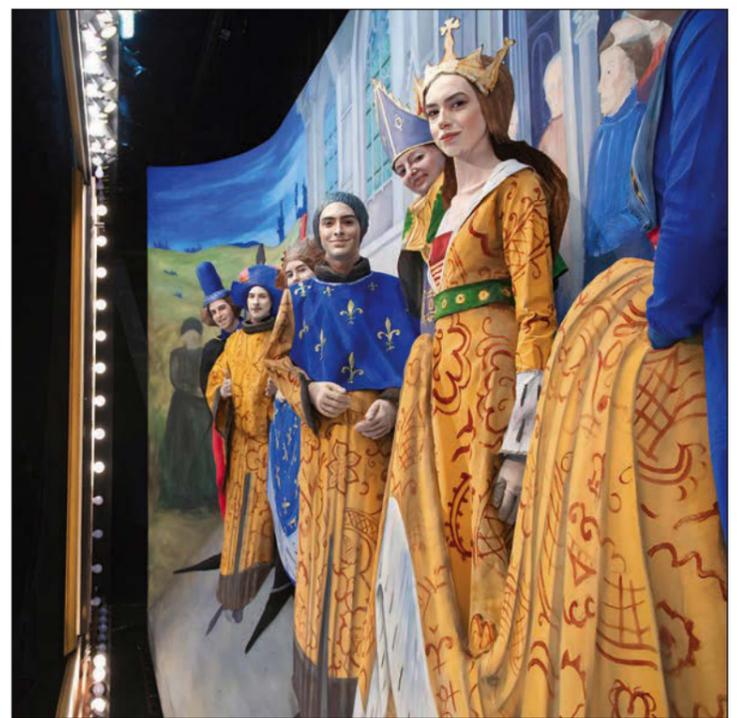


photo courtesy of Pageant of the Masters

Actors wait backstage for a Parisian wedding in Laguna Beach.

that parking stuff ... somehow.

When the sun begins to fade, the four of us hike over to the famed "Pageant of the Masters." This is my first experience with performance art at this level (I'm more drawn to Dodger games and zoos).

As we wait for it to begin, I tell Suzanne that they could use some peanut vendors working the aisles, and dudes in little paper hats selling churros.

And I'm still not sure how you get a bet down on something like Pageant of the Masters. Do you take the over on the length of the show? Or, whether someone will sneeze during the "The Last Supper?"

Small concerns.

At Pageant of the Masters, they recreate amazing artworks, using the locals as their medium, which seems perfect for what is largely a

tourist town, the mining of human flesh as a way to make a few bucks.

Sure, the whole spectacle is a tad pretentious, like a big glitzy meatball. And the script could've used a little work. It possessed sort of a puckish humor and some cringy puns. Otherwise, it is a marvelous piece of literature, top to bottom.

Bravo this whole thing.

The attention to detail, the artistry, the whole colossal and audacious conceit of this volunteer pageant makes for a truly memorable California evening.

Weird and lovely.

Like Laguna itself.

Thanks to all those who made it out to the Gin & Tonic Society bash on Saturday. More ahead in October. Keep an eye on this space for info. For more posts, please go to ChrisErskineLA.com

WeHo maintains trees with annual pruning

The city of West Hollywood will begin its annual tree pruning and tree maintenance program on Tuesday, Sept. 3. The work is expected to continue through February.

West Hollywood has thousands of trees that require regular maintenance and care. The city's contractor, West Coast Arborists, is beginning pruning work along Sunset Boulevard, taking care not to disrupt westbound lanes until after 10 a.m. to minimize the impact on traffic during morning commutes. During the following weeks, crews

will move to other commercial areas on Santa Monica Boulevard, Beverly Boulevard and major streets. Following commercial trimming, work will commence on residential streets. On smaller streets, trimming will start at 8 a.m. and will be finished by 3 p.m.

The city will notify residents, business owners and motorists in advance of pruning work using several methods. "No parking" signs will be placed a minimum of 24 hours in advance of work. Parking spaces will be reopened as soon as possible after the work is complet-

ed. Door hangers and notices on trees will be posted at least 72 hours

before residential tree trimming. Electronic message boards may be placed at strategic locations several days before trimming, as well as during trimming activities, to provide commuters with advance

notice. Notification of trimming activity will also be posted on the city's website and on social media pages @WeHoCity.

For information, call (323)848-6867, or visit weho.org.



photo courtesy of the city of West Hollywood

Tree pruning will begin along Sunset Boulevard in West Hollywood on Sept. 3.

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Officer takes lead in Hancock Park, Larchmont and Wilshire areas

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Los Angeles Police Department Officer Tyler Shuck from the Wilshire Division has been assigned as acting senior lead officer for the Hancock Park, Larchmont and Greater Wilshire areas. He is filling the position on a temporary basis until a permanent senior lead officer is selected, likely in September or October.



photo courtesy of the LAPD
Officer Tyler Shuck

Shuck and other Wilshire Division officers will meet with community members during Coffee With a Cop on Thursday, Aug. 29, from 10 a.m.-noon at Salt & Straw, 240 S. Larchmont Blvd. Residents and business owners will have a chance to meet the police who patrol their neighborhoods in an informal setting. Residents can express concerns and learn about police programs and crime prevention.

Shuck has worked at the Wilshire Division for the past eight years and said he is very familiar with Hancock Park and Larchmont Village, serving there as a patrol and training officer. As acting senior lead officer, he is responsible for an area between La Brea Avenue to the west, Willoughby and Melrose Avenue to the north, Gower Street and Plymouth Boulevard on the east, and Wilshire Boulevard and Eighth Street on the south.

"My job is to reach out to as many people in the neighborhood that I

can, assist victims and figure out their needs and concerns. I want to learn about the community's needs and what works best to address those," Shuck said.

He said property crimes are a primary concern, and he is distributing information on crime prevention and steps to make homes less susceptible to burglaries. He encouraged residents seeking information to call him at (213)712-3715 or email him at 40740@lapd.online.

"I want to open up the lines of communication to the community," Shuck said. "If anyone wants to talk, let's talk."

WeHo crowns dodgeball champions this weekend

The city of West Hollywood will host the OutLoud Sports Festival Dodgeball Tournament as part of a Labor Day Weekend four-day multi-sport festival, which takes place at locations throughout the region.

The OutLoud Dodgeball Tournament is scheduled to take place on Saturday, Aug. 31, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, Sept. 1, from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at the West Hollywood Park Aquatic and Recreation Center, located at 8750 El Tovar Place adjacent to West Hollywood Library. The dodgeball tournament is free for all spectators; interested participants can register via the League Apps website.

Day one of the tournament will consist of seven 12-minute matches to determine seeding. There are three divisions: recreational, advanced and she/they only.

Day two of the tournament will be a single-elimination tournament concluding with a championship match. Teams can consist of a maximum of 13 players with 10 players playing on the court per team.



photo courtesy of OutLoud Sports

Fans can take in the action at the WeHo Aquatic Center.

OutLoud Sports is the nation's original queer recreational sports league, founded in 2007 and represents more than 65,000 queer and allied athletes across the United States. OutLoud offers inclusive year-round activities, games and sporting events. The Sports

Festival consists of tournaments in the following sports: kickball, dodgeball, tennis, pickleball, soccer, sand volleyball and bowling at various locations. West Hollywood co-sponsored last year's festival, which included nearly 1,000 total registered players.

'Way to go' Beverly Hills AYSO girls!



photo courtesy of the city of Beverly Hills

At the Aug. 20 Beverly Hills City Council meeting, the mayor and council members gave certificates of recognition to the Wolfpack Beverly Hills American Youth Soccer Organization Region 76 Girls Under 16 Extra Team Champions as well as the Wolfpack Beverly Hills AYSO Region 76 Girls Under 12 Team Champions.



photo courtesy of the Television Academy

Win tickets to see the Emmy Awards live.

'Bid' for exclusive TV opportunity

The Television Academy Foundation has launched its "Bid for the Stars" auction on Charitybuzz featuring once-in-a-lifetime television experiences. The unique auction features exclusive items, VIP tickets to tapings of all the top TV shows and networking opportunities with Hollywood heavyweights. Proceeds from the auction benefit the Television Academy Foundation's renowned educational programs.

Auction items include tickets to the Emmy Awards, "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart," "Night Court," a "Top Chef" dinner, the premiere of "The Walking Dead: Daryl Dixon," and meet and greets.

Online bidding is ongoing and concludes Sept. 19 at noon. To bid visit televisionacademy.com/auction.

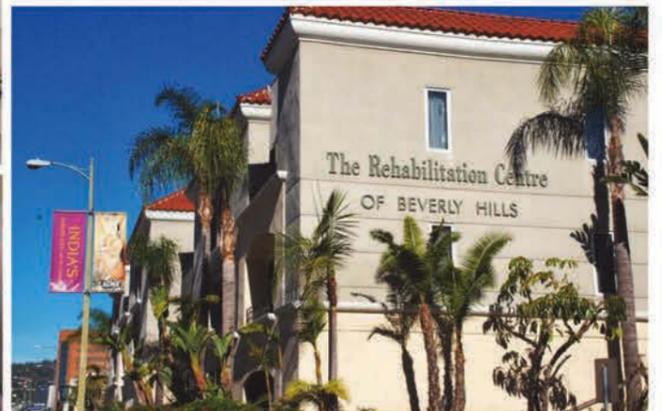


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Subway work stays on track in late August

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority is advising motorists and residents about subway work along Wilshire Boulevard on the D Line subway extension project.

Crews are working near the intersection of Wilshire Boulevard and Western Avenue, where street restoration continues in late August and September. Wilshire Boulevard is reduced to two lanes in each direction between Oxford Avenue and Saint Andrews Place.

Near the Wilshire/La Brea station, Wilshire Boulevard will be intermittently reduced to a single lane in each direction through Aug. 30 between Detroit Street and Highland Avenue, and La Brea Avenue will be reduced to a single lane in each direction between Sixth and Eighth streets. The work will run from 7 a.m.-9 p.m., Monday through Friday. Access to a mini mall on the southeast corner of Wilshire Boulevard and South Sycamore Avenue will be maintained from South Sycamore Avenue. The closure supports civil restoration and completion of antenna installation.

At the Wilshire/Fairfax station, crews are working underground and completing street restoration along Wilshire Boulevard. A K-rail work zone remains on Wilshire Boulevard between Fairfax and Spaulding avenues through October. Wilshire Boulevard is reduced to two lanes in each direction in the area.

Work near the Wilshire/La Cienega station continues in late August and September. Wilshire Boulevard will be intermittently reduced to a single lane in each direction between San Vicente and La Cienega boulevards during weekend and off-peak hours through September. Access to side streets including Hamilton, Gale and Tower drives may be reduced intermittently.

Crews are installing a bus pad on La Cienega Boulevard north of Wilshire Boulevard through Tuesday, Sept. 3. Northbound La Cienega Boulevard will be reduced to a single lane at Wilshire Boulevard to a point approximately 150 feet north of the intersection. Bus pads are concrete reinforced areas of roadway built into the

street surface near stops.

Water line utility work is occurring through Sept. 8 along Wilshire Boulevard, which will be intermittently reduced to a single lane in each direction overnight between La Cienega and San Vicente boulevards. La Cienega Boulevard will also be intermittently reduced to one lane in each direction between Clifton Way and a point just north of Wilshire Boulevard. The water line work may cause intermittent interruptions to service overnight in neighborhoods near Wilshire/La Cienega.

Work is ongoing on the Wilshire/Rodeo station, where crews have closed Cañon Drive for deck removal and street restoration. Crews are also working on Wilshire Boulevard between Beverly and Crescent drives on underground structures adjacent to the station called appendage structures. The work requires daily and nightly lane closures in both directions from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and 8 p.m.-7 a.m. During appendage construction, Wilshire Boulevard and South Beverly Drive may be reduced to one lane in each direction in the



photo by Edwin Folven

Intermittent lane closures are in place near the Wilshire/Rodeo subway station in Beverly Hills.

immediate work zone area for station deck access. Potholing on Wilshire Boulevard for future appendage structure piling is anticipated to start as early as September.

Work is also ongoing at the Century City station, where new lane closures will be in place overnight from 8 p.m.-5:30 a.m. for approximately three weeks. The lane closures facilitate concrete

placement for the station's roof. Westbound Constellation Boulevard will be restricted west of Avenue of the Stars, and the curb lane will be intermittently restricted.

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

Metro logs steady increase in ridership

Metro continues to mark systemwide overall ridership growth, recording more than 25.4 million boardings in July on its bus and rail services and reaching 81.84 percent of its July 2019 pre-COVID ridership level.

July was the 20th consecutive month of year-over-year ridership growth for Metro. The agency had 19,873,436 boardings on weekdays, reaching 78.8 percent of its pre-pandemic July 2019 level. On weekends in July, there were 5,592,948 boardings, or 95.3 per-

cent of pre-pandemic weekend ridership from July 2019.

Bus ridership in July had more than 19.6 million rides taken for a 9.84 percent year-over-year ridership increase. Weekend bus ridership was at 93.16 percent of its pre-pandemic level in July.

Rail Ridership also increased in July, when more than 5.7 million rail boardings were recorded, or 3.23 percent more than July 2023. The busiest rail line was the B Line (between Downtown Los Angeles and North Hollywood) with nearly

1.9 million boardings.

Leisure travelers rode Metro to concerts, festivals and sporting events. July 2024 had more weekend events, which were a driver of overall ridership growth during the month, with weekday bus ridership up 7.37 percent and weekday rail ridership up 2.62 percent. Events at venues with direct Metro rail access such as Expo Park off the E Line, L.A. Historic State Park off the A Line and Dodger Stadium serviced by the Dodger Stadium Express bus from Union Station all experienced ridership increases. July events that contributed to ridership increases included the July Fourth fireworks event at Gloria Molina Grand Park, multi-day events Anime Expo, KCON and Rupaul's DragCon, which took place at the Convention Center and Crypto.com Arena, as well as L.A. Sparks, Dodgers and LAFC and Angel City FC games at Crypto.com Arena, Dodger Stadium and BMO Stadium, respectively.

Metro continues to provide programs that make riding more affordable. The reduced-price transit pass programs, such as the student GoPass program, which offers free transit passes to K-12 and community college students, and the Low-Income Fare is Easy program, which provides free rides and reduced fares to low-income customers, can reduce the cost of public transportation.

For information, visit metro.net.



photo by Edwin Folven

Bus ridership increased 9.84 percent last month compared to July 2023.

Letters to the Editor

Beverly Hills free speech zones need more review

Re "Beverly Hills considers new free speech zones," Aug. 22 issue

The constitutional gift of free speech is not well understood in our country. Any move to increase understanding of this important element of democracy should be praised.

Beverly Hills would join Boston with its 200-year-old Common and London's Hyde Park Speakers Corner [in] providing a place for open, free political oratory.

Carleton Cronin
West Hollywood

Court rules on Beverly Hills Surplus Land Act case

Re "Beverly Hills win surplus land lawsuit," Aug. 22 issue

I saw your article on the Surplus Land Act case in the paper, which although more accurate than the Weekly's article, was not totally accurate.

What is surprising and incomprehensible to me is that no one from your paper bothered to contact me for my comment on the

case or the accuracy of what you have printed, even though I had alerted you to the case several weeks ago.

Even the Weekly, which has become a much lesser paper recently due to its editorials, contacted me and requested a comment.

Darian Bojeaux
Beverly Hills

Editor's note: This was not the newspapers' original content. It was taken from a press release issued by the city of Beverly Hills.

Learn more about K Line Northern Extension at the Sept. 4 meeting

Metro is holding a community meeting on the K Line Northern Extension on Wednesday, Sept. 4, from 6-8 p.m. at the Nate Holden Performing Arts Center, 4718 W. Washington Blvd.

The K Line Northern Extension would extend between the Crenshaw area and Hollywood and would run through the city of West Hollywood. It would provide a link to the Metro C, E, D and B Lines, connecting four major rail

lines and six of the highest ridership bus lines in L.A. County. The project fills in a major gap in the Metro Rail network and creates opportunities by connecting the Crenshaw District, Mid-City, West Hollywood and Hollywood. Metro staff will provide information and answer questions at the meeting. For information, visit metro.net/calendar/k-line-northern-extension-community-meeting and metro.net/projects/kline-northern-extension.

L.A. Water and Power ranked most sustainable utility provider

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power ranked first in the 2024 J.D. Power Sustainability Index, an evaluation that measures the nation's largest electric utilities' customer awareness, support, engagement and advocacy for their local climate sustainability programs and goals.

The index applies to 35 of the largest U.S. electric utility companies and cities serving 500,000 or more residential customers. LADWP's index score of 39 tied with Sacramento Municipal Utility District to share the top spot. LADWP's 2024 ranking is a 10-point improvement over its 2023 index score of 29.

"This result shows a major improvement for LADWP from just a year ago. It demonstrates that we are on the right track with our

climate sustainability goals," LADWP CEO and Chief Engineer Janisse Quiñones said.

The index results were based on responses from 73,255 business and residential electric utility customers from June 2023 through May 2024. The overall sustainability score for electric utilities evaluated in the 2024 study is 32 – on a 100-point scale – up five points from 2023, according to J.D. Power.

Customers can take advantage of water conservation rebates on energy-efficient household appliances, free residential energy and water upgrades to improve efficiency in single-family homes and a variety of income-qualified discount and financial assistance programs.

For information, visit ladwp.com/strategic-initiatives/clean-energy-future.



photo courtesy of LADWP

The utility provider's ranking is a 10-point increase from the previous year.

RESTAURANT NEWS

Prosperity Market concludes annual event with block party

On Sunday, Sept. 1 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Prosperity Market, the mobile farmers market spotlighting Black farmers, food producers, chefs and entrepreneurs in Los Angeles, will conclude its 4th annual Black business scavenger hunt with a pop-up farmers market and block party, hosted by Hilltop Coffee & Kitchen in View Park/Windsor Hills. In honor of Black Business Month, Prosperity Market founders Kara Still and Carmen Dianne created an interactive map with 100+ Black businesses, encouraging Angelenos to visit and support as many locations as possible in order to earn points and win prizes. The winners of the Black Business Scavenger Hunt will be announced and given their prizes during the pop-up market.

Prosperity Market and 50+ local vendors and farmers (including Compton Vegan, My Daddy's Recipes, Ace Naturals and chef Brandi Biggles) will take over Hilltop's parking lot, alongside a DJ, wine garden by 1010 Wine, Tammi Mac of KJLH Radio, community resources, a kids' area by Teach to Reach and photo booth. Special activations include Gin & Juice by Dre and Snoop, the award-winning ready-to-drink premium gin-based cocktail from Dr. Dre and Snoop Dogg's new spirits company, plus

Hulu will be on-site with a coffee giveaway and swag bags promoting Reasonable Doubt. Neighborhood businesses on Slauson including Supervsn, Pamper U and Mae's Skin & Body, will take part in the celebration by activating in their respective locations with music, promotions, and activities. This event is free and open to the public.

Hilltop Coffee & Kitchen is located at 4427 W. Slauson Ave. For information, visit prosperity-marketla.com.

Beverly Center burger plays 'For the Win'

Beverly Center has a new smash burger restaurant, For the Win. Located on street level, For the Win is known for its signature technique, where fresh, high-quality beef is expertly smashed onto a hot griddle to lock in flavor and create a perfect sear. To celebrate its opening, For the Win will be giving out free cheeseburgers to its first 500 customers at Beverly Center on Saturday, Sept. 7, while supplies last. At the grand opening event, guests can enjoy exclusive access to a beer garden with lawn games and music. This sizzling addition to Beverly Center's culinary landscape promises a delicious dining experience for burger aficionados and food enthusiasts alike. Aside from their beloved cheeseburger, Beverly Center patrons can expect an enticing menu from For the Win that includes its fried chicken sandwich, crispy bal-

samic brussels sprouts, and thin-cut fries, as well as smooth and creamy milkshakes. From classic cheeseburgers to gourmet creations adorned with unique toppings, there is a sandwich to suit every palate. For The Win is open daily from 11 a.m.-10 p.m. For information visit beverly-center.com/stores/for-the-win. For the Win at the Beverly Center is located at 8500 Beverly Blvd.

Holy Cow BBQ specials ring in 10th birthday

Holy Cow BBQ is turning 10 this September and they will be celebrating their anniversary with a different \$10 special each week at both their Santa Monica and Culver City locations. From Sept. 2-8 the Hog Sandwich will be \$10, from Sept. 9-15 the original BBQ chicken sandwich will be \$10, from Sept. 16-22 the house brisket sandwich will be \$10, and from Sept. 23-29 the chicken nuggets or wings will be \$10. Holy Cow is located at 264 26th St., Santa Monica, and 4130 Sepulveda Blvd, Culver City. For information, visit holycowbbq.com.

Jeni's launches fall ice creams

On Sept. 5, Jeni's Splendid Ice Cream is unveiling their brand-new fall collection. Available online, and at Jeni's scoop shops throughout L.A. for the full season, this collection introduces four deli-



photo courtesy of L.A. Loves Alex's Lemonade Stand

With more than 50 vendors, including Pink's Hot Dogs, the annual L.A. Love's Alex's Lemonade Stand cookout is scheduled for Oct. 5.

Tickets going on sale for annual cookout

L.A. Loves Alex's Lemonade Stand is rallying for its 12th annual cookout in Los Angeles, scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 5. The fundraiser has announced an impressive lineup of over 50 outstanding vintners and beverage professionals, personally invited by Caroline Styne, as well as mixologists selected by David Lentz, who will be participating. With just under six weeks remaining until the event, the public is encouraged to secure their tickets before they sell out. Early bird pricing is available at \$250

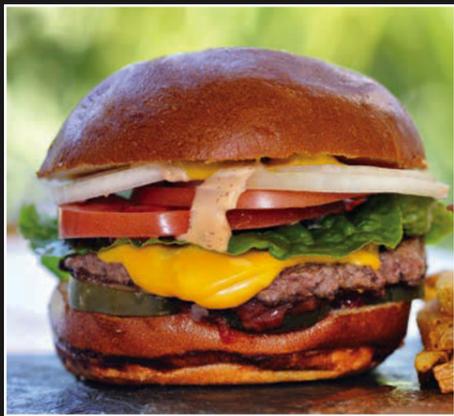
for general admission until Sept. 1. After that date, ticket prices will increase to \$280 per person. The 2023 event was an overwhelming success raising more than \$1.3 million for Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation. Presented at Royce Quad on the campus of UCLA, located at 10745 Dickson Court, the cookout is always a perfect day for chefs and fans to come together to support childhood cancer research. For information and tickets, visit alexslemonade.org/event/406/register.

cious new flavors that are perfect for those cozy couch moments. Devoted to making the finest ice creams the world has ever known, Jeni's new fall edit is no different,

offering a unique blend of flavors that embody the essence of autumn while showcasing Jeni's culinary creativity – no pumpkin spice here! Jeni's new fall flavors are: Bay Leaf



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Late-night bites available at Paloma

Starting Thursday, Aug. 29, Paloma will offer a new late-night menu available from 5 p.m.-close Thursday-Saturday. Ideal for bites and drinks after a night out in Venice or surrounding neighborhoods, Paloma's late-night menu features lunch and dinner menu favorites including breads and dips (because it's never too late for Whipped Sheep's milk ricotta with

grilled laffa bread), pastas and pizzas like the Ode to Franco, the James Beard Burger and crispy calamari. Paloma will also introduce a new specialty item unique to late-night: the Israeli Fried Chicken, made with pomegranate molasses, ras al hanout and house pickles. Plus, after 10 p.m., all specialty cocktails like the Spice Girl and Summer Melon Spritz will be \$2 off.

For information, visit palomavenicebeach.com or call (310)405-6385. Paloma is located at 600 S. Venice Blvd.



photo courtesy of AC Barbeque

Anthony Anderson and Cedric the Entertainer's AC Barbeque first-ever restaurant will open at Westfield Century City this fall.

Breakfast Club pairs authors with the most important meal of the day

The Los Angeles Breakfast Club, a 99-year-old nonprofit organization based in Los Angeles, is announcing an engaging lineup of breakfast events, promising a September filled with nostalgia, history and a little something

sweet. The month of programming kicks off with the honorary initiation of legendary co-creator of H.R. Pufnstuf Sid Krofft on Wednesday, Sept. 4.

The club will celebrate 55 Years of Weird with Krofft, recognizing the anniversary of H.R. Pufnstuf's introduction to the world in 1969, and the innovation of Sid and his brother Marty Krofft in the following decades. Sid will join Vintage L.A.'s Alison Martino in a spirited conversation.

The programming continues with a series of breakfast events that are sure to have something for everyone: Explore iconic mid-century bowling alleys with Bowlarama! On Sept. 11, with architecture and culture writer/historian Chris Nichols and award-winning historian and advocate Adriene Biondo, authors of "Bowlarama: The Architecture of Mid-Century Bowling," for the

new book's first major public event. Comedian, actor, and co-host of the hit podcast "How Did This Get Made?" Paul Scheer candidly and humorously shares insights of coming to terms with childhood trauma and finding joy from his book "Joyful Recollections of Trauma" on Sept. 18. On Sept. 25, enjoy a delicious exploration of a modest California business See's Candies, which became a global confectionery icon with See's representative Andrea Blackman.

All programming will take place at Friendship Auditorium in Griffith Park, located at 3201 Riverside Drive., where the club has held weekly breakfast meetings since 1965. Friendship Auditorium, named as a nod to the club's tagline "The Shrine of Friendship," was dedicated in a ceremony on Nov. 3, 1965 after being built with club funds and donated to the city of Los Angeles. Breakfast meetings are open to the public and begin at 7 a.m. Tickets are \$28, include breakfast and can be purchased at labreakfastclub.com/events.

Westfield adds new slate of restaurant for fall and spring seasons

Westfield Century City has several highly anticipated restaurant openings for 2024-25. This includes a diverse array of popular fare from fast-casual to high-end dining, bolstering the center's current culinary experiences and offering guests an even more comprehensive selection of locally beloved and internationally famed restaurants.

Casa Dani and Katsuya will both open in the fall, bringing Mediterranean and Japanese cuisines to a flagship culinary epicenter in Los Angeles. The venue, spanning 17,000 square feet with a seating capacity for 400 guests, will play host to a trio of bars. AC Barbeque's first-ever restaurant will also launch in the fall. The lifestyle brand from "Black-ish's" Anthony Anderson and king of comedy Cedric the Entertainer, offers a premium line of barbecue rubs and sauces. MRCHOW NOW, a new casual

concept by the legendary Mr. Chow, will open in the fall, as well.

Rounding out the fall openings will be Pret A Manger, which will be serving organic coffee and freshly made food, the beloved British eatery continues expanding in Los Angeles. Since opening their first shop in London in 1986, Pret's mission has always been simple: to serve freshly made food and good organic coffee, while also trying to do the right thing. Pret offers delicious breakfast and lunch options that are made fresh throughout the day. Any unsold food is donated to local food rescue partners.

Super Peach by Momofuku and Rumi's Kitchen are set to open in 2025. For information and to stay up to date on the latest events and openings, visit westfield.com/centurycity. Westfield Century City is located at 10250 Santa Moinca Blvd.



photo courtesy of the Los Angeles Breakfast Club

The L.A. Breakfast Club has met weekly since 1965.

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LACMA, Hammer Museum and MOCA collaborate to display Mohn collection

The directors of the Hammer Museum, Los Angeles County Museum of Art and Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, announced the creation on Aug. 26 of a jointly owned and managed collection to be founded through the acquisition of 260 artworks from Los Angeles philanthropists Jarl and Pamela Mohn.

The Mohn collection, amassed over the last 19 years, is comprised of paintings, sculptures and mixed-media works by Los Angeles-based artists. The initial gift of artworks starts what will become a continually growing collection, as the Mohns will also create an endowment for annual acquisitions in addition to expenses related to

the care and storage of the collection.

The collaboration is called the Mohn Art Collective: Hammer, LACMA, MOCA – or MAC3. In addition to the Mohns' gift, the Hammer Museum will enhance the MAC3 collection with 80 works previously acquired by the museum through its "Made in L.A." biennials since 2012. Curators from the three institutions made the collection's first joint acquisitions by unanimously selecting 16 works from "Made in L.A. 2023: Acts of Living." The MAC3 collection includes 356 artworks in total.

The co-owned collection establishes a groundbreaking model for institutional collaboration and commitment to directly supporting Los Angeles artists. The gift will enable the three institutions to actively and collectively acquire works by L.A. artists on an annual basis, with acquisitions chosen jointly by curatorial teams from the three museums. Every other year, the acquisitions will come directly out of future editions of the Hammer Museum's "Made in L.A." biennial. During the alternating, non-biennial years, curators from the three institutions will identify works for acquisition by visiting studios and exhibitions. The full collection will be available to each institution for display and will prioritize a lending program to encourage the works' display at other museums around the world.

The existing Mohn Collection includes works by Aria Dean, Rafa



photo © Arthur Jafa, courtesy of the artist and Gladstone Gallery

Arthur Jafa's "Bloods II" (2020) is included in the new partnership.

Esparza, Lauren Halsey, Luchita Hurtado, Arthur Jafa, Silke Otto-Knapp, Analia Saban, Martine Syms and Kandis Williams, as well as Karon Davis, Mark Grotjahn, Rodney McMillian and Cauleen Smith. The goal is for the collection to grow through contemporary artworks gifted by other collectors and donors.

"Only in L.A., a city that champions experimentation and out-of-the-box thinking, can such an unprecedented joint acquisition be made," said Michael Govan, CEO and Wallis Annenberg Director of LACMA. "Jarl and Pamela's generous gift to local museums is a testament to the wonderful friendship and collaboration our three institutions have fostered over the decades, and, more importantly, highlights L.A.'s stature as a vital hub of artistic creativity."

"Jarl and Pamela Mohn's passion and generosity for the artists of Los Angeles is simply unparalleled," Hammer Museum director Ann Philbin said. "Their support helped to launch the 'Made in L.A.' biennial

12 years ago and continues to sustain the exhibition well into the future."

"We are deeply honored to be part of this pioneering initiative that not only celebrates but also nurtures the vibrant and diverse art communities of Los Angeles. The Mohns' extraordinary gift is a profound commitment to the artists of today and a promise to future generations," said Johanna Burton, the Maurice Marciano Director of MOCA. "The collection reflects the dynamic creativity and innovation that define our city. And this collaboration allows us to come together to continue supporting and showcasing the incredible talent within our local arts scene, ensuring that our artists' voices are heard and that their works are seen around the world."

LACMA is located at 5905 Wilshire Blvd., the Hammer Museum is located at 10899 Wilshire Blvd. and MOCA is located at 250 S. Grand Ave. For information, visit lacma.org, hammer.ucla.edu and moca.org.

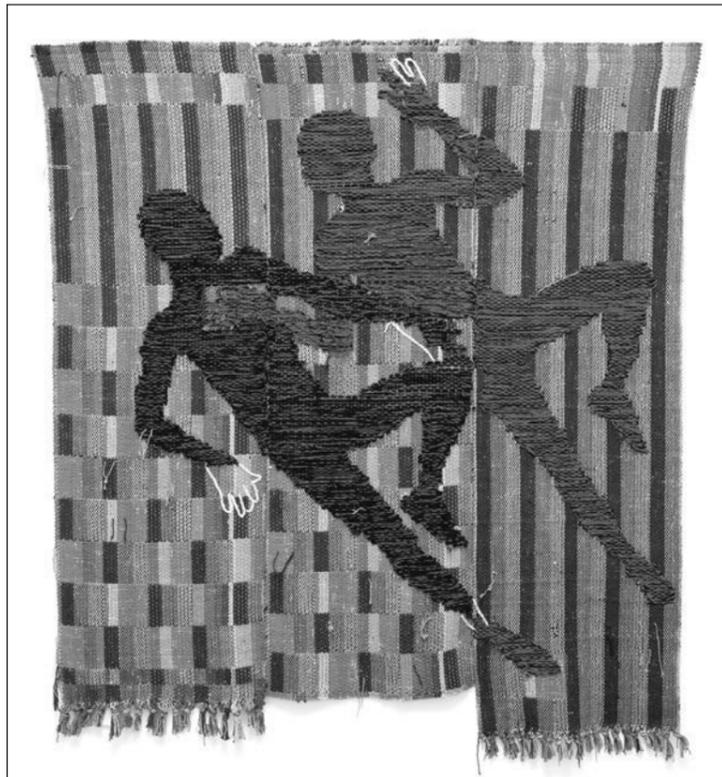


photo © Diedrick Brackens, courtesy of the artist

Diedrick Brackens' "nuclear lovers" (2020) is provided courtesy of the artist, Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, and Various Small Fires Los Angeles/Texas/Seoul.

Glass Box purrs at The Grove

Tory Burch is opening a pop-up shop in the Glass Box at The Grove in partnership with Nordstrom beginning Aug. 31. The pop-up will debut with an "Animal House" concept featuring the work of German photographer Walter Schels. His portrait "Cat" (1994) first appeared in Burch's Resort 2024 collection, inspiring a new concept store on Melrose earlier this year.

Schels is known for his tender,

yet penetrating portraits of people and animals.

"Animals don't disguise themselves," Schels said. "An animal doesn't ask itself, 'Am I beautiful?' It is just the way it is."

"There's a human element to Walter's photographs, in the way he looks at the animals and they in turn look back," Burch said. "He gives animals the same respect as humans, highlighting their unique

personalities and emotions."

The Animal House pop-up will feature limited-edition cat-printed handbags, shoes and accessories, in addition to handbags and shoes from their iconic T Monogram and Kira collections.

In October, the pop-up will highlight Sublime, a new fragrance by Burch. Sublime reflects how Burch sees women today: confident, sensual and strong. Unexpected notes create a unique, sexy dimension: the alchemy of leather blended with delicate rose, osmanthus flower, earthy vetiver and bright mandarin. The Sublime bottle is an abstract take on Burch's Double T logo in sculptural glass with a silver ball cap.

Kendall Jenner is featured in the campaign, photographed by Mert Alas and Marcus Piggott.

"Sublime is beautiful, it's sexy, it's confident," Jenner said. "I love what Tory does and what she stands for. I want to align with designers who feel genuinely right to me, and this felt natural and organic."

"Kendall has a quiet power," Burch said. "She knows who she is and she's fearless. She is an entrepreneur and a role model for so many people, and that was important to me."

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



photo courtesy of Tory Burch

Cat-themed merchandise will accentuate the "Animal House" theme at The Grove.

Halloween-time lineup brings the spooks to Cinespia

Cinespia, Los Angeles' favorite cinematic experience presented by Amazon MGM Studios, has announced their lineup for October including "The Texas Chain Saw Massacre" (1974) on Oct. 5, and "Trick 'r Treat" (2007) on Oct. 19 at Hollywood Forever Cemetery, concluding the outdoor season.

There will also be a special, 15th Anniversary screening of a spooky family favorite "Coraline" (2009) on Oct. 12 at Hollywood Forever Cemetery. Cinespia will close out the month with an indoor screening of "Suspiria" (1977) on Oct. 31 at The Orpheum Theatre in Downtown Los Angeles.

"What better way to embrace the spooky season than by watching horror classics under the stars at a cemetery?" founder John Wyatt said. "We're also thrilled to return to The Orpheum for the second consecutive year, hosting our fans on Halloween night for a special screening of the original 'Suspiria.'"

Dodgers highlight opportunities for women at annual conference



photo courtesy of the Los Angeles Dodgers

The third annual Women's Conference will feature panelists and speakers on Sept. 18.

The Los Angeles Dodgers, in conjunction with the organization's Women's Opportunity Network, is holding the third annual Women's Conference on Wednesday, Sept. 18, at Dodger Stadium.

The conference will bring together over 500 local professionals to learn, network and connect with the event's keynote speakers, panelists and attendees. The program will open with a fire-side chat hosted by ESPN's Pamela Maldonado and featuring Amy Howe, CEO of FanDuel, during breakfast. Next, breakout sessions focusing on four separate areas of the work force will be held including sports and entertainment, technology, talent representation and innovation. The conference will conclude with lunch and networking.

Speakers from Major League Baseball, Los Angeles Chargers, Los Angeles Sparks, Netflix and Sony Pictures are scheduled to speak at the conference.

"We are excited to host our third annual Los Angeles Dodgers Women's Conference," said Sara Curran, vice president of accounting for the Dodgers and executive sponsor of the Women's Opportunity Network. "The goal of the conference is to inspire, educate and connect women in sports and entertainment to create a more inclusive future. We are grateful to Spectrum for joining us in hosting our conference that will also present a set of powerful panelists who are leaders in their industry."

The Women's Opportunity Network, established in 2020, is among multiple business resource groups within the Los Angeles Dodgers organization. The group creates a safe and equitable space for women to thrive and to demonstrate that women add tangible value to the organization's success.

General admission tickets for the conference are \$100 and VIP tickets are \$200. For information and tickets, visit dodgers.com/womeninsports.

'Alien: Romulus' stands alone in out of this world saga

Let's be honest. The "Alien" films peaked earlier, and dragged on for another six entries counting those "Alien vs. Predator" debacles. I admit enjoying "Prometheus" more than most, but no xenomorph terrorizes the crew. And "Covenant" was infuriating, proving Ridley Scott needed to let someone else have a turn in the sandbox.

Enter Fede Alvarez, responsible for 2013's raunch fest "Evil Dead" and "Don't Breathe," one of the most intense home-invasion films to date. A new director and new management, since 20th Century now belongs to Disney (please make this a new attraction at California Adventure), prove the winning combo. "Alien: Romulus"

is a return to form, a sequel we haven't experienced since the 1980s.

Wayland Industries suck. The saddest part of the "Alien" series isn't the monster with acid for blood. It's the faceless conglomerate that controls everything. Rain (Cailee Spaeny) knows that all too well. She finally accrues enough hours to travel off planet, leave mining behind, only to be denied thanks to Amazon's moving goalpost ... sorry, I meant to say Wayland. Really, I did.

Luckily, Rain has her best friend, synthetic human Andy (David Jonsson). Lucky indeed, for her old friends, including ex-boyfriend Tyler (Archie Renaux), who hatch a plan to escape their capitalist

ON SCREEN

WITH
TIM POSADA

dystopia for a planet free of toxins.

An abandoned research station near the atmosphere might help them all escape, and Andy can communicate with it to gain entry. If only they knew why that station was abandoned. No worries, they'll find out soon enough when hundreds of facehuggers start chasing them. We all know what comes after that.

"Romulus" has several strengths. Most notably, the CGI of space is incredible (not so much for one eerie deep-fake sequence) and the xenomorph effects appear mostly practical: a combination of costuming, props and even remote-controlled facehuggers for a wild chase sequence (you must see what they looked like on set).

Where exactly "Romulus" fits into the "Alien" timeline is a mystery. Some answers will come, though they might invite more questions. Along the way, prepare for plenty of Easter eggs and winks to most of the previous films. The sites, the sounds and, of course, the iconic monster with a second mouth all belong on the big screen.

That said, "Romulus" stands alone, no need for nostalgia. The jump scares and performances hit hard. And while Spaeny's Rain might be the primary lead, Jonsson's performance steals the show. At first, he appears timid, the result of degrading programming. Then an upgrade presents an entirely different Andy.

Mind you, "Romulus" is hardly a



photo courtesy of 20th Century Studios

Rain (Cailee Spaeny) and Andy (David Jonsson) take on an interstellar foe in "Alien: Romulus."



photo courtesy of 20th Century Studios

The iconic monster with a second mouth is back in "Alien: Romulus."

perfect film. The timeline is confusing. Some plot points don't make sense when any explanation arrives. And the heavy degree of psych-outs in the third act – one obstacle leads directly into another – feels a bit excessive.

And the final showdown might cause spectators with trust issues to roll their eyes. Just remember: Every sequel introduces something new. "Aliens" gave us a queen, "Alien 3" birthed a xenomorph from a dog and "Resurrection" had all those jumping sharks.

Even if "Romulus" is clunky at points, it never feels dull. It's solid science fiction and horror. More importantly, it knows how an "Alien" film feels, both in set design and intensity. "Alien" isn't going away anytime soon with a prequel series called "Alien: Earth" from Noah Hawley (FX's "Fargo," "Legion") set to premiere next year. But I truly hope all surviving parties here, filmmakers included, continue the "Romulus" story. There's more to tell, and the franchise finally feels like it's in good

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Join Heal the Bay for Coastal Cleanup Day

Heal the Bay, in partnership with the California Coastal Commission, is seeking volunteers for its 35th annual Coastal Cleanup Day, which will be held on Sept. 21 at more than 50 sites throughout Los Angeles County.

Since 1990, Heal the Bay Coastal

Clean Up Day volunteers have removed more than 1.9 million pounds of trash and 101,140 pounds of recyclable materials from beaches and inland waterways. A white wedding dress, a pumpkin full of hardboiled eggs, a \$100 bill torn in half and a World

War II-era gas mask are among the unusual items found by Heal the Bay volunteers in past years.

Cleanups will be held from 9 a.m.-noon at multiple locations including coastal and inland (river/lake) areas. Volunteers can visit the site map to find a convenient location to register for a cleanup.

Cleanups are a last line of defense to prevent trash from causing harm to the ocean, wildlife communities and beaches. Plastic pollution continues to proliferate, with scientists estimating there may be more plastic in the sea than fish by mass in 2050. Volunteers will learn about the harms of plastic pollution and receive tips on how to take preventative action throughout the year.

People from all backgrounds volunteer for Coastal Cleanup Day, including families, schools, faith-based organizations, businesses, sports teams, clubs and individuals. No advanced training or equipment is needed. Heal the Bay provides instructions, safety talks and supplies. Volunteers under 18 must have a waiver signed by a legal guardian. Children 13 and younger must be supervised by an adult at cleanup events.

For information and to register, visit healthebay.org/coastalcleanup-day.



photo courtesy of Heal the Bay

Volunteers of all ages make a difference at Heal the Bay's annual Coastal Cleanup Day.



photo courtesy of Metro

The Metro Youth Council is composed of 27 members ages 14-17, each serving for one year.

Teens invited to learn about public transportation at Metro Youth Summit

Calling all high school students. Join the Metro Youth Summit for a day of food, prizes, DJs, a 360 photobooth and youth led discussions on Saturday, Sept. 21, from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the Union Station Ticketing Concourse.

The event is presented by Metro's Youth Council and the theme is "Empowering Youth: Bridging Communities through Transportation." Students can receive volunteer hours credit for

participating.

Students are encouraged to use public transportation to reach the event. Call (323)466-3876 or use Metro's Trip Planner at metro.net/riding/trip-planner. Admission is free; parking validation will not be provided. RSVP to eventbrite.com/e/metro-youth-summit-tickets-927425844667?aff=oddtcreator.

For information on the Metro Youth Council, visit metro.net/youthcouncil.

'Madame Butterfly' premieres at Dorothy Chandler

From Sept. 21-Oct. 13, LA Opera will present one of the most beloved operas of all: Giacomo Puccini's heartbreaking "Madame Butterfly," conducted by music director James Conlon. The new-to-Los Angeles production – originally staged by Spanish-Uruguayan director Mario Gas for the Teatro Real in Madrid – features a Hollywood twist: it's reimagined as taking place at a 1930s film studio, with the opera performance cap-

tured by onstage camera operators and projected onto screens hanging above the stage.

"One of the most gratifying aspects of being an opera lover is witnessing the manner in which successive generations of opera artists imbue a work with their own indelible theatrical and musical signatures," said Christopher Koelsch, LA Opera's president and CEO. "While this production created by director Mario Gas origi-

nated in Madrid, I think that this production's Hollywood soundstage setting will have particular resonance here, in the epicenter of cinema."

Tickets begin at \$37.50 and are on sale now. Tickets can be purchased online at laopera.org, by phone at (213)972-8001, or in person at the LA Opera box office at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, located at 135 N. Grand Ave. For disability access, call (213)972-0777 or email laopera@laopera.org.



photo by Javier del Real

The classic Giacomo Puccini opera is imaginatively transposed to Hollywood in the 1930s.

School year has a new rhythm with Rosewood STEM Magnet's Music

Rosewood STEM Magnet of Urban Planning and Urban Design, located at 503 N. Croft Ave., got off to a great start of the new school year with a completely remodeled Music Lab, courtesy of Adopt the Arts. All students in UTK-5th grade have a full-time music teacher and receive vocal music, music theory, drumming, ukulele and keyboard training.

Rosewood STEM Magnet of Urban Planning and Urban Design provides a safe and enriching learn-

ing environment where the whole student is nurtured and developed. Teachers and administrators support the academic and emotional wellbeing of each student. A rigorous academic curriculum engages all learning styles. Rosewood was selected as a 2024 School of Distinction by Magnet Schools of America.

For information, call (323)651-0166, or visit rosewoodelementary.org.



photo courtesy of Rosewood

Rosewood STEM Magnet of Urban Planning and Urban Design offers music instruction for students in UTK-5th grade.

Come as you are. Discover what you can become.

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

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Explore the possibilities of AI at The Music Center



photo courtesy of The Music Center

Visitors will have the chance to hear an AI replication of their own voice through earbuds in The Music Center’s exhibition “Voice in My Head.”

Angelenos will be all ears when experiencing a new AI art installation at Jerry Moss Plaza at The Music Center. Launching Thursday, Aug. 29, and running through Sunday, Nov. 3, “The Music Center Presents: A More Than Human Tongue” will explore the fusion of ancestral practices and modern technology with a pair of innovative experiences. The first experience, “One Who Looks at the Cup,” is the brainchild of author, artist and researcher Mashinka Firunts Hakopian with Atlas Acopian and Lara Sarkissian, who uncover the practice of tasseography – the fortune-telling method of reading coffee grounds, dating back as early as

the 16th century – reimagined through AI. The second experience, “Voice in My Head,” created by L.A.-based artist and computer programmer Lauren Lee McCarthy and Kyle McDonald, delves into the inner workings of the mind, with guests hearing voices in their heads using earbuds. The twist in this aural experience is that the voice speaking to each participant is an AI-generated clone of the participant’s own voice.

The two-part AI experience will last approximately one hour and will occur between 4:30–8 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays as well as 1–8 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Participants can reserve a time slot

online at musiccenter.org/tongue or onsite at Jerry Moss Plaza at The Music Center. To maximize the personalized AI experience, only two individuals will be able to register for each time slot. “The Music Center Presents: A More Than Human Tongue” is the latest public art installation presented by The Music Center’s Digital Innovation Initiative launched in 2022 and designed to explore and create digital and virtual reality experiences on The Music Center campus and throughout Los Angeles.

“The Music Center Presents: A More Than Human Tongue” is an immersive journey into AI and human connection that has never been attempted before in The Music Center’s 60-year history. The profound experience of hearing your own voice talk to yourself will be otherworldly without a doubt, yet it will reshape how we can better understand ourselves on an entirely new and extraordinary level,” said Rachel S. Moore, president and CEO of The Music Center. “Moreover, the blending of AI into the centuries-old practice of tasseography will challenge our perceptions of technology influencing how we envision our future. Can artificial intelligence also replicate ancestral intelligence? I encourage Angelenos to find out for themselves in Downtown L.A.’s most unique AI experience to date.”

For information, visit musiccenter.org/tongue or musiccenter.org/dii.

Jerry Moss Plaza is located at 135 N. Grand Ave.

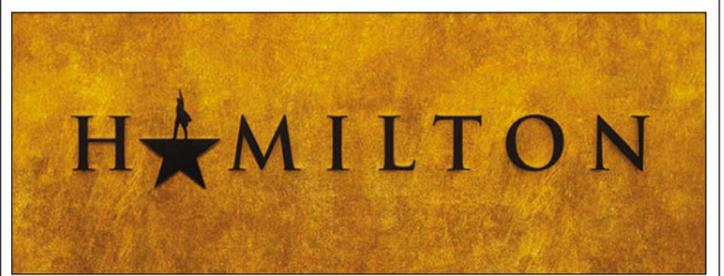


photo courtesy of Broadway in Hollywood

“Hamilton” is one of the most successful musicals in Broadway history.

‘Hamilton’ lottery open

Producer Jeffrey Seller and Broadway in Hollywood are hosting a digital lottery for “Hamilton” tickets which will begin in conjunction with the show’s first performance on Sept. 4 in Los Angeles at Hollywood Pantages Theatre. A limited number of tickets will be available for every performance for \$10 each. The lottery will close at noon on Thursday, Aug. 29 for tickets to performances Sept.4-8. Subsequent digital lotteries will begin each Friday and close the following Thursday for the upcoming week’s performances.

Use the official app for “Hamilton,” now available for all iOS and Android devices in the Apple App Store and the Google Play Store, or by visiting hamilton-musical.com/us-tour/lottery. Winner notifications will be sent between 1-4 p.m. every Thursday for the upcoming week’s performances via email and mobile push notification. Winners will have two hours to claim and pay for their ticket(s). No purchase or payment is necessary to enter or participate.

Each winning entrant may purchase up to two tickets. Only one entry per person. Repeat entries and disposable email addresses will be discarded. Lottery tickets may be picked up at will call beginning two hours prior to the performance with valid photo ID. Lottery tickets void if resold. Patrons must be 18 years or older. Ticket limits and prices displayed are at the sole discretion of the show and are subject to change without notice. Lottery prices are not valid on prior purchases. Lottery ticket offer cannot be combined with any other offers or promotions. All sales final – no refunds or exchanges. The lottery may be revoked or modified at any time without notice. A purchase will not improve the chances of winning.

Tickets for “Hamilton” are currently on sale and may be purchased at broadwayinhollywood.com/hamilton or ticketmaster.com. Tickets may also be purchased in person at the Hollywood Pantages Theatre box office located at 6233 Hollywood Blvd. Visit the official website for current

Beverly Vista PTA hosts annual back-to-school carnival



photo courtesy of the Beverly Vista Middle School PTA

On Friday, Aug. 23, Beverly Vista Middle School PTA hosted its fourth annual BVMS Back-to-School Carnival, sponsored by Michael J. Libow, in collaboration with community partners, the Beverly Hills Firefighters’ Association. BVMS PTA took great pride in organizing this student-only event, which has established itself as a beginning-of-the-year tradition. It provides the students with a wonderful opportunity to have some fun, forge new friendships and kickstart their school year in grand fashion. BVMS PTA Carnival Committee, the event sponsor, BVMS Administrators and the BHUSD Board of Education celebrated together at the event.

Nonprofit hosts cancer research symposium at El Rodeo School



photo courtesy of Not Today Cancer

Cancer research nonprofit Not Today Cancer co-founders Stacey Book, left, and J.J. Duncan co-hosted a research symposium with the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society at El Rodeo Elementary School on Aug. 24. Lead investigators from across Southern California presented their work and the theories that are breaking new ground on the path to find cures for cancer.

We want to hear what you think!

On December 5, 2023, City Council approved a 6-month installation of traffic calming devices on Clifton Way between Robertson and La Cienega Boulevards, including:

Traffic Circles:

Clifton/Arnaz
Clifton/Le Doux

Curb Extensions:

Clifton/Hamel
Clifton/Willaman
Clifton/Carson
Clifton/Stanley



Example Traffic Circle



Example Curb Extensions

Take the [community survey](#) about your experiences and observations by October 1, 2024. For questions, contact askBH at (310) 285-1000 or askBH@beverlyhills.org.



Visit beverlyhills.org/cliftonledoux to complete the survey and learn more.



POLICE BLOTTER

The following crimes occurred in West Hollywood, Beverly Hills and the areas patrolled by the LAPD's Wilshire and Hollywood divisions between Aug. 18 and Aug. 24. The information was compiled from crimemapping.com. To report a crime, call local law enforcement agencies: Los Angeles Police Department, Wilshire Division (213)473-0476, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department West Hollywood Station (310)855-8850, and the Beverly Hills Police Department (310)550-4951.

Beverly Hills Police Department

Aug. 18

A vandalism incident was reported in the 400 block of N. Beverly at 4:34 p.m.

At 6:04 p.m., an unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 400 block of N. Beverly.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near Clifton and Cañon at 7 p.m.

At 9 p.m., an unknown suspect stole auto parts in the 8300 block of Gregory.

Aug. 19

At 7:30 a.m., a vandalism incident was reported in the 200 block of S. Bedford.

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 9500 block of Wilshire at 1:15 p.m.

Aug. 20

At 2:05 a.m., a vandalism incident was reported in the 300 block of N. Cañon.

A vandalism incident was reported in the 200 block of N. Doheny at 7:20 a.m.

At 8 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 400 block of S. Crescent.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 200 block of Spalding at 5:30 p.m.

At 5:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed an assault in the 200 block of N. Maple.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 600 block of Beverly at 7:27 p.m.

At 8:10 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 200 block of S. Elm.

Aug. 21

At 7:39 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 400 block of S. Rexford.

Aug. 22

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 400 block of N.

Cañon at 10 a.m.

At 11:30 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 500 block of N. Maple.

Aug. 23

At 2:47 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a commercial burglary in the 8900 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 100 block of S. Roxbury at 2:22 p.m.

At 4:15 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 9100 block of Wilshire.

A vandalism incident was reported near Wilshire and Wetherly at 7:43 p.m.

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

Aug. 24

At 1:35 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 9200 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 100 block of N. Rexford at 8:07 a.m.

West Hollywood Sheriff's Station

Aug. 18

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

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

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

A suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 600 block of N. Robertson at 2 a.m.

At 2:18 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 9000 block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 7100 block of Santa Monica at 5 a.m.

At 11 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 8500 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of Santa Monica and Formosa at 11:30 a.m.

At 2:20 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 9000 block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 9000 block of Sunset at 2:28 p.m.

At 9:30 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 1200 block of Horn.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7200 block of Fountain at 11 p.m.

At 11:15 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8900 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8900 block of Santa Monica at 11:59 p.m.

Aug. 19

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 7300 block of Santa Monica at 12:35 a.m.

At 1:30 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1200 block of Horn.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim near San Vicente and Santa Monica at 1:55 a.m.

At 2:16 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8800 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8900 block of Santa Monica at 2:20 a.m.

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

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1100 block of Hacienda at 8 p.m.

At 8:40 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked near Sunset and Hammond.

An unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 1100 block of Poinsettia at 11:45 p.m.

Aug. 20

At 4:40 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 7700 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1200 block of Horn at 8:50 a.m.

At 3:45 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 7100 block of Santa Monica.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 7100 block of Poinsettia at 7 p.m.

Aug. 21

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1200 block of

N. Detroit at 6:30 a.m.

At 10 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 900 block of Wetherly.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7100 block of Santa Monica at 10:41 a.m.

Aug. 22

At 12:30 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 1200 block of Sweetzer.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8500 block of Melrose at 11:18 a.m.

At 12:50 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a locker in the 8500 block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect robbed a victim in the 1200 block of N. La Brea at 4:18 p.m.

At 5:50 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 8900 block of Santa Monica.

A suspect assaulted a victim during a domestic violence incident in the 1100 block of N. Fuller at 10:55 p.m.

Aug. 23

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

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

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

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

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

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

Aug. 24

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

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

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

Los Angeles Police Department

Aug. 16

At 1 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 1500 block of N. Wilcox.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5800 block of Santa Monica at 12:40 p.m.

Aug. 17

An unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 6300 block of Hollywood at 12:01 a.m.

At 1:33 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft near Selma and El Centro.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 7200 block of Willoughby at 3 a.m.

At 8:58 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 400 block of S. La Brea.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1000 block of Seward at 10:30 a.m.

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

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5200 block of Wilshire at 2:49 p.m.

At 3 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7400 block of Beverly.

An unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked near Lexington and Cole at 10:30 p.m.

Aug. 18

At 12:10 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked near Hollywood and Schrader.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 700 block of N. Sweetzer at 2 a.m.

At 5:30 a.m., a vehicle theft occurred in the 8600 block of Pico.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6200 block of Lexington at 2:15 p.m.

At 4 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 300 block of N. Stanley.

An unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8400 block of Melrose Place at 4:30 p.m.

At 5:47 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5700 block of Hollywood.

Aug. 19

At 12:36 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 6200 block of Wilshire.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1200 block of N. Van Ness at 4:45 a.m.

At 8:50 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 9300 block of Sierra Mar.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 6200 block of Wilshire at 12:26 p.m.

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ZULTYS

KCCLA opens special exhibition on Hanji, past and present

The Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles, in collaboration with the Dongduk Women's University Museum, presents the special exhibition "Hanji: The Past and Present" from Thursday, Aug. 29, through Thursday, Sept. 19. An opening reception will be held on Aug. 29 from 6-8 p.m. in the Korean Cultural Center's Art Gallery, 5505 Wilshire Blvd.

The exhibition, the third in a series of traditional Korean art showcases promoting traditional Korean arts beyond popular culture, fosters a deeper understanding of

Korean art. Hanji is a traditional type of handmade Korean paper. The exhibition was specially curated to highlight the excellence and charm of Hanji, one of Korea's representative traditional heritages.

"Hanji: The Past and Present," being held for the first time in North America, results from a long-term collaboration with professor Lee Seung Chul of Dongduk Women's University, a traditional Hanji researcher and a scholar at Kansong Art Museum. Lee previously presented Hanji exhibitions in France, Italy, Austria and Hungary. The exhibi-

tion introduces the history and tradition of Hanji, showcasing its historical journey and modern art pieces. It offers a comprehensive view of Hanji's past and present through displays, including Hanji relics, bas-relief works and installation art.

The exhibition features a variety of Hanji-based relief works, including the "Moon Jar" series, "Buddha (Thousand Buddhas)," "Buddha (Manjusri Bodhisattva)," "Jesus Statue" and "Bandaji (Korean Cabinet)." The exhibit also includes Hanji relics such as clothes, woven paper bags, traditional lanterns and water bottles. On Thursday, Sept. 19, Lee will conduct a Hanji-making demonstration and workshop for students and faculty at Otis College of Art and Design.

"This exhibition, the first of its kind in North America, offers visitors a valuable opportunity to explore the past and present of Hanji through Korean relics and contemporary works that I have researched and collected over the past 30 years," Lee said. "I hope the Korean American community shows interest, encouragement and



photo courtesy of KCCLA

The "Moon Jar" series is represented in the new exhibition of Hanji works.

warm support for this special exhibition in L.A."

"Both the government and private sector are actively working towards registering Hanji as a UNESCO Cultural Heritage," KCCLA director Sangwon Jung said. "I hope that during the exhibi-

tion, many people will take the opportunity to experience the footsteps of our traditional Hanji and the infinite possibilities and diversity of Hanji art."

KCCLA is located at 5505 Wilshire Blvd. for information, visit kccla.org.

LA Phil names new board chair

The Los Angeles Philharmonic Association's board of directors has announced that Jason Subotky has been elected as the organization's new board chair, effective Oct. 1. Subotky succeeds Thomas L. Beckmen, who has served as board chair since 2019. Beckmen will continue to serve on the LA Phil Board.

Subotky joined the LA Phil's board of directors in 2019 and currently sits on the management com-

mittee.

"It is the honor of a lifetime to be elected as board chair of the LA Phil," Subotky said. "I have been an enthusiastic fan of this orchestra starting from my student days, and in the years since I was elected to the board, I have felt honored to work with and learn from our remarkable directors, our brilliant leadership and of course our incomparable music and artistic director, Gustavo Dudamel and the members of the orchestra. Now, in this exciting moment of transition for the LA Phil, I look forward to helping the organization build on the LA Phil's storied history, to achieve even greater things ahead."

A trained musician, Subotky received a bachelor's degree in piano performance from the University of Southern California before going on to earn an MBA from Brigham Young University. Having worked at a family office and as a vice president at Goldman Sachs, he joined Yacktman Asset Management in 2001 where he is a partner and portfolio manager. He is married to violinist Anne Akiko Meyers.

For information, visit laphil.org.



photo courtesy of LA Phil

Jason Subotky has been a member of the LA Phil board of directors since 2019.

MAK Center welcomes new director Beth Stryker

The MAK Center for Art and Architecture in Los Angeles has appointed Beth Stryker as its new director, effective Sept 1.

Through an intensive selection process, the visual arts expert was selected by the board of the MAK Center, the Californian branch of the MAK-Museum of Applied Arts, Vienna. Stryker has held positions in the art world for more than two decades and brings with her a wide range of experience in interdisciplinary and intercultural projects. She most recently served as executive director of Art Share L.A., an L.A.-based center for contemporary art.

Stryker is a graduate of Columbia University, Princeton University and the Whitney Museum of American Art Independent Study Program. She started her career in 1997 as cofounder and principal of the Utensil Art + Design Studio, New York. Stryker is also cofounder of CLUSTER (Cairo Laboratory for Urban Studies, Training and Environmental Research), a platform for urban research, architecture, art and design based in Cairo, in which she also served as principal from 2011-20. CLUSTER was awarded the Curry Stone Social Design Circle Prize in 2017 and represented Egypt at the Venice Architecture Biennale in 2016 and 2018.

Stryker has curated exhibitions and programs for institutions such

as the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago and the Center for Architecture, AIA New York Chapter, where she was director of programs, as well as the Downtown Contemporary Arts Festival in Cairo. From 2018-23, she was executive and artistic director of ArteEast, a nonprofit dedicated to promoting contemporary art from Southwest Asia and North Africa.

"We extend a very warm welcome to Beth Stryker as the new director of the MAK Center and look forward to working with her. The MAK branch in Los Angeles is a special visionary, experimental location on the interface between art and architecture with an emphasis on cross-border projects," MAK general director Lilli Hollein said. "With her wide-ranging expertise in architecture and art, her cross-genre, cross-cultural approach and her many years of experience in interdisciplinary discourse, Beth Stryker is the ideal person to further the MAK Center's avantgarde program and the internationally renowned MAK Center Artists and Architects-in-Residence Scholarship Program."

The MAK Center for Art and Architecture, Los Angeles, founded in 1994, stages exhibitions and events in three architectural landmarks designed by the Austro-American architect Rudolph M.



photo by Ree Magan

Beth Stryker will lead programming at the MAK Center for Art and Architecture in Los Angeles.

Schindler: the Schindler House (1922) in West Hollywood, the Fitzpatrick-Leland House (1936) and the Mackey Apartments (1939). Activities focus on new trends and developments in art and architecture. The MAK Center's international Artists and Architects-in-Residence Scholarship Program, sponsored by the Austrian Federal Chancellery/Department of Art and Culture in cooperation with the MAK, is a key component of programming.

Schindler House is located at 835 N. Kings Road in West Hollywood.

For information, visit makcenter.org.

The Autry comes to life after hours

Fans of the American West are invited to "Autry After Hours" on Thursdays from 6-9 p.m.

Join the Autry at night and explore the galleries, grab a drink and a bite to eat and discover the diverse array of emerging and established artists, musicians, poets and writers who represent the varied and unique communities in and around Los Angeles.

On Thursday, Sept. 5, from 6-9 p.m., the Autry presents a gallery talk on "Out of Site: Survey Science and the Hidden West." The exhibit focuses on three technological revolutions to examine how visual technologies, artistic interventions and state power have evolved in tandem with the western landscape.

The exhibition features 90 artworks, archival materials and devices ranging from large plate cameras to

drones. Carleton Watkins' Nevada mining photographs, 19th-century geological reports and stereoviews, and Margaret Bourke-White's aerial surveys published in LIFE magazine in 1936, are juxtaposed with contemporary photographic and video pieces by David Maisel, Michael

Light and Steven Yazzie.

The Autry will present an in-gallery conversation with Hillary Mushkin and Brendan Threadgill, artists featured in "Out of Site: Survey Science and the Hidden West."

Registration is recommended; admission to the event is free with \$18 museum admission. The Autry Museum is located at 4800 Western Heritage Way. For information, visit theautry.org.

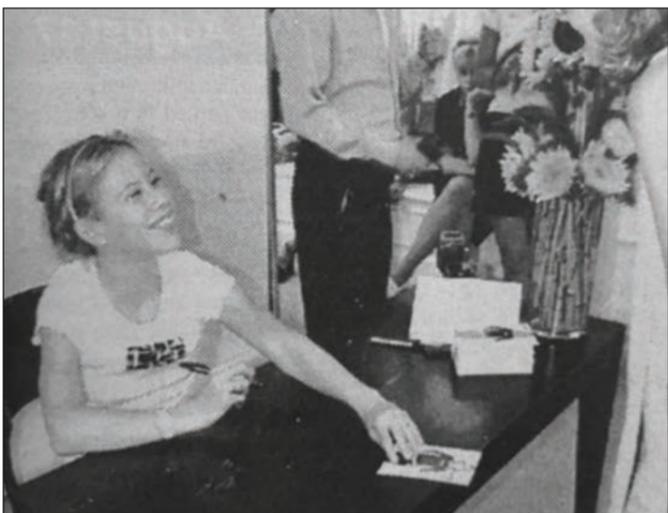


photo courtesy of The Autry

The Autry is holding a discussion on the exhibition "Out of Site: Survey Science and the Hidden West" on Sept. 5.

VINTAGE PARKLABREA NEWS

Figure skating champion greets fans in Beverly Hills



Olympic figure skater Tara Lipinski signed autographs at Saks Fifth Avenue in Beverly Hills in a photograph in the Aug. 27, 1998, issue of the Beverly Press and Park Labrea News. Lipinski won a gold medal in ladies singles figure skating in the 1998 Winter Olympics in Nagano, Japan, and was the 1997 world champion and U.S. national champion. Lipinski greeted fans and celebrated her competitive success at the Olympics. The accompanying article highlighted that she was the first woman to complete a triple loop-triple loop combination, her signature jump in competition.

'Coco' throws a 'Fiesta' at the El Capitan

Disney and Pixar's "Coco" makes its vibrant return to the El Capitan Theatre. See the Fiesta de Lights featuring music from the movie before each screening. Plus see the Mariachi Divas and Ballet Folklórico de Los Angeles Live on Stage. Tickets are now on sale.

The fan event screening will take place at 7 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 20. Tickets are \$35 and include a reserved seat, popcorn, fountain beverage and event credential.

A special family pack is available for \$75 and includes four tickets, four 24-ounce fountain beverages and one El Capitan collectible popcorn tin with refill. A Spanish dubbed screening will be available on Saturday, Sept. 21 at 4 p.m.

Daily showtimes for "Coco" Sept. 17-22 are 10 a.m., 1 p.m., 4 p.m. and 7 p.m.



photo courtesy of Disney/Pixar

Music and dance will help ring in a special screening of "Coco" on Sept. 20.

Tickets are on sale now at elcapitantickets.com and fandango.com/el-capitan-theatre-aacon/theater-page or by calling

1(800)Disney-6. All seats are reserved. Tickets are \$16 for all ages. The El Capitan Theatre is located 6838 Hollywood Blvd.

TV Academy is 'Giving' for the Emmys

The Television Academy Foundation has announced its official Emmy Awards Giving Suite will be open to celebrity presenters, nominees and winners Sept. 13-15 backstage on rehearsal days and during the live telecast at the Peacock Theater at L.A. LIVE. The philanthropic gifting lounge, which raises funds for the nonprofit's education programs, will be produced by RMNG Experiential Marketing Agency.

The Giving Suite is an exclusive experience where celebrities gather to celebrate the Emmys and give back. By interacting with leading brands, sponsors and donors, the stars help generate funds to support the foundation's mission to champion inclusivity in television and media. Premier products and gift bags will be given to celebrity attendees in the ultra-chic lounge, and

stars will autograph items to be auctioned off at a later date to benefit the foundation. In addition, participating sponsors donate to the nonprofit. Brand sponsors include Dooney & Bourke, The Classic T-Shirt Company, Jinx, Beekeeper's Naturals, Portillo's, Crumbl Cookies, E-Ink, Terraria and Impossible Foods. Design sponsors include Cort Events and Bia Blooms.

The theme of this year's Giving Suite will be an ode to the past with an eye toward the future, featuring an original art installation to celebrate the heritage of the Emmys while embracing its bright and vibrant future. Since its inception, the Emmy Awards Giving Suite has raised significant funds to support the Foundation.

"We're incredibly excited to work with the Television Academy Foundation to bring this year's

Giving Suite to life by crafting an experience that not only matches the prestige of the Emmys but also creates meaningful moments for the attendees," said Alyssa Mason, director of accounts at RMNG.

For information, visit emmys.org. LA LIVE is located at 800 W. Olympic Blvd.

RMNG is the sole, authorized vendor for the official Emmy Awards Giving Suite. For sponsorship/donorship opportunities, contact Alyssa Mason, RMNG Director of Accounts, at Alyssa@rmng.co.

The 76th Emmy Awards, produced by Jesse Collins Entertainment, will broadcast live on ABC on Sunday, Sept. 15, (8:00-11:00 PM EDT/5:00-8:00 PM PDT) from the Peacock Theater at L.A. LIVE and stream the next day on Hulu.

Second discussion added with Justice Jackson at Ebell

In Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson's inspiring, intimate memoir "Lovely One," the first Black woman to ever be appointed to the Supreme Court of the United States chronicles her extraordinary life story. In addition to its sold-out Sept. 17 evening event, Writers Bloc has added a 3 p.m. matinee discussion with Jackson, moderated by Angela Bassett. Both events will be held at the Wilshire Ebell Theatre.

With this unflinching account, Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson invites readers into her life and world, tracing her family's ascent from segregation to her confirmation on America's highest court within the span of one generation. Named "Ketanji Onyika," meaning "Lovely One," based on a suggestion from her aunt, a Peace Corps worker stationed in West Africa, Jackson learned from her educator parents to take pride in her heritage since birth. She describes her resolve as a young girl to honor this legacy and realize her dreams: from hearing stories of her grandparents and parents breaking barriers in the segregated south, to honing her voice in high school as an oratory champion and student body president, to graduating magna cum laude from Harvard, where she performed in musical theater and improv and participated in pivotal student organizations.

Jackson pulls back the curtain, marrying the public record of her life with what is less known. She reveals what it takes to advance in

the legal profession when most people in power don't look like you, and to reconcile a demanding career with the joys and sacrifices of marriage and motherhood.

Bassett is a celebrated actress known for her powerful performances across film, television and theater. She gained widespread acclaim for her portrayals of iconic figures and characters such as Tina Turner in "What's Love Got to Do with It," Bernadine in "Waiting To Exhale," Queen Ramonda in "Black Panther" and "Black Panther: Wakanda Forever," and the ABC hit drama, "9-1-1," to name a few. Bassett has earned numerous recognitions for her work, including DGA, BAFTA, SAG, Critics Choice, Golden Globe and NAACP Image Awards. Bassett received an Honorary Oscar in tribute to her extraordinary canon of work and she's been nominated for two Academy Awards. Beyond her acting career, she is known for her advocacy in various social and humanitarian causes and is co-founder of Bassett Vance Productions with her husband, actor Courtney B. Vance.

No bags of any kind will be allowed into the event, with the exclusion of small clear bags. A valid ID is required to attend. Tickets are \$35, or \$65 to include a copy of the memoir. To reserve, visit eventbrite.com/e/an-afternoon-with-justice-ketanji-brown-jackson-tickets-1001784062097. The Wilshire Ebell Theatre is located at 4401 W. Eighth St. Parking is limited.



photo courtesy of Writers Bloc

Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson will appear at the Wilshire Ebell Theatre at 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Sept. 17.



L.A. partners with Paris for Cultural Olympiad poetry finale

The city of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs and Beyond Baroque have announced the poets who will represent the city of Los Angeles in the Paris 2024 Cultural Olympiad. Nearly 50 Los Angeles poets were selected to participate in a cultural handover from the city of Paris to the city of Los Angeles in honor of the L.A. 2028 Olympics. Eight L.A. poets will travel to Paris to perform in the finale of the Poetic Games of the Paris 2024 Cultural Olympiad, and 28 will perform in the Catch the Mic: Paris to L.A. handover in L.A. on Sept. 7. The project is made possible in part by a grant from DCA's Public Space Activation Fund with support of community partners.

"The Department of Cultural Affairs is excited to partner with Beyond Baroque to involve the participation of nearly 50 poets from Los Angeles in the Poetic Games program of the Paris Cultural Olympiad, as part of an unprecedented collaboration between the cities of Paris and Los Angeles. We congratulate the Parisian and L.A. poets as they represent the greatness of both cities as global literary arts centers, on par with the prowess of French and U.S. athletes during the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games, as we prepare to welcome the Games to L.A. in 2028," DCA General Manager Daniel Tarica said.

This spring, the DCA partnered with Beyond Baroque, one of the leading literary arts nonprofits in

the United States, and with the city of Paris and Paris University Club, developed a project based on the theme of the Paris 2024 Cultural Olympiad: "Art+Sports." In April, Beyond Baroque and DCA posted an open call for L.A. poets. A committee then selected 49 L.A. poets and commissioned each to write a new poem on "Art+Sports." The poems will be published and performed over the next three years.

In July, eight L.A. poets were selected as the Paris Olympiad Poets, who will travel to and perform in Paris as part of the finale of the Poetic Games, a series of poetry-based activities for the city of Paris, culminating on Saturday, Sept. 7. Additionally, "Art+Sports" poems by four L.A. poets will be presented as voice recordings broadcast from a Speaking Tree in a Paris city park, and three additional L.A. poets were commissioned to write poems on iconic Olympic Moments from the 2024 Paris Olympics, which will be performed by French actors as part of the Poetic Games.

Finally, 28 additional L.A. poets, along with three Tongva artists, will perform at the public Catch the Mic: Paris to L.A. cultural handover event at the Mark Taper Auditorium at the Los Angeles Public Library, on Sat., Sept. 7, from 3-4:30 p.m.

Los Angeles Public Library is located at 630 W. 5th St.

For information, visit culture.lacity.gov.

New shows debut at Theatre West

When Theatre West was founded 62 years ago, its initial purposes included serving as a laboratory situation where writing, acting and directing could be developed and perfected. This included the development of new and exciting works, works of a non-commercial and experimental nature, with an eye to enhanced performances but presented with minimalist production design. At least once each year, Theatre West has included a festival of such works, providing audiences an opportunity to experience a wide variety of new work developed within the company. WestFest has become one of Theatre West's most enduringly popular attractions.

Upcoming shows for Aug. 30-Sept. 1 include "Aberration of Starlight," "Have a Heart," "I Can Play 32," "Leap" and "Lady M."

From Sept. 6-8, patrons can enjoy "Modern Love," "Clive and Cecily," "Unnatural Behavior" and "Stepping Down."

WestFest 2024 presents four full weekends of shows, a different presentation each week, to entice the loyal audiences who have returned for WestFest every year, as well as to introduce new audiences to the richly varied work of the city's longest running, continuously operating professional company. Performances are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., and Sundays at 2 p.m. Each week's program runs about 90 minutes, no intermission. A reception with food and beverage follows each performance. There is a suggested donation of \$15 for admission.

Theatre West is located at 3333 Cahuenga Blvd. For information, visit theatrewest.org.

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Wolves howl at NHM

The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County announced the debut of “Wolves: Photography by Ronan Donovan” beginning Sept. 17. The traveling photography exhibit, created by National Geographic Society and the National Museum of Wildlife Art, will display Ronan Donovan’s stunning images and videos highlighting the contrast between wolves living in perceived competition with humans and those living without human intervention.

“Wolves: Photography by Ronan Donovan” will introduce visitors to wolves as seen by Donovan in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem and Ellesmere Island in the high Canadian Arctic. Visitors will see – in unparalleled intimacy – how the arctic wolves hunt, play, travel, rest and raise their young in one of the harshest environments on Earth. By contrast, their brethren in the greater Yellowstone ecosystem are fearful of humans, making it nearly

impossible to document their daily lives. These differences can be attributed to the fact that Arctic wolves rarely experience negative encounters with humans or view them as a threat.

Since 2014, Donovan – a National Geographic explorer and photographer of wild wolves – has examined the relationship between wild wolves and humans to better understand the animals, our shared history and what drives the persistent human-wolf conflict.

“Wolves are such a fascinating animal to me because of how complex their relationship is with humans,” Donovan said. “Wolves were the first animals humans domesticated some 30,000 years ago and they have lived alongside us ever since as guardians, workers and companions. Yet as humans moved to more sedentary lives, raising what amounts to easy prey in the form of livestock, wolves have found themselves in conflict

with humans.”

As wolves in North America are increasingly under threat due to recent extreme wolf-control laws and humans continue to impinge on the land and food sources that these animals need to survive, Donovan hopes that his photos will provide people with a better understanding of these often misunderstood animals.

“Wolves have acquired some of the most complex social behavior during their long history of evolution over several million years,” said Dr. Xiaoming Wang, NHM’s curator of vertebrate paleontology. “Such behaviors helped them become top predators in their communities. This exhibit both showcases Donovan’s unique perspectives and also illustrates how such a keystone species plays an outsized influence on the entire ecosystem.”

The visuals presented throughout “Wolves: Photography by Ronan Donovan” were captured from Donovan’s National Geographic Society-funded work and featured



photo by Ronan Donovan

The traveling photography exhibit explores the effects of human intervention on wolves and their habitat.

in National Geographic magazine’s 2016 Yellowstone issue and September 2019 issue, as well as the National Geographic WILD series “Kingdom of the White Wolf” in 2019.

The exhibition is on view at NHM through June 22, 2025, in a

newly-renovated gallery that connects to the museum’s new wing and community hub, NHM Commons.

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

For information, visit nhmlac.org

GMCLA announces new season

The Gay Men’s Chorus of Los Angeles has unveiled its 2024-25 season, which is now in its 46th year. Music director and conductor Ernest H. Harrison leads nearly 200 chorus members in a magical season not to be missed. The season will begin with its yuletide holiday concert “Sugarplum Fairies” in December 2024, followed by the slap-happy spring concert “Rhinstone Cowboys” in March 2025, and a GMCLA signature Pride Concert entitled “Dancing Queens” in June 2025. All concerts will be held at Beverly Hills’ premier venue, the Saban Theatre.

“Last season, our beautiful journey of song and service included three thrilling mainstage concerts and over 25 engaging community performances. It was a year made even more special with our GALA festival appearance in Minneapolis, where the chorus received awe-

inspiring standing ovations throughout our concert event,” said GMCLA executive director and producer Lou Spisto. “I’m confident GMCLA’s season 46 will continue to build on its artistic and organizational successes with a wide variety of music that we want to sing for our audiences, and that our concertgoers want to hear. And with these particularly cheeky show titles, patrons can expect great music, dance, and a whole lot of fun,” Spisto added, “We’re particularly excited that the entire season takes place at the beautiful Saban Theater, which is beloved by the chorus and our audience. GMCLA’s Season 26 is going to be a magical joining of music and community.”

Tickets for the three-concert subscription package go on sale Sept. 10, at gmcla.org. The Saban Theatre is located at 8440 Wilshire Blvd.



photo by Gregory Zabalski

GMCLA performs several concerts each year.

Get ‘Goofy’ at the El Capitan

Disney’s “A Goofy Movie” tickets are now on sale at El Capitan Theatre including a special opening night fan event. Before each screening, see Max and Goofy rock out live on stage.

The opening night fan event screening will take place at 7 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 6. Tickets are \$40 and include a reserved seat, one Power Limes Candy, popcorn, fountain beverage and event credential.

A special Max Duo is available for \$50 and includes two tickets, two Max Hair and Nose kits, two 24-ounce fountain beverages and one El Capitan collectible popcorn tin with refill.

Daily showtimes for “A Goofy Movie” Sept. 6-15 are 10 a.m., 1p.m., 4 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Tickets are on sale now at [\[tantickets.com\]\(http://tantickets.com\) and \[fandango.com/el-capitan-theatre-aacon/theaterpage\]\(http://fandango.com/el-capitan-theatre-aacon/theaterpage\) or by calling 1\(800\)Disney-6. All seats are reserved. Tickets are \\$16 for all ages. The El Capitan Theatre is located at 6838 Hollywood Blvd.](http://elcapi-</p>
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photo courtesy of Disney

“A Goofy Movie” first premiered in 1995.

L.A. Cultural Affairs explores art and science with ‘Experimentations’

The city of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs and the Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery announced “Experimentations: The Art of Controlled Procedures,” a group exhibition including Carmen Argote, John Baldessari, Merce Cunningham, Charles Gaines,

Jesper Just, Shana Lutker, Benjamin Reiss and Analia Saban.

Rooted in conceptualism and coming from an investigatory place characterized by process, “Experimentations: The Art of Controlled Procedures” is a group exhibition featuring work by artists whose approach to their practice



photo courtesy of the Department of Cultural Affairs

The new installations at the L.A. Municipal Art Gallery include works by Mexican American artist Carmen Argote.

involves a scientific mindset. By designing and executing controlled procedures to test a hypothesis, explore relationships between variables or investigate phenomena, the artists’ ideas are materialized and aestheticized using systems, chance, technology and other unconventional means.

“Experimentations” celebrates the playful fusion of art and science and demonstrates how controlled procedures and a spirit of curiosity and inquiry can lead to profound and unexpected artistic collaborations and outcomes. The exhibition includes multi-media installation, video, painting, drawing, sculpture and performance and invites viewers to engage with the artworks not just as finished products but as manifestations and documentation of ongoing processes of discovery and exploration.

“Experimentations: The Art of Controlled Procedures” will be on display from Sept. 7 through Jan. 5, 2025.

The Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery is located at 4800 Hollywood Blvd.

For information, visit culture.lacity.gov.



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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WeHo lights the streets for Overdose Awareness Day

The city of West Hollywood joins the recovery community in recognizing Saturday, Aug. 31, as Overdose Awareness Day, a global event held annually to remember and memorialize the lives lost to drug overdoses and to promote awareness about the importance of overdose prevention.

West Hollywood City Hall and the city's lanterns over Santa Monica Boulevard will be lit in purple in recognition of Overdose Awareness Day. The city will also include #OverdoseAwarenessDay messaging via social media.

Originating in 2001, Overdose Awareness Day has become the world's largest annual campaign to end overdoses and prompt action and discussion about evidence-based treatment and harm reduction. Nearly 110,000 people died from overdoses in 2022, the highest number of recorded overdose deaths in a year in the United States, compared with 109,179 in 2021, according to the United States Centers for Disease Control

and Prevention. Fentanyl, a powerful synthetic opioid, has been a significant factor in the rise of deadly overdoses and accidental drug poisonings, authorities said. In 2022, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration issued a public safety alert on the widespread drug trafficking of fentanyl-laced fake prescription pills.

Accidental fentanyl overdose deaths in Los Angeles County increased 1,280 percent in seven years, from 109 deaths in 2016 to 1,910 deaths in 2022. Fentanyl is also mixed with illicit substances such as methamphetamine, cocaine, heroin and ecstasy. It is especially dangerous because people are often unaware of fentanyl contamination in the substances they are using and the potency of fentanyl greatly increases the risk of overdose.

The city of West Hollywood contracts with many agencies to provide services for people with substance use disorders and has taken steps to educate and raise awareness about

fentanyl. In 2019, the city began collaborating with its contracted partners to distribute fentanyl test strips. In 2023 and 2024, free fentanyl test strips and Naloxone/Narcan were available throughout the WeHo Pride Street Fair.

The Harm Reduction Center, operated by Being Alive, opened in West Hollywood in early July 2024 at 7976 Santa Monica Blvd. It is open Tuesday through Saturday from 1-5 p.m. and offers syringe exchange, free Narcan, harm reduction supplies, risk-reduction counseling and support services. For information, call (323)848-4445, or visit beingalivela.org.

The city partners with the Drug Awareness Foundation to raise awareness and end stigma about substance abuse and to provide primary prevention resources and support. The city is also continuing the renovation of the historic Log Cabin building, which houses the West Hollywood Recovery Center at 621 N. Robertson Blvd. Renovations are expected to be

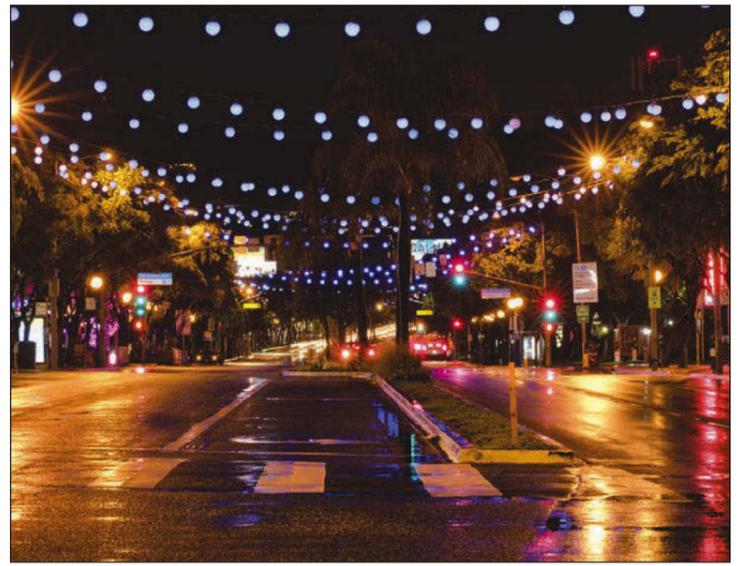


photo courtesy of the city of West Hollywood

The lanterns on Santa Monica Boulevard will be lit in purple for Overdose Awareness Day.

completed in 2026. For information, visit go.weho.org/logcabin.

Substance use and addiction recovery treatment services resources include APLA Health, which can be reached at (213)201-1600 and aplahealth.org; and

Awakening Recovery, which can be reached at (424)209-7507 and awakeningrecovery.org. For information and a full list of resources, visit weho.org/services/human-services/substance-abuse-addiction-recovery.

Michelson gives large grant for immunology center

UCLA has received a \$120 million commitment from surgeon, inventor and philanthropist Dr. Gary Michelson and his wife, Alya, to launch the California Institute for Immunology and Immunotherapy, an innovative public-private partnership aimed at spurring breakthrough discoveries that prevent and cure diseases and catalyze economic growth and innovation.

Michelson, a spine surgeon and inventor who holds nearly 1,000 individual patents, is co-founder and chair of the board of the institute, which will be housed at UCLA's state-of-the-art research park at the site of the former Westside Pavilion. Michelson is also founder of Michelson Philanthropies, based on South Robertson Boulevard.

The gift, distributed via the Michelson Medical Research

Foundation, designates \$100 million to establish two research entities within the institute, each funded by \$50 million. One will focus on rapid vaccine development and the other on harnessing the microbiome to advance human health. The microbiome research will be conducted in collaboration with the new UCLA Goodman-Luskin Microbiome Center.

The foundation, part of the Michelson Philanthropies network of foundations, is funding a \$20 million endowment to provide research grants to young scientists using novel processes to advance immunotherapy research, human immunology and vaccine discovery.

"The UCLA community owes Alya and Gary Michelson a debt of gratitude for this transformative gift," UCLA Interim Chancellor

Darnell Hunt said. "The Michelsons envisioned an institute that would leverage UCLA's strengths for maximum public good, create new knowledge leading to better medical treatments and reshape the study of immunology. The gift will change countless lives here and across the globe."

"Immunology is the mediator of nearly all human diseases, whether

we're talking about cancer or heart disease or Alzheimer's," Michelson said. "The vision for this institute is to become a 'field of dreams' – the world's leading center for the study of the immune system to develop advanced immunotherapies to prevent, treat and cure all of the diseases that afflict people and to end these diseases in our lifetime."

The institute will operate as a non-profit medical research organization governed by an independent board that includes UCLA representatives.

The recipient of the \$120 million gift from the Michelsons is the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, which will use the funding to support research at the institute. The institute leverages public investment, philanthropic funding and UCLA's clinical treatment and scientific research to accelerate the development and delivery of new pharmaceuticals and treatments for patients.

For information, visit michelson-medicalresearch.org.



photo courtesy of Michelson Philanthropies

Dr. Gary Michelson and his wife, Alya, are supporting the launch of the California Institute for Immunology and Immunotherapy.

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Viper Room to be recreated in new project

From page 1

ious versions with differing sizes and scales had been proposed in the past. The version greenlit is 11-stories. With 78 residential units, 20% – 16 units – earmarked as affordable housing.

“The developer’s offer of 16 units or 20% designated ‘affordable,’ as if that’s an extraordinary public benefit when the state is demanding that 60% of new units built be ‘affordable,’ is not such a great deal for the city,” Councilwoman Lauren Meister said. “The city’s own inclusionary housing ordinance required 20% affordable units in new projects. Had the developer offered even 30 or 40% affordable, that at least would have been more than what we’re typically getting anyway [without a development agreement]. But 20%? Nothing special.”

Councilman John Heilman agreed with Meister, and added that the developers “didn’t have actual hotel operators ready to occupy the hotel portion of the project.” He noted that occupants could make “major changes to the building’s layout.”

“I’m afraid developers will simply turn around and sell the project to someone else who will need to make changes,” Heilman said. “I don’t think the project is really feasible from a financial standpoint. I’m afraid we’ve spent a lot of time and energy and we will end up with another approved proposal which won’t be built. The community deserves better.”

Silver Creek Development, the company behind the project, provided renderings and a 3D simulation of what the completed structure will look like, which were previewed during the meeting.

Many residents near the Sunset Strip have long rallied against the project, arguing that the size and scope will cause noise and traffic congestion.

“Yes, the developer has been meeting with the neighbors since 2018, but the biggest issues we’ve been asking them to do, they haven’t done,” WeHo Heights Neighborhood Association chair Elyse Eisenberg said. “We’ve been concerned about the density – there’s simply too much going on for this site. We’ve been concerned about the traffic circulation and parking ... The current plan is unmanageable and just not realistic. The city staff has spent more time analyzing the billboard revenue than it has actually the impact of what this project is going to mean for the neighborhood.”

Eisenberg added she has advocated for the project to become entirely residential units, along with the Viper Room, restaurant and retail spaces, “if the city really cared about affordable housing.”

Others pointed to the historical value of the property.

“It is a historic site in the hearts of every true Los Angeleno,” resident Brenda Campos said. “The design and scale of the project will turn the

Hollywood landmark into a tower that loses all its old entertainment charm. We don’t need this eyesore in our neighborhood, and not to mention the parking is going to be a mess.”

“These spaces cannot be replicated,” resident Caroline Nagy said. “Because when you walk into the Viper Room, you enter a lived space – a creative music [center] with storied history. This project’s investors claim they are preserving the authenticity of Viper in this new commercial development by simply repurposing the name and the green neon.”

Members of United Here 11, a hotel workers union, spoke in favor of the project at the meeting.

“I want to share my hopes in believing that I will be able to live in a complex like this, and not only work in the area but live and be an integral part of this community,” said Mavis Rodriguez, who works as a housekeeper at 1 Hotel on the Sunset Strip. “Normally, projects like these are associated with people of very grand wealth, and someone like me and other housekeepers who may have a good wage would still have to pay more than half of my wages to live here. So these projects are crucial to people like me to help mitigate our housing crisis. And allow people like me to have a better quality of life and the opportunity to work near our jobs and give us more time with our families.”

Tommy Black, general manager



photo by Jon Viscott

Numerous community members spoke at the public hearing on Aug. 26 for the controversial 8850 Sunset Blvd. project.

of the Viper Room, also spoke in favor, citing the benefits of a new, upgraded space for the historic club.

“For many reasons, I fully support the mixed-use project at 8850 Sunset. In regards to the Viper Room specifically, 8850 presents an exciting and important opportunity for my staff, our patrons and our neighbors,” Black said. “The reimaged Viper Room is a chance for us to attract a wider range of talent, accommodate a larger audience, modernize our space, showcase rock ‘n’ roll memorabilia as an additional attraction and of course generate more revenue for this city. Being in the same complex as a hotel and restaurant will certainly attract more people to the Viper. These changes will add to the neighborhood’s vibrancy and activate this

section of the Sunset Strip. I know there are people opposing this project because they don’t want to lose the Viper Room, but I believe a new life could be given to the Viper Room through the proposed 8850 project.”

Several years ago, Silver Creek Development purchased the Viper Room.

Ultimately, the council determined that the benefits would outweigh the drawbacks.

“This project is going to take years to be built, and when it’s built, I think people are going to realize that we have a better building there than, frankly, an eyesore on the historic Sunset Boulevard,” Erickson said.

No precise timeline on construction has yet been determined.

Beverly Hills faces challenge over housing project

From page 1

(j), including, but not limited to, referral to the California Office of the Attorney General,” the letter read.

The project just south of Wilshire Boulevard exceeds usual height and density requirements under city code, and relies on a California provision known as the builder’s remedy. The builder’s remedy provision is a state law that allows private developers to bypass certain code restrictions – including height and density – provided that the building reserves at least 20% of units for low-income housing. The goal of the builder’s remedy is to incentivize the creation of affordable housing to address California’s ongoing housing crisis. The builder’s remedy falls under the state’s Housing Accountability Act, which was passed in 1982 and significantly expanded in 2017.

The builder’s remedy takes effect

when a city’s housing element is out of compliance with state requirements. The housing element requires all cities in California to zone for a certain amount of affordable housing units.

Beverly Hills’ housing element for the 2021-29 cycle was out of compliance with state law from October 2021 until May 2024. Because the application for the project on South Linden Drive was initially submitted during this time, the builder’s remedy takes effect. The 200-foot-tall development would include 165 rental units, 33 of which would be reserved for low-income residents. Additionally, the building would feature a 73-room hotel and restaurant and a two-level underground parking structure.

Although the development utilizes the novel provision to bypass building requirements, the city still

required the project’s application to undergo rules that would not apply to a builder’s remedy project. City staff determined that the application was incomplete because the developer did not submit a request for the city to amend its general plan or zoning code. The developer appealed the incomplete determination, but the appeal was rejected by the Beverly Hills City Council on June 27. In the letter from HCD, the state said the city’s action violated the Housing Accountability Act and the Permit Streamlining Act.

Gov. Gavin Newsom criticized the city’s actions in a statement.

“We can’t solve homelessness without addressing our housing shortage,” Newsom said. “The state has provided \$40 billion to create new housing, and we expect locals to do their part. While I’m glad Beverly Hills has finally adopted a compliant housing plan, their attempt to block this housing project violates the law. Now is a time to build more housing, not cave to the demands of NIMBYs.”

The city responded to the state’s letter by releasing a statement accusing the state of leaking its letter – which is public information – to the media before sending a copy to the city. The city also asserted that its action to deny the project’s appeal did not constitute a project denial.

“The city wants to clarify that the project has not been denied, and that the appeal hearing was related to procedural matters,” the statement read. “What was originally submitted as a purely residential project has now morphed into a 73-room hotel and restaurant project with 35 fewer residential units,

including a reduction of seven affordable units.”

The city also indicated that it would submit “detailed reasoning” for its actions to the state by the Sept. 20 deadline, and maintained that the actions were taken in good faith.

In an interview with Beverly Press, Rand said he hopes the city will consider approving the project after receiving the letter from HCD, though Pustilnikov is “seriously” considering filing litigation if it does not. He said the developer was “emboldened” that the state appeared to agree with their legal position.

“We’re barreling towards litigation. Hopefully, there’s still plenty of time to go a different route, and we’ll see if the city is interested in doing that,” Rand said.

Litigation on the appeal denial has already been filed by housing advocacy group Californians for Homeownership, which is seeking a court order to approve the project.

“HCD’s notice of violation reiterates what HCD already told the city before the City Council’s meeting on June 27: the city’s incompleteness determination is, legally, a denial of the Linden project under the Housing Accountability Act,” Californians for Homeownership counsel Matt Gelfand said. “At the time, the City Council ignored HCD’s admonition related to the Linden project, instead focusing on a misinterpretation of an earlier letter sent by HCD on a different issue, to a different city. With this notice of violation, we are hopeful that the city will reverse course and deem the project complete. If it doesn’t, we are prepared for trial against the city in the coming months.”

If the city does not allow the project to move forward, it will likely face three similar lawsuits from different plaintiffs – Californians for Homeownership, developer Leo Pustilnikov and the state of California.



photo by Tabor Brewster

The state sent the city a notice of violation regarding its denial of an appeal for a 19-story development at 125-129 S. Linden Drive.

State extends more support to help cities end homelessness

Gov. Gavin Newsom signed two bills on Aug. 27 into law – Assembly Bill 2835 and Assembly Bill 3057 – to help create more shelter beds and build housing units faster.

“The homelessness crisis demands immediate and innovative action, not the status quo. With these new laws, local governments have even more tools to provide housing. I urge them to fully utilize the state’s unprecedented resources to address homelessness,” Newsom said.

The bills will assist local governments and housing providers

to create more shelter and more housing AB 2835, authored by Assemblyman Jesse Gabriel (D-Woodland Hills), removes the sunset date on tenancy rules that make it easier for service providers to place people experiencing homelessness into privately owned hotels and motels for more than 30 days. AB 3057, authored by Assemblywoman Lori Wilson (D-Suisun City), will streamline the process for local governments to permit and facilitate the construction of junior accessory dwelling units to create more affordable living spaces.

WeHo residents concerned over street project

From page 1

“This street was chosen because it is the widest street in the area, giving us ample opportunities to devise plans,” Vice Mayor Chelsea Byers said. “We are going to continue to listen and work with the community to find solutions that support our shared goals.”

Councilwoman Lauren Meister also supports a design that would not eliminate parking, which she noted was one of the options initially proposed to council.

“This is a quality-of-life issue,” she said. “It’s one thing to inconvenience motorists, it’s another to inconvenience our residents.”

Nickle, who is running for City Council this November, also pointed out that the council majority had bypassed a plan that would have saved parking when the redesign was initially approved in March.

“I have little hope that our current council majority will address the concerns of residents. The only way forward is compromise. That compromise was offered to council in March. It may need to wait for a new commonsense majority to make the right decision for the residents of West Hollywood,” he said.

Residents also spoke out about the issue at the Aug. 26 City Council meeting.

“While I understand and support efforts to promote cycling as an environmentally-friendly mode of transportation, I oppose the removal of valuable parking spaces to make way for new bike lanes,” resident Sam Salt said. “As a parent, safety is always my top priority.

Eliminating parking spaces will force parents to spend more time circling looking for parking in areas that are less safe for children, increasing the risk of accidents. We are not just talking about inconveniences. We are talking about real dangers to our kids and the most vulnerable members of our community. Every time we enter a crosswalk, I tell my six-year-old son to look twice, not just for cars, but for scooters and bikes because they blow through the stop signs.”

Some residents complained that the city had not adequately reached out to the community.

“Council wants community input and outreach, especially regarding the bike plan,” resident Cathy Blaivas said. “And it has been acknowledged the community was never notified [about the loss of parking on Gardner Street]. And staff has stated over and over again that they act at the direction of the council. Then who is responsible for the postcards and mailings sent to resident omitting the actual language of loss of parking – instead, euphemisms like ‘parking considerations’ [and] ‘parking reconfiguration’ was used. And at who’s direction? ... Is the object to keep us uninformed?”

“I agree with the residents on Gardner,” Councilman John Heilman said. “Unfortunately, the council majority seems more than willing to ignore the legitimate concerns raised by the neighborhood. Even some advocates for bike lanes recognize that the neighbors have valid concerns about the

loss of parking.”

But Streets for All CEO Michael Schneider said that by giving people “safe alternatives to driving,” the parking demand would be reduced, citing that 50% of trips in the region are three miles or less.

“In a region where a pedestrian is injured every five hours and killed every two days, we need to do everything possible to calm traffic down and give people safe alternatives to driving,” Schneider said.

An item was shelved during the City Council meeting that would approve grant funding from the California Air Resources Control Board for Transportation Improvements. It was tabled because of language that specified the installation of protected bike lanes on Fountain Avenue. While a streetscape project has been approved for Fountain Avenue, only a pilot program has been OK’d by council for bike lanes.

“I hope the language will be modified to reflect what council voted on – a Fountain Streetscape Plan, where we look at Fountain Avenue holistically – that means studying sidewalks for ADA compliance and pedestrian activity, parking spaces, number of automobiles versus bicyclists, car lanes, bike lanes and parkways and, importantly, getting feedback from the community,” Meister said. “A grant application must accurately represent the project for which the money is going to be spent. In addition, I hope the steering committee is expanded to include a few



photo by Jon Viscott

Vice Mayor Chelsea Byers addressed residents during a meeting on Aug. 22 to discuss parking considerations on Gardner and Vista streets in West Hollywood.

long-time residents of Fountain and an adjacent part of La Cienega. No one knows the challenges of Fountain better than people who have lived there a while. Right now, the steering committee is heavily skewed towards bicyclists.”

“I don’t want us to accept state funds to implement a project which doesn’t have full community support and may not be feasible,” Heilman added.

The \$8.2 million grant would also help improve other pedestrian and bike safety infrastructure, as well as an expansion of commuter shuttles and an investment in an EV transit vehicle fleet.

“I’ve never known a city to turn down \$8-plus million dollars of free money to invest in their streets, trees and sidewalks, but it sounds like individuals would rather be anti-bike lane than clean-

er air,” Erickson said.

“We should be immensely proud that our city is leading on climate change, sustainability and street-safety issues in our region to the point that we have earned the support of statewide funding programs to accelerate the long-term plans our community has been creating,” Byers said.

Streetscape projects are costly investments and we should ensure we are maximizing the opportunity to use partner funds to meet regional goals.

The grant approval is expected to come back to council with revised language.

“It’s going to come back to the council, and we’re going to accept it, because this is free money to invest directly into our community, to clean the air and anyone that is against that should get their priorities checked,” Erickson said.

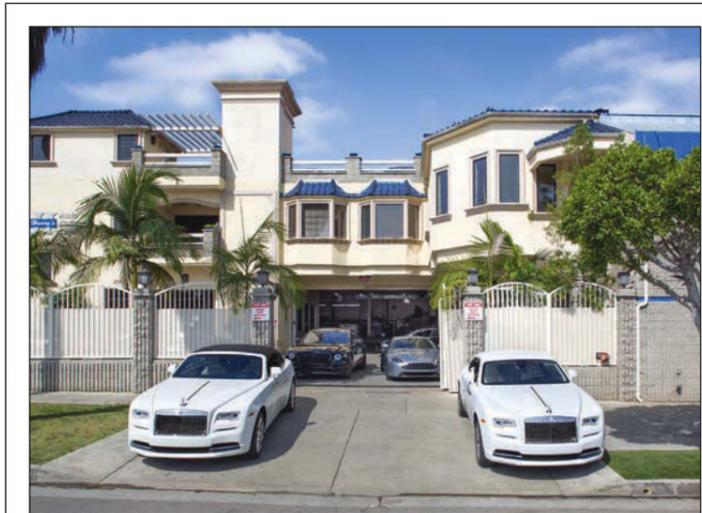


photo courtesy of Harry's Auto Collision

Harry's Auto Collision is recognizing a half-century in business with a special party on Sept. 5.

Harry's Auto Collision prepares to celebrate 50 years of service

Harry's Auto Collision, located at 1013 S. La Brea Ave., is celebrating its 50th anniversary on Thursday, Sept. 5, from 5:30-9:30 p.m. The celebratory event will include food, live entertainment and giveaways.

For half a century, Harry's Auto Collision has been a premier choice for expert collision repairs in the greater Los Angeles area. Founded by Harry Barseghian, the collision center started as a small 400-square-foot auto shop and has grown into a significant contributor to the local community.

Harry's Auto Collision has achieved significant milestones over the years, including becoming

one of the first Aston Martin factory-appointed Category A structural repair centers on the West Coast. Harry's Auto Collision was recognized as the top body shop in North America and Canada by Bentley Motors and Tesla. In 2014, Harry's Auto Collision expanded to a second location at 3608 Thousand Oaks Blvd. Harry's 50th anniversary will be celebrated as a testament to the leadership, integrity and ingenuity he has instilled in the organization.

To RSVP for the celebration, email nh@harryscollision.com. For information about Harry's Auto Collision, call (323)933-4600 or visit harryscollision.com.

Wire theft prompts aggressive tactics

From page 1

is costing the city millions of dollars.

“The individual thief may pocket \$50 for a single theft of material that the recycler sells for thousands of dollars,” Krekorian added. “But the cost to the public for repairing the damage runs into the hundreds of thousands. The copper wire recovered in the last three operations has a resale value of \$39,900 but cost the city half a million in damage and repair costs. Thefts like this have cost the city over \$24 million in a single five-year period.”

Krekorian, in conjunction with the LAPD, launched a copper wire theft task force in his 2nd District in the San Fernando Valley that has resulted in multiple arrests. At the Aug. 27 press conference, LAPD Deputy Chief Alan Hamilton sent a message directly to would-be thieves who steal copper wire from streetlights to sell as scrap, and unscrupulous recyclers who buy the metal.

“We will follow the problem wherever it goes. I just want to be very clear and direct that our reach is far,” Hamilton said. “We will surveil them and investigate wherever the case leads us, and we will take effective action against both the individual committing the crime and the crooked recycler who is taking those metals in.”

Hamilton said the county of Los Angeles and state of California have also been victims of widespread copper wire theft and are working in partnership with the LAPD. In one instance alone, thieves stole wire valued at \$150,000 from a Caltrans site in the city of Los Angeles.

“When thieves steal copper from Caltrans, electrical infrastructure for resale, it creates a safety issue for motorists who use traffic systems such as lights, signs and meters to navigate,” said Blanca Rodriguez, chief of external affairs for Caltrans’ District Seven in L.A. “Just in the past four years, Caltrans spent more than \$24 million to repair theft and vandalism to electrical infrastructure in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties alone.”

Hamilton said the LAPD is taking steps throughout the city to reduce copper wire theft and is working with the Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office on felony prosecutions of thieves. The city is also going after recyclers with criminal charges and civil lawsuits.

“Nine months ago, I announced along with City Attorney [Hydee] Feldstein Soto, that we were going to be watching the metal dealers in Los Angeles. We sent out warning letters to every single metal dealer in the city of Los Angeles, citing the state law and letting them know that any violations of these state laws would be prosecuted,” Krekorian said.

Hutt and Yaroslavsky are trying to address the thefts from another angle, looking at the possibility of using solar power as an alternative that would eliminate the need for copper wire in streetlights. While it is unclear how much it would cost, the council members cited the use of solar lighting in some Los Angeles park facilities as an example and asked the Bureau of Street Lighting to report back on the possibility

of converting the city’s 223,000 streetlights to solar power.

“Solar-powered lighting is an innovative way to brighten our streets, using cleaner energy while minimizing our carbon footprint. The rising rates of vandalism and increased power outages near existing lights is a huge public safety risk for our constituents,” Hutt said. “The city continues to find solutions to copper wire theft and the continued maintenance of our street lamps, and solar-powered lighting can give us the unique opportunity to brighten our city in a cutting-edge and sustainable way.”

“Copper wire theft and vandalism have affected too many communities for too long, and it’s time we explore smarter solutions like solar-powered streetlights,” Yaroslavsky added. “These lights are more reliable and can help us avoid the constant outages some neighborhoods in L.A. have experienced. By moving toward solar where it makes sense, we’re making sure our streets stay lit and safe for everyone.”

Answers From Page 27



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4. Eeyorean in demeanor
7. Israel's Dayan
12. Lyricist Gershwin
13. Arduous journey
15. Vendor
16. Loan figure, abbr.
17. Hybrid fruit
18. Elite groups
19. Breakfast choice
22. Sensory input
23. This and that
24. Jai alai balls
28. Big name in Formula One racing
33. Chasers
35. Taurus or Focus
36. An old-timer
42. Unquestionable
43. Snow or Canadian
44. Compact carrier
48. NBC logo
52. Runner Zatopek
54. Throb
55. Italian loaf
60. Jury, often
62. Opening
63. H.S. subject
64. Thicker
65. Not crazy
66. Formerly
67. Long-necked instrument

Down

1. Billboard genre
2. Covered way
3. CHiP's part
4. Theatergoer's souvenir
5. Jason's ship, in myth
6. Eatery
7. Shooting star
8. Russian figure skater Protopopov
9. Cinder
10. Goes with haw
11. Hosp. units
14. Fruit weight in EU
15. Miss Hawkins of Dogpatch
20. Went down in value
21. North pole pixie
25. Craggy peak
26. Do-say link
27. Prevalent ID
29. Indy entry
30. North Sea diver
31. Travellers info
32. Physicist's study
34. Taunt
36. Theoretical extreme
37. Prefix denoting mouth
38. Shining light
39. "Law & Order" role
40. Turn over

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41. O.T. book
 45. Oregon State mascot
 46. Jewelry material
 47. 1980s supermodel
 49. A whole lot
 50. Swiss Alp's abode
 51. Anchors
 53. Former Fords
 55. Piece of a buck
 56. Faust in "Mission: Impossible: Rogue- Nation"
 57. Frog's relative
 58. First-rate
 59. Moonshine
 60. N.F.L. scores
 61. Early Chinese dynasty
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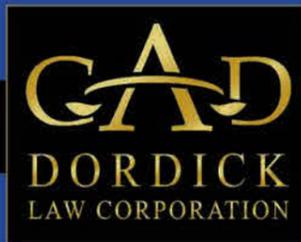
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