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THE WEATHER, BEVERLY HILLS CA

Friday	63°   47°
Saturday	62°   46°
Sunday	64°   47°
Monday	63°   48°
Tuesday	64°   48°
Wednesday	64°   47°
Thursday	62°   47°

## Varied Topics Discussed at Vibrant Live with Lili This Week



Photo courtesy JC Canicosa

Mayor Bosse presided over a spirited Live with Lili event on Feb. 13.

BY JC CANICOSA

Concerns about homelessness, robocallers, clear food labeling and the shooting at a party in Beverly Crest were at the forefront of discussion at the Feb. 13 Live with Lili event.

Bosse said thousands of residents tuned

in via Zoom at this month's Live with Lili, while about 15 people showed up to the event in person. Community spirit and love for the city were palpable at the Valentine's Day-themed town hall.

One of the topics discussed was how the See **LIVE WITH LILI**, page 7

## Two Jewish Community Members Shot After Prayer Services

BY RYAN TOROK

In apparently unrelated incidents, two Jewish community members were shot after leaving prayer services on Wednesday and Thursday mornings, Feb. 15 and 16, respectively.

Both suspects in the two shooting were still at-large as of press time.

Neither victim suffered life-threatening injuries.

Occurring within a span of fewer than 24 hours and less than a half-mile from each other, the incidents have rattled members of the Jewish community, Beverly Hills city leadership and residents of the Pico-Robertson area, a Beverly Hills-adjacent neighborhood that's home to the city's largest population of religious Jews. Synagogues both large and small populate it, with many people walking to their neighborhood places of worship for prayer services every morning.

On Feb. 15, around 10 a.m., near the intersection of S. Shenandoah Street and See **SHOOTINGS**, page 9

## Community Members Protest Ficus Tree Removal

BY CLARA HARTER

A group of residents and business owners are pleading with the city of Beverly Hills to stop the ongoing removal of 87 Ficus trees on Robertson Boulevard, but time to save the trees is running out.

The tree removals were approved by City Council in December 2022 in order to repair areas of the sidewalk damaged by the Ficus' fast-growing roots.

Spearheading the "save the trees" campaign is Wendy Klenk, who sounded the alarm when she saw the removals begin outside of her Robertson Boulevard office earlier this month.

"These are healthy trees and they are part of the fabric of this community and they have such value," Klenk said to the Beverly Hills City Council at its Feb. 7 study



Photo courtesy Wendy Klenk

The city is removing Ficus trees on Robertson Boulevard.

session. "We just want to save the trees and I understand that there's issues with the sidewalk, but we just want to know what the alternatives are."

Since then, the trees have only continued See **FICUS TREE**, page 17

## Critical Conversations Series Focuses on Women's Rights

BY BIANCA HEYWARD

The second installment of Critical Conversations—the speaker series presented by the Beverly Hills Human Relations Commission and Community Services—featured a dynamic panel of thought leaders and activists addressing "The State of Women's Rights in Modern Times." Held on Feb. 9 at the Municipal Gallery, speakers included Monsa Khalfani, Ph.D., Co-CEO and Chief

See **CRITICAL CONVERSATIONS**, page 17

In this issue of the BEVERLY HILLS COURIER:

# Arts & Entertainment Special Section

# Courier Calendar

**NOW - FEB. 19**

**MOCA GEFLEN: "TALA MADANI: BISCUITS"**

**TUES., WED., FRI. 11 A.M.-5 P.M.**

**THURS. 11 A.M.-8 P.M.**

**SAT.-SUN. 11 A.M.-6 P.M.**

The Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) and the Farhang Foundation partner for the exhibition of "Tala Madani: Biscuits." The exhibition marks the first North American survey of the paintings and animations of Tala Madani, an Iranian-born and Los Angeles-based artist. Organized by Rebecca Lowery, MOCA Associate Curator, and Ali Subotnick, MOCA Ahmanson Curatorial Fellowship Guest Curator, the exhibit includes many years of Madani's work. Her art includes rich narratives as well as irony and offers potential for art to reflect deep-seated cultural fears, desires, and conflicts while causing fantasy, curiosity, repulsion, and hilarity.

[moca.org](http://moca.org)

**NOW - FEB. 19**

**THE HAMMER MUSEUM: "JOAN DIDION: WHAT SHE MEANS"**

**TUES.-SUN. 11 A.M.-6 P.M.**

The Hammer Museum presents "Joan Didion: What She Means." The show is an exhibition as portrait, a narration of the life of one artist by another. It features about 50 artists, including Betye Saar, Vija Celmins, Felix Gonzalez-Torres, Maren Hassinger, Silke Otto-Knapp, John Koch, Ed Ruscha, Pat Steir, among others.

More than 200 works are included, featuring the mediums of painting, ephemera, photography, sculpture, video, and footage from a number of films for which Didion authored screenplays. Opening less than a year after her death at age 87, and planned since 2019, the exhibition follows a meandering chronology, tracking the evolution of her voice throughout her career as a writer and pioneer of "New Journalism." The exhibition closely follows her life according to the places she called home and is laid out in chronological chapters of her life. Admission to the Hammer is free.

[hammer.ucla.edu](http://hammer.ucla.edu)

**NOW - FEB. 19**

**LA ART SHOW**

**WED. 6-10 P.M.**

**THURS.-SAT. 12-8 P.M., SUN. 12-6 P.M.**

The LA Art Show, LA's largest and longest-running art fair, returns to the Los Angeles Convention Center (West Hall, 1201 S. Figueroa St., Los Angeles) through Feb. 19 to kick off the city's 2023 art season. LA Art Show will donate 15% of all ticket proceeds to support the life-saving work of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital®. Featuring nine art institutions, DIVERSEartLA returns with an ambitious agenda, addressing the global climate crisis. As part of this, MOLAA will present work from iconic ecofeminist Judy Baca and AMA will present one of Mexico's most prominent

photographers, Alfredo De Stefano. General admission tickets are \$30.

[laartshow.com](http://laartshow.com)

**NOW - MAR. 17**

**ACADEMY MUSEUM OF MOTION**

**PICTURES: "DIRECTOR'S**

**INSPIRATION: AGNÈS VARDA"**

**SUN.-THURS. 10 A.M.-6 P.M.**

**FRI.-SAT. 10 A.M.-8 P.M.**

The Academy Museum presents an exhibition of one of global cinema's most radical and transformative artists, Agnès Varda. "Director's Inspiration" explores the influences on Varda's work. The diverse influences are organized into three sections: Photography, Real People/ Real Life, and Art. Photography explores Varda's photographic work, which she pursued prior to filmmaking through prints, contact sheets, and photography-related production materials. Real People/ Real Life focuses on the effect of family, location, and social issues in Varda's film. Materials such as maps, photographs, and other research materials are displayed that demonstrate her intrinsic tie to location. The Art section centers on Varda's career as a fine artist later in life, displaying a model for one of her cinema shack installations among other works. General admission is \$25 for adults, \$19 for seniors (age 62+), \$15 for students (age 18+ with valid ID), and free for children (17 and under) and members.

[academymuseum.org](http://academymuseum.org)

**FEB. 18 - 19**

**L.A. CHINATOWN FIRECRACKER 5K/10K RUN/WALK/1K KIDDIE & PAW'ER DOG RUN/WALK & 20/40-MILE BIKE RIDE**

**8 A.M., 8:20 A.M., 8:40 A.M., 9 A.M.**

L.A. Chinatown Firecracker celebrates 45 years as one of the largest and oldest running races in the U.S. with its upcoming Lunar New Year, Year of the Rabbit run, walk, cycling, kiddie run, and dog walk events held in the Los Angeles Chinatown Plaza over the weekend of Feb. 18-19. Registration is now available to participate in person or virtually. Each participant receives a 2023 Firecracker race bib, exclusive collectible finisher medal, limited edition commemorative t-shirt, goody bag, and more. Participants and their guests will also witness the Lunar New Year celebration in the heart of historic Chinatown with an opening ceremony featuring lion dancers and the traditional lighting of 100,000 firecrackers. The Firecracker post-race expo, which is free to the public, includes vendors and booths, a new Chalk Art Festival, and Boba Garden. A children's carnival is also present for kiddie run participants. Virtual participants can use the Racejoy app to participate any time between now and Feb. 19. Registration ranges from \$30-\$65. The Los Angeles Chinatown Plaza is located at 943 N. Broadway, Downtown Los Angeles.

[firecracker10k.org](http://firecracker10k.org)

**FEB. 26**

**CICLAVIA - THE VALLEY**

**9 A.M.-3 P.M.**

CicLAvia presents "The Valley," which includes 5 miles of car-free open streets for people-powered vehicles. The route connects Canoga Park, Winnetka, and Reseda along Sherman Way. This is the second time the route follows Sherman Way, the first time since December 2019. Participants can show up anywhere along the route to sightsee, play, and explore local gems. Hubs are located along the route as meeting and resting points, featuring food trucks, restrooms, free water refilling stations, free basic bike repair, bike parking, and first aid, as well as free pedicab rides at each information booth. CicLAvia seeks to build lasting social and cultural connections by reimagining cities with open, car-free streets. No electric scooters, electric skateboards, hoverboards, electric unicycles, motorcycles or other non-people-powered vehicles are allowed. Class 1 e-bikes with pedal assist are allowed. Class 2 e-bikes are allowed when throttle is powered off. Class 3 e-bikes are allowed when pedal assist is turned off. Motorized wheelchairs are allowed. CicLAvia is free for everyone.

[ciclavia.org](http://ciclavia.org)



Photo courtesy of CicLAvia

Participants in CicLAvia - The Valley in December 2019

# Sometimes to hold on to the past, you must embrace a bigger future.

My parents loved their Sierra Nevada property. But after they passed, my sister and I were arguing about what to do with the 1000 acres or so in the mountains. She wanted to sell but I couldn't bear to part with it – our parents got engaged under a Live Oak on that property. That's when Brandi stepped in with, of all things, an acorn collected from my parents' engagement tree. She also had a plan to sell the bulk of the property while retaining the small corner where the tree grows. My sister and I agreed. I still have that acorn too – it's a little thing that reminds me of the difference personal service makes.

— Harold, Oakland



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## Planning Commission Debates Fractional Ownership Ban

BY CLARA HARTER

With the city's ban on fractional property ownership set to expire this summer, the Planning Commission has been tasked with preparing a permanent ordinance for the City Council's approval.

In a Feb. 9 meeting, the Commission debated how to create an ordinance that both cracks down on the practice and creates a pathway for exemptions in specific limited scenarios.

In the same meeting, the Commission approved plans for a cosmetic spa to relocate to the Rodeo Collection mall.

### Fractional Ownership Ban

In July 2021, City Council passed a temporary ban on fractional ownership—a practice whereby multiple people own a single property and use it for different amounts of time—in response to concerns over fractional ownership plans for the One Beverly Hills project.

One Beverly Hills is the \$2 billion hotel and residential complex that was approved

by City Council in a 4-1 vote in June 2021. The 17.5-acre project will feature a private club, 340 residential units, a 42-room Aman-branded hotel and 37 hotel-branded condominiums intended for fractional ownership.

The condos are designed as shared vacation homes where owners can have access to hotel amenities including room service and housekeeping.

While Council was enthusiastic about the exclusive development, it worried that the proposed fractional ownership concept—which would be the first of its kind in the city—could open a Pandora's box.

Community Development Director Ryan Gohlich said dangers of fractional ownership include increased noise, loss of privacy and community, a decline in property values and a reduction in available homes in a July 2021 Council meeting.

Council then passed the temporary ban to protect the city's residential housing stock and stave off a potential influx of vacation properties.

See **PLANNING COMMISSION**, page 11

## Local Officials Attend Massive Rally Downtown



Former Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian, Beverly Hills City Councilmember Sharona Nazarian and Los Angeles City Council President Paul Krekorian at the Feb. 11 rally

BY BIANCA HEYWARD

On Feb. 11, thousands of people attended a rally in front of Los Angeles City Hall in support of the Iranian people and the ongoing fight for civil rights and freedom under Iran's Islamic Republic.

The protest was attended by members of the Iranian American community, public figures, students, human rights advocates, political activists, and more

including Beverly Hills City Councilmember Sharona Nazarian, Mayor Karen Bass, and Congressman Adam Schiff. According to Nazarian, as many as 150,000 people came out to show support.

"Let's see action and regime change now," Nazarian said, speaking to the crowd from a podium. Chants of "Zan, zendegi, azadi," or "Woman, life, freedom," echoed throughout. The date also marked the 44th anniversary of the 1979 Islamic Revolution. ●

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# City Leaders Meet with Glendale Officials

Beverly Hills Mayor Lili Bosse, City Manager Nancy Hunt-Coffey, and Police Chief Mark Stainbrook traveled to Glendale on Feb. 10 to meet with Glendale city representatives and leaders from the local and national Armenian community to discuss the recent anti-Armenian flyers that were distributed in the city of Beverly Hills.

“As a city that always speaks out against hate, I am so proud to stand with our colleagues and friends today to say, it must stop,” said Mayor Lili Bosse. “Hate speech can lead to violence and so we must fight it at every opportunity.”

Bosse, Hunt-Coffey and Stainbrook were joined by Glendale Mayor Ardy Kassakhian, City Manager Roubik Golanian and Police Chief Manny Cid at Glendale City Hall to reflect on the recent anti-Armenian incidents and how the cities can actively work together on educating the public on issues of hate, intolerance and injustice.

“It is only by uniting in our pledge to prevent hostility toward any community that we will succeed in ensuring the safety of our society,” said Glendale Mayor Ardy Kassakhian. “Today, our cities agreed to collaborate on opportunities for public

engagement that demonstrate a strong commitment to stopping hateful acts.”

Following the meeting at City Hall, Beverly Hills representatives met with a group of local and national Armenian community representatives to listen to their concerns. The Armenian leaders shared details on the increasing trend of targeted attacks on Armenian institutions in California. Beverly Hills leaders acknowledged the gravity of these incidents while also sharing stories of hate in Beverly Hills, including recent anti-semitic acts and the devastating impact they have on members of the community.

“Armenian-Americans are outraged by this latest act of hate directed against our community,” remarked Armenian National Committee of America National Board Member ZankuArmenian. “Today’s meeting with city of Beverly Hills representatives is an important first step in starting a dialogue to confront hate against all communities, including the Armenian community.”

The Beverly Hills Police Department continues to gather evidence and intelligence related to the posting of anti-Armenian flyers in the city and remains committed to following all leads. ●

# School Board Considers Hebrew Language Classes for Middle School



BHUSD Board of Education meeting on Feb. 14

BY BIANCA HEYWARD

Students at Beverly Vista Middle School may soon have the option to study Hebrew as a second language following the Feb. 14 Beverly Hills Unified School District (BHUSD) Board of Education meeting. Currently, foreign language classes are offered as an elective at the middle school level, with French and Spanish to choose from. With dozens of electives to pick from, staff must gauge interest from students, and determine how many of those would sign up.

With four levels of Hebrew already offered at the high school level, “we are one of the few public educational institutions across the United States that actually offers a robust Hebrew program,” said Dustin Seemann, Assistant Superintendent of Education Services.

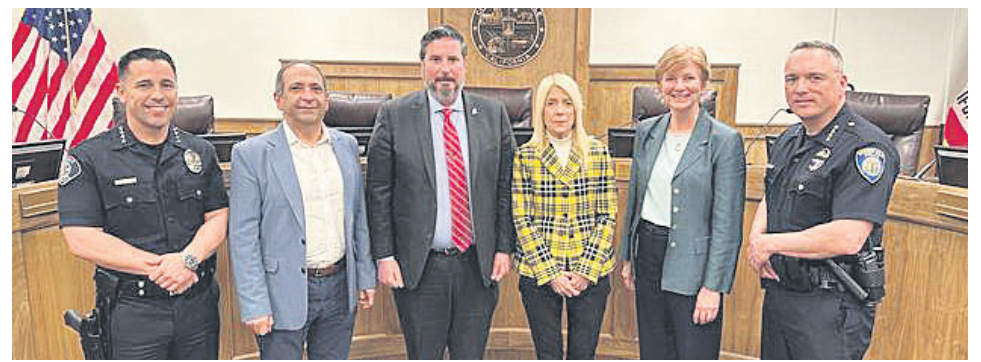
“We have had a challenge in finding instructors for this program,” said Board Member Judy Manouchehri. “So, I just want the community to be aware that should we vote for it tonight, it’s something that would be developed.” While the item was placed on the agenda for discussion not approval, the board was unanimously in support of the program, directing staff to return with more information. “This would be something we’d really want to get on immediately,” Board President Noah Margo said. “If not, obviously, we would look at the following year.”

While the search for a new Beverly Hills

High School (BHHS) principal remains ongoing, the pool of applicants has narrowed. In his superintendent report, Dr. Michael Bregy shared that seven applicants were interviewed in the first round, and three proceeded to the next round.

“It’s a very comprehensive interview process,” Bregy said. “The three candidates will be spending three hours each with us, with various groups and stakeholders and students involved.” On Feb. 15, each candidate was taken on a student-led tour, followed by a Cabinet interview. Applicants were asked to review a short-form case study ahead of the interview and prepare for a cabinet discussion. The interview process also included meeting with BHUSD elementary and middle school principals. The final round of interviews will be conducted by Bregy this week, and he’s expected to make a recommendation to the school board for the position at its next meeting.

The board also unanimously approved a resolution titled “Protecting our Children from Preventable Gun Violence,” which was spearheaded by Dr. Amanda Stern. “To be clear, words and papers certainly don’t keep our children and our staff safe from gunshots,” Stern said. “...but it does keep our minds focused on the fact that there are some preventable things we can do. We will live with guns for a long time, but there are unique dangers among young people and their access to firearms.” ●



Mayor Bosse, City Manager Hunt-Coffey and Chief Stainbrook met with Glendale city officials.

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## Kindness Week Kickoff



Kindness Week kicked off at the Beverly Hills Farmers Market with a Toy Donation Drive for local cancer organizations on Feb. 12. Pictured (from left): Human Relations Commission Chair Noelle Freeman, Mayor Lili Bosse, Human Relations Commission Vice Chair Laura Margo and Human Relations Commissioner Rose Kaiserman.

## Valentine's Day Proposal



Batista and Freeman

Feb. 14 was the best Valentine's Day in Human Relations Commission Chair Noelle Freeman's life. Fiancé Daniel Batista proposed to her during a board game of Wordle. It took Freeman four rounds to get to the word "marry" before Batista popped the question. The Courier sends best wishes to the happy couple.

## Vanity Fair Street Closures: Access to Local Businesses Maintained



### Easy routes to Crescent Drive

#### FROM NORTH:

- South on N. Cañon Drive, left on Dayton Way, left or right on Crescent Drive
- South on Rexford Drive, right on Clifton Way, left or right on Crescent Drive

#### FROM SOUTH:

- Westbound on Wilshire Blvd., right on Crescent Drive
- Eastbound on Wilshire Blvd., left on Dayton Way

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 More info at [BEVERLYHILLS.ORG/VANITYFAIR](http://BEVERLYHILLS.ORG/VANITYFAIR)

**LIVE WITH LILI, from page 1**

Jan. 28 shooting in the Beverly Crest area of Los Angeles affected how the Beverly Hills community sees gun safety and residential parties. The shooting took place at a “short-term rental” just outside city limits. It left three people dead and four wounded.

One Beverly Hills resident who said he “grew up in that neighborhood” and “still has a relative that lives in that area” asked Bosse if she could work with officials to add cameras or additional lighting can be installed in houses in Beverly Hills that are rented out as AirBnB’s.

Short-term rentals are not allowed within the City of Beverly Hills but are allowed in surrounding areas.

“What you’re bringing up has been on top of mind for many residents,” Bosse said. “The (Beverly Crest) shooting definitely heightened all of our awareness to AirBnB’s and security, both for those who live around the area and those who are at these parties.”

Bosse added that BHPD has been called to check in on multiple parties in the Beverly Hills area since the incident occurred.

Another resident, Adam Mills, brought up that new labels on waste bins make it confusing for residents to know which food waste goes into which bin due to a new organic waste recycling program for Beverly Hills residents.

The program requires Beverly Hills

residents to sort their food waste items and yard trimming materials into new green bins. Organic materials such as meat, bones, bread, pasta, coffee filters, lawn trimmings and food-soiled paper products belong in the green bin while nonorganic materials metal, plastic, glass or pet waste are not allowed.

The program was designed to reduce the impact of pollution due to organic waste, which is responsible for about 20% of the methane released in the state.

Beginning in 2024, residents who incorrectly sort items could be slapped with fines of up to \$500.

“The stickers have like five sentences there, and it’s almost like an essay whenever you go to the trash,” Mills said.

At the town hall, Mills learned that the food waste goes into the bin with the leaves label.

“I didn’t know that,” he said.

“You are proving your own point,” Bosse said.

Mills added he was still confused about which bin food-stained recyclables go into. Bosse added that the next Live with Lili session will provide further clarification.

Bosse also followed up on concerns about robocalls from the last town hall, and clarified which alerts specifically are sent out as robocalls to Beverly Hills residents.

Robocalls are only sent out to residents when there is a BHPD alert relating to crime

or public safety matters.

“We really do try to not send out too many robocalls because then people seem to get a little bit frustrated with us,” Bosse said.

Homelessness in Beverly Hills was another major topic brought up by a resident. The resident said that he noticed “a really big homeless issue” while driving at night around Rodeo Drive, and asked what is being done by the city to address it.

Bosse said homelessness is “a very important reality” that the city is addressing.

Stephanie Harris, Beverly Hills’ interim

director of community services, added that the city has a 24 hour hotline that residents can call when residents see persons who could be in need of housing or mental health services.

Harris said the staff will dispatch the correct agency to assess the situation, but if any resident feels their safety may be threatened, to call 9-1-1 first and foremost before the hotline number.

Beverly Hills residents who see someone who may need mental health or housing services can call 310-285-2468. ●

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## How to Choose a Financial Advisor



BY REBECCA ROTHSTEIN

When choosing a financial advisor, a number of important factors come into play. I've summarized some of the most important ones below:

**Experience:** Look for someone who has been in the financial industry for several years and, preferably, has a “team” of specialists. The reason is that often the team members will have more expertise in a variety of topics whereas a sole advisor might not have as much knowledge as one of their team members. Another good idea is to choose someone who has seen different types of market conditions and has a track record of helping clients achieve their financial goals given the fluctuations of the markets. This will give you confidence in their ability to provide guidance and support as you work towards your financial goals. Experience matters a lot in this business!

**Qualifications:** The financial planning industry has a number of professional licenses and certifications that advisors must earn to demonstrate their knowledge and skills. These include, but are not limited to, a Series 7 license and a Certified Financial Planner (CFP) certification. It's important to make sure the advisor you choose has the necessary licenses and qualifications to provide professional quality advice.

**Fees:** Make sure that you understand how a financial advisor charges for their services, including any upfront or ongoing fees. Some advisors charge an hourly rate, while others charge a percentage of the assets they manage. Some charge commissions. Choose an advisor who can charge a fee structure that you are comfortable with and is best suited to your financial

goals. Generally, working on a fee basis aligns the advisor with their client's interests so be certain to ask how you will be paying for their services.

**Services offered:** When considering a financial advisor, it's important to determine what services they offer and whether they are compatible with your needs. Have the advisors delineate exactly what you can count on them for, some of which include generational planning, buying and selling of stocks, lending, asset allocation and retirement planning, just to name a few. Make sure to choose an advisor whose services meet your specific needs and goals. Some advisors may offer a comprehensive financial planning package that includes everything from budgeting and debt management to investment advice and retirement planning. Others may offer à la carte services, allowing you to choose the specific services you need. Consider your needs and goals and choose an advisor whose services meet your expectations.

**Investment philosophy:** Your advisor should understand your investment philosophy and approach to risk management to ensure you are both on the same page. Investors are usually classified into three main categories based on how much risk they can tolerate. Would you prefer to be aggressive, moderate, or conservative with your money? Knowing your risk tolerance level helps advisors plan your entire portfolio and will drive how they invest for you. Your investment philosophy should be based on your personal financial situation so it's essential to be clear about what you are expecting from your advisor. Don't expect them to guess. This is an important relationship and all these things should be discussed thoroughly. This will require you to be forthcoming about your own

expectations and goals. And, keep in mind that as your relationship with the advisor continues, these things will change over time. A lot of this will depend on your age and the ages of your family members. An advisor who understands what you want will be better equipped to help you make informed investment decisions that will satisfy your long-term financial goals.

**Communication style:** The communication style of a financial advisor is also an important factor to consider. Choose an advisor that you feel comfortable working with and who has a communication style that you like. You will need to be clear about your expectations. Some people want to be in contact frequently, others quarterly, some less often. Consider your own communication preferences and choose an advisor whose style works best with your preferences. Good communication builds trust and ensures that your advisor is able to provide the support and guidance you need. Always take the time to review the monthly statements that are provided by the firms. Look for an advisor who is responsive and proactive and who is willing to take the time to fully understand your needs and concerns. Strong communication is essential for a successful advisor-client relationship.

**Client base:** It can be helpful to choose a financial advisor who serves a client base similar to your own circumstances, as they may be better able to understand and address your specific needs and concerns. They will be more familiar with the unique financial challenges and opportunities you may face and will be better able to provide tailored advice and support. Similarly, if you are approaching retirement, you may want to look for an advisor who has experience working with clients in your age group and has a strong understanding of the financial considerations that come with retirement and generational planning.

**Conflict of interest:** It's important to make sure the financial advisor you choose does not have any conflicts of interest that could influence the advice they give you. This includes receiving commissions for recommending certain products or services and receiving commissions for buying and selling stocks. As mentioned above, working on a fee basis aligns the advisor with their client's interests. So, choose an advisor who is transparent about their fee structure and any potential conflicts of interest.

**References:** Asking for references from current clients can be a helpful way to get a better understanding of a financial advisor's work style and effectiveness. These references can provide valuable insight into an advisor's communication style, knowledge and expertise, and overall approach to working with clients. They can also help you get a sense of the level of support and service you can expect from an advisor and their team.

**Compatibility:** Trust your instincts when choosing a financial advisor. Choose someone you feel comfortable working with and who you believe will have your best interests in mind. Consider their communication style, personality, and overall approach to financial planning. It's important to find an advisor who you feel comfortable discussing your financial situation with and one who you believe will provide sound and unbiased advice.

In summary, there are a number of factors to consider when choosing a financial advisor. Look for an advisor who has experience, qualifications, and a track record of helping clients achieve their financial goals. Understand how they charge for their services and make sure their fee structure is compatible with your needs. Trust your instincts and choose an advisor that you feel comfortable working with and who you believe will have your best interests in mind. ●



Rebecca Rothstein works with high-net-worth individuals, families, and institutions, helping them advance their wealth management goals. She began her career as a financial advisor in 1987 at Bear Stearns. She spent 10 years with Deutsche Bank Alex Brown and 13 years with Morgan Stanley Private Wealth Management (formerly Smith Barney) before joining Merrill Lynch. As a Managing Director at Merrill Private Wealth Management, Rebecca focuses on wealth management, tax minimization, and estate planning strategies for affluent clients. She also works with corporate officers, devising liquidity and diversification strategies for concentrated positions. Rebecca has garnered a number of national honors as a financial advisor. Barron's magazine named her one of the “Top 100 Financial Advisors in America” from 2007 successively through 2012. Barron's also named Rebecca one of the “Top 100 Women Financial Advisors in America” from the inception of the list in 2006 successively through 2012, profiling her in the 2012 issue. In 2017, Rebecca was recognized by the national publication Forbes, which named her one of “America's Top Wealth Advisors.” In 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021 Rebecca was again recognized by Forbes, which named her the #1 of “Top Women Wealth Advisors.” Rebecca is very active in the community. She is the Chairman of the Board and Founder of Teen Cancer America (a global charity founded by Roger Daltrey and Pete Townshend). She is also a co-Chair of the Childhood Autism Board at UCLA, which helps children who have been diagnosed with autism, developmental disabilities, and behavior disorders, and she is a board member of the UCLA Health System. In her free time, Rebecca enjoys cooking, sailing, and participating in a number of charitable efforts. She has four sons and splits her time between Incline Village, Nevada and Beverly Hills, California, with her husband Ron.



**SHOOTINGS, from page 1**

Cashio Avenue, a member of the Jewish community was shot by a suspect that's being described as "a middle-aged Asian male with possible beard or goatee," according to nonprofit Jewish security service Magen Am.

On Feb. 16, around 9 a.m., an individual "was shot in the arm leaving a Jewish synagogue at the intersection of Bedford and Pickford," according to Magen Am.

"These two shooting incidents are certainly concerning but they are not believed to be related," Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) West Los Angeles Commanding Officer Capt. Craig Heredia said.

The suspect in the Feb. 15 shooting was driving a vehicle that's being described as a "dark gray Honda or Toyota, 1995-2000, with stacked cardboard in the interior."

The suspect in the Feb. 16 shooting was a "white male [with a] black mask, black glasses, black sweater [and] armed." As of press time, LAPD officers were looking for information from witnesses, video surveillance, and any information that would help identify Thursday's suspect.

Beverly Hills Mayor Lili Bosse immediately denounced the incidents on social media. She also conveyed her strong feelings to the Courier.

"It definitely rattled me to see that two days in a row, two Jewish people, as they were leaving their synagogues, were shot. It hasn't been confirmed in any way if there was a targeted hate crime .... but regardless, I just want for everyone to feel safe. I want

those who are Jewish and those who practice other faiths to know that they can go to their houses of worship and walk the streets to their cars and feel safe."

She added, "Our Beverly Hills Police Department is adding extra patrols around houses of worship so people do feel safe as they are walking or driving to houses of worship. We want everyone to feel safe. We always want people in our community to feel secure, and BHPD is being proactive."

The Feb. 15 victim was reportedly walking to his car when the gunman, driving a car, approached and fired two shots, online Jewish newspaper the Forward reported. A Magen Am community team member recruit heard the gunshots and made first contact with the LAPD. The victim, a man, was soon "transported to a hospital non-life threatening wounds," Magen Am said.

According to published reports, the gunman shot the victim twice. One bullet grazed the victim, while the other, fortunately, missed.

Fewer details were immediately available regarding the Feb. 16 incident. The victim was in stable condition, according to the LAPD.

The Feb. 15 incident does not appear to be motivated by antisemitism, though the victim was reportedly wearing a yarmulke at the time.

"There was no indication of yesterday's shooting being motivated by hate," the LAPD said.

"Magen Am has been informed by

LAPD that this incident does not appear to be related to any antisemitism," Magen Am said. "There is no specific threat to the community at this time. Detectives are continuing to investigate the incident."

The motive for the Feb. 16 incident was unknown as of press time.

"Detectives are investigating this morning's incident and there are more questions than answers at this point," LAPD's Heredia said on Thursday. "We do not know the motivation or reason for today's shooting, but we are working diligently to determine if this is a hate crime. The investigation is ongoing and we will provide additional information to the community once more details are known."

Magen Am President Rabbi Yossi Eilfort reiterated his organization's mission of protecting members of the Jewish community.

"It is sickening that in Los Angeles today, two Jews have been shot in the street in two days, as they were leaving prayers. Regardless of the motivation of the shootings, Jews deserve to be secure, living and

serving G-d in peace," Eilfort said. "Magen Am is asking our city to take a strong stand on behalf of its Jewish community. LAPD is currently saying there is no specific information indicating this was driven solely by antisemitism. We await detectives' updates."

The shootings came on the heels of increased activity in the Beverly Hills area that prompted the response of BHPD. On Feb. 10, multiple police units were dispatched to the 1500 block of Carla Ridge in Trousdale Estates, in response to a possible residential burglary. The suspect fled before the police's arrival, according to a BHPD alert. As of press time, BHPD had not arrested anyone in connection with the incident.

On Feb. 15, BHPD officers conducted a search, near Sunset Boulevard and Ladera Drive, for suspects of a stolen vehicle in connection with a Los Angeles city burglary. They were assisted by K9 units. By that evening, the search had ended, with two suspects in custody for multiple felony charges, according to BHPD. ●



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## NOTICE OF COMMISSION VACANCY:

The Beverly Hills City Council is seeking a qualified Beverly Hills resident to fill a vacancy on the **RENT STABILIZATION COMMISSION TENANT COMMISSIONER ONLY**

**Deadline to apply:**  
Friday, February 24, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

**Duty:**  
This Commission acts as an advisory to the City Council to provide recommendations for amendments to the Rent Stabilization Ordinance.

**Applicant Qualifications:**  
A tenant, subtenant, lessee, sublessee, or any other person entitled to the use or occupancy of any apartment unit in the City of Beverly Hills.

For more information on the Commission position and to apply online, please visit the City's website at [www.beverlyhills.org/applyforacommission](http://www.beverlyhills.org/applyforacommission) or call the City Clerk's Office at (310) 285-2400 to obtain the application form by mail or e-mail.

Huma Ahmed  
City Clerk

# WHAT'S THE RUSH?

Give pedestrians time to cross.



For more information, visit:  
[BEVERLYHILLS.ORG/TRANSPORTATION](http://BEVERLYHILLS.ORG/TRANSPORTATION)



THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS WILL BE HOLDING A PUBLIC MEETING

## OpenBH Code Changes and Fees Subcommittee and Survey Opportunity

The City of Beverly Hills will be holding a subcommittee meeting (in-person and virtually) to continue the conversation regarding the potential changes to lease fees for the City's permanent open air dining program.

We will be providing an overview of the proposed lease fees for open air dining located on sidewalks and in parklets, as well as a brief overview of potential changes to the permitting process and development standards for open air dining on sidewalks.



SCAN FOR SURVEY ACCESS!

Restaurant owners/operators are encouraged to take a survey on the proposed lease fees, which can be accessed online at:

[www.beverlyhills.org/openbh](http://www.beverlyhills.org/openbh)

or by using the QR code to the left.

*(deadline to submit survey responses is Tuesday, March 7, 2023)*

### Please join us, either in person or virtually!

**TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2023**

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

City Hall Room 280A (Second Floor)

**VIRTUAL OPTION:**

[beverlyhills-org.zoom.us/my/committee](http://beverlyhills-org.zoom.us/my/committee)

Meeting ID: 516 191 2424 | Passcode: 90210

**FOR MORE INFO**

visit [beverlyhills.org/openbh](http://beverlyhills.org/openbh) or email [business@beverlyhills.org](mailto:business@beverlyhills.org)

**PLANNING COMMISSION, from page 4**  
This ordinance is set to expire this July and the Planning Commission fully supports enacting a permanent version.

“We don’t want it (fractional ownership). It’s not a good thing for our city. It takes residential units off the market. You’re not going to build a stable neighborhood,” said Commissioner Peter Ostroff.

However, they had questions over what scenarios may justify an exemption to the ban and how that would be determined.

Commissioner Gary Ross gave the example of someone passing away and multiple children inheriting a property as a potential form of permissible fractional ownership.

The Commission expressed support for having an appeals process whereby owners can take their case to City Council and request an exemption.

“I think this should be a blanket prescription subject to an ability to go to Council and say ‘was it really intended to apply to the house that I’m sharing with my brother and sister and cousin’ and they (Council) can say yes or no,” said Ostroff.

The Commission instructed staff to make alterations to the ordinance to clarify the Council hearing process and provide more details on what could qualify for an exception. They will vote on the revised ordinance in a March 9 meeting, after which point will be sent to City Council for a final vote.

**Spa Relocation**

Dr. Rahi Sarbaziha opened a cosmetic spa

at 9615 Brighton Way in 2019 and said she would like to relocate to the Rodeo Collection luxury mall for its bigger space, better visibility and increased retail opportunities.

“I love that the city is accessible and welcoming for all my clients and I look forward to expanding my business here,” said Sarbaziha in the Feb. 9 Planning Commission meeting. “My center is at the forefront of beauty and wellness services in Beverly Hills but we serve people from all walks of life and from all over the world.”

Integrative Wellness by Dr. Rahi plans to offer a wide range of services including dermal fillers, neurotoxins, PDO threads, IV Drips, electro-muscular stimulation, laser hair removal, chemical peels, micro-needling with platelet-rich plasma, and mesotherapy.

The spa’s new home, the Rodeo Collection, is located at 421 North Rodeo Dr. and contains a range of high-end retail shops, personal care stores, medical services and office spaces.

The treatment center will be located immediately adjacent to another soon-to-open cosmetic spa that Planning Commission approved in August 2022. The proximity of these two very similar businesses raised concerns for Commission Chair Myra Demeter, who cast the sole no vote.

“My interpretation is it does not foster an appropriate mix of uses that promote a balance of services,” she said.

The remaining four commissioners did not feel that the proximity of the businesses justified denying the cosmetic spa a conditional use permit and voted to approve it. ●

# Partial Crescent Drive Closure Begins Feb. 28 for Vanity Fair Event

Vanity Fair will once again host its post-Academy Awards Party on the 400 block of North Crescent Drive, adjacent to City Hall, on the evening of March 12. As crews begin work to assemble the tent on North Crescent Drive between North Santa Monica Boulevard and South Santa Monica Boulevard, the 400 block of the street will be closed beginning Feb. 28

at 10 p.m. to March 16, reopening by 10 p.m.

All businesses on Crescent Drive are accessible during the closure. Motorists are urged to use alternate routes and heed all directional signage. Access remains open to local parking garages. ●



On Feb. 13, Mayor Lili Bosse, Vice Mayor Julian Gold and members of the Beverly Hills Police Department attended the Active Adult Club Valentine’s Day Senior Dance at Roxbury Community Center. Pictured, Bosse takes to the dance floor with one of the club members.



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## 'The First Deep Breath' - Leaves You Gasping



Photos by Jeff Lorch

Opa Adeyemo and Lee Edward Colston II

BY NEELY SWANSON

Get thee to the Geffen Playhouse and get there before March 5. "The First Deep Breath" is a major play that analyzes what it means to be alone within a family unit in many of the same ways explored by August Wilson, Tracy Letts and Eugene O'Neil. Make no mistake, Lee Edward Colston II is an important playwright to contend with.

Opening on a sermon by Pastor Albert Melvin Jones III, the fire and brimstone he spouts is tempered by the sadness of major loss, the death of his beloved daughter Diane. So focused is he on this daughter that it takes quite a while before we realize that she was survived by her identical twin Dee-Dee. In the pulpit he is king; he maintains that attitude at home. But the Jones household is complicated. Ruth, his wife, is in the midst of advancing Alzheimer's, cared for by her sister Pearl who now lives with them. Son AJ is a senior in high school, a student with promise and the possibility of going to an Ivy on full scholarship if, and it's a big if, he agrees to study religion with a goal toward succeeding his father at the church. Covering his feelings well, we soon learn that this is far from his dream, something he confides only to Tyree, his older brother's best friend. And that older brother? Albert Melvin Jones IV is about to

be released from prison, having served a sentence of six years for rape. Filling out the "family" unit is Leslie Carter, Dee-Dee's devoted boyfriend who dotes on her every word and can't understand why she won't marry him.

Layering the Tyrone family drama in "Long Day's Journey into Night" with the difficulties of growing up Black in urban Philadelphia, the Joneses are a psychoanalytic study unto themselves. Tensions run high in the Jones' household but the simmering will soon boil over when Albert IV, now preferring to be called Abdul-Malik, arrives. Feared, reviled, ridiculed, there is very little place for this ex-con and his new name. His crime hangs over his head like an anvil waiting to crash down at an inopportune moment, and all the moments with Albert IV are inopportune. Unwanted and unemployable, his status as pariah in his own home has become a new prison for him.

Everyone in this family has a secret, some have more than one, but the cloud over their beloved mother, Ruth, is the darkest of all. She floats in and out of cognizance, much like Mary Tyrone in "Long Day's Journey into Night." Unlike Mary, though, her disease is not by human hand. Her memory, when she has one, often places her within events of many years ago, often mistaking DeeDee for her twin and recalling her eldest son as a



L-R: Deanna Reed-Foster, Herb Newsome, and Ella Joyce

sweet child and her youngest as non-existent. Ruth, as we initially meet her, is a soft woman, cared for lovingly by sister Pearl, a woman of vast good humor, grounded in reality and profanity, and an inordinate amount of patience. It is Pearl, and only Pearl, who sees things clearly and balances one need against another, smothering her own dreams until she can no longer.

Neither parent spared the rod in raising these children and though now grown up, the fear is still in their eyes. Dee-Dee has been trying all her life to be seen, for herself and separate from her dead sister. It becomes apparent very early on that she was always second best and never had the support of either parent. Even today, in the fog of her disease, Ruth still calls out for Diane, never for Dee-Dee. But in some ways, it's Dee-Dee who doesn't see. Aunt Pearl understands her and Leslie, her boyfriend, truly sees who she is both in and out of the context of her dysfunctional family. He loves her unconditionally and doesn't understand why that isn't enough.

The Pastor is an unforgiving soul, an evangelical who views the world in black and white and the Bible as literal. The root of all evil, he sees little beyond the loss of the one twin and has no need to acknowledge the other. Albert IV was supposed to be his golden child, the heir to his pastoral

throne. When that ended with his criminal conviction, his hopes shifted to AJ. Any racist animosity the siblings may have faced in the outside world paled in comparison to the hate they continue to face at home. Pastor Jones is laser-focused on his church. The adages "charity begins at home" and "do unto others" do not seem to have made it into his personal prayer book. His cruelty is difficult to watch. And, in one telling scene, a memorable Thanksgiving dinner that brings to mind the ugly cathartic dinner in Letts' "August Osage County," it would appear that the lucid Ruth was a match for her husband in vitriol and disapproval.

Colston has given each character their own platform to express pain, reveal secrets, and explain circumstances from their own perspective. Even Ruth, most of the time lost in a fog, has her own moments of lucidity that underscore the longings and frailties of the others. Their monologues blend seamlessly into the drama of the moment, and this is a play full of overflowing with drama.

If I have been vague on what some of the cataclysmic events within the story, or more aptly, stories are, this is by design. Each character's arc is a dramatic twist unto itself, none more dramatic than that of Albert IV. It would be unfair to reveal any and spoil the shock, surprise, and/or release tied to each and every one. Colston has masterfully



Photo by Justin Bettman

L-R: Brandon Mendez Homer, Candace Thomas, Opa Adeyemo, Ella Joyce, Herb Newsome, Deanna Reed-Foster, Lee Edward Colston II, and Keith A. Wallace

piled one on top of another, balancing each so well that the story never topples over from the weight it carries.

That “The First Deep Breath” is located in Philadelphia is certainly no coincidence. Colston has, no doubt, set this up as an homage to August Wilson’s use of Pittsburgh. This is not to say that Colston is the new or even next August Wilson. There will never be another Wilson just like there will never be another O’Neil, Williams, or Miller. He has a ways to go to approach that group but he seems to be on that path, one paved with pitfalls and difficulties and rewards if his next plays are as good as this one. Colston’s plots are messy and his characters are rich, complex, and thoughtful, devoid of cliché, even if some of them are familiar. Aunt Pearl comes closest to stereotype. She’s loud and brash, a big woman who shakes like the proverbial jelly roll in the blues. But you’d be mistaken. As the play progresses, the protective layers begin to fall off revealing the vulnerable woman beneath. It is Pearl’s monologue that brings the house down with its self-awareness, despondency and resolute determination.

“The First Deep Breath,” beautifully directed by Steve H. Broadnax III, who directed the premiere of this piece in Chicago, benefits enormously from its cast, led by the playwright himself. Lee Edward Colston II plays Albert Melvin Jones IV, aka Abdul-Malik, a man whose secret put him in prison and kept him in one both before and after. Opa Adeyemo as AJ, is as warm, confused and rigid as any teenager who knows enough to keep his goals and dreams

to himself even when he wants to share his joy. Herb Newsome as Pastor Albert is effective as the hellfire and brimstone villain, unforgiving of others even as he glosses over his own sins. Newsome eventually found a way to overcome the black mustachioed villain of his character to locate some humanity and vulnerability even if it was never offered to his children. He found a way to leaven his cruelty with a modicum of confusion. You still hate him, just not quite as much.

Keith Wallace as Tyree and Brandon Mendez Homer as Leslie are excellent even though their characters are primarily story pushers, building the bridge from one incident to another. Candace Thomas as Dee-Dee is somewhat problematic. She is a very good actress with a difficult role but is never as convincing as she needs to be. This may be due to her stature and the pitch of her voice. She is very petite, which wouldn’t necessarily be a problem but the tone is thin and her character’s journey demands strength and vocally she doesn’t have it. In the hands of a young LisaGay Hamilton (“The Piano Lesson” “Gem of the Ocean”), the role of Dee-Dee would have communicated the heartbreak and anger of a neglected child. Ella Joyce (Ruth) in her 20s would have been an excellent Dee-Dee. Thomas does not convey that kind of gravitas.

Ella Joyce as Ruth was outstanding, interpreting the heartbreak, confusion and anger of a woman with Alzheimer’s. It is easy to see where she fit into the family until she no longer did. Sympathetic, pathetic, empathetic, angry, Joyce employs all the colors of

the emotions Ruth feels and those reflected back on her by the others.

If there is a star, and one can make an argument that all the roles have equal importance, it would be Deanna Reed-Foster as the irrepressible, outrageous, hilarious, and tragic Pearl, the only person living her life and owning her mistakes. Colston effectively uses her as the comic relief in what could have been a relentlessly sad and dramatic play, knowing full well that without humor he would have lost the audience early on.

Be forewarned, this is a very long play, weighing in at 3 hours and 45 minutes with 2 intermissions. That being said, there is not a single wasted moment and your investment in “The First Deep Breath” will pay off in dividends when you realize that this was one of those rare theater experiences that you will remember for a very long time. So take that first deep breath and reinvest in live theater at the Geffen.

Now playing at the Geffen Playhouse in the Gil Cates Theatre through March 5.

Performances 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays; 7:30 p.m. Tuesday - Friday. ●

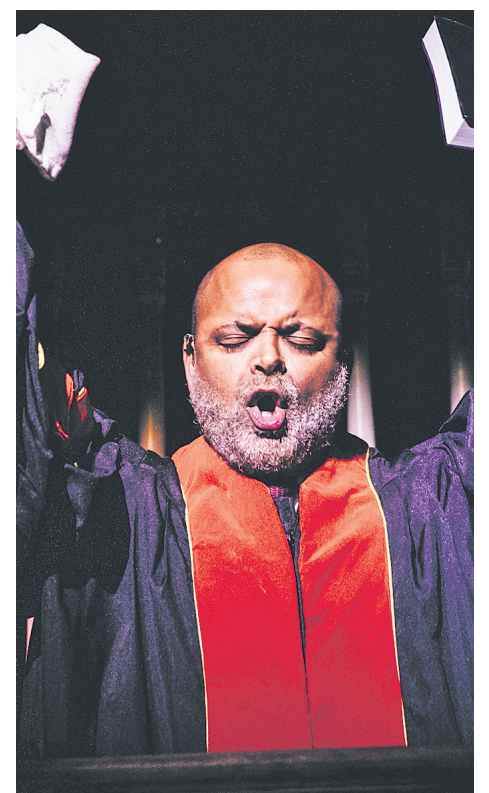


Photo by Jeff Lorch

Herb Newsome



Neely Swanson spent most of her professional career in the television industry, almost all of it working for David E. Kelley. In her last full-time position as Executive Vice President of Development, she reviewed writer submissions and targeted content for adaptation. As she has often said, she did book reports for a living. For several years she was a freelance writer for “Written By,” the magazine of the WGA West and was adjunct faculty at USC in the writing division of the School of Cinematic Arts. Neely has been writing film and television reviews for the “Easy Reader” for more than 10 years. Her past reviews can be read on Rotten Tomatoes where she is a tomato-approved critic.

# Highlights of Art Week 2023



Courtesy of the artist and Hauser & Wirth/Photo by Keith Lubow © 2023 Zeng Fanzhi  
“Zeng Fanzhi,” exhibition view, Hauser & Wirth Downtown Los Angeles, 2023

BY AGNES LEW

This is one of my favorite times in the Los Angeles art world. Not only did Frieze Los Angeles open at the Santa Monica Airport on Feb. 16, but there are also dozens of other exciting art fairs, gallery openings, museum shows, and events going on for art collectors and aficionados. Here are a few events I think any art lover should check out.

## Zeng Fanzhi at Hauser & Wirth

Renowned contemporary Chinese artist Zeng Fanzhi opened his first LA presentation at Hauser & Wirth in Downtown Los Angeles on Feb. 2. It's a fantastic collection of 10 of his canvas works, some of which tower over 10 feet tall, and six graphite drawings.

What I love about Zeng Fanzhi's works is how evocative they are. He explores the idea of human consciousness and wants to convey different elements of the human experience. If you look closely, you can see how he layers the paint with his expressive brushstrokes to create these rhythmic, wave-like textures that contrast brilliantly with the vivid yellows, blues, and reds prominent in these works. Through these, you can really feel Zeng Fanzhi's introspection.

The exhibit will close April 30.

## Paul Kneale at Spring Place Beverly Hills

One of my current LA highlights is a pop-up solo exhibition of Paul Kneale's “Beverly Hills Residency” at Spring Place Beverly Hills, curated by ARTUNER.

The exhibition, which opened Feb. 9, includes examples from three new bodies of work that are being exhibited for the first time. It consists of a series of paintings, sculptures, and works on paper that reflect the lights and colors of LA. For these works, Paul used a scanner in place of traditional artists' tools to explore how digital facets of our existence can be manifested and reimaged in the flesh of the physical object.

This is also the first time ARTUNER, a Europe-based hybrid art platform founded by art collector and entrepreneur Eugenio Re Rebaudengo, has curated a show in LA. Eugenio started ARTUNER almost 10 years ago and has worked with Paul almost since the beginning.

## “Think Pinker” at GAVLAK Los Angeles

Personally, pink brings me joy, and an exhibit curated around this color is something we all need, given the past few years. The group exhibition “Think Pinker” at GAVLAK Gallery is a continuation of a 2010 exhibit and collaboration, “Think Pink,” between Beth Rudin DeWoody and Sarah Gavlak.

“Think Pinker” features works by dozens of artists from around the world, all, of course, utilizing pink. Pink is one of those colors that is both universal and divisive—which gives it a uniquely interesting duality. Like Sarah Gavlak says, pink “is feminine and feminist.”

“Think Pinker” is open now and will continue through March 25, 2023.



Paul Kneale, “Poems Explained,” 2023, Ink on canvas, 147 x 254 cm (58 x 100 in)

## Brigitte D'Annibale's “B=f(P, E)” in Point Dume

Malibu is the setting for California-based interdisciplinary artist Brigitte D'Annibale's ambitious new installation “B=f(P, E).” The installation is located on an abandoned 1-acre construction site in Point Dume and is based on the concept that behavior is a function of both personal and environmental attributes.

I love the way “B=f(P, E)” fully immerses you. When you first arrive, you encounter a gate that blocks all view of the site; once you pass that gate and progress through the installation, you're almost forced to shed any preconceived notions you've had as you maneuver through.

Register for an appointment on <https://www.brigitteannibale.com>. Starting in June, the site can be visited during public hours.

## Sea View Gallery

SEA VIEW is the newly opened gallery by Sara Lee Hantman. Located atop Mount

Washington's scenic hills, the gallery occupies Cuban-American artist Jorge Pardo's former studio, which he originally built as an off-site installation that was exhibited by MOCA in 1998. Twenty-five years later, SEA VIEW invites guests to similarly explore new and historic artworks outside of the typical white cube.

“River Styx,” the inaugural show co-curated by Brandy Carstens, considers the psychological landscape featuring works by artists such as Salvo, Theodora Allen, Heidi Lau, Kelly Akashi, Erica Mao, and Frank Walter. The exhibit closes Feb. 25, so be sure not to miss it!

## Felix LA

Felix LA is always a highlight of Los Angeles Art Week. The contemporary art fair, which was co-founded by Dean Valentine, Mills Morán, and Al Morán, brings together top galleries from around the world. Set within the hotel rooms and cabana suites of the historic Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel, Felix LA offers a more



Photo courtesy of the artist  
“B=f(P,E),” a site-specific installation by Brigitte D'Annibale, Shedding Layers of Blindness, 2023

intimate and relaxed experience for attendees. Unlike the typical art fair setting, visitors can peruse art from a selection of over 60 international galleries, then catch up with friends by the iconic David Hockney pool, which is always an exciting centerpiece to the fair's atmosphere. At Felix, there's something for everyone.

Felix LA will be taking place through Feb. 19.

#### Frieze Los Angeles

To me, the capstone of LA's art week is Frieze Los Angeles. This year, it is taking place at Santa Monica Airport through Feb. 19. Returning to Los Angeles for the fourth year, this is Frieze Los Angeles' largest edition to date and will see over 120 participating galleries from 22 countries.

The fair will feature a strong lineup of leading local and international galleries showing solo presentations and curated exhibitions from some of today's most exciting emerging and established artists. ●



Agnes Lew is East West Bank's Head of Private Banking, resident art aficionado, and self-described "conierge" for all things artsy and fun.



SEA VIEW

Courtesy of SEA VIEW, Los Angeles, Photography by Nice Day Photo



## TRAFFIC ADVISORY: LADWP WATER VALVE REPLACEMENT PROJECT SUNSET BLVD. AND ALPINE DR.

Tuesday Feb 21 until  
mid to late March 2023

**Work Hours:**  
8 a.m. – 4 p.m. | Monday – Friday  
8 a.m. – 6 p.m. | Saturday

During this time, eastbound and westbound traffic on Sunset Blvd. between Alpine Dr. and Foothill Dr. will be reduced to one lane each direction. Eastbound traffic will be shifted to the other side (north) of the median.

**Questions:** Please contact LADWP (818) 771-6282



### Next stop: more subway.



**PURPLE (D LINE) EXTENSION TRANSIT PROJECT**  
Section 2 – Beverly Hills Update

#### CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Construction for the Wilshire/Rodeo Station has resumed along Wilshire Bl between Rodeo Dr and Carson Rd. Work includes permanent power utility installation, station construction and ground improvement.

- > Cross passage work is on weekdays 8am–11pm
- > K-rail closures in place 24/7
- > Utility work is weekdays from 8:15pm–7am and weekends 8am–8pm
- > Station construction is 24 hours a day, seven days a week

**CONTACT US**

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# Birthdays



**DEBORAH FRANK**  
February 17



**CYBILL SHEPHERD**  
February 18



**BENICIO DEL TORO**  
February 19



**JOSH JOHNSTON**  
February 22



**EMILY BLUNT**  
February 23



**JAD MAAMARI**  
February 23



**STEVE WEBB**  
February 23

## BEVERLY HILLS COURIER

TO HELP SHOWCASE OUR COMMUNITY AT ITS BEST, PLEASE SEND A CURRENT PHOTO EVERY YEAR ALONG WITH YOUR FULL NAME AND PHONE NUMBER. ALL PHOTOS MUST BE HIGH-RESOLUTION, AT LEAST 300 DPI.

PLEASE SEND THE PHOTOS WITH AT LEAST TWO WEEKS NOTICE TO:  
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## Astrology

BY HOLIDAY MATIS

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). You do not have a sheltered view of the world. You have been in the mix of it, and you know the frailty of the human condition. You do not desire a pristine version of reality, but to find peace in the one you know.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). Sensitivities are up. Handle it practically. For instance, snacks for the irritable hungry, efficiency for the rushed, reasonable expectations set for children and those who act like them, mindfulness of tone for all.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). You'll start the work before you feel like starting. Once the creativity kicks in you can do no wrong. The messes are not mistakes; rather, they are building materials, remixes or problems to be solved.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). You're not getting what you want out of a situation. You now have the option of leaving, changing what you want or recalibrating. In any case, getting

distance from the scene will be key to making the right decision for you.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). You feel stumped, but it's a better place to be than thinking you know it all. You'll find solace in the things that have no ultimate answers, like love, beauty and other things with value that linger in unresolve.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your domestic life is in a state of flux, and consequently so are you... until you get out of the house. You will notice immediately that you seem to be someone different -- someone who will calm and solve all.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You may discover that you have been right all along, only to understand that you were also wrong for most of it, and the contradictory foolishness of attempting to stay on either side of the equation is straight-up pointless.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You are careful in love and relationships. You pace things well, knowing that if things happen too fast, you might miss the cues that let you know how everyone is feeling. You'll manage expectations as you go.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). In the noisy world, the way to be heard is to be distinct so others can differentiate your voice from the others. Remind yourself and everyone else what makes you unique and look for new ways to highlight it.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You are handed a piece of the puzzle, though you're not sure where it goes. You will tune into the shape of it and try to fit it here and there to no avail. No need to force it. The space will soon open for the perfect fit.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Some renounce earthly indulgences to loosen the bodily attachment to the physical world and free the true self. It won't work for you today. Denying pleasure will mute instead of liberate you. So, enjoy fully what can.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). Love is wanting to be the best version of yourself for the other person. You'll have the sensation of interests quite naturally aligning as you slowly become entirely invested in each other's success.



This week, meet Lil Red. He's a 5-pound, 8-year-old chihuahua and pomeranian mix. To meet or adopt this sweet boy, please contact Shelter of Hope at 805-379-3538.

[shelterhopepetshop.org](http://shelterhopepetshop.org)





Photo courtesy city of Beverly Hills

Back row (from left): Rose Kaiserman, Pam Kraushaar, Mayor Lili Bosse, Noelle Freeman, Mayahuel Gomez-O'Cadiz; Front row (from left): Nomsa Khalfani, Ph.D., Tabby Refael, and Jan Robinson Flint at the Feb. 9 Critical Conversations speaker series

### CRITICAL CONVERSATIONS, from page 1

Strategy and Equity Officer of Essential Access Health; Tabby Refael, columnist for *The Jewish Journal of Greater Los Angeles*; Jan Robinson Flint, Executive Director of Black Women for Wellness; and Mayahuel Gomez-O'Cadiz, Director of Communications and Research for Hispanas Organized for Political Equity (HOPE). Led by Human Relations Commission Chair Noelle Freeman, the panel addressed the future of reproductive rights, gender and racial wage gaps, how to support women around the world and advance women's rights.

In her position as Co-CEO and Chief Strategy and Equity Officer at Essential Access Health, Khalfani oversees the federal family planning program in California, of which Essential Access is a state grantee, and has administered the program for more than 50 years. "When I think about what I do, our work is to champion and promote equitable sexual and reproductive health care for all," Khalfani said. "So, we're looking at policies, training, and research to really improve access across the spectrum."

"What I can do is I use my pen and I use the microphone," said Refael. An alumna of Horace Mann Elementary School, Refael was born in post-revolutionary Iran and came to the United States as a refugee in the late 1980s. "I speak as much as I can. I try to be a de facto ambassador for Iranian woman in this country, but I'll let you know that unequivocally here, there are many more tireless and experienced Iran woman's rights and human rights activists."

As a founding member and Executive Director at Black Women for Wellness, a community-based nonprofit that centers around the health and well-being of black women and girls through health education, empowerment and advocacy, Flint spoke to the different programs that address issues related to food and water insecurity, nutrition, and the organization's food distribution program.

Gomez-O'Cadiz spoke about the leadership development programs at HOPE, an organization dedicated to advancing the economic and political status of Latinas. "When you talk about empowering and uplifting and ensuring the rights of Latinas, you're

talking about a trickle-down effect and to entire communities and the entire state," Gomez-O'Cadiz said of the large Latina population in California. "We believe that when you empower Latinas, when you support Latinas, and when you pass policies that support Latinas and their families, you're uplifting the entire state."

When asked about addressing gender and racial wage gap, Gomez-O'Cadiz noted that "across sectors, and particularly in high paying sectors, we still see that wide pay gap" for Latinas. "So, it's acknowledging that fact and then also passing policies that demand transparency of employers are one of the biggest things we can actually do."

With the reversal of *Roe v. Wade*, questions were geared towards the future of reproductive rights in the country. "As an organization, we are overseeing about \$80 million that's related to abortion access," Khalfani said. One program, the Los Angeles County Abortion Access Safe Haven Pilot Program, hopes to expand and improve access to reproductive and sexual health care, including abortion. "We're looking at money for three to five years, where folks can build the infrastructure to not only meet the demand of Californians, but others that come here," she added.

With the genesis of the Critical Conversations series sparked by the death of Mahsa Amini, Chair Freeman asked panelists how to advocate for women's rights in places where they have historically been disenfranchised. "One of the best things we can do is to vary the news that we watch and consume," Flint said.

"I want you to just spend five to 10 minutes a day keeping up with the latest in the news...put a Google alert for yourself of woman Iran or woman Middle East and there is no shortage of things that will come up," Refael said. "Because those five minutes of exposure, it's a little bit like five minutes of mental yoga for someone else around the world."

"Share it, spread the word about it," Refael added. "There is no reason in the world, why Iranians and America are the only people sharing information about the Middle East." ●

Photo courtesy Wendy Klenk  
Ficus trees lining Robertson Boulevard

### FICUS TREE, from page 1

to fall and tensions to rise. Klenk has gathered over 100 written signatures in favor of stopping the removals by walking the street daily and has also collected almost 250 signatures in an online petition.

As of Feb. 14, approximately half of the trees slated for removal have been taken down, Deputy City Manager Keith Sterling told the Courier.

The City Council is slated to discuss the removals in a Feb. 21 meeting in response to the public outcry. However, with three to four trees being removed daily six days a week, the majority of trees will likely be gone by then, Sterling confirmed.

From the city's perspective the removals are necessary to prevent tripping dangers and protect infrastructure.

"Robertson Boulevard is one of the City's major commercial corridors with a large number of thriving businesses and relatively high pedestrian traffic," Sterling told the Courier. "The existing sidewalk has a high frequency of repair needs due to the trees located adjacent to the sidewalk. In addition, we've received several trip and fall claims in the last few years."

If City Council does not stop the removals, Klenk said she is prepared to take legal action and is currently researching methods of recourse with local attorney Alex Asadi, who also has an office on Robertson Boulevard.

Klenk is highly concerned about the environmental impacts of removing the mature trees.

"I don't have to be an environmentalist to know it's not healthy to chop down 87 trees in a few weeks," Klenk told the Courier. "The release of CO2 is not good and the poor trees haven't done anything nor have the innocent birds and bees living in them."

The actual environmental consequences of removing the trees are unknown. The city opted not to complete an environmental impact report for the \$227,000 project as the Planning Division deemed it exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act.

The city plans to replant the street with crape myrtles and Mexican fan palms.

Diane Nicole, a horticulturist and director of the Los Angeles Audubon Society, told the Courier this is not an ecologically sound replacement for Ficus trees.

"Crape myrtles is a small ornamental tree that does not provide much shade and has few ecosystem services," she said, adding that they also have a shorter life span than Ficus trees. "Then they are mixing them in with Mexican fan palms, which also don't provide much shade."

In addition, the city will install an irrigation system to water the new trees whereas the native Ficus trees were self-sustaining.

Nicole is also concerned about how the loss of shade from the mature Ficus trees – the oldest of which are around 60 years old – will cause hotter temperatures on Robertson Boulevard.

"The city failed to recognize that we are in a biodiversity extinction and climate crisis and one of the consequences of that is that it's getting hotter," she said. "Given that reality, it is reckless to deforest an entire street of its leafy canopy."

The loss of shade is already having unintended consequences.

Michele Randall, the co-owner of family run business Art One Gallery, said she can no longer place most pieces of art in her front window because they will be damaged by the sun. In addition, the temperature inside the store is already noticeably warmer.

"Our window display is almost how we get all of our local customers," she told the Courier. "It's also an unfair burden on our business that we're going to be spending more money in cooling costs."

Shady trees have a powerful cooling effect. A study at the University of Wisconsin-Madison found that having 40% of tree canopy cover on a sidewalk can cool temperatures on that block down by up to 10 degrees Fahrenheit on a hot day.

Randall said her family is considering installing shades or UV protection on the window, but noted that neither of these solutions would allow passersby to see window art.

"We really understand that those trees can be damaging," she said. "However, when they are making such a dramatic difference in the makeup of a community of a street, this should have been treated with a little more of a delicate hand."

"Emotionally, we are really heartbroken over this," she added.

Some business owners, however, are glad to be free of the Ficus tree's pesky roots.

Debra Carter, a showroom manager for Carter Hardware on Robertson Boulevard, has dealt with at least four incidents of flooding due to tree roots invading her pipes. She recently spent \$15,000 to repair damages.

In addition, she said that the Ficus tree that formerly stood in front of her store was infested with ants, gnats and rats.

"We are generally tree lovers," Carter told the Courier. "But that particular tree, I'm not sad at all that it's gone. It messed with my business and my mind."

Sterling said business owners on Robertson were notified of the proposed project in July 2022 and all businesses within a 500-foot radius of the project received an additional notification in January.

Nevertheless, the removals still came as a surprise to some including Ansari, who was shocked to see trees going down outside of his law office on Robertson Boulevard.

Ansari said he is currently consulting with environmental attorney Jamie Hall, who recently won a court petition to halt the planned removal of around 13,000 trees in the city of LA for sidewalk repairs. Ansari is considering filing an injunction against the city to try and halt the removals.

"When we come here to the office it's so sad," he said. "I miss walking with all these green trees and the oxygen and everything else they were producing. Now they are just gone." ●



# Letters to the Editor

My family and I have owned a business in Beverly Hills for over 73 years. We have always supported projects which we feel fit the city's upscale atmosphere and lifestyle. The Cheval Blanc Hotel is such a project. I have been privileged to have seen the extensive plans for this first-class hotel from its beginnings. It will be a jewel—a 5-star addition to our city which will instill new life and excitement into the Golden Triangle. I am discouraged that the hotel workers union has challenged this project, even after it has been extensively reviewed, enhanced and improved. It has received overwhelming support from the Planning Commission and our City Council, not to mention a number of residents whom I have spoken to directly. The Cheval Blanc Paris is one of the world's finest hotels and Beverly Hills deserves to have this fine establishment in our city. I feel the union's challenge is a misguided effort to unfairly derail this wonderful development.

**John Carroll**  
Beverly Hills

Thank you for the accurate reporting on City Council's February 7th city meeting about tenant protections. But the headline should have read, 'Council to Tenants: 90 Days is Enough,' because that's all the notice that a developer is required to provide to renting households prior to evicting them for redevelopment.

Ninety days' notice is far shorter than the notice period that would otherwise be required under the state's Ellis Act prior to a no-fault eviction for redevelopment. Regardless, City Council has chosen to keep on the books a loophole provision that lets a developer evict with 90 days'

notice once he has his demolition permit in hand.

For tenants the stakes are high. There are 20 redevelopment projects queued-up for city review or already under construction, city records show, and as many as 150 rent-stabilized units could be lost. Those households will be looking for replacement housing in a tough and expensive rental housing market.

Low-income and senior-headed households in particular will have a difficult time finding and qualifying for comparable replacement housing in Beverly Hills. They will literally pay the steepest price as redevelopment proceeds.

At the meeting our councilmembers heard from a dozen tenants who were concerned about losing their longtime home to redevelopment. They could have repealed the 90-day eviction for demolition loophole, bolstered the city's Ellis Act eviction protections, or at the least required developers to disclose to tenants the rights that we sign away if we accept cash-for-keys. Council instead took no action.

Perhaps councilmembers can't relate to tenants. After all, it's been a long time since they lived under a landlord. Moreover, all councilmembers own their own home and most live far from our multifamily neighborhoods. Indeed, they seemed out of touch with tenant concerns generally.

This should prompt tenants to ask whether our City Council can really represent our interests. I suspect that more tenants will ask that very question as redevelopment proceeds.

**Mark Elliot**  
Beverly Hills Renters Alliance

As a business owner in Beverly Hills as well as a resident, I applaud the City Council for approving the Cheval Blanc Hotel project in the business triangle. This luxury hotel will anchor the north end of Rodeo Drive and bring in substantial tax revenue to the City for decades to come. With this revenue, we will continue to enjoy the finest police, fire and paramedics services to benefit our wonderful community as well as supporting city upgrades to our parks and infrastructure.

**Grandmaster Ladan Homayoon**  
Founder Ladan's Wellness Sanctuary  
Beverly Hills

I read the letters to the editor in the February 10 issue of the Courier with interest.

It is a simple matter of fact that the larger the development, the larger the tax revenue. If revenue is the determining factor, then the bigger development will always be the best development. Given the recent predilection of the Council, I am concerned that may very well be the case.

Mr. Bronte, an ex-mayor and developer consultant feels that the process used to approve the project was exemplary. I do not. Even though not one member of the Planning Commission is a trained or experienced planner, he grants them credibility. I cannot. A former Chairman of the Commission freely and frequently stated when he recently ran for Council that he had no experience or training in the field. Frankly using a vote to cross-check the Council's and Commission's decision will allow us to see if they are truly expressing our wishes.

Mr. Bernstein, an Architect, chases to focus on tax revenue ignoring the other

more sensitive issues involved. I as an Architect have a major problem with the development including the eight-story building flush with the sidewalk on Beverly Drive and the way the renderings are drawn from the third floor at the lower end of the project and the way the tower in the distance is visually diminished and mostly concealed by the drawing's perspective. It is a trick developers use repeatedly.

After what recently happened with the Hilton project in the midst of the pandemic when an extremely similar project to what the voters rejected was approved by four members of the Council using, in their terminology, an "holistic" approach for a developer whom the Council knows, having been presented incontrovertible evidence, did not provide the public amenities he promised in order to win the referendum. What was the point of either vote and why should we expect him or the Council to honor the results of this vote?

Rather than chastising the "out of town special interest group" as Mr. Bronte does, we should be grateful to anyone who would take up the gauntlet of this uphill fight against someone who is so well-funded. Thankfully, we have a group willing and a democratic method to do so.

The question remains, even if they win, will the win be honored or circumvented?

This is a choice between bigger and nuanced.

I choose nuanced. I trust the voters as well.

**Tom Roberts, Architect**  
Beverly Hills

# Police Blotter

The following incidents of arson, assault, and burglary have been reported. Streets are usually indicated by block numbers.

## ARSON

2/12/2023, 5:50 p.m. at 400 Block of S. ROXBURY DRIVE

## ASSAULT - AGGRAVATED

2/5/2023, 3:26 a.m. at 300 Block of S. REXFORD DRIVE

## ASSAULT - SIMPLE

2/12/2023, 9 a.m. at 600 Block of N. MAPLE DRIVE

2/3/2023, 8:28 p.m. at 200 Block of TOWER DRIVE

## BURGLARY - COMMERCIAL BUILDING

2/9/2023, 6:16 p.m. at 9600 Block of WILSHIRE BLVD.

2/8/2023, 9:53 p.m. at 8900 Block of WILSHIRE BLVD.

2/6/2023, 6:08 p.m. at 9700 Block of WILSHIRE BLVD.

2/6/2023, 2:50 a.m. at 400 Block of N. ROXBURY DRIVE

2/3/2023, 7:50 p.m. at 9100 Block of WILSHIRE BLVD.

2/3/2023, 7:50 p.m. at 9100 Block of WILSHIRE BLVD.

## BURGLARY - CONSTRUCTION SITE

2/11/2023, 12:45 p.m. at 300 Block of S. ALMONT DRIVE

## BURGLARY - FROM A MOTOR VEHICLE

2/11/2023, 6:41 p.m. at 9100 Block of OLYMPIC BLVD.

2/10/2023, 5:55 p.m. at N. SWALL DRIVE / WILSHIRE BOULEVARD

2/9/2023, 8 a.m. at 200 Block of S. DOHENY DRIVE

2/7/2023, 5:26 p.m. at 9600 Block of WILSHIRE BLVD.

2/7/2023, 6:54 a.m. at 600 Block of N. CAMDEN DRIVE

2/4/2023, 1:20 p.m. at 600 Block of FOOTHILL ROAD

## BURGLARY - RESIDENTIAL (ACCESSED GARAGE ONLY)

2/13/2023, 12:49 p.m. at 400 Block of S. CLARK DRIVE

2/4/2023, 4:48 a.m. at 100 Block of N. SWALL DRIVE

## BURGLARY - RESIDENTIAL (HOME OCCUPIED)

2/10/2023, 12:45 p.m. at 1500 Block of CARLA RIDGE

## BURGLARY - RESIDENTIAL (NO ONE HOME)

2/9/2023, 7:20 p.m. at 400 Block of N. PALM DRIVE

2/4/2023, 4:48 a.m. at 100 Block of N. SWALL DRIVE

# Public Notices

## ORDINANCE NO. 23-O-2872

AN URGENCY ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS READOPTING RESIDENTIAL TENANT REPAYMENT PROTECTIONS AND READOPTING THE CAP ON ANNUAL RENT INCREASES FOR THE 2022-2023 FISCAL YEAR, AND DECLARING THE URGENCY THEREOF

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

WHEREAS, international, national, state and local health and governmental authorities have responded to an outbreak of respiratory disease caused by a novel coronavirus named "SARSCoV-2" and the disease it causes has been named "coronavirus disease 2019," abbreviated COVID-19, ("COVID-19"); and

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2020, the City Manager, in his role as the Director of Emergency Services, proclaimed the existence of a local emergency pursuant to Section 2-4-107 of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code to ensure the availability of mutual aid and an effective City response to the novel coronavirus ("COVID-19") and that state of emergency was ratified by the City Council on March 16, 2020 ("local state of emergency"); and

WHEREAS, the City of Beverly Hills enacted emergency regulations to ease financial burdens and slow the spread of the virus;

WHEREAS, during the City's local emergency, and in the interest of protecting the public health and preventing transmission of COVID-19, it was essential to avoid unnecessary housing displacement, to protect the City's affordable housing stock, and to prevent housed individuals from falling into homelessness; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Ordinance No. 20-O-2818 ("Ordinance"), as amended by Ordinance No. 22-O-2861, the City Council imposed a temporary moratorium on (1) evictions for non-payment of rent by residential tenants substantially impacted by the COVID-19 crisis; (2) no-fault evictions, unless necessary for the health and safety of tenants, neighbors, or the landlord, other than based on illness of the tenant or any other occupant of the residential rental unit; and (3) the annual rent increases authorized by Sections 4-5-303(C) and 4-6-3 of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code with respect to any rent increase scheduled to take effect on or after March 15, 2020; provided that nothing in the Ordinance shall alter the date of annual rent increases in future years; and

WHEREAS, the Ordinance provides that nothing in the Ordinance relieves a tenant of liability for the unpaid rent, which the landlord may seek after May 31, 2023, and which the tenant must pay in full by May 31, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Ordinance prescribes a maximum allowable rent increase from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 of 3.10%; and

WHEREAS, upon the end of the local state of emergency, the Ordinance shall cease to be effective; and

WHEREAS, the sudden and unanticipated repeal of the unpaid rent repayment provisions and cap on annual rent increases could cause significant financial burdens on residential tenants in the City leading to eviction and the displacement of housing; and,

WHEREAS, to avoid unnecessary

housing displacement, protect the City's affordable housing stock, and prevent housed individuals from falling into homelessness, it is essential that the emergency unpaid rent repayment protections for residential tenants and cap on annual rent increases remain in effect until their prescribed conclusions; and

WHEREAS, based on the foregoing, the City Council finds that in order to fully protect the public health, safety and welfare, the repayment deadline for unpaid rent for those residential tenants substantially impacted by the COVID-19 crisis and the cap on annual rent increases must be preserved.

**Section 1. Urgency Declaration.** Based upon the recitals above, the City Council finds that this Ordinance is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety and welfare. The City Council finds and determines that the immediate preservation of the public health, safety and welfare requires that this Ordinance be enacted as an urgency ordinance pursuant to Government Code Section 36937(b) and take effect immediately upon adoption. This Ordinance must be adopted and must become effective immediately in order to protect residential tenants within the City who could face eviction and homelessness upon the acceleration of unpaid rent and the immediate end of the emergency annual rent increase protections when the City proclaims the local state of emergency has ended.

**Section 2.** All unpaid rent accrued from March 15, 2020 to May 31, 2022 by residential tenants due to substantial financial impacts related to the COVID-19 emergency must be paid in full by May 31, 2023. After May 31, 2023, unless the rent is paid in full, a landlord may charge or collect a late fee for rent that is delayed ; or a landlord may seek rent that is delayed through the eviction or other appropriate legal process. No fee for the late payment of such unpaid rent shall be charged by a landlord during the period March 15, 2020 through May 31, 2023. If a landlord makes an accommodation with respect to rent forbearance and the tenant is in conformance with the tenant's obligations under that accommodation, then the landlord shall not make a negative report to a credit bureau so long as the tenant remains in compliance with the accommodation.

**Section 3.** The maximum allowable rent increase allowed pursuant to Section 4-5-303(C) and 4-6-3 from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 is 3.10%. Provided, further, if the rent increase was imposed at a rate less than 3.10%, then the maximum allowable rent increase from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 shall be reduced by the percent increase that was imposed. Nothing in this Ordinance shall alter the date of annual rent increases in future years.

**Section 4. Uncodified.** This Ordinance shall not be codified.

**Section 5. Severability.** If any provision of this Ordinance is held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such provision shall be considered a separate, distinct and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity and enforceability of the other provisions of this Ordinance.

**Section 6. Publication.** The City Clerk shall cause this Ordinance to be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation published and circulated in the city within fifteen (15) days after its passage in accordance with Section 36933 of the Government Code, shall certify to the adoption of this Ordinance and shall cause

this Ordinance and the City Clerk's certification, together with proof of publication, to be entered in the Book of Ordinances of the Council of this City.

**Section 7. Effective Date.** This Ordinance is adopted as an urgency ordinance for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety within the meaning of Government Code Section 36937(b), and therefore shall be passed immediately upon its introduction and shall become effective at 12:01 AM on February 8, 2023, upon its adoption by a minimum 4/5 vote of the City Council.

**Section 8. Certification.** This City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this Ordinance.

Adopted: February 7, 2023  
Effective: February 8, 2023

LILI BOSSE  
Mayor of the City of Beverly Hills, California

ATTEST:  
HUMA AHMED (SEAL)  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
LAURENCE S. WIENER  
City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:  
NANCY HUNT-COFFEY  
City Manager

VOTE:  
AYES: Councilmembers Nazarian, Friedman, Mirisch, Vice Mayor Gold, and Mayor Bosse  
NOES: None  
CARRIED

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
**CASE NO: 22BBCP00418**  
**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME**

In the Matter of the petition of:  
**Brennen James Stivers**  
To all interested person(s):  
Petitioner:  
**Brennen James Stivers**  
current residence address:  
**13112 Valleyheart Dr. #106, Studio City, CA 91604**  
filed a petition with the **Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 300 East Olive Ave. Burbank, CA 91502, Burbank Courthouse, on January 19, 2023**

for a Decree changing names as follows:  
Present Name:  
**BRENNEN JAMES STIVERS**  
Proposed Name:  
**BRENNEN HADLEY MCMURRAY**  
The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING:  
Date: **March 17, 2023**  
Time: **8:30am**  
Dept: **B**  
The address of the court is: **Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 300 East Olive Ave. Burbank, CA 91502, Burbank Courthouse.**

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the information in the foregoing petition is true and correct.  
Signed:

**Brennen James Stivers**  
Judge of the Superior Court  
**Robin Miller Sloan,**  
**David W. Slayton,**  
**Executive Officer/Clerk,**  
By: **L. Nguyen,**  
**Deputy Clerk**  
Dated: **January 19, 2023**  
Published: **February 10, 17, 24, March 03, 2023**  
Beverly Hills Courier

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2023017510** The following is/are doing business as:  
**WAX ON**  
1113 Cabrillo Ave., Venice, CA 90291; **Ryan Croft** 1113 Cabrillo Ave., Venice, CA 90291; The business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on August 2022: **Ryan Croft, Owner.** Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: January 24, 2023; Published: February 03, 10, 17, 24, 2023 **LACC N/C BEVERLY HILLS COURIER**

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2023020276** The following is/are doing business as:  
**NEURO-IFRAH CLINICS BY WALEED AND PHYSICAL THERAPY SERVICES INC**  
150 N. Robertson Blvd. #316, Beverly Hills, CA 90210; 630 Las Colinas Dr., Escondido, CA 92029; **Spencer Goff Physical Therapy Services Inc** 150 N. Robertson Blvd. #316, Beverly Hills, CA 90210; The business is conducted by: **A CORPORATION (#5447882)**, registrant(s) has **NOT** begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on: **Spencer Goff, President.** Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: January 27, 2023; Published: February 03, 10, 17, 24, 2023 **LACC N/C BEVERLY HILLS COURIER**

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2023028795** The following is/are doing business as:  
**PAPER BAGS**  
12100 Wilshire Blvd. 8th Fl., Los Angeles, CA 90025; **Damn Near Genius LLC** 12100 Wilshire Blvd. 8th Fl., Los Angeles, CA 90025; The business is conducted by: **A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (#201903010608)**, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on February 2023: **Robert Ellis, CEO.** Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: February 08, 2023; Published: February 10, 17, 24, March 03, 2023 **LACC N/C BEVERLY HILLS COURIER**

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2023026664** The following is/are doing business as:  
**AMERICAN COVID MEMORIAL**  
2146 Benecia Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90025; **US Covid 19 Victims & Heroes National Memorial Foundation** 2146 Benecia Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90025; The business is conducted by: **A CORPORATION (#5062822)**, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on May 2022: **Stephen Saltzman, CEO.** Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: February 06, 2023; Published: February 10, 17, 24, March 03, 2023 **LACC N/C BEVERLY HILLS COURIER**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE**  
(Division 6 of the Commercial Code)  
Escrow No. 53709

- (1) Notice is hereby given to creditors of the within named Seller(s) that a bulk sale is about to be made on personal property hereinafter described
  - (2) The name and business addresses of the seller are: ESTATE OF ALAN H. SCHWAB, DECEASED, CASE NO. 21STP01973, 435 N. BEDFORD DR, SUITE 104, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90210
  - (3) The location in California of the chief executive office of the Seller is: 435 N. BEDFORD DR, SUITE 104, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90210
  - (4) The names and business address of the Buyer(s) are: SCHWAB RX, INC., 435 N. BEDFORD DR, SUITE 104, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90210
  - (5) The location and general description of the assets to be sold are: FURNITURE, FIXTURES AND EQUIPMENT of that certain business located at: 435 N. BEDFORD DR, SUITE 104, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90210
  - (6) The business name used by the seller(s) at said location is: ALAN SCHWAB PHARMACY
  - (7) The anticipated date of the bulk sale is MARCH 9, 2023 at the office of: OAK ESCROW, INC., 301 EAST GLENOAKS BLVD., SUITE 2 GLENDALE, CA 91207, Escrow No. 53709, Escrow Officer: JENNIFER WOODARD
  - (8) Claims may be filed with Same as "7" above
  - (9) The last date for filing claims is: MARCH 8, 2023.
  - (10) This Bulk Sale is subject to Section 6106.2 of the Uniform Commercial Code.
  - (11) As listed by the Seller, all other business names and addresses used by the Seller within three years before the date such list was sent or delivered to the Buyer are: NONE.
- DATED: NOVEMBER 2, 2022  
TRANSFEREES: SCHWAB RX, INC., A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION  
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# Classifieds

08  
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58  
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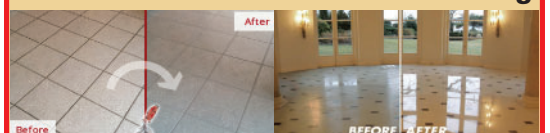


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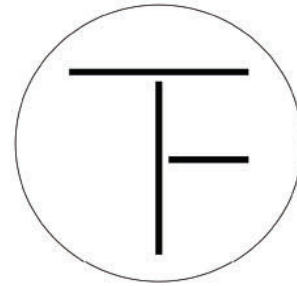
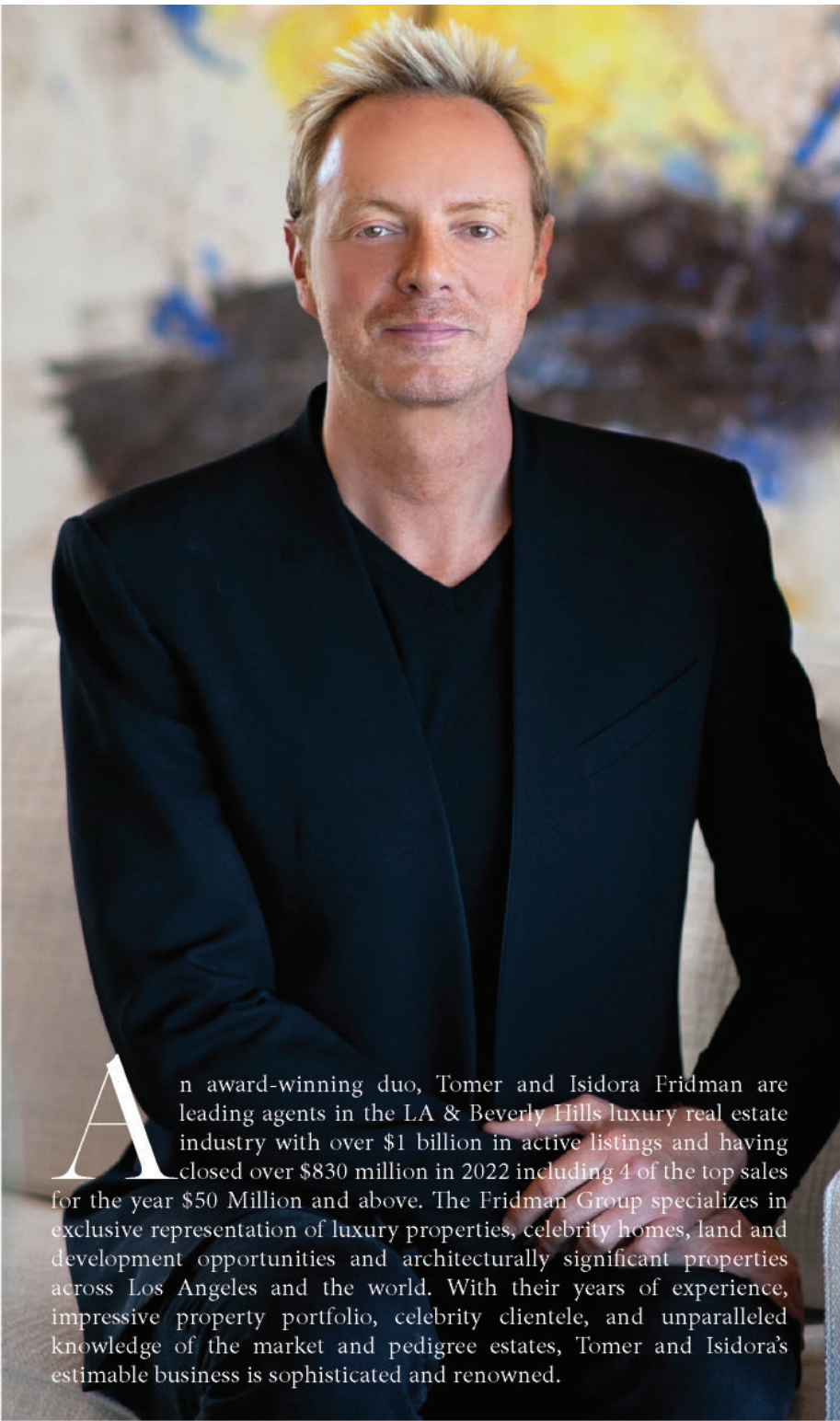
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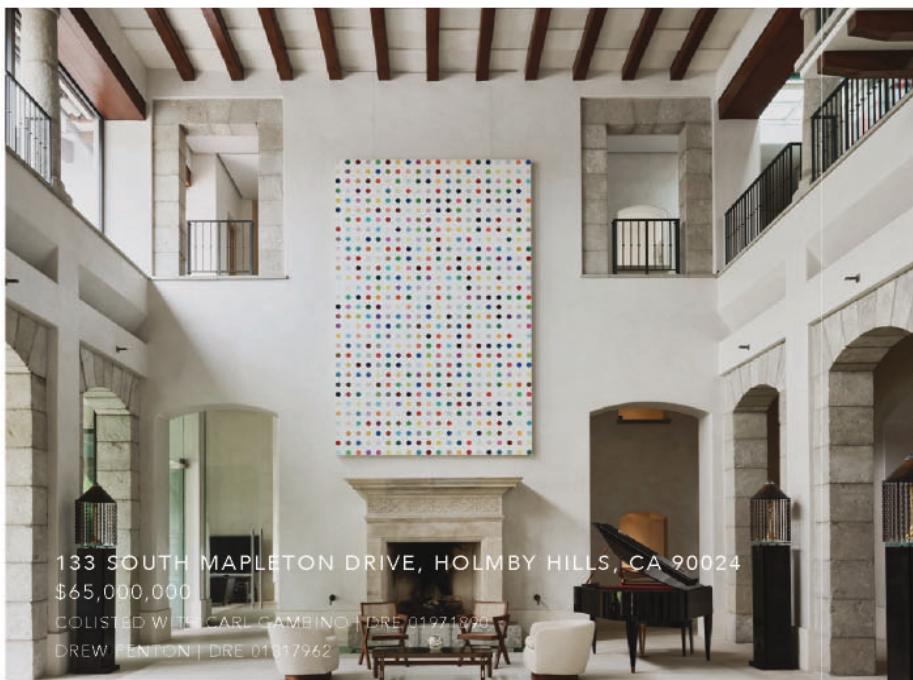
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