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THE WEATHER, BEVERLY HILLS CA

☁️ Friday	83° 56°
☀️ Saturday	80° 58°
☁️ Sunday	72° 57°
☁️ Monday	69° 56°
☁️ Tuesday	70° 55°
☁️ Wednesday	74° 53°
☁️ Thursday	76° 54°

Beverly Hills City Council Ends COVID-19 Emergency Declaration



The Beverly Hills City Council terminated the emergency declaration this week.

BY RYAN TOROK

At its April 18 regular meeting, the Beverly Hills City Council adopted a resolution to terminate a proclamation of a local emergency in response to COVID-19, effective April 19.

The city declared a local emergency in March of 2020 in the face of public health concerns presented by the pandemic. More

than three years later, the threat of COVID-19 has decreased, and as state and countywide leadership have ended the state of emergency, Beverly Hills is following suit.

“The termination of the local state of emergency will end the city’s pandemic response, but it should be noted that the threat posed by COVID-19 will continue.” See CITY COUNCIL, page 15

Anish Melwani on the Vision for Cheval Blanc Beverly Hills

BY ANA FIGUEROA

As Chairman and CEO of LVMH for North America, Anish Melwani oversees the businesses of the world’s foremost luxury conglomerate, LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton (“LVMH”). The Paris-based group’s more than 75 Maisons dominate luxury sectors ranging from fashion to wines and spirits to jewelry.

Real estate development is not in the portfolio, a point Melwani noted more than once during a recent sit-down interview with the Courier. The point is a salient one, in light of the upcoming referendum on the LVMH-backed Cheval Blanc Beverly Hills hotel project.

The May 23 referendum, Measures “B” and “C,” asks residents to weigh in on the



Anish Melwani

city’s approval of the Cheval Blanc project. The process, which took nearly three years, resulted in unanimous approval by the Planning Commission and a 4-1 vote in See MELWANI, page 17

Appellate Ruling Expected Soon in Robertson Trees Case

BY CLARA HARTER

The legal battle over the future of approximately 40 Ficus trees on Robertson Boulevard remains stayed, while the Court of Appeals rules on the city of Beverly Hills’ request to replace the Superior Court judge presiding in the case.

On March 30, Superior Court Judge Richard L. Fruin, Jr. granted a restraining order to temporarily halt the city’s removal of Ficus trees under the Robertson Boulevard sidewalk repair program. The city then filed a request to recuse Fruin from the case.

City Attorney Larry Wiener declined to provide details on why the city is seeking a new judge.

Jamie Hall, an attorney representing the plaintiffs, filed a brief on April 20 requesting that Fruin remain the judge and said he expects the Court of Appeals to make a decision sometime in May.

The underlying case was initially filed in March by a group of community members organizing as the Robertson Boulevard Task Force. They are asking the court to overrule approval of the repair program in order to preserve the Ficus trees and their associated environmental benefits.

Prior to filing the lawsuit, residents took their concerns to City Council, which on See ROBERTSON TREES, page 12

Yom HaShoah Marked with Poignant Ceremony

BY RYAN TOROK

At a candle-lighting ceremony for Yom HaShoah, six candles were lit for the six million murdered Jews during the Holocaust; one candle was lit for the non-Jews who perished; and one was ignited for those whom Roz Rothstein, CEO of StandWithUs, described as “victims of Palestinian terrorism.”

“Remembering the Holocaust is a priority to each one of us in this room tonight,” Rothstein said. “We are all here together to remember, to share our grief, to learn See YOM HASHOAH, page 14

Courier Calendar

NOW - APRIL 23

THEATRE 40: "IT'S ONLY A PLAY"

THURS.-SAT. 7:30 P.M.

SUN. 2 P.M.

Theatre 40 presents "It's Only a Play," a production written by Terrence McNally and directed by Larry Eisenberg. It takes place at a party on the opening night of "The Golden Egg" on Broadway, hosted by a wealthy producer and featuring an ensemble cast of archetypal characters. The night slides into chaos as they wait for reviews of the show to come in, displaying their narcissism, ambition, childishness, and irrationality. Tickets are \$38 each. All attendees must be fully vaccinated and present a completed vaccination card at the venue. Masks are strongly encouraged. Theatre 40 is located at 241 S. Moreno Dr., Beverly Hills.

theatre40.org

NOW - APRIL 23

FINE ARTS THEATRE BEVERLY HILLS: 86TH ANNIVERSARY:

"THAT GIRL FROM PARIS," "BLACK LEGION," "THE RELUCTANT ASTRONAUT," "THE GHOST AND MR. CHICKEN," "TIED UP IN KNOTTS!," "FRANKENSTEIN," "DRACULA," AND "THE EXORCIST"

The Fine Arts Theatre Beverly Hills presents the celebration for its 86th anniversary. Throughout the month of April, the venue has scheduled screenings of classic films with retro 1937 ticket prices of 25 cents per movie or 50 cents for a double feature. On April 21 at 7:15 p.m. and 10 p.m., the theatre presents back-to-back showings of "That Girl From Paris" and "Black Legion," both of which premiered on the same day at the Fine Arts Theatre in 1937. On April 22 at 1:30 p.m. a double feature is scheduled of "The Reluctant Astronaut" and "The Ghost and Mr. Chicken." The evening

of April 22 at 8 p.m. features the stage show "Tied Up in Knotts," a tribute to the career of star Karen Knotts' late father, Don Knotts. Tickets are \$30 for side and back seats, \$35 for center, and \$40 for VIP (center seats including a medium popcorn). On April 23 at 10:30 a.m., the theatre hosts a showing of "The Exorcist" with additional footage and William Friedkin, the Academy Award-winning director, will make a special appearance at a Q&A following the screening. On April 23 at 2 p.m., the theatre has scheduled a double feature of the horror classics "Frankenstein" and "Dracula" starring Boris Karloff and Bela Lugosi, respectively. Tickets are available online or in person at the box office on Fridays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., Sundays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and 30 minutes before any scheduled show. The theatre is located at 8556 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills.

fineartstheatrebh.com

NOW - MAY 28

HAMMER MUSEUM: "BRIDGET RILEY DRAWINGS: FROM THE ARTIST'S STUDIO"

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

The Hammer Museum presents an exhibition spotlighting the drawings of artist Bridget Riley. The show centers on the crucial role drawing played in Riley's practice for more than six decades. It is the first exhibition dedicated exclusively to the artist's drawings in over half a century and the first major exhibition of her work at a West Coast museum. The works on display include 90 sheets from the full range of her career, starting with black-and-white optical works of the early 1960s, to the color studies she has undertaken in the late 1960s to the present day. It includes rough studies, line drawings, tonal studies, preliminary

works with written notations, tape, bands, cut-and-pasted shapes, and highly finished drawings that stand as independent works. Admission to the Hammer is free. Masks are highly recommended.

hammer.ucla.edu

NOW - JULY 2

LACMA: "CODED: ART ENTERS THE COMPUTER AGE, 1952-1982"

MON., TUES., THURS., 11 A.M.-6 P.M.

FRI. 11 A.M.-8 P.M.

SAT.-SUN. 10 A.M.-7 P.M.

LACMA presents "Coded: Art Enters the Computer Age," an exhibit that explores how the rise of computer technology, together with its emergence in popular consciousness, impacted the making of art in the age of the mainframe. The international and interdisciplinary exhibit examines the origins of what is now called digital art, featuring artists, writers, musicians, choreographers, and filmmakers that worked directly with computers, algorithms, and other systems to produce their work. The works featured, both computer-generated and otherwise reflect the simultaneous wonder and alienation that was characteristic of the 1960s and '70s, in addition to the utopian and dystopian possibilities of the new machines. The show reflects on the history of appreciating art and culture through the lens of technology. Tickets to LACMA are free every day for attendees 17 and under, and for everyone after 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Otherwise, tickets are \$20 for adults and \$16 for seniors (65+) and students (18+) with ID.

lacma.org

APRIL 23

MUSEUM OF TOLERANCE: "INVITED TO LIFE: FINDING HOPE AFTER THE HOLOCAUST"

3 P.M.

The Museum of Tolerance hosts the book launch of "Invited to Life: Finding Hope After the Holocaust" by B.A. Van Sise. The book is a celebration of not only survival but also resilience and joy, expressed through 90 black-and-white portraits of Holocaust survivors and personal stories of their postwar lives. The survivors, many photographed with their family members, share lessons they have learned and pass on the wisdom that comes from building a life of one's choosing out of the wreckage of despair. A conversation will be hosted by the Director of the Museum of Tolerance, Liebe Geft, with author B.A. Van Sise and Holocaust Survivors featured in the book. A reception and book signing follows. General admission is free to this event. The Museum of Tolerance is located at 9786 W. Pico Blvd., Los Angeles. Free underground parking is available.

museumoftolerance.com

APRIL 27

CITY OF HOPE: SPRING MIXER 7:30-11 P.M.

City of Hope's Chapter 25 to 5 Changing Cancer Forever presents its Spring Mixer. The venue for the event is Aya at the Sofitel Hotel next to Beverly Hills. The event offers a networking opportunity with like-minded professionals in addition to delicious appetizers. The event features surprise special entertainment and a silent auction. Tickets are \$65 in advance or \$75 at the door. All proceeds benefit the work of Dr. Amini's research in thoracic, lung, head and neck and skin cancer and City of Hope. Tickets and sponsorships are available through Mariana Venya by phone at 1-800-732-7121 or by email at legacyandaffinity@coh.org. The Sofitel Hotel is located at 8555 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles.

cityofhope.org

MAY 7

BEVERLY HILLS POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL POLICE SERVICE DAY AND PANCAKE BREAKFAST 9-11 A.M.

The Beverly Hills Police Officers Association will hold its Annual Police Service Day and Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, May 7 in the Civic Center Plaza, 464 N. Rexford Dr. The entire community is invited to this free event, which includes pancakes, coffee, and juice served by Beverly Hills Police Officers. Interactive displays include SWAT, K-9 and the BHPD Crime Lab. There will be fun activities for kids and the whole family. This year's sponsors include The Beverly Hilton, Cain International and Golden West Food Group. For further information please contact the Beverly Hills Police Officers Association at 310.550.4551.



Photo by Doug Engalla

Jeffrey Winner, Fox Carney, Todd Andrew Ball, Cheryl David, Mouchette Van Helsdingen, Peter Henry Bussian, and Joe Clabby in "It's Only a Play" at Theatre 40 until April 23

Trusted Beverly Hills Leaders Are Saying **YES on Measures B and C**

“**The Cheval Blanc hotel is a once-in-a-lifetime project** that will benefit Beverly Hills for decades to come. I urge all residents to vote YES on Measures B and C.”

Lili Bosse | Immediate Past Mayor and City Councilmember



“The Cheval Blanc hotel is a **historic investment** in our community.”

Howard S. Fisher | Beverly Hills City Treasurer

“**Vote YES on B and C.** The new hotel will provide funding to help reduce emergency response times, without raising taxes.”

Michael Hand | Beverly Hills Firefighters’ Association



“This hotel went through a rigorous, multi-year review process, including improvements being made based on resident comments, numerous public hearings, and a detailed environmental impact report — demonstrating a **commitment to transparency** that will be a model for future projects.”

Peter Ostroff | Commissioner, Beverly Hills Planning Commission

“Voting YES on Measures B and C will help **ensure Beverly Hills police officers remain highly trained** and properly equipped to keep our community safe.”

Alexander Duncan | President, Beverly Hills Police Officers Association



“Measures B and C will help **keep our schools great.** The new hotel will generate \$778 million in tax revenue for our community and an additional \$100 million for Beverly Hills schools!”

Rose Kaiserman | Board Member, Beverly Hills Education Foundation

Learn more about Measures B and C at [YESonBC.org](https://www.yesonbc.org)



Ad Paid for by Yes on B & C, Friends of Cheval Blanc Beverly Hills; Ad Committee’s Top Funder
LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton and Affiliated Entities
Funding details at www.beverlyhills.org
Referenda contesting City Council Approval of the Cheval Blanc Hotel Zoning Ordinance and Development Agreement

Mayor and Fire Chief Promote Nurse Practitioner Program



Photo courtesy city of Beverly Hills
Mayor Dr. Gold at the League of CA Cities meeting

Last week, Mayor Dr. Gold traveled to Sacramento to attend the League of California Cities annual City Leaders Summit to speak about the Beverly Hills Nurse Practitioner Program (NPP) and the plans to expand its services. The Mayor was joined by Beverly Hills Fire Chief Greg Barton, Beverly Hills Medical Director Dr. Marc Cohen, as well as EMS Administrator Sean Stokes. The summit is the first of many that the mayor, Chief Barton and staff will attend to bring more awareness

to the benefits of the program. Upcoming speaking engagements in May include the California Contract Cities Association in Indian Wells and the Congressional Fire Service Institute in Washington, D.C.

“Our Nurse Practitioner Program is the beginning of the future of community-based medicine,” said Gold. “We are leading this pilot program to demonstrate to the country how we can put less stress on our hospitals and effectively give the care that is needed to our residents where they are at home. As we seek programs which support aging in place, it is imperative that we develop solutions like this one.”

The City’s NPP has been in place since 2019, and currently serves as a Mobile Integrated Healthcare solution that responds to low acuity emergency calls and attends to those needing treatment in their home, addresses chronic conditions and reduces the reliance on the emergency department so that fire suppression resources can be made available. At the City Council Meeting on April 18 the mayor and City Council approved additional funding for the program. ●

Coldwater Canyon Road Project Causing Traffic Delays for Commuters

BY RYAN TOROK

Motorists cruising on Coldwater Canyon Drive these days are confronted with an all-too-dreaded site: orange cones in the middle of the street; a sudden change from multiple lanes to one; and construction crews in the 10-mile road.

What they’re encountering as their vehicle slows when entering the canyon from the Beverly Hills side is a long-needed public works project in Coldwater Canyon to replace aging pipeline and install new pipeline. Commuters who rely on the winding canyon road to drive from Beverly Hills to Studio City are likely already experiencing the traffic impact of the effort.

The water main replacement project commenced in February and is expected to continue through Spring 2024. Coldwater Canyon Drive from Rexford Drive to Monte Cielo Drive is impacted. That stretch of the of the road will have only one lane in each direction. In certain locations, however, only See COLDWATER CANYON, page 9



Photo courtesy city of Beverly Hills
A construction crew at work on Coldwater Canyon Drive on April 20



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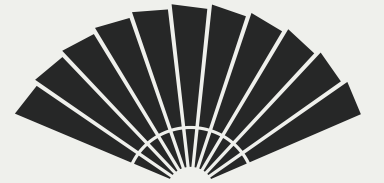
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AS SEEN IN TATLER



AS SEEN IN VOGUE

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Beverly Hills Art Show Celebrates Golden Anniversary



Photo courtesy city of Beverly Hills

The Beverly Hills Art Show celebrates its 50th anniversary in May.

The city of Beverly Hills and its Community Services Department will celebrate 50 years of bringing extraordinary art to Beverly Gardens Park through the Beverly Hills Art Show on May 20 and 21 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Over 230 local, national and international artists will showcase their work in media that include painting, sculpture, ceramics, glass, drawing, watercolor, traditional printmaking, photography, jewelry and more. Nearly 85 new artists will be part of the show that runs along four blocks of Santa Monica Boulevard, from Rodeo Drive to Rexford Drive and will feature a Beer & Wine Garden, gourmet food, refreshing beverage trucks, artist demonstrations and more! For more information, visit beverlyhills.org/artshow.

The Beverly Hills Art Show began 50 years ago as an “Affaire in the Garden” after artist and caricaturist, Gil Borgos, convinced then Deputy Director Michelle Marrell to start a very small “arts and crafts” fair on one block in Beverly Gardens Park. Today, it has grown to 230

artists spread across four blocks and has attracted over 40,000 people over the two-day weekend, making it one of the most beloved and long-standing community events in Beverly Hills.

“This year’s 50th Anniversary Art Show will be truly a special event,” said Beverly Hills Mayor Dr. Gold. “There’s no better place to experience immersive and innovative art than right here in our beautiful Beverly Gardens Park. We’ll be showcasing more artists than we ever have before, making this a golden anniversary event no one should miss.”

The 2023 spring sponsors and partners are: The Los Angeles Art Association, NoHo Arts District, LA Art Party, Children’s Hospital of Los Angeles, Blank Beverage, SALT Catering, the Beverly Hills Conference & Visitors Bureau, the Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce, and the Beverly Hills Historical Society.

Parking for the Art Show is located directly across from the show grounds and in surrounding public parking structures. For more information visit beverlyhills.org/artshow or call 310-285-6830.

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Grand Opening

ANAHIT FASHIONDRUG HOUSE CELEBRATES GRAND OPENING

ANAHIT Fashiondrug House has recently opened in the heart of Beverly Hills' Golden Triangle. Owned and operated by the talented designer Anahit Ghazaryan, this fashion house offers a wide range of services to cater to all of your fashion needs. You even have the chance to meet with Anahit herself to discuss your fashion ideas.

From alterations to expert tailoring, makeup to custom design, and ready-to-wear looks, ANAHIT Fashiondrug House has everything you need for any occasion. They carry a variety of exclusive fabric brands, so you can choose the perfect material for your custom look or select a ready-to-wear outfit.

To book an appointment, please call **(424) 385 8620**. ANAHIT Fashiondrug House is located at **9633 Brighton Way, 90210**.

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'Chevalier' Not a Very Gallant Try



Photos by Larry Horricks Courtesy of Searchlight Pictures (c) 2022 20th Century Studios. All rights reserved.

Left: Kelvin Harrison Jr. as the Chevalier de Saint-Georges; Right: Kelvin Harrison Jr. as the Chevalier, Samara Weaving as Marie Josephine and Alex Fizalen as Philippe d'Orleans

BY NEELY SWANSON

Joseph Bologne, aka Chevalier de Saint-Georges, the subject of "Chevalier," was a historical figure of almost mythical stature so impressive that Napoleon went to great lengths to erase him from history when he reinstated slavery in the French colonies in 1802 after it had been abolished in 1794. The story that Stefani Robinson, the writer, and Stephen Williams, the director, had to tell was astonishing. Even with embellishments and creatively fictionalized incidents, it's still amazing and much of it was true.

Bologne, the illegitimate son of a white plantation owner in Guadeloupe and his teenage slave, was, by all contemporary accounts, extraordinarily gifted. We first meet him as a child when he's dropped off by his father at a prestigious Parisian academy. Scoffing at the very idea that they would ever accept such a child, Joseph's father has him demonstrate his prowess on the violin. Problem solved; Joseph is enrolled, even if his presence is an irritant to the other students who let their fists demonstrate their displeasure. But Joseph's skills are not just musical, they are also physical and he is soon a master of fencing, eventually defeating all the champions of France.

Content to put down his *épée*, Joseph embarks on a plan to gain acknowledgment for his musical endeavors. Known by a few, he steps onto the national stage in a big way. Mozart, in all his young, egotistical glory, is giving a concert in Paris. Asking for requests from the audience, a voice is heard asking for one of his violin concertos. "Of course," Mozart replies.

But just as he's about to put bow to string, the audience member, a handsome, well-dressed young Black man, bounds to the stage and asks that he be allowed to play with the master. Taken aback, but sure of himself, Mozart agrees and what follows is the equivalent of a game of the dozens between two dueling violinists that ends when Mozart storms off. This scene alone is almost worth the price of admission. Certainly it never happened, certainly the Chevalier, as he is now known after being dubbed so by no less than Marie Antoinette, never played with Mozart, although years later they inhabited the same home in Paris. Never mind that Mozart was more than 10 years younger than Joseph and would have been 9 years old at the time. This is a variation on the adage, when the story is better than the truth, play the story, but might have been even better if the Mozart portrayed on stage was 9, giving much more credence to his storming off. But then Bologne would have been seen as a bully, something that would not serve the story. And so the Chevalier becomes the toast of Paris. If acceptance is based on trying hard, doing better, and pushing through, then he will do that. And he does.

The exoticism of his birth and skin color is like bees to honey for Parisian women. He becomes a pet to Marie Antoinette who, at the time this film takes place, would have been a teenager and not yet queen of France. Bologne's life without the imaginative reworking was interesting enough. Nevertheless, many of the incidents depicted in "Chevalier" did happen; embellishments were not necessary.

The Chevalier de Saint-Georges was

prolific in his compositions; he was one of the leading violinists of his day; he wrote operas; he had an affair with one of his leads, endangering his life and hers when her very powerful husband, the Marquis de Montalembert discovered the liaison, including a pregnancy.

Despite the remarkable facts of this extraordinary young man's life, the film itself is flat. So where on earth did Robinson and Williams go wrong? Williams, recognizing that only a rough outline of the life of this fascinating man existed, apparently decided to write a modern take on his achievements, difficulties and the prejudice he faced as a Black man in a country where slavery was still legal in their West Indies colonies. Yes, there are parallels but rather than draw them out, her sophomoric script employed anachronistic language, simplistic dialogue and relied too heavily on exposition. There are times you will positively wince at the conversations between characters. Both she and Williams squandered the goodwill generated by Kelvin Harrison Jr., their lead. I sincerely doubt whether any of the characters would have used the f-word. I often cringed when the characters spoke, going back and forth between time period-appropriate expressions and modern-day vernacular. It's almost as if Williams decided to channel the *Bridgerton* universe created by Shonda Rhimes in her Netflix series, diminishing the power of a true story.

It seems at times that Robinson and Williams were entranced with making "Chevalier" a bodice-ripping historical romance and other times a serious study of the racism faced by the main character.

I doubt you can have it both ways, or at least not satisfactorily. Both Robinson and Williams have had successful television careers and therein lies the rub, perhaps. Superficial when it should have been deep, the character development of everyone save Bologne has been sacrificed for plot.

Casting was also a problem. If the script is unconvincing, it helps to have actors who can elevate the material. With a few notable exceptions, this cast did not deliver.

Minnie Driver as La Guimard, an artist scorned by the Chevalier, was quite good. When discarded, she vows vengeance and effectively, without a word, she gets it. Driver knows how to make the maximum of the minimum and is a pleasure to watch in her few scenes. Sian Clifford, Madame de Genlis, is a supporter and confidante of the Chevalier in his opera endeavors. More could have been made of her role in finding the librettist for "Ernestine," the opera that figured in a competition. That librettist was none other than Pierre Choderlos de Laclos who would go on to write "Les Liaisons Dangereuses." In real life, "Ernestine" was a flop; his next opera, however, would be a major success. Clifford, like Driver, knows how to deliver a performance with a twitch of the mouth, a line of dialogue and sad eyes. And finally there is Marton Csokas, the evil Marquis de Montalembert, husband of Bologne's lover Marie Josephine. In his few scenes, Csokas conveys his power, position and ability to wreak havoc. Like the others, he makes the most of his few lines and a daunting physical presence. As an editorial note, the name Montalembert

is extremely difficult to pronounce and even though there were several dialogue coaches employed, no one pronounced it correctly. It's easy to stumble over and everyone did.

Samara Weaving plays the unhappy wife of Montalembert, Marie Josephine. Forbidden by her husband to sing at the opera, she disobeys his wishes and triumphs, both in song and in love with the Chevalier. For most of her time on screen, she brings little of substance. She has one dramatic moment when she returns to her husband, but that doesn't do enough to erase the simper in most of her performance.

Lucy Boynton plays Marie Antoinette. Yes, Marie Antoinette was known to be a silly little thing and Boynton has that down pat. But Boynton's Marie is insipid, lacking any undercurrent of authority making her transformation into the evil queen unconvincing. It actually takes a while to figure out that she is the queen.

And then there's Alex Fitzalan who was given the unenviable expositional role of Philippe d'Orleans, a cousin of Louis XVI and soon to be known as Philippe Egalité, a supporter of the people and the revolution. Almost used as a narrator to explain what was happening in those pre-revolutionary days, his delivery is bland and his tone is thin. It does not help that he has so much of the tiresome dialogue to recite. In short, he does not have enough presence to rise above the vapidness of the script.

Kelvin Harrison Jr. There are not enough words to extol his virtues and the primary reason to see this film. Single-handedly he almost succeeds in rescuing

the movie. He has enormous presence on screen and his quiet authority elevates the dialogue, brings credence to the action, and is a veritable rooting interest. Handsome, compelling and convincing, Harrison is able to deliver bland and anachronistic language as though he were reciting Shakespeare. This is not the platform he deserved and yet he made a five-course banquet of it. I will definitely look for him in the future and so should you.

Unlike the writing and directing, the production values are outstanding. Costume design by Oliver Garcia is sumptuous. Period pieces are a costume designer's bread and butter and he created a feast. The production design by Karen Murphy, a graduate of the Baz Luhrman school of excess, is outstanding. Her interiors scream 18th century in the best way and are well complemented by Jess Hall's excellent cinematography and lighting. As a petty side note, a bit more money should have been spent on the crowd scenes. Not as claustrophobic and threatening as they should have been, it's hard to envision the danger that they were supposed to represent.

It's hard not to be annoyed at the misfire that is this movie because the story that Robinson, the writer, and Williams, the director, had to tell was astonishing. Not a terrible movie, it's just not a very good one. The biggest disappointments are the opportunities missed. But see for yourself.

Opening April 21 at the AMC Century City 15 and AMC The Grove 14, as well as other AMCs in the South Bay and at CityWalk Hollywood. ●



Kelvin Harrison Jr. as the Chevalier and Minnie Driver as La Guimard



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.

NEWS

COLDWATER CANYON, from page 4
one lane will be available for both directions.

According to the city, "Replacing these pipelines is critical to maintaining the city's water infrastructure as they were installed in the 1920s to 1960s and have been the site of several water main breaks in recent years."

Last fall, some residents in Beverly Hills who reside around the canyon were out of water for over 24 hours because of the antiquated pipelines.

Shana Epstein, the city's director of public works, strongly recommends that motorists seek alternate routes, such as Laurel Canyon Boulevard or Benedict Canyon Drive.

"If you don't live there, you shouldn't be driving there," Epstein said. "If you insist on going down there as a commuter, we hope people will be cognizant of residents who need to get in and out of their driveways."

"We hope they're respectful," Epstein said, "not honking out of frustration."

Work hours are 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday-Friday, excluding holidays. The precise impact the project has on lane closures is changing week by week, and the city is

notifying residents of the changes throughout the process.

Epstein called the road work a "complex project." Along with approximately one-dozen people on the construction crew, there's a project manager, an inspector, a city engineer and an engineering manager.

Samer Elayyan, the city's engineering manager overseeing the project, said the equipment involved includes a concrete truck that backfills the trench up to a certain level with cement and sand.

An additional machine performs the excavation work, and approximately one dozen workers, including traffic control employees and construction crew, are on the site at any given time.

If motorists are commuting on Coldwater Canyon Drive before 8 a.m. or after 6 p.m., they won't see workers or the heavy equipment, but they will see signs of construction.

During non-work hours, a seal plate is laid over the excavated part of the road so cars can drive over it safely.

With narrower lanes running in each direction, the traffic commute "should be slower because of the construction zone,"

Elayyan said.

Williams Pipeline Contractors, the city's contractor, is carrying out the construction. The company secured the job following a competitive bidding process.

As those who've driven the canyon road recently have seen, construction crews are currently digging up the street. And after the piping is replaced, the workers will have to reconstruct the street, an elaborate effort that Epstein anticipates will take months.

The road work is only the latest obstacle drivers are facing when taking Coldwater. During the heavy rains this past winter, the road, where it intersects with Rexford, was closed altogether because of mudslides and a sinkhole, prompting residents to complain on social media neighborhood app Nextdoor while recommending the 405 Freeway as an alternate route.

The project has already caused major inconvenience for traffic-weary commuters. In March, the city issued a traffic advisory. A sign on Coldwater Canyon Road at Ventura Boulevard now informs motorists to expect delays as long as 60 minutes.

Students and faculty from Harvard-Westlake School on Coldwater Canyon told the school's student newspaper they are worried it will affect arrival times at the school. The school plans to make adjustments based on how the project affects students' driving routes.

Epstein stressed the importance of driving respectfully through the area because it is a construction site right now.

"We appreciate everyone's patience," she said. "Ultimately, this will be an improvement in terms of reliability for our customers on the hillside." ●

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Council of the City of Beverly Hills, at its regular meeting to be held on **Tuesday, May 16, 2023 at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard**, in the Council Chamber of the City Hall, 455 N. Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills, CA 90210, will hold a public hearing to consider:

A DRAFT ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS ESTABLISHING PROHIBITIONS ON FRACTIONAL OWNERSHIP OF RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL PROPERTY AND AMENDING NOTICING REQUIREMENTS, AND MAKING A DETERMINATION OF EXEMPTION UNDER THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)

Interim Ordinance No. 21-O-2841 was originally adopted on July 15, 2021, and established a moratorium on fractional ownership of residential and commercial property, which is the shared ownership of a property, entitlement to ownership rights of a property, entitlement to use of a property, or possession of a property, if the fractional ownership structure involves prohibited time-based occupancy restrictions. The effective period for the interim ordinance was subsequently extended twice by the City Council, and the interim ordinance will expire on July 15, 2023. Staff will bring forth a draft ordinance for first reading for adoption by the City Council, which is intended to replace the existing interim ordinance. The draft ordinance has been previously reviewed by the Planning Commission at public hearings held on February 9, 2023, and March 9, 2023, during which the Commission provided their input and recommendations regarding the ordinance. On March 9, 2023, the Planning Commission adopted a resolution recommending approval of the draft ordinance by the City Council. The draft ordinance includes regulations that are similar to those in the interim ordinance, with some changes as directed by the Planning Commission.

In addition, the draft ordinance includes an unrelated, minor cleanup of the public notification requirements, in order to remove the outdated requirement for a neighborhood meeting. The removal of this requirement was previously discussed at public hearing by both the Planning Commission and City Council in 2021, but was inadvertently left in the code as a result of the ordinance language.

This project has been assessed in accordance with the authority and criteria contained in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the State CEQA Guidelines, and the environmental regulations of the City. Since the project does not authorize construction, and actually imposes greater restrictions on certain properties to protect the public health, safety and general welfare, there is no possibility that it may have a significant effect on the environment. In addition, the project reflects minor changes

in land use limitations, and do not result in changes to land use or density. Accordingly, the City Council will consider a recommendation to find the project categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to Sections 15061(b) (3) and 15305 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, and finding the project exempt from further review under CEQA.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Members of the public may participate in the meeting by attending in-person or telephonically; and may view the meeting through live webcast or BHTV Channel 10 on Spectrum Cable. To submit Audio/Oral comments during the hearing call: (310) 288-2288, to submit written comments please email: cityclerk@beverlyhills.org, to submit video comments (during public comment only) use <http://beverlyhills.org/comment>. To Watch Video Live use <http://beverlyhills.org/live> or On-Demand use <http://beverlyhills.org/citycouncilmeetings>. In-Person comments can be submitted with a speaker card to the City Clerk at the meeting.

It is recommended that public written comments be submitted to the City Clerk's office by 12:00 p.m. on the meeting date. Public comments will also be taken during the meeting when the topic is being reviewed by the City Council. Written comments should identify the Agenda Item Number or Topic in the subject line of the email. In order to be read at the meeting, written comments will be allowed with a maximum of 350 words, which corresponds to approximately 3 minutes of speaking time. If a comment is received after the agenda item is heard, it will not be a part of the record. Public comment via video conference will be 3 minutes per each individual comment, subject to City Council discretion. Any interested person may participate in the meeting and be heard or present written comments to the City Council. According to Government Code Section 65009, if you challenge the Council's action in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City, either at or prior to the public hearing.

In Person Participation:

All interested persons are invited to attend and speak on this matter in person. Please see the above information on the location and time of this meeting.

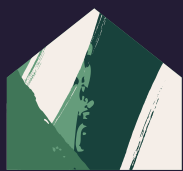
If there are any questions regarding this notice, please contact please contact **Chloe Chen, Senior Planner** in the Planning Division at **(310) 285-1194**, or by email at cchen@beverlyhills.org. Please also contact us to add your email to the interested parties list for this ordinance, so that important updates and notifications may be sent to you.

HUMA AHMED
City Clerk



Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Beverly Hills will make reasonable efforts to accommodate persons with disabilities. If you require special assistance, please call (310) 285-2400 (voice) or (310) 285-6881 (TTY). Providing at least forty-eight (48) hours advance notice will help to ensure availability of services. City Hall, including the Council Chamber and Room 280A, is wheelchair accessible. The City Hall Council Chamber and Room 280A are also equipped with audio equipment for the hearing impaired.

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ROBERTSON TREES, from page 1

Feb. 21 declined to take action to halt the removals.

“The remaining trees are literally our population of shade in our area, so by removing them the city is increasing our heat island effect and losing the carbon sequestering benefits of the trees,” said local resident Wendy Klenk, who is spearheading the effort to save the trees.

The city, however, maintains that the removals are necessary because the tree roots are damaging the sidewalk and creating a trip and fall hazard that could harm residents and create legal woes for the city.

“It is important to the city that people are able to walk or use other mobility enhancing devices without fear of stumbling over Ficus tree roots that have raised the sidewalk,” said City Attorney Larry Wiener in a written statement.

The council approved the sidewalk repair program, which included plans to remove around 87 Ficus trees and replace them with crape myrtles and Mexican fan palms, in December 2022. The removals began on Jan. 24 and some 60 trees have been taken down so far.

After the temporary restraining order was granted, the city initially asked Fruin to recuse himself from the case, which Fruin declined to do, prompting the city to take its request to the Court of Appeals, Wiener said.

Hall, who represents the Robertson Boulevard Special Task Force, said a request to replace a judge is “very rare.”

“I’m sure that the city is upset that he ruled in our favor, because right after that hearing they went back to their office and filed that special challenge,” said Hall. “However, I’m just speculating because I can’t get into their head.”

Once the Court of Appeals makes a decision, the judge – whether it be Fruin or a replacement – will rule on the task force’s request for a preliminary injunction. If the injunction is granted it will halt the Ficus tree removals until the judge rules on the lawsuit as a whole.

Hall said the judge will weigh two factors when deciding whether to grant the preliminary injunction: whether the petitioner is likely to succeed in the lawsuit based on merits of the case and who is likely to suffer more irreparable harm if the injunction is not granted.

“I think my client will certainly have more irreparable harm than the city because once those trees are gone, they can never be replaced,” said Hall. “A Mexican fan palm will never provide the same degree of shade and a crape myrtle takes 20 years to mature.”

The debate over the ecological benefits of mature Ficus trees versus the city’s replacement trees is a key issue in the lawsuit. The city did not complete a full environmental impact report as it determined the sidewalk repair program to be exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

“The city does not believe that there is a significant environmental impact from

replacing the street trees,” said Wiener. “The street trees will be replaced by crape myrtle trees which will have a full canopy and will not cause damage to the sidewalks and sewers as the Ficus trees have previously done.”

As part of its legal filings, the city submitted a declaration from Urban Forest Manager Ken Pflanzgraf attesting to the environmental benefits of the replacement trees.

“The Mexican fan palm and crape myrtle trees have similarities to Ficus trees in terms of the benefits they provide,” stated Pflanzgraf, adding that the crape myrtle will “provide an equal amount of shade as the Ficus on Robertson Boulevard.”

The task force disagrees and submitted several declarations from arborists attesting to the environmental consequences that they believe will result from the city’s plan.

“Neither the crape myrtle nor the Mexican fan palm will provide an ‘equal amount of shade’ to the existing Ficus trees on Robertson Boulevard,” stated licensed arborist Carl Mellinger, referencing Pflanzgraf’s statement. “The Mexican fan palm has a canopy width of just 5-10 feet, according to SelecTree. The crape myrtle has a canopy width of 15-25 feet according to SelecTree.”

Diana Nicole, ecological horticulturist and director of the Los Angeles Audubon Society, raised concerns about the impact on birds.

“Mr. Pflanzgraf fails to take into account the fact that resident and migratory birds in

urban areas need space,” she stated.

When it comes to tenants on the streets, there are mixed feelings about the removal plan.

Debra Carter, showroom manager at Carter Hardware, supports the removal of the Ficus trees as her business has suffered heavy damage from the trees’ invasive roots.

“Our showroom management has spent close to \$20,000 over the years addressing issues from the trees,” she said.

Carter said she believes the community members fighting the tree removals are well-intentioned but are failing to look at the big picture.

“It’s great and wonderful to try and save the trees but at the same time how do you save the lives of the elderly people who are tripping on the sidewalk,” said Carter.

On the other hand, seven Robertson Boulevard tenants submitted declarations to the court expressing a desire to save the remaining trees and concerns about the impact of their removal.

“My business will be negatively impacted due to this action,” stated Lex Gianakos, the property manager at 319 S. Robertson Blvd. “Our electrical bills will increase significantly due to the loss of shade. The glare of the sun will force me to purchase blinds and window treatments.”

Ultimately, it will be up to the court to analyze the environmental impact of the removals and decide whether the city was justified in claiming an exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act. ●

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Beverly Hills



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Beverly Hills



JUST SOLD

608 N. Linden Drive \$8,800,000
Charming redone 2sty 4BD Trad with a modern flair. Huge great rm. Dark wd floors, beams, glass walls. Fab kitch. Priv yrd w/pl/spa/deck/BBQ/lawns.

Beverly Hills



JUST SOLD

505 N. Roxbury Drive \$5,995,000
1st time avail in 51 yrs! Older 1sty 4BD 3BA+ outdoor guest unit w.kitch/ba. Sunlit rms. Open plan flows to rear grounds w.mature foliage/cacti. Uber prime block moments to all.

Beverly Hills



JUST SOLD

305 El Camino Drive \$4,295,000
Spacious dramatic 2sty Spanish. Wd flrs. Hi clngs. Huge 2sty liv rm. 5BD 4.5BA. Paneled den. Big yrd w/patios/lawns/fp. 60ft wide lot. Curb appeal.

Beverly Hills



PENDING

245 S. Oakhurst Drive \$3,495,000
Beaut updated spacious 2sty modern Spanish. 4BD 3.5BA + den. Hi clngs. Wd flrs. Huge cook's kitch. Big yrd w/pergola. Curb appeal. Uber prime quiet road.

Wilshire Corridor



NEW PRICE | BY APPOINTMENT

10380 Wilshire Boulevard Unit 602 \$2,550,000
Pristine lite-filled NE crnr unit. Near 3,200 sq ft. 3BD 3.5BA Beaut drk wd flrs. Hi clngs. Glass walls. 2 balconies. City/hillside vus. Great rm. Coveted full srvc La Tour.

Beverly Hills



JUST SOLD

463 S. Beverwil Drive \$2,749,000
Authentic Deco-era 1.5sty Spanish Hacienda. 1st time avail in 48yrs. Huge inner courtyard. 3BD 3BA. Sunlit. Wd flrs. Beams. Outdr office. Curb appeal!

Beverly Hills



JUST SOLD

318 N. Maple Drive Unit 304 \$1,495,000
Sunlit spacious older 1-level SW front corner unit. Coveted steel /concrete bldg. 2BD 2.5BA. Great rm. Side x side prkg. Pl/spa/on-site supervisor.Potential!

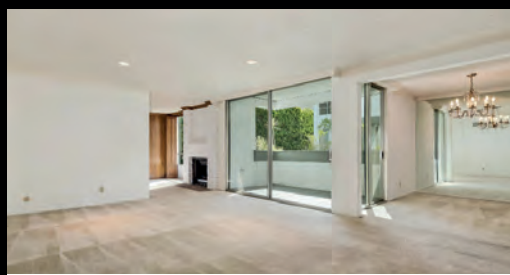
Century City



JUST SOLD

2331 Century Hill \$1,399,000
Fab 1-level 2BD 3.5BA 2nd flr unit. Over 2,300 sq ft. Great room. Lg balcony. Peek-a-boo vus. Updated granite kitch. Primary ste w/2 baths/walk-ins. Quiet!

Beverly Hills



JUST SOLD

406 N. Oakhurst Drive, Unit 205 \$995,000
1st time avail in 44 yrs! Spacious older unit. 2BD+ den 2.5BA. 1,471 sq ft. Lg covered balc. Quiet sunlit rear location. Low HOD's. Side x side prkg.

Beverly Hills



NEW X | BY APPOINTMENT

332 S. Almont Drive \$17,500/mo
Stunning 2008 blt 3sty gated med. Over 6,000 SF. 6BD 6.5BA Den. Great rm. Office. Rec rm. Hi clngs. Sunlit rms. French drs. Best kitch. Pl/spa/patios. Quiet st. Long-term.

Beverly Hills



NEW X | FIRST OPEN SUNDAY 2-5

301 S. Camden Drive \$13,950/mo
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COMPASS

YOM HASHOAH, from page 1

something new, to be inspired, and hopefully to recommit to sharing information about the Holocaust with others, to help fight the dangers of ignorance.”

Rothstein was speaking before nearly 400 attendees of a Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day) ceremony at the Saban Theater in Beverly Hills. Pro-Israel education group StandWithUs organized the April 17 program in partnership with Temple of the Arts.

“Memories fade and we cannot allow the memory of the six million to ever fade from our consciousness and memories,” Temple of the Arts Rabbi David Baron said at the event.

The candle lighting kicked off the evening, followed by a screening of the 2020 feature film, “Resistance,” starring Jesse Eisenberg in the true World War II story of Marcel Marceau, a French-Jewish mime who joins the French Resistance and smuggles Jewish orphans over the Swiss border, saving dozens of young lives.

“Marking Yom HaShoah with an educational film like ‘Resistance’ helps inspire people with the heroic acts performed by courageous people like Marcel Marceau, who fought for life and survival in the face of racism and murder,” Rothstein said.

Former Israeli soldiers from Brothers for Life, an organization dedicated to supporting wounded combat soldiers, participated in the event. Speakers included Consul General of Israel in Los Angeles Hillel Newman and Consul General of Germany in Los Angeles Stefan Schneider. Musician Jenna Parris performed

“Eli, Eli,” followed by Hatikvah.

A post-screening Q&A featured “Resistance” writer-director Jonathan Jakubowicz and producer Claudine Jakubowicz. Seated onstage at the Saban with StandWithUs Los Angeles Executive Director Erinn Alcabes, the filmmaking team spoke about the current state of antisemitism in the United States, with Jonathan Jakubowicz pointing to antisemitic statements from rapper Kanye West as evidence that Jew-hatred exists not only on the margins.

Thus, he said, it’s important to support organizations like StandWithUs.

The movie, “Resistance,” argues the ultimate form of resistance against antisemitism during the Holocaust was survival. Originally released during COVID-19, the film was financed, in part, by a German film fund, which provided two million euros.

Jakubowicz, a Jewish filmmaker who grew up in Venezuela, said he never imagined Germany would support a Holocaust movie, despite Germany being actively involved in Holocaust remembrance efforts for decades.

Filming took place in Germany and Prague, with students from the Lauder Schools of Prague—the only Jewish school in the Czech Republic—portraying the orphans in the film.

Before he started writing the movie, Jakubowicz met with Marceau’s cousin, Georges Loinger, to learn more about Marceau’s story. Loinger, who died in 2018 at the age of 108, proved to be an invaluable resource.

“A lot of what you see in the film came directly from his testimony,” the writer-director said.

The film begins in the French city of Strasbourg, Marceau’s place of birth. By day, Marceau works in his father’s kosher butcher shop. By night, he performs mime in a brothel. As the Nazi conquest of Europe reaches France, Marceau’s priorities shift. He joins the French Resistance, where he develops a tight bond with a group of Jewish orphans, including one portrayed by actor Bella Ramsey of HBO’s recent drama “The Last of Us.”

Tense scenes ensue, including one on a train where Marceau is escorting a group of children as they head toward the Swiss border. Their plans are nearly thwarted when the story’s villain, a sadistic Nazi, boards, searching for Jews.

Putting his acting skills to use, Marceau pretends to be a Boy Scout leader taking his

young troop on an innocent day hike in the mountains.

At the conclusion of the film, Marceau performs before a regiment of U.S. soldiers. Filming occurred at Congress Hall in Nuremberg, a grand venue that Hitler had apparently built for himself but never completed.

Shooting the film’s closing scene there, Jakubowicz said, “really felt like creative vengeance against the Nazis.”

As the final question during the Q&A, Maya Werthein, a senior at YULA Girls High School and a StandWithUs Kenneth Leventhal high school intern, asked how she and her peers could proactively resist antisemitism today.

Claudine Jakubowicz, a mother of Jewish children, said embracing your Jewish heritage, coupled with taking pride in who you are, goes a long way.

On Holocaust Remembrance Day, it was an appropriate message for anyone of any age. ●



Photo by Jcolivera/Standwithus

“Resistance” producer Claudine Jakubowicz, writer/director Jonathan Jakubowicz and StandWithUs Los Angeles’ Erinn Alcabes participated in a panel after a screening of the film.

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

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CITY COUNCIL, from page 1

reads a city document recommending approval of a resolution ending the state of emergency.

To date, Beverly Hills has had more than 11,500 cases of COVID-19. There have been 56 local deaths caused by the coronavirus.

For repayment of costs associated with COVID-19 emergency response activities, the city has submitted \$2.7 million to Federal Emergency Management Agency for review and reimbursement.

At this point, it is unknown how much of that sum will be reimbursed by FEMA.

During the session, the council also approved an ordinance preserving housing protections established under the emergency declaration. The deadline for paying forborne rent because of COVID-19 continues to be May 31, and a 3.1% cap on rent increases for the current fiscal year remains.

Appearing before the council, Beverly Hills Fire Chief Greg Barton provided an update on the city's Emergency Medical Services program and Nurse Practitioner Program, asking for additional appropriations.

The council members said they admired the fire department programs and approved an approximately \$506,000 increase to the budget for the Nurse Practitioner Program.

"You are defining the future of community-based medicine in real time," Mayor Dr. Julian Gold said.

Expressing support for the program, Councilmember John Mirisch said he'd like to see more data collection about the kinds of calls they receive.

"This is about efficiency," Mirisch said. "This is about providing the best kinds of services we can for our residents."

During the two-hour meeting, Beverly Hills residents continued to voice strong opposition to the controversial removal of Ficus trees lining Robertson Boulevard.

Though the issue of Ficus tree removal was not on the agenda, a handful of people addressed it during the public comment segment of the evening. Resident and activist Wendy Klenk was choking back tears while discussing the ongoing saga of the trees, which has led to a court battle.

"I really want us all to sit together and just find a resolution so we can move forward," Klenk, founder of the Robertson Boulevard Special Task Force, said. "We want to work with you. We really do."

The council session began on a somber note, with Gold leading a moment of silence to commemorate Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day), which took place from April 17-18. Hate and prejudice continue today, the Beverly Hills mayor said before calling for a more loving and kinder society.

"We have to continue to promote all human dignity and confront all forms of hatred, persecution, tyranny and injustices in the world," he said. "We have to stand united, loud and clear, and say this is just

not the world we want."

As has become customary, the five-member council offered special shoutouts to deserving businesses and organizations in the community. First, they presented the award-winning professional theater company, Theater 40, with a special proclamation honoring its upcoming 57th anniversary season in Beverly Hills.

Then, city librarian Karen Buth accepted a proclamation for National Library Week, celebrated this year from April 23-29. She said this year's Library Week theme, "There's More to our Story," highlights the many activities performed by the Beverly Hills Public Library, including passports services, issuing parking passes for national parks, and holding writing workshops.

"Libraries provide communities with the opportunity for everyone to pursue their passions and engage in lifelong learning," Mirisch said.

Another recipient of a city proclamation was Consul General of Israel in Los Angeles Hillel Newman. He attended the council meeting as the State of Israel prepares to celebrate 75 years of statehood in May.

"This is just another expression of the very special relationship between the State of Israel and the City of Beverly Hills," Newman said.

Councilmember Lili Bosse agreed, saying, "No one celebrates and appreciates Israel more than we do here in Beverly Hills."

During public comment, Beverly Hills resident and former City Council candidate Vera Markowitz discussed the success of Just in Case BH. Markowitz, co-founder of the all-volunteer program, which trains residents in emergency preparedness, said the program's recent kickoff event at La Cienega Park was a resounding success.

"The object of Just in Case BH has always been to save lives in major emergencies," Markowitz said. "Our city leads the way for the entire country in emergency preparedness."

Beverly Hills resident Marc Maretsky shared about the 123rd U.S. Open coming to Los Angeles Country Club in mid-June for the first time in the tournament's history, urging city leadership to publicize the event more proactively.

"The excitement is building," Maretsky, a self-described golf fanatic, said. "I hope the city recognizes this tremendous publicity opportunity."

At the conclusion of the meeting, Councilwoman Sharona Nazarian took a moment and congratulated Bosse on a successful term as mayor. She also offered words of praise for Gold—the April 18 meeting was the recently installed leader's first in his third term as mayor—and for Vice Mayor Lester Friedman.

The City Council's next meeting is scheduled for May 2. ●

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Birthdays



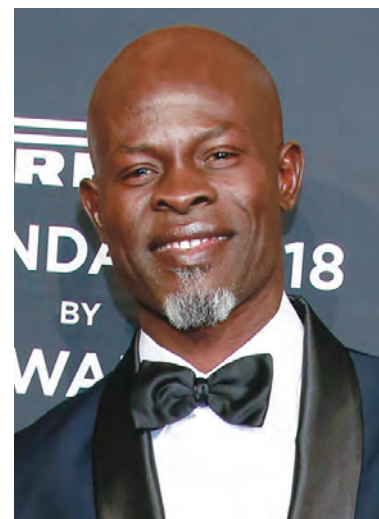
JAMES MCAVOY
April 21



DEV PATEL
April 23



CAROLINE BLOCH
April 24



DJIMON HOUNSOU
April 24



ELLEN LABBÉ
April 24



RUBY RAE THOMASON
April 25



GINA TORRES
April 25

BEVERLY HILLS COURIER

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Astrology

BY HOLIDAY MATIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You'll go back and forth, deciding what to do. To some extent, this is a show. You already know; you just don't want to hurt anyone's feelings with your decisiveness. Your excellent character shines. Even as you are unaware, you beam.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). To look back and note your failings is to invite self-doubt. To look back and focus on your accomplishments is to invite confidence. Neither will help you now. The best way is not to think of yourself at all. Get into action. Onward!

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Envy can be helpful if properly utilized. Envy teaches you what you want. When you get those pangs, take them as a sign there's something in the scene that is also meant for you. What do you have to do to make it happen?

CANCER (June 22-July 22). There are those who provide tension just to watch people strain under it. It lets them know they are in charge. If people aren't suffering, they

don't feel powerful. Be aware. This is their move. Now what's yours?

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). When people react in a positive way, it makes you feel good about what you're contributing. But it's nothing compared to the feeling you get when people are proactively driving their good opinion of you into a tangible form. How wonderful.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). What's good for you doesn't usually taste just like candy, but today it just might. It's great when the things that bring you pleasure also bring you good looks, strength and the ability for physical activity you enjoy.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Document your moments. You won't always be looking through this window or walking in his place. What you capture will help future you quite a lot in ways that would be impossible to understand right now.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Every relationship requires some degree of compromise. Compromise is essential to life and relationships, and you're often better for the effort. But if you find yourself having to compromise every little step

of the way, it's the sign of a bad fit.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You become part of whatever you're experiencing, and it becomes a part of you -- a truth you'll feel today and that just may change your mind and involvement with certain environments.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your personal experience with a full range of human error coupled with the disappointment it has caused you will make it all the more difficult for you to believe the best in others... and

yet, believe the best you will. Commendable!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You don't have to do anything to lighten up. You're already like a balloon on a tether. You're already floating, but if you want to go higher, you need to get free of the anchor.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You'll have the advantage of a head start, but don't rely on it. Think of the tortoise and the hare. Be careful not to run too fast and tire yourself out. Make sure you pace yourself and avoid distractions.



This is Petra, a 3-month-old, 6-pound spaniel mix. She's available for adoption while she recovers from a broken leg. To inquire about Petra, please contact Shelter of Hope at 805-379-3538.

shelterhopepetshop.org

MELWANI, from page 1

its favor by the City Council.

A “yes” vote on the measures confirms the city’s actions and has garnered extensive support (including an endorsement from the Courier’s Advisory Board).

The “no” on “B” and “C” forces are mounting a vocal campaign in their own right. Their arguments include the refrain that a luxury commercial developer has come in to snag huge zoning and land use privileges from the city.

Not surprisingly, Melwani demurred from making any prediction on the referendum. He did, however, expound on the genesis, vision and philosophy behind the project.

“We have been part of the community for 30, 40 years, and we’ve continually increased our presence and our investment in Beverly Hills,” he told the Courier.

Melwani sees Cheval Blanc Beverly Hills as a logical next step for a company with decades-long ties to the city. Moreover, the idea of the hotel is a “deeply personal one” for LVMH Chairman and CEO Bernard Arnault, whom Melwani refers to as “the boss.”

“Obviously, all the corporate people like me are excited about it now, but this was his vision from the beginning. We’ve been talking about this project since 2017,” said Melwani.

During that time period, LVMH had already opened Cheval Blanc properties in Courchevel in the French Alps, the Maldives, St-Barth and St. Tropez. Cheval Blanc Paris would open in 2021, to immediate acclaim.

“Each of those properties is deeply personal to Mr. Arnault and his family. Courchevel is where he went skiing growing up. St-Barth is obviously a French island. And while our corporate headquarters are mostly in New York, I think if you ask him what’s his favorite place to visit in the United States, he would say here in Los Angeles, in Beverly Hills,” said Melwani.

Though the concept of placing a hotel in Beverly Hills may have been long-standing, the reality came into focus only when the real estate became available. Key parcels, such as the former Brooks Brothers building on the corner of South Santa Monica and Rodeo and the Paley Center for Media on Beverly Drive, were acquired and eventually combined to create an expanse suitable for the hotel.

Melwani noted that early on, the city made requests that were incorporated into the overall design.

“When we first met with city officials to talk about the project, one of the things they asked us was ‘How can we in our design reinvigorate North Beverly Drive?’ There is not a lot of energy on Beverly, and for the health of the economy and the Golden Triangle, it can’t only be Rodeo. So instead of having the entrance of the hotel on Rodeo Drive, we are wrapping it around to help pull the energy over on Beverly. The restaurant will be over there,” said Melwani.

He described the multi-year hearing process in the city as a “collaboration.”

“The scale of the project was reduced as a result of the hearings. We redesigned significant elements of the project. I think people need to understand they’re not actually voting ‘yes’ or ‘no’ on us. They’re voting ‘yes’ or ‘no’ on the process that their

representatives put the project through, which was robust,” said Melwani.

He added, “We’ve always said from day one, we only want to build a hotel that the community is excited about. This was an extraordinarily professional process by the city, and we were super impressed.”

Not everyone felt the same way.

The most significant organized opposition came from UNITE HERE Local 11, the union representing hotel and other service industry workers. The union’s representatives voiced objections at Planning Commission and City Council hearings and hired experts to oppose the project on various grounds. Eventually, the union garnered enough signatures on petitions to place the City Council approvals on a referendum.

Of the challenge, Melwani will only say, “We’re not anti-union.”

Union labor will be used to construct the hotel. And prominent unions have endorsed the project.

“When you’re building a world-class building, you want the electricians and the plumbers to know what they’re doing. You’re not going to cut costs in that area, and you want the best people to do it,” said Melwani.

Updated design details for Cheval Blanc Beverly Hills are still scarce at this point.

“I’m not being coy. The project is still four years out,” noted Melwani.

He did share that Arnault’s personal involvement is extensive. Thus far, Arnault has worked closely with architect Peter Marino on the other Cheval Blanc properties. His input extends to choosing artworks for the hotels. In Paris, for example, a white horse sculpture by Frank Gehry is a focal point of the lobby.

“Frank and the boss have a special relationship because Frank built the Fondation Louis Vuitton museum in Paris. At the property we hope to build on Rodeo Drive, we will focus on American artists. Of course, there will be touches of French savoir-faire. The mural in the lobby is a Sol LeWitt that is planned. The large exterior sculpture is by Tony Cragg,” said Melwani.

Other design details include stone chosen by Marino to capture the setting sunlight. Windows of varying sizes will create the sense of a village.

“You can imagine what that does to the budget. But again, this project is not a short-term money-making thing. Frankly, if we wanted to make money with this real estate, we would just have opened retail. And we would make far more money by doing that,” Melwani observed.

Plans also call for a private club at the hotel, though that concept has evolved.

“When we conceived of the private club three years ago, what private clubs were doing is already different today. What we did in the design and in the permitting is to allow the space, and make sure that the operations of it would be unobtrusive to the hotel operations, to the community. Things have been floated, but it is just too early to say,” said Melwani.

He did note that he expects the membership of the club to be a combination of locals and frequent travelers to Beverly Hills.

“It will be a place where you can feel comfortable to go and hang out, possibly do some work or what have you. But also, a place where you can bring a couple of

guests. And there was a big debate in the proceedings about how many guests people can bring in. This is not a place where you go to host a raging party,” he said.

At 109 rooms, Cheval Blanc Beverly Hills is a boutique property. It will not host weddings or bar mitzvahs. (“Beverly Hills already has many fine properties for that,” Melwani said.)

“The point is, it’s not like we’re adding this enormous thing. The rooms are going to be quite large because of the purpose of this as an ultra-luxury hotel. So yes, it’s only 109 rooms. I think the misconception that people have is that this is somehow going to be a bustling hub of activity. But if you think about the kind of travelers that we’re trying to attract with this kind of property, they don’t want to stay in a bustling hub of activity. That’s not the goal. If you go and visit our property in Paris, it is of similar size. I’ve never seen more than one car in the driveway.”

LVMH, he noted, is not a short-term actor or a developer that will flip the property. Nor will it build the hotel and then get someone else to manage it.

“I know it’s popular right now to villainize big corporations. And I also understand that the city has had experiences in the past with developers who may not live up to what their initial promises were. The only thing I can say is we’re not in the property development business. It’s just not what we do. There is literally zero chance that LVMH somehow five years from now will not be an active citizen of Beverly Hills. We are far too invested in this. And we’re not going anywhere. So, you can say that we’re a big company. Yes, that’s a fact. We are a big company, but we’re not outsiders to the market. As a group, as an institution, I think we have ample evidence of our roots here and our interests,” said Melwani.

Longevity and the concept of time also have a distinct meaning to LVMH.

“This is the thing. The boss’ focal distance, when we’re making investments, is 100 years. If you look at our recent acquisitions, we bought Tiffany & Co. It’s a brand that was started in 1837, and the boss believes it will be here for another 200 years.”

He cites as “conservative” the oft-repeated figure of three-quarters of a billion dollars generated by the project over the next 30 years. The numbers have been challenged by opponents.

“Those numbers are based on occupancy rates and the fact that hotel prices aren’t going down over time. The only time rates go down is when a hotel is not maintained. Well, I go back to my previous point. We are not developers. This is our hotel. It’s our name on the door. We’re going to keep this at the highest level. If there’s a pandemic in the next 30 years, there will be a couple of tough years. Fair enough. But I will tell you this, if you look at this last pandemic, 2020 was a rough year. By 2021, business was back. So even with a shock to the system, I still feel pretty confident in our numbers,” said Melwani.

As a closing thought, Melwani summed up the pitch he would make to an undecided referendum voter.

“Look, as an outsider, I’ve always thought of Beverly Hills as a beautiful place. And it’s not by accident. The city has prioritized beauty and art, culture and an aesthetic that represents the city, that takes advantage of the natural beauty of Southern California. And to me, the origin story of this project is to contribute to that legacy. And so, I think if you believe in that, if that’s why you live in Beverly Hills, that’s why you love to be here. This is something that we humbly submit is of the caliber to fit in with and dare even enhance that legacy going forward. If you believe that Beverly Hills is the pinnacle of a harmonious, beautiful, and prestigious community, then this fits in with that.” ●



Courtesy Peter Marino Architect

Rendering of Cheval Blanc Beverly Hills on the Beverly Drive side

SUDOKU
04/21/23 ISSUE

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1	7			4		3		
9		4						
				8				7
	2						5	
3				9				
						7		1
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7	8		6				3	2

SUDOKU ANSWERS
04/14/23 ISSUE

6	7	4	1	3	8	2	9	5
3	8	5	9	6	2	7	1	4
2	1	9	5	7	4	6	3	8
5	4	3	7	8	6	9	2	1
1	2	6	4	9	3	8	5	7
7	9	8	2	5	1	4	6	3
8	5	1	6	2	7	3	4	9
4	3	2	8	1	9	5	7	6
9	6	7	3	4	5	1	8	2

PUZZLE ANSWERS
04/14/23 ISSUE

Y	E	A	H	I	A	M	H	A	H	A	S	P	U	E	R	T	O							
H	A	M	R	A	D	I	O	E	R	O	D	E	E	N	V	I	E	D						
T	H	E	S	T	A	R	R	Y	N	I	G	H	T	T	R	I	P	L	E					
T	O	N	E	M	A	R	E	S	D	A	M	S	E	L	S									
P	O	D	C	L	A	S	S	R	E	P	T	O	P	E	N	S	A							
			W	A	I	L	S			R	E	O	D	B	A	L	L	O	O	N				
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C	R	A	B	S			E	N	S	U	E		E	S	T	E	E	L						
H	U	L	A		S	L	O	E	G	M	A		N	A	T	U	R	E	S					
I	M	S	H	O	R	T		S	A	W		R	I	S	K		E	M	I	T				
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U	L	N	A					L	O	A	T	H	E	D		H	U	G	E	A	S	K		
R	N	I	G	H	T	H	A	W	K	S							B	I	N	G	E			
S	E	E						S	I	G	N		A	F	R	A	I	D	S	O		A	M	Y
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U	N	W	I	S	E			K	A	T	I	E												

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THE NEW YORK TIMES SUNDAY MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE
04/21/23 ISSUE

IF THE CLUE FITS ...

BY JOHN EW BANK / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

John Ewbank is a British science writer from Macclesfield, near Manchester. He regularly composes cryptic crosswords for The Times of London, but lately he has been trying American-style crosswords. This is his third for us. The theme is examples of anapodoton (an-uh-POH-duh-tahn), a rhetorical device you probably use yourself but never knew there was a name for. Well, now you'll know. — W.S.

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <p>ACROSS</p> <p>1 Precision woodworking tool</p> <p>8 When repeated, a 1999 No. 1 Santana hit</p> <p>13 Passionate</p> <p>19 Ingredient in a Caesar salad</p> <p>20 A tick or a tock</p> <p>21 Highly luminous galactic object</p> <p>22 *"Let's stick with what we've got ..."</p> <p>24 Dissimilar to</p> <p>25 Trivia lover, maybe</p> <p>26 Blockhead</p> <p>27 SkyMiles offerer</p> <p>29 Pulitzer winner James</p> <p>30 Modern-dance pioneer Duncan</p> <p>33 *"How clever we both are ..."</p> <p>35 Spice grinder</p> <p>37 Locale of Hephaestus' forge, in mythology</p> <p>39 Jessica of "The Illusionist"</p> <p>40 Writer/humorist Frazier</p> <p>41 "What a pity!"</p> <p>43 A butterfly flying into your home is a good one, some say</p> <p>46 They may be yawning</p> <p>50 *"Look who it is ..."</p> <p>55 Ground grain</p> <p>56 Road hog?</p> | <p>57 Kind of cable, for short</p> <p>58 Twitter boss Musk</p> <p>60 Target of tetracycline</p> <p>61 "Little" car of song that's "really lookin' fine"</p> <p>62 Orion's belt points to it</p> <p>65 Groovy</p> <p>67 Chew out</p> <p>68 *"Timid types shouldn't be here ..."</p> <p>74 Spot for a tat</p> <p>75 Male turkey</p> <p>76 Obsolescent circus workers</p> <p>77 Fate</p> <p>78 Carpenter's tool</p> <p>80 Goes up and down</p> <p>83 Honey</p> <p>84 Hardly tiptoes</p> <p>87 Classic Memphis-based record label</p> <p>88 *"Looks can be deceiving ..."</p> <p>92 From A to Z, maybe</p> <p>95 Pants, slangily</p> <p>96 Except</p> <p>97 Palindromic prefix</p> <p>98 Director Kazan</p> <p>100 Something a beanie lacks</p> <p>103 Parody</p> <p>105 *"Well, if the locals are doing it ..."</p> <p>110 Tammy who sang "Stand by Your Man"</p> <p>112 Occupied</p> <p>113 Greek word meaning "character"</p> | <p>114 See 111-Down</p> <p>115 Where there's smoke</p> <p>119 Gather, as volunteers</p> <p>121 "Etc., etc." ... or a statement about answers to this puzzle's starred clues?</p> <p>125 Commonly contracted two-word phrase</p> <p>126 Why you might run out</p> <p>127 Makes gassy</p> <p>128 Get goose bumps, say</p> <p>129 "Ciao!"</p> <p>130 Popular papal name</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DOWN</p> <p>1 Nickname that drops -ces</p> <p>2 Very formal, or very informal, garment</p> <p>3 Royal title</p> <p>4 The time machine on "Doctor Who"</p> <p>5 "Toy Story" antagonist</p> <p>6 What makes creamer creamier?</p> <p>7 What Beethoven did in his 30s and 40s</p> <p>8 Use as a rendezvous point</p> <p>9 Essen exclamation</p> <p>10 What an "@" might signify</p> <p>11 Word with ear or peace</p> <p>12 Confuse</p> <p>13 Like swimming and surfing</p> <p>14 It's worth one point in cricket</p> <p>15 With Desmond Tutu, co-author of the 2016 best seller "The Book of Joy"</p> <p>16 Complete, as a .pdf contract</p> <p>17 Au naturel</p> <p>18 Canopy makeup</p> <p>20 British draft horse</p> <p>23 English dos</p> <p>28 Four to five spaces, typically</p> <p>31 Police operation requiring patience</p> <p>32 Rose gold, e.g.</p> <p>34 "It's ... OK"</p> <p>35 Family member that's also a letter in the NATO alphabet</p> <p>36 One charged with climate policy</p> <p>38 Go-ahead</p> <p>40 Sorta</p> <p>42 Deck treatment</p> <p>44 "Who's That Girl?" rapper</p> <p>45 It's nothing</p> <p>47 Where a grilled cheese can be found at McDonald's</p> <p>48 Suffix for a fad</p> <p>49 Was out</p> <p>51 Choir voice</p> <p>52 Smart</p> <p>53 Have a life</p> <p>54 Sends high into the sky</p> <p>59 "I don't think so"</p> <p>62 Its largest islands are Savai'i and Upolu</p> <p>63 The Jazz, on scoreboards</p> <p>64 Carnival dance</p> |
|---|--|---|

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| <p>66 Glamping option named for its shape</p> <p>68 "No bid"</p> <p>69 Gave, as nourishment</p> <p>70 Male swan</p> <p>71 Shipshape</p> <p>72 Bottom of the barrel</p> <p>73 Knee-slapper</p> <p>79 Like many suitcase handles</p> <p>81 Club relative</p> <p>82 Canon offering, in brief</p> | <p>84 Spotted nocturnal mammal</p> <p>85 Play thing?</p> <p>86 Bit of redacted info, for short</p> <p>89 Indubitably</p> <p>90 "Ben-___"</p> <p>91 A little light combat?</p> <p>93 ___ Lilly & Co.</p> <p>94 Breakfast nook</p> <p>99 "Have you heard about batik? It's a dyeing ___" (groaner)</p> | <p>101 Childish plea</p> <p>102 "Holy smokes!"</p> <p>104 Do some maintenance on, as a PC's disk</p> <p>105 Resource in the game Catan</p> <p>106 French name that is an anagram of a German river</p> <p>107 Pompeo of "Grey's Anatomy"</p> <p>108 "Now I remember!"</p> <p>109 Poet Marianne</p> | <p>111 With 114-Across, crystal collector, perhaps</p> <p>116 Mother of Apollo and Artemis</p> <p>117 Account holder, e.g.</p> <p>118 Popular online marketplace</p> <p>120 Day on Mars</p> <p>122 Either of two lead characters in "Kiss Me, Kate"</p> <p>123 Homophone of 90-Down</p> <p>124 Poetic palindrome</p> |
|---|--|--|--|

ANSWERS FOUND IN NEXT WEEK'S PAPER...

Letter to the Editor

Dear Beverly Hills Courier,

How did this referendum to stop the Cheval Blanc Hotel start? The union lost its bid to unionize The Beverly Hills Hotel and The Bel Air Hotel because those employees already liked their salaries and benefits and rejected the union. Now, they see this project and company as a very high profile target that will garner them recognition and influence. So they gathered signatures to overturn the City Council and Planning Commission approvals.

Since when are we manipulated into getting what the union wants? Since when are we manipulated by members of the community using inaccurate information and images, and emotional plays?

We want to attract the best in business to continue to set Beverly Hills apart and to

support our city functions. To let this union and a handful of misleading residents kill a deal which benefits our community in so many ways would be a HUGE mistake. A missed opportunity we will never see again.

My great grandmother built the Beverly Hills Hotel over 110 years ago in 1912. Our city was literally built around it. Now we have the opportunity to create another landmark to take Beverly Hills into the future - enhancing our city's brand, creating more jobs and generating much needed revenue. With the Metro coming, our need for increased emergency services funding is significant. Vote YES on BOTH measures to secure that funding and a bright future for our town. VOTE YES on B and C.

Robbie Anderson

COMMUNITY

The Courier in Mexico



Beverly Hills Unified School District Board of Education Vice President Amanda Stern recently vacationed with a group of Beverly Hills residents in Puerto Vallarta for spring break. Pictured with Stern (holding paper) are Lisa Rubel as well as Drs. Justin and Sarah Yovino.

Police Blotter

The following incidents of assault, burglary, DUI arrest, motor vehicle theft, theft, and vandalism have been reported. Streets are usually indicated by block numbers.



ASSAULT - SIMPLE

4/16/2023, 12:25 p.m. at S. SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD / N. CANON DRIVE

4/7/2023, 5:45 p.m. at 100 Block of S. ROBERTSON BLVD.

4/7/2023, 2:53 p.m. at 9600 Block of SUNSET BLVD.

BURGLARY - COMMERCIAL BUILDING

4/16/2023, 3:08 a.m. at 100 Block of N. LA CIENEGA BLVD.

4/10/2023, 2:33 a.m. at 9300 Block of CIVIC CENTER DRIVE

4/8/2023, 4:42 a.m. at 300 Block of N. CANON DRIVE

BURGLARY - CONSTRUCTION SITE

4/10/2023, 4:10 a.m. at 300 Block of N. CAMDEN DRIVE

BURGLARY - FROM A MOTOR VEHICLE

4/17/2023, 11:37 a.m. at 300 Block of S. RODEO DRIVE

4/14/2023, 4 p.m. at 300 Block of S. SWALL DRIVE

4/13/2023, 8:30 a.m. at 300 Block of N. CANON DRIVE

4/10/2023, 7:23 p.m. at 300 Block of S. REXFORD DRIVE

BURGLARY - RESIDENTIAL (COMMON AREA)

4/10/2023, 12:39 p.m. at 100 Block of N. GALE DRIVE

BURGLARY - RESIDENTIAL (NO ONE HOME)

4/15/2023, 11 p.m. at 400 Block of N. DOHENY DRIVE

4/14/2023, 9:03 p.m. at 1700 Block of GREEN ACRES DRIVE

4/8/2023, 8:00 p.m. at 100 Block of N. HAMILTON DRIVE

DUI ARREST

4/15/2023, 7:18 p.m. at S. CAMDEN DRIVE / OLYMPIC BOULEVARD

4/15/2023, 5:25 p.m. at N. BEDFORD DRIVE / BRIGHTON WAY

4/14/2023, 3:28 a.m. at N. SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD / N. PALM DRIVE

4/9/2023, 10:53 p.m. at N. CANON DRIVE / PARK WAY

MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT

4/17/2023, 1:17 a.m. at 400 Block of S. OAKHURST DRIVE

THEFT - GRAND

4/13/2023, 3:40 p.m. at 200 Block of N. CRESCENT DRIVE

4/12/2023, 12:33 p.m. at 9600 Block of WILSHIRE BLVD.

4/10/2023, 4:37 p.m. at 9600 Block of WILSHIRE BLVD.

THEFT - GRAND (FROM VEHICLE)

4/16/2023, 6:10 p.m. at 9400 Block of DAYTON WAY

4/16/2023, 9 a.m. at 100 Block of S. ALMONT DRIVE

4/14/2023, 4:40 p.m. at 9100 Block of WILSHIRE BLVD.

THEFT - PETTY

4/17/2023, 12:30 a.m. at 300 Block of S. RODEO DRIVE

4/13/2023, 2:16 a.m. at 8600 Block of CLIFTON WAY

4/12/2023, 3 p.m. at 200 Block of S. BEVERLY DRIVE

THEFT - PETTY (FROM VEHICLE)

4/17/2023, 8:30 a.m. at 300 Block of PECK DRIVE

4/10/2023, 7:24 p.m. at 300 Block of S. REXFORD DRIVE

VANDALISM

4/17/2023, 1 p.m. at 300 Block of S. CRESCENT DRIVE

4/16/2023, 9 a.m. at 400 Block of SMITHWOOD DRIVE

4/13/2023, 2:35 a.m. at N. CRESCENT DRIVE / N. SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD

4/10/2023, 10:55 a.m. at 300 Block of S. ROBERTSON BLVD.

Public Notices

T.S. No.: 20-3698
 Notice of Trustee' Sale
 Loan No.: *5855 APN: 5531-007-006 You Are In Default Under A Deed Of Trust Dated 11/2/2017. Unless You Take Action To Protect Your Property, It May Be Sold At A Public Sale. If You Need An Explanation Of The Nature Of The Proceeding Against You, You Should Contact A Lawyer. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. Trustor: Cross County Holdings Partnership, A CA General Partnership Duly Appointed Trustee: Prestige Default Services, LLC Recorded 11/9/2017 as Instrument No. 20171293047 in book --, page -- of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Los Angeles County, California, Date of Sale: 4/25/2023 at 11:00 AM Place of Sale: behind fountain located in the Civic Center Plaza, 400 Civic Center Plaza, Pomona Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$2,884,988.50 Street Address or other common designation of real property: 1130 North Poinsettia Place West Hollywood, CA 90046 A.P.N.: 5531-007-006 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. Notice To Potential Bidders: If

you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. All checks payable to Prestige Default Services, LLC. Notice To Property Owner: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (877) 440-4460 or visit this Internet Web site <https://mkconsultantsinc.com/trustees-sales/>, using the file number assigned to this case 20-3698. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. Notice To Tenant: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (877) 440-4460, or visit this

internet website <https://mkconsultantsinc.com/trustees-sales/>, using the file number assigned to this case 20-3698 to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. Date: 3/23/2023 Prestige Default Services, LLC 1920 Old Tustin Ave. Santa Ana, California 92705 Questions: 949-427-2010 Sale Line: (877) 440-4460 Tina Suihkonen, Vice President

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CASE NO: 23SMCP00170
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

In the Matter of the petition of:

Chou Xiong-Neri
 To all interested person(s):
 Petitioner:

Chou Xiong-Neri
 current residence address:
240 N. Crescent Drive, Beverly Hills, CA 90210 filed a petition with the **Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 1725 Main St. Santa Monica, 90401. Santa Monica Courthouse, on January 19, 2023** for a Decree changing names as follows:

Present Name:
CHOU XIONG-NERI

Proposed Name:
LEAH CHOU XIONG

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: June 2, 2023 **Time:** 8:30 AM

Department: K **Room:** 203

The address of the court is:
1725 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401

Reason for name change: Petitioner is already known by her proposed name wishes to be known by her proposed name in all personal/business affairs.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signed: **Chou Xiong-Neri**
Judge of the Superior Court: Lawrence Cho
Clerk: David W. Slayton
Deputy: C. Coleman
Dated: April 3, 2023
 Published: 04/07/23, 04/24/23, 04/21/23, 04/28/23
 BHC-R27291

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2023060321

The following is/are doing business as: **SMARTHOME ADVISORS GROUP**
 324 S. Beverly Dr. #452, Beverly Hills, CA 90212; **Bradley H Green** 324 S. Beverly Dr. #452, Beverly Hills, CA 90212; The business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on February 2018: **Bradley H Green, Owner.** Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: March 20, 2023; Published: April 07, 14, 21, 28, 2023 **LACC N/C**
BEVERLY HILLS COURIER

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2023063394

The following is/are doing business as: **LALABALUEZA, LLC**
 626 Wilshire Blvd. #410, Los Angeles, CA 90017; **Lalabalueza, LLC** 626 Wilshire Blvd. #410, Los Angeles, CA 90017; The business is conducted by: **A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (#202355210595)**, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on February 2023: **Traci Williams, Manager.** Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: March 22, 2023; Published: April 07, 14, 21, 28, 2023 **LACC N/C**
BEVERLY HILLS COURIER

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2023065927

The following is/are doing business as: **CARING HEARTS CREATIVE HEALTHCARE SOLUTIONS**
 601 N. Kings Rd. #103, West Hollywood, CA 90048; **Susan Kraut** 601 N. Kings Rd. #103, West Hollywood, CA 90048; The business is conducted by:

AN INDIVIDUAL, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on May 2003: **Susan Kraut, Owner.** Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: March 24, 2023; Published: April 14, 21, 28, May 05, 2023 **LACC N/C**
BEVERLY HILLS COURIER

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2023065925

The following is/are doing business as: **HERBERT'S PHARMACY**
 9001 Wilshire Blvd. #101, Beverly Hills, CA 90211; **Herbert Glicksman** 9001 Wilshire Blvd. #101, Beverly Hills, CA 90211; The business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on May 1987: **Herbert Glicksman, Owner.** Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: March 24, 2023; Published: April 14, 21, 28, May 05, 2023 **LACC N/C**
BEVERLY HILLS COURIER

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2023065929

The following is/are doing business as: 1) **URBAN GROUP, INC** 2) **URBAN GROUP** 3) **LA URBAN PROERTIES, INC** 439 N. Canon Dr. 3rd Flr., Beverly Hills, CA 90210; **El Marketing & Properties Inc.** 439 N. Canon Dr. 3rd Flr., Beverly Hills, CA 90210; The business is conducted by: **A CORPORATION (#2821762)**, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on January 2005: **David Ben Eliyahu, President.** Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: March 24, 2023; Published: April 14, 21, 28, May 05, 2023 **LACC N/C**
BEVERLY HILLS COURIER

NOTICE—

Fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (See Section 14400, et seq., Business and Professions Code).

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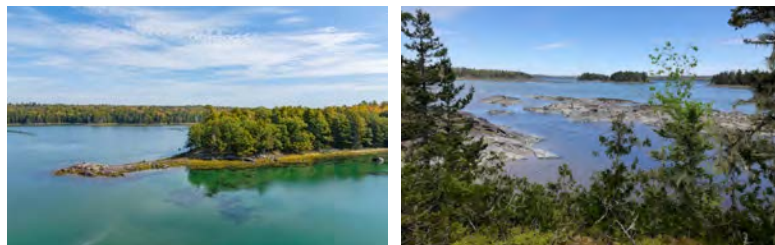
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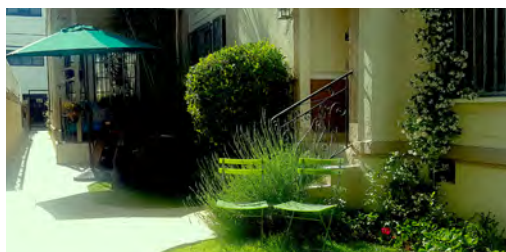
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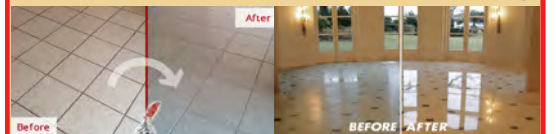
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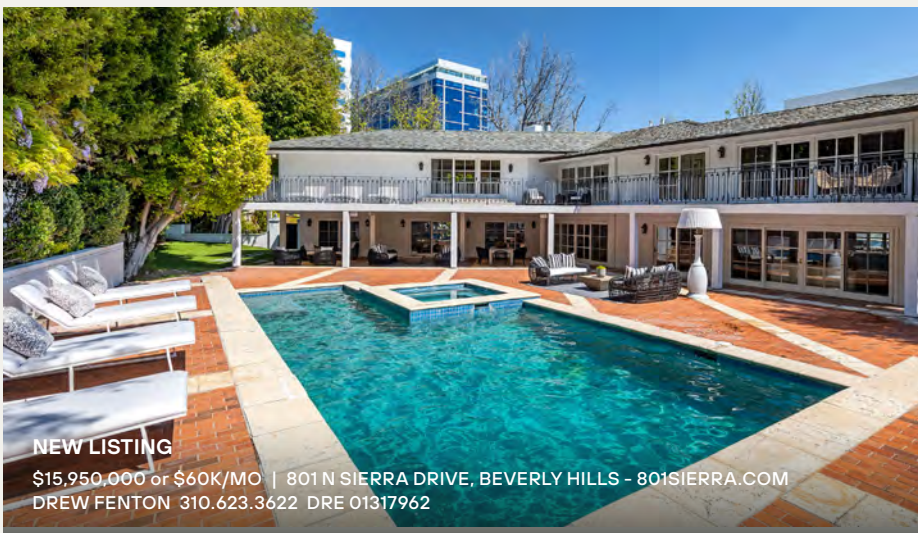


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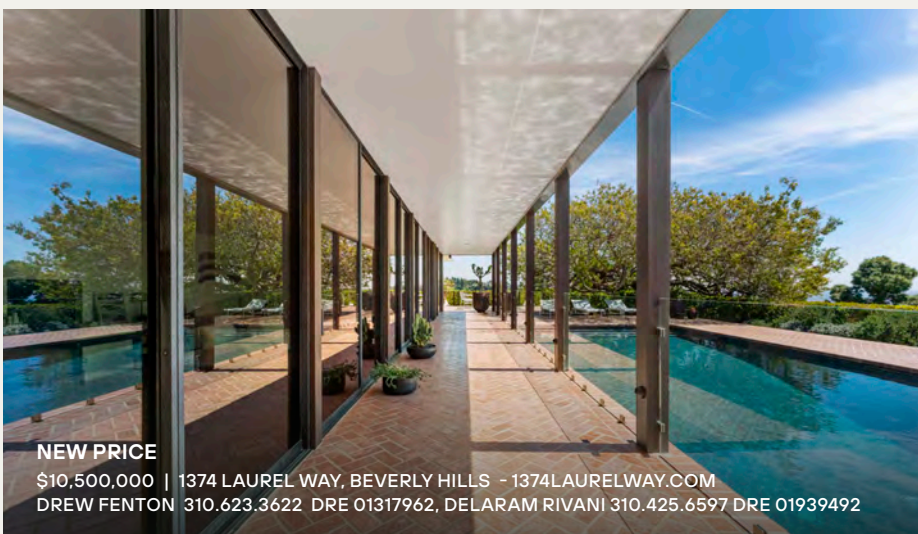
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