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THE WEATHER, BEVERLY HILLS CA

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| ☀️ | Friday | 77° 58° |
| ☀️ | Saturday | 80° 60° |
| ☁️ | Sunday | 80° 59° |
| ☁️ | Monday | 69° 56° |
| ☁️ | Tuesday | 62° 53° |
| ☁️ | Wednesday | 60° 52° |
| ☁️ | Thursday | 63° 53° |

Documentary Celebrates 100 Years of Beverly Hills Independence



Photo courtesy city of Beverly Hills

L to R: Phil Savenick of the Beverly Hills Historical Society, Councilmember Lili Bosse, Vice Mayor Lester Friedman, Mayor Dr. Julian Gold, Councilmember John Mirisch and Councilmember Sharona Nazarian at the screening.

BY CLARA HARTER

On April 24, 1923, approximately 850 residents of Beverly Hills took to the ballot box and made a decision that would change the course of the city's history. When given the choice between being annexed into Los Angeles and remaining their own city, the

people picked independence.

Now, exactly 100 years later, the Beverly Hills Historical Society released a documentary called "The Stars Who Saved Our City," which celebrates the significance of this vote and the eight movie stars who rallied

See DOCUMENTARY, page 18

Chamber Presents Work Plan and Funding Requests for Next Fiscal Year

BY RYAN TOROK

The Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce is requesting more than \$450,000 in funding for programs associated with its work plan for the upcoming fiscal year, 2023-2024, along with the waiving of fees for a variety of permit-requiring activities.

Beverly Hills Chamber CEO Todd Johnson and Brittany Ganson, the Chamber's director of economic development and government affairs, presented the group's work plan and funding request during an April 26 Beverly Hills City Council Liaison/Chamber of Commerce Committee Meeting. They addressed Mayor Dr. Julian Gold and Councilmember Lili Bosse, who served as the council liaisons during the meeting.

For the upcoming year, the Chamber's proposed programming includes participation in the annual New York Business Attraction and Retention Mission, during which Chamber leaders and City Council members will meet with businesses in the hope of bringing them to Beverly Hills while

See CHAMBER, page 12

Plans In The Works for 'Rodeo Drive Celebrates'

BY CLARA HARTER

Rodeo Drive is considered by many to be the jewel of Beverly Hills and plans are currently in the works for two special promotional weeks that will allow it to shine even brighter.

The initiative, dubbed "Rodeo Drive Celebrates," is the brainchild of the Rodeo Drive Committee and calls for seven days of business sponsored events on the street centered around a retail theme.

The program is still in the approval phase and will require the sign off of the City Council before it can go ahead. However, Vice Mayor Lester Friedman and Councilmember Lili Bosse were both very supportive of the program when it was presented to them at a recent Rodeo Drive-Special Events-Holiday Committee Council Liaison meeting.

"I love this idea. I think it's truly



Photo courtesy city of Beverly Hills

Rodeo Drive

fantastic," said Bosse. "I do believe... the businesses will really shine in terms of their brand and create activations and bring more people into their stores."

The first week is tentatively scheduled See 'RODEO DRIVE CELEBRATES,' page 17

Beverly Hills School Board Addresses Student Behavior Crisis

BY RYAN TOROK

Beverly Hills United School District (BHUSD) Board of Education members are concerned about bullying and considering discipline strategies for students demonstrating behavioral problems.

In a comprehensive presentation delivered during the Board of Education's April 25 meeting, Superintendent Dr. Michael Bregy discussed the ways in which student behavior has worsened since before the pandemic.

See SCHOOL BOARD, page 15

Courier Calendar

NOW - APRIL 29

THEATRE 40: "PRIN"
7 P.M.

Theatre 40 presents a special fundraising performance of Andrew Davies' "Prin." The play stars the egocentric and arrogant Prin, who's a principal of a teacher's college in England. She fights with every fiber of her being against mediocrity in public education and in the world in general, but her world is falling apart. She emerges as a character whose noble ideals are doomed by her arrogant insensitivity. Tickets are \$40 each and fund the 56th season of Theatre 40. Guests must be vaccinated against COVID-19 and masks are strongly encouraged.
theatre40.org

NOW - APRIL 30

**GEFFEN PLAYHOUSE:
"THE LONELY FEW"**

The Geffen Playhouse, in association with Fourthwall Theatrical, presents the world premiere of "The Lonely Few." "The Lonely Few" is based on the book by Rachel Bonds and directed by Trip Cullman and Ellenore Scott. The cast features Joshua Close, Damon Daunno, Lauren Patten, Ciara Renée, Helen J Shen, and Thomas Silcott. The production is a musical, and it focuses on small-town Kentucky musician Lila who is offered a chance at something greater by established musician Amy. The play is a love story between two women searching for a sense of home. Runtime for the show is 2 hours and 15 minutes, including one intermission. Tickets range from \$30-\$129. Rush tickets are available the day of the performance, one hour before showtime, for \$35 general admission and

\$15 for students. Masks are encouraged. Performances are held in the Audrey Skirball Kenis Theater at 10886 Le Conte Ave., Los Angeles.
geffenplayhouse.org

NOW - APRIL 30

**MOCA GRAND: "HENRY TAYLOR:
B SIDE"**

**TUES., WED., FRI. 11 A.M.-5 P.M.
THURS. 11 A.M.-8 P.M.
SAT.-SUN. 11 A.M.-6 P.M.**
MOCA Grand presents the largest show of artist Henry Taylor's works to date. The exhibition surveys 30 years of Taylor's work in painting, drawing, sculpture, and installation. He's often celebrated for his unique aesthetic, social vision, and freewheeling experimentation, known for including friends, relatives, strangers on the street, athletic stars, politicians, and entertainers. Utilizing his lived experience, Taylor's works convey fundamental empathy in close looking and sharpened social criticism. Admission to this exhibition is free.
moca.org

NOW - MAY 14

**ROGUE MACHINE THEATRE: "BLUE"
MON., FRI., SAT., 8 P.M.
SUN. 2 P.M.**

The Rogue Machine Theatre hosts the production of "Blue" by June Carryl and directed by Michael Matthews. The show features Julianne Chidi-Hill and John Colella in a story about LAPD Detective LaRhonda Parker. She investigates the shooting of a black motorist during a traffic stop only to find the officer in question is Boyd Sully, a family friend and her husband's ex-partner.

In the gathering of facts she's left to wonder where the truth lies. Tickets are \$30 for general admission, \$25 for seniors, and \$20 for students with ID. The Rogue Machine Theatre is located at 7657 Melrose Ave., Los Angeles.
roguemachinetheatre.org

NOW - SEPT. 10

**LACMA: "AFRO-ATLANTIC HISTORIES"
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 "Afro-Atlantic Histories," which charts the transatlantic slave trade and its legacies in the African diaspora. It features over 100 artworks from the last four centuries. Those works are presented in juxtaposition with evolving perspectives across time and geography through paintings, drawings, prints, sculptures, photographs, time-based media, and ephemera. Featured artists include Frans Post, Édouard Antoine Renard, Kerry James Marshall, Alison Saar, Hank Willis Thomas, and Kara Walker. 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

NOW - APRIL 30

**VIBRATO GRILL JAZZ: GABRIELITO Y LA VERDAD, AMANDA CASTRO, AND DR. WU - THE MUSIC OF STEELY DAN
7 P.M., 9:30 P.M.**

Vibrato Grill Jazz will host three shows from April 28-30. On April 28, Gabrielito y La Verdad play a mix of salsa/Latin jazz. On

April 29, Amanda Castro performs, fusing vintage jazz, New Orleans jazz, swing, and pop songs into a new musical experience. Both acts have showtimes at 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., and cover is \$25 for each show. Dr. Wu plays the music of Steely Dan on April 30, with a set that features their blockbuster hits and groovy lyric-driven songs. There is one show at 7 p.m. and the cover is \$30 or \$15 at the bar. Reservations are available online.
vibratogrilljazz.com

MAY 1

**WRITERS BLOC: BONNIE GARMUS
7:30 P.M.**

Writers Bloc hosts author Bonnie Garmus for her novel "Lessons in Chemistry." The book takes place in the early 1960s where a brilliant chemist finds herself as the host of a cooking show, "Supper at Six." The program is a staple of housewives across the country and, as such, the chemist has the opportunity to challenge and elevate women one tablespoon at a time. The venue for the event is The Ebell of Los Angeles in the Lounge at 741 S. Lucerne Blvd., Los Angeles. Parking is available in adjacent lots or on the street. Tickets are \$25. It is requested that all guests wear a mask at the program.
writersblocpresents.com

MAY 10

**"THINK PINK FOR WOMEN'S WELLNESS"
8:30 A.M.-3 P.M.**

"Think Pink for Women's Wellness," an Irene Dunne Guild annual event, focuses on health education and awareness for women and their families. This year features breakthrough lectures with notable physicians and speakers. The event culminates with a luncheon held in the Upper Bel-Air Bay Club overlooking the Pacific Ocean. Boutique shopping is available throughout the event with net proceeds benefitting programs, equipment and services at Providence Saint John's Health Center. Tickets are \$175 per person. The Upper Bel-Air Bay Club is located at 16801 E. Pacific Coast Highway, Pacific Palisades.
iredunneguild.org

MAY 20 - 21

**BEVERLY HILLS ART SHOW
10 A.M.-6 P.M.**

The city of Beverly Hills and its Community Services department celebrates 50 years of art shows in Beverly Gardens Park from May 20-21. Over 230 local, national, and international artists' work will be displayed including paintings, sculptures, ceramics, glass, drawings, watercolors, traditional printmaking, jewelry, photography, and more. Nearly 85 new artists are set to appear in the show along four blocks of Santa Monica Boulevard, from Rodeo Drive to Rexford Drive. A Beer and Wine Garden, gourmet food, beverage trucks, artist demonstrations and more will be featured in the event. Parking is available across from the show grounds and in city parking structures.
beverlyhills.org



Photo by Jeff Lorch

Ciara Renée and Lauren Patten in "The Lonely Few" at the Geffen Playhouse until April 30

THE MAYBOURNE BAR

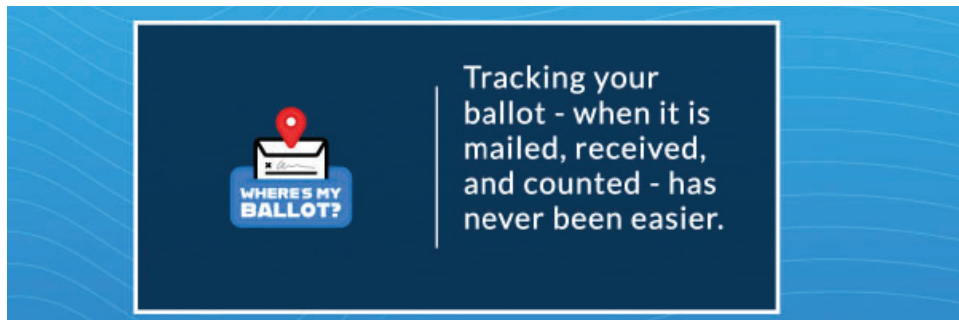
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maybournebeverlyhills.com

County Begins Mailing Vote-by-Mail Ballots for the May 23 Referendum



The Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk (RR/CC) began mailing Vote by Mail ballots to all registered voters in the City of Beverly Hills for the May 23 Special Municipal Election.

Voters are asked to vote on Measures "B" and "C," which seek to uphold the Development Agreement and the ordinance approving the Specific Plan Zoning and Map Amendments for the Cheval Blanc Beverly Hills hotel project.

Voters can track their ballot every step of the way with Where's My Ballot? - a free subscription that sends automatic notifications

by text, email, or voicemail on the status of the ballot.

Voters can return completed ballots by mail, with no postage required. They can also drop it off in person at a Ballot Drop Box (located at Beverly Hills City Hall and Roxbury Park Community Center) or Vote Center (beginning May 13).

The RR/CC provides translated election materials in up to 18 different languages. Voters can request to receive their materials in their preferred language by returning the Language Request Form on the back of the Sample Ballot Book, or by calling 800-815-2666, option 3. ●



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APRIL 20TH - MAY 6TH

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Events Planned in Beverly Hills for Jewish American Heritage Month



The city of Beverly Hills and its Community Services Department will recognize Jewish American Heritage Month this May with celebratory events throughout the city all month long. Jewish American Heritage Month was established in 2006 to recognize and celebrate the past and present contributions that Jewish Americans contributed to the history, culture and society of our country.

"As a largely Jewish city, we look forward to celebrating Jewish American Heritage Month this May. It is an opportunity for us to showcase the amazing things, some thousands of years old, which our culture contributes to modern society," said Beverly Hills Mayor Dr. Gold. "We hope, in these times of intolerance, events like this educate people about Jewish culture and perhaps, make for a more peaceful world."

Free featured events for Jewish American Heritage Month are:

Rugelach Baking Contest, May 14, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Beverly Hills Farmers' Market. Entry applications are online at beverlyhills.org/farmersmarket.

Shalom Storytime with actress, writer and storyteller Jessica Honor Carleton, May 28, 1 p.m. at the Beverly Hills Public Library. No RSVP necessary.

Critical Conversations: The Jewish contributions to the American Fabric of Life discussion panel, May 31, 6:30 p.m.-8 p.m., Beverly Hills City Hall Municipal Gallery. Register at beverlyhills.org/JAHM.

For more information and a list of more celebratory events, visit beverlyhills.org/JAHM. ●

City Hall Illuminated for Israel Independence Day



The Beverly Hills City Hall was illuminated this week in honor of Israel's 75th Independence Day. Pictured are Councilmember Lili Bosse, Vice Mayor Lester Friedman, Israel Consul General Hillel Newman, Mayor Dr. Julian Gold, Councilmember John Mirisch and Councilmember Sharona Nazarian.

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.”

Lilli 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

Beverly Hills Is On Its Way to Lifelong Water Efficiency



BY SHANA EPSTEIN,
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

I want to congratulate our community, all of YOU for your water conservation efforts! Beverly Hills has averaged saving 30% of our water when comparing month to month from April 2022 through March 2023 to those same months in 2013. That was the city's goal when City Council called for a water shortage emergency in February of 2022.

How did our community do it? Well, for the most part you limited your irrigation to just two days a week and avoided watering from dawn to dusk, but when you really shined was during these past wet months. When it rained, you stopped watering altogether. The city also stopped watering its parks and green spaces during those rainy months as well and began watering two days a week on April 17.

What next? Lifelong water efficiency!

Why do we still need to use less water? Think about right sizing your water consumption just like you don't necessarily need to supersize that soda. If we use what is necessary indoors and curb our thirst by planting California-friendly plants, treating our soils so they are absorbent and use the

right amount of water, we can make this rainy season last for more than a year.

Aren't we out of the drought? Well, hydrologically the drought has been subdued, but drought is predictable in California, so we need to use wisely to stretch further each drop. This year, one of the three water resources for the city of Beverly Hills is doing exceptionally well. The State Water Project that originates from the Feather River Watershed collected in Lake Oroville is at a 100% allocation. That bit of good news was declared just last week. The last time the State Water Project had an allocation of 100% was in 2006.

The Colorado River, another source for Beverly Hills, is still recovering from depletion and one good year will not wipe the slate clean. The third resource for the city is our own groundwater. Since April 2022, the Water Treatment Plant is back up and running, but depends upon our groundwater basins recovering and absorbing all the rain and creating permeable areas for that to happen. The city continues to create stormwater capture and by this July, the Burton Way Green Street project will be complete, which entails a 1-million-gallon stormwater capture reservoir to irrigate the Burton Way median's new water efficient landscape. In addition, Beverly Hills is a founding member of the Metropolitan Water District. This water collective is actively storing water in groundwater basins and reservoirs to help us stock away water for those dry years to come.

If you would like to learn more about how you can live a water efficient life and receive rebates, visit bhsaves.org or waterwise.com. Always feel free to call the city at 310-285-2467 or email us at AskPW@beverlyhills.org. Any of our customer service representatives can help you sign up for water tracker to learn more about your individual water use. ●



The city has curtailed its lawn watering schedule.

Jeweler Martin Katz Opens New Location



Beverly Hills jeweler Martin Katz celebrated the grand opening of his new Penthouse location inside the Fred Hayman Building with a ribbon cutting and opening reception on April 20. Above: Martin Katz, Anastasia Soare and Kelly Katz

Beverly Hills Police Officers Association Plans May Events



The Beverly Hills Police Officers Association will hold its Annual Police Service Day and Pancake Breakfast on May 7 from 9-11 a.m. 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 for the whole family. This year's sponsors include The Beverly Hilton and Cain International.

Additionally, the Association will hold

its inaugural Bourbon & Badges event on May 18, from 5:30 -7:30pm on the Rooftop Terrace at L'Ermitage Beverly Hills. Guests will enjoy a curated selection of Woodinville Bourbon paired with light bites. Proceeds will benefit the Beverly Hills Police Officers Benevolent Fund. Limited tickets available. Must be 21+ to attend. To purchase tickets, please visit BourbonBadges.givesmart.com

For further information please contact the Beverly Hills Police Officers Benevolent Fund at 310.550.4551. ●



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'Judy Blume Forever' - Everlasting

BY NEELY SWANSON

Judy Blume. I smile just saying the name and I bet a lot of you do too. This unassuming woman helped so many of us survive childhood and parenting with a knowing smile and a boost to the confidence that crashed the barriers of doubts and crises, fears and confrontations, and did it with a laugh and a grin. She was complicit in our schemes and attempts to push through the seemingly insurmountable issues of childhood and adolescence, always letting us know she was in on the secret.

This excellent documentary, "Judy Blume Forever," is a great start to discover all things Judy, now a very youthful and still active 85. Directed by Davina Pardo and Leah Wolchok, obsessed fans of her work, they pursued Judy relentlessly until she finally said yes to participating in this film. They made great use of archival footage of Judy's many appearances on TV, interviewed by every talk show host of the 70s and 80s. Additional commentary is from a diverse group of contemporary writers and actors speaking about how Judy's work resonated with them, a group as diverse as Molly Ringwald, Lena Dunham, Samantha Bee and writer Tayari Jones, among many others. Pardo and Wolchok were able to fully capture Judy by letting her tell her own story in her own way. It's a learning experience for us all.

Judy, she just naturally seems to be a Judy and not a Ms. Blume, was the perfect daughter of the 1950s. She excelled in school, didn't raise a ruckus; went to college and got her MRS., marrying a lawyer, second only in stature in the Jewish home to a doctor; had kids and was a stay-at-home mom. She kept a lid on her feelings and carried on. As she put it, she was the good girl with the bad girl lurking inside. Pretend to be happy; pretend everything is good. She worked hard to please everyone around her, with only her beloved father on her side. More's the tragedy that he died days before her wedding. She soldiered on.

Chafing at the bit in a suburb where she was the square peg in a round hole, she needed to feed her creative impulses. As long as she fulfilled her wifely and motherly duties without sacrificing the needs of others, her husband "allowed" her to work at home during her spare time. Now we've all been there, I think. The amount of spare time left during the day of a stay-at-home mom won't fill an hourglass, but she found it. Sequestered in the open at a desk with a typewriter, Judy began to write children's books, or, as she recounts, poor Dr. Seuss imitations. But she plowed ahead, wincing at the many polite rejections from publishers. Even she will admit that she wasn't very good at first. But a major breakthrough came when her husband showed one of her manuscripts to a publisher friend. His advice? You have no talent; find something else. Instead of curling up in a ball, this was the fire that lit her.

Judy read constantly, something begun



Photos courtesy of Prime Video

Top: Judy Blume and husband George Cooper; Bottom: Molly Ringwald

in childhood. Her mother worried about everything but never about what Judy read. What Judy noticed, and what became her breakthrough, was that no one was writing from the child's point of view. Children's literature, in general, did not take into consideration the native intelligence and emotions of the reader. "Are You There God? It's Me Margaret" came from her heart and the first draft just flowed. It's about sex, spirituality, religion, puberty and all told

from the standpoint of a sixth-grade girl. As one of the commentators/interviewees in the documentary states, "Judy was talking to me." The book dealt with adolescence in a realistic manner and its smashing sales indicated that there were a lot of listeners out there. Judy had found her voice and there was no stopping her. She could be fearless in her writing, which she couldn't be in life.

She next channeled the mind of a

fourth-grade boy, Peter, who is hounded by his two year old brother Farley, aka Fudge, and how he interferes with everything in his life. Fudge is a handful, hilarious and a pain in the derriere. His adventures are less important than the impact he has on those around him, especially his siblings; and the books (there was a quartet featuring Fudge) capture that preadolescent stage of angst and awkwardness. As Judy explains, "Every little boy was Fudge." Mine certainly



Left: Samantha Bee; Right: Lorrie Kim (who began writing to Judy in childhood); Below: Judy Blume



was and I bet yours was too.

Judy next had an important question to ask herself. “Have I led my own life or did I live the life my mother wanted me to live?” Her divorce from her first husband was inevitable and opened her up to living her own life and making her own mistakes, and there were lots of them. Her success in channeling the feelings of the children and adolescents she wrote about put a big fat target on her back. The Moral Majority,

making a giant comeback under Ronald Reagan’s presidency, was outraged over her frank discussions of teenage sex. Soon there were calls to ban her books (well, not just her books) and Phyllis Schlafly took direct aim at her. Schlafly, primarily active in the 70s and early 80s, was a conservative, anti-feminist activist who successfully torpedoed the Equal Rights Amendment. Targeting Blume’s writing kept her (well actually both of them) in the spotlight.

For Schlafly, any discussion of sexuality was a sin. For Blume, censorship and book banning were far worse. She emphatically stated that a book cannot harm a child.

But Blume didn’t just care about her books; she cared about her readers. She received massive amounts of fan letters and made an effort to reply to as many of them as she could. Several of the interviewees are actually women who started writing to Judy when they were children, confiding things to her that they felt they couldn’t confide in anyone else. They had secrets and harbored feelings and questions they only felt comfortable writing to the author of “Are You There God? It’s Me Margaret,” or “Forever,” a book that dealt with teenage sex without punishment. Judy encouraged these girls, now women, to use their letters as a journal, to help them work out their issues even while writing to Judy. When faced with the real-life crisis of one of her fans, Judy made sure the girl received the psychological help she needed. It is awe-inspiring to see and listen to these girls, now women, as they relate their years-long correspondence with a famous writer who always had time to answer them.

Judy was married to her first husband

for 16 years. That shows her perseverance. Spreading her wings a bit too quickly, she married again almost immediately, disastrously as she puts it. But by letting her bad girl escape, she found her true self and with it, almost 10 years after that second marriage, the love of her life. With husband number three, George Cooper, they traveled the world, each supporting the other. Not surprisingly, in retirement, she owns a bookstore where she works behind the counter several days a week. Grounded, normal, and breathtakingly real, Judy loves to receive visitors to the store, promoting the books that the resurgent Moral Majority is trying to ban.

“Judy Blume Forever” will make you want to go back to your favorite of hers or if, heavens above, you’ve never read her, you’ll want to start at the beginning and sample everything. The world may have changed from the time Judy was writing, but, fundamentally, the problems of childhood are still very much the same. She doesn’t give you solutions, but she does equip you to ask the right questions. Don’t miss this one.

Streaming on Amazon Prime Video April 21. ●



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.



NOTICE OF COMMISSION VACANCY:

The Beverly Hills City Council is seeking qualified residents to fill vacancies on the following Commissions:

TERM BEGINS JANUARY 1, 2024
Planning Commission – One Vacancy

TERM BEGINS JANUARY 1, 2024
Recreation and Parks Commission – One Vacancy

DEADLINE TO APPLY FOR THE ABOVE COMMISSIONS IS ON FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 2023 AT 5:00 P.M.

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

Huma Ahmed
City Clerk

SCE Phone Scam Targets Beverly Hills Residents

BY RYAN TOROK

The Courier has learned of a phone scam with individuals pretending to be from Southern California Edison (SCE) targeting residents of Beverly Hills. Local law enforcement and SCE representatives are advising SCE customers in the Beverly Hills area to be aware of what is happening.

The utility has received complaints from at least 10 Beverly Hills customers since the beginning of the year. The customers reported attempted scams totaling \$3,500, according to Jeff Monford, a senior advisor in corporate communications and philanthropy at SCE.

"Fortunately, none of these customers have paid the scammers any money," the SCE advisor told the Courier.

In 2022, there were 15 complaints received from customers in Beverly Hills, Monford said.

But the actual numbers could be significantly higher.

"We're certain many instances of scams go unreported," he said.

"Sometimes people will call us, but they won't make a report," Beverly Hills Police Department Officer Kevin Orth told the Courier. "There are obviously people out there doing this, so we always want people to let us know when it's happening."

According to Monford, the most common

scenario involves the perpetrators telling the SCE customers that they are behind on payments and have only 45 minutes to pay, or face disconnection. The main method of requested payment is Zelle, the digital payment network used by customers of major banks, or Bitcoin.

Monford reminded customers that SCE will never, under any circumstances, call and threaten disconnection from its service while demanding immediate payment. Furthermore, SCE will never phone a customer to ask for credit card or SCE account information. SCE does not accept prepaid cash cards, bitcoin or payments through third-party mobile apps such as Zelle. The utility does not have a "disconnection department" and SCE employees in the field neither request nor accept payments.

Lt. Reginald Evans, an executive officer with the Beverly Hills Police Department's media relations, said imposters are constantly updating their deceitful tactics to cheat money out of vulnerable individuals.

"These are cyclical scams with no particular pattern," Evans said. "Fortunately, when the public starts to contact the real entities at a legitimate phone number, the scam artists move to a different form of scam as the potential victims grow more wise. They do, however, oftentimes revisit the scam at some point in the future, hence the cycle." ●



To learn more or for questions, visit BEVERLYHILLS.ORG/OFFICEHOURS



OFFICE • HOURS

with **Doctor Gold**

Join us for Mayor Dr. Gold's first "Office Hours with Doctor Gold!"

This **virtual** event will be held on **Tuesday, May 9TH from 7 p.m. – 8 p.m.**

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Brittany Ganson and Todd Johnson at the liaison meeting

CHAMBER, from page 1

enhancing relationships with businesses already operating in the city. The Chamber is planning to set up approximately 24 meetings with companies in New York—6-8 for retention purposes and 16-18 with new businesses.

The proposed cost of the 2023-2024 New York mission is \$115,000.

At \$120,000, the costliest item on the Chamber's proposed work plan for the upcoming year is Now Beverly Hills Shop

Local Marketing and Promotional Program, also known as "Now Beverly Hills." The program focuses on connecting businesses and residents while encouraging residents to shop locally. The Chamber has proposed retaining agency Symblaze, a branding and advertising firm, to manage the creative and design aspects of the program and to ensure an elevated aesthetic.

The Chamber's packed proposals for the year also include the managing of four

regular meetings, occurring quarterly, of the Beverly Hills Commercial Property Owner's Task Force in the hopes of spurring dialogue with commercial landlords on issues concerning commercial properties. The Chamber will also conduct 12 monthly webinars and facilitate 60 one-on-one conversations with El Camino College as part of the Small Business Development Center Partnership and undertake a feasibility study on business attraction targets within Miami. The study will be presented February 2024.

Gold, for his part, expressed tentativeness about the possibility of drawing businesses from Florida's second-most populous city.

"I'm lukewarm on the Miami concept," the Beverly Hills mayor said.

Bosse, however, was more open to the possibility, saying she's aware of many people who've relocated to the state of Florida for tax purposes. There might be opportunities there, the councilmember suggested.

The Chamber's budget request for 2023-2024 comes after its previous budget was revised when not all work was completed by agreed-upon deadlines. The Chamber's original budget for fiscal year 2022-2023 was more than \$540,000. The revised budget was approximately \$330,000.

At the meeting, Johnson expressed confidence the Chamber is equipped to handle

the responsibilities of the upcoming year.

"We put some hard thought and process into this with much more identifiable due dates and clarity and whatnot," the Chamber CEO said. "I think it's going to be that much better."

The council liaisons during the recent meeting praised the work of the Chamber and indicated they'd approve their latest funding request.

"I completely support your request," Bosse said. "I think you've done an extraordinary job. I know under Mayor Gold's leadership it will continue to be even more extraordinary."

Bosse also indicated that she'd approve the Chamber's request for the waiving of permit fees—the Chamber is asking permit fees to be waived for Chamber meeting ribbon cuttings while requesting place-of-assembly fees for special Chamber events also be waived. The Chamber also requested flat parking rates for specific Chamber events.

"From my perspective, I think that the waiving of the fees and the permits is something you should continue to ask for," Bosse said. "I think it should be embedded in the budget going forward."

On May 2, the Chamber's proposed work plan and associated funding request will go before the full City Council for approval. ●

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Why You Should Vote 'YES' on Measures 'B' and 'C'

GUEST EDITORIAL
BY PETER OSTROFF

I am writing to explain why I think that you should vote "YES" to allow the Cheval Blanc hotel project to be built.

First, some background.

We moved into our new Hillside area house in 2016 after a four-year process of designing, permitting and constructing. Even though it was entirely "by right," it took a long time because the city has elaborate processes that are taken seriously by the planning staff, our residents, the Planning Commission and the City Council. These processes ensure that anything that is built is appropriate for our special city.

Shortly after moving in, we learned that the owners of a city hotel were attempting to use a ballot initiative to bypass the city's processes. They sought a simple vote of the city's residents to authorize a high-rise tower approximately three times the height of any other building in the city.

I voted against that initiative because I concluded that the city's processes, including public hearings before the Planning Commission and City Council, were more effective to ensure that any development would be consistent with the best interests of the city.

Thankfully the initiative failed.

The Cheval Blanc Hotel project, in direct contrast with the initiative, went through an unusually exhaustive review process.

As a member of the Planning Commission, I spent many hours considering and helping to revise the Cheval Blanc plans that ultimately resulted in approval of this project.

Specifically, the review started with a Scoping Session (an initial presentation of the project that our city voluntarily conducts to afford an early opportunity for public comment), followed by five Planning Commission public hearings and three City Council public hearings.

Numerous public comments, for and against the project were received. Written responses were provided to every comment.

Now we must address a referendum that attempts to revoke entitlements to construct the Cheval Blanc granted after years of review and revision.

An outside labor union has spent large sums to gather signatures of residents to have a vote to overturn the processes of the city.

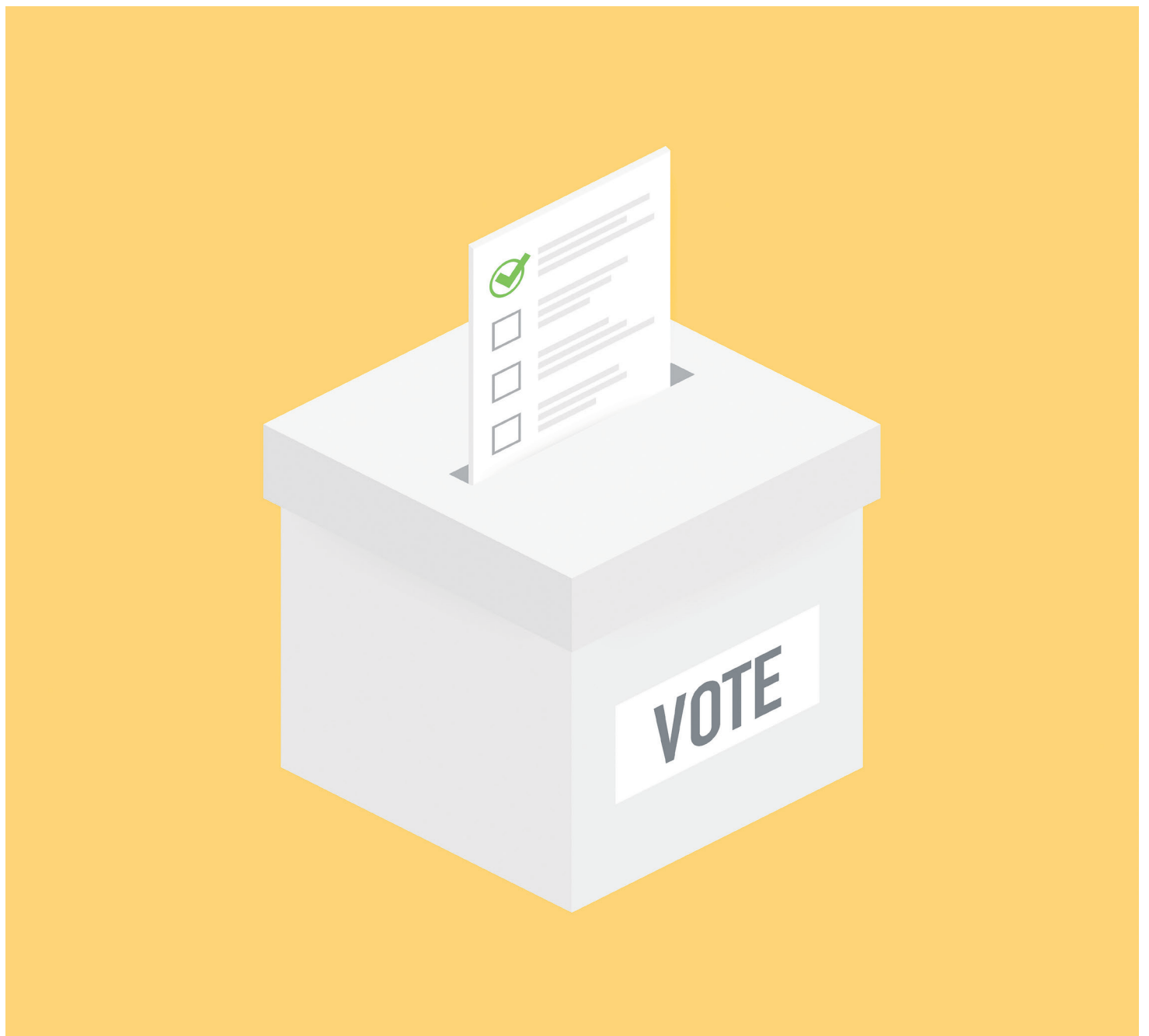
As a resident and as a member of the Planning Commission, I am offended and alarmed by this intrusion.

Now, notwithstanding thorough and time-consuming analysis, the union-sponsored petition has relegated this project to stand or fall in a political contest.

When we cast our votes, "yes" will maintain the carefully considered entitlements; "no" will revoke the entitlements.

Further, a "no" vote likely ensures that any development of the vital, currently vacant sites on Santa Monica Boulevard between Beverly and Rodeo drives will be delayed for years or decades.

Please consider the merits of the entitled project before casting your ballot.



Objectively, the proposed Cheval Blanc Beverly Hills hotel will be a magnificent addition to our city from an architectural and commercial point of view.

Commercially, it is undeniable that this landmark structure will maintain and greatly enhance our city's unique brand. It will provide great benefits to our city's commercial sector and retail and restaurant businesses and generate enormous new city revenues.

This contribution is vital to ensure that we will continue to enjoy city services and facilities that are vastly superior to any of our neighboring municipalities.

In my opinion, it is not an overstatement to observe that it would be a tragedy if our residents reject this extraordinary development.

Now, a few words to those who may have reservations about the project.

After numerous hearings and changes, the Planning Commission unanimously approved the project. By a 4-1 vote, the City Council did as well.

The claim that the project will cause increased traffic was carefully considered and numerous changes were made to minimize adverse impacts.

The claim that the project is "too large" was evaluated. Notably, numerous buildings including those nearby are as tall or taller. The proposed number of hotel rooms is a

fraction of the number of rooms at other city hotels.

I have also heard that a "no" vote should be cast as a "protest" of larger buildings being constructed in certain multi-family areas.

This makes no sense for at least two reasons:

Larger multi-family buildings are a result of state incentives, not any action of the council, and are unrelated to Cheval Blanc; and it is never a good idea to cut off one's nose to spite one's face.

The principal objection expressed by the lone council dissenter was that the developer was not paying the city sufficient funds

up front in addition to the enormous new revenues that would be realized once this magnificent project is completed.

Ironically, most cities would have been pleased to offer Cheval Blanc generous financial incentives to build within their borders. Because of the unique qualities of Beverly Hills, Cheval Blanc has agreed to pay our city many millions of dollars to locate here.

In my view, the benefits to the city, financial and otherwise, will be extraordinary.

Rejecting this project will be a missed opportunity that we shall regret for decades.

Please join me and vote "yes" on BOTH measures to uphold the carefully considered entitlements.



Peter Ostroff and his family have lived in Beverly Hills with some interruptions since 1979. His children attended the Beverly Hills schools. After retiring from a 50-year full-time practice as a trial lawyer in 2017, Ostroff began his term as a member of the Planning Commission in 2018. Two years later, he became Chair of the Commission at the start of the lengthy review process for the Cheval Blanc project. For three years, he was actively involved in analyzing the project and obtaining substantial modifications of the proposal resulting in the current version approved by a unanimous Planning Commission. In addition to the Planning Commission, Ostroff served as Chair of the BHUSD 7-11 Surplus Property Committee and is now participating in efforts to develop the District Offices site on S. Lasky Drive and developing proposals for the use of the Hawthorne School property once its students are moved to the new El Rodeo School. He also serves as Co-Chair of the Citizens Advisory Committee for the City's Climate Adaptation and Action Plan now being prepared.

Beverly Hills Celebrates Earth Day at the Farmers' Market

The city of Beverly Hills held its 20th annual Earth Day celebration at the Beverly Hills Farmer's Market on April 23. This year's theme was "Investing in Our Planet." Participants included the City of Beverly Hills Public Works department, whose booth featured information about the city's sustainability efforts; vendor and organization booths as well as a complimentary compost giveaway and shredding services. Hundreds of visitors stopped by the Rotary Club of Beverly Hills booth, where Chair Wanda Presburger and The Tree People representative Saxon Miller gave away packets of wildflower and vegetable seeds. And, Myra Lurie and Cheryl Kagan spoke with the visitors about the Music Mends Minds program, benefiting residents with memory loss.



Councilmember Lili Bosse, Vice Mayor Lester Friedman, Mayor Dr. Julian Gold, Councilmember John Mirisch, Councilmember Sharona Nazarian and Public Works Commissioner Wendy Nystrom at the Earth Day celebration at the Beverly Hills Farmers' Market



City Manager Nancy Hunt-Coffey and members of the Beverly Hills City Council join members of the Rotary Club of Beverly Hills at their Earth Day booth

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SCHOOL BOARD, from page 1

“We are going through a shifting environment in our school district—not only here but all over the country,” Bregy said.

Bregy suggested strategies for responding to disruptive students, including offering alternatives to suspension, holding weekly or biweekly classes for parents and improving lines of communication.

He spoke of a brief video clip showing students at Westfield Century City mall whose behavior was “horrendous.” He also discussed a student who reportedly stole a tip jar off a cash register from a store on Beverly Boulevard.

The Century City video shows Beverly Hills middle school students engaging in a fight with students from schools outside the district. The 30-45-second clip was taken a couple of weeks ago and also captures a young person reacting disrespectfully to a parent who attempted to intervene.

“These are the types of things we take so personally because they are our students,” Bregy said. “We feel that responsibility.”

The BHUSD superintendent recommended collecting data that will support the objective of reducing student suspensions. He recommended the formation of an advisory council composed of faith leaders, business owners, school staff, parents, and other community members to address the problem.

“We’re recognizing increased behavior issues out there with the kids and not just in school but out in the community and we

are going to be addressing that in a more focused way by having this advisory committee and looking at our procedures at the school,” Board Member and Clerk Mary Wells said.

Echoing Bregy’s report, several local parents during the public comment segment offered personal examples of classroom bullying. They discussed the spread of anti-semitic slurs and bullying at the district’s Horace Mann Elementary School and Beverly Hills High School. One mother appeared in person with her fifth-grade son and said he witnessed a classmate at Horace Mann drawing a swastika. The son spoke before the school board, saying he was hurt by the experience. The mother suggested bringing Holocaust survivors into classrooms to educate students about history.

The meeting kicked off with the recurring Teacher/Student Spotlight segment. Horace Mann Elementary School independent study teacher Ellen Kwon appeared in a “Now Noah Knows” video with Board President Noah Margo and discussed effective learning techniques used by fourth graders when doing addition, subtraction and multiplication.

Several board members and district staff persons—including Bregy and Margo—participated virtually in the three-hour meeting because they were in Washington D.C. for the Coast2Coast Federal Advocacy conference, held April 24-26.

The Beverly Hills school leaders were in the nation’s capital pushing for an increase in federal funding for special education in the



BHUSD School Board Member and Clerk Mary Wells

district. Currently, 5% of funding for special education in BHUSD is provided federally. District leaders are seeking an increase and have been advocating for it in Congress, they said.

“We’re representing our community, our district, in Washington,” Margo said.

During the session, the school board approved a resolution allowing the body to continue holding virtual meetings in light of COVID-19. Each month, the Beverly Hills school board must pass a resolution to continue to hold virtual meetings because of the statewide Brown Act that says local legislative agency meetings must be open and public so that anybody can attend.

The approved resolution says the California governor’s “declaration of a state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic remains active.”

“I’m a ‘yes,’” Margo said when voting on the resolution, “and if it had been a ‘no,’ I wonder if this Zoom would’ve shut off.”

The board also approved a five-year contract with Vantage Technology Consulting Group, a technology services consultant, in connection with bond programs Measures E and BH. The approval followed the issuing of a request-for-quote to procure a firm to provide necessary technology consulting for ongoing and future bond programs. The associated costs will be paid by Measure BH funds.

“Thank you very much for going out for this RFQ so that we have competitive pricing,” Wells, an outspoken advocate for more efficient management of Measures E and BH, said. “I really appreciate it.”

Additionally, the board approved an amendment allocating more than \$400,000 in additional funds for materials testing and inspection services for Beverly Hills High School’s renovation; rejected bids for the Wellness Center project at Beverly Vista Middle School; and expanded the scope of services listed in the rate sheet for the El Rodeo Elementary School construction project.

The purpose of updating the El Rodeo rate sheet, assistant superintendent Raphael Guzman explained, is to match services listed in the contract with what’s eventually included on the invoice.

“We wanted to be clearer in our invoicing

protocols,” he said.

The board, meanwhile, authorized architectural firms as well as materials testing and inspection services for as-needed deliverables associated with Measures E and BH over the next five years. A selection committee, which featured district employees and team members from bond manager Fonder Salari, were involved in narrowing 14 architectural firms down to the final ten included in the pool. In the case of the materials testing firms, seven companies submitted qualification packages, and the selection committee selected all seven.

The district does not have any contractual obligation to utilize the services of any of the selected firms nor does it bear any fiscal impact from the procurement of the pools.

“We’re trying to build a good pool of architects for us to be able to select from, so if we have any projects that need to be designed, we have this group of architects,” Guzman said.

The contract approvals gave Wells confidence in the processes surrounding the construction projects associated with Measures E and BH, which allocated \$334 million and \$385 million, respectively, for renovations and modernization of the district’s schools.

“From a construction standpoint, our new construction management team is really working and evidence of that is the approval of the RFQ [Request for Qualifications] for all these different vendors, which ultimately provides a better quality product at better pricing [along with] better oversight and transparency,” Wells said, “which is what we wanted.”

With only two more meetings left in her role on the school board, student member Alix Bodden provided an update on recent happenings in the district, from a “Women in Leadership” panel to an instrumental music concert with high school students. Meanwhile, board member Rochelle Marcus spoke of upcoming community events, including the Beverly Hills Police Department’s annual pancake breakfast, on May 7, and an open house with the Beverly Hills Fire Department, on May 13.

Upcoming Beverly Hills school board meetings are scheduled for May 9 and May 23. ●

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Louis Vuitton is 'Crafting Dreams' on a Hillside

BY ANA FIGUEROA

A stunning home perched above the Bel-Air Country Club is the perfect backdrop for "Crafting Dreams Los Angeles," a showcase of Louis Vuitton collections, collaborations, and of course, craftsmanship. Visitors take in a multi-level view of LA as they walk through installations of Objets Nomades; hardsided trunks (one adorned with Kusama's signature dots); LV Sporting pieces; fine jewelry; watches and "one of one" leather goods. Highlights include a preview of the Cabinet of Curiosities by Marc Newson, with its 19 modular cubes; a Flower Tower light designed with the Milan-based design duo Atelier Biagetti and a whimsical handheld hardsided piece called the Malle Maison Vendôme, in the shape of the Louis Vuitton store on Place Vendôme. A Red Carpet Room evokes Hollywood glamour, with a display of gowns worn by Ana de Armas and other leading ladies; while innocence presides over the Louis Vuitton Baby Collection salon, and edginess is front and center in the "White Canvas: LV Trainer in Residence" exhibition, with its three limited editions of the iconic LV Trainer. As befits the name of the event, visitors will enjoy a unique opportunity to craft their own bespoke items. Craft those dreams by appointment only, through May 3.

1.



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1. The Red Carpet Room
2. Artisan's table for personalizing iconic hardsided trunks
3. Marc Newson's Cabinet of Curiosities
4. The new Louis Vuitton Baby Collection
5. Gallery of watches and jewelry

Photos by Brad Dickson

'RODEO DRIVE CELEBRATES', from page 1

for Aug. 7 to 13 with a theme of fashion, and a second week in the fall will feature a theme of time pieces and fine jewelry.

"The concept is every year over two dedicated weeks in the summer and fall, a series of intimate in-store celebratory happenings will raise a glass to the best in fashion and luxury on the world's leading fashion thoroughfare," said Rodeo Drive Committee President Kathy Gohari in the April 24 meeting.

The Rodeo Drive Committee is comprised of approximately 70 retailers, hotels and property owners. Members came up with the idea of the Rodeo Drive Celebrates program to bring greater local and international awareness to the incredible products and business community present on the street.

"We will have special banners and special programming within all the stores on Rodeo that is curated for their own immediate clientele and everyone who comes in and visits," said Gohari. Every brand is able to use their creativity to come up with a specific option (to participate in the week)."

Some of the ideas for potential Rodeo Drive Celebrates activations include cocktail receptions, meet the designer events, a gift with purchase, special trunk shows, stylist panels, wine tastings, book signings, in-store fashion shows, raffles, charity events, photo booths and more.

Once brands decide on their events a round-up will be published on the Rodeo Drive website and will be accompanied by a robust visual marketing and communications campaign targeted at local visitors, international audiences, regular customers and influencers. Brands will also advertise their events through their own promotional channels.

"This is the first time in many, many, years I have seen this interest level of the vendors of different brands about participating. They're all super excited about this," said Gohari.

Businesses would oversee their own events, so the main cost to the city will be for specially designed banners that will be installed for the duration of the Rodeo Drive Celebrates weeks.

The Committee is requesting \$26,000 for the printing and installation of 56 banners, which will be divided into two sets of 28 for each of the weeks.

"I think it's important to add into the staff report that the goal is that this program will be very successful and will continue so the banners can be used for multiple years, so the cost would be much less in the years afterwards," said Bosse, referring to the upcoming presentation of the program before council.

In addition, the committee will be asking the council to once again provide an annual funding of \$184,998 to continue its digital marketing, social media management and

website maintenance.

Over the past year, the committee's marketing efforts have proven very fruitful. Website users have increased by 30%, while TikTok followers have increased by 57%, Instagram followers by 13% and Facebook followers by 1.3%, according to a presentation from Yvonne Busch, who is the president of BOLD LA PR firm and leads promotional efforts for the committee.

"You have done an extraordinary job,"

said Friedman, addressing Busch and the rest of the committee representatives. "I have been on this liaison for all the years that I've been on the council and I really truly believe that the Rodeo Drive Committee with your partnership has taken it (digital promotion) to a whole new level these last number of years." ●



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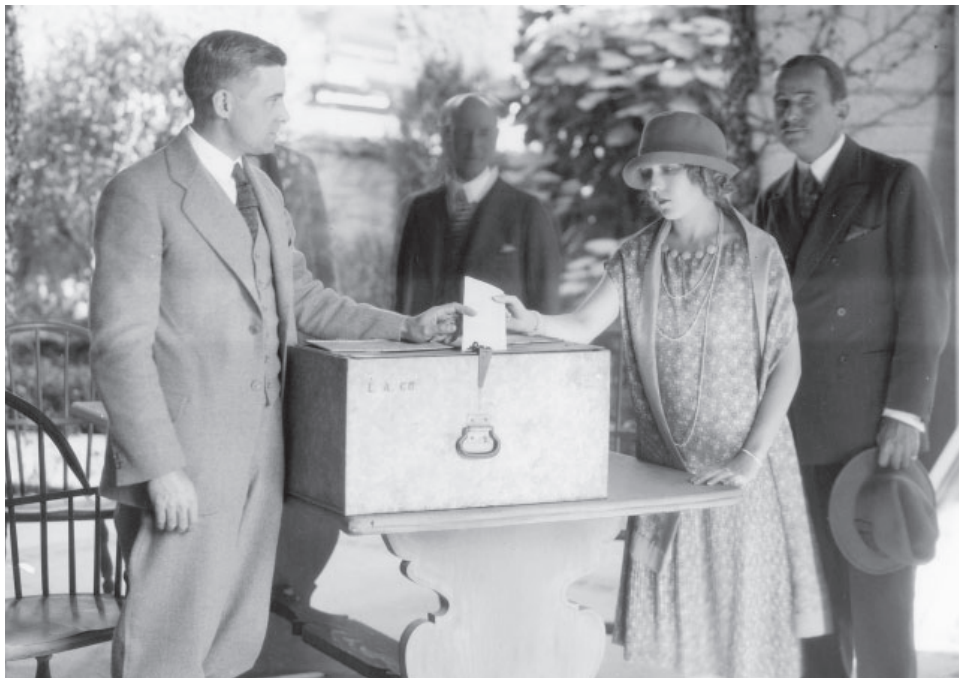


Photo courtesy Beverly Hills Historical Society

Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. and Mary Pickford cast their ballots.

DOCUMENTARY, from page 1

residents to preserve their beloved town.

These celebrities were some of the first to build estates in the city and remain some of the biggest names in movie history to this day. They are Will Rogers, Mary Pickford, Fred Niblo, Douglas Fairbanks, Harold Lloyd, Conrad Nagle, Rudolph Valentino and Tom Mix.

It is due to their campaigning that Beverly Hills was able to preserve an independent identity, create its own school system, run its own services, control the local water supply and chart its own destiny.

“These Hollywood pioneers who were visionaries; they understood what the impact would have been had the residents voted to simply annex themselves to Los Angeles,” said Councilmember John Mirisch in the documentary. “We would maybe be a somewhat upscale neighborhood of Los Angeles, maybe. Instead, we have our town.”

The documentary was screened in partnership with the city of Beverly Hills at several different locations from April 23 to 27 including at the Beverly Hills Farmers’ Market, Roxbury Park and Greystone Mansion. It can also be viewed online for free at: tinyurl.com/TheStarsWhoSavedOurCity

The documentary was created by long-time writer and producer Phil Savenick, who is the president of Beverly Hills Historical Society and a lifelong resident of the city. It was produced by Robert Anderson, who is a direct descendant of the founding proprietors of the Beverly Hills Hotel, Margaret Anderson and Stanley Anderson.

“Our mission really is to preserve and present and entertain and educate and inform people with all the great stories and legends of our little town,” said Savenick. “When we grew up here it was a little village, it was a movie colony, it was a different feel and we are trying to preserve what that was and save it for the future, if not physically then at least in videos.”

Savenick first stumbled upon the story of the 1923 independence vote when he was producing a film for the city’s centennial celebration. He was amazed by how the movie stars banded together to retain control over their community and thought it important to bring the tale to light.

The story itself is movie-worthy with themes of greed, stardom, sacrifice and deceit.

Ultimately the story revolves around water, which has been central to the community of Beverly Hills since the Tongva people originally settled in the area and called it “El Rodeo de las Aguas” or “Gathering of the Waters.”

In the 1920s the Rodeo Water and Power Company, which owned most of the land of Beverly Hills, sought to have the city join the city of LA, so that they could have access to its water supply. Beverly Hills had more than adequate well water to supply its growing population, the company just didn’t want to make the investment to retrieve, clean and distribute it.

The campaign for the annexation vote quickly turned dirty as those in favor of joining the city of LA employed all sorts of tricks to try and get voters on their side.

Headlines were made across the nation by a false claim that supporters of the independence movement had mailed a bomb to a local newspaper editor. And, on election day, the pro-annexation movement deposited a bottle of dirty water on everyone’s doorstep saying it was the water that voters would be stuck with if they voted for independence.

Nevertheless, the pro-annexation argument was defeated by the star power of the celebrities who went door-to-door explaining to residents why they should vote for independence.

“It was the first time celebrities existed and the first time celebrities got involved in the electoral process and showed their influence,” said Savenick. “The birth of Beverly Hill is tied to the birth of celebrity politics.”

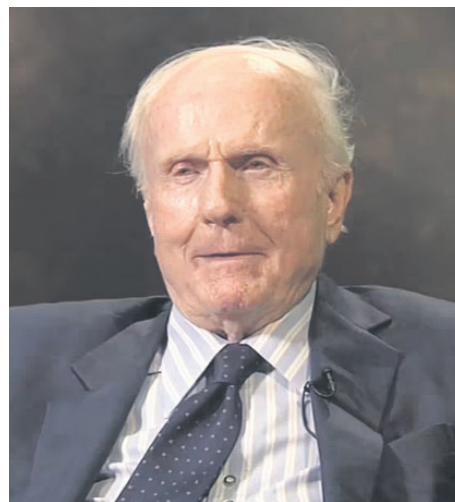
When election day came around 90% of the city’s 1,000 residents turned out to vote. The election was close, but the celebrities prevailed, and when all was said and done 337 people voted for annexation and 507 voted against it.

Savenick recommends that those interested in learning more about Beverly Hills’ history check out the resources and self-guided tours available both on the historical society’s website and on their mobile application “The Beverly Hills Experience.” ●



Poster for "The Stars Who Saved Our City"

Fred C. Cunningham Passes Away at Age 97



Fred C. Cunningham

Fred C. Cunningham, whose service for the city of Beverly Hills spanned more than half a century, passed away on April 18 at the age of 97. Born in Minneapolis, Cunningham served as a US Army Air Corp Lieutenant Colonel in World War II. He served on the USS Intrepid in the Pacific Theater. While on the Intrepid, Fred experienced a variety of naval battles including at Peleliu, Mindanao, Okinawa, and the Battle of Leyte Gulf, the largest naval battle of World War II. He survived three Kamikaze attacks and earned an array of medals and ribbons for his service.

Fred received undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Montana, courtesy of the GI Bill, as he was fond of saying. After graduation, he taught Radio Speech and Radio Drama at the University and became the University Sports Information Director. In 1952, he began his long tenure with the city of Beverly Hills. He worked first as an intern for the

Administration Officer, then moved to the Public Information office. His last position, which he left in 1993, was Executive Director of Public Affairs. He then volunteered for 10 years more. All together, he served 32 mayors and 60 city council members.

Fred was one the pioneers in creating Municipal Video programming. On behalf of the city, Fred won countless awards, including Cable Ace and Emmy awards. He also gave hands-on training to many, many UCLA and USC students.

So esteemed was Fred, that in 2014 an award was established by the city council in his name: the Fred C. Cunningham Award. The award honors a well-respected city employee. Fred was its first recipient.

“We were deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Fred Cunningham,” said Beverly Hills Mayor Dr. Julian Gold. “Fred was an incredible man who served the city and its residents for 50 years and was a trailblazer in the world of government communications. His extraordinary work ethic and resident focused service approach inspired us in 2014 to create the Fred C. Cunningham Award for Distinguished Service. Fred’s incredible legacy will never be forgotten and his love for this city will be cherished forever.”

Fred was a member of the Rotary Club of Beverly Hills since 1990. He embodied the Rotary motto of “Service above Self.” He will be remembered for his jaunty hat, radiant smile and kindness to all.

“Fred was a thoughtful professional who brought honor to the city through his tireless representation. He was a talented pioneer in government communications. He was truly a legend,” said his long-time friend and fellow Rotarian, Lillian Raffel. ●

www.beverlyhillscourier.com

Letters to the Editor

Dear Beverly Hills Courier:

The Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce is writing in support of LVMH's Cheval Blanc Hotel Project. The Project will provide a breathtaking and first-class hotel in the heart of the city. It will offer an ideal mix of hotel, retail and restaurants for the entire neighborhood. The Project is an exquisitely designed project that will offer unparalleled service while respecting surrounding areas.

Cheval Blanc hotels are known for their quality and rarity, being found in only a few locations in the world, and having this hotel will be a major driver of excitement and vibrancy for the city.

The Cheval Blanc will also be a tremendous, long-term economic engine for Beverly Hills. The project will generate more than \$750 million in unrestricted tax revenues over 30 years. That is vital funding for the city's police officers, firefighters, parks, libraries, and other city services. The project

will also generate more than \$100 million directly for Beverly Hills schools. These resources will help deliver the services, the experiences, and the overall quality of life that makes Beverly Hills such a unique and treasured place.

Cheval Blanc has committed to making a one-time \$26 million unrestricted direct contribution to the City for the community's greatest needs, and a \$2 million contribution to support the arts in Beverly Hills.

The Chamber along with the Beverly Hills Police Officers' Association, the Beverly Hills Firefighters Association, local education and business leaders, and residents strongly support the Cheval Blanc Hotel Project and encourage residents to do the same - YES on Measures B and C.

Todd Johnson
President and CEO Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce

Dear Editor:

As a resident and an attorney with offices in the city for over 55 years, I must manifest my opposition to the Cheval Blanc hotel proposed by retailer LVMH. The basic argument made by the proponents of the project is that the city will receive large revenues as a result. Remove that from the equation and what is left is a congested business area with a massive building that will dominate and dwarf all of the other surrounding structures and create traffic, parking and other related problems. Beverly Hills is a big "small town" with quality values and doesn't need this albatross to dominate and smother the rest of the city and the charm it has come to represent.

Sincerely,
Barry Rubin
Beverly Hills

To the Editor:

I wasn't aware of the union's reasons for opposing the Cheval Blanc project, so I want to thank Robbie Anderson for informing Courier readers of that.

But that's not why I oppose the project. I propose it because it's just too big, too tall for the site, and will worsen already gridlocked traffic on both roadways of Santa Monica Boulevard. In addition, it violates the city's zoning plan.

As Mr. Anderson knows, Beverly Hills was one of the modern world's first planned cities, with commercial and industrial zones and residential lots increasing in size from south of Olympic Boulevard to the lots in the 500, 600, 700, and 800 blocks of the "Flats", to larger lots north of Sunset Boulevard. The city's current residents benefit from our forebears' thoughtful planning.

How would Mr. Anderson feel if someone was trying to build a monstrous nine-story hotel overlooking the Beverly Hills Hotel? I don't think he'd be pleased.

Daniel Fink
Beverly Hills

Questions? Comments? Concerns?

The Courier wants to hear from you!

Email: editorial@bhcourier.com



TRAFFIC ADVISORY



FULL STREET CLOSURE ON WILSHIRE BLVD.

BETWEEN ROBERTSON BLVD. AND SAN VICENTE BLVD.

Starting the weekend of April 28th and will continue each weekend (excluding holidays) though tentatively September 11, 2023 due to Metro Purple (D Line) construction taking place. The closures will take place 8 p.m. Friday – 7 a.m. Monday each weekend.

For any questions, please contact the 24/7 Metro Hotline at (213) 922-6934.



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Birthdays



SHERI ROSENBLUM
April 28



UMA THURMAN
April 29



ANA DE ARMAS
April 30



DAVID BECKHAM
May 2



DWAYNE JOHNSON
May 2



NAOMI SILVER
May 3



DANNELLE BRONOWICZ
May 4

BEVERLY HILLS COURIER

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Astrology

BY HOLIDAY MATIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Laughter is the sound of aligned interests, objectives and sympathies. An experience of solidarity will be fun for you today, and it's comforting to know you're all on the same side.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Children often have an exaggerated opinion of their abilities because they lack the experience that tells them what they can and cannot do. Today, in a similar position of innocence, you will do your best.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You'll get compliments today and you're in a mood to eat them up. Of course, even as people confirm your attractiveness, it's your own opinion of yourself that really matters.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your priorities are shifting. A new venture will be a terrific fit for your life and interests. Trust your attractions and let old ambitions fall to the wayside.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll sense what they can do, and you'll help them develop their potential. You'll give without pushing. Not only will you attract the best people, but you'll also bring out the best in people.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You like keenly observant people who ask the questions that prove their attention and interest. These people make you think. They cause you to see yourself differently.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). It's smart to test out an idea in a small way before taking it to a larger scale. Today this could be the move that keeps business on track or a relationship on good terms.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). If you don't get what you want right away, it may be the best thing for you. Desire is a great motivator to improve. When you finally do get your goal, you'll be completely ready for it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The way to see the big picture is to go to the top of the mountain.

You can do this in your mind, or you can do it physically by heading to the highest point in your immediate geography. Either way will give you clarity.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). There's a good reason you're in the place you find yourself today -- though, trying to figure out exactly what that reason might be would be a waste of time. Own your position and make the most of it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). If the GPS does not agree with the road, the GPS is wrong. Similarly, if your idea of how to get to your goal doesn't match what's actually necessary, chuck your plan and do what it takes.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). There's a change in you. However subtle the change may be, it will land you in a completely different place than you would be if you had remained the same.



This is Addie the French bulldog. She is 3 years old, 35 pounds, and was rescued from the breeding trade. Her previous owner cut back her ears so that her puppies would not chew on them and send her to the vet. If you'd like to give Addie a new and better start, please contact Shelter of Hope at 805-379-3538.

shelterhopepetshop.org

Police Blotter

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



BURGLARY - COMMERCIAL BUILDING

4/24/2023, 6:06 a.m. at 400 Block of N. RODEO DRIVE

4/23/2023, 10:25 a.m. at 200 Block of N. CANON DRIVE

4/21/2023, 9:24 p.m. at 9400 Block of OLYMPIC BLVD.

4/21/2023, 11:10 a.m. at 8400 Block of WILSHIRE BLVD.

BURGLARY - FROM A MOTOR VEHICLE

4/25/2023, 7:30 a.m. at 300 Block of S. ELM DRIVE

4/23/2023, 9:30 a.m. at 400 Block of S. MAPLE DRIVE

BURGLARY - RESIDENTIAL (NO ONE HOME)

4/21/2023, 8:17 p.m. at 100 Block of N. DOHENY DRIVE

4/20/2023, 7:30 a.m. at 100 Block of N. OAKHURST DRIVE

4/19/2023, 9:53 a.m. at 400 Block of N. OAKHURST DRIVE

DUI ARREST

4/24/2023, 2:27 p.m. at LOMITAS AVENUE / ALPINE DRIVE

MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT

4/25/2023, 1:22 a.m. at 200 Block of S. MAPLE DRIVE

4/24/2023, 10:45 p.m. at 400 Block of S. REXFORD DRIVE

THEFT - GRAND

4/22/2023, 8:39 p.m. at 9600 Block of S. SANTA MONICA BLVD.

4/22/2023, 6:10 p.m. at 200 Block of N. CRESCENT DRIVE

4/22/2023, 6:01 p.m. at 200 Block of N. RODEO DRIVE

4/22/2023, 3:13 p.m. at 9600 Block of WILSHIRE BLVD.

4/20/2023, 5:43 p.m. at 200 Block of N. RODEO DRIVE

4/20/2023, 1:12 p.m. at 300 Block of N. RODEO DRIVE

4/19/2023, 5:10 p.m. at 9500 Block of S. SANTA MONICA BLVD.

4/19/2023, 5:03 p.m. at 300 Block of N. BEVERLY DRIVE

THEFT - GRAND (FROM VEHICLE)

4/24/2023, 9:08 a.m. at 300 Block of N. MAPLE DRIVE

4/23/2023, 10 a.m. at 200 Block of REEVES DRIVE

THEFT OF AUTO PARTS

4/23/2023, 8:30 a.m. at 100 Block of N. CLARK DRIVE

4/23/2023, 5:02 a.m. at 200 Block of N. ALMONT DRIVE

4/23/2023, 12 p.m. at CLIFTON WAY / N. SWALL DRIVE

THEFT - PETTY

4/23/2023, 8 a.m. at 200 Block of S. PALM DRIVE

4/22/2023, 7:11 p.m. at 300 Block of N. BEVERLY DRIVE

DRIVE

4/20/2023, 5:45 p.m. at 9000 Block of WILSHIRE BLVD.

4/20/2023, 3:45 p.m. at 9700 Block of WILSHIRE BLVD.

THEFT - PETTY (FROM VEHICLE)

4/23/2023, 2 a.m. at 200 Block of S. PALM DRIVE

4/22/2023, 3:20 p.m. at 9000 Block of CLIFTON WAY

VANDALISM

4/24/2023, 6:15 a.m. at 9000 Block of CLIFTON WAY

4/22/2023, 11:40 a.m. at 9000 Block of WILSHIRE BLVD.

4/19/2023, 11:33 a.m. at 300 Block of S. BEVERLY DRIVE

Take Our Children to Work Day in Beverly Hills



Mayor Dr. Julian Gold is surrounded by Beverly Hills city employees to-be as he presides over "Take Our Children To Work Day" at City Hall on April 27.

SUDOKU
O4/28/23 ISSUE

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SUDOKU ANSWERS
O4/21/23 ISSUE

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PUZZLE ANSWERS
O4/21/23 ISSUE

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THE NEW YORK TIMES SUNDAY MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE
O4/28/23 ISSUE

BRING YOUR 'A' GAME
BY MIKE HOBIN / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Mike Hobin is a real estate agent and property developer in Chicago. While at home during the pandemic, he watched the 2006 documentary about crosswords, "Wordplay," and was inspired to try constructing one himself. Two years and two dozen submissions later, he's making his debut. The seed of this puzzle was 116-Across. Then he thought of 24-Across ... "and it really felt like I was on to something." — W.S.

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| ACROSS | ACROSS | ACROSS | ACROSS |
| 1 Inundates with messages | 58 Canner's purchase | 104 Where stealth is found in the dictionary? | 13 Restorative process |
| 6 Starting from Farm male | 59 Dog owner's hope ... or a cat owner's pipe dream? | 109 Looking blue | 14 Hear |
| 10 Slip | 60 Regulator of e-cigarettes, for short | 113 Shoelace tip | 15 Flawed but relatable protagonist |
| 19 Word spelled starting with an alif in Arabic | 61 Butter maker | 114 Goes to town on | 16 "___ ahead" (redundant advice) |
| 20 Style of Chicago's NBC Tower, informally | 62 Trees whose wood is used for model airplanes | 116 Successfully used Rogaine? | 17 Fill |
| 21 Traditional wisdom | 63 One of Randall's daughters on "This Is Us" | 119 Legendary figures | 18 Most spiders have eight of them |
| 22 Fine woodworking detail | 66 Just the refreshments, not the viewing? | 120 2020 movie lead-in to "land" | 25 Egging-on phrase |
| 23 Blender button | 68 Ode to reparation for sin? | 121 The "a" of a.m. | 26 "First Lady of Song," familiarly |
| 24 Lottery prize? | 73 Hunt out | 122 The "E" of HOMES | 31 Pulls a fast one on |
| 27 Deception, metaphorically | 74 Really into | 123 Drum also known as a tumbadora | 32 And others: Abbr. |
| 28 Cambridgeshire's historic ___ Hall | 77 Tick-tack-toe sides | 124 Lawsuit filers | 33 Classical form of poetry |
| 29 They were once advertised with the slogan "Polly wants a cracker?" | 78 Went unused | 125 Get into a computer's memory | 37 Symptom |
| 30 Painted 25 percent of the house? | 81 Make easier to tear, in a way | 126 "___ Blue" | 39 Tee off |
| 34 "Eww, yuck!" | 84 One of 25 in this clue | 127 Word with word or jar | 40 Product used with a stylus |
| 35 It's a snap | 85 One darling percussion instrument? | DOWN | 41 Actor Michael |
| 36 768 parts of a gal. | 88 Sage | 1 Drains | 42 Raquel of "Fantastic Voyage" |
| 38 Lacking in vitality | 89 Work with a pick and an ax? | 2 Vertically level | 43 Hold 'em variation |
| 42 Heavy cookware item | 90 Apt name for a worrywart | 3 "It's ___ nothing" | 44 World capital located more than a mile above sea level |
| 45 Dancer's boss | 91 Off-white shade | 4 Protect oneself against Covid, say | 46 Reserve for later ... or something to reserve |
| 48 Cruet contents | 93 "Gangnam Style" rapper | 5 Expression of exasperation | 47 Fivers |
| 50 Hogwash | 94 Track star? | 6 ___ Limón, first Latina poet laureate of the U.S. | 49 Class speaker |
| 51 Obama's first chief of staff | 96 Giant things in the 1954 sci-fi film "Them!" | 7 Like clothing patches | 52 Weakens, in video-game lingo |
| 54 Make one's long story overly short? | 99 Taunts | 8 City west of Daytona Beach | 53 Arm bones |
| | 102 Kind of exam | 9 Kids' creations from sofa cushions | 55 Nutrition fig. |
| | | 10 Lightheaded sorts? | 56 "___ for Innocent" (Sue Grafton novel) |
| | | 11 [Man, that hurts!] | 57 Many an Olympic gold medalist in gymnastics |
| | | 12 Creative writing and industrial design, for two | 59 Sturdy flooring material |

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 62 The Keebler elves, e.g. | 75 Many a URL ending | 87 Rare finds in Minecraft | 106 Affectionate sobriquet |
| 64 Makes more attractive, with "up" | 76 Common deodorant ingredient | 88 Ragamuffin | 107 In sync |
| 65 Flood | 78 Freshness | 92 Narcissist's indulgence | 108 Japanese graphic-novel style |
| 67 Shed some tears | 79 When the curtains open | 95 Salacious | 109 Nine-digit IDs |
| 68 Fairy-tale ending? | 80 Time to go | 97 Unfrozen | 110 M.L.B. family name |
| 69 Hoof, in part | 82 The Beatles' "Lovely ___" | 98 Genesis creator | 111 Cupola relative |
| 70 Ranked No. 1 | 83 Animal life | 100 Branch of philosophy | 112 Early Bond villain |
| 71 Utopias | 84 An arm and a leg | 101 Manatee | 115 Old imperial title |
| 72 Amsterdam of "The Dick Van Dyke Show" | 86 Back-and-forth struggle | 103 Rightful | 117 Itinerary initials |
| 74 Affectionate sobriquet | | 105 Muesli brand | 118 Excellent adventurer of film |

ANSWERS FOUND IN NEXT WEEK'S PAPER...

Public Notices

ORDINANCE NO. 23-O-2874

AN URGENCY ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS READOPTING RESIDENTIAL TENANT UNPAID RENT REPAYMENT PROTECTIONS AND THE CAP ON THE ANNUAL RENT INCREASE ALLOWED PURSUANT TO BEVERLY HILLS MUNICIPAL CODE SECTIONS 4-5-303(C) AND 4-6-3 FROM JUNE 1, 2022 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2023, REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 23-O-2872, AND DECLARING THE URGENCY THEREOF

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

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

WHEREAS, during the local emergency, and in the interest of public peace, health and safety, as affected by the emergency caused by the spread of COVID-19, it was necessary for the City Council to exercise its authority to issue regulations related to the protection of the public peace, health or safety, including avoiding unnecessary housing displacement, protect the City's affordable housing stock, and to prevent housed individuals from falling into homelessness; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Ordinance No. 20-O-2805, as superseded from time to time by subsequent ordinances, including the City's current Ordinance No. 20-O-2818, the City Council imposed a temporary moratorium during the period of local emergency on: 1) evictions for non-payment of rent by residential tenants substantially impacted by the COVID-19 crisis; 2) no-fault evictions, unless necessary for the health and safety of tenants, neighbors, or the landlord, other than based on illness of the tenant or any other occupant of the residential rental unit; and 3) the annual rent increases authorized by BHMC Sections 4-5-303(C) and 4-6-3 with respect to any rent increase scheduled to take effect on or after March 15, 2020; provided that Ordinance No. 20-O-2818 did not alter the date of annual rent increases in future years or relieve a tenant of liability for the unpaid rent, which Ordinance No. 20-O-2818 required to be paid in full within one year of the end of the local emergency; and

WHEREAS, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 22-O-2861, amending Ordinance No. 20O2818, to provide: 1) for the end of the temporary

moratoriums on May 31, 2022; 2) that a tenant must pay the unpaid rent in full by May 31, 2023; and 3) that, notwithstanding the provisions of BHMC Sections 4-5-303(C) and 4-6-3, (i) for an allowable rent increase, that for any reason, was not imposed for the period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020, the maximum allowable rent increase allowed pursuant to BHMC Sections 4-5-303(C) and 4-6-3 from June 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 is 3.10%; and (ii) for an allowable rent increase, that for any reason, was imposed at a rate of less than 3.10% for the period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 the maximum allowable rent increase from June 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 of 3.10% shall be reduced by the percent increase that was imposed; and

WHEREAS, the local emergency will end on April 19, 2023, and Ordinance No. 20O2818, as amended by Ordinance No. 22-O-2861, shall cease to be in effect upon the end of the local emergency; and

WHEREAS, the sudden and unanticipated repeal upon the end of the local emergency of the unpaid rent repayment protections for residential tenants and the cap on the maximum allowable annual rent increase allowed pursuant to BHMC Sections 4-5-303(C) and 4-6-3, from June 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023, could cause significant financial burdens on residential tenants in the City leading to evictions and the displacement of tenants from housing; and

WHEREAS, to avoid unnecessary housing displacement, protect the City's affordable housing stock, and prevent housed individuals from falling into homelessness, and thereby protect the public health, safety and welfare, it is essential that the emergency protections regarding the repayment of rent and the amount of the allowable rent increase following the end of the local emergency be preserved following the end of the local emergency; and

WHEREAS, some confusion has occurred on the part of the public regarding Ordinance No. 2818, as amended by Ordinance No. 22-O-2861. This Ordinance clarifies certain provisions of Ordinance No. 20-O-2818, as amended by Ordinance No. 22-O-2861, and is declaratory of existing law.

Section 1. Recitals. The City Council hereby adopts the above recitals, which are incorporated herein by this reference.

Section 2. Urgency Declaration. Based upon the above recitals, the City Council finds and determines that this Ordinance must be adopted as an urgency ordinance and become effective immediately to preserve the public health, safety and welfare by protecting residential tenants with re-

spect to the repayment period for unpaid back rent and the allowable rent increase following the end of the local emergency.

Section 3. Unpaid Rent. All unpaid rent accrued from March 15, 2020 through May 31, 2022, that a residential tenant demonstrated the tenant was unable to pay due to substantial financial impacts related to COVID-19 must be paid in full by May 31, 2023. For purposes of this Ordinance, "substantial financial impacts related to COVID-19" has the meaning set forth in subsection (c) of Section 1. A. of Ordinance No. 20-O-2818, as amended by Ordinance No. 22-O-2861 (the "Prior Ordinance"), and the tenant must have demonstrated the tenant's inability to pay rent in accordance with subsection a. of Section 1. A. and subsection 2 of Section 1. A. of the Prior Ordinance. After May 31, 2023, unless the rent is paid in full, a landlord may charge or collect a late fee for rent that is delayed for the reasons stated in the Prior Ordinance, or a landlord may seek rent that is delayed for the reasons set forth in the Prior Ordinance through the eviction or other appropriate legal process. No fee for the late payment of such unpaid rent shall be charged by a landlord during the period March 15, 2020 through May 31, 2023. If a landlord makes an accommodation with respect to rent forbearance, and the tenant is in conformance with the tenant's obligations under that accommodation, then the landlord shall not make a negative report to a credit bureau so long as the tenant remains in compliance with the accommodation. For ease of reference, the sections of the Prior Ordinance cited above are attached as Exhibit "A" to this Ordinance.

Section 4. Maximum Allowable Rent Increase. Nothing in the Prior Ordinance or this Ordinance shall alter the date of annual rent increases in future years; provided, however, that notwithstanding the provisions of Sections 4-5-303 (C) and 4-6-3 of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code, for an allowable rent increase, that for any reason, was not imposed or was imposed at a rate of less than 3.10% for the period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020, the maximum allowable rent increase allowed pursuant to Section 4-5-303 (C) and 4-6-3 of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code from June 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 is 3.10%. Provided, further, if the rent increase was imposed at a rate of less than 3.10%, then the maximum allowable rent increase from June 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 shall be reduced by the percent increase that was imposed. The only tenants who may be subject to a rent increase pursuant to Sections 4-5-303(C) and 4-6-3 of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code during the period June 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023, shall be those tenants that were eligible for a rent increase pursuant to these sections during the period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020, and no

other annual rent increases shall be allowed during the period June 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

Section 5. Repeal of Ordinance No. 23-O-2872. Ordinance No. 23-O-2872 is hereby repealed.

Section 6. Uncodified. This Ordinance shall not be codified.

Section 7. Severability. If any provision of this Ordinance is held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such provision shall be considered a separate, distinct and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity and enforceability of the other provisions of this Ordinance.

Section 8. Publication. The City Clerk shall cause this Ordinance to be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation published and circulated in the City within fifteen (15) days after its passage in accordance with Section 36933 of the Government Code, shall certify to the adoption of this Ordinance and shall cause this Ordinance and the City Clerk's certification, together with proof of publication, to be entered in the Book of Ordinances of the Council of this City.

Section 9. Effective Date. This Ordinance is adopted as an urgency ordinance for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety within the meaning of Government Code Section 36937(b), and therefore shall be passed immediately upon its introduction and shall become effective at 12:01 a.m., April 19, 2023, upon its adoption by a minimum 4/5 vote of the City Council.

Section 10. Duration. This Ordinance shall remain in effect until it is superseded by another Ordinance adopted by the City Council.

Section 11. Certification. The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this Ordinance.

Adopted: April 18, 2023
Effective: April 19, 2023

JULIAN A. GOLD, M.D.
Mayor of the City of Beverly Hills, California

ATTEST:
HUMA AHMED (SEAL)
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
LAURENCE S. WIENER
City Attorney City Manager

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:
NANCY HUNT-COFFEY
City Manager

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

CONTINUE TO PAGE 24

Public Notices

EXHIBIT "A" SECTIONS OF THE PRIOR ORDINANCE

(Ordinance No. 20-O-2818, as amended by Ordinance No. 22-O-2861)

"1. A temporary moratorium on eviction for non-payment of rent by residential tenants substantially impacted by the COVID-19 crisis is imposed as follows:

a. During the period March 15, 2020 through May 31, 2022, no landlord shall endeavor to evict a tenant in either of the following situations: (1) for nonpayment of rent if the tenant demonstrates that the tenant is unable to pay rent due to substantial financial impacts related to COVID-19, or (2) for a no-fault eviction, unless necessary for the health and safety of tenants, neighbors, or the landlord, other than based on illness of the tenant or any other occupant of the residential rental unit. A landlord who receives notice that a tenant cannot pay some or all of the rent temporarily for the reasons set forth above shall not serve a notice pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure Section 1161(2), file or prosecute an unlawful detainer action based on a 3-day pay or quit notice, or otherwise seek to evict for nonpayment of rent. A landlord receives notice of a tenant's inability to pay rent within the meaning of this Ordinance if the tenant, within seven (7) days after the date that rent is due, notifies the landlord in writing, of lost income or extraordinary expenses related to COVID-19 and inability to pay full rent due to substantial financial impacts related to COVID-19, and within thirty (30) days after the date the rent is due, provides written documentation to the landlord to support the claim, using the form provided by the City. A copy of both the seven-day notice and the documentation to support the claim shall also be provided by email (or if email is not feasible by mail along with notification by telephone) to the City's Rent Stabilization office. For purposes of this Ordinance, "in writing" includes email or text communications to a landlord or the landlord's representative if that is the method of written communication that has been used previously, or correspondence by regular mail, if that is the method of written communication that has been used previously and the parties have not agreed to use email or text messaging. Any medical or financial information provided to the landlord shall be held in confidence, and shall be used only for evaluating the tenant's claim."

"c. For purposes of this Section 1, "financial impacts related to COVID-19" include, but are not limited to, lost household income or extraordinary expenses as a result of any of the following: (1) being sick with COVID-19, or caring for a household or family member who is sick with COVID-19; (2) lay-off, loss of hours, or other substantial income reduction resulting from business closure or other eco-

nomic or employer impacts of COVID-19 including for tenants who are salaried employees or self-employed; (3) compliance with a recommendation from a government health authority to stay home, self-quarantine, or avoid congregating with others during the state of emergency; (4) extraordinary out-of-pocket medical expenses related to COVID-19; or (5) child care needs arising from school closures related to COVID-19."

"2. If a landlord disagrees with the residential tenant's assertion regarding: (1) whether a substantial financial impact exists; (2) whether the substantial financial impact is related to COVID-19; or (3) the amount of rent that the tenant will pay, then the landlord shall notify the tenant of the disagreement in writing within ten (10) days of receipt of the written documentation from the tenant. The residential tenant may file a written appeal to the City, on a form provided by the City, within ten (10) days of receipt of the landlord's written determination and shall provide a copy of the appeal to the landlord. Appeals will be heard by the Standing Committee of the City Council appointed to hear disruptive tenant hearings or other Members of the City Council as designated by the Mayor, to make a final determination of the dispute, until fifteen (15) days after the Rent Stabilization Commission is appointed and sworn into office, in which case the Rent Stabilization Commission shall make a final determination of the dispute. If the Rent Stabilization Commission cannot render a decision by a majority vote, then the Standing Committee or other Members of the City Council, as designated by the Mayor, will make a final determination of the dispute. Final Decisions of the Subcommittee, Council Members designated by the Mayor, or the Rent Stabilization Commission are subject to judicial review filed pursuant to Section 1094.6 of the California Code of Civil Procedure. The hearing procedures shall be established by the City Attorney."

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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NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
Trustee Sale No. 22-00267-2FNT Loan No: ****140 (Beverly Hills) APN 4331-011-041 NOTE: THERE IS A SUMMARY OF THE INFORMATION IN THIS DOCUMENT ATTACHED (The above statement is made pursuant to CA Civil Code Section 2923.3(d) (1). The Summary will not be recorded pursuant to CA Civil Code Section 2923.3(a). It will be mailed to the Trustor(s) and/or vested owner(s) only, pursuant to CA Civil Code Section 2923.3(d)(2).) YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED APRIL 3, 2019. 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 PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On May 19, 2023, at 11:00 AM, by the fountain located at 400 Civic Center Plaza, Pomona, CA 91766, FIDELITY NATIONAL TITLE COMPANY, as the duly appointed Trustee (the "Trustee"), under and pursuant to the power of sale contained in that certain Deed of Trust recorded on April 15, 2019, as Instrument No. 20190328498 of official records in the office of the Recorder of Los Angeles County, CA, executed by: Lida Haghany Ebrahimi, Successor Trustee of the Manouchehr and Lida Ebrahimi Family Trust dated August 09, 2001, as Trustor (the "Trustor"), in favor of Pacific City Bank, as Beneficiary, and any modifications thereto are collectively referred to herein from time to time as the "Deed of Trust", WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER, in lawful money of the United States, all payable at the time of sale, that certain property situated in said County, California describing the land therein as: A CONDOMINIUM COMPRISED OF: PARCEL NO. 1: THAT PORTION OF LOT 1 OF TRACT NO. 35708, IN THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AS PER MAP RECORDED IN BOOK 944 PAGES 66 AND 67 OF MAPS, IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER OF SAID COUNTY, SHOWN AND DEFINED AS UNIT 101 OF THE CONDOMINIUM PLAN, RECORDED OCTOBER 3, 1980 AS INSTRUMENT NO. 1980-972284, OF OFFICIAL RECORDS OF SAID COUNTY. PARCEL NO. 2: AN UNDIVIDED % INTEREST IN AND TO THAT PORTION OF LOT 1, OF SAID TRACT NO. 35708, SHOWN AND DEFINED AS "COMMON AREA" ON SAID CONDOMINIUM PLAN. 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. 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 1.866.684.2727 or visit this Internet Website www.servicelinkasap.com, using the file number assigned to this case 22-00267-2FNT. 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 Website. 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 1.866.684.2727, or visit this internet website www.servicelinkasap.com, using the file number assigned to this case 22-00267-2FNT 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. The real Property heretofore described is being sold "as is". The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real Property described above is purported to be: 324 South Elm Drive #101, Beverly Hills, CA The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining unpaid balance of the obligations secured by and pursuant to the power of sale contained in that certain Deed of Trust (together with any modifications thereto). The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligations secured by the Property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of this Notice of Trustee's Sale is estimated to be \$3,729,377.58 (Estimated), provided, however, prepayment premiums, accrued interest and advances will increase this figure prior to sale. Beneficiary's bid at said sale may include all or part of said amount. In addition to cash, the Trustee will

accept a cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the California Financial Code and authorized to do business in California, or other such funds as may be acceptable to the trustee. In the event tender other than cash is accepted, the Trustee may withhold the issuance of the Trustee's Deed Upon Sale until funds become available to the payee or endorsee as a matter of right. The Property offered for sale excludes all funds held on account by the Property receiver, if applicable. DATE: April 25, 2023 FIDELITY NATIONAL TITLE COMPANY, TRUSTEE 22-00267-2FNT 5170 Golden Foothill Parkway, Suite 130 El Dorado Hills, CA 95762 916-636-0114 Sara Berens, Authorized Signor SALE INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED ON LINE AT www.servicelinkasap.com AUTOMATED SALES INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 1.866.684.2727 A-4782414 04/28/2023, 05/05/2023, 05/12/2023

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

Classifieds

PUBLIC NOTICES

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

BEVERLY HILLS COURIER FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2023065929 The following is/are doing business as: 1) **URBAN GROUP, INC** 2) **URBAN PROPERTIES, INC** 439 N. Canon Dr. 3rd Fl., Beverly Hills, CA 90210; **EI Marketing & Properties Inc.** 439 N. Canon Dr. 3rd Fl., 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
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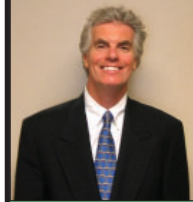
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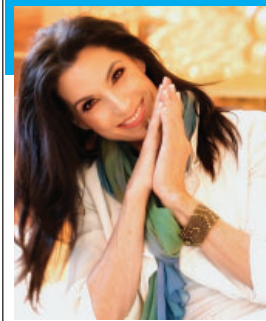
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Attorney at Law

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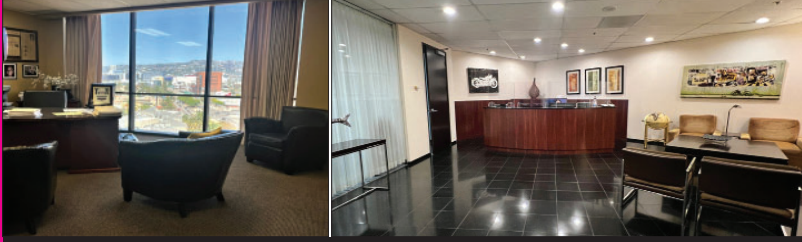
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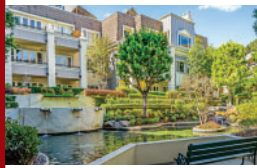


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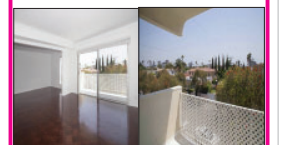
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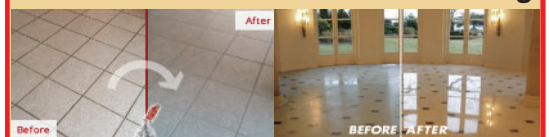


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