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THE WEATHER, BEVERLY HILLS

☀️ Friday	76° 60°
☁️ Saturday	78° 60°
☁️ Sunday	76° 61°
☁️ Monday	71° 56°
☁️ Tuesday	68° 54°
☀️ Wednesday	71° 55°
☀️ Thursday	72° 56°

Council to Consider Appointing Dominick Rivetti as Interim Beverly Hills Police Chief

BY ANA FIGUEROA



Dominick Rivetti

Dominick Rivetti has been selected as Interim Chief of the Beverly Hills Police Department (BHPD), according to City Manager George Chavez. The Beverly Hills City Council is scheduled to vote on the Rivetti appointment at its May 19 meeting.

Rivetti is a familiar figure in the City, having previously served as Interim BHPD Chief in 2015 after he retired as Chief of the Los Angeles District Attorney's Bureau of Investigation.

During his 40-year career in law enforcement, Rivetti also served as Chief of Police for the City of San Fernando.

"I am honored to once again have an opportunity to serve the Beverly Hills community," said Rivetti. "I look forward to supporting the dedicated members of the department as they work to keep this City safe and maintain an exceptional quality of life."

The BHPD has come under scrutiny during the four-year tenure of Chief Sandra Spagnoli, whose retirement takes effect as of

May 15. While lauded for resolving cases such as the Nessah Synagogue vandalism incident, Spagnoli also brought controversy in the form of civil lawsuits filed by more than a dozen plaintiffs. Those lawsuits resulted in judgments, monetary settlements and defense attorney's fees amounting in the millions.

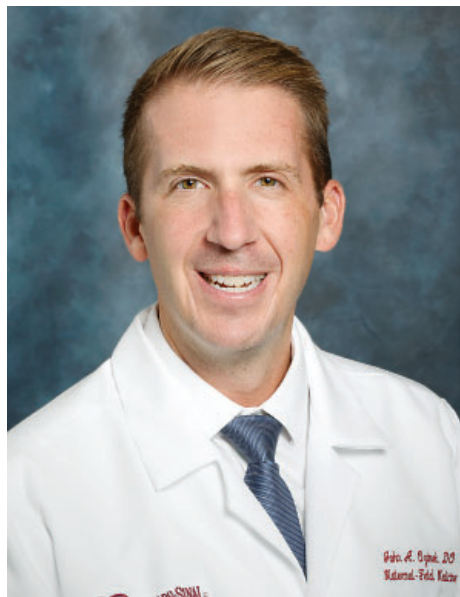
"I am so pleased to welcome Dominick back to Beverly Hills," said Chavez in his May 13 announcement about Rivetti. Chavez added that Rivetti's previous experience with the department will be a "tremendous asset" as the City moves forward. The next step is to select a new Chief.

"The City Manager and City Council will determine the process and timeline for the recruitment of a permanent Police Chief," City of Beverly Hills spokesperson Keith Sterling told the Courier.

If approved by the City Council on May 19, Rivetti is expected to begin his work at the BHPD on May 20. ●

COVID-19 and Our Community: John Ozimek, D.O.

BY ANA FIGUEROA



John Ozimek, D.O.

In this multi-part series, "COVID-19 and Our Community," the Courier is profiling healthcare professionals at the frontlines of the current crisis. This week, we feature John Ozimek, D.O., Head of Labor and Delivery at Cedars-Sinai.

Beverly Hills Courier: Can you give us an overview of how your department has adapted to the pandemic over the past few months?

John Ozimek, D.O.: We've definitely gone through some phases. At the beginning, policies would change daily. There was a large degree of uncertainty, which created anxiety. First four to six weeks of this were probably the most emotionally and clinically challenging of my career and probably of my life. In the healthcare field there was no way to emotionally prepare for what we all went through. But pretty rapidly over time, we developed some standard protocols. We were able to mitigate the anxiety by keeping everybody informed and lines of communication open. We're slowly reaching the new normal. Things are becoming more routine. Anxiety levels are still ramped up a bit from the old normal. But, they're very manageable, as are expectations amongst patients and staff.

(John Ozimek, D.O. continues on page 17)

Nate 'n Al's is Back in Beverly Hills

BY CAROLE DIXON



Take-out resumes May 15

Iconic delicatessen Nate 'n Al's is returning to its original Beverly Hills location for take-out and delivery as of May 15. The Courier spoke with Stephen J. Cloobek, whose family trust owns the Beverly Drive building where the deli is located. "We are excited that they are going to reopen. And this is not a temporary fix. They are going to be there for some period of time," he said.

(Nate 'n Al's continues on page 3)

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(Nate 'n Al's continued from page 1)

“We are thrilled to reopen Nate 'n Al's again,” said Shelli Azoff, owner of The Azoff Restaurant Group (ARG), which purchased the deli in 2019. “It was always our goal to keep the tradition alive, and our temporary pause in operations was to ensure the safety and well-being of our staff and our customers - which will always come first. We can't wait to get back to serving our classic and delicious comfort foods at a time when we need it most!”

A few weeks into the Stay at Home order, news circulated that the beloved deli was closing on March 29. With the lease term ending and negotiations for a replacement spot in the old Wolfgang's Steakhouse on Canon Drive at a standstill, it looked as though the Beverly Hills landmark would close for good. Loyal—and brokenhearted—customers flocked to Beverly Drive to pick up orders of matzo ball soup, pastrami on rye and other specialties that beckoned celebrities and regular folk alike for decades.

Nate 'n Al's will return with a pared-down menu that includes classic favorites, along with new family-style items, reduced hours and a smaller team, in order to ensure safety and social distancing among the kitchen and front-of-house order staff.

According to an ARG representative, “The team is thrilled to open their doors to their beloved customers. Nate's has been overwhelmed with the love and support shown during this very difficult time.”

Cloobek, too, says the desire to help the community was a big inspiration for him to

sit down with ARG.

“Their lease was up so I sat down and talked to my oldest son Jake and he said, ‘Let's do something for the community, Dad.’”

He added, “I love Beverly Hills”. Everyone at The City is fantastic.

The Cloobek family has just purchased Kirk Kerkorian's old estate at Roxbury Drive and Benedict, where Jake 22, who is an entrepreneur who owns Script Haven—a web-portal that connects young screenwriters with producers—will be living. “I've always dreamed of having a home in Beverly Hills,” said Cloobek, who is originally from Encino, “And it's nice to be part of the community. It's a second home for us and the first home for my son.”

And, former Nate 'n Al's employees are anxious to get back to work amidst the family environment at the restaurant. Gloria Leon, the 40 plus-year veteran waitress, is returning. She will be taking phone orders for now. Angela Patterson, who worked as a hostess for two decades, told the Courier that she misses her job. But her position has not reopened, because there is no in-house dining as of yet.

“These are interesting times, and everyone just has to help out one another and do the right thing,” said Cloobek.

Take-out and delivery at Nate 'n Al's will be facilitated in-house, in order to employ back as many team members as possible. Minimum orders are \$25, with a \$10 delivery charge.

www.natenals.com

Deloitte.



Nate 'n Al's has been one of the most iconic destinations in the City for decades

Nate 'n Al's		deli menu	
soups			
Matzo Ball Soup with carrots and noodles	4.95 / 8.95 / 17.95		
Chicken Noodle Soup	4.95 / 8.95 / 17.95		
Mushroom Barley	6.95 / 12.95 / 25.95		
Lima Bean	6.95 / 12.95 / 25.95		
salads			
Cole Slaw	1/2 pt / pt / qt		
Potato Salad	3.50 / 7 / 14		
Maccaroni Salad	3.50 / 7 / 14		
Egg Salad	4.50 / 9 / 18		
Chicken Salad	6.50 / 13 / 26		
Wheatgrass Salad	10 / 20 / 40		
Tuna Salad	7 / 14 / 28		
Chopped Liver	7 / 14 / 28		
fish			
Smoked Salmon Lox	1/4 lb / 1/2 lb		
North Atlantic Nova	12 / 24		
bagels			
each / 1/2 dozen / dozen			
PLAIN	SESAME		
ONION	EVERYTHING		
GLUTEN-FREE			
	1/4 pt / 1/2 pt / pt		
Cream Cheese	1.95 / 3.95 / 7.95		
Low-Fat Cream Cheese	2.25 / 4.45 / 8.95		
Chive Cream Cheese	2.25 / 4.45 / 8.95		
Lox Spread	4.45 / 8.95 / 16.95		
THE WORKS (per person)	1.95 / order		
sliced tomato, cucumbers, onion, capers			
sweets			
Black & White Cookies	3.75 / each		
Assorted Rugelach	6.95 / lb		
meats			
	1/4 lb / 1/2 lb / 1 lb		
Roasted Turkey Breast	5.5 / 11 / 22		
Honey Maple Turkey	5.5 / 10 / 20		
Pastrami	5.5 / 11 / 22		
Roast Beef	6 / 12 / 24		
Corried Beef	5.5 / 11 / 22		
Brisket	6 / 12 / 24		
Kosher Salami	4 / 8 / 16		
Baked Ham	5 / 10 / 20		
Nate 'n Al's "Special" Hot Dogs	5 each		
Vienna Beef Frankfurters	4 each		
Knockwurst	4 each		
cheese			
	1/4 lb / 1/2 lb / 1 lb		
Swiss	3.25 / 6.5 / 13		
Muenster	3.25 / 6.5 / 13		
Tilamscoq Cheddar	3.25 / 6.5 / 13		
American	2.25 / 4.50 / 9		
Munchee	3.25 / 6.5 / 13		
breads			
	each		
Rye / Round Corn Rye	7.95		
Double Baked Rye 8 / 12 / 16 slice	3.95 / 10.95 / 13.95		
Challah	6.95		
White, Wheat, Sourdough	6.50		
Gluten-Free White, Wheat	6.50		
sides			
	each		
Matzo Ball	2.95		
Matzo Crackers	10.95		
Russian Dressing (5 pt)	2.95		
Dill Pickles (1/8 or 1/2 sour)	4.95		
Sauerkraut (5 pt)	1.95		
Ranch Dressing	2.95		
Bagel Chips	3.95		
Chips (Lays, Ruffles, Kettle Chips, Sun Chips)	2.95		

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Thank you first responders

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BHUSD Reopening Date Still Uncertain

BY BIANCA HEYWARD

While businesses slowly begin to reopen in the City, the Beverly Hills Unified School District (BHUSD) remains closed, without a definitive plan for the fall. On May 12, the district held a regular board meeting, with a school reopening plan on the agenda. “This is the information people are waiting for,” said Superintendent Dr. Michael Bregy. “But the truth is, we don’t know. We just don’t know yet.”

On May 4, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health stated, “We agree the potential guidelines that schools may face in reopening schools will not be easy and school districts have limited resources. We also know that our school districts will work with their communities to create effective plans to ensure the safety of their students, staff and families.”

Bregy stressed that he’s not in a position to say exactly what is going to happen or when the BHUSD will reopen their campuses, but plans are being drawn up. “We’re working with the CDC and the L.A. County Department of Public Health, who have asked us to come up with options for the beginning of the school year,” said Bregy. “So that when we’re ready to go back to school, we have options in place so we can

say this is what we’re going to do, this is how we’re going to implement it and be confident about what our plans are. That’s what we’re working on right now.”

In the meantime, students and parents are anxiously demanding answers. “It’s horrendous that we’re in this position,” said Board member Noah Margo. “I don’t like it, but what I don’t like even more is people winding up on a ventilator because we had to do something faster than we should have.”

Safety first is the top priority, according to BHUSD officials. School administrators are working together to devise a hybrid model, anticipating some social distanced learning next year to remain in place. County officials have outlined measures to keep in mind. Those measures include: No mass gatherings – including assemblies, field trips, sporting events, dances and graduation ceremonies – before vaccine and therapeutics are in place; End-of-year gatherings of students, even in vehicles, should be discouraged; Reduced class size and staggered schedules; Avoid mixing groups during recess and lunch; Remote options should remain available for high school students; Prohibit outside use of school buildings; Encourage testing of asymptomatic individuals; Hand sanitizers

and hand-washing stations should be available and create partitions in health offices so COVID-19 positive cases, when identified, can be isolated. “This is going to look a little different than what we’ve had in the past,” said Bregy. “It’s going to look a little different at the elementary level versus the middle school level versus the high school level.”

Additionally, parents will be asked to vigilantly check temperatures and be mindful of potentially asymptomatic carriers. And personal protective equipment (PPE) will be required for all students and personal. “There are a lot of options out there for these types of masks that are washable and that students can keep and take home,” said Bregy. Supplying PPE for the roughly 3,450 TK-12 students and 470 employees is an expensive undertaking, as the district plans for the difficult budgeting ahead.

“I want to be ready to go back,” said Margo. “I want there to be hope. I want there to be enough availability of hospital beds and treatment facilities and staff that if it does spike again, we can handle it, we can deal with it. But I don’t want to put anybody in harm’s way.”

A variety of options for the fall will be presented to the BHUSD Board of Education during their next meeting on May 26. Bregy anticipates a “robust conversation about different options, so that when that time comes, we’re ready to make a very good decision on what’s best for our students.” Navigating these uncharted territories is not being taken lightly. “The one thing we do know,” Bregy added. “Is that what we’re doing now is really not something that we can continue for the long term.” ●

Israel’s Consul General Assists During the Crisis

BY ANA FIGUEROA



Consul General Hillel Newman, middle, at the IsraAid center

The Consul General of Israel for the Pacific Southwest, Hillel Newman, joined volunteers with IsraAid at their Los Angeles distribution center in Boyle Heights on May 11. IsraAid is an Israel-based humanitarian organization that provides disaster relief around the world. Distribution centers were set up in response to COVID-19 and are located in Los Angeles, San Diego, Orange County, Santa Barbara and San Francisco, among other cities.

Volunteers at the centers package and distribute food and relief supplies to the most vulnerable communities, especially seniors and the homeless. During the first month of activity, more than 100,000 people in the U.S. received food and other supplies from the IsraAid’s centers.

“Yesterday I volunteered at one of IsraAid’s distribution centers to help with the 3,000 packages that go out daily to those in need. I applaud this activity and the immense social impact it has on the communities it serves. The State of Israel salutes the volunteers who donate their time to help others and I encourage anyone who is able to volunteer to assist in this important endeavor or any other activity to help those in need,” said Consul General Newman.

The Consul General has also been busy during the COVID-19 crisis helping Israelis in the southland get back home. Among them were some passengers on a cruise ship off the coast of Los Angeles who were able to leave the ship and return home safely. ●



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Ambassadors Help Protect Beverly Hills from COVID-19

BY LAURA COLEMAN



Ambassador Jonathon Leon provides educational material

For Beverly Hills Ambassador Jonathan Leon, his job has been anything but “business as usual” since the COVID-19 outbreak forced most people inside their homes. These days, educating people about the need to appropriately social distance or wear a face covering (a Beverly Hills law), has wholly usurped tourist-centric conversations where he was able to leverage his naturally affable personality to make visitors feel welcome.

In fact, one of the most recognizable features of all 18 Ambassadors - their smiles - now remain hidden beneath masks needed to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

“Since the pandemic happening it’s been a drastic change,” Leon recently told the Courier. “We’re always keeping in mind to keep our distance. Just protect the community, and ourselves and them.”

From educating those who are unaware of Beverly Hills Ordinance No. 20-0-2806, which mandates that people must wear face coverings when they have the potential of coming within six feet of someone else, to advising people to appropriately social distance, ambassadors made a total of 422 “social education” contacts in April according to Kris Zagya, operations manager with the Ambassadors program. The biggest concentrations, he said, were happening in the City’s parks, along South Beverly, and on Rodeo Drive.

“For the most part, we’re seeing a lot of people with masks and people are social distancing as best they can,” Human Services Administrator James Latta told the Courier. In addition to educating people about the City’s face covering mandate, Ambassadors will also provide people with surgical comfort masks. “We’re doing our best not to give citations. Everyone’s trying to adjust to this difficult time.”

While Ambassadors are not empowered to issue citations for face mask violations, which carry an initial fine of \$100 for the first offense, they have the support of the Beverly Hills Police. According to Lt. Elizabeth Albanese, no citations have yet been issued.

On May 7, the Human Relations Commission recommended that the Ambassadors receive a raise. Ambassadors currently earn from \$15.50 to \$16.50 an hour, depending on how long

they’ve been with the City. The Commission recommended an increase to \$18, which will need to go before the City Council for deliberation. According to Zagya, the program’s biggest challenge is retention, with many Ambassadors lured away to work for local businesses as security guards for significantly higher pay.

“It is imperative that the City support the Ambassadors and recognize their tremendous efforts on behalf of our City,” Human Relations Commission Chair Ori Blumenfeld told the Courier. “We whole-heartedly recommend the City Council approve the increase to retain our beloved Ambassadors, whom provide necessary and essential services to our community as a whole.”

In light of the dramatically diminished number of people on the streets, in place of dealing with a preponderance hospitality-related tasks, including interacting with tourists, Zagya said the Ambassadors have been able to serve the City in other enhanced ways. They now more actively patrol the entryways of stores, in addition to being able to patrol the City’s parking lots 24/7, as opposed to just checking the structures in the evening. Latta said the City has about 1.8 million square feet of parking structures and the increased patrols help to curb camping, graffiti, vandalism, and even defecation. There’s also been a decrease in aggressive panhandling in the City, but an increase in the number of transients now coming into the City, which the Ambassadors deal with.

“The best way to describe it is ‘rolling with the punches.’ The requirements are ever changing,” Zagya said.

The behind-the-scenes work has also changed for Ambassadors who must now have office briefings outdoors spaced eight-feet apart, in addition to limited access to the locker rooms so that not more than one person is inside. Latta said the Ambassadors are also being checked for symptoms of COVID-19, including having their temperatures taken at the beginning and end of each shift.

“It’s really a change how we do things,” Latta said.

To date, no Ambassador has tested positive for COVID-19, he said. ●

Unauthorized COVID-19 Tests Penetrate Market

BY LAURA COLEMAN

The dangers of a fraudulent COVID-19 test can potentially mean the difference between life and death. It’s one of the reasons that both the City and County of Los Angeles are tackling a bounty of false claims now being made by businesses attempting to capitalize on people’s fear in pursuit of profit.

“Fraudulent medical testing can give consumers a false sense of hope. A false sense of hope can contribute to the spread of the virus,” Head Deputy District Attorney Stanley Williams told the Courier.

On May 1, City Attorney Mike Feuer and L.A. County District Attorney Jackie Lacey jointly filed a case against Beverly Hills-based Applied BioSciences Corp. on Wilshire Boulevard for unlawfully advertising and selling an in-home COVID-19 antibody blood test that had not been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The complaint, which seeks an injunction, restitution to consumers and civil penalties, marked the first joint filing by the County and City in a COVID-related consumer action.

“There are a lot of individuals and businesses that are trying to take advantage of

people’s fears during this time,” Supervising Deputy City Attorney Christina Tusan told the Courier. “The problem is pretty significant given that this is new and emerging.”

The investigation by Lacey and Feuer revealed that Applied BioSciences allegedly marketed their antibody test to homes, schools, hospitals, law enforcement, military and public servants, with the claim the \$35 tests could diagnose COVID-19 with “96.3 percent accuracy” in just “15 minutes” from a single finger prick of blood, according to the complaint.

The case marks the third civil lawsuit filed by the City Attorney’s office against companies that advertise and sell at-home exposure and immunity test kits for the virus that haven’t been approved by the FDA. In addition to having issued a number of cease and desist letters, Tusan said the City Attorney is also looking at additional cases.

“It’s really important that the antibody test be done by a medical doctor or an approved establishment,” said Williams.

(Tests continues on page 17)

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The Scene at Home

Do-It-Yourself Home Improvement On the Rise

BY CAROLE DIXON

Since the Safer at Home orders took effect in March, most restaurants and retail have closed but just like grocery and drug stores, hardware facilities were deemed essential businesses. And, it's a good thing. Forget Whole Foods or CVS, there have been long lines around the block at any neighborhood hardware store. It seems the customers can't get enough of do-it-yourself home improvement projects to pass the time and stay active when not binging on Netflix. Whether it's a therapeutic pursuit, or a positive move toward your future environment that you're in control of, the DIY market is high in demand.

Family-owned Anawalt Lumber on Robertson Boulevard - with sister locations in Santa Monica, Malibu and Hollywood, is about to open a new store in the Pacific Palisades. The brand has taken over the old Norris Hardware on Sunset, which will debut the end of May.

Anawalt President, Rolondo Robles started with the company during the recession of 2009 and has never witnessed such a home-bound boom. "The new traffic is caused by 'safer at home' customers," he told the Courier. While they still have professionals and handymen who shop there for lumber and paint, the new surge for computerized paint matching and potted plants has been caused by stir-crazy locals. "People want fertilizer, plant food and housewares from cleaner to gloves and lots of paint."

The store opens at 6:30 a.m. in most locations, so try to arrive early if you want to avoid lines. And, even more surprising than opening a new location during a pandemic, they are hiring at all locations.

Another family-owned business, Pioneer Hardware on North Crescent Drive has been a staple in Beverly Hills since 1926, and just might be the oldest family-owned business in the area. Owner Jeff Tilem grew up in Beverly Hills and his father used to be the mayor.

Manager Ryan Hudson has worked for the company for 10 years and has seen products fly off the shelves in waves. First, it was

lots of cleaning supplies to kill the coronavirus. "We had to become overnight experts," Hudson told the Courier. "The first wave included disinfectants such as Lysol, Clorox Bleach, paper towels, hand sanitizer and more gloves than in our 100-year-history." That quickly moved to regular cleaning supplies such as Windex.

Paint supplies has seen a large uptick in demand followed by gardening supplies such as seeds for vegetables and herbs. "We had to start carrying four to five different potting soils just to keep up," said Hudson.

Pioneer carries a little bit of everything, but about a month ago, cookware such as pots, pans and baking tins started to disappear. "There are a lot of restaurants in Beverly Hills, but now our locals were at home so they needed a quart pan, muffin tin and frying pans," said Hudson.

Oddly enough, the hardware store has had a slow-down with people buying tools, "Most of those require some sort of skill or prior knowledge," he said. "Not everyone is comfortable mounting a TV on a wall but they are ok to put a flower in a pot or bake a cake."

Prior to the pandemic, the main sales came from standard hardware supplies, but according to Hudson, "I've been in retail for a long time and this is the quickest shift in business I've ever seen."

ACE Hardware on Bundy Drive is also experiencing daily lines around the block. Manager Joe Jurado recommends arriving first thing in the morning between 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. during the week. Online ordering and curbside pick-up are also available.

"The biggest surge has been with landscaping products from flowers for the yard, hanging baskets with lots of color and bark," said Jurado. Also, kiddie pools and play sandboxes. "We are selling fake sand by the pallet," he said.

Jurado also confirmed that the grilling department and charcoal sales have gone through the roof but paint is the number one



Farrow+Ball De Nimes Blue

item. "Every color of the rainbow - whatever they can get their hands on. We have been selling five-gallon containers," he said.

According to management at Sherwin Williams on Westwood Boulevard, sales are continually brisk but there has been a spike in sales of soothing neutral paint colors in greys and whites.

International color experts, British paint and wallpaper brand Farrow & Ball has a two-story flagship on La Cienega in the design quarter. The space was originally constructed to be a gathering place for the design community with a top floor lounge and roof deck. The showroom features an interactive customer experience through a 3D magnetic display system.

With over 132 titles like Elephant's Breath to Dead Salmon, the typical neutral swatches don't stand a chance here. Currently, the brand is only available online, with free shipping, but the full range of paints and wallpapers, plus accessories are available at www.farrow-ball.com.

The dark blue hues such as "Scotch Blue,

Hague Blue, Inchyra Blue or Stiffkey Blue are always popular, particularly in these times as blues are calming and relaxing," according to a company spokesperson. Some of the client projects don't just include walls but creating a statement ceiling or patterned floors to upcycling garden planters and furniture with a fresh coat of paint.

Even if you've combed the internet for chic new furnishings and accessories, sometimes there is nothing like a simple, clean coat of paint to further spruce up your surroundings.

If you want to take your home improvement project a step further, international interior designer Kathryn M. Ireland just launched a digital design concierge service The Perfect Room. The platform offers design consultations and services from small projects to complete rooms or whole house packages, from renown designers Jeffrey Alan Marks, Martyn Lawrence Bullard, Bunny Williams, Jeffrey Bilhuber, and Rachel Ashwell. Prices start at \$175. <https://theperfectroom.com/> ●



Rachel Ashwell The Perfect Room



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Beverly Hills Task Force Responds

BY BIANCA HEYWARD

The City of Beverly Hills wants to spread kindness, not COVID-19. The citywide Kindness Task Force (KTF) helps residents do exactly that. On March 16, in response to the global health crisis, then-Mayor and current Councilmember John Mirisch announced the formation of the Task Force, an initiative which is comprised of community members helping the City's vulnerable senior population. The KTF and the Human Relations Commission (HRC), charged with managing the Task Force, announced on May 8 during the Planning Commission meeting that approximately 90 volunteers have been matched with residents in need.

Volunteer opportunities primarily consist of dog walking and grocery shopping for those who are not able to do so. "The HR team has also compiled a list of 53 seniors who have opted in for weekly wellness checkups to have someone on the other end of the phone line to chat with whether or not they need anything specific," said Human Resources Manager Michael Nettles in the meeting. "It's that kind of emotional wellness we all desperately need during this time of isolation." Each volunteer who signs up for available requests is vetted and matched by Human Services Specialist Enisha Clark.

However, the KTF leaders are using the

opportunity to not only spotlight City residents, but also to share information on how to help neighboring volunteer organizations, local nonprofits and charities. Residents of neighboring cities are also invited to sign up through the City's website, despite being matched by proximity. "I want to let people know that we are trying to keep this as hyperlocal as possible," Clark said. "So, truly neighbors helping neighbors. But we do encourage those who live in neighboring cities continue to apply. We are asking those folks to be emotional support callers we do consider them for backups."

As volunteer opportunities are filled, new ones are added on an almost daily basis.

"Rest assured that every single resident in need has been matched with a volunteer," Nettles said. "We have quite the embarrassment of riches, where we have more volunteers than the need. And, that's a very good problem to have. It's a testament to our community."

While supply has surpassed demand, City officials said that there will be more need for help in the future while the City, county and state go through various stages of reopening.

Since inception, the KTF has focused on creating a new database, Beverly Hills Better

Impact, for the onboarding and mobilizing of community volunteers, developing a Citywide senior phone bank comprised of senior contact numbers, hosting a virtual book club to combat social isolation and more. The COVID-19 book club launched by Mirisch is currently reading "The Great Gatsby" by F. Scott Fitzgerald. Those who wish to partake can tune in to a weekly livestreamed reading of each chapter by Councilmember Mirisch which is recorded and uploaded as a video on to the City's website. The book is made available online at no extra cost here: <http://www.planetebook.com/free-ebooks/the-great-gatsby.pdf>.

Other notable KTF initiatives include the Beverly Hills Frontline Meals program, which provides meals for first responders. The program, started by Human Relations Commissioner Annette Saleh, works with

local restaurants to support businesses who wish to participate while feeding those on the front lines. Community members are encouraged to call and donate \$25 directly to their restaurant of choice. Saleh announced that since April 3, the program has raised nearly \$40,000 for restaurants and who have in turn served an estimated 125 meals per day.

For more information, visit www.beverlyhills.org/kindnesstaskforce. If you would like to join the Kindness Task Force WhatsApp group, it can be found at: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/BACEM6oeltt9CjninibuG2B>. For volunteers looking to sign up, visit <https://beverlyhills.org/volunteersignup/>. For help, visit <https://beverlyhills.org/helprequest/>.



Kindness Task Force volunteer (and Courier staffer) Bianca Heyward taking a dog walk

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COVID-19 Prompts Charities to Shift Fundraising Efforts

BY LAURA COLEMAN



A toast to the honorees at Tower Cancer Research Foundation's first virtual gala.

Had it not been for COVID-19, hundreds of people would be enjoying some of Beverly Hills' most gorgeous environs on Saturday, May 16, at the Virginia Robinson Gardens' 2020 Garden Tour. The annual tour of private estates and a luxurious garden luncheon evocative of Gatsby is the major fundraiser for the historic Gardens, supporting restoration needs and children's science programs.

But like so many nonprofits which relied on in-person fundraising events to draw in needed donor dollars, the Friends of Robinson Gardens, the volunteer nonprofit which supports the Gardens, will need to pivot their fundraising efforts this year. According to President of the Friends Patti Reinstein, Garden Tour plans are still evolving.

"There's definitely very real challenges that everyone is facing," Tower Cancer Research Foundation Executive Director Linda David told the Courier. "Our gala is such an important fundraising opportunity for us."

Earlier this week, on May 12, the Beverly Hills-based foundation hosted its annual Tower of Hope Gala via Zoom, raising over \$1 million. Unlike last year's gala, which netted \$1 million for Tower, there were virtually no expenses to hold this year's "Stay Home Affair" and every dollar donated was 100 percent deductible.

"We actually have the potential to do better this year," David said. "There's so many silver linings to this cloud for us. Having this kind of support really shows us that our mission resonates with our community."

The virtual gala itself included a Zoom call with scores of participants who toasted this year's honorees, Dr. Barry Rosenbloom and Michele Kaplan. A virtual paddle raise on the day of the event, where a donor offered to match up to \$100,000, kept funds coming in for research grants and patient support programs. In addition to the

electronic fundraiser, Tower has also helped cancer patients and survivors by shoring up their online offerings, including posting classes online, free to its patient population.

Even before the Stay at Home mandate was issued on March 19, UCLA Health Sciences began to take steps to shore up their digital offerings. In the days that followed, the organization created two COVID-19 funds to support UCLA Health's immediate life-saving work, one devoted to research and education and the other focusing on patient care and healthcare provider protection. There's also an opportunity for people to offer PPE and in-kind donations.

For Giving Tuesday on May 5, UCLA Health allowed people to make online "Thank you" videos. And one family made a \$250,000 donation to mark the day. The first two of three online lectures entitled "Your COVID-19 Questions Answered" each had over 500 people attend using Zoom and are now available online.

"We started to really make strategies for how we would have engagement events, not knowing how long it will last," Assistant Vice Chancellor of Development of UCLA Health Sciences Lindsay Williams told the Courier. The organization recently closed its \$5 billion centennial campaign last December. "For us, we've been very engaged on how we engage our philanthropic community safely."

Before the pandemic began, the hospital's board met just a few times a week with UCLA Health's leadership. Now, the two cohorts meet weekly online.

"This really gave us an opportunity for our board members and volunteers to engage directly with our leaders [and] provided us an opportunity for high engagement," Williams said. No decision has yet been reached as to what will happen to the organization's two major fundraisers this year.

"The challenges are the challenges facing

our nation. Both the physical distancing and the ways we conducted our engagement have to change," she said. "People of all different wealths are feeling they want to contribute in some meaningful way. We as an organization really need to be able to accept philanthropy in all forms."

On May 2, at the start of Mental Health Awareness month, the Southern California Counseling Center (SCCC) held a virtual fundraiser to support affordable mental healthcare, bringing in over \$100,000. The hour-long "e-vent" included entertainment, a silent auction, and a live comments feed. Michelle Becker, director of advancement for the organization, said that over 400 people watched the livestream on YouTube.

"It's a critical time for quality mental healthcare and people mobilized," she told the Courier. "We were proud to have so many loyal friends tune into SCCC's first virtual fundraising event. We really are like a family."

Last month the Women's Guild Cedars-Sinai marshaled its board members to participate in the Women's Guild Covid-19 Gift Card Relief Fund Campaign, raising over \$100,000 over the course of two weeks. Shelley Cooper, president of the Women's

Guild, said the Guild would soon be distributing 4,500 \$25 gift cards to the 4,300 hospital employees.

"We are so proud and happy that we could give back to the hospital in this way. We're not resting on our laurels, that's for sure," she told the Courier. "With their compassion, these frontline heroes continue to make Cedars-Sinai a pillar of hope by providing healthcare to all in need."

Through the Guild, a bevy of additional donations have come to Cedars-Sinai during this time, including 500 Velvet t-shirts for nurses, 1,100 Bandolier cross body cellphone cases, and 7,800 hot meals for frontline employees from Barbara Thornhill. The Women's Guild Simulation Center for Advanced Clinical Skills is proving particularly helpful during this time, with over 2,300 professionals having used the simulation center to deal with the pandemic.

The Guild elected to postpone this year's annual gala, which would have taken place on May 5. Plans for its upcoming Women's Guild luncheon in the fall are still in abeyance.

"It's very difficult to plan anything, as Dr. (Anthony) Fauci has so eloquently put it every day," Cooper said. ●

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WALLIS ANNENBERG CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS ON-DEMAND BROADCAST: "THE ENCOUNTER"

The Wallis is partnering with Complicité to stream "The Encounter" online. Inspired by the novel "Amazon Beaming" by Beverly Hills resident, Petru Popescu, it tells the story of National Geographic photographer Loren McIntyre who, in 1969, became lost in a remote part of the Brazilian rainforest while searching for the Mayoruna people.
<https://thewallis.org/encounter>

MAY 16
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL LOS ANGELES VIRTUAL WALK AND PLAY L.A. EVENT 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.

Children's Hospital Los Angeles will hold its Fourth Annual Walk and Play L.A. fundraising event virtually. The family-friendly community event promotes the well-being of children in Los Angeles and brings the community, entertainment companies, celebrities, fitness and lifestyle brands, athletes, musicians, and more together to help fundraise for the hospital. walkandplayla.org

MAY 16
BROOKE WILLIAMSON'S ZOOM DINNER & COOKING DEMO 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Join Chef Brooke Williamson with Billy Harris and Paul Vitagliano for a Zoom multi-course dinner party and cooking demo in your home, with proceeds benefiting the Los Angeles Food Bank. Email paulcvitagliano@gmail.com.
www.billyharris.com

MAY 16 - 17
LOS ANGELES CHAMBER ORCHESTRA "LACO AT HOME" WITH CELLO VIRTUOSO SHEKU KANNEH-MASON AND PIANIST ISATA KANNEH-MASON 8 p.m. May 16; 7 p.m. May 17

The online series gives voice to celebrated artists sharing musical selections along with personal reflections on music and their experiences in the current environment. This week features an interview with British cello virtuoso Sheku Kanneh-Mason in conversation with LACO Music Director Jaime Martín. The program will be livestreamed at laco.org/broadcasts and later streamed on-demand at laco.org/on-demand.

MAY 17
THE MUSIC CENTER'S DIGITAL DANCE EXPERIENCE "INSIDE LOOK: MALPASO DANCE COMPANY" 2 p.m.

The Music Center's Digital Dance Experience presents "Inside Look: Malpasos Dance Company," showcasing Cuba's contemporary dance sensation

Malpasos Dance Company in two compelling interviews.
<https://www.musiccenter.org/tmc-offstage/inside-look-malpasos/>

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<https://billcunningham.vhx.tv/products/bill-cunningham-for-laemmlle-theatres/>

NOW - MAY 19
VENICE FAMILY CLINIC ONLINE ART AUCTION

Venice Family Clinic Art Walk & Auction has moved exclusively to an online art auction for its 41st edition, which features

more than 150 works by nationally recognized contemporary artists. This auction will be open for live bidding via artsy.net/veniceartwalk.
<https://venicefamilyclinic.org/>

NOW - JULY 5
GEFFEN PLAYHOUSE VIRTUAL THEATRICAL EXPERIENCE: "THE PRESENT"

Enjoy Geffen Playhouse's world premiere of "The Present," a live, virtual and interactive theatrical experience written and performed by master illusionist, storyteller and Geffen alum Helder Guimarães. Directed by Academy Award nominee Frank Marshall, "The Present" takes place virtually via a secure online platform with a maximum of 25 participants per show. www.geffenplayhouse.org

NOW
DAVID ZWIRNER'S "PLATFORM: LOS ANGELES" VIEWING ROOM

"Platform: Los Angeles" is the third in a series of online exhibitions bringing together gallery and artist communities around the world and features 13 Los Angeles-based galleries.
<https://www.davidzwirner.com/viewing-room/platform-los-angeles>



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**Due to COVID-19, the BHEF High School Sports Program and the BHEF Middle School Sports Program have been cancelled.*

Kindness in the time of COVID

BY EVA RITVO M.D.



Beverly Hills Courier columnist **Dr. Eva Ritvo** is a psychiatrist with more than 25 years' experience practicing in Miami Beach. She is the author of "Bekindr-The Transformative Power of Kindness" and the founder of the Bekindr Global Initiative, a movement to bring more kindness in the world. She is the co-author of "The Beauty Prescription" and "The Concise Guide to Marriage and Family Therapy." She is also the co-founder of the Bold Beauty Project, a nonprofit that pairs women with disabilities with award-winning photographers creating art exhibitions to raise awareness. Dr. Ritvo received her undergraduate and medical degrees from UCLA, and psychiatry residency training at Weill Cornell Medicine.

Our usual ways of being kind have been flipped on their head or taken away. When we see a stranger now, no longer can we smile or hold a door open. Instead, we have to walk away and our mind wonders if the passerby could make us sick or even kill us.

"Social distancing," while it seems to be the best thing for our collective survival, is taking a toll on almost everyone. We are an incredibly social species. Our young are born totally dependent, and it takes years and even decades before they live on their own. We are all part of humanKIND and are used to being with and relying on one another in countless ways.

While Covid-19 has robbed us of so many activities, it is remarkable how quickly we are adapting. Our brains love patterns and will default to using the same ones over and over unless we work hard to break them. Have you ever tried to brush your teeth with the opposite hand? I tried it for about a week then gave up. Right now, we have been forced to change so many of our habits in a flash. At first, it felt awful. But fearing for our lives, we were willing to put up with almost any amount of discomfort.

Now that we have been in quarantine for about 60 days, we are well past the 30 days required to create new habits. Many of us are finding a "new normal." Our brains, wired to crave routines, have created new ones. Many of these new habits are quite beneficial and we should try to maintain them as we go forward.

We must remain mindful as we reemerge. As fear decreases, we will be drawn back to our old patterns. Which ones can we still do safely? And which should still remain on hold? As they lift restrictions, it will be on each of us to look after ourselves and one another and make the best decisions possible.

One must always remember to engage in self-kindness. As they say, when the oxygen mask drops on the airplane, put it on yourself first so that you can then you can

take care of others. We need a new skill set to keep ourselves safe as we venture back out. We will feel pulled to return to our old lives but we must remember sanctions are being lifted not because it is safe for any one of us. Sanctions are being lifted for us as a collective, not as individuals. Each of us must proceed wisely now as the messaging is already starting to change. Many businesses, politicians, and some friends and family will be urging us to get back out there and resume old habits.

These weeks of quarantine have forced us to find new ways to be kind to ourselves. No longer can we drop into our hair/nail salon, meet a friend at our favorite restaurant, or engage in retail therapy. Moreover, we have had to deal with many difficult emotions. Fear and loss have loomed large. Novelty, which most of us crave, requires effort. For many alone during quarantine, it has been particularly challenging.

Here are some tips to help you navigate through these stressful times.

- **Optimize Sleep.** It is heartwarming to see new ways of being kind to ourselves appear. The base of the wellness pyramid is sleep, and many of us have increased the number of hours we are sleeping...which is a very wise choice.

- **Avoid Nighttime Stressors.** Nightmares are common when fear is high, so turn off the news and avoid phone calls that might be upsetting after dark. If you haven't started meditating, now is a great time. We need to quiet our minds and come into the present moment to reduce our fear about uncertainty in the future.

- **Focus on the Essentials.** We are in a pandemic. We need to survive. Everything else is gravy. We have relaxed our standards around our appearance and for many, this has been a welcome break. How else can you find freedom while in confinement?

- **Be Curious and Open-Minded.** Be curious about your emotions and don't judge yourself negatively. We are all finding

ourselves feeling sad, angry, and impatient in these challenging times. Acknowledge these feelings then work to shift them when you can to more pleasant emotions such as joy, gratitude, and love. As my wise friend said, we need to "look to the corners of the room." These positive emotions may not be obvious if we look straight ahead. We must look in previously unnoticed spots. Small things matter. As I write this, one friend is sending pictures of the roses she is enjoying on her walk and another is sending the beautiful bagels her family baked.

- **Embrace Family.** We have rebounded as "families" both by living together as college students and adult children have returned home. Many are using Zoom to reconnect their family for game nights, happy hours, cooking lessons and more.

- **Find Joy at Home.** We are all becoming chefs, and many are eating better than ever. Creativity is thriving. We have to find ways to keep entertained and this allows our brain to create new pathways. We are playing games again. Humor, which releases Oxytocin nicknamed the love or cuddle hormone, is in high demand and our texts and inboxes are filled with things to make us laugh.

- **Learn, Develop, and Grow:** Many are spending more time playing music, singing, dancing, and learning new things. One friend started cello lessons and several enrolled in the college courses on happiness and wellbeing.

- **Pay Attention to Your Health:** Exercise routines have shifted but many have found more time to work out. As we must keep our immune systems in optimal shape, we are inclined to eat better. Many of my patients stopped drinking alcohol as they found their moods were already so up and down.

Once we feel a bit better, our natural instinct to care for those around us will reemerge and will need an outlet. We can enjoy being kind to the ones we are in quarantine with. As all our emotions are heightened and rapidly changing, relationships have been strengthened and challenged. Remember that we are all going through this together and just as we must be patient with ourselves, we must be patient with others. Make sure to participate in household chores, find time for fun, and use kind words. This too shall pass and many of us will miss the closeness that quarantine created.

We need to lend a helping hand to others as so many are in need and it is also a way of lifting ourselves. We are calling, Zooming, and FaceTiming one another in record numbers. We are showing our connection and care using technology as never before.

Remember that even though you can't smile to passersby, you can say hello or offer a brief greeting.

Many are helping neighbors and others are helping beyond by donating services and money. It is hard to know how in this new era. Volunteer Match will give you options of how you can volunteer online.

Here is a short list to help you start thinking of ways to be kind while social distancing.

1. FaceTime or Zoom so you can see one another. Smiles are important.

2. Direct, produce, and record a puppet show together with your child's stuffed animals and send it to others.

3. Try a new recipe but record your family making it as though they are famous chefs on the Food Network so others can try it at home.

4. Have your friends make a video thanking essential workers and send it to someone who can share it with others.

5. Have family theme nights: Pirate night, Aloha, Disco, etc. and Zoom with friends and family.

6. Make fabric masks for others.

7. Make a PowerPoint or video collage for someone and surprise them if they are celebrating a special occasion.

8. Create a hangout session for a group of friends or coworkers.

9. Start a new virtual book club.

10. Look at old photos and share them with family or friends.

11. Share humor via texts and emails.

12. Make someone a handwritten note, picture or poem and send it regular mail if you can access a mailbox safely.

13. Send food to someone from a local restaurant, market, or online store.

14. Cook something for a neighbor and drop it off especially if you have a neighbor on the frontlines.

15. Send a friend a book or a puzzle that you enjoyed or swap with a neighbor.

16. Reach out to a friend or family member you haven't spoken to in years. Call an old boss, colleague, or classmate.

17. Share workout time with friends via FaceTime or Zoom.

18. Thank your schoolteacher with a note or gift.

19. Use kind words and be patient as everyone is tense.

20. Take or deliver food to fire stations and local hospitals.

21. Send thank-you notes to a hospital.

22. Place sign on your lawn or window to thank healthcare workers, grocery clerks, and all in restaurants.

23. Donate money to organizations fighting COVID or to help those suffering economically.

24. Overtip anyone who helps you in your building or when using Instacart, Uber Eats, etc.

25. Shelters are struggling so if you can adopt a pet, consider doing so. ●

Rodeo Drive Leads Beverly Hills Retail Reopening

BY LAURA COLEMAN



Guess on Rodeo Drive was among the City's first retail businesses to reopen for curbside pick-up.

Beverly Hills' retail market showed signs of coming back to life this week as many of the 200 local businesses that qualified to reopen for curbside pick-up did just that on May 8. In addition to Gov. Gavin Newsom allowing clothing stores and other specified industries to open with meaningful modifications last Friday, on May 13 the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health announced that all retailers not located in an indoor mall or shopping center could reopen for curbside, door-side, outside pick-up or delivery.

"It's exciting," Beverly Hills Marketing and Economic Sustainability Manager Laura Biery told the Courier. "To really see that retail appetite come back, that ability to pick it up same day is really exciting. That is a welcome site."

While pedestrian activity on Rodeo Drive still remains light and most of the people using curbside pick-up are choosing to make use of the alley ways, on Tuesday there was a steady stream of cars waiting along Dayton Way for Louis Vuitton parcels to be safely placed inside trunks via white-gloved employees. And just four days after opening, nearly all of the window displays had been set up once again and the store interiors remerchandised. Other areas of the City have similarly reopened with refreshed window displays and signage alerting patrons to the pick-up process.

"We're doing what we can, but at the same time we're staying safe," Nicola Cagliata, Rodeo Drive Committee President and Regional Manager for Jaeger Le Coultre, told the Courier. "We're definitely moving in the right direction. There's a lot of excitement. A lot of the stores are organizing. Clients are calling in orders and preparing to pick-up."

Among the keys to prosperity in the future, according to Kathy Gohari, general manager of Valentino and past president of the Rodeo Drive Committee, will be the ability of people to get creative.

(Rodeo Drive continues on page 15)

The Wallis Receives California Arts Council Grant

BY CAROLE DIXON

On May 11, The Wallis School Partners Program at the The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts announced its receipt of a \$20,000 grant from the California Arts Council.

This annual school program provides a unique opportunity for thousands of students from K-12 schools within Los Angeles County to attend student matinee performances featuring world class artists and performing arts presented on The Wallis' stages. The Wallis School Partners Program is part of GRoW @ The Wallis, the umbrella for an eclectic mix of education, growth through the arts and outreach programs at The Wallis.

"The Wallis is extremely grateful for this significant grant from the California Arts Council, which will help us continue to share our exceptional music, dance and theater programs with students from the greater Los Angeles area," states Rachel Fine, The Wallis' Executive Director and CEO. "These engaging performances promote an understanding and sharing of culture, enhance awareness of others, build cognitive skills and foster civic engagement, among other crucial benefits. The Wallis School Partners Program reflects our deep commitment to investing in the young people

of our community."

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the California Arts Council is supporting appropriate solutions for grantees. It recognizes that some grant recipients may need to postpone, modify or cancel their planned activities supported by CAC funds, due to state and local public health guidelines.

"Creativity sits at the very heart of our identity as Californians and as a people," said Nashormeh Lindo, Chair of the California Arts Council. "The California Arts Council is proud to be able to offer more support through our grant programs, at a time when our communities' need is perhaps greater than ever before. These grants will support immediate and lasting community impact by investing in arts businesses and cultural workers across the state."

The Wallis' California Arts Council grant was among more than 1,500 awarded to non-profit organizations and units of government throughout the state for their work in support of the agency's mission to strengthen arts, culture and creative expression as the tools to cultivate a better California for all. The state's investment of nearly \$30 million marks a more than \$5 million increase over the previous fiscal year, and the largest in California Arts Council history. ●



Face Coverings Mandatory in Beverly Hills



Use non-medical face coverings such as a scarf or cloth when in public. N-95 masks are reserved for medical personnel.

#BHHealthyCity

New Pocket Listing Guidelines Signal a Change in Beverly Hills

BY CAROLE DIXON



10776 Wilshire. Nourmand & Associates

The local real estate market has been under a microscope lately with new restrictions pertaining to the COVID-19 guidelines. Now, a new rule from the National Association of Realtors (NAR) called the Clear Cooperation Policy that went into effect on May 1 is impacting the use of private “pocket” or off-market listings.

Based in Chicago, the NAR is a North American trade association for the real estate industry. It is involved in all aspects of the residential and commercial real estate industries and functions as a self-regulatory organization for real estate brokerage.

Pocket or “whisper listings” help protect a high-profile buyer’s privacy and keep the looky-loos at bay. They can be a means of testing the waters prior to putting a home on the market, or a way to hide the public paper trail of a home that was perhaps priced too high and sat dormant for too long.

This new policy dictates that all listings must be submitted to the Multiple Listing Service (MLS) database within one day of being on the market, or they must remain in-house and exclusive to the listing agency only and not shared with outside brokers or sources.

One prominent real estate executive in Beverly Hills told the Courier, “The origin of this new NAR ruling is discrimination against minorities. They don’t want anyone to be discriminated against, but the execution is questionable. We are still refining how are we going to do this, but we need to follow their rules.”

While the new policy is national, it presents a particular problem in Los Angeles and Beverly Hills A-List circles. Pocket listings are thriving, particularly with higher value, higher-profile homes (over \$10 million) and this can represent up to 30 percent of revenue

for a top brokerage firm.

“It’s a killer for us,” Rochelle Maize of Nourmand & Associates told the Courier. “It’s so hard because it was a national vote and middle America is very different than Beverly Hills. A lot of business here locally is off-market because there are so many high-profile people and celebrities here.”

“I’m not aware of issues people are having,” said Rodney Gansho, Director of Engagement at NAR and MLS committee Staff Executive. “This is not a prohibition on pocket listings and doesn’t eliminate the ability to take pocket listings,” he told the Courier.

“The only thing that the Clear Cooperation did was create a standard where if the listing is publicly marketed, it’s questionable. If it’s a pocket listing for privacy reasons, brokers can still do that but once they start exposing it to the market, the policy indicates that listing should be put in the MLS so that others in the marketplace can also be informed about that. Then it’s no longer a pocket listing at that point.”

He added, “There is no national policy from the NAR about what a ‘whisper listing’ is or certain numbers of people who can know about a listing. For fair housing concerns, you want to make sure that you are treating everybody fairly, plus it’s in the best interest of the client, you want to make sure you get wide distribution of a listing.”

Jeffrey Saad, who is an Estate Director at Compass in Beverly Hills, feels the outcome could be counter to what the NAR set out to protect. “They have taken our industry from open and collaborative to private and exclusive,” he told the Courier. “This ruling has reversed the amazing progress [in the industry] and has literally done the opposite of what they were trying to accomplish.”

“The moment I share a listing with more than one person or it goes public in any way – this could be a sign in the front yard, postcard or an e-mail blast – it must be entered into the MLS within 24 hours,” he said. “Now the whole world knows [about the listing],” he said.

With the new system, the listing will go into “private exclusive” so it’s only shared in-house not with the public. “This just made the bigger company the winner, he said. “The bigger your company, the more you’re sharing with in-house. Before, you could have a pocket listing forever as long as the client agreed on not putting it in the MLS to reduce number of people who saw it,” said Saad.

The NAR and advocates of the rule say it will create a level playing field and increase transparency, but larger companies such as Compass or Coldwell Banker may have an advantage because they can expose it to not just a single office, but multiple locations.

On Monday, May 11, a lawsuit was filed in the Northern California U.S District Court against the NAR by Top Agent Network in San Francisco. According to a recent Wall St. Journal article, the agency is claiming that the Clear Cooperation Policy will put them out of business.

“Top Agent was a paid for service where you could post your pocket listings and it was a great way for people to find out about those listings without having to go on Zillow or Redfin,” said Maize. “Hopefully, they will figure out a way to stay in business. They have a been a huge asset amongst agents, especially in Beverly Hills, to make deals happen. It will be a shame if they couldn’t continue to do this.”

This new policy seems to have created more competition in Beverly Hills. Most

agents are bound by the NAR policies, and are subject to hefty penalties for noncompliance. “They are not just hand-slapping,” said Maize. The fines are \$2,500 for the first offense, \$5,000 for the second and you lose your license on the third. “Unfortunately, because our industry is so competitive, you have naysayers that are watching and if you do anything, they will turn you in. So, it’s not worth taking any risks until they figure it out,” she said.

Josh Flagg of Rodeo Realty and Bravo television’s decade long series “Million Dollar Listing,” told the Courier he is conflicted about the new policy.

“Most pocket listings don’t have a signed agreement,” he told the Courier. “It’s word of mouth and only about 10 brokers know about it. If you actually sign it, then one could make the argument that it should be on the open market. I can see both sides but no one should tell me what I should do with my home.”

“What if I’m Madonna and I don’t want people to know that I’m selling my house? Or, let’s say my neighbor knocks on my door and wants to buy my house and I tell my broker at a dinner party, ‘I guess if I got the right price, I’d sell my house,’ and he tells a friend. Now I’m supposed to put my house on the market so other people can have a shot at it? It’s stupid and where does it stop? There has to be a caveat to this rule,” Flagg said.

Despite the industry pushback, Maize remains optimistic. Like anything, it’s just really hard in the very beginning but I’m confident that it will fall into place and we will have some type of a system to fall back on,” she said. “We will continue anyway and figure out how to sell homes. The value in Beverly Hills is still holding and it’s looking good.” ●



10860 Via Verona. Compass

(Rodeo Drive continued from page 13)

"I think this is a great time for brands to find ways to recreate themselves. I think what it gives us, is an opportunity to learn from these past couple of months and be able to do things better. It allows us all to be more creative and think outside of the box," she told the Courier.

Gohari, who has worked at Valentino for 18 years, emphasized that much of the luxury retail market is about relationships.

"Believe it or not, I think with a certain group, [our relationships have] gotten stronger," she said. "We check on each other. It's almost like a family member where we care about each other and we check on each other and if we don't hear from each other we get concerned."

Opening just in time for Mother's Day this past Sunday proved a real boon for local flower shops and shoppers in need of the perfect gift.

Just hours after reopening, Twigs and Thyme owner Nancy Ohanessian said the telephone wouldn't stop ringing with people calling in orders for curbside pick-up or delivery.

"We love it. We're finally out of the house," she told the Courier. "The phones are off the hook and we can't even answer them fast enough."

"We're so happy to be open that we could boost people's morale and spirits during this unfortunate period that we're going through," Muguet Florist owner Mehdi Arya told the Courier.

As the state continues to allow more

specific industries to reopen, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health will subsequently determine how that will happen and when it will take place. In anticipation of the phased reopening continuing, Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce CEO Todd Johnson underscored how important it was to rebuild the community together as a team.

"The Chamber welcomes a limited reopening of some businesses in Los Angeles County and Beverly Hills in particular," he told the Courier. "We are looking forward to working with the business community during this process and into the future stages of recovery from this crisis."

Marketing and Economic Sustainability Manager Laura Biery said that businesses were actively reaching out to the City for guidance on how to best open safely and learn what protocols need to be in place.

"Our business community wants to reopen, but they want to reopen safely," she said. "This is a brand new experience for everyone. None of us has lived through a global pandemic before."

Not everyone is completely enthused with the protocols now in place, however.

"It's useless. Curbside pick-up is the same things as online ordering," Harry Harris Shoes owner Andy Harris told the Courier. The children's shoe store has been in its same location on North Canon Drive for 72 years. "The optics of curbside service for the essence of a symbolic gesture doesn't do any good." ●

Hollywood Bowl Summer Season Falls Victim to Coronavirus

For the first time in almost a century, the Hollywood Bowl will be silent this summer, with the Los Angeles Philharmonic announcing the cancellation of the season due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. The Los Angeles Philharmonic Association made the decision, citing the inability to hold its iconic events in a continuing environment of COVID-19 public health restrictions barring large gatherings. Canceling the season will exacerbate continuing revenue losses for the Philharmonic, which stated that scrubbing the Hollywood Bowl season and shows at The Ford will leave the organization with an \$80 million budget shortfall. In response, the L.A. Phil announced it will furlough 25 percent of its non-union workforce, as well as the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra through Sept. 30. Seasonal Hollywood Bowl employees are also being laid off.

"The Hollywood Bowl and The Ford are much more than performance venues. They are iconic places and represent summer traditions that have played a part in defining Los Angeles itself," said Gail Samuel, president of the Hollywood Bowl and COO of the Los Angeles Philharmonic Association. "It's deeply saddening to acknowledge that the 2020 summer season is gone, but the LA Phil isn't going anywhere. Our cultural community is among the most vibrant and creative in the world."

Those who have already purchased tickets for summer shows at the venues can contact the Philharmonic at information@laphil.org or at 323-850-2000 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

CNS ●

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Harry Harris Shoes opened for curbside pick-up May 8.

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BEVERLY HILLS BEAUTIFUL JOIN THE FUN AND SHARE YOUR CREATIONS!

Participate in weekly *We Create Community & Art is Life* projects and win!
BHB Projects Week #4

WE CREATE COMMUNITY - Kindness Cards - Seniors at our assisted living residences are unable to have visitors. We're asking residents to make cards with uplifting messages and inspiring photos that can be dropped off to our rangers at City Hall, Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., or email a note and your picture to beverlyhillsbeautiful@beverlyhills.org and we will deliver your kindness messages to our seniors.

ART IS LIFE - Kindness Rocks - Paint a small rock with a kind message and take it to our "Kindness Rocks" Garden at Roxbury Park and watch our garden grow! Take a picture with your rock or at the rock garden and share it with us.

Share images on your social media, follow and tag [@CommunityLifeBH](https://www.instagram.com/CommunityLifeBH), [#CommunityLifeBH](https://twitter.com/CommunityLifeBH). Or, email creations to beverlyhillsbeautiful@beverlyhills.org.

At the end of our six-week engagement project, we will choose the most inspiring entries from both our **WE CREATE COMMUNITY & ART IS LIFE** projects and provide those two winning entries with a gift certificate to a beloved Beverly Hills restaurant.

For project details view, beverlyhills.org/beverlyhillsbeautiful.



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WE CREATE COMMUNITY

499 N. Canon Dr.
Suite 400
Beverly Hills, CA 90210
310-278-1322
Fax: 310-271-5118
www.bhcourier.com

Publishers

Lisa Bloch
John Bendheim

Chief Content Officer

Ana Figueroa

City Editor

Laura Coleman

Staff Writer

Bianca Heyward

Lifestyle Editor

Carole Dixon

Advertising Director

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Advertising Managers

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Accounting

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Jamison Province

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Eva Ritvo M.D.



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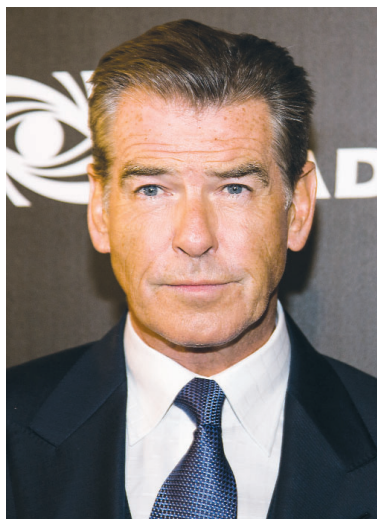
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Birthdays



MEGAN FOX
May 16



PIERCE BROSNAN
May 16



JANET JACKSON
May 16



TORI SPELLING
May 16



DEBRA WINGER
May 16



TINA FEY
May 18



CHER
May 20



MARRIANNE BERMAN
May 21

To our loyal Courier readers We want to celebrate YOU! Going forward, we'd like our popular Birthday Page to reflect the community as a whole. So we're inviting you to send us your birthdate plus a high-resolution (300 dpi or above) headshot of yourself. Please send it at least two weeks in advance of your birthday, and we'll do our best to include it on our Birthday Page. Send the photos, along with your full name and birthday to: Editorial@BHCourier.com.

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Pennie and Sam are bonded Maltese-Poodle mix siblings whose owner passed away. They are nine years old. If you have room in your home for this sweet duo, please contact Shelter of Hope at 805-379-3538.
www.shelterhopepetshop.org

(John Ozimek, D.O. continued from page 1)

What else can you tell us about the new normal, especially as it pertains to your labor and delivery patients?

New normal mostly encompasses the hospital when you walk in. It seems so empty because no one is in the waiting rooms and elevators. We didn't allow visitors. However, the entire time we've allowed for one visitor in labor and delivery. At one point, we had to have them leave after they were transferred to post-partum. But on April 20, we moved back to a system of one visitor able to stay for the entire time a woman was here giving birth. The only caveat is that they can't leave and come back. It's the most liberal visitation policy in the entire hospital. We understand this time is the most special in our patients' lives. Now, we need to clarify that if a patient comes in for evaluation in our OB Triage area or if they are admitted to the ER, there would be no visitors at this time.

Should pregnant women take special precautions now?

We know the things we have to do to avoid the virus. We cover our faces. We wash our hands. What we're seeing is that pregnant women are being extremely diligent about following those basic rules. They're telling us that they aren't going out of the house. Their husband is the one running the errands. They're adhering very closely to all the recommendations from health officials. Add to this the fact that our state and local leaders shut things down pretty early. That has resulted in a slower increase in the numbers and a spread that has progressed in a manageable fashion.

How have your specific protocols for expectant mothers changed?

For a while, we were testing every single mom on admission because data from places such as New York indicated that about 20 percent of the women coming in for labor and delivery without symptoms were positive for the virus. For about a week, we tested everyone, but it took a week to get results back. That meant, we had to use full PPE around the patients, because we had to treat everyone as positive. If a baby was delivered before the results came in, we had to treat the baby as positive, as well. Luckily, we found that zero of the asymptomatic patients were positive. Our population is much more different than in New York. It didn't warrant the stress and strain on patients to test everyone. We're only testing labor and delivery patients if they are exhibiting symptoms now. Of course, we screen the patient and partner when they come in. Within the last two weeks, all of the other patients admitted to the hospital are now being tested. If we start seeing an increase in asymptomatic patients testing positive, we might change how we do things with the expectant mothers.

Can the virus be transmitted to the fetus during pregnancy?

Research is still emerging, despite seeming like it's been around here forever. We have a fair amount of data that suggests pregnant patients are no more susceptible to contract it as the general public, that are age matched and health matched. Those that do contract it while pregnant don't do any worse than those who are not pregnant. With COVID-19, 80 percent of all those infected have mild symptoms, they may feel pretty rotten, but don't need admission to hospital. Of the twenty percent of those

who are admitted, five percent of those will be critical. Those statistics apply to pregnant women as they do with the general population. Other respiratory illnesses hit pregnant women much harder. We think lots of the severe effects of COVID are suppressed when you're pregnant. We're still learning about all of this.

Can the virus be transmitted by breastfeeding?

The good news is that we've never been able to detect the virus in breastmilk, which is consistent with other viruses. Theoretically, you can't transfer it solely by breastfeeding. But, moms are breathing right above the baby. Currently, CDC guidelines recommend that mothers who are positive for the virus don't breastfeed. In fact, they recommend a period of separation for infected moms or those whose tests are still pending. The guidelines apply until the mom is deemed noninfected. Of course, it's a difficult conversation to have with a mom. Patients can become upset about it. The CDC itself recognizes that it's probably not feasible to have that separation. So, it lists many precautions we can take to minimize transmission of the virus if mom does decide to breastfeed. Those things include washing the hands and the breast and wearing a mask. As long as mom feels comfortable that she's been educated about the risk.

Luckily, our numbers are pretty low in terms of COVID-infected moms.

Is there anything you can say to nervous moms-to-be who are still suffering from those high anxiety levels?

We're doing everything humanly possible to keep them protected. We've constantly learning more things about this virus. We all thought something like this could happen, but it's not going to happen. Like an asteroid hitting the earth. In California, we're incredibly lucky. We've had the advantage of seeing this hit our unfortunate colleagues in other places. We've had the benefit of lead time. In the future, the next disease could be spread in a different way. But at least now we have a blueprint. We have a timeline of what to expect. Over last two weeks, people are finally saying, 'Okay, we've got this.' And we actually believe it. ●



John Ozimek, D.O.

(Tests continued from page 5)

There are currently two types of COVID-19 tests, the PCR (molecular) swab test to detect the coronavirus that causes COVID-19, and the antibody (serology) test, where blood is collected to determine if a person has been exposed to, and recovered from, COVID-19.

While L.A. County now performs more than 10,000 swab tests a day, the antigen test is more difficult to come by. As of May 11, the FDA had conferred emergency use authorization (EUA) to 12 antibody tests, with an additional 200 antibody tests currently the subject of a pre-EUA or EUA review according to the FDA.

Beverly Hills Medical Advisory Task Force and Health and Safety Commissioner member Dr. Lee Hilborne, M.D., a UCLA Health Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine listed four places offering reliable tests: Cedars-Sinai, UCLA Health, Quest Diagnostics, and LabCorp.

He explained that the antibody tests are useful for public health purposes.

"We don't even know if this antibody confers immunity, although we think it does," he told the Courier. "At this point, it is important for our health leaders to know the percent of people with antibodies, and the rate with which antibody prevalence is increasing."

Beginning the week of May 18, One Medical in Beverly Hills will offer free antibody testing for residents working with LabCorp using a test authorized by the

FDA. One Medical District Director Jason W. Chirichigno, M.D., told the Courier that locals can access the normally subscriber-based practice's services free for a month using the code BEVHILLS30 and will not be auto-enrolled or billed a membership fee at the end of the 30-day period. The primary care practice, which usually charges a \$199 annual fee for patients, integrates on-demand 24/7 virtual care with in-office and lab services.

"Widely available COVID-19 testing is crucial for getting Beverly Hills residents back to work and school," Chirichigno told the Courier. "We're pleased to make this essential service more widely accessible to Beverly Hills residents during this time of need."

For weeks now, One Medical has been offering PCR testing at a designated open-air testing site in Century City. Patients who want an antibody test should first book a remote visit before going to the Beverly Hills lab to have their blood drawn.

As restrictions continue to relax and testing becomes more widely available, Pamela Mottice-Muller, Director of Emergency Management, Resilience and Recovery for the City of Beverly Hills, underscored the importance of not letting "our guard down."

Earlier this week Los Angeles County Public Health Director Barbara Ferrer said the stay-at-home order would be extended indefinitely and that data would be fundamental to lifting it. ●

Next stop: more subway.

PURPLE LINE EXTENSION TRANSIT PROJECT

Section 2 – Beverly Hills Update

Full Closure of Wilshire Bl

The temporary full closure of Wilshire Bl has been extended to El Camino Dr to help expedite station construction. The closure is anticipated to take place from one to three months. However, upon request of the City, streets may be restored to allow two lanes in each direction at any time.

TRAFFIC ALERT

Full closure of Wilshire Bl from El Camino Dr to Crescent Dr. Metro buses will be detoured. For more info, please visit metro.net/advisories.

WORK HOURS

Work will occur seven days a week. Please visit metro.net/purple for detailed work hours.

*Construction is dynamic and is subject to change.



CONTACT US

213.922.6934

purplelineext@metro.net

metro.net/purple

[@purplelineext](https://twitter.com/purplelineext)

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SUDOKU
05/15/20 ISSUE

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SUDOKU ANSWERS
05/08/20 ISSUE

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PUZZLE ANSWERS
05/08/20 ISSUE

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THE NEW YORK TIMES SUNDAY MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE
05/15/20

BORDER CROSSINGS
BY ADAM FROMM / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Adam Fromm is a songwriter/musician from Brunswick, Me., who has been making puzzles "as far back as I can remember." His first published puzzle appeared in Games magazine in 2000. This one grew out of a geographical curiosity he noticed. Fun fact: Adam is a huge fan of Amazon Prime's "36-Down," which he was very happy to include in the grid. — W.S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 "For more ____ .."
 - 5 Some unwanted mail
 - 9 Terse bit of advice
 - 13 Half of an ice cream brand with a fake Danish name
 - 19 Work up a sweat
 - 20 Rent
 - 21 Like tap water in a restaurant
 - 22 Iris part
 - 23 Wing it [Africa]
 - 25 Blue
 - 26 Chew out
 - 27 Après-ski drink
 - 28 Complete rip-off [Asia]
 - 30 Barrel-flavored, as wine
 - 31 Washington, D.C., legalized it in 2014
 - 32 Wealthy king of legend
 - 33 Recess
 - 36 Charge for admission
 - 37 See 101-Down
 - 38 Quaint contraction
 - 41 Record company [Central America]
 - 45 Two-time third-party presidential candidate
 - 47 "The Walking Dead" channel
 - 48 Beyond great
 - 49 Baking measure
 - 50 Cerebral
 - 51 Take in
- DOWN**
- 2 Manhattan neighborhood west of the East Village
 - 3 Order
 - 4 Cranky codger
 - 5 "Reach for the sky!"
 - 6 Sandwich often served with rémoulade sauce
 - 7 Killer of the Night King on "Game of Thrones"
 - 8 "Throw ____ bone"
 - 9 Key of Debussy's "Clair de Lune"
 - 10 Black pie-crust component
 - 11 Lead-in to many a joke on "The Daily Show"
 - 12 Senator who once served as an editor of The Harvard Law Review
 - 13 Hurt
 - 14 Many Omanis
 - 15 Group seen in gathering clouds?
 - 16 Discovery that might cause a rush
 - 17 Wellsian race of the future
 - 18 Gram
 - 24 Objects in one of Jesus' miracles
 - 28 Singer Lisa
 - 29 Top of the line
 - 31 Fruit with an obovate shape
 - 33 Media for scientists
 - 34 Unit of brightness
 - 35 Raw material for Cadbury
 - 36 Popular Amazon Prime dramedy from Britain
 - 39 Kind of column seen on the Jefferson Memorial
 - 40 "Funny Girl" composer Jule
 - 42 Copy
 - 43 Vaper's device, informally
 - 44 Nutritional snack from Cliff
 - 45 Trig, for calc, e.g.
 - 46 Relaxed
 - 50 Some wetlands
 - 52 Snack with a recommended microwave time of just three seconds
 - 54 Theater impresario Ziegfeld
 - 55 Abbr. in a genealogical tree
 - 57 ____ Strait, separator of Australia and Papua New Guinea
 - 59 What one is in Paris?
- ACROSS**
- 53 ____ shoots (salad ingredient)
 - 54 One of five for a dolphin
 - 55 Supple leather
 - 56 Proboscis, informally
 - 58 What subjects and verbs must do [Europe]
 - 62 Ancho pepper, before drying
 - 65 Puzzled
 - 66 Sort by urgency of need [Europe]
 - 70 Misgiving
 - 74 Where meditators look
 - 75 ____ candy
 - 76 Planet where the cry "Shazbot!" is said to have originated
 - 79 Food-chain link
 - 80 Treats prepared on an open fire
 - 81 Part of O.E.D.: Abbr.
 - 82 Organic fertilizer
 - 84 Hold up
 - 85 Male 91-Acrosses
 - 86 T-shirt size [South America]
 - 90 Not to mention
 - 91 Forest ranger
 - 92 Shapes made by thumbs and index fingers
 - 93 Glossed over
 - 94 Like some toy cars
 - 97 Sportage maker
 - 98 ____ Cochran, Mississippi senator from 1978 to 2018
 - 99 First month of the year without a U.S. federal holiday [Asia]
 - 102 Dismissed out of hand

- 60 Kylo ____, "Star Wars" antagonist
- 61 Candy-heart phrase
- 63 Raises one's paddle, say
- 64 Each verse of "Deck the Halls" has 32 of them
- 66 Host Tyler of "Whose Line Is It Anyway?"
- 67 Dishearten
- 68 Scottish tradition before battle
- 69 "We Three Kings" subjects
- 71 Deodorant brand
- 72 Sierra ____
- 73 "Whoops, sorry about that!"
- 77 Sensationalist newspaper
- 78 Openings under desks
- 81 Observance first celebrated in 1970
- 82 Big to-do
- 83 Like "Saturday Night Live"
- 86 Put up with
- 87 Pull back
- 88 Mother of 60-Down
- 89 Item in a toxic internet "challenge"
- 91 Region around the Beltway, informally
- 95 Just for laughs
- 96 Put on a show
- 97 Work with one's hands
- 98 Poppycock
- 99 Classic computer game set on an abandoned island
- 100 Michelle of "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon"
- 101 With 37-Across, Ingrid Bergman's role in "Casablanca"
- 102 Tricky pronoun to use
- 103 Wine opener?
- 104 '60s dance craze that evolved from the Chicken
- 105 Join
- 108 Helper during taxing times?

ANSWERS FOUND IN NEXT WEEK'S PAPER...

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ORDINANCE NO. 20-O-2809

AN URGENCY ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS ADOPTING EMERGENCY REGULATIONS RELATED TO RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL TENANT EVICTIONS, AND OTHER MEASURES, REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 20-O-2808, AND DECLARING THE URGENCY THEREOF

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

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

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and Department of Public Health declared a local emergency and local public health emergency to aid the regional healthcare and governmental community in responding to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, the Governor of the State of California declared a state of emergency to make additional resources available, formalize emergency actions already underway across multiple state agencies and departments, and help the state prepare for the broader spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States of America declared a national emergency and announced that the federal government would make emergency funding available to assist state and local governments in preventing the spread and addressing the effects of COVID-19; and

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

WHEREAS, the California Department of Public Health and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health have all issued orders including, but not limited to, social distancing, staying home if sick, canceling or postponing large group events, working from home, and other precautions to protect public health and prevent transmission of this communicable virus; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the public health emergency and the precautions recommended by health authorities, many tenants in Beverly Hills have experienced or expect soon to experience sudden and unexpected income loss; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of California has stated that individuals exposed to COVID-19 may be temporarily unable to report to work due to illness caused by COVID-19 or quarantines related to COVID-19, and individuals directly affected by COVID-19 may experience loss of income, health care and medical coverage, and ability to pay for housing and basic needs, thereby placing increased demands on already strained regional and local health and safety resources, including shelters and food banks; and

WHEREAS, further economic impacts are anticipated, leaving tenants vulnerable to eviction; and

WHEREAS, the City of Beverly Hills is redoubling its efforts to maintain hand hygiene, respiratory etiquette, and social dis-

tancing. It is absolutely critical that the City does everything possible to slow the pace of community spread and avoid unnecessary strain on our medical system. To aid in these efforts, the City Council is ordering a series of temporary restrictions be placed on certain establishments throughout the City in which large numbers of people tend to gather and remain in close proximity and is requiring the wearing of face coverings.

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

WHEREAS, commercial tenants who operate businesses within the City may have to close their businesses in response to emergency orders, which will substantially decrease or eliminate their income, and businesses that are permitted to remain open also are likely to experience a significant loss of income while the emergency orders are in effect; and

WHEREAS, in the interest of public peace, health and safety, as affected by the emergency caused by the spread of COVID-19, it is necessary for the City Council to exercise its authority to issue these regulations related to the protection of the public peace, health or safety.

Section 1. The City Council of the City of Beverly Hills does adopt the recitals and the following emergency regulations which shall take effect immediately:

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 of local emergency declared in response to COVID-19, 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.

b. Nothing in this Ordinance shall

relieve the tenant of liability for the unpaid rent, which the landlord may seek after expiration of the local emergency, and which the tenant must pay in full within one year of the expiration of the local emergency. One year after the end of the emergency, unless if 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 this Ordinance; or a landlord may seek rent that is delayed for the reasons stated in this Ordinance through the eviction or other appropriate legal process. No fee for the late payment of rent shall be charged by a landlord during the period of the emergency or one year after the end of the emergency. If a landlord makes an accommodation with respect to rent forbearance from a tenant pursuant to subsection 1.a, and the tenant is in conformance with the tenant's obligations under that subsection, then the landlord shall not make a negative report to a credit bureau so long as the tenant remains in compliance with those obligations.

c. For purposes of this Ordinance, "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 economic 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.

d. For purposes of this Ordinance, "no-fault eviction" refers to any eviction for which the notice to terminate tenancy is not based on alleged fault by the tenant, including but not limited to, eviction notices served pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure sections 1161(1), 1161(5), or 1161b, use by landlord or relatives as specified in Beverly Hills Municipal Code Chapters 5 and 6, demolition or condominium conversion, major remodeling, and the Ellis Act, which is called withdrawal of residential rental structure from the rental market in the Beverly Hills Municipal Code.

e. During this emergency, any notice served by a landlord on a tenant under Section 4-5-513 or Section 4-6-6 L of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code is hereby tolled.

f. This Ordinance applies to non-payment eviction notices, no-fault eviction notices, and unlawful detainer actions based on such notices, served or filed on or after the date on which a local emergency was proclaimed on March 15, 2020.

g. For purposes of this Ordinance, including residential and commercial tenancies, "substantial" shall be defined as a material decrease of monthly income, the incurring of extraordinary expenses related to COVID-19, or any other circumstance which causes an unusual and significant financial impact on the tenant.

h. Because some tenants may not be aware of this Ordinance's provisions, the Deputy Director of the Rent Stabilization may extend the seven (7) day deadline for notifying the landlord for up to thirty (30) days.

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.

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

a. During the period of local emergency declared in response to COVID-19, no landlord shall endeavor to evict a commercial tenant in either of the following situations: (1) for nonpayment of rent if the commercial tenant demonstrates that the commercial 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, the tenant's family or any of tenant's employees. A landlord who receives notice that a commercial tenant cannot pay some or all of the rent temporarily for the reasons set forth above shall not serve a notice or otherwise seek to evict for nonpayment of rent. A landlord receives notice a commercial tenant's inability to pay rent within the meaning of this Ordinance if the commercial 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. 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 only used for evaluating the commercial tenant's claim. Nothing in this Ordinance shall relieve the commercial tenant of liability for the unpaid rent, which the landlord may seek after expiration of the local emergency, and which the commercial tenant must pay within one year of the expiration of the local emergency. One year after the end of the emergency if the rent is unpaid, a landlord may charge or collect a late fee for rent that is delayed for the reasons stated in this Ordinance; or a landlord may seek rent that is delayed for the reasons stated in this Ordinance through the eviction or other appropriate legal process. No fee for the late payment of rent shall be charged by a landlord during the period of the emergency or after the end of the emergency.

b. For purposes of this Ordinance, "financial impacts related to COVID-19" include, but are not limited to, a tenant who lost substantial business income or has extraordinary expenses as a result of any of the fol-

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Public Notices

lowing: (1) being sick with COVID-19, or caring for a household or family member who is sick with COVID-19; (2) income reduction resulting from business closure or other economic or employer impacts of COVID-19; (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.

c. This Ordinance shall not apply to any commercial tenant that is a publicly traded entity, an entity that is listed on the Fortune 1000, or any entity that employs more than 500 employees or any commercial tenant that owned by another entity that is publicly traded, listed on the Fortune 1000 or combined with the commercial tenant and other subsidiaries employs more than

500 employees. As used in the preceding sentence, the term "owned" shall mean ownership of a majority of the ownership interest of the commercial tenant. This exemption shall not apply to a franchisee or similar small business owner who is the responsible tenant on the lease unless such small business owner meets the criteria of this exemption.

(1) Any commercial tenant covered by the exemption set forth in this subsection c, and who otherwise complied with this ordinance, shall have until 10 days, after the tenant has received notice as provided below, to pay all forborne rent that became due since March 16, 2020. The landlord shall not charge a late fee or interest in connection with such unpaid rent. If a commercial tenant fails to pay all forborne rent within 10 days after the tenant has received written notice delivered by certified mail with return receipt, overnight courier service, or by any other delivery method and provides written evidence of receipt, the landlord may charge a late fee or interest from that date.

d. A dispute as to whether the commercial tenant has demonstrated facts sufficient to result in a temporary payment reduction or other legal remedy shall be determined according to civil law.

Section 2. In addition to the requirements of the Governor's Executive Order and the requirements of the Los Angeles County Department of Health order, the following regulations related to businesses, located in the City of Beverly Hills are adopted in order to implement recommended practices as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic:

a. Business located in the City with self-service unwrapped food items such as buffets are prohibited.

b. Enforcement of City codes and regulations may be relaxed as City staff deems appropriate in connection with commercial signs and banners displayed on or adjacent to restaurants, bars or other businesses that are permitted to remain open pursuant to this Ordinance.

c. The City shall provide for additional loading zones near businesses that are authorized to be open in order to facilitate curbside pickup.

Section 3. During the period of local emergency declared by the Director of Emergency Services on March 15, 2020 and affirmed by the City Council on March 16, 2020, in

response to the COVID-19 pandemic, a temporary moratorium is hereby imposed on the annual rent increases authorized by Sections 4-5-303(c) and 4-6-3 of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code. This moratorium on rent increases shall be applied to any rent increase scheduled to take effect on or after March 15, 2020. Nothing in this Ordinance shall alter the date of annual rent increases in future years.

Section 4. During the period of local emergency declared by the City Council on March 16, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, there shall be no increase in internet access fees or reduction in service.

Section 5. For the period beginning Saturday, May 9, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. through Monday, May 11, 2020 at 6:00 a.m., all City parks, fields, sports courts, and other recreational facilities shall be closed; provided however, restrooms in parks shall remain open during normal hours.

Section 6. For those establishments offering food pickup options, and other essential businesses, proprietors are directed to establish social distancing practices for those patrons in the queue for pickup and other reasons, as well those allowed in the premises or otherwise working. Such restaurants and essential businesses shall establish health and safety measures for their employees and customers, including but not limited to appropriate gloves and masks.

Section 7. Face Coverings. All persons shall wear face coverings that cover their mouth and nose openings such as scarves (dense fabric, without holes), bandannas, neck gaiters, or other fabric face coverings, when they leave their homes or places of residence for essential activities, such as taking a walk through their neighborhood, if that person has potential to come within six feet of another person not a member of their household. All persons, including non-medical essential workers are discouraged from using Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), such as N95 masks, for non-medical reasons.

Exceptions: These following exceptions will apply to this Section 6:

- (1) Children under the age of 2 are not required to wear face coverings.
- (2) Persons who must remove the face covering in order to receive medical services.
- (3) Persons who are directed to remove the face covering by a law enforcement officer.

For the purposes of this Ordinance, the terms "essential business," "essential workers," and "essential activity" shall have the same meanings as they do under State law.

Section 8. Business Tax. No penalties or interest shall accrue on outstanding business tax during the period that the City of Beverly Hills has declared an emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Director of Finance is authorized in his sole discretion to waive any penalties and/or interest on business tax imposed prior to the March 15, 2020 declaration of emergency, upon a request by a business owner and a demonstration by the business owner of economic hardship due to COVID-19.

Section 9. Hoarding. The City Council urges residents not to hoard essential goods such as hand sanitizer, cleaning supplies, toilet paper, canned food, frozen food and other needed supplies. The City Council strongly condemns hoarding. Retail establishments located in the City shall

be responsible for limiting the sales of such items, as they see fit to provide greater accessibility to a larger group of customers.

Section 10. Violations. Violations of this Ordinance shall be punishable as set forth in Section 2-4-111 and Chapter 3 of Title 1 of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code except violations of Section 6 which shall be solely subject to the administrative citation process set forth in Chapter 3 of Title 1 of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code. In addition, this Ordinance provides a defense to a tenant, in the event that an unlawful detainer action is commenced in violation of this Ordinance.

Section 11. Remain in Effect. This Ordinance shall remain in effect for the duration of the local emergency.

Section 12. Ordinance No. 20-O-2808 is hereby repealed and replaced by this Ordinance.

Section 13. Uncodified. This Ordinance shall not be codified.

Section 14. 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 15. 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 16. 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., May 6, 2020 upon its adoption by a minimum 4/5 vote of the City Council.

Section 17. Duration. This Ordinance shall remain in effect until it is superseded by another Ordinance adopted by the City Council.

Section 18. Certification. The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this Ordinance.

Adopted: May 5, 2020
Effective: May 6, 2020

LESTER J. FRIEDMAN
Mayor of the City of Beverly Hills, California

ATTEST:
HUMA AHMED (SEAL)
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
LAURENCE S. WIENER
City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:
GEORGE CHAVEZ
City Manager


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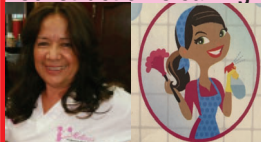
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