## BEVERLY HILLS COURIER BHCOURIER.COM

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THE NEWSPAPER OF RECORD FOR BEVERLY HILLS

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### THE WEATHER. BEVERLY HILLS

| <b>\</b>     | Friday    | 84°   65° |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|
| <del>ф</del> | Saturday  | 83°   64° |
| \$-          | Sunday    | 84°   66° |
| <b>\</b>     | Monday    | 89°   70° |
| <del>\</del> | Tuesday   | 89°   68° |
| \$           | Wednesday | 84°   64° |
| <b>\</b>     | Thursday  | 79°   62° |
|              |           |           |

# Beverly Hills Police Seize \$500,000 in Fraudulent Debit Cards

### **BY ANA FIGUEROA**

On Sept. 9, the Beverly Hills Police Department (BHPD) arrested four individuals in one vehicle who had in their possession more than \$500,000 worth of stolen property, albeit intangible. The contraband took the form of 40 preloaded debit cards obtained by defrauding the state's unemployment benefits system.

The BHPD has confiscated more than 100 of the fake cards and made more than 20 arrests in connection with a crime scheme that has come into focus across the state in recent weeks. The arrests stem from the improper use of Employment Development Department (EDD) cards that were issued fraudulently and used to withdraw large sums of cash from ATMs.

In California, the EDD allows individuals eligible for Unemployment Insurance, Disability Insurance and Paid Family Leave to receive payments via a Bank of America debit card. The card can be used as any other debit VISA to make purchases and withdraw cash.



In May, the EDD also launched a limited pilot offering Digital Cards to a subset of claimants. The department describes it as a "Visa prepaid debit card, similar to the physical card option we offer, except you will not receive a physical card in the mail."

Both forms of the EDD cards have been targeted by unscrupulous individuals in Beverly Hills and elsewhere. On August 12, Los Angeles City Attorney Mike Feuer issued an alert warning against a new identity theft scam designed to fraudulently collect unemployment benefits. "The thieves use stolen Social Security numbers and other personal information to apply for and receive unemployment benefits (often via EDD cards) in their victims' names," said Feuer.

Thieves may buy already stolen identities online or steal them through email and text phishing attacks or by cold-calling victims claiming to be government officials or potential employers. Feuer added that the scam may be the latest to result from a fraud ring that uses stolen identities from prior data breaches, such as the 2017 Equifax breach.

Police Chief Dominick Rivetti described additional details to the Courier about the methods used by the scammers.

"The typical method the suspects use is to go online apply for the benefits. Often times they are even out of state, but they apply in California as a resident because the benefits here are so lucrative.

(BHPD continues on page 11)

## **Rent Stabilization Commission Referees Landlords-Tenants**

### BY SAMUEL BRASLOW

For the last three months, the Beverly Hills Rent Stabilization Commission has faced the unprecedented task of adjudicating landlord and tenant disputes stemming from the City's eviction moratorium. With the pandemic still raging, albeit less uncontrolled, the commission represents the City's efforts at balancing the lives of tenants with the livelihoods of landlords. And after hearing its second case on Sept. 9, it seems to be working as intended.

"I think things are going far better than I ever anticipated," Commission Chair Lou Milkowski told the Courier.

Milkowski sits on the commission as the only member with prior experience. Nonetheless, "With all the newbies, I'm happily surprised how engaging the dialogue has been so far," he said.

The Rent Stabilization Commission operates with a unique mandate. It not only serves in an advisory capacity, offering the Mayor and City Council advice on possible new legislation or changes to old legislation, but it also has a judicial function. The commission hears disputes between tenants and landlords who fail to come to an agreement in regards to rent deferrals due to COVID-19.

With those dual roles in mind, the Mayor and City Council "put forth a totally unique commission in trying to create balance and fairness to all parties concerned," Milkowski said. While commissions typically have an odd number of seats to avoid gridlock (think: the Supreme Court's nine justices), the City Council sought to emphasize consensus and balance by seating an even number of commissioners. "Our commission is comprised of two land, two tenants, and two people at large, of which I am one," Milkowski, a homeowner, explained. "So we're neither a landlord nor a tenant."

(Rent Stabilization continues on page 7)

**COVID-19 May** Curtail Halloween in **Beverly Hills** 

### **BY ANA FIGUEROA**

Trick-or-treating is the latest victim of the novel coronavirus, at least in Los Angeles County. Citing the virus, the county Department of Public Health (Public Health) is recommending against the traditional All Hallows Eve activity. In its Sept. 8-promulgated "Guidance for Celebrating Halloween," Public Health indicates: "Since some of the traditional ways in which this holiday is celebrated (do) not allow you to minimize contact with non-household members, it is important to plan early and identify safer alternatives."

(COVID-19 continues on page 9)



## **Courier Calendar**

### NOW-OCT. 11-SUNDAYS THE LOS ANGELES PHILHARMONIC ASSOCIATION AND KCRW: "WORLD FESTIVAL" 6:30 - 8 p.m.

The Los Angeles Philharmonic Association and KCRW present previously recorded live concerts from "KCRW's World Festival" at the Hollywood Bowl. Featured artists include St. Vincent and Cibo Matto (Sept. 13): Rodrigo v Gabriela and Devotchka (Sept. 20); Little Drago and Jimmy Cliff (Sept. 27). The broadcast series can be heard live on air at KCRW 89.9; online at KRCW.com and hollywoodbowl.com/ krcw; or via the KCRW app. https://www.hollywoodbowl.com/about/ watch-and-listen/la-phil-x-kcrw-worldfestival-at-the-hollywood-bowl

### SEPT. 12, 19, 26, OCT. 3 **GRAND PARK: "GRAND PARK'S EASY** MORNINGS" 10 - 11 a.m.

Grand Park presents "Grand Park's Easy Mornings," a new weekly digital experience offering a calm start to the weekend with relaxing and familyfriendly activities focused on deepening relationships with self, community and green space. The free, one-hour program streams on Grand Park's digital channels on Saturday mornings. https://grandparkla.org/event/

grand-parks-easy-mornings/

### SEPT. 12 **TEEN LINE: CALL-A-THON** 10 a.m. -10 p.m.

LA-area teen volunteers with non-profit Teen Line will take calls, texts and email messages from peers struggling with any issue, including thoughts of suicide, for an extended 12-hour period. Held in concert with National Suicide Prevention Week, this fundraiser continues services that support the mental health of young people. Teen Line provides support to youth seven nights a week. https://teenlineonline.org/

### SEPT. 12

THE LA PHIL - THE FORD ONLINE VIRTUAL SEASON: "LA SOUNDSCAPES" 10:30 a.m. Craft Workshop; 11 a.m. Program

The LA Phil launches The Ford free, online virtual season with programs posted on a variety of platforms, including Facebook Premiere, YouTube, Instagram, Zoom, and the website. The series includes "LA Soundscapes," a combined online performance, lecture and dance lesson as well as a family crafting activity. On Sept. 12, Ford favorite Versa-Style Dance Company takes families through time and around the world for "Origins of Hip-Hop: An Educational Journey Through the History of American Streetdance." https://www.theford.com/

### SEPT. 12

**PASADENA SYMPHONY AND POPS:** "MOONLIGHT SONATA" VIRTUAL EVENT 6 p.m.

The Pasadena Symphony and Pops presents the "Moonlight Sonata" virtual event. The live-streamed show includes a live auction and exclusive performances by Michael Feinstein, Catherine Russell, Cheyenne Jackson and more, appearances by Patti Austin and Larry Blank, and hosted by Music Director David Lockington. All proceeds support the relaunch campaign of the Pasadena Symphony and Pops. https://pasadenasymphony-pops.org/ special-events/moonlight-sonata-gala/

### SEPT. 12

STRAY CAT ALLIANCE: STRAY CAT CLUB'S 20TH ANNUAL VIRTUAL GALA 6 p.m.

Enjoy an evening filled with celebrities for a live and silent auction, awards presentations, entertainment and more at Stray Cat Club's 20th annual virtual gala. The program will include video presentations recapping Stray Cat Alliance's achievements of 2020, as well as the last 20 years, and heartwarming stories about rescue. All proceeds support the lifesaving work of Stray Cat Alliance. https://www.straycatclub.org/

### SEPT. 12

**BILLY HARRIS WITH TOP CHEF** WINNER BROOKE WILLIAMSON: LUPUS LA'S 2020 VIRTUAL DINNER PARTY 6:30 p.m.

Join Lupus LA and Top Chef Winner Brooke Williamson for a Zoom dinner party from your home. Enjoy a multicourse dinner from Playa Provisions. Start the evening with Master Mixologist Charlotte Voisey. Continue onto an interactive cooking demo with Chef Williamson, and while eating together with host Harris, enjoy a live auction, and a live performance by Grammy-award winning singer-songwriter Lisa Loeb. The dinner party supports Lupus LA. https://lupusla.org/event/dinnerparty/

### SEPT. 13

WALLIS ANNENBERG CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS: "HERSHEY FELDER AS GEORGE GERSHWIN ALONE" 5 p.m.

TheWallis presents "Hershey Felder as George Gershwin Alone," a one-timeonly, live streamed broadcast musical event presented from Florence, Italy, to benefit The Wallis. "Hershey Felder as George Gershwin Alone" tells the story of America's great composer, incorporating the composer's best-known songs. https://thewallis.org/Gershwin

### BEVERLY HILLS HIGH SCHOOL BEAUTY QUEEN AND MISS TEENAGE CALIFORNIA ALANA MORGAN CAST IN UPCOMING MAJOR THEATRICAL FEATURE FILM!



### AFTER THE PANDEMIC CRISIS WE'VE BEEN THROUGH, THE WORLD NEEDS SOME MORE GOOD MOVIES – BACK IN THE THEATERS

Great Expectations International Films LLC, West Side Media Group of Beverly Hills and the Beverly Hills Film Fund, LLC Presents....

A MAJOR THEATRICAL FEATURE FILM IN DEVELOPMENT

\*\*\* AWARD WINNING SCREENPLAY \*\*\*

OFFICIAL PRE-PRODUCTION BEGINS NOVEMBER 2020!

The most talked about "FEEL GOOD" Movie of 2021 COMING SOON! PRODUCER AND SCREENWRITER Randolph M. Hirsch presents.... Film Title: "YOU CAN TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT!" NOW IN DEVELOPMENT AND FUNDRAISING

GENRE: Romantic Drama with some Dark Humor PRODUCTION BUDGET: \$3 Million

POST-PRODUCTION AND MARKETING BUDGET: \$3 Million TOTAL BUDGET NEEDED: \$6 Million



•

Danny Treio

QUALIFIED EQUITY SHARE INVESTORS NEEDED SEVERAL SPEAKING ROLES WILL BE OFFERED TO INVESTORS AND THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS PRIVATE PLACEMENT INVESTOR CONTRACT MEMORANDUM FUNDRAISER IN PROGRESS QUALIFIED FILM INVESTORS, AGENTS AND MANAGERS, CREW AND CASTING DIRECTORS WITH CANDIDATES TO SUBMIT MAY CONTACT THE PRODUCTION COMPANY

PRE-PRODUCTION Begins November 2020 FILM PRODUCTION: Early Spring 2021 Domestic Release: FALL 2021 International – Worldwide Release: CHRISTMAS 2021 INVEST IN A FEATURE FILM - OWN SHARES! OWN A PIECE OF HOLLYWOOD FILM MAKING HISTORY! BE A PART OF THE EXCITEMENT! EARN A SCREEN CREDIT AND A QUARTERLY RESIDUAL FROM AN INTERNATIONAL FEATURE FILM! Contact information: Great Expectations International Films, LLC Randolph M. Hirsch, Film producer and CEO OFFICE: (424) 273-4081 EMAIL: Randy@LosAngeles-Films.com



### www.GreatExpectationsInternational.com www.YouCanTakeltOrLeavelt.com

### SEPT. 13

DIDI HIRSCH MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES: ALIVE & RUNNING 5K 8 a.m.

Didi Hirsh Mental Health Services hosts its 22nd annual "Alive & Running 5K" for suicide prevention, which is virtual this year. Melissa Rivers, a member of Didi Hirsch's Board of Directors and sponsor of the event, is featured in the kickoff ceremony that will air on Facebook Live and available for viewing afterwards on the website. Founded in 1958, the Center develops and disseminates suicide prevention strategies nationwide. https://support.didihirsch.org/ AliveandRunning

### SEPT. 13

THE SANTA MONICA PLAYHOUSE: "THE HEBREW HILLBILLY" 6:30 p.m.

The Benefit Series at Santa Monica Playhouse presents "The Hebrew Hillbilly," a special one night live-stream performance to support the Santa Monica Playhouse as their doors remain closed due to COVID-19. From Shelley Fisher's early years as a blonde bombshell, through her current incarnation as The Memphis Belle of L.A., Ms. Fisher's musical solo show is appealing and hilarious with 17 original songs. Watch the show online and access is \$29.99 per family.

https://www.santamonicaplayhouse.com/ hebrewhillbilly.html

### SEPT. 15

MUSEUM OF TOLERANCE - VIRTUAL BOOK EVENT: "JOURNEY TO AMERICA: ESCAPING THE HOLOCAUST TO FREEDOM" 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

In commemoration of 9/11, the Museum of Tolerance is highlighting its unique archival holdings including a sculpture created by Holocaust Survivor, Gabriella Karin. Throughout the week, the Museum of Tolerance will share works of art and photographs that pay tribute to the people who died, and honor the heroes who risked their lives. Join on Sept. 15 for a virtual book event of "Journey to America" inspired by Sonia Levitin's own experience of fleeing Germany as a child with her mother and two sisters. Meet the author, hear her story and join the conversation moderated by Liebe Geft, Director of the Museum of Tolerance. http://www.museumoftolerance.com/ events/upcoming-events.html

### SEPT. 15

WRITERS BLOC: MARGARET ATWOOD AND BRADLEY WHITFORD ON "THE TESTAMENTS" 6 p.m.

Join Writers Bloc for the special free livestream with Margaret Atwood in conversation with Bradley Whitford. The purchase of a paperback copy of "The Testaments" from Chevalier's Books is required, and no other fee is charged. Once the book is purchased, an email will be sent from Writers Bloc closer to the event date with a link to access the livestream. The first 500 people to purchase the book will receive a signed copy. Atwood's "The Handmaid's Tale" imagined a totalitarian state called The Republic of Gilead, which has overthrown the United States. "The Testaments" is the next chapter. The video of the event will also be posted on the Writers Bloc You Tube Channel on Sept. 16. http://writersblocpresents.com/main/ margaret-atwood/

### SEPT. 16

THE NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY - "WHEN WOMEN VOTE: A ZÓCALO/NHMLAC EVENT SERIES"

The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County (NHMLAC) continues to celebrate the 19th Amendment's centennial year with the virtual program series created in partnership with Zócalo Public Square, "When Women Vote: A Zócalo/NHMLAC Event Series." One hundred years after the U.S. ratified the 19th Amendment, Johns Hopkins University historian Martha S. Jones visits Zócalo to discuss the impact a century of women voting has made on representation in America, California, and Los Angeles.

https://nhm.org/when-women-votezocalonhmlac-event-series

### SEPT. 17

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF GREATER LOS ANGELES: "THE BIG NIGHT IN" VIRTUAL GALA

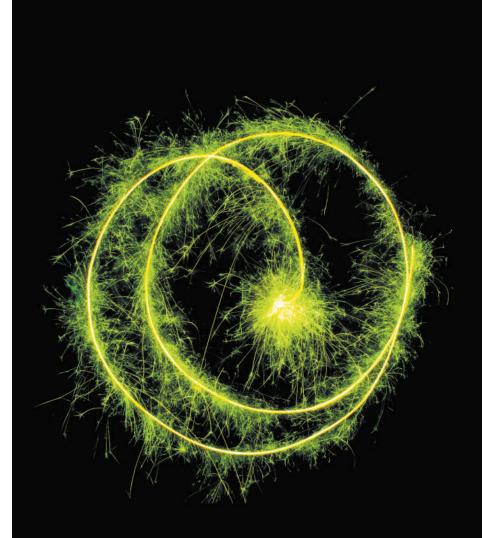
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Los Angeles ("BBBSLA) hosts "The Big Night In" virtual gala honoring producer, writer and director Kenya Barris; producer Jane Cha Cutler and father/daughter creators of RWQuarantunes Richard and Demi Weitz. The event will kick off with a DJ set by D-Nice, followed by the program. Netflix will serve as the presenting sponsor of the gala, which benefits BBBSLA's mission of supporting youth in underserved communities by providing one-to-one mentoring relationships. <u>https://bbbsla.org/events/</u>

### SEPT. 17 - 27

INDEPENDENT SHAKESPEARE CO. -"GRIFFITH PARK FREE SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL - LIVING ROOM EDITION": "ROMEO & JULIET + SPECIAL EVENTS" 7 p.m.

Independent Shakespeare Co. ("ISC") presents "Griffith Park Free Shakespeare Festival - Living Room Edition," a series of summer festival events live streaming. culminating with a new hybrid production of eight shows of "Romeo & Juliet" with live performance, film, animation, and social media with surprising moments of audience interaction. It is directed and adapted by Melissa Chalsma, featuring Nikhil Pai as Romeo, Bukola Ogunmola as Juliet, and many favorite ISC ensemble members. The programs present discussions, music, special guests and a retrospective of ten years of Shakespeare in Griffith Park. Enjoy the summer festival live from your living room. All events are free and online and will then be available on the website. http://www.iscla.org/

## Deloitte.



## **Welcoming Terry Feit**

Deloitte is proud to announce Terry Feit as the new Los Angeles Managing Partner.

Terry has 30 years of professional experience in Los Angeles serving and working for a diverse group of public and privately held clients, ranging from middle market companies to large multi-nationals, with a focus in the Manufacturing, Technology, Media and Entertainment Industries.

Feit succeeds Michelle Kerrick who is retiring after serving 35 years, including 10 years as the Los Angeles Managing Partner.



"I have called Los Angeles home for many years, and I am honored for the opportunity to work with this dedicated and talented group of professionals. I look forward to furthering Deloitte's commitment to elevating the community, supporting our people, and delivering highquality service to our clients."

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## News

## **CORE Offers COVID-19 Testing**

### BY BIANCA HEYWARD

On Sep. 9, CORE (Community Organized Relief Effort), the emergency relief nonprofit organization co-founded by Sean Penn and Ann Lee, announced it will offer private, for-profit COVID-19 testing services to film and television productions. Starting with Los Angeles-based production units, CORE aims to help cure the state's economy and enable production companies to safely resume projects with testing.

In response to lack of government funding for COVID-19 testing and relief, CORE operations have been primarily dependent on private donations to fund free testing for at-risk and low-income communities. This private testing model will allow CORE to fund and expand its CORE 8 initiative, an approach to COVID-19 relief that combines testing with contact tracing. 100 percent of the net profits from their paid testing model will go towards supporting the organization's community testing programs. While the organization is launching this effort with testing for Los Angeles-based production companies, they plan to expand their services throughout the country.

CORE is offering private testing to production units first due to the highly contained and close-knit nature of the communities. The organization has been commissioned by the AFI Film School to provide testing services for their student film productions.

"We have expanded to private testing to help offset the amount of funding necessary to continue offering free testing and critical relief services for vulnerable communities who have been significantly - and disproportionately - impacted by the pandemic. We could no longer wait for government agencies to respond by providing additional funding and support. This is a small step towards securing funds to keep our nonprofit operations afloat," said CORE Co-Founder and CEO Ann Lee.

To learn more, visit <u>https://www.core-response.org/</u>.



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## Beverly Hills Lags in Census Response

BY SAMUEL BRASLOW



Beverly Hills is lagging far behind in its response rate to the 2020 census compared to its 2010 participation rate and the state's current 2020 average. The COVID-19 pandemic has complicated this year's census and made it more difficult to conduct in-person outreach. As a result, response rates across the country have suffered compared to their 2010 levels. The population numbers calculated by the census are used in the allocation of government resources and in determining political representation.

As of Sept. 8, Beverly Hills had a self-response rate of 58.2 percent, placing it at 432 out of 482 Californian cities. While Los Angeles County had a self-response rate of 63.2 percent, Beverly Hills still ranks higher than Malibu (40.1 percent) and the City of Los Angeles (56.6 percent). In the 2010 census, 65.8 percent of Beverly Hills residents responded.

The census count has profound implications on both a local and state level. "Information is used to ensure the City receives federal funding (for early childhood education, senior nutritional programs, and more)," Beverly Hills Spokesperson Keith Sterling told the Courier. "The data also determines apportionment in the U.S. House of Representatives."

The 2020 census has repeatedly found itself in the headlines. In March 2018, the Trump Administration added a question to the census that would have asked respondents for their citizenship status. The move immediately faced multiple legal challenges and set off a year-long battle that wound its way to the Supreme Court. There, in June 2019, the Court rejected the Administration's justification for adding the question, which officials had said was necessary to enforce the 1965 Voting Rights Act. Critics, though, argued that the move was designed to depress response rates by minorities and noncitizens in Democratic strongholds.

After the setback in the Supreme Court, Trump turned to his executive authority in July and issued a memorandum that sought to exclude noncitizens from the census count. On Sept. 10, a federal court in New York sided with civil rights organizations in a suit challenging the order.

While census data collection was originally scheduled to end on Aug. 15, Congress granted the Census Bureau an extension until Oct. 31 given the outbreak of the novel coronavirus. But the census found itself the subject of controversy yet again when the Bureau announced it would cease operations at the end of September, citing the Dec. 31 deadline to send the final count to Congress.

Civil rights groups and local governments protesting the move filed multiple lawsuits, and on Sept. 6, a federal judge in Northern California issued a temporary restraining order to stop "winding down or altering any Census field operations." The TRO will remain in place until the next hearing on Sept. 17.

In response to the flagging numbers and the pending litigation, Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti joined the United States Conference of Mayors in urging L.A. and other cities to ramp up counting efforts. "Everybody counts, and we have just three weeks to complete a full and accurate tally of every person in our cities and nation," said Mayor Garcetti in a statement. "What's at stake is nothing less than fair representation in Washington D.C. and billions of dollars of investments in the health, welfare, and safety of our communities."

Echoing Garcetti's exhortations, Sterling promised the City "will continue to proactively communicate with our residents over the next few weeks as the Census deadline approaches."

The City has engaged in several different outreach programs to increase participation. Those efforts include the distribution of postcards/posters to the Library, BHUSD schools and at La Cienega and Roxbury Park Community Centers, local churches and synagogues (pre-pandemic). A direct mail postcard was sent out Citywide this summer, encouraging residents to participate and reminding them of the deadline. The City is also running advertisements in local media and posting census information on its social media platforms (including video messages from Mayor Friedman).

Additionally, the City has created a dedicated 2020 Census Website at <u>beverlyhills.</u> <u>org/census.</u> •

## L.A. County Launches Contact Tracing App

### BY BIANCA HEYWARD

On Sep. 9, L.A. County announced the launch of a partnership with Citizen, a mobile app that sends users location-based safety alerts in real time, and SafePass, a mobile app that provides contact tracing capabilities for individuals throughout L.A. County, to support the Department of Public Health's contact tracing program.

L.A. County Supervisor Kathryn Barger, County Department of Public Health Director Dr. Barbara Ferrer, Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia, Pasadena Mayor Terry Tornek, and Citizen CEO Andrew Frame appeared at a press conference at L.A. City Hall on Sep. 9 reporting their partnership.

"We have to deploy every tool at our disposal to halt the spread of COVID-19 -- from wearing masks to keeping our distance to avoiding large gatherings -- and contact tracing is an absolutely essential part of our effort to track this virus and save lives," said Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti. "The Citizen SafePass app puts the power of public health in the palms of our hands, equipping us with another way to expand our tracing programs, bend the COVID curve in the right direction, protect our families and friends, and build on recent progress against this deadly pandemic."

SafePass will allow users to anonymously self-report their symptoms for COVID-19 and receive notifications and alerts directly from the Department of Public Health. All data is private, encrypted, and deleted after 30 days by Citizen. Officials encourage residents to download the app to expand local efforts to track COVID-19 for L.A. County's 10 million residents.

"The County's partnership with SafePass is a valuable tool to help slow the spread of COVID-19 throughout our region," said Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Chair of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. "The success of the SafePass app relies on a continued sense of community impact among our residents by asking individuals to do their part to protect themselves and their neighbors."

"Contact tracing relies on residents sharing with us key information to identify close contacts, and today we are adding additional capacity for our program through SafePass," said Barbara Ferrer, PhD, MPH, MEd, Director of Public Health. "This new tool allows everyone to share responsibility for protecting each other, and I want to thank Citizen for their innovation and commitment to helping us slow the spread of COVID-19."

The Citizen SafePass mobile app will act as a companion to the existing local COVID-19 response efforts in Los Angeles County. After three months of testing with more than 700,000 users, SafePass was recently made available across the United States.

SafePass uses Bluetooth technology and anonymized data to track any close contacts with other users and alerts them to potential exposures. Users who have meaningful contact with another user who later tests positive for COVID-19 will receive a notification to get tested. To learn more about SafePass, visit citizen.com/safepass.

Since the start of the pandemic, the County of Los Angeles and City of Los Angeles have tested over two million people at testing sites across the region.

For more information about available testing in Los Angeles, visit <u>covid19.lacounty.</u> <u>gov/testing/ or coronavirus.lacity.org/testing.</u>

## WeHo to Reopen Helen Albert Farmers' Market on Sept. 14

### BY BIANCA HEYWARD

On Sep. 14, the City of West Hollywood will reopen the Helen Albert Certified Farmers' Market at Plummer Park from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. offering an array of organic and farm fresh fruits and vegetables, baked goods, fresh fish, and more. The market will open with new coronavirus safety measures in effect, such as the implementation of a priority "Senior Hour" from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., which will allow customers ages 55 and above to have priority access to the market. Seniors may approach the front of the line near the entrance during this time.

Safety guidelines include practicing safe physical distancing of at least six feet and face coverings must be worn at all times. There will be no entrance/no service without a facial covering. Additionally, only vendors are allowed to handle the produce/products before buying.

The market will allow a maximum of 25 customers at a time via controlled entry and exit points. To ensure the Farmers' Market remains in compliance with City, County, and State guidelines, safety guidelines will be strictly enforced.

West Hollywood is encouraging

customers to limit interactions with other customers and vendors and to move through the Farmers' Market as quickly as possible in order to allow for others waiting for entrance to have an opportunity to shop.

In order to maintain safety protocols at the Farmers' Market, there will be one entrance on N. Vista Street. Due to the limited number of customers allowed inside the market at once, the line to enter will maintain social distancing of at least six feet between parties.

The market is located at the north parking lot of Plummer Park at 1200 N. Vista Street. One-hour parking is available adjacent to the market in the north parking lot for customers only. Three-hour parking is also available in the south lot of Plummer Park, located at 7377 Santa Monica Boulevard.

The Farmers' Market will remain open, subject to customer and vendor compliance with food handling, face covering, and social distancing requirements. To learn more, visit <u>https://www.weho.org/community/</u> recreation-services/helen-albert-certified-farmers-market.



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### Metro Announces Partial Weekend Closures

### BY BIANCA HEYWARD

This weekend, work on the Metro Purple Line extension will require a partial closure of northbound Avenue of the Stars at Constellation Boulevard to continue piling work within the intersection at Avenue of the Stars/Constellation Boulevard. Starting Sep. 11 at 8 p.m. through Sep. 14 at 6 a.m. the contractor will be installing piles on the northeast and southeast corners of the intersection.

While a closure of northbound Avenue of the Stars at Constellation Boulevard will be required, there will be one northbound lane from Olympic Boulevard to Constellation Boulevard, where vehicles will be directed to turn left toward Century Park West. Southbound traffic lanes may also be reduced at Constellation Boulevard. The north and south crosswalks will be intermittently closed, but at least one will remain open at all times. All other crosswalks will remain accessible to pedestrians.

1800 Avenue of the Stars will be accessible via southbound Avenue of the Stars from Santa Monica Boulevard only. Flaggers will maintain limited access to 1900 Avenue of the Stars via southbound Avenue of the Stars from Santa Monica Boulevard.

## The Scene

## On the Roof in Beverly Hills and Beyond

BY CAROLE DIXON



Èlephante in Santa Monica Photo by Connie & Stuart Uy

While patios and parklets have been keeping some restaurants and bars in business during COVID-19, some newly reopened and refurbished rooftops around town have also been offering a different view for a day or night out.

There have been positive changes at the Kimpton La Peer Hotel that include Olivetta restaurant on Melrose. Thanks to "Olivetta on Holiday" you can now dive into Executive Chef Michael Fiorelli's signature pasta dishes poolside at the hotel and wood-fired pizzas, along with specialty cocktails from Melina Meza on the private rooftop. The residency will run Monday through Saturday from 6 p.m. until midnight until at least the end of October.

Teaming up with the neighboring hotel seems the right move for the brand until indoor dining is back on track in L.A. "Our Olivetta site on Melrose Avenue, unfortunately, doesn't allow for ample outdoor dining, which is what L.A. restaurant operation guidelines require for right now," co-owner Marissa Hermer told the Courier. "We wanted to offer our loyal guests a respite from the world – if only for cocktails and dinner–and have a responsibility to keep our restaurant family employed."

The team was also able to transport and recycle all of the indoor furniture designed by Tom Parker at sister restaurant The Draycott and the original Olivetta, and reuse it outside at the hotel. As you lounge on one of Parker's mid-century inspired sofas, savor a dirty bleu martini with Grey Goose vodka and bleu cheese infused dry vermouth; a yuzu G&T or the healthy tinged tequila and rainbow carrots with Casamigos. Pizza options include a simple tomato pie with Sicilian oregano; shishito peppers with rosemary ham or the exotic duck egg with pancetta potatoes. Don't skip the olive oil, chocolate chunk cookies with sea salt before you take the elevator back down to the lobby.

Héritage Fine Wines on Canon Drive might not be hosting fetes with John Legend playing his piano in the main lounge anytime soon but owner Jordan Andrieu has opened a new Mediterranean restaurant-lounge on the roof. Here you will find a view of City Hall along with comfortable sofas and small tables evoking a St. Bart's beach vibe serving cheese, charcuterie and mezze with silver buckets of rosé wine and Champagne. "Members" opened in August and has been word-of-mouth so far but this "secret" spot is already so popular, you need to book two weeks in advance. If this sounds like your kind of scene, DM their Instagram page (@ members\_bh) for a reservation and hope for the best.

French bistro Avec Nous, on the ground floor of the Viceroy L'Ermitage on Burton Way has opened an annex on the rooftop just steps from the pool area. The al fresco restaurant is open from Wednesday through Sunday for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Now you can enjoy your eggs Benedict or caviar service with panoramic views of Beverly Hills, Hollywood and downtown L.A., and you might just catch a micro-wedding terrace celebration on your way to dine.

If smokey mezcal margaritas are on your mind, and you like the idea of cocktails that give back, Madre Oaxacan & Mezcaleria (with three locations in L.A., including West Hollywood), will be in residence at Terra every Thursday in September. The rooftop lounge at Eataly Westfield Century City, is serving three of Madre's most popular cocktails to go along with the restaurant's Italian fare from 5-9 p.m. A portion of the proceeds from each drink sold will be donated to Restaurants Care, which provides financial relief to restaurant workers all across California.

"Mezcal is one of the finest spirits in the world and people should be introduced to it in the right way with the correct selection," Madre owner Ivan Vasquez told the Courier. "I have made it my responsibility and passion to do this because I care about the culture and history behind the spirit. With this pop-up, we are reaching a new demographic and the more people that learn



Harriet's Rooftop at the 1 Hotel West Hollywood

about mezcal and develop an appreciation for it, the better."

Up on Sunset Boulevard, Harriet's Rooftop of the 1 Hotel West Hollywood reopened a few weeks ago with a new menu for light bites and cocktails at sunset, dinner and weekend brunch from executive chef and Bravo "Top Chef" contestant Chris Crary. Expanded items include California and spicy tuna rolls, selections from the grille with Mediterranean chicken skewers, and Mahi Mahi fish tacos.

The h.wood Group owned and operated venue still preserves the values of an old-fashioned cocktail lounge designed by John Sofio of Built, Inc., (The Nice Guy and Delilah) and draws inspiration from the decadence of the 1920s, with white tassel lamps, striped booths and marble accents.

"Our new outdoor dining options paired with the unparalleled panoramic views of the Los Angeles skyline is an ideal setting for both hotel guests and locals alike," Crary told the Courier. "We welcome reservations, which are required, and have recently seen a lot of bookings come through Angelenos enjoying a staycation at the hotel."

If your rooftop fantasy includes a morning view of the beach, Èlephante in Santa Monica is now open daily at 9 a.m. for brunch seven days a week. Some new menu items curated for this special occasion are ricotta hotcakes, banana bread and even a breakfast pizza. Since this new menu continues to 3 p.m. they have added canestri pasta with vodka sauce and a juicy burger.

Owner Nick Mathers, also of The Eveleigh restaurant on Sunset, took over the 2nd Street rooftop over the Laemmle Cinema in Santa Monica in 2018 and it's been a top westside nightlife and dinner spot ever since. The restaurant was named after the Arco dell'Elefante, a beautiful elephant-shaped rock structure just off the coast of Pantelleria—the island off the coast of Southern Italy and Tunisia which served as the inspiration for the food and décor. Relax on the deck made of Brazilian tigerwood any time of day for a true ocean view and dreamy escape during these times.



Olivetta on the La Peer Hotel Rooftop Photo by Moses Truzman

### (Rent Stabilization continued from page 1)

"We're trying to balance the needs of a tenant, who may have drastically reduced income, versus the rights of the landlord, who has his own responsibilities, his own payments that he has to make," said Milkowski.

The Beverly Hills City Council established an eviction moratorium for tenants impacted by COVID-19 on March 16 in Urgency Ordinance 20-O-2805. The ordinance lays out the process by which tenants can assert a lawful inability to pay some or all of their rent. A tenant must notify their landlord of financial hardship due to the pandemic within 7 days after the date rent is due and provide documentation within 30 days. The tenant then has one year from the end of the emergency to pay the rent back in full.

The landlord can contest three different parts of the tenant's claim: whether the tenant has suffered financial hardship, whether that hardship stems from COVID-19, and the amount of rent the tenant claims they can pay.

The commission has only heard two tenant-landlord disputes since its first meeting on June 3. To Helen Morales, Deputy Director of Rent Stabilization Division, this speaks to the success of the framework put in place by the City Council to help tenants negotiate rent deferrals due to the economic impacts of COVID-19.

"It is a low number and I think that it is working," Morales told the Courier. "I think that tenants and landlords are working things out together." "Landlords and tenants since Adam and Eve have been working out their disputes one way or another," Milkoswki added (although, arguably, Adam and Eve experienced the first eviction on record after violating the single provision of their lease agreement). "And now, the city has, in their wisdom, given additional protection and benefits to the parties so that they can work hopefully more amicably."

In the Sept. 9 hearing, the commission adjudicated its second tenant-landlord dispute, a contentious case involving a tenant in a luxury penthouse apartment on Roxbury Drive. In that case, the tenant, a producer, claimed that her income had been substantially impacted by the shutdown of the film and TV industry. The tenant said that she could only afford to pay \$5,200 of her \$15,500 rent, but did not provide significant evidence of her income prior to and after the outbreak of the pandemic.

The landlord disagreed with all three parts of the tenant's claim, writing that "without any evidence of your individual finances, we believe you have failed or refused to demonstrate your inability to pay rent due to substantial financial impacts related to COVID-19." As such, the landlord rejected the proposed alternative of \$5,200 per month.

After a nearly two-hour-long meeting, the commission could not come to a decision. Instead, they voted to continue the case to give the tenant more time to furnish documents to prove her income. The counsel for the landlord repeatedly noted her opposition to this, pointing out that the tenant had postponed the hearing three times since its original date on June 10, giving her ample time to prepare documentation.

"It's hard to come to a determination without any concrete information on income," said Commissioner Ryan Gurman, who served as an alternate in place of Commissioner Donna Tryfman.

The commission voted to continue the hearing on Sept. 23.

The largest challenge the new commission has faced, Milkowski told the Courier, is navigating the logistics of remote hearings– poor internet connections, failing webcams, echoing audio.

"I've been a prior commissioner and, as all other prior commissions, we met in City Hall. In City Hall, you can, as chairman, control the discussion pretty well," he said. "Video adds additional challenges, like we have to keep reminding people to go on mute and wait to be recognized." These challenges were on full display in the commission's first tenant-landlord hearing on Aug. 12. In that, the 87-year-old tenant's internet connection frequently lagged and one commissioner's webcam stopped working midway through.

The commission took the growing pains in stride, though, and the hearing still reached a conclusion. In a unanimous ruling, the commission sided with the landlord. Even though they agreed that the tenant's income had been substantially impacted, they did not believe he had provided enough evidence that COVID-19 was responsible.

Commissioner Milkowski sees broader value in the Rent Stabilization Commission even beyond the current moment. "I think there are lessons and there are ideas that the Council and Mayor may want to continue going forward even after our crisis is over," he said.

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## Community

## Cedars-Sinai Hosting Beverly **Hills Blood Drive**

### **BY ANA FIGUEROA**

Cedars-Sinai is hosting a Community Blood Drive on Sept. 18 and 19 at the Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber is located at 9400 S. Santa Monica Boulevard, Beverly Hills. The blood drive will take place on the 2nd floor of the Chamber's offices. between the hours of 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on both days. Donors can take advantage of two hours of free self-parking at the City-run garages at 439 N. Canon Drive, 438 N. Beverly Drive or 450 N. Rexford Drive (Library). The garage at 450 N. Crescent Drive is currently closed.

Cedars-Sinai will provide every donor a complimentary health screening which includes blood pressure assessment, iron/ hematocrit reading, temperature, pulse. Donors will also receive a complimentary COVID-19 antibody test.

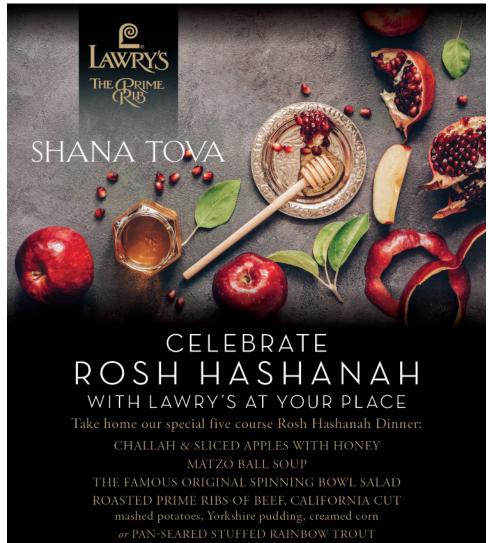
Donors must be at least 17 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds and be in good general health. Individuals taking common daily medications (cholesterol, blood pressure, birth control, antidepressants, thyroid, even diabetics taking insulin) may donate blood.

To sign up for Sept. 18:

https://www.donatebloodcedars.org/ index.cfm?group=op&expand=5698&zc=90210&mc\_ <u>cid=c230fc6d41&mc\_eid=245cc39772</u>

To sign up for Sept. 19: https:// www.donatebloodcedars.org/index. cfm?group=op&expand=5699&zc=90210&mc\_ <u>cid=c230fc6d41&mc\_eid=245cc39772</u> •

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## Visionary Women to Feature "Tiger Mom" Author Amy Chua in Virtual Salon

**BY ANA FIGUEROA** 



### Amy Chua

Visionary Women will present a Virtual Salon, "Amy Chua: From Tiger Mom to Cancel Culture: Finding Common Ground in a Tribal World" in Conversation with Anne Ackerley on Sept. 17 at 3:30. The event, sponsored by GEARYS Beverly Hills, is open to the public and registration is free. To sign up, visit the website www. VisionaryWomen.com under "Virtual Salons."

Visionary Women is the Beverly Hillsbased non-profit community focused on engaging conversations with innovative leaders and funding high-impact initiatives for women and girls.

Chua, of course, is best known for her 2011 memoir, "Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother," an international bestseller translated into 30 languages. But, her accomplishments are much more far reaching. She graduated from Harvard College and Harvard Law School, where she was the first Asian American Executive Editor of the Harvard Law Review. After practicing on Wall Street for a few years, she joined the Yale Law School faculty in 2001 and is a

noted expert in the areas of foreign policy, globalization, and ethnic conflict. She is currently the John M. Duff, Jr. Professor of Law at Yale Law School.

Chua has authored several other notable books, including "World on Fire: How Exporting Free Market Democracy Breeds Ethnic Hatred and Global Instability" (2002), selected by both The Economist and the U.K.'s Guardian as a Best Book of 2003; "Day of Empire: How Hyperpowers Rise to Global Dominance-and Why They Fall" (2007) and "The Triple Package: How Three Unlikely Traits Explain the Rise and Fall of Cultural Groups in America" (2013). Her latest book is "Political Tribes: Group Instinct and the Fate of Nations."

Chua has lectured widely around the world, including at the World Bank, the Aspen Ideas Festival, the Brookings Institution, the World Knowledge Forum in Seoul, and the World Economic Forum in Davos.

In 2011, she was named one of Time magazine's 100 most influential people in the world, one of the Atlantic Monthly's Brave Thinkers, and one of Foreign Policy's Global Thinkers. She also received the Yale Law School's "Best Teaching" award.

"We are so excited to have the opportunity to present another first class speaker at our next Visionary Women Salon on Sept. 17. Notwithstanding the pandemic, we have been able to continue to present some of the world's most important thought leaders and speakers. At this time, Amy Chua is particularly meaningful as she will be discussing our ability to find common ground where finding a common ground is becoming increasingly difficult. As an online platform, Visionary Women is committed to building the city's most important forum on leadership, women supporting other women and using its platform to make an impact," Visionary Women President Shelley Reid told the Courier.

QUESTIONS? COMMENTS? CONCERNS? THE COURIER WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!

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### NEWS

### (COVID-19 continued from page 1)

The document goes on to state that "door to door trick or treating is not recommended because it can be very difficult to maintain proper social distancing on porches and at front doors, ensure that everyone answering or coming to the door is appropriately masked to prevent disease spread, and because sharing food is risky.

Also "not recommended" is "trunk or treating," where children go from car to car instead of door to door to receive treats, particularly when part of Halloween events, since it is difficult to avoid crowding and sharing food.

Expressly prohibited by the County are "Halloween gatherings, events or parties with non-household members, even if they are conducted outdoors." Similarly, carnivals, festivals, live entertainment, and haunted house attractions are not allowed.

The County does, however, sanction online parties or contests, such as pumpkin-carving or costume contests, as well as car parades that comply with public health guidance for vehicle-based parades. Additionally, drive by events or contests where individuals dress up or decorate their vehicles and drive by "judges" that are appropriately physically distanced are allowed.

Drive-through events where individuals remain in their vehicles and drive through an area with Halloween displays are also acceptable forms of diversion. And, drive-in events where individuals receive a treat bag (limited to commercially packaged non-perishable treats) or take away item from an organizer while the participants remain in their vehicle are also permitted.

Other approved events include Halloween movie nights at drive in theaters (as long as they comply with the Public Health drive in movie theater guidance); Halloween themed meals at outdoor restaurants (in compliance with all restaurant protocols); Halloween themed art installations at an outdoor museum (in line with the Public Health Museum Guidance) and lastly, dressing up homes and yards with Halloween themed decorations.

Public Health adds that regardless of how families choose to celebrate Halloween, it is important to wear cloth face coverings when outside the home and around others that are not part of the household; avoid confined spaces by actively staying away from indoor spaces that don't allow for easy distancing of at least six feet between individuals; avoid close contact by remaining at least six feet away from all other people who are not part of the household, especially while talking, eating, drinking, and singing; wash or sanitize hands often; clean frequently touched items regularly and stay home and away from others if you have been in contact with someone who is sick with COVID-19 or has symptoms of COVID-19.

The City of Beverly Hills is expected to review the County's Halloween Guidelines and provide additional information in the coming weeks about any potential City-sponsored activities for its disappointed younger residents.

Among the population overall, the number of COVID-19 cases in the City stands at 627. Public Health will monitor data over the next few weeks to determine the impact of the Labor Day weekend on the transmission of the virus across county communities and recommends testing for individuals possibly exposed to COVID-19.

To date, Public Health has identified 249,859 positive cases of COVID-19 across all areas of L.A. County, and a total of 6,090 deaths.

"We have made tremendous progress as a County since mid-July in bringing down our community transmission rates and preventing a catastrophic level of demand on our health care system. We have been successful, in large part, because people have been following what we know are the best public health practices we have. We have avoided gatherings and moved many services outdoors. Unfortunately, what we've learned from the past several months is that we cannot return to normal at this time; we need to maintain our vigilance so that we can continue to suppress the spread of the virus and get to a place when we can safely reopen additional sectors, especially schools," said Barbara Ferrer, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed., Director of Public Health. •

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## **Community Voices**

To the Beverly Hills Police Department,

As a member of Iranian American Jews for Racial Justice, I stand with my community to condemn recent law enforcement actions in Beverly Hills. On June 26, a group of 25 protestors were arrested for breaking the City-wide curfew order. Beverly Hills later decided to prosecute and charge the peaceful protestors, whereas the Los Angeles District Attorney and City Attorney declined to prosecute similar charges against protestors in their jurisdictions.

In court filings, the Beverly Hills Police Department noted the City's diverse makeup, emphasizing the Iranian and Jewish communities. They highlighted the groups' histories of religious expulsion during the Holocaust and Iranian Revolution, and made unjust, unequitable comparisons to the June 26th protest, stating, "this is not merely an intrusion of their peace, rather, it is a terrifying reminder of their past." The protest discussed at hand is by no means comparable to the Holocaust, the annihilation of 11 million people solely for their religion, race, and genetic makeup. The demeanor of the mentioned protest does not compare to the threats to property and bodily destruction experienced by the Iranian Jews during the Revolution. Some residents may have felt as though the protests were an "intrusion of their peace," and in fact the protesters may have meant to disturb the peace, but in a positive and productive manner. The late Congressman Lewis may have defined this as "good trouble."

The Beverly Hills Police Department assessed the protest as a trigger for the City's residents, calling it "a terrifying reminder of their past." In actuality, it is a terrifying reminder to what will happen if we do not learn from the past and change our ways for the future. For those who were unable to speak up during the persecutions of the Holocaust, we stand up for you. For those who were unjustly treated and forced to flee due to their creed in Iran, we stand up for you. For those who have been affected by police brutality and systematic racism in America, we stand up for you. The protests are a "terrifying reminder" of what will happen if we do not uplift fellow minority communities, amplify their calls, and stand up to racism, prejudice, and discrimination. We condemn the appropriation of our history, of the violence our families experienced, of the rampant hate and murders they endured for years, for political purposes. The City has no right to use our collective pain to create excuses for their behaviors or to incite fear in the protestors. Our movement is disheartened by the comparison to the protestors and strongly opposes this message.

As Iranian Jewish Americans, we are here to call out what is happening–injustice. Whether the Beverly Hills Police Department is using their power of policing

metro.net/eatshopplay

and prosecution to deter residents from protesting police brutality and the unjust loss of Black lives, or if they are trying to support the multicultural community of Beverly Hills by "protecting and serving" in this capacity, we are united in our condemnation of the invoking of our community's pain and trauma in this police report. To the Black community in Los Angeles and beyond: we are your neighbors, your hamsayehs, your schenim, and vow to stand up with you today and always.

I hope you will join me in calling upon

Everyone is entitled to their own personal opinion; my opinion is a bit different from John Mirisch's.

I totally support the Beverly Hills Police Department's (BHPD) prosecuting of the 25 protestors for curfew violation. Were these protestors standing calmly on a corner when they were cited for violation? No. They were part of a group of about 75 protestors who intentionally walked up a residential street north of Santa Monica Boulevard with the express and admitted purpose to make these residents feel "uncomfortable." They walked up the street late at night with loud noise devices to disturb and intimidate. They announced Marxist rhetoric over bullhorns saying residents should turn over their homes since they did not own them.

This group is sympathetic to BLM and Antifa which damaged and looted Rodeo Drive and our other commercial streets. Riots and massive destruction by these groups has been allowed to go unchecked in many cities especially Portland and Seattle. the Beverly Hills Police Department and City of Beverly Hills to do the following:

Drop the charges against the 25 protestors, in accordance with the precedent set by the Los Angeles City Attorney and District Attorney and implement cultural sensitivity and social justice training at Beverly Hills Police Department for all active police force.

SHANNON MIRSHOKRI IRANIAN AMERICAN JEWS FOR RACIAL JUSTICE @IAJ4RACIALJUSTICE BEVERLY HILLS

If laws were enforced and prosecutions certain, would Portland and Seattle have this fate?

If Beverly Hills is to be protected, potential rioters must know that this kind of behavior will not be tolerated and has consequences in our City. If we have laws then they must be enforced otherwise laws have no meaning and without meaning, there is no respect for the law. The BHPD was right and doing their job to make these arrests. Without prosecution, an arrest is a simple slap on the wrist which tells the offender he can come back, do it again, and even up his game to the next level. Next time instead of just walking and making Marxist threats and noise, perhaps these protesters will burn or destroy property.

I thank the BHPD for protecting Beverly Hills.

CHRISTINE SKIRMUNTT FORD BEVERLY HILLS

## Stay local. Shop local.

Keep the entrepreneurial spirit alive in Beverly Hills. Businesses are open or have recently reopened near the future Wilshire/La Cienega Station.

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Beverly Hills Liquor & Wine 8318 Wilshire Bl 323.655.9995 beverlyhillsliquorandwine.com > Take-out and delivery

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Metro



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Wilshire Le Doux Pharmacy 8536 Wilshire Bl, Unit 101 310.657.4090 wilshireledouxpharmacy.com > Delivery available

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Pure Barre Beverly Hills 231 S La Cienega Bl 424.204.9722 *purebarre.com/location/beverly-hills-ca* > Livestream classes

BEVERLY Love Beverly Hills



Members of the BHPD at Brighton Salon with owner Dani Faraj

The City of Beverly Hills stands strong in its commitment to supportive, fair, and equitable policing that adds value at the local level. For years, the Beverly Hills police force has been synonymous with commitment, courage, integrity, and respect. Safe communities allow local businesses to thrive, which generates a cycle of investment and economic opportunity. The value generated improves people's quality of life and provides revenues to better fund community needs. Professional and proactive, the Beverly Hills Police Department has certainly gotten it right. The Beverly Hills

Courier is a key institution of local journalism that reminds us how interconnected our community actually is. In an internet age that is often both isolating and polarizing, it is up to local institutions to make the difference. At Brighton Salon we meet our City's everyday heroes, where the police department and the business community come together as one.

SHANEE COHEN AND DANI FARAJ BEVERLY HILLS

### (BHPD continued from page 1)

They use an address in California, maybe a friend's or an Airbnb. It could even be a house that is for sale and vacant. They simply go by later to retrieve the mail. They apply fraudulently. They are not who they are. Sometimes they get the names off the internet or the dark web. Sometimes they can pay a homeless person to use their name and social security number. With a name, social security and date of birth, they are good to apply. They can have multiple cards delivered to one house. If they're out of state, they fly to California, pick up the cards and start spending the money. They can even get up to \$1,000 per day in cash at an ATM," said Rivetti.

Recent media reports have indicated that people throughout the state have innocently received EDD debit cards not meant for them. In one case, a woman in the Inland Empire received over 100 pieces of mail from EDD, including numerous debit cards. In the meantime, needy individuals are waiting inordinate lengths of time to receive any benefits at all.

Not surprisingly, the EDD has come under criticism.

Last week, the California Legislature approved an emergency audit of the EDD, citing concerns over the backlog of claims and reports of fraud. In Beverly Hills, Rivetti is imploring business owners to remain vigilant. In a letter to the business community, he recommended that they follow certain precautions to stem the use of the illicit cards. Namely:

Ask for a physical card. Do not allow digital wallets or insertion into chip card readers. "The suspects committing the fraud will generally have multiple EDD cards in their possession with different names on each card," said Rivetti.

Additionally, he urges businesses to accept only one card per customer with the customer's name on it. And, always ask for identification.

Rodeo Drive Committee Vice President Kathy Gohari told the Courier that it was "definitely an eye opener" to learn from the Chief about the extent of fraud occurring within the EDD. "The Rodeo Drive Committee and merchants on the street are taking the utmost precautions to ensure that only valid cards are accepted. We are following the appropriate merchant guidelines and implementing the necessary measures to assist in ending this fraudulent activity," said Gohari.

Rivetti adds that the malfeasance involving the EDD cards is a statewide trend confirmed with other state and federal law enforcement partners.

"What's amazing is the cards go out sometimes with a balance of \$20,000. They can put a fake date on it as to when they lost their job due to COVID-19. Some of them might say they lost the job back in March. When you include the extra money, the federal government was adding to the unemployment benefit, it can really add up," he said.

"We are working closely with all agencies

regarding the arrests we have made thus far in the City of Beverly Hills. There are millions of tax dollars being spent fraudulently as a result of this trend. The benefit to the people in need is being diverted to people with criminal intent. Taxpayers are seeing their money misused. We need to work closely with our business partners to mitigate these crimes within our City," he



Liora Kemell

### added.

Rivetti urges businesses to contact BHPD at 310-550-4951 (non-emergency) or call "911" if they need immediate assistance with a subject who is refusing to cooperate. Additionally, he advises residents who receive an EDD card in the mail that they did not apply for, to contact the BHPD as well.

Liora Kemell, a 10 year old who lives and attends school in Beverly Hills, is the star of a three-episode series on <u>Kosher.com</u> called Nosh & Nibble. Co-produced by PJ Library and PJ Our Way, "Nosh & Nibble" offers kidfriendly recipes, created and shared by real kid chefs like Liora!

Next week's episode will feature Liora's recipe for the Jewish High Holidays of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur: "Apple Piroshkis."

Also helpful to families celebrating the new year is PJ Library's free downloadable guide "High Holidays at Home" - <u>https://</u> <u>pjlibrary.org/highholidays</u>. This unusual year, most Jewish families will not be gathering in large groups, and this guide offers fun ways to connect and celebrate at home.

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## **Police Blotter**

The following incidents of assault, burglary, DUI, grand, motor vehicle and petty theft, robbery and shoplifting have been reported. Streets are usually indicated by block numbers

**BEVERLY HILLS** <u>ASSAULT</u> 9/7/2020 - 400 Block of S. REXFORD DR.

### **BURGLARY**

9/3/2020 - 100 Block of S. ELM DR. 9/7/2020 - 9600 Block of CHARLEVILLE BLVD.

### DUI ARREST

9/6/2020 - 8400 Block of WILSHIRE BLVD.

### **GRAND THEFT**

9/5/2020 - 300 Block of N. RODEO DR.

### MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT

9/3/2020 - 100 Block of N. STANLEY DR.

### <u>PETTY THEFT</u> 9/4/2020 - 9000 Block of

OLYMPIC BLVD. 9/4/2020 - 1100 Block of SAN YSIDRO DR. 9/4/2020 - 300 Block of

N. RODEO DR. 9/6/2020 - 200 Block of S. REXFORD DR. 9/7/2020 - 400 Block of N. BEDFORD DR.

ROBBERY 9/6/2020 - 200 Block of EL CAMINO DR.

<u>SHOPLIFTING</u> 9/5/2020 - 400 Block of N. BEDFORD DR.



## Birthdays

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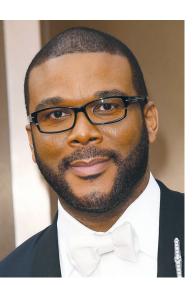
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HARRY CONNICK JR. September 11



TARAJI P. HENSON September 11



TYLER PERRY September 13



ALEXIS BLEDEL September 16



AMY POEHLER September 16





ARIES (March 21-April 19). You may feel sympathetic to someone's plight but try not to indulge the emotion of pity. When you see strength in people, you help them to see the strong parts of themselves.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). If you undervalue your contribution, then you could get into a situation in which you're doing and giving more than is sustainable or healthy for you. That's a recipe for resentment. Be generous but cautiously so.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Small gestures often mean more than anyone realizes at the time. There are exchanges that occurred over a decade ago that you still think about today. Your mind is a beautiful mystery.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You'll build up the people around you. It's different for everyone. You have to feel out each situation as a standalone, and this is why you're excellent at relationships. You know how much work they really are.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You can afford to be honest and direct. Some



NICK JONAS September 16

cannot do this without the requisite amount of charm. Some have too much baggage to do it without causing harm with the impact. Not you. You're light today. Just say what you mean.

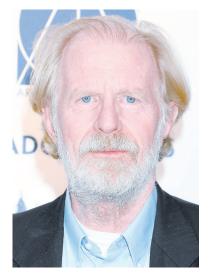
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Opportunities will come to you in the form of complaints. Wherever there is an unhappy person, there is a chance at providing something lucrative, useful or healing.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You take nothing and no one for granted. Unlike most people, you don't have to lose something in order to recognize the value of it. You realize what you have, and you do what it takes to keep it perfectly intact.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The thing about peace is that it can't be peace all the time or it wouldn't be peace. Peace, like all things, needs a contrast. Is this any comfort -- knowing that times of disharmony help you spot peace when it comes?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). People who are actively on their way to other places do not have the capacity to sit and enjoy one another, which is the glory of being a passenger and the magic of road trips and airplane rides. Someday.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The



ED BECLEY JR. September 16

Snow Patrol song asks, "What if this

all the love you ever get?" and though

you can be assured that it's not, posing

the question could make you dig in a

it seem like an agreement you made

is turning into a much larger respon-

sibility than you bargained for? Stand

up for yourself. Your actions need to

show that you know your own value.

are helpers around and the job

gets done. As long as there is good

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). There

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Does

little deeper.

EVELYN PORTUCAL September 17

communication, all goes well. And if there's not, then it still might go well, but who's going to know?

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Sept. 11). You find the group in which your particular skill set is very valuable, and you make the most of that. This is the true gift of living -- to contribute powerfully at what you do best. You will soar. Sweet music comes in many forms: relationships and finance particularly. It's all about doubling down on what's working. Scorpio and Capricorn adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 20, 11, 4 and 17.

> Tinkerbell is an 11-year-old Corgi-Chihuahua mix who weighs nine pounds. If you can give this sweet girl a new home, please call Shelter of Hope at 805-379-3538. www.shelterhopepetshop.org

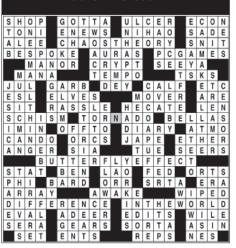


## **Fun & Games**

| SUDOKU<br>09/11/20 ISSUE |   |   |   |  |   |   |   |   |
|--------------------------|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|
| 9                        |   | 4 |   |  | 7 |   |   |   |
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| SUDOKU ANSWERS<br>09/04/20 ISSUE |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
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#### PUZZLE ANSWERS 09/04/20ISSUE



### BEVERLY HILLS COURIER

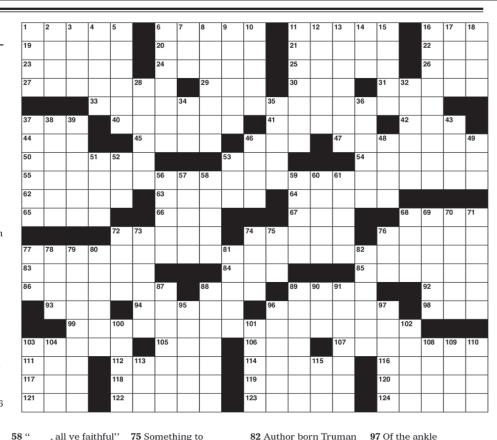
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#### THE NEW YORK TIMES SUNDAY MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE 09/11/20

#### COULD YOU REPEAT THAT NUMBER? BY DAVID KWONG / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

| David Kwong is a magician and crossword constructor in Los Angeles who regularly combines puzzles and sleight of hand in his performances. His 2014 TED Talk (posted on TED.com) includes a trick with a New York Times crossword and has been viewed 1.7 million times to date. David has a new virtual show with puzzles, titled "Inside the Box," opening in a few weeks with the Geffen |   |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
|   | ouzzle is his 21st crossword for Th           |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| ACROSS  | <b>50</b> Like puppeteers,                    | 105 N.Y.C.'s first subway              | 7 pro nobis                                   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 Part of a backpack  | usually                                       | line                                   | 8 Mixed together                              |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6 Pyramids, often   | 53 Maven                                      | 106 Like some gas: Abbr.               | 9 Gets one over on                            |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11 Dutch requirements   | 54 Leafy crown material                       | 107 "Big Sur" novelist,<br>1962        | 10 Junkyard warning,                          |  |  |  |  |  |
| 16 Evan : Welsh :: :<br>Scottish  | 55 Day competitor                             | 111 A suggestion                       | maybe   |  |  |  |  |  |
|   | 62 Bailiwicks                                 | 112 World capital whose                | 11 Play back?                                 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 19 One of Chekhov's<br>"Three Sisters"  | 63 Legal                                      | name comes from                        | 12 Rust and quartz                            |  |  |  |  |  |
| 20 Hunter of myth   | 64 Chief Chirpa and                           | the Greek for                          | 13 Equity valuation stat                      |  |  |  |  |  |
| 21 Bring to bear  | others, in sci-fi                             | "wisdom"                               | 14 Tiny bit of work                           |  |  |  |  |  |
| 22 Result, maybe, in  | 65 Wastes away                                | 114 Humble                             | 15 Vodka brand,                               |  |  |  |  |  |
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| 23 Many apartments  | 67 Cool, in old slang                         | name                                   | her leading role in                           |  |  |  |  |  |
| in old warehouse  | 68 "The way things are                        | 117 " your call"                       | "Fame"  |  |  |  |  |  |
| districts   | currently going'                              | 118 "Elements of                       | 17 Having the means                           |  |  |  |  |  |
| 24 Japanese comics style  | 72 Muscle problem                             | Algebra'' author,                      | 18 Lofgren,                                   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 25 Labor Day baby, e.g.   | 74 Muscular                                   | 1770                                   | guitarist for the E                           |  |  |  |  |  |
| 26 Shape formed by an   | 76 Grammy-winning                             | 119 First lady of the<br>1950s         | Street Band                                   |  |  |  |  |  |
| extended thumb and<br>index fingers   | country singer Black                          | 1950s<br>120 Kind of pear that         | 28 Wolflike                                   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 27 Good person to   | 77 Play combo of old                          | resembles an apple                     | 32 Great two-pair poker                       |  |  |  |  |  |
| believe in  | 83 Mark, winner of                            | 121 Rapper with the                    | hand  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 29 Switz. neighbor  | the 1998 Masters                              | 2003 hit                               | 34 Once called                                |  |  |  |  |  |
| 30 Writer Tarbell who   | 84 George Carlin was its                      | "I Can"                                | 35 Spanish resort island                      |  |  |  |  |  |
| took on Standard Oil  | first host, for short                         | 122 "Judge" (1995                      | <b>36</b> "Sure, I guess …"                   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 31 Pins are placed at the   | 85 State capital on the<br>Colorado River     | Stallone movie)<br>123 and curl (salon | 37 Relating to egg cells                      |  |  |  |  |  |
| end of them   |   | treatment)                             | 38 Actor who won a 2016<br>Presidential Medal |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>33</b> 07 film   | 86 Subject of Newton's<br>first law of motion | 124 Not interfere with                 | of Freedom                                    |  |  |  |  |  |
| 37 Some E.M.T. cases  | 88 Dealers do this                            |  | <b>39</b> Six-line verse                      |  |  |  |  |  |
| 40 Buying binges  | 89 Have an in-tents                           | DOWN                                   | 43 Wilson of "Meet the                        |  |  |  |  |  |
| 41 Count in music   | experience?                                   | 1 Tower over the field                 | Parents"                                      |  |  |  |  |  |
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| 44 U preceder   | 93 " to My Socks,"                            | called "light cycles"                  | 48 Stops up                                   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 45 Picked from a lineup,  | Pablo Neruda poem                             | 3 Loaded (with)                        | 49 Surreptitious                              |  |  |  |  |  |
| informally  | 94 Larsson who wrote                          | 4 Prone to fidgeting                   | 51 Greek H's                                  |  |  |  |  |  |
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|   | 96 Additionally                               | designer who<br>once served as the     | 1918  |  |  |  |  |  |
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- Sur'' novelist, gestion capital whose comes from eek for om'' le omposer with vour call'' ents of ra'' author, ady of the of pear that bles an apple with the nit " (1995 ne movie) nd curl (salon ient) terfere with
- 's first subway 7 \_ \_\_ pro nobis 8 Mixed together ome gas: Abbr. 9 Gets one over on
  - 10 Junkyard warning, maybe 11 Play back? 12 Rust and quartz
  - 13 Equity valuation stat 14 Tiny bit of work 15 Vodka brand,
  - informally yptian-inspired 16 She gained fame from her leading role in ''Fame''
    - 17 Having the means 18 \_ Lofgren, guitarist for the E
    - Street Band 28 Wolflike 32 Great two-pair poker
    - hand
    - 34 Once called 35 Spanish resort island
    - 36 "Sure, I guess ..." 37 Relating to egg cells
    - 38 Actor who won a 2016 Presidential Medal
    - of Freedom
    - 39 Six-line verse
      - 43 Wilson of "Meet the Parents"
      - 48 Stops up
    - 49 Surreptitious
    - 51 Greek H's
    - 52 Golfer Ernie
    - 53 It ended on Nov. 11, 1918
  - erved as the 56 Swell up ve director at
  - and Yves Saint 57 Laundry soap since
    - 1908



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- 74 "Va \_\_\_\_" (Italian "All 81 Churchill's trademark right") gesture

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82

bookmark

name)

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Streckfus Persons

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87 Not much at all

89 Pig in a poke or

88 Ballet attire

(1967 No. 1 album) initial of her last 95 Weepy 1954 Patti Page hit

96 Haberdasher's clasp

100 Stunned, in a way 101 Walk heavily 102 Contemptible sort 103 Toothy smile 104 Jazz's James 108 Condo, e.g. 109 Kaffiyeh wearer 110 Christmas-tree hanging

97 Of the ankle

113 Just between us? 115 Family nickname

## **Public Notices**

### ORDINANCE NO. 20-O-2818

AN URGENCY ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS ADOPTING EMERGENCY REGULATIONS RELATED TO RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL TENANT EVICTIONS, AND OTHER MEA-SURES, REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 20-0-2817, AND DECLARING THE UR-GENCY 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 distancing. 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; and

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, restaurants were prohibited from offering dine-in service, limiting restaurants to delivery and takeout offerings only, which has placed a sudden and severe financial strain on many restaurants, particularly those that are small businesses that already operate on thin margins, adding to financial pressures in the industry that predate the COVID-19 crisis; and

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest to take action to maximize restaurant revenue from the takeout and delivery orders that to assist restaurants in surviving this crisis and remain as sources of employment and neighborhood vitality in the City; and

WHEREAS, many consumers use third-party applications and websites to place orders with restaurants for delivery and takeout, and such third-party platforms charge restaurants fees ranging from 30% to 40% of the purchase price per order; and

WHEREAS, restaurants, and particularly restaurants that are small businesses with few locations, have limited bargaining power to negotiate lower fees with third-party platforms, given the high market saturation of third-party platforms, and the dire financial straits small business restaurants are facing in this COVID-19 emergency; and

WHEREAS, temporarily capping the per-order fees will accomplish the legitimate public purpose of easing the financial burden on struggling restaurants during this emergency while not unduly burdening third-party platforms that have seen an increase in demand; 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.

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

<u>Section 2.</u> The following regulations shall apply to commercial tenancies:

1. The following definitions shall apply to this Section 2:

"Affiliate" shall mean the commercial tenant and any other entity that, directly or indirectly through one or more intermediaries, controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with, the commercial tenant.

## **Public Notices**

"Amnesty Date" shall mean August 1, 2020 for Large Commercial Tenants, and September 1, 2020 for all other commercial tenants.

"Large Commercial Tenants" shall mean a business that, together with its Affiliates, (1) employs more than 100 employees, or (2) has average annual gross receipts of more than \$15 million over the previous three years, or (3) has business operations, other than sales conducted solely through online channels, in three or more countries, including the United States; or (4) a business whose payment of rent is guaranteed by a business falling within the scope of subsections (1) or (2) or (3) of this subsection.

"Rent Recommencement Date" shall mean August 1, 2020 for Large Commercial Tenants and October 1, 2020 for all other commercial tenants.

"Repayment Date" shall mean the date by which all forborne rent shall be due.

2. Landlords and their commercial tenants shall work together during this time of emergency caused by the spread of COVID-19 to make a good faith attempt to develop a payment strategy for rent that accounts for the substantial financial impacts related to COVID-19 that may be faced by some tenants. Any payment strategy negotiated between a landlord and a commercial tenant shall take precedence over the provisions of this Ordinance. Absent such a payment strategy, commercial tenants shall be required to pay their rent under the following provisions of this Section 2.

The following paragraphs (a) through (d) of this Section 2, subsection 2 shall not apply to Large Commercial Tenants.

a. In order to assure that the landlords and commercial tenants will meet to attempt to develop a payment strategy for rent that accounts for the substantial financial impacts related to COVID-19, the landlord shall send a notice to any commercial tenant who has not agreed to a payment strategy with the landlord or who is not otherwise paying full rent, substantially in the form provided by the City, and by certified mail with return receipt, overnight courier service, or by any other delivery method that provides written evidence of receipt, which informs the commercial tenant of the requirement to meet and requesting that the tenant contact the landlord within ten (10) days to arrange a meeting and meet with the landlord within forty five (45) days to discuss a payment strategy that accounts for the substantial financial impacts related to COVID-19. A copy of this notice shall be provided to the City. This notice must be mailed by July 10, 2020.

b. If the landlord fails to send the notice or otherwise fails to meet with the commercial tenant, then the Repayment Date shall be September 1, 2021.

c. If the commercial tenant fails to contact the landlord in response to the notice or otherwise fails to meet with the landlord, then the Repayment Date shall be December 1, 2020.

d. If either party has attempted to schedule a meeting, but the other party appears to be unwilling to meet, either party may call the Rent Stabilization Office of the City of Beverly Hills and a City staff member will schedule such meeting or will determine that one or both parties are unwilling to meet. If the Rent Stabilization Office determines that either or both parties are unwilling to meet than the parties shall follow the provisions set forth below in this Section 2. The Rent Stabilization Office's determination that either or both parties are unable to meet shall create a rebuttable presumption in any unlawful detainer action or other action which seeks to recover rent.

3. A temporary moratorium on eviction for non-payment of rent by commercial tenants and Large 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, and up until the date described in subsection d below, no landlord shall endeavor to evict a commercial tenant or Large Commercial Tenant in either of the following situations: (1) for nonpayment of some or all of the rent if such 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 a tenant for nonpayment of rent.

b. A landlord receives notice of 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. Any medical or financial information provided to the landlord shall be held in confidence, and only used for evaluating the commercial tenant's 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.

c. Nothing in this Ordinance shall relieve any commercial tenant or Large Commercial Tenant of liability for the unpaid rent.

d. Forbearance of rent shall end on the Rent Recommencement Date.

e. A Large Commercial Tenant must pay forborne rent on September 1, 2020 and all other commercial tenants must pay forborne rent on March 1, 2021 if such commercial tenant and the landlord have met pursuant to this Section 2 but have not come to an agreement regarding a payment strategy.

f. For Large Commercial Tenants, with regard to forborne rent a landlord may charge either the late fee or the interest that is provided in the lease between the landlord and the tenant from the time that the first rental payment was missed until the forborne rent is paid. No other late fee, interest or other penalty shall be charged by the landlord during the emergency or before the Repayment Date. After the Repayment Date, and if the forborne rent has not been repaid, a landlord may charge the full amount of the late fee, interest and other penalty that is provided in the lease beginning on the Repayment Date. However, the full amount of the late fees, interest and other penalty shall only run from the Repayment Date.

For all other commercial tenants, with regard to the forborne rent, a landlord may charge one half the amount of either the late fee or the interest that is provided in the lease between the landlord and the tenant capped at five percent (5%) from the time that the first rental payment was missed until the forborne rent is paid. No other late fee, interest or other penalty shall be charged by the landlord during the emergency or before the Repayment Date. After the Repayment Date, and if the forborne rent has not been repaid, a landlord may charge the full amount of the late fee, interest and other penalty that is provided in the lease beginning on the Repayment Date. However, the full amount of the late fees, interest and other penalty shall only run from the Repayment Date.

g. For any commercial tenant who is covered by this Ordinance and wishes to avoid the payment of late fees or interest on the tenant's forborne rent, the tenant may pay some or all of their forborne rent, with no late fees, interest or other penalties, no later than the Amnesty Date. If the tenant pays all forborne rent by that Amnesty Date, the landlord shall not charge any late fees, interest, or other penalty.

h. For purposes of this Section 2, "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 following: (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.

i. For purposes of this Section 2, "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.

j. 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 j, 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.

(2) A landlord may give notice to any commercial tenant covered by the exemption set forth in this subsection j at any time.

k. 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.

<u>Section 3.</u> 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.

d. The City shall waive fees associated with a Special Event Permit for temporary outdoor dining and shall waive the minimum ten (10) day period for filing an application for a Special Event Permit for temporary outdoor dining.

e. The City Manager is authorized to issue street closure permits and any other permits necessary to allow for temporary outdoor dining.

f. To the extent that Beverly Hills Municipal Code Sections 5-10-2 through 5-10-7 prohibit retail establishments from providing without charge reusable bags or recycled paper bags to customers at the point of sale, Beverly Hills Municipal Code Sections 5-10-2 through 5-10-7 are hereby suspended.

Section 4. 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.

<u>Section 5.</u> 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.

<u>Section 6.</u> 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.

## **Public Notices**

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:

- 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. Third Party Food Delivery Service Commission.

1. Definitions. For purposes of this Section, the following definitions apply:

"Delivery Fee" means a fee charged by a Third-party Food Delivery Service for providing a Retail Food Establishment with a service that delivers food and beverages from such establishment to customers. The term does not include any other fee or cost that may be charged by a Third-Party Food Delivery Service to a Retail Food Establishment, such as fees for listing or advertising the Retail Food Establishment on the Third-party Food Delivery Service platform or fees related to processing the online order including, but not limited to service fees, fees for facilitating Online Orders for pick-up, and credit card processing fees.

"Online Order" means an order placed by a customer, including a phone order, for delivery or pick-up from a restaurant located within the City.

"Purchase Price" means the menu price of the items contained in an Online Order, minus any applicable coupon or promotional discount provided to the customer by the restaurant through the Third-Party Food Delivery Service. Such term therefore excludes taxes, gratuities and any other fees or costs that may make up the total amount charged to the customer of an Online Order.

"Retail Food Establishment" means a restaurant, delicatessen bakery, coffee shop, or other eat-in or carry-out service of processed or prepared raw and ready-toeat food or beverages.

"Third-Party Food Delivery Service" means any website, mobile application or other internet service that offers or arranges for the sale of food and beverages prepared by, and the delivery or pick-up of food and beverages from, no fewer than 20 separately owned and operated food service establishments.

2. Prohibitions. So long as the local emergency is in effect, it shall be unlawful for a Third-party Food Delivery Service to do the following:

a. charge a Retail Food Establishment a Delivery Fee that totals more than fifteen percent (15%) of the Purchase Price of each Online Order.

b. charge a Retail Food Establishment any amount designated as a Delivery Fee for an Online Order that does not involve the delivery of food or beverages.

c. charge a Retail Food Establishment any combination of fees, commissions, or costs for the Retail Food Establishment's use of the Third-party Food Delivery Service that is greater than five percent (5%) of the Purchase Price of each Online Order or to charge any amount of fees, commissions, or costs for the Retail Food Establishment's use of the Third-Party Food Delivery Service unless the contract between the Retail Food Establishment and the Third-Party Food Delivery Service allows for fees, commissions, and costs other than a Delivery Fee For the purpose of this subsection c, fees, commissions, or costs do not include the Delivery Fee, which is capped at fifteen percent (15%).

d. charge a Retail Food Establishment any fee, commission, or cost other than as permitted in subsections a through c, above.

e. charge a customer any Purchase Price for a food or beverage item that is higher than the price imposed by the Retail Food Establishment on the Third-Party Food Delivery Service or, if no price is imposed by the Retail Food Establishment on the Third-Party Food Delivery Service, the price listed on the Retail Food Establishment's own menu.

f. retain any portion of amounts designated as a tip or gratuity. Any tip or gratuity shall be paid by the Third-party Food Delivery Service, in its entirety, to the person delivering the food or beverages.

3. Disclosures. The Third-party Food Delivery Service shall disclose to the customer an accurate, clearly identified, and itemized cost breakdown of each transaction, including, but not limited to the following:

a. the Purchase Price of the food and beverages at the cost listed on the Retail Food Establishment's menu;

b. the Delivery Fee charged to the Retail Food Establishment;

c. each fee, commission, or cost, other than a Delivery Fee, charged to the Retail Food Establishment;

d. each fee, commission, or cost, other than the Delivery Fee or the Purchase Price of the food, charged to the customer by the Third-party Food Delivery Service; e. any tip or gratuity that will be paid to the person delivering the food or beverages.

4. A Third-Party Food Delivery Service shall not be found in violation of this Section if between June 17, 2020 and June 24, 2020, it imposes a Delivery Fee per Online Order that totals more than fifteen percent (15%), and other fees, commissions, and costs that total more than five percent (5%), of the Purchase Price of such Online Order, provided that the Third-Party Food Delivery Service refunds the portion of the fee that exceeds those amounts to the Retail Food Establishment prior to July 3, 2020.

5. If a Third-Party Food Delivery Service charges a Retail Food Establishment fees that violate this Section, the Retail Food Establishment shall provide written notice to the Third-Party Food Delivery Service requesting a refund within seven days. If the Third-Party Food Delivery Service does not provide the refund requested after seven days or the Third-Party Food Delivery Service continues to charge fees in violation of this Section after the initial notice and seven-day cure period, a Retail Food Establishment may enforce this Section by means of a civil action seeking damages and injunctive relief. The prevailing party in any such action shall be entitled to an award of reasonable attorney fees.

Section 11. 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 7, which shall be solely subject to the administrative citation process set forth in Chapter 3 of Title 1 of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code. Violations of any public health order duly issued by the Los Angeles County Public Health Officer may be cited and prosecuted as an infraction or may be 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.

<u>Section 12.</u> <u>Remain in Effect.</u> This Ordinance shall remain in effect for the duration of the local emergency.

Section 13. Ordinance No. 20-O-2817 is hereby repealed and replaced by this Ordinance.

Section 14. Uncodified. This Ordinance shall not be codified.

<u>Section 15.</u> <u>Severability.</u> 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 16. 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.

<u>Section 17.</u> <u>Effective Date.</u> 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., September 2, 2020 upon its adoption by a minimum 4/5 vote of the City Council.

Section 18. Duration. This Ordinance shall remain in effect until it is superseded by another Ordinance adopted by the City Council.

<u>Section 19.</u> <u>Certification.</u> The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this Ordinance.

Adopted: September 1, 2020 Effective: September 2, 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

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

> SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CASE NO: 20STC02721 ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

FOR CHANGE OF NAME In the Matter of the petition of: LAURIE ANN ROMANO To all interested person(s):

Petitioner: LAURIE ANN ROMANO current residence address:

2381 Malcolm Ave.

Los Angeles, CA 90064 filed a petition with the Superior Court

of California, County of Los Angeles, Central. 111 North Hill Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012 on August 26, 2020

for a Decree changing names as follows: Present Name: LAURIE ANN ROMANO

Proposed Name: LAURIE ROMANO SASSON

The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING: Date: December 15, 2020 Time: 3:00 p.m. Dept: 20 Room: 310 The address of the court is: Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, Central. 111 North Hill Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012 Reason for name change: I have been using my proposed name and want to make it official. under declare under penalty OT beriur

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

Signed: Laurie Ann Sasson Judge of the Superior Court: David J. Cowan Executive Officer/Clerk: Sherri R. Carter Deputy Clerk: Nick Miramontes Dated: August 26, 2020 Published: 09/11/20, 09/18/20, 09/25/20, 10/02/20 Beverly Hills Courier

## Classifieds



## Classifieds



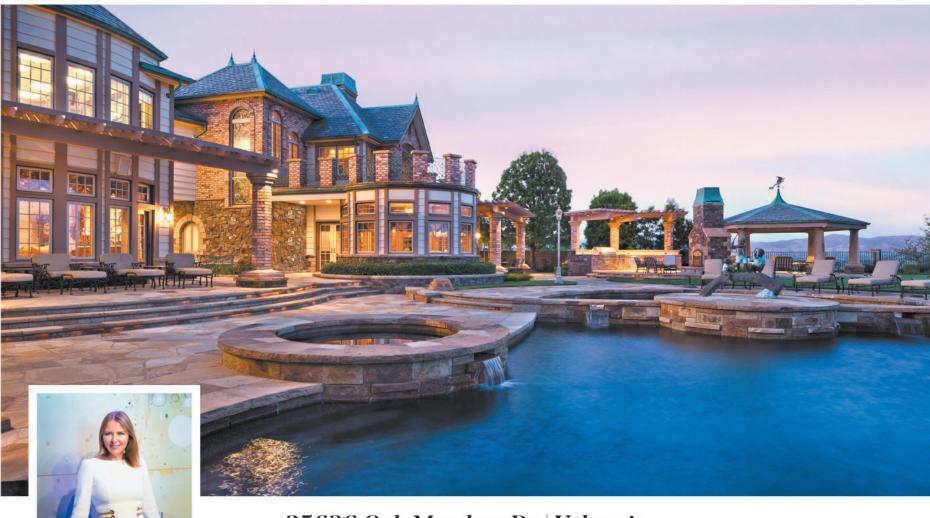
## Classifieds



SEPTEMBER 11, 2020



1115 Moraga DrBel-Air7BD 8BA | 9,750 SQFT within The Moraga Estates | Offered at \$10,995,000



**25636 Oak Meadow Dr** | **Valencia** 5BD 7BA | 10,531 SQFT on 34,695 SQFT | Offered at \$5,500,000

CHAYA VAN ESSEN 310.270.6305 | chaya@chayavanessen.com DRE 01398928



Prove the condition of features of property obtained from public records or other sources. Equal Housing Opportunity. DRE 01160681