

IN THIS ISSUE

Metro Construction Prompts Wilshire/
La Cienega Street Closures 4



A Groundbreaking Day for New Rolex and
Patek Philippe Boutiques 5



'The Lesson' - Well Schooled 8



Courier Calendar 2

News 4

Community 6

Arts & Entertainment 8

Birthdays 12

Fun & Games 14

Classifieds 17

THE WEATHER, BEVERLY HILLS CA

☁ Friday	70° 58°
☁ Saturday	70° 59°
☁ Sunday	72° 59°
☀ Monday	75° 61°
☀ Tuesday	77° 62°
☀ Wednesday	78° 62°
☀ Thursday	81° 64°

Mr. Brainwash Unveils "Imagiros" on Rodeo Drive



Photos courtesy of Mr Brainwash Studio

Mr Brainwash's new "Imagiros" art installation on Rodeo Drive consists of nine larger-than-life origami animal sculptures

BY CLARA HARTER

At midnight on July 2 the city of Beverly Hills was peacefully slumbering, but Thierry Guetta was hard at work transporting a magical, multicolor menagerie to Rodeo Drive.

The French artist, who goes by the moniker Mr. Brainwash, departed at 5 a.m., less than an hour before the rosy rays of dawn struck his colorful stainless-steel sculptures

collectively known as "Imagiros."

The public art collection consists of nine larger-than-life origami animal sculptures and is a collaboration with the Rodeo Drive Committee and city of Beverly Hills.

Standing amidst luxury boutiques and high-end fashion houses, "Imagiros" invites passersby to delve into a whimsical world of folded paper and imagination come to life.

See MR. BRAINWASH, page 13

Ten New Sites Honored with Golden Shield Awards

BY RYAN TOROK

The Beverly Hills City Council, on the recommendation of the Cultural Heritage Commission, has awarded 10 Golden Shield awards to sites that have cultural significance within the city.

The sites are Don Loper Salon; Brighton Coffee Shop; Uncle Bernie's Toy Menagerie; Wil Wright's Ice Cream Shop; Mickey Fine Pharmacy; The Bistro; Ah Fong's; Beverly Hills Nurseries; Warner Brothers-Beverly Hills Theatre; and Beverly Hills Speedway.

"We're truly grateful for managing this iconic legacy, and we're thrilled to be part of the city of Beverly Hills," Gina Raphael, president of Mickey Fine Pharmacy and Grill, told the Courier upon learning her business was being recognized. "We continue to expand and evolve, and we truly become better every day to serve the community."

Mickey Fine Pharmacy and Grill is the only remaining pharmacy in the Los Angeles area with a luncheonette counter and soda fountain. One of the two extant sites recognized in the latest batch of 10 Golden Shield awardees—the only other is the Brighton Coffee Shop—Mickey Fine Pharmacy has third-generation customers and team members who have been with the business for more than three decades.

Formerly known as Schwab's Pharmacy in the 1950s, the retail operation was See GOLDEN SHIELD AWARDS, page 13

David Mirharooni's Goals for the BH Chamber's Centennial Year

BY CLARA HARTER

Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce Board Chair David Mirharooni looks forward to leading the organization in its 100th anniversary year and into the next century of business prosperity. In an interview with the Courier, the newly installed Mirharooni spoke of a desire to give back to the community that has given so much to his family.

"I live in Beverly Hills, I work in Beverly Hills and I continue to run in the streets just as I did when I was a little kid," he said. "I want to make sure that the same great life that was given to me is there for my kids the rest of my family and everyone else in Beverly Hills."

Mirharooni's family came to Los Angeles in 1978 after fleeing the Islamic Revolution in Iran. As a child he watched his dad work



David Mirharooni

hard to rebuild their lives from scratch in Beverly Hills, laying the groundwork for Mirharooni to launch his own career.

"I remember how much blood, sweat and tears he put into getting his family to See MIRHAROONI, page 7

Hotel Workers Strike Could Affect Beverly Hills

BY RYAN TOROK

A service workers union representing nearly 15,000 hotel workers from approximately 60 properties across Los Angeles and Orange Counties declared a strike over the Fourth of July holiday.

The employee-members of union Unite Here Local 11, which represents 32,000 hospitality workers across Southern California and Arizona, including non-managerial staff at the Beverly Hilton, Four Seasons Regent Beverly Wilshire and Waldorf Astoria Beverly Hills, have been demanding increased pay See STRIKE, page 15

Courier Calendar

NOW - JULY 16

THE ACADEMY MUSEUM OF MOTION PICTURES: "REGENERATION: BLACK CINEMA 1898-1971"

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

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

Regeneration: Black Cinema 1898-1971, the Academy Museum's exhibition highlighting the achievements and challenges of Black filmmakers and artists in the United States, will close on July 16, 2023. This groundbreaking exhibition has been on view since August 21, 2022. Presented in the museum's Marilyn and Jeffrey Katzenberg Gallery, Regeneration features rare film excerpts, historical photographs, costumes, posters, contemporary artworks, and more. The exhibition also includes tailored augmented reality (AR) elements and is accompanied by film screenings, a supplementary microsite, an engaging curriculum for students and teachers, and an award-winning illustrated catalog featuring renowned filmmakers and scholars. To emphasize the ongoing impact of Black filmmaking and visual culture, the exhibition also incorporates works by contemporary artists such as Theaster Gates, Glenn Ligon, Gary Simmons and Kara Walker. General admission tickets for the museum's exhibitions are \$25 for adults, \$19 for seniors (age 62+) and \$15 for students. Admission for visitors ages 17 and younger, and for California residents with an EBT card is free. The Academy Museum is located at 6067 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles.

academymuseum.org

NOW - JULY 23

EL CAPITAN THEATRE: "THE LITTLE MERMAID"

9:30 A.M.

Disney's The Little Mermaid returns to the El Capitan Theatre for a special engagement beginning July 5. "The Little Mermaid" is the beloved story of Ariel, a beautiful and spirited young mermaid with a thirst for adventure. The youngest of King Triton's daughters, and the most defiant, Ariel longs to find out more about the world beyond the sea, and while visiting the surface, falls for the dashing Prince Eric. While mermaids are forbidden to interact with humans, Ariel must follow her heart. She makes a deal with the evil sea witch, Ursula, which gives her a chance to experience life on land, but ultimately places her life - and her father's crown - in jeopardy. Tickets are \$10. The El Capitan Theatre is located at 6838 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles.

elcapitantheatre.com

NOW - AUG. 5

HAUSER & WIRTH WEST HOLLYWOOD:

"FRANK BOWLING. LANDSCAPE"

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

Hauser & Wirth presents Sir Frank Bowling's first solo exhibition at the gallery's newly opened West Hollywood location. One of the foremost British artists of his generation, Bowling has spent more than six decades challenging the limits of the medium of painting and expanding its possibilities,

attracting acclaim for his contributions to abstraction. 'Landscape' features 11 recent ebullient paintings that engage the rich art historical tradition of landscape painting - and propel it forward into the present moment. Influenced by the purely abstract aspects of traditional painting, specifically the rich history of European painting engagement in the works of J.M.W. Turner and John Constable, the artist developed a highly personal abstract language of his own. Hauser & Wirth West Hollywood is located at 8980 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood. Admission is free.

hauserwirth.com

JULY 8-AUG. 27

SANTA MONICA PLAYHOUSE: "JEWS R 2 MUCH FUN"

SAT. 7 P.M., SUN. 2:30 P.M.

Santa Monica Playhouse presents Jerry Mayer's 11th play at the Playhouse, "Jews R 2 Much Fun." Jewish Stanley and Catholic Kathy meet, fall in love, and get ready to present their upcoming nuptials to the family. Little do they know that their fathers, Jewish Marvin and Catholic Chris, once boyhood besties, are now bitterest enemies. Will Stanley and Kathy make it to the altar with blessings or curses? A match made in heaven or in hell? Santa Monica Playhouse is located at 1211 4th St., Santa Monica. Tickets are \$35 with discounts available for students, teachers, seniors and military.

santamonicaplayhouse.com

JULY 9

HOLOCAUST MUSEUM LA: "IN THE GARDEN OF THE RIGHTEOUS"

5-6:30 P.M.

Holocaust Museum LA presents a conversation with Richard Hurowitz about his book, a moving history of 10 individuals who risked their lives to save others during the Holocaust. As six million Jews were systematically murdered during the Holocaust, a handful of non-Jewish people risked their lives to save the targeted and condemned. While only a few, such as Oskar Schindler and Raoul Wallenberg, have received lasting, international attention for their valor, Yad Vashem, the memorial to the Holocaust in Israel, has recognized some 27,000 who risked their lives to save Jews with a special garden in Jerusalem. Richard Hurowitz's stirring "In the Garden of the Righteous: The Heroes Who Risked Their Lives to Save Jews During the Holocaust" pays tribute to these men and women, each of whom risked their life, liberty or career to help their neighbors, and often complete strangers, to survive. Richard is joined in conversation by award-winning journalist Tom Teicholz. This event is free. The Holocaust Museum LA is located at 100 The Grove Dr., Los Angeles.

holocaustmuseumla.org

JULY 11-13

THE WALLIS: MUSICAL THEATRE FEST

The ASCAP Foundation and the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts announce The ASCAP Foundation Musical Theatre Fest. The two-week, in-person event series, held at The Wallis in Beverly Hills, gives emerging musical theatre composers the chance to learn from the industry's leading lights. The programming kicks off with three days of educational panels from July 11-13. July 11 features "Is Hollywood's Obsession with Musical Theatre Talent Here to Stay?" at 11 a.m. and "Using Social Media to Create a New Space for Musical Theatre" at 2 p.m. July 12 features "Music Creators Roundtable" at 10 a.m., "Business As Usual: Best Practices for Getting Your Act Together" at 1 p.m., and "From Despicable Me to Schmicago!: In Conversation with Cinco Paul" at 3:30 p.m. July 13 features "Kooman & Dimond: The Life Cycle of a Song Demo" at 11 a.m., "Song Feedback Panel: Words of Wisdom from Major Studio Execs" at 2 p.m., and "Waving Through Their Window: An Evening with Benj Pasek & Justin Paul" at 7:30 p.m. The panels and workshop sessions are free and open to the public. Reservations are required for all events and are available online. The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts is located at 9390 N. Santa Monica Blvd, Beverly Hills.

thewallis.org



Photo courtesy Margaret Herrick Library, ©Twentieth Century Fox

The Nicholas Brothers in a scene from "Stormy Weather" (1943); from left: Fayard Nicholas and Harold Nicholas, part of "Regeneration: Black Cinema 1898-1971" at the Academy Museum until July 16

Does somebody need couture?

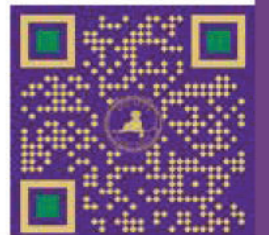


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Metro Construction Prompts Wilshire/La Cienega Street Closures



Photo By Ryan Torok

Construction on the Purple (D Line) Extension is causing street closures at Wilshire and La Cienega boulevards.

BY RYAN TOROK

As construction on the Metro's Purple (D Line) Extension in Beverly Hills continues, weekend street closures in the area are expected all summer long at the intersection of Wilshire and La Cienega boulevards.

Wilshire/La Cienega intersection weekend closures began over the weekend of June 30, through July 3, and are continuing for 10 consecutive weekends, excluding the Labor Day holiday, as construction crews began removing the concrete deck panels on Wilshire Boulevard between Hamilton

Drive and into the La Cienega intersection.

Marking the second phase of deck removal, the work is taking place on Friday nights at 8 p.m. and continuing through 7 a.m. the following Monday.

Throughout this summer's weekends, Wilshire Boulevard will be fully closed between La Cienega and San Vicente boulevards; La Cienega Boulevard will be closed in both directions at the intersection of Wilshire Boulevard. Northbound traffic on La Cienega Boulevard will be detoured at Olympic Boulevard and southbound traffic at 3rd St. Local access to businesses on La Cienega between Burton Way and Olympic Boulevard will be maintained from Clifton Way and Gregory Way.

Local access to Wilshire Boulevard will be maintained at Hamilton Drive, Gale Drive and Tower Drive; access to the Landmark Center will be maintained from northbound Tower Drive; and access to the Cedars-Sinai Medical Center will be maintained from Le Doux Road. Hamilton Drive and Gale Drive may be closed at Wilshire beginning as early as 6 p.m. on Friday nights.

On July 2, this past Sunday morning, the work was on full display. A crew in white hardhats and bright orange vests were busy

directing construction equipment outside the Saban Theatre. Deere vehicles, yellow caution tape, road signs and cones dotted the closed-down section of Wilshire. A crew member manning a backhoe scooped dirt out of the ground and into large piles on the street. Because of the extensive roadwork and Fourth of July holiday, there was little traffic in the surrounding area. The mid-Wilshire neighborhood, in fact, looked deserted.

As Metro gets closer to completing the first section of the Purple (D Line) Extension, similar work, including the removal of deck beams, backfilling, utility replacement and paving, will be occurring all summer long. As of June 30, seven weekends of deck removal work had been completed, and June 30-July 3 marked weekend-eight of decking removal.

Upon its completion, the Purple (D Line) extension rail project will provide a viable transportation alternative from downtown Los Angeles to Westwood, including two stops in Beverly Hills: Wilshire/La Cienega Station and Wilshire/Rodeo Station. The latter is located at the intersection of Wilshire and Reeves.

In contrast to commutes offered by
See METRO, page 15



Eskandari Chosen for Community Development Position



Arlen Eskandari

Arlen Eskandari has been selected as the next City Building Official (CBO) and Assistant Director of Community Development for the City of Beverly Hills. Eskandari currently serves as the city's Deputy Building Official, managing plan review and building inspection services.

He assumes the role held by former CBO David Yelton who retired last week after 25 years of service to the Beverly Hills community.

"I am very pleased to welcome Arlen to this new role," said Ryan Gohlich, Assistant City Manager. "His understanding of the city's complex and technical codes and ordinances have prepared him well to lead the division and maintain the highest safety and quality standards that Beverly Hills requires."

Eskandari joined the city in 2014 as Senior Plan Review Engineer and was later promoted to Structural Engineer, Supervising Plan Review Engineer and most recently Deputy Building Official. He has more than 20 years of experience in the design, plan review, construction, and management of various projects.

Eskandari holds a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering and a Master's Degree in Structural/Earthquake Engineering. He is a registered Professional Civil Engineer, as well as Structural Engineer in the State of California. He is also a Certified Project Management Professional and Building Official with the International Code Council. ●

www.beverlyhillscourier.com

A Groundbreaking Day for New Rolex and Patek Philippe Boutiques



Photo courtesy Gearys Beverly Hills

Family members and invited guests attending the groundbreaking and blessing of the new Rolex and Patek Philippe boutiques included (from left): Mayor Dr. Julian Gold, Bruce Meyer, Emily Meyer, Thomas J. Blumenthal, Susan Blumenthal, Dr. Jack Blumenthal, Evan Meyer and Vice Mayor Les Friedman

BY ANA FIGUEROA

A timely event five years in the making took place on Rodeo Drive July 5. The occasion was the groundbreaking and blessing of the space for the new Rolex and Patek Philippe Boutiques. The prime real estate at 312 North Rodeo has housed an illustrious array of tenants over the years, from facialist Georgette Klinger to fashionistas Dolce and Gabbana.

Thirteen months from now, it will house the largest Rolex and Patek Philippe boutiques in the country.

Thomas J. Blumenthal, President & CEO of Gearys Beverly Hills, welcomed family members and invited guests to the ceremony, including his parents, uncle Bruce Meyer, cousins Evan and Emily Meyer, Mayor Dr. Julian Gold, Vice Mayor Lester Friedman and members of the Gearys executive team.

In his remarks, Blumenthal noted that “Rolex and Patek Philippe both asked us to expand and do it in a very thoughtful and experiential way on the famous Rodeo Drive. When we started thinking about where that’s going to happen, I discussed with my uncle and my cousin and my parents and asked when the Dolce and Gabbana lease was up. They told me June of 2023. That was five years ago.”

Fortunately, time did not stand still.

“We waited and this is a spectacular location. It is so fitting for the two brands that we represent in the US,” he observed.

Blumenthal unveiled three sleek renderings of what the space will look like on the Rolex side, the front façade, terrace and the Patek Philippe side. He then asked Father Ed Benioff, Pastor of the Church of the Good Shepherd in Beverly Hills, to provide a blessing.

Benioff obliged by sprinkling holy water around the space, asking for “blessings and success” for the planned endeavor.

Then, in recognition of the ceremony as demolition day one, Blumenthal took a sledgehammer to some remaining fixtures.

A Champagne toast followed, along with dessert bites from The Farm of Beverly Hills.

When it came time to add remarks of his own, Gold described Blumenthal and his family as “Beverly Hills royalty.”

“You have done so much for this street and city. This is the next chapter. I’m sure it’s going to be beyond spectacular. On behalf of our community, we thank you,” said Gold.

And then it was time for one more toast to the successful venture to come. ●



Photo by Ana Figueroa

Blumenthal revealed renderings for the new space.

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Photo by Ana Figueroa

Guests received commemorative Gearys Beverly Hills hard hats and safety vests.

Next BH Visits UTA Artist Space



The Next Beverly Hills Committee organized a visit to UTA Artist Space on June 27 for a private, guided tour of Devon DeJardin's "In the Shadows" exhibit. "This was a wonderful opportunity for our group to enjoy a magnificent art exhibit in Beverly Hills featuring a next-gen artist," said Chair Noah Etessami. "We are lucky to have Kipton Cronkite leading our Art Subcommittee, and making experiences such as this available to the community."

Courier Goes on an African Safari



Beverly Hills residents Robert Eitches, M.D. and his wife Ilona Eitches recently enjoyed reading the Beverly Hills Courier at the beach in Zanzibar and on safari in the Serengeti in Tanzania, where the local giraffe population also tried to take a peek.

PURPLE (D LINE) EXTENSION TRANSIT PROJECT

La Cienega Station (Sec 1) - Deck Removal Phase 2
Weekend Closures of Wilshire Blvd./La Cienega Blvd.

TRAFFIC ADVISORY

Starting the weekend of June 30th and will continue each weekend (excluding holidays) through early September 2023 due to the Metro Purple (D Line) construction taking place.

Full Street Closure on Wilshire Blvd between La Cienega Blvd and San Vicente Blvd, and La Cienega Blvd closed at the intersection of Wilshire Blvd.

FOR ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT THE 24/7 METRO HOTLINE AT (213) 922-6934.

Free Ice Cream in Beverly Hills

Jeni's Splendid Ice Creams is celebrating its grand opening in Beverly Hills by giving away free scoops. Stop by on July 13 from 7-11 p.m. at the new shop at 445 N. Beverly Drive to sample the city's newest dessert shop.



Photo by Ana Figueroa

Jenni's Splendid Ice Creams on Beverly Drive recently opened for a soft launch.

Article correction:

A photo caption in the June 23 story, "Concours d'Elegance Draws Nearly 45,000 Attendees," mislabeled a vehicle on display at the auto show. The Courier identified a 1961 Volkswagen Transporter as a 1961 Volkswagen FB County Micro Bus. The latter was recognized as the program's "Most Outrageous"

MIRHAROONI, from page 1

where we are today by working hard and planting his flag in Beverly Hills,” said Mirharooni. “We owe lots to Beverly Hills because it was the start of how we became successful in real estate.”

Mirharooni is now a principal of the real estate company, Brickstar Capital LLC.

He first became involved in the Chamber as a young entrepreneur straight out of USC’s Marshall School of Business. In 2015 he moved the business back to the city of Beverly Hills and began attending meetings of the Government Affairs Committee.

“I enjoyed listening to how the Chamber was advocating for certain policies, whether it was national, whether it was state, whether it was LA County or even hyperlocal Beverly Hills policies,” he said.

Mirharooni’s enterprising and inquisitive spirit quickly caught the attention of more senior Chamber members who encouraged him to become chair of the Government Affairs Committee. In that role, Mirharooni worked with legislators and advocated for the needs of the local business community, while also developing strong relationships with Chamber staff.

He went on to become a member of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors before recently being selected to replace outgoing Chair Kathleen Chapman. Mirharooni is also a member of the Rotary Club of Beverly Hills, Team Beverly Hills Class of 2013, and City Council’s Property Owners Task Force.

He was formally installed in his new position with the Chamber at that organization’s Summer Garden Party on June 28.

“I’m very fortunate that I’m the Chair of the Chamber this year, but I’m even more fortunate that this is the 100th year of the Chamber, so that puts an extra emphasis on thinking about what the next 100 years are going to be like,” he said.

Mirharooni believes that the business community is currently in a fantastic place thanks to the leadership of the City Council, which he says has done an admirable job of paying attention to the needs of both businesses and residents.

Nevertheless, he sees many challenges on the horizon.

These include the worsening homelessness crisis in LA, uncertainty around how AI and virtual reality will impact businesses, and regional policies that make it increasingly costly to do business in the county.

As chair, Mirharooni’s goal is to proactively engage members of the community in conversations around these challenges and chart a collective vision for the future of the organization.

“It is about figuring out how we can be relevant to tomorrow’s time today,” he said.

In the immediate future, Mirharooni is looking forward to attending the Chamber’s Centennial Celebration on Nov. 7 as well as the Chamber’s Evening With the Mayor on Oct. 11 when Mayor Dr. Julian Gold will give his annual State of the City address.

“We have an amazing city and the

Chamber has amazing members who really care about our city,” he said. “My goal is to increase our awareness throughout the community and ultimately make sure that

Beverly Hills continues to go down that right path that it has been on for the last ten years.” ●



Photo courtesy Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce
Mirharooni with Chamber CEO/President Todd Johnson and Mayor Dr. Julian Gold at his June 28 induction



Mirharooni and his son Jacob



Mirharooni and his wife Sheila



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‘The Lesson’ - Well Schooled



Photo by Gordon Timpen courtesy of Bleeker Street

Julie Delpy as Hélène and Daryl McCormack as Liam

BY NEELY SWANSON

Director Alice Troughton’s new film, “The Lesson,” is as deceptive as it is flawless. Writer Alex MacKeith, in his feature debut, borrowed from his own experiences. I’m amazed he lived to tell the story. But then again, his hero lives to write another day.

Liam Somers makes ends meet by tutoring the sons and daughters of the well-to-do whose aspirations are high marks on final exams that will lead to entrée into the most elite schools. He is an aspiring novelist just finishing his doctoral studies at Oxford, a thesis analyzing the work of contemporary great J.M. Sinclair. Imagine his surprise and delight to learn that his next assignment is to tutor Sinclair’s son Bertie for the English Literature entrance exam at Oxford, a supremely difficult exam but one he knows well.

This will not be a normal tutoring assignment as Hélène Sinclair explains. He will be required to live at the manor and be on call at all times. The master, Sinclair himself, is skeptical and aloof, convinced that son Bertie is, at the root, mediocre and incapable of succeeding. Bertie is more than uncooperative with Liam. His bitterness alludes to deeper problems. In many ways, Bertie is living out “Hamlet,” one of the texts he must study. Something is definitely rotten in the state of the Sinclairs.

At the heart of many British stories

is class—distinction, division, aspiration, entitlement and wealth. Liam comes from a working-class background, one that has afforded him none of the luxuries. His native brilliance and ability to read a situation is his ticket to status, if, in fact, that is what he wants. Finding chinks in the armour and recognizing them is a strength and when Hélène explains that Bertie’s educational success is imperative, she reveals that she cannot help because her education was in France and America and her husband had none. It’s a statement that is easily missed but is the key to Sinclair’s need to dominate and star in every situation. His brilliance, so recognized in haute society, comes with its own caveat. Should Bertie gain entrance to such a prestigious program it would, in its own way, take away from his shining dominance; or at least that might be his interpretation. The quiet, observant Liam is a quick study and sympathetic to Bertie’s plight. One cannot miss the irony that Hélène’s desire for Bertie to succeed at Oxford to assure his place in the world is offset by Bertie’s choice of English Literature, a subject that rarely yields a place on the stock exchange.

But there’s more to this family story, a tragedy still playing out in unspoken grief. Alternately pulling Liam into the family and then pushing him away, he must navigate these waves of emotion and the mystery that surrounds them. It is the discovery, slowly, surely, almost chillingly of that secret

that envelops the viewer, seeing everything through the preternaturally calm eyes of Liam. To reveal more about this alternately gothic and noir tale would be tacitly unfair. Better to discuss character, something of which this cup overfloweth. There is nothing here that doesn’t have a deeper, or at least a secondary meaning.

Troughton has very stealthily conducted this film as she would a symphony. Beginning slowly, the story and characters worm their way into your subconscious as you make decisions about their personalities, motives and goals. Gradually she picks up speed and your assumptions blur into a melding of the characters’ bitterness and hopes. The denouement is of desperation, deception and cynicism, all wrapped in a crescendo finish that you can’t possibly see coming. The coda is both the ending and the beginning. Everyone is everything and nothing that you expected. Troughton has presented us with a film that is a subtle bucolic analysis of class structure, becoming almost gothic in its underlying subject matter and slowly but surely turning into a classic film noir, its heroes and villains hidden in plain sight.

“The Lesson” is a superb character study. Liam is cool, calm and observant; entirely self-taught. It is through him that we experience almost every moment, narrating our journey almost wordlessly. With an eidetic memory, Liam has the ability not just to memorize text but also to analyze and

understand it on a level equal to his recall. When, one evening, his unfamiliarity with classical music is revealed, this inadequacy yields a sneer from Sinclair. Undisturbed, Liam moves on and remedies his deficit, another note to be added to the “Evidence Board” he keeps in his room. His deflection of humiliation infuriates Sinclair but earns him respect from the others. He is, truly, the hero of this story of stops, starts and turns. He champions Bertie and recognizes the pain and self-doubt that plague him.

Hélène, sphinx-like, is more difficult to parse. She is caught between a son’s future success, an unspoken tragedy, and her husband’s irascible nature and legacy. Watch this blonde carefully; there’s both more and less than meets the eye. Son Bertie is a conflicted and suffering teen, brilliant and immature, denigrated by his father whose destructive motives are in full view. Sinclair, haughty, aloof, self-confident, is someone who can only win if everyone else loses. In many ways, he is less complex than the others. Clearly he is overcompensating for a suspect background as alluded to previously by his wife. Self-made, widely regarded as one of the greatest living novelists, he struggles to finish his first novel in many years. Working in secret, he jealously guards his work, letting up only briefly when he asks Liam to proof it for him. Liam, whose comments are trenchant and on point, earns the master’s anger. Having read Liam’s

novel, he haughtily declares that Liam has no talent and should give up now before he publicly humiliates himself. But Liam's comments are on target and Sinclair must find a way to incorporate them without acknowledgement. Soon this heavily gothic atmosphere begins to morph into film noir. It's all about collateral damage and everyone and everything in Sinclair's life is collateral damage. Our hero is caught in a web, partly of his own making. Like Icarus, is he flying too close to the sun?

The cast that Troughton assembled is like a finely sculpted work of art. Stephen McMillan is Bertie. Pitch perfect from his scowling expressions and hurt-filled eyes, McMillan gives us classic teen angst caused by the constant abrasions of a dysfunctional family. Julie Delpy is H el ene. No doubt a major beauty in her youth, as was Delpy herself, H el ene is the no longer glamorous glue holding this collapsing family together. Her mysterious presence over the household and the strength she exudes allow her to both encourage her son and support her increasingly erratic husband. Her quiet sexuality expands and contracts depending on who the victim of her attention is. There may not be a man with a gun but there is definitely a Blonde Fatale.

Crispin Letts is the previously unmentioned butler, Ellis. No, the butler didn't do it, but he's ever-present and is totally aware of everyone's movements and their significance. Like most servants, he is invisible but all knowing. It is a wonderful, enigmatic performance.

Richard E. Grant is J.M. Sinclair. Charming to the outside world, he harbors secrets, resentments and insecurities that he showers on all around him. Grant's voice exudes upper class origins, but it is a learned accent and a cultivated presence that yields only occasionally to his wife's all-knowing manner. Grant imbues Sinclair with a nastiness that makes you wince, while occasionally revealing a flash of vulnerability that keeps the viewer hoping for both retribution and resurrection. That serpentine smile of his is unforgettable. A key to the relationship between Sinclair and H el ene lies in a quote from Martha Gelhorn, one of Hemingway's wives: "A man must be a very great genius to make up for being such a loathsome human being."

Finally there is the miraculous Daryl McCormack. McCormack has imbued Liam with a placidity that carefully masks the depths within. His beautiful face reveals little but his eyes carry with them his cool



Photos by Anna Patarakina courtesy of Bleeker Street

Richard E. Grant as Sinclair

assessment of the situation while simultaneously hiding the hurt and horror he feels momentarily. His Liam has an inner strength that has to be witnessed. McCormack, recently seen in "Good Luck to You, Leo Grande" and "Bad Sisters," will surely be a major star who can handle any platform. He is a pleasure to watch as he soundlessly narrates the film with his presence alone.

There are so many small pleasures hidden like Easter eggs within the movie. When Sinclair, interviewed on a television show about writing, laughingly declares that "good writers borrow but great writers steal," implying that he has come up with this analysis. In a wink wink by MacKeith, Sinclair has stolen this phrase from T. S. Elliot, allowing Sinclair to self-declare as a great writer. Metaphors abound. The estate's lake is inhabited by water voles, a seemingly benign creature that burrows into the banks and often devours the surrounding vegetation. The garden is full of rhododendrons, a beautiful but deadly plant, a perfect metaphor for Sinclair. As Bertie explains, they are beautiful but nothing can grow around them because the roots and the buds are

poisonous.

The cinematography by Anna Patarakina is lush and evocative of how each moment plays out, dark when sinister, light and bright during moments of hope. Her filming is painterly with a depth of color that is extraordinary. There is one beautiful shot captured across the lake that could be a painting by Monet. The score by Isobel Waller-Bridge is a truly memorable waltz, reminiscent of a ball held at a country estate; its rhythm changes with the film's action. It is rolling and bucolic, occasionally sinister and dark, but always with the four four beat shaped into whatever she wants, with only the instruments changing, whether violin or piano or cello, following the mood.

MacKeith and Troughton's structure turns the story on end by beginning with a prologue that will mirror the epilogue, and following with three parts (or acts). There is nothing about this film that I don't admire and I could watch it endlessly. So far twice was all I was granted.

Opening July 7 at the Laemmle Monica and the Landmark Sunset 5. ●



Daryl McCormack as Liam



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



Richard E. Grant as Sinclair, Daryl McCormack as Liam, Julie Delpy as H el ene and Stephen McMillan as Bertie



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

DATE: Thursday, July 13, 2023

TIME: 1:30 PM, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard

LOCATION: Meeting will be held in person at:
 Commission Meeting Room 280A
 Beverly Hills City Hall
 455 North Rexford Drive
 Beverly Hills, CA 90210

Members of the public may also participate via teleconference;
 Details provided below

PROJECT ADDRESS: City Wide

The Planning Commission of the City of Beverly Hills, at a REGULAR meeting on **July 13, 2023**, will hold a public hearing beginning at **1:30 PM**, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard to consider:

A DRAFT ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS AMENDING THE BEVERLY HILLS MUNICIPAL CODE REGULATIONS RELATED TO OPEN AIR DINING IN THE PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY, AND MAKING A DETERMINATION OF EXEMPTION UNDER THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)

The OpenBH program was started during the Covid-19 Pandemic to ease regulations related to open air dining on public and private property, and is currently scheduled to end in September 2023. As a result, the City Council has directed staff to work on changes to the City’s open air dining program and has previously reviewed proposed changes to open air dining standards at several Council Liaison meetings. The draft ordinance incorporates the proposed code changes and will be presented to the Planning Commission for their review and feedback. The draft ordinance proposes code changes in the Beverly Hills Municipal Code (BHMC), that may include but are not limited to the following:

- Article 2.5 of Title 10, Chapter 3 of the BHMC
 - Changes to the public notification requirements for open air dining projects
- Article 27 of Title 10, Chapter 3 of the BHMC
 - Changes to the parking requirements for open air dining located on the public right-of-way and on private property
- Article 35 of Title 10, Chapter 3 of the BHMC
 - Changes to the development standards and requirements, and review processes
 - Addition of development standards and review processes related to parklets in the public right-of-way

Once the Planning Commission has completed their review, the draft ordinance will be presented to the City Council at future public hearings for adoption. At such time, the updated fees for the open air dining program will also be presented to the City Council for review and adoption.

This project has been assessed in accordance with the authority and criteria contained in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the State CEQA Guidelines, and the environmental regulations of the City. Since the project does not authorize construction, and makes minor changes to existing

development standards that apply to a fully built-out area of the City (in the commercially zoned areas), there is no possibility that it may have a significant effect on the environment. In addition, the project reflects minor changes in land use limitations, and do not result in changes to land use or density. Accordingly, the Planning Commission will consider a recommendation to find the project categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to Sections 15061(b)(3) and 15305 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations.

How to Participate

In the interest of maintaining appropriate social distancing, members of the public can participate in, watch, or listen to the commission meetings through the following methods:

- **In Person:** Submit a speaker card to the Recording Secretary at the meeting.
- **Oral Comment:** Call (310) 288-2288, select Option 1 when prompted. You will be placed on a brief hold, and called upon to make a comment at the appropriate time.
- **Video Comment:** <https://beverlyhills-org.zoom.us/my/bevpublic>, enter passcode: 90210 when prompted.
- **Written Comment:** Email commentPC@beverlyhills.org
- **Audio Only:** Call (310) 288-2288, select Option 2 when prompted
- **Watch LIVE:** BHTV Channel 10 on Spectrum Cable or www.beverlyhills.org/watchlive

It is recommended that written public comments be submitted to the Planning Commission Recording Secretary by 11:30 AM on the meeting date. Public comments will also be taken during the meeting when the topic is being reviewed by the Planning Commission. Written comments should identify the Agenda Item number or topic in the subject line of the email.

In order to be read at the meeting, written comments will be allowed with a maximum of 350 words, which corresponds to approximately three (3) minutes of speaking time. If a comment is received after the agenda item is heard, it will not be a part of the record.

Any written comments received by end of the day on Wednesday, July 5, 2023 will be attached to the agenda report regarding this item. Any comments received after Wednesday, July 5, 2023, but prior the public hearing, will be distributed to the Commission under separate cover.

According to Government Code Section 65009, if you challenge the City’s action in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City, either at or prior to the public hearing. Please note that any comments received prior to or during the public hearing will be considered as part of the public record.

If there are any questions regarding this notice, please contact **Chloe Chen, Senior Planner** in the Planning Division at **(310) 285-1194**, or by email at cchen@beverlyhills.org. Copies of the project materials are on file in the Community Development Department, and can be reviewed by any interested person at 455 North Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills, CA 90210.

Sincerely:
 Chloe Chen, Senior Planner

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the City of Beverly Hills will make reasonable efforts to accommodate persons with disabilities. If you require special assistance, please contact (310) 285-1126 (voice) or (310) 285-6881 (TTY) prior to the meeting for assistance. Providing at least forty-eight (48) hours advance notice will help to ensure availability of services. City Hall, including the Council Chamber and Room 280A, is wheelchair accessible. The City Hall Council Chamber and Room 280A are also equipped with audio equipment for the hearing impaired.

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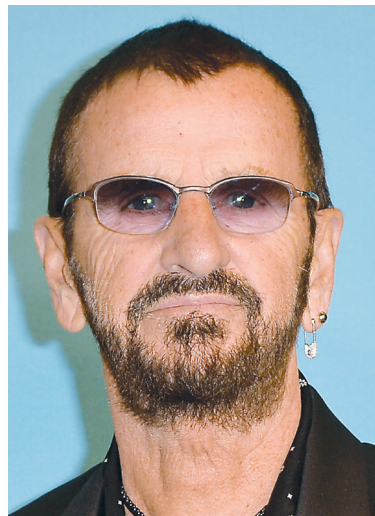
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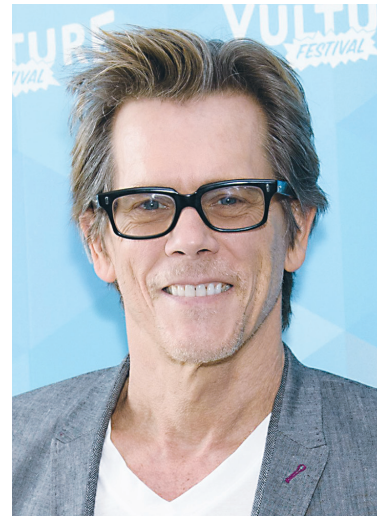
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Astrology

BY HOLIDAY MATIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You have beginner's luck today, so take on something you've never tried before. You'll be exceptionally creative, with the fresh take of an innocent, unbound by the rules you don't yet know.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You're a little psychic, a little scientific and very psychologically astute. While you can't totally know what's going on in another person's mind, your guess will be excellent, and you'll follow through effectively on the prediction.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). There are all kinds of luck, though most require effort to drum up. And while you usually subscribe to a "the harder I work, the luckier I get" approach, today you won't have to. Open your arms to pure, dumb luck.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Confusion will be cleared by a declaration of who you are, where you come from and where you're going. Others can give you hints, but you must own it. Take comfort in this knowledge: You can never really be out of place.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). It's a joy

to give what's needed to those who appreciate it. It's even a joy to give what's needed to those who, for whatever reason, can't appreciate it. Avoid giving what's not needed, as there's no pleasure in it for anyone.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The love that's like a rock happens with proof over time. Until then, don't give love expecting it to keep the same shape through the ages. For a while it will be like bread, made fresh every time you give it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). A competition is featured. Decide if you're in it for fun or you're in it to win it. Your strategy will be very different for each intent and, so it follows, will be your experience. Either way is acceptable; this is a matter of preference.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Some decide "this is who I am, and this is what I do" and they stick with it more or less the whole way. You're up for a less rigid approach and will be open to learning new and improved ways of being you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Tone matters. Are you strict or soft? Are you declaring or persuading with something like charm, humor or novelty? Trying different communication styles

could improve your relationships, including your relationship with yourself.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're about to leap over an obstacle. Success will be dependent on approach. You don't want to tire yourself out before you get to the hurdle. Back up just enough to give yourself the momentum of a running start.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). If you can command yourself, you are a

master commander. Forget about the others today, as trying to lead them will have meager results compared to the results you will get when you focus solely on leading yourself.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). There are those who have a leg up in the game with special talent, intelligence, family endowments and more. Success is not about where a person starts, but how they play the game. Don't measure. Just play.



This week, meet Tobey. He is a 5-year-old, 10-pound Maltipoo that needs a new home. If you're interested in Tobey, please contact Shelter of Hope at 805-379-3538.

shelterhopepetshop.org



Photo courtesy of Gina Raphael

Mickey Fine Pharmacy and Grill, a recent Golden Shield designee

GOLDEN SHIELD AWARDS, from page 1
purchased by druggist Mickey Fine in the early 1960s and became the Mickey Fine Pharmacy. It was acquired by Melvin Gross in 1994. He ran the business until his death in 2003, at which point it was taken over by the Gross family, with Melvin's son, Jeff, and Jeff's wife, Gina Raphael, purchasing the pharmacy from Melvin's widow, Adelle. Today, Jeff and Gina run the pharmacy, which last year celebrated 60 years since becoming known as the Mickey Fine Pharmacy.

"The legacy of this pharmacy has been in very few hands," Raphael said.

The place of business was active, among other things, in providing COVID-19 vaccines to people during the pandemic. Raphael estimated Mickey Fine Pharmacy provided more than 25,000 COVID-19 vaccines—"and we're doing everyday vaccines as well," she said.

The pharmacy is open seven days a week and delivers seven days a week.

The suggested plaque placement location for the Mickey Fine Pharmacy is in front of its entry doors, located in the Cordingly-Milner Building at 433 N. Roxbury Drive.

"The quaint drugstore is considered not merely a pharmacy but also a well-known and beloved general goods gift shop and café," the city's resolution recognizing the pharmacy says.

Brighton Coffee Shop, another Golden Shield designee, is one of the oldest eateries of its kind in Beverly Hills. Located at 9600 Brighton Way, its angled entry door distinguishes it from other cafes in the area. The original, located at 9612 Brighton Way, was operated out of a drive-in market from 1928-1936. In 1937, it moved into its current address. In 1968, it took on its current name. For generations, the well-established eating place has been visited by Beverly Hills residents and Hollywood stars alike. Local celebrity Doris Day is said to have adored the banana pancakes.

Another one of the recognized locales is the Beverly Hills Speedway, which will have two plaques, one at the southwest corner of Wilshire Boulevard and Bedford Drive, and one at the corner of Beverly Drive and Olympic Boulevard, where the primary and secondary entrances to the outdoor facility were once located. The now-extinct speedway held its final race in 1924.

For other long-gone businesses, including Wil Wright's Ice Cream Shop, Ah Fong's and Uncle Bernie's Toy Menagerie, plaques will commemorate what was. In the case of Wil

Wright's, formerly located at 200 S. Beverly Drive, the suggested location for the plaque is within the public sidewalk and in front of the storefront window of the address' current tenant.

At the June 27 Council meeting, the five-member body adopted 10 resolutions to approve each of the Golden Shield nominees, making each awardee exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act after determining the adoption of these awards would not have significant environmental impacts.

There were originally 12 Golden Shield nominees in the latest round, but the Council opted to exclude two residential sites: the former home of Desi Arnaz and Lucille Ball, at 1000 North Roxbury Drive, as well as the Rachmaninoff Residence, at 610 North Elm Drive. They were on the initial list for Golden Shield consideration, but they did not have the full support of the Cultural Heritage Commission. Council ultimately decided to leave them out, citing privacy concerns for the current owners of the homes.

The Golden Shield program was created in 2019. To date, there have been 30 Golden Shield designees by the Cultural Heritage Commission. The first six plaques have been placed into the ground, and the next twelve plaques are waiting installation.

"It is a great idea to highlight the rich culture and history and background of our city," Councilmember Sharon Nazarian said before voting in support of recognizing the ten sites.

The Golden Shield cultural heritage recognition program spotlights places that have cultural significance to the city but perhaps do not rise to the level of formal local historic designation. Awardees receive a custom bronze plaque highlighting the location's historical and/or cultural significance. These locations being recognized may or may not be currently extant at their site of significance.

The cost of each Golden Shield, including installation, is approximately \$2,500-\$3,500, and the department received a budget enhancement of \$40,000 in its 2022-23 fiscal year budget to allow for the ongoing installation of up to 12 Golden Shields per fiscal year.

The plaques provide meaningful background information for a passerby. According to the city, the Cultural Heritage Commission Education and Outreach Committee is working with staff to create a comprehensive city walking tour that would include Golden Shield designees. ●

MR. BRAINWASH, from page 1

The vibrant art installation will be on display until September 25 and is intended to draw more eyeballs, foot traffic and conversation to the world-renowned thoroughfare.

"Rodeo Drive is a very special street and one of the most prestigious streets in the world, so for me to be able to install sculptures there is a very proud achievement," Mr Brainwash told the Courier.

Mr Brainwash wants the fun-filled collection to spark joy and a warm sense of nostalgia in viewers.

"I used to make origami as a child and always loved it. The only problem is you don't keep it because you do it on paper and so I wanted to give it a longer life," he said. "Imagiros are the origami that can stay for years and years."

The name "Imagiros" embodies the playful spirit of the collection as it is origami spelled backwards.

The installation includes a ten-foot-tall pink elephant weighing 2,350 lbs., a 10-foot-tall red bird weighing 2,000 lbs., and a nine-foot-tall green dog weighing 2,025 lbs. Additional creatures include a multicolor bird family, yellow llama, blue bear, blue bird and two pink bunnies.

Mr Brainwash took great delight in

blowing up his origami creatures to massive proportions, but he isn't done with "Imagiros" creations yet.

"I'm going to put them all over the world and bigger and bigger," he said. "I want to make a giant one in Beverly Hills."

The new installation comes in addition to four sculptures Mr Brainwash already has on permanent display in the city. This includes the "Beverly Hills is Beautiful" sculpture, "Life is Beautiful" sculpture, "Beverly Hills is Life" sculpture and a sculpture of a boy with a camera.

"Imagiros" is also located just around the corner from the Mr. Brainwash Art Museum, which is housed at the former Paley Center for Media on 465 N. Beverly Drive and is home to scores more of Mr Brainwash's whimsical works.

The museum opened in December 2022 and has since become a popular attraction for residents and visitors alike. The museum is currently open four days a week and will soon be expanding to five, Mr Brainwash said.

"I'm very honored to have a museum in Beverly Hills," he said. "I love Beverly Hills and I love Rodeo Drive. As an artist, I feel like it's part of me." ●

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SUDOKU
07/07/23 ISSUE

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

SUDOKU ANSWERS
06/30/23 ISSUE

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

PUZZLE ANSWERS
06/30/23 ISSUE

WEPT	MRMET	MANTA	ISLE
EGAD	CATCH	AVAIL	CHAD
DOUBLETAKE	GAMETHEORY		
BLAINE	OPPOSE	SABRAS	
MOANER	LIOTTA	JOT	
BONK	ONARUN	AND	ACTI
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TAI	ABA	WICCA	EEL
OTT	CORBIN	OVUM	ILLGO
DISSENTING	OPINION	ARP	
DECO	DIK	DIDION	CNET
OWN	NEOCON	SPACES	
AMUSED	TWANGS	STOLEN	
COREBELIEF	SAGEADVICE		
ILSA	LORNE	AGING	ETAL
DEER	LOESS	WASTE	DORK

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THE NEW YORK TIMES SUNDAY MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE
07/07/23 ISSUE

OPPOSITES ATTRACTING

BY JOHN WESTWIG / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

John Westwig is a software engineer in Seattle. He got into crosswords when he was very young, solving Games magazine on car trips with his family. Constructing came soon after. He sold his first puzzle to The Times in 2015, when he was 17. This is his eighth (and first Sunday). "Lots of friends do the Times puzzle," he writes, "but most complain that mine are too hard." — W.S.

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|---|--|--|
| <p>ACROSS</p> <p>1 Tiny trunks</p> <p>7 Party person</p> <p>11 "Are you freaking kidding me?"</p> <p>18 Rural greeting</p> <p>20 Many a "Survivor" setting</p> <p>21 Bit of doubling down from a parent</p> <p>22 Event at a hot new club?</p> <p>24 "I wish I were under four feet tall," e.g.?</p> <p>26 M.S.G. team, on scoreboards</p> <p>27 Lot lot</p> <p>29 Name found on a calendar</p> <p>30 For whom the bell tolls</p> <p>31 Tactical reductions in lighting, as during W.W. II</p> <p>33 Sommelier's superlative</p> <p>35 Great garage-sale find</p> <p>38 Career for a scammer?</p> <p>40 Scissors' sound</p> <p>44 Muse of comedy and idyllic poetry</p> <p>46 German "village"</p> <p>47 Bubbly, in a way</p> <p>49 Forwards</p> <p>51 How Cassius looks to Caesar, in Shakespeare</p> <p>53 Muscle relaxers</p> | <p>54 Dripping in jewelry, slangily</p> <p>55 Real dope</p> <p>57 Secret service member?</p> <p>59 Cholera</p> <p>60 What's said in passing?</p> <p>61 Test subject</p> <p>63 Repeated small role for Paul Rudd</p> <p>66 Transcript fig.</p> <p>67 Slinky?</p> <p>69 That's in Seine!</p> <p>70 Six-winged biblical being</p> <p>72 Famous drawing of a ship?</p> <p>73 Theater rival of Regal and Cinemark</p> <p>74 Double-helix material</p> <p>75 Food fight sounds</p> <p>76 Sight along a country road</p> <p>78 Score on a clean sheet</p> <p>79 Lead guitarist of Queen, who has a Ph.D. in astrophysics</p> <p>82 Black humor</p> <p>84 Kind of race that's not quite a half-marathon</p> <p>86 Kicks down the road</p> <p>87 Kate of "House of Cards"</p> <p>89 ____ Troi, character on "Star Trek: T.N.G."</p> <p>90 Kind of lily</p> <p>91 Dinner date that makes a good story?</p> <p>96 Richard Parker in "Life of Pi," for one</p> <p>97 Like much prized blue-and-white porcelain</p> | <p>99 Crab or lobster</p> <p>101 Texter's toodle-oo</p> <p>103 "Bleeding Love" singer Lewis</p> <p>105 1970 hit for Neil Diamond</p> <p>106 Ad Council output, in brief</p> <p>109 A kiss, a hug, a wave, the works?</p> <p>112 Title of an essay by a hit man?</p> <p>114 Weeks, in Oaxaca</p> <p>115 Analogy words</p> <p>116 Common pet name</p> <p>117 Goes on and on and on</p> <p>118 Bet bit</p> <p>119 Work-from-home wear, informally</p> <p>DOWN</p> <p>1 It's guarded in soccer</p> <p>2 Carnival ride</p> <p>3 Jedi ally from Endor</p> <p>4 End of a college search?</p> <p>5 Some work at a carwash</p> <p>6 Public hatred</p> <p>7 Adjective often capitalized in the Bible</p> <p>8 Org. concerned with plants</p> <p>9 Serve, as messy cafeteria food</p> <p>10 Earthling, in sci-fi</p> <p>11 Act on behalf of</p> <p>12 Bear, in Bogotá</p> <p>13 Diatribes</p> <p>14 Considerably large, in Appalachian dialect</p> <p>15 Rock's ____ Brickell & New Bohemians</p> <p>16 One of two for six of VIII?</p> <p>17 Record</p> <p>19 Leading</p> <p>23 Thanksgiving table decoration</p> <p>25 The first man ever created, in Maori lore</p> <p>28 You might see one upside down on a bar</p> <p>31 Broad valley</p> <p>32 Still shot of a moving image, in tech-speak</p> <p>34 "Grand slam" in showbiz</p> <p>35 Relationship conditions, so to speak</p> <p>36 New England vacation destination, familiarly</p> <p>37 "Whoa there, Warren G.!"?</p> <p>39 That one will never have again</p> <p>41 Compliment for a lexicographer?</p> <p>42 Squid squirt</p> <p>43 Family-friendly ratings</p> <p>45 Coors of brewing fame</p> <p>48 Making an impression?</p> <p>50 What prices and hearts may do</p> <p>52 Unclaimed area</p> <p>53 Greetings</p> <p>56 Certain government agent, informally</p> |
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ANSWERS FOUND IN NEXT WEEK'S PAPER...

1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10		11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
18						19		20				21							
22							23		24			25							
26					27			28		29				30					
			31					32		33			34						
35	36	37				38			39					40	41	42	43		
44					45		46					47		48					
49					50		51			52		53							
54					55		56		57			58			59				
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| <p>58 Friend group</p> <p>62 Kapoor who played the game-show emcee in "Slumdog Millionaire"</p> <p>63 Tried to engineer an advantage</p> <p>64 Author who wrote "Weeds are flowers, too, once you get to know them"</p> <p>65 Energy option</p> <p>67 Touches on both sides</p> <p>68 Still fighting</p> | <p>71 Cutting class in med school?</p> <p>75 Old timer</p> <p>77 Not quite enough</p> <p>79 Some gas stations, in brief</p> <p>80 Regret</p> <p>81 Stop hiding behind?</p> <p>83 Former Indigenous inhabitants of modern-day Buffalo</p> <p>85 Word after Minute or meter</p> | <p>88 Chili variety that means "wide" in Spanish</p> <p>92 Some of the wildlife in the 20,000-year-old paintings in Lascaux Cave</p> <p>93 Hot</p> <p>94 Go "poof!"</p> <p>95 Increases</p> <p>98 Good name for a political pundit?</p> <p>100 Street clearers</p> <p>101 Nickname for Atlanta</p> | <p>102 Resting place</p> <p>104 Prefix in the names of many causes</p> <p>106 Pocket at a restaurant</p> <p>107 Bit of a fit</p> <p>108 For-eh-ver</p> <p>109 Publication co-founded in 1889 by Dow and Jones, in brief</p> <p>110 Course number</p> <p>111 Red grp.</p> <p>113 Late ____</p> |
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STRIKE, from page 1

and improved healthcare benefits.

Over the holiday weekend, from July 2-4, the union's membership engaged in a three-day strike, leading to walkouts at more than a dozen hotels across Southern California, with employees and their allies marching in picket lines outside hotels.

Beverly Hills hotels, however, were unaffected.

"It's up to the workers to decide when they want to do it," Unite Here Local 11 Spokesperson Maria Hernandez told the Courier. "I know a lot of hotels are doing pickets right now. Folks at Beverly Hills places could walk out at any moment."

While a walkout at Beverly Hills' unionized hotels had "not yet" occurred, it could happen at any time, Hernandez said.

On July 5, thousands of workers returned to work. In a statement, the union described the July 2-4 walkouts as the "first wave of strikes and disruption by hotel workers across the region."

"This walkout was the first of many actions that may come this summer by workers at hotels across Southern California, and it is only one tool in our toolbox," Unite Here Local 11 Co-President Kurt Petersen said. "We have put the industry on notice that the workers have suffered enough."

Beverly Hills community members may be familiar with Unite Here Local 11. The organization behind the recent hotel workers strike also voiced opposition to the Cheval Blanc Beverly Hills hotel project. A signature-gathering effort by the labor union led to a referendum and, ultimately, the project's demise.

For the past several weeks, the union has been engaged in heated bargaining with a coalition of more than 40 hotels on a new labor agreement to replace the current agreement that expired at midnight on June 30. On June 8, Unite Here Local 11 members voted to authorize the strike, with 96% of those who voted supporting it.

On July 1, one day after the workers' contracts expired, the union declared the strike for 61 hotels in Southern California. About 15 hotels have since experienced work stoppages, according to Pete Hillan, a spokesperson for the Hotel Association of Los Angeles, an advocacy group that supports hospitality.

The union has described the action as the "largest hotel strike in Southern California history."

Most union members—including cooks, room attendants, dishwashers, servers, bellmen and front-desk agents—are paid between \$20 to \$25 an hour. The union is demanding an immediate \$5 per hour wage increase for its members, which would amount to a 20 to 25% raise.

Their demands also include an annual \$3 hourly wage boost for the three subsequent years of their contract along with improved healthcare and retirement benefits.

Unite Here Local 11 representatives cite the rising cost of living in Southern California as one of the reasons they're seeking higher pay. Many unionized hotel employees have been displaced from their homes, which were located near their places of work, because of housing unaffordability. Consequently, they're forced to commute long distances.

The union's leadership also points to

federal bailout money offered to hotels during the pandemic, saying workers themselves are struggling.

Coordinated Bargaining Group is negotiating on behalf of 44 unionized Los Angeles and Orange County hotels, with the remaining hotels expected to go along with whatever settlement is reached.

"From the outset, the union has shown no desire to engage in productive, good faith negotiations with this group," attorney Keith Grossman, lead spokesperson for the Coordinated Bargaining Group, told the Courier. In a phone interview, he accused the union of "choosing political and PR stunts and strike preparation over good faith negotiations," adding, "It is the union that is focusing on taking employees out of work rather than meeting to negotiate a settlement."

The hotels in the coalition are primarily operated by Hyatt, Hilton, Marriott, Aimbridge, Highgate, Accor, IHG and Four Seasons. There are also a few independent hotels.

Grossman is a partner at Santa Monica-based employment law firm Hirschfeld Kraemer, one of two legal firms representing the hotels. According to the firm, the hotel management has offered a wage increase of \$2.50 per hour in the first 12 months and \$6.25 over four years. Under this proposal, housekeepers in Beverly Hills and downtown currently earning \$25 an hour would receive 10% in wage increases in 2024 and would make more than \$31 per hour by January 2027.

According to Coordinated Bargaining Group, the union has not budged from its opening demand of a 40% wage increase as well as a more than 28% increase in benefit costs. Additionally, the union has put forth proposals that the hotel coalition views as driven by politics, including demands for a 7% tax on union hotel guests and publicly supporting a ballot measure to house the homeless in the hotels together with other guests.

"The union continues to insist on proposals that are not in the interest of hotel employees," Grossman said.

The strike occurred at a time when tourists were vacationing over the Fourth of July holiday. The union was strategic about where walkouts occurred, coordinating picket lines outside properties in downtown and Santa Monica during the holiday because of the expectation of high visibility at those locations.

It coincided with the ongoing Writers Guild of America (WGA) strike. In an apparent show of solidarity between Hollywood writers and hotel workers, WGA members joined hospitality employees on picket lines outside downtown and Santa Monica hotels, on July 3.

Elected officials have also shown support for the strike. On July 2, Congressman Adam Schiff, whose running for the U.S. Senate, joined hotel staff on a picket line outside the Sheraton in Universal Studios. The Southern California representative called on management to "negotiate a fair deal."

Some striking had been averted. On June 28, the union reached a tentative contract deal with its largest employer of unionized workers, the Westin Bonaventure Hotel and Suites in downtown L.A. In a statement, Unite Here called the agreement, affecting 600 workers, "historic." ●



Photo By Ryan Torok

Construction on the Purple (D Line) Extension is causing street closures at Wilshire and La Cienega boulevards.

METRO, from page 4

traffic-heavy surface streets, travel time between downtown L.A. to Westwood on the Purple line is expected to be about 25 minutes.

The line's extension is being built in three sections, two of which are in Beverly Hills.

The section of the Metro going from Wilshire/Western in Los Angeles to the Wilshire/La Cienega Station is scheduled for completion in late 2024. The section extending the subway from Wilshire/La Cienega to Century City—a stretch that includes the Wilshire/Rodeo Station—is scheduled for completion in late 2025.

As for current construction in Beverly

Hills, the Metro website says all the work has received necessary permits and approvals, while access for pedestrians is being maintained outside of the construction zone. Access for emergency responders is also being maintained, and Metro has set up a Business Interruption Fund to provide financial assistance to qualifying "mom and pop" businesses directly impacted by construction.

Construction is a dynamic process, however, and information is subject to change. For the latest updates, community members are encouraged to contact the 24/7 hotline at (213) 922-6934. ●



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Public Notices

ORDINANCE NO. 23-O-2878

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS AMENDING TITLE 10, CHAPTER 3, ARTICLE 23 OF THE BEVERLY HILLS MUNICIPAL CODE ESTABLISHING A LIST OF CONDITIONALLY PERMITTED USES FOR PROPERTIES LOCATED IN THE T-1 AND T-2 TRANSPORTATION ZONES

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

Section 1. On March 23, 2023, the Planning Commission held a duly noticed public hearing after which it adopted Resolution No. 2021, recommending that the City Council amend portions of Title 10 (Planning and Zoning) of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code to allow for surface parking lots, film production staging, construction staging and related storage of materials and partial assembly of temporary model building components, and temporary construction offices and related structures on lots within the City's T-1 and T-2 Transportation Zones (collectively, the "Amendments"). On June 6, 2023, the City Council held a duly noticed public hearing, received public testimony, and thereafter introduced this Ordinance.

Section 2. This Ordinance and the Amendments, in conjunction with the proposed use of the property located at 9900 North Santa Monica Boulevard for a surface parking lot and construction parking and staging uses (collectively the "Project"), were assessed in accordance with the authority and criteria contained in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the State CEQA Guidelines, and the environmental regulations of the City. The Amendments would allow for surface parking lots, film production staging, construction staging and related storage of materials and partial assembly of temporary model building components, and temporary construction offices and related structures on lots within the City's T-1 and T-2 Transportation Zones, as part of a request of a Conditional Use Permit. The City Council hereby finds that the Project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to Sections 15303 (Class 3 - New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures), 15304 (Class 4 - Minor Alterations to Land), and 15305 (Class 5 - Minor Alteration in Land Use Limitations) of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations. Due to the fact that the Amendment and Project involves minor alterations in land use limitations in areas with an average slope of less than 20% that do not result in any changes in land use or density, minor temporary use of land having negligible or no permanent effects on the environment, and location of limited numbers of new structures and facilities and not exceeding 10,000 square feet in floor area in urbanized areas, these exemptions are applicable.

Section 3. The Amendments are consistent with the objectives, principles, and standards of the General Plan. General Plan Policy LU (Land Use) 11.6 - Parking, requires the City to explore opportunities to expand the parking supply in underserved commercial districts and residential neighborhoods which may be developed publicly, privately, or by joint public-private partnerships. Additionally, General Plan Policies LU 11.7 - Connectivity to Parking, and LU 15.1 - Economic Vitality and Business Revenue, requires that commercial and office districts be linked to parking areas and garages by well-designed and attractive pedestrian corridors, while sustaining a vigorous economy by supporting businesses that contribute revenue, quality services and high-paying jobs. In line with these policies from the General Plan, the Amendments seek to provide for opportunities to increase the parking supply of the City's commercial corridors by providing regulations that facilitate the establishment of surface parking uses on underutilized properties within the City's transportation zones. Additionally, the Amendments provide for the use of these sites within the transportation zone for construction staging associated with off-site development projects, facilitating redevelopment of key project sites that help maintain a vigorous economy in the city while supporting activity that provides quality services and high-paying jobs both through project construction and operation of the project once complete.

Section 4. The City Council hereby amends Article 23, of Chapter 3 of Title 10 of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code to read as follows:

"ARTICLE 23. TRANSPORTATION ZONES (T-1, T-2)

10-3-2301: ZONES T-1 AND T-2 CREATED:

There is hereby created and established in the city transportation zones, designated zone T-1 and zone T-2.

10-3-2302: USES PERMITTED:

No building, structure, improvement, or premises shall be used, and no building, structure, or improvement shall be erected, constructed, altered, enlarged, or maintained on any lot or parcel of land in zone T-1 or zone T-2 except for the following purposes:

Railway transportation; and stations, depots, or other structures necessary or convenient for railway passengers, freight, or other strictly railroad or railway business in conjunction with railroad service conducted in such zones.

10-3-2303: CONDITIONALLY PERMITTED USES:

The following uses shall be permitted in the T-1 and T-2 Zones only if authorized by a Conditional Use Permit issued pursuant to the provisions of Article 38 of this chapter:

Surface parking lots, subject to the standards established in Section 10-3-2730.2 of this chapter.

Staging for construction or film production for activities occurring on-site or off the premises. Staging may also include the storage of construction materials, and the placement of temporary construction offices and related structures. Construction staging may also include partial assembly of temporary model building components."

Section 5. Severability. If any section, subsection, subdivision, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any person or place, is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the final decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Ordinance shall be and remain in full force and effect.

Section 6. Publication. The City Clerk shall cause this Ordinance to be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation published and circulated in the City within fifteen (15) days after its passage in accordance with Section 36933 of the Government Code, shall certify to the adoption of this Ordinance, and shall cause this Ordinance and her certification, together with proof of publication, to be entered in the Book of Ordinances of the Council of this City.

Section 7. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall go into effect and be in full force and effect at 12:01 a.m. on the thirty-first (31st) day after its passage.

Adopted: June 27, 2023
Effective: July 28, 2023

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

ATTEST:
HUMA AHMED (SEAL)
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
LAURENCE S. WIENER
City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:
NANCY HUNT-COFFEY
City Manager

VOTE:
AYES: Councilmembers Nazarian, Bosse, Mirisch, Vice Mayor Friedman, and Mayor Gold
NOES: None
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T.S. No.: 21-5644 Loan No.: *5678 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 1/4/2019. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. Trustor: METALLIC BLUE DEVELOPMENT LLC, A CALIFORNIA LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY Duly Appointed Trustee: PRESTIGE DEFAULT SERVICES, LLC Recorded 1/22/2019 as Instrument No. 20190058440 in book , page of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Los Angeles County, California, Date of Sale: 8/3/2023 at 10:00 AM Place of Sale: Behind the fountain located in Civic Center Plaza, 400 Civic Center Plaza, Pomona CA 91766 Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$4,510,894.88 Property being sold "as is - Where is" Street Address or other common designation of real property: 1123 North Vista Street West Hollywood Ca 90046 A.P.N.: 5531-002-020 THE BENEFICIARY MAY ELECT, IN ITS DISCRETION, TO EXERCISE ITS RIGHTS AND REMEDIES IN ANY MANNER PERMITTED UNDER SECTION 9604 OF THE CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL CODE, OR ANY OTHER APPLICABLE SECTION, AS TO ALL OR SOME OF THE PERSONAL PROPERTY, FIXTURES AND OTHER GENERAL TANGIBLES

AND INTANGIBLES MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED IN THE DEED OF TRUST, GUARANTEES, UCC'S, SECURITY AGREEMENTS. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. All checks payable to Prestige Default Services, LLC. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (916) 939-0772 or visit this Internet Web site www.nationwideposting.com, using the file number assigned to this case 21-5644. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. Date: 6/26/2023 PRESTIGE DEFAULT SERVICES, LLC

Briana Young, Trustee Sale Officer NPP0436980 To: BEVERLY HILLS COURIER 07/07/2023, 07/14/2023, 07/21/2023

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CASE NO:
23SMCP00333
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

In the Matter of the petition of: **Ashley Stiles Turek**
To all interested person(s):
Petitioner:

Ashley Stiles Turek
current residence address: **9663 Santa Monica Bl. Box 775, Beverly Hills, CA 90210**
filed a petition with the **Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 1725 Main St., Santa Monica, CA 90401, on July 5, 2023**

for a Decree changing names as follows:

Present Name:
Ashley Stiles Turek
Proposed Name:
Ashley Parrant Phillip Wie Charlemagne Washington Amandpolandz Adams Lalinopatar Drenkopqriskop Stiles

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: **September 15, 2023**
Time: **8:30am**
Dept: **K**

The address of the court is: **Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 1725 Main St., Santa Monica, CA 90401, SANTA MONICA COURTHOUSE.**

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

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

Signed:
Ashley Stiles Turek
Judge of the Superior Court: **Lawrence Cho, David W. Slayton, Executive Officer/ Clerk,**

Dated: **July 5, 2023**
BHC - 07/07/23, 07/14/23, 07/21/23, 07/28/23

Classifieds

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE AND OF INTENTION TO TRANSFER ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE(S)
(UCC Sec. 6101 et seq. and B & P Sec. 24074 et seq.)
Escrow No. 120-32180-CM
Notice is hereby given that a bulk sale of assets and a transfer of alcoholic beverage license is about to be made. The names, and address of the Seller/Licensee are: JOHN ANDREW DZUBAK, JR AND GRACE LIU DUZBAK, 130 NORTH ROBERTSON BOULEVARD, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90211
The business is known as: BEVERLY HILLS MERCANTILE
The names, and addresses of the Buyer/Transferee are: LIQUOR RUNNER, INC., 157 NORTH ROBERTSON BOULEVARD, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90211
As listed by the Seller/Licensee, all other business names and addresses used by the Seller/Licensee within three years before the date such list was sent or delivered to Buyer/Transferee are:
The assets to be sold are described in general as: CERTAIN FURNITURE, FIXTURES, EQUIPMENT, GOODWILL, INVENTORY AND OTHER ASSETS OF A CERTAIN BUSINESS KNOWN AS BEVERLY HILLS MERCANTILE and are located at:
130 NORTH ROBERTSON BOULEVARD, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90211
The kind of license to be transferred is: 588423-21 OFF-SALE GENERAL now issued for the premises located at: 130 NORTH ROBERTSON BOULEVARD, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90211
The anticipated date of the sale/transfer is AUGUST 9, 2023 at the office of: GLEN OAKS ESCROW, 24018 LYONS AVE. SANTA CLARITA, CA 91321.
The amount of the purchase price or consideration in connection with the transfer of the license and business, including the estimated inventory, is the sum of \$135,000.00 which consists of the following: CASH \$135,000.00; TOTAL AMOUNT \$135,000.00
It has been agreed between the Seller/Licensee and the intended Buyer/Transferee, as required by Sec. 24073 of the Business and Professions code, that the consideration for transfer of the business and license is to be paid only after the transfer has been approved by the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control.
Dated: JUNE 14, 2023
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Local references upon request.

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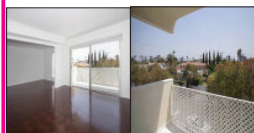
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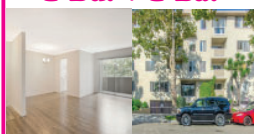
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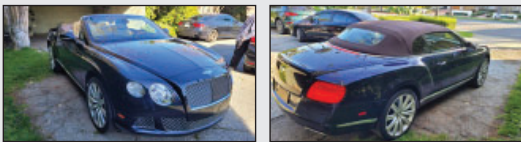
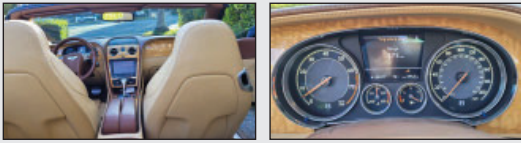
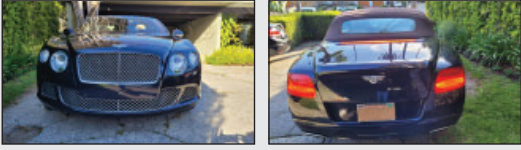
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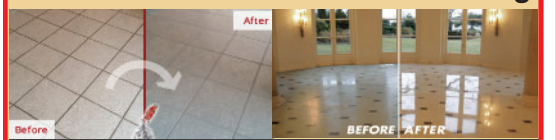


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