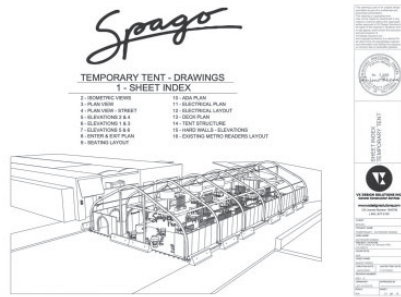


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THE WEATHER, BEVERLY HILLS

☁	Friday	69° 51°
☀	Saturday	70° 48°
☁	Sunday	70° 48°
☁	Monday	71° 49°
☁	Tuesday	72° 53°
☀	Wednesday	77° 55°
☀	Thursday	78° 57°

Viral Courier Story Shows Importance of Local Reporting

BY SAMUEL BRASLOW



Protestors without masks confront shoppers at Ralphs. Photo by Samuel Braslow

In a week later consumed by the historic drama unfolding in the nation's capital, local news set the tone at the week's start. Reporting from the Beverly Hills Courier found itself on the international stage after footage from a "mask-less shopping" protest in Century City went viral on social media. The Courier posted footage of a group of "anti-maskers" as they traveled from a grocery store to a mall, refusing to wear face coverings in defiance of city and county public health mandates. The story spread to multiple local and national outlets, illustrating the key role

local journalism plays at this unique and complex time in history.

As the COVID-19 pandemic approaches the one-year mark, it is reaching new levels of severity in the country. Nationwide, over 350,000 deaths have been reported from the virus. In Los Angeles, ICU capacity remains at zero percent and hospitals are bracing for another surge from the recent holiday season.

(Local Reporting continues on page 3)

Rabbi Steve Leder on His New Bestseller—A Courier Conversation

BY LISA BLOCH

Bestselling author, member of our community and the Senior Rabbi of Wilshire Boulevard Temple, Steve Leder's new book "The Beauty of What Remains, How Our Greatest Fear Becomes Our Greatest Gift," was recently published by Penguin Random House.

Written exquisitely, this book is ultimately not about death, but about leading a more beautiful life because of it. The timing of the book's release is especially relevant today, as there is no better event than a pandemic to prove to each of us that life is temporary and precious.

"Death is the great teacher of life," says Rabbi Leder. The pandemic has forced us to change, to slow down, to eliminate so much, and in so doing, it has revealed the beauty that was there all along. It inspires us to live a more meaningful life, filled with love,

devoid of excess and replete with essentials.

In this new book, which became a best seller on its first day, Rabbi Leder takes us on parallel journeys, one that he experienced as a rabbi and one as a son. After 30 years of guiding thousands of congregants through loss and grief, he is forced to grapple with and confront his own feelings with the passing of his father. Rabbi Leder's message could not be more welcome, healing and inspiring.

As a member of Wilshire Boulevard Temple for the past 25 years, I have witnessed Rabbi Leder's profound teachings and experienced his immeasurable compassion.

(Rabbi Leder continues on page 8)

Delis in Beverly Hills Take a Hit

BY SAMUEL BRASLOW



Nate 'n Al's Photo by Samuel Braslow

Beverly Hills has lost in quick succession three of its prized delicatessens, one permanently. Label's Table, Factor's Famous Deli, and Nate 'n Al's have all shuttered their doors in the span of a few weeks, with Label's Table closing for good. The restaurant industry has faced unprecedented hardship lately as a result of COVID-19 shutdowns. The rash of deli closures continues a trend during the last few years of hardship for Jewish delis in Los Angeles.

Nate 'n Al's, the iconic Beverly Hills delicatessen, made the announcement of its closure Jan. 4 in an Instagram post, saying that it would reopen on Jan. 12.

"We have made the decision to voluntarily close Nate N Al's due to four of our employees testing positive for COVID over the weekend," Nate 'n Al's owner Shelli Azoff said in a statement. "Out of caution and for the utmost safety of our staff and guests, we felt it was best to close temporarily."

(Delis continues on page 12)

High-Profile Projects Before Beverly Hills Planning Commission This Year

BY SAMUEL BRASLOW

As the Beverly Hills Planning Commission looks ahead at the new year's docket, it faces some of the largest projects in the city in years. Three projects alone, One Beverly Hills, LVMH's Cheval Blanc, and the Beverly Hills Creative Offices project ("BHCO," also commonly referred to as "Lots 12 and 13") promise to potentially reshape the city's skyline and street views of Beverly Hills for years to come.

(High Profile continues on page 5)

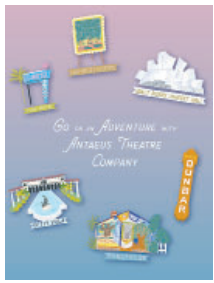
Courier Calendar

NOW

ROOFTOP CINEMA CLUB: THE DRIVE-IN AT SANTA MONICA AIRPORT
5:15-5:45 p.m. *Matinee*; 7:45-8:30 p.m. *Prime Screening*; 10:30-11:30 p.m. *Late Screening*

Enjoy movies under the stars with the Rooftop Cinema Club ("RCC") at the Drive-In at Santa Monica Airport. The lineup features "Ratatouille," "Coco," "Jurassic Park," "Back to the Future" and more. Ticket proceeds have raised more than \$50,000 for charities. The Drive-In is located at 3233 Donald Douglas Loop S, Santa Monica.

<https://rooftopcinemaclub.com/los-angeles/venue/the-drive-in-at-santa-monica-airport/>



NOW

ANTAEUS THEATRE COMPANY - "THE ZIP CODE PLAYS: LOS ANGELES" AND TOURS

The Antaeus Theatre Company presents "The Zip Code Plays," set in 90011 (South Central Los Angeles), 90012 (Downtown L.A.), 90024 (Westwood), 90403 (Santa Monica), 90272 (Pacific Palisades) and 91352 (Sun Valley), which can be listened to for free on the website or on a podcast. The tours highlight landmarks and small businesses in each zip code.

<https://antaeus.org/>

NOW

UTA ARTIST SPACE - "MEET ME IN THE BATHROOM: THE GALLERY"

On the heels of last year's exhibition, "Meet Me in the Bathroom: The Art Show," UTA Artist Space presents the online exhibition of "Meet Me in the Bathroom: The Gallery." The site features artists from Lizzy Goodman's book, "Meet Me in the Bathroom: Rebirth and Rock and Roll in New York City 2001-2011," which delves into the rock and roll revival that emerged from the city in the 2000s, and was created in response to the pandemic's disruption of live music.

<https://mmitbgallery.com/>

NOW - JAN. 8

EDWARD CELLA ART & ARCHITECTURE - LESTER MONZON: "COLLAPSE ANONYM" EXHIBITION AND FILM
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Edward Cella Art & Architecture presents "Lester Monzon: Collapse Anonym," and a short film by Eric Minh Swenson. The works by L.A.-based Monzon are installed at the Thomas Lavin Showroom in the Pacific Design Center at 8687 Melrose Ave., West Hollywood and available for viewing with social distancing measures in place.

<https://www.edwardcella.com/>

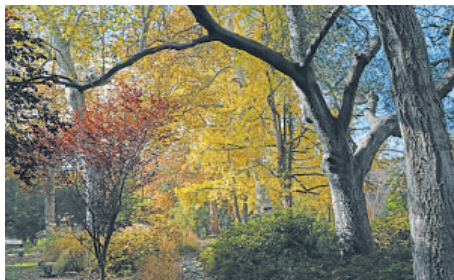


NOW - JAN. 8

LA BREA TAR PITS ADVENTURES IN NATURE CONNECTED
10 - 11:30 a.m.

This winter explore the sticky world of asphalt at La Brea Tar Pits that is nature's slime. Enroll children for interactive virtual sessions full of hands-on activities and scientific investigation in which they will explore the sticky fate of sabertooth cats, mammoths, and more.

<https://nhmlac.org/adventures-nature>



NOW - JAN. 10

DESCANSO GARDENS' "REFLECTIONS AT DESCANSO"

Celebrate the season at Descanso Gardens with "Reflections at Descanso." Daytime festivities include art pieces, special plantings, self-guided activities and a beautiful Wishing Tree created by Artist Kaz Yokou Kitajima. Tickets must be purchased in advance and pricing is the same as general admission. Descanso Gardens is located at 1418 Descanso Dr., La Cañada Flintridge.

<https://www.descansogardens.org/>

NOW - JAN. 10

SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDEN'S GLOW
5:30 - 9 p.m.

"Glow" transforms the South Coast Botanic Garden into an oceanic experience for the Gardens Lights and Ocean Waters theme using thousands of lights. Enjoy this unique after-dark walk through at South Coast Botanic Garden, 26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes Peninsula. Advance time-tickets required.

<https://southcoastbotanicgarden.org/glow/>

NOW - JAN. 10

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART, LOS ANGELES - "FEMINIST ART COALITION": ARTISTS HAROLD MENDEZ AND STANYA KAHN

The Feminist Art Coalition, a consortium of more than 100 art institutions across the United States, presents programming - including exhibitions, commissions, performances, film screening, public programs and symposia-informed by feminist thought and practice.

<https://www.theicala.org/en>

JAN. 9

LOS ANGELES COUNTY MUSEUM OF ART - FAMILY ART CLASS: "FRIDA KAHLO SELF-PORTRAITS"
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

The Los Angeles County Museum of Art presents a Family Art Class: "Frida Kahlo Self-Portrait" for ages five and over. The class is taught by artist Jesus Mascorro. A Zoom link and art materials list will be sent prior to the class, and pre-registration is required. Students are responsible for providing their own art materials based on recommendations by the teaching artist.

<https://www.lacma.org/event/family-art-class-frida-kahlo-self-portraits-ages-5>



JAN. 9

WALLIS ANNEBERG CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS - THE SORTING ROOM SESSIONS: AN EVENING WITH VIOLINIST ANNE AKIKO MEYERS AND PIANIST FABIO BIDINI
8 p.m.

The Wallis' Sorting Room Sessions continues on Jan. 9 with acclaimed violinist Anne Akiko Meyers and renowned pianist Fabio Bidini heralding the New Year with a musical journey to France. The program includes Gounod's "Ave Mari," Massenet's "Méditation" from the opera "Thais" and Ravel's jazz-inflected Sonata No.2 in G Major. Purchase of the digital concert includes 24-hour viewing access.

<https://thewallis.org/Meyers>

JAN. 10

SIMON WIESENTHAL CENTER MUSEUM OF TOLERANCE - "HOW DID ANTI-SEMITISM BECOME ANTI-ZIONISM?: JEW-HATRED EXPOSED" SERIES
2 p.m.

Join the Museum of Tolerance for a series featuring Dr. Judea Pearl, UCLA professor, prolific writer, and activist, who will discuss the dangers of "Zionophobia"; Mark Weitzman, SWC Director of Government Affairs whose work on the IHRA definition has paved the way for many international governments and institutions to include anti-Zionism as a form of anti-Semitism; and Dr. Naya Lekht, Director of Education at Club Z, a teen Zionist movement, who has developed a unique approach to teaching about anti-Semitism. The panel discussion will be moderated by Rabbi Abraham Cooper, Associate Dean and Director of Global Social Action Agenda for the Simon Wiesenthal Center. Register on the website.

<https://www.museumoftolerance.com/events/jew-hatred-exposed.html>



JAN. 10 OPENING; JAN. 11 - FEB. 7 ON DEMAND MUSICAL REVUE
PASADENA PLAYHOUSE - "YOU I LIKE: A MUSICAL CELEBRATION OF JERRY HERMAN"
5 p.m.

Pasadena Playhouse presents a virtual musical revue honoring the genius responsible for the Broadway classics, "Hello, Dolly!" "Mame," "La Cage aux Folles" and more. The opening night will be a livestreamed event with special guests Bernadette Peters and David Hyde Pierce. The production marks the first theatrical tribute to Jerry Herman by a professional theater company since the passing of this Tony Award-winning Broadway legend one year ago. Video-on-demand streaming will be available to rent for \$24.99 from Jan. 11 through Feb. 7.

<https://playhouselive.org/>

JAN. 13

HOLOCAUST MUSEUM LA - "WELCOME TO PARADISE: REFUGEES AT HOME IN LA"
2 p.m.

The "Welcome to Paradise: Refugees at Home in LA" series features inspiring stories of refugees who were welcomed to America and now give back to the country and, especially, the City of Angels. Jordanna Gessler, Vice President of Education and Exhibits at Holocaust Museum LA, and Joe Goldman, Community Engagement Director at Western Region - HIAS, will speak to Henry Slucki, a Holocaust survivor who recently retired as Professor of Behavioral Sciences at USC.

<https://www.holocaustmuseumla.org/event-details/welcome-to-paradise-refugees-at-home-in-la>



JAN 14

VIOLINS OF HOPE LOS ANGELES COUNTY: REIMAGINED OPENING GALA
7 - 8 p.m.

Join for a virtual reimagined Opening Gala on Jan. 14, a tapestry of musical and cultural experiences, from near and far, highlighting the founder of Violins of Hope, Amnon Weinstein from Tel Aviv, Israel. Several partners of the project will perform, some pieces specially created for this evening. The performance is free of charge, but registration is required.

<https://violinsofhopelosangeles.org/>



Protestors in Century City Photo by Samuel Braslow

(Local Reporting continued from page 1)

Still, public health measures to stem the mounting toll have not come without resistance. Beverly Hills has played host to one of the county’s most significant spots of anti-mask sentiment, the Freedom Rally. Though the rally evolved into a pro-Trump event as the presidential election progressed, since its conclusion, it has reverted back to protesting public health guidelines.

On Jan. 3, a group of around 30 protesters—many of whom regularly attend the Freedom Rally—stepped into a Ralphs grocery store on 10309 W. Olympic Boulevard, almost all without masks. The scene quickly fell into disorder as anti-maskers walked

throughout the store, some shopping, others confronting patrons wearing masks. A violent altercation broke out within the first few minutes after a protester accused a shopper of hitting her. In response, the protester drove a shopping cart into the shopper, scratched him, and yelled at him.

Footage of the moment and others like it, filmed by the Courier, gathered over 10 million views online within days of their posting. The Courier followed the group as it went from Ralphs to the Westfield Century City mall, where they protested in Bloomingdales and throughout the shopping center. News outlets like the Los Angeles Times and BuzzFeed quickly scooped up the

reporting, reprising it in their own coverage of the day that relied almost entirely on the local coverage.

The videos also caught the eye of broadcast news outlets, including ABC 7, Fox 11, and NBC 4. Local news channels and stations around the country played the images in nightly news programs. The tape also appeared on the national airwaves, with "CBS This Morning" including the footage in a report on the deadliest day of the pandemic on record.

“This thread is so embarrassing to the human race,” tweeted director Judd Appatow, sharing the thread of videos

compiled by the Courier.

The degree to which the reporting spread to other outlets highlights what U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell (D-WA) wrote in her report, “Local Journalism: America’s Most Trusted News Sources Threatened.” The report, released by the Senate Commerce Committee on Oct. 27, outlined the dire circumstances facing local journalism, the steps necessary to address them, and the role local journalism plays in a functioning society. “Local journalism is essential for healthy communities, competitive marketplaces, and a thriving democracy,” it reads. ●



While unrest rocked the nation’s capital on Jan. 6, the BHPD responded to local protests. Photo by Joshua Johnston



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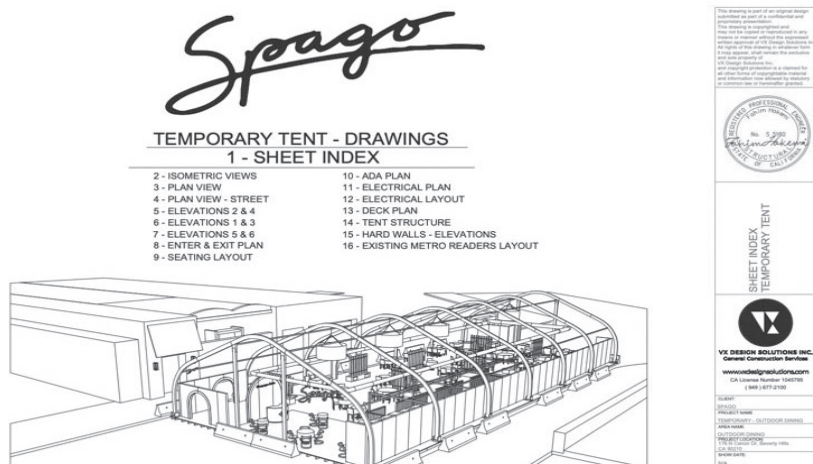
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New Concepts Discussed for Spago and Louis Vuitton in Beverly Hills

BY BIANCA HEYWARD



Rendering of proposed tent at Spago

On Jan. 6, the Beverly Hills City Council Liaisons for the Rodeo Drive Special Events Holiday Program Committee held a meeting during which a spirited discussion took place regarding a proposed outdoor dining tent and closure of the street in front of Spago restaurant as well as a proposed menswear pop-up store and artwork by Louis Vuitton Moët Hennessey (LVMH).

Laura Biery, the city's marketing and economic sustainability manager, unveiled renderings for the proposed temporary outdoor dining tent to be constructed in the cul-de-sac area where Spago is located on N. Canon Drive.

"As you know, in the state of California and in the Southern California region, currently in-person dining outdoors or indoors is not allowed," Biery said. "But the current plans before you are being presented for when outdoor dining can resume in person at a future date in 2021."

The structure will take a minimum of two weeks to build, according to officials. The temporary outdoor dining tent, as currently designed, would cover survey monuments installed by Metro for the Purple Line Extension project. Metro has been monitoring these points since the beginning of excavation and to continue to monitor to ensure the safety of the community. Spago is currently working with Metro on options to resolve this issue. "I realize as we all speak about this, we're in unprecedented times with COVID numbers where they are now," Barbara Lazaroff, founder and co-owner of Spago and Cut restaurants said. "To get enough people vaccinated it will take time. And as I said, at our previous meetings, I still feel that restaurants seem to be the low hanging fruit on this totem pole."

Lazaroff added: "We've been the poster child for safe outdoor dining, adhering to every mandate and most likely exceeding all those mandates. We've been very careful because of our guests and because of our staff, testing them every day, assessing them every week and testing them midweek. We've done all of those things. So, we were

very disappointed obviously when dining closed. We had to pivot, but we've pivoted a number of times before. Open, close, open, close. It's very difficult for a restaurant. Our profit margin is very small. Now speaking about the grandeur of the tent, it is a bold city and we wanted to make a bold statement. We want what we build to not only represent our brand but the brand of Beverly Hills."

According to Spago, the tent can seat up to 125 people adhering to social distance regulations put in place by the Health Department.

"In order for this to move forward, we need to hear from the other blocks and also make sure with the traffic division that we can provide for this to work in way that we are not creating more impacts," Bosse said. "We just want to make sure that we can assure the neighboring residents and neighboring businesses that it's not going to create gridlock or have any impacts that will affect the neighborhood. I think that once we get that support, then I think it would be ready for prime time. But based on today, I think that there's still a little bit more work to do, but I do believe it's doable."

The matter will be placed again before the City Council during the Jan. 26 Study Session.

Also on the agenda was a proposed plan by LVMH to install a Louis Vuitton branded pop-up menswear store in the currently vacant space at 468 N. Rodeo Drive. The "Rodeo Drive Mens Pop-Up" is scheduled to be in place from February through March of 2021. Exact dates are still unknown.

Currently, indoor retail is permitted to a 20 percent maximum capacity, inclusive of both staff and customers. The space will be open to the public and require reservations to help maintain social distancing protocols and allow for time to sanitize. Mayor Lester Friedman and Councilmember Lili Bosse, both present during the meeting, expressed support for the project, and the item will be presented during the next Regular City Council Meeting on Jan. 12. ●

Windows of WeHo Project Seeks Artists

BY BIANCA HEYWARD

The City of West Hollywood, through its Arts Division, is requesting qualifications from professional artists to establish a pre-qualified list for a temporary art exhibition in vacant storefronts, Windows of WeHo (WoW). The exhibition will include artists with experience creating inventive installations or full-scale window installations that engage the public using innovative and dynamic means.

The arts and the business community of West Hollywood have been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Many traditional brick-and-mortar stores have already been facing challenges for years, competing against the rise of online shopping. Now, as shoppers nationwide move further online as a safeguard against the spread of COVID-19, some of West Hollywood's local retail shops have closed for good as property owners face unprecedented vacancies. The WoW exhibition helps partner artists with property owners to reimagine empty storefronts as opportunities to create safe, outdoor community engagement while the City sets its sights on economic recovery for the business community.

With the Windows of WeHo initiative, West Hollywood will maintain a pre-qualified list of artists for the exhibition and property

owners will be invited to engage with the artists on the list. Between eight and ten artists are anticipated to be selected through this application, and each selected artist will receive an award of \$1,000. However, admittance onto the pre-qualified list does not guarantee selection for an award.

Officials hope that placing art in vacant storefronts will bring increased attention to vacant commercial properties, deter graffiti and vandalism and contribute to the preservation of the business community.

Artists who live in the City of West Hollywood are especially encouraged to apply. However, all interested artists can apply online by Jan. 13 at 5 p.m. To apply, visit www.weho.org/home/showpublisheddocument?id=48693.

For more information about the City of West Hollywood's Windows of WeHo opportunity, please contact Rebecca Ehemann, the City of West Hollywood's Acting Arts Manager, at 323-848-6846 or at rehemann@weho.org. For people who are Deaf or hard of hearing, please call TTY 323-848-6496. ●

Assemblymember Richard Bloom to Run for Supervisor

BY SAMUEL BRASLOW

With incumbent Supervisor Sheila Kuehl signaling she won't run for reelection, former Santa Monica Mayor and Assemblymember Richard Bloom has indicated he will run for Kuehl's Third District County Supervisor seat.

"Supervisor Kuehl has been and will continue to be a champion of progress on the Board of Supervisors. Her impact has been profound and her legacy as a State Legislator and Supervisor will bring benefits long into the future," Bloom said.

"I am running for L.A. County Supervisor because I want to build on Supervisor Kuehl's progressive legacy and tackle the many critical issues that we face. I will fight for humane solutions to our housing and homelessness crisis. Along with investment in affordable housing, that will mean doubling down on improving our public health, mental health, and justice systems. It also means committing to equitable economic recovery and growth as we strive not to return to 'business as usual' but to create a more just LA County with opportunity for all. And, of course, I will continue to be a champion for addressing the causes of the climate crisis, holding polluters accountable, and for preserving and improving our natural open spaces."

By the time Kuehl's term expires, the district represented by the next supervisor

may look different than the one she currently serves. By August, an independent redistricting commission will redraw the Board of Supervisor district lines. Nonetheless, despite the uncertainty, Bloom is moving ahead with his campaign.

Bloom previously served as the state representative for Assembly District 50, which includes Beverly Hills, Santa Monica, West Los Angeles, and other westside neighborhoods that also fall within the County's Third District. As a Santa Monica City Councilmember from 1999 to 2012, Bloom saw the coastal city through a range of economic conditions. As mayor, he oversaw Santa Monica's recovery following the Great Recession, pushing to increase jobs and grow Venice's "Silicon Beach."

As a councilmember and mayor, Bloom pushed policies and initiatives that sought to protect the environment. He served on the California Coastal Commission, the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission and the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Board. In the State Assembly, Bloom introduced conservationist legislation that ended performances and breeding of captive orcas. Prior to his time in public services, Bloom practiced family law and served as Executive Director of two non-profits. ●



Rendering of LVMH's Cheval Blanc

(High Profile continued from page 1)

“Those will take up a significant amount of 2021,” Assistant Director of Community Development Ryan Gohlich told the Courier. The Planning Commission will first take up the One Beverly Hills project, a condominium and hotel development on the vacant lots of the old Robinsons-May department store and part of the Hilton property. The project is managed by Cain International and Alagem Capital Group, the owner of the adjacent Beverly Hilton. The \$2 billion proposal includes two condominium towers at 28 and 32 stories comprising of 303 condos. Then, a 10-story hotel development including 42 all-suite guest rooms, along with a fine-dining restaurant and 37 residential units. Finally, the project also incorporates large amounts of green space that would be open to the public.

While construction could potentially begin in 2021, Gohlich said that it will most likely break ground in 2022.

“It’s a very complex project in terms of the various structures involved and it’s a very large project. It’s over a million square feet of development between the sites. And there is going to be a lengthy permitting process. If they are able to secure the needed zoning approvals from the City Council, then they are going to have a pretty lengthy process of just preparing what we refer to as construction drawings—it’s not just the architectural plan, it’s all the engineering and electrical, mechanical, plumbing, all the little bits and pieces of construction.”

The One Beverly Hills project has the potential to revitalize a once-thriving property—one that Gohlich said used to play a crucial role in the City’s economic fabric. “It’s not good for the city to have vacant land sitting there, that’s not benefiting anybody,” he said. “The Robinsons-May site is a good example of a huge piece of property that used to generate a substantial amount of revenue to pay for all the great city services that we have, and there has been zero activity on that property since the early 2000s. It’s been a long, long time that that property has not been contributing in a positive effect to the city.”

As Gohlich notes, “[Robinsons-May] was truly a world class department store and contributed in a significant way to the city and its development at that time.”

If all goes according to schedule, Gohlich says, the One Beverly Hills project will land before the Planning Commission “through winter and possibly in the spring.” Based



Rendering of the BHCO project

on that timetable, the City Council will take up the project toward the end of spring or the summer.

“The hope is that there will be some sort of a final decision on the project in 2021,” he said.

Following behind One Beverly Hills, the Planning Commission will also take up plans for the highly anticipated Cheval Blanc Beverly Hills. The luxury hotel, spearheaded by French conglomerate LVMH, has marked off a location on the corner of Rodeo Drive and South Santa Monica Boulevard. The spot stretches across four parcels of land: the former Brooks Brothers building, Celine Rodeo Drive, the former Paley Center for Media and the property at 449 N. Beverly Drive. The proposed property would serve as a boutique luxury hotel with 115 rooms, ground-floor LVMH retail establishments, and high-end dining venues.

LVMH is no stranger to Beverly Hills. The company, headed by billionaire Bernard Arnault, owns or leases 18 properties in the city, including Louis Vuitton, Christian Dior, Fendi, Marc Jacobs, Rimowa, Bulgari, Loro Piana, Hublot, Berluti and Sephora. On Dec. 30, LVMH came a step closer to adding another Beverly Hills property to its portfolio when Tiffany & Co’s shareholders approved a \$15.8 billion deal.

“LVMH has made significant investments in the city over the years and I think it’s great to see continued interest from such an important company in the world of luxury,” Gohlich said. He added, though, that the plans come with some complications. “It’s a project that does not comply with our existing zoning standards, it’s over height, over floor area. They have a world-class architect, so it’s a very well-designed project, and it comes with some big policy questions. How much floor area, how much height is appropriate in that area of the business triangle? Those questions are to be determined through the public process.”

As it currently stands, the Cheval Blanc plans call for up to 220,000 square feet of floor area, with a 4.2 to 1 Floor Area Ratio (FAR)—the measurement of the total floor area in relationship to the site area. “Which basically means 4.2 times the size of the total site area,” Gohlich explained. “They are proposing a maximum height of nine stories, or 115 feet, along the Beverly Drive side of the project. On the Rodeo side, they’re proposing four stories in height.” The existing code allows for three stories on the Rodeo side, with some rooftop uses permitted on



Aerial rendering of One Beverly Hills

newer buildings.

The Planning Commission has already begun work on the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the project, though it will still be “a handful of months” before the public sees it. He estimates that the project is three to six months behind One Beverly Hills.

The Planning Commission will also decide the future of Lots 12 and 13 in 2021. The two vacant lots, which abut Santa Monica Boulevard, sit on the site of a former rail right of way. As such, the land is zoned only for transportation purposes. The owner of the land, the Beverly Hills Land Company, has proposed a deal with the city: “It is basically undevelopable land with the current zoning designation, and so what they are proposing is that the zoning be changed to allow for commercial development, and in exchange for that change of the zoning, they would then give Lot 13 to the city.”

The Beverly Hills Land Company has indicated plans to build boutique office space on Lot 12. The city would be free to develop Lot 13 as desired. These proposals have not been without controversy, as Gohlich notes. “Some people think it should just remain exactly as is and never be touched. You’ve got people who think it should be developed with just park space and all of it as park space. And then some people, presumably, are in favor of some form of development, either commercial or residential, in the area.”

“I think one of the challenges is that it has been vacant for such a long period of time that people have gotten used to it being a buffer between Santa Monica Boulevard and the neighborhood to the south,” Gohlich said.

The BHCO project falls last in the 2021 calendar, with Gohlich estimating that the project is about three to six months behind LVMH.

Gohlich says that this year is uniquely busy for the Planning Commission. The commission faces both impactful policy decisions and large development projects. “I don’t know that it’s rare, but normally, when you’re busy with development projects, you tend to not be as busy with policy projects. And what we’re looking at is being equally busy on both the policy side and the development side.” ●


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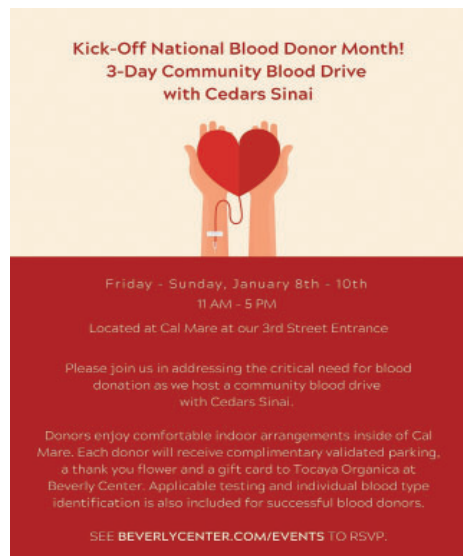
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QUESTIONS? COMMENTS? CONCERNS?
THE COURIER WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!
EMAIL: EDITORIAL@BHCOURIER.COM

Beverly Center Hosts Three-Day Blood Drive with Cedars-Sinai



Kick-Off National Blood Donor Month!
3-Day Community Blood Drive
with Cedars Sinai

Friday - Sunday, January 8th - 10th
11 AM - 5 PM
Located at Cal Mare at our 3rd Street Entrance

Please join us in addressing the critical need for blood donation as we host a community blood drive with Cedars Sinai.

Donors enjoy comfortable indoor arrangements inside of Cal Mare. Each donor will receive complimentary validated parking, a thank you flower and a gift card to Tocaya Organica at Beverly Center. Applicable testing and individual blood type identification is also included for successful blood donors.

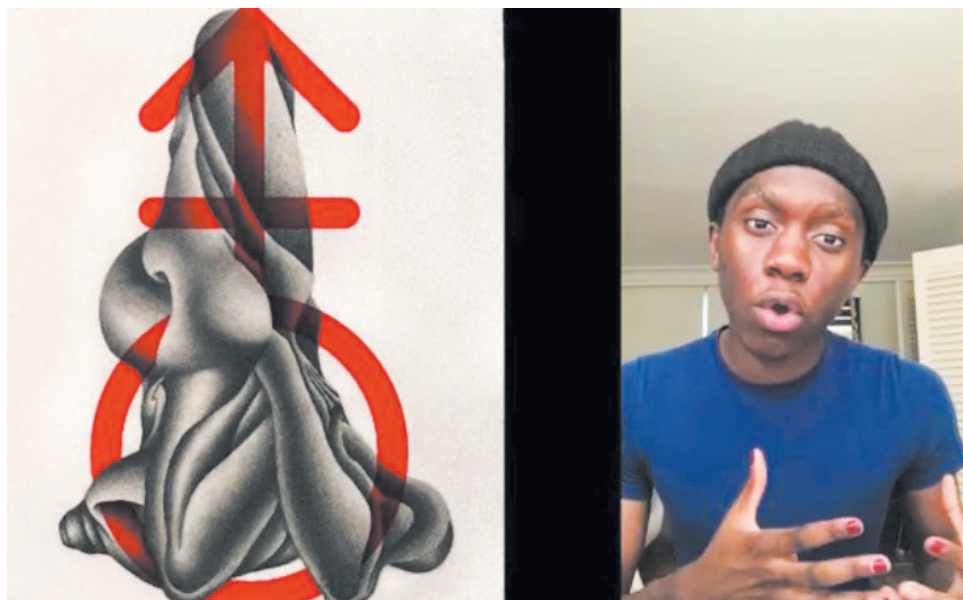
SEE BEVERLYCENTER.COM/EVENTS TO RSVP.

In celebration of National Blood Donor Month, Beverly Center and Cedars-Sinai are partnering on a three-day Community Blood Drive. Each donor will receive complimentary validated parking, a thank you flower and a gift card to Tocaya Organica at Beverly Center. Applicable testing and individual blood type identification is also included for successful blood donors.

The blood drive is taking place Friday-Sunday, Jan. 8-10 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Donors should use the La Cienega Boulevard entrance for access and self-parking. After parking, follow the signs to Cal Mare which is located on level 1 at the 3rd Street entrance. For more information, visit beverlycenter.com or follow @beverlycenter in social media. ●

Beverly Hills High Graduate Featured in Art Exhibit

BY BIANCA HEYWARD



“Adam and Eve” by BHHS graduate Prince Abrahams, right

Beverly Hills High School graduate Prince Abrahams, class of 2020, has been featured in the 2020 College Board AP Art and Design Digital Exhibit. The exhibit highlights 51 international high school artists who submitted their artwork to the 2020 AP Art and Design exam. In the midst of a global pandemic, AP Art and Design students worked with diverse ideas, materials, and processes to create works of art that represent the resilience and perseverance of high school students worldwide.

“We are proud of our students and the artwork they have created,” said Rebecca Stone-Danahy, Director of AP Art and Design. “The AP Art and Design exhibit showcases the course focus on inquiry and the resulting individual student responses to the world around them. This is especially critical as

students navigate the changing landscape of our contemporary times.”

Abrahams’ painting chosen by the AP Art and Design Board is titled “Adam and Eve,” inspired by the creation narrative in the Book of Genesis.

“My entire concentration was deeply rooted in the concepts that were available in the Bible from Adam and Eve to the creation of Adam to Noah’s Ark,” Abrahams said in a video statement. “A lot of those concepts were embedded in my art, but for this specific piece, I wanted to play with the idea of gender, especially gender nonconformity and androgyny. So, I wanted to play with the form specifically.”

This piece sets out to answer a question posed by Abrahams: how can I illustrate the structure of religion using the human form?

“I wanted you to see that there’s a female leg or a male arm, but they all intertwine and mesh into one form. And then on top of it, I superimposed the androgyny symbol, which means it’s all encompassing of both genders. It’s expressive without hindrance.”

During the AP Art and Design Exam adjudication, over 400 readers graded student portfolios submitted for review. The 51 students selected for the AP Art and Design Digital Exhibit represent high-quality examples of the Sustained Investigation and Selected Works sections of the portfolio. The digital exhibit is designed to showcase

the rigor and excellence of the AP Art and Design portfolio and be used as an exemplar teaching tool shared with AP art and design students around the world. The AP Art and Design program was founded in 1972, and as of 1978, 4500 students had completed portfolios for submission to the program. Today, over 60,000 students participate annually.

To view the 2020 College Board AP Art and Design Digital exhibit, visit <https://2020artanddesignexhibit.collegeboard.org/2020-digital-exhibit>. ●

Good Deeds Ring in New Year

BY ANA FIGUEROA

As 2020 drew to a close, Rabbi Levi Ilulian of One Lev Org Beverly Hills was determined to bring smiles to local children. During Chanukah and winter break, he visited more than 100 of them at home, in their backyards and even on sidewalks. The Rabbi brought with him donuts, menorahs, gifts and even a show to liven spirits of the city’s youngest residents, weary from the long months of stay-at-home orders.

Community goodwill also took center

stage the first weekend of 2021. Rotary Club of Beverly Hills, along with students from Beverly Hills High School and The Buckley School came together for a joint “new year project of kindness.” The group donated over 1500 individual hand sanitizers to protect hometown heroes at the Beverly Hills Police and Fire Departments. They also provided extra hand sanitizers for distribution to the community in order to help promote health and safety. ●



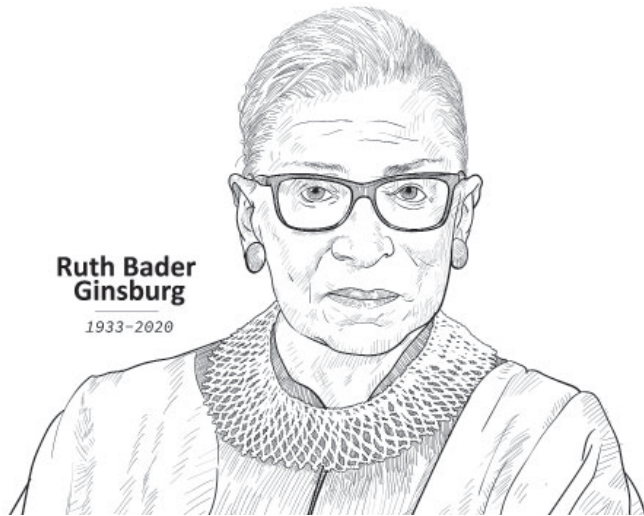
Pictured (from left) Ely Maman, Shalom Yaffe, Daniel Namdar, Sohel Esfandi and Rabbi Illulian



Rotary Club of Beverly Hills, Beverly Hills High School and The Buckley School donated hand sanitizers to the police and fire departments.

WeHo Council Seeks to Name Library After Justice Ginsberg

BY SAMUEL BRASLOW



The City Council of the City of West Hollywood has submitted a request to rename the West Hollywood Library the “Ruth Bader Ginsburg West Hollywood Library” at its Dec. 21 regular meeting. The move is meant to honor the life, work, and contributions of the late Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

“Our library is a world-class library and it deserves a world-class name,” said City of West Hollywood Mayor Pro Tempore Lauren Meister. “Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg’s legacy embodies West Hollywood’s core values and beliefs. There

has been no one more progressive and no feminist who accomplished more. Justice Ginsburg’s accomplishments are iconic in West Hollywood – whether we are talking about women’s rights, the rights of people who are Transgender, or the rights of LGBTQ people to marry whomever they love, Justice Ginsburg fought for all of us.”

“Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg was an icon for women, for the LGBT community, for workers, and every progressive value that West Hollywood holds,” said Councilmember Sepi Shyne. “Justice Ginsburg expanded

access to the American promise of liberty and equality for all. Her legacy is felt by all of us and her decisions have positively affected every person living in West Hollywood.”

Throughout her career as both an advocate and jurist, Justice Ginsburg championed gender equality in the courtroom and in her life. She served 27 years as an Associate Justice on the Supreme Court, succumbing to metastatic cancer of the pancreas in September.

The Council-approved item makes its way to the City of West Hollywood’s City Clerk, who will consider a request to rename the West Hollywood Library the “Ruth Bader Ginsburg West Hollywood Library.” The item also directs City staff to follow procedures outlined in the City’s Naming Policy, allowing for community engagement and input. The process laid out by the procedures includes a review of the proposal by staff; a Naming Committee made up of the Mayor, Mayor Pro Tempore, City Manager, Chair of the Public Facilities Commission, and Human Services Department Director; and review from the City’s Public Facilities Commission, with an opportunity for advisory bodies, civic organizations, and the general public to offer their thoughts.

The relatively new library first opened

its doors on Oct. 1, 2011. The 32,000-square-foot, LEED-certified library, owned by the City of West Hollywood includes shelving for 150,000 books, movies, and music, as well as free wireless internet, reading lounges, group study rooms, a children’s theater, a teen area, an LGBTQ area, international language collections, assistive technology and large print collections, computer and technology areas, a career development center, the Friends of the Library Bookstore, and more. The library also hosts rotating art exhibitions put together by the City of West Hollywood’s Arts Division.

The name change must adhere to a set of guidelines articulated by the City’s agreement with Los Angeles County, which states that the library facility must include the words “West Hollywood.” The guidelines also stipulate that any name shall be subject to the approval of Los Angeles County.

“As we stood in West Hollywood Park in 2015 on the day the US Supreme Court announced its decision on marriage equality, Justice Ginsburg and the City of West Hollywood became indelibly connected,” Meister said. “Our country, our state, and our city are all better places because of Ruth Bader Ginsburg.” ●

PLEASE WEAR A FACE COVERING

Any concerns about individuals or businesses not complying with mandatory LA County Public Health protocols, please contact Beverly Hills Code Enforcement
310-285-1119

 #BHHealthyCity



NOTICE OF COMMISSION VACANCIES

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

TERM BEGINS JANUARY 1, 2022

ARCHITECTURAL COMMISSION – One Vacancy
DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION – One Vacancy
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION – One Vacancy
TRAFFIC AND PARKING COMMISSION – One Vacancy

TERM BEGINS JULY 1, 2022

ARCHITECTURAL COMMISSION – One Vacancy
ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION – One Vacancy
PLANNING COMMISSION – One Vacancy
TRAFFIC AND PARKING COMMISSION – One Vacancy

Please note: you can only apply to one Commission vacancy for this application cycle.

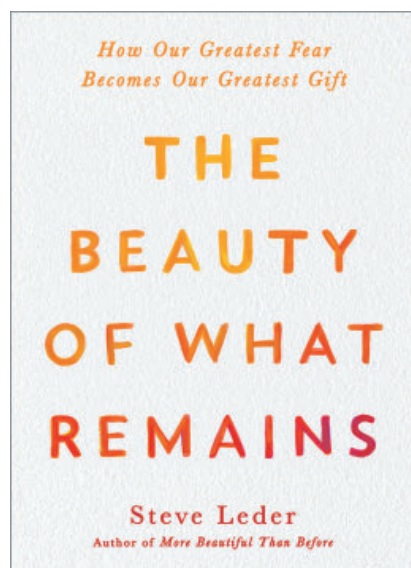
Deadline to apply for the above Commissions is on Friday, March 5, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

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

HUMA AHMED
City Clerk



Rabbi Steve Leder



After graduating Northwestern University, and studying at Trinity College, Oxford University, **Rabbi Leder** received a Master's Degree in Hebrew Letters and Rabbinical Ordination from Hebrew Union College. He is a regular contributor and guest on "The Today Show" and writes often for TIME, Foxnews.com, and Maria Shriver's Sunday Paper. His published essays have appeared in Town and Country, the Los Angeles Times, USA Today and the Los Angeles Jewish Journal, where his Torah commentaries were read weekly by over 50,000 people.

The New York Times called Rabbi Leder's first book, "The Extraordinary Nature of Ordinary Things," "uplifting." His second book, "More Money Than God: Living a Rich Life Without Losing Your Soul," received high honors as did his third book "More Beautiful Than Before; How Suffering Transforms Us," which reached #4 on Amazon's overall best sellers list in its first week. Newsweek Magazine has twice named Rabbi Leder one of the ten most influential rabbis in America.

(Rabbi Leder continued from page 1)

This latest book is one of his "greatest gifts" as he shares his wisdom and his life experiences while guiding us to live a beautiful and meaningful life. I was deeply and positively affected by it.

Recently, I had the opportunity to sit down with Rabbi Leder for his first print interview about the book.

Part I of 2

For almost a year now, this horrible pandemic has affected our world and has taught us many lessons. You say, "The global fear of death woke the entire world from its slumber. It has stripped a lot of nonsense from our lives." What other life lessons have we learned?

We've learned to be grateful for the most seemingly ordinary of things. A roll of paper towels, a slice of toast with butter, cooking together, eating together, playing games together, walking in our neighborhoods, the simplest things. This pandemic has taught us a lesson in essentialism. Really the beauty of essentialism, without dismissing the pain and suffering behind the reason.

And you speak about the importance of being with the people you love most.

Yes. And one of the things I think the pandemic has taught us is it's not a very long list. It's an important reminder that it's **who**, not **what**, we have that matters. It also has taught us about those who have less and our obligations to help them. We've all learned,

if we didn't know it before, just how poor and vulnerable most Americans really are, and that presents its own opportunities to serve. I see the pandemic as a call to duty, one colossal epic call to duty.

During these times, which of the five senses do people miss most?

The ability to touch. Assuming you have food to eat and a place to live. I miss hugging people. You know, at funerals, for example, since we're talking about death, not to be able to embrace someone who is suffering and mourning and grieving is so difficult and wrong. But we don't have a choice.

The quote, "Tragedy and sorrow come to all of us. It's part of what it means to be human and alive." What can we do to help the pain?

There are a lot of things that can diminish our pain when we're suffering. The most important of which is to reach out. The Talmud says, "The prisoner cannot free himself." It's such a powerful thought. We have to reach out. Death and grief are an invitation to reach out, and to respond when reached out to. The worst part of pain is not the particular affliction. It's the feeling of isolation and abandonment that hurts so much. And if we can pierce that feeling of isolation and abandonment, then there's healing regardless of the medical condition.

The next thing of course is to prevent yourself from catastrophizing the future, as much as possible. **Hope** really matters. Hope makes a difference. You can live for a day

"If we have one miracle to make our own, one strength to choose—let it be the strength to turn curses into blessings, to learn joy from sadness and life from death."

without food. You can live without electricity. You can live without your internet. You can live for a day without many things. You cannot live for a single day without hope.

This is so baked into Judaism. The National Anthem of the Jewish people is Hatikvah, the Hope. We end the Seder by saying, 'Next year in Jerusalem,' which is the hope for return to Israel. We open the door to Elijah, the prophet who will herald redemption. You can't even say goodbye in Hebrew. The word we use when parting is Lehitra'ot, which means, 'Until we see each other again.' Even goodbyes are said with hope. I think when dealing with pain, hope is extremely important. Most people I meet with when they're suffering, it may be the worst thing they've ever been through, but it's not the **only** difficult thing they've ever gotten through. And it's very important to remember that everything that helped us

get through difficult things in the past, all of those resources, internal and external, are still with us. We're still able to use them to move forward.

When a person is near death, who is most fearful? The surviving family members, afraid of facing life without them, or the dying person?

I have spent 33-plus years of being at the bedside of dying people; people who are really actively dying; literally hours or a day or two away from death. And I ask, 'are you afraid?' Not once has the answer been yes. Because when you are really ready to die, it is as natural a part of life as breathing. In my experience, the living, not the dying, are the ones who are afraid.

Most often old age and/or disease have a way of preparing the living for death, they have their own rhythm and power

“We are each writing our own eulogies every day with the pen of our lives.”

that brings everyone along until you get to a point, which is unimaginable under any other circumstance, where death begins to make perfect sense.

If you really love someone, then that means you love them so much that you are able to put what is best for them ahead of what is best for you. And while it may be best for you to remain alive, there are many times when what is best for the afflicted person is for death to arrive as a peaceful friend.

This is very helpful to people who come to see me and say they're really afraid of dying. And I say, that's good because that's the clearest indicator that you're not. If you're afraid of dying, it is not your day. It's counter-intuitive but true that fear of death can calm people down when they understand it's a clear sign they are not dying.

Anxiety is for the living?

Yes, which means you have time to let death teach you about living and loving your life.

In the book you say for better or for worse, death is life's mirror.

This is another one of those counter-intuitive points where addressing the fantasy that people have about dying and death manages expectations. For example, I often get a call like this: 'Rabbi, I've had a terrible relationship with my father most of my life, but he just received a diagnosis of pancreatic cancer that gives him three to six months to live. Now I'm really looking forward to having a great relationship with him during these last few months of his life.' My response is, 'That's possible, but it's unlikely,' because people tend to die exactly the way they live.

If your father was difficult, or had an anger problem, or was indifferent to you in life, most probably that's how he's going to be in death. So sometimes it's really bad news that people die the way they live. But sometimes it's really beautiful and wonderful news because that means that someone who was generous and kind and loving in life will be that way in death. Dying does not give people a new personality. It just doesn't. I think knowing this is actually helpful, not hurtful, for those of us who mourn.

You say that death makes everyone more so. Can you explain?

As I said, death doesn't change someone's personality, but it does intensify it. The planners become more intense planners, the jokers tell more jokes, the feeders bring more food, the deniers go deeper into denial and the gossipers gossip more. Sometimes it is terrible and sometimes it's beautiful, but it is almost always true that people die the way they live.

In the chapter, 'When more is not better,' you speak about the challenges you face when called to a dying person's bedside to talk about euthanasia. You wear two different hats, the man and the rabbi. Sometimes you are torn between traditional wisdom and today's science, between Jewish law and civil laws governing the human condition. The story of your friend Tara is an exquisite depiction of this conflict and the struggles you face as a spiritual leader. How do you find clarity?

I don't think you ever really find clarity. I think you learn to live with ambiguity. Sometimes it's very clear what the right decision is, regardless of what Jewish law might say. But many times, it is not so clear and you make a judgment call and you learn to live with the ambiguity of it.

We all are raised to believe that when we have a choice to make, if we make the right choice, we're going to have a good outcome, and if we make the wrong choice, we're going to have a bad outcome. One of the many things I've learned as a rabbi is that often, life doesn't give us a good choice or a bad choice. It gives us a bad choice and a worse choice. We have to reckon with that and the ambiguity of it all.

There's an old Yiddish expression that says a half truth is a whole lie. Let's apply that thinking to eulogies. What is the importance of telling the truth when someone dies? How is it a blessing, or is it a curse? And please share about the art of telling the truth.

I think that ultimately, when you are honoring a person who has died, you honor them by revealing their humanity. I don't think you're honoring someone by presenting a perfect, which therefore means false, characterization. I think you really honor someone by revealing the depths of that person's humanity, which includes their failures and flaws. Obviously, this has to be done with great sensitivity and intelligence and heart. There's a way to create a full and rounded picture of a person's life, including failures and flaws without cruelty and damning judgment.

This is very much about both what needs to be said and how it ought to be said. There are ways to frame a flaw that are beautiful or hilarious. It's an art. Fundamentally, I think that if a eulogy is only two dimensional, it will ultimately not honor the deceased the way a full, three-dimensional picture will. And of course, the family very much needs permission to talk about these things.

“The beauty of what remains is neither passive nor accidental. We create it through the deliberate choices we make-chiseled chip by chip.”

You say death is the most profound of all teachers.

In fact, at some level, I think that death is the only teacher. Imagine a deathless life. It would be meaningless. There would be no ambition. No one would have children. No one would aspire to do anything. If this virus wasn't deadly, do you think that any of us would be living the way we're living right now?

No.

Not at all. Franz Kafka said the meaning of life is that it ends. He was right. And ideally, this is not a book about death. This is a book about the ways in which death can inspire us to lead more meaningful and beautiful lives. It's certainly done that for me.

It certainly has done that for me, too.

Learn more about Lisa Bloch's conversation with Rabbi Steve Leder in the second part of this series next week. ●



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February 11, 2021 | 5 PM to 6 PM PST

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GIVE LOVE	BE LOVED
Purchase an Unconditional Love ticket to our virtual event to bring joy to children in domestic violence shelters	Access our LIVE Evening Program , co-hosted by Lawrence Zarian and Lisa Breckenridge with a musical performance by MILCK
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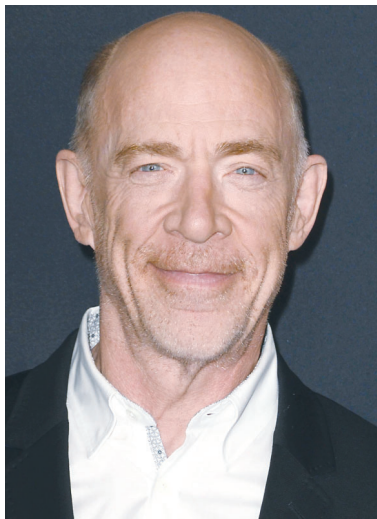


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Birthdays



J.K. SIMMONS
January 9



ROD STEWART
January 10



AISHVERYAA NIDHI
January 11



KAY KIMBERLY SIEGEL
January 12



ORLANDO BLOOM
January 13



JASON BATEMAN
January 14

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



Astrology

BY HOLIDAY MATIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). What happens all of the sudden is exciting for several reasons, the foremost being that you don't have time to think. Your animal self takes over, and you do what you were designed to do.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). When the student is ready, the master appears. You feel ready, and yet there is still a piece you haven't committed to yet. You'll read it, work it or do whatever needs doing. Then your teacher will arrive.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Make a decision and stick with it for three days. There is no such thing as a perfect choice. Don't waste energy trying to find it. You don't know who is watching your bravery, but later, this will be significant.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Add heat or time and you'll notice that the reduction of things is unique to the object. Some things become more concentrated, some less, the universal principal being that everything changes.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). They love

you, but they don't know how to show you. This is a bittersweet theme that you can make all sweet by telling them what you want and need and making it easy for them to give it to you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Asking for help when you need it isn't a sign of weakness; rather, it's the picture of effectiveness. Strength is the result of a willful force coming up against a worthy adversary.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Different forums have different structures. Sports favor the one with the most points. Entertainment favors the ones with the most followers. In the forum you're navigating today, charm wins, so you have the home-team advantage.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There are so few people in the world who are actually funny. You discount the gift because you were born with it and it is common to you. You won't discount it today. Your humor helps people, and you'll share it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You don't need to reinvent the wheel here. Figure out what you did right back there, and just do more of that. It's not hard to spot. What's harder is taking the time to be with yourself, recognize and note it.

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

people are coming out of the woodwork. When you think about it, that is a slightly creepy concept, and yet it is the most fitting image. You're an organic creature calling to the same.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You thought you had the time to work things out, and maybe you misjudged that. It's a common problem. Things can be worked out. Just know that everything you do is being counted.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Test it. Go there. Something is going to happen -- something uncomfortable, maybe even painful for a moment.

But what if this is your one and only life? Whatcha got?

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 8). How are you putting your skills out there? This is the year that amplifies what you are good at, lifts your effervescent spirit into the ether and calls into the beauty of your kindreds. Together, you will be like a wave, providing a voyage, a ride, a mix-up of energies and processes. You're a proud pulse in the beautiful swell. Aquarius and Pisces adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 40, 22, 19 and 38.



Penelope is an eight-year-old Chihuahua who weighs four pounds and is looking for a new family. If you can provide this spunky gal with a new place to call home, please call Shelter of Hope at 805-379-3538.

www.shelterhopepetshop.org

SUDOKU
01/08/21 ISSUE

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01/01/21 ISSUE

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PUZZLE ANSWERS
01/01/21 ISSUE

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B	A	L	S	A	M	I	C	R	O	O	M	A	N	D	B	O	A	R	D
U	S	E	W	E	E	K	A	L	L	U	R	E	I	N	D	I	E		
G	E	T	E	R	R	S	G	O	O	S	E	D	O	G	E	E	S		

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THE NEW YORK TIMES SUNDAY MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE
01/08/21

BUSTING MOVES
BY PAOLO PASCO / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Paolo Pasco, of San Diego, is a junior at Harvard studying computer science. He sold his first crossword to The Times five years ago, when he was 15. With this being his 20th puzzle for the paper, the number of his Times puzzles has already reached his age. Paolo's crosswords have appeared in many places, including The Wall Street Journal, USA Today, the crossword-specific Fireball and his own blog, Grids These Days. — W.S.

ACROSS

1 Ocean motion

4 [I expected better from you!]

7 Tracking systems

13 Makes out, in Manchester

18 Stuffed and fried cornmeal pocket, in Mexican cuisine

20 Lizzo or Lorde

21 ___-hole

22 Amazon, e.g.

23 Title for Iran's Ali Khamenei

25 Tailored blouse style

27 Pieces of pentathlon equipment

28 Piece of biathlon equipment

29 Outdoor wedding rental

30 Some reusable bags

32 Give a refill

34 Poet Limón

35 Yearbook sect.

36 Item lugged up a hill

38 Gardener's supply

40 Alphabetically first member of the Baseball Hall of Fame

42 Dull yellowish brown

43 Subject of some teen gossip sessions

47 Sure-footed alpine climber

52 React to, as an online joke

53 "I wish I could ___ that" ("Ick")

54 Document that never lacks a title

55 Divert

57 Solid green ball in un juego de billar

61 It's ground-breaking

62 Way overcharge, so to speak

64 Vape shop inventory

66 Sci-fi's Dr. Zaius, for one

67 Even a bit

68 Bakery item that's often messy

71 Lavishes love (on)

73 Part of R.S.V.P.

74 Business that might hold a blowout sale?

76 Common food drive donation

77 "Julius Caesar" role

78 Lhasa ___

80 Necklace components

82 Parts of volcanoes

85 2007 No. 1 Alicia Keys album

86 Not keep

88 Caribbean capital

91 Kind of test question

95 Some video-making devices

96 Rod who won four Wimbledon

97 "The very ___!"

99 Yellow bills in Monopoly

100 Lobster-catching aid?

103 Holiday preceder

104 Choose to participate

108 Award won twice by Hammerstein, fittingly

110 Horror director ___ Saul Guerrero

111 Contraction that omits a "v"

112 0 to 60, e.g.

114 Proceeds breezily

117 What a spike goes over

121 Not black and white

122 Early computer

123 "Encore!"

124 "The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up" tidying method

125 Take care of

126 "Well, so's your face!," e.g.

127 The antagonist Bellwether from Disney's "Zootopia," e.g.

128 Ask for a treat, say

DOWN

1 Discharges

2 Hassle

3 Genius

4 Not be on the level

5 Anxiously worry

6 Title nickname in a 1984 sports movie

7 Courses

8 WeChat or KakaoTalk

9 Very serious

10 With skill

11 Shakespeare character who cries "Then I defy you, stars!"

12 Power-saving mode

13 "___ Used to Be Mine" (song from "Waitress")

14 Long of Hollywood

15 "My guess is ..."

16 Realm for comic-book fans, say

17 Damascenes, e.g.

19 Gardener's supply

20 "Over here!"

24 "Geaux Tigers!" sch.

26 Liquid in a first-aid kit

31 Noodles sometimes served with tsuyu sauce

33 Onetime sunscreen ingredient

36 Small Jewish communities of old

37 SoCal baseball team, on scoreboards

39 Scintilla

41 Secondary social media accounts, in brief

42 Mournful sound

44 Fiddle with a ukulele?

45 Woman on W.W. II-era posters

46 Cassini who created the so-called "Jackie look"

47 Simba's father in "The Lion King"

48 How detectives may act

49 Orders from regulars

50 Breaking or entering, say

51 Leslie ___ Jr., member of the original "Hamilton" cast

56 Not joke around

58 Enjoys a home-cooked meal

59 Poison-treating plant

60 Bagel choice

63 ___ World Service

65 Digital camera memory holders

68 G-rated, say

69 You might pass on them

70 Apt surname for a mechanic

72 Palm Springs, e.g.

75 Group with the hits "Honey, Honey" and "Money, Money, Money"

79 Big brute

81 Went fast

83 Cocktail with a rhyming name

84 Tinder action that expresses strong interest

87 Other: Sp.

89 Certain pie crust flavor

90 Wok, e.g.

91 Covers of vintage music?

92 "Try it!"

93 Sit on

94 Part of an aircraft that helps reduce drag

98 Put forward

100 H.S. class with dissections

101 Tune out

102 Semi

105 Stick one's nose in

106 Small drum

107 Cockamamie

109 Actress Blanchett

110 Latch (onto)

113 Muppet who sings in the "Try, Try Again" song

115 When it's driving, you might not want to drive

116 Unwanted breakout

118 Back muscle, in brief

119 Prefix with warrior

120 Negative conjunction

ANSWERS FOUND IN NEXT WEEK'S PAPER...



Label's Table has permanently closed. Photo by Samuel Braslow

(Delis continued from page 1)

We are taking every necessary precaution, and after testing all of our employees, we will safely re-open on Tuesday, Jan. 12th."

According to Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Public Health) guidelines, workplaces must disclose clusters to the county, with clusters defined as "three (3) or more cases of COVID-19 within the workplace within a span of 14 days." As of Jan. 5, Nate 'n Al's was not listed in a County database of outbreaks. A spokesperson for Nate 'n Al's confirmed that the cases had

been reported to Public Health.

"If a cluster is identified at a worksite, the Department of Public Health will initiate a cluster response which includes providing infection control guidance and recommendations, technical support and site-specific control measures," Public Health guidelines state. "A public health case manager will be assigned to the cluster investigation to help guide the facility response. The Department of Public Health will need the facility's immediate cooperation to determine whether the cluster of cases constitutes an outbreak of

COVID-19."

While county rules do not require restaurants to close following discovery of a cluster, they do mandate that anyone who came into contact with an infected individual isolate.

"We look forward to serving the Beverly Hills community again soon and we thank them as always for the continued support," Azoff said.

This is not the first obstacle the Jewish deli has faced during the pandemic. On March 28, Nate 'n Al's similarly announced it would temporarily close as a result of COVID-19, though it did not provide a potential re-open date.

"Approximately one month ago the world as we knew it changed," the restaurant posted on Instagram, alongside a black and white photo of the storefront. "We had hoped that we could continue our takeout and delivery service so that we could provide the community with the food that has been a part of our lives for years. However, our number one priority is to keep our customers and our staff safe and secure during this time of uncertainty."

But less than a month later, on May 15, Nate 'n Al's took to social media to make a much happier announcement. "Guess what?! WE'RE BACK!"

Earlier, another Beverly Hills haunt broke the news of its temporary shuttering. Factor's Famous Deli, which has

served Beverly Hills for 72 years, posted on Instagram on Dec. 21, "We are closed until further notice for the safety of our staff and the community. We wish you a happy holiday season and we hope to see you soon." The post did not include a potential reopening date and Factor's did not respond to a request for comment.

Back in October, just down the road from Factor's, Label's Table had bleaker news for the community. "After 46 [years] serving Los Angeles, Label's Table Deli will be closing January 31, 2021. It's been a pleasure serving this community for almost five decades. We want to thank our customers from the bottom of our hearts for supporting us so sweetly for 46 years!" The deli did not respond to a request for comment.

But on Jan. 5, Label's wrote on Facebook that Dec. 31 had in fact been its last day in operation. "Due to a family emergency, Label's Table is closing its doors forever a bit earlier than expected. It's been an amazing 46 years and we want to thank you for all your business and friendship over that time."

The post was met with an outpouring of appreciation by members of the community. "Thank you so much for...all the meals, memories, and care you have given our family," Tevia Oskin wrote on Facebook. "Label's was our 'go to' for all occasions. The four generations of our family members that you served will be forever grateful." ●

Public Notices

<p>SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CASE NO: 20SMCP00448 ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME In the Matter of the petition of: Aracely P. Plateroti To all interested person(s): Petitioner: Aracely P. Plateroti current residence address: 310 N. Crescent Dr. #309, Beverly Hills, CA 90210 filed a petition with the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 1725 Main St., Santa Monica, CA 90401, Santa Monica Courthouse, on December 22, 2020 for a Decree changing names as follows: Present Name: ARACELY P. PLATEROTI Proposed Name: ARACELY AMADEUS PLATEROTI The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below</p>	<p>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: February 11, 2021 Time: 8:30am Dept: K Room: A-203 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: "I want to resume my maiden name." I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the</p>	<p>information in the foregoing petition is true and correct. Signed: Aracely P. Plateroti Judge of the Superior Court Laurence H. Cho, Sherri R. Carter, Executive Officer/ Clerk, By: Stacey Watson, Deputy Clerk Dated: December 22, 2020 Published: December 25, 2020, January 01, 08, 15, 2021 Beverly Hills Courier</p> <p>FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2020215858 The following is/are doing business as: 1) BUILDING CAPITAL 2) BCI REALTORS 3) BCI REALTY 9595 Wilshire Blvd. #900, Beverly Hills, CA 90212; The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed October 2000: David Thomas Parry, President: Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: December 15, 2020; Published: December 25, 2020, January 01, 08, 15, 2021 LACC N/C</p> <p>FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2020213844 The following is/are doing business as: MPK FITNESS 344 S. Elm Dr. #4, Beverly Hills, CA 90212; Marie P. Knecht 344 S. Elm Dr. #4,</p>	<p>Beverly Hills, CA 90212; The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed February 2012: Marie P. Knecht, Owner: Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: December 11, 2020; Published: December 25, 2020, January 01, 08, 15, 2021 LACC N/C</p> <p>FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2020213846 The following is/are doing business as: 1) PROMOLEAGUE 2) PORTALYSS PRODUCTIONS 3) KELEVISION PRODUCTION 1008 Larrabee St., West Hollywood, CA 90069; Kelly Dennis 1008 Larrabee St., West Hollywood, CA 90069; The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed November 2015: Kelly Dennis, Owner: Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: December 11, 2020; Published: December 25, 2020, January 01, 08, 15, 2021 LACC N/C</p> <p>FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2020213848 The following is/are doing business as: BIOPOLIS MEDICAL SUPPLY 22395 S. Western Ave. #303, Torrance, CA 90501; Personal Space MB, LLC 22395 S. Western Ave. #303, Torrance, CA 90501; The business is conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, registrant(s) has NOT begun to transact business under the name(s) listed: Julian Chan, Secretary: Statement</p>	<p>is filed with the County of Los Angeles: December 11, 2020; Published: December 25, 2020, January 01, 08, 15, 2021 LACC N/C</p> <p>FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2020213850 The following is/are doing business as: OHIO WEST PROPERTIES 11655 Ohio Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90025; Bennett B. Cohon, Trustee, The Survivors Trust 3654 Motor Ave. #11, Los Angeles, CA 90034; Bennett B. Cohon, Trustee, The Marilyn Cohon Bypass Trust 3654 Motor Ave. #11, Los Angeles, CA 90034; The business is conducted by: A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed March 1992: Bennett B. Cohon, Trustee: Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: December 11, 2020; Published: December 25, 2020, January 01, 08, 15, 2021 LACC N/C</p> <p>FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2020213852 The following is/are doing business as: MOTOR PROPERTIES 3654 Motor Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90034; Bennett B. Cohon, Trustee, The Survivors Trust 3654 Motor Ave. #11, Los Angeles, CA 90034; Bennett B. Cohon, Trustee, The Marilyn Cohon Bypass Trust 3654 Motor Ave. #11, Los Angeles, CA 90034; The business is conducted by: A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed January</p>	<p>1989: Bennett B. Cohon, Trustee: Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: December 11, 2020; Published: December 25, 2020, January 01, 08, 15, 2021 LACC N/C</p> <p>FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2020213854 The following is/are doing business as: BUNDY DRIVE PROPERTIES 1706 S. Bundy Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90025; Bennett B. Cohon, Trustee, The Survivors Trust 3654 Motor Ave. #11, Los Angeles, CA 90034; Bennett B. Cohon, Trustee, The Marilyn Cohon Bypass Trust 3654 Motor Ave. #11, Los Angeles, CA 90034; The business is conducted by: A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed November 1994: Bennett B. Cohon, Trustee: Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: December 11, 2020; Published: December 25, 2020, January 01, 08, 15, 2021 LACC N/C</p> <p>FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2020213856 The following is/are doing business as: MIDVALE PROPERTIES 3645 Midvale Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90034; Bennett B. Cohon, Trustee, The Marilyn Cohon Marital Property Trust 3654 Motor Ave. #11, Los Angeles, CA 90034; Bennett B. Cohon, Trustee, The Marilyn Cohon Bypass Trust 3654 Motor Ave. #11, Los Angeles, CA 90034; The business is conducted by: A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP, registrant(s)</p>	<p>has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed January 1983: Bennett B. Cohon, Trustee: Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: December 11, 2020; Published: December 25, 2020, January 01, 08, 15, 2021 LACC N/C</p> <p>FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2020225604 The following is/are doing business as: CONTINUING CREATIVITY 469-1/2 S. Bedford Dr., Beverly Hills, CA 90212; Philip Charles Rosenblum 469-1/2 S. Bedford Dr., Beverly Hills, CA 90212; The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL, registrant(s) has NOT begun to transact business under the name(s) listed: Philip Charles Rosenblum, Owner: Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: December 28, 2020; Published: January 01, 08, 15, 22, 2021 LACC N/C</p> <p>FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2020224538 The following is/are doing business as: SMILE BOUTIQUE GROUP 239 S. La Cienega Blvd. #300, Beverly Hills, CA 90211; 8619 Reseda Blvd. #205, Northridge, CA 91324; Ron I. Zeidler, DMD, Inc. 3754 Cody Rd., Sherman Oaks, CA 91403; The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION, registrant(s) has NOT begun to transact business under the name(s) listed: Philip Ron Zeidler, President: Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: December 23, 2020; Published: January 08, 15, 22, 29, 2021 LACC N/C</p>
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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO BIDDERS FOR THE ROBERTSON & CHALMERS IMPROVEMENTS WITHIN THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 00000

BIDS – Electronic Bids for the **ROBERTSON & CHALMERS IMPROVEMENTS** at the intersection of Robertson Boulevard and Chalmers Drive within the City of Beverly Hills, California, will be received up to the hour of 2:00 p.m., on Thursday, January 14, 2021 at via Planetbids. Bid results will be sent to all bidders through Planetbids and award of the contract will be made during a subsequent meeting of the City Council.

SCOPE OF THE WORK - The work to be done shall consist of furnishing all the required labor, materials, equipment, parts, implements, supplies and permits necessary for, or appurtenant to, the construction and completion of the project indicated above in accordance with the project plans, Standard Drawings, and the Specifications prepared for this project.

In general terms, the project consists of the construction of a PCC bulbout with a RRFB crossing.

The contract documents, including plans and specifications may be viewed and downloaded from the City's PlanetBids portal:

<https://www.planetbids.com/portal/portal.cfm?-CompanyID=39493>

CITY CONTACT – Any questions or requests for information can be directed to the project manager, Manu Paul S. Dhaliwal, P.E., through PlanetBids no later than 12:00 PM, January 8, 2021.

PUBLICWORKS CONTRACTOR REGISTRATION NUMBER – The Contractor is required to register with State of California Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) and meet requirements to bid on public works contracts. A Public Works Contractor Registration No. shall be submitted with the bid. All subcontractors are also required to register with the DIR.

BIDDER'S SECURITY: In accordance with Public Contract Code Section 20170 et seq., each Proposal shall be accompanied by cash, a certified or cashier's check payable to the City, or a satisfactory Bid Bond in favor of the City executed by the Bidder as principal and an admitted surety insurer as Surety, in an amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the amount set forth in the Bid.

In compliance with Public Contract Code Section 3300, the City has determined that the Bidder must possess the following license(s): **"A"**

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

00 OBITUARIES

Alexander Lowy 1939-2020



On Wednesday, December 30, 2020, Alexander Shalom Lowy, loving husband and devoted father of three, passed away at age 81.

Alex was born on February 14, 1939, in Sabinov, Czechoslovakia to Edward and Sarah Lowy. After internment and release from the Theresienstadt concentration camp in 1945, he settled in Haifa, Israel with his parents and sister, Judit. Raised in a religious orthodox Jewish family, Alex found diversion from his yeshiva studies on the streets playing

soccer - where he was affectionately nicknamed "Shuli" - a pluralistic experience that led to his seeking wider adventures in the Israeli army, where he rose to the rank of staff sergeant and commanded an artillery unit.

After his service in the IDF, Alex chose to relocate to the United States, moving to California in 1961 and serving briefly in the U.S. Army at Fort Ord. Upon settling in Los Angeles afterwards, Alex embarked on what would be a lifetime passion and career in the commercial real estate and construction industry. He loved to build things, and behold the grand fruits of his labor, becoming a successful and trusted commercial real estate developer alongside his cousin Mark Rubin, with notable large-scale projects across the greater Los Angeles area.

Alex met and married his wife Erica Lowy (née "Rikki" Sadur) in 1975, they settled in Beverly Hills. Forty-five years of marriage produced three children - Jordan Lowy, Sarah Lowy, and Marshall Sherman (by way of marriage) - and six grandchildren. He was a devoted husband and father who worked hard to provide a stable and opportunity-rich environment for his family, instilling strong moral values in his brood.

Alex could be serious, intellectual, and curious; a man of high integrity and work ethic. He enjoyed reading, fix-it projects, traveling, and taking light detours of laughter with slapstick comedy.

Alex left an impression on all he met. He will be remembered with fondness and gratitude for the time and inspiration he shared with others.

Alex was laid to rest on Sunday, January 3 at Mount Sinai during a private service. Donations in his honor may be sent to The Alzheimer's Association.

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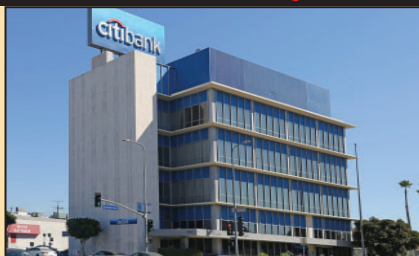
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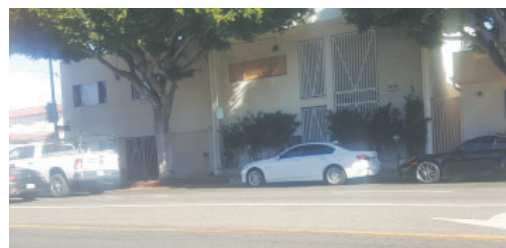
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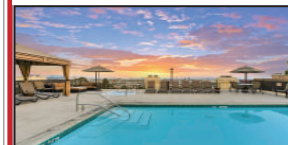
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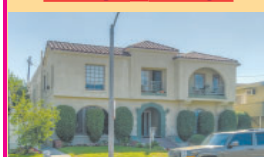
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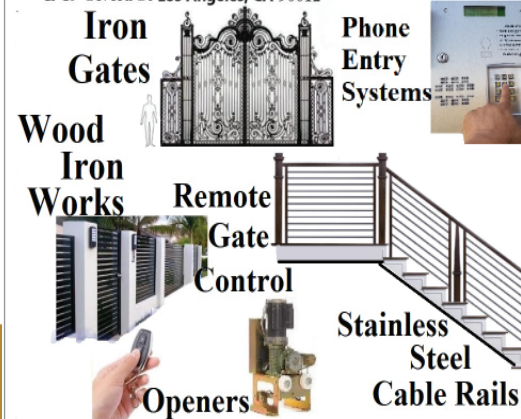
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