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THE WEATHER, BEVERLY HILLS CA

☁️ Friday	69° 51°
☁️ Saturday	68° 49°
☁️ Sunday	70° 52°
☀️ Monday	75° 55°
☁️ Tuesday	76° 56°
☁️ Wednesday	71° 55°
☁️ Thursday	68° 55°

Beverly Hills Affirms Support for Israel on Hollywood's Biggest Night



Photo courtesy Nate Miller

A light projection featuring the hostages still held by Hamas illuminated 499 N. Canon Drive during the 2024 Vanity Fair Oscar Party.

BY JOEY WALDINGER

As Hollywood's biggest stars arrived for the 2024 Vanity Fair Oscar Party at the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts on

March 10, a massive light projection calling for the release of the remaining hostages held in Gaza by Hamas illuminated the building across the street at 499 N. Canon Drive.

See **LIGHT PROJECTION**, page 12

Council Greenlights New ADU Ordinance

BY CLARA HARTER

The Beverly Hills City Council has approved a new set of rules to incentivize the production of Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) and help Beverly Hills meet Sacramento's ambitious goals for housing growth.

ADUs, also referred to as granny flats, are small, self-contained units located on the property of a single-family home. They can take many forms including a converted garage, attic apartment or backyard cottage.

They are a key part of the city's strategy to increase housing availability as nearly 75% of the land in Beverly Hills is developed with detached single-family homes. Better enabling the production of ADUs will help the city gain state approval for its Housing Element plan, which outlines how the city... to "Better enabling the production of ADUs will help the city gain state approval for its Housing Element plan, which outlines how Beverly Hills will create capacity for 3,100 new units by 2029.

Without a state-approved Housing Element, the city risks losing control over local zoning.

See **ADU**, page 12

Five Expelled and School Board Mulls Resolution After AI Nude Images Incident

BY ERIC LICAS

Beverly Hills Unified School District officials announced the expulsion of five Beverly Vista Middle School eighth graders on March 6 who were responsible for making and disseminating AI-generated nude photos of their classmates.

The disciplinary measures were approved during a special closed session of the BHUSD Board of Education. The expelled students were "egregiously involved" in the creation of "deepfake" images that merged the faces of 16 eighth-grade girls identified as victims onto the bodies of nude women, Superintendent Michael Bregy wrote in a statement.



Beverly Vista Middle School

Administrators declined to name any of the students involved, citing California law. See **BHUSD**, page 10

City Council Explores New Recycling and Water Conservation Policies

BY CLARA HARTER

In a Monday Study Session, the City Council discussed two policy proposals designed to improve sustainability by reducing foodware waste and conserving groundwater.

The first ordinance would ban all food service providers in the city from using plates, cups and utensils made of plastic. See **STUDY SESSION**, page 9



Courier Calendar

NOW - MARCH 17

A NOISE WITHIN:

“SWEENEY TODD: THE DEMON BARBER OF FLEET STREET”

THURS. 7:30 P.M.

FRI.-SAT. 8 P.M.

SAT.-SUN. 2 P.M.

A Noise Within presents “Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street,” the dark, brooding, yet sharply comic story of love, revenge and meat pies by Stephen Sondheim and Hugh Wheeler that has become a modern classic. Viewers can savor the macabre madness as a murderous barber, hungry for revenge for his lost family, strikes a partnership with a beastly baker in this eight-time Tony Award-winning production that leaves audiences gasping with fear and delight. Standard tickets start at \$29 and student tickets start at \$18. A Noise Within is located at 3352 E. Foothill Blvd., Pasadena. anoisewithin.org

NOW - MARCH 17

GEFFEN PLAYHOUSE:

“BLACK CYPRESS BAYOU”

TUES.-SAT. 8 P.M.

SAT. 3 P.M.

SUN. 2 P.M., 7 P.M.

The Geffen Playhouse presents the world premiere of “Black Cypress Bayou.” On a hot summer night in Texas, Vernita Manifold summons her two daughters down to the bayou with a secret too big to keep. The richest, meanest man in town is dead, and the Manifold women know more than they’re saying. As secrets begin to surface, the bonds between the women, their town, and the legacy

of their ancestors all come to a head. “Black Cypress Bayou” is a hilarious, suspenseful play about loyalty, healing and comeuppance. Tickets range from \$45-\$139. The Geffen Playhouse is located at 10886 Le Conte Ave., Los Angeles. A review of this production is available in the 03/01/24 issue of the Beverly Hills Courier. geffenplayhouse.org

NOW - JULY 7

THE GETTY: “FIRST CAME A FRIENDSHIP: SIDNEY B. FELSEN AND THE ARTISTS AT GEMINI G.E.L.”

TUES.-FRI., SUN. 10 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

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

The photographs of Sidney B. Felsen document the history of Gemini G.E.L., the Los Angeles artists’ workshop and publisher of limited-edition prints and sculpture. The exhibition presents Felsen’s photographs alongside Gemini editions spanning five decades. It explores the joys and the demands of the creative process and chronicles friendships with artists from Robert Rauschenberg to Julie Mehretu. Admission is free but requires a timed reservation. The Getty is located at 1200 Getty Drive, Los Angeles. getty.edu

NOW - NOV. 30

HOLOCAUST MUSEUM LA:

“TO PAINT IS TO LIVE: ART AND RESISTANCE IN THERESIENSTADT”

10 A.M.-5 P.M.

Holocaust Museum LA presents “To Paint is to Live,” which highlights the untold stories of endurance through remarkable art works of those who

survived and perished. This exhibition challenges viewers to contemplate the transformative power of art when faced with extreme adversity and reflect on the capacity for maintaining human dignity. Established by the Nazis on Nov. 24, 1941, Theresienstadt played a critical role in the Nazi Government’s deceptive propaganda to quell questions surrounding the deportations of Jews and their fate. The Nazis presented Theresienstadt as a model “settlement” or “spa” town, but the harsh reality was that it was a place designed to accelerate death. Jews resisted the horrific surroundings and cruel treatment in any way they could, wielding their brushes and pens as instruments of resistance. “To Paint is to Live” reveals the profound role of art in reaffirming human dignity as prisoners turned to creative expression to assert their identity, chronicle their existence, and honor their cultural heritage in the face of unspeakable atrocities. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors and military, and free for students, children, and teachers. The museum is also free all day on Sundays. holocaustmuseumla.org

NOW - JANUARY 5, 2025

ACADEMY MUSEUM OF MOTION

PICTURES: “THE ART OF

MOVIEMAKING: “THE GODFATHER”

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

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

“The Art of Moviemaking: “The Godfather”” features a wide array of original objects from “The Godfather” (1972) and “The Godfather Part II” (1974), offering an exciting glimpse into

the process of making a masterpiece. Director Francis Ford Coppola’s interpretation of Mario Puzo’s popular novel provided an operatic and poignant reflection on the American dream, making the films an instant phenomenon that not only radically transformed the moviegoing experience, but also moviemaking in the 1970s. From costumes to props to scripts and equipment, these materials—many on view for the first time—highlight the contributions of several cinematic branches, and how they innovated amid the changing landscape of Hollywood. General admission is \$25 for adults, \$19 for seniors (age 62+), \$15 for students (age 18+ with valid ID), and free for children (17 and under) and members. academymuseum.org

MARCH 20

WOMEN WHO SHINE GALA

5-8 P.M.

Women’s Business Network of the Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce presents the second annual Women Who Shine Gala. It will feature two keynote speakers: Candace Nelson and Jamie Kern Lima. This year a philanthropic component has been added to the event. Part of each sponsorship and ticket sold will go to Girls Inc. of Los Angeles. The event at the Waldorf Astoria Beverly Hills (9850 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills) will consist of a pre-reception in the Foyer with Champagne and hors d’oeuvres, followed by the main program in the Astor Ballroom with the featured speakers, and finally the event will commence downstairs in the Espelette Restaurant with drinks and light bites. The dress code for this event is cocktail attire. Tickets are \$195 for non-members and \$175 for members. members.beverlyhillschamber.com

MARCH 22 - 31

THE EL CAPITAN THEATRE: “LUCA”

MON.-THURS. 1 P.M., 4 P.M., 7 P.M.

FRI.-SUN. 10 A.M., 1 P.M., 4 P.M., 7 P.M.

Disney and Pixar’s “Luca” returns to the El Capitan Theatre in an event from March 22 to March 31. Set in a beautiful seaside town on the Italian Riviera, “Luca” is a coming-of-age story about one young boy experiencing an unforgettable summer filled with gelato, pasta and endless scooter rides. Luca shares these adventures with his newfound best friend, Alberto, but all the fun is threatened by a deeply-held secret: they are sea monsters from another world just below the water’s surface. A special fan screening event is on March 22 at 7 p.m. Each attendee will receive popcorn, a beverage and an event credential with their ticket. Tickets for this event are \$22. Standard tickets are \$12. elcapitantheatre.com



Photo by Jeff Lorch

Angela Lewis, Amber Chardae Robinson and Brandee Evans in “Black Cypress Bayou” at Geffen Playhouse until March 17



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Children's Burn Foundation Honors Beverly Hills Fire Chief Barton



Chairman Emeritus of the Board of Trustees of Children's Burn Foundation Doug Mancino and Founding President of the Council of Children's Burn Foundation Carol Mancino with honoree Chief Gregory W. Barton and Dinner Chair Aida Madi

Beverly Hills Fire Chief Gregory W. Barton was honored at the Children's Burn Foundation's 29th Annual Giving New Hope Benefit at the Beverly Hilton on March 5. Barton has been a partner in the organization's burn prevention and education mission for many years and is an active member of the Children's Burn Foundation Board, serving on the Governance

and Executive Committees and Chair of the Prevention and Education Committee. The evening raised funds for life-saving programs to heal child burn survivors and their families through comprehensive physical, financial and emotional care while educating communities in California and across the globe on how to prevent and treat burns. ●

Wounded Israeli Soldiers Visit Beverly Hills



On March 13, Mayor Dr. Julian Gold recognized wounded Israeli soldiers who were on a tour visiting Beverly Hills through the nonprofit, Brothers for Life organization. Gold gave each of the wounded soldiers a certificate of recognition.

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BHPD Releases Additional Details About Cybertruck Crash



As reported in the Courier's March 8 issue, a Tesla Cybertruck crash outside the Beverly Hills Hotel on March 3 garnered attention on social media last week, including a post from Tesla CEO Elon Musk. This week, the Beverly Hills Police Department released additional details about the incident. According to the BHPD, officers responded to a solo vehicle collision involving the Cybertruck at approximately 11:46 p.m. on March 3. The collision impacted a retaining wall on the private property of the Beverly Hills Hotel. Officers determined that the vehicle was traveling westbound on Sunset Boulevard


when it attempted to negotiate a turn into the driveway/entrance of the hotel. Subsequently, the vehicle sustained major front-end damage due to the collision.

The Beverly Hills Fire Department responded to the scene to examine and treat three passengers who complained of pain-related injuries. However, the injured passengers were not transported for further medical attention. Upon investigation, the BHPD determined that unsafe speed was a contributing factor to the cause of the accident. ●


Beverly Hills High School Holds Career Day



Beverly Hills High School held its annual Career Day on March 13. Among those participating were (from left): Beverly Hills Unified School District Board Member Noah Margo, Deputy Chief of Staff for Rep. Ted W. Lieu, Nicolas Rodriquez, Mayor Dr. Julian Gold and Beverly Hills City Manager Nancy Hunt-Coffey. Courier Publisher Lisa Friedman Bloch also took part in a panel.



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Community Services Showcase



Hundreds turned out on March 10 for the Community Services Showcase at the Beverly Hills Farmers' Market. The event featured over 20 vendors who provided information on spring classes and summer camps, as well as live performances by tots, teens and adults in ballet, tap, tumbling, Tai Chi and more. Pictured (from left): Vice Mayor Lester Friedman, Mayor Dr. Julian Gold holding his granddaughter, and Councilmember Sharona Nazarian on stage.

Sinai Akiba Academy Celebrates with Anniversary Gala



On March 2, over 300 Sinai Akiba Academy friends and fans (including many Beverly Hills residents) attended the Studio 55 Anniversary Gala, celebrating the school's 55-year legacy of excellence in Jewish education. The '70s-themed evening was organized by Gala Co-Chairs Liraz Harari, Elian Ohebshalom and Shelly Shapiro. That evening, Sinai Akiba also honored Rob Galperson, Board Chair, with the 2024 Leadership Award for his commitment to Sinai Akiba and the Sinai Temple community. Pictured at the gala are Beverly Hills residents David and Shaina Simhae.



LA Marathon 2024

March 17, 2024

Beverly Hills Street Closures | 5 a.m. – 1 p.m.

City Hotline (3/17): 5 a.m. – 2 p.m. - (310) 550-4680



- 💧 **WATER STATIONS:**
Water Station 16
Burton Way west of Foothill Rd.
Water Station 17
SM south/west of Charleville Blvd.
- P **PARKING STRUCTURES**
beverlyhills.org/parking
- + **FIRST AID STATION**
in Rexford Mini Park at
Rexford Dr. & Burton Way

- **SHUTTLE FOR RUNNERS**
one-way start time 4 a.m.
- **VIEWING AREA**
of Rodeo Dr. & Wilshire Blvd.
- **MARATHON ROUTE**
beverlyhills.org/marathon

East and Westbound lanes **CLOSED** on N Santa Monica Blvd. between Moreno Dr. and Bundy Dr.

For access to 10 Freeway- take Wilshire Blvd. East to Robertson; turn south/right to 10 Freeway

For access to 405 Freeway- Go West on Olympic Blvd to Freeway

Hollywood Museum Hosts Live Academy Awards Coverage



Photo courtesy The Hollywood Museum

Azteca TV Network broadcast its Oscars coverage live from the roof of The Hollywood Museum in the historic Max Factor Building. Beverly Hills resident Donelle Dadigan, the Museum's founder and president, noted, "I was thrilled to have Azteca Network—the world's largest provider of Spanish content entertainment—broadcast this year's 96th Academy Awards globally and feature well-known Latin talent and celebrities on TV Azteca's live pre-and-post-Oscar shows from atop the roof of The Hollywood Museum in the historic Max Factor Building."

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‘The Animal Kingdom’— A Curious Food Chain



Photos courtesy of Magnet Releasing

Romain Duris and Paul Kircher

BY NEELY SWANSON

“The Animal Kingdom” is a curious work; a mix of many genres, all effectively intertwined and significant. The premise itself touches on fantasy, science fiction, horror and drama. It is present day, one that, for the most part, is very recognizable to us all. Opening on a colossal traffic jam where cars in both directions are attached bumper to bumper as far as the eye can see, a father, François, is admonishing his son, Émile, to

stop stuffing his face (and his dog’s) with disgustingly flavored potato chips because of their toxicity and deleterious effects on the body and environment. He then promptly lights up a cigarette and begins nervously puffing away, hypocrisy duly noted. Their bickering, each testing the other’s limits, establishes that this is a solid pairing. Émile, we soon learn, is ambivalent about where they are going. His mother, Lana, is in a hospital and François feels, no demands, that Émile join him on this mission. Suddenly, seemingly

out of nowhere, screeching and banging is heard nearby. An ambulance is under attack, its doors pounded from the inside as medics try to contain the escape of their captive, ultimately to no avail. As the doors spring open, a creature, half avian, half man flies forward, wings flapping, mouth screaming and leaps over the cars into traffic.

Mutations have started to appear in humans, manifesting as bestial appendages, some recognizable others not. François’s wife is not really in a hospital but is confined to a clinic where other mutants are housed, as scientists seek to discover the origin and cure for these anomalies. Cheerily letting them know that progress is being made, the administrator has big news. A facility in the southern provinces has opened ahead of schedule and Lana will be transferred there in a few days. François is enthusiastic; they will move immediately. Émile, less so, is not looking forward to transferring schools with only two months left in the school year. It’s hard enough being the new kid, but he’ll be the new kid with a major secret.

Not everyone is as accepting as François. Lana is still the love of his life and he won’t abandon her. That society is less than tolerant of these creatures, as some call them, or beasts, as others see them, is a problem with society not with Lana and others like her. Like almost any other skittish animal, wild or domestic, space, understanding and

kindness will often conquer the wildest of them. It’s just that their appearance is so frightful, like monsters from a nightmare. Most human-mutant encounters run the gamut from hilarious to calamitous. For Émile, unafraid, their presence is one that intrigues him.

François, ever the optimist, has already located a new job and a cozy cottage for them in the South. Émile’s school situation seems promising as the students are eager to welcome this mysterious stranger. But disaster has struck. Nearing the new institutions, the bus transporting Lana and the others from the clinic has crashed on a bridge, sending both the dead and the survivors into the river, most of whom have not been located. The river is soon awash with the dead and the surrounding forest is invaded by a new population of surviving creatures added to those already hiding there. The police on the scene explain that Lana has not been found, but that she should be presumed dead. This, François will not accept. And so begins his stealthy search, one that enlists Émile; stealthy because the police, and the soon-to-arrive military, have sealed off the forest. Most of the townsfolk set up barriers and invent devices to protect themselves from the beasts. Vigilante groups are formed.

Yes, there are encounters and storylines involving normal humans and their mutant



Paul Kircher

cousins, but these are all secondary to the real subject. Director Thomas Cailley, working from a story by Pauline Munier, is most interested in a portrayal of “Otherness.” Whether it is a fear of migrants coming from parts unknown or racism that manifests itself in the hunt and discrimination of those whose appearance is different, “The Animal Kingdom” unearths fears both rational and illogical. François, the most tolerant of humans, doesn’t understand why they can’t adopt the Norwegian way, where the creatures and humans live side by side, apart and yet together. Understanding and tolerance have lessened the distance between them. But this isn’t Norway, it’s France, underscored by one man saying he wasn’t sure if his food was being stolen by a creature or by gypsies, a group commonly demonized as the “other.”

This isn’t necessarily a new theme. In recent years, Guillermo del Toro explored it in his Oscar-winning film, “The Shape of Water.” Del Toro, a master of fantasy and creatures, examined intolerance and hope in his story of a fishlike humanoid caught and brought to a military investigation lab. A young cleaning woman discovers how to communicate with the beast and is determined to save him, at great risk to herself.

But even more well known is Spielberg’s Academy Award-nominated classic “ET.” What is “ET” but a story about “otherness?” Frightful to adults, a being to be poked, prodded and experimented on, ET is an instrument of joy and education to the children who adopt and protect him. And much like “The Animal Kingdom,” it is a story about friendship and love.

It is easy to concentrate only on the fantasy aspects of the film, and the creatures are definitely awesome, anthropomorphic, relatable and sympathetic, but, for me what makes this movie stand out is that it is, almost more than anything else, a portrait of family and love. The relationship between François and Émile is one of closeness with an acceptance almost without judgment. They have been through so much together and they are still standing. It is also a warm and empathetic “coming of age” tale with Émile trying to understand the changes that are happening all around him, but always with a father ready to die for him. The attachment between them is palpable, the very definition of unconditional love that grows deeper as they face more challenges. If I have stubbornly refused to reveal plot points, it’s only because you’ll see them coming but need to integrate them into the emotional

aspects of this story. Literally anything I would describe would be a spoiler.

“The Animal Kingdom” is a difficult film to watch, if only from the standpoint of understanding what Cailley is trying to say. Stripping away the metaphorical aspects of his story, the racism, the hatred of migrants, the militarism, the ecological aftereffects in a pre-apocalyptic environment, it’s still a story about love, family and tolerance. Stay with it, the emotional end definitely justifies the path it took to get there.

“The Animal Kingdom” was nominated for 12 César Awards (the French equivalent of the Oscars), winning for visual effects, cinematography, costume design, original music and sound, all of which will literally blow your mind. Cailley found his perfect François in Romain Duris, an actor whose

emotional palette is practically peerless. Paul Kircher as Émile was a revelation. As an awkward teenager, his gait, gaze and inability to articulate himself make you ache. It is such a realistic portrait of the later stages of puberty that it takes some time before you realize it’s much more than that. The openness of his face, the wide open eyes, this is a boy in transition. The chemistry between Duris and Kircher enhances the filmic relationship.

Much like “Everything Everywhere All at Once,” let “The Animal Kingdom” wash over you. Live in the here and now of the film and worry about the meaning later.

In French with English subtitles. Opening March 15 at the Alamo Drafthouse, a dine-in arthouse cinema downtown and VOD on all major platforms. ●



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.

NEWS

STUDY SESSION, from page 1

non-recyclable or compostable materials like Styrofoam and certain types of plastic. The second ordinance would create new guidelines for single-family households to reuse their groundwater for beneficial purposes such as irrigation.

Council was strongly in favor of both ordinances, which are the product of many months of close consultation with stakeholders. The new rules will come before councilmembers for formal approval in an upcoming City Council meeting.

The goal of the foodware ordinance is to reduce the amount of single-use plastic and Styrofoam that end up in the city’s waste stream. These products require a significant amount of fossil fuels to produce and pollute streets, waterways and ecosystems by breaking down into hazardous microplastics.

The ordinance requires that all food service providers transition to recyclable plastics and/or compostable foodware. This applies to restaurants, bars, coffee shops, grocery stores, supermarkets, convenience stores, school cafeterias, hospitals and nursing facilities, food trucks and farmers markets stands.

Full-service restaurants will be required to use reusable utensils for dine-in orders and third-party food delivery services will be required to let customers select which, if any, to-go utensils they would like to accompany their order.

If approved, the rules would be phased in for different business types between March 2025 and 2026.

“Thank you to the Public Works Commission and to staff,” said Councilmember Sharona Nazarian. “This (ordinance) has a special place in my heart because I brought it to the Public Works Commission when I was a commissioner, so it’s really exciting to be able to see that it’s finally coming to fruition.”

The foodware ordinance also has several components to help small businesses adapt.

Businesses that face economic hardship from the new guidelines can apply for a waiver or one-year extension to come into compliance. In addition, small businesses can sign up for the “early adopter program” and receive \$500 worth of compostable foodware materials from the city.

The second ordinance discussed during the Study Session pertains to the collection and use of groundwater, which is water found underground in the cracks and spaces in soil and rocks.

The city currently requires that commercial properties and multifamily housing complexes with groundwater either collect and reuse this water or pay a replenishment fee to discharge it to the stormwater drainage system.

The new ordinance would expand these requirements to single-family properties in order to encourage the beneficial reuse of this water. Potential uses include irrigation, decorative fountains or cooling towers.

“I do think this is a really important thing,” said Mayor Dr. Julian Gold. “There’s a lot of water in that ground that we’re not using, so to the best extent that we can

recapture it, I think it makes a lot of sense.”

To capture the water, properties must install subterranean collection systems. Homeowners can then decide if they want to reuse this collected water or pay the replenishment fee to release it in storm-water drains.

The rules would only apply to newly constructed single-family homes or to remodels that affect 50% or more of the property. Existing homes would not be required to install these systems, but they would be encouraged to do so for the sake of water conservation and sustainability. ●

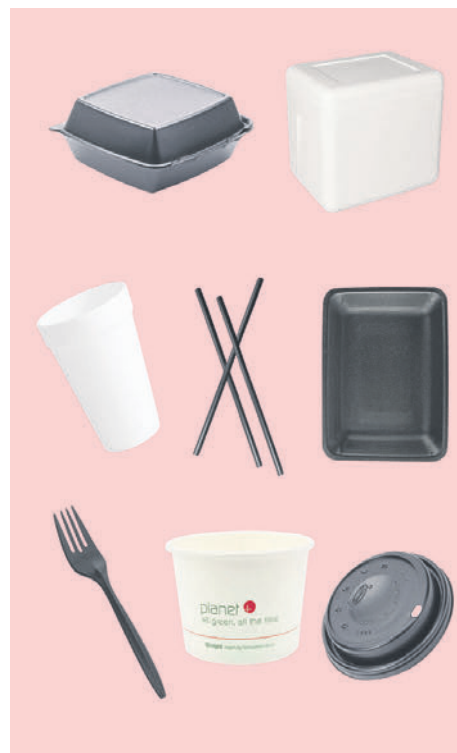


Photo courtesy city of Beverly Hills

The pink background is an example of prohibited items under the proposed new foodware ordinance, while the blue background is an example of permitted compostable items.

US Holocaust Memorial Museum Tribute Dinner Held in Beverly Hills

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum raised more than \$850,000 at its 2024 Western Region Tribute Dinner on March 12 at the Beverly Hilton. Entitled "Together We Can Do More," the event attracted more than 350 guests and honored Academy Award-winning actress Helen Mirren, via a prerecorded montage and acceptance speech, and philanthropist Moses Libitzky, in person, with the Museum's National Leadership Award for their role in Holocaust education and support of the Museum's mission to educate people about the Holocaust and consequences of unchecked antisemitism and hate.



Photo by Reza Allah-Bakhshi/Capture Imaging for U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum
Brown University student and TEDx presenter Emma Blankstein delivered the keynote address.



Photo by Loreen Sarkis/Capture Imaging for U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum
Carol Stulberg, Senior Advisor for Leadership Giving, U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum

Traffic and Parking Commission Recognizes Local Crossing Guards



Local Beverly Hills Crossing Guards were honored at the March Traffic and Parking Commission Meeting. The BHUSD partners with All City Management Services, a family-established business, that has been committed to the safety of children for over 38 years to provide BHUSD with school crossing guards before and after school hours. The crossing guards are committed to the well-being of children and adults arriving and departing the school grounds by enhancing safety for school communities.



Photo courtesy of U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum
The Western Region Tribute Dinner honored Academy Award-winning actress Helen Mirren, via a prerecorded acceptance speech.

BHUSD, from page 1

Education laws protecting the privacy of minors.

"We recognize that kids are still learning and growing, and mistakes are part of this process," he said. "However, accountability is essential, and appropriate measures have been taken."

The Beverly Hills Police Department's investigation into the matter is ongoing. Meanwhile, the controversy that unfolded at Beverly Vista Middle School has sparked "crucial discussions on the ethical use of technology," Bregy said.

The topic has been repeatedly addressed by the BHUSD officials over the past several weeks. At its most recent meeting on March 12, Board of Education President Amanda Stern presented an early draft of a resolution aimed at "teaching our children about safe digital citizenry."

"In this day and age, unfortunately, safety is, in my opinion, not just related to our physical safety and soundness in terms of our property, but also our presence online," she said during the meeting.

The draft read at the meeting specifically mentioned artificial intelligence and "deep-fake" images. It emphasized the district's commitment to programs and curricula that train youth to use technology both effectively and ethically while protecting their privacy.

A summary of the draft read aloud by Stern at the meeting also referred to "perpetrators of all ages." The statement also acknowledged that children are especially susceptible to the misuse of technology.

"The board and the superintendent will continue to work with community partners, and public and private agencies to guide, educate, and support the district parents and their children of the harms and misuse of AI and related technologies," Stern wrote in her draft.

During the meeting, board members noted that issues related to the misuse of tech have impacts that are felt far beyond the classroom. They said educators and families around the world are still figuring out how to manage these challenges.

Board members said part of the solution may come in the form of new laws and regulation on the use of AI and called on lawmakers at all levels of government to act. They also highlighted how important families are in promoting the ethical use of tech.

"There's not enough mention of parents on this," Board Member Noah Margo said. "[W]e don't buy kids' phones. We don't pay for their plans. Parents should really be told, whether you know it or not, you are playing a role in this."

"You didn't sign up for this," he added, acknowledging that emerging issues surrounding artificial intelligence and social media are uncharted territory that both families and educators are learning to navigate.

The board will continue to revise and edit the draft of the resolution during an upcoming study session. Once the language is finalized, it will be brought up for vote. ●

Schools/Summer Programs



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Beverly Hills

Community Life

Summer



The building at 499 N. Canon Drive was illuminated with images of the hostages.

LIGHT PROJECTION, from page 1

Spearheaded by movie producers Matti Leshem and Lynn Harris, the light projection with images of the remaining 134 hostages represented the couple's latest effort to raise awareness about the hostages still held captive after the Oct. 7 attacks by Hamas.

Leshem and his wife began organizing to support the hostages' release almost immediately after Oct. 7, arranging delegations in Los Angeles of freed hostages who shared their stories with allies and donors, and erecting billboards in New York's Times Square and in New Jersey.

As the Oscars approached, Leshem and Harris discussed ideas to highlight the plight of the hostages during such a high-profile event. One day last month, while walking their dogs past Beverly Gardens Park, they realized that the building across the street from The Wallis at 499 N. Canon Drive would be a perfect canvas for a large-scale light display. [Ed. Note: The building houses the Courier's office.]

They called the building's owner, who enthusiastically pledged his support. They also secured more than \$100,000 to cover costs from global events company INVNT and worked with the Tel Aviv-based Hostages and Missing Families Forum to design the light projection, Leshem said.

However, the light display "almost didn't happen," according to Leshem.

During a Special City Council Hearing on March 8 to discuss the matter, City Manager Nancy Hunt-Coffey noted that the special event permit application had not been filed 10 days in advance of the event, as required by ordinance.

But more than 150 residents from Beverly Hills and beyond urged the city to allow the light demonstration and reinstall the flag display at Beverly Gardens Park. Hunt-Coffey presented the council with three interpretations of the City's Municipal Code that would allow it to approve the permit.

"The council does have the opportunity to interpret the code," Hunt-Coffey said.

She added that the council could interpret a provision saying applications "shall" be filed at least 10 days in advance as saying applications "may" be filed at least 10 days in advance. The council could also decide that the special event will have "an overriding benefit" for the city. And, since Leshem and Harris contacted Councilmember Lili

Bosse in February, who connected them with Deputy City Manager Keith Sterling on Feb. 20, the council could count the email to Sterling as a "pre-application," Hunt-Coffey said.

Though the council was unanimously supportive, there was debate about which interpretation to choose. Councilmember Sharona Nazarian favored the "pre-application" interpretation. Bosse said she would "mark every single box." And Councilmember John Mirisch said the couple's Feb. 20 contact with Sterling could be considered an application and the projection's benefit to the city was apparent.

Vice Mayor Lester Friedman, who also affirmed his support, cautioned that accepting the application because of its benefit could set a difficult precedent going forward.

"What happens when we are confronted with someone who wants to come in here with something that we don't all agree with, and ... we have made an exception that is not defensible?" Friedman queried.

In response to a question from Friedman, City Attorney Laurence Wiener said, "I'm not sure that I agree with any of these interpretations, but I think the two interpretations that would be the most defensible would be the fact that they sent an email and started the application process," and that the event would have an overriding benefit.

Satisfied, the council voted unanimously to approve the permit.

"It was really an incredible thing to see the City Council respond to ... people calling really not just from Beverly Hills but from all over Los Angeles, saying this is really important to the people of Los Angeles," Leshem said. "The whole thing was pretty admirable."

On the day of the Oscars ceremony, "Every single person that pulled up to the Vanity Fair party was staring at the faces of those hostages," Leshem said. "You could see it from all around ... I think it was quite impactful in that way."

The light projection and an installation of thousands of flags across the street at Beverly Gardens Park drew supporters draped in Israeli flags and honking car horns. It also drew counter-protestors waving Palestinian flags and wearing keffiyehs, underscoring the public debate over Israel's actions in Gaza. There were no arrests, but Beverly Hills Police Department officers filed a

battery crime report after unknown suspects used an "unknown type of chemical irritant" against other demonstrators, according to Lt. Andrew Myers.

Ahead of the Oscars ceremony, a coalition of organizations including Jewish Voice for Peace-Los Angeles (JVP-L.A.) and SAG-AFTRA Members for Ceasefire held demonstrations near the Dolby Theatre. A group of roughly 1000 protestors blocked traffic during an already busy afternoon and delayed arrivals to the show.

In an emailed statement, Sarah Jacobus, a JVP-L.A. member who rallied before the Oscars ceremony, wrote, "I hold dear the Jewish value of the sacredness of human life. This is what informs my commitment to oppose the bombing and starving of Palestinian civilians done in my name. I will not be distracted by the Oscars while bombs are falling on Gaza and people in Rafah with no safe place to shelter are threatened with a ground invasion."

The debate continued into the ceremony itself. Director Jonathan Glazer, who won the Best International Feature Film award for "The Zone of Interest," about a Nazi official

who lives an idyllic life next to the Auschwitz concentration camp, received widespread backlash after he appeared to criticize Israel in his acceptance speech. Glazer said his film showed "where dehumanization leads at its worst" and he refuted "his Jewishness and the Holocaust being hijacked by an occupation, which has led to conflict for so many innocent people."

Councilmember Lili Bosse, the daughter of an Auschwitz survivor, was quick to add her own powerful voice to the discussion. In a social media post addressed directly at Glazer, Bosse said, "You 'refuting your Judaism' whilst accepting an award in memory of 6 million Jews cremated, shot, gassed and brutally murdered and somehow 'refute' Oct. 7 and our second Holocaust that occurred that day. The hostages still not home. Hamas terrorists will not 'refute' your Judaism. Jew haters and antisemitism won't protect you from yourself. You have spat on the graves of your ancestors. I however remain a proud Jew."

The post garnered almost 282,000 views and more than 4,000 likes, clearly resonating beyond the boundaries of Beverly Hills. ●

ADU, from page 1

The ordinance considered in a March 11 City Council meeting had already been closely reviewed by city planning staff and the Planning Commission.

It updates the city's ADU rules to align with recent changes in state legislation and, in some cases, goes above and beyond the new state requirements to incentivize residents to build ADUs on their property.

For example, the city's size limitation for larger ADUs exceeds the state's requirement by 350 to 550 feet depending on the single-family area of the city. In addition, while the state sets a 16-foot height maximum, the city allows for ADU heights up to 25 feet in certain neighborhoods.

At the same time, the ordinance has special rules for the Trousdale neighborhood in an effort to prevent new ADU production from infringing on hillside views. As a result, ADUs in this neighborhood are not allowed to exceed the state limits for height or size.

These protections were added to the ordinance following Planning Commission's Jan. 25 meeting when many Trousdale residents expressed their concerns about unintended consequences of the new ADU rules.

Representatives from the Trousdale Estates Homeowners Association also attended the March 11 City Council meeting and expressed gratitude for the updates made to the ordinance.

"I want to thank the Planning Commission. They really spent time with us and they tried to do what they could and make accommodations to address unintended consequences, which is exactly

what happens when the state decides for everybody with a wide brush that this is what we want," said Shahram Melamed.

Melamed and his fellow homeowner's association member Karen Platt then asked the council to take additional action to further ensure new ADUs do not disrupt neighborhood views.

In particular, they requested regulations around ADU height requirements and for planning staff to push homeowners to locate ADUs on areas of their property that would have the least impact on their neighbors' view. Planning staff expressed concern with these proposed changes, noting that they would likely run afoul of the state and potentially jeopardize Housing Element approval.

"I think that the issue with a subjective action like that is when it comes to housing projects, we have to apply objective standards," said City Planner Masa Alkire. "It would be very hard for us to assess two different locations and then push homeowners into one particular location."

While Councilmembers were sympathetic to Trousdale residents' concerns, they noted that they need to get the ordinance passed as soon as possible.

Mayor Dr. Julian Gold advised Platt and Melamed to work with staff to see if it was possible to develop an amendment that could address their concerns and then bring it back to council in a future meeting.

"I think we need to get this ordinance done tonight, but if you want to work with staff and see if you can find some language that would be acceptable, I wouldn't have a problem having that come back for an amendment at a later date," he said. ●

Police Blotter

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



ASSAULT - SIMPLE

3/10/2024, 9:13 p.m. at N. BEVERLY DRIVE / PARK WAY

3/6/2024, 5:46 p.m. at 9800 Block of WILSHIRE BLVD.

3/6/2024, 2:54 p.m. at 0-99 Block of N. LA CIENEGA BLVD.

BURGLARY - COMMERCIAL BUILDING

3/11/2024, 3:52 a.m. at 8300 Block of WILSHIRE BLVD.

3/2/2024, 11:56 p.m. at 300 Block of N. CANON DRIVE

3/2/2024, 12:44 a.m. at 9600 Block of WILSHIRE BLVD.

2/29/2024, 4:42 a.m. at 9400 Block of OLYMPIC BLVD.

BURGLARY - FROM A MOTOR VEHICLE

3/8/2024, 1 p.m. at 700 Block of N. CAMDEN DRIVE

3/6/2024, 5 p.m. at 200 Block of N. CANON DRIVE

3/2/2024, 10 a.m. at 9400 Block of DAYTON WAY

BURGLARY - RESIDENTIAL (NO ONE HOME)

3/11/2024, 11:27 a.m. at 100 Block of N. ARNAZ DRIVE

3/8/2024, 9:23 a.m. at 100 Block of N. STANLEY DRIVE

DUI ARREST

2/29/2024, 8:06 p.m. at N. BEDFORD DRIVE/ N. SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD

MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT

3/1/2024, 2 p.m. at N. REXFORD DRIVE / CARMELITA AVENUE

ROBBERY

3/9/2024, 4:45 p.m. at 9500 Block of BRIGHTON WAY

THEFT - GRAND

3/10/2024, 4:55 p.m. at 200 Block of N. BEVERLY DRIVE

3/10/2024, 4 p.m. at 100 Block of S. MAPLE DRIVE

3/9/2024, 4:22 p.m. at 500 Block of N. SIERRA DRIVE

3/9/2024, 11:28 a.m. at 300 Block of S. DOHENY DRIVE

3/8/2024, 4 p.m. at 300 Block of N. RODEO DRIVE

THEFT - GRAND (FROM VEHICLE)

3/2/2024, 12 a.m. at 300 Block of S. REXFORD DRIVE

3/1/2024, 10 p.m. at 400 Block of S. BEDFORD DRIVE

THEFT - PETTY

3/10/2024, 3:12 a.m. at 300 Block of N. CANON DRIVE

3/8/2024, 5:13 p.m. at 300 Block of S. REXFORD DRIVE

3/2/2024, 5:26 a.m. at 300 Block of N. CANON DRIVE

3/1/2024, 4:50 p.m. at 400 Block of N. BEVERLY DRIVE

THEFT - PETTY (FROM VEHICLE)

3/7/2024, 12:03 p.m. at 500 Block of HILLCREST ROAD

VANDALISM

3/9/2024, 7:30 p.m. at 200 Block of S. REXFORD DRIVE

3/6/2024, 1:30 a.m. at 9700 Block of S. SANTA MONICA BLVD.

3/3/2024, 4:46 p.m. at 200 Block of S. MAPLE DRIVE

3/3/2024, 2:07 p.m. at 100 Block of N. HAMILTON DRIVE

3/3/2024, 1:50 p.m. at 9900 Block of DURANT DRIVE

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Birthdays

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EVA LONGORIA
March 15



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March 20



CINDYANA SANTANGELO
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Astrology

BY HOLIDAY MATIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You make your moves with the best intentions, and without expectation or anticipation of a positive response. Remarkable outcomes can arise from a bit of audaciousness.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). In a sense you feel like you're in a preexistent state, preparing to step into a role or become another version of yourself. Just know that even though you are learning, you're still as whole and complete as any version of yourself.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). There's no risk that makes you see yourself better today than risking rejection. Being on your own side is being on the side of learning, not being on the side of perfection, power, ego or winning. You'll tune your offering based on feedback.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). To put your heart on the line usually takes courage. Now it just takes math. When you see that what's there to gain is extremely valuable, rare and worth the risk, you can't back down from the challenge.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Attraction is the principle by which the planets orbit and the people, too. You'll find the social circle more interesting for the aspects, angles and intersections. Knowing and seeing what people like will be exciting.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Once you choose, let go of the other options. Trust yourself. Regret, rumination, comparison and the like can only slow your progress or put a damper on your joy. But to celebrate your choice the whole way will give you power.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). If you spend too much time trying to meet someone's impossible needs, you'll forget who you are. Instead, build up your own self-worth. There's no need to spend any time at all in a toxic situation.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Learn the style of others. Stay aware of patterns, habits and the like. If one person is playing a game, the others, who are not playing a game, are still unwittingly in a game.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You have a special energy that people want to be around. It extends to your belongings. You may have trouble

getting someone to return what was borrowed from you. No one will want to give up the special energy infused in your things.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). When you put yourself or your work on the line, you risk rejection. Ultimately, this is the risk that will make you see yourself better. And seeing yourself allows you to align with the needs of those around you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll show your feelings, maybe not on

purpose. It's what happens when you're willing to feel what comes up. Don't worry too much about it today. They'll wash over you fast. Furthermore, someone special will connect with your open heart -- not who you were expecting.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You have a natural ability to create harmony and understanding in your relationships. Your diplomacy and empathy make you a true relationship expert today.



This week's rescue available for adoption is Francine. She is a 7-pound, 3-year-old probable Yorkie mix that was saved from a county kill shelter. If interested in giving Francine a home, please contact Shelter of Hope at 805-379-3538.

shelterhopepetshop.org

Fun and Games

SUDOKU
03/15/24 ISSUE

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

SUDOKU ANSWERS
03/08/24 ISSUE

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

PUZZLE ANSWERS
03/08/24 ISSUE

ASKS WET CCTV HEAVES
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THE NEW YORK TIMES SUNDAY MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE
03/15/24 ISSUE

COUNTDOWN

BY HOANG-KIM VU / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Hoang-Kim Vu, of Washington, D.C., works in global public health. This is his 10th crossword for The Times — fitting, given the theme! — and his first Sunday. He wanted a theme that made full use of the larger grid, which resulted in this ambitious and impressive interlock. As a born-and-bred New Jerseyan, he hopes solvers will excuse 34-Down, with which he's "probably more comfortable" than most.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Loosefitting garment
 - 8 Things packed for a sleepover, informally
 - 11 Cavs, on a scoreboard
 - 14 Effects seen on FX, perhaps
 - 17 Nation on the Red Sea
 - 18 Helmsman on "Star Trek"
 - 20 High times for the petroleum industry
 - 23 X, but not Y
 - 24 It might help you keep up with old classmates
 - 26 Big-eyed baby
 - 28 Excerpted passage
 - 29 China's Sun ___-sen
 - 30 Carrier of goods by rail
 - 34 Player of 45s
 - 35 Haim of "Licorice Pizza"
 - 37 Iconic role for Carrie Fisher
 - 38 Certain porter
 - 40 "Right you are!"
 - 43 Contest
 - 45 Some Kiwis
 - 47 Stop on a publicity tour
 - 50 When repeated, gung-ho
 - 51 Dish often topped with marinara sauce
 - 54 Dorm décor, often
 - 56 Rave
 - 58 Trivial
 - 59 ___ Paz, 1990 Literature Nobelist
 - 60 The "e" of i.e.
 - 61 Chosen name of five popes
 - 63 ___ Equis
 - 65 Prepare (oneself)
 - 66 Fundamentals
 - 69 Alternatives to Pumas
 - 71 Break for a bit
 - 73 Ctrl-Z command
 - 74 Does some fieldwork
 - 76 ___ Rose of Guns N' Roses
 - 77 Standings column
 - 78 Leb. neighbor
 - 80 French desserts whose name translates as "small ovens"
 - 82 Flair
 - 84 Thor, e.g.
 - 88 Makeup of some sleeves
 - 89 TV chef who wrote "Semi-Homemade Cooking"
 - 92 ___ Sremmurd (hip-hop duo)
 - 93 White Russian ingredient
 - 94 Playwright Eugene
 - 95 Michelangelo masterpiece
 - 97 Camelot figure
 - 100 It can be written in scripts known as naskh and ruq'ah
 - 102 Require
 - 103 Tree with "eyes" on its bark
 - 106 They can be tapped out
 - 108 Concern at the end of a space journey
 - 110 X
 - 111 Ambitious sort
 - 114 ___ Cherry, 1989 Grammy nominee for Best New Artist
 - 115 "Take it easy once in a while!"
 - 118 Sonny and Fredo, for two
 - 123 They're all pulling in the same direction
 - 124 Keep it in mind!
 - 125 Classy
 - 126 Chinese-dish eponym
 - 127 End of days?
 - 128 You might take them out for a quick spin, informally
 - 129 Rages
 - 10 Heaps at publishing houses
 - 11 Edward Jenner used it when developing the world's first successful vaccine
 - 12 Sigmatism, by another name
 - 13 The blonde in "Legally Blonde"
 - 14 What might unfold at camp
 - 15 Exclamation on April Fools' Day
 - 16 Words of clarification
 - 19 "Yeah ... pass"
 - 21 Checks for bugs
 - 22 Mlle., in Madrid
 - 25 -
 - 27 Wrap up by
 - 30 Distress signal
 - 31 Put on the air again
 - 32 -
 - 33 Letter after sigma
 - 34 Borough of New Jersey noted for its indoor shopping malls
 - 36 Landed on a licorice space in Candy Land, say
 - 39 Male swan
 - 41 Put side by side
 - 42 Relative of a gator
 - 44 Their eggs are dark green
 - 46 Camera spec
 - 48 -
 - 49 Brought before a jury
 - 52 This, in Spanish
 - 53 Malibu, e.g.
 - 55 One way to go
 - 57 "This guy? We're together"
 - 61 -
 - 62 Accounts
 - 64 Greenlights
 - 66 Schedule slot filler: Abbr.
 - 67 Grim
 - 68 Terra ___
 - 70 One doing the lord's work?
 - 71 Birch bark and pine cones, e.g.
 - 72 -
 - 75 Missing work?
 - 77 Exchange words?
 - 79 Trickle (through)
 - 81 -
 - 83 Language spoken in Luang Prabang
 - 84 Government bonds?
 - 85 Welcome
 - 86 Consumer
 - 87 Set ... or word said before set
 - 90 Estuary
 - 91 "Three Tall Women" playwright
 - 96 Overnight site
 - 98 Cold feet and cold shoulder, for two
 - 99 Emperor before the Year of the Four Emperors
 - 101 Louisiana cooking style
 - 103 "Flick of the Switch" band
 - 104 Curt
 - 105 Aches (for)
 - 107 Classic soda brand
 - 109 -
 - 112 ___-Ball
 - 113 Education orgs.
 - 114 Hush-hush pacts, in brief
 - 116 -
 - 117 Good name, informally
 - 119 Some smartphones
 - 120 Something bent or lent
 - 121 -
 - 122 Norm: Abbr.

ANSWERS FOUND IN NEXT WEEK'S PAPER...

- DOWN**
- 1 -
 - 2 ___TV (network for "Impractical Jokers")
 - 3 Lower, as lights
 - 4 Hwy.
 - 5 Coding headache
 - 6 Naval engagement
 - 7 One taking interest in your education?
 - 8 H.S. exam
 - 9 7/
 - 91 "Three Tall Women" playwright
 - 96 Overnight site
 - 98 Cold feet and cold shoulder, for two
 - 99 Emperor before the Year of the Four Emperors
 - 101 Louisiana cooking style
 - 103 "Flick of the Switch" band
 - 104 Curt
 - 105 Aches (for)
 - 107 Classic soda brand
 - 109 -
 - 112 ___-Ball
 - 113 Education orgs.
 - 114 Hush-hush pacts, in brief
 - 116 -
 - 117 Good name, informally
 - 119 Some smartphones
 - 120 Something bent or lent
 - 121 -
 - 122 Norm: Abbr.

Public Notices

RFQ #24-350-34

**CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
345 FOOTHILL ROAD
BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90210**

**REQUEST FOR PREQUALIFICATION
OF BIDDERS AND PREQUALIFICATION
INSTRUCTIONS FOR:**

**POLICE FACILITY LUNCH ROOM & MENS
LOCKER ROOM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

Notice is hereby given that the City of Beverly Hills ("CITY") has determined that all bidders for the Police Facility Lunch Room & Men's Locker Room ("Project") must be pre-qualified prior to submitting a bid on that Project. It is mandatory that all Contractors who intend to submit a bid, fully complete the prequalification questionnaire, provide all materials requested herein, and be approved by the CITY to be on the final qualified Bidders list.

No bid will be accepted from a Contractor that has failed to comply with these requirements. If two or more business entities submit a bid as part of a Joint Venture, or expect to submit a bid as part of a Joint Venture, each entity within the Joint Venture must be separately qualified to bid. The last date to submit a fully completed questionnaire is **5:00 PM Thursday, March 28, 2024**

Contractors must register as a vendor at the following website in order to download the prequalification package, and to receive clarifications and notifications when issued.

The Prequalification package may be viewed on, and downloaded from the City's PlanetBids portal: <https://pbsystem.planetbids.com/portal/39493/bo/bo-detail/115375>

This item is listed as: *Prequalification Police Facility Lunch Room & Men's Locker Room*. Answers to questions contained in the questionnaire are required. The CITY will use these documents as the basis of rating Contractors with respect to whether each Contractor is qualified to bid on the Project, and reserves the right to check other sources available. The CITY's decision will be based on objective evaluation criteria.

The CITY reserves the right to adjust, increase, limit, suspend or rescind the prequalification rating based on subsequently learned information. Contractors whose rating changes sufficiently to disqualify them will be notified, and given an opportunity for a hearing consistent with the hearing procedures described below for appealing a prequalification rating.

While it is the intent of the prequalification questionnaire and documents required therewith to assist the CITY in determining bidder responsibility prior to bid and to aid the CITY in selecting the lowest responsible bidder, neither the fact of prequalification, nor any prequalification rating, will preclude the CITY from a post-bid consideration and determination of whether a bidder has the quality, fitness, capacity and experience to satisfactorily perform the proposed work, and has demonstrated the requisite trustworthiness.

All qualifications submittals are required to be submitted electronically via PlanetBids. The electronic submittal system will close exactly at the date and time set forth in this request for qualifications.

Any questions regarding the questionnaire and qualification package should be submitted via PlanetBids by 2:00PM, February 10, 2023. Questions sent via email or over the phone; with the exception of those related to accessing or using PlanetBids, will not be answered.

Contractors are responsible for submitting and having their documents accepted before the closing time set forth in the request for qualifications. **NOTE:** Pushing the submit button on the electronic submittal system may not be instantaneous; it may take time for the Contractor's documents to upload and transmit before the documents are accepted. It is the Contractor's sole responsibility to ensure their documents are uploaded, transmitted, and arrive in time electronically. The City of Beverly Hills will have no responsibility for documents that do not arrive in a timely manner, no matter what the reason.

The prequalification packages submitted by Contractors are not public records and are not open to public inspection. All information provided will be kept confidential to the extent permitted by law. However, the contents may be disclosed to third parties for purpose of verification, or investigation of substantial allegations, or in an appeal hearing. State law requires that the names of contractors applying for prequalification status shall be public records subject to disclosure, and the first page of the questionnaire will be used for that purpose.

Each questionnaire must be signed under penalty of perjury in the manner designated at the end of the form, by an individual who has the legal authority to bind the Contractor on whose behalf that person is signing. If any information provided by a Contractor becomes inaccurate, the Contractor must immediately notify the CITY and provide updated accurate information in writing, under penalty of perjury.

The CITY reserves the right to waive minor irregularities and omissions in the information contained in the prequalification application submitted, and to make all final determinations. The CITY may also determine at any time that the prequalification process will be suspended for the Project and the Project will be bid without prequalification.

Contractors may submit prequalification packages during regular working hours on any day that the offices of the CITY are open. Contractors who submit a complete prequalification package will be notified of their qualification status no later than ten business days after submission of the information.

The CITY may refuse to grant prequalification where the requested information and materials are not provided by the due date indicated above. There is no appeal from a refusal for an incomplete or late application, but re-application for a later project is permitted. Neither the closing time for submitting prequalification packages for this Project will be changed in order to accommodate supplementation of incomplete submissions, or late submissions, unless requested by the CITY in its sole discretion.

In addition to a contractor's failure to be pre-qualified pursuant to the scoring system set forth in the prequalification package, a contractor may be found not prequalified for either omission of or falsification of, any requested information.

Where a timely and completed application results in a rating below that necessary to pre-qualify, an appeal can be made by the unsuccessful Contractor. An appeal is begun by the Contractor delivering notice to the CITY of its appeal of the decision with respect to its prequalification rating, no later than two business days following notification that it is not pre-qualified. The notice of appeal shall include an address where the Contractor wishes to receive notice of the appeal hearing. Without a timely appeal, the Contractor waives any and all rights to challenge the decision of the CITY, whether by administrative process, judicial process or any other legal process or proceeding.

If the Contractor gives the required notice of appeal, a hearing shall be conducted no earlier than five business days after the CITY's receipt of the notice of appeal and not later than five business days prior to the date of the Notice Inviting Bids for this Project. Prior to the hearing, the Contractor shall, in writing, be advised of the basis for the City's pre-qualification determination.

The hearing shall be conducted by a panel consisting of three members of the Public Works Department senior management staff (the "Appeals Panel"). The Appeals Panel shall consider any evidence presented by the Contractor, whether or not the evidence is presented in compliance with formal rules of evidence. The Contractor will be given the opportunity to present evidence, information and arguments as to why the Contractor believes it should be pre-qualified. Within one day after the conclusion of the hearing, the Appeals Panel will render a written determination as to whether the Contractor is pre-qualified. It is the intention of the CITY that the date for the submission and opening of bids will not be delayed or postponed to allow for completion of an appeal process.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT **2024012208** The following is/are doing business as: **PILATES ESSENTIALS** 9836 Naional Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90034 Victor Wilson LLC, 3300 Overland Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90034; The business is conducted by: **A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY** AI #ON 202011810230 registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on JULY 2023: **Victor Wilson, LLC, Victor Wilson, CEO;** Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: January 18, 2024; Published: March 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024 LACC N/C (Original Print dates to start January 27, 2024. Newspaper error) BHCourier.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT **2024044809** The following is/are doing business as: **RHODE 9300 Wilshire Blvd. Beverly Hills, CA 90212** HR Beauty LLC, 9300 Wilshire Blvd. Beverly Hills, CA 90212; The business is conducted by: **A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY** AI #ON 202011810230 registrant(s) has NOT begun to transact business under the name(s) listed: **HR BEAUTY LLC, Nikolaos Vlahos, CEO;** Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: February 28, 2024; Published: March 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024 LACC N/C

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT **2024048395** The following is/are doing business as: **GNOSIS PUBLISHING** 14400 Valerio Street #207 Van Nuys, CA 91405 Don Hainesworth 14400 Valerio Street #207 Van Nuys, CA 91405; The business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL** registrant(s) has NOT begun to transact business under the name(s) listed: **Don Hainesworth, Owner;** Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: March 5, 2024; Published: March 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024 LACC N/C

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT **2024055808** The following is/are doing business as: **1) RAINEYVILLE 2) RAINEYVILLE MUSIC** 8500 Wilshire Blvd. Ste. 525 Beverly Hills, CA 90211 Ronald Rainey 8500 Wilshire Bl. #525 Beverly Hills, CA 90211; The business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL** registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on MAY 1992: **Ronald Rainey, Owner;** Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: March 13, 2024; Published: March 15, 22, 29, April 5, 2024 LACC N/C

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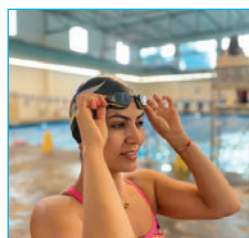
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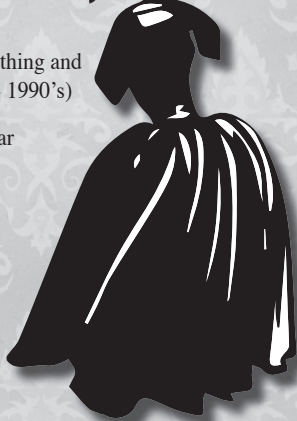
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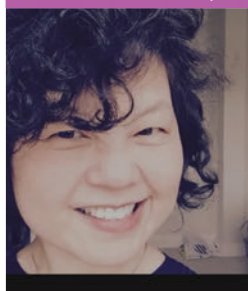


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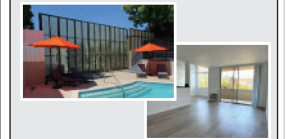
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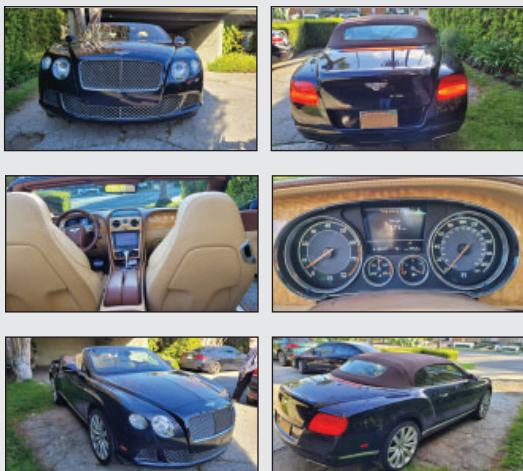
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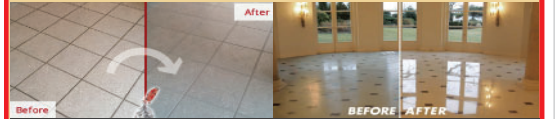
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