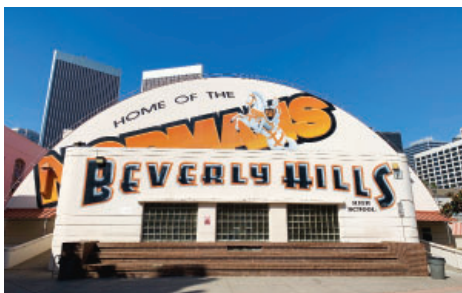


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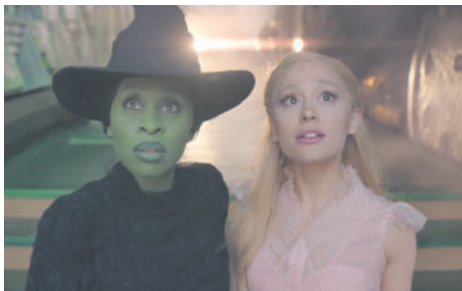
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THE WEATHER, BEVERLY HILLS CA

☁ Friday	61° 46°
☁ Saturday	63° 44°
☁ Sunday	64° 46°
☁ Monday	61° 43°
☁ Tuesday	60° 43°
☁ Wednesday	56° 48°
☁ Thursday	59° 49°

City Council Agrees to Split Vice Mayorship for Upcoming Term

BY JESSICA OGILVIE

Following a detailed discussion at a Feb. 5 Special Study Session about the timing of municipal elections and the election of the mayor and vice mayor, the Beverly Hills City Council agreed, among other things, to split the vice mayorship between two councilmembers for the upcoming 2025-2026 term.

This proposal was initiated by Councilmember John Mirisch and agreed to by Councilmember Craig Corman, who will

each serve six months in the position. The decision to split the vice mayorship came as the council attempted to grapple with the ramifications of one local measure and two state measures enacted in the past decade.

SB 415 and SB 970, passed in 2015 and 2020, respectively, have altered the schedule of local elections. In non-presidential election years, elections are held in June for three city councilmembers. In presidential election years, elections are held in March

See STUDY SESSION, page 6



'Les is More' Event Highlights City Sustainability Efforts

BY SELINA KAUSAR

On Feb. 3, Mayor Lester Friedman held a sustainability edition of his "Les is More: An Hour with the Mayor" series. Friedman was joined by panelists from the city's Public Works department, including Director Shana Epstein, Environmental Compliance and Sustainability Programs Manager Josette Descalzo and Sustainability Program Administrator Amanda Grossman. The event focused on important sustainability initiatives in the city and shared information on how Beverly Hills is preparing for a sustainable, resilient and eco-friendly future.

In the United States, the responsibility for implementing carbon emission reduction measures falls on state and local government, as opposed to the federal government.



Photo by Selina Kausar

Mayor Friedman and panel at "Les is More" event

As a result, Friedman asked the Public Works department about the initiatives the city has undertaken to reduce carbon emissions.

One such initiative was the City Council's See 'LES IS MORE,' page 10

Planning Commission Considers Synthetic Turf Regulations

BY SELINA KAUSAR

During the Jan. 30 Planning Commission Special Meeting, the commission voted to prohibit the installation of synthetic turf in residential front yards, following a recent change in state law regarding synthetic turf. The commission also discussed and approved the development project at 8800 Burton Way.

Historically, the city of Beverly Hills did not allow synthetic turf to be installed in residential front yards. However, in 2015, the City Council was required to adopt an ordinance to allow synthetic turf in residential front yards as part of state-mandated drought-response efforts. During this time, a total of 42 permits for synthetic turf installations were issued, with 24 of these having been utilized by homeowners. Recent concerns about public health issues related to synthetic turf, including microplastic pollution and chemical runoff, led to the enactment of Senate Bill 676 last year. This reinstated local authority control to revise or prohibit the use of synthetic turf, with the Planning Commission deciding which changes to make in light of this new bill.

Vice Chair Jeff Wolfe proposed returning to a ban of synthetic turf. He said, "I would be in favor of going back to what the city See PLANNING COMMISSION, page 9

Early Childhood Center Unfolding at Hawthorne Campus

BY SELINA KAUSAR

On Jan. 31, the Beverly Hills City Council Liaison / Beverly Hills Unified School District (BHUSD) Committee met to discuss progress and future plans for the city's use of the Hawthorne Elementary School campus as both an Early Childhood Center (ECC) and District Office. The committee was comprised See HAWTHORNE, page 11

Courier Calendar

NOW - FEB. 23

ODYSSEY THEATRE: "THE SEAGULL"
THURS.-SAT. 8 P.M.
SUN. 2 P.M.

"The Seagull," one of Anton Chekhov's most popular plays, returns with a vital new production directed by Chekhov expert and actor Bruce Katzman, author of "Secrets of Chekhov," and stars Sasha Alexander ("Rizzoli and Isles," "NCIS," "Shameless") as Arkadina, and James Tupper ("Revenge," "Big Little Lies," "Grey's Anatomy," "Men in Trees" and more recently appearing on "FBI" and "The Irrational") as Trigorin, and has extended its run. Chekhov's timeless story of love and loss is performed with an outstanding ensemble of actors and has audiences laughing and crying with recognition for this human comedy. Tickets are \$20. Odyssey Theatre is located at 2055 S. Sepulveda Blvd., Los Angeles. odysseytheatre.com

NOW - MARCH 23

THE BROAD: "JOSEPH BEUYS: IN DEFENSE OF NATURE"
TUES., WED., FRI. 11 A.M.-5 P.M.
THURS. 11 A.M.-8 P.M.
SAT.-SUN. 10 A.M.-6 P.M.

The Broad presents a free collection exhibition, offsite public reforestation project, and series of programs connected with the legacy of Joseph Beuys's art and environmental advocacy. The exhibition presents over 400 artworks that illuminate Beuys's practice as a model for direct environmental action, drawing from The Broad's extensive holdings of the artist's work. "Joseph Beuys: In Defense

of Nature" prominently highlights the artist's "multiples." Arranged thematically throughout the first-floor galleries, the multiples are editioned objects made to be sold or given away, more accessible than singular, large-scale pieces. The Broad is located at 221 S. Grand Ave., Los Angeles. General admission to The Broad is free with advanced timed reservations. thebroad.org

NOW - APRIL 6

HAMMER MUSEUM: "OUT OF THE ORDINARY: UNCOMMON MATERIALS, MARKS AND MATRICES"
TUES.-THURS., SAT.-SUN. 11 A.M.-6 P.M.
FRI. 11 A.M.-8 P.M.

This exhibition explores contemporary artists' use of unusual mark-making devices, including blood, smoke, Kool-Aid, coffee, scrap metal, vegetable juice, pins, dryer lint and more, to create drawings and prints. With works drawn largely from the collection of the Grunwald Center for the Graphic Arts, "Out of the Ordinary" examines artists' wide-ranging motivations for choosing such unorthodox media, from sensory play and experimentation to excavations of the charged historical and symbolic values of mundane substances. "Out of the Ordinary" includes works by Tara Donovan, Anya Gallaccio, Mona Hatoum, Richard Long, Umar Rashid, Sherrill Roland, Ed Ruscha and Zarina, among others. Admission to The Hammer is free. It's located at 10899 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles. hammer.ucla.edu

NOW - APRIL 12, 2026

THE ACADEMY MUSEUM OF MOTION PICTURES: "CYBERPUNK: ENVISIONING POSSIBLE FUTURES THROUGH CINEMA"
WED.-MON. 10 A.M.-6 P.M.

"Cyberpunk: Envisioning Possible Futures Through Cinema" examines the global impact and lasting influence of the science fiction subgenre cyberpunk on cinema culture. Featuring near-future scenarios set in worlds that resemble our own, cyberpunk films juxtapose technological advances with social upheaval, ecological crisis and urban decay. Central to these stories are outcasts and rebellious characters who fight against corrupt political systems, technology gone haywire, global mega-corporations and colonialism. The Academy Museum's exhibition features production materials, costumes, props and concept art from iconic cyberpunk films, including "Blade Runner" (USA, 1982), "Tron" (USA, 1982) and "eXistenZ" (Canada, 1999). It also spotlights international films like "Sleep Dealer" (Mexico/USA, 2008) and foundational animated features such as "Ghost in the Shell" (Japan, 1995). At the exhibition's core, an immersive installation explores themes and visual motifs of cyberpunk and futurist films. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$19 for seniors, \$15 for students and free for children. The Academy Museum is located at 6067 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles. academymuseum.org

FEB. 8 - MARCH 30

ROGUE MACHINE THEATRE: "BACON"
MON., FRI., SAT. 8 P.M.
SUN. 3 P.M.

Rogue Machine Theatre presents the West Coast premiere of "Bacon," a play by Sophie Swithinbank. The play takes an unflinching and unexpectedly humorous look at power and sexuality through the dizzying lens of youth. Directed by Michael Matthews, the production stars Jack Lancaster (Darren) and Wesley Guimarães (Mark). Mark is new at school and too scared to make friends. Darren is out of control and too scary to make friends. Worlds apart, but more similar than they realize, the pair form a complex and manipulative relationship. Before they know it, they're embarking on a dangerous experiment that will alter the course of their lives. Tickets are \$45 for general admission, \$35 for seniors and \$25 for students with ID. Rogue Machine is located at 7658 Melrose Ave., Los Angeles. roguemachinetheatre.org

FEB. 10

THEATRE 40: MONDAY NIGHT THEATRE APPRECIATION SEMINAR: "OUTSIDE MULLINGAR"
7 P.M.

Theatre 40's popular series of Monday Night Theatre Appreciation Seminars resumes. There will be play readings on Mondays, located in Theatre 40's main venue, the Mary Levin Cutler Theatre on the first floor of 241 S. Moreno Drive, Beverly Hills. The next installment of the series is "Outside Mullingar," by John Patrick Shanley, in which Anthony and Rosemary are farmers and next-door neighbors. Rosemary has loved Anthony since childhood. It takes a land feud to bring them together. There is ample free parking beneath the theatre, accessible via a driveway at the intersection of Durant and Moreno drives. Admission is a suggested donation of \$10. Each reading will be followed by a brief question-and-answer period. theatre40.org

FEB. 13

BEVERLY HILLS WOMEN'S CLUB: GALENTINE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING LUNCHEON
11 A.M.-2 P.M.

The Beverly Hills Women's Club presents its annual Galentine's Day celebration, this year with a focus on heart health. The event begins at 11 a.m. with an introduction to Tai Chi with Gina Bari from 11-11:45 a.m. From 12-1 p.m., Dr. Karol Watson shares some expert insights. Dr. Watson is an attending cardiologist and a Professor of Medicine/Cardiology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. A gourmet buffet luncheon follows from 1-2 p.m. Throughout the event, curated boutique shopping is available. Tickets are \$175 and free for members of the club and guests of members displaced by the recent L.A. fires. The club is located at 1700 Chevy Chase Drive, Beverly Hills. bhwc1916.org



Photo by Miguel Perez

Parker Sack and Sasha Alexander in "The Seagull" at Odyssey Theatre until Feb. 23

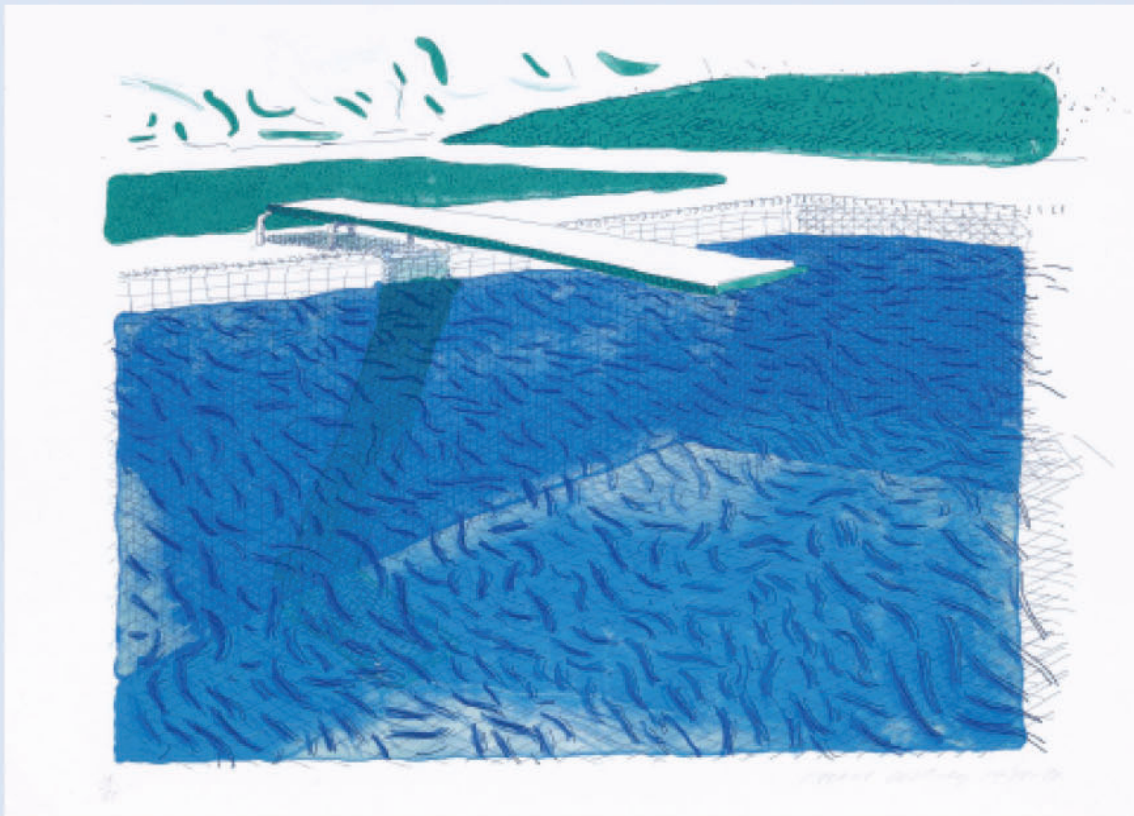
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Developers File Application for 34-Story Building on Wilshire Blvd.



Architect rendering of The Eastern courtesy Millennium Partners Los Angeles

BY JESSICA OGILVIE

Millennium Partners Los Angeles has filed an application with the city of Beverly Hills to build a 34-story mixed-use building at the intersection of Wilshire and San Vicente Boulevards. Located at 8300 Wilshire Blvd., the development will take the place of an existing single-story shopping center. The

project includes 249 residential units ranging in size from one to three bedrooms, and developers are also considering two food and beverage destinations on the ground floor.

Beverly Hills's current height limitations on mixed-use buildings range from three to five stories. The proposed development — called The Eastern — would exceed those

See EASTERN, page 10

Hochman Sued Over Alleged Menendez Retaliation



Photo by Sean Beckner-Carmitchel

Attorneys have filed a notice of intent to sue DA Nathan Hochman and others.

BY SEAN BECKNER-CARMITCHEL

Two attorneys working for the Los Angeles District Attorney's office have filed a claim alleging they were both retaliated against by their superiors and demoted to junior positions. They claim that two weeks after submitting a resentencing memo recommending a release for Erik and Lyle Menendez, Nathan Hochman was elected to the office of L.A. District Attorney. According to them, harassment, and retaliation followed shortly after.

On Feb 3, Nancy Theberge and Brock Lunsford both filed notices that they intend to sue for discrimination and harassment, retaliation, Labor Code violations and emotional distress, among other theories. Theberge and Lunsford named L.A. District Attorney Nathan Hochman, the County of Los Angeles, the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office and Deputy District Attorney John Lewin in their complaints.

Under California law, plaintiffs must file a claim 45 days before a lawsuit when the defendant is a public entity. Theberge and Lunsford seek more than \$250,000 in economic damages and over \$5 million in non-economic damages.

Erik and Lyle Menendez both were sentenced in 1996 to life sentences without parole for the 1989 murders of their parents José and Mary Louise "Kitty" Menendez in Beverly Hills. Both are now in their 50s and have served more than 35 years in jail. After new evidence which corroborates that their father had been sexually abusing the brothers since childhood surfaced, former L.A. District Attorney George Gascón reviewed a habeas petition and recommended a resentencing via a memo last October.

Theberge and Lunsford were both authors of the memo. Theberge was in charge of L.A. County's resentencing unit at this time. Lunsford was Assistant Head Deputy Post-Conviction and Litigation. Lunsford has now been moved to a calendaring clerk position in Norwalk. Theberge is back at the alternate public defender's office, an office she held several years ago.

Justin Shegerian, one of the attorneys for Theberge and Lunsford, told the

Courier, "They were applying the law to the Menendez brothers case, and they recommended the resentencing of them based on a variety of factors that the law provides." He added that the incoming DA "retaliated against them for that. They harassed them for that, and they demoted them and sent them off to Siberia to positions where they had worked previously with far less experience as well as to non-supervisory positions in the bottom of the organizational chart."

Hochman has not publicly stated whether his office will continue to support resentencing for the brothers. He criticized Gascón's handling of the case during his campaign, calling the handling politically motivated. In a move many consider as a possible indication of his position, Hochman hired Kathy Cady to oversee the DA's victims services bureau. Cady formerly represented one of the only Menendez relatives who have called for the brothers to remain in prison.

Deputy District Attorney John Lewin is also listed as a defendant in the tort claims. The claim states that Lewin defamed Theberge by making public statements that Theberge was incompetent and violated courtroom ethics. The claim also states that Lewin accused Theberge of violating her duty of candor to the court.

The claim alleges that even though Lewin made social media statements that defamed the two, Lewin was promoted. Lewin was also a vocal critic of Gascón. He too sued the office for political retaliation in Feb 2023 when Gascón was at the helm. Lewin had been transferred from the Major Crimes Division to the role of calendar attorney at the Inglewood Courthouse. Once Hochman entered the office, Lewin was transferred back to Major Crimes.

Pam Johnson, a spokesperson for the L.A. District Attorney's Office, said via email, "Our office does not comment on litigation or personnel matters."

A hearing for Erik and Lyle Menendez is planned for March 20 and 21. ●

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BHUSD Suspends Palisades Charter High School Enrollment



BY SELINA KAUSAR

After the Palisades Charter High School was devastated by recent wildfires, the Beverly Hills Unified School District (BHUSD) welcomed 47 displaced students before pausing enrollment to consider the impact on the district's resources. In a special meeting on Feb. 3, the BHUSD Board of Education revised its policy and will now curtail enrollment for nonresidents, with the exception of those whose homes were lost or classified as uninhabitable as a result of the fires.

Following the outbreak of the fires, Gov. Gavin Newsom signed an executive order on Jan. 14 allowing students whose schools were impacted by fires to enroll in other school districts. The Palisades Charter High School

had a student body of 2900 students, with the main campus left in an unusable state by the fires. Although many of these students have since switched to the school's interim online program and virtual class offerings, others prefer to continue their education in person at other school districts, including the BHUSD.

The BHUSD is in receipt of a total of 151 requests for enrollment of students from schools in the Pacific Palisades and has already enrolled 47 at the time of writing. BHUSD Superintendent Dr. Michael Bregy said, "We've been in full alignment with the executive order by accepting students ... we have ensured that our enrollment remains within the capacity and resources of our school district. We do have a commitment to help our neighbors but also ensure we are providing a high-quality

education for our residents as well."

"We have 47 displaced students across all four high school levels ... if we take more there will be no place to put those students," Bregy said. The main reason for this, he said, is because teachers at Beverly Hills High School are now at maximum capacity and further staff would need to be hired to accommodate more students.

Board Vice President Judy Manouchehri said, "I think taking 47 students is way beyond what we should've taken, it was very generous of us to do so. We were urged—not forced or mandated to do this and we've taken funds away from our resident students to give to these 47 students."

The majority of the students requesting to enroll in the BHUSD are of high school age, with seven requests for the middle school. This has made the enrollment process more challenging as according to Bregy, high school transcripts must be reviewed and assessed on an individual basis with the help of a counselor to determine class sizes and teacher availability.

Assistant Superintendent for Student Services Laura Collins-Williams said that many of the 151 students who requested to enroll had not lost their homes in the Pacific Palisades

but had lost their schools.

"To my knowledge, we do not have anyone who has listed that they've lost their homes. We've had some people enroll as residents as they have relocated to Beverly Hills but of the 151 pending requests, none of those students have lost their homes," Collins-Williams said.

The 47 students who have already been enrolled were decided upon before the district finalized who they would prioritize enrollment for. As nonresidents of Beverly Hills, they were enrolled under the executive order that allows the residency requirement to be waived for the 2024/25 calendar year.

Board Member Russell Stuart raised concerns over a potentially looser prior interpretation of the word "displaced," which could be used to include students who have not lost their homes but were affected by the fires in other ways, such as poor air quality.

Effective immediately, new enrollments into the BHUSD from areas impacted by the fires, including those in the 90272 zip code, must provide a FEMA card or insurance claim proof to show their residence has been deemed uninhabitable.

Displaced students will be enrolled for the remainder of the 2024/25 academic year. ●

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STUDY SESSION, from page 1

for two city councilmembers. The mayoral position rotates in sequence, based on date of election and number of votes garnered by each councilmember. The mayor and vice mayor are installed in April of each year, regardless of when the municipal election takes place.

Adding an additional wrinkle is the fact that Beverly Hills voters approved Measure TL in 2022. That ordinance on its face imposes a limit of three terms of four years each for councilmembers.

As discussed at the Study Session, the foregoing presents several complicated issues for the city.

Due to the state laws and current city practices, it is possible for the councilmember with the third highest number of votes to be elected mayor in April of the last year of their term, then cease to hold office in July of the same year because he or she is not reelected, terms out or decides not to run for office.

In such a case, that individual would hold the office of mayor for just three months. The council considered on Feb. 5 whether that would be an acceptable scenario, and if so, whether it would be similarly acceptable for another member of the council to move into the position of mayor for the remaining nine months of the term.

The council appointed in September

2024 an Elections Ad Hoc Committee comprised of Corman and Councilmember Mary Wells to review these and other concerns, including whether the mayor should continue to serve a one-year term, and whether a councilmember should serve as vice mayor if he or she is not able to then serve as mayor due to term limitations or losing reelection.

Corman and Wells delivered synopses of their opinions at the Feb. 5 meeting. In an unusual turn of events, they had come to an agreement about a proposal for the full council during their ad hoc committee meeting, but Corman later changed his mind.

On Feb. 5, Corman said he supported moving the mayoral installation to July.

Wells echoed the sentiment that the situation is difficult, and that many of the options they explored led to more complications. Although Wells and Corman expressed views that concurred in part and diverged in others, the council reached consensus on the mayor continuing to serve a one-year term and on splitting the vice mayorship for this upcoming term.

Since no other agreements were reached, the council will, for now, maintain the status quo with installations in April for mayor and vice mayor, and elections in either March or June, depending on the presidential election. They agreed to continue discussions around the issue.

The council spent a great deal of time

discussing whether the individual with the third-highest number of votes in an election should be skipped in the rotation. No consensus was reached on that issue.

However, the decision regarding the upcoming vice mayoral appointment was time-sensitive. Mirisch, who is in line for that office, will not be able to serve as mayor the following year due to term limits. Without having agreed on whether a councilmember can serve as vice mayor if they can't serve as mayor, a short-term decision needed to be made by the council.

"I would be next in rotation," said Mirisch. "I feel that this is in some way, even though you're trying to make it not personal, it is. That said, I would be willing to entertain a suggestion, if everyone would, where, if [Corman] feels it's appropriate, because he would be the next in line, to split the term as vice mayor so we'd both have a chance" to serve.

Vice Mayor Sharona Nazarian lodged concerns about the logistics of Mirisch's

proposal.

"How is this going to work as far as staff is concerned, in all of our logistics, in our paperwork, in our positions?" she said. "For example, our charitable foundation has the vice mayor serving as the chairperson, and so what are we going to do? Keep switching off in the middle?"

Corman said the suggestion was not ideal but agreed, noting that it would buy the council more time to deliberate.

"I'll do whatever the council wants to do to move this along," he said. "We can say, for this one-off, we can reach some arrangement and take some more time to study how we want to go about this in the future."

Beverly Hills City Manager Nancy Hunt-Coffey said she believed staff could make the proposal work.

"I think we're clear enough at this point," she said, "where we can move forward in the immediate term." ●

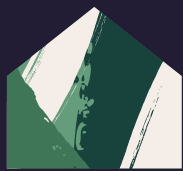
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Oscar Nominees: Part Two of Two

The Oscars—Who Did, Who Didn't and Who Should Have



Cynthia Erivo as Elphaba and Ariana Grande as Galinda in "Wicked"

Photo courtesy of Universal Studios

BY NEELY SWANSON

"Dune: Part Two" seems to be an entry predicated on the almost \$300 million it has earned so far at the box office. Based on the 1965 novel by Frank Herbert, it has themes reminiscent of "Star Wars," with a population at stake and threats of annihilation by another group with vastly superior firepower. A young hero, Paul Atreides, is out to avenge the death of his family at the hands of conspirators. Love, hate, war, vengeance and lots of gigantic weapons fill the screen that has at its root (very far down the root) a religious theme where Atreides is "the one" who has been called to deliver unity. Denis Villeneuve has directed a film of magnificent special effects and clichéd writing where any attempt at character development is punctuated by an explosion because this isn't really about character or story; it's about the visuals. Part One introduced Atreides as he sees his father try in vain to bring different forces into harmony. Part Two is Atreides' under-resourced effort to avenge his father and bring those forces together. Part Three, and make no mistake that there will be one because, like serial television, the last scene sets up the next movie as the battle for unity continues. There were no acting nominations, and rightfully so because the acting is, at best, perfunctory. The cinematography, visual and sound effects, all nominated, should benefit handsomely when the Oscars are handed out. Surprisingly, costumes and make-up did not make the cut.

"Emilia Pérez" was a particular favorite of mine and is a leading contender for Best Picture, among many others. There hasn't been a story this original in quite some time, if ever, and the fact that it's a musical, or rather a story with musical numbers, makes it even more unique. Led by trans actress and Best Actress nominee (and the less said about her the better), Karla Sofía Gascón,

this story of a drug lord who undergoes surgery to become their true self, "Emilia Pérez" boasts a great script, a terrific cast, including Selena Gomez and Zoe Saldaña, a great score and musical numbers. It has been nominated in almost every conceivable category but is hands down the creation and work of director/co-writer Jacques Audiard. It's a Spanish-language musical set in Mexico with Latino actors directed by an audacious French director, nominated not just for Best Picture, but it's also France's entry for Best International Feature Film. Even if it wins nothing, and that will happen only if there is no justice in the world of cinema, Audiard has crashed through barriers we didn't know existed. Saldaña gave a golden performance, and my hope is that she wins the Oscar for Best Supporting Actress, like she did at the Golden Globes.

"I'm Still Here," Brazil's entry for Best International Feature Film, is an outlier. Its release at the end of the year and the publicity surrounding its theme, a repressive government's kidnappings of alleged political opponents, may have contributed to its surprise nomination in the Best Picture category. It's a good movie, but not a great one. Fernanda Torres, winning the Golden Globe for Best Actress may have contributed to her Oscar nomination as Best Actress in a Leading Role. She's quite good, but as far as I'm concerned, her performance does not rise to the level of some other more worthy actresses in films that didn't benefit from the remarkable publicity push of this one.

"Nickel Boys" definitely deserves to be on this list, although it's a real long shot. Based on the excellent novel by Colson Whitehead, director and co-writer RaMell Ross attempted to tell this story of juvenile detention in the segregated South through the eyes of the two incarcerated boys, literally and figuratively. Sometimes it works, sometimes it doesn't, but the approach is original and deserves recognition.

"The Substance" was an interesting

choice, helped, no doubt by Demi Moore's win at the Golden Globes. "The Substance" is that rare horror film to cross the breach into Best Picture territory. A black comedy about Hollywood's tendency to cast aside actresses (not actors) of a certain age and the desire to recapture the beauty of youth, "The Substance" tells the tale of an older, but still great-looking, actress who has been deaccessioned from her on-air TV job. She learns of a new process that will let her, on a shared basis, return to her youth and live life again as that sought-after commodity. What happens when her younger self refuses to share and return to her older self, as per the agreement, quickly devolves into a graphic horror story. The plot is interesting, the acting is very good, but, in the end, literally and figuratively, it is a gothic horror show. A recent Opinion piece in the "New York Times" decried the lack of recognition given to horror films at the Oscars. What the writer doesn't acknowledge is that most horror films are heavy on the make-up and gore and light on the writing, even when the plot is good. Case in point? "Nosferatu," this year's remake of the Dracula story that added nothing to the canon, but had the requisite wide-eyed innocence, gore galore and enough bad dialogue to earn a Razzie.

Demi Moore in "The Substance" was good in a role that she has, no doubt, lived but it doesn't rise to the level of great acting. If she wins, it will be a vote from all the older actresses in the Academy who have

unceremoniously been cast out unfairly and recognize themselves in this role. Does it warrant an Oscar? Not in my opinion and I fully understand the unfair judgment based on age. Under the circumstances, Margaret Qualley, the actress who plays the younger self, should have been nominated for Best Actress in a Supporting Role because she is the other half of Moore's performance.

"Wicked" is number three at the 2024 box office with \$433 million in revenue so far and it only opened on Nov. 22. It is a behemoth and deserves to be on this list because it is the whole package—lights, camera, action, great actresses in Cynthia Erivo and Ariana Grande both of whom have been nominated. The only controversy is that director John Chu was left off the nominations list for the Oscars and the DGA. That is a puzzle because there are a lot of moving parts in this beloved musical and they all worked together like gears in sync. Even more surprising was that Winnie Holzman, writer of the original musical and co-writer of the screenplay, was not nominated for adapted screenplay. The biggest movie of the year and neither the director nor the writer was nominated? That's an unfathomable puzzle.

Snubs? Many people lamented that Denzel Washington was not nominated for "Gladiators II." I loved his tongue-in-cheek performance but being the best thing in a not very good (but entertaining) movie is as unlikely to yield a nomination as losing out as MVP when you're the best player on a bad team.

I was very surprised that Saoirse Ronan was not nominated for her outstanding performance in "The Outrun," a completely overlooked film about a young woman returning home to recover from alcoholism and facing the demons she left behind. And, like the film or not, Amy Adams, in the quasi-horror film "Nightbitch," gave a multilayered take on postpartum depression and a woman's search for identity.

And finally, if it had been up to me, I would have included "The Count of Monte Cristo" on the Best Picture list. It's in French and didn't have wide exposure but it had the whole package from great acting, terrific story and production design capturing that period in history.

There's not enough space to dissect the rest of the nominations. There were and still are some terrific films out there and more to come. Go to the theater. See a movie! ●



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 tomatometer-approved critic.

PLANNING COMMISSION, from page 1
wanted before the state intervened.”

All three fellow commissioners (Chair Terri Kaplan was absent for this meeting) agreed with Wolfe’s suggestion that the ordinance should be revised to no longer allow synthetic turf in front yards under any circumstances.

Commission members were, however, divided over whether to make a recommendation on grandfathering; in other words, holding existing artificial turf owners responsible for removing artificial turf they have already installed.

Commissioner Gary Ross emphasized the importance of not applying any retroactive changes to the ordinance. “I would not place any limits or prohibitions on existing turf that’s already in place, other than a continuing obligation for maintenance. I wouldn’t want to be punitive to people that already have [turf installed]. I just don’t think that’s fair,” Ross said.

However, Commissioner Lou Milkowski raised hesitations with this idea, stating that older variations of synthetic turf are more at risk of containing harmful chemicals that could get into the city’s water system. “We could possibly have some sort of remuneration, so it’s not as punitive for those that were trying to do a good thing for water conservation,” Milkowski said.

Ultimately, the commission decided on a provision in the ordinance that allows existing turf to be grandfathered with a sunset

clause. This means that existing artificial turf is allowed to remain in place, for a period of time yet to be determined by city staff following the outcome of research into how long synthetic turf should last before it needs to be replaced.

The commission also discussed the construction of a new six-story, 24-unit mixed-use building at 8800 Burton Way, on the southwestern corner of Burton Way and North Robertson Boulevard. The project will provide three very low-income housing units, with the other 21 units priced at market rate as well as ground-floor commercial retail and 42 parking spaces. The project site is currently a one-story commercial building and surface parking lot that would be demolished.

The project is requesting a density bonus permit to allow a 50% density bonus, including two concessions for additional height and an additional story. Based on the municipal code, the site is allowed a base density of 20 units and due to their provisions for very low-income housing are entitled to a 50% density bonus, or 10 additional units. However, the applicant has chosen instead to provide only four additional units. As a result, they are utilizing only 20% of the maximum 50% density bonus they are entitled to.

Public comments were mixed, with some residents expressing concern over the potential increased traffic to the area and feeling that there is no need for further

retail developments near Burton Way or Robertson Boulevard. Other residents supported the construction of the development, considering the positive impact the development would have on the area’s aesthetic appeal and the local economy.

The proposed development will be located in the Mixed-Use Overlay Zone, which allows for the construction of projects with both residential and commercial uses in certain areas of the city. The Mixed-Use Overlay Zone is expected to provide the most significant opportunities for additional housing in Beverly Hills over the next eight years, according to the city’s 2021-2029 Housing Element.

“As an advocate of the Mixed-Use Overlay Zone, I’m really pleased to see it being used because that’s what it was meant for, to take the commercial areas and make them into mixed-use so that we could have commercial, retail and apartments,” said Commissioner Myra Demeter.

Wolfe asked about the stipulations for electric vehicle (EV) charging and whether the developers would consider extending current provisions. Since there will be four commercial parking spaces provided in the new development, the plan currently allocates two of these to be complete EV-ready charging spaces alongside an additional space that will have the electric capability to also be converted into an EV charging space later down the line. For the residential parking spaces, there will be 16 EV-ready spaces

and an additional four with EV capability. The developers indicated a willingness to install more EV chargers or provide wider access to 220-volt outlets.

The architect for 8800 Burton Way, Farhad Ashofteh, informed the commission that the building is planning to provide solar panels to help provide the energy that will be used to charge EVs. “All of these things are benefits to the project and the developers would not do something that doesn’t accommodate the tenants. We want to make sure we have all of the facilities needed for good-quality living in this building,” Ashofteh said.

“I think this is a great project. I compliment the applicant, their attorney and their architect for designing such a beautiful project that will activate and animate a corner that’s currently laying low, in a thoughtful way the city will enjoy numerous benefits from. And this certainly isn’t a project where the applicant has taken advantage,” Ross said.

All commission members voted in favor of the project, with the added condition that the applicant agrees to provide 220-volt outlet sources within 15 feet of each residential parking space.

As a result, the Planning Commission proposed a resolution to conditionally approve a development plan review and density bonus permit to allow for the construction of the building at 8800 Burton Way. ●

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Council of the City of Beverly Hills, at its meeting to be held on **Tuesday, March 4, 2025, at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard**, in the Council Chamber of the City Hall, 455 N. Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills, CA 90210, will hold a public hearing to consider:

AN APPEAL OF STAFF'S OCTOBER 3, 2024 INCOMPLETE DETERMINATION, PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 65943(c), PERTAINING TO THE REVIEW OF AN APPLICATION FOR A PROPOSED 15-STORY RESIDENTIAL BUILDING AT 140 SOUTH CAMDEN DRIVE.

The proposed project is a new 15-story, 194' tall, residential building at 140 South Camden Drive. The proposal consists of 27 dwelling units inclusive of six (6) units allocated for lower income households. A four-level subterranean parking structure would include 44 automated parking spaces. The project site is located within the City's R-4X2, Multiple Residential Zone. The applicant has filed applications to initiate the review of the proposal as a "Builder's Remedy" project, which relies on the provisions of the Housing Accountability Act (HAA), codified in Government Code §65589.5, and the related filing of a preliminary application pursuant to Government Code §65941.1.

This project is currently under review by the City and no action regarding a decision on the project has occurred. The applicant (Wilshire Camden LLC) has filed an appeal of City staff's determination, that the project application is incomplete and related determinations as detailed in the City's letter issued on October 3, 2024.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Pursuant to the State CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15378(b)(5)), administrative activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment, including determinations of application completeness, are not considered projects under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The project is currently under review and the City has not performed an environmental analysis of the project, as project details may change in response to the City's comments during project review. Environmental review of the project will be performed and publicly available prior to any decision on the project being issued.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Please be advised that pre-entry metal detector screening requirements are now in place at City Hall. Members of the public are requested to plan visits accordingly. Members of the public may participate in the meeting by attending in-person or telephonically, and may view the meeting through live webcast or BHTV Channel 10 on Spectrum Cable. City Council meetings are broadcast on local Beverly Hills television and on other media platforms. Anyone who participates at the meeting and/or enters the City Council Chamber is subject to having their image displayed. These recordings will remain publicly accessible in perpetuity.

Public Comment Participation:

- Oral Comment/Listen only: (310) 288-2288
- Email: cityclerk@beverlyhills.org
- Video (during public comment only): <http://beverlyhills.org/comment>
- To Watch Video Live: <http://beverlyhills.org/live> or
- On-Demand: <http://beverlyhills.org/citycouncilmeetings>
- In-Person: Submit a Speaker Card to the City Clerk at the meeting

How to Submit Public Comment (Email/Video):

It is recommended that public written comments be submitted to the City Clerk's office by 12:00 p.m. on the meeting date. Public comments will also be taken during the meeting when the topic is being reviewed by the City Council/Parking Authority. Written comments should identify the Agenda Item Number or Topic in the subject line of the email. The City Clerk will read only the first three minutes (approximately 350 words) of a written comment. In the event of a large number of written comments on one item, written comments may be summarized by the City Clerk's Office. The entire written comment shall be archived in full as part of the record.

If a comment is received after the agenda item is heard, it will not be a part of the record. Public comment via video conference will be no longer than three (3) minutes per each individual comment, subject to City Council discretion based on the anticipated length in the meeting. In-person speaker cards may be submitted to the City Clerk directly during the meeting.

Any interested person may participate in the meeting and be heard or present written comments to the City Council. According to Government Code Section 65009, if you challenge the Council's action in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City, either at or prior to the public hearing.

In Person Participation:

All interested persons are invited to attend and speak on this matter in person. Please see the above information on the location and time of this meeting.

If there are any questions regarding this notice, please contact **Judy Gutierrez, Senior Planner** in the Planning Division at **(310) 285-1192**, or by email at jgutierrez@beverlyhills.org. Please also contact us to add your email to the interested parties list for this proposal, so that important updates and notifications may be sent to you.

HUMA AHMED
City Clerk



Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Beverly Hills will make reasonable efforts to accommodate persons with disabilities. If you require special assistance, please call (310) 285-2400 (voice) or (310) 285-6881 (TTY). Providing at least forty-eight (48) hours advance notice will help to ensure availability of services. City Hall, including the Council Chamber and Room 280A, is wheelchair accessible. The City Hall Council Chamber and Room 280A are also equipped with audio equipment for the hearing impaired.

'LES IS MORE,' from page 1

decision in 2018 to join the Clean Power Alliance (CPA), a joint power authority comprising 35 cities across Los Angeles County and Ventura County. The CPA grants access to affordable and renewable electricity for Beverly Hills, allowing many residents and businesses to access affordable, 100% renewable electricity. By being part of the CPA, the city has reduced its reliance on fossil fuels for electricity generation and switched to cleaner alternatives like wind, solar and geothermal energy.

"As a result of this policy decision, we have been able to reduce the city's greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 12% annually. It's a great reduction of emissions that the city has achieved just by being a member of the CPA," said Descalzo.

Effective March 18, the city is prohibiting the use of single-use plastic and polystyrene material in food-service establishments. For some of the city's restaurants, this will come as no surprise. "We've received some great feedback from restaurants who have already transitioned. They've followed all of our resources to purchase compostable alternatives," Descalzo said.

Descalzo urged businesses worried about the cost impact of transitioning away from single-use plastic to contact the Public Works department to further assist in this transition.

The city has also been developing a Climate Action and Adaptation Plan, which will serve as Beverly Hills' roadmap to carbon neutrality and help reduce carbon emissions as a community and city. The plan features elements such as decarbonization, improving sustainable modes of transport, waste diversion (particularly for organic waste) and localizing water infrastructure.

Epstein confirmed that the city's water quality meets or exceeds all standards and shared further details on the city's plans to increase local groundwater capabilities. "We are pursuing two new wells, one on Le Doux Road and one on Gregory Way ... and we're

also looking at new properties so our [water] plant can run at full capacity, with potential to expand," she said.

Climate change increases the risk of power outages, with extreme weather events placing stress on power infrastructure. Friedman asked the panel how citizens of Beverly Hills can remain prepared in such cases.

"We should be prepared for longer durations of power outages," Descalzo said. "Residents should start preparing for energy resiliency—in simple terms, that's solar and battery applications. Have backup power at your property ... with the cost of solar panels and battery power going down, it's a wise investment and something to think about."

Addressing a question from a resident about the city's use of electric vehicle provisions, Descalzo shared that the city recently added 63 electric vehicle charging stations to its vehicle fleet in anticipation of transitioning single-person vehicle patrols into electric vehicles. Bigger vehicles like the fire trucks used by the Beverly Hills Fire Department are powered by renewable, compressed natural gas, which is the second-cleanest fuel type available. "In terms of sustainable fuel, this city is top-notch. We're ahead of the game," Descalzo said.

The Public Works department concluded the "Les is More" event by reaffirming their commitment to community engagement and education. Grossman said that an important part of the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan involves working with the Beverly Hills Unified School District to educate the city's younger residents on the significance of adopting eco-friendly initiatives.

"They take that knowledge and bring it home to teach their parents. Sometimes, that's the most effective way for behavior change," Grossman said. "Other strategies we want to do moving forward [involve] community events like this to engage with the public. It's great to see an amazing crowd here, excited about sustainability." ●

EASTERN, from page 4

limitations by between 29 and 31 stories.

The developer hopes to trigger the state density bonus law with the project. To qualify under that law, new developments must designate a certain percentage of units for affordable housing. In this case, 22 of the 249 units will be earmarked for affordable housing.

"State law is being invoked so that this application, as it is today, can move forward," said Brian Lewis, a spokesperson for the project. "The state has said we have a housing crisis, and we need to be producing more housing and providing incentives to produce that housing. This is one of the laws that allows that to happen."

Beverly Hills must plan for over 3,000 units of new housing by 2029, with more than half of those units designated for very low or low-income households.

Mario Palumbo, the managing partner of Millenium Partners Los Angeles, told the Courier that developers have met with members of the city's planning staff and individual city councilmembers, but details of how the project might move forward have not yet been ironed out.

"We've just been informing them of our aspirations for the site and asking for their feedback," he said. "One of the things we've

heard time and time again is that, as noted in the Beverly Hills General Plan, this is exactly the site that Beverly Hills has contemplated having incremental height and density to support increased production of housing units. We've heard that time and time again. If not here, then where? Where is it appropriate for Beverly Hills to build housing?"

Palumbo emphasized the project's location on the edges of the city and noted that developers chose the location in part because of its proximity to the planned stop on Metro's Purple Line Extension. Given that location, commuters working in downtown and other surrounding areas, such as Culver City and West Hollywood, would have the option to take up residence in Beverly Hills.

"We are big proponents of putting density near transit," he said. "We can't go on thinking that we can put single-family houses around transit stops and that that's a sensible land use policy ... allowing the Golden Triangle to maintain its current character by producing additional housing units at the edges of the city is really, I think, what makes the most sense for the city. It allows it to both generate the housing units that need to be generated, but also to maintain the special charm and feel and character of the center of Beverly Hills." ●



Photo courtesy city of Beverly Hills

One of the centralized preschool classrooms at the Hawthorne campus

HAWTHORNE, from page 1

of liaisons Mayor Lester Friedman and Councilmember Mary Wells as well as BHUSD Board President Rachelle Marcus and BHUSD Board Vice President Judy Manouchehri.

A City Council Liaison/BHUSD Committee meeting on Jan. 26, 2024, with then-Mayor Julian Gold, Councilmember Lili Bosse and former BHUSD Board Members Noah Margo and Mary Wells discussed the future joint usage of the Hawthorne campus once El Rodeo Elementary School opened in the fall of 2024. Committee members discussed centralizing all preschool programs to create an ECC at the Hawthorne campus. They also discussed moving the District Offices from the Lasky Drive site to the Hawthorne campus.

Over the last year, the city has successfully obtained state licenses for each of the operating ECC classrooms at the Hawthorne campus and is now working with the State Department of Social Services to finalize the license for a new additional preschool classroom at Horace Mann Elementary School. The BHUSD has also moved the majority of operations that took place at the Lasky Drive office to the Hawthorne campus, including holding District School Board meetings on site.

A survey created by both the city of Beverly Hills and the BHUSD in February 2024 was distributed to community members about program offerings they would like to see at the center.

Director of Community Services, Stephanie Harris, presented updates on these proposed programs to the committee. "We'd like to introduce Before and After care. This program would allow parents to have the ability to drop their children off prior to the start or keep them there at the conclusion of preschool, providing assistance to parents that need to go to work as well as need assistance with pick-up and drop-off of their siblings at the elementary school locations. We'd also like the opportunity to offer Parent & Me classes," Harris said. The earliest of these programs would begin during the summer/fall period of this year.

Harris also informed the committee that it would be beneficial to establish a welcome center staffed with city personnel, where families could learn about and register for the various programs being offered. The city is currently deciding on the best place to locate this welcome center on the school site.

Plans for a Transitional Two program are

underway, whereby students and parents would attend programming in a classroom setting. "This would allow for teachers and parents to work together to acclimate students into a classroom setting and better prepare them for entry into our preschool program and then into the district's Transitional Kindergarten and elementary schools," Harris said.

The implementation of a half-day preschool program is also under consideration. If approved, staff would begin working with the Department of Social Services to license an additional preschool room and begin the hiring process for additional preschool staff. This program has a potential start date of winter/spring 2026.

The BHUSD offices and ECC classrooms will share the same Hawthorne campus site. As a result, the committee reviewed a revised district-proposed site plan to discuss how best to segregate and secure the spaces used for the ECC programs from the district office areas. Although it was originally planned to divide the campus into distinct district and ECC spaces, the layout of the campus has posed a few challenges in achieving this. The committee is currently working on creating a secure entrance for the ECC portion of the campus.

Friedman emphasized the importance of making the campus secure for preschool children to help achieve the ECC's ultimate goals. "The goal is we want to create an environment at the preschool so people can enjoy our offerings and matriculate from the ECC to the school district," he said.

Committee members reiterated that the ECC will serve as a strong introduction to life in the BHUSD. Wells noted, "Just by coming and going, you'll be exposed to what the culture of being at BHUSD is, and it'll make you want to stay. Most importantly, it is a place to create community for young families that starts at preschool."

Manouchehri added, "I think it's very important to come back to the vision for the ECC and to show the community that the ECC is not an afterthought or an offshoot of BHUSD. It's the starting point to BHUSD. And so, as we develop the ECC and really tap into its potential, my hope would be that parents ... know this is just the beginning of their BHUSD journey." ●

Kindness Week Kicks Off with Donation Drive Feb. 9



Teen Advisory Committee members with a banner of gratitude to first responders for Kindness Week

The city of Beverly Hills Human Relations Commission will commemorate National Kindness Week with a kickoff Donation Drive event at the Beverly Hills Farmers' Market on Feb. 9 from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., supporting local charities which include Foster Love, Midnight Mission, Safe Parking LA, Step Up on Second, Los Angeles Animal Services and the Westside Food Bank. Donated items needed

include new stuffed animals, feminine hygiene products, dog toys, travel-size toiletries, socks and canned goods. New and rarely used (or gently used) items include shoes, clothing, towels, blankets and pet supplies.

Visit beverlyhills.org/csevents for more information about additional activities. ●



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Birthdays



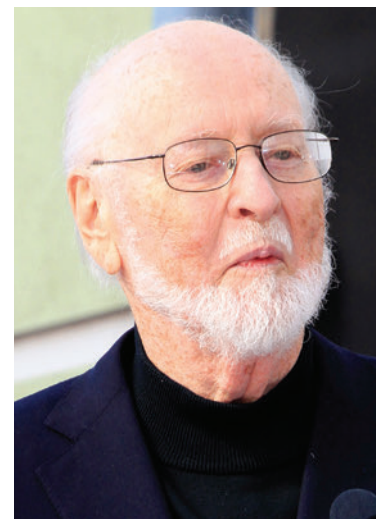
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Astrology

BY HOLIDAY MATIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Wanting what everyone wants, what's socially acceptable and what's popular don't always lead to happiness. To notice your own preferences is an act of love. Bring your attention to the nuances that light you up, as these are paths to joy.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Relationships that inspire, uplift and energize you are your fuel. Set a boundary around draining connections while deepening bonds that feel nourishing. Reflect weekly: Did this connection feed my soul or drain it?

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Today represents a meaningful turning point for you, both in your decisions and in how you're reckoning with your past and your potential. It's no small thing to come to the new day with clarity and resolve.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You know when your energy is peak and when it's likely to wane. Structure your day so the most vibrant hours go to meaningful purposes, not the ones that merely fulfill your sense of duty

or financial bottom line. You deserve to get the best of you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Leadership is a learning process. Listen, then guide. The more you understand about your people and your goal, the better you'll be at delivering all to the finish line. Humility is the secret sauce of inspiration.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You're drawn to the idea of decluttering -- not just physical possessions but emotional and logistical "noise." A mantra like "Clear, calm, creative" will guide your decisions.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Take a moment to ground yourself before work, interactions or decisions. Use cues like deep breaths or small rituals to reset. Your whimsical, intimate style depends on being fully present.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Making an impression is important to you, and it keeps you striving to leave your mark. Just know that trying or giving too much isn't necessary today. Sweet, effortless connection is where it's at.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). What if it's not about being universally liked, but deeply understood by a few? You deserve relationships that feel mutual and enriching. Maybe it's also about

creating space for the people who can hold and cherish that fountain of ideas you are.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). In the same way that engineers and architects collaborate with gravity by designing structures that account for its pull, you will cooperate with indifferent forces and thrive because you quickly accept and incorporate that which cannot be changed.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). In everything you do, you'll masterfully

blend the practical with the soulful. This is most noticeably part of your keystone habits, which will have a positive effect on many facets of your life at once.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Every commitment comes with a price. Your time is too valuable to obligate yourself with joyless tasks. You might not be entirely clear on what you want right now, and that's OK. Knowing what you don't want is just as helpful to your navigation system.



These boys are Wallie and Archie, a pair of bonded 3-year-old, 30-pound dachshunds. Due to their bonding, they must be adopted together, and the new home must not have any other dogs. To meet Wallie and Archie, please contact Kim Sill at Shelter of Hope at 310-770-3571.

shelterhopepetshop.org

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 - AGGRAVATED

2/2/2025, 12:41 p.m. at 200 Block of S. BEVERLY DRIVE

ASSAULT - SIMPLE

2/2/2025, 1:06 p.m. at 200 Block of N. CANON DRIVE

2/1/2025, 11 p.m. at WILSHIRE BOULEVARD / WHITTIER DRIVE

2/1/2025, 10:22 p.m. at 900 Block of N. REXFORD DRIVE

BURGLARY - COMMERCIAL BUILDING

2/3/2025, 2:35 p.m. at 300 Block of N. CANON DRIVE

1/27/2025, 6:45 a.m. at 100 Block of N. LA CIENEGA BLVD.

BURGLARY FROM A MOTOR VEHICLE

2/3/2025, 11:41 a.m. at 400 Block of S. PALM DRIVE

2/1/2025, 1 p.m. at 400 Block of S. LA PEER DRIVE

1/27/2025, 10:30 p.m. at 100 Block of S. CRESCENT DRIVE

BURGLARY - RESIDENTIAL (COMMON AREA)

2/4/2025, 7:04 a.m. at 100 Block of MCCARTY DRIVE

2/2/2025, 6:58 p.m. at 100 Block of MCCARTY DRIVE

1/28/2025, 6:09 a.m. at 200 Block of TOWER DRIVE

BURGLARY - RESIDENTIAL (NO ONE HOME)

2/1/2025, 6:51 p.m. at 600 Block of N. RODEO DRIVE

1/31/2025, 8:07 p.m. at 200 Block of S. GALE DRIVE

1/31/2025, 12 p.m. at 100 Block of S. WILLAMAN DRIVE

DUI ARREST

2/3/2025, 3:25 a.m. at S. SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD / N. CANON DRIVE

2/1/2025, 6:20 a.m. at 400 Block of N. REXFORD DRIVE

2/1/2025, 1:19 a.m. at 500 Block of N. PALM DRIVE

MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT

2/3/2025, 9:27 a.m. at 100 Block of N. ALMONT DRIVE

1/28/2025, 12 a.m. at 200 Block of N. ROBERTSON BLVD.

1/27/2025, 12:19 a.m. at 400 Block of FOOTHILL ROAD

ROBBERY

1/28/2025, 11:20 a.m. at 400 Block of N. CRESCENT DRIVE

THEFT - GRAND

2/4/2025, 12 a.m. at 300 Block of S. DOHENY DRIVE

1/30/2025, 12 p.m. at 200 Block of N. OAKHURST DRIVE

1/28/2025, 5:40 p.m. at 9600 Block of WILSHIRE BLVD.

THEFT - GRAND (FROM VEHICLE)

1/29/2025, 11 p.m. at 500 Block of HILLCREST ROAD

THEFT - PETTY

2/1/2025, 10:57 a.m. at 9000 Block of WILSHIRE BLVD.

1/31/2025, 2:52 p.m. at 9000 Block of WILSHIRE BLVD.

1/31/2025, 6 a.m. at 400 Block of S. ELM DRIVE

1/31/2025, 5:55 a.m. at 400 Block of S. ELM DRIVE

1/29/2025, 4 p.m. at 500 Block of N. BEDFORD DRIVE

1/29/2025, 7 a.m. at 700 Block of N. ELM DRIVE

1/27/2025, 3:30 p.m. at 9100 Block of WILSHIRE BLVD.

VANDALISM

2/1/2025, 2:10 p.m. at DAYTON WAY / N. CANON DRIVE

1/28/2025, 5:45 p.m. at 200 Block of REEVES DRIVE

1/27/2025, 3 a.m. at 9600 Block of OLYMPIC BLVD.

1/27/2025, 12 a.m. at 200 Block of S. REXFORD DRIVE

1/26/2025, 6 p.m. at 300 Block of SPALDING DRIVE

1/24/2025, 5:55 p.m. at 300 Block of N. BEVERLY DRIVE

1/24/2025, 3:34 p.m. at 9100 Block of WILSHIRE BLVD.

Fun and Games

SUDOKU
02/07/25 ISSUE

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

SUDOKU ANSWERS
01/31/25 ISSUE

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

PUZZLE ANSWERS
01/31/25 ISSUE

MENS	SPUD	ASSAM	SKIN
IMOK	KARO	FROYO	UTILE
DIVISION	FLAVOR	SALON	
GRADUAL	FAA	PREMISE	
ESC	PRODUCT	OF THE	TIMES
AGEE	ESE	CEONONA	
UMNO	AIM	SETTLE	ANT
FACTS	ROOT	CAUSE	JAM
COYOTES	DARNS	TAGSALE	
OIL	PILE	MUSIC	CROW
DIFFERENCE	OF	OPINION	
FINAL	CUT	NGOS	AGA
IMARETS	CHEER	ON	TERM
REP	SQUARED	UP	RISKS
SAC	COURTS	SIS	COOS
SHOE	IVE	MGM	HEAT
INTEGRATED	CIRCUIT	ELI	
MOLERAT	ESO	METERED	
ARISE	ADDED	COMPLEXITY	
CAFES	RAITA	VIED	ECOL
SHED	INNER	ENDS	CANS








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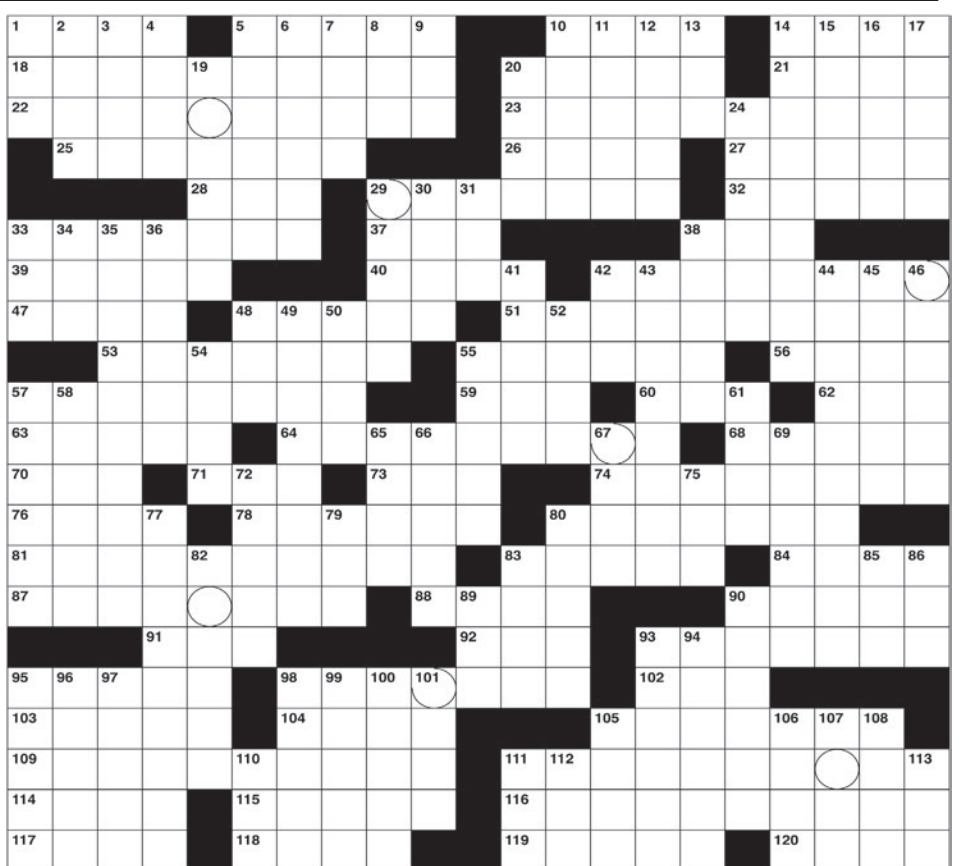
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THE NEW YORK TIMES SUNDAY MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE
02/07/25 ISSUE

LETTER OPENERS
BY RICH PROULX / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Rich Proulx (pronounced "proo") of Berkeley, Calif., works for the Food and Nutrition Service of the U.S.D.A. This is his ninth crossword for The Times since 2017, and his first Sunday. For this puzzle, he originally wanted the images to appear in circles in the grid, but those proved too small to make out. So he revamped the puzzle and placed them in the clues instead. — W.S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 "The weekend is almost here!"
 - 5 Pioneers of freeze-drying food
 - 10 Share from an illicit endeavor
 - 14 Polite term of address
 - 18 Lifted one's spirits?
 - 20 Riveting persona of W.W. II
 - 21 Frozen treat with a domed lid
 - 22 See 19-Down
 - 23 Place for a white picket fence and a mom-and-pop shop
 - 25 Aid for using Bluetooth
 - 26 Startle
 - 27 Flirt with
 - 28 Feel bad
 - 29 See 29-Down
 - 32 Highly capable
 - 33 Passion
 - 37 Water feature created by rising sea levels
 - 38 STEM part: Abbr.
 - 39 Sierra ____
 - 40 "What are the ____?"
 - 42 See 46-Down
 - 47 Awkward people to butt-dial, perhaps
 - 48 Circuit board device
 - 51 Vast, as an operation
 - 53 ____ Collins, author of "The Hunger Games"
 - 55 Helen of "The Queen"
 - 56 Futon component
 - 57 Was transfixed by, in a way
 - 59 Glass ____, spaghetti-like fish
 - 60 Give a darn?
 - 62 French aperitif
 - 63 Weapon with wires
 - 64 See 67-Down
 - 68 Justice Kagan
 - 70 Natural feature between México y Texas
 - 71 ____ Kosh B'gosh
 - 73 TV journalist Navarro
 - 74 Annual observance for breast cancer awareness
 - 76 Knee parts, in brief
 - 78 Auto mechanic's tool
 - 80 War room briefings, in military shorthand
 - 81 Gold Medal offering
 - 83 "Au contraire!"
 - 84 Cause of puddles in early spring, say
 - 87 See 82-Down
 - 88 Go a little one way or the other
 - 90 Gordon ____, engineer with a "law" predicting a doubling of transistors on microchips every two years
 - 91 Record label for the Backstreet Boys
 - 92 Tech company exec, for short
 - 93 In a corner
 - 95 Cause of some sleep issues
 - 98 See 101-Down
 - 102 "Ten-____!"
 - 103 Show listlessness
 - 104 "See above," in footnotes
 - 105 Got online, say
 - 109 "Conclave" actress Isabella
 - 111 See 107-Down
 - 114 Saber alternative
 - 115 Worst time for a double fault
 - 116 Approaches furtively
 - 117 "Over here!"
 - 118 Hydroelectric projects
 - 119 "White & ____" (2006 Weird Al Yankovic parody)
 - 120 Structure that's set on fire
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Network owned by Showtime
 - 2 Mighty wind
 - 3 One might start as a seed
 - 4 "Have no ____ of perfection — you'll never reach it": Salvador Dalí
 - 5 Just like *that!*
 - 6 Without regard to privacy
 - 7 Temporary residence
 - 8 Largest public sch. in the U.S., by enrollment
 - 9 P.S.T. part: Abbr.
 - 10 So far
 - 11 Safe harbors
 - 12 Poker pot
 - 13 Fair-hiring letters
 - 14 Storage devices made obsolete by MP3 players
 - 15 Sharp
 - 16 "The Boy Who Cried Wolf" author
 - 17 Intended
 - 19 **CIRCLED LETTER** + 
 - 20 Kashmiri king
 - 24 Offs
 - 29 **CIRCLED LETTER** + 
 - 30 Number two
 - 31 Bit
 - 33 Public house offering
 - 34 White House dog of the 1980s
 - 35 Helps, informally
 - 36 Guarantee
 - 38 Part of an act
 - 41 More crafty
 - 42 [Shivers]
 - 43 Visible signs of maturity
 - 44 Got down to business, in a way
 - 45 ____ Urquhart, co-host of the podcast "Morbid"
 - 46 **CIRCLED LETTER** + 
 - 48 Many a school chaperone
 - 49 Later
 - 50 Cognizant of
 - 52 Folk singer Guthrie
 - 54 Diddly-squat
 - 55 Hip-hop's ____ Thee Stallion
 - 57 They're for suckers
 - 58 Meditative martial art
 - 61 Common word with or without an apostrophe
 - 65 Meaty pasta sauce
 - 66 Ridge in metalworking
 - 67 **CIRCLED LETTER** + 
 - 69 Office folder?
 - 72 Vowel sound in "father"
 - 75 Dude
 - 77 Audiophile's system
 - 79 Cut (off)
 - 80 What "fitz-" or "-ovic" means, in names
 - 82 **CIRCLED LETTER** + 
 - 83 Innocent sort
 - 85 "Chances ____ ..."
 - 86 Became one
 - 89 Modern prefix with anxiety
 - 90 Salt's companions
 - 93 Theseus' need in the Labyrinth
 - 94 In an uncouth manner
 - 95 Marketing worker, informally
 - 96 Credit, informally
 - 97 Prominent features of elephant seals
 - 98 Comedian Radner
 - 99 A perfect storm, e.g.
 - 100 Planet whose day is longer than its year
 - 101 **CIRCLED LETTER** + 
 - 105 Done
 - 106 Extend one's military service
 - 107 **CIRCLED LETTER** + 
 - 108 Hard thing to find in a house of mirrors
 - 110 "Wee" fellow
 - 111 Channel with the onetime spinoff America's Store
 - 112 Suffix with emir
 - 113 S.F.-to-Napa dir.



ANSWERS FOUND IN NEXT WEEK'S PAPER...

Public Notices

OBITUARIES

Judy Henning

July 3, 1938 – January 27, 2025



Judy Henning, 86, passed away peacefully at her home in Beverly Hills on January 27, 2025. Born on July 3, 1938, in Gary, South Dakota, Judy lived a life filled with creativity, passion, and a deep commitment to her family, friends, and community.

Before moving to Beverly Hills in 1976, Judy enjoyed a successful career as a high-fashion model and television commercial performer in New York and spent two years modeling in Paris.

She then relocated to Chicago where she appeared in numerous television commercials for notable clients such as United Airlines, Chrysler, Colgate, and Sears. Judy actively supported social causes, serving as a board member of Jane Addams' Hull House and the American Indian Center.

Her story is famously captured in Studs Terkel's Pulitzer Prize-winning book, "Working." Studs, a friend of Judy's during her time in Chicago, was fascinated by the real life of a model and chronicled her experiences in the book under the pseudonym "Jill Torrance."

While in Chicago, she met her-soon-to be husband, Richard "Dick" Rosenzweig.

After relocating to Beverly Hills with Dick, Judy worked with Stanley Felderman and Associates, a young interior design firm, before founding her own successful public relations firm. During this time, she also co-founded a contemporary folk arts and crafts business, representing well-known American folk artists.

Judy and Dick shared a deep appreciation for art and artists. Together, they amassed a smart and significant collection featuring works from Chicago Imagists and renowned California contemporary artists. Judy was also dedicated to public service, serving as Chair of the Fine Arts Commission and Chair of the Charitable Solicitations Commission in Beverly Hills, each for a six-year term.

Judy was deeply committed to her friends in Beverly Hills, cherishing their companionship and shared passions. She loved traveling internationally with Dick, and she often enjoyed visiting destinations throughout the United States to spend time with her large, loving family, including her five sisters and one brother.

A lifelong supporter of the arts, Judy served on the Modern and Contemporary Art Council of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and co-chaired its Education Council. She was a board member and program chair of the Dance Gallery Guild and the Projects Council of the Museum of Contemporary Art. In 1990, she co-chaired MOCA's bi-annual auction gala, further demonstrating her love for the arts and her community.

Judy was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Dick, in 2020. She is survived by her brother, Danny Henning; her nephew Emmett Murphy; niece Kristin Gornstein; nephew Steven Ziven and his wife Lynn, along with their children, Lisa and Jason; niece Debra Ziven; and extended family.

A private memorial honoring Judy's life is planned for February 5, 2025, at Pearce Brothers Westwood Village Memorial Park. Her memory will live on in the hearts of those who loved her.

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO BIDDERS for the SEWER MAIN AND MANHOLE REPAIR AND REHABILITATION

Within the City of BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA

City of Beverly Hills (City), California invites electronic bids for the **SEWER MAIN AND MANHOLE REPAIR AND REHABILITATION** within the City of Beverly Hills, California. The City will receive such bids electronically via Planetbids up to the hour of 2:00 p.m. (Pacific Time), on Monday, **March 3, 2025**, 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.

An OPTIONAL pre-bid virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams to discuss the requirements of the Project will be held at 10:30 am on Monday, February 10, 2025.

Join the meeting now

Meeting ID: 285 203 108 832
Passcode: LH3M9uZ7

Copies of the Specifications and Proposal Form may be inspected and downloaded from the City's Planetbids webpage: <https://vendors.planetbids.com/portal/39493/bo-bo-detail/125595>

BIDDER'S QUESTIONS – Any questions regarding any error, omission, ambiguity or conflict in the Plans and Specifications and general clarifications, should be submitted to the **Project Manager through Planetbids** no later than Monday, February 17, 2025, at 2:00pm. Requests for clarification received after this date or sent/posed directly to the Project Manager will be disregarded.

ENGINEER'S ESTIMATE - The preliminary cost of SEWER MAIN AND MANHOLE REPAIR AND REHABILITATION for this work has been prepared and the said estimate is **\$7,000,000.00**.

CITY CONTACT – Any questions or requests for information can be directed to the project manager, Robert N Sahagun, at msahagun@beverlyhills.org.

PUBLIC WORKS 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.

CONTRACTORS LICENSE - In compliance with Public Contract Code Section 3300, the City has determined that the Bidder must possess at least one of the following licenses: "**A, C-34, or C-42**"

THE CITY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY BID OR ALL THE BIDS AND TO WAIVE ANY INFORMALITY OR IRREGULARITY IN ANY BID, BUT IF THE BIDS ARE ACCEPTED, THE CONTRACT FOR THE IMPROVEMENT WILL BE LET TO THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE BIDDER FOR THE PROJECT AS A WHOLE.

PUBLIC NOTICES

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CASE NO: 25SMCP00039 ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

In the Matter of the petition of: **Ara Kashanian**
To all interested person(s): Petitioner:
Ara Kashanian current residence address:
2473 Crestview Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90046 filed a petition with the **Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 1725 Main St. Santa Monica, 90401. Santa Monica Courthouse, on January 29, 2025** for a Decree changing names as follows:

Present Name: **Ara Kashanian**

Proposed Name: **ARA YEGANEH**

The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING:

Date: February 28, 2025

Time: 8:30 AM **Department:** K

The address of the court is:

1725 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401

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

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

Signed: **Ara Kashanian**

Judge of the Superior Court:

Lawrence H. Cho

Clerk: David W. Slayton

Deputy: L. Kulkin

Dated: January 29, 2025

Published: 01/31/25, 02/07/25, 02/14/25, 02/21/25

BHC-R29277

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

2024252183 The following is/are doing business as: **DAVID ABRAMS DBA GRAND JEWELERS 287 S. ROBERTSON BLVD #197 BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90210; DAVID ABRAMS, 197 S. Robertson Blvd #197, Beverly Hills, CA 90210; The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL registrant(s) has HAS begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on December 2024: David Abrams, Owner. Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: December 12, 2024; Published: January 17, 24, 31 February 7, 2025 LACC N/C**

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NAME CHANGE, BIDS

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Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

T.S. No.: 240923601-5
Loan No.: rexford Order No. 95530062APN: 4330-033-050 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 5/15/2023. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, cashier's check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a cashier's check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. No cashier's checks older than 60 days from the day of sale will be accepted. Trustor: DAVID SCHWARZ Duly Appointed Trustee: Mortgage Lender Services Recorded 5/19/2023 as Instrument No. 20230328838 in book N/A, page N/A of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Los Angeles County, California, Date of Sale: 2/20/2025 at 10:00 AM Place of Sale: Behind the fountain located in Civic Center Plaza, 400 Civic Center Plaza, Pomona CA 91766 The property situated in said County, California describing the land therein: A Condominium Comprised Of: A) An Undivided 7.219 Percent Interest In And To Lot 1, Of Tract No. 29685, In The City Of Beverly Hills, County Of Los Angeles, State Of California, As Per Map Recorded In Book 841 Page(S) 27 And 28 Of Maps, In The Office Of The County Recorder Of Said County. Except Units 1 To 19 Inclusive As Shown And Defined On

PUBLIC NOTICES

The Condominium Plan Recorded October 15, 1974 As Instrument No. 778. B) Unit 19 As Shown And Defined On The Condominium Plan Above Mentioned. Except Therefrom All Oil, Gas, Minerals And Other Hydrocarbon Substances In And Under Said Land Lying Below A Depth Of 500 Feet, But Without Right Of Entry Thereon, As Reserved In The Deed From Frank E. Rowsey And Harriet L. Rowsey, Husband Wife, Affecting Lot 1471 Recorded July 29, 1960 In Book D-927 Page 187, Official Records And As Reserved In The Deed From Henryetta Levy, An Unmarried Woman, Affecting Lot 1472 Recorded July 29, 1960 In Book D-927 Page 188, Official Records. Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$1,740,246.88* Street Address or other common designation of real property: 423 S REXFORD DRIVE #19 BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90212 *The debt is additionally secured by Deed of Trust recorded on 05/19/2023, as Instrument No. 20230328804 in the Official Records of Los Angeles County. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee,

PUBLIC NOTICES

beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (916) 939-0772 or visit this Internet Web site www.nationwideposting.com, using the file number assigned to this case 240923601-5. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (916) 939-0772, or visit this internet website www.nationwideposting.com, using the file number assigned to this case 240923601-5 to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. When submitting funds for a bid subject to Section 2924m, please make the funds payable to "Total Lender Solutions, Inc. Holding Account". If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. Date: 1/16/2025 Mortgage Lender Services 7844 Madison Avenue #145 Fair Oaks, CA 95628 Phone: 916-962-3453 Sale Line: (916) 939-0772 BY: Lauren Meyer, Vice President NPP0470136 To: BEVERLY HILLS COURIER 01/31/2025, 02/07/2025, 02/14/2025

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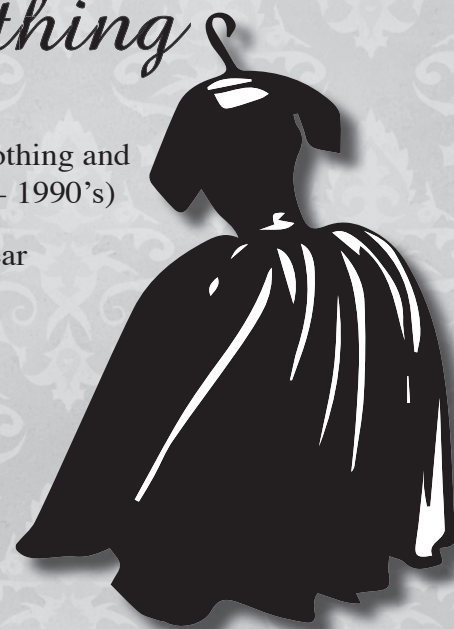
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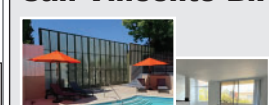
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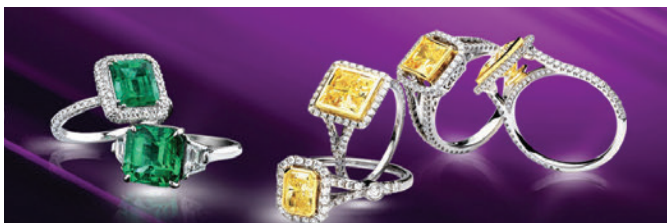
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