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THE WEATHER, BEVERLY HILLS CA		
	Friday	76° 63°
	Saturday	77° 63°
	Sunday	76° 62°
	Monday	74° 62°
	Tuesday	75° 62°
	Wednesday	75° 62°
	Thursday	79° 63°

L.A. District Attorney Nathan Hochman Speaks to Rotary Club

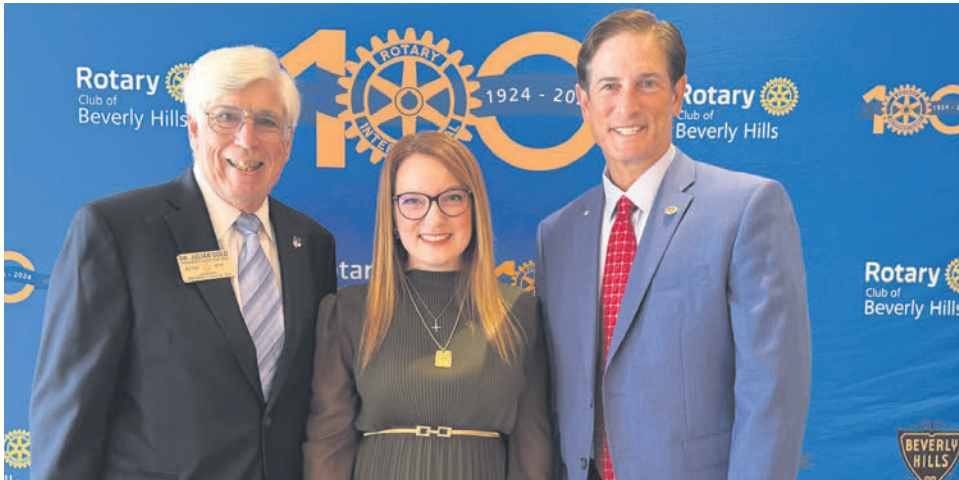


Photo by Lillian Raffel

Dr. Julian Gold, Supervisor Lindsey Horvath and D.A. Nathan Hochman at the Rotary Club of Beverly Hills luncheon

BY JESSICA OGILVIE

At the Rotary Club of Beverly Hills luncheon on July 14, Los Angeles District Attorney Nathan Hochman, who was sworn into office in December 2024, spoke about his term thus far. During the Q&A following his remarks,

Hochman also provided the latest on the Menendez brothers' legal saga, as well as an update on the city's response to recent federal actions regarding immigration.

Prior to Hochman's remarks, three-time former Beverly Hills Mayor Julian Gold, M.D.,
See HOCHMAN, page 19

Chabad Must Submit Additional Plans for Ahmanson Bank Building

BY JESSICA OGILVIE

Chabad of North Beverly Hills has been granted approximately four months to finalize a rehabilitation and restoration plan for its synagogue on Wilshire Boulevard, which is located in a historic landmark building.

The decision was made by the Beverly Hills Planning Commission at its July 10 meeting following a discussion about what is required of the organization given its status as owners of the building.

Chabad of North Beverly Hills purchased the property at 9145 Wilshire Blvd. in 2017. It was designated as a historic landmark building in 2014.

The designation was given because the building was designed by Millard Sheets, an architect described in a city staff report as "one of the most prominent figures in the
See PLANNING COMMISSION, page 19

New Speech Limitations Imposed on BHUSD Teachers

BY JESSICA OGILVIE

Teachers in Beverly Hills will now have stricter limitations on what they can and cannot say in the classroom. At a meeting of the Beverly Hills Unified School District Board on July 16, board members voted unanimously to implement a new policy related to Standards-Based Instructional Education.

The policy, which was introduced by Board Member Sigalie Sabag, imposes limits on how teachers handle controversial issues in the classroom and tightens expectations that they do not deviate from their curriculum.

Board President Rachelle Marcus and Board Member Amanda Stern opposed the policy at the beginning of the discussion period. Stern said she could not approve



Photo courtesy BHUSD

Loan Sriruksa is the new principal of BHHS.

a policy that includes, as the original draft did, language stating that "Staff members
See BHUSD, page 6

City Council Rejects Synthetic Turf Ban

BY JULIANNA LOZADA

At its July 17 Regular Meeting, the Beverly Hills City Council voted to reject an ordinance that would ban synthetic turf in residential front yards in the city. The decision goes against the recommendations of the Planning Commission, which recommended the city adopt the ordinance to advance environmental sustainability and preserve the garden character of residential neighborhoods. The ordinance was brought about after a new state law, Senate Bill 676, was passed restoring local authority to ban synthetic turf.

The ordinance, in addition to banning new synthetic turf in front yards, would
See CITY COUNCIL, page 6

In this issue:

Courier's Red-Hot Real Estate!

BEVERLY HILLS COURIER

Courier Calendar

NOW - AUG. 24
LACMA: “NANCY BAKER CAHILL: SUBSTRATE”
MON.-TUES., THURS. 11 A.M.-6 P.M.
FRI. 11 A.M.-8 P.M.
SAT.-SUN. 10 A.M.-7 P.M.
A monumental interactive augmented reality experience, Nancy Baker Cahill’s “Substrate” invites the viewer to consider connections between knowledge-making organizations by contributing their own descriptions of culturally significant artifacts. Borrowing imagery and examples from networks in nature, Baker Cahill depicts LACMA, the Los Angeles Public Library’s Central Library, and California’s system of community colleges as abstracted, interlocking trees with root systems and mycelial networks that produce essential nutrients for human health and well-being. The work is based on the artist’s earlier project of the same name, supported by LACMA’s Art + Technology Lab, which used futuristic civics and systems thinking to demonstrate the potential of collaborations between local civic hubs. Tickets are \$23 for adults and \$19 for seniors, students with ID and visitors with a disability. Admission is free for those 17 and younger. Admission is also free on Mon.-Fri. after 3 p.m. LACMA is located at 5905 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles. lacma.org

NOW - AUG. 31
ICA LA: “WILL RAWLS: [SICCER]”
WED., FRI. 12-6 P.M.
THURS. 12-7 P.M.
SAT.-SUN. 11-6 P.M.
Featured in ICA LA’s main galleries, “[siccer]” is an interdisciplinary exhibition by Los Angeles-based artist and choreographer Will Rawls. Part immersive

installation, part live performance, “[siccer]” is a singular project that uses dance, photography, animation and sound to investigate the role of media in constructing, exploiting and erasing the Black body. Using the techniques and technologies associated with photography, cinema and the stage, Rawls’ “[siccer]” challenges divisions between the living, the captured, the rehearsed and the performed. Experimenting with stop-motion animation, the work features a compilation of still images that have been stitched together to produce moving images depicting a cast of Black dancers in various states of movement. These stop-motion videos are then projected onto chroma-green frames suspended from the ceiling, reminiscent of the green screens commonly associated with film production. At once caught, distilled, fragmented and unfinished, gestures glitch in and out of focus across Rawls’ cinematic scaffolding, which both literally and metaphorically speaks to the complex visibility of Blackness in contemporary society. Admission to ICA LA is free with timed-entry reservations online. ICA LA is located at 1717 E. 7th St., Los Angeles. theicala.org

NOW - SEPT. 14
GETTY CENTER:
“LINES OF CONNECTION: DRAWING AND PRINTMAKING”
TUES.-FRI., SUN. 10 A.M.-6:30 P.M.
SAT. 10 A.M.-9 P.M.
The Getty presents “Lines of Connection: Drawing and Printmaking.” In Europe, drawing and printmaking had rich, interconnected histories evolving from the 15th century—when drawing and printing rose to prominence—to the 19th, when photography and notions

of originality significantly altered their relationship. This major loan exhibition tells the story of how artists worked creatively on paper, crossing boundaries between media and challenging traditions. Bringing the exhibition’s themes to the present, a display of LA-based artist Toba Khedoori’s works examines how drawing and printmaking intersect in her practice. Admission to The Getty is free. It is located at 1200 Getty Center Drive, Los Angeles. getty.edu

NOW - SEPT. 15
THEATRICUM BOTANICUM:
“MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING” AND “A MIDSUMMER NIGHT’S DREAM”
Celebrated for lively, expansive productions by William Shakespeare that fill the outdoor stage and spill over into the surrounding woods, Will Geer Theatricum Botanicum opens its 2025 “Season of Resilience” with two of Shakespeare’s most beloved comedies. “Much Ado About Nothing” remains one of the most exuberant and spirited battles of the sexes ever written, while “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” might be the Bard’s most entertaining and beguiling play. There’s no better way to watch Shakespeare come alive than by spending a summer afternoon or evening at Theatricum’s spectacular amphitheater, carved into a rustic hillside in Topanga. Showtimes are available online and tickets range from \$15-\$64. Theatricum Botanicum is located at 1419 N. Topanga Blvd., Topanga. theatricum.com

NOW - JAN. 4, 2026
MOCA GRAND: “DIARY OF FLOWERS: ARTISTS AND THEIR WORLDS”
TUES.-WED., FRI. 11 A.M.-5 P.M.
THURS. 11 A.M.-8 P.M.
SAT.-SUN. 11 A.M.-6 P.M.
“Diary of Flowers: Artists and their Worlds” brings together over 80 artworks from MOCA’s renowned collection, demonstrating how artists create their own worlds through their art-building networks, circles, and mythologies. Embracing the boundaries between the personal and the social, public and private lives, as well as emotional and psychological states, works in the show privilege sites of creativity and the place of the imagination to conjure new worlds and possibilities. Friendship, love, and intimacy become important starting points for artistic expression. The exhibition features work in all media across different geographies, cultures, and periods, by artists including Belkis Ayón, Abraham Cruzvillegas, Mona Hatoum, Candice Lin, Annette Messager, Wangechi Mutu, and more, as well as a gallery dedicated to Nan Goldin. Admission to MOCA Grand is free. It is located at 250 S. Grand Ave., Los Angeles. moca.org

JULY 19
ACADEMY MUSEUM OF MOTION PICTURES: “RACE FOR YOUR LIFE, CHARLIE BROWN”
11 A.M.
Piled together in a big yellow bus, the entire “Peanuts” gang—Charlie Brown, Sally, Lucy, Linus, Peppermint Patty, Marcie, Schroeder, and Franklin—barrel away toward summer camp, followed closely by Charlie’s steadfast beagle, Snoopy, and the yellow bird, Woodstock. With plenty of antics to entertain children and enough clever visual gags to appeal to adults—Snoopy, Charlie, and Woodstock are briefly styled like Peter Fonda, Jack Nicholson, and Dennis Hopper in “Easy Rider”—this animated classic, the third feature-length adaptation of the revered comic strip by Charles M. Schulz, takes the Peanuts outside their hometown and out into the wilderness for the first time. Tickets are \$5. The Academy Museum is located at 6067 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles. academymuseum.org

JULY 24 - AUG. 24
THEATRE 40:
“A JUKEBOX FOR THE ALGONQUIN”
7:30 P.M.
Theatre 40 presents the West Coast premiere of “A Jukebox for the Algonquin,” a serious comedy about sex, drugs, and rocking chairs. It was written by Paul Stroili and directed by Larry Eisenberg. The theatre is located on the campus of Beverly Hills High School at 241 S. Moreno Drive, Beverly Hills. Ample free underground parking can be accessed via the driveway at the intersection of Durant and Moreno Drives. theatre40.org



Photo by Ian Flanders

Sydney A. Mason as Hippolyta and the Amazons in “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” at Theatricum Botanicum

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Favorable Habeus Corpus Ruling for Menendez Brothers



Photo by Sam Mulick

Family members of the Menendez brothers spoke to media after a May court hearing.

BY JESSICA OGILVIE

A Los Angeles Superior Court judge has ordered the L.A. District Attorney's Office to demonstrate why Erik and Lyle Menendez, who were found guilty of murdering their parents in 1989, should not have those convictions reconsidered.

The order, which was released on July

7, hinges on new evidence that lawyers for the Menendez brothers argue could have changed the outcome of their convictions.

The evidence includes two documents that support the brothers' claim that they murdered their parents out of self-defense after suffering years of sexual abuse at the hands of their father, Jose Menendez. One

See MENENDEZ, page 7

Applications Open for Team Beverly Hills



Applications for the Team Beverly Hills program are being accepted now through Aug. 15.

Formed in 1996, Team Beverly Hills provides residents with a hands-on look at the operations of local government. The program features a variety of class sessions and includes interactive experiences with many departments. Program participants explore the behind-the-scenes operations of the city including Public Works, Emergency Management, Information Technology, Community Services and Public Safety. More than 800 residents have completed Team Beverly Hills and over 70% of all current elected officials and City Commissioners are Team BH alumni.

The Team Beverly Hills program will select 50 residents (30 appointed by the City Council, 18 selected by a random lottery, and two selected by the Beverly Hills Unified School District) for its upcoming class. Five representatives from the city's business community (appointed by the City Council) will also be selected for the program, which kicks off later this year.

To learn more about Team Beverly Hills and fill out an application online, visit beverlyhills.org/teambeverlyhills or by emailing teambh@beverlyhills.org.

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BHUSD Appoints Kyle Newman as Director of Broadcast Production Program



Photo courtesy BHUSD

Kyle Newman

The Beverly Hills Unified School District (BHUSD) has announced the appointment of award-winning filmmaker and bestselling author Kyle Newman as its new Broadcast

Production Program Director. Currently producing feature films, television content, and bestselling books, Newman will continue his work in the entertainment industry while leading BHUSD's media program. His goal is to provide students with real-world film and television production experience, creating a professional-level environment that will prepare them for work in the industry.

"If you want to learn what it really takes to become a filmmaker, this is the class," said Newman. "From story development to editing, set experience to post-production, students will have the chance to work on real projects, meet real professionals, and take their skills beyond the classroom."

Newman has directed feature films including "Fanboys," "Barely Lethal" and "1Up," and has produced content for Taylor Swift, Lana Del Rey, and Hasbro Studios. He is also the co-author of multiple New York Times bestselling books and currently serves as executive producer on an upcoming

See KYLE NEWMAN, page 7

City Council Gives Direction on Proposed Benedict Canyon Drive Project



BY JULIANNA LOZADA

At its July 15 Study Session, the Beverly Hills City Council provided direction on the implementation of safety improvements to Benedict Canyon Drive after residents expressed concerns over speeding and problematic driver behavior. The improvements are part of the city's annual pavement marking project for the 2025-26 fiscal year.

Earlier this year, residents reported a number of car crashes on Benedict Canyon Drive, some of which resulted in property damage to their homes. Jessie Holzer Carpenter, transportation planner at the

city's Public Works Department, said that Benedict Canyon Drive's wide, single travel lanes in both directions may contribute to excessive speeding and increased crash risk as well as cause confusion on the number of lanes actually available on the street. She reported that speed surveys on Benedict Canyon indicate that the 85th percentile speed is 42 miles per hour, which is 20% higher than the posted speed limit of 35 miles per hour.

To address these concerns, the Public Works Department consulted with the Beverly Hills Police Department to develop

See STUDY SESSION, page 6

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BHUSD, from page 1
with firsthand knowledge of potential violations are encouraged to report concerns promptly."

Saying the language was a "nonstarter" for her, Stern had strong words about its implications.

"Please, guys, we are better than that, and we need to evolve," she said. "That is going backwards, and there's just no way to sugarcoat that ... we have seen from the letters we've gotten, from the educators we've heard from, that is actually insulting."

Marcus, who attended the meeting virtually, said the district already has a policy addressing the handling of controversial topics in the classroom. That policy was reviewed two-and-a-half years ago, Marcus said, calling the newly proposed policy "unwarranted and dangerous."

"Mrs. Sabag wants to limit all instruction in the classroom to curriculum only, leaving no room for discussion on any and all discussable topics which might be controversial, or even more," said Marcus. "We are tying the hands of our teachers by limiting them to what the curriculum mandates they teach and teach only ... before we adopt this, we should take a step back and see if it is really necessary."

During public comment, several BHUSD teachers spoke against the policy. Other educators were present in the audience wearing shirts bearing the name of the Beverly Hills Education Association, the union that

represents teachers in the district.
Hannah Croft, a seventh grade English teacher at Beverly Vista Middle School, echoed some of the concerns expressed by Marcus and Stern.

"The language of this supposed standards-based instruction policy does not actually reflect standards-based instruction, which I know well," Croft said. "Instead, this proposed change demands teachers limit their scope of instruction, and by extension, limit student skills and ability to learn. The meticulously chosen and intentionally vague language of this proposed instructional change does not have student success at its heart. Instead, this proposed change actively inhibits the learning, growth and success of every child in this district."

Over the course of a two-and-a-half-hour discussion, the board reviewed the policy sentence by sentence. Among the changes made was the deletion of the language Stern flagged regarding staff reporting one another.

The board also added language stating that, "Educators are encouraged to have meaningful dialogue among students to foster educational objectives."

The new policy will go into effect immediately.

In other news, the board approved the hiring of a new principal at Beverly Hills High School. Loan Sriruksa previously served as the principal of Esperanza High School in the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School

District and has also held multiple administrative roles in the Garden Grove Unified School District.

At the July 16 meeting, Sriruksa expressed her enthusiasm to start her new position.

"I'm fully committed to continuing the legacy of high expectations for all students, while also fostering an environment where every person feels cared for, seen and supported," she said. "I believe every student deserves not just a premium education, but a school experience that nurtures their whole

CITY COUNCIL, from page 1
have adopted a 15-year phase-out period for existing permitted front yard turf. It would not have banned synthetic turf in non-front yard areas, such as side, street side or rear yards. Current city regulations under the Beverly Hills Municipal Code require residential front yards to be landscaped primarily with live plants. However, in 2015, the city allowed synthetic turf in front yards as a water conservation measure during drought conditions.

Assistant Director of Community Development Masa Alkire presented several alternatives to synthetic turf in front yards, including the installation of various native and drought-tolerant plants, which can be adapted to several landscaping styles.

Melanie Taylor, president and CEO of the Synthetic Turf Council, spoke against the ordinance and presented several environmental benefits of synthetic turf, such as reducing the use of various chemicals like pesticides and herbicides.

Mayor Sharona Nazarian said she understands wanting to preserve the garden quality of Beverly Hills residential neighborhoods, but said that "Right now, it's important that we use high-quality turf."

"I do think it's important to maintain that high quality, so code enforcement would be important," said Nazarian, referring to existing synthetic turf regulations in the city.

Councilmember Craig Corman, who worked on the ordinance while serving on the Planning Commission, noted, "Artificial turf was originally banned in Beverly Hills in the front yard due to aesthetics, but is that really the concern now? We haven't heard

self ... Our school's motto, 'Today Well Lived,' is one I hold close. It reflects the kind of school community I hope to lead."

In a statement, BHUSD Superintendent Dr. Alex Cherniss voiced his confidence in Sriruksa.

"Loan Sriruksa brings a focused, experienced, and results-oriented leadership style to BHHS," he said. "Her track record reflects exactly what we expect in Beverly Hills; strategic thinking, high expectations, and a clear drive for academic excellence." ●

any complaints about the look of artificial turf in front yards." He added, "The environmental health effects question is something of a mixed bag."

Additionally, in his report on Closed Session items presented during the meeting, City Attorney Laurence Wiener announced Beverly Hills' decision to intervene, along with the city of Los Angeles and several other cities, in litigation against unconstitutional activities of Immigration and Customs Enforcement brought by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU). The vote was 4-1 with Councilmember John Mirisch dissenting.

"While the city of Beverly Hills supports enforcement of the law, we stand against any unconstitutional immigration enforcement actions. We are deeply concerned by allegations that federal agents have targeted individuals based solely on race or ethnicity, conducted raids and arrests without probable cause, and used excessive force. As a diverse community including many immigrants, we join the motion to intervene," stated Nazarian, representing the council's decision.

Mirisch explained that while he supported the mayor's statement, he voted against intervention, citing that the ACLU had "devolved into an antisemitic institution."

During the Regular Meeting, the City Council also voted 4-1 to adopt the draft ordinance banning short-term rentals that was initially agreed upon at the July 1 Regular Meeting. Mirisch voted against adopting the ordinance. ●

STUDY SESSION, from page 5
a lane striping plan. This would add painted edge lines between travel lanes and parking lanes to deter excessive speeding but does not reduce the number of travel lanes or on-street parking spaces. The edge lines would create 11-foot travel lanes and 9-foot parking lanes. Carpenter added that the cost of lane striping is approximately \$5,000 to install as part of the pavement marking project.

Carpenter reported that the plan is approved by the city's police and fire departments and supported by the Traffic and Parking Commission.

Beverly Hills Police Chief Mark Stainbrook agreed that speeding is an issue on Benedict Canyon, but also expressed concerns about the flow of traffic if the safety improvements are implemented.

Mayor Sharona Nazarian addressed the root of the safety issues, which include speeding on Benedict Canyon during

non-peak hours and the confusion its wide lanes cause.

"I think that even though [Benedict Canyon Drive] is a single lane, people understand it to be two lanes," said Nazarian.

"I do think that during the high-traffic times, the striping would merely be showing what the law is—that there's not two lanes," Councilmember Lester Friedman noted.

Vice Mayor John Mirisch said he would support adding a right-turn lane on Tower Road, which was suggested by some residents at the June 5 Traffic and Parking Commission meeting.

Following the council's direction on the project, Nazarian concluded the discussion by indicating the intent to revisit the matter at a future meeting, potentially after Public Works has had an opportunity to evaluate additional safety enhancements, such as a right-turn lane on Tower Road. ●

POZA
SAVOR A NEW PERSPECTIVE
L'HERMITAGE

MENENDEZ, from page 4
document is a letter from Erik Menendez to his cousin, Andy Cano, in which the former describes the abuse he endured. The other is a declaration from Roy Rossello, a former member of the boy band Menudo, that he was raped by Jose Menendez in the 1980s.

The July 7 order came as a response to a May 2023 habeas corpus petition filed by attorneys for the brothers. The order was issued by L.A. County Superior Court Judge William Ryan.

Lyle and Erik Menendez were tried and convicted of killing their parents in Beverly Hills in 1989. Their first trial resulted in a hung verdict, and their second trial resulted in a sentencing of life without the possibility of parole after they were found guilty of first-degree murder with special circumstances.

Former L.A. County District Attorney George Gascón filed a motion for resentencing in 2024, which was granted.

At the resentencing hearing, which was held in May, Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Michael Jesic removed the special circumstance allegation from the brothers' original conviction and reduced their sentences to 50 years to life with the possibility of parole.

Jesic cited the rehabilitation efforts the brothers have made in prison.

During the resentencing hearing, Erik issued an apology to the Beverly Hills community, saying that the murders instilled a sense of fear among residents.

Appearing virtually, Erik also apologized

for taking his parents' lives. "My actions were criminal," he said. "They were also selfish, cruel and cowardly."

Lyle, also appearing virtually, said that he takes "full responsibility for my choices."

"I believed I was a 21-year-old who could fix what could not be fixed," he said.

The brothers largely have the support of their family members, many of whom spoke on their behalf at the resentencing hearing.

L.A. County District Attorney Nathan Hochman opposed resentencing for the brothers, arguing that they repeatedly lied about the murders being committed in self-defense and have not yet acknowledged their statements as such.

In a statement following the resentencing, Hochman said that Jesic's decision was "a monumental one that has significant implications for the families involved, the community, and the principles of justice. Our office's motions to withdraw the resentencing motion filed by the previous administration ensured that the court was presented with all the facts before making such a consequential decision."

Hochman has also argued that the Cano and Rosello documents are not admissible in court.

Attorneys for the Menendez brothers, meanwhile, said that the documents counter the prosecution's claim that Jose was "not a violent and brutal man" and "not the kind of man" that would abuse his children.

In a statement to the Courier, Hochman's office said that "the Andy Cano letter and Roy

Rossello allegations were not known to the District Attorney's Office until the habeas petition was filed on May 3, 2023."

The brothers will have a parole hearing on Aug. 21 and 22. If the board recommends

parole, the decision will be sent to California Gov. Gavin Newsom. Newsom will have 90 days to review the decision and has the power to overrule it. ●

KYLE NEWMAN, from page 5
"Dungeons & Dragons" documentary. His current projects will serve as entry points for BHUSD students to gain exposure, mentorship, and hands-on opportunities in the creative arts.

Superintendent Dr. Alex Cherniss described Newman's hiring as "a game-changing moment" for the district.

"Kyle brings the highest level of expertise and credibility. He is here to help our students build real careers, not just classroom projects," said Cherniss. "This is a perfect

example of how BHUSD blends academic rigor with career readiness. We're proud to support a program that sets students up for meaningful success."

Newman is already developing a new slate of programming for BHUSD's broadcast platforms, which will include both student-produced content and district features, soon to be available on streaming platforms like Apple TV, Amazon Fire, and Roku.

"Students in this program won't just be learning, they'll be creating," said Newman. "We're building something real, together." ●

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‘Superman’—But Very Unexceptional



Photo courtesy of Warner Bros. Pictures

David Corenswet and Rachel Brosnahan

BY NEELY SWANSON

Get ready because here comes “Superman!” Aimed at adolescents (of age and mind), this film that reboots a cherished franchise is full of “coulda, woulda, shoulda.” Certainly all “Superman” movies are heavy on villains intent on controlling, and sometimes destroying the world, a world that has been protected by your favorite superhero and mine, Superman. It’s actually more surprising that Lex Luthor, supervillain, has lived to undermine Superman in each permutation. Here, however, James Gunn, writer and director, gets lost in the weeds by introducing thinly veiled international politics into the mix and covering it in monsters, visual effects and noisy fireworks.

Superman, a metahuman, has left the United States, flown the coop so to speak, to intervene in the war between Boravia and Jarhanpur (a thinly disguised Russia and Ukraine, perhaps?). His Spidey-sense (oops, wrong superhero) has led him to aid the Jarhanpurians against American ally, Boravia, because the Boravian invasion was just so unfair. It is here that his superpowers are tested to the max and come up wanting. Although he stopped the war, he lost the battle to a group of really ugly metahumans with similar powers and they wiped the floor with him. The Pentagon is less than happy with Superman’s actions, but even more unhappy is arch-criminal Lex Luthor, now a tech billionaire who has been supplying the Boravians with weapons and funding the takeover of Jarhanpur. Superman is a hurdle to be jumped and he’s the villain to do it, having cultivated a new race of metahumans. The corrupt mastermind has convinced the

Pentagon that Superman has a secret agenda to destroy America and must be stopped. Despite all the goodwill built up over the years, they choose to believe Lex Luthor, who has an algorithm for every occasion. Watching him on a computer is like watching David Hockney create art on an iPad.

Enter the pyrotechnics, kidnappings, evildoing and incredulity. It’s not just logic that must be suspended, but also plot, because there really isn’t one. Superman saves the world from a dictator, is vilified for it, framed as having a secret agenda to destroy mankind, loses his powers when spirited off to an alternative universe and must overcome all lapses in story to save the world again, whether they want it or not.

The cast Gunn assembled is, for the most part, not up to the intensity and plausibility necessary to successfully suspend belief. On a positive note, Superman, played by David Corenswet, a relative newcomer to the big screen, is charming and believable as an ingenuous rube who believes in truth, justice and the American way. His Kansas roots show through in all the best ways. He plays this nonsense straight and tries hard to sell his own tenuous situation and that of his adopted country. He’s not helped a great deal by the turgid dialogue. Rachel Brosnahan, Lois Lane, intrepid reporter, is no damsel in distress. She believes in her man (she already knows that Superman is Clark Kent) but recognizes that the gulf between their realities may be insurmountable. Wendell Pierce, Perry White the publisher of the Daily Planet, is called on to deliver gruff homilies a couple of times; truly a waste of a terrific performer. Shortcomings abound. Coming to Superman’s aid, at least

on occasion, is the nascent Justice Gang (it’s not League yet). Brought on for comic relief, their actions and dialogue are forced and singularly unfunny. Nathan Fillion plays the Green Lantern strictly for laughs, but the jokes are thin and his strutting and bad haircut are not enough to resurrect the character. Better is Edi Gathegi playing Mr. Terrific. He plays it straight and is effective as one of the minor heroes. The true star of the movie is Krypto, the superpowered dog. Some of the best scenes are designed around this naughty dog with a cape. More than comic relief, he inspires fear, threat and joy. Maybe a movie could be designed around him next time. Who doesn’t love a misbehaving terrier?

No Superman movie ever works without a villainous Lex Luthor, and Gunn tried to bring Lex into the modern age by making him a tech billionaire. It’s easy to imagine that he patterned Lex after the high-foreheaded Elon Musk or the previously bald Jeff Bezos. Unfortunately, Nicholas Hoult, a very fine actor in the right role (“The Menu”), lacks a threatening presence. It’s not enough to do bad deeds, stare at the camera with his steely blues and be a horrible person, but

a movie supervillain must make you shake in your boots. Gene Hackman, the original cinematic Lex Luthor, played his villain with scenery-chewing panache, sense of humor clearly intact, but a truly threatening presence and someone to fear. Certainly this Luthor does some truly horrible things and acts with impunity, but it’s one thing to quake at what he does and another to quake when he enters a room. Hoult, thin of voice, instills no fear or even creepiness when entering a scene. Certainly his Lex Luthor fits into the category of entitled rich boy, something Hoult plays very well, but he doesn’t have the gravitas to pull off an otherworldly villain.

The pyrotechnics and video effects are excellent, and this is what sells the movie to the audience it is aimed for. The cinematography by Henry Braham is fine but doesn’t rise to the level of the effects. Truly disappointing was the music. Snatches of John Williams’ score are occasionally heard, perhaps as an uncredited homage, but the music by David Fleming and John Murphy, which should have underscored the tension, is just loud. Gunn, who rose to justifiable fame with “Guardians of the Galaxy” (Parts I, II and III), is loyal to his creatives and has employed many of them on this film.

And therein lies the problem. James Gunn the director did not insist on a cohesive script from James Gunn the writer. There is no actual identifiable plot and when all is revealed at the end, the stakes were never actually high enough. Call me old fashioned, but I like a story with a beginning, middle and end, with characters I can root for and those I can boo. Filling the screen with robots and hideously unappetizing hybrid lizard monsters doesn’t work for me. I don’t mind a few supersized creatures, but I need an actual story, not a series of hyper events being shoehorned into an expositional narrative. “Jurassic World Rebirth,” full of hideously reptilian monsters, at least had a plot that held your attention.

I may be too harsh. This movie is burning up the box office and is on track to make a billion dollars globally. I’m not an adolescent video gamer and some of this vitriol may be because I was really looking forward to this film. It was definitely time for a reboot; for me, this was just the wrong one. Be aware, however, that mine is a voice in the wilderness. Many reviewers have been ecstatic about “Superman,” and despite my opinion, you may love it. Certainly my disappointment colors my reaction. “Caveat Emptor.”

In wide release at a theater near you. ●



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.

Letter to the Editor

Ed. Note: The concept of the “pocket listing” is in the national news of late and is always of interest in Beverly Hills. The Courier welcomes letters from the community on this or any other real estate-related topic.

Dear Beverly Hills Courier,
In Beverly Hills, pocket listings embody the very essence of refined discretion, serving as a vital instrument in navigating a market defined by rarity and discerning tastes. They offer unparalleled privacy and control, reserved exclusively for the most coveted properties and clients. These off-market transactions, quietly orchestrated between agents and their networks, provide sellers with discretion and buyers access to some of 90210’s hidden treasures. But as off-market popularity has surged, so too has scrutiny. The recent lawsuit by Compass against Zillow has ignited a fierce national debate over the role and future of private listings.

The Power and Allure of Pocket Listings
Pocket listings give sellers unmatched control and privacy, allowing them to avoid public exposure, leaks, open-house crowds, and marketing fatigue. For buyers, they offer

exclusive first access to homes not yet publicly listed. Instead of the chaos of a weekend frenzy, these deals unfold at a deliberate, carefully curated pace.
In Beverly Hills, true prestige lies in closing quietly and efficiently, before anyone even knows the home was on the market. Agents become trusted matchmakers, leveraging deep relationships and insider market knowledge to facilitate seamless, off-market transactions. Within this exclusive circle, the ultimate status symbol isn’t a bidding war; it’s the quiet whisper of a deal that no one else even knew existed.

Zillow vs. Compass: What It Means for Real Estate
In June 2025, Compass filed a lawsuit against Zillow over a controversial new rule affecting how listings are shared. The policy, often called “The Ban,” says that if a property is marketed anywhere else more than one business day before it’s posted to the MLS (Multiple Listing Service), Zillow will block that listing from appearing on its site. Zillow’s position is that by requiring listings to hit the MLS quickly, it ensures a fair and transparent process. Since Zillow pulls most of its listings directly from the MLS, this rule is aimed at making sure all buyers have equal access to new homes at the same time, rather than letting some people get early or exclusive access through private

channels or “pocket listing” services.
Compass, on the other hand, argues that this restricts how sellers and agents can market and sell their properties. It essentially pressures agents to immediately go public on the MLS, and therefore Zillow immediately, leaving little room for private marketing strategies like the use of pocket listings. Compass says this reduces seller flexibility and gives Zillow too much control over how homes are introduced to the market. For Beverly Hills agents and sellers, the outcome of this legal fight could be significant. If Compass wins, it may help preserve off-market and pre-MLS pocket listing strategies. If Zillow wins, agents may be forced to rethink how they roll out new listings, prioritizing speed and broad exposure over discretion and exclusivity.

Who Wins in a Pocket Listing World?
Pocket listings are often the preferred choice of high-profile sellers who value the ability to carefully curate who enters and tours their homes. Beyond exclusivity, security concerns play a significant role. Limiting exposure reduces unwanted attention and protects privacy. Sellers enjoy unparalleled discretion, buyers gain rare access to coveted properties before they hit the public market, and elite agents act as skilled facilitators of these ultra-private transactions. Keep in mind, the pocket listing approach isn’t a one-size-fits-all

solution. Without broad market exposure, some properties risk missing out on achieving their maximum potential value. It’s a delicate balance, a game of strategy and timing. The true mastery lies in knowing precisely when to keep a listing private and when to reveal it publicly. Success depends on reading both the market environment and the buyer pool by understanding who is out there, what they want, and how best to position the property to achieve the optimal outcome.

Final Thought: Strategy in an Evolving Market
Pocket listings are anything but outdated. They remain powerful instruments that influence market narratives, pricing dynamics, and client journeys. However, with the ongoing Compass-Zillow legal battle, the moment calls for a careful reassessment. If you’re considering selling your home, this is not the time to just wing it. Work with an agent who navigates both public launches and pocket listings with legal savvy, market knowledge, and ethical standards.
Because in our city, where every driveway tells a story, it’s not just about selling homes, it’s about crafting legacies.

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Is the Best Yet to Come? Embracing Our “Golden Years” in the Age of Innovation

BY EVA RITVO, M.D.

The phrase “Golden Years” began in the late 1950s as an ad campaign for a retirement community and gained widespread popularity. It connoted a time of leisure and opportunity to enjoy the rewards following a lifetime of work. In today’s rapidly changing world, the true potential of our later years is being expanded and for many, the best is yet to come.

Our culture, obsessed with youth, often discounts the value and vibrancy of aging and this is a mistake. Science and technology continue to enhance not only our lifespan but also our “healthspan,” defined as the years of our lives free from chronic illness or disability that affect the quality of our lives. Now our “golden years” can extend beyond rest and relaxation and become some of our most treasured.

In the 1950s, the average lifespan was approximately 65 years. Today, with an average life expectancy of around 80, we are gifted with the possibility of many additional “golden years.” With the average age of retirement at 66, many of us will have decades to explore other interests. This elongation invites us to view aging as an opportunity and a chance to reinvent ourselves and embrace the possibilities that come with more time, more freedom and often more money. David Bowie optimistically proclaimed, “Aging is an extraordinary process where you become the person you should have been.”

Examples abound of people thriving in what I call “the last third,” ages 60 to 90. My Aunt Mikki loved to say, “My highest-earning years were my 80s.” Speed walker Stephanie Singer, at 78, just finished the women’s Nike half-marathon, and has completed 17 marathons since turning 60. Ira Glick, at 88, plays full-court basketball four times a week. When Eli Levy’s son asked him if he was going to slow down his full-time psychology practice now that he turned 80, Eli shot back, “No, the opposite, I need to speed up. I have so much to do.” And, just this week, actress Kathy Bates, 77, made Emmy history by becoming the oldest nominee in the category of actress in a lead drama.

Advances in medicine, nutrition, and lifestyle choices can play a crucial role in how our later years are experienced. Recent research published in *Nature* (2024) reveals that those who engage in regular aerobic exercise and maintain a Mediterranean diet can extend the length of their cellular telomeres. These telomeres are the protective caps on chromosomes and are linked to aging. The length of our telomeres may actually be a better predictor of health and longevity than our birth date.

The landscape of aging is being revolutionized by technological innovations. AI-enabled health monitoring devices now track vital signs, detect early risks, and help manage chronic conditions, predicting

potential issues with remarkable accuracy. Digital tools like brain-training apps and virtual reality programs help maintain cognitive function, delaying decline and keeping our brains sharp. Social robots, such as ElliQ and PARO, provide companionship, reducing loneliness and enhancing emotional well-being. Meanwhile, breakthroughs in genomics enable personalized prevention plans based on individual genetic risks, opening new horizons for tailored healthcare.

With more time for self-care, studies show around 40% to 50% of those over 60 engage in regular physical activity. Roughly 20% to 25% do muscle-strengthening activities that have shown to be crucial to combat age-related decline. Rates of smoking, drinking and drug use all decrease as we get older, reducing health risks.

Psychological and emotional growth often flourishes with age. According to a 2023 Pew Research Center study, 80% of Americans aged 65 and older report feeling more emotionally calm and confident than in their earlier years. Hormonal highs and fluctuations diminish in later years, often leading to more peace and tranquility.

Many older adults report a renewed sense of purpose. A 2022 AARP survey noted that 75% of retirees felt more engaged and fulfilled as they embraced activities that had previously been sidelined. With years of experience, accepting change becomes easier. Letting go of control, forgiving others,

and trusting in one’s judgment nurture a peaceful outlook. Greater mental flexibility lets us see solutions from multiple perspectives, and independent thinking empowers us to follow our passions without undue influence.

Older adults often report that people are kinder and more willing to help, a reflection of societal respect and the richness of matured relationships. This support system, combined with an improved ability to assess risks and prioritize self-care, creates a foundation for living joyfully and intentionally.

Lastly, spirituality increases and often becomes a vital coping mechanism as we grow older. We may move from the more materialistic phase of life when we are acquiring and building, to a more reflective time where we seek a deeper understanding of our lives and the role we play in the universe.

Certainly challenges abound as we grow older and you may recall, Mae West famously quipped, “Aging isn’t for sissies.” Yet, as our wisdom and resources have multiplied, we can demonstrate equanimity and resilience that might have eluded us during our younger years in the face of increasing challenges. Having encountered loss and illness as we age can also deepen our appreciation for life.

As we look forward to a future where longevity is paired with increased vitality, let us remember that every day is a gift offering us a chance to grow and live our fullest lives. If we strive to maintain our optimal health over the years, we can continue to enjoy our best years yet.

“Beautiful young people are accidents of nature, but beautiful old people are works of art.”

—Eleanor Roosevelt ●



Beverly Hills Courier columnist Dr. Eva Ritvo is a psychiatrist with more than 30 years’ experience practicing in Miami Beach. She is the author of “Bekindr-The Transformative Power of Kindness” and the founder of the Bekindr Global Initiative, a movement to bring more kindness in the world. She is the co-author of “The Beauty Prescription” and “The Concise Guide to Marriage and Family Therapy.” She is also the co-founder of the Bold Beauty Project, a nonprofit that pairs women with disabilities with award-winning photographers creating art exhibitions to raise awareness. Dr. Ritvo received her undergraduate and medical degrees from UCLA, and psychiatry residency training at Weill Cornell Medicine.

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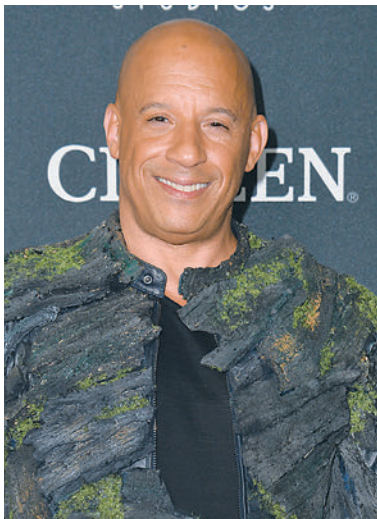
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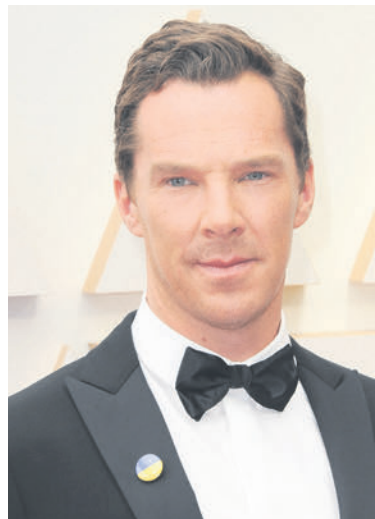
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Astrology

BY HOLIDAY MATIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You can't fake chemistry. You know this, but it's wild how many people still try. You feel it instantly -- in art, in conversation, in a stranger's glance. Trust your aesthetic radar. It rarely steers you wrong.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Sure, you could talk around the issue so thoroughly that the original point gets lost, but it's a strategy you've outgrown. You're in a phase where clarity is more important than avoiding the discomfort of honesty. Anything less than true communication would feel like self-betrayal.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Certain relationships have developed into something so consistent, so predictable, they've readied you for something a little more surprising. You'd like to be challenged, and you will be, in just the right amount.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The day brings an awareness of how you give love, not per quota, but as a part of yourself, ongoing -- an endless lease in your heart. You'll show love with service, through gifts, and mostly just by prioritizing their happiness and well-being.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You're tired of things that glitter with promise and deliver nothing but complication. Today, seek the plainspoken, the under-designed, the unpolished gem. The soul of a thing will speak to you before the packaging does.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). What you're holding in your body affects your mood, and sometimes much more than you realize. Where does tension cluster? Where is the ease? Before you talk, before you act, scan the system. There's wisdom in the unspoken signals.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). There's money to be made, but the real payoff is not so obvious. Stay tuned to shifts in power and key information handed through the side door. Stay alert. The most useful information will be traded in whispers.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Your powers of discernment will continue to serve you well today. Don't be seduced by the wrapper or distracted by clumsy packaging. Tune into the intent behind the words, the vibe behind the visuals, the energy behind the smile.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You're cool even when emotions come in hot. You don't have to slam the door. You don't have to blow it up. You can just...

(SET ITAL)slow the rhythm.(END ITAL) Delay the return text. Skip the call. Let the silence speak, as it most certainly will today.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Anything that went wrong in the past was a lesson you either already learned or will absorb in time without further effort. There's no need to keep processing, digging, ruminating. Take control with a simple shift in focus. Forward only.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You advocate for your needs without demanding

others sacrifice theirs. You deserve to have your time respected, your creative priorities honored and your evening protected so you can show up where you shine.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). How do you know you can trust someone? The proof is in how they show up over time. Same with you. Don't worry about the core goodness or character traits or anything too mystical. Look at the record, and do what it takes to have a good one. This is about logistics.



Ozzie Paws Bourne is a terrier mix available for adoption. He's 5 years old, 13 pounds and could double for Superman's dog, Krypto. If interested in Ozzie, contact Kim Sill at Shelter of Hope at 310-770-3571.

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THE NEW YORK TIMES SUNDAY MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE
07/18/25 ISSUE

ESCAPE ROOM
BY ZHOU ZHANG AND KEVIN CURRY / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Zhou Zhang and Kevin Curry are a wife and husband from Seattle. Zhou is an economist who works in tech. Kevin is a stay-at-home dad and part-time consultant on corporate carbon emissions. The idea for this puzzle was Zhou's. Kevin put the lock in the center. Together they constructed the puzzle while on a weekend getaway celebrating their 15th wedding anniversary. — W.S.

- ACROSS**

1 Philosopher who wrote “The bureaucracy is a circle from which no one can escape”

5 So

9 ____ folder

13 Sphinx site

17 Prevailing fashion

18 Cranked up to 11, say

19 Italian seasoning

20 Manga’s film counterpart

22 Its freedom is granted in the First Amendment

23 Pitchfork-shaped letters

24 Ward (off)

25 Predator with a big mouth, informally

26 Meeting, for short

27 Post

28 Princess portrayed by Carrie Fisher

30 Send from bank to bank

31 *Is completely oblivious ... or a hint to finding the fourth key letter in this puzzle*

37 Depleted, as savings

40 Hauled

41 Dishonorable

45 Moolah

46 Lover of Shakespeare

47 Bruce Wayne’s butler

48 Subj. of arms talks

49 Mario’s dinosaur sidekick
- 52 “I wish I could ____ that!”

55 Fruit picker of old

56 Make amends (for)

58 Credit card checkout option

59 ____ particle

60 Word with bullet or toilet

62 Tennis’s Nadal, to fans

63 Japanese honorific

64 Deg. with courses on accounting and management

66 Squeaks (by)

67 Channel with the onetime motto “On Cable. In Stereo”

68 “____ be a shame ...”

70 Liberty Mutual’s bird mascot

71 Physique, informally

72 Trickster of Greek myth

74 Closest world capital to Miami

76 –

78 Remove from power

79 Museo display

80 ____ Mahal

83 Bobby of the Boston Bruins

84 ____ mater

85 Muck

86 Place appropriately found in “gets pampered”

87 Philosopher’s “way”

88 Personal appearance

89 Children’s author Blyton

90 M&M color replaced by blue in 1995

91 “Stat!”
- 93 “*The Little Mermaid*” hit ... or a phonetic hint to finding the third key letter in this puzzle

99 Fir coat?

100 Preceded, with “to”

102 Element in strobe lights

103 Like witches and gourds

104 Cone’s partner

106 It often comes out at night

108 Was out of sight

109 *Kids’ ballgame played on a court ... or a hint to finding the second key letter in this puzzle*

113 Famed street in Beverly Hills

118 Become discouraged

119 One taking the words right out of your mouth?

120 Mimicked

121 Odd pair?

122 Low-fat

123 Purchases from florists
- 8 Has too much, for short

9 Beach bottle inits.

10 Burned rubber

11 Breathing problem at night

12 Onetime wealthiest family in Europe

13 Kind of joke ... or a response to a really bad one

14 Revering

15 Rigatoni relative

16 Cupid’s domain

17 Number twos, in brief

21 Before, poetically

27 Famous movement (and hashtag) of the late 2010s

29 Unwanted growth in fish tanks

32 Typical patty melt specification

33 With “boo,” it evokes sadness — with “woo,” it evokes happiness

34 Put a PIN in it

35 Flock formation

36 Awaiting renters

37 Battle between Verizon and AT&T, e.g.

38 Popular chocolate biscuit from Down Under

39 *Final stop ... or a hint to finding the first key letter in this puzzle*

42 Person everyone’s talking about ... or what you’ll be after unlocking the lock and completing this puzzle?

43 Imposed, as a fine

44 Wonderlands

ANSWERS FOUND
IN NEXT WEEK’S
PAPER...

	1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12		13	14	15	16		
17						18					19					20				21	
22						23					24					25					
26					27					28				29		30					
			31	32					33	34	35				36						
37	38	39						40						41				42	43	44	
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56			57			58						59				60	61				
62						63							64		65		66				
	67					68							70				71				
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76	77					78							79					80	81	82	
83						84							85					86			
87						88							89					90			
91			92			93			94	95	96	97	98					99			
100					101				102							103					
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109	110	111							112				113			114			115	116	117
118													119								
120						121						122						123			

- 50 Washington and Franklin, e.g.

51 Breaking maneuver

53 Tattle

54 Hero ... or where to find many naval heroes

57 Place for a pew

61 Country music star with 24 No. 1 singles and an eponymous sitcom

63 Star of Marvel’s first film with an Asian-led cast
- 65 Where “the hills are alive” in song

69 [Insert key here]

73 Make calls on one’s cellphone abroad

75 Bit of chia or hemp

76 Add up to

77 Wipe, as from memory

81 Split up

82 Of extremely unreliable quality, in slang

92 Ran smoothly, as an engine
- 94 Applies, as influence

95 Painter Magritte

96 Big boomer, for short

97 Word after “man of the” or “top of the”

98 Sign up

99 Negative reputation, informally

101 Ritz

103 ____-eyed

105 Gave a red card, informally

106 Alternative to truth
- 107 Actress Falco of “The Sopranos”

108 Sousaphone, e.g.

109 State for snowbirds: Abbr.

110 Alley ____

111 Function

112 Home of the world’s tallest bldg.

114 Org. concerned with ozone depletion

115 Words in front of a minister or a judge

116 Cat scanner?

117 CPR sites

Police Blotter

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



<u>ASSAULT - SIMPLE</u> 7/14/2025, 7:30 p.m. at 300 Block of S. REXFORD DRIVE 7/11/2025, 11:21 p.m. at 400 Block of N. CANON DRIVE 7/10/2025, 6:10 p.m. at WILSHIRE BOULEVARD/ N. ALMONT DRIVE 7/3/2025, 3:53 p.m. at 700 Block of N. CANON DRIVE 7/3/2025, 1:45 p.m. at WILSHIRE BOULEVARD/ N. BEVERLY DRIVE	<u>BURGLARY - RESIDENTIAL (NO ONE HOME)</u> 7/12/2025, 8:45 p.m. at 500 Block of EVELYN PLACE 7/12/2025, 6:30 p.m. at 300 Block of N. PALM DRIVE 7/3/2025, 9:15 p.m. at 300 Block of N. OAKHURST DRIVE 7/3/2025, 12 a.m. at 600 Block of N. REXFORD DRIVE	<u>MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT</u> 7/1/2025, 2:58 p.m. at 200 Block of S. LA CIENEGA BLVD. <u>ROBBERY</u> 7/3/2025, 3:30 p.m. at 100 Block of S. ROXBURY DRIVE <u>THEFT FROM COMMERCIAL BUILDING</u> 7/9/2025, 4:41 p.m. at 300 Block of N. BEVERLY DRIVE 7/2/2025, 6:22 p.m. at 300 Block of N. BEVERLY DRIVE 7/1/2025, 5:31 p.m. at 300 Block of N. CANON DRIVE <u>THEFT - GRAND</u> 7/14/2025, 3:50 p.m. at 200 Block of S. BEVERLY DRIVE	7/13/2025, 12:50 p.m. at 300 Block of N. RODEO DRIVE 7/7/2025, 7:13 p.m. at 9700 Block of WILSHIRE BLVD. 7/6/2025, 11 a.m. at 100 Block of N. ARNAZ DRIVE 7/4/2025, 1:30 p.m. at 200 Block of N. RODEO DRIVE 7/3/2025, 7 p.m. at 100 Block of S. CANON DRIVE 7/2/2025, 3:05 p.m. at 400 Block of N. RODEO DRIVE 7/1/2025, 7:41 a.m. at 300 Block of SPALDING DRIVE <u>THEFT - PETTY</u> 7/11/2025, 10 a.m. at 200 Block of S. REXFORD DRIVE 7/9/2025, 3:39 p.m. at 8900 Block of W PICO BLVD. 7/7/2025, 9:12 a.m. at 500 Block of S. BEVERLY DRIVE	7/5/2025, 9:15 a.m. at 9000 Block of WILSHIRE BLVD. 7/3/2025, 1:21 p.m. at 9000 Block of OLYMPIC BLVD. 7/1/2025, 6:19 p.m. at 300 Block of N. RODEO DRIVE <u>VANDALISM</u> 7/8/2025, 10 a.m. at 9700 Block of S. SANTA MONICA BLVD. 7/4/2025, 1:30 p.m. at 400 Block of S. WETHERLY DRIVE 7/2/2025, 10 p.m. at 400 Block of S. WETHERLY DRIVE 7/1/2025, 7:46 a.m. at SUNSET BOULEVARD / ALPINE DRIVE 7/1/2025, 6:40 a.m. at 9000 Block of WILSHIRE BLVD.
<u>BURGLARY - COMMERCIAL BUILDING</u> 7/6/2025, 3:51 p.m. at 200 Block of N. BEVERLY DRIVE <u>BURGLARY - FROM A MOTOR VEHICLE</u> 7/1/2025, 4:05 p.m. at 400 Block of N. RODEO DRIVE	<u>DUI ARREST</u> 7/12/2025, 11:24 p.m. at OLYMPIC BOULEVARD/ S. REXFORD DRIVE 7/10/2025, 11:36 a.m. at N. REXFORD DRIVE/ N. SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD			

PLANNING COMMISSION, from page 1
Southern California art and design community." Sheets is included on the city of Beverly Hills List of Master Architects.

The building was constructed for the Ahmanson Bank & Trust Company in 1959. Among its character-defining features are two monumental mosaics along the Wilshire facade, Italian marble cladding, ceramic-fired gold tiles and stained glass.

Upon purchasing the property, Chabad

was required by Beverly Hills Municipal Code to provide 174 parking spaces.

According to Menachem Mendel Shusterman, a rabbi for the congregation who spoke at the July 10 meeting, that number of parking spaces would not be possible for the organization to create at the Wilshire location. Shusterman said Chabad was advised that the best way to bypass the parking requirement was to obtain a Historic Incentive Permit, (HIP), which they did in

HOCHMAN, from page 1

was sworn in as Rotary President before a crowd that included Los Angeles County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath.

Addressing Rotary members, Gold expressed his enthusiasm to begin his new role.

"This club has a great reputation, and it's because of everything that you guys do," he said. "I'm very excited to be the president."

The First Seven Months

Hochman began his remarks by discussing actions he's taken since being sworn into office. Among his first steps, he said, was working to reestablish trust with prosecutors, law enforcement and victims.

"I came into office on December third, and there were a lot of dysfunctional problems that were in the criminal justice system that needed to be fixed as quickly as possible," he said.

Hochman said that among his prosecutors, 98% voted to support the recall of George Gascón, the previous district attorney.

"This was not a happy group," said Hochman. "And basically, part of the reason they weren't happy was that on [Gascón's] first day in office, he went ahead and passed nine special directives that said that certain crimes and certain criminals would no longer be prosecuted."

Those special directives, said Hochman, applied to sentencing for certain juveniles, gang enhancements and some gun enhancements.

Hochman told members of the Rotary Club that he rescinded all nine special directives with the intent that prosecutors would understand that he wanted to rebuild trust.

"[These prosecutors] bring, collectively, thousands of years of prosecutorial experience to the job," he said. "And what I said is, look, I'm going to go ahead and allow you to now use the tools that you would always use. Use them smartly, use them with common sense, use them better than you've ever used them before. But I will start with trusting your discretion."

The Hard Middle

Gascón was known as a progressive prosecutor whose political philosophy aligned with decarceration, or putting fewer people in prison. Hochman noted that in rescinding Gascón's directives, he was not moving towards the other end of the spectrum—which, he said, would be "mass incarceration"—but rather to what he described as "the hard middle."

"What we're going to do is go back to an approach that had been used for prosecutors and law enforcement for decades," he said. "I call it the hard work middle or just the hard middle approach. And what that approach is, it said we're going to look at each case individually. No more blanket policies.

"We're going to look at the individual

defendant and their background, the crime committed and the impact on the victim to determine who the true threats are to our public safety."

Six Priority Areas

Since taking office, Hochman has identified six priority areas. Those include fentanyl poisoning, homeless crime, human trafficking, hate crimes, residential burglary and organized retail theft.

Fentanyl poisoning, Hochman said, was identified because of its sheer scope.

"There will be more people between the ages of 18 and 45 killed by fentanyl than anything else," he said.

Organized retail theft includes smash and grabs, as well as ongoing operations that target particular shops.

To that end, Hochman has implemented Proposition 36, which allows repeat offenders to be charged with a felony rather than a misdemeanor.

"You won't be caught and released," he said of those offenders. "You'll actually have to go and be booked through the system and held on bail ... to date—I checked the numbers—we have 1,200 felony prosecutions that have been brought under Proposition 36."

ICE Update

During the Q&A following his remarks, Hochman was asked about his office's response to recent federal deportation efforts.

"The DA's office and local law enforcement are not part of federal civil immigration enforcement," Hochman responded. "They don't call us up ahead of time and tell us what they're doing, nor do we reach out to them. They go ahead and pick and choose how and where they're going to engage in this immigration enforcement and don't engage us at all."

Hochman added that local law enforcement was still being affected by federal actions. Citing the protests that took place recently in downtown L.A. in response to ICE raids, Hochman said that L.A. officers ended up being responsible for "prevent[ing] a riot."

"[Local] law enforcement was then in charge of dealing with legitimate protests involving not just hundreds of people or thousands of people or tens of thousands of people, but literally hundreds of thousands of people who wanted to legitimately protest," he said, adding that among those protesters was a small minority who used the moment as an opportunity to commit crimes.

"Local law enforcement is still in a bit of a bind because they're not coordinating with the federal government, the federal government's not coordinating with them," he said. ●

2019.

Under the HIP, the organization became responsible for engaging in restoration and rehabilitation of the building.

Shusterman said at the Planning Commission meeting that the organization has since come to understand how expensive the rehabilitation and restoration would be under the HIP. As such, he came before the commission to ask if there is another way for Chabad to be relieved of the requirement to provide 174 parking spaces, and to effectively revoke the HIP.

Among his arguments were that many churches and temples in the city do not provide as many parking spaces, and that because the congregation is Orthodox, they do not typically drive to synagogue because of religious tenets.

City staff wrote in a report and stated at the July 10 meeting that Chabad has not provided the city with materials required by the HIP, including a timeline of work, a detailed scope of work and an updated set of project plans outlining the proposed work.

Referring to the report, Commissioner Myra Demeter said that the organization did not fulfill its obligation to provide a plan for rehabilitation and restoration as outlined in the HIP, despite having understood the obligation since 2019.

"You had an obligation, you did not fulfill your obligation," Demeter said. "You were told repeatedly; you had interaction with the staff, and then you were given a chance

to come now and present something, and you presented the same exact thing with no deviation."

In response, Shusterman reiterated that he and other leaders of his organization did not realize how costly the rehabilitation and restoration process would be.

"I understand that we obligated ourselves," he said. "We didn't realize it was going to get to that point where a tile of one foot by one-and-a-half feet is going to cost \$3,300."

Commission Chair Jeff Wolfe said that he believes the issue boils down to a misunderstanding.

"Somehow, because of the path this took, there is this linkage between the requirement to do the [restoration and rehabilitation] work and the parking as it relates to the permit," he said. "The miscommunication is that the link doesn't actually exist."

The commission voted to maintain the existing requirement for Chabad to provide a detailed rehabilitation and restoration plan.

The issue will be brought back to the commission at its November meeting with the understanding that Shusterman will convey the decision to his congregation and return with a plan that includes the missing pieces of information. ●



D LINE SUBWAY EXTENSION PROJECT
Section 1 – Beverly Hills

We're building better transit from DTLA to the Westside.

July Updates

The work zone will be shifted to the south side of Wilshire Bl between San Vicente and La Cienega Bl.

Station completion continues underground!



213.922.6934
metro@metro.net
metro.net/dline

25-2263 ©2025 LACMTA

D LINE EXT COBH 1

Public Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE

(Division 6 of the Commercial Code) Escrow No. 502517-SH

(1) Notice is hereby given to creditors of the within named Seller(s) that a bulk sale is about to be made on personal property hereinafter described.

(2) The name and business addresses of the seller are: FAMILY GROUP NAIL, INC, 203 1/2 S BEVERLY DR, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90212

(3) The location in California of the chief executive office of the Seller is: 21201 KITTRIDGE ST #4403, WOODLAND HILLS, CA 91303

(4) The names and business address of the Buyer(s) are: NOSHNAIL STUDIO LLC, 14370 WOLFHOUND ST, EASTVALE, CA 92880

(5) The location and general description of the assets to be sold are: FURNITURE, FIXTURES AND EQUIPMENT of that certain business located at: 203 1/2 S BEVERLY DR, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90212

(6) The business name used by the seller(s) at said location is: JLE NAIL STUDIO

(7) The anticipated date of the bulk sale is AUGUST 5, 2025, at the office of ONE KEY ESCROW, CORP., 19524 NORDHOFF, NORTHRIDGE, CA 91324 Escrow No. 502517-SH, Escrow Officer SHAWN HUDSON

(8) Claims may be filed with Same as "7" above.

(9) The last date for filing claims is: AUGUST 4, 2025

(10) This Bulk Sale is subject to Section 6106.2 of the Uniform Commercial Code.

(11) As listed by the Seller, all other business names and addresses used by the Seller within three years before the date such list was sent or delivered to the Buyer are: NONE

DATED: JUNE 19, 2025

TRANSFEREES: NOSHNAIL STUDIO LLC, A CALIFORNIA LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY 3963615-PP BH COURIER 7/18/25

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

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

REQUEST FOR PREQUALIFICATION OF BIDDERS AND PREQUALIFICATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR: Data Center HVAC Equipment Replacement Project RFQ #25-350-48

Notice is hereby given that the City of Beverly Hills ("CITY") has determined that all bidders for the Data Center HVAC Equipment Replacement, ("Project") must be pre-qualified prior to submitting a bid on the 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 Tuesday, August 12, 2025**. Contractors are encouraged to submit prequalification packages as soon as possible, so that they may be notified of omissions of information to be remedied or of their prequalification status in advance of the prequalification deadline for this Project.

A contractor with (C-20 license) is the prime contractor for this project, and the contractor will need to subcontract with the appropriate contractors as needed for a turnkey project.

Answers to questions contained in the questionnaire are required. The questionnaire is posted on Planet Bids portal: <https://www.planetbids.com/portal/portal.cfm?-CompanyID=39493>.

The item is listed as: Request for prequalification of bidders for: *Data Center HVAC Equipment Replacement Project*

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.

The prequalification packages should be submitted electronically on Planet Bids. Questions regarding the questionnaire and the qualification package should be submitted on Planet Bids.

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 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 con-

sider 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 **2025118127** The following is/are doing business as: **HALLOWAYNE PRODUCTIONS 2029 CENTURY PARK E STE 400, LOS ANGELES, CA 90067**; MOVICORP MEDIA, INC. Los Angeles, CA 90067; The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION registrant(s) has NOT begun to transact business under the name(s) listed: **MOVICORP MEDIA INC., Robert Schnitzer, CEO**. Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: June 10, 2025; Published: JULY 11, 18, 25, AUGUST 1, 2025 LA/CC

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT **2025122925** The following is/are doing business as: **KW BEVERLY HILLS ESTATES 439 N CANON DR SUITE 300, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90210-4897**; Forward Beverly Hills, Inc. 439 N Canon Dr Suite 300, Beverly Hills, CA 90210-4897; The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION registrant(s) has HAS begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on February 2004: **Forward Beverly Hills, Inc., David Bailey, President**. Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: June 17, 2025; Published: June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 2025

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT **2025122925** The following is/are doing business as: **KW BEVERLY HILLS ESTATES 439 N CANON DR SUITE 300, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90210-4897**; Forward Beverly Hills, Inc. 439 N Canon Dr Suite 300, Beverly Hills, CA 90210-4897; The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION registrant(s) has HAS begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on February 2004: **Forward Beverly Hills, Inc., David Bailey, President**. Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: June 17, 2025; Published: June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 2025

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT **2025138584** The following is/are doing business as: **THE OTHER EYE 369 S DOHENY DRIVE SUITE 268 BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90048**; Matilda Del Toro 369 S Doheny Drive Suite 268 Beverly Hills, CA 90048; The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL registrant(s) has HAS begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on JULY 2025: **Matilda Del Toro, Owner**. Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: July 9, 2025; Published: July 18, 25, August 1, 8, 2025 LA/CC

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT **2025139971** The following is/are doing business as: **BEVERLY HILLS COURIER DINING 499 NORTH CANON DRIVE #212, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90210**; BH COURIER ACQUISITION, LLC. 499 NORTH CANON DRIVE #212, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90210; The business is conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY registrant(s) has HAS begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on September 2019: **BH Acquisition, LLC. John Bendheim, Manager**. Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: July 10, 2025; Published: July 18, 25, August 1, 8, 2025 LA/CC

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

CASE NO: 25SMCP00396 ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

In the Matter of the petition of: **Iliak Piana Yang** To all interested person(s): Petitioner: **Iliak Piana Yang** current residence address: **120 S. Crescent Drive #301, Beverly Hills, CA 90212** filed a petition with the **Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 1725 Main St., Santa Monica, CA 90401, on July 16, 2025** for a Decree changing names as follows:

Present Name: Iliak Piana Yang
Proposed Name: Kaili Peng

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: **August 29, 2025**
Time: **8:30am** Dept: **K**
The address of the court is: **Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 1725 Main St., Santa Monica, CA 90401**, Reason for name change: Petitioner is already known by her proposed name wishes to be known by her proposed name in all personal/business affairs.

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

Signed: **Iliak Piana Yang**
Judge of the Superior Court: **Lawrence Cho, David W. Slayton, Executive Officer/Clerk**, Dated: **July 16, 2025**
BHC - July 18, 25, August 1, 8, 2025

Classifieds

ANNOUNCEMENT

WANTED

Vintage Clothing
Costume Jewelry

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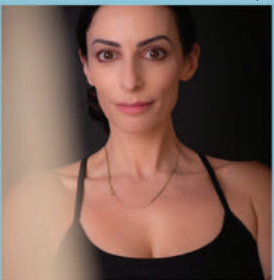
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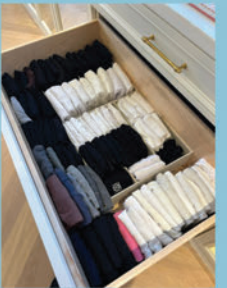
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the front fenders and the last appearance of Cadillacs famed tailfins, this time with a discreet, fine-blade motif. However, the big news for 1964 concerned Cadillac's powerful V-8 engine, now enlarged to 4.29 cubic inches with 340 bhp and 480 pounds-feet of torque on tap. A road test report by the UK's Autocar described the '64 Cadillac experience, quoting a top speed of 121.5 mph and a best run at 123 mph in "contemptuous ease, achieved "with very little mechanical fuss or disturbance." The Cadillac's handling, braking and overall road manners were also praised. Additional advancements for 1964 included the Turbo-Hydramatic automatic transmission, Comfort Control fully automatic heating and air conditioning, and Twilight Sentinel headlamp delay. Cadillac offerings for 1964 were organized along the core Series 62 line including the DeVille sub-series, plus the Sixty Special Fleetwood hardtop sedan and formal long-wheelbase Series 75.

Featuring the "4-Window" body style, this 1964 Cadillac Sedan DeVille is a beautifully preserved and presented example of the best-selling member of the Series 62-based DeVille model line. Handsomely finishEfii in Body Tag-correct Ebony Black paint over a striking Black interior, this Sedan DeVille was manufactured during the 4 week of April, 1964. Startling power and torque are delivered by Cadillac's proprietary 429 CI V-8 engine a first for the 1964 model year. Factory accessories of this highly equipped Sedan DeVille include Code E Soft Ray tinted glass, a Code Y power front seat, Code M power door locks, a Code K air conditioner, and Code V seat belts. Only an approximate 61k miles are indicated at the time of writing. An upgraded modern audio system with Bluetooth connectivity is also present. A freshly competed service and detailing makes this standout 1960s Cadillac ready to collect, show and enjoy as desired.

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