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THE WEATHER, BEVERLY HILLS CA		
	Friday	77°   65°
	Saturday	77°   64°
	Sunday	78°   65°
	Monday	82°   65°
	Tuesday	86°   67°
	Wednesday	87°   69°
	Thursday	85°   69°

# City Council Approves Extended Closure of North Canon Drive

BY JESSICA OGILVIE

North Canon Drive will remain closed at Wilshire Boulevard for an additional five and a half months following a vote taken by the Beverly Hills City Council at its Sept. 9 meeting.

The street will reopen by March 14, 2026. The 4-1 vote, in which Vice Mayor John Mirisch dissented, was taken following a request for an extension on the closure from the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro). Metro is See CANON DRIVE, page 11



Photo by Lisa Friedman Bloch

Approximately 200 Beverly Hills residents and city officials gathered for the 24th annual commemoration ceremony to honor those who lost their lives in the 2001 terror attacks.

## Mayor Nazarian Attends 2025 Australian Mayors Summit

BY JULIANNA LOZADA

Beverly Hills Mayor Sharona Nazarian recently visited Australia’s Gold Coast as a speaker at the 2025 Australian Mayors Summit Against Antisemitism, where she shared her perspectives as a local government leader and a theme she’s championed as mayor: Never Again is Now. The conference, which was held from Sept. 3-5, was hosted by the Combat Antisemitism Movement, which brought together over 250 local government leaders and advocates across Australia to respond to antisemitism and nurture safety in their communities. Nazarian spoke to the summit attendees as a representative of the 2024 conference host. Last December, Beverly Hills hosted the



Mayor Sharona Nazarian and Gold Coast Mayor Tom Tate 2024 Mayors Summit Against Antisemitism, with current councilmember and former city mayor Lester Friedman as the chair. Nazarian also led a panel discussion titled “Diversity of the Jewish Experience: See ANTISEMITISM, page 8

## BHUSD Board Served with Cease-and-Desist Letter

BY JULIANNA LOZADA

Attorney Daniel Lifschitz delivered a cease-and-desist letter to the board of the Beverly Hills Unified School District at its Sept. 9 meeting. Lifschitz, who is also a parent of a BHUSD student, alleges that the board violated the Public Comment Obligation (PCO) of the Brown Act, which curtails the ability of a board to act on agenda items during a meeting without allowing the public to address the board regarding the substance of those agenda items. “What could be more evasive than taking open comment on one version of a proposal, then creating and passing a substantially different version on the spot? There would be no end to the potential abuse,” said Lifschitz during public comment. The letter states that, “over the past few months, the board has repeatedly violated the PCO by taking public comment on agenda items at the start of meetings, only to then substantially change and pass those items within the space of the same See BHUSD, page 8

## Family Sues BHUSD Over Alleged Sexual Assaults at El Rodeo Elementary

BY JESSICA OGILVIE

A family has sued the Beverly Hills Unified School District (BHUSD) alleging that district employees did not properly respond to repeated sexual harassment and assault of students at El Rodeo Elementary School at the hands of another student, constituting a Title IX violation. The lawsuit alleges “willful and deliberate indifference” on the part of BHUSD, See EL RODEO, page 8

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# Courier Calendar

**NOW - SEPT. 28**  
**THE BROAD: “JEFFREY GIBSON: THE SPACE IN WHICH TO PLACE ME”**  
**TUES.-WED., FRI. 11 A.M.-5 P.M.**  
**THURS. 11 A.M.-8 P.M.**  
**SAT.-SUN. 10 A.M.-6 P.M.**

“Jeffrey Gibson: the space in which to place me” is a kaleidoscopic special exhibition filled with vibrant colors, intricate beadwork, towering sculptures and powerful storytelling, all reflecting the artist’s radical vision for a future in which all people are seen, accepted and loved. The show comes to The Broad directly from the 60th Venice Biennale (2024), one of the most prestigious exhibitions of visual art in the world, where Gibson made history as the first Indigenous artist to represent the United States with a solo show at the US Pavilion. Gibson’s practice celebrates individuals and communities who have maintained their dignity and traditions in impossible circumstances, centering the resilience present in the legacies of Indigenous makers. He juxtaposes a variety of texts, from foundational legal documents to quotes from civil rights activists to pop song lyrics, combining American, Indigenous and LGBTQ+ histories with references to

popular subcultures, literature and global artistic traditions. Admission to this special admission is \$15 for adults, \$12 for students 18 years or older with ID and free for children 17 and under. Admission for all is free on Thursdays from 5-8 p.m. The Broad is located at 221 S. Grand Ave., Los Angeles. [thebroad.org](http://thebroad.org)

**NOW - OCT. 5**  
**BEVERLY HILLS PLAYHOUSE:**  
**“MY DAD’S KID”**  
**FRI.-SAT. 8 P.M.**  
**SUN. 7 P.M.**  
Beverly Hills Playhouse presents the world premiere drama of “My Dad’s Kid” by playwright Eric Toms. Allen Barton will direct a cast of two in the sweet and witty production about complicated familial dynamics. Christmas week in LA, Greg— an aimless novelist moonlighting as a ride-share driver—gets a surprise visit from Pamela, his razor-sharp half-sister. In one cramped apartment, two versions of their father collide, buried secrets surface, old grudges, quick laughs and one long-avoided truth spills out. He’s stuck; she’s sprinting. A witty, big-hearted two-hander about family, identity, reinvention and a father

myth that won’t stay tidy. A funny, tender two-hander rewrites the story of family—and self. Tickets are \$35 or \$15 for students. [bhplayhouse.com](http://bhplayhouse.com)

**NOW - OCT. 12**  
**ROGUE MACHINE THEATRE:**  
**“ADOLESCENT SALVATION”**  
**MON., FRI. 8 P.M.**  
**SAT.-SUN. 5 P.M.**  
Playwright Tim Venable and director Guillermo Cienfuegos team up for the third time at Rogue Machine. In the production, over the course of one night, through a haze of tequila, texting and Taylor Swift, three teens banter, bicker and push each other to the edge of danger - with consequences that could prove lethal by morning. This searingly funny and fearlessly inquisitive play examines the moral complexity of the kinds of characters we judge most harshly - and the fatal consequences of ignoring our own complicity in the deeds that we condemn. General admission is \$45 (Seniors \$35) on Fri., Sun. and Mon. and \$60 on Sat. (Seniors \$45). Students with ID or under 18 are \$25 at the door, as available. Discount showings are on Sept. 12, 19, 26 and

Oct. 3. Rogue Machine is located at 7657 Melrose Ave., Los Angeles. [roguemachinetheatre.org](http://roguemachinetheatre.org)

**OCT. 9**  
**FRENCH HERITAGE SOCIETY:**  
**“CHAMPAGNE, MUSIC, AND THE MOVIES”**  
**6-8 P.M.**  
The Southern California Chapter Chairs Poppy Paulos, Monte Tomerlin and Edie Frère and Event Chair Pam Gates, invite guests to an audio-visual presentation of Oscar-winning music by French composers Georges Delerue, Alexandre Desplat, Camille and Clement Ducal, Maurice Jarre, Michel Legrand and Gabriel Yared. The evening will feature Robert Townson, world-famous producer of film music and a special guest who is yet to be announced. Champagne and Hors D’oeuvres are served at 6 p.m. and the presentation begins at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$125. The event will be hosted at the Beverly Hills Women’s Club, located at 1700 Chevy Chase Drive, Beverly Hills. [frenchheritagesociety.org](http://frenchheritagesociety.org)



## SUMMARY NOTICE

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS  
AUTHORIZING THE BEVERLY HILLS POLICE DEPARTMENT’S  
MILITARY EQUIPMENT USE INVENTORY IN ACCORDANCE  
WITH GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 7071.**

The Beverly Hills Police Department (BHPD) has requested authorization to acquire larger quantities of previously-approved equipment (40-millimeter launchers) pursuant to Government Code section 7071. The Ordinance contains the requisite findings to approve the designated military equipment identified in the Military Equipment Inventory.

The Beverly Hills Police Department’s renewed Military Equipment Use Policy (Policy 706), as well as the attached Inventory, are publicly available on the City’s website pursuant to Government Code section 7071.

A certified copy of the entirety of the text of the Ordinance is available for public review in the office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 455 N. Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills, California 90210. The City Council of the City of Beverly Hills will consider adoption of the Ordinance during the regular City Council meeting on September 16, 2025. Further information may be obtained by contacting Beverly Hills Police Department Sergeant Jeff Newman at 310-285-2560.

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.



## SUMMARY NOTICE

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS  
RENEWING ITS MILITARY EQUIPMENT USE ORDINANCE IN  
ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 7071.**

The Beverly Hills Police Department (BHPD) has requested authorization to renew the use of previously approved military equipment pursuant to Government Code section 7071. The Ordinance contains the requisite findings to approve the designated military equipment identified in the Military Equipment Inventory.

The Beverly Hills Police Department’s renewed Military Equipment Use Policy (Policy 706), as well as the attached Inventory, are publicly available on the City’s website pursuant to Government Code section 7071.

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# Savour Cuisine: The Art of Dining at Calligraphy Westwood Village

## Distinguished Senior Living at its Finest

Step into a world where bespoke experiences meet meaningful connections. Here, like-minded people become neighbors and friends, care is as discreet as it is customized, and a fulfilling and dynamic life well lived is a privilege well earned. Every detail is thoughtfully crafted to offer comfort and support in a refined environment, whether you're embracing the freedom of independent living or receiving personalized support with assisted living or memory care.

At Calligraphy, we elevate every moment with careful attention.

## A Love Letter to Yourself

At every stage of life, we offer choices that honor your journey, and blend independence, support and community. Surrounded by refined architecture and sophisticated design, our unique mix of timeless hospitality, exquisite dining, sublime enrichment and holistic wellness programs make Calligraphy the distinguished community of choice in Napa Valley.

As your new chapter starts, let it begin by writing a love letter to yourself, celebrating a life well lived.

## A Philosophy Rooted in Artistry

Savour Cuisine at Calligraphy Napa Valley is more than a menu; it's a philosophy. Each dish is crafted as though it were a composition—layers of flavor, color, and texture thoughtfully balanced to delight the senses. Chefs approach their work as artists, drawing inspiration from the seasons, global culinary traditions, and the personal preferences of residents themselves.

The result? Menus that read like poetry. A velvety soup that opens with the brightness of citrus and finishes with the warmth of ginger. A perfectly seared salmon that arrives atop a bed of roasted vegetables, each bite revealing something new. A dessert that's less of a sweet ending and more of a final stanza, ensuring the meal closes on just the right note.

## Dining as a Social Experience

One of the most extraordinary things about Savour Cuisine is the way it elevates not only the food, but the act of dining itself. Mealtimes are transformed into opportunities for storytelling, laughter, and community.

In the intimate dining venues at Calligraphy, conversations flow as easily as the wine, weaving together stories of lives well lived. A resident might recall a favorite recipe passed down through generations while sampling a new chef-crafted dish. Another might strike up a friendship over a shared appreciation for Mediterranean flavors.

The table becomes a place of connection—something especially meaningful in a stage of life when relationships, memories, and human connection hold deeper resonance than ever before.

## A Celebration of Choice

Unlike traditional senior living dining programs, Savour Cuisine isn't about pre-set options or uninspired buffets. It's about choice, discovery, and personalization.



Residents can enjoy a light, casual breakfast, a leisurely lunch al fresco, or an elegant dinner prepared with restaurant-level precision.

Every venue within Calligraphy Westwood Village is conceptually designed to evoke a distinct mood, so residents can select not just what they eat, but where and how they experience it. One evening might call for a cozy, intimate dinner for two; another for a lively, communal table buzzing with conversation.

This flexibility and thoughtfulness reflect the heart of Calligraphy's philosophy: honoring individuality and creating space for residents to live—and dine—on their own terms.

## The Venues: Scripted to Perfection

- **Olive & Ink:** Fresh, clean flavors meet thoughtful presentation, offering a sense of rustic elegance and a connection to nostalgic traditions. Our main dining venue is open for breakfast, lunch, and dinner and truly showcases our commitment to gracious hospitality.

- **Espresso Script:** A modern café where fresh-brewed coffee and baked goods are composed with care, like a beautifully

written script. This counter-service venue is a favorite of residents looking to grab a delicious cup of warm java.

- **Artful Pour:** A refined lounge where every glass is poured with purpose and flair, offering an experience as artful as it is inviting.

- **The Quill:** Fine dining at its most refined, with each dish a precise stroke of culinary elegance, crafted with tradition and artistry. Our team of exemplary service professionals delivers an exceptional dining experience.

## Los Angeles at the Table

Being in Westwood offers another advantage: access to one of the most vibrant culinary cities in the world. The chefs at Calligraphy draw inspiration from LA's dynamic food scene, from contemporary Californian cuisine to global street foods.

Residents may find flavors influenced by the Mediterranean, Asia, or Latin America woven seamlessly into menus. There's a sense of openness to experimentation, of celebrating the multicultural culinary tapestry that defines Los Angeles itself.

It's a way of connecting residents not only to the community within the walls of

Westwood Village, but to the broader cultural landscape of the city they call home.

## More Than a Meal

Ultimately, Savour Cuisine at Calligraphy Westwood Village is about more than eating well. It's about savoring life. It's about delighting in artistry, connecting with community, and celebrating the richness of every day.

Whether it's a casual breakfast with a friend, a grand evening tasting menu, or a chef-led culinary adventure, every dining experience is carefully scripted to create moments worth remembering.

At Calligraphy, the table is not just where meals are served—it's where life unfolds, where friendships flourish, and where the beauty of living well is tasted, one extraordinary bite at a time.

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Courier Exclusive: Leo Pustilnikov On the Record



Leo Pustilnikov in front of the soon-to-be-revised marquee for his Maple Drive project

BY ANA FIGUEROA

**Note:** This story was published on BeverlyHillsCourier.com on Sept. 8 and has been updated in part.

On the surface, the parallels between Beverly Hills and Redondo Beach may not spring readily to mind. The bustling beach city in the South Bay conjures up images of an iconic pier, beach volleyball, “Baywatch” and the aerospace industry. Its population is more than double that of

Beverly Hills.

Redondo Beach does share something in common with Beverly Hills on the land use planning front, however. Both cities are engaged in litigation with the real estate investor-developer, Leo Pustilnikov.

Pustilnikov, whose real estate ventures in the Southland are substantial, has become a high-profile figure in the Builder’s Remedy arena. That concept is part of the Housing Accountability Act (HAA) and requires cities to approve development

projects even if they don’t comply with local zoning laws, so long as preliminary applications were filed while the city lacked a certified state Housing Element.

The current Housing Element cycle began in October 2021 and extends through October 2029. October 2021 was also the deadline for cities and counties to have their Housing Elements adopted by the state. Although Beverly Hills did submit its original Housing Element in 2021, it was not approved until 2024. In the interim, the city’s plan to create capacity for more than 3,000 state-mandated units was rejected and revised three additional times before the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) agreed to certify it.

While city staff and officials were engaging in the three-year back-and-forth with HCD, Pustilnikov and others exercised their statutory right to submit Builder’s Remedy project applications. In total, more than a dozen were filed (five by Pustilnikov) and still considered active. A handful are now in various stages of litigation, with Pustilnikov securing a major win recently.

On Aug. 12, Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Curtis A. Kin issued a writ of mandate ordering Beverly Hills to process the application for Pustilnikov’s Builder’s Remedy project at 125-129 S. Linden Drive.

A Pustilnikov case in Redondo Beach may also raise concern.

The Second District Court of Appeal has

issued a tentative ruling in a case Pustilnikov brought against the city of Redondo Beach. If the tentative remains unchanged (and there are no signs that it will change), the ruling is expected to become final in the next month. It will likely invalidate the entire Housing Element passed by the Redondo Beach City Council and certified by the HCD.

It is a feat that Pustilnikov believes he can duplicate in Beverly Hills.

Last week, in his first-ever comprehensive interview, Pustilnikov spoke to the Courier about the state of play for his Linden Drive project, what he’s prepared to do to get housing built in Beverly Hills and how he became synonymous with Builder’s Remedy (though it is but a small part of his endeavors).

For Pustilnikov, it’s about housing.

As he explained to the Courier, “With Linden, it started as a project that I think is needed in Beverly Hills. And when you talk to people that are my age or younger, their struggle is being able to afford living in Beverly Hills. And a lot of people move out of Beverly Hills because they can’t afford to live here. That’s a problem if you can’t build units. How do you accommodate for growing families? How do you accommodate for growth?”

As Pustilnikov sees it, Beverly Hills is woefully short of leverage now when it comes to ongoing Builder’s Remedy battles with him or other developers. In his words, the city is “at

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Break-In at BHHS Prompts Action



A student’s bicycle was stolen during an early-morning break-in at the Beverly Hills High School (BHHS) campus on Sept. 2. In a communication to the high school community, Beverly Hills Unified School District Superintendent Dr. Alex Cherniss, Command Center Manager Sean O’Connor and BHHS Principal Loan Sriruksa noted, “While this incident happened during non-school hours, we know how unsettling it can feel to hear that someone unlawfully accessed our campus. We take this incident seriously, and not just because something was stolen, but because the safety and security of our

students and staff remain our top priority. BHUSD is working closely with the Beverly Hills Police Department as they conduct their investigation. Our Command Center has already increased overnight monitoring, and we are assessing what additional measures may be needed.”

The matter will be brought forward at the next closed session of the BHUSD Board of Education “as part of a larger conversation about strengthening after-hours campus security.” ●



the end of its rope,” but he still hopes to work things out.

He also said that the more time goes by, the more complicated the situation becomes. If time is money, it is also a stack of building blocks piling atop each other against a ticking clock. When Pustilnikov announced at the end of August that the previous 19-story Linden Drive project had now expanded to 36, few were surprised.

“I have a number of Builder’s Remedy projects in Beverly Hills. And the more that they make it difficult to process anything, the more I need to make back my investment,” he explained.

He justified the additional stories with an economies of scale argument.

“You have to realize since I started, we’ve had increases in costs of development. We’ve had parts of the cities around us destroyed. I lived in the Palisades; my home is no more. So, construction costs continue to go up. We have this ongoing debate with tariffs and what’s going to happen with steel, what’s going to happen with other raw materials like copper. And so, the longer it takes, it seems like the more expensive it’s going to get. Well, if you’re building 10 stories or 20 stories, the land only costs you once. You’re doing the same process over and over, so you’re able to have cost savings,” he said.

He did add a caveat.

“The 36 stories is under the assumption that I have to keep fighting the city. That’s the project I need to build to make it viable. If the city works with me, we could maybe do something not quite as large. It’s just you need a constructive partner in anything you do. And absent that, you’re left to your own devices.”

Those devices include a repeat of what he appears to have accomplished in Redondo Beach.

“I have a fairly good track record in the courts,” he explained.

“The only other jurisdiction I’m familiar with that likes to think that the law doesn’t apply to them is Redondo. And recently I invalidated Redondo’s Housing Element,” he said.

“So now Builder’s Remedy is going to apply all over Redondo a second time. And if Beverly Hills chooses not to work with me, I wouldn’t rule that out for Beverly Hills either. And so, if they’re not happy with the 12 or so Builder’s Remedies, they might end up with a lot more than that,” said Pustilnikov.

He also made the observation that the city (for reasons he would only share off the record) is perhaps a bit in denial about its relative bargaining position or lack thereof.

“I don’t know, but if I were a gambling man, and I gamble on real estate, so I essentially am a gambling man in that regard. I don’t think the city has gotten its arms around what it’s facing or what it could face because there’s one thing to deny my projects and continue fighting. If they appeal [the writ], there would be a bond hearing. The bond hearing would essentially necessitate the city to post such a large bond that, I would venture to say, it becomes insolvent.”

He noted that a \$14 million bond was recently required in a La Canada-Flintridge case involving a project much smaller than Linden Drive. The court in that case considered the costs of delay of the project in calculating the amount of the bond.

While the bond amount is in the court’s discretion, the requirement of a bond is not. The HAA specifically spells out the need to post a

bond “to the benefit of the plaintiff if the plaintiff is the project applicant.” Moreover, the HCD has stated in an opinion letter on this topic that in fixing the bond amount, the court shall “afford the fullest possible weight to the interest of, and the approval and provision of, housing.”

As for what comes next for Linden Drive, the matter was listed on the City Council Closed Session Agenda of Sept. 9, but was continued, presumably to Sept. 16.

“[Beverly Hills] could try to delay it, could try to fight it, it could throw money at the problem, but in the end, it’s making the problem worse, especially since I think I’ve made it clear to the city, to the extent they fight the project any longer, all the other projects will get bigger,” said Pustilnikov.

He also reiterated that he is prepared to attack the city’s Housing Element.

“I’ll fight their Housing Element as not being sufficient. And if their Housing Element is deemed insufficient by the courts, which I’ve already done once to another city, now it opens up a whole other can of worms. Then let the city fight every other guy that wants to propose a Builder’s Remedy,” he said.

Indeed, the picture Pustilnikov is painting is one in which “the entire city will be rebuilt because no one’s going to miss the opportunity to jump on it” should the city once again lack a compliant Housing Element.

Pustilnikov, a favorite subject of real estate publications, didn’t set out to become the poster boy for Builder’s Remedy. But he is rightfully considered a pioneer who took a chance on an untested area of the law. Though not an attorney, he is an expert on the Builder’s Remedy provisions of state housing laws.

“It is actually funny, because even most attorneys don’t know the nuances of what goes into this,” said Pustilnikov.

“When I started this, it was unknown law,” Pustilnikov recalled. He credited two attorneys, Matt Gelfand of the nonprofit Californians for Homeownership and land use attorney Dave Rand, as his guiding lights.

“What happened is I read about some of Matt’s lawsuits on the Housing Element, and I called him because I was intrigued. I’ve seen different practitioners sue under the Housing Accountability Act [in the Government Code], and I thought it might have some benefit to me. So, I called Matt, and we had a discussion. He’s like, ‘I don’t see why anyone doesn’t do Builder’s Remedy.’ And we hung up, and I’m like, what the hell is Builder’s Remedy?”

Pustilnikov then proceeded to scour the Government Code and started asking his own attorneys to file projects under the Builder’s Remedy statutes in cities lacking certified Housing Elements.

“Every attorney I called and many with whom I’d worked for decades said, ‘You are out of your mind. You can’t do this. You can’t believe it works.’ And then I met Dave Rand, and I realized he’s absolutely the best practitioner of real estate law I’ve ever met. Dave actually agreed with me. But he wanted something from verifying it. So, I submitted my Builder’s Remedy. Dave submitted his first ones. I guess we were both independently right on the law. And since then, we’ve had AB 1893, AB 130, no shortage of legislation, essentially taking it from an unknown stepchild to a very easily understood and required law, the prescriptive law that cities have to abide by,” said Pustilnikov.

He pointed out that the consequences of not abiding by that law can be expensive. Beverly

Hills is liable for Pustilnikov’s attorney’s fees in the Linden Drive writ case in addition to its own attorney’s fees. The attorneys for Beverly Hills in the writ case also represented Redondo Beach in the case that was reversed on appeal.

Pustilnikov said Linden Drive will now be resubmitted to the city and processed. He maintains a core belief that the development is a sensible one that will bring critical housing.

He also noted, “Linden is also unique in that it’ll be the only one that’ll have a hotel component because it is a great part of town. It’s right by the Triangle. It’s very walkable. You have restaurants nearby. You have Steak 48 that opened. It used to be a retail dead zone. You have a lot of new openings on Wilshire, and it’s becoming this walkable street that I think was envisioned 60 years ago.”

He believes that the project will enhance the connection among the city, One Beverly Hills, the Metro and Saks development.

“I’m hopeful that the city will see that and become less resistant because I would like to work with them and see these projects be built rather than be fought over in the courts,” he said.

Out of his four additional pending Builder’s Remedy projects, Pustilnikov says one of them, at 346 N. Maple Drive, is being contemplated for expansion. The property is next door to the Beverly Hills Tennis Club.

“So, Maple will be a larger project, and then depending on how the city works through the next few weeks, the appeal, the processing and so forth, the others might grow and there might be more coming if they continue to be resistant,” he said.

Looking back on how Linden Drive has unfolded, Pustilnikov believes that the city made a miscalculation in not working with him early on, before he submitted his other projects.

“The city had the opportunity of just working with me on Linden and me helping them get a certified housing element as someone that is fairly well-versed in housing these days. But they chose to fight. So, if they choose to fight again, well I don’t envy them,” he said.

In addition to an obvious tenacity and willingness to try novel arguments, Pustilnikov is driven by a basic belief that he returned to in our conversation.

“At the end of the day, I like real estate and residential real estate because everyone needs to be housed. I’m a firm believer that housing is as close to the universal right as we have, and that people shouldn’t be left to suffer on the streets,” he said.

Pustilnikov, who is not yet 40, notes that his background as an immigrant from Odessa (he came here as a young child) has also shaped him.

“You have to realize even though I was born in what was then the USSR, what is now Ukraine, my nationality when I lived there was neither Russian nor Ukrainian. It was Jewish. So even there I was separated, and even there we were discriminated against. We were a minority. So here you have the same issues where people that have try to say, ‘You know what? You can’t do this here because this is ours and not yours.’ I grew up with that, and now I have an opportunity to fight it. And my philosophy is, if I’m not going to do it, I don’t know how many others will.” ●

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Beverly Hills Police Gala Set for Sept. 17



The Beverly Hills Police Officers Benevolent Fund will hold the Beverly Hills Police Gala on Sept. 17. The event takes place at Espelette at Waldorf Astoria Beverly Hills and includes cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, a live auction, and awards presentation honoring Beverly Hills Police Department (BHPD) heroes. The live auction items include once- in-a-lifetime BHPD experiences and a VIP chef experience

at Steak 48. This gala is traditionally one of the best-attended events in the city, with funds raised to benefit BHPD officers and their families. A limited number of tickets are still available. For more information or to donate, contact the Beverly Hills Police Officers Benevolent Fund at 310-550-4551 or visit [bhpolicefund.org](http://bhpolicefund.org).

Jewish National Fund-USA Honors First Responders



Jewish National Fund-USA presented certificates of appreciation to Beverly Hills first responders at the 9/11 Memorial in Beverly Hills. The certificates portray the 9/11 Living Memorial in Jerusalem, the only one outside of the U.S. that lists the names of all the victims who perished in the U.S. on that day. Pictured are Beverly Hills Police Chief Mark Stainbrook, Beverly Hills Fire Chief Greg Barton with members of their respective departments. Also pictured are Tzvia Parnes, Frances Bilak, chair of Women for Israel JNF-LA and Kelly Halligan, director greater Los Angeles, JNF-USA.

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## ‘The Roses’—Everything Is Coming Up



Photo courtesy of Searchlight Pictures

Benedict Cumberbatch and Olivia Colman

BY NEELY SWANSON

“Love is never having to say you’re sorry.” Erich Segal (“Love Story”) couldn’t have been more wrong. Theo and Ivy Rose are proof positive of the results. Scowling, seated in front of a marriage counselor, their assignment was to list 10 things they liked about the other. Quite to the contrary, Theo’s list is quite short with the shape of her head being at the top. Ivy, on the other hand, has a long list of what she hates. Appalled, the therapist declares that they are irredeemable. Shocked, they leave, laughing at her incompetence and, despite the horrors expressed in that room, you see a complicated couple still committed. It’s really a question of whether they should be committed. So opens “The Roses,” a darkest of dark romantic comedies.

The quintessential perfect couple, Theo and Ivy met in a restaurant kitchen in London. He, an architect, was escaping a stultifying meeting celebrating the completion of what he considered a mind numbing apartment complex and she, a sous chef, was putting together another of her creations for which she would get no credit. Their touch was electric; their immediate coupling, in the restaurant walk-in fridge, was lightning hot and fast. Before long, well actually it took a few years, they were off to California to start a new life. Ivy found work interning in Northern California restaurants and Theo began his rapid ascent at a prominent firm designing upscale projects for forward-thinking clients. They were their own mutual admiration and support network.

Kids came, a boy and a girl, and Ivy stayed home, her creative talents relegated to the home kitchen and imaginatively designed cakes and entrées for one and all. Their social circle was quite limited to his colleagues at work, the intensely competitive Rory and his far more talented wife Sally. Along the way they picked up Barry and Amy whose interests couldn’t have been farther from their own. Barry, a lawyer, loves guns

and firing ranges and Amy loves exploring the boundaries of sexual acceptability with anyone in the vicinity.

Ivy, somewhat lost in her new environment with limited creative output now that the kids have started school, is grateful to Theo when he renovates a shack on the beach so she can have her own restaurant. On the surface, and isn’t everything always just on or below the surface, they still seem to have that magic together. Subtly, perhaps not so subtly, there is an imbalance in their relationship. It certainly didn’t start out that way. It was, after all, her idea that they move to the States, but with Theo on the rise and Ivy treading water, the shadow of Theo’s patronizing attitude toward the little woman begins to percolate. It’s probably not deliberate; he more than likely is unaware of it but Ivy begins to seethe under her wide smile and sparkling eyes. He’s successful and doing something he loves; she, less so, serving maybe two or three covers per lunch hour. Still, apart from her tight smile and the success he wears on his sleeve at which all are encouraged to marvel, this is still a seemingly supportive and loving couple. That will all change. Welcome to the textbook Love-Hate relationship.

A metaphoric storm, and an actual storm, have reversed their positions. Ivy is now renowned and successful beyond her dreams and Theo has been relegated to her former position as guardian to the kids. Civility is fraying at the edges and the words previously unspoken begin to be aired. And yet, as they point out, they’re British and the British invented repressed feelings. To say more would diminish the pleasure, full of schadenfreude and cynicism, that will come.

This is the story of a marriage. Granted, most marriages are not between two wildly successful individuals jockeying for position, but even the most mundane relationship flows with support and admiration and ebbs with resentment, neediness and recrimination. Someone is to blame or someone is not. The simple act of respect, the foundation of

any relationship, is not so simple. No, Erich Segal, love is very much knowing how and when to say you’re sorry and when to yield, if only in the moment. Love isn’t all passion, sex and admiration, it’s also learning to negotiate the differences, resentments, the successes and the failures; and Ivy and Theo have become less and less accommodating to one another. They play a zero-sum game.

At the heart of that zero sum game is the house, a magnificent feat of architectural blending of nature and nurture; not exactly minimalist but not excessive either with a view that rivals Big Sur in both beauty and danger. An ode to modernism with the ironic touch of an AI helper named Hal (for those who have never seen “2001: A Space Odyssey,” look it up). This spectacular house, designed by Theo, representative of what he both lost and gained in his career, becomes the center point of the nuclear war they inflict on one another.

This is not the first screen adaptation of Warren Adler’s novel “The War of the Roses.” But Tony McNamara has made it his own, taking those relationship fissures and ripping the fabric as he tries to weave it back together. There are laugh-out-loud moments, surprises and lots of tension. Jay Roach, the director known for his deft comedic touch, has taken all of McNamara’s ingredients and stirred the pot so that the result is a bitter froth that curdles and amuses. They have given an accurate portrayal of a long-term marriage that survives as much on shared joy as it does on shared enmity. What happens

when no one is willing to give an inch? Watch and see. Roach keeps everything moving and even interweaves characters that are totally tangential, like Barry and his libidinous wife Amy. Rory, a rival architect, is a necessary irritant, full of Schadenfreude toward Theo, but who cringes at his wife Sally’s clever malice and superior talent.

Roach was blessed with an outstanding cast. Andy Samberg as Barry is out of his league no matter where he turns but seems oblivious. Kate McKinnon, Amy, is hilariously inappropriate, something that has long been in her wheelhouse. Jamie Demetriou plays Rory as a second-rate architect who lives to criticize and Zoë Chao is his much cleverer and more gifted architect wife. They both live to demean but only she has enough firepower in her arsenal. Watch for a sensational appearance by Allison Janney. Saying any more would criminally diminish her effect.

“The Roses” is a very good movie, but what makes it exceptional are the two leads: Benedict Cumberbatch as Theo and Olivia Colman as Ivy. Cumberbatch’s Theo is a walking incongruity, confident and rather supercilious when successful and a mass of insecurities and vulnerability encased in an impenetrable box of resentment when not. His eyes light up or darken depending on the situation and his comedic timing is impeccable, always just this side of tragic and/or vicious. Colman, here, is given free rein to her dark, yet always very funny, side. Those wide eyes, so sparkling when Ivy and Theo were still discovering their strengths, eventually give way to slightly slitted, darker orbs framed by a wide, tight smile. The back-and-forth repartee between these two rather repressed individuals is a lesson in restraint that makes the result all the more hilarious and devastating. Originally aiming to wound, eventually the duo definitely are homing in on the kill.

While most will point to “The Roses” as the death of a marriage, I submit that it is not. Love and hate, vulnerability and strength lie in most long-term relationships. One is reluctant to acknowledge the negatives but they are there and usually to a greater degree than admitted. The ultimate strength of Colman’s and Cumberbatch’s portrayals is the ability to express vulnerability and hope even while aiming for the jugular. The opposite of love isn’t hate, it’s indifference.

Now playing at AMC theaters including the AMC Century City 15. ●



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.



**ANTISEMITISM, from page 1**  
Standing Up to Hate, Discrimination, and Antisemitism.”

She spoke about her journey to the United States as an immigrant from Iran and how that experience shapes why she serves today.

“My life story has shaped everything I do,” Nazarian told the Courier. “I fled Iran as a child because of religious persecution. I lived in Israel. I grew up in the United States. I’ve experienced antisemitism firsthand, but I’ve also seen the power of people standing up for one another through unity.”

As mayor, Nazarian has been outspoken about antisemitism and discrimination. But her advocacy didn’t begin when she entered government.

“When I was a young girl, there was no one to speak for me,” Nazarian said. “That is why I chose public service so no child, no family, and no community would ever feel voiceless. And I encourage others to do the same.”

Her advocacy doesn’t stop at Jewish communities. It extends to any community facing discrimination and hate—the core theme of her “Never Again is Now” initiative.

“[W]hat starts with the Jews never ends with the Jews,” Nazarian said in her speech. “Hate always finds another target.”

Additionally, Nazarian underscored the importance of local governance in combating antisemitism, and presented leaders with ideas on how they can take action in their own cities.

She gave summit attendees examples on how Beverly Hills has responded, particularly since Oct 7—the day in 2023 when Hamas militants carried out an attack in Southern Israel, which has been labeled as the bloodiest day in Israel’s history.

“Beverly Hills is seen as a global leader

in this space,” Nazarian said. “After October 7th, our city set out 1,400 flags for every innocent life lost from 30 nationalities. We set Shabbat tables with empty chairs for the hostages still held captive. And this October, we will break ground on the very first permanent memorial in the world dedicated to the victims of October 7.”

These two memorials were part of an art installation commemorating the victims of the Oct. 7 attack in Israel.

Yet Beverly Hills isn’t the only city that’s felt the urgency to act on antisemitism. Nazarian said she felt that same urgency among mayors worldwide, even in places with small Jewish communities, who attended the conference.

“I was deeply impressed by their courage and moral clarity. Some of them lead large evangelical or multicultural communities, and yet they stood up strongly against antisemitism, recognizing that this fight is about protecting the dignity and safety of all people,” said Nazarian.

She noted that some leaders hesitated about attending the summit yet attended anyway—a move Nazarian applauded because of their courage and willingness to “take a stance for what’s right.”

Courage and moral clarity at the local level, Nazarian believes, creates a ripple effect nationally and globally.

“My message was that local government is the frontline of democracy. We’re closest to the people, the streets, and the challenges our communities face. When leaders unite across continents, faiths, and backgrounds, we are stronger,” said Nazarian. “I carried with me the theme I’ve championed in Beverly Hills: Never Again is Now, not just words, but a commitment to action.”

“Never Again is Now must start in our own neighborhoods,” said Nazarian. ●

**EL RODEO, from page 1**  
former principal Sarah Kaber and Director of Student Services Benjamin Wardrop towards a “series of unfettered sexual assaults occurring at [El] Rodeo Elementary” that allegedly occurred between November 2024 and March 2025.

According to the complaint, a student enrolled at El Rodeo touched multiple other students’ genitals on various occasions, both over their clothes and skin-to-skin, while making sexually suggestive gestures and comments.

The lawsuit alleges that the same student also targeted classmates by self-exposure, forcing other students to participate in kissing and forcing other students to watch that kissing. The student perpetrating the assaults “repeatedly taunts and mocks” the targeted students in the wake of the assaults, the complaint states.

All of the alleged incidents occurred on campus.

According to the lawsuit, BHUSD employees, including Kaber and Wardrop, were alerted to the incidents when they occurred. The complaint states that the parents of the targeted students were not immediately told whether an investigation took place and were later denied access to certain documentation regarding the incidents.

BHUSD employees allegedly told the parents of the targeted students that the

incidents had been recorded, and that staff has been “working with the parents of the other students all year and have included other staff members to support [the student and the student’s] family.”

One of the children targeted by their classmate “has been unable to sleep with the lights off, sleep [alone] ... has been withdrawn, and is discouraged from attending and participating” at school since the incidents, according to the complaint.

The complaint states that the instigating student was given a chaperone, but that the chaperone “frequently fails to adequately supervise” the student. It additionally alleges that BHUSD employees told the parents that the incidents did not meet the criteria for Title IX violations.

In response, attorneys for the family state in the suit that BHUSD and its employees were “negligent and careless [and] allowed the attacks and subsequent harassment to continue for months,” constituting intentional discrimination.

Christopher Frost, an attorney for the family who filed the complaint, called the lawsuit a “last resort” in a statement to the Courier.

“Our clients’ lawsuit is a demand for El Rodeo School and the Beverly Hills Unified School District to finally take appropriate action and protect all children harmed from a hostile environment of sexual harassment,



Lifschitz handed each member of the board a cease-and-desist letter at the Sept. 9 meeting.

**BHUSD, from page 1**  
meeting, robbing the public of any opportunity to address what the board actually votes on once its marathon redlining sessions conclude.”

He accused the board of violating the PCO during discussion of the Standards-Based Instructional Environment resolution, antisemitism resolution and the flag ban resolution, all of which Lifschitz has spoken about at past meetings. The resolutions have drawn controversy from the BHUSD community.

Lifschitz cited California Government Code Sections 54960 and 54960.2, which provide that any interested person may take legal action to stop or prevent the board from violating the PCO in the future and determine past actions of the board that violated the PCO.

The only condition precedent to bringing such action is furnishing a cease-and-desist letter, affording the board a 30-day period to follow PCO guidelines, Lifschitz said.

Board President Rachelle Marcus and Board Member Amanda Stern have objected to these violations, but Board Members Sigalie Sabag and Russell Stuart and Board Vice President Judith Manouchehri have “embraced them with open arms,” Lifschitz said at the meeting.

Marcus instructed Lifschitz to not mention names after he quoted Sabag from the July 16 regular meeting. Before the public comment portion of the meeting, Marcus said, “Personal attacks, inappropriate language and discussing specific employees or students are not permitted.”

The school board also received comprehensive updates about ongoing construction

projects.

Six tennis courts and a softball field at BHHS Upper Athletic Fields have been completed, with the remaining components of Retaining Wall #2 and Athletic Plaza set to finish by the end of the year. The new Konheim building, featuring a swimming pool and additional retaining walls, is steadily progressing with walls already constructed and completion targeted for December 2026. Most nighttime construction work for this building is complete, with only pool excavation remaining.

Construction mobilization for the BHHS Grand Lawn begins on Sept. 12, with the Northern Grand Lawn scheduled for completion by January 2026 and the full lawn by December 2026. Security system upgrades, including additional cameras, horns and vape detectors, will be finished this month.

The board also approved the 2024-25 Unaudited Actuals. As required by state law, Executive Director of the Business Services Department at BHUSD delivered a report on the unaudited actuals, presented fiscal year-end data through June 30, comparing estimated versus unaudited actuals across revenue sources. Property tax revenue reached \$70.5 million for the 2024-25 fiscal year, up from \$68.2 million the previous year. Next steps include delivery of the First Interim Budget Report by Dec. 9, a financial audit for the 2024-25 fiscal year by Dec. 15 and finally, appropriate property tax revenue adjustments in the 2025-26 fiscal year. ●

assault and bullying that denies our clients access to their education,” he said. “Since the first incident happened in November 2024, our clients have been met with deliberate avoidance, bureaucracy and inaction at every turn ... We further understand that there are currently no measures in place to prevent similar incidents from happening to other children at El Rodeo School. The lawsuit is also a demand for accountability.”

BHUSD declined to comment on the litigation.

The complaint comes after Kaber was reassigned from her role as principal to a classroom position in the spring with no explanation to the community. Parents and teachers flooded BHUSD Board meetings to

express their displeasure over the action and their support for Kaber, who was named Elementary Principal of the Year for Region XIV by the Association of California School Administrators in February.

“We had 35, 40 members of our staff, almost every teacher at the board meeting ... in support for [Kaber],” an El Rodeo employee told the Courier at the time.

Kaber has since left the district. In June, the Stephen Wise Temple and Schools announced that she had joined their organization as Senior Director of Education, the Aaron Milken Center, effective July 1. ●

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# Birthdays

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September 12



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September 13



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September 16



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September 18

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## Astrology

BY HOLIDAY MATIS

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). You may feel like you're speaking a language only a few understand. But keep talking anyway. You won't know who those "few" are until you've run through a few that aren't a match.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). Are you afraid to ask for more? It may strike some as greedy, but any talent can be used for good. When you ask for more because your group needs it, has earned it or is sure to use it well, the ask becomes a no-brainer.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). You'll wear mystery like a crown today. People will read between your words, hungry for the rest. The smallest curve of your mouth carries the weight of a hundred untold stories.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). Usually, the line between enjoyment and over-indulgence is easy to see, but circumstances are different today, so the boundaries may seem invisible, or perhaps extremely visible and yet somehow not important.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). Even when

you're trying to play it low-key, the spotlight finds you. All you have to do to make a difference today is stand where you are, rooted and certain. Watch how people orient themselves. Your influence shifts the room.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your work is becoming indispensable to someone. What you do for them makes their world brighter and their experience smoother. And though it's a behind-the-scenes position, you'll still be acknowledged by those whose opinion matters.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Being prepared and capable improves your odds for success. You feel driven to practice, sharpen your skills and strategize. You can't undo yesterday's loss, but tomorrow is still yours to win.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You don't need to try to fix anyone's problem to give them the experience of being cared for and recognized. Just lean into your natural tendency to nurture and celebrate people.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). There's a temptation to spread your attention across too many projects or areas. This won't leave you with

the time and energy to dig in. And if you can't dig in, you'll lose traction, and nothing will move forward with real power. Choose one focus.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You have more power than you'll use. You could push harder, take more or dominate, but instead you choose restraint. It's compassionate, but it's also strategic, because in the long run, overplaying your hand has consequences.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Yes,

you know what you can do. But if you do only that, you'll be masterfully bored. Work in a 2:1 blend -- two parts seasoned expertise and one part novel twist. It's a recipe for adventurous and even thrilling work.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). Your natural impulse today might be to rush through and sacrifice detail for speed. You may have to consciously tell your attention span to slow down and respect the more intricate vision your other sensibilities are going for.



Henry, a 7-year-old Shih Tzu, was turned in after his owners moved away and could not bring him. To give this 15-pound boy a forever home, contact Shelter of Hope at [info@shelterhopepetshop.org](mailto:info@shelterhopepetshop.org).

[shelterhopepetshop.org](http://shelterhopepetshop.org)



# Fun and Games

**SUDOKU**  
**09/12/25 ISSUE**

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**09/05/25 ISSUE**

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## PUZZLE ANSWERS

### 09/05/25 ISSUE

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THE NEW YORK TIMES SUNDAY MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE  
09/12/25 ISSUE

**A MAN OF CHARACTER**  
BY DANNY J. ROONEY / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Danny J. Rooney is a musical-theater writer in New York City. His credits as a composer/lyricist include "The Game Boy," "A Smalltown Christmas" and "GLUE: A Pony Tale." Last year he stumbled on The Times's article "How to Make a Crossword" and dived headfirst into constructing. This is his first one for The Times. — W.S.

## ACROSS

- 1 Maximum extent, in an idiom
- 5 "Suitable, I guess"
- 11 Small storage unit
- 15 "\_\_\_\_ News Central" (daily program)
- 18 Sea adventure novel by Herman Melville
- 19 Rump
- 20 Sounds of amazement
- 21 Spoils
- 22 "*Don't flick that cigarette over here!*"
- 24 "*Incredible! This mosquito net didn't let in even one bug!*"
- 26 Greatest potential accomplishment, metaphorically
- 27 Non-free-range farm fixture
- 29 Container weight
- 30 Pick up at school
- 31 Actor Pascal
- 32 Kiss
- 34 Celestial sphere
- 35 Went from 0 to 60, say
- 37 Nipsey Russell's role in 1978's "The Wiz"
- 40 "\_\_\_\_ America (And So Can You!)" (Stephen Colbert best seller)
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55 Comics cry of dismay  
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59 Tiny and scurrying, perhaps  
63 "Just dropped off some of your newly buffed knight's protection!"  
71 Green gemstone  
72 Brand of bubbly, informally  
73 \_\_\_\_ de vie  
74 "Can you offer me anything bigger than skiffs, dinghies and pontoons?"  
82 Composure under pressure  
85 Firmly planted  
86 Sizable wine orders  
90 Zest  
91 Hero's partner in myth  
93 Real ladies' man  
94 Bit of work  
95 It's always getting into hot water  
96 Theatrical constructions  
97 Unburden  
98 Computer shortcuts  
100 Muse of love poetry  
103 "You can't win \_\_\_\_"  
105 Writer \_\_\_\_ Stanley Gardner  
106 "Is that a certainty?"  
109 Unruly as a beard

- 111 Secret agent first introduced in 1953
  - 113 Classic 111-Across portrayer, whose iconic accent is suggested by the italicized clues
  - 115 Langston Hughes poem
  - 116 Aston Martin, e.g.
  - 117 Charm
  - 118 Member of a watery quintet
  - 119 Adriatique, e.g.
  - 120 School attended by both 111-Across and his creator
  - 121 Debate-ending reply
  - 122 Figs. most people have memorized
- DOWN**
- 1 Win for an away team
  - 2 "That doesn't bother me anymore"
  - 3 Winsome
  - 4 It's human, in a saying
  - 5 Big events on Wall St.
  - 6 Full of tension
  - 7 Abbr. on a paper tray
  - 8 Whiled away the hours
  - 9 Gave medicine
  - 10 Different
  - 11 Poke \_\_\_\_\_
  - 12 Start of a pirate chant
  - 13 "There I am in the photo"
  - 14 Winter hours in Conn.
  - 15 Exhibiting some force
  - 16 Part of a personal air filtration system
  - 17 Degree in math?
  - 21 [Ha ha 2 funny!!!!]
  - 23 Thirst

- 25 Lots and lots  
28 Certain URL ending  
31 A pop  
33 Favorite drink of  
111-Across  
35 What wine or citrus  
adds to a sauce  
36 Hairstyle helpers  
38 Allergic reaction  
39 Company originally  
named Blue Ribbon  
Sports  
41 E.R. V.I.P.s  
43 High school subj.  
44 Base figure, for short  
45 Bank security feature  
46 Perfect match  
47 It's right on a square  
49 Port on the Adriatic  
51 Airing  
53 Shout of triumph  
54 \_\_\_\_-El (Superman's  
birth name)  
55 Relative of an adder  
56 "Evita" role for  
Antonio Banderas  
57 \_\_\_\_ royale (cocktail)  
60 Indignation  
61 New Zealand parrot  
that can solve logic  
puzzles  
62 End of an academic  
address  
64 Williamson who  
played Merlin in  
"Excalibur"  
65 Biblical kingdom near  
the Dead Sea  
66 Feature of this  
puzzle's circled  
squares that,  
when connected  
by a single line,  
visually represents  
111-Across

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| 115 |     |    |  |    |
| 119 |     |    |  |    |
- 67 Stitching on a Cardinal's cap
- 68 Mid-Atlantic state capital
- 69 A good one might generate good karma
- 70 J.F.K. prediction
- 75 Far from bright
- 76 University in New Rochelle, N.Y.
- 77 Obergefell v. \_\_\_\_, milestone case for marriage equality

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| 120 |     |     |     |     |
- 78 Improvise à la Ella Fitzgerald  
79 Avocado variety  
80 Portfolio holding, for short  
81 Give a bad review  
82 Imitate  
83 Spread throughout  
84 Greaves and cuisses, but not gauntlets and helmets  
87 Those who hunt and gather

- [illegible]

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- 103** Sea eagle
- 104** Zebra features that mirror their body stripes
- 107** “You’re \_\_\_\_\_ something”
- 108** Japanese noodle
- 109** Many a get-rich-quick offer
- 110** Heart
- 111** Beam on a bottle
- 112** Modern pet name
- 114** Platform for Super Mario Bros., for short

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**ANSWERS FOUND  
IN NEXT WEEK'S  
PAPER...**



**CANON DRIVE, from page 1**  
doing construction work on the Purple (D) Line Extension at the intersection.

The temporary closure of North Canon Drive was initially approved by the council in July 2018 to mitigate construction impacts. Following that vote, a temporary sound wall was installed to block the construction area from the public.

In the ensuing years, the council approved six extensions of the temporary street closure, most recently in November 2024. That extension would have ended on Sept. 30.

According to a staff report, if the street closure and sound wall were removed prior to March 2026, two rounds of construction would need to occur on North Canon Drive. The first would be for temporary street restoration and early reopening of the road, and the second would be for permanent restoration.

Alternatively, by approving the extension, the council allowed for permanent restoration

work to commence in the beginning of 2026, including the removal of the sound wall and restoring sidewalks.

During public comment at the Sept. 9 meeting, Dar Mahboubi, a prominent Rodeo Drive real estate developer and business owner, expressed frustration over the requested extension and Metro's timeline.

"The Metro, with their construction activities, have caused great pain and inconvenience to all residents of Beverly Hills and have caused irreparable interruption to the businesses located in the Beverly Hills triangle," he said, adding that the construction has been "grossly mismanaged."

Mayor Sharona Nazarian acknowledged the irritation of business owners.

"I am fully well aware of the pain and the frustration that this has caused, and the inconvenience to our businesses," she said. "Metro is unfortunately not being managed as well as

could be ... but we really don't have much say."

Other members of the council debated whether the city was giving in to Metro's demands or doing what is best for local residents and businesses.

"This council ... doesn't want to help Metro unless it helps the city of Beverly Hills, and we've always taken every request with that in mind," said Councilmember Lester Friedman, adding, "We don't give in to whatever Metro wants."

Mirisch equated the council's actions to "begging."

"It sounds like we were just willing to give them whatever they wanted ... it just seems that we're afraid to try and negotiate with them, or even to play hardball," he said. "So, my feeling is that we can try and rationalize for ourselves why this is good, but ultimately this is much better for MTA."

Noting that repeated closures and reopenings would impact the area, and that a new

business catering to young children is slated to move in, Nazarian emphasized her commitment to safety.

"You know, it's not an ideal situation," she said. "At the end of the day, it's here, and we want to be able to create transportation. My only hope is that we create the safest environment possible, both on the Metro as well as the space outside of the Metro."

Under the agreement approved by the council, no further extensions will be considered beyond March 14, 2026. Metro has agreed to pay \$20,000 per day if the deadline for reopening is not met.

Construction on the Metro station is expected to be mostly complete by the summer of 2026, with the station tentatively slated to open late that year. ●

# Police Blotter

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



**ASSAULT - SIMPLE**

- 9/6/2025, 12:30 a.m. at 9800 Block of WILSHIRE BLVD.
- 9/4/2025, 3:30 p.m. at 200 Block of S. BEVERLY DRIVE
- 8/18/2025, 3:14 p.m. at 8700 Block of WILSHIRE BLVD.
- 8/17/2025, 11:44 p.m. at 9800 Block of WILSHIRE BLVD.
- 8/16/2025, 7:27 p.m. at SUNSET BOULEVARD / N. BEVERLY DRIVE
- 8/16/2025, 6:12 p.m. at N. RODEO DRIVE / BRIGHTON WAY
- 8/16/2025, 8:31 a.m. at 100 Block of N. ROBERTSON BLVD.

**BURGLARY - COMMERCIAL BUILDING**

- 9/8/2025, 4:56 a.m. at 100 Block of N. LA CIENEGA BLVD.
- 8/15/2025, 12:35 p.m. at 9500 Block of WILSHIRE BLVD.

**BURGLARY - CONSTRUCTION SITE**

- 9/3/2025, 7:37 p.m. at 300 Block of S. REXFORD DRIVE

**BURGLARY FROM A MOTOR VEHICLE**

- 9/3/2025, 7:37 p.m. at 300 Block of S. REXFORD DRIVE

- 9/7/2025, 5 p.m. at 400 Block of S. SWALL DRIVE
- 8/19/2025, 12:30 p.m. at 8700 Block of CLIFTON WAY

**BURGLARY - RESIDENTIAL (COMMON AREA)**

- 8/17/2025, 5:55 a.m. at 100 Block of N. ALMONT DRIVE

**BURGLARY - RESIDENTIAL (NO ONE HOME)**

- 9/7/2025, 6 p.m. at 200 Block of S. DOHENY DRIVE
- 9/3/2025, 9:26 p.m. at 100 Block of N. PALM DRIVE
- 8/18/2025, 10 a.m. at 500 Block of ARDEN DRIVE

- 8/17/2025, 5:40 a.m. at 500 Block of CHALETTE DRIVE

**MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT**

- 8/15/2025, 12 p.m. at 600 Block of ARDEN DRIVE

**ROBBERY**

- 9/8/2025, 1:26 p.m. at 9600 Block of WILSHIRE BLVD.
- 8/16/2025, 9:08 p.m. at N. CANON DRIVE / S. SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD

**THEFT OF AUTO PARTS**

- 8/14/2025, 6 p.m. at 400 Block of S. MAPLE DRIVE

**THEFT - GRAND**

- 9/6/2025, 3:15 p.m. at 300 Block of N. BEVERLY DRIVE
- 9/5/2025, 7:40 p.m. at 300 Block of N. CANON DRIVE
- 9/5/2025, 2:45 p.m. at 200 Block of N. RODEO DRIVE
- 9/5/2025, 12 p.m. at 400 Block of N. OAKHURST DRIVE
- 8/19/2025, 10:34 a.m. at 9700 Block of WILSHIRE BLVD.

**THEFT - GRAND (FROM VEHICLE)**

- 8/16/2025, 4:30 p.m. at 400 Block of N. BEDFORD DRIVE

**THEFT - PETTY**

- 9/7/2025, 9:24 a.m. at 9000 Block of WILSHIRE BLVD.
- 9/6/2025, 1:58 p.m. at 300 Block of N. RODEO DRIVE
- 8/16/2025, 4:46 p.m. at 100 Block of N. ALMONT DRIVE
- 8/16/2025, 12:59 p.m. at 400 Block of N. RODEO DRIVE



Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO ESTABLISH A BRANCH OFFICE

Notification is given that Citizens Bank, National Association, One Citizens Plaza, Providence, RI 02903, has filed an application with the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency on or about September 12, 2025, as specified in 12 CFR 5, for permission to establish a staffed branch at 9593 Wilshire Boulevard Beverly Hills, CA 90212. Any person wishing to comment on this application may file comments in writing with the Director for Large Bank Licensing, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, 7 Times Square Large Bank Licensing 10th Floor Mailroom, New York, New York 10036, or by email to licensing-publiccomments@occ.treas.gov, within 30 days of the date of this publication. Written requests for a copy of the public portion of the application should be sent to the Director for Large Bank Licensing at licensingpubliccomments@occ.treas.gov. The public may find additional information regarding this application in the OCC's Weekly Bulletin at www.occ.gov.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS for the ANNUAL CITYWIDE PAVEMENT MARKING PROJECT within the City of BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 00000

BIDS - Proposals for the ANNUAL CITYWIDE PAVEMENT MARKING PROJECT within the City of Beverly Hills, California, will be received up to the hour of 2:00 p.m., on Thursday, September 11, 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. Please see PlanetBids for details.

SCOPE OF WORK – The contractual work shall span three consecutive years, with the described services to be performed once annually per the City's established timeline. The quantity estimates provided below represent aggregate quantities for the complete three-year contract duration.

In general terms, the contract work for this project shall consist of: replacement of existing pavement striping and markings, including raised retroreflector markers, according to the current Caltrans standard striping details (4" to 6" and 6" to 8" where applicable) throughout the entire City. Replacement striping and markings shall be placed over existing striping unless otherwise directed by City Staff. Removal of existing striping and markings shall be performed prior to replacement where applicable. Replacement of striping and markings to be thermoplastic and traffic rated paint. The project also includes the installation of new striping alignments at various locations within the City. Some project locations will require the work to be performed at night, on weekends, or with other working hour restrictions.

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

https://vendors.planetbids.com/portal/39493/bo-detail/132298

PUBLIC NOTICES

In compliance with Public Contract Code Section 3300, the City has determined that the Bidder must possess the following license(s): "A or C-32"

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.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 202517583 The following is/are doing business as: WLM & ASSOCIATES 4907 WEST WASHINGTON BLVD #201 LOS ANGELES, CA 90016; Wilma Marshall 4907 West Washington Blvd #201 Los Angeles, Ca 90016; The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed ON AUGUST 2025: Wilma Marshall, Owner; Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: August 25, 2025; Published: August 29, September 5, 12, 19, 2025 LA/CC

BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2025161071 The following is/are doing business as: JS PARTNERSHIP 1357 Roscomare Rd, Los Angeles, CA 90077; Joan Blywise Steier 1357 Roscomare Road, Los Angeles, CA 90077; Shirley Stamen Jaffe 9601 Arby Drive, Beverly Hills, CA 90210; The business is conducted by: COPARTNERS registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed ON JUNE 2020: Joan Blywise Steier, General Partner; Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: August 6, 2025; Published: August 29, September 5, 12, 19, 2025 LA/CC

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2025173938 The following is/are doing business as: DAVID J. BAILEY DBA 8218 DE LONGPRE AVENUE 439 NOTH CANON DRIVE SUITE 300, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90210; David Bailey 439 North Canon Drive Suite 300, Beverly Hills, CA 90210; The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on AUGUST 2025: David J Bailey, Owner; Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: August 21, 2025; Published: August 29, September 5, 12, 19, 2025 LA/CC

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2025173953 The following is/are doing business as: DAVID J. BAILEY DBA 8231 DE LONGPRE AVENUE 439 NOTH CANON DRIVE SUITE 300, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90210; David Bailey 439 North Canon Drive Suite 300, Beverly Hills, CA 90210; The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on AUGUST 2025: David J Bailey, Owner; Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: August 21, 2025; Published: August 29, September 5, 12, 19, 2025 LA/CC

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2025170481 The following is/are doing business as: DOWNSIZING LA 150 S. EL CAMINO DR STE 300 BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90212; Chad Horwitz 10523 Ashton Ave. Apt 302 Los Angeles, CA 90024; The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed ON AUGUST 2025: Chad Horwitz, Owner; Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: August 18, 2025; Published: August 22, 29 September 5, 12, 2025 LA/CC

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2025184573 The following is/are doing business as: SOLIDWARE 9903 SANTA MONICA SUITE 485 BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90212 ; Theodore Furs Inc., 9903 Santa Monica Blvd Suite 485 Beverly Hills, CA 90212; The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed ON APRIL 2025: Theodore Furs Inc., Theodoros Kyriazis, President; Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: September 4, 2025; Published: September 12, 19, 26, October 3, 2025 LA/CC

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2025180031 The following is/are doing business as: MIGRANTES ECUATORIANOS RESIDENTES EN EL EXTERIOR 20821 AIRLINE AVE. LAKEWOOD, CA 90715; Edgar Francisco Villavicencio 20821 Airline Ave. Lakewood, CA 90715; The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed ON MAY 2025: Edgar Francisco Villavicencio, Owner; Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: August 29, 2025; Published: September 12, 19, 26, October 3, 2025 LA/CC

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE UNDER A NOTICE OF DELINQUENT ASSESSMENT AND CLAIM OF LIEN Order No: 2562609CAD TS No: Y24-10041 YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A NOTICE OF DELINQUENT ASSESSMENT AND CLAIM OF LIEN, DATED 6/25/2024. 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. NOTICE is hereby given that Witkin & Neal, Inc., as duly appointed trustee pursuant to that certain Notice of Delinquent Assessment and Claim of Lien (hereinafter referred to as "Lien"), recorded on 6/25/2024 as instrument number 20240413782 in the office of the County Recorder of Los Angeles County, California, and further pursuant to the Notice of Default and Election to Sell thereunder recorded on 11/26/2024 as instrument number 20240829481 in said county and further pursuant to California Civil Code Section 5675 et seq. and those certain Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions recorded on 4/18/1980 as instrument number 80-392388, WILL SELL on 9/11/2025, 10:00 A.M. In the Courtyard located in Civic Center Plaza, 400 Civic Center Plaza, Pomona, CA 91766 at public auction to the highest bidder for lawful money of the United States payable at the time of sale, all right, title and interest in the property situated in said county as more fully described in the above-referenced Lien. The purported owner of said property is: Dennis E. Braun, a single man. The property address and other common designation, if any, of the real property is purported to be: 960 Larrabee St., Unit 326, West Hollywood, CA 90069, APN 4339-015-170. The undersigned trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the property address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of this Notice of Sale is: \$30,560.23. The opening bid at the foreclosure sale may be more or less than this estimate. In addition to cash, trustee will accept a cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, a check drawn on a state or federal credit

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FALL 1  
TAI CHI & QIGONG (18+)  
Tu | 9/2 - 9/30  
11:15am - 12:30pm  
\$125 (R) / \$154 (NR)  
Class Code: 12299  
Min. Participants: 8

FALL 2  
TAI CHI & QIGONG (18+)  
Tu | 11/18 - 12/9 (No class 11/11)  
11:15am - 12:30pm  
\$99 (R) / \$124 (NR)  
Class Code: 12300  
Min. Participants: 8

TAI CHI & QIGONG (18+)  
Th | 9/4 - 10/2  
11:15am - 12:30pm  
\$125 (R) / \$154 (NR)  
Class Code: 12301  
Min. Participants: 8

TAI CHI & QIGONG (18+)  
Th | 11/20 - 12/11 (No class 11/27)  
11:15am - 12:30pm  
\$174 (R) / \$195 (NR)  
Class Code: 12302  
Min. Participants: 8

TAI CHI & QIGONG (18+)  
Sa | 9/6 - 10/4  
9:15am-10:30am  
\$125 (R) / \$154 (NR)  
Class Code: 12303  
Min. Participants: 8

TAI CHI & QIGONG (18+)  
Sa | 11/15 - 12/13 (No class 11/29)  
9:15am-10:30am  
\$99 (R) / \$124 (NR)  
Class Code: 12304  
Min. Participants: 8

ABOUT THE INSTRUCTOR

Samuel Barnes, director of Tai Chi Works Studio and the Qigong Healing Institute in Beverly Hills, has over 42 years of experience teaching Tai Chi and other Eastern health practices. He has taught at UCLA, traveled in China and Tibet, and lectures internationally with the National Qigong Association and the World Congress on Qigong, Tai Chi, and Traditional Chinese Medicine.

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Samuel Barnes has been teaching for 44 years and is a star of a blockbuster best selling tai chi DVD, now streaming on Amazon Prime's "Be Fit", "Element Tai Chi for Beginners" He teaches at UCLA and works with celebs, CEO's, politicians, studio execs and all in need. He trains his clients with tai chi techniques for accelerating healing, improving balance and developing powerful martial applications.

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