## BEVERLY HILLS COURIER

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THE NEWSPAPER OF RECORD FOR BEVERLY HILLS

BEVERLYHILLSCOURIER.COM

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#### THE WEATHER, BEVERLY HILLS CA

ථ	Friday	72°   59°
<u>~</u>	Saturday	76°   50°
<u>~</u>	Sunday	74°   59°
<u>~</u>	Monday	71°   58°
<u>~</u>	Tuesday	68°   575°
<u>~</u>	Wednesday	68°   57°
ථ	Thursday	67°   57°

## Council Considers Fractional Ownership Prohibition Ordinance



Beverly Hills City Hall

BY RYAN TOROK

At its May 16 regular meeting, the Beverly Hills City Council approved additional consulting services funds for the police department's technology-based public safety initiative and addressed concern over fractional ownership of residential and commercial properties, among other topics.

During the meeting, the five-member

council unanimously approved an amendment to the city's agreement with consultant Julius Guay, Ph.D. A former LAPD detective lieutenant, Guay was retained by the Beverly Hills Police Department (BHPD) in December 2022 to provide project management and consulting services for the department's public safety technology initiative, the Real Time Watch Center. The

See CITY COUNCIL, page 11

## How to Vote in the May 23 Special Municipal Election

BY ANA FIGUEROA

The city of Beverly Hills Special Municipal Election is on May 23, less than one week away. The election will decide two ballot measures, "B" and "C" pertaining to the Cheval Blanc Beverly Hills hotel ("the project"). "Measure B" seeks to adopt the City Council ordinance enacting zone changes and corresponding map amendments to permit the project. "Measure C" seeks to adopt the City Council ordinance approving the Development Agreement for the project.

The matter has drawn considerable attention and spirited discussion throughout the city and beyond.

By now, all 22,000 registered voters in the city have received Vote by Mail ballots from the office of the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk. Many residents have already returned those ballots. Those who have yet to do so may use the following options to ensure their voice is heard in this important election:

Vote by Mail Ballots may be returned by U.S. mail, with no postage required. Ballots must be postmarked no later than May 23, 2023.

Vote by Mail Ballots may also be deposited in one of two official Drop Boxes in the See HOW TO VOTE, page 17

## Motion to Block Benedict Canyon Hotel Fails in L.A. City Council

BY CLARA HARTER

A bid to block the development of a Bulgari Resort in Benedict Canyon failed in a 7-7 vote during a recent Los Angeles City Council meeting, allowing the project to continue working its way through city approvals.

The luxurious development would be nestled in the Santa Monica Mountains to the north of Beverly Hills and feature 58 hotel rooms, eight private residences, a spa, gym, theater, sushi bar and fine dining restaurant.

The project has been divisive since it was introduced in 2017, with supporters praising its economic benefits and world class amenities and detractors saying it would have negative environmental and traffic impacts.

Bulgari is a subsidiary of luxury retail conglomerate, LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis



Photo courtesy of Bulgari Hotels & Resorts Rendering of bungalow at proposed Bulgari Resort Los Angeles

Vuitton ("LVMH"), which is also seeking to build the Cheval Blanc Beverly Hills hotel on Rodeo Drive. Beverly Hills residents will decide the fate of that project in a May 23 See MOTION FAILS, page 11

## Courier Earns L.A. Press Club Nods

BY COURIER STAFF

The Beverly Hills Courier is a finalist for four Southern California Journalism Awards. The awards, given annually by the Los Angeles Press Club, honor journalistic excellence in print, radio, podcast, TV and online formats. Entries for this year's awards were published during the calendar year 2022.

Courier Publisher Lisa Friedman Bloch is a finalist in two categories for her cover features profiling high-profile business figures in Beverly Hills. The first is in the category of "Personality Profile, Politics/Business/Arts Personalities" for her Holiday 2022 STYLE Magazine cover feature, "ANASTASIA: Beverly Hills' World-Famous Eyebrow

See PRESS CLUB, page 17

## **Courier Calendar**

**NOW - MAY 21** THEATRE WEST: "MOOSE ON THE LOOSE" FRI.-SAT. 8 P.M. **SUN. 2 P.M.** 

Theatre West presents "Moose on the Loose," a new comedy production written by Dina Morrone and directed by Peter Flood. The play follows an Italian family and a Canadian moose that wanders into their neighborhood. Beyond laughs, the performance touches on the immigrant experience, and the desire to preserve cultural traditions while colliding with other cultures. Tickets are \$35 online, \$40 at the door, \$30 for students and military, and \$20 for children 12 and under. Theatre West is located at 3333 Cahuenga Blvd. West, Lost Angeles.

NOW - JUNE 11

theatrewest.org

**ROGUE MACHINE THEATRE: "CAN I TOUCH IT?"** MON., FRI., SAT. 8 P.M.

**SUN. 3 P.M.** Rogue Machine Theatre presents the

rolling world premiere of "can i touch it?," a play by Francisca Da Silveira, directed by Gregg T. Daniel. The play focuses on Shay Soloman, who is many things but refuses to be a pawn in the bank's efforts

to buy up foreclosed real estate. "can i touch it?" examines Black hair politics, the racial inequities faced by Blackowned businesses and the fantastical place women of color have to recede into when they get asked ignorant questions. Runtime for the show is 90 minutes with no intermission. General admission is \$45. tickets for seniors are \$35, and student tickets are \$25. Rogue Machine will also host Pay What You Want performances on May 19 and May 26 (\$15+), and June 2 (\$20+). The Matrix Theatre, where performances take place, is located at 7657 Melrose Ave., Los Angeles. roguemachinetheatre.org

#### MAY 20 - 21 **BEVERLY HILLS ART SHOW** 10 A.M.-6 P.M.

The city of Beverly Hills and its Community Services department celebrates 50 years of art shows in Beverly Gardens Park from May 20-21. Over 230 local, national, and international artists' work will be displayed including paintings, sculptures, ceramics, glass, drawings, watercolors, traditional printmaking, jewelry, photography, and more. Nearly 85 new artists are set to appear in the show along four blocks of Santa Monica Boulevard, from Rodeo Drive to Rexford Drive. A

beer and wine garden, gourmet food, beverage trucks, artist demonstrations and more will be featured in the event. Parking is available across from the show grounds and in city parking structures. beverlyhills.org

#### **MAY 25** THE WALLIS: JEFFREY KAHANE: PIANO "GOLDBERG VARIATIONS" 7:30 P.M.

The Wallis hosts the pianist, conductor, and former Music Director of the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra Jeffrey Kahane. This will be his Wallis debut as he presents a performance of his piano interpretation of Bach's "Goldberg Variations." This work of Bach's is considered the most serious and ambitious work for the keyboard. The show is 1 hour and 50 minutes, including a 20-minute intermission. Tickets range from \$39-\$99. thewallis.org

#### **MAY 26** ACADEMY MUSEUM OF MOTION PICTURES: GALLERY SPOTLIGHT: **IDENTITY WITH SHIRLEY KURATA** 12 P.M.

The Academy Museum presents a conversation with Academy Awardnominee Shirley Kurata to explore

costume design and inspirations from Kurata's work. This conversation will be moderated by Sophia Serrano, curator of the Identity gallery which features costume, makeup, and hairstyling. Tickets, which include general admission, are \$25 for adults, \$19 for seniors, \$15 for students, and free for children. academymuseum.org

#### **MAY 26** WALLIS ANNENBERG PETSPACE: "STAND UP FOR PUPS" 7-9 P.M.

Wallis Annenberg Petspace welcomes comedians J.D. Witherspoon, Jay Washington, Shea Freeman, Valerie Tosi, and Chris Greene, alongside host Caitlin Benson and DJ VFRESH for "Stand Up for Pups." Doors open at 6:30 p.m. A DJ set and adoptable animals are featured from 7 to 8 p.m. Comedy begins at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for general admission, \$25 for table seating. All tickets include two drinks. A portion of ticket sales will go towards the PetSpace Extraordinary Care Fund which supports PetSpace's work with the most vulnerable animals in the shelter system: those who face significant medical needs that serve as barriers to adoption.

annenberpetspace.org



Dominque Fung Will you keep singing?, 2021 Oil on linen 94h x 78w inches

Collection of East West Bank. Image courtesy of the Artist, Jeffery Deitch and Nicodim.

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**Rodeo Drive Committee** 



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Jeanne Marks

Jeffrey Boren

Jeffrey Greenberg

Referenda contesting City Council Approval of the Cheval Blanc Hotel Zoning Ordinance and Development Agreement



## Council Debates Purchase of \$550,000 Sculpture



Photo courtesy city of Beverly Hills

Rendering of proposed installation location of Judy Chicago's "Trinity" sculpture

BY CLARA HARTER

A proposal to spend more than half a million dollars to acquire and install an abstract sculpture by renowned artist Judy Chicago spurred an interesting debate amongst the Beverly Hills City Council over the value of art.

While the majority of councilmembers

stood behind the proposal put forward by the Arts and Culture Commission during the May 16 Study Session, Councilmember John Mirisch questioned whether the piece was worthy of the price tag.

Ultimately, the Council agreed to move forward with the proposal under the See SCULPTURE, page 18

## Rodeo Drive Concours d'Elegance Returns to Rodeo Drive



The Rodeo Drive event returns on Father's Day.

The Rodeo Drive Concours d'Elegance returns to Rodeo Drive on Father's Day June 18 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The free car show presents an opportunity for fathers, families and car enthusiasts of all ages to enjoy an up-close look at some of the world's most admired vehicles.

"The annual Father's Day Concours d'Elegance is a tradition that families look forward to each year," said Beverly Hills Mayor Dr. Gold. "There is no better place to see so many of the world's most sought-after cars, all in one place, than in Beverly Hills on Father's Day, surrounded by world-class history, iconic palm-lined streets and, of course, our welcoming community."

"We're thrilled to be back on Rodeo Drive for this fantastic Father's Day tradition. We work to make this event bigger and better each year and couldn't do it without the support of this incredible community," said Bruce Meyer, chairman of the Rodeo Drive Concours d'Elegance. "I love seeing families enjoy this day together, and you can't beat the smile on someone's face when they see their favorite car."

Proceeds from the concours benefit the Beverly Hills Police Officers Association and Beverly Hills Firefighters' Association, non-profit charities raising funds for first responders and their families.

To learn more, visit beverlyhills.org/ concours.

## BHPD Holds Free Catalytic Converter "Etching" Event



Photo by Ryan Torok

BHPD Sgt. Jeff Newman welcomed drivers to the police department's catalytic converter etching event, a free program for residents of the city.

BY RYAN TOROK

In response to the ongoing thefts of catalytic converters, the Beverly Hills Police Department (BHPD) held an "Etch and Catch" community event, during which Beverly Hills residents marked their catalytic converters with their Vehicle Identification Number

The May 13 program drew 60 vehicle appointments.

BHPD and their partners also applied a high-temperature spray paint on the catalytic converters in the hope of deterring any future burglaries of an auto part commonly targeted by thieves.

"Our goal today is to get as many of our

residents etched and spray-painted as possible," BHPD Sgt. Jeff Newman, head of the department's community relations unit, told the Courier during the in-person program, held from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at the intersection of Foothill Road and Civic Center Drive.

Pre-registration was required for the free event, which was open exclusively to the city's residents. All appointment slots filled up quickly, Newman said.

While Beverly Hills is not leading other areas of the city in the theft of catalytic converters-called "cat" for short-it remains a serious issue of concern in the area, Newman explained. There were approximately 8,000 reported catalytic converter thefts in Los

See CATALYTIC CONVERTER, page 17

## Otazu Named Director of Rent Stabilization



Nestor Otazu

Nestor Otazu, a 25-year employee of Beverly Hills, has been selected as the city's next Deputy Director of Rent Stabilization, effective May 22. Otazu currently serves as the city's Community Preservation Manager overseeing compliance with various property maintenance, land use, building, and health and safety regulations. As Deputy Director, he will administer and enforce the City's Rent Stabilization Ordinance.

"I am very pleased to welcome Nestor to this new role," said Timothea Tway, Director of Community Development. "With almost three decades in Beverly Hills and his directly relevant experience working with both our tenants and landlords, I'm confident he will thrive in the position and enhance this critical division of the city."

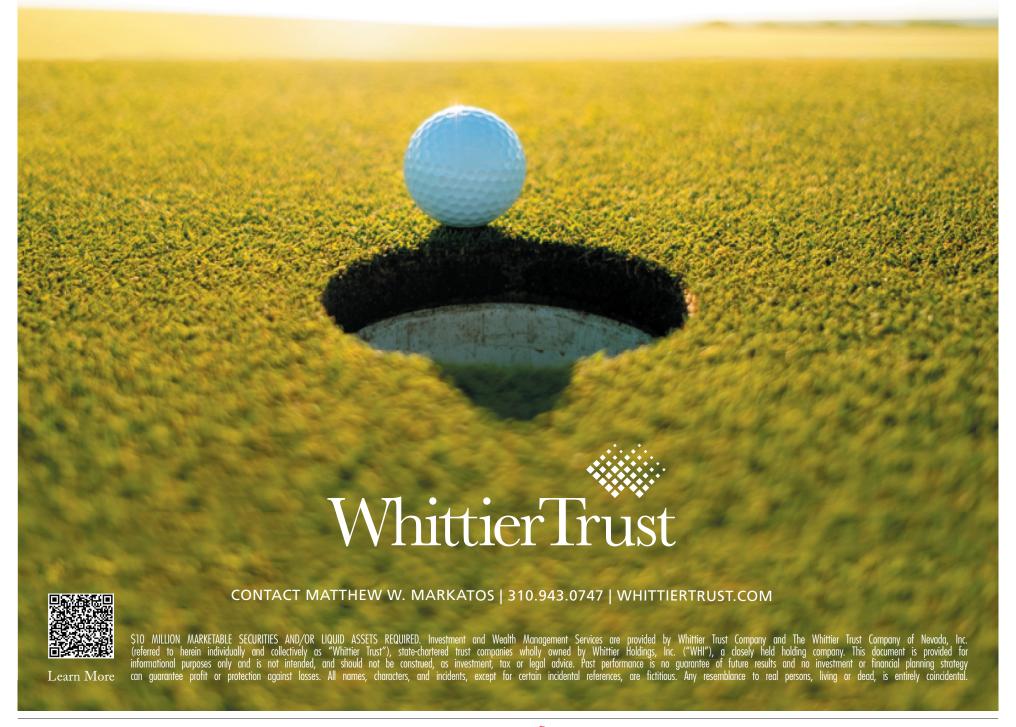
Otazu joined the city of Beverly Hills in 1998 as a Building Systems Technician before shifting to Code Enforcement Officer in 2000. He was later named manager of the division in 2008. During his tenure, he has worked to expand the depth of service and program operations to seven days a week. Otazu has also managed and administered rent stabilization codes and tenant and landlord processes. In 2017, he took an active role working with city leaders in the implementation, rollout and development of the new Rent Stabilization Program and rent registry.

BEVERLY HILLS COURIER PAGE 4 MAY 19, 2023

# We made our family tighter and our business stronger with one round of golf.

Never have the words, "Yes sir," been so cutting as when I heard it from my sister. My authority within the family business had caused a rift in the family. Somewhere along the way, I'd stopped being a brother and became the CEO and chairman of the board instead. That's when Whit suggested that our annual charity golf tournament was the perfect opportunity to recapture some of the family magic of our childhood. A few laughs and a round of golf later, we'd reworked the business so Whit could handle decisions involving the family and I could focus on being a brother. Sometimes the big picture becomes clearer when you focus on the little things.

— David, San Diego



## Community

## Rugelach Contest Celebrates Jewish American Heritage Month



Pictured at the Farmers' Market are (from left): Vice Mayor Lester Friedman, Consul General of Israel Hillel Newman, 2nd place winner Elain Maltzman, and 1st place winner Hannah Pomerantz, Mayor Dr. Julian Gold and Councilmember Sharona Nazarian.

The first-ever Rugelach Contest took place at the Beverly Hills Farmers' Market on May 14 in celebration of Jewish American Heritage Month. The contest judges were Mayor Dr. Julian Gold, Vice Mayor Lester Friedman, Councilmember Sharona Nazarian and Israel Consul General Hillel Newman. The "Best Tasting Rugelach" 1st place award went to Hannah Pomerantz, 2nd place went to Elain Maltzman and 3rd place went to Michael Wohl.

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## Concerts on Canon Kick Off with Pride Night June 1



Leopold Nunan

The city of Beverly Hills' Concerts on Canon summer season kicks off with a Pride Night concert on June 1 at 6 p.m. at Beverly Canon Gardens. The Pride Night concert and celebration will include past winners of the Music Forward Foundation's LGBTQIA+ Emerging Artist Awards: Leopold Nunan and Kymistry. Leopold Nunan, also known as Leo from Rio, is a dance music award-winning artist from Brazil. Kymistry is an emerging contemporary R&B artist known for her neosoul sound. Also joining the festivities will be Brian Sonia-Wallace, West Hollywood's Poet Laureate and founder of Pride Poets. In addition to reading, the Pride Poets will be on hand with vintage, manual typewriters to craft on-the-spot, personalized poems for the audience.

This free outdoor concert series will take place weekly until Aug. 24 with two 45-minute musical sets at 6 p.m. and 7:15 p.m. The 2023 summer line-up includes the following:

June 1 - Pride Night Concert with Leopold Nunan and Kymistry - electronic funk and contemporary R&B;

June 8 - Linda and Friends - Classic Rock 'n Roll

June 15 - Rod Lightning and the Thunderbolts of Love - Classic Rock 'n Roll and Pop;

June 22 - Upstream - Caribbean;

June 29 - Zetz Klezmer Ensemble - Klezmer;

July 6 - Beach St. A GoGo - '60s Tribute; July 13 - Joyce Partise - Brazilian/Bossa Nova;

July 20 - Alligator Beach - New Orleans Jazz/Funk;

July 27 - Susie Hansen Latin Band - Latin; Aug. 3 - Rumba Acoustic Band - Acoustic Persian Hits;

Aug. 10 - Smokin' Cobras - Classic Rock and Pop;

Aug. 17 - The Tokens - Doo-Wop;

Aug. 24 - David Gab - Rock 'n Roll.

For more information about Concerts on Canon, visit <u>beverlyhills.org/concertsoncanon</u> or call 310-285-6830.

## Activities Added to Beverly Hills Art Show Lineup



The Beverly Hills Art Show takes place May 20-21.

The Beverly Hills Art Show returns to Beverly Gardens Park this weekend, May 20 and 21 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The 50th edition of the spring show will feature 230 artists exhibiting artwork in painting, sculpture, ceramics, glass, drawing, watercolor, traditional printmaking, photography, jewelry and more along four blocks of Santa Monica Boulevard from Rodeo Drive to Rexford Drive.

Visitors will also enjoy an array of activities including artist demonstrations, jewelry-making for kids, on-site screen printing of limited-edition Art Show totes (Sunday only and while supplies last), and selfie-spot

photo opportunities. There will be a beer and wine garden and food to purchase from well-known gastro-trucks, including Cousin's Main Lobster, The Deli Doctor, Serendoggity, Thai-Mex Cocina, Baby's Badass Burgers, Chicken King, Vivace Pizza, Dreamy Cupcake Creations and Kona Ice. On Sunday, bicycle valet and services will be available courtesy of Pedal Movement. The Art Show is free and open to the public.

For more information about the Beverly Hills Art Show and to see a list of artists, visit <a href="www.beverlyhills.org/artshow">www.beverlyhills.org/artshow</a> or call 310-285-6830.



## Discover a modern, resort-style retirement community in Pacific Palisades

Opening Summer 2023 and accepting reservations now

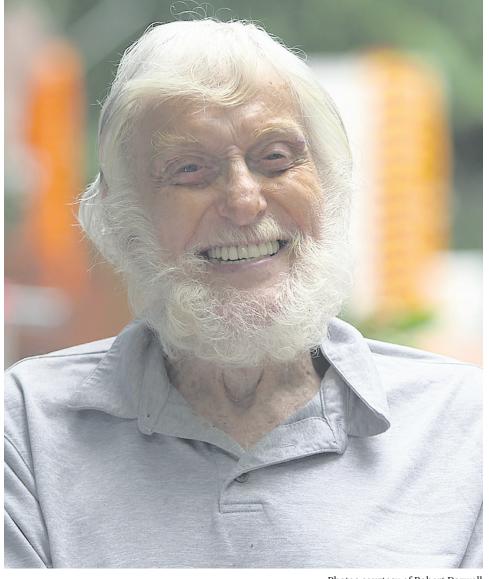
Luxurious residences with designer finishes, floor-to-ceiling windows, and stunning views Exceptional amenities including a state-of-the-art Vitality Center with a hydrotherapy spa

Fresh seasonal cuisine featuring locally sourced produce for healthy living Personalized care guided by licensed nurses



## **Arts & Entertainment**

## 'The 90s Club' - You Should Live So Long



Photos courtesy of Robert Darwell

Dick Van Dyke

BY NEELY SWANSON

This warm, loving, beautifully filmed documentary is a classic example of keeping your eyes, ears and heart open.

The office of the movie's director, local entertainment attorney Robert Darwell, asked if it was possible to have his film reviewed in the Beverly Hills Courier. There was no pressure to review, but I still felt obligated to watch. This hasn't worked out well in the past, usually ending with pressure exerted and hurt feelings and this time it was a local citizen of great standing. Darwell is a partner at Sheppard Mullin where he is the Head of Global Media, having recently negotiated Amazon's acquisition of MGM. Convinced I would be seeing an amateur production rife with ego involvement, I reluctantly sat down to begin watching "The 90s Club."

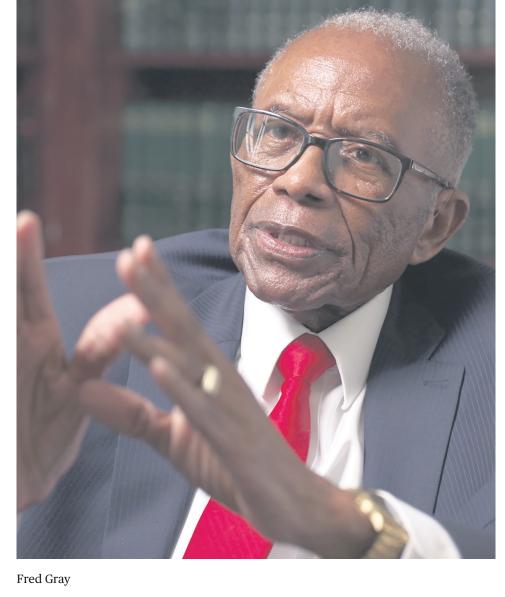
Wow! Was I wrong. From the opening montage of Jimmy Durante singing "Young at Heart" to the end titles, I was entranced. Durante, 70 at the time he sang this song, personifies the theme of this film because each of the men and women who were interviewed are the very definition of young at heart, giving lie to their ages, all over 90, hence "The 90s Club." Durante, as a matter of fact, would not have been eligible for this elite group because he died at 86. Contrary to my preconceived notion, this documentary

was the work of an extremely accomplished filmmaker who had something to say with style, intelligence and panache.

There are no spoilers here, so I thought I'd begin with who this very diverse group was, some of whom you may have heard of; some of whom were the very definition of the people in your neighborhood; some had major accomplishments; others lived quiet lives embodying the heroism of those who got on with it and showed up day in and day out. They might be your parents, grandparents or even great-grandparents, but none of them were ordinary.

Let me tell you who these elder statespeople were. Art Gelbart, a Polish Holocaust survivor, now from Cleveland, has followed the motto that gets him through life: "You don't give up." Maurice Tuber, originally from Argentina, finds joy every day and is more in love with his wife today than when he first met her more than 70 years ago. Alice Peterson, now in Palm Springs, was renowned in her youth for her beauty. She was the Gallo wine girl and her adventurous nature would not allow her to settle for second best.

I especially liked Evelyn Ezrine, the Baltimore housewife with the nonplussed attitude. Lolling on the couch, she expresses the philosophy of "whatever." Evelyn Coughlin, from Michigan, lives for her family. She is a veritable Norman Rockwell



painting of the kindhearted grandmother. Juana Gloria Herrera is something of an outlier. A refugee from Cuba in the early 60s, she never learned to speak English, unnecessary in her community although she would have liked to have done more. Cosseted, she seems very content with the way life eventually played out.

I was particularly fond of Bobbie Harris from Abingdon Township in Pennsylvania. Bobbie, a Black woman faced prejudice with dignity but didn't suffer fools. Married to a Tuskegee Airman, she was proud of who she was and what he accomplished. Walter Cole, aka Darcelle XV, lived and worked in Portland, Oregon. Darcelle XV, recently passed, made it into the Guinness Book of World Records as the oldest working drag performer. Married early with kids, Walter gradually embraced Darcelle and thrived in a world that was hostile to gays for so many of his years. Sy Gruber was a New York restaurateur who, as he admits, spent too much time at work and not enough time with his family. But that's what it took to succeed. Tony Vaccaro, also from New York but still with the slight Italian accent of his youth, found his calling behind a camera. One of the oldest and yet most youthful, it's apparent he lived a good life doing what he loved to do. He still has his first camera.

As to fame and accomplishment, two

members of the club stand out; one you will know instantly and the other is a hero whose accomplishments you might know even if you don't recognize him. Dick Van Dyke is still a delight and as boyish as ever even if the body has started to slow down; his short-term memory is fading but long-term is "coming back in technicolor." His joie de vivre is ever present and you will delight in knowing more about him. But it is Fred Gray, now living in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, that you should thank. Fred, a quietly driven civil rights attorney, was there at the beginning with Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King Jr. Gray, self-effacing, made an impact because he did what was right. As a young man, he set out trying to eliminate segregation and Jim Crow and has never stopped.

So there you have the cast of characters. All of them have something to say about life as curated by the questions Darwell chose. The questions ranged from their earliest memories; education; the Depression; "the first time;" to current affairs, discrimination, sex, and happiness, among quite a few others, ending with "how you would like to be remembered." Intelligently and thoughtfully answered by this diverse group of nonagenarians, there's much to be learned by everyone, regardless of age. One might even say that the answers are as ageless as the speakers.

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 ${\bf Photo\ courtesy\ of\ Sheppard\ Mullin}$   ${\bf Bob\ Darwell}$ 

The production values are excellent. Camerawork and the chosen locations put each person at ease and in their best light. The filming was seamless as was the editing. You'll find no shadows here, only further illumination. Most impressive, though, is the invisibility of the interviewer. A chyron alerts you to the question but the only person you'll hear is the interview subject. Fully at ease, the answers flowed naturally. This, in itself, is highly unusual because in many, actually most, the interviewer is an additional presence. Without that added voice, you relax into the responses, something that gives you the impression that you have really gotten to know these individuals as friends. In structuring his questions, Darwell has given each of them the kind of character development one expects in the best feature films.

Unfortunately "The 90s Club" is available only as VOD. In their specious reasoning, much like the broadcast networks, the streamers do not see the value in what they view as an undesirable demographic, totally ignoring the universality of the lessons learned. You don't have to be 90 (or even the neglected 50-to-dead demographic) to enjoy these people and what they've learned and had to say. As an additional warning, don't turn on the closed captioning. It would appear that the subtitles were done by an incompetent robot, although I must admit some were laugh-out-loud hilarious, especially the unnecessary captioning of the already subtitled conversations with Sra. Herrera.

Go ahead and reach into your pocket and pay the \$1.99 on Amazon. It's a great investment.

In a follow-up to the film, I had the opportunity to speak to the filmmaker Robert Darwell, a 30-year resident of Beverly Hills, about his process.



Evelyn Coughlin at her 99th birthday

## What kind of entertainment law do you practice?

It's a very broad-based practice. Presently almost anything to do with content and content creation. Of course, motion pictures and television have been a longtime part of my practice. But also video games, art law, sports, some music and live entertainment. I have the largest team in the firm. There are 27 associates who work with me. Right now I have the largest client in the firm, which is Amazon Studios. We do a tremendous amount of work around the world.

## When did you get interested in being a filmmaker instead of just representing them?

There's being a filmmaker and then making this film. My parents died about five years ago and after they passed away, I had been thinking of an idea that was always in my head about how much you learn from speaking with older people. I wanted to hear more stories from older folks. My grandparents died when I was much younger so I didn't get to spend a lot of time with them. Although the pandemic was a busy time for our practice, I thought with the quietness and the work from home that I now finally had time to focus on making a documentary film. I figured I could do these interviews for "The 90s Club" on the weekend or on quieter days. The production schedule was flexible. It was up to me to schedule the interviews and travel. It wasn't as though I was following a particular event over a course of time where I would have to be in certain places on certain days. I traveled quite a bit. It was a nice time to travel. It was quiet everywhere.

#### What was your learning process?

I think I really began by not knowing too much at all about how the film would turn out. I just started filming the interviews and having conversations with people. I think where I learned as a filmmaker was in the editing process and working with an editor. I think that's where, in some respects, my legal background was most valuable. I think

as a lawyer you're somewhat of a natural editor in terms of eliminating words and sentences that don't matter. I guess not being a pure filmmaker, nothing was too precious for me in the editing process. If I felt that somebody had said what they wanted to say, it was easy to cut the next sentence.

#### How did you choose your subject matter?

It was two-fold. I recognized that there had been a lot of much-needed social justice over the past decade for a lot of groups. But there didn't seem to be a lot of attention on the "well-aged." Even today it seems as though somebody could be pretty readily dismissed just based on a number. You hear somebody is a certain age and the assumption they have less to contribute; they're not as valuable. It still seems acceptable to make jokes in movies or on television about people based on age in a way that you wouldn't based on race or sexual orientation. So, I wanted to do something that would highlight the value and worth of senior seniors. Then on a more selfish level, after my parents had died, I think I was looking for some guidance and wisdom for myself as I grow older and begin to think about how I want to spend the next 30 years or so.

## Did you already have several of the people in mind?

I didn't want it to be a celebrity-driven piece. I wanted the interviews to be with people who would seem like your grandmother or next-door neighbor. Real people. I did think that I would want to include one celebrity from the outset even before I began filming. I mentioned that to a colleague here

in the office at a dinner. "I'm going to start making this documentary film and talk to people who are in their 90s. One famous person I would like to have in it is Dick Van Dyke. He would be my number one choice." About five or six months later, that colleague, Dick Trouper who lives in Malibu, ran into Dick Van Dyke at the gym and mentioned the project to him. So I called him up and we spoke and he agreed to participate in the film.

## Let's talk a bit about the difficulty you've had in selling the film.

The film was well-received by audiences and documentaries do seem to be somewhat hot right now. Once it was receiving some recognition, I thought there would be a more natural home for it. Even some people, who very much enjoyed the film and were in a position to license or buy it for their platform, felt that it targeted an older audience that wasn't the most desirable demographic for the platform. I think that the eyeballs that are most coveted are the younger demographic. But when it did screen for audiences at film festivals it was frequently younger people or college-aged people in their 20s who were coming up to me and telling me how much they enjoyed the film and how they would love for their grandparents to see the film and be inspired by it. One of the most rewarding things would be when someone who was younger said, "I've got to sit down with my grandparents and ask them a bunch of questions and talk to them."

This is an abridged version of the interview. The full version is available at <a href="mailto:beverlyhillscourier.com">beverlyhillscourier.com</a>



Neely Swanson spent most of her professional career in the television industry, almost all of it working for David E. Kelley. In her last full-time position as Executive Vice President of Development, she reviewed writer submissions and targeted content for adaptation. As she has often said, she did book reports for a living. For several years she was a freelance writer for "Written By," the magazine of the WGA West and

was adjunct faculty at USC in the writing division of the School of Cinematic Arts. Neely has been writing film and television reviews for the "Easy Reader" for more than 10 years. Her past reviews can be read on Rotten Tomatoes where she is a tomato-approved critic.



#### **NOTICE OF COMMISSION VACANCY:**

The Beverly Hills City Council is seeking auglified residents

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

TERM BEGINS JANUARY 1, 2024 Planning Commission – One Vacancy

TERM BEGINS JANUARY 1, 2024

Recreation and Parks Commission – One Vacancy

DEADLINE TO APPLY FOR THE ABOVE COMMISSIONS IS ON FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 2023 AT 5:00 P.M.

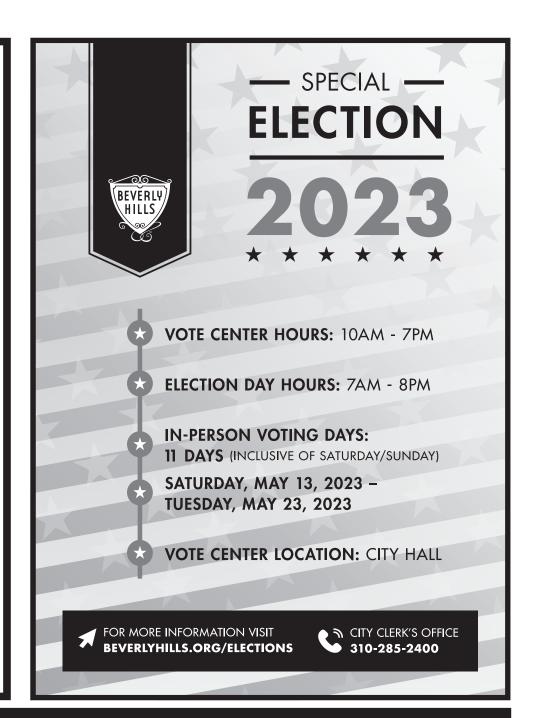
For more information on the Commission position and to apply online, please visit the City's website at www.beverlyhills.org/applyforacommission or call the City Clerk's Office at (310) 285-2400 to obtain the application form by mail or e-mail.



<u></u>

Huma Ahmed City Clerk







## NOTICE OF AD HOC COMMITTEE VACANCY

Mayor's Citywide Electrical Resilience Ad Hoc Committee

DEADLINE TO APPLY: FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 2023 AT 5:00PM

Seeking qualified residents to join the Mayor's Electrical Resilience Ad Hoc Committee
Two- year term starting June 2023

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



#### CITY COUNCIL, from page 1

approved amendment authorizes a change in the purchase order for Guay's continued services for an additional \$70,000.

The police department's Real Time Watch Center places BHPD technology, including drones, automatic license plate readers and CCTV cameras, under one roof.

Additionally, the council heard a first reading of an ordinance establishing prohibitions on fractional ownership of residential and commercial property that correlates to an agreement to use or occupy the property for a period of less than one year. In the case of residential properties, fractional ownership schemes involve multiple parties purchasing a single-family home and taking turns living in it during the year for various lengths of time based on ownership percentage. According to previous reporting by the Courier, the practice of fractional ownership can lead to people using properties as short-term rentals, leading to a greater probability of noise, loss of privacy and the potential decline in property value.

Newport Beach is among other cities that have implemented regulations on fractional ownership of single-family homes—regulating them as if they are timeshares.

Fractional ownership refers to shared ownership of a property. The ordinance is attempting to prohibit fractional ownership schemes leading to short-term use of the property for vacation, or similar, purposes. It's not intended to limit all fractional ownership schemes.

The city's senior planner, Chloe Chen, explained the council's interim urgency ordinance, adopted in July 2021, expires this July. The Planning Commission had reviewed the draft language of the permanent ordinance on Feb. 9 and March 9 and recommended the ordinance for council approval.

The ordinance under consideration by the council would permanently adopt existing regulations into the city code. Before it can be adopted, it will need to go for a second reading at the next council meeting. It will become effective 31 days after its adoption.

Asked if there have been any instances of fractional ownership in Beverly Hills, city leaders said they were not aware of any. The objective of the ordinance was proactively addressing the issue before it occurred, they said.

Councilmember John Mirisch supported the ordinance but urged the city to investigate related housing ownership issues, including corporations buying up single-family homes to rent them out, thereby preventing families from becoming homeowners. Mirisch described the effort as the financialization of housing, "with Wall Street becoming the landlord."

"People are concerned that Wall Street, private equity, global capital are increasingly buying up single-family neighborhoods, making it almost impossible for first-time homeowners or other people to purchase homes to actually live in," Mirisch said. "That's a separate issue and it's something I would like for us to look at."

Vice Mayor Lester Friedman echoed Mirisch's suggestion that the city continue examining these issues.

The council also adopted a resolution amending the comprehensive schedule of taxes, fees and charges for the upcoming fiscal year.

The latest council meeting began with Mayor Dr. Julian Gold leading a moment of silence for community member Brenda Rubins, who died on May 5 at the age of 72.

Afterwards, the council honored Beverly Hills-based charity Tower Cancer Research Foundation. Those in attendance for the ceremony included Tower Cancer Research Foundation Executive Director Steve Abramson and Deputy Director Kelli Sargent.

Additionally, city leaders recognized National Public Works Week, shining a light on Shana Epstein, director of public works.

"You are the heart and soul of our community," Councilmember Lili Bosse told Epstein. "Not only are we grateful but this entire community thanks you."

Epstein, for her part, took the opportunity to publicize Public Works Day, taking place May 21 at the Farmers' Market, from 9 a.m.-noon.

As part of a consensus item, Epstein delivered a presentation about the city's water conservation plan. While there was some back-and-forth between Epstein and Councilmember Sharona Nazarian about restrictions over residents watering their lawns or trees between 9 a.m.-6 p.m., ultimately the five-member council said they were supportive of the city's water plan.

"I was the 'drought mayor,'" Gold said of serving as mayor in 2015. "I talked about drought for a year. That was a very dry year. So, I think this is great. I think people have gotten into the routine. If it works, why fix it?"

The Council's next meeting is scheduled for June 6. ullet

## MOTION FAILS, from page 1 special election.

Meanwhile, the fate of the Bulgari Hotel rests with LA City Council, which is set to discuss the project again when an environmental impact report is released in the coming weeks.

The motion to block the project was brought forward by Councilmember Katy Yaroslavsky whose fifth district includes the proposed project site at 9704-9712 West Oak Road.

Yaroslavsky believes the project is out of character with the surrounding neighborhood and poses environmental dangers. Her motion asked the city's planning director to rescind a General Plan amendment that was passed in 2017 to allow the hotel to be developed in the residential neighborhood.

"Allowing an intensive commercial use in a very low density, fire-prone residential area is a terrible idea," said Yaroslavsky in the May 16 meeting. "Nowhere in Los Angeles are we allowing new commercial uses in low-density hillside communities, specifically because of the wildfire and landslide risks."

The developer for the project, Gary Safady, said he seeks to build the hotel in a manner that respects the surrounding environment.

"I want to do something where the homes can blend in seamlessly with the environment and put the environment first," he said. "Our ethos is sustainability, our ethos is wildlife, our ethos is fire prevention."

Yaroslavsky also alleges that there was an ethics violation in the lobbying process for the General Plan amendment.

Specifically, she takes issue with the fact that one of Bulgari's lobbyists, Stacey Brenner, is married to the former planning and land use deputy of Paul Koretz. Koretz previously represented the area where the hotel would be located and was a supporter of the project.

The deputy in question, Shawn Bayliss, left his position in May 2017, while the

General Plan amendment was passed by the city's Planning Commission in October 2017.

"There are hundreds of land use lobbyists listed in Los Angeles, it is not a coincidence that this developer just so happened to hire the wife of my predecessor's planning deputy," said Yaroslavsky. "He knew exactly what he was doing."

Yaroslavsky also scoffed at the \$3 million Safady has invested in lobbying for the project and said that failure to pass her motion would send a message "that if you have enough money and can hire enough lobbyists in Los Angeles, even ones that are married to your planning deputies, you can build whatever you want, wherever you want."

Seven councilmembers voted in favor of Yaroslavsky's motion and several noted concerns about the ethics allegations.

"What has been most compelling to me... is the allegation of the outstanding question on ethics," said Councilmember Tim McOsker, who represents the Harbor region. "If the initiation of this process was tainted, in my view the entire process is tainted."

However, Yaroslavsky was ultimately one vote shy of the majority needed to pass the motion.

Councilmember Monica Rodriguez, who represents the San Fernando Valley, said she was troubled by how councilmembers were taking the allegations into consideration in a vote about land use.

"There is nothing proven and so the allegation is an allegation unproven," she said. "I have some concerns about how we are using that as a means of weighing the decisions that we're making."

Councilmember Traci Park, who represents the Westside of Los Angeles, said that she shared Yaroslavsky's concerns about potential environmental impacts. However, she wants to withhold judgment on the project until the council has a chance to review and discuss the upcoming environmental impact report. •

## www.beverlyhillscourier.com



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## **Dining**

## Celebrity Chef Evan Funke Opens Tri-Level Pasta Mansion in Beverly Hills



Photos courtesy of Eric Wolfinger

The exterior of Funke

BY CLARA HARTER

As a celebrity chef, putting your name on a restaurant is not a decision to be made lightly, but when it comes to his new three-floor, 180-seat Italian trattoria with a live pasta lab, Evan Funke knew the timing was right.

"Beverly Hills is the epicenter for ateliers, Gucci is here, Louis Vuitton is here, Hermès is here, all of these very important houses are here and I think I wanted to lean into that," Funke told the Courier. "That's why I did it and I take it super seriously because you can only give a restaurant your name once."

Funke is the latest dining experience from the man behind acclaimed WeHo restaurant Mother Wolf and Venice hotspot Felix. It is located at 9388 S. Santa Monica Blvd. and is Funke's love letter to the timeless art of Italian pasta making.

The venture is a collaboration between Funke and real estate magnet Kurt Rappaport who owns the gorgeous 1930s Art Deco Building that the restaurant is housed within. The pasta palace encompasses 10,000 square feet, three levels of dining, and a rooftop bar that features some of the best views in the city.

At the center of the restaurant is a chrome-framed two-story pasta lab that was inspired by Funke's experiences wandering the streets of Bologna and seeing pasta being handcrafted in store windows. Funke said the lab forges a special connection between the diner and the pastaio, which is the Italian term for pasta maker.

Take for instance, an order of trofie with pesto Genovese, which consists of 150 tiny coils of pasta that each weigh about a gram, he said.

"If the diner looks through the glass of the pasta lab and sees a pasta maker making 150 repetitions just for that diner, that's a connection that can never be lost and that diner will never look at that pasta shape the same way," said Funke, who also has a lab in his restaurant Felix. "For me, the pasta laboratorio is the beating heart of the restaurants I do."

Funke's menu is an homage to the unique flavors and techniques of different Italian regions, with an emphasis on the seafood focused cuisine of Sicily, which Funke said is his latest obsession.

Diners can enjoy Funke classics like his cacio e pepe, all'amatriciana, ribeye cap steak and focaccia in addition to wood-fired



Funke Co-Owners Kurt Rappaport and Chef Evan Funke

Neapolitan-style pizzas and a range of new dishes.

A special reverence, of course, is reserved for the pastas.

They are each listed on the menu with notations for the region and town they come from and the name of the woman who taught Funke to make the dish during his extensive travels in Italy.

"In these listings I'm continuing the conversation of how culinary traditions have been passed on through generation to generation for the last couple thousand years in Italy, which is by word of mouth,"



Cannoli Siciliana

he said. "I'm continuing the stories of these people and trying to honor their traditions with as much respect and authenticity as possible."

In addition to the chance to showcase his encyclopedic knowledge of Italian pasta shapes and styles, Funke is excited by the opportunity the restaurant provides for multiple dining experiences. The space was crafted by architect Dan Brunn with interior decor by Clint Nicholas and has bars on each of the three floors including the glitzy rooftop Bar Funke which is built from Cristallo Rosa quartz. Bar Funke is available for walk-ins only and offers a select menu of fresh baked breads, crudos, caviar, desserts and more.

The mezzanine and main dining rooms



Bar Funke Pink Onyx Bar

are adorned with photos and artwork from the likes of Jean-Michel Basquiat, Andy Warhol, and Jean "Johnny" Pigozzi. A private dining room is also available for special events.

"You can enjoy a different experience on each of the levels and I'm excited about how this will grow organically when diners come in and experience it in three different ways," he said. "The space is stunning, the art is spectacular and the building is beautiful."

Funke is open from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Thursday and until 10:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. Bar Funke is open from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Thursday and until midnight on Friday and Saturday.



## Wealth Management

## Maximizing Retirement Savings

BY REBECCA ROTHSTEIN

Retirement planning is a crucial aspect of personal finance and should not be overlooked. This involves planning for your expected retirement needs that you'll have during your golden years. You'll need to do this to supplement Social Security because the amount of money you get from the government will simply not be enough to live on comfortably. Most people are underfunded in retirement accounts so it's essential to start planning and saving for retirement as early as possible as it takes time to build a significant retirement nest egg. Here are some simple strategies to maximize your retirement accounts:

#### First, start early

The sooner you start saving for retirement, the more time your money has to grow. Starting early can provide you with a significant advantage in building your retirement savings. This is due to the power of compounding, which enables your money to grow over time, i.e., your earnings earn more earnings. The average rate of return of the S&P, with reinvested dividends from January 1,1993 to December 31, 2022, was 9.62%. This is based on the total return index of the S&P 500. If you have a 401(k) plan, contribute as much as you can, up to the annual maximum. The more you save, the more money you will have for retirement. Another benefit of maximizing your 401(k) contributions is that the money you put into the traditional 401(k) is pretax, so it has the added benefit of reducing your taxable income. If you don't work at a company that offers 401(k) benefits, there are other vehicles you can use such as traditional Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs), ROTH IRAs, and Deferred Compensation plans, just to name a few. Plus, one of the best benefits of all retirement plans is the tax-deferred nature of qualified retirement plans, i.e., you don't pay taxes on realized gains and you only pay ordinary income on withdrawals. Tax deferral removes a massive drag on your money that is otherwise present in saving for retirement in ordinary taxable accounts. The distinctions in these plans can be found online or by asking your advisor.

#### Take Advantage of Employer Contributions

Many employers offer a matching contribution to their employees' retirement accounts. If your employer offers this benefit, make sure you contribute enough to get the full match. This employer matching is essentially free money and can significantly increase your retirement savings. It is important to fully understand the benefit your employer is offering as it varies from company to company.

#### **Diversify Your Investments**

Diversification is crucial in managing risk and maximizing returns. Invest in a mix of stocks, bonds, and other assets that align with your goals and risk tolerance. Consider



using low-cost index funds or target-date funds to achieve diversification. There are many choices that are available to you now, so educate yourself as to what these choices are. It is advisable to have a larger allocation to stocks when you are younger, as you have a very long time before you will be taking distributions from these plans.

#### **Keep Fees Low**

Fees can eat into your investment returns over time. Be aware of the fees associated with your retirement accounts and choose low-cost investment options where possible. For example, choose index funds or exchange-traded funds (ETFs) with low expense ratios.

#### **Rebalance Regularly**

Rebalancing your portfolio involves adjusting your investment mix periodically to maintain your desired asset allocation. It helps manage risk and maximize returns. Rebalancing can be done annually or semi-annually, depending on your investment strategy. Try not to fall into the trap of "TRADING" your account by buying and selling frequently.

#### Delay Social Security if You Are Able To

Delaying Social Security benefits can increase your retirement income significantly. You can start collecting Social Security benefits as early as age 62 but delaying until age 70 can increase your monthly benefit by up to 8% per year. The information as to what your Social Security Benefits will be is easily available on the Social Security Website. There is a tool on the site that will allow you to model out your benefits depending on when you start to take your social security. In most cases, unless you need the money, delaying when you begin to receive your social security is beneficial. This is something your advisor can help you with.

#### Consider a Roth IRA

A Roth IRA is an excellent retirement savings vehicle that offers tax-free withdrawals in retirement. Contributions to a Roth IRA are made with after-tax dollars, and qualified withdrawals in retirement are tax-free. There are many advantages to using a ROTH IRA and if your employer offers a ROTH 401(k), it is worthwhile considering as these funds are always going to be tax free when you take distribution. The primary difference is you are using after-tax dollars to fund this. Again, these are decisions you should discuss with your advisor.

#### Get Professional Help

Consider working with a financial advisor or planner to help you develop a retirement plan that aligns with your goals

and objectives. A professional can help you develop a personalized plan and provide valuable guidance on investment strategies, risk management and tax planning.

In summary, maximizing your retirement accounts requires a disciplined approach to saving, investing, and managing risk. Starting early, contributing the maximum, taking advantage of employer contributions, diversifying your investments, keeping fees low, rebalancing regularly, delaying Social Security, considering a Roth IRA, and seeking professional help are all strategies that can help you achieve your retirement goals. With consistent effort and discipline, you can maximize your retirement accounts and enjoy a financially secure retirement. •



Rebecca Rothstein works with high-net-worth individuals, families, and institutions, helping them advance their wealth management goals. She began her career as a financial advisor in 1987 at Bear Stearns. She spent 10 years with Deutsche Bank Alex Brown and 13 years with Morgan Stanley Private Wealth Management (formerly Smith Barney) before joining Merrill Lynch. As a Managing Director at Merrill Private Wealth Management, Rebecca focuses on wealth man-

agement, tax minimization, and estate planning strategies for affluent clients. She also works with corporate officers, devising liquidity and diversification strategies for concentrated positions. Rebecca has garnered a number of national honors as a financial advisor. Barron's magazine named her one of the "Top 100 Financial Advisors in America" from 2007 successively through 2012. Barron's also named Rebecca one of the "Top 100 Women Financial Advisors in America" from the inception of the list in 2006 successively through 2012, profiling her in the 2012 issue. In 2017, Rebecca was recognized by the national publication Forbes, which named her one of "America's Top Wealth Advisors." In 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021 Rebecca was again recognized by Forbes, which named her the #1 of "Top Women Wealth Advisors." Rebecca is very active in the community. She is the Chairman of the Board and Founder of Teen Cancer America (a global charity founded by Roger Daltrey and Pete Townshend). She is also a Co-Chair of the Childhood Autism Board at UCLA, which helps children who have been diagnosed with autism, developmental disabilities, and behavior disorders, and she is a board member of the UCLA Health System. In her free time, Rebecca enjoys cooking, sailing, and participating in a number of charitable efforts. She has four sons and splits her time between Incline Village, Nevada and Beverly Hills, California with her husband Ron.

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## A Vote to Bring World-Class Arts and Culture to Beverly Hills

BY PAMELA BECK, DAPHNA NAZARIAN, AND SANDY PRESSMAN

As longtime Beverly Hills residents who share a deep commitment to the fine arts and the cultural life of our beloved city, we urge every Beverly Hills voter to join us and vote YES on both Measures B and C. The Cheval Blanc hotel will deliver a vibrant hub for the visual arts in the heart of the Golden Triangle, securing our city's place as an international destination for the finest in art and design.

We are current and former Commissioners and Board Members for some of the city's leading arts organizations, including the Arts and Culture Commission, Design Review Commission, and the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts. And while we are not writing on behalf of those organizations, we know that Beverly Hills shares a passionate dedication to fine arts and culture, consistently investing in world-class art that can be viewed publicly in locations throughout the city. This dedication was testified to by the community-wide effort 30 years ago to not just preserve our beautiful and historic Post Office, but to invest in its visionary transformation into The Wallis. Today, The Wallis is exemplary of the amazing, long-lasting outcomes that can be achieved when there's a vision to transform underperforming property into a true community jewel. We have a new opportunity at an equally important site in the Golden Triangle to transform the former Brooks Brothers and Paley Center properties into a stunning visual arts site.

LVMH, the parent of Cheval Blanc, has shown us what is possible in the past several years, with temporary exhibits at the old Brooks Brothers property at the corner of Rodeo and Little Santa Monica. These three temporary exhibits – "Louis Vuitton X," "200 Trunks, 200 Visionaries" and "Veuve Clicquot: Solaire Culture" –energized, enlightened and delighted Beverly Hills residents and visitors.

The most recent exhibitions not only played a pivotal role in the Golden Triangle's post-pandemic resurgence, but they also highlight just how underutilized this gateway to Beverly and Rodeo Drives is. Cheval Blanc Beverly Hills will permanently embed at this site an extraordinary, publicly accessible, collection of fine arts, for the benefit of all of Beverly Hills.

The city approvals commit Cheval Blanc to the installation of a sculpture by Sir Tony Cragg in the new pedestrian plaza at the corner of Rodeo and Little Santa Monica, and the glass-fronted hotel lobby on Little Santa Monica will feature an extraordinary piece by Sol LeWitt visible from not only the sidewalk but also to passing motorists.

The new alley entrance will feature a commissioned fine art mural on North Beverly, a significant investment in the revitalization of this important street.

These commitments are merely a taste, however, of the art that will be permanently on public display in Cheval Blanc Beverly Hills, as it is at Cheval Blanc Paris and other iconic locations including La Galerie Dior in Paris and Tiffany's The Landmark in New York. We have visited LVMH properties here and abroad, including Cheval Blanc Paris and the Fondation Louis Vuitton, and experienced first-hand how world class art is woven into the very fabric of LVMH's flagship properties. All display important works of art from the collection of Fondation Louis Vuitton, one the world's most important collections of modern art. Cheval Blanc Beverly Hills is poised to join the ranks of these visionary properties.

The world-class architect Peter Marino played a central role in marrying design, art, and culture at Cheval Blanc Paris and Tiffany's flagship, The Landmark, in New York, and he will do the same in Beverly Hills.

In Paris, Marino brought together an extraordinary collection of art for display in the public areas of the Cheval Blanc to include works by Gilbert Poillerat, Sonia Delaunay, Frank Gehry, Georges Mathieu, Ingrid Donat, Vik Muniz, Thierry Leproust,

André Dubreuil and Florian Tomballe.

Marino's amazingly fruitful collaboration with LVMH for Tiffany in New York was described in the Wall Street Journal as "not just a shopping destination, but a world-class museum."

The arts and cultural benefits of Cheval Blanc Beverly Hills complement the solid, no-nonsense case that we have all heard to support Measures B and C. Many of the great reasons to vote Yes on Measures B and C understandably focus on numbers - the prosperity and safety of our city relies on robust public revenues.

But the focus on the revenues that will flow to the city's general fund should not, we believe, cause us to lose sight of the extraordinary investment in creativity, arts culture that LVMH is offering to make in Beverly Hills. When asked whether the transformation of Tiffany's The Landmark had stayed within its budget, LVMH Chairman and CEO Bernard Arnault replied, "You cannot dream when you talk numbers."

We are dreamers who have our feet solidly on the ground. Cheval Blanc Beverly Hills will create a world-class cultural hub in the heart of the Golden Triangle. It will forge a deep relationship between our city and Fondation Louis Vuitton. Join us in dreaming into being the future of Beverly Hills - vote Yes on Measures B and C!





For more information please contact The City of Beverly Hills Public Works Department: 310-285-2467

## **Health & Wellness**

## Martha Stewart and Our Evolving Beauty Receptors

BY EVA RITVO, M.D.

Martha Stewart is making a splash by confidently gracing the cover of the Sports Illustrated Swimsuit Edition at age 81. In doing so, she is also inciting fruitful conversation about the many factors that make a person beautiful.

Did you know that what is attractive is hardwired in our brain and linked to fertility? Numerous studies have shed light on our innate beauty receptors. Babies as young as 1-month-old stare longer at attractive faces and 1-year-olds have been shown to cooperate better with attractive sitters and on it goes throughout life. For all of us living in Beverly Hills, we know that beauty matters.

Psychologist Nancy Etcoff, in her book "Survival of the Prettiest," asserts that our preference for smooth skin, shiny hair, curved waists, and symmetrical bodies stems from the evolutionary advantage associated with these traits. Our ancestors who recognized and desired these signals had greater reproductive success. Thus, our brains have developed innate beauty receptors that respond positively to these characteristics. Attractive faces trigger the brain's reward pathway, much like activities such as making money, having sex, or using cocaine.

The International Mate Selection Project, conducted by David Buss, was a massive study encompassing diverse cultures and continents. He looked at mate selection in 33 countries on six continents and five islands. The findings revealed that men across cultures valued appearance more than women did when selecting a mate. Traits such as clear skin, lustrous hair, symmetrical features, and an ideal waist-to-hip ratio were consistently associated with attractiveness. These characteristics signify good health and form a universal beauty archetype that is innate rather than learned. No wonder the skin, hair and personal beauty care industry is a global phenomenon with \$571 billion of revenue projected for 2023 and an annual growth rate of 3.8%.

In humans, our extended period of dependency on maternal care influences our mate selection. Women experience a pronounced rise and decline in fertility as nature wants to ensure that mothers are around long enough to raise their children to independence. Men are wired to be attracted to young and healthy women to enhance the survival of their offspring. Peak fertility years equate to peak attractiveness. Hence the slew of 20-year-olds gracing magazine covers and beauty pageants.

Conversely, men do not experience such a rapid decline in fertility. Their ability to care for offspring may increase as they get older as they may have more financial and social resources and protect their young. Hence, male attractiveness increases as men age. One study showed that women were in fact more attracted to men with scars on their faces perhaps signaling that he can do battle and survive. These differences in reproductive strategies explains



Photo by FeatureFlash/depositphotos.com

Martha Stewart

the popularity of May-December romances and platforms like Sugar Baby Sugar Daddy, which align with our evolutionarily programmed instincts.

But don't despair about these inequities in attractiveness as we age. Women's desire to look attractive keeps us alive longer; almost six years on average! Our desire to look good drives us to the gym, Pilates classes, nutritionists, dermatologists and other life-extending places.

We also evolve our perceptions of beauty over time by downloading what I refer to as "evolved beauty receptors." Martha Stewart helps all of us do that by challenging the narrow definition of fertility-associated beauty and looking sexy at 81. She shows us how women can embrace their attractiveness and radiate beauty decades beyond our peak fertility years. Our lives are now driven by multifaceted forces that extend way beyond procreation and survival. Reproduction is no longer the sole arduous task it once was for our ancestors, particularly in the industrialized world and need to hold such sway over our choices.

To transcend hardwired beauty perceptions and develop our minds' beauty software, we can train ourselves to see beauty in new places. As we progress through life, our perceptions of beauty naturally expand. We find beauty in our loved ones, acquaintances, and strangers. The media play a big role in shaping our preferences. What we see often, usually grows in attractiveness. The internet has exponentially broadened the definition of beauty, introducing new standards continuously. Through positive experiences and open-mindedness, we can discover everincreasing beauty in ourselves, others, and the world around us.

Actively recruiting new beauty receptors is also possible. By observing women in various settings, consciously recognizing and appreciating their unique beauty, we can expand our perceptions. In 2015, I

co-founded the Bold Beauty Project. <a href="https://www.boldbeautyproject">www.boldbeautyproject</a>. We pair women with varying disabilities with volunteer photographers and create art shows to encourage our audience to see beauty in places they may have overlooked. We will be hosting our next show in DTLA, Sept. 30 and hope to see you there so you can download new beauty receptors and meet these bold and beautiful women.

Women can also train themselves to see more beauty in themselves. Look in the mirror and focus on the positives of what they see. Tell yourself, "I am 20 percent more beautiful than I think." Women often criticize themselves due to the discrepancy between their appearance and the hardwired beauty standards in their minds but we can train ourselves in more positive ways. Remember, ALL women are beautiful and each of us deserves to feel our best.

Embracing the idea that beauty emanates from within allows us to appreciate the qualities beyond fertility that truly make someone attractive—confidence, self-awareness, generosity, kindness, effective communication, integrity, openness, transparency, loyalty, intelligence, humor, passion, humility, creativity and optimism are all very attractive and help maintain meaningful connections

overtime to name. These traits take time to develop and cultivate. The more you embody these qualities, the more attractive you become. Lasting beauty is within everyone's grasp. And never forget a smile. "If you smile, the whole world smiles with you" thanks to our mirror neurons (the part of the brain that fires when we see someone doing something).

So, I applaud Martha Stewart and Sports Illustrated for their story. Her confidence shines through in these new images. She is clearly enjoying her life and embracing her sexuality. Through repeated exposure to such images, we evolve our beauty receptors and recognize more beauty in others and in ourselves. By appreciating the distinction between our innate and evolving beauty receptors, we gain a deeper understanding of our behaviors and can embrace the beauty in all women. Women can transcend their critical inner voices, fueled by innate beauty receptors, and learn to love their bodies, ultimately attaining true beauty-optimal mental and physical health. At 81 years old, Martha Stewart embodies this beauty, demonstrating the radiance that comes from embracing oneself fully. What could be more beautiful than that?

"People often say that 'beauty is in the eye of the beholder,' and I say that the most liberating thing about beauty is realizing that you are the beholder. This empowers us to find beauty in places where others have not dared to look, including inside ourselves."

- Salma Hayek



Beverly Hills Courier columnist Dr. Eva Ritvo is a psychiatrist with 30 years' experience practicing in Miami Beach. She is the author of "Bekindr-The Transformative Power of Kindness" and the Co-Founder of the Bold Beauty Project. Dr. Ritvo received her undergraduate and medical degrees from UCLA and psychiatry residency training at Weill Cornell Medicine.

#### **CATALYTIC CONVERTER, from page 4**

Angeles in 2022, according to a recent Los Angeles Times story. Statistics for Beverly Hills were not immediately available.

Having a VIN etched onto the catalytic converter enables law enforcement to trace and identify the stolen part and can ultimately help with prosecution. If a VIN is displayed on a catalytic converter, it indicates to the auto part's potential buyer that it's been stolen.

For those who've been fortunate enough not to have been a victim of the crime, BHPD's event provided basic information about how and why it takes place. Most catalytic converter thefts, Newman explained, occur at night when a car's engine has likely been off for some time; otherwise, it will be too hot for the thieves to steal the part.

The device, which is used to control emissions, is mandatory for all vehicles with gas-powered engines. It is often targeted because of its external location and because it's made of precious metals, including platinum, which can be sold for up to \$1,000 per ounce.

Using a portable saw, a thief can steal a "cat" in minutes.

"You've heard of 'Gone in 60 Seconds?" Newman said, referring to the Hollywood action film. "With catalytic converters, it's gone in about two minutes."

Vehicles commonly targeted for their catalytic converters include the Toyota Prius, Toyota Sequoia and Honda CR-V. Of course, electric vehicles don't have the device.

By 11:15 a.m. on the day of the event, several cars lined up on Civic Center Drive, with the drivers waiting to provide their VIN to Newman. After the driver gave the number, he or she was asked to exit their car so that it could be loaded on the rear of a tow truck. The vehicle's bottom was lifted in the air, allowing a crew member to slide underneath to laser the VIN onto the converter.

The entire process took just a few minutes.

Those who turned out included Sami Sharone, a resident of the community for more than four decades. Sharone, who works in advertising, had his VIN etched into his Toyota Tacoma.

"I think it's a great event for the community and a terrific service they're doing," Sharone told the Courier. "I decided to come and take advantage of that service."

Another resident, who declined to be identified, came with his Audi. His wife, who is involved with the city's neighborhood watch program, alerted him to the program.

This was the first time BHPD held an "etching" event. The police department organized the program in partnership with the Taskforce for Regional Auto Theft Prevention (TRAP), a state-funded, multi-agency group created to promote a coordinated effort and encourage cooperation between law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies in LA County regarding auto theft.

For those who couldn't be in attendance,

BHPD plans to hold similar events in the

And for DIYers, a high-temperature spray

paint like the one used during the program can be purchased for cheap at any auto parts store, Newman said.

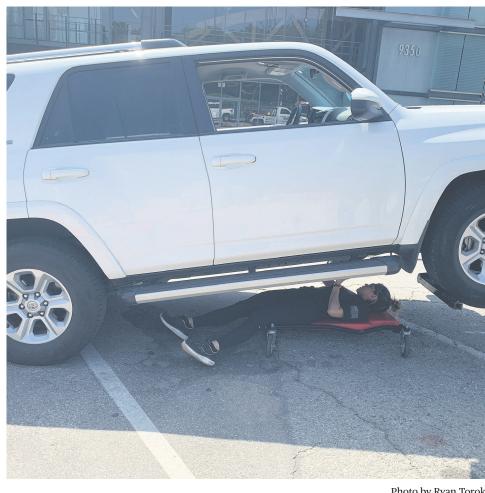
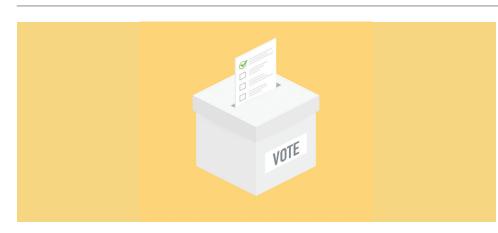


Photo by Ryan Torok

A BHPD officer on a mechanics creeper etches a VIN into a catalytic converter.



#### **HOW TO VOTE, from page 1**

city. These locations are City Hall (next to Kelly's Coffee and Fudge) 455 N. Rexford Drive or Roxbury Park Community Center, at 471 S. Roxbury Drive.

In the alternative, an in-person Vote Center is located at the Beverly Hills City Hall Municipal Gallery. The Vote Center is open through Election Day. Hours of operation are from 10 a.m.- 7 p.m, from now

through May 22. On Election Day, May 23, the Center will be open from 7 a.m.- 8 p.m.

A free subscription service called "Where's My Ballot" will automatically notify voters of the status of their ballot, including when it is mailed, received and counted. To sign up for the service, visit https://california.ballottrax.net/voter/.

The Courier will provide election updates as they become available next week. •

#### PRESS CLUB, from page 1

Queen." She was also nominated in the category "Feature: Business/Government" for "Nicholas Bijan: The Prince of Beverly Hills," the cover story of the Summer 2022 STYLE Magazine.

The Courier's Executive Editor Ana Figueroa is a finalist in the category "Criticism of Art/Architecture/Design" for a feature that resonated with the significant Beverly Hills membership of Wilshire Boulevard Temple. That feature, "The New Audrey Irmas Pavilion Illuminates Wilshire Boulevard Temple," was published in the Courier's April 8, 2022 issue.

And Courier Contributing Editor Linda Immediato is a finalist in the "Feature: Music/Arts" category for "The Vibrant World of Nicholas Kontaxis," which appeared in the Summer 2022 STYLE Magazine.

Winners of the 65th Annual Southern California Journalism Awards will be announced on June 25 at a gala ceremony at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel in downtown Los Angeles.

As set forth in the May 12 issue of the Courier, the Courier last week garnered five awards from the California News Publishers Association.



#### **CONSTRUCTION UPDATE**

Construction for the Wilshire/Rodeo Station continues along Wilshire Bl between Rodeo Dr and Carson Rd. Work includes permanent power utility installation, station construction and ground improvement.

- > Cross passage work is on weekdays 8am-11pm
- > K-rail closures in place 24/7
- > Utility work is weekdays from 8:15pm-7am and weekends 8am-8pm
- > Station construction is 24 hours a day, seven days a week



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#### SCULPTURE, from page 4

condition that staff return with more information on the value and historical appreciation of other works by Chicago, per a request by Mirisch.

The sculpture in question is a 5-foot-4-inch-high, 10-foot-6-inch-wide piece called "Trinity" that consists of three differently-sized stainless-steel triangles. Chicago and commissioners propose installing it on the City Hall lawn at the corner of Crescent Drive and S. Santa Monica Boulevard.

The sculpture will cost \$400,000 to purchase, with an additional \$150,000 budgeted for the fabrication of a concrete base, transportation of the sculpture, inspections, permits, installation, and lighting. The piece was selected in part due to a desire by the Arts and Culture Commission to highlight more female artists within the city's public art collection.

Councilmember Lili Bosse said she was a big fan of the piece, but also acknowledged that its simplicity might not appeal to everyone.

However, she noted that some of the most famous and avant-garde artists received similar criticisms of simplicity, pointing to Jackson Pollak with his splattered dots and Andy Warhol with his Campbell Soup cans as examples.

"I also want to say in general there is no right or wrong to art," said Bosse. "Art is generally a conversation. People can look at a piece of art and love it or hate it and that's part of the wonderful element of art."

This argument didn't do enough to sway Mirisch's skepticism over the value of the work.

"It's true that some people love a piece or don't love a piece, but if we're going to spend over half a million, I really would prefer that all of us do love it rather than just spark a conversation," he said.

"I've also spoken with other people who are reputable art collectors... who did not necessarily think that this would be the best thing that we could get for the money," added Mirisch, as he voiced a desire to look into the comparative prices of works from other female artists.

Ultimately, he found himself in the minority as commissioners and councilmembers lauded the proposed acquisition and prominence of Chicago.

"Judy Chicago has made groundbreaking contributions to the art world paving the way for greater representation and recognition of female artists over the past six decades," said Art and Culture Commissioner Deborah Frank. "The acquisition of 'Trinity' as an addition to the world-renowned Beverly Hills fine art collection sends a powerful message about the importance of female voices and perspectives in the art world."

Chicago is indeed an accomplished artist with a long and prosperous career.

Her work is featured in the British Museum, Tate Modern in London, Whitney Museum in New York, LACMA, MOCA, the Hammer Museum, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and the Art Institute of Chicago.

Trinity is part of three similar sculptures in an exclusive collection by Chicago. The first one is owned by a private collector while the second is currently on display at the Whitney.

Vice Mayor Lester Friedman said he felt it was important to recognize the expertise of the commissioners who were appointed due to their significant knowledge and experience in the art world and selected this piece after months of research and deliberation.

"I'm one that really believes wholeheartedly in the commission system that we have within the city," he said. "I don't have any experience in estimating the value of art and I put a lot of stock in their [commissioners'] opinions.

In Tuesday's study session councilmembers also discussed plans for this winter's holiday lights and decorations as well as proposed new rules around outdoor dining.

Council was generally supportive of the holiday decor plan which consists of a vast array of lights, projections, signs and decorations across the city, while some members voiced a desire to examine ways to make the decor more cost effective in future years.

Similarly, councilmembers were largely on board with the proposed changes to outdoor dining rules, which were spurred by the uptick in restaurants' use of outdoor space during the pandemic. The rules set new design regulations and fee structures for patio dining and 'parklets,' which are dining spaces that overflow into parking spaces.

Staff will return before the full City Council in the coming weeks with a drafted ordinance on these new outdoor dining rules. •



Photo courtesy city of Beverly Hills Rendering of the sculpture from another angle

COMMUNITY

## Celebrating "Pacific Chill"



Photo courtesy Louis Vuitton

Attendees enjoying a breathwork session

A private home in Malibu provided the backdrop for the May 17 launch event for Pacific Chill, the newest addition to the Louis Vuitton Cologne Perfumes collection. The event featured a presentation from Louis Vuitton Master Perfumer Jaques Cavallier and California artist Alex Israel. Fittingly for a fragrance inspired by the sensory experiences of the West Coast, it also featured a number of immersive activities, including soundbaths and guided yogic breathwork sessions.

## City Forming New Ad Hoc Committee

The city of Beverly Hills is seeking committee members interested in joining Mayor Dr. Julian Gold's new Electrical Resilience Ad Hoc Committee. The Committee will explore ways the city might become more energy self-reliant in the future. "Today, we are dependent on an aging infrastructure that is less reliable than we need. As a result, we are subject to an unacceptable number of failures of the system," said Gold. "The goal of this Committee is to investigate technology, which will allow us to be more electrically independent in

the future and avoid these failures." The Committee will be overseen by both the City Manager's Office as well as the Public Works Department and will consist of two Councilmembers and three at-large volunteer members. Applicants must be Beverly Hills residents and appointments will be for an initial two-year term. Applications are open until June 2 at 5 p.m. and can be obtained by visiting <a href="mailto:beverlyhills.org/applyforacommission">beverlyhills.org/applyforacommission</a> or by calling the City Clerk's office at 310-285- 2400.

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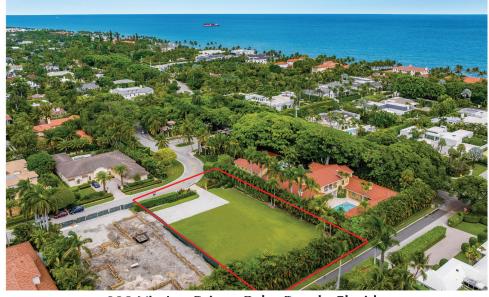
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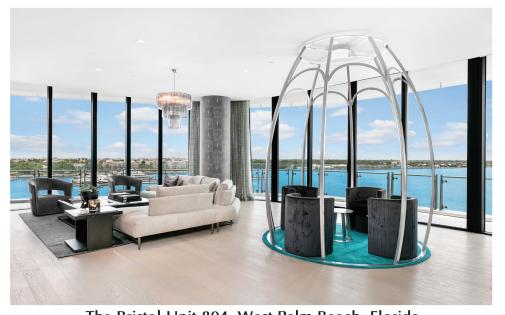


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## **Birthdays**



TIFFANY DAVIS May 20



BIANCA HEYWARD May 20



PAUL OVERACKER May 20



NAOMI URMAN May 20



MARIANNE BERMAN May 21



ROBERT BALAGUER May 22



JUSTIN COOK May 23

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## Astrology

BY HOLIDAY MATIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You can't help how you feel, but managing those feelings is a skill you're determined to master. It will make you powerful. Anything you can understand in yourself, you can understand in others.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). If you can't articulate what a thing means, that doesn't make it any less meaningful; it only indicates that you may need more time. You will have a strong feeling and a connection to a physical item and be unsure why.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Your specialty this year is finding emotionally rewarding work that feels more like fun and adventure. It's almost not fair you get to be paid

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Fear is nothing but an idea crying out for recognition. To acknowledge fear and confront it directly is to lessen its power over you. Take a moment to listen to and examine your fear. Say "I understand your concern and will take it into consideration."

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You have something to express and the more people you reach, the better you'll feel. Someone with a remarkable life force is coming into your world. This one has the potential to sweep you off your feet.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll have fun building your network — a very productive way to use your time, even though it looks, from the outside, like a lot of fun. The more people you know, the more access you have to the world.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Culture's impact on an individual is like water to the fish; a given that is only noticeable when it changes significantly or disappears. You'll slip into a state of objectivity and inquiry to better understand the invisible forces shaping your experience.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Today features your talent for assessing people accurately. Your intuition never fails you and you have a keen sense of who you can trust. You are quick to feel negative vibes and avoid them like the plague.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You are a force to be reckoned with and your impact is not limited to verbal communication. At times your stillness speaks volumes, leaving those around you in awe of your powerful presence.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). To organize yourself around pleasing and performing for others might bring short-term benefit but is emotionally unsustainable in the long term. The more pretense you can drop, the more energy you'll

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your unique perspective will be embraced by people with different views who recognize the soundness of your logic and respect the intelligence behind your process.

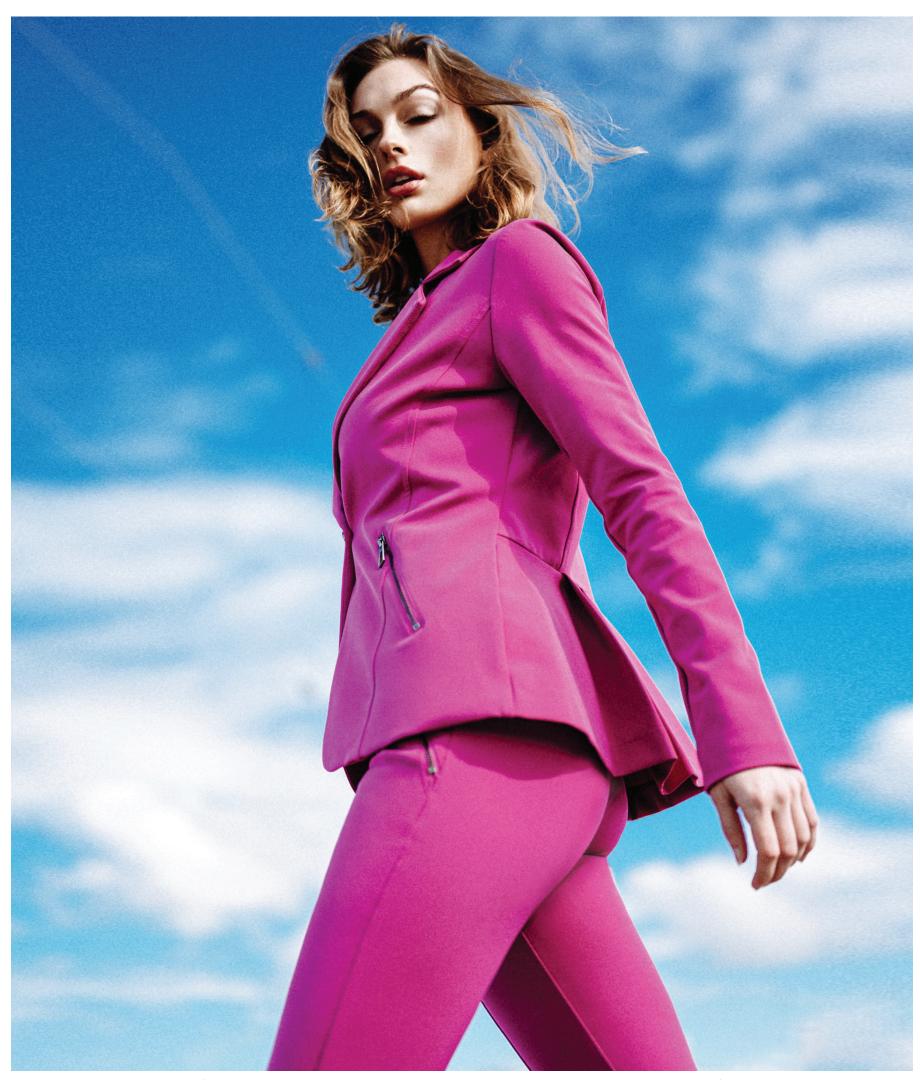
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Try not to let peer pressure sway you. Your gut feeling about things will be accurate, so you'll do well to make decisions independently, regardless of what others think.



This week's featured eligible dog for adoption is Pamela. She is a 2-year-old, 7-pound terrier mix. If you can give her a new home, please contact Shelter of Hope at 805-379-3538.

shelterhopepetshop.org

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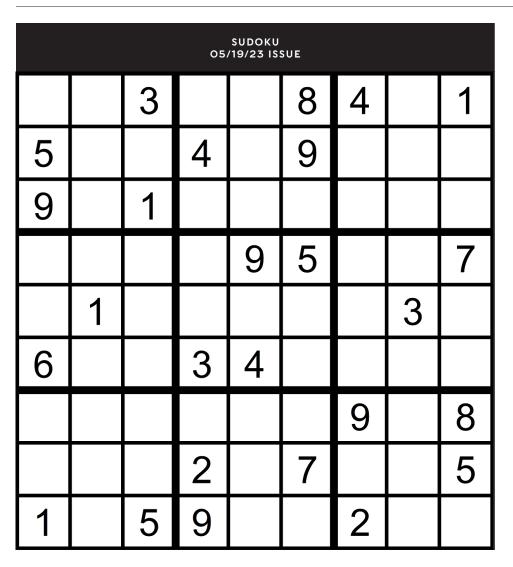




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## **Fun & Games**



SUDOKU ANSWERS O5/12/23 ISSUE									
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#### THE NEW YORK TIMES SUNDAY MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE **05/19/23 ISSUE**

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87

119

125

128

#### **SEA CHANGE** BY WILL NEDIGER / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Will Nediger is a professional crossword constructor from London, Ontario, This is his 47th puzzle for The Times since 2006. He likes puzzles that violate standard crossword rules and conventions, as a way of making solvers think about the reasons behind those rules. This puzzle's subject is a philosophical conundrum that, in case you're interested, is explained in more detail on Wikipedia. - W.S.

#### ACROSS

- 1 Large dog breed
- 8 U.K. movie award
- 18 Unit equivalent to **4.184** joules
- 19 Awards for ad
- campaigns
- 20 Thawing
- 22 Thought experiment that asks whether an object remains the same object if its parts are replaced one by one
- 24 Person living between
- Liberia and Ghana 25 Participate in a pledge drive
- **26** The false killer whale
- resembles it 27 Italian nickname
- 28 Canada's House of Commons has 338 of them, in brief
- 29 "Nothing but net!" 31 Place to run some
- 33 Acorn-loving duo

tests

- 36 Hither and \_\_\_\_
- 37 Run into the ground
- 40 Actress Ullmann
- 41 Home of Grace Hopper College
- 42 The artist François Boucher said that it was "too green and badly lit'

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

- century myth about an emperor's reappearance)
- 13 Card-table declaration 46 Use crayons
  - 48 Restaurant pick-up
  - option? 51 Hong Kong action hero who frequently
  - collaborated with John Woo
  - **56** Oily sauce funny
  - **59** Family nickname
  - **60** "The way I see it ...."
  - 61 Métro area?
  - **64** Comedian Margaret
  - 66 Hebrew for "head" 68 Chef/food writer Samin
  - 70 Brinks
  - 71 Ostentatious behavior
  - 74 Selection of appetizers 126 City that hosts in Greek and Turkish restaurants
  - **75** Prestige 77 "Buona (Italian greeting)
  - 78 Human, e.g.
  - **79** Augurs 80 Drumm
  - 81 Jersey call
  - 83 Singer Amos
  - 85 Award-winning sci-fi author Bacigalupi 87 Dramatic action-
  - movie effect 90 Pail for feeding pigs
  - 95 Invited over
  - \_ Pet
  - 98 Available for rental, to Brits 99 Stylish
  - 101 Mo. for Canadian Thanksgiving

- Redivivus (first- 103 Alertly responsive
  - 106 Accomplished
  - 107 Loafers, e.g.
  - 111 County between London and the
  - a finger or a tail
  - 114 King, in Portuguese
  - a palindromic name
  - 119 Emily Dickinson's hometown
  - object remains the same object
  - if its parts are replaced one by one 125 Legally void status
  - an annual Pirate Festival
  - Ninety-Nines, an organization for

  - 130 "Obviously not, ya goof!"
    - DOWN
  - 1 Rap battle participants 2 "That feels good!"
  - 4 Literary theme, from the Greek
  - 6 World Cup org.

- (to)
- 110 One-pip card
- North Sea 113 Movement for
- 115 Flour variety with
- 117 Bone at the base of the spine
- 121 Thought experiment that asks whether an
- 127 First president of the
- female pilots 128 Secretly surveil
  - 47 Prevaricating
- 3 Donned, as a silky
- **5** Steam trains, in the 19th century
- 7 In fine

- 8 Abbr. in ancient dates
- 10 More intense
- 12 Attack 13 Gloater's words
- 14 Part of b.p.s.
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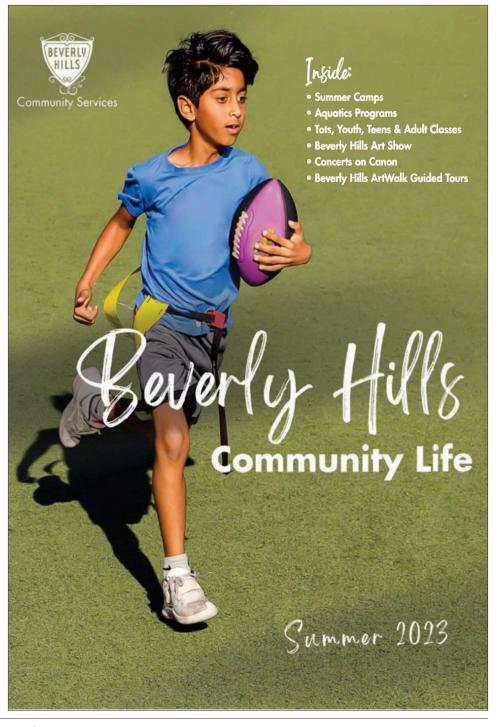




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## **Public Notices**

T.S. No.: 20-3698 Notice of Trustee' Sale Loan No.: \*5855 APN: 5531-007-006 You Are In Default Under A Deed Of Trust Dated 11/2/2017. Unless You Take Action To Protect Your Property, It May Be Sold At A Public Sale. If You Need An Explanation Of The Nature Of The Proceeding Against You, You Should Contact A Lawyer. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. Trustor: Cross County Holdings Partnership, A CA General Partnership Duly Appointed Trustee: Default Services, LLC

No. 20171293047 in book --, page of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Los Angeles County, California, Date of Sale: 4/25/2023 at 11:00 AM Place of Sale: behind fountain located in the Civic Center Plaza, 400 Civic Center Plaza, Pomona Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$2,884,988.50 Street Address or other common designation of real property: 1130 North Poinsettia Place West Hollywood, CA 90046 A.P.N.: 5531-007-006 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. Notice To Potential Bidders: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction. you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which

may charge you a fee for this

Recorded 11/9/2017 as Instrument

information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. All checks payable to Prestige Default Services, LLC. Notice To Property Owner: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (877) 440-4460 or visit this Internet Web site https://mkconsultantsinc.com/trustees-sales/, using the file number assigned to this case 20-3698. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. Notice To Tenant: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (877) 440-4460, or visit this internet website https://mkconsultantsinc.com/trustees-sales/, using the file number assigned to this case 20-3698 to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. Date: 3/23/2023 Prestige Default Services, LLC 1920 Old Tustin Ave. Santa Ana, California 92705 Questions: 949-427-2010 Sale Line: (877) 440-4460 Tina Suihkonen, Vice President

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE Trustee Sale No. 22-00267-2FNT Loan No: \*\*\*140 (Beverly Hills) APN 4331-011-041 NOTE: THERE IS A SUMMARY OF THE INFORMATION IN THIS DOCUMENT ATTACHED (The above statement is made pursuant to CA Civil Code Section 2923.3(d) (1). The Summary will not be recorded pursuant to CA Civil Code Section2923.3(a). It will be mailed to the Trustor(s) and/or vested owner(s) only, pursuant to CA Civil Code Section2923.3(d) (2).) YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED APRIL 3, 2019. 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 PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On May 19, 2023, at 11:00 AM, by the fountain located at 400 Civic Center Plaza, Pomona, CA 91766, FIDELITY NATIONAL TITLE COMPANY, as the duly appointed Trustee (the "Trustee"), under and pursuant to the power of sale contained in that certain Deed of Trust recorded on April 15, 2019, as Instrument No. 20190328498 of official records in the office of the Recorder of Los Angeles County, CA, executed by: Lida Haghany Ebrahimian, Successor Trustee of the Manouchehr and Lida Ebrahimian Family Trust dated August 09, 2001, as Trustor (the "Trustor"), in favor of Pacific City Bank, as Beneficiary, and any modifications thereto are collectively referred to herein from time to time as the "Deed of Trust", WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER, in lawful money of the United States, all payable at the time of sale, that certain property situated in said County, California describing the land therein as: A CONDOMINIUM COMPRISED OF: PARCEL NO. 1: THAT PORTION OF LOT 1 OF TRACT NO. 35708, IN THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AS PER MAP RECORDED IN BOOK 944 PAGES 66 AND 67 OF MAPS, IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER OF SAID COUNTY. SHOWN AND DEFINED AS UNIT 101 OF THE CONDOMINIUM PLAN, RECORDED OCTOBER 3, 1980 AS INSTRUMENT NO. 1980-972284, OF OFFICIAL RECORDS OF SAID COUNTY. PARCEL NO. 2: AN UNDIVIDED % INTEREST IN AND TO THAT PORTION OF LOT 1, OF SAID TRACT NO. 35708, SHOWN AND DEFINED AS "COMMON AREA" ON SAID CONDOMINIUM PLAN. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the Property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the Property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the Property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this Property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources. you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the Property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date

cable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this Property, you may call 1.866.684.2727 or visit this Internet Website www. servicelinkasap.com, using the file number assigned to this case 22-00267-2FNT. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call 1.866.684.2727, or visit this internet website www. servicelinkasap.com, using the file number assigned to this case 22-00267-2FNT to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. The real Property heretofore described is being sold "as is". The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real Property described above is purported to be: 324 South Elm Drive #101, Beverly Hills, CA The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining unpaid balance of the obligations secured by and pursuant to the power of sale contained in that certain Deed of Trust (together with any modifications thereto). The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligations 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 Trustee's Sale is estimated to be \$3,729,377.58 (Estimated), provided, however, prepayment premiums, accrued interest and advances will increase this figure prior to sale. Beneficiary's bid at said sale may include all or part of said amount. In addition to cash, the Trustee will accept a cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the California Financial Code and authorized to do business in California, or other such funds as may be acceptable

Trustee may withhold the issuance of the Trustee's Deed Upon Sale until funds become available to the payee or endorsee as a matter of right. The Property offered for sale excludes all funds held on account by the Property receiver, if applicable. DATE: April 25, 2023 FIDELITY NATIONAL TITLE COMPANY, TRUSTEE 22-00267-2FNT 5170 Golden Foothill Parkway, Suite 130 El Dorado Hills, CA 95762 916-636-0114 Sara Berens, Authorized Signor SALE INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED ON LINE AT www. servicelinkasap.com AUTOMATED SALES INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 1.866.684.2727 A-4782414

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CASE NO: 23SMCP00234 ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

FOR CHANGE OF NAME In the Matter of the petition of: Isaac Anthony Benarroch To all interested person(s): Petitioner:

Isaac Anthony Benarroch current residence address:
130 N. Hamilton Drive,
Beverly Hills, CA 90211 filed a petition with the Superior Court of California,
County of Los Angeles,
1725 Main St. Santa
Monica, 90401. Santa
Monica Courthouse, on
April 28, 2023 for a

Decree changing names as follows:

Present Name: Isaac Anthony Benarroch Proposed Name: ISAAC BENARROCH

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: June 23, 2023
Time: 8:30 AM
Department: K
The address of the court is:
1725 Main Street, Santa
Monica, CA 90401

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

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

Signed: Isaac Anthony Benarroch

Judge of the Superior Court: Lawrence H. Cho Clerk: David W. Slayton Deputy: C. Coleman Dated: April 28, 2023 Published: 05/05/23, 05/12/23, 05/19/23, 05/26/23 BHC-R27298

has been postponed, and, if appli-

to the trustee. In the event tender

other than cash is accepted, the

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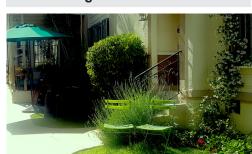


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