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THE WEATHER, BEVERLY HILLS CA

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|-------------|-----------|
| ☁ Friday | 62° 53° |
| ☔ Saturday | 58° 52° |
| ☔ Sunday | 59° 56° |
| ☔ Monday | 60° 53° |
| ☔ Tuesday | 66° 50° |
| ☔ Wednesday | 65° 50° |
| ☔ Thursday | 68° 52° |

Thousands Rally for Release of Hostages in Beverly Hills

BY ANA FIGUEROA



Photo by Lisa Friedman Bloch

Thousands gathered at Beverly Garden Park on Jan. 14



Photo by Orly Halevy

Families of the hostages made pleas for their release at the rally.

Rallies took place across the globe this past weekend, marking the brutal milestone of 100 days since the Hamas terrorist attack in Israel. In Beverly Hills, a crowd estimated at more than 2,000 gathered at Beverly Gardens Park on Jan. 14, to demand the release of the 132 hostages still held captive by Hamas. Organized by the group Bring Them Home Now U.S., and supported by a coalition of local organizations, the event included impassioned speeches by several hostage family members. Additional speakers included Roz Rothstein, founder

See RALLY, page 10

City Council Candidates Outline Vision for Beverly Hills at Chamber Forum

BY JOEY WALDINGER

For the first time this election season, all 10 candidates in the Beverly Hills City Council race made their case during the Jan. 11 forum hosted by the Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce.

As pockets of the city struggle with underdevelopment, residents prepare for the Metro Purple (D) Line Extension and antisemitic incidents exacerbate concerns about crime, the candidates said it was time to craft a new vision for the future of Beverly Hills.

“We’re certainly interested in what people’s viewpoints are and how to grow the city and not stay stagnant,” Chamber President and CEO Todd Johnson said. “We want to

continue to think outside the box and bring the types of businesses and attractions ... that make our city the luxury capital of the world.”

The Chamber has held similar forums for at least a decade, and Johnson said they play a pivotal role in helping business stakeholders understand how the candidates will support their priorities. Johnson stressed that the Chamber is not a political organization, and the questions focused on business concerns including public safety and economic development. (The Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce Leadership PAC will likely make an endorsement, however.)

The forum was split into two panels of

See CANDIDATE FORUM, page 10

Council Approves Expansion of City Clerk's Office

BY CLARA HARTER

The Beverly Hills City Clerk's office will expand its staff from five full-time positions to eight-and-a-half positions in order to help the department grapple with its increasingly large workload.

Recent changes to public records law, technology and election procedures have expanded the responsibilities of the Clerk's Office. The City Council hopes that the additional positions will help the department meet the challenges of the moment.

Council approved the addition of three full-time positions and one part-time position in a four-to-one vote during a Jan. 11 Study Session meeting. Councilmember John Mirisch cast the sole dissenting vote, arguing that the investment was too large.

“It just feels to me like going from five to eight point five (positions), that's just too much, it's a bridge too far,” he said. “I would support phasing it (the additional staff) in.”

The new positions will cost \$577,000 in the 2024 to 2025 fiscal year to \$157,400 for the remainder of this fiscal year. In addition, Council approved a one-time appropriation of \$120,000 for temporary help fulfilling public records requests.

The recommendation for the See STUDY SESSION, page 10

BHPD Appoints New Public Information Officer

BY CLARA HARTER

The Beverly Hills Police Department has announced that Lieutenant Andrew Myers has been appointed as its new Executive Officer and Public Information Officer.

In this important position, he will oversee communications with the media, presentations to city commissions, community relations, disaster communication, public records requests and school resource officers.

“It's exceptionally challenging, extremely busy, and something to stretch your capacity See NEW PIO, page 11

Courier Calendar

NOW - JAN. 21

LACMA: “WOVEN HISTORIES: TEXTILES AND MODERN ABSTRACTION”

MON.-TUES., THURS. 11 A.M.-6 P.M.

FRI. 11 A.M.-8 P.M.

SAT.-SUN. 10 A.M.-7 P.M.

LACMA presents “Woven Histories: Textiles and Modern Abstraction,” which foregrounds a robust if over-looked strand in art history’s modernist narratives by tracing how, when and why abstract art intersected with woven textiles (and such pre-loom technologies as basketry, knotting and netting) over the past century. Although at times unevenly weighted, the diverse exchanges, alignments, affiliations and affinities that have brought these art forms into dialogue constitute an ongoing if intermittent narrative in which one art repeatedly impacts and even redefines the other. In short, the relationship between abstract art and woven textiles can best be described as co-constitutive and their histories as interdependent. With over 150 works by an international and transhistorical roster of artists, this exhibition reveals how shifting relations among abstract art, fashion, design and craft-shaped recurrent aesthetic, cultural and socio-political forces, as they, in turn, were impacted by modernist art forms. Tickets to LACMA are free for those 17 years old and younger and for L.A. County residents after 3 p.m. on Mon.-Fri. Otherwise, adults are \$20 and seniors/students with ID are \$16. LACMA is located at 5905 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles. lacma.org

NOW - JAN. 25

EL CAPITAN THEATRE: “THE SIMPSONS MOVIE”

10 A.M., 1 P.M., 4 P.M., 7 P.M.

The El Capitan Theatre and 20th Century Studios presents showings of “The Simpsons Movie.” In the film, the combination of Homer, his new pet pig, and a leaky silo full of excrement triggers a disaster that threatens not just Springfield but the entire world. An angry mob descends on the Simpson home, splitting the family. With Earth’s fate in the balance, Homer sets out on a quest for redemption in order to save the world and earn Marge’s forgiveness. On Jan. 19, a special fan screening will be held at 7 p.m. Each attendee will receive popcorn, a beverage and an event credential. Tickets for the special fan screening are \$22. Standard tickets are \$12 for guests of all ages. The El Capitan Theatre is located at 6838 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles. elcapitantheatre.com

NOW - FEB. 3

THEATRE 40: “THE MANOR”

THURS.-FRI. 6 P.M.

Theatre 40 presents an immersive drama based on true events about a scandal, murder and suicide presented 96 years later in the building where the events actually happened. The show is written by Kathrine Bates, directed by Martin Thompson and produced by Theatre 40. The production is hosted at the Greystone Mansion, 905 Loma Vista Drive, Beverly Hills. theatre40.org

NOW - FEB. 18

GEFFEN PLAYHOUSE:

“POTUS OR, BEHIND EVERY GREAT DUMBASS ARE SEVEN WOMEN TRYING TO KEEP HIM ALIVE”

WED.-SAT. 8 P.M.

SAT. 3 P.M.

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

The Geffen Playhouse presents the Los Angeles premiere of “POTUS or, Behind Every Great Dumbass Are Seven Women Trying to Keep Him Alive.” The play is written by Selina Fillinger and directed by Jennifer Chambers. This production features a derogatory comment, a summit gone awry, an anal abscess— a bad day at the White House. When the President unwittingly spins a PR nightmare into a global crisis, it inevitably falls on the seven women he relies on most to clean up the mess. The production is a raucous romp through the halls of the West Wing in a riotous and irreverent farce about the men who hold the power versus the women who get the job done. Tickets range from \$45 to \$139. The show is approximately 110 minutes with one intermission. The Geffen Playhouse is located at 10886 Le Conte Ave., Los Angeles. geffenplayhouse.com

JAN. 20

HAMMER MUSEUM:

“GOOD EVENING”: ALFRED HITCHCOCK ON TELEVISION

7:30 P.M.

The UCLA Film and Television Archive presents, as part of the screening series “Archive Television Treasures,” “Good Evening”: Alfred Hitchcock

on Television. A seminal figure in cinema history, master of suspense Alfred Hitchcock enjoyed a prolific secondary career as a producer, director and instantly recognizable host on television. Hitchcock’s cathode-ray tube experience ultimately left a lasting imprint on his motion picture legacy with the maestro expertly deploying his “Alfred Hitchcock Presents” TV crew (and the show’s Universal backlot) to make his landmark low-budget feature, “Psycho.” This exploration of Alfred Hitchcock’s television career as director and host features episodes of “Suspicion,” “Alfred Hitchcock Presents” and “Alfred Hitchcock Hour” with contributions from Roald Dahl, Steve McQueen, Peter Lorre and more. It is free to attend this screening session. The Hammer is located at 10899 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles. ucla.hammer.edu

JAN. 21

ODYSSEY THEATRE:

“THRESHOLDS OF INVENTION: THE BOY WHO SAW TRUE”

2 P.M.

Odyssey Theatre Ensemble’s “Thresholds of Invention” series of first looks at pieces-in-progress celebrates its first anniversary with “The Boy Who Saw True,” adapted from the paranormal classic by performer and professional storyteller Harry Hart-Browne. Browne brings to life a wondrous story of clairvoyance as recorded in the diary of a precocious boy in Victorian England – as well as the boy’s frustration at not being able to communicate his visions to those who couldn’t see the auras and spirits he could. The show takes the audience on a journey from the ridiculous to the exalted as Harry becomes “the boy” before our very eyes. The Odyssey Theatre is located at 2055 S. Sepulveda Blvd., Los Angeles. Tickets are \$25 and there is free parking at the on-site parking lot. odysseytheatre.com

JAN. 24 - 25

BEVERLY HILLS HIGH SCHOOL ADVANCED DANCE THEATRE GROUP: ANNUAL DANCE CONCERT

7 P.M.

The Beverly Hills High School Dance Company performs their annual dance concert at The Wallis, featuring choreography by Artistic Director Dana Findley, guest choreographers Sam Allen, Kim Borgaro, Victoria George and Neaz Kohani. Also featured are nine student choreographers: Lian Ben David, Bradi Harrison, Sapir Hoffman, Edden Mizrahi, Elliana Mizrahi, Ellah Nahum, Debbie Nosrati, Bradyn Prisant and Haley Scholer. Tickets are \$12 or \$22 and can be purchased online. bhhs.bhusd.org/dance



Photo by Jeff Lorch

Lauren Blumenfeld, Shannon Cochran and Alexandra Billings in “POTUS: Or, Behind Every Great Dumbass Are Seven Women Trying to Keep Him Alive” at the Geffen Playhouse until Feb. 18



9463 Sunset Boulevard, Beverly Hills | Just Listed | Offered at \$28,900,000



2 Oak Knoll Terrace, Pasadena | Just Listed | Offered at \$36,500,000



513 North Bedford Drive, Beverly Hills | Last offered at \$15,395,000



710 N Beverly Drive, Beverly Hills | Just Listed | Offered at \$10,995,000



455 Castle Place, Beverly Hills | Just Listed | Offered at \$12,995,000



10665 Somma Way, Bel Air | Last offered at \$7,450,000



10663 Chalon Road, Bel Air | Last offered at \$12,995,000



1240 Loma Vista Drive, Beverly Hills | Last offered at \$8,995,000



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Brewing Strong Community at Coffee With a Cop



Photos by Joey Waldinger

At Coffee with a Cop, Beverly Hills Police Department officers learn more about community concerns and strengthen ties with the people they serve.

BY JOEY WALDINGER

During the first Coffee with a Cop of 2024, activity spilled over the sidewalk and onto the street as residents and Beverly Hills Police Department officers mingled over hot drinks

and fresh pastries.

The BHPD takes pride in its close ties with residents, and for Chief Mark Stainbrook, the Jan. 18 event at Café Sheera felt like catching up with old friends.

See COFFEE WITH A COP, page 11

City Council Greenlights New Assistant Fire Chief Positions

BY ERIC LICAS

The Beverly Hills City Council unanimously sided with Fire Department management over the union representing firefighters on Jan. 11 in a dispute regarding the creation of Assistant Fire Chief positions and the process of recruiting people into leadership.

Creating the positions allows two largely administrative roles previously shared between battalion chiefs on a rotating basis—Fire Marshal and Training Officer—to become permanent assignments. The move was opposed by the Beverly Hills Firefighters’ Association (BHFA), which argued that adding assistant chiefs to the agency’s hierarchy could make it harder for current BHFA members to move up in the department.

“There are no fiscal implications,” Peter Brown, labor negotiator for the city of Beverly Hills, said during the meeting. “The salary for the administrative battalion chief is the same salary we’d be paying the assistant fire chief. It’s not about saving money. It’s about expertise that the fire chief indicated he wants for his department.”

The Fire Marshal is responsible for fire code enforcement or fire investigations and the Training Officer is tasked with ensuring staff are prepared with the most up-to-date firefighting and rescue techniques. Both positions are essential to public safety but have been difficult to staff because most firefighters prefer to work in the field responding to calls, Fire Chief Greg Barton told the City Council during their regular meeting last week. He added that the people who have filled in in the past have always been “force hires,” rather than volunteers.

Adding the Assistant Chief positions falls squarely within Barton’s authority as head of the department. However, doing so transfers work done by union firefighters to new positions within the BHFA, and so the Beverly Hills Firefighters Association was brought in last July to negotiate the specifics of the change.

The union’s leadership fought the change partly because fire captains previously had the opportunity to cover shifts for battalion chiefs, a practice known as filling position

See CITY COUNCIL, page 13

10,000 UNEXPECTED GUESTS HEADING TO BEVERLY HILLS

CA’S DEPT. OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY (HCD) HAS MANDATED THAT BEVERLY HILLS BUILD 3,000 APARTMENT UNITS, 1,500 OF WHICH ARE AFFORDABLE UNITS.

MY PROPOSAL

THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS, WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF INVESTORS, INCLUDING GOVERNMENT GRANTS & LOANS, RENT THESE

AFFORDABLE UNITS TO BEVERLY HILLS

SENIORS,

SINGLE PARENTS

AND BHHS GRADUATES

AND THE REMAINING UNITS TO OTHERS.

THE BUILDING CAN BE LOCATED AT THE

SOUTH PART OF BHHS,

(NEXT TO THE METRO STATION)

VOTE



HAMID OMRANI

FOR BEVERLY HILLS
CITY COUNCIL 2024

WEBSITE: votehamidomrani.com

E-MAIL: votehamidomrani@gmail.com

TEL.: (310) 560-6161

PAID FOR BY VOTE HAMID OMRANI FOR BEVERLY HILLS CITY COUNCIL 2024 | FPPC #1465150

Davis and Persovski Hold Campaign Kickoffs

City Council candidates Tiffany Davis and Sharon Persovski held their official kickoff events in Beverly Hills on Jan. 14. Davis greeted supporters at Cafe Amici while Persovski held her event at the Parakeet Cafe.



Tiffany Davis



Sharon Persovski and son Andrew Rudgendorf

To learn more or for questions, visit [BEVERLYHILLS.ORG/OFFICEHOURS](https://www.beverlyhills.org/officehours)



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Join the Mayor for a special conversation about what you like and what you don't like about Beverly Hills!

Municipal Gallery | City Hall
455 N Rexford Dr.
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

Can't make it? Join virtually!
[BEVERLYHILLS.ORG/MYCOMMUNITY](https://www.beverlyhills.org/mycommunity)
CALL-IN NUMBER: (310) 285-1020

In-Person Event

Celebrating the Return of Awards Season



Photo by Frazer Harrison/Getty Images for BAFTA

Leonardo DiCaprio attends the BAFTA Tea Party.

BY CAROLE DIXON

Over the past three-day holiday weekend, Hollywood enthusiastically caught up on awards season and all the accompanying celebrations they generate. The Critic's Choice Awards took place at the Barker Hanger in Santa Monica on Jan. 14, followed by the 75th Emmy Awards at the Peacock Theatre in downtown Los Angeles on Jan. 15, which was postponed from the fall of 2023 due to the WGA and SAG strikes.

On Jan. 12, TCM celebrated its 30th anniversary at The Four Seasons Los Angeles at Beverly Hills. The crowd of heavy hitters included Steven Spielberg, Paul Thomas Anderson, Warner Bros. Motion Picture Group executives Pam Abdy, Mike DeLuca, and David Zaslav, along with TCM Hosts Jacqueline Stewart, Ben Mankiewicz, Alicia Malone, Eddie Muller, and Dave Karger.

On the same night, the cast of "Succession" met for a dinner at Spago in Beverly Hills to celebrate the previous weekend's Golden Globes wins and to gear up for the festivities ahead. Emmy-winner Sarah Snook was signing autographs outside of the restaurant for eager fans.

On Saturday morning, actress Ariana DeBose hosted a brunch at the Mandarin Oriental Residences in Beverly Hills to celebrate Eva Longoria's directorial debut for Hulu's "Flamin' Hot" and her Casa Del Sol tequila. Guests included Jessica Alba, Julianne Hough, Diane Warren, Wilmer Valderrama and Henry R. Muñoz. Longoria, Warren, and Hough were also spotted immediately afterwards at the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) Tea Party at The Maybourne Beverly Hills. See AWARDS SEASON, page 13



Photo by David Jon Photography
Arian Moayed and Kieran Culkin at HBO MAX Emmy After-Party



Photo by Presley Ann, Getty Images for Mandarin Oriental Residences Beverly Hills
Ariana DeBose, Eva Longoria and Jessica Alba



Photo by John Shearer/Getty Images for Critics Choice Association
Sarah Snook and Carey Mulligan at the 29th Annual Critics Choice Awards



Photo by Alberto E. Rodriguez/Getty Images for BAFTA Association
Rosamund Pike attends the BAFTA Tea Party.



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What to Watch This Winter



Photo courtesy of Apple TV+

Brie Larson in “Lessons in Chemistry”

BY NEELY SWANSON

“Lessons in Chemistry” – Very Good Chemistry

Class, before we begin with chemistry there is an important lesson to be learned about adapting bestsellers. “Lessons in Chemistry” was my favorite, not one of my favorites, but my favorite book of 2022, a year of many terrific reads. My feelings were mixed when I read that it was going to be made into a TV series. Why mixed? I come from a TV and film background where books are optioned and adapted and sometimes even made. The sad but true proviso is that a book, once optioned for production, enters the realm of the adapter. He or she may then do whatever they choose to with said material. In some cases, the only thing remaining is the title. The buyer now owns the rights and can pick and choose whatever they want from the book’s substance, if anything. The moral of this story is to limit your expectations on the translation of your favorite books to the screen.

That being said, “Lessons in Chemistry” is enjoyable on its own. Yes, a lot of the original concept is still present, but there are new storylines and a number of characters have changed, some for better, some for worse. The villains transcend any gray areas into full black regalia. The good guys (and gals) are dressed in impeccable whites.

Elizabeth Zott (a pitch-perfect Brie Larson) is a brilliant and beautiful young chemist who was forced to leave her Ph.D. program under circumstances not of her own making. We are dropped into the stereotypic 1950s, an era when women were less than welcome in the workforce and certainly not in professional positions. Even female doctors and lawyers were expected to take a backseat to their male colleagues. But Elizabeth doesn’t have that doctorate so the best job she can find is as a lab tech at Hastings Laboratories. Treated with disdain, despite the fact that she often corrects the work of some of her ostensible superiors, she remains aloof from the politics and the pressure to hide her light under a lab bench. She knows who she is and will not allow the condescension of others to disrupt her life. Enter Calvin Evans, the star chemist at the laboratories, often mentioned in the same breath as the term “Nobel Prize.” Calvin (an endearing Lewis Pullman), considered an oddball by his colleagues, is strongly attracted to the intellectual attributes of Elizabeth. Their eccentricities dovetail nicely and their collaboration is both professional and personal.

Calvin lives in the West Adams district of Los Angeles, home to a large, but upscale, Black population. He is very close to his neighbors the Sloanes. Harriet Sloane (Naomi King) and her children are keeping

the home fires burning while Dr. Sloane is finishing his military tour. Harriet is very active in local politics, trying to save her neighborhood from the “urban renewal” the City Council is proposing. They would like the new 10 Freeway to bisect the Adams district, and in the process destroy the homes in its wake. The choice of this area is not by accident or even expedience; it’s because it is Black. Along the way, as Elizabeth becomes more connected to Calvin, she also becomes connected to his neighbors, supporting their fight.

There are heartbreaks to overcome and mysteries to be solved, both chemical and familial, as Elizabeth is shoved on a new path toward a career in public television, a brainy Julia Child so to speak, and family dramas to resolve. Telling any more would spoil some of the fun of discovering this series as something unto itself. As an adaptation of a favorite book it is disappointing; as a new series with remnants of the Elizabeth of the book and new characters, it’s a success. My advice? Enter the world of “Lessons in Chemistry” without expectations and enjoy the ride for the interesting story it is on its own. Oh...and read the book. It’s a pleasure not to be missed.

Now streaming on Apple TV+.

“Slow Horses” –**Braised to Perfection**
“Slow Horses,” now in its third season,

is based on the MI5 (British CIA) series of books by novelist Mick Herron, none of which I’ve read. The scene was set in season one, based on “Slow Horses,” part of his series about Slough House where dead duck agents are sent to languish forever in a purgatory from which there is no escape. Led by Jackson Lamb (a spectacular Gary Oldman), a misanthropic screw-up without apparent redeeming value, this less-than-intrepid group is offered crumbs from MI5 Security boss, Diana Taverner (Kirstin Scott Thomas wearing her disdain like a Chanel suit). These crumbs, however, are usually attached to the toxic realization that there is no likely solution and that embarrassment and failure are sent to them on a daily basis to prevent the actual agency from the taint of likely disaster.

You can almost smell the slovenly Lamb before he enters a scene. His stained trench coat could stand on its own without a hanger; his hair, so stringy and matted, makes you wonder if it’s ever been washed. Although Lamb is seemingly content with his exile, the other members would love a chance to return to the main office. Each of their so-called catastrophes may or may not have been fairly attributed to them, but forgiveness is a Sisyphean task.

Season 3, even better than the previous two, can be watched as a stand-alone. Based on Herron’s book “Real Tigers,” it



Photo by Des Willie, courtesy of Disney

Gemma Arterton in “Culprits”

ramps up the action and stakes considerably. A consistent rhythm has been found and the characters have grown appreciably. Complicating matters considerably is Lady Ingrid (the always intriguing Sophie Okonedo), Diana’s much-resented boss at MI5. The tension between the two is palpable and Ingrid will stop at nothing to move the dial even more in her favor. Working closely with corrupt State’s minister Peter Judd (an effectively slimy Samuel West), Ingrid is transparent in her hunger for higher office and need to undermine Diana’s department.

River Cartwright (Jack Lowden in a star turn), an agent who was originally set up for failure by his counterpart at MI5, the appropriately named ‘Spider’ Webb (Freddie Fox), is still haunted by the missteps that brought him to Slough House. Used again, and I am unable to divulge the plot for obvious reasons, he must find a way to dig himself out of his newest hole, one that might make his relationship with Diana even worse. Jonathan Pryce makes an appearance as River’s grandfather, retired MI5 nobility declining into the early stages of dementia.

Lamb, always the skeptic, finds himself actually caring about an outcome and agrees to ally himself with Diana, if only because he despises Peter Judd, and he prefers the enemy he knows, Diana, to the one he suspects is far worse, Ingrid.

As a little tweak to a plot I am reluctant to divulge, Sean Donovan (Sope Dirisu) is on a mission to avenge the death of his

girlfriend, an MI5 agent killed by MI5 in Turkey. Collateral damage in his revenge is the stalwart Catherine Standish (Saskia Reeves who deserves better screen credit), a self-exiled member of Slough House.

The characters are there, the plot is complex and believable enough, and this third season, watchable as a stand-alone, is positively delicious.

Now streaming on Apple TV+.

“Culprits” –Aren’t We All

This very stylish heist thriller travels back and forth in time from the inception of the caper to its consequences. The stakes are immediately evident as the first episode zooms in on a man begging for his life, crawling toward the Ferrari in the driveway of his Italian estate. Asked by the masked killer for the location of Dianne Harewood, he’s shot point blank when he can’t answer. The who, what, where and why will unfold slowly, intricately and intriguingly in eight episodes.

Dianne, as we will come to learn, has planned her own version of the heist of the century and put together her dream team to execute it. Like Tarantino’s “Reservoir Dogs,” each member shall be known only by the name Dianne (aka Brain) bestows upon them representing their respective roles in the gambit—Fixer, Right Hand, Soldier, Officer, Muscle and Driver. It is Driver we see murdered; others will meet the same fate for the same reason.

The robbery is successful; the money each receives is the stuff dreams are made



Photo courtesy of Apple TV+

Gary Oldman in “Slow Horses”

of. Each member of the team scatters in the wind, but it is on Muscle that the series focuses its laser beam.

Muscle, aka Joe Petrus, was the hired gun of a prominent London gangster. When an arranged “meet” is just a setup for a hostile takeover, Joe successfully dispatches the enemy and they both walk away. It was this derring-do that brought him to Dianne’s attention. But it is not “Muscle” or even Joe Petrus that we come to know; it is Joe Patrus, American, living an idyllic life in Washington State with his partner Jules and Jules’ two children. Joe, a stay-at-home dad, dotes on those kids and will sacrifice anything to keep them safe. But even small-town life in the Pacific Northwest holds its dangers for him, always with a racist undercurrent. All he wants is to settle into domestic tranquility so he will endeavor to fly under the radar as much as possible. Easier said than done. Life in the suburbs brings its own version of hell.

Soon the masked gunman will come for him and endanger everything he has built,

including his family. There was more to the robbery than he, or any of the others, was aware of and it will be up to him to untangle this labyrinth of cause and effect to save Jules and the two kids. It will lead him back to London and the surviving team. He will be beaten, kidnapped, and placed in untenable situations by both the villain of the piece and Dianne.

Gemma Arterton as Dianne is stunning. Her sang froid is admirable and she makes even the unbelievable aspects of her character work. Eddie Izzard is the secret weapon as a villain embodying the banality of evil, when he’s not sanctioning torture.

But most importantly, Nathan Stewart-Jarrett is Muscle and the Joes. Handsome, electric, sympathetic, believable, it’s impossible not to concentrate on him. He plays the contradictions inherent in good and evil and he does it almost simultaneously. If he’s not already a major star, he should be. I ate this show up.

Now Streaming on Hulu. ●



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.



Photo by Lisa Friedman Bloch

Forum moderators Mirharooni (left) and Bonbright

CANDIDATE FORUM, from page 1

five candidates, each of whom gave opening statements before fielding questions from the Board Chair David Mirharooni and Board member Chris Bonbright.

The first panel included Mary Wells, Nooshin Meshkaty, Craig Corman, Tiffany Davis and Alissa Roston, while the second panel included Myra Demeter, Russell Stuart, Sharon Persovski, Hamid Omrani and Robin Rowe.

Mirharooni and Bonbright asked candidates about their views on crime and proposed public safety initiatives, their plans to improve the city's business climate and their sources of campaign funding. Candidates were also asked whether they would support a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas and to explain their positions on the Cheval Blanc project and their general thoughts on the city's planning process.

With a collegial atmosphere, the candidates largely agreed on the city's most pressing issues and shared the same priorities, with improving public safety and certifying the housing element at the top of the list.

Corman said the city's prior attempts to certify the housing element had relied solely on adding mixed-use development in commercial zones, but this strategy is not a cure-all. Failing to certify the housing element has left the city vulnerable to builder's remedy projects, which allow developers to bypass most zoning regulations in the city, he added.

In addition to submitting an adequate housing element, it was vital that the city fight builders remedy projects in court, Corman said.

"This is an existential crisis," Corman said. "We have to get ahold of it, and we have to solve it now."

Roston added that housing is a regional issue, and many cities across Southern California have also failed to certify their housing elements. To help meet the state's requirements, Roston suggested developing affordable and market-rate housing on city-owned land in the industrial section and building a new mixed-use building at the current Metro staging yard on the corner of Gale Drive and Wilshire Boulevard.

While all candidates vowed to tamp down on crime and bolster public safety, there was some disagreement about the best

strategies for doing so and the role that private security officers should play. Davis said that private security officers should have a more visible presence throughout the city, while Stuart said hiring more police and expanding their budget is the only effective crime deterrent.

Though the entire field acknowledged the city's limited influence on the policies of Los Angeles District Attorney George Gascón, they said increasing the number of patrol officers and hiring a city prosecutor could make a local difference.

The question of public safety has become newly urgent following the Oct. 7 terror attacks on Israel and the subsequent spike in antisemitic incidents, and there was unanimous agreement about the need to protect Jewish residents and institutions.

"Our city is under attack," Demeter said. "I feel I am doing what I can, and I would like everybody else here to use their voice or to do what they can to fight antisemitism."

Though the panelists were unanimous in supporting Israel's fight until Hamas had been eliminated, some mentioned they would also support increased aid to civilians in Gaza. Each panelist declined to support a resolution in favor of a ceasefire.

Such a resolution "would ignore the hostages that are in the captivity of Hamas," Meshkaty said. "I will not be for passing a resolution ... while we have not responded to what we are doing with the hostages in captivity."

Reflecting on the Cheval Blanc project, each candidate said that they had voted in favor of the project, though many acknowledged it revealed longstanding flaws in the city's planning process and highlighted the need for increased community engagement.

"I think we have a disconnect, fundamentally, with communication to the community," Davis said. "Many residents feel things are hidden; things are kept quiet on purpose ... so that council doesn't need to hear from them."

The candidates agreed that the city's planning process also needs to be tweaked, with a specific emphasis on streamlining and making it easier for new projects to get approved, and Wells advocated for a committee to review the general plan.

The candidates also spoke about the need to expand mixed-use development, and there was broad consensus that building

mixed-use projects near the new Metro station and other parts of the city could revitalize overlooked neighborhoods.

They also agreed the city should diversify its dining and entertainment options to attract new businesses that bring a younger, wider clientele.

"We need to focus on bringing in immersive businesses, experiential businesses ... that are new to our city," Meshkaty said.

Johnson was pleased with the forum's turnout, as approximately 85 people attended in person and approximately 45 attended on Zoom, though the broadcast

was not recorded due to technical difficulties, he said.

As election season ramps up, the Chamber and its associated political action committee will continue to hold events that help business stakeholders feel confident when filling out their ballot, Johnson added.

Additional organizations are expected to hold candidate forums in the upcoming weeks as well. As of press time, confirmed dates include Feb. 1 for the Southwest Beverly Hills Homeowners Association forum at City Hall. ●

STUDY SESSION, from page 1

department's reorganization came from consultants Baker Tilly, who analyzed the department's workload and staffing model as well as that of peer cities such as Santa Monica, West Hollywood, Culver City and Torrance. The study's authors note that the City Clerk's Office in Beverly Hills has almost three fewer positions than the average found in these peer cities.

The consultants also identified several reasons the department's workload has increased in recent years and is likely to continue growing.

The institution of a majority vote-by-mail election system during the pandemic made elections shift from a day-long event to a month-long responsibility for the Clerk's Office.

In addition, the California Public Records Act recently broadened the definition of records to include media held on private devices, CCTV camera feed, audio records including voicemails, and documents held by consultants and contractors. This requires the department to manage an increased number of records.

The workload created by public records requests will increase even more if voters pass a new ballot measure in November, which is aimed at decreasing the window to fulfill a request to 30 days.

"I think we need to get ahead of it (hiring), because others (cities) are going to be searching for the type of personnel that we are looking for right now, especially if the proposition passes and my guess is it is going to pass," said Vice Mayor Lester Friedman.

"I think we will be saving money on outside resources that are temporary help, so I

believe it is an appropriate expenditure to make," he added, referring to the fact that the city currently contracts with external vendors for assistance processing records requests.

The consultants also noted that the City Clerk's Office needs to revamp its digital records management system to centralize documents that are currently stored across various departments.

"Our review suggests the departments have not devoted sufficient staff and resources to managing their records," states the report. "As a result, the city's collection or database of records is growing increasingly unwieldy, and this makes it difficult and more time consuming when researching important records or when compiling records related to a public records request or subpoena."

The goal of the additional positions will also be to free up staff to work on upgrading the city's use of technology for storing and retrieving records.

Councilmember John Mirisch did not think the additional positions were the best way to adapt to changes in the department's responsibilities. Instead of hiring more people to handle new technology, he advised looking into how new technology can be leveraged to decrease the workload of staff.

"I'm sure there is developing software, even AI, that is going to help us sift through 30,000 emails," he said. "Take the approach to fighting crime using technology as a force multiplier, I'm absolutely in favor of doing that to allow us to be more efficient when it comes to public records requests." ●

RALLY, from page 1

and CEO of StandWithUS, Rick Hirschhaut, Director of the American Jewish Committee L.A. and Iranian human rights actress and activist Lily Moo. State Sen. Ben Allen and Beverly Hills Mayor Dr. Julian Gold also addressed the crowd. Attendees waved Israeli and American flags, flew yellow balloons, and chanted "Bring them home now," to passing cars. At one point, the crowd unfurled a 100-foot-long Israeli flag.

"It was a great showing of all the organizations, and everyone worked together,"

Noa Zahavi, co-founder of Bring Them Home Now U.S. told the Courier.

She especially lauded the strong showing of support from Beverly Hills. "It's a beautiful community. People are calling and asking how they can help. They are donating their time, their homes, others donate money," said Zahavi. She added, "After 103 days, all the families are demanding a deal for the release of their loved ones now." ●

COFFEE WITH A COP, from page 4

“It’s kind of the first time during the year [when] we get to bond with the community and see them and see how their holidays were,” Stainbrook said. “It’s just a nice thing to do ... to catch up to all our supporters and friends.”

Albert Myles, a former professional basketball player who now works in executive development, said he attended the event simply because he enjoys the sense of community the BHPD fosters.

“I’ve always been a big fan of what they do,” Myles said. “They find great people. They attract very positive people with the skills to be great officers.”

After being founded by the Hawthorne Police Department in 2011, Coffee with a Cop has grown into a national movement fostering closer ties between police officers and the communities they serve. But while many cities across the county hold the event once a year, the BHPD organizes the gathering once a quarter, Community Relations Unit Sgt. Jeffrey Newman said.

“That way we can see our public, our community, and get the pulse of what people are feeling, the issues that they might have, or simply just to meet a police officer from their community,” Newman said. “We know there’s sometimes a stigma around a uniform, and we want to break that and show people that we’re normal human beings who are here to help.”

Newman added that Coffee with a Cop is also an important opportunity to educate the public about the department’s many initiatives.

Drone pilots and motor officers were on site to address concerns about privacy and traffic safety, while officers from the Mental Health Evaluation Team spoke to residents about how they assist the city’s transient population and other individuals in crisis.

“We try to bring a collection of resources so that if anyone has some sort of concern outside of the usual, ... we can try to address those with a smile on our face,” Newman said.

According to Stainbrook, residents’ main public safety concerns include criminals coming in from other jurisdictions, and the BHPD has embraced technology to reduce criminal activity infiltrating the city.

Coffee with a Cop helps educate the public about how the Real Time Watch Center and other technology including cameras, automated license plate readers and drones keep them safe, Newman added.

“When you combine all those together, we’re either catching people, deterring people, or even if they do commit a crime and leave the area, we have so much evidence gathered ... [officers can] easily go out and catch those people outside of our jurisdiction,” he said.

The BHPD has gained wide recognition for its technological embrace, and while the public shows strong support for its efforts, there is greater awareness of how state and county laws have limited the BHPD’s effectiveness, Stainbrook said.

“People are coming to realize that the police can only do so much without the help of our district attorney’s office or state legislators who put in place common sense laws that keep violent, repetitive criminals in jail,” Stainbrook said.

But despite external constraints, the department is still looking for ways to improve, Stainbrook said.

Though he declined to provide specifics, Stainbrook said that in 2024, the department is planning to implement “really exciting technology that will get the citizens more opportunity to interact with the police department and be a partner in fighting crime and ensuring public safety.” ●



Lieutenant Andrew Myers

NEW PIO, from page 1

and understanding of the many different facets that make up the city and keep this agency one of the top departments in California, if not the nation,” Myers told the Courier, describing his new role.

Despite the weight of his responsibilities, Myers and the rest of the department believes he is up to the challenge.

During his stellar 22-year tenure in the department, Myers has worked as a patrol officer, field training officer, undercover crime suppression officer and SWAT team member. Most recently, he was the Administrative Services Lieutenant and

managed recruitment, hiring, training and special projects.

Myers launched the BHPD Instagram page in 2015 and grew its following by over 40,000 users in five years.

“I think it offers a unique perspective of behind the scenes of what we do here,” said Myers. “Social media shows that we are on the ground, that we are part of the community, and the community is part of us.”

Myers originally hails from a small town in Michigan that he jokes has “more cows than people.” He began his career in the U.S. Navy and served two tours aboard an aircraft carrier during the First Gulf War.

He was in charge of weapons assembly and inventory, which required keeping track of thousands of pieces including bombs, missiles, fuses and firearms. This is where he honed some of his core competencies of attention to detail, multitasking and organization—skills that he believes will be essential to success in his new role.

After finishing his service, Myers served three years in the Los Angeles Sheriff’s Department before joining the BHPD in 2002.

“It’s an honor and a privilege to serve the residents and community of Beverly Hills,” he said. “And it’s a great story to tell people of how I got from a small town to a premiere agency.” ●



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Astrology

BY HOLIDAY MATIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You're not trying to be tricky, but you also don't feel the need to give people everything they want. You're mysterious. You reserve some things just for you. And what you leave out makes people lean in with their imaginations and heart.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It may seem harmless to check who is wearing what, living where or dating whom, but this is a day when it's best to keep your eyes on your own page. Avoiding comparison allows you to flow all of your energy to the aims and purposes you hold dear.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Since much that contributes to your mood is out of your control, it's so important to take charge of the elements within your influence. You'll make things simple, lovely and well-lit. You'll go where the emotional sunshine is beaming.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Without realizing it, you pose a challenge to someone who will not give up trying to reach and win you. It will take them a while, considering you're a question without an answer, a mystery that will continue to elude, a ride with no conclusion.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Those who've achieved greatness can't always teach it. Seek a mentor with both experience and teaching ability. If you can't find it in the same person, get two mentors, one who teaches well and one who's lived the route.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your worldview is completely different from your neighbor's, which you'll get a rare window into today. It's an honor to be let into the world of another, if only for a short time. You'll go back to your own view with more wisdom and insight.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). We don't choose our feelings so there's no use in judging ourselves for having them. You'll acknowledge a feeling without acting on it. You'll accept what comes up and defuse the charge of an emotion, rendering it more manageable.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Harness the power of silence. Embrace the intervals between actions, thoughts and words - those are the moments where enchantment unfolds. Your comfort in silence honors the symphony of life.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). As you do what it takes to get your work audience-ready, it's normal to wonder how you'll be received. Work through doubt. Anticipate different responses. But let nothing keep you from forward movement.

There are opportunities around the bend!
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You'll do far more than was asked of you and not everyone will appreciate this, but you can ignore the ones who don't. If everyone only did what was asked of them, modern life would not exist, as the world was built by people going beyond the call.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). When you understand a thing, your mind will file it, remember it or forget it. But when you don't understand a thing, your brain will

continue to turn the concepts, attempting to solve the puzzle. This is the magnetic power of mystery at work.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You'll marvel at talents that emerged naturally in you as you applied yourself to the work at hand. You'll keep moving forward, growing as you make new attempts without assumptions around what you are capable of, since it's usually much more than you would think.



This week, meet Ellis. She is a 4-month-old, 6-pound Jack Russell terrier mix and needs a new home. If interested in Ellis, please contact Shelter of Hope at 805-379-3538.

shelterhopepetshop.org

AWARDS SEASON, from page 6

The BAFTA Tea Party celebrates talent, contenders, and members in the run-up to the EE BAFTA Film Awards in London on Feb. 18. The garden terrace of The Maybourne was filled with red roses, tea sandwiches, flowing Champagne, and plenty of star power from Leonardo DiCaprio, Emily Blunt, Julianne Moore, Carey Mulligan, Rosamund Pike, Mark Ruffalo, Willem Dafoe, America Ferrera, Fantasia Barrino, Greta Gerwig, Cillian Murphy and Paul Giamatti. Other television nominees,

Critic's Choice and Emmy award-winners enjoying the festivities included Brian Cox, Ayo Edebiri, Elizabeth Debicki, Maria Bello and Quinta Brunson.

First-time attendee, comedian and actor Seth Rogen mingled and posed for selfies with fans. "The flower arrangements are incredible and the Brits dress very nicely," he told the Courier. "It's impeccable and, I will never turn down the invitation to somewhere that has little sandwiches, because I'm not crazy," he quipped.

At the same time, the official Giving

Suite at the 75th Emmy Awards Performer Nominee Celebration was taking place at the JW Marriot at L.A. Live downtown. The suite, by Karen Wood and her company Backstage Creations, offered presenters and nominees a selection of luxury goods, and also raised funds for the Television Academy Foundation. Attendees Angela Bassett, Geena Davis, Lorraine Bracco, Niecy Nash, Danny DeVito, Rhea Perlman and Kelsey Grammer all showed support, along with top vendors Lush Africa Safaris, MORITEK Beauty, Purdori Skincare, Yaamava' Resort

& Casino at San Manuel and more.

To cap off the three-day weekend in style, HBO | Max held a post-Emmy reception at San Vicente Bungalows in West Hollywood. Emmy-award-winning cast members of "Succession," "The White Lotus," and "Last Week Tonight," among others, noshed on Caviar Kaspia cones, Italian sandwiches by All'Antico and creative Jell-O Shots by Solid Wiggles. Many guests hit the dance floor late into the night with beats by DJ Este Haim and DJ Mike Taylor. ●



Photos by John Shearer/Getty Images for Critics Choice Association
Jodie Foster, Ali Wong and Charles Melton attend the 29th Annual Critics Choice Awards.



Photo by Willy SanjuanInvision for The Television Academy/AP Images
Emmy host Anthony Anderson and his mother Doris Hancox at the official Emmy Giving Suite

COMMUNITY

Visionary Women Hosts Women in Design Event



Visionary Women hosted a sold out "Women in Design" event at the Hammer Museum on Jan. 16 featuring Monique Lhuillier and Irene Neuwirth. Pictured at the event are Visionary Women Board Members (back from left): Shelley Reid, Malea Farsai-Zafari, Holly Baril, Chloe Makhani, Nina Kotick, Hon. Lili Bosse, Jennifer Bond, Nadine Watt, Lani Fauvre, Angella Nazarian
Front: Irene Neuwirth, Lhuillier and Jennifer Smith

Helping Hand for Project Angel Food



On Jan. 14, Rotarians Wanda Presburger, Joanie Garratt and Yvonne Zhu were joined at Project Angel Food by 10 Beverly Hills High School Interactors under Joanie Garratt's leadership. Together, the group prepared 1,500 meals for the medically home-bound recipients. Project Angel Food delivers 3,000 meals daily, six days a week. The BHHS Interactors are planning to participate in another such project on Feb. 11.

NEWS

CITY COUNCIL, from page 4

out of class (FPOC). That allowed them to gain valuable on-the-job training in a higher position. But now, Assistant Fire Chiefs would be first in line to step into those roles instead.

"If we don't have our normal hiring sequence, those opportunities are going to go away," BHFD Captain and recently elected Firefighters' Association Vice President Bruno Palmieri said. "These folks who are typically in an office are going to want that opportunity to work that overtime and they're going to take it when they can, and we see that as a threat."

Palmieri went on to suggest that the department was not providing enough resources and training for current Beverly Hills firefighters to move up the ranks. He added that union leadership believed BHFD and city officials had always intended to fill the assistant chief positions with outside hires.

Brown and Barton denied those claims, the latter noting at least one leadership class had been held for department employees and more were planned for the future. In addition, firefighters can be reimbursed for enrolling in job-relevant training.

And although the Fire Chief intended to keep the hiring process for Assistant Chiefs open to both inside and outside candidates, current members of the department would be given extra consideration for seniority, and benefit from their working knowledge of the city and its systems.

Representatives for the city and the union met four times before Beverly Hills issued a last, best and final offer on the matter on Sept. 18. The Firefighters' Association declined, resulting in the appointment of a neutral factfinder who heard both sides on Nov. 27 and then issued a suggested resolution.

Both parties agreed with most of the recommendations of the factfinder. However, union officials took issue with how the new positions would interfere with the practice of FPOC and rejected the deal.

As a result, the matter was sent to the City Council, which was given the choice of either implementing the terms of the last and best offer issued by their negotiator, or to send both parties back to the negotiating table.

Council members made a point to express gratitude for both the day-to-day work of the city's firefighters as well as the sincerity with which they presented their arguments during the bargaining process. However, they agreed with Barton's decision to create fixed positions for the Fire Marshal and Training Officer. They also found that it would be better to keep the hiring process open to both inside and outside candidates to ensure the absolute best person for the job is selected.

"There should be promotional opportunities," Councilmember John Mirisch said. "I think we've heard from both chiefs that they agree with that. "But I just think, from an organizational standpoint, one, we always want to have the best person; competition is good. As much as we want to create a family feeling, we don't want nepotism either."

Aside from weighing in on the dispute between the BHFD and the Firefighters' Association, council members also approved a 5.5% bonus for officers assigned to the Beverly Hills Police Department's Mental Health Evaluation Team. The specialized detail of officers was formed in 2022, and pairs police with a clinical social worker to conduct outreach to people experiencing mental health issues, including homeless people. ●

Fun and Games

SUDOKU AND PUZZLE ANSWERS FOR 01/12/24 ISSUE on page 16

SUDOKU
01/19/24 ISSUE

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DIVISIONAL ROUND NFL Schedule & Odds

SATURDAY, JAN 20
AFC DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS

HOUSTON TEXANS
vs.
BALTIMORE RAVENS
1:30 PM ABC/ESPN (BAL -9)

SUNDAY, JAN 21
NFC DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS

TAMPA BAY BUCANEERS
vs.
DETROIT LIONS
12:00 PM NBC (DET -6)

SATURDAY, JAN 20
NFC DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS

GREEN BAY PACKERS
vs.
SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS
5:15 PM FOX (SF -9 1/2)

SUNDAY, JAN 21
AFC DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS
vs.
BUFFALO BILLS
3:30 PM CBS (BUF -3)

Divisional Playoffs Spread by: Danny Sheridan

*Check your local listings for games schedules. All times PST.

THE NEW YORK TIMES SUNDAY MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE
01/19/24 ISSUE

GIMME A SECOND!

BY MICHAEL SCHLOSSBERG / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Michael Schlossberg is an internist in Bend, Ore., who has been making crosswords for The Times since 2020. He got the idea for this one after seeing 68-Across as a title at his local bookstore. Although themeless puzzles are Mike's favorites to solve, he says he doesn't construct them "because I get decision paralysis — they're too much of a blank canvas. I need to have a theme set to build around." — W.S.

ACROSS

- 1 "Old man"
- 5 "Yikes!"
- 9 Childproof-bottle contents, for short
- 13 Purchase at a cannabis dispensary
- 19 "Sounds 'bout right to me"
- 21 False ____
- 22 Fine parchment
- 23 It might be pressed before work
- 24 It might be pressed before work
- 26 Post concerned with etiquette
- 27 "Capeesh?"
- 28 Up-and-down, as a relationship
- 29 Internet harvesting tool
- 34 "On Photography" author Susan
- 36 1918-2004 Fenway Park phenomenon, familiarly
- 38 Nothing-doing?
- 42 They're home to spinners
- 46 They're home to spinners
- 50 Luxury fashion label
- 51 1990s workout fad
- 52 "The Racer's Edge" sloganeer
- 53 Says, informally

- 54 Bay Area gallery, for short
- 59 Late winter/early spring, weatherwise
- 63 "____ and the Night Visitors" (opera)
- 65 Fragrant bloomers
- 67 Animal that becomes a plant if spelled backward
- 68 Bandleader's urging ...
- 74 New ____
- 75 Guides
- 76 Athleisure portmanteau
- 78 Certain beach top
- 83 Snooty
- 85 Many a Yemeni
- 86 Piece de resistance?
- 87 Tourney round
- 89 Some goofs
- 91 One sailing through long passages
- 95 One sailing through long passages
- 99 Ready and waiting
- 100 Gadgets for truckers
- 102 Porterhouse alternatives
- 106 Inspiration for many a lottery pick
- 111 Shame, e.g.
- 114 The yoke's on them
- 116 Chuck ____, TV director/producer who's known as the King of Sitcoms
- 117 Target of many a viral marketing campaign

- 119 Target of many a viral marketing campaign
- 123 Lead role in 1978's "La Cage aux Folles"
- 124 Kind of terrier
- 125 Exclamation after a rescue
- 126 Warm coat
- 127 Dash
- 128 Measurable impact, so to speak
- 129 Bad news for an investor

DOWN

- 1 Spoke (up)
- 2 Petrichor, n.: The pleasant ____ of rainfall on dry soil
- 3 Bird also known as a lapwing
- 4 150-mile-per-hour train
- 5 Dawn figure, in myth
- 6 Bovid named for the sound it makes
- 7 "____ was saying ..."
- 8 Part of an ellipsis
- 9 Skinflints
- 10 Novelist Ferber
- 11 Subject of a subway announcement
- 12 Remedy for a blink-and-you-missed-it moment
- 13 First lady?
- 14 Start of a classic request for advice
- 15 Bad reasoning
- 16 Rap's ____ Chyna
- 17 Hang in the shadows
- 18 TV award
- 20 Actress Ritter of "Jessica Jones"
- 25 Serene, informally
- 27 For the lady
- 30 Country singer Stapleton
- 31 Remote-button abbr.
- 32 Hotshot
- 33 Place for a porter
- 35 Clip-on, for one
- 37 Superfund grp.
- 39 Bit of slander
- 40 Titan who gave birth on Delos
- 41 Disney subsidiary
- 42 Story that isn't a quick read
- 43 BOGO, e.g.
- 44 Words after a verbal gaffe
- 45 Accessory for a ride-share vehicle
- 47 ____ cycle
- 48 "Aladdin" sidekick
- 49 Amazing woman, slangily
- 51 "Agricola" author
- 55 Petal pusher?
- 56 Peace, in Russian
- 57 Stadium cheer
- 58 Big mouths
- 60 "Told you so!"
- 61 Ursine : bears :: anguilliform : ____
- 62 Dakota tribe
- 64 Staying power
- 66 Part of a process
- 69 "I've seen better"
- 70 Cool, back in the day
- 71 "Good" day: Abbr.

- 72 Santa-tracking org.
- 73 Really annoy, with "on"
- 77 Lift type
- 78 Just ... all right
- 79 Info in a party invitation
- 80 Apple variety
- 81 Stephen of "Michael Collins"
- 82 "Eww! Enough!"
- 84 Bittern, e.g.
- 88 Bimonthly business magazine
- 90 Election-night news
- 92 Plant that may be mistaken for a dandelion
- 93 Landlocked province
- 94 Grp. once led by Arafat
- 95 Kind of lily
- 96 Hoover, for one, in brief
- 97 "No idea," in a text
- 98 Like Ikea furniture assembly, for short
- 101 Sports jacket
- 103 "As if!"
- 104 Live and breathe
- 105 Feed
- 107 Storybook ending?
- 108 "Nice job!"
- 109 People of western New York
- 110 Sunders
- 111 Tourist mecca in southern Asia
- 112 "Never ____ Kissed" (1999 Drew Barrymore film)
- 113 Part of A.D.
- 115 Singer with the album "Watermark"
- 118 Hunky-dory
- 119 Email-chain abbr.
- 120 Min Jin ____, author of the 2017 best seller "Pachinko"
- 121 You can dispense with this
- 122 Complete collection

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

The Marketplace

BY MICHAEL J. LIBOW



Beverly Hills



JUST SOLD

801 N. Camden Drive **\$12,995,000**
1st time avail in 51 yrs. Immac grand 2sty Deco-era Spanish estate. Massive 26,500SF crnr lot. 5BD 5.5BA Sep fam and sun rms. Hi clngs. Pl/lawns/patio/GH.

Brentwood Circle



NEW PRICING | BY APPOINTMENT

101 N. Woodburn Drive **\$7,450,000 or \$30,000/mo**
Fab updated 2sty Trad charmer. 5BD 5.5BA Sep den, sun room, family room. Wood floors. French doors. Pool/spa/patios/lawns. Huge flat lot. Guard-gated.

Beverly Hills



JUST SOLD

512 N. Elm Drive **\$6,499,000**
Represented Buyer. Charming 1sty 4BD 3BA Tradit. Den. Sunlit rms. Immaculate condition. Large yrd with pl. Endless possibilities. Best quiet 500 block.

Beverly Hills



JUST SOLD OVER ASKING

503 N. Alta Drive **\$6,495,000**
1st time for sale in 56 yrs. Total charm. Classic 2sty 1937 Trad. 4Bd + mds. Fam rm. Wd flrs. Perfect flr plan. Updated kitch. Huge deep yard. Lawns/patios.

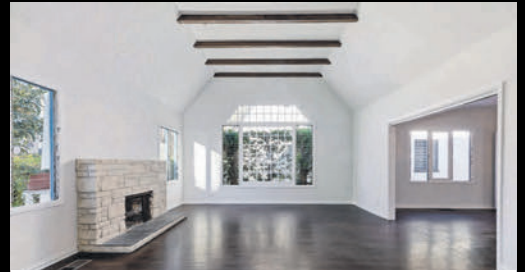
Hancock Park



JUST SOLD

846 S. Longwood Avenue **\$5,498,000**
Represented Buyer. Impeccably restored/expanded walled Storybook masterwork. 4 BD + GH. Large lush grounds. Sunlit rms. Dramatic stylings. Pool/spa. Brookside's best.

Beverly Hills



NEW X | OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

320 S. Canon Drive **\$3,295,000**
1st time available in 51 yrs. Immac 2sty 5BD 4.5BA Traditional. Over 3,000 SF. Sep den & fam rm. Huge liv & dining rooms. Patios/pool. Endless potential.

Beverly Hills



NEW X | BY APPOINTMENT

145 - 147 N. Clark Drive **\$2,795,000**
Stunning authentic 2sty Deco-era Spanish duplex. Each unit near 2,200SF w/3BD + fam rm + 2BA. Hi clngs. Wd flrs. Unlimited potential. Vacant!!

BHPO



JUST SOLD

2246 Betty Lane **\$2,599,000**
Represented Buyer. Updated 1sty 4 BD 3 BA Trad. Fam room. Cook's kitchen. Off-street prkg galore. Outdr Studio. Bucolic grounds/privacy. Cul-de-sac.

Beverly Hills



JUST SOLD OVER ASKING

357 S. Clark Drive **\$2,295,000**
Trust Sale - 1st time avail in 34yrs. Immac sunlit 1sty Spanish. 3BD 2BA. Wd flrs. Hi clngs. Fab updated kitch and baths. Beaut priv yrd. Endless potential.

Mid-Wilshire



JUST SOLD

1053 S. Mansfield Avenue **\$1,795,000**
Stunning spacious sunlit updated English duplex. 3BD 2BA per unit. Dining/dens. Brkfst rm/office. Wd flrs. Hi clngs. Central AC. W/D in each unit. Fab kitch/bas. Gated prkg. Curb appeal!!

Sunset Strip



JUST LEASED

1634 Blue Jay Way **\$29,500/mo**
Panoramic city/ocean vus. Long gated drive. Seclusion. Elegant 1.5sty 4BD 3.5BA Trad estate. Near 4,000SF. 3 FP's. Screening rm. Pl/patios. Long-term Furnished.

Beverly Hills



NEW X | BY APPOINTMENT

612 N. Elm Drive **\$26,000/mo**
All redone gated modern. Gorg new wood flrs. Huge kitch/brkfst w/top built-ins. Giant owner's suite up + office. 4BD + den down. Pool/spa/lawn.



Michael J. Libow
310.691.7889
mjlibow@gmail.com
michaeljlibow.com
DRE 00863172

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

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SUDOKU ANSWERS 01/12/24 ISSUE

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PUZZLE ANSWERS 01/12/24 ISSUE

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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE
(Division 6 of the Commercial Code)
Escrow No. 244922-CS
(1) Notice is hereby given to creditors of the within named Seller(s) that a bulk sale is about to be made on personal property hereinafter described.
(2) The name and business addresses of the seller are: WINSTON ENGINEERING, INC., 8605 SANTA MONICA BLVD., SUITE 63454, WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA 90069
(3) The location in California of the chief executive office of the Seller is:
(4) The names and business address of the Buyer(s) are: BORDER STATES INDUSTRIES, INC., 2400 38TH ST., SOUTH FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA 58104
(5) The location and general description of the assets to be sold are: FIXTURES AND EQUIPMENT of that certain business located at: 8605 SANTA MONICA BLVD., SUITE 63454, WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA 90069
(6) The business name used by the seller(s) at said location is: WINSTON ENGINEERING
(7) The anticipated date of the bulk sale is FEBRUARY 15, 2024, at the office of R ESCROW, 1205 E CHAPMAN AVE, ORANGE, CA 92866
Escrow No. 244922-CS, Escrow Officer CANDICE SILVA
(8) Claims may be filed with Same as "7" above.
(9) The last date for filing claims is: FEBRUARY 14, 2024
(10) This Bulk Sale is subject to Section 6106.2 of the Uniform Commercial Code.
(11) As listed by the Seller, all other business names and addresses used by the Seller within three years before the date such list was sent or delivered to the Buyer are: NONE.
DATED: JANUARY 10, 2024
TRANSFEREES: BORDER STATES INDUSTRIES, INC., A NORTH DAKOTA CORPORATION
ORD-2083914
BEVERLY HILLS COURIER 1/19/24

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE
(Division 6 of the Commercial Code)
Escrow No. 69365-TL
(1) Notice is hereby given to creditors of the within named Seller(s) that a bulk sale is about to be made on personal property hereinafter described
(2) The name and business addresses of the seller are: FRENCH PROVENCAL CAFÉ LLC AND CYRIL DENTAL AND PEGGY DENTAL, 235 SOUTH LA CIENEGA, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90211
(3) The location in California of the chief executive office of the Seller is: SAME ABOVE
(4) The names and business address of the Buyer(s) are: CHAYIN RABIR GUELALTA, 235 SOUTH LA CIENEGA, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90211
(5) The location and general description of the assets to be sold are: FIXTURES, FURNITURE, AND EQUIPMENT, TRADE NAME, GOODWILL, LEASE AND LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENT of that certain business located at: 235 SOUTH LA CIENEGA, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90211
(6) The business name used by the seller(s) at said location is: FRENCH PROVENCAL
(7) The anticipated date of the bulk sale is FEBRUARY 6, 2024 at the office of: UNITED ESCROW CO, 3440 WILSHIRE BLVD, #600, LOS ANGELES, CA 90010, Escrow No. 69365-TL, Escrow Officer: TOPANGA LEE
(8) Claims may be filed with Same as "7" above
(9) The last day for filing claims is: FEBRUARY 5, 2024.
(10) This Bulk Sale is subject to California Uniform Commercial Code Section 6106.2.
(11) As listed by the Seller, all other business names and addresses used by the Seller within three years before the date such list was sent or delivered to the Buyer are: NONE.
DATED: JANUARY 10, 2024
TRANSFEREES: CHAYIN RABIR GUELALTA
ORD-2087455
BEVERLY HILLS COURIER 1/19/24

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
T.S. No.: 23-9635
Loan No.: *6350 YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, SECURITY AGREEMENT AND FIXTURE FILING (WITH ASSIGNMENT OF RENTS AND LEASES) DATED 2/18/2022. 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, SECURITY AGREEMENT AND FIXTURE FILING (WITH ASSIGNMENT OF RENTS AND LEASES) 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, SECURITY AGREEMENT AND FIXTURE FILING (WITH ASSIGNMENT OF RENTS AND LEASES), with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the DEED OF TRUST, SECURITY AGREEMENT AND FIXTURE FILING (WITH ASSIGNMENT OF RENTS AND LEASES), 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: 1013 Spaulding, LLC,

PUBLIC NOTICES

A California Limited Liability Company Duly Appointed Trustee: PRESTIGE DEFAULT SERVICES, LLC Recorded 2/24/2022 as Instrument No. 20220219483 in book --, page -- of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Los Angeles County, California, Date of Sale: 1/18/2024 at 10:00 AM Place of Sale: Behind the fountain located in Civic Center Plaza, 400 Civic Center Plaza, Pomona CA 91766 Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$7,852,859.74 Property being sold "as is - Where is" Street Address or other common designation of real property: 1013 N SPAULDING AVE WEST HOLLYWOOD CA 90046 A.P.N.: 5530-015-023 THE BENEFICIARY MAY ELECT, IN ITS DISCRETION, TO EXERCISE ITS RIGHTS AND REMEDIES IN ANY MANNER PERMITTED UNDER SECTION 9604 OF THE CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL CODE, OR ANY OTHER APPLICABLE SECTION, AS TO ALL OR SOME OF THE PERSONAL PROPERTY, FIXTURES AND OTHER GENERAL TANGIBLES AND INTANGIBLES MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED IN THE DEED OF TRUST, SECURITY AGREEMENT AND FIXTURE FILING (WITH ASSIGNMENT OF RENTS AND LEASES), GUARANTEES, UCC'S, SECURITY AGREEMENTS. 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

PUBLIC NOTICES

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. 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 (916) 939-0772 or visit this Internet Web site www.nationwideposting.com, using the file number assigned to this case 23-9635. 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. Date: 12/14/2023 Prestige Default Services, LLC 1920 Old Tustin Ave. Santa Ana, California 92705 Questions: 949-427-2010 Sale Line: (916) 939-0772 Tina Suihkonen, VP of Operations and Compliance NPP0444869 To: BEVERLY HILLS COURIER

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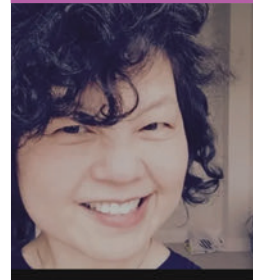
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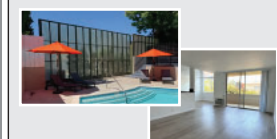
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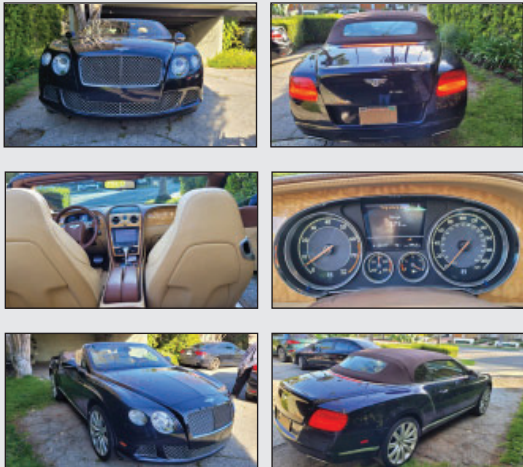
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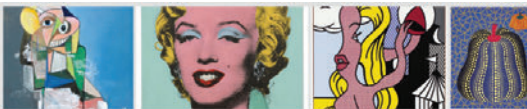
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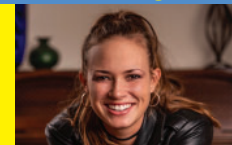
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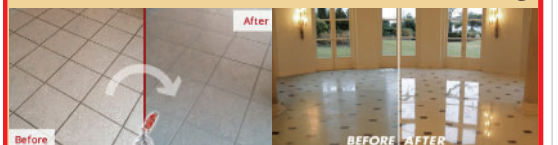
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