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THE WEATHER, BEVERLY HILLS CA

	Friday	59°   47°
	Saturday	62°   47°
	Sunday	65°   47°
	Monday	65°   48°
	Tuesday	66°   48°
	Wednesday	67°   49°
	Thursday	66°   50°

## Southwest Beverly Hills Homeowners Association Holds Candidate Forum



Photo by Joey Waldinger

Moderator Andrea Grossman, bottom left, addresses questions to City Council candidates at the Southwest Beverly Hills Homeowners Association Candidate Forum.

BY JOEY WALDINGER

All 10 candidates vying for the two open seats on the Beverly Hills City Council gathered at City Hall on Feb. 1 for a wide-ranging forum hosted by the Southwest Beverly Hills Homeowners Association. The forum marked

the first time that all candidates sat on the same panel.

Even though some tense moments arose when audience members clashed with the Association's President Ken Goldman, he told the Courier he was pleased with the  
See CANDIDATE FORUM, page 13

## City Council Approves New Rooftop Restaurant at L'Ermitage Hotel

BY CLARA HARTER

The Beverly Hills City Council has unanimously approved L'Ermitage Beverly Hills' application for a new rooftop restaurant and expanded ground floor restaurant.

While several of the city's luxury hotels currently feature rooftop restaurants, L'Ermitage is located within a residential area where such uses are not permitted and needed a zoning amendment to move forward with its dining dreams.

The amendment allows the hotel to bring a kitchen, bar and full-service restaurant to its roof; extend its dining hours; and add new dining space to its ground floor. The approval comes with 33 conditions designed to mitigate noise, parking and privacy impacts to the surrounding neighborhood.

"I think you have done an excellent job of getting out there, speaking to the residents,"  
See CITY COUNCIL, page 17

## One Beverly Hills Breaks Ground

BY CLARA HARTER

Beverly Hills is known for glamorous hotels, stunning gardens and regal residences—and the upcoming One Beverly Hills development will unite all three in a level of luxury the city has yet to see.

Construction on the \$2 billion development, located on 17.5 acres between the Beverly Hilton and Waldorf Astoria Beverly Hills, officially began on Feb. 8, to the delight of the project executives, city officials and hundreds of invited guests who gathered to celebrate the groundbreaking.

"I believe that Beny Alagem's foresight, Lord Norman Foster's architectural vision, and the dedicated effort of the broader team in merging these two iconic properties into one magnificent new entity represents a truly brilliant and collective accomplishment, mirroring the city's values," said Mayor Dr. Julian Gold. "Situated at the western border



Photo by Lisa Friedman Bloch

Mayor Dr. Julian Gold, Beny Alagem, Vice Mayor Lester Friedman and Jonathan Goldstein at the One Beverly Hills groundbreaking on Feb. 8

of Beverly Hills, visitors will immediately be enveloped in the beauty and luxury that epitomizes this great city. I am confident that the One Beverly project represents the dawn of the next chapter in this city's remarkable history."

Once complete, One Beverly Hills will be  
See ONE BEVERLY HILLS, page 17

## The Race to Unseat Gascón: Part One of Two

BY EAMON MURPHY

Eleven challengers are vying to unseat Los Angeles County District Attorney George Gascón in a crowded primary election on March 5, against the backdrop of two failed recall attempts and votes of no confidence by 37 cities including Beverly Hills. If no candidate gets more than 50% of the vote next month, the top two finishers will face off in the general election on Nov. 5.

"I believe the race for Los Angeles District Attorney has always been a competitive office to seek," said Gascón, when asked whether a resurgent focus on law and order has fueled the contest. "Typically,

See DA RACE, page 14



# Courier Calendar

**NOW - FEB. 10**

**THE WALLIS:**

**“A.I.M BY KYLE ABRAHAM”**

**2 P.M., 7:30 P.M.**

The contemporary dance company, A.I.M. by Kyle Abraham, renowned for its choreography, performances, and boundary-pushing, presents a world premiere of Andrea Miller’s latest work specially commissioned by Abraham. Miller’s newly commissioned work delves deep into the importance of human presence, embodiment, feeling, uniqueness, identity, and the role of bodily expression in a digitized world. The work invites audiences into a space of ritual, practice, and meditation, challenging our relationship with technology and exploring the subtleties of human interaction. Tickets range from \$49-\$79. The Wallis is located at 9390 N. Santa Monica Blvd., Beverly Hills. [thewallis.org](http://thewallis.org)

**NOW - FEB. 18**

**THEATRE 40:**

**“STRANGERS ON A TRAIN”**

**THURS.-SAT. 7:30 P.M.**

**SUN. 2 P.M.**

Theatre 40 presents the play “Strangers on a Train.” In the production, two men engage in a plot to commit two murders, with unintended consequences. The show is adapted by Craig Warner, based on the novel by Patricia Highsmith and directed by Jules Aaron. The venue for the show is Theatre 40, 241 S. Moreno Dr., Beverly Hills. Ample free parking is available.

[theatre40.org](http://theatre40.org)

**NOW - FEB. 11**

**ODYSSEY THEATRE:**

**“DANCE AT THE ODYSSEY”**

**FRI.-SAT. 8 P.M.**

**SUN. 2 P.M.**

Odyssey Theatre returns with its annual five-week celebration of contemporary dance that has established the company’s unique “Dance at the Odyssey” festival, curated by series co-founder Barbara Mueller-Wittmann. Feb. 9-Feb. 11 features “how i became kinder, and kinder” with music by Robert Gaar, Lucy Liyou and her own devised score, choreographer Azuki Umeda and seven dancers unravel an exploration of sounds that unify meaning in movement. The Odyssey Theatre at 2055 S. Sepulveda Blvd., Los Angeles hosts the performances. Tickets are \$25 and free parking is available locally.

[odysseytheatre.com](http://odysseytheatre.com)

**NOW - FEB. 25**

**EL CAPITAN THEATRE:**

**“TURNING RED”**

**MON.-THURS. 1 P.M., 4 P.M., 7 P.M.**

**FRI.-SAT. 10 A.M., 1 P.M., 4 P.M., 7 P.M.**

The El Capitan presents showings of “Turning Red.” The film introduces Mei Lee, a confident, dorky 13-year-old torn between staying her mother’s dutiful daughter and the chaos of adolescence. Her protective, if not slightly overbearing mother, Ming, is never far from her daughter—an unfortunate reality for the teenager. And as if changes to her interests, relationships and body weren’t enough, whenever she gets too excited, she “poofs” into a giant red panda. A special fan event screening takes place at

7 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 9. Each attendee will receive popcorn, a beverage, and an event credential with their ticket. Tickets are \$22 for this screening. Guests also have the opportunity to purchase tickets to a Stu-PANDA-ous Valentine’s or Galentine’s Dinner and a movie with a \$65 package that includes dinner at Miceli’s Italian Restaurant and a reserved ticket to “Turning Red” at 7 p.m. on select dates. Standard showtime tickets are \$12. The El Capitan is located at 6838 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles. [elcapitantheatre.com](http://elcapitantheatre.com)

**NOW - MARCH 11**

**ROGUE MACHINE THEATRE:**

**“MIDDLE OF THE WORLD”**

**FRI.-SAT., MON. 8 P.M.**

**SUN. 3 P.M.**

Rogue Machine Theatre presents the West Coast premiere of “Middle of the World” by Juan José Alfonso and directed by Guillermo Cienfuegos. In the play, Victoria was an important person in Ecuador. Now broke, disgraced and separated from her son, she is determined to get back home and regain what she lost. Glenn worked his way from low-income housing to the verge of closing the biggest deal of his impressive finance career. But is business success what he’s really chasing? Middle of the World means you cannot be in two places at once. You must choose. And when you choose, it means giving something up. On a night in NYC, when Glenn steps into Victoria’s Uber, the course of both their lives will change in an instant. The show’s runtime is approximately 95 minutes. General admission is \$45, senior

tickets are \$35 and student tickets are \$25. Rogue Machine Theatre is located at 7657 Melrose Ave., Los Angeles. [roguemachinetheatre.org](http://roguemachinetheatre.org)

**FEB. 11**

**ACADEMY MUSEUM OF MOTION**

**PICTURES: “OSCAR SUNDAYS”:**

**“DREAMGIRLS” IN 35 MM**

**7:30 P.M.**

This ongoing series from the Academy Museum, “Oscar Sundays,” celebrates films that have been honored at the Academy Awards. In February, the museum honors Black History Month by showcasing milestone moments for Black creators, artists, and craftspeople across the history of the Oscars ceremony. Hattie McDaniel made history in 1940 as the first Black person to win an Academy Award, Best Supporting Actress, for her role in “Gone with the Wind” (1939). Since this breakthrough moment, nearly every category has seen history-defining moments for Black artists. “Dreamgirls” plays on Feb. 11. This fictionalization of the career of Motown group The Supremes is studded with incredible milestones in the history of Black cinema. Receiving eight nominations across six categories, the most of any film that year, and the first live-action film to find three tunes nominated for Original Song, “Dreamgirls” was also the first film to boast Black nominees for both Best Supporting Actor (Eddie Murphy) and Best Supporting Actress (Jennifer Hudson). The debut performance by Hudson as Effie White, opposite Beyoncé’s Deena Jones, won her an Oscar, making her, at age 25, the youngest African American to win an Academy Award for acting. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$7 for seniors and \$5 for students and children. The Academy Museum is located at 6067 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles.

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

**FEB. 15**

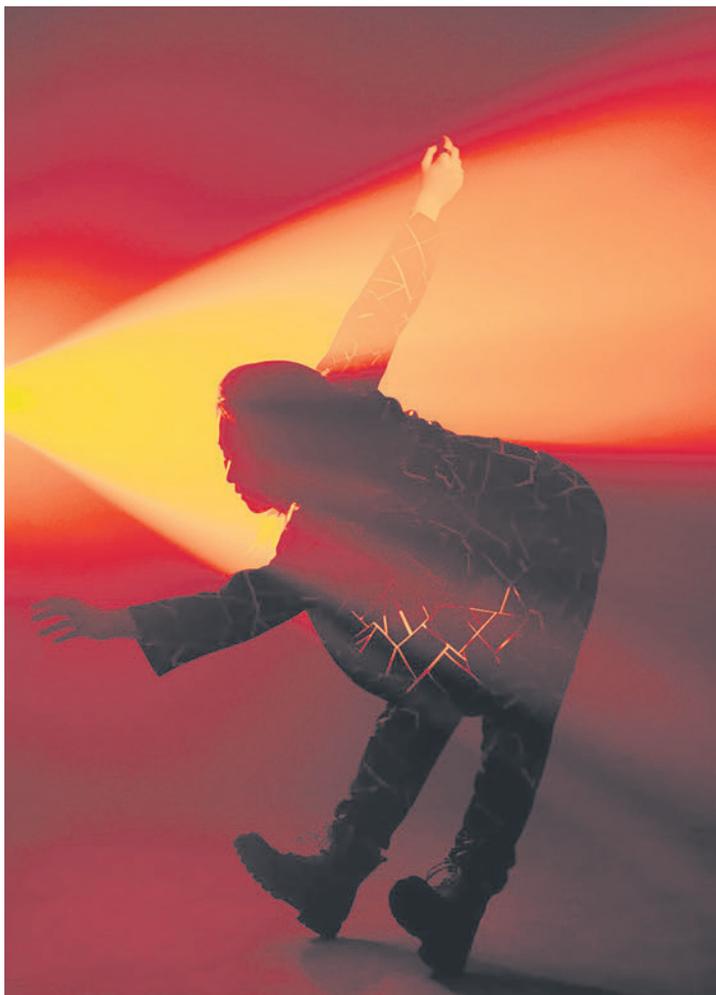
**MARK MACKAY: SHARE THE LOVE**

**SHOWCASE**

**7 P.M.**

This in-person event promises an unforgettable experience for music enthusiasts while raising funds for The Midnight Mission (TMM) to help our neighbors in need. TMM’s goal is to restore people to self-sufficiency and combat the issues surrounding homelessness. They offer an extensive range of essential services, including addiction recovery, job training, education, medical services, which are designed to get people off the streets and into productive lives. Mark Mackay is a singer-songwriter who delivers electrifying performances to unite listeners with captivating anthems and blazing musicality. Guests can contribute any amount for a ticket. The venue for this event is Gibson Guitars Hollywood, 7561 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles.

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



Left: Photo by Hannah Mayfield, Right: Photo by Oswaldo Cepeda

Azuki Umeda, choreographer of “how i became kinder, and kinder” for the Odyssey Theatre’s “Dance at the Odyssey” from Feb. 9 to Feb. 11



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## Study Session Discusses Limits on Public Comment



BY ERIC LICAS

Members of the Beverly Hills City Council proposed limits on citizens' ability to respond to developers or lobbyists during public hearings in order to streamline proceedings on Feb. 6, amid criticism from residents concerned about transparency and accountability in local government.

The changes to procedure were debated at the City Council's most recent Study Session, and involve quasi-judicial proceedings heard

by them or standing committees like the Beverly Hills Planning Commission. These can wind up deciding a wide variety of topics ranging from controversial zoning requests, to deadlocked labor disputes with unions representing city employees and more.

Existing practices were formed in 2018 and 2019 based on recommendations from the Mayor's Sunshine Task Force, a body created to promote transparency and public engagement in local government. Currently, public comment takes place

before a petitioner is heard by council or commissioners, after that lobbying party has made their presentation and immediately after the applicant responds to the previous rounds of public comment.

Parties on either side of an issue get the opportunity to rebut the other's arguments an unlimited number of times.

A discussion on making those hearings more efficient was scheduled at the request of Mayor Dr. Julian Gold and Vice Mayor Lester Friedman. They noted that people who comment before presentations do so without the benefit of information brought forth by relevant parties. They also pointed out that rebuttals toward the end of a hearing are supposed to be limited to specific points raised during discussion. But members of the public sometimes go off topic, and that can extend or derail meetings far into the evening, Friedman said.

"We've gone to this program that is extremely complicated and time consuming, and really doesn't yield much by way of further information," Friedman said.

Councilmember Sharona Nazarian noted the importance of giving residents a voice. However, she said hearings need to be simplified because proceedings are so

convoluted in their current form that they can be difficult for both council members and observers to follow. She was also in support of putting some restrictions on the public's opportunities to be heard at those meetings.

She suggested limiting public comment to one window after applicants present their case, and then a second after a lobbyist responds to any statements from the public. Those petitioning the city would then get a chance to make one more final rebuttal, essentially giving them the last word before a matter is handed to council or commissioners for a decision.

Friedman and Gold were amenable to Nazarian's suggestions. Councilmember Lili Bosse was not present for the discussion.

Councilmember John Mirisch argued that members of the community should be given the final word over potentially well-financed lobbyists, and the current system ensures that.

The proposed changes are subject to further revision. The matter is expected to return for discussion at the City Council's next Study Session on Feb. 20. ●

**GENERAL MUNICIPAL  
ELECTION**  
2024

**Beverly Hills, are you registered to vote?**  
Make sure you are registered in advance so that you can receive a Vote by Mail ballot.  
Every vote counts!

**The 2024 General Municipal Election in Beverly Hills for two City Council seats will take place March 5, 2024.**

All registered voters in the City will receive a Vote by Mail ballot in the mail. There will be several Vote Centers in Beverly Hills and to learn more, visit [BEVERLYHILLS.ORG/ELECTIONS](https://www.beverlyhills.org/elections) or call (310) 285-2400.

To update or register to vote, visit [LAVOTE.GOV](https://www.lavote.gov)

# Newly Relocated Saks Fifth Avenue Debuts in Beverly Hills



Photos by Peter Christiansen Valli for Saks Fifth Avenue

Exterior (above) and staircase (right) of the new Saks Fifth Avenue located at 9570 Wilshire Blvd.

BY ERIC LICAS

Retailer Saks Fifth Avenue's women's store in Beverly Hills has relocated from the Wilshire Boulevard address it had occupied since 1938 to a new storefront less than 200 feet down the street.

Doors officially opened on Feb. 8 at the new location at 9570 Wilshire Boulevard, the six-story building previously occupied by Barneys New York. City officials and Saks executives presided at a ribbon cutting ceremony that morning, while invited guests experienced a sneak peek of the expansive space at private receptions the evening before.

The 130,000 square-foot new store features a "5,000 square-foot shoe experience" on its main floor, with other levels housing boutiques for luxury houses that include

Chanel, Dior, Gucci and Louis Vuitton.

One of the most innovative features of the new establishment is the "Fifth Avenue Club," 15 luxury private suites where expert stylists collaborate with customers on a one-on-one basis.

"We have created the ultimate luxury shopping destination in Beverly Hills," added Tracy Margolies, Chief Merchandising Officer, Saks. "Our reimagined women's store offers an expertly curated assortment of luxury women's fashion and beauty alongside world-class services. With a preeminent selection of women's ready-to-wear, jewelry and accessories from the most sought-after names in luxury, we have created an elite experience that uniquely caters to the Beverly Hills customer and reinforces Saks Fifth Avenue's position as a fashion authority." ●

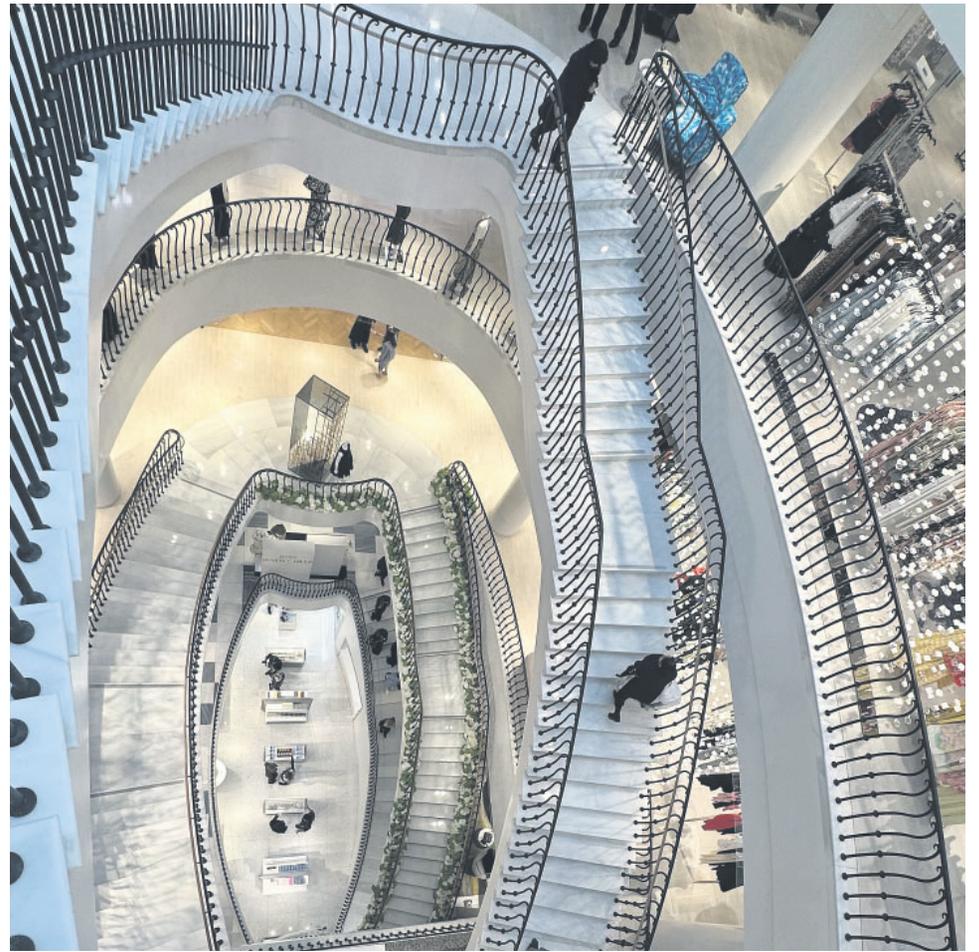


Photo by Peter Christiansen Valli for Saks Fifth Avenue

Richard Baker, Councilmember Sharona Nazarian, Vice Mayor Lester Friedman, John Antonini, Bo Kim, Tracy Margolies, Larry Bruce and Mayor Dr. Julian Gold at the ribbon cutting

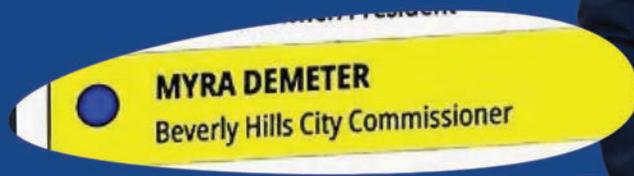


Photo by Brad Dickson

The Louis Vuitton store at Saks Fifth Avenue

## VOTE MYRA DEMETER BY MARCH 5<sup>TH</sup>

- ✓ Invest in Public Safety
- ✓ Implement Responsible Development
- ✓ Maintain Our Quality of Life
- ✓ Ensure All Residents Have a Voice at City Hall



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## Celebrating the Year of the Dragon

BY AGNES LEW

This week, billions of people from every corner of the world, including right here in Beverly Hills, will turn a page and begin writing a new chapter.

On Saturday, Feb. 10 we celebrate and welcome the Lunar New Year - the Year of the Dragon.

In Chinese culture, the dragon represents strength, intelligence and good luck, which makes this mythical creature naturally adept at fighting off evil spirits. It is believed that those born in the Year of the Dragon share similar traits to their zodiac animal - confidence, courage and wisdom.

Lunar New Year is a cherished celebration that blends the rich tapestry of traditions from my cultural roots with the vibrant atmosphere of Beverly Hills. Lunar New Year traces its origins to ancient China, where farmers relied on the moon's guidance for agricultural cycles, marking the start of a new year on the lunisolar calendar and welcoming the arrival of spring.

The Lunar New Year is steeped in tradition, and its celebrations are rich with symbolism that has inspired and guided generations for centuries.

As a Chinese American, this holiday has special significance for me. I'm delighted to share some of my favorite Lunar New Year traditions and ways to enjoy the celebration.

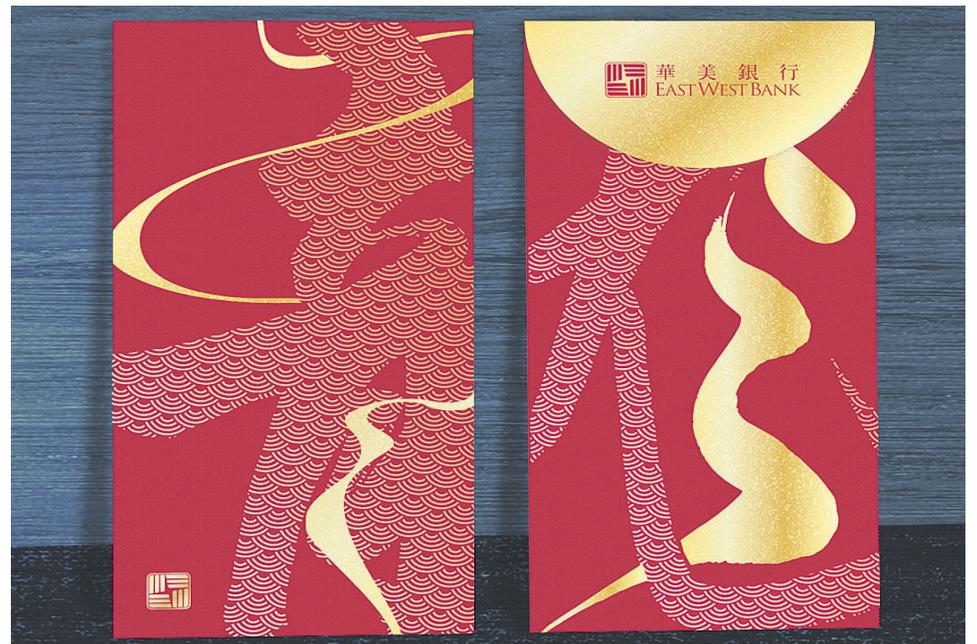
### Red Envelopes

One of the most treasured New Year traditions is gifting red envelopes with lucky money. Signifying good luck, red envelopes are given to family, friends and colleagues to express well wishes for the New Year. Each year, East West Bank designs red envelopes that are given out at our branches. The imagery of this year's Year of the Dragon envelopes symbolizes strength and prosperity and reminds us of our capacity to soar further toward a brighter future.

### Dining Out

Another wonderful New Year tradition is celebrating new beginnings with friends and family.

In the heart of Beverly Hills, my go-to spot for celebrating Lunar New Year is Joss Cuisine at 9919 Santa Monica Blvd., a small and elegant restaurant named after the Chinese word for "luck." Joss was founded by Cecile Tang, a film director who was a trailblazer for  
See YEAR OF THE DRAGON, page 12



East West Bank Year of the Dragon red envelope



Agnes Lew is East West Bank's Head of Private Banking and self-described concierge for all things artsy and fun.

## Vanity Fair Street Closures: Access to Local Businesses Maintained



### Easy routes to N. Crescent Drive

#### FROM NORTH:

- ➔ South on N. Cañon Drive, left on Dayton Way, left or right on Crescent Drive
- ➔ South on Rexford Drive, right on Clifton Way, left or right on Crescent Drive

#### FROM SOUTH:

- ➔ Westbound on Wilshire Blvd., right on Crescent Drive
- ➔ Eastbound on Wilshire Blvd., left on Dayton Way

### Parking Available

#### Self Park (1-hour free)

- 10 – 333 N. Crescent Drive
- 12 – 9361 Dayton Way

#### Pay as You Go Parking

- 18 – 450 N. Crescent Drive  
Garage entrance is accessible via S. Santa Monica Blvd.  
Garage will be closed on March 10 for the event.

#### Self Park (2-hours free)

- 1 – 345 N. Beverly Drive
- 5 – 450 N. Rexford Drive
- 6 – 438 N. Beverly Drive & 439 N. Cañon Drive
- 7 – 241 N. Cañon Drive & 242 N. Beverly Drive

400 block of N. Crescent Drive will be **CLOSED** between N. and S. Santa Monica Blvd. from 10 p.m. Monday, February 26, 2024 until 10 p.m. Thursday, March 14, 2024.

More info at [BEVERLYHILLS.ORG/VANITYFAIR](http://BEVERLYHILLS.ORG/VANITYFAIR)



Children's Burn Foundation  
Giving New Hope

# Children's Burn Foundation's 29th Annual GIVING NEW HOPE

Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at the Beverly Hilton



## Honoring Fire Chief Gregory W. Barton

Hosted by the Council of Children's Burn Foundation and Dinner Chairs,  
Aida Madi and The Melamed Family



Children's Burn Foundation will hold its 29th Annual Giving New Hope Benefit at the Beverly Hilton on Tuesday, March 5, 2024. The evening will honor Beverly Hills Fire Chief Gregory W. Barton with the Giving New Hope Award for his spirit of generosity and years of dedication and service to the families we serve.

Children's Burn Foundation provides child burn survivors and their families with comprehensive healing, from life-transforming surgeries to psychological support until the child is 18 years old, while educating communities on how to prevent and treat burns. To purchase tickets, please call (818) 907-2822 or visit our website at [www.childburn.org/givingnewhope](http://www.childburn.org/givingnewhope).

Learn more at  
[www.childburn.org](http://www.childburn.org)



## ‘The Taste of Things’—Very Good Indeed



Photos courtesy of IFC/Sapan Studio

Galatée Bellugi, Bonnie Chagneau-Ravoire, Benoit Magimel and Juliette Binoche

BY NEELY SWANSON

My mouth is still watering from this sumptuous film, directed and written lovingly by Tran Anh Hung, based on the novel “The Life and Passion of Dodin Bouffant, Gourmet” by Marcel Rouff.

Vibrant colors, verdant leaves, bees swarming, “The Taste of Things” opens on Eugénie digging in a garden for vegetables soon to grace the table of gourmands. Holding up carrots and celery root that she has just pulled from the earth, Eugénie scrapes away the soil, wraps them in her apron and walks back to the estate where she presides over the kitchen with Violette as her helper.

It is 1889 and after a short conference with Dodin Bouffant, the renowned chef, a rival to Escoffier and heir to Brillat-Savarin, author of “The Physiology of Taste,” and Marie-Antoine Carême who elevated French cuisine to new heights in the early 19th century, Eugénie lovingly begins the prep for that day’s meal to be served to Dodin’s entourage. She and Dodin work together, whisking, sautéing, searing, assembling the many courses that will be served. He carefully chooses the wines that will accompany the meal, wines specifically chosen for their harmony with the various tastes and textures of his meal. Although working side by side, the relationship is unclear. With Violette

hovering in the background, washing utensils, fetching water from the well, cutting and chopping, it is Eugénie who is in charge; more than just the cook to Dodin’s chef who applies the finishing touches. It’s his estate; it’s his kitchen; he is the king of his realm but she is the consort without whom he cannot maintain his reputation. Subordinate to no one, she dresses like those she supervises. Looks can be deceiving. He invites her to participate in the luncheon; she declines graciously. His friends, all leaders of the village, are curious why she won’t join in the meal.

Who is she and what is her relationship to Dodin? She has been there for many years and understands things about the food they make that sometimes even surpass him. His eyes never leave her. When he asks if he might join her in her room that night, she flashes her Mona Lisa smile, asking him if she has ever denied him. But he asks. He always asks.

Dodin is mad about her and that relationship colors all activities. It is doubtful you will have ever seen food like this, even at the best three-star restaurant in Paris. This is French food at its zenith prepared by a master of the age. But it’s more than the food, its textures and the beautiful presentation that matches the taste. It’s a metaphor for love, attainable and unreachable; ethereal and yet grounded. Dodin and Eugénie

have been dancing both together and around each other in the kitchen for years. She is his equal; she knows it and so does he. He craves everything about her and has the eyes of a starving man when she refuses to marry him. But Eugénie understands something that he doesn’t. He may be the master of all around him but he will never be the master of her. She guards her independence fiercely and he will have to come to her, not she to him.

Yes, the presentation of the food, its

preparation, its service is enough to make a Vegan repent, but the undercurrent of artistry is all important. In a rather hilarious scene, Dodin’s reputation has attracted the attention of an Eastern Potentate who wants to show off his knowledge of gastronomy and the chefs he employs. A menu has been prepared for Dodin and his entourage that he thinks is fit for a king with course after course of food, exotic and otherwise, the opulence of each dish exceeding the preceding in grandeur and ingredients, a dinner that took 8 hours to serve. What the potentate and his chefs neglected to consider was how each course should follow a logical path that compliments the one before it; that texture and taste must meld together to create something delicious and previously unknown; that the most audacious meals are sometimes the simplest. To that end, Dodin has already decided what he will make for the potentate—Pot au Feu, boiled beef and vegetables. More treacherous than it sounds but exquisite in the right hands, like those of Dodin and Eugénie. This too is a metaphor for their love in all its complexity and deceptive simplicity.

And all the while, Dodin continues to court Eugénie, begging, cajoling, strategizing. Finally realizing that he must show fealty to the love of his life, he sets out to win her over with the commodity they both understand—food. He prepares a meal for her, laying the table with his best china and silverware, opening rare wines, and preparing dishes she’ll be unable to resist and serving it himself. Love for food and food for love. The seeming calm of this older couple belies the shared passion that is hidden beneath the surface. The comfort they find in their relationship is accentuated by what has grown over the years, unspoken but known. Dodin exclaims that he has finally won the love of his life when they are in the autumn of their years. Eugénie, eyes twinkling, proclaims that she lives eternally in summer for its heat, the colors, the bursts of sun on her face and the constant renewal.

The food always underscores life at the villa with the quiet, studied supportive



Benoit Magimel



Juliette Binoche and Benoit Magimel

relationships it nurtures. When Violette introduces her niece Pauline to Dodin and Eugénie, life in the kitchen bursts forth anew like the first sprouts of spring. Pauline has the rare gift of taste much like perfect pitch in a musician. She is someone that they can help blossom; perhaps someday in the distant future she might inherit Eugénie's rare gift. Her wide-eyed appreciation for the simplest broths foretells a happy future.

Surprisingly, there is no musical soundtrack, with the exception of an excerpt of "Thaïs" by Jules Massenet at the end. What you hear and see is a cast whose movements are organically choreographed as they glide from one prep station to the next. They move to the melodic sounds of butter sizzling, meat being basted, the whisking of eggs, the grinding of salt, the scraping of chairs, the whoosh of fires being lit, the wind in the trees...this is all the music necessary to make this deceptively quiet film become operatic.

Starting slowly, the first 20 minutes or so are entirely devoted to the preparation of a meal in the classical French tradition. This beginning may draw you in if you love food or it might not if you don't. Stay with it because there's so much more than meets the eye, and believe me there's already a

lot for the eye to meet.

Tran Anh Hung's cast is exceptional. Galatée Bellugi, Violette, glides in the background effortlessly adding a dimension to the kitchen orchestration as an overlooked backbone to the smooth running of the operation. Her cinematic gift is to be invisible and fully present at the same time. Newcomer Bonnie Chagneau-Ravoire played Pauline as both naïf and otherworldly in her approach to food, allowing us to understand that taste is an art form unto itself. Always wide-eyed and attentive, Hung was especially entranced with how nicely she chewed; he positively salivated watching her chew. Pierre Gagnaire, the three-star chef of his eponymously named restaurant in Paris, plays a cameo as the potentate's head chef. Behind the scenes, it was Gagnaire who prepared and tested all the dishes in pre-production that would be presented in the movie, making sure that they would film beautifully and be interesting. His former colleague of 40 years and recently retired, Michel Nave, took over on location.

Juliette Binoche, Eugénie, has that uncanny chameleon ability to melt into a role. It is her eyes, her fluid movement across the kitchen, the slightly upturned

lips yielding a classic Mona Lisa smile. She is mysterious and yet almost an open book. In describing her, Hung said, "Juliette has unbelievable presence. Once she appears, everything becomes real, interesting, moving...she brings to the character an interior strength that makes her resistance to Dodin's desires all the more palpable."

Benoit Magimel as Dodin is very serious, serious about his cooking, serious about his reputation, serious about Eugénie. Seemingly without humor, it is in his personal relationship with Eugénie that we see him blossom. Giving in to her needs and desires opens him up to grander possibilities than the food he presents to the world. The passion of the title is implied to be his love

for food but, in the end, it is a passion for life itself, especially a life with Eugénie who has opened his eyes to possibilities. Magimel and Binoche, who, in the early 2000s had been married for a short time and had not acted together for almost 25 years, brought a chemistry and shared knowledge to their roles as a pair of lovers whose intellectual and artistic attraction has yet to be fully consummated. For the sheer joy of watching the two of them act out this universal tale of love, I could see this film over and over (and have already seen it three times).

In French with English subtitles.

Opening Feb. 9 at the Laemmle Royal. On Demand Feb.14, a perfect Valentine. ●



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 PUBLIC HEARING

**DATE:** Thursday, February 29, 2024  
**TIME:** 11:00 AM, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard

**LOCATION:** **Meeting will be held in person at:**  
Commission Meeting Room 280A  
Beverly Hills City Hall  
455 North Rexford Drive  
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

Members of the public may also participate via teleconference;  
Details provided below

**PROJECT ADDRESS:** Citywide

The Planning Commission of the City of Beverly Hills, at a SPECIAL meeting on **February 29, 2024**, will hold a public hearing beginning at **11:00 AM**, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard to consider:

**AMENDMENTS TO THE HOUSING ELEMENT OF THE GENERAL PLAN ADOPTED FOR THE 6TH CYCLE PLANNING PERIOD FROM 2021 TO 2029; AND AN ADDENDUM TO AN ADOPTED MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE HOUSING ELEMENT AMENDMENTS**

The Project involves amendments to the City’s General Plan Housing Element as adopted on February 23, 2023 for the planning period from 2021 to 2029 (6th Cycle). No physical development nor construction is currently proposed as part of the Project. The Housing Element is a planning document that contains programs and policies to guide housing development in the City. The Housing Element includes the following topics: analysis of the City’s demographic characteristics and housing needs; evaluation of resources and opportunities available to address current and future housing needs; analysis of potential constraints on meeting the City’s housing needs; a review of the City’s accomplishments during the previous planning period; and updated policies and programs intended to address the City’s housing needs for the period through 2029. Additionally, the Housing Element discusses how the City’s land use and zoning regulations and programs will accommodate the City’s Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA), which is the number of housing units expected to be needed for the next planning period (2021-2029), and includes an inventory of suitable sites to accommodate housing at various levels of affordability. The Project area covers the entire City of Beverly Hills since the Housing Element addresses housing conditions throughout the City. The Planning Commission will also review an addendum to the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration prepared for the Project. The revised Housing Element document is available at: [www.beverlyhills.org/housingelementupdate](http://www.beverlyhills.org/housingelementupdate).

The revisions to the Housing Element have been made in response to the comments provided in letters from the state Housing and Community Development Department (HCD), and primarily consist of changes to the policies and programs in the Housing Plan, such as the addition of greater details and specific timelines, the addition of further information of local knowledge and data within the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) section of Appendix A, and revisions to the suitable sites inventory to add criteria to determine suitable sites and realistic capacity of these sites to accommodate housing units. In addition, more information and analysis has been added regarding potential sites for adaptive reuse/conversion mixed use projects and research to support this trend. Once the Planning Commission has completed their review of the revised draft Housing Element, the document will be revised to address the Commission’s feedback if needed, and will then be presented to the City Council for their consideration and adoption at a future public hearing.

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

The City of Beverly Hills has previously adopted a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the updates to the Housing Element of the General Plan (Project). The City of Beverly Hills was the lead agency, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and was responsible for the preparation of the MND and related initial study. The previously adopted MND document is available at [www.beverlyhills.org/environmental](http://www.beverlyhills.org/environmental). If a digital copy cannot be obtained by an interested party, please contact the staff listed in this notice and alternate arrangements will be made.

The previously adopted MND indicated that the Project would not result in significant impacts to Agricultural and Forestry Resources, and Mineral Resources, and less than significant impacts, with certain mitigations, related to Aesthetics, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Energy, Geology and Soils, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Land Use and Planning, Noise, Population and Housing, Transportation/Traffic, Public Services, Recreation, Tribal Cultural Resources, Utilities and Service Systems, and Wildfire. An addendum to the previously adopted MND for the revisions to the adopted Housing Element document has been prepared, pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, §15164. A copy of the addendum will be available as part of the agenda materials and Planning Commission packet for this meeting date, on [www.beverlyhills.org/planningcommission](http://www.beverlyhills.org/planningcommission), at least 72 hours before the meeting. The Project description and location are described above, and the adoption of amendments are limited to technical revisions and the addition of information. The primary changes to the adopted Housing Element that will be evaluated in the addendum include: changes to the policies and programs in the Housing Plan, such as the addition of greater details and specific timelines, the addition of a more extensive section on Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH), and changes to the sites inventory to add further detail regarding the selection of included sites and to add or remove possible sites to accommodate housing. Since these changes consist of technical changes and the addition of information that will not result in significant impacts to the areas of study in the adopted MND, and none of the conditions in California Code of Regulations, Title 14, §15162 have occurred, the Planning Commission will consider the adoption of the addendum to the previously adopted MND.

**How to Participate**

In the interest of maintaining appropriate social distancing, members of the public can participate in, watch, or listen to the commission meetings through the following methods:

- **In Person:** Submit a speaker card to the Recording Secretary at the meeting.
- **Oral Comment:** Call (310) 288-2288, select Option 1 when prompted. You will be placed on a brief hold, and called upon to make a comment at the appropriate time.
- **Video Comment:** <https://beverlyhills-org.zoom.us/my/bevpublic>, enter passcode: 90210 when prompted.
- **Written Comment:** Email [commentPC@beverlyhills.org](mailto:commentPC@beverlyhills.org)
- **Audio Only:** Call (310) 288-2288, select Option 2 when prompted.
- **Watch LIVE:** BHTV Channel 10 on Spectrum Cable or [www.beverlyhills.org/watchlive](http://www.beverlyhills.org/watchlive)

It is recommended that written public comments be submitted to the Planning Commission Recording Secretary by 11:30 AM on the meeting date. Public comments will also be taken during the meeting when the topic is being reviewed by the Planning Commission. Written comments should identify the Agenda Item number or topic in the subject line of the email.

In order to be read at the meeting, written comments will be allowed with a maximum of 350 words, which corresponds to approximately three (3) minutes of speaking time. If a comment is received after the agenda item is heard, it will not be a part of the record.

Any written comments received by end of the day on Wednesday, February 21, 2024 will be attached to the agenda report regarding this item. Any comments received after Wednesday, February 21, 2024, but prior the public hearing, will be distributed to the Commission under separate cover.

According to Government Code Section 65009, if you challenge the City’s action in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City, either at or prior to the public hearing. Please note that any comments received prior to or during the public hearing will be considered as part of the public record.

If there are any questions regarding this notice, please contact **Chloe Chen, Senior Planner** in the Planning Division at **(310) 285-1194**, or by email at [cchen@beverlyhills.org](mailto:cchen@beverlyhills.org). Copies of the project materials are on file in the Community Development Department, and can be reviewed by any interested person at 455 North Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills, CA 90210.

Sincerely:  
Chloe Chen, Senior Planner



Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the City of Beverly Hills will make reasonable efforts to accommodate persons with disabilities. If you require special assistance, please contact (310) 285-1126 (voice) or (310) 285-6881 (TTY) prior to the meeting for assistance. Providing at least forty-eight (48) hours advance notice will help to ensure availability of services. City Hall, including the Council Chamber and Room 280A, is wheelchair accessible. The City Hall Council Chamber and Room 280A are also equipped with audio equipment for the hearing impaired.

[www.beverlyhills.org](http://www.beverlyhills.org)



## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Council of the City of Beverly Hills, at its regular meeting to be held on **Tuesday, February 20, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.**, in the Council Chamber of the City Hall, 455 N. Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills, California, will hold a public hearing to consider adoption of:

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS TO MODIFY RATES AND CHARGES FOR WATER AND WASTEWATER SERVICES AND FACILITIES FURNISHED BY THE CITY AND ADDING NEW SECTION 6-1-308 (WASTEWATER SERVICE CHARGES) TO ARTICLE 3 (WASTEWATER SYSTEM) OF CHAPTER 1 (CITY UTILITY SERVICES) OF TITLE 6 (UTILITIES AND FRANCHISES) OF THE BEVERLY HILLS MUNICIPAL CODE AND RENUMBERING THE REMAINING SECTIONS OF ARTICLE 3 ACCORDINGLY**

The proposed ordinance will modify the water rates to reflect the current cost of providing water services to Beverly Hills Water Customers and adopt a schedule of adjustments for the next five years, update the water tier structure for single-family customers, update the water shortage revenue stabilization factors, and provide for automatic adjustments that pass through the adopted increases or decreases in the wholesale charges for water by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

The proposed ordinance will also modify the wastewater rates to reflect the current cost of providing wastewater services to Beverly Hills Wastewater Customers (customers inside the City only) and adopt a schedule of adjustments for the next five years. The proposed ordinance also includes a restructure of the residential customer class to include the addition of a flow-based quantity (volumetric) charge, the addition of a third commercial strength category for multi-use and other "medium-strength" properties to reflect low, medium, and high strength categories, and the addition of sewer return factors derived for each customer class and applied to all customers in each class as part of the proposed rates.

### HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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

### How to Protest:

At the public hearing, the City Council will hear and consider all objections or protests to the Proposed Rate Adjustments. Any owner of a property that receives water service or property tenant who is directly responsible for the payment of the water service charges (each, a "water customer") may submit a written protest against the Proposed Rate Adjustments for the water service charges. Any owner of a property that receives wastewater service or property tenant who is directly responsible for the payment of the wastewater service charges (each, a "wastewater customer") may submit a written protest against the Proposed Rate Adjustments for the wastewater service charges. If a parcel has more than one water customer and/or wastewater customer, only one written protest against the Proposed Rate Adjustments for the water service charges or wastewater service charges, as applicable, will be counted. Written protests may be delivered to the City Clerk at the public hearing, prior to the end of the public hearing. Written protests also may be mailed or personally delivered to the City Clerk at City Hall, 455 N. Rexford Drive, Room 290, Beverly Hills, CA 90210, and must be received by the City Clerk before 5:00 p.m. on February 20, 2024.

A written protest must include all of the following to be considered in determining whether there is a majority protest:

1. Clearly stated opposition to the Proposed Rate Adjustments for the water service charges, wastewater service charges, or both, as applicable;
2. Name of the record property owner or customer of record who is submitting the protest;
3. Identification by parcel number, street address or utility account number of the property for which the protest is made; and
4. Signature and legibly printed name of the record property owner or customer of record who is submitting the protest.

Oral comments at the public hearing will not be counted in the determination of a majority protest.

### Public Comment Participation:

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

### How to Submit Public Comment (Email/Video):

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

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

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

### In Person Participation:

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

If there are any questions regarding this notice, please contact **Public Works Customer Service at (310) 285-2467**, or by email at [PW-CustomerService@beverlyhills.org](mailto:PW-CustomerService@beverlyhills.org).

HUMA AHMED  
City Clerk



In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Council Chamber is wheelchair accessible and is equipped with audio equipment for the hearing impaired. If you need special assistance to attend this meeting, please call the City Clerk's Office at (310) 285-2400 or TTY (310) 285-6881. Please notify the City Clerk's Office at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting if you require captioning service so that reasonable arrangements can be made.

# Children's Burn Foundation Benefit to Honor BH Fire Chief Barton



BH Fire Chief Barton

Children's Burn Foundation (CBF) will hold its 29th Annual Giving New Hope Benefit at the Beverly Hilton on March 5. Hosted by the Council of Children's Burn Foundation and Dinner Chairs, Aida Madi and The Melamed Family, the evening will honor Beverly Hills Fire Chief Gregory W. Barton with the Giving New Hope Award for his spirit of generosity

and years of dedication to burn prevention and safety.

Barton has served the community of Beverly Hills for 29 years, and has earned numerous prestigious awards, including Firefighter of the Year recognition from the Kiwanis Club, the Beverly Hills Fire Department and the Beverly Hills Masonic Lodge. He earned the Fred C. Cunningham Award for Distinguished Service from the Beverly Hills City Council in 2021. Barton serves as a member of the Board of Directors for the Maple Counseling Center, is an executive team member on the Beverly Hills 9/11 Memorial Committee and is president-elect of the Beverly Hills Rotary Club.

Barton also serves on the Governance and Executive Committees of Children's Burn Foundation and is Co-Chair of the Prevention and Education Committee.

Fritz Coleman, the retired NBC4 weather-caster will serve as the master of ceremonies for the Giving New Hope Benefit. For more information, call (818) 907-2822 or visit [www.childburn.org](http://www.childburn.org).



## NOTICE OF COMMISSION VACANCIES

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

**Charitable Solicitations Commission - One Vacancy**  
(Term begins: July 1, 2024)

**Community Charitable Foundation - One Vacancy**  
(Term begins: July 1, 2024)

**Cultural Heritage Commission - One Vacancy**  
(Term begins: July 1, 2024)

**DEADLINE TO APPLY FOR THE ABOVE COMMISSIONS IS ON FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 2024 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](http://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.

Selected applicants will be required to complete a background check.



Huma Ahmed  
City Clerk





Image courtesy of East West Bank

The Huntington's Chinese Garden

**YEAR OF THE DRAGON, from page 6**  
 socially critical art cinema in Hong Kong. Her unique journey includes writing and directing a musical comedy about the rise and fall of Madame Mao, titled "I, CHING," which was a fascinating exploration of history, combining entertainment and social critique. Cecile brought her creative spirit to the

United States in 1979 and started Joss in 1987. While I love their regular menu, the restaurant's special Lunar New Year dishes add an extra layer of festivity to the celebration. One dish that holds a special place in my heart and is expertly executed by Chef Golo is the turnip cake, or "Loh Bak Go." This Cantonese delight, typically enjoyed

at dim sum restaurants throughout the year, is considered auspicious and is a must-have for the New Year. Turnip cake is made with white radish, preserved sausages, shiitake mushrooms, dried seafood and rice flour—a delicious blend symbolizing good fortune. While I enjoy cooking and have even set up an assembly line at home to make turnip cake for friends, the labor-intensive process often leads me to Chef Golo whose expertise and technique are impeccable.

**Cultural Exploration**

Beyond indulging in festive foods, Lunar New Year is a time for cultural exploration. One of the most remarkable places to experience Chinese culture in Southern California is the Chinese Garden at the Huntington Library in San Marino.

This exquisite garden features a stunning lake, graceful pavilions and stone bridges set against a wooded backdrop of mature oaks and pines. It is one of the finest classical-style Chinese gardens outside of China and was meticulously constructed by craftsmen from the Suzhou region. Unique features of the garden include towering limestone rocks that

are believed to embody energy-like ethers, or "qi," and the intricate hand-laid paving patterns which are created from clay tile, shards of limestone and river rocks of various colors.

The Huntington also hosts a Chinese New Year Festival, which is another way to experience Lunar New Year celebrations. This year's festival takes place Feb. 10-11 and features lion dancers, a mask-changing artist, martial arts demonstrations, music, and arts and crafts demonstrations. This is a special opportunity for families and friends to come together, revel in cultural performances and embrace the festive spirit.

As we come together to embrace the upcoming Lunar New Year, powered by the formidable energy of the dragon, I look forward to the warmth of family reunions, the joy of sharing auspicious dishes, and the beauty of cultural traditions that make this festival truly special.

As with all new beginnings, the Lunar New Year is an opportunity to experience something new, make new connections and reflect on our collective potential to reach further. ●

[www.beverlyhillscourier.com](http://www.beverlyhillscourier.com)

# TRAFFIC ADVISORY:

Begins February 24, 2024

**Merv Griffin Way Closure to Thru-Traffic**  
 (Access for Hotel Guests Maintained – Entrance Open Off Wilshire Blvd. Only)

Merv Griffin Way will be impacted for the duration of the One Beverly Hills project (through 2028).

Travel lanes on N. Santa Monica Blvd. along the project site will be reconfigured for construction activities. Two vehicle lanes will remain open in each direction; however, bike lanes and sidewalk access may be impacted. This will be in effect for the duration of the project through 2028.

Traffic will continue to be impacted on Wilshire Blvd. Please use alternate routes.

To learn more about the project, visit [BEVERLYHILLS.ORG/MAJORPROJECTS](http://BEVERLYHILLS.ORG/MAJORPROJECTS) or call the Public Works Customer Service Line at (310) 285-2467.

**CANDIDATE FORUM, from page 1**

event. Audience members walked away with a clear understanding of each candidate's positions, said Goldman. He also thought the discussion about the housing element and the impacts of development in the Southwest region were particularly helpful.

"The audience could get a pretty good feeling of the positions of each candidate and whether they were on top of civic affairs," said Goldman.

Andrea Grossman, the well-known founder of Writers Bloc Presents, moderated the panel. She began the discussion by asking each candidate to make a brief opening statement before asking questions about issues including public safety, the housing element, the Metro Purple (D Line) Extension project, bike lanes, planning and development and reproductive rights.

During opening statements, candidates touted their community ties, professional successes and histories of public service.

Sharon Persovski highlighted her career as an environmental designer and experience as Architectural Commissioner. Craig Corman said his law career would be especially beneficial in navigating city business, and Tiffany Davis said her experiences renting in Beverly Hills and living in similar cities provides her with a unique perspective.

Russell Stuart emphasized his unique background. Born in Vancouver, Canada, Stuart said he is the only military veteran and registered Republican running for council, and he takes a conservative approach to city issues.

In his opening statement and throughout the forum, Robin Rowe positioned himself as the "progressive" candidate, offering proposals—such as building a gondola to ease traffic—that he said would provide new solutions to old problems.

For her first question, Grossman asked the panelists to explain the two primary initiatives they would tackle if elected, and how they would pay for them. Certifying the housing element, increasing public safety, preparing for the Metro opening and improving communication emerged as the overarching goals, though the candidates presented different plans for achieving them.

Alissa Roston said she would hire more officers to crack down on speeding. Nooshin Meshkaty said she would convene a focus group to help certify the housing element. Mary Wells indicated that she would establish a Metro Beverly Hills Police Department unit and Myra Demeter would work collaboratively to plan for the Metro opening.

"We are going to be the terminal station for a few years," Demeter said. "We know there's documented crime, there's drugs, there's homeless people. They will be taken off the train at our stations for a couple of years. We have to deal with that. We need a committee. It cannot be done by me or anybody alone."

Grossman then gave the candidates 20 seconds to explain how they would fund these proposals. Many advocated for finding efficiencies in the city budget and reviewing consulting contracts, while Roston said she would create a vendor oversight committee to review third-party contracts and Wells advocated for zero-based budgeting.

Though the candidates frequently discussed the housing element in relation to other issues, Grossman asked the candidates to specify what the city can do to certify the housing element and identify where affordable units can be zoned.

Corman said that the city's previous attempts to certify the housing element by converting commercially zoned areas into mixed-use zoned areas had failed, and the only way to satisfy the requirements is to plan for taller, denser buildings

in certain parts of the city.

Though he said these locations need to be discussed by the community, he identified the five acres of city-owned land in the industrial section and the tennis court building on La Cienega Boulevard as viable options.

"I agree with Craig that we could look at parts of the city where we could go higher," Roston said, adding that a new ordinance aimed at encouraging adaptive reuse in the mixed-use overlay zone could also meet state requirements.

Grossman also asked candidates how they would handle quality of life concerns arising from major developments planned near residential areas, and if their decisions would be influenced by increased city revenue.

There was broad consensus on the importance of improved community outreach, and some candidates discussed how they had led previous outreach efforts. Meshkaty said she had organized community meetings while serving on the Beverly Hills School District Board of Education and working to pass Measure E, and Corman talked about how he weighed community concerns while evaluating projects before the Planning Commission.

"Minimizing negative impacts on residents from development is obviously one of the primary goals of the city of the Planning Commission," Corman said. "Are there going to be projects where you can't minimize the impacts enough? Yes, and those projects you have to say no [to]."

Stuart, who owns Beverly Hills Guns, said he approached the question from the perspective of a business owner.

"Yes, I've talked to hundreds of residents who are concerned about the small village feel of the city [and] overdevelopment," Stuart said. "But to sit here and say that the financial side of things doesn't matter—of course it matters. Every single question you're probably going to ask is, 'Well, how do you pay for it?' Well, this is how you pay for it. It is revenue generating projects."

Architect Hamid Omrani, however, said the city should pursue different revenue streams, specifically by building more parking structures, which would have the added benefit of reducing congestion, he added.

"We have to go to [a] solution totally different, and we have to work on it," Omrani said.

Many of Grossman's questions were focused on issues specific to Southwestern neighborhoods, and she asked how the candidates plan to improve the Southwestern business corridor while addressing challenges arising from the Metro.

Davis said it is crucial to establish a strong police and surveillance presence near the Wilshire/La Cienega and Wilshire/Rodeo stations, and that certifying the housing element could also be an opportunity to build more mixed use-development in the Southwest.

Corman added that security near Metro stations is paramount, and that the La Cienega area would be a logical place to plan for taller, denser structures. Doing so could "potentially create a new urban core and revitalize that whole stretch," he said.

Demeter noted that addressing safety concerns begins with implementing wayfinding services at the stations, and the city needs to encourage family-oriented businesses in the Southwest that visitors will want to explore.

More parking is also a necessity for reducing traffic, according to Omrani. There are few options for residents to park near the Metro, use the subway, and then return to their cars and drive home, he said, adding that delivery and ridesharing services will likely worsen congestion in the area.

"We have to find a solution to resolve it," he said. "The city will be [a] mess."

Roston said she was "disturbed" by the lack of high-level planning around the Metro opening and that city leaders need to work with Los Angeles County and city officials to devise a comprehensive plan.

Keeping the conversation focused on the Southwest, Grossman also asked candidates about their positions on the bike lanes at Roxbury Park and how they would implement bike lanes in residential areas.

Rowe, an avid biker, said riding a bike in Beverly Hills is "suicidal," and called the lanes near Roxbury Park "a road to nowhere," though he didn't provide a proposal for implementing new lanes.

Corman said that creating a protected bike lane on Roxbury Drive would not work because it would endanger motorists, and he said protected bike lanes should be reserved for major boulevards. Wells agreed that bike lanes are not a good fit for Roxbury Drive and added that the city should adopt a comprehensive bike plan, while Demeter called for a "complete streets" plan in which bike lanes in Beverly Hills connect to lanes in neighboring cities.

Grossman's last question elicited the crowd's biggest reaction. After asking for the candidates' stances on abortion, Grossman asked how they would handle anti-abortion protests in the city, and if they would work to block clinics from opening if faced with the threat of disruptive protests.

Most of the candidates said they were proudly pro-choice and would not be swayed by protesters. Omrani declined to answer, and Stuart said that though he is not anti-abortion, he is "not pro-choice when it comes to abortions right up

to the baby's birth."

After Grossman finished her questions, several residents lined up to ask questions of their own.

One resident asked the candidates to envision Beverly Hills in three years and explain how they will bring that vision to fruition. Davis said the city needs a "facelift," Meshkaty said she hopes to spearhead more senior and affordable housing, while Demeter spoke of the importance of "opening the lines of communication," starting by reinstating longer public comment rules at City Council meetings.

A tense moment came during a confrontation between Goldman and Mark Elliot, founder of the Beverly Hills Renters Alliance, over the amount of time allotted for audience questions. Elliot then asked the candidates to identify a tenant concern and how they would address it.

Roston said she has spoken with many tenants who complain that their units are not being maintained and advocates for random habitability inspections, while Davis said she would work to rehabilitate the city's aging housing stock and serve as a voice for renters like herself.

Corman said he also favors random habitability inspections and would ensure that renters in aging, affordable units are not displaced by efforts to comply with statewide housing laws.

The last question of the night came from Wendy Klenk, founder of the Robertson Boulevard Special Task Force, who asked the candidates whether they support an ordinance to protect the city's urban forest.

After pressing the candidates for a yes or no answer, Klenk was admonished by Goldman for infringing on the other audience members' time. The forum was then called to a close. ●

**SCANDIA HOME BEVERLY HILLS**

332 N. Beverly Drive · 310.860.1486 · beverlyhills@scandiahome.com



Eric Siddall

**DA RACE, from page 1**

many candidates are interested in running for office regardless of narrative amongst the policies of the candidates; the small field in 2020 was more of an outlier, historically.”

According to Calabasas City Councilmember James Bozajian, a past president of the union for L.A. County deputy DAs, “In the last 20 elections for district attorney, there were four occasions where six people rounded out the field. But never more, until now.”

The challengers include four prosecutors in Gascón’s office—Eric Siddall, John McKinney, Jonathan Hatami, and Maria Ramirez—two former federal prosecutors—Jeff Chemerinsky and Nathan Hochman—two deputy DAs turned Superior Court judges—Debra Archuleta and Craig Mitchell—as well as San Bernardino County prosecutor Lloyd Masson, retired judge David S. Milton, and criminal defense attorney Dan Kapelovitz. This two-part series provides a closer look at each of them.

Eric Siddall has the distinction of having sued Gascón, his boss, over the DA’s directives on sentencing enhancements in 2021. Siddall was vice president of the Association of Deputy District Attorneys at the time.

The suit concerned the three strikes law, as well as Gascón’s day one order to dismiss enhancements that were already charged. “I developed, along with others in my union, a legal strategy,” Siddall said. “We won [and] got an injunction against him in the Superior Court, which was upheld by the appellate court.”

“The court ruled that he is not a monarch—that he has to abide by what the legislature and the people have voted on—and forced him to actually start following the law.”

A deputy DA since 2007, Siddall has spent most of his career prosecuting violent criminals, including in the hardcore gang division. That experience has informed his violence reduction strategy, a policy proposal recognizing that most violence is committed by a small percentage of the criminal population.

In prosecuting the Panorama City-based gang Blythe Street, Siddall recalled, “We focused our energy on the individuals who were ordering the murders—and there were dozens of murders—and the actual shooters.” Because of this targeted approach, “We didn’t have to go after a gang of 300, we only had to go after a dozen members.” The result was a dramatic reduction in the area’s homicide rate, including some years with no murders, he said.



John McKinney

Siddall would create an intelligence unit within the DA’s office to focus on those individuals who are the drivers of violence. By doing so, “we can actually reduce incarceration rates [and] we can reduce violence dramatically, all at the same time.”

“I’m not looking to turn back the clock,” Siddall said. He acknowledges the need for forward-looking approaches to the unhoused, the mentally ill and the death penalty (which he says does not work). He wants to expand the use of homeless courts, pointing as a model to Redondo Beach’s program for moving people towards supportive housing. And he advocates building a 3,500-bed secure facility where mental illness can be treated outside of jail.

As a young prosecutor handling misdemeanors, Siddall got to know Beverly Hills, the site of his third assignment. “I don’t think we were taking a very proactive approach in terms of how to get people out of the system, but we were actually prosecuting those crimes, which right now we’re not doing,” he said. “Quality-of-life crimes affect everyone. I don’t think you do any favors to the residents—and you do not do any favors to the people who are committing these crimes—by simply ignoring them.”

Siddall is endorsed by the Association of Deputy District Attorneys.

John McKinney came of age 10 miles outside New York City in Passaic, New Jersey, as the crack cocaine epidemic was devastating urban America. “I’ve been pulled out of cars by police officers for no reason other than I was a young Black man in a car with other young Black men,” he said. “I know what it feels like to be racially profiled.”

As a prosecutor, McKinney has also come to know “very good police officers who do the job the right way, and I think there are far more of them than there are the other.” His experience on both sides of that divide makes him unique in the race, he said, and would be a first for a DA in Los Angeles.

“I’ve run the gauntlet, and I want to use that insight, along with my education at UCLA and my 25 years of on-the-job experience, to bring balance back to the criminal justice system,” McKinney said. In 2022, he successfully prosecuted the killer of noted Crenshaw rapper and activist Nipsey Hussle.

McKinney subscribes to a philosophy of proportional justice, in which each case and each defendant is considered individually. He rejects blanket policies and categorical dispositions. “But most of all I believe in reducing crime that makes our community less safe and less enjoyable to live in,” he said.



Jonathan Hatami

“We’re living at a time of mass victimization,” McKinney said of Gascón’s tenure. “Beverly Hills is suffering under the policies of a charlatan, despite having one of the finest police departments in Los Angeles County and the resources to detect crime. None of that matters if you have a district attorney who is not willing to follow through and demand accountability for people who break the law.”

McKinney notes that Gascón spent most of his 30 years as an LAPD officer under the leadership of Daryl Gates, whom he describes as “one of the most controversial leaders of the department, particularly for the way he has been accused of mistreating communities of color. Never once in that time did we hear George Gascón espouse anything remotely close to a progressive value [or] criticize the department for the way it was treating young Black men. It is only of late, and after he changed his political party from Republican to Democrat, that we hear him expressing concern.”

While the DA in reelection mode is “tough on any crime that makes it into the media ... the George Gascón who showed up on Dec. 7, 2020 is still implementing blanket policies that don’t hold people accountable,” McKinney said. As supervisor for the adult misdemeanor courts in East L.A., McKinney handles lesser offenses that “in the aggregate really affect the overall look and feel of a community,” and in his view have a greater day-to-day impact than the felonies in the headlines: “They’re very important, they should be prioritized.”

McKinney is endorsed by Beverly Hills City Councilmember John Mirisch.

Jonathan Hatami has been a deputy DA for more than 17 years, prosecuting child abuse cases since 2016. “Under Jackie Lacey that was a priority, to make sure that individuals who are abusing, neglecting or murdering children are held accountable,” he said. But Gascón’s day one directives “disallowed us the ability of prosecuting child murderers to the fullest extent of the law.”

Morale in the office is now the lowest he’s ever seen, with prosecutors depressed by Gascón’s abandonment of victims and survivors and by his failure to seek input or collaborate. “He’s very much a dictator,” Hatami said.

While mass incarceration is not the way forward, “just not charging crime, and punishing victims in the present to try to fix injustices in the past, is an injustice in itself,” and has led to “a major public safety crisis,” Hatami said.

The solution instead has to be holistic,



Jeff Chemerinsky

addressing public education, the homeless and drug addiction crises, and rehabilitation through collaborative justice and support courts. “I don’t believe in defunding the police, I believe in giving them more funds to make them better, helping with their training and hiring more police officers,” Hatami said. He is married to a sheriff’s detective and has the endorsement of several police officers’ associations, including that of Beverly Hills.

Hatami does not advocate “oppressive bail,” but as DA he would “use the bully pulpit to collaborate with my law enforcement partners and let the courts know that most people do not support zero bail.” Smash-and-grab robberies and organized retail theft would be charged as felonies, with conspiracy charges where appropriate. Misdemeanors overlooked by Gascón would be prosecuted, including resisting arrest, disturbing the peace, public drunkenness and soliciting prostitution. Public officials, too, would be on notice that no double standard exists for them if they offend.

Hatami would also appoint a deputy DA in each of the county’s 88 cities to liaise with the City Council and receive feedback. “East L.A. is much different than Lancaster, Lancaster is much different than San Dimas,” he said. “Each has different needs.”

Hatami is also endorsed by the elected DAs of Fresno, Riverside and Kern counties.

Jeff Chemerinsky was Chief of the Violent and Organized Crime section of the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Central District of California, successfully prosecuting the leaders of the East Coast Crips and MS-13 in L.A. He left in September to run for DA.

“My number one priority is public safety,” Chemerinsky said. “I also believe in criminal justice reform, and I think people right now have lost confidence in our current district attorney to both keep them safe and to deliver criminal justice reform. And third, I’m running to provide new leadership and accountability, because I think the district attorney’s office badly needs new leadership and a fresh start.”

Chemerinsky said the lack of faith in Gascón led to law enforcement bringing cases to the U.S. attorney’s office instead, including the 2021 daytime shooting and armed robbery at Il Pastaio in Beverly Hills. “It was a very public and violent crime, and the Beverly Hills Police Department brought me the case and I prosecuted it,” he said. All three defendants pled guilty.

He also led the federal robbery program, prosecuting dozens of smash-and-grab cases. It was “inexcusable” for Gascón not



Maria Ramirez

to apply for the millions of dollars made available by the governor to address these crimes, Chemerinsky said: "It's a problem that's really affecting people's sense of safety and security."

Homeless encampments too are in this category. "You can't prosecute your way out of homelessness, but the district attorney's office can apply the law and hold people accountable to keep areas safe, including around encampments, both for the people in the encampments and the surrounding neighbors," he said.

The DA's office needs to do a better job with rehabilitation and reentry programs around mental health, "because too often we lock people up and they don't get the services they need, and they leave jail in worse shape than they entered." Chemerinsky is also a believer in co-response teams, which pair law enforcement officers with mental health professionals to respond to 911 calls, as well as specialized courts.

"Mass incarceration does not work, and we need to make sure we're really careful that we don't implement policies that warehouse people or send them to jail for too long. That traps generations in cycles of poverty, and it's also unjust and unfair," Chemerinsky said. His father, Erwin Chemerinsky, is dean of UC Berkeley School of Law and an eminent legal scholar.

Chemerinsky is endorsed by U.S. Representative Mike Levin, L.A. City Attorney Hydee Feldstein Soto, former L.A. DA Ira Reiner, L.A. City Councilmember Rob Blumenfield, and former U.S. Representative Henry Waxman.

Maria Ramirez has been a prosecutor for 33 years, serving under six elected district attorneys. She was head deputy DA under Steve Cooley and bureau director under

Jackie Lacey and, briefly, George Gascón. Ramirez has alleged she was demoted from that position for opposing the DA's policies.

"I'm the only candidate that has both trial experience in our office and also top management experience," Ramirez said. As head of specialized prosecutions, she had responsibility for the most complex and high-level divisions, such as major crimes, family violence, sex crimes, gang violence and the juvenile division.

Dec. 7, 2020 "sent a shockwave through everyone," Ramirez recalled. Prosecutors understood that their new boss was intent on reform: "We were probably looking forward to learning a new way of going forward," she said. "But it was the manner in which things were done ... It became evident very early on that Mr. Gascón did not really value our opinion or want to work with us to implement his vision."

Born and raised in Boyle Heights, Ramirez believes in a reform-minded approach to public safety. Previously, the DA did not get involved in the social issues surrounding prosecution, but now there is a better understanding of the intersection between criminal justice and mental health and drug addiction. "The DA has a more important role to play in ensuring that we intertwine services for those individuals when we're thinking of ways to handle or sentence cases," she said.

The DA's office needs "strong partnership with groups and departments that have that expertise," but it should be developed in-house as well through workforce training and education. Ramirez also wants legislation to create more secure facilities to treat individuals with mental illness who commit violent crimes. And she advocates a process for evaluating the cases of juveniles aged 16 and 17 with respect to rehabilitation.

But she opposes Gascón-style blanket limitations on charges and enhancements. She faults the new bail policy as well for its lack of accountability for property crimes like retail and car thefts. Ramirez pledges "to work with the Superior Court to make sure we take into consideration the repeat offenders that are committing these crimes."

Ramirez is endorsed by retired California Supreme Court Justice Carlos Moreno. ●

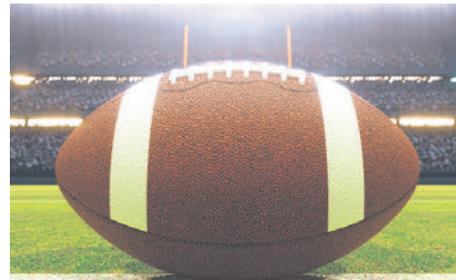
## Holocaust Survivor Addresses Rotary Club



Joe Alexander, a 101 year-old Holocaust survivor, addressed the Feb. 5 Rotary Club of Beverly Hills luncheon as a special guest.

## BHPD Recommends a "Go Safely" Game Plan

As the excitement builds for Super Bowl LVIII, the Beverly Hills Police Department (BHPD) is reminding football fans to intercept impaired driving if they're heading out to a Super Bowl party and plan to drink. All are urged to stick to the "Go Safely" game plan and choose a sober way to go.



On Super Bowl LVIII Sunday (Feb. 11), the BHPD will have additional officers on patrol looking for drivers suspected of being under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.

"Let's make sure Super Bowl Sunday is remembered for great plays on the field, not for unnecessary risks on the road," Chief Mark G. Stainbrook said. "Before you grab a drink, plan ahead for a sober designated driver. Choosing a safer way to go is a win-win for everyone."

BHPD is reminding the public that alcohol is not the only substance that impairs. Marijuana, prescription medications, and over-the-counter drugs may also hinder the ability to drive safely.



Virtual Workshop:

## Regulating Single-Use Plastic & Expanded Polystyrene



- The City is on track to pass an ordinance that will reduce plastic waste by requiring food facilities to use compostable and recyclable foodware. Council will review the ordinance on March 11, 2024.



- This ordinance will prohibit the distribution of single-use plastic foodware and the sale of expanded polystyrene (e.g. Styrofoam) products, impacting businesses such as restaurants, grocery stores, hotels, and pharmacies.

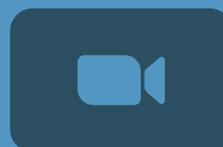
Join the Sustainability Team to learn more about the ordinance, compliance, and resources, with time at the end for Q&A.

Monday, February

26

2024 | 3 - 4 pm

Questions? Feedback? Email us at [AskPW@Beverlyhills.org](mailto:AskPW@Beverlyhills.org)



Join via Zoom: [beverlyhills-org.zoom.us/my/community](https://beverlyhills-org.zoom.us/j/community)  
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Call-in: (310) 288-1020

More information here: [beverlyhills.org/plasticandfoam](https://beverlyhills.org/plasticandfoam)

## SUPER BOWL LVIII NFL SCHEDULE & ODDS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11

SAN FRANCISCO 49ers vs. KANSAS CITY CHIEFS

3:30 PM CBS (SF -2) • Over/Under: 47 1/2 • SF 6:5 Favorite.

Super Bowl Spread by: Danny Sheridan

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

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Fax: 310-271-5118  
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*Publishers*

Lisa Friedman Bloch

John Bendheim

\*\*\*\*\*

*Executive Editor*

Ana Figueroa

\*\*\*\*\*

*Writers*

Clara Harter

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Eric Licas

Eamon Murphy

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\*\*\*\*\*

*Advertising Directors*

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# Birthdays

The Courier's Birthday Page is Proudly Sponsored by

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**HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY**  
**AIME SHERRY**  
February 6



**HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY**  
**MARY WELLS**  
February 8



**ORI S. BLUMENFELD**  
February 11



**MUMSEY NEMIROFF**  
February 11



**THOMAS BELL**  
February 12



**HARRISON LITVACK**  
February 14



**NADER AL-NAJI**  
February 15

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## Astrology

BY HOLIDAY MATIS

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). There's a time to "dance like no one is watching" and this isn't it. The moves need refinement. Someone will be watching and you'll give yourself every chance at feeling good about your performance.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). It's funny how it's sometimes easier to give your unconditional love and acceptance to those you don't know than it is to tolerate the flaws of familiar loved ones. But if you can reduce expectations of interactions, there will be more room for the love to flow in.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). You'll make a casual presentation, which will get you ready for something bigger. As awkward as it may be to stumble your way through it, this is what you need to do to be graceful when it really matters.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). When you like a thing, you know. You know right away. You don't have to know everything about a subject to do that. The parts that are for you will call out to you. You'll sample many delights and land on a few favorites.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). The universe

isn't trying to trick you, but there will be surprises that could make you feel any number of ways. Offer the benefit of doubt to all. Choose interpretations that make you feel loved and supported.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your success formula today involves devoting big energy to small things. What's important is not the size of the task, but love you bring to it. Friends with a background very different from yours will be especially helpful.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). People extend trust in their own timing and for their own reasons. It's something you wouldn't try to rush, because then you'd be saying "trust me" and everyone knows that the one who says "trust me" is the least trustworthy.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Can you envision something a little bigger? Pull it like taffy to see how far the idea can stretch without breaking. Your exercises in mental flexibility will lead to creative breakthroughs.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You know right away when a thing is not for you. Your "yes" and "maybe" answers take much longer. You'll get a feel for a thing, gather more facts, see it in different lights and times. It's not a

process to rush.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your power move: get someone's attention and then get right to the point. You're interested in making things happen quickly for people. You'll attract the same from others. When people value your time, they value you.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You don't wait for things to be happy about; you're just happy and then sweet things happen. The warmth and

kindness of your smile will brighten days, starting with your own and encompassing the entire world via a butterfly effect.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). You'll be the recipient of admiration. Give yourself unselfconsciously over to it and let yourself be respected and praised whether or not you feel you've earned it, because it is impossible to know the extent of what you mean to others.



Chorizo is the eligible dog for adoption of the week. He is a 7-month-old, 6-pound mixed puppy that is ready to join a new home. If interested in Chorizo, please contact Shelter of Hope at 805-379-3538.

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



Ceremonial groundbreaking for One Beverly Hills took place on Feb. 8.



Photos by Chris Schmitt

Cain CEO Jonathan Goldstein and Beny Alagem holding up the sign for the new “Alagem Way” announced at the ceremony

**ONE BEVERLY HILLS, from page 1**  
home to 255 condominiums, 78 hotel suites, 30,000 square feet of commercial space and 8.5 acres of lush gardens. A pair of 31- and 28-story residential towers will rank as the tallest buildings in Beverly Hills and the project will also include a renovation of the Beverly Hilton.

The development is led by Cain International alongside OKO Group. Alagem Capital remains a committed partner in the development. Indeed, Alagem’s Chairman and CEO Beny Alagem spoke at the groundbreaking of a “20-year vision for One Beverly Hills.” He added, “Soon it will be the place to live, work, eat, relax in the most beautiful gardens that will surround us. This is a tremendous moment for the city of Beverly Hills and for all its residents.”

In recognition of Alagem’s singular role in bringing the project about, Cain CEO and co-founder Jonathan Goldstein announced that the road between the residential towers and the Los Angeles Country Club will be named Alagem Way.

Luxury hospitality leader Aman Group will operate the hotel, a 100,000 square-foot private club and a limited number of Aman-branded residences within the development’s two towers.

“I think that what we’ve done is produced something very, very special, which will bring long-term benefits to Beverly Hills,” Goldstein told the Courier.

Those benefits include over 2,700 construction jobs, four acres of publicly accessible gardens and an estimated \$9 billion in local spending across 30 years. And that is not to mention the prestige of bringing one of the world’s foremost luxury hotel brands to Beverly Hills, he added.

“It plays both to the local environment

and the local economy,” said Goldstein. “It’s important that when you build something, you create something that helps everybody, and we hope that’s what we’re doing.

Aman launched its first residence in Thailand and now operates 35 properties around the world. In keeping with Aman tradition, a group of Tibetan monks performed a ceremonial blessing at the groundbreaking.

The hospitality group is known for its secluded and intimate resorts focused on wellness, serenity and embracing the cultural heritage of their surroundings.

While the vibrancy of Beverly Hills is distinct from other Aman destinations like the remote sands of the Utah desert, lofty peaks of Bhutan or ancient pine forests of Bodrum, Aman Beverly Hills—located amidst a botanical garden—aspire to the same spirit of tranquility and bliss.

The botanical gardens will be cultivated by landscape architects RIOS and feature over 200 species of California plants and trees including palms, oaks, sycamores, succulents and olives. The use of native and water-wise plants ties into the development’s mission of sustainability and will be watered with collected rainwater and gray wastewater.

In addition, the development will employ a central geothermal system, which uses the temperature of the earth to naturally heat and cool water thereby reducing the number of cooling towers needed and saving millions of gallons of water annually, said Goldstein.

“We’ve really invested in a sustainable future, so we’re bringing together multiple technologies to lower emissions and energy consumption,” Goldstein told the Courier.

The building design is spearheaded by renowned architecture firm Foster + Partners, with Aman designs by Kerry Hill Architects.

Foster + Partners is helmed by world-famous British architect Lord Norman Robert Foster, known for designing The Gherkin in London and Apple’s corporate headquarters in Cupertino.

The project was approved by the Beverly Hills City Council in a 4-1 vote in 2021, with Councilmember John Mirisch voting against the development due to its lack of affordable housing. Construction will be run by Turner Construction Company and is expected to be

completed in late 2027-early 2028, Goldstein said.

“We’re hoping that we are going to bring to bear the experiences and the lessons we’ve learned over many years to one of the great projects in the world,” said Goldstein. “We’re very, very excited that the vision of many people is now going to come to the fore and we’re proud to be the leaders of that process.”

“We hope people will be proud of what results and enjoy it for generations to come.” ●



Rendering courtesy of WATG architects

City Council recently approved a new rooftop restaurant at L’Ermitage Hotel, alongside an expansion of their ground floor restaurant.

#### **CITY COUNCIL, from page 1**

really getting input from them, seeing what’s important to them, and you’ve made it an exciting place where people can come and visit and dine,” said Councilmember Sharona Nazarian, addressing L’Ermitage management. “What I heard tonight over and over again is that you want to be a part of the community and I think this would be a great benefit to our community.”

L’Ermitage began the process of seeking approval for its dining expansion three years ago in an effort to maintain its competitiveness within a market of some of the world’s foremost luxury hotels.

“This zoning text amendment before you and modification to the existing entitlements will allow L’Ermitage to remain competitive in today’s hospitality landscape,” said L’Ermitage General Manager Scott Berger. “These updates will allow the hotel to take full advantage of existing facilities by creating additional dining options that our clients expect, and our competitors already offer.”

The Feb. 6 City Council meeting was flooded with speeches and letters of support

for the proposed expansion of L’Ermitage.

“I went around with a petition to all my neighbors and most of my neighbors on my block on Foothill [Road] were happy to sign and support their expansion and all I can say is I truly believe that this is a good thing for them and a good thing for the city,” said local resident Lou Parra.

The hotel has worked to build a strong relationship with the surrounding community by welcoming them to come and discuss the proposed restaurant expansion at any time. It also offers local residents benefits such as meal discounts and complimentary valet services.

Councilmembers were struck by how strong the relationship has become between the hotel and neighborhood and the number of residents who came to the City Council meeting to speak in favor of the L’Ermitage.

“I can’t remember a time where we sat here and heard the neighborhood come out in support of a business like this,” said Mayor Dr. Julian Gold. “I tip my hat to you [L’Ermitage management], whatever you have done you have done right.” ●

## Holocaust Remembrance Day Observed at Sinai Temple



Councilmember Sharona Nazarian attended a Holocaust Survivors brunch at Sinai Temple on Feb. 4 in honor of International Holocaust Remembrance Day. Pictured with Nazarian are (from left): Eli Hakakian, Bitu Nemadi and Holocaust survivor Eva Brettler.

# Fun and Games

**SUDOKU**  
02/09/24 ISSUE

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**SUDOKU ANSWERS**  
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**PUZZLE ANSWERS**  
02/02/24 ISSUE

BUD	ATWAR	ASSISTS	BIB
UTE	CHILI	WATCHIT	UNO
GOTIT	OFFTHE	GROUND	STY
OPEN	REREAD	ANTS	CIA
FICUS	YEAR	OUI	RANGE
FATIMA	DIDNTS	CALEWELL	
TACT	DIETS	SIT	SIA
EBB	SCOT	EGO	FLIPSON
POACHED	DOURE	EMPLOYEES	
CORRIDORS	VALOR	RCPT	
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TEEN	HOMIE	TEASPOONS	
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**THE NEW YORK TIMES SUNDAY MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE**  
02/09/24 ISSUE

**HAMMER TIME**

BY NATHAN HASEGAWA / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Nathan Hasegawa, of Oakland, Calif., is a junior at Harvey Mudd College majoring in mathematics. This is his second crossword for The Times. His first was in 2021, during his senior year in high school, when every student had to pursue a yearlong project and Nathan's was to get a crossword published here. This follow-up, which has a multifaceted theme, was two years in the making (on and off). — W.S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Toy on a racetrack
  - 8 Soccer star who has won a record eight Ballon d'Or awards
  - 13 Like "t," "k" and "p," in phonetics
  - 20 What Hemingway claimed he did to the ending of "A Farewell to Arms" 39 times
  - 21 Dartmouth and Penn, e.g.
  - 22 Fled
  - 23 Mnemonic start
  - 24 Actor Leary
  - 25 Flowerlike sea creature
  - 26 Massive victory ... or a high score in 113-Across?
  - 29 Really enjoys oneself
  - 31 Doofuses
  - 34 Wetland
  - 35 Objections
  - 36 Be part of an uprising
  - 37 Lowercase letter that resembles an "n"
  - 39 Las Vegas resort with a music-inspired name
  - 41 But
  - 42 Resort amenity
  - 45 Medical procedure, for short
  - 46 Overabundance
  - 47 Vodka drink, informally
  - 49 Tremble
  - 52 Contaminating trace
  - 53 Chemical-solution strength
  - 54 "Yeshiva boy" played by Barbra Streisand
  - 55 Author who penned the line "Sometimes the smallest things take up the most room in your heart"
  - 56 Climate issue addressed in the Montreal Protocol
  - 58 Approach something with gusto
  - 60 What's the matter?
  - 61 Sunder
  - 62 Shapes of many carrot slices
  - 64 Currency worth a little more than dollars
  - 66 Spreadsheet command
  - 67 Spot for a loft
  - 68 Muesli bit
  - 70 Make a pile, perhaps
  - 72 Rentable transportation options
  - 76 Fracas
  - 78 Music's Little \_\_\_\_\_
  - 83 Used TurboTax, say
  - 84 Journalist's accessory
  - 86 Knuckle-headed act?
  - 87 Biblical man who lost his birthright
  - 88 2017 musical retelling of the stories of Henry VIII's wives
  - 89 Symbol for torque, in physics
  - 91 Many a viral post
  - 92 Point of no return?
  - 95 Ace
  - 98 Coast
  - 101 Ellipsis element
  - 104 Aviator's maneuver in a crosswind landing
  - 108 Proportional
  - 109 "The Last Supper," for one
  - 111 Spot on an afternoon schedule?
  - 112 Doofuses
  - 113 Game represented visually in this puzzle
  - 116 Talks like Tom Waits
  - 117 Justice Kagan
  - 118 Try for a seat in the Capitol
  - 119 Fifth-century pope dubbed "the Great"
  - 120 Constant nuisance
  - 121 Like some postage and parking spaces
  - 122 Fish whose juveniles can climb walls
  - 15 Short tennis session
  - 16 Gregor \_\_\_\_\_, Franz Kafka character
  - 17 \_\_\_\_\_ Jima
  - 18 Small band transport
  - 19 Image at the top of the pyramid on the back of a dollar bill
  - 27 "\_\_\_\_\_ la vista, baby!"
  - 28 Insertion mark
  - 29 Put on a pedestal, say
  - 30 Jennifer of "The Morning Show"
  - 32 "White Noise" author Don
  - 33 What a shock!
  - 34 11,111 vis-à-vis 123,454,321
  - 38 Swear (to)
  - 40 Tweak, say
  - 42 Ejects forcefully
  - 43 Primitive camera feature
  - 44 Like a winner of a mountain marathon, in two senses
  - 46 First name of Julius Caesar
  - 48 Unrefined mined find
  - 50 Finish line for the first stage of the first Tour de France
  - 51 Giant name in Giants history
  - 52 Cinemax competitor
  - 57 It's facedown on a poker table
  - 58 Negroni spirit
  - 59 [I'm SO mad!]
  - 60 Cotton fabric often used in bandages
  - 63 Hosp. areas
  - 65 Gondola propeller
  - 67 Honey
  - 69 Verb sometimes abbreviated to its central letter
  - 71 Prefix with tourist or hotel
  - 72 Series finale
  - 73 Counterfactual starters, in logic
  - 74 Karachi-based carrier
  - 75 Certain urban nightlife
  - 76 Military hiding spot
  - 77 Place that's cramped and squalid
  - 79 Something a presidential candidate often wins
  - 80 Gray, say
  - 81 Part of a hoop
  - 82 It may be repeated after "fiddle"
  - 84 Oregon-based athletic brand
  - 85 Podium
  - 88 Items in a hardware store bin
  - 90 Acting as one
  - 93 Capital in the Himalayas
  - 94 Company originally known as Control Video Corp.
  - 96 Shelley's "\_\_\_\_\_ to the West Wind"
  - 97 Converges on
  - 98 Source of a sleeper hit, perhaps
  - 99 \_\_\_\_\_ Holmes, Netflix character played by Millie Bobby Brown
  - 100 Pitkin County ski town
  - 101 Old Venetian money
  - 102 Give a keynote, say
  - 103 Performer with lions
  - 105 Cotton fabric often used in hosiery
  - 106 Urge
  - 107 Some dinero
  - 109 Part of a lion
  - 110 Ear piece
  - 114 Bottom line?
  - 115 Container component

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

# Public Notices

## T.S. No.: 23-9973

**Notice of Trustee's Sale**  
 Loan No.: \*5678 You Are In Default Under A Deed Of Trust, Security Agreement And Fixture Filing (With Assignment Of Rents And Leases) Dated 1/4/2019. 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 Proceeding Against You, You Should Contact A Lawyer. On 02/27/2024, at 11:00 AM, Prestige Default Services, LLC, as duly appointed Trustee under and pursuant that certain Deed of Trust, Security Agreement and Fixture Filing (with Assignment of Rents and Leases) dated 01/04/2019 ("Deed of Trust") recorded on 01/22/2019, as Document No. 20190058440, of Official Records in the Office of the Recorder of Los Angeles County, California, executed by Metallic Blue Development, LLC, a California limited liability company ("Trustor"), as trustor, to secure obligations in favor of Center Street Lending Fund IV SPE, LLC, as beneficiary. Will Sell At Public Auction To The Highest Bidder For Cash (payable at time of sale in lawful money of the United States, by Cash, a Cashier's check drawn by 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 Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state). At: behind fountain located in the Civic Center Plaza, 400 Civic Center Plaza, Pomona, all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under the Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County, California, describing the land therein: Lot 33 of Tract No. 5576, in the City of West Hollywood, County of Los Angeles, State of California, as per Map recorded in Book 60, Page 22 of Maps, in the Office of the County Recorder of said County A.P.N.: 5531-002-020 The 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: 1123 North Vista Street, West Hollywood, CA 90046 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, but without covenant or warrant, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum

of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust, with interest (including, without limitation, default interest) and late charges thereon, the prepayment premium, legal fees and other costs, fees, expenses and charges, and advances, and interest thereon, and the fees, charges and expenses of the undersigned trustee ("Trustee") as provided in the note, loan agreement and other loan documents secured by the Deed of Trust, at the time of the initial publication of this Notice of Trustee's Sale reasonably estimated to be \$1,436,660.94. The amount may be greater on the day of sale as accrued interest, costs and fees, and any additional advances, will increase the figure prior to sale. The current beneficiary under the Deed of Trust (the "Beneficiary") hereby elects to conduct a unified foreclosure sale pursuant to the provisions of California Commercial Code Section 9604(a)(1) (B) and to include in the non-judicial foreclosure of the estate described in this Notice of Unified Trustee's Sale all of the personal property and fixtures described in the Deed of Trust. The Beneficiary reserves the right to revoke its election as to some or all of said personal property and/or fixtures, or to add additional personal property and/or fixtures to the election herein expressed, at the Beneficiary's sole election, from time to time and at any time until the consummation of the trustee's sale to be conducted pursuant to the Deed of Trust and this Notice of Unified Trustee's Sale. The personal property which was given as security for trustor's obligation as described in the Deed of Trust. No warranty is made that any or all of the personal property and/or fixtures still exists or is available for the successful bidder and no warranty is made as to the condition of any of the personal property and/or fixtures, which shall be sold "as is" "where is". The Beneficiary heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned, a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a Written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the County where the real property is located and more than three months have elapsed since such recordation. 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 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 23-9711. 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: 01/17/2024 Prestige Default Services, LLC 1920 Old Tustin Ave. Santa Ana, California 92705 Questions: 949-427-2010 Sale Line: (877) 440-4460 /s/ Tina Suihkonen, Vice President of Operations and Compliance BHC Published: 02/02/24, 02/09/24, 02/16/24

### NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE Trustee Sale No. 132273-1

Loan No. CL0118 Title Order No. 2376551CAD APN 4345-023-004 TRA No. YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 04/16/2022. 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 PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. MORTGAGE LENDER SERVICES, INC. as the duly appointed Trustee WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH (payable at time of sale in lawful money of the United States, by cash, a cashier's check drawn by 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 Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state) all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust, described as follows: Trustor(s): JOYCE PITCHIN KAY Deed of Trust: recorded on 04/22/2022 as Document No. 20220440610 of official records in the Office of the Recorder of LOS ANGELES County, California, Date of Trustee's Sale: 02/22/2024 at 10:00 AM Trustee's Sale Location: Behind the fountain located in Civic Center Plaza, 400 Civic Center Plaza, Pomona CA 91766 The property situated in said County, California describing the land therein: Lot 4 in Block 152 of Beverly Hills, in the City of Beverly Hills, County of Los Angeles, State of California as per Map recorded in Book 21, Page(s) 45, of Maps in the office of the County recorder of said County. The 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: 607 NORTH CAMDEN DRIVE, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90212. 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, 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 said Deed of Trust, with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, if any, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, estimated fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to-wit: \$9,047,329.58 (Estimated). Accrued interest and additional advances, if any, will increase this figure prior to sale. The Beneficiary may elect to bid less than the full credit bid. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a writ-

ten Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located and more than three months have elapsed since such recordation. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. 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 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 website [www.nationwideposting.com](http://www.nationwideposting.com), using the file number assigned to this case 132273-1. 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. IF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY CONTAINS FROM ONE TO FOUR SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCES, THE FOLLOWING WILL APPLY: NOTICE TO TENANT OR ELIGIBLE BIDDER: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (916) 939-0772, or visit this internet website [www.nationwideposting.com](http://www.nationwideposting.com), using the file number assigned to this case 132273-1 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, by remitting the funds and affidavit described in Section 2924m(c) of the Civil Code, 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: 01/19/2024 MORTGAGE LENDER SERVICES, INC. 7844 Madison Ave., Suite 145 Fair Oaks, CA 95628 (916) 962-3453 Sale Information Line: 916-939-0772 or [www.nationwideposting.com](http://www.nationwideposting.com) MARSHA TOWNSEND, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER MORTGAGE LENDER SERVICES, INC. MAY BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. NPP0445983 To: BEVERLY HILLS COURIER 02/02/2024, 02/09/2024, 02/16/2024

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2024 018621 The following is/are doing business as: 1) LO SPAZIO 2) LO SPAZIO JEWELRY 2029 Century Park East #400 Los Angeles, CA 90067; OPES INTERNATIONAL & CO., INC. 2029 Century Park East #400 Los Angeles, CA 90067; The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION, AI #ON 26-0291915 registrant(s) has NOT begun to transact business under the name(s) listed: OPES INTERNATIONAL & CO., INC.

Orawan Abba, Vice President: Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: January 26, 2024; Published: February 2, 9, 16, 23, 2024 LACC N/C

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2024014966 The following is/are doing business as: WINE CHEESE ETC. 2938 Clark Ave. Lon Beach, CA 90815; Murray's Wine Cheese Etc., LLC. 2938 Clark Ave. Lon Beach, CA 90815; The business is conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY registrant(s) has NOT begun to transact business under the name(s) listed: Murray's Wine Cheese Etc., LLC., Stephen Murray, Managing Member; Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: January 22, 2024; Published: February 2, 9, 16, 23, 2024 LACC N/C

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2023276972 The following is/are doing business as: MORNINGSTAR PRODUCTIONS 10850 Wilshire Blvd. #500 Los Angeles, CA 90024; ROY CAMPANELLA II 10850 Wilshire Blvd. #500 Los Angeles, CA 90024; The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on December 2023: Roy Campanella II, Owner; Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: December 28, 2023; Published: February 2, 9, 16, 23, 2024 LACC N/C

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2024021629 The following is/are doing business as: DELAWARE PROPERTIES 11022 Santa Monica Blvd #280 Los Angeles, CA 90025; ABRAHAM YERMIAN 11022 Santa Monica Blvd #280 Los Angeles, CA 90025; VANESSA YERMIAN 11022 Santa Monica Blvd #280 Los Angeles, CA 90025; The business is conducted by: A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP registrant(s) has NOT begun to transact business under the name(s) listed: Abraham Yermian, General Partner Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: January 30, 2024; Published: February 2, 9, 16, 23, 2024 LACC N/C

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2024015274 The following is/are doing business as: VENTURA TOWNEHOUSE 4900 Telegraph Road, Ventura, CA 9300; PACIFIC VIEW OF VENTURA, INC 22041 Clarendon St. Ste 100, Woodland Hills, CA 91367; The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on April 2012: PACIFIC VIEW OF VENTURA, Yaacov Isaacs, President: Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: January 23, 2024; Published: January 26, February 2, 9, 16, 2024 LACC N/C

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2024028375 The following is/are doing business as: 1) BEVERLY HILLS COURIER TRAVEL 2) BEVERLY HILLS COURIER DESTINATIONS 499 N. Canon Drive #212 Beverly Hills, CA 90210 BH Courier Acquisition, LLC 499 N. Canon Dr. #212, Beverly Hills, CA 90210; The business is conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY AI #ON 20193537403 registrant(s) has NOT begun to transact business under the name(s) listed: BH Courier Acquisition, LLC, John Bendheim, Managing Member; Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: February 7, 2024; Published: February 9, 16, 23, March 1, 2024 LACC N/C

# Public Notices

## OBITUARIES

### Lillian Pierson Lovelace 1927 - 2024



**Lillian Pierson Lovelace**, 96, wife, mother and gracious philanthropist, died at her home in Montecito on Tuesday January 16, her family announced.

Born September 9, 1927, in Los Angeles, CA, Lillian Claire Pierson grew up in Santa Monica, the youngest child of George Mercer Pierson and Rena Waltz Pierson. She attended Antioch College in Yellow Springs, Ohio, from 1946-48, and then UCLA, studying psychology. In 1950, she married Jon B. Lovelace, who would go on to become Chairman of Capital Research and Management in 1964. Her husband died in 2011. The couple had four children, moving to Whittier, CA, in 1956 and Montecito in 1972.

Starting with the League of Women Voters, of whose Whittier chapter she was president from 1968-72, Lillian played an active role in many organizations. A charter founder of the Los Angeles Museum of Contemporary Art, she served on its board from 1995 to 2019, "one of the great philanthropists of Los Angeles," said David G. Johnson, who served alongside her as board president of MOCA at a time when she was Vice Chair. She also had a long history of support of the Idyllwild Arts Foundation, the Los Angeles Master Chorale, Ahmanson-Lovelace Brain Mapping Center at UCLA, Craft in America, and supported countless other artists and causes, most often donating anonymously.

Lillian long retained a family residence in Beverly Hills, although her home was in Santa Barbara, where she played an important role with the Santa Barbara Museum of Art, the UCSB Foundation, the Casa Serena women's recovery residence, and La Casa de Maria retreat.

A garden the Lovelace family created around the Montecito residence, full of native and drought-resistant plants, had a legendary freeform pool designed by landscape architect Isabelle Greene to resemble a natural outcropping. One scholar called it "unquestionably among the finest examples of western garden art of the late twentieth century."

Lillian, in her 60s, returned to finish her B.A. at Antioch (this time its Santa Barbara university campus), graduating in 1989. Then she joined as a pivotal member on the Antioch board. She used her quiet diplomatic skills to help facilitate the new structure and relationship between the university, which has branches around the country, and the original Ohio college. "Antioch wouldn't exist without her," said Chancellor William Groves, noting her "keen business mind."

"Lillian had a profound impact on so many people and organizations," said L.A. Master Chorale artistic director Grant Gershon. "She made the world better in myriad ways that live on through her good works."

Lillian Pierson Lovelace is survived by her four children; Carey, Jim, Jeff, and Rob; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. A public memorial will be held in Los Angeles at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to one of the many organizations that Lillian so dearly loved.

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**Loan No.: 16194 - Kay TS no. 2023-10881 APN: 4345-023-004 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE UNDER DEED OF TRUST YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 6/9/2022, 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. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,** that on 2/29/2024, at 10:00 AM of said day, Behind the fountain located in Civic Center Plaza, 400 Civic Center Plaza, Pomona, CA 91766, Worldwide Lenders, Inc., a Delaware Corporation, as duly appointed Trustee under and pursuant to the power of sale conferred in that certain Deed of Trust executed by Joyce P. Kay, an unmarried woman recorded on 6/22/2022 in Book n/a of Official Records of LOS ANGELES County, at page n/a, Recorder's Instrument No. 20220655709, by reason of a breach or default in payment or performance of the obligations secured thereby, including that breach or default, Notice of which was recorded 10/25/2023 as Recorder's Instrument No. 20230728858, in Book n/a, at page n/a, WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, lawful money of the United States, evidenced by a Cashier's Check drawn on a state or national bank, or the equivalent thereof drawn on any other financial institution specified in section 5102 of the California Financial Code, authorized to do business in the State of California, ALL PAYABLE AT THE TIME OF SALE, all right, title and interest held by it as Trustee, in that real property situated in said County and State, described as follows: Lot 4, Block 152, per Map, Book 21, Page 45 of Maps. The street address or other common designation of the real property hereinabove described is purported to be: 607 North Camden Drive, Beverly Hills, CA 90210. The undersigned disclaims all liability for any incorrectness in said street address or other common designation. Said sale will be made without warranty, express or implied regarding title, posses-

## PUBLIC NOTICES

sion, or other encumbrances, to satisfy the unpaid obligations secured by said Deed of Trust, with interest and other sums as provided therein; plus advances, if any, thereunder and interest thereon; and plus fees, charges, and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of said obligations at the time of initial publication of this Notice is \$661,446.89. In the event that the deed of trust described in this Notice of Trustee's Sale is secured by real property containing from one to four single-family residences, the following notices are provided pursuant to the provisions of Civil Code section 2924f: 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's 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 website

## PUBLIC NOTICES

www.nationwideposting.com, using the file number assigned to this case 2023-10881. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not be immediately 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 916-939-0772, or visit this internet website www.nationwideposting.com, using the file number assigned to this case 2023-10881 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, by remitting the funds and affidavit or declaration described in Section 2924m(c) of the Civil Code, 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. Dated: February 6, 2024 Worldwide Lenders, Inc., a Delaware Corporation, as Trustee By: Ashwood TD Services LLC, its Agent Christopher Loria, Trustee's Sale Officer 231 E. Alessandro Blvd., Ste. 6A-693, Riverside, CA 92508 Tel.: (951) 215-0069 Fax: (805) 323-9054 Trustee's Sale Information: (916) 939-0772 or www.nationwideposting.com NPP0456676

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

♥️ *Paula Anderson:* ♥️

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*Bob Rubin* ♥️

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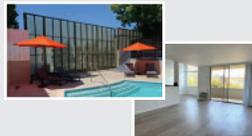
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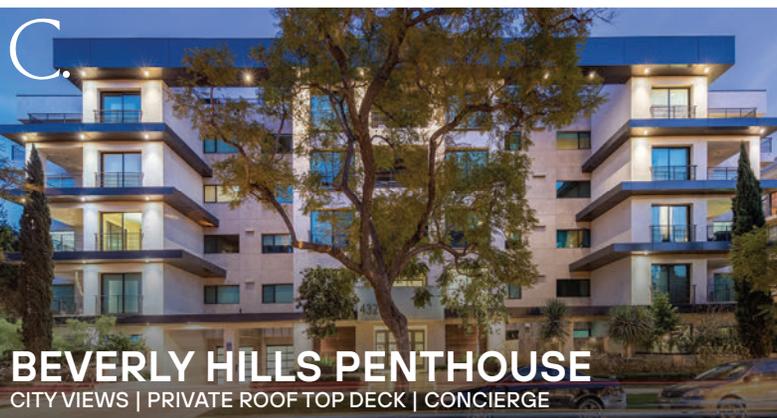
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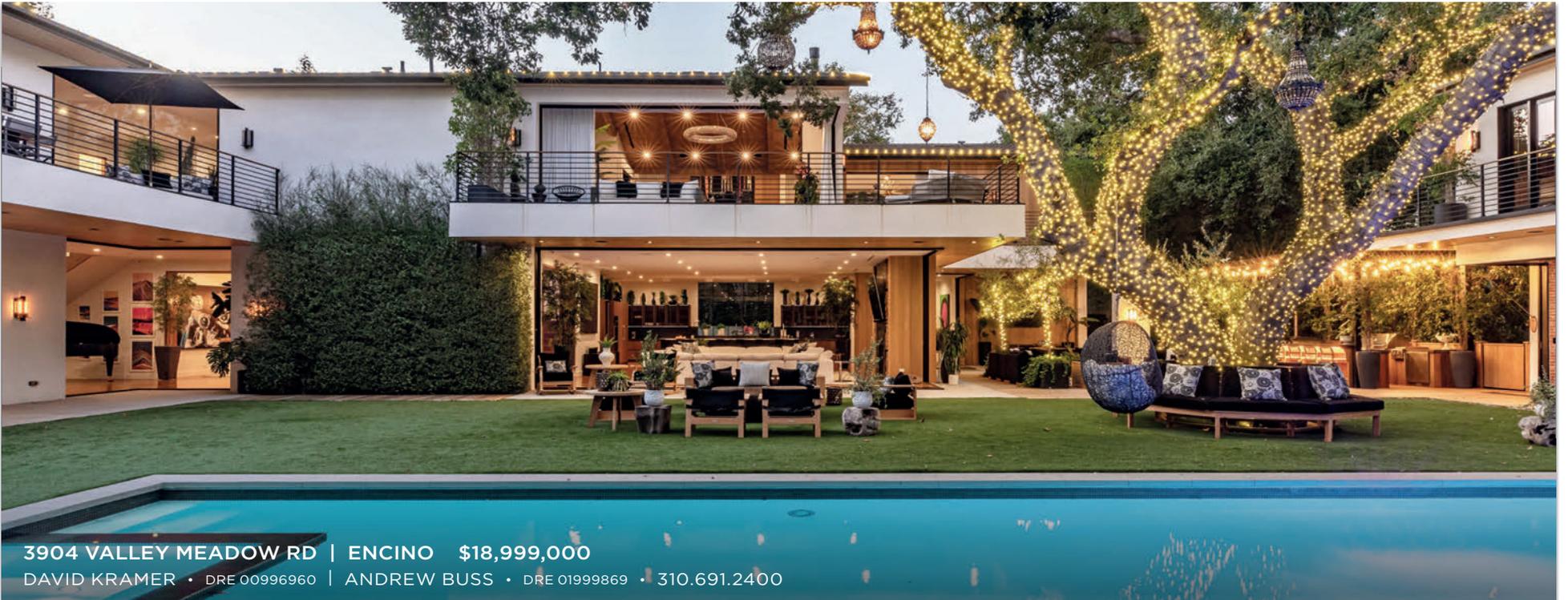
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