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THE WEATHER, BEVERLY HILLS

☀️ Friday	73° 59°
☀️ Saturday	71° 58°
☀️ Sunday	73° 60°
☀️ Monday	79° 62°
☀️ Tuesday	78° 62°
☀️ Wednesday	79° 63°
☀️ Thursday	78° 63°

Friedman, Nazarian, Mirisch Retain City Council Lead

BY SAMUEL BRASLOW



More than one week after the June 7 election, Councilmembers Lester Friedman and John Mirisch and Commissioner Sharona Nazarian have maintained their lead in the race for Beverly Hills City Council. Mirisch, who currently places in third, has a slim 91-vote lead over

Councilmember Robert Wunderlich.

“Feeling optimistic, but it ain’t over,” Mirisch told the Courier about the continued lead.

Wunderlich did not respond to a request for comment.

(City Council Lead continues on page 10)

New Water Conservation Measures Enacted in Beverly Hills

BY SAMUEL BRASLOW

In light of historic drought conditions, the City Council unanimously voted to impose new water conservation measures. The city will now limit outdoor watering to two days a week and prohibit the use of drinkable water for outdoor irrigation between 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

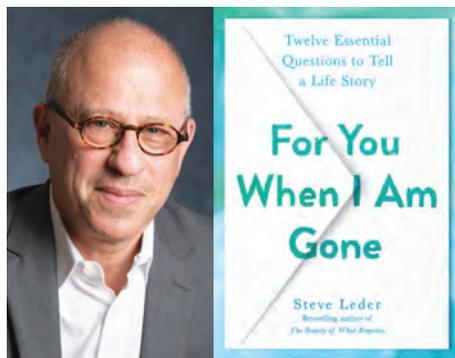
“As others have pointed out, we’re in the midst of a historic drought. Some would say it’s the most severe drought that the Southwest U.S. has had for 1,000 years,” said Councilmember Robert Wunderlich. “It really is a crisis.”

The city has divided the watering schedules between residences north and south of Santa Monica Boulevard. Homes to the north can water on Mondays and Fridays; residences to the south can water Tuesdays and Saturdays.

(Water Conservation Methods continues on page 10)

Life, Love and Legacy: Rabbi Steve Leder’s ‘For You When I Am Gone’

BY ANA FIGUEROA



Rabbi Steve Leder and the cover of his latest book. Leder photo by Lesley Pedraza

The most important story we will ever tell is our own. Yet, for a variety of reasons, most of us fail to give that task its due. In his latest book, *For You When I Am Gone: Twelve Essential Questions to Tell a Life Story*, Steve Leder argues that a thoughtfully told life story is one of the most valuable gifts that we can leave behind and one of the most important ways we can be sure to live our truth now.

His advice on how we should write that story is both practical and profound.

(Life, Love, and Legacy continues on page 79)

Grandparent Permits Set to Launch in BHUSD

BY BIANCA HEYWARD

Starting in the 2022-23 school year, Beverly Hills grandparents who have grandchildren that live outside of the city will have the chance to enroll them in the Beverly Hills Unified School District (BHUSD) through a new Grandparent Permit. At its June 14 meeting, the BHUSD Board of Education approved the first reading of its revised inter-district attendance policy with a 4-0 vote, with Board member Rachele Marcus abstaining. (Grandparent Permits continues on page 10)

Happy Father’s Day!
BEVERLY HILLS Courier

Beverly Hills City Manager George Chavez to Retire

BY ANA FIGUEROA



City Manager George Chavez

City Manager George Chavez has announced that he will retire this December after a 35-year career serving the City of Beverly Hills.

“George Chavez is a beloved treasure,” said Mayor Lili Bosse. “For more than three decades, he has been the fiber of our community. As City Manager, his calm and strong leadership and heartfelt connection to the essence of what makes Beverly Hills so special has always made him a cherished leader. On behalf of the City Council and our entire community, we are deeply grateful to him for being the heart and soul of our community and wish him the very best in his well-deserved retirement.”

Chavez began his career with the City of Beverly Hills in 1988 as a Building Inspector and has held a number of positions over the years. He served as Assistant Director of Community Development and Director of Public Works before being

named Assistant City Manager in 2016. Chavez was appointed Beverly Hills City Manager in June of 2019.

He has presided over interesting times in that capacity.

His tenure as City Manager coincided with several multi-million-dollar payouts in lawsuits involving allegations of wrongdoing by then-Police Chief Sandra Spagnoli; the selection of interim Police Chief Dominick Rivetti; unprecedented civil unrest and protests in the city in the wake of the George Floyd verdict; the filing of a class-action civil rights lawsuit against the city’s police department; an increase in violent crime in the city, as well as throughout the country; the hiring of current Police Chief Mark Stainbrook, and of course, a global pandemic.

In a statement released by the city, Chavez said that he “could not have predicted” the challenges that awaited him in the position.

“From civil unrest to the global pandemic and its financial impacts to our city, it was the commitment and resilience of our City Council, employees and community that helped us emerge stronger and ready for the future. I leave the city in very good hands and will treasure the friendships I’ve made for the rest of my life. Thank you, Beverly Hills.”

Among the awards and accolades Chavez has accumulated over the years are the Fred C. Cunningham Award for Distinguished Service. On May 9, Chavez, along with members of the Beverly Hills Police Department and Beverly Hills Fire Department, was honored with a Vocational Service Award from the Rotary Club of Beverly Hills.

The City Council will determine Chavez’s successor. ●

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710 NORTH BEDFORD DRIVE | BEVERLY HILLS | \$9,295,000



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The Smidt Foundation Grants \$5 Million for Holocaust Museum LA Expansion



Concept art of the proposed expansion
Photo courtesy of Holocaust Museum LA

Holocaust Museum LA has received a \$5 million gift from The Smidt Foundation, moving the institution closer to its goal of breaking ground this summer on a dramatic campus expansion. The expansion will double Holocaust Museum LA's existing footprint in Pan Pacific Park, increase visitor capacity and educational programs to greater numbers of students and schools, and incorporate cutting-edge technology to preserve and present Holocaust survivor testimonies.

The Smidt Foundation gift is the largest-ever contribution to the museum from a family or foundation without familial ties to the Holocaust or the survivors who founded the museum more than 60 years ago. The gift will be used as a challenge grant to encourage more supporters – especially the next generations of donors – to build on the legacy and courage of the museum's founding survivors and their families. Through the "Tree of Life Challenge," The Smidt Foundation will match all gifts 2:1, effectively tripling the impact of each donation.

The Smidt Foundation was founded by Susan and Eric Smidt to support organizations working to achieve opportunity, justice, equality and safety for all. Eric Smidt, CEO and owner of Harbor Freight Tools, said, "We believe deeply that it is our responsibility to ensure that future generations learn the lessons of the Holocaust and, in particular, the danger of silence in the face of hate."

(Holocaust Museum Expansion continues on page 9)

Cheval Blanc Approved by Planning Commission

BY SAMUEL BRASLOW



Rendering of Cheval Blanc

In a major milestone for the ambitious project, the Planning Commission voted unanimously to recommend for approval the luxury hotel development Cheval Blanc Beverly Hills at a meeting on June 13. The project will now come before the City Council for final hearings and approvals at a later date.

The luxury hotel from the French conglomerate LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton (LVMH) is proposed for the corner

of Rodeo Drive and South Santa Monica Boulevard. The spot stretches across four parcels of land: the former Brooks Brothers building, Celine Rodeo Drive, the former Paley Center for Media and the property at 449 N. Beverly Drive. In addition to a 115-room boutique hotel, Cheval Blanc will include LVMH retail establishments, a private club, a spa, and high-end dining venues. **(Cheval Blanc continues on page 9)**

BEVERLY HILLS

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IDEAS!

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FROM 7 P.M. - 8 P.M. AT CITY HALL

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No RSVP necessary; for more information, visit beverlyhills.org/LiveWithLili

VIRTUAL: To participate: beverlyhills.org/LiveWithLili

To watch: beverlyhills.org/live

OpenBH Community Stakeholders Meet to Discuss Parklets

BY BIANCA HEYWARD



Outdoor dining parklet for e. baldi restaurant on Canon Drive Photo by Bianca Heyward

On June 13, the Beverly Hills City Council Liaison OpenBH Design and Operating Standards Ad Hoc Subcommittee held its first Community Stakeholder meeting regarding the current and future design of parklets for outdoor dining in the city. The meeting is part of the first in a four-phase plan outlined in the OpenBH Design and Operating Standards Subcommittee's work plan and focuses on facilitating conversation between business owners, residents, and representatives from Lorcan O'Herlihy Architects (LOHA), the firm contracted by the city to help design guidelines. Rather than create a singular cookie cutter design for all businesses participating in OpenBH, LOHA is tasked with creating a set of design standards that are informed by public feedback and allow individual design variation. The meeting was the first of several that are planned over the course of the next six months.

While the meeting took place in person at City Hall, participants also had the option to join virtually. Stakeholders were divided into four smaller group workshops in the Council Chamber and on Zoom rooms, with about half a dozen people in each to discuss resiliency, design standards, and safety.

Priorities that guided the conversation included pedestrian and diner safety, the aesthetic impact of the use of temporary materials on the streetscape, and recognized competing interests for use of the sidewalk, particularly where outdoor dining already exists.

Pervasive ideas that emerged from the breakout sessions included swapping the dining, parking, and pedestrian areas to create a boardwalk-esque look and moving outdoor dining closer to the physical restaurant it serves to improve operational and pedestrian safety. Other issues identified were outdoor aesthetics being reflective of each unique restaurant, concerns about weather protection and style, and potentially concealing barriers. Safety for vehicular traffic, including ensuring appropriate clearances for cars getting in and out of spaces, was highlighted.

"There was also an emphasis on how these standards can kind of create a level or a bar, but retaining as much individuality as possible, allowing each of the individual parklets to be designed specific to their context," LOHA's Ian Dickenson said. "Then heightened emphasis on safety as it relates to the pedestrian vehicular interface." (OpenBH continues on page 10)

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Visionary Women Welcomes Louann Brizendine, M.D.

BY LISA FRIEDMAN BLOCH



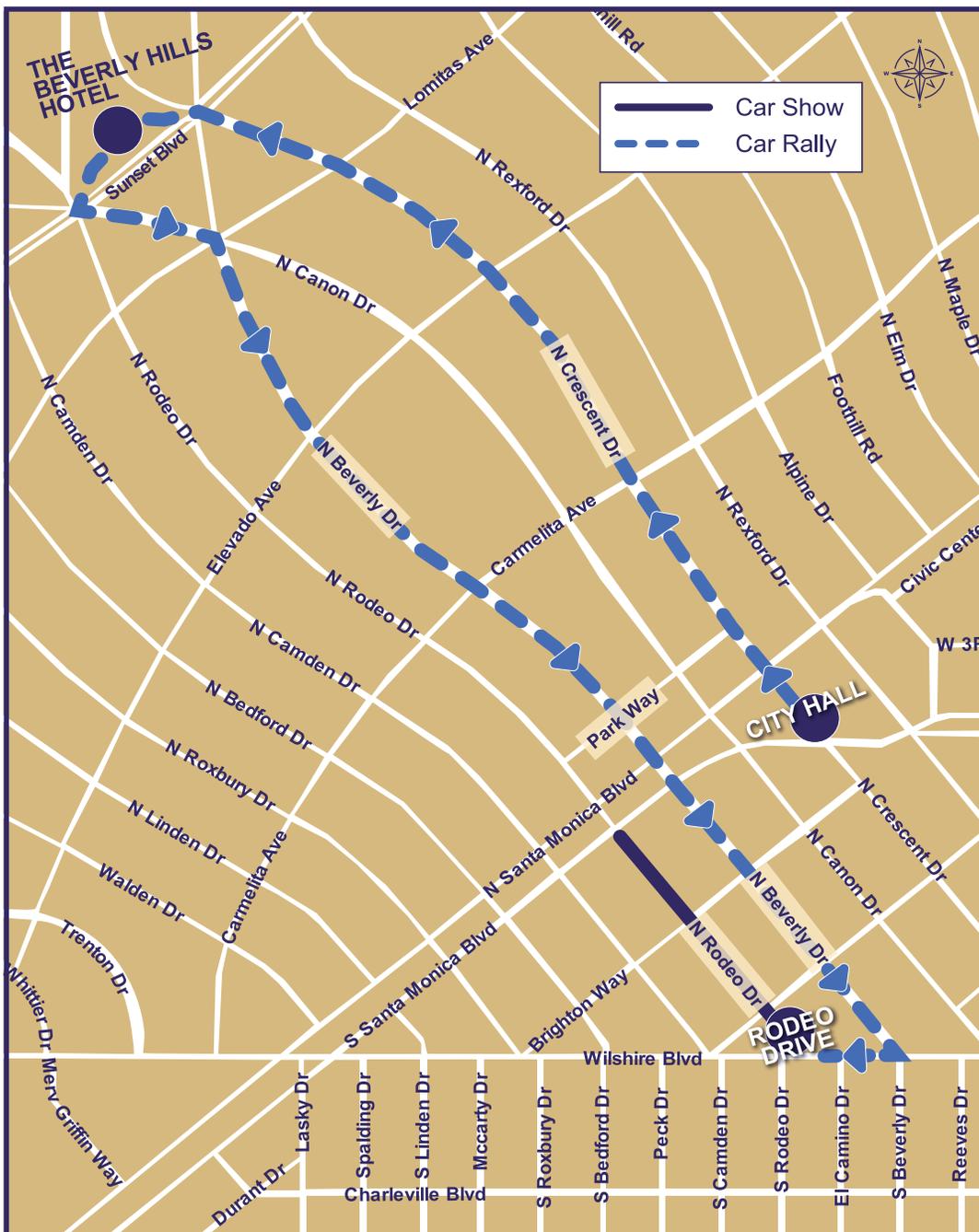
Visionary Women's board members and supporters at June 13 event

Visionary Women held its first in-person salon since the pandemic on June 13 at an over-subscribed event at Watt Plaza in Century City. After announcing several of the donations Visionary Women has recently made, President Nina Kotick emphasized that “the pillars of Visionary Women remain as always: giving, community, and our learning together.” (Visionary Women continues on page 80)

Two Local Businesses Receive "60 Second Shout Outs"



Aharon Coffee (top) and Pioneer Hardware (bottom) were recognized for the 60 Second Shout Out at the June 14 City Council Formal Session. Photo at top: Councilmember Lester Friedman, Vice Mayor Julian Gold, Mayor Lili Bosse, BatSheva Vaknin and Aharon Vaknin, Councilmember John Mirisch and Councilmember Robert Wunderlich. Photo at bottom: Councilmember Friedman, Vice Mayor Gold, Mayor Bosse, Jeff Tilem, Ryan Hudson, Councilmember Mirisch and Councilmember Wunderlich.



RODEO DRIVE CONCOURS D'ELEGANCE CAR RALLY & SHOW 2022

Sunday, June 19, 2022

Car Rally Begins: 9:30 a.m.

Car Show on Rodeo Drive: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

The Rodeo Drive Concours d'Elegance will return to Beverly Hills this Father's Day, Sunday, June 19, 2022. Free and open to the public!

NEW this year, the Concours d'Elegance will be two events in one with a moving car rally and a stationary car show on Rodeo Drive between Wilshire Blvd. and S. Santa Monica Blvd.

To learn more, visit beverlyhills.org/concoursbh



View a selection of local restaurants within walking distance!

ROADS OPEN ALONG RALLY ROUTE

Road Closures: N. Crescent Dr. between N. Santa Monica Blvd. and S. Santa Monica Blvd. beginning 6 a.m. - 11 a.m. 6/19

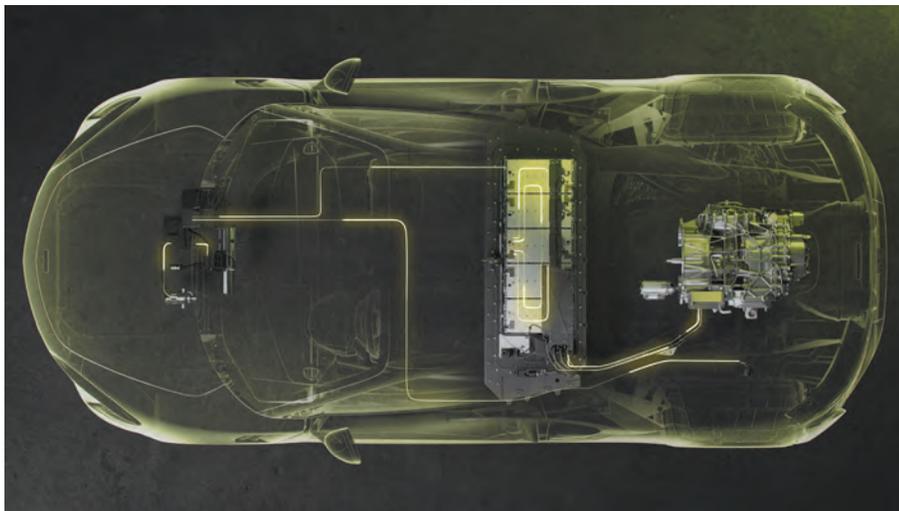
Rodeo Drive from Wilshire Blvd. to S. Santa Monica Blvd. beginning 9 p.m. 6/18 - 10p.m. 6/19

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The Artura is the first model to be built on the all-new McLaren Carbon Lightweight Architecture (MCLA), which is uniquely optimized for hybrids, and is built in-house at the McLaren Composites Technology Centre.

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An all-new lightweight eight-speed transmission integrates McLaren's first electronic-differential, and new rear suspension, upgraded electro-hydraulic steering and Proactive Damping Control enhance agility, stability and dynamic performance.

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Annual Pie Bake a'la Beverly Hills and Piesta Winners Announced

The City of Beverly Hills and its Community Services Department held the 27th annual Pie Bake a'la Beverly Hills and Piesta at the Farmers' Market on June 12 with a range of festivities, including entertainment, kids and adults pie-eating contests, and the much-anticipated pie bake competition.

Eighteen contestants entered pies named after their tasty ingredients, such as Cabernet Grape Pie, Strawberry Rhubarb Pie and Lazy Apricot Pie. The first place winner of the "Best Tasting Pie in Beverly Hills" award and \$200 in Farmers' Market money went to Stacy Wright of Los Angeles, for her Strawberry Lemon Icebox Pie. The "Most Pie-utiful" and second place title, along with \$100 Farmers' Market money was awarded to Joe Lux from Los Angeles, for his Honey Lemon Chiffon Pie with the face of the pie resembling a honeycomb and artful bees scattered on top. The third place and \$50 Farmers' Market money was awarded to Sarah Simms and Violet Tarpey, both from Beverly Hills, for their Life's a Peach Southern Pie.

The esteemed panel of judges for the pie contest were Recreation and Parks Commissioners Susan Mishler and Julian Javor, Human Relations Commissioner Laura

Margo, and first place winners from the 2019 pie bake contest, Elisa Kaplan and Charlie Grand. Criteria for judging was based on appearance, creativity, crust, consistency and flavor.

The Pie Bake a'la Beverly Hills and Piesta is presented by the City's Community Services Department and held annually in June at Beverly Hills Farmers' Market. The next exciting Farmers' Market featured event and contest will be Picklefest on August 7. For more information about the Farmers' Market and featured events such as Piesta and Picklefest, along with other Farmers' Market activities, visit www.beverlyhills.org/FarmersMarket.



Sarah Simms and Violet Tarpey with their Life's a Peach Southern Pie

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(Holocaust Museum Expansion continued from page 4)

The Anti-Defamation League’s recent report showed a 34% rise in antisemitic incidents in 2021 and a major surge in 20 U.S. cities, including Los Angeles where ADL documented 14 antisemitic assaults in 2021 – in addition to incidents of harassment and vandalism. The expansion of the museum and its programs is part of the effort to reverse the rise in antisemitic and other forms of hatred that have led more than half of all Asian, Black and Latino Americans to say they feel discriminated against in a survey conducted by The Asian American Foundation.

When complete, the Jona Goldrich Campus, designed by award-winning architect Hagy Belzberg, will feature outdoor reflective spaces; large galleries and classrooms; an auditorium theater for survivor talks, film screenings, concerts, conferences and public programs; a new pavilion to house an authentic Nazi-era boxcar found outside Majdanek; and a dedicated theater for USC Shoah Foundation’s “Dimensions in Testimony” exhibition that allows visitors to have a virtual conversation with a Holocaust survivor using a holographic capture and voice recognition software.

The campus is expected to open in 2024, allowing the museum to immediately triple its current capacity to 150,000 visitors,

including 60,000 students. By 2030 the museum expects to welcome half a million visitors annually.

For more information, visit holocaust-museumLA.org/expansion. ●



Susan and Eric Smidt
Photo courtesy of The Smidt Foundation

(Cheval Blanc continued from page 4)

The project was designed by award winning architect Peter Marino, a Rodeo Drive mainstay who designed stores for Louis Vuitton, Dior and Fendi.

LVMH is no stranger to the Golden Triangle or Rodeo Drive. The luxury products group owns or leases 19 properties in the city, including Louis Vuitton, Christian Dior, Fendi, Marc Jacobs, Rimowa, Bulgari, Loro Piana, Hublot, Berluti and Sephora. Most recently, in 2021, the group acquired Tiffany & Co.

A spokesperson for LVMH indicated satisfaction at the Planning Commission’s conclusions.

“We are very pleased by the Planning Commission’s unanimous approval of Cheval Blanc Beverly Hills following careful consideration and valuable feedback,” the representative previously said in a statement to the Courier. “We now look forward to the next step in the City’s transparent and inclusive public review process, and to working closely with all stakeholders to deliver an exceptional new landmark and economic driver in the heart of the Golden Triangle.”

The project has not come without a few bumps in the road.

Cheval Blanc Beverly Hills would stand at nine stories on the Beverly Drive side, stepping down to four stories on the Rodeo Drive side. The city code limits buildings

in the Triangle to three stories, meaning the City Council would have to grant an exemption to Cheval Blanc. Some in the city have expressed concerns that the nine-story edifice on the Beverly side – the same height as the adjacent Bank of America Building – would compromise the village-like atmosphere of the Triangle.

The project also hit a roadblock over traffic concerns, resulting in a pause in the review process from March to June. The Planning Commission voiced worries that the hotel and its amenities would bring heavy traffic to the area without the capacity to deal with it. Specifically, the project’s proposed motor court on South Santa Monica Boulevard would add 235 cars an hour to the existing 1,400, potentially ensnaring traffic on the busy road.

The project returned to the Planning Commission on May 26 having studied the issue and made corrections. In the plans approved by the Planning Commission, retail shoppers and club members would no longer use the motor court. Additionally, one of the hotel’s restaurants will no longer be open to the public, which would further lower the number of patrons using the motor court. The revised plans also call for halving the amount of space for the spa. ●



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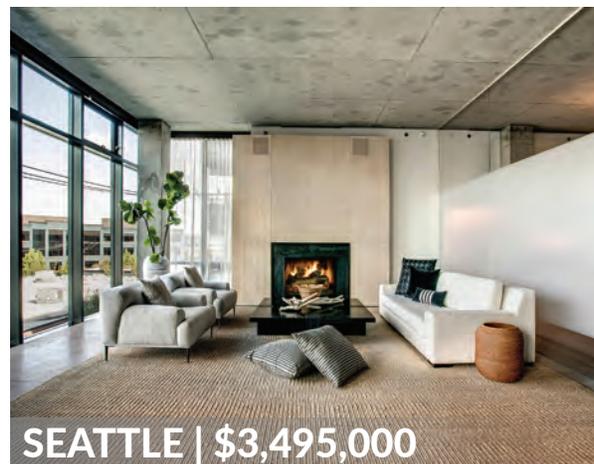
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(City Council Lead continued from page 1)

Los Angeles County does not officially certify vote totals until after an election canvass that includes a count of Vote by Mail ballots received on Election Day, provisional ballots, write-in ballots, damaged ballots and an audit of a random selection of ballots. According to Beverly Hills City Clerk Huma Ahmed, the county expects this process to conclude in the first week of July, though that deadline could shift in the event of “extenuating circumstances.”

The city currently plans to install the new Council on July 12 and hold the first meeting of the new Council on July 19. In the event of the extenuating circumstances or a recount, this timeline could change.

Ahmed does not expect a recount given the lead of the top three candidates (though she’s quick to mention that there are still outstanding votes). In the event of a recount, the newly elected individuals “are not seated until the recount concludes.”

Technically, any voter can initiate a recount, according to the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk. Recount requests must be made within five days after the certification of the vote. The person who requests the recount must bear its cost. If, however, the recount reverses the results of the election, then the county returns the money.

There is no strict deadline for when a recount must be completed, only that election workers must work six hours a day (minus weekends and holidays) until the recount is done.

While Beverly Hills will not know the exact voter turnout for the June 7 Primary until the vote is certified, preliminary results show “pretty decent” participation, Ahmed told the Courier. The city has 22,624 registered voters as of April 2022. So far, around 7,000 votes have been

counted, meaning that preliminary voter turnout is sitting around 30%. Countywide participation is currently hovering just over 22%.

Nearly 22,000 residents were registered to vote in Beverly Hills in 2020, a year in which over 42% of registered voters cast a ballot, or about 9,160 voters—the highest turnout since 1982. That year saw record turnout across the country, driven by the presidential race between Joe Biden and Donald Trump.

Although this year’s primary contest did not draw as many voters, it still saw larger turnout than the previous three-candidate cycle in 2017, in which about 25% of registered voters cast a ballot.

Ahmed explained that this City Council race was just the second since the city adjusted its election schedule to take place on even numbered years. This year, that coincided with the Statewide Direct Primary Election, which may have boosted interest and turnout.

Additionally, unlike 2017 but like 2020, the county sent out Vote by Mail ballots to all registered voters, enabling voters to return their ballots weeks before June 7. Voters also had the option of voting at polling stations 11 days before June 7 and could register in person on the same day as they cast their vote.

“Vote by Mail is obviously more accessible,” Ahmed said.

In Los Angeles County, Vote by Mail was far and away the preferred method of voting. Out of the 1,258,000 ballots counted so far, over 1 million were submitted via mail.

“We’re just letting the process move forward and we’re just going to wait for the results,” Ahmed said. “We have not had any major concern and the county has been very proactive in addressing any potential issues.” ●

(Grandparent Permits continued from page 1)

Once families are notified, the enrollment period will open to applicants beginning on June 17 at 10 a.m. through July 15.

Historically, interdistrict attendance permits have allowed employees of the district and the City of Beverly Hills, as well as parents on active military duty, to send their children to BHUSD.

To be considered for a permit in the district, the student must obtain written consent from their district of residence and file a district permit application with the documentation at the BHUSD Enrollment Center.

To be eligible for the new permit, the grandparent must have resided within the district’s attendance boundaries for a minimum of 10 years, with proof of grandparent residency verified each year prior to enrollment. To apply, the district is requiring a birth certificate for the student and their parent, three original utility bills, property taxes under the grandparent’s name or lease, and if the lease is expired, a recent canceled check and a renewed lease. Applicants must also complete a residency affidavit.

Grandparent Permits will be granted on a first-come, first-served basis, and the number of permits available will be based on the percentage of space available per grade, with 25% of available spaces at each grade level open to those with a Grandparent permit. No additional sections will be added, and sections with less than 10 spots available will not have permits offered. Permits will be open to grades TK-12, and the number of permits will be capped at 100 for next year. The Board will review the pilot program again next school year to determine whether they will continue offering it.

“The policy was designed to be cost neutral to the district,” Vice President Noah Margo said. “We’re not going to incur, nor the way it’s written will we incur, any extra costs to taxpayers the way that we have designed the policy. We are opening it up as gently as possible for enrollment purposes.” The district noted that they will not be financially responsible for expenses related to providing transportation for students attending BHUSD on any permit program.

“This community has been so responsive and there is a high interest in this,” Assistant Superintendent of Student Services Laura Chism said. “I want it to run smoothly and run well, so I would ask the board’s permission to let us communicate it out. Give us a few days.”

The district is expected to communicate all application information to the community in a June 15 correspondence before the enrollment period opens.

“Really proud of this permit,” Superintendent Dr. Michael Bregy said. “The shaping of the permit and the language really was based on a lot of feedback from not only the community, potential grandparents with grandchildren that have the opportunity to attend BHUSD, but also really good conversation and dialogue with our Board of Education to help shape policy.”

The next Board of Education meeting is scheduled for June 28 at 5 p.m. ●

(Water Conservation Methods continued from page 1)

In addition to the restrictions, the city recommends running sprinkler systems for only 8 minutes and drip irrigation systems for 15 to 20 minutes. Residents should check sprinklers weekly, avoid water runoff, and check toilets for plumbing issues.

Beverly Hills has so far avoided the most severe water restrictions seen by other cities and counties. Beverly Hills receives its water from two major sources, the State Water Project from Northern California and the Colorado River. Thanks in part to this, in addition to other conservation investments the city has made over the years, residents do not yet need to cut watering down to one day a week.

The city will begin with outreach measures to inform the public about the new restrictions, including postcards to each single-family dwelling, emails, telephone calls, newspaper advertisements, and signage around the city.

Wunderlich did not express optimism about the ability to reduce water use through messaging alone, noting that water use in other parts of the state went up even after calls for water reduction.

“I could hope to be pleasantly surprised that we’ll achieve a target of 30% reduction, but I wouldn’t bet on it,” he said. “My guess would be that we’re likely going to see mandatory cutbacks being imposed by us in the future, because there simply isn’t enough water to go around.”

For residents who do not adhere to the restrictions, first time offenders get a warning. Subsequent violations incur fines up to \$500.

Residents may be experiencing a sense of déjà vu with these latest restrictions. Back in 2014, then-Governor Jerry Brown declared a state of emergency over the water crisis at the time. In 2017, the city implemented a Stage C water conservation plan that saw water use decline by 20% compared to 2013 levels. By January 2020, after California enjoyed two wetter than average years, the state appeared to be out of the woods.

But just one year later, Governor Gavin Newsom signed an Executive Order that designated all of California under drought conditions, explaining in a press release that California faced “some of the driest conditions we’ve ever seen” and needed a “statewide response.” The situation has only degraded since then, with water sources

reaching some of the lowest levels on record.

Highlighting the “new normal” of the global climate crisis, the response to one environmental emergency inflamed fears of another, namely fire.

“Other than the conservation element, which is key and why we’re having this conversation, the elephant in the room, aside from the water conservation, is the fire safety,” said Mayor Lili Bosse.

Residents from the fire-prone areas north of Sunset Boulevard expressed concern that cutting back on watering would create drier conditions ideal for wildfires. Director of Public Works Shana Epstein reassured residents that “trees and perennial non-turf plantings are not part of the two day a week watering” limits.

“They can be watered any day, just not between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m.,” she said.

Epstein encouraged residents to take advantage of the services the city offers to help reduce water usage, including the city’s free Water Tracker, which offers water use statistics by year, month, week, or day. Residents can sign up at <https://water.beverlyhills.org>. The city also offers free water audits. For that and other tips, residents can visit <http://www.bhsaves.org>. ●

(OpenBH continued from page 5)

Other takeaway concerns revolved around maintenance of the parklets, concealing safety enhancements, and matching the aesthetics of weather protection materials for sun, wind and rain for outdoor dining areas to each parklet. As a solution, stakeholders proposed concealing the barriers potentially by encasing them in wood or other material to serve an aesthetic function.

The second OpenBH Community Meeting will be held virtually the week of June 20 to review results from a follow-up survey sent to stakeholders and outline design parameters. ●

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Seasonal change may be subtle here in Beverly Hills, but there is no mistaking summertime. Gentle breezes, crisp morning air and epic sunsets form a golden halo around our gorgeous city. It's all a reminder of the beauty we live with every day. In this issue, we not only bring you all the best that the city has to offer to enjoy and celebrate this summer season in style, but we also introduce you to the people and places in our extraordinary city that help to make Beverly Hills shine.

In "Meals to Remember," the city's top chefs share their personal summer family recipes—from tri-tip and lamb on the grill to seaside culinary delights and a show-stopping cherry pie to satiate the most discerning palates.

After juggling work, family and health concerns in our new normal, pampering, too, has taken on a new meaning. In "Summer Sanctuary - The Spas of Beverly Hills," the city's most acclaimed "styling" facilities describe the importance of the human touch and why wellness is the new gold standard of any spa menu.

Similarly, in "Back to The Future," we explore the latest cutting-edge technologies that are forever changing the way we drive. And our "Must-Haves for Summer" roundup is packed with the newest designer products curated to inspire you to revamp your outdoor spaces, liven up your wardrobe, or simply hit the beaches in style.

In "The Vibrant World of Nicholas Kontaxis," we shine a light on one of the most sought-after young artists today. Overcoming physical and verbal limitations from epilepsy, his striking and compelling abstract works have captured the attention of the art world.

And, last but certainly not least, our long-form exclusive feature cover story, "The Prince of Beverly Hills," examines the legacy of Beverly Hills' one and only, homegrown yet world renown, fashion house—the House of Bijan—through the brand's heir apparent, Nicolas Bijan. It's an intimate look inside Nicolas' life, beginning with his father's journey to Beverly Hills, the meteoric rise of the iconic brand, and the sudden, impactful events Nicolas endured as a young man. Today, considered an ambassador of California 'STYLE,' Nicolas examines his journey as a new husband, father, and entrepreneur and the enduring, unmatched, legacy of his father.

Thank you to our phenomenal local, national and global advertisers who support STYLE and our Courier newspaper each week. We could not do it without you!

John and I and the entire Courier team wish you a STYLE-ish summer filled with fun activities with friends and loved ones. We hope this very special summer issue brings you as much pleasure as we experienced compiling it. Enjoy the sunshine and happy reading!

LISA FRIEDMAN BLOCH, PUBLISHER

COVER PHOTO: BIJOU, ROXY AND NICOLAS BIJAN POSE OUTSIDE THEIR BEVERLY HILLS HOME WITH A LIGHT GREEN 1961 MERCEDES-BENZ 300 SL ROADSTER FROM THE SAROFIM AUTOMOTIVE COLLECTION, PHOTO BY JENNA PEFFLEY
PROP STYLING BY PAIGE WASSEL

PHOTO OF LISA FRIEDMAN BLOCH BY KAREN RAY PHOTOGRAPHY
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Summer Sanctuary - The Spas of Beverly Hills

BY ANA FIGUEROA



TREATMENT AT THE SPA AT BEVERLY WILSHIRE, A FOUR SEASONS HOTEL

“Within you there is a stillness and a sanctuary to which you can retreat at any time and be yourself.”

Those words, from Hermann Hesse’s masterpiece, “Siddhartha,” are a century old, but especially meaningful today. Two years of life interrupted by a pandemic has created countless opportunities for self-reflection and even reinvention. Self-care tended to slip by the wayside, though, as public health rules closed and then reopened favorite facilities.

While the spa industry suffered at the peak of the pandemic, business is expected to rebound in 2022, according to projections from the Global Wellness Institute (GWI). “Hotel spas represent the

Hotel Bel-Air Spa

Marble rain showers, velvet chaise lounges and cashmere throws are but a few amenities awaiting clients at the Hotel Bel-Air Spa. “We continue to hear guests voice how excited they are to return for their first spa treatment since pre-pandemic,” Spa Director Nichole Hester told the Courier.

The jewel of the premises is The Enclave, a 570-square-foot private suite replete with a shower, tub, shaded patio and a soothing waterfall. “Perfect for couples or groups, The Enclave is ideal for those who wish to luxuriate in privacy and treat themselves to the ultimate in pampering,” said Hester. Treatments, including the signature Vitality of the Stars Facial, feature Valmont’s Luminosity collection, formulated with Swiss glacial water and essential plant extracts. New technology includes Theragun percussive therapy, offered as a massage enhancement to support stress reduction, sleep improvement, relieve sore muscles and increase mobility.

fastest-growing segment of the business right now,” Beth McGroarty, Vice President of Research for the GWI, told the Courier.

With so many world-class spas in the Beverly Hills area, this summer is the perfect time to “retreat, seek stillness and sanctuary.” The Courier reached out to 10 local spas, all but two located within hotels. Though specialties vary from ancient Asian healing rituals to high-tech biohacking, they all reflect the desire to weave wellness into the spa experience. And to some extent, all have refocused offerings to accommodate the values shift of the pandemic.

“Everything is moving outdoors, whether it is yoga on the rooftops or indoor-outdoor spa spaces,” observed McGroarty.

Indeed, many of the city’s top spas adapted early on by offering massages outdoors, with masks. Some designated certain hotel room balconies for spa services. And HEPA filtration systems are now the norm in treatment rooms.

Another trend is to bring nature indoors, either by décor or with actual foliage. Spas have also met the challenge of the last few years by pivoting to touchless technology, including light therapy, cryotherapy and chromotherapy.

Of course, pent-up demand exists for traditional treatments, such as massages and facials.

“People have been touch-starved for two years, through no fault of their own,” said McGroarty. At The Maybourne Beverly Hills, Spa Director Holly Edgin sums up a common sentiment perfectly.

“We have seen an influx of clients who are simply happy to feel human connection again both in the form of physical touch with massages or facials, and the need for emotional connection,” said Edgin.

With that in mind, here is what you should know to enjoy a perfect spa-cation close to home this summer.



Hotel Bel-Air Spa

701 Stone Canyon Road, Los Angeles
310-909-1681



The Beverly Hills Hotel Spa
 9641 Sunset Blvd., Beverly Hills
 310-887-2006

The Spa at Beverly Wilshire, A Four Seasons Hotel

Having earned the Forbes Travel Guide Five-Star Award for the sixth year in a row, The Spa at Beverly Wilshire, A Four Seasons Hotel is definitely doing something right. Nonetheless, change is underway, said Director of Spa Danny Silva.

“This is a transformational year for us at The Spa at Beverly Wilshire as we are making a very intentional shift into the wellness market,” Silva told the Courier. In addition to new product lines, the spa has introduced biohacking technology such as the LightStim LED Bed and Theragun, “to further assist guests with their wellness journey,” said Silva. Some of those new biohacking and wellness-inspired treatments at the 8,500-square-foot facility include Therabody Cryotherapy Sports Massage and a LightStim LED Bed. The former combines a deep tissue full body massage with the power of super-chilled air and Theragun Percussive Therapy. The latter helps with arthritic pain, relaxes muscles and increases local blood circulation.

A new signature Beverly Wilshire, A Four Seasons Hotel Facial as well as new body treatments feature the luxury German skincare line AUTEUR. And the Seed to Skin line from Italy is the centerpiece in the spa’s new Holistic Detox Body Treatment. The service includes a mineral-rich, raw sea salt and a blend of spirulina, shea butter and essential oils designed to stimulate circulation, detoxify and to slough away dead skin cells.

“Wellness has become more important than ever,” said Silva. “We are seeing business increase month over month with return and new clientele.”



Spa at the Fairmont Century Plaza
 2025 Avenue of the Stars, Los Angeles
 310-424-3032

The Beverly Hills Hotel Spa

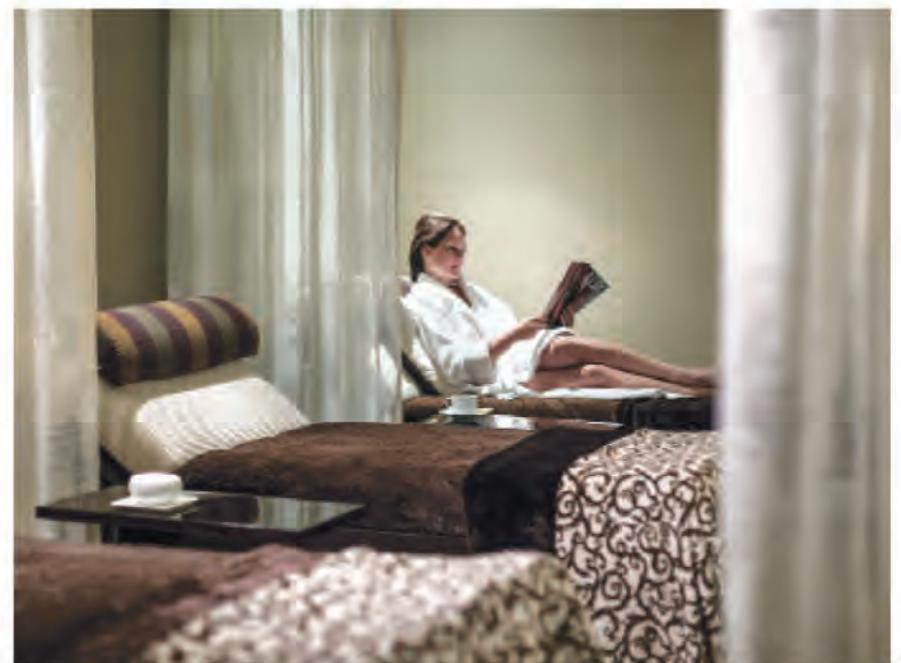
An icon in our midst, the Beverly Hills Hotel is celebrating its 110th anniversary. The Beverly Hills Hotel Spa is designed as an “oasis within an oasis,” inspired by the flora and fauna of the Southland. At nearly 2,000 square feet, the facility features six treatment rooms, including two couples’ suites, a relaxation room and steam rooms for men and women.

If there is one post-pandemic trend that Spa Director Kristy Whitford is noticing, it’s that clients are looking for a deeper sense of connection.

“Guests are looking for a haven to feel connected to the human touch and conversation in becoming well again. They are asking about how to bring more healing elements into their lives, through product recommendations or mindful experiences such as meditation and wellness practices,” said Whitford.

New brand partners at the Beverly Hills Hotel Spa include LEEF Organics, Skin Authority, PHIA Labs, KNESKO, Salt by Hendrix, and more. A new 110th anniversary manicure package pays homage to the hotel’s iconic design, with details such as pink and white stripes and banana leaf prints.

“Our hotel is very special in the sense that our local guests came frequently prior to the pandemic, so the reunion of guest and their therapist was really special. It was like seeing family again,” said Whitford.



The Spa at Beverly Wilshire, A Four Seasons Hotel
 9500 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills
 310-385-7023

Fairmont Spa Century Plaza Hotel

Ever since the Fairmont Century Plaza Hotel reopened last fall after a \$2.5 billion renovation, the Spa has shone brilliantly as one of its stars. The 14,000-square-foot facility features nine treatment rooms, heated marble seating, a Himalayan salt room, aromatherapy steam rooms, a hammam, and experiential rain showers. Spa guests also enjoy access to the hotel’s fitness center.

“Not only are our guests eager to return to the spa for relaxation and to jump back into their skincare regimens, but we are finding guests are also choosing treatments that focus on reducing stress, improving sleep, and rejuvenating the mind and the body,” Director of Spa Justi Kerekes told the Courier. “Wellness has become a ritual, and we’ve noticed guests making wellness a regular priority, whether that be a weekly biohacking session combined with a detox sweat in our sauna or monthly massages focused on mobility and recovery.”

In addition to a biohacking program, the spa has incorporated technology throughout its massage menu. “We offer guests the option of high-tech and no-tech with certain massage treatments,” said Kerekes.

Even no-tech offerings are delivered in modern form. The spa’s Signature Sunset Treatment incorporates customized aromatherapy, vibrational sound healing and silken color therapy in a medium to deep tissue massage.

Kerekes points to one more aspect that sets the spa apart: “Our size offers the perfect setting to accommodate larger group spa parties for any occasion from bridal parties to birthday celebrations and more.”



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OBJECTS FROM MEMORY

The Spa at Four Seasons Hotel Los Angeles at Beverly Hills

“People are so excited to be back in the spa, and we are making changes this year,” said Gilma Linares, Assistant Spa Manager of the Spa at Four Seasons Hotel Los Angeles at Beverly Hills.

“We used to carry many, many brands, but now we are focusing on luxurious, medical-grade products, sustainability and wellness,” said Linares.

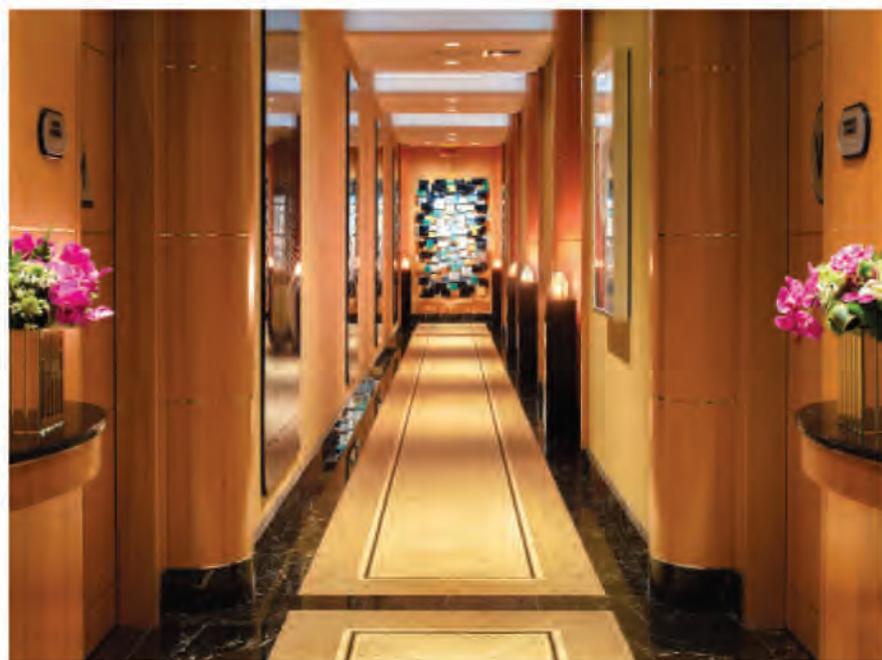
Reintroducing clients back to the spa is “a bit like getting back to the gym,” said Linares. She also finds that clients’ work-related stress has returned with a vengeance.

“We try to help everyone disconnect for a while. That’s why we incorporate nature into the spa. We have live plants on the wall in one of the rooms. It helps clients breathe better and respond better,” she said.

Spa specialties include the MBR Gentleman’s Facial and MBR Liquid Surgery Facial, described as a “non-invasive facial rejuvenation.” A new Garden Zen Body Renewal Treatment is a plant-based treatment that begins with a Dead Sea salt body scrub. Additionally, because “people in L.A. are very big on detoxing,” Linares recommends the Marine Algae Body Detox Body Treatment that uses the Dead Sea scrub and a marine algae clay body mask. And The Toning and Firming Body Sculpt Body Treatment incorporates a Hypervolt massage gun, along with the vegan La Natura Botanicals line.



The Spa at Four Seasons Hotel Los Angeles at Beverly Hills
300 South Doheny Drive, Los Angeles
310-273-2222



La Prairie Spa at Waldorf Astoria Beverly Hills
9850 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills
310-860-6740

The Spa at The Maybourne Beverly Hills

The Maybourne Beverly Hills is the first North American property from London’s Maybourne Hotel Group. Over the past year, a “California meets Bali” revamp has added new flooring, fixtures, décor, colors, artwork, exclusive retail and vendor partnerships,” Spa Director Holly Edgin told the Courier.

At 20,000 square feet, the spa features an impressive 17 treatment rooms and separate mens’ and womens’ saunas and steam rooms. But its defining feature is a stunning mineral pool adorned with mosaics.

A newly-launched spa concept features a menu of bespoke services.

Edgin explained, “Services are named after an affirmation that the guest would like to feel and manifest. We have two signature treatments. One of them is our ‘I Am Beautiful’ Facial with a high concentration of oxygen. It also features microdermabrasion and LED Light treatment. And, our ‘I Am Comforted’ Body Treatment is an anti-stress treatment using a coffee scrub, followed by a soothing, therapeutic wrap that uses CBD Moor Mud. It is a great way to detoxify.”

The spa features the organic, plant and flower-based Ila brand, as well as Evidens de Beaute. Both are useful for addressing common concerns of congestion and dehydration from masks, as well as overall stress relief.

Guests of the Spa at The Maybourne Beverly Hills also have access to the new Fitness Center at the hotel.

La Prairie Spa at Waldorf Astoria Beverly Hills

The Forbes 5-Star Award-winning La Prairie Spa at Waldorf Astoria Beverly Hills is known for its indulgent, Swiss-inspired treatments that incorporate caviar as an ingredient. Now, wellness is the word that carries the most weight.

“We’ve been on an emotional and physical rollercoaster for the last two years. We’re seeing wellness as a lifestyle choice that we are incorporating into all areas of the hotel,” said Spa Director Amanda Raich.

To that end, the hotel is now offering 8:30 a.m. rooftop wellness classes for guests as well as locals. “After the pandemic, everyone needs to be outdoors. The view in the morning is fantastic,” Raich told the Courier.

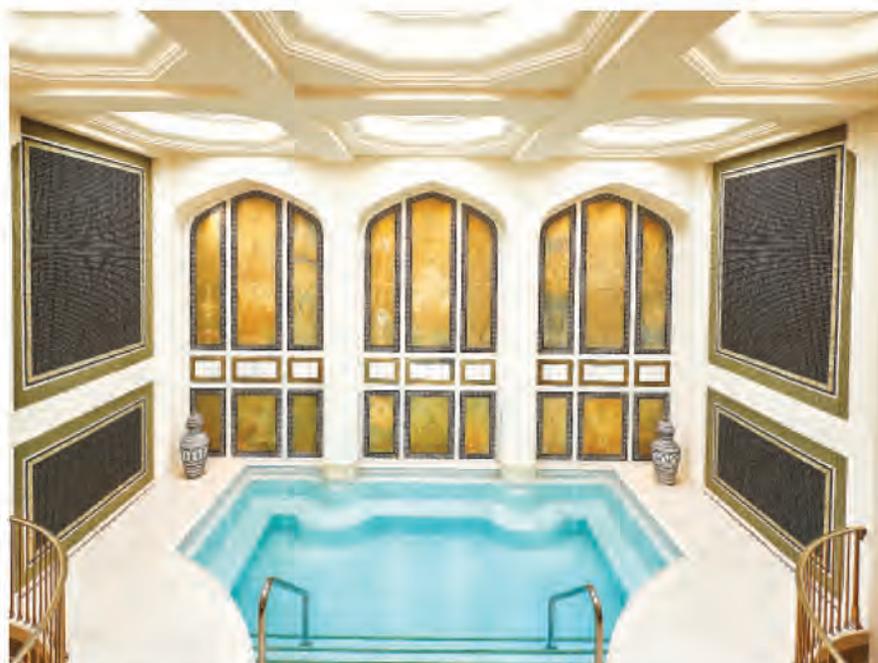
The 5,000-square-foot La Prairie Spa is located on the second floor of the hotel and features six treatment rooms (one for couples), as well as men’s and women’s relaxation lounges and steam rooms.

One popular standard throughout the brand is the Custom Waldorf Astoria Massage, which uses aromatherapy and hot stones. Other signature treatments include the Rejuvenating Platinum Facial.

“Masks came off and people saw that their skin had become dull. So, we are doing lots of brightening facials,” said Raich.

New 6-in-one InSkin facial devices enhance the experience by offering everything from dermabrasion to light therapy to oxygen treatments.

“We’d love for people to start their day with exercise, maybe get a new haircut, visit the the spa and leave ready to embrace the new normal,” said Raich.



The Spa at The Maybourne Beverly Hills
225 North Canon Drive, Beverly Hills
310-860-7840

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maybournebeverlyhills.com



The Peninsula Spa Beverly Hills
 9882 South Santa Monica Blvd., Beverly Hills
 310-975-2854

Tomoko Japanese Spa

Named for its owner, Tomoko Kurono, Tomoko Spa has been called “L.A.’s best kept secret” and “a revelation” in reviews in Goop and Allure. The minimalist, 3,000-square-foot facility on South Beverly Drive in Beverly Hills welcomes clients with soft slippers and an offer of tea in the pre-treatment room. The treatment rooms themselves are self-contained, with showers, closets and bath amenities. Two couples’ rooms feature Hinoki Japanese Ofuro baths.

General Manager Kana Tran told the Courier that the spa has recently incorporated more traditional Japanese elements to further elevate the experience. “There are Japanese traditional obi in every treatment room and lounge, and our staff wears traditional kimono to welcome guests, making them feel like they are in Japan,” said Tran.

“We’ve seen a lot of return clients whose last visit was in 2019, and we’ve been so happy to welcome them again,” she added.

In contrast to other spas in the city, men make up 50% of Tomoko’s clientele. Signature treatments include the Tomoko Massage for individuals and the Japanese Experience for couples. Both apply pure sake to the skin, massaged in to promote blood flow and pain relief. The new Hinoki Couples Treatment is a massage for those who would like to enjoy the private Hinoki bath.

As for what makes the spa so special, Tran replied, “The private zen atmosphere and Japanese omotenashi hospitality. Tomoko’s mother sends us handmade paper cranes from Japan for us to use and give away to the clients as well. We put meaning into every small item of our spa.”

The Peninsula Spa Beverly Hills

“People want to get away from the hustle and bustle of the city. They find serenity in our space,” said Melissa DeLeon of the roof garden facilities of The Peninsula Spa Beverly Hills. DeLeon is Director of Spa at the Forbes Travel 4-Star Award-winning facility.

“We have seven treatment rooms, including a couple’s room. We also have a coed serenity lounge where we offer our honey ginger tea that people love, and our Himalayan salt sauna,” she told the Courier.

Known for its wide array of treatments, a signature of the spa is The Best and Ultimate Liquid Surgery Rejuvenation, using the German line MBR. New for this year are three body treatments incorporating the French line Biologique Recherche. “It’s a custom body polish that uses acids and mechanical exfoliation with a body glove specific to that line. After that comes a cream or lotion with active ingredients to help rejuvenate,” said DeLeon.

Noting that some clients haven’t been back for two years, DeLeon noted, “the touch of a therapist is very important right now.”

Anything that detoxifies is also in demand.

“Clients are asking for extra exfoliation after wearing a mask, being at home and not taking care of themselves in the same way. We’re glad to see them back,” said DeLeon.



Tomoko Japanese Spa
 141 South Beverly Drive, Beverly Hills
 310-205-7300

A Petite Spa Experience: BAO Foot Spa

Can’t get away for an entire spa day? Don’t fret. You can still indulge yourself by visiting BAO Foot Spa. The boutique Chinese spa in Beverly Hills specializes in foot and body massage. Treatments utilize the ancient Chinese art of reflexology, which increases blood flow and rejuvenates the nerves of the body. Services at BAO Foot Spa range from 15 to 90 minutes. Body massage and reflexology treatments include a foot bath.

Recently added to the menu are CBD foot baths and oils, which are “especially popular for clients who work out a lot and want to enjoy a sports massage for their feet,” said owner Piran Zarifian.

Located on South Beverly Drive, the spa offers a convenient respite from a stressful day.

“You don’t need to take off your clothes or shower, so we find that a lot of people pop in during their lunch hour,” said Zarifian.



Bao Foot Spa
 156 South Beverly Drive, Beverly Hills
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Meals to Remember

BY LINDA IMMEDIATO

A recipe that is passed down from generation to generation becomes what might be the most overlooked yet precious family heirloom. It gives those who prepare it—and those who enjoy it—a chance to remember the loved one who created it. We reached out to some of the city’s top chefs to gather their favorite summer family recipes and remembrances. The result is this mini cookbook filled with delicious dishes that can be prepared all year round. Whether cooking for family or hosting a feast, we hope they become part of your own family traditions.

Chef Luigi Fineo, Tatel Restaurant

Tiella Pugliese

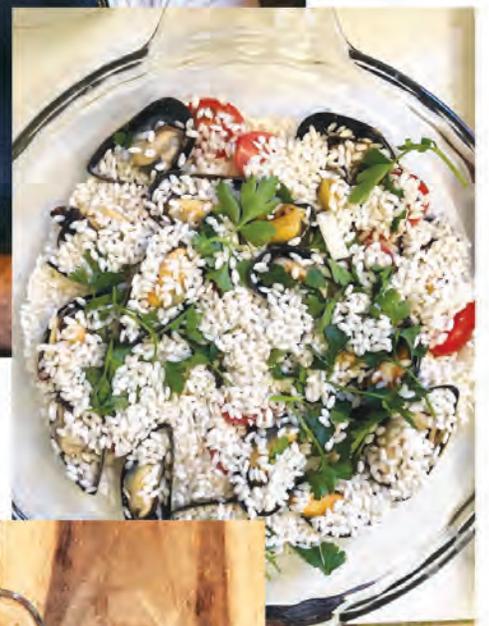
“My mom made this dish every Sunday morning. Sunday was a celebratory day; nobody worked and nobody went to school so it was the only day everyone could get together. She would start preparing it at 8 a.m. to be ready by noon. It’s a very traditional dish in Puglia where I grew up, and it’s a whole meal in one pot, which given the fact that she had five kids and no dishwasher was a bonus. It’s almost a meditation to prepare it, shelling the mussels, slicing the potatoes, mincing the herbs. I always think of my mom every time I make this dish—the way she held the knife, the way she slowly and intentionally placed the potato slices (because if you stack two slices on top of one another only the bottom one will cook). You have to be present and mindful when cooking this so it’s not only extremely healthy, but it’s also good for your soul.”

Tiella Pugliese Ingredients:

- 4 ounces Arborio rice (100 grams)
- 20 mussels
- 2 medium-size Yukon gold potatoes, peeled and thinly sliced ¼ inch crosswise
- 5 ounces red grape tomatoes (150 grams)
- ¼ yellow onion, finely chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, finely chopped
- ½ bunch parsley leaves
- 2 ounces grated Pecorino cheese (50 grams)
- Extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 cup mussel broth (250 grams) or fish stock (chicken and vegetable stock may be used as a substitute)

Directions:

1. Preheat the oven to 380°F.
2. Lightly rinse the rice to remove part of the starch surface.
3. Clean the mussels externally with steel wool and wash them under running water.
4. Open the raw mussels by pressing one of the two valves forward until it cracks open. Insert a small knife and slide it until it opens all the way. Keep the seafood inside one shell only and discard the empty shell.
5. Drizzle a 12-inch round ovenproof pan (with lid, or Dutch oven) with olive oil, and then add half of the onions and garlic.
6. Add some of the tomatoes and one third of the parsley.
7. Place all the mussels (in half shell) in the pan with the mussels facing upwards, forming a layer.
8. Sprinkle with the rice, but don’t let it enter any of the open shells.
9. Add one layer of tomatoes along with half of the remaining parsley and half of the Pecorino. Drizzle with a little bit of olive oil.
10. Make another layer of potatoes, tomatoes, the remaining onions, and garlic.
11. Sprinkle the remaining parsley and Pecorino over the top, then drizzle a generous amount of olive oil.
12. Pour the broth gently, starting from the side then going in a circle until the juice lightly touches the potatoes.
13. Place in the oven for around 40 minutes, covered for the first 15 minutes, then uncovered.



TIELLA PUGLIESE BEFORE AND AFTER COOKING
PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHEF LUIGI FINEO



FOCACCIA SANDWICHES

Chef Mattia Agazzi, Gucci Osteria

Focaccia

“For me, growing up in Bergamo, Italy, summer was a time when our family regularly sat around the table talking and sharing old and new stories from our day-to-day lives. My mother and grandmother taught me how to cook from a young age (some meals took three days to prepare), and in our house we always shared bread/focaccia at the table during meals, which are special memories for me. It’s also a reminder that no matter what situation people are in, with a few simple ingredients, flour, water, and eggs, you can make an amazing meal. My grandmother used to prepare stuffed focaccia with prosciutto for my grandfather before he went to work or out hunting. The focaccia recipe is very versatile because in the summer you can cut your focaccia into a sandwich and fill it with seasonal fillings, and anything you like. It’s also easy to take with you on a hike, or to the beach. Warm bread with its inviting and comforting aroma should be the first welcome to any home all around the world. Whether it is steam buns in China, tacos in South America, flatbread in Arabia, or pretzels in New York, your spirit is lifted by the experience.”

Focaccia Ingredients:

- 1½ tablespoons water
- 2 tablespoons cream
- 1 whole medium egg
- 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
- 1½ teaspoons salt
- 1 teaspoon instant dry yeast
- 1¾ cups ‘00’ flour or all-purpose flour
- ½ cup whole wheat flour
- 2 teaspoons honey

Wash:

- 1 tablespoon water
- 2½ tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- Maldon salt for garnish

Directions:

1. In a medium bowl combine yeast and water together. In another smaller bowl combine and mix the honey, cream and eggs together with the salt.
2. In a large bowl combine and mix ‘00’ flour and whole wheat flour, then stir in all wet ingredient mixtures to make a dough that pulls away from the sides of the bowl. Turn dough out onto a lightly floured surface. Knead in only enough flour to make a soft dough that is smooth and elastic (knead dough between 3 and 5 minutes). Place dough in a lightly greased bowl, cover and let rise in a warm place until double in size (about 30 minutes at about 80°F - room temperature).
3. Grease two large baking sheets; set aside. Punching down dough, divide dough into six equal pieces using oiled hands, if needed. Place three dough pieces on each baking sheet. Press each piece of dough into a 5-inch circle, making sure there are 2 to 3 inches of space between each dough circle. Cover with plastic wrap and let stand in a warm place for 15 minutes. Preheat oven to 400°F.
4. Vigorously whisk the extra-virgin olive oil and water until it emulsifies. Spoon emulsion over the dough evenly. Using the tips of your fingers make ½ inch deep indents over the surface of the dough, then finish with Maldon salt.
5. Bake for about 15 minutes or until lightly browned on the bottom, checking after 8 minutes and popping any large air bubbles with a sharp knife. Cool for 15 minutes on wire racks. Serve warm or at room temperature.

MEALS TO REMEMBER CONTINUES ON PAGE 64



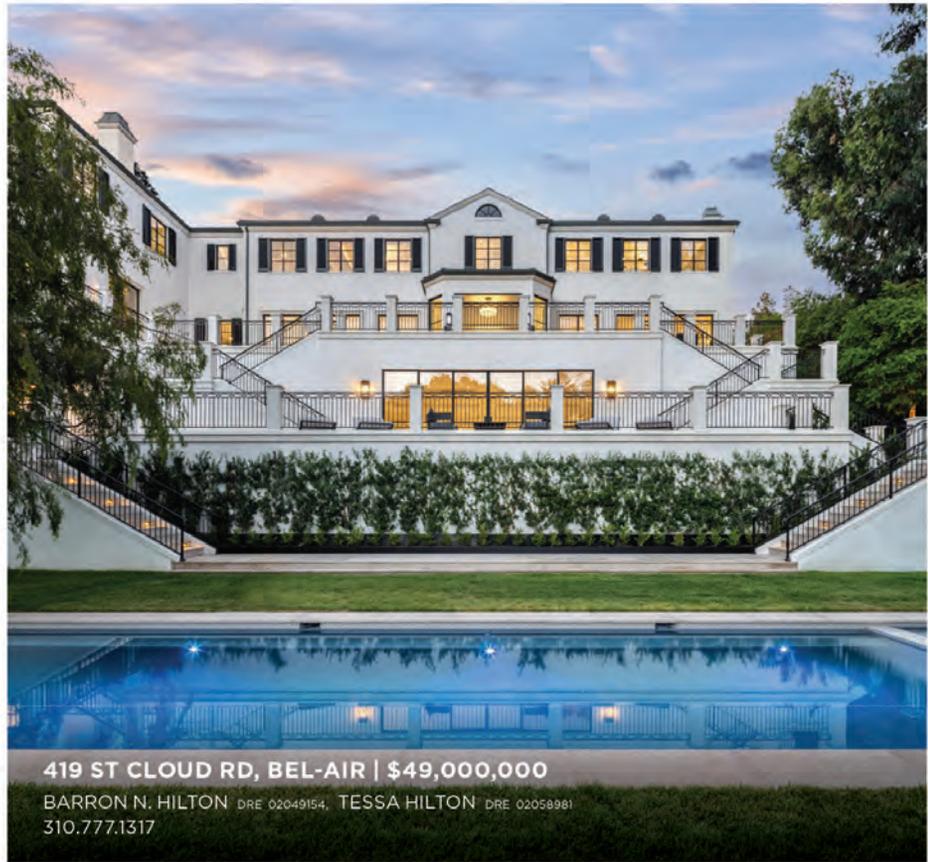
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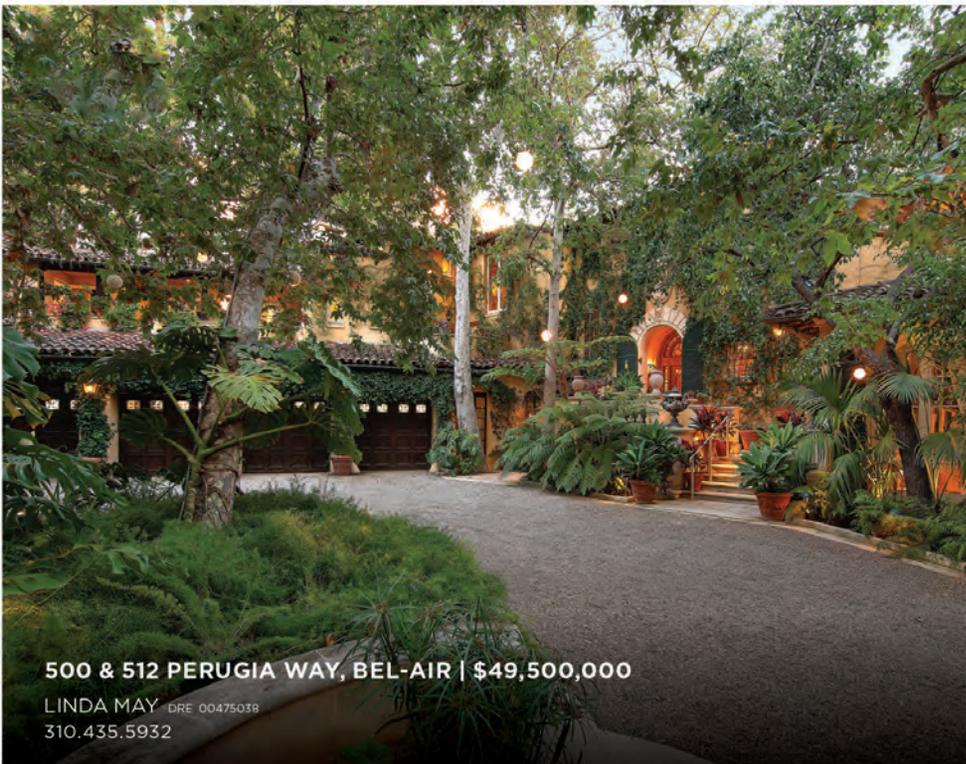
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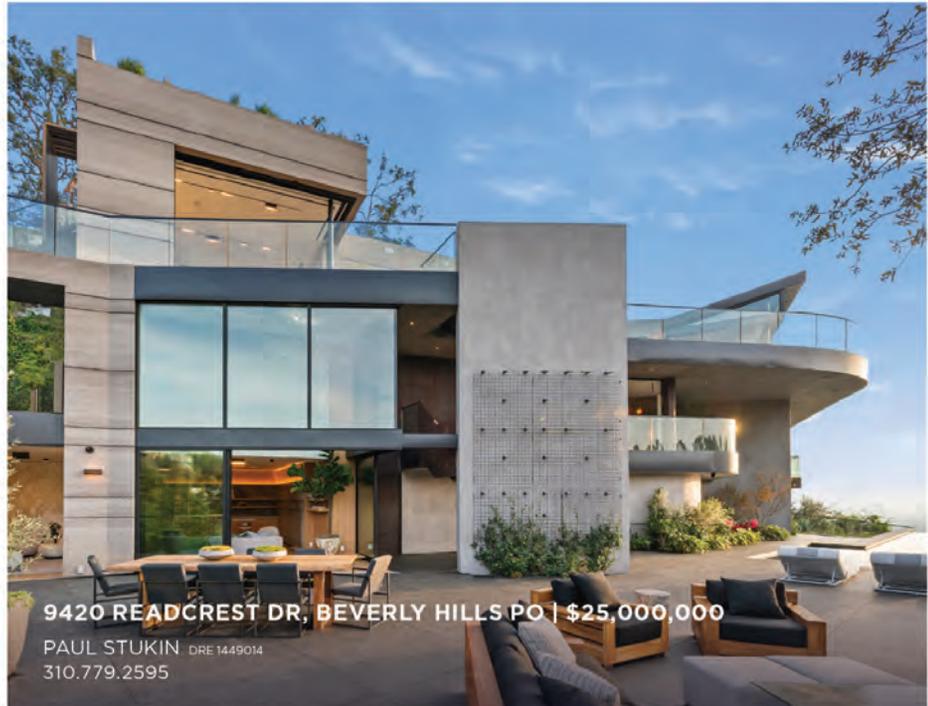
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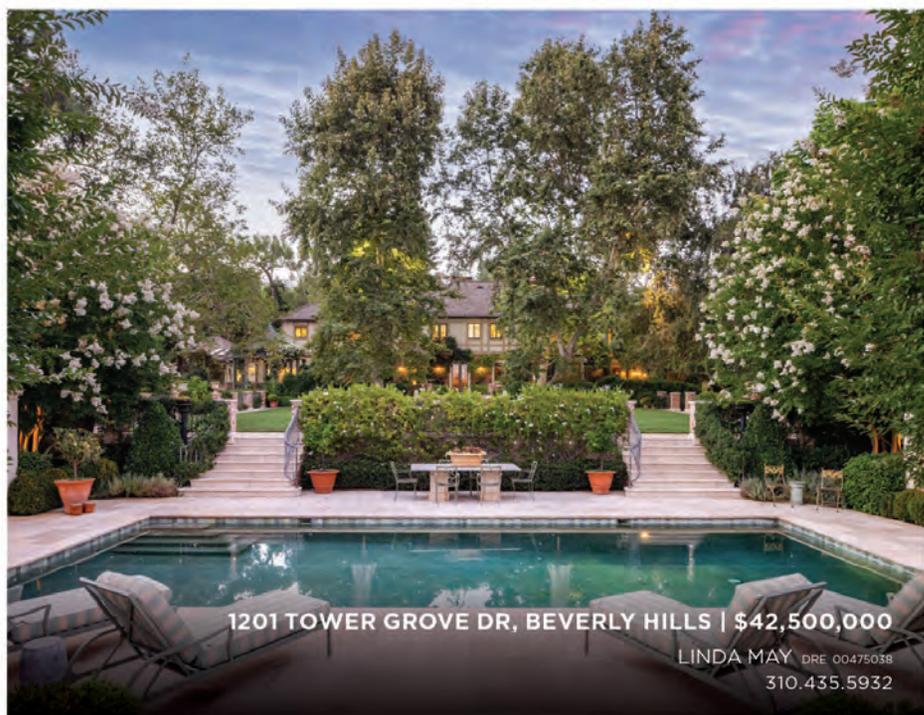
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Must-Haves for Summer

BY LINDA IMMEDIATO

Shopping districts around the nation were hit hard by the pandemic, and many businesses were forced to shutter. Beverly Hills, while not immune, fared far better than most; many boutiques along our famous thoroughfares remain open—and some are even expanding. Online shopping might have been a life-saver (literally) during the height of COVID-19, but aren't we ready for the tactile experience of shopping in-person again?

Summer is a time for rebirth and renewal. Maybe you've been thinking of sprucing up your outdoor spaces now that you can entertain again. Or you think your Zoom-appropriate wardrobe could use some livening up. Or maybe you just want to treat yourself to something a little extra. We curated this collection of splurge worthy items to inspire you to ditch your sweats and get out of the house and shop.

Garden Party

1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.



1. Crisp and striking, understated yet elegant, this striped silk shirt dress from **Prada** is perfect for casual gatherings from backyard birthdays to brunch. \$2,350 at *Prada*, 343 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-278-8661 and prada.com
2. The “Farah” sunglasses by **Tom Ford** have been a long-standing bestseller for the designer. With their oversized retro vibe, they're virtually flattering on everyone. \$495 at *Tom Ford*, 346 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-279-9440 and tomford.com
3. Always have a bouquet on hand with the rose gold, emerald, and ruby “Frivole” eight-flower ring by **Van Cleef & Arpels**. \$11,800 at *Van Cleef & Arpels*, 300 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-276-1161 and vancleefarpels.com
4. These days men can usually forgo a sports coat, but when the occasion arrives for something a bit spiffier, a lightweight cashmere sweater jacket by **Loro Piana** will do just the trick. \$3,625 at *Loro Piana*, 313 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-860-0765 and loropiana.com
5. Give your patio a palatial makeover with these **RH** ornamental planters, made of honed travertine gathered from quarries outside of Rome. Starting at \$2,471 at *RH*, 8564 Melrose Ave., West Hollywood, 310-652-0323 and RH.com
6. Whoever said you have to suffer to look good? The “Lido” mules from **Bottega Veneta** have a padded inner sole for comfort and come in 13 different shades—from vivid hues to neutral tones. \$1,300 at *Bottega Veneta*, 320 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-858-6533 and bottegabeneta.com



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Devin B. Johnson
Walkscapes #3 (Iron Oxide), 2021
Oil and found object on linen
70h x 80w inches

Collection of East West Bank.
Image courtesy of the Artist and Nicodim Gallery.

Devin B. Johnson was selected for *Forbes* 30 Under 30 Art and Design (2022)



9378 Wilshire Boulevard
Beverly Hills CA 90212
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Sunny Side

1. Diamond pave gold stud earrings from Elsa Peretti's latest "Bean" collection for **Tiffany & Co.** are subtle enough for everyday wear and add just the right amount of sparkle when the stars are out. \$4,800 at *Tiffany & Co., 210 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-273-8880 and tiffany.com*



1.

2. Decorative throw pillows are the easiest way to transform an outdoor seating area. Add a pop of color with these Eastern Accents polka dotted versions from **Neiman Marcus** for a little extra flare. \$160 each at *Neiman Marcus, 9700 Wilshire Blvd., 310-550-5900 and neimanmarcus.com*



2.

3. Aloha! **Gucci** gives a nod to Los Angeles with its twist on the classic summer menswear staple—the Hawaiian shirt. And what barbecue is complete without one? \$1,150 at *Gucci, 347 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-278-3451 and gucci.com*



3.

4. A conversation starter or ice breaker, either way Tizo's cheerful rainbow colored Lucite domino set from **Gearys** practically begs your guests to start a game. \$150 at *Gearys Beverly Hills, 351 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-273-4741 and gearys.com*



4.

5. Sandals aren't for every man. When it comes to warm weather footwear you can't go wrong with a pair of **Louis Vuitton** loafers. If shocking orange is outside of your comfort zone, the style also comes in black, white, and tan. \$1,675 at *Louis Vuitton, 295 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-859-0457 and us.louisvuitton.com*



5.

6. Run errands with your pooch in style with this lemony-yellow leather pet carrier from **Maison Goyard**. The tote has an adjustable buckle to provide ample space for your furry shopping buddy. \$1,700 at *Maison Goyard, 405 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-237-5745*



6.

MUST-HAVES FOR SUMMER CONTINUES ON PAGE 74

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The Vibrant World of Nicholas Kontaxis

BY LINDA IMMEDIATO



NICHOLAS KONTAXIS, "FISH PUZZLE" PHOTOS COURTESY OF NICHOLAS KONTAXIS STUDIO

Nicholas Kontaxis was born in 1996, a cheerful infant, developing normally in every way. When he was 15 months old he had his first seizure, his tiny frame trembling in his mother Krisann Kontaxis's arms. Alarmed, Krisann and her husband Euthym took Nicholas to the emergency room. A CT scan and EEG tests revealed Nicholas had a large mass, an inoperable brain tumor, at the basal ganglia.

Over the years, they kept watch on the tumor: it didn't grow significantly, but the frequency and intensity of the seizures did. While his intelligence was unaffected, the seizures began to erode his ability to speak, to articulate and to converse. They also took their toll physically, causing painful falls resulting in injuries—from cuts and scrapes to a broken leg and broken teeth.

As Nicholas progressed into childhood, his parents noticed how tactile he was and how he gravitated toward bright colors and complex patterns.

In high school, Nicholas' interest in art blossomed, along with his talent. He painted not landscapes or portraits like most of his fellow students but vibrant abstracts, which impressed his teachers. Part of the education curriculum involved students gaining real world experience in a job share program. Nicholas' seizures, which had by then become constant intrusions, prohibited him from working in the kinds of places, like Starbucks, where the others found placement. Krisann suggested Nicholas' art could fill the job requirement. Initially, the school rejected this idea on the grounds that Nicholas would have to be paid for his work to meet the program's guidelines. But when Nicholas made his first sale—a painting for his oral surgeon, in exchange for having his wisdom teeth pulled, they agreed to modify the criteria for him. "That was the seed, the turning point in what would become Nicholas' career," said Krisann.

By 2016, at age 21, Nicholas became a bonafide artist with his first sold-out show at De Re Gallery on Melrose Avenue. Krisann managed



NICHOLAS KONTAXIS

Nicholas' career, creating a website, organizing shows, and overseeing commissions and sales of his work. She set up installations at galleries across the country, in Idaho, Chicago, Atlanta, and New York and across the globe in London. Here in California, 1,200 people packed the renown Heather James Fine Art Gallery in Palm Desert to see Nicholas' work. He is in private collections in Spain, Greece, Ireland, Australia, Zurich, and Holland and part of the permanent collection at the National Hellenic Museum in Chicago. This month his largest solo exhibit, "Catch Me," is on display in Beverly Hills, at UTA Artist Space. It features never-before-seen works, all created during the pandemic.

THE VIBRANT WORLD OF NICHOLAS KONTAXIS CONTINUES ON PAGE 62



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NEW PARENTS ROXY AND NICOLAS BIJAN WITH THEIR DAUGHTER BIJOU PHOTOGRAPHED IN THE NURSERY OF THEIR BEVERLY HILLS HOME CLAD WITH CUSTOM MADE "BIJAN YELLOW" WALLPAPER BY DE GOURNAY AND A CUSTOM MADE ACRYLIC CRIB BY PLEXI CRAFT
PHOTO BY JENNA PEFFLEY

The Prince of Beverly Hills

The Courier's Lisa Bloch sat down with Nicolas Bijan, son of the legendary designer Bijan, to talk fatherhood, new business ventures, and what life is like as the sartorial heir apparent.

BY LISA FRIEDMAN BLOCH

You drive the best car! You live in the best house! You wear the nicest watch! Who are you to have these things?" asked Bijan Pakzad to his 19-year-old son Nicolas. "I had no choice. I came to this country, and I worked hard. Because I had to, to be successful. You, you live in Malibu; you drive a Porsche."

"Thank you for all you do for me," Nicolas replied.

"You wear the finest clothes," Bijan shot back.

"I'm grateful," responded Nicolas earnestly.

"What are you going to do when you are 30? Huh?" Bijan pressed.

Bewildered, Nicolas asked, "Dad, did I do something wrong?"

Bijan's penetrating eyes meet his son's.

"I'm sorry for whatever I did," said Nicolas as he watched his father disappear through the office door.

Racking his brain, Nicolas struggled to understand his father's anger. Thursdays were Nicolas' day off from the boutique. But this day, his classes at Pepperdine University ended early. He decided to cruise on into Beverly Hills and surprise his father. As it turned out, his father surprised him.

Bijan returned holding a gorgeous jacket. Recognizing the garment, Nicolas sighed in relief. It's the one they designed together in Italy six months earlier. Its price tag was half the cost of his Porsche.

Wrestling his generous nature, Bijan wanted to give his son the very best but feared the trappings of excessiveness would impede Nicolas' desire for growth and accomplishment.

Bijan put the jacket on Nicolas, and they stood together, father and son, looking in the mirror, proud of their design. "It's my gift to you," Bijan said. They hugged. The moment was special, more than Nicolas could have imagined.

It would be the last moment Nicolas would ever share with his father.

Back home in Malibu, a few hours later, Nicolas received the call. His father had suffered a stroke and was being ambulated to Cedars-Sinai Medical Center.

Arriving at the hospital, Nicolas was greeted by his older sisters and other family members. Bijan was rushed into surgery, but the doctors explained there was little hope. The former Mayor of Beverly Hills, Jimmy Delshad, the highest ranking Iranian elected official in the United States at that time, hugged Nicolas and looked into his eyes. "You are Bijan now. You are a man. Make us proud."

"It was the push I needed to give me strength," said Nicolas. Over the next several days the Beverly Hills Police Chief, along with many other family friends, visited him and his family at his father's house in Beverly Hills.

Bijan Pakzad never regained consciousness. The man who built the legendary House of Bijan, the most expensive boutique in the world and the one and only international sartorial design house born in Beverly Hills, passed away two days later on April 16, 2011.

Unlike his immigrant father from Tehran, Iran, Nicolas Bijan Pakzad was born at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, the same hospital that tried to save his father, and the same medical center his beautiful daughter came into the world.

Bijou Bijan, named in honor of her grandfather, was born this year on 2-22-22. Her welcomed birth presented beyond reason, an eerily impactful connection to Bijan's birth of April 4, 1944 (4-4-44). Was it coincidental or a sign of Bijan's presence, a north star in his son's life? Nicolas believes his father is watching over him both in his personal and his professional life.

For years, Nicolas has had a burning desire to spread his wings and fly.

"Like my dad felt at my age, I too felt a calling to achieve my own ambitions," says Nicolas, now 30 years old. "I didn't want to look back 25 to 35 years from now and know that I didn't at least try, try to build my own legacy."

What held him back?

"In starting my own brand, I wanted to make the right decision respecting my father's legacy, a new creative endeavor, an extension of his legacy. It's taking his traditions, his teachings, his generosity, his principles, his perfectionism, his authenticity, all the things that drove him, and giving it a new modern interpretation."

NB44, a new luxury brand set to launch late this year, is Nicolas' own line of bespoke menswear that's less buttoned-up and formal. Aimed at a more youthful, modern clientele, "It's a new service and experience that the world craves in today's changing times," explains Nicolas. And the name, NB44? It's Nicolas' initials coupled with the number that honors his father's birth.

Nicolas is settling into his new role as father himself. He and his wife Roxy Sowlaty, who once starred on the E! Channel series the "Rich Kids of Beverly Hills," are enjoying this exciting new chapter as parents.

Roxy and Nicolas were friends first. Born and raised in Beverly Hills, Roxy was introduced to Nicolas by her high school pal, Rob Kardashian, and she and Nicolas began to date a few years into the friendship. Turning towards design after graduating from USC and Parsons New School of Design with a master's degree, Roxy, today, is a talented and successful interior designer with her own firm specializing in high-end residential projects.

Nicolas Bijan

“In Paris, on the famous Pont des Arts bridge, she happily accepted Nicolas’ surprise proposal and planned a grand wedding in Italy.”



ROXY AND NICOLAS MOMENTS AFTER HIS SURPRISE PROPOSAL TO HER ON THE PONT DES ARTS BRIDGE IN PARIS IN 2018
PHOTO BY PAULINE GOYARD

In Paris, on the famous Pont des Arts bridge, she happily accepted Nicolas’ surprise proposal and planned a grand wedding in Italy. COVID-19 derailed it to an intimate, beautifully glamorous garden wedding in their backyard seen by, according to Nicolas, millions of interested viewers on social media.

While showing me through their extraordinarily designed San Ysidro Ranch style traditional home in Beverly Hills, formerly Taylor Swift’s residence, Nicolas shares, “This is all Roxy. I take no credit.”

With a spring in his step, Nicolas leads me up the stairs to visit the nursery, a charmingly sunny, perfectly outfitted baby nest in Bijan yellow. I learn, “Yellow” was a possible name choice, but Nicolas would not hear of it. Bijou, meaning “gem” in French, is a tribute to Bijan, and the name Nicolas wanted for his daughter, though he and Roxy both affectionately call her “BB.” He leans over the crib railing and touches BB’s beautiful face. It’s clear he’s mesmerized by her cooing sounds, her delicate beauty and the miracle of her presence.

“I’ve never loved Roxy more than I do now. And the whole process of the pregnancy and giving birth, a whole new chamber of my heart has opened up. I want 20 more kids, but I am sure Roxy would object.”

Returning back down the stairs, Nicolas acknowledges the importance of the Beverly Hills community to him just as it was to his late father. A few weeks earlier, Dean Viana, a former Captain of the Beverly Hills Fire Department, had come by to meet Bijou and to give Roxy and Nicolas CPR training now that they’re parents. Having stayed in touch over the years, he was one of the heroes who had tried to save his father the night Bijan was rushed to the hospital 11 years earlier.

“There is no doubt of the contributions my father has made for Beverly Hills and, likewise, the contributions Beverly Hills has made for my father’s international success. It was a great partnership.” Nicolas cites the example of the Bijan designed cars. For years the Bijan one-of-a-kind yellow Bugatti and Rolls Royce cars were, and still are, parked in front of the store on Rodeo Drive. Not only did the city allow Bijan to do this, the City Council voted unanimously to award the House of Bijan its own yellow parking meter to match its car, a spectacle that hundreds of thousands of visitors to Beverly Hills enjoy every year.

But the parking meter and cars are just small pieces of the Bijan legacy Nicolas inherited. As a young boy, the late Bijan Pakzad admired his father, an industrialist, especially how he dressed for work. His parents sent young Bijan, one of five children, three brothers and one sister, to be educated at the exclusive Institut Le Rosey in Switzerland and in Italy. His focus was design despite his parents’ desire for him to study engineering. He opened his first boutique called the Pink Panther in the heart of a thriving Tehran. By the age of 30, Bijan knew he would never reach his goals in clothing design unless he went to America.

“He wanted to go to Beverly Hills. There he believed he could build and achieve the American dream,” shares Nicolas.

Bijan emigrated to the United States in 1973 and, along with his 50% partner Mr. Daryoush Mahboubi-Fardi, bought a parking lot on Rodeo Drive, the site for his future store. Three years later, in 1976, they opened the newly constructed “House of Bijan” on the east side of the 400 block of what has become one of the most famous streets in the world. For almost 50 years now, the House of Bijan reigns as a premiere shopping destination of the world’s elite.

Sitting down with Mr. Mahboubi in the Bijan offices, he provides this heartfelt description of his past business partner and best friend.

“The first impression when you met Bijan was that he was very personable. He treated everyone with respect and in return everybody treated him with respect,” Mr. Mahboubi says. “He was very passionate about everything he did in life. He had passion for family, for business, for design, for food. Everything he did, he did it with an extraordinary amount of passion. There was no filter blocking it out, or dimming the strength of his passion. And the third thing you felt about Bijan was that he was truly talented. Personality, passion combined with talent made for a very special recipe for success in this business.”

Soon the House of Bijan was touted the most expensive store in the world. The claim went uncontested as Bijan, cloaked in courage and fortitude, obtained and sustained his vision: The finest, exclusive sartorial house of quality and design, coupled with unmatched personal service. The result was a financial windfall.

“The proof is in his success and in the relationships he built,” says Nicolas.



NEWLYWEDS ROXY AND NICOLAS PHOTOGRAPHED ON THEIR WEDDING DAY AT THEIR BEVERLY HILLS HOME IN OCTOBER OF 2020 PHOTO BY BRADON FLYNN



BIJOU, ROXY AND NICOLAS POSING IN THEIR METALLIC PINK MEYERS MANX DUNE BUGGY PHOTO BY JENNA PEFFLEY

At a time when boutique owners aggressively encouraged customers to enter their stores, enticing them with marketing devices such as sales and discounts, Bijan locked his front door and said he would see customers “by appointment only.”

His reasoning was misunderstood, Mr. Mahboubi explains.

“The first day we wanted to open the boutique, Bijan said, ‘Dar, I have an idea. I want to make it by appointment only.’ The only business of its kind in the world that was paying huge amounts of rent on the most famous street, Rodeo Drive, was saying, my doors are locked. As though you have to qualify to be able to enter. But that message was actually 180 degrees different from what Bijan meant. What he meant to say was, ‘I respect my customers so much that when they come into my boutique, they should not be waiting or wasting their time.’ So, for example, if we have 22 staff members in the boutique when a customer walks in, all 22 members attend to one customer. No other retail operation has that kind of setup. And that is true respect for the customer and his time. And almost all of our customers are extremely important. Their time is extremely valuable.”

The average client’s attention to shop and buy is surprisingly short.

“We only get 20 to 30 minutes from the customer,” says Mr. Mahboubi. “In those 20 minutes, we can either sell them \$20,000 or \$2 million and we choose to sell them \$2 million (when) they’re capable of buying \$2 million. We’re capable of showing them, to their satisfaction, \$2 million worth of merchandise, in their exact fit, their exact taste, their exact color palette, and their exact fabrics that they love. We specialize in this. We kept the business very small, but we kept adding to the value of each customer.”

Mr. Mahboubi claims that many designers have tried to copy what they do.

“Nobody has ever succeeded in copying what our formula is or what our recipe is. It’s very unique. For example, everybody makes a suit and everybody pays from \$1,000 to \$3,000 for hand stitching, cutting and sewing. But nobody pays \$2,000 per yard for the fabric. So, a sports jacket that takes 3½ yards to pay \$6,000 to \$8,000 just for the fabric is unheard of. But because we know nobody else would actually dare to do that, we do it. And we do it with very special colors.”

By 1985, from his second boutique located in Manhattan, the New York Times reported that Bijan had amassed 15,000 customers including kings, U.S. presidents, prime ministers, iconic movie stars, superstar entertainers and influential religious leaders. “Simplicity and honesty” best describe his clothing line, Bijan said in the article. In 2002 the New York boutique closed leaving Beverly Hills its original and only flagship boutique, allowing Bijan to remain solely in his favorite City of Beverly Hills and close to his young family.

Adding fragrances to his empire, Bijan began designing and manufacturing perfume for men and women in 1988, which earned him three prestigious Fragrance Foundation Awards, including one launched in partnership with Michael Jordan in 1997. In an article in the Los Angeles Times in 2001, Bijan Perfume and his fashion business had \$3.2 billion in sales. Bijan’s designed perfume bottle is featured in the permanent exhibit of the Smithsonian Institution.

As the only son, youngest child, and heir apparent to the House of Bijan brand, the weight on Nicolas’ shoulders was incomprehensible when his father died. Just 19 years old, a sophomore in college, a part-time employee of the business, Nicolas struggled to find his footing. Days later, when he turned on his computer, he found almost 5,000 emails, condolences from people Bijan had touched.

One such letter came from an Iranian writer, Shirin Sadeghi, assigned to write Bijan's obituary for the Huffington Post. In it she wrote, "He dressed President Obama, the Queen of England, Ronald Reagan, the Sultan of Brunei, Prince Charles, Bill Gates and any number of others of the powerful and wealthy of this world. But more than anything he dressed the soul of so many of us young Iranians in America who felt unwelcome and unsure of where we fit in within this massive country that had so much to do with what happened and was happening in our homeland. 'The reason for my success is because I'm Iranian,' Bijan said once. We never doubted it, or forgot his words."

Bijan was revolutionary, not only as a clothing designer but also as an immigrant. Instead of being ashamed of his roots, he not only was proud of it; he used it as a part of his unique style. His authenticity began with his unwillingness to conform or completely assimilate.

The House of Bijan's website quoted Bijan, "The world said to conform, the world said to settle for less. The world said to compromise and no one would know. So I made my own world."

He didn't change his Iranian name, his accent, or his ideals of dressing when he came to Los Angeles. He didn't focus on his disadvantages or the people who resented him because of his former nationality.

While he communicated through the vernacular of "broken English," the powerful meaning behind his words was always understood. Nicolas considers that his father used his broken English to give himself more latitude with making his points and to "award himself permission to speak words that might ordinarily be considered inappropriate, but with an amusing charm and naivete."

"Not willing to conform took serious courage," says Nicolas, the kind of courage that became Nicolas' guiding light. He had to accept the reality of his father's sudden death, and push forward. "It is what it is and there's nothing I could do about it. You sink or swim," he says. And the affirmations of his father's legacy, through the stories in the emails, truly helped.

Nicolas remembers his father's words, "You must be kind to everyone you encounter. Treat everyone with respect. Be polite, gracious, with everyone you meet. Because you never know who they are, or how they may come back in your life."



A HOUSE OF BIJAN ADVERTISEMENT FROM 1991 WITH BIJAN, HIS WIFE TRACY AND THEIR TWO CHILDREN NICOLAS AND ALEXANDRA
PHOTO COURTESY OF HOUSE OF BIJAN

Nicolas' parents had first met professionally when Bijan had hired Nicolas' mother, Tracy Hayakawa, a model, for his fragrance lines. She, along with their children, would later be featured in countless ads, billboards, commercials and magazines in tribute. Half Japanese and half Irish, the exotic beauty was "the love of his life," Nicolas shares, even though they were divorced by the time Nicolas was a year old. "My dad was in love with my mom until the day he passed away," a gift Nicolas is grateful for as a child of divorced parents. Their relationship remained extremely amicable throughout Nicolas' life.

A product of many cultures, Iranian, Japanese, and Irish, Nicolas is proud to be an Iranian American as well as a Japanese American. But growing up, he was challenged by his inability to fully communicate through language with many of his family members, especially his Iranian grandfather. Bijan brought his entire family from Iran to Newport Beach, California. Nicolas' grandmother, who is still alive today, is full Japanese.

When Nicolas was a toddler, his mother began a relationship with the American billionaire businessman and philanthropist, David H. Murdock. Among many positions, Murdock was the Chairman of Dole Food Company, owner of the Hawaiian island of Lanai, and later would develop the luxury Sherwood Estates and Sherwood Country Club in Thousand Oaks. His mother married Murdock a few years later, and young Nicolas was raised on the Murdock farm in Thousand Oaks. Shuffling between his weekdays on the sprawling farm and weekends in Beverly Hills with his father, Nicolas had a privileged life. Whether he was meeting royals or rulers of countries with his father, or running on pineapple plantations and christening cargo ships in Germany with his mother, there is no doubt Nicolas was exposed to the finest things life offered.

For father-son one on one time, Bijan would take Nicolas on long day trips in the car. Cars were a passion they both shared. Bijan had amassed a pristine car collection including designing multimillion-dollar cars in partnerships with Rolls-Royce and Bugatti and enjoyed sharing his love of automobiles with his impressionable young son. Often surrounded by people, this was Bijan's way of bonding with Nicolas away from his staff. Cruising to the beach, on Sunset Boulevard, or up and down the coast, "that was our thing on Sundays," Nicolas recalls fondly.



DAVID H. MURDOCK AND NICOLAS PICK PINEAPPLES AT A DOLE PLANTATION ON THE HAWAIIAN ISLAND OF LANAI.
PHOTO BY TRACY MURDOCK



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BIJOU, ROXY AND NICOLAS SHARING A SPECIAL MOMENT ON THEIR FIRST FAMILY PICNIC. PHOTO BY JENNA PEFFLEY



16-YEAR-OLD NICOLAS VISITS HIS FATHER BIJAN AT THE HOUSE OF BIJAN ON RODEO DRIVE. PHOTO COURTESY OF NICOLAS BIJAN

“I remember the first conversation I had with my father about my future. We were driving on the 405 Freeway, about to get onto the 101 Freeway. Just me and him. I remember this; it’s engraved in my mind. He said, ‘I started my career with relatively little. Look where you’re starting. What you’re starting with. You could be as big as Ralph Lauren. You could be as big as Giorgio Armani.’ And by the way, Ralph Lauren and Giorgio Armani, they looked up to him. But the point is he was trying to instill in me that I cannot take for granted what he had created for me.”

This conversation did not intimidate Nicolas. Instead, it helped to mold him and make him feel confident. It also prepared him for what was to come all too soon.

“These profound discussions came from a point of this amazing love, from him to me. Losing your dad at 19, a complete shock in my life, a lot of people would ask themselves, ‘Oh my God was my dad proud of me? Did I make him proud?’”

Nicolas has no doubts.

“Every day he was telling me how proud he was. It gave me a sense of ‘surety.’ I was very disciplined by him. He would be tough and hard on me, but he would always show so much love. And even after he would yell at me as parents yell at their children when they deserve it, because God knows I deserved it, he would embrace me after. I knew I just had to sit there and let him discipline me. And then after, he would make an appearance in my bedroom or wherever I was and try to spend quality time with me.”

Growing up with his mom and stepdad during the week and his father on the weekend gave Nicolas, he believes, the right balance. He just had to make sure to call his father every single day.

“That was the rule, no matter what. You have to imagine, me being away from my father during the week was tough for him. I’m sure he felt like he was losing me. If I broke that rule and didn’t call him one day, I was scared to call him the next day. When I finally did, he’d ask why I didn’t call. Then he’d hang up on me. And I’d call him back or I’d be in more trouble. I know now, it was a lesson. I had to be present in my father’s life.”

While walking through Nicolas’ beautiful home during our interview, he points to a photo in his home office of his mother holding him as a baby and offers proudly, “Bijou is identical to her.”

Nicolas has always been close with his mother. He describes her as a “very strong, powerful woman. She had to be to have been married to such incredible and powerful figures with her children. She’s my biggest supporter, my bodyguard, my protector.”

Behind his desk, he leads me to personal letters, many from dignitaries including U.S. Presidents Bush 41, Clinton, Bush 43, Obama, and Trump and says, “I’m hoping for President Biden, too.” All contain the recurring theme of gratitude to Nicolas for helping them look good. There are also several signed photos of Muhammad Ali with whom Nicolas was very close to as well as a red glove signed by the two biggest boxers in the world, Gennady Golovkin and Canelo Alvarez. He explains, “They’re rivals as big as Ali and Frazer. They fight each other but they came together to sign this glove for me.”

On his desk sits a little leather sign, “It can be done.” It was his stepfather’s, and he shares, “I believe Mayor Lili Bosse has one on her desk, too.” He smiles, “I’m in good company.”

Recently Nicolas celebrated his stepfather’s 99th birthday. Even after Nicolas’ mother and Murdock divorced when Nicolas was a teenager, Nicolas still credits him for instilling life’s values and teaching foundational lessons.

“Mr. Murdock really did guide me from a boy to a man. And even after my father passed away, he was still guiding me from a boy to a man,” Nicolas says with reverence.

Nicolas’ mother shares, “David gifted little Nicolas his first car at 10 years old, a small two-seater truck to drive around the farm, a stick shift no less. I would often come home to find little Nicolas not studying with his tutor, but out driving the tutor around the ranch giving guided tours. It was something else to drive with him. He always enjoyed the company of adults and could relate with them as no kid could. Adults also always gravitated to young Nicolas; I believe they could see the ‘uniqueness’ and enjoyed his company.”

She goes on to explain how close Nicolas and his father were at the end of his life and how Bijan groomed him to take the reins. But, she adds, “At 19 Nicolas needed more time with him. The irony is that had Bijan not passed, Nicolas would not have had the opportunity and obligation to step into those very large shoes which he has done with such grace, dedication and love. He had to grow up very fast suddenly and navigate some very complicated matters and relationships; it was heartbreaking. But as Nicolas does, he won over hearts and proved himself and has grown into an extraordinary businessman in his own right. It is uncanny sometimes when Nicolas will do or say something exactly the way his father would have said or done or even ‘reacted’ to as a man now. Something Nicolas could not have learned from Bijan. It is almost as if Bijan himself is inside of Nicolas... Forget that Nicolas is the spitting image of his father down to his toes quite literally,” she laughs.



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As a child, Nicolas loved hanging out on the farm with the horses, chickens and the cows, riding dirt bikes, driving his truck and going to school in Calabasas. He wanted nothing to do with clothing design or fashion.

“To be honest, if I was my father, I would have been a bit panicked,” Nicolas chuckles.

But when girls came into the picture, the landscape changed.

Nicolas remembers realizing, “this sartorial, handmade, beautiful clothing made in Italy, business, fancy cars, and all of these celebrities like Michael Jordan and the Presidents... I don’t care if the other option in my life was becoming the president of the World Bank, I’d say no.” Laughing assuredly, “I’m good with fashion.”

At 13 Nicolas knew he was “taking over the business.” He told his father, “I’m going to tell you how to do it!” But it wasn’t until Bijan was gone that Nicolas realized what a creative and authentic visionary his father was.

“My father questioned conventional wisdom with respect to retail. He rejected or disrupted the status quo. He built the most expensive, most exclusive, highest quality men’s brand in the world and then told people they couldn’t have it. It was genius.”

At the House of Bijan, exclusivity is critical. Most items are labeled and numbered like fine art. Usually only one or two pieces are made of the same design. Bijan would explain that his discernable client is intelligent and wants to feel as if he is wearing something unique and made just for him. Bijan firmly believed the cost of each garment had to reflect its production.

He also mastered the art of understanding and servicing the customer.

“When somebody walked in to meet my father for the first time, he would say, ‘Who is this person that is in front of me?’” recalls Nicolas. “‘Is he conservative? Is he confident? Does he want to be perceived a certain way? But in reality, he’s not that way?’ Clothes speak very loudly or the presentation of somebody speaks very loudly. And even if they say, ‘I don’t care about clothes.’ That also says something. When you dress somebody, you have to understand who they are. You have to be able to understand what they want, even if they can’t tell you. My father did this so well.”

Nicolas learned the art of customer service from his father. He shares that when he was 27, he met the “biggest retailer in the world, who also happened to be the richest man in the world.” He complimented Nicolas saying, “Customers rule, and you live it.” This is a motto for Nicolas’ new business.

Customers did rule for Bijan, but he didn’t shy away from challenging societal conventions. As a disruptor, controversy surrounded some of his ad campaigns. Nicolas calls it his “provocative positive” style. The promotions had purpose. “They were not reckless, like some of the campaigns today,” he says. An example was Bijan’s ads in 2000 that featured a nude rotund model named Bella. Bijan defended the ads saying they paid homage to painters, Peter Paul Rubens, Henri Matisse and Fernando Botero, some of whom are in his own collection. “I embrace the beauty of all women,” Bijan said. The backlash turned to acceptance when Tina Brown’s Talk included the ads. It became the “talk” of the town. Bijan, once again, questioned conventional wisdom and won.

Principled, creative, and passionate, Bijan’s temper sometimes flared, as did his need to control every aspect of the brand. He was genuinely generous and kind and truly cared about his customers, his employees, his craftsmen, and everyone he came into contact with. Many of the employees have been with the House of Bijan for over 40 years.



NICOLAS AS A YOUNG BOY WITH HIS FATHER ON THE FIRST OF MANY FATHER-SON TRIPS TO ITALY
PHOTO COURTESY OF NICOLAS BIJAN



BIJAN WITH HIS FRIEND AND BUSINESS PARTNER DAR MAHBOUBI
PHOTO BY MANIJEH MESSA



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PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH VISITING THE HOUSE OF BIJAN ON RODEO DRIVE PHOTO COURTESY OF HOUSE OF BIJAN

Nicolas lights up remembering a story, a surprise visit from President George W. Bush.

“Imagine looking out on the street (Rodeo Drive) and wondering why it is so empty,” he recalls. “And then suddenly seeing five Suburbans and then President Bush’s face in the window. The cars pull over. The secret service come in and close the door. While this is happening, my father tells his secretary to get the Mayor at the time, Jimmy Delshad, on the phone. When she gets him, she doesn’t tell the Mayor what’s going on. Instead, she connects the call to the front where President Bush has entered the boutique. He picks up the phone and says, ‘Mr. Mayor, this is George Bush.’ And the Mayor goes, ‘hello?!’ (Nicolas is laughing) He’s in complete shock! Then the former President asks, ‘How long have you been the Mayor?’ Mayor Delshad says, ‘I’ve been the Mayor for three weeks, Mr. President.’ My dad was thrilled with this sort of practical yet very real joke. President Bush says, ‘Congratulations. You know, civic service is the honor of a lifetime.’ And they start talking about the importance of one’s civic duty. My dad wanted to surprise him. He was very proud of fellow Iranian immigrant Mayor Jimmy Delshad. That was my father. He wanted to give his friend that moment with the President.”

Bijan’s perfectionist style was surprisingly never critical of his son’s designs, but he did make his opinions clear. Nicolas shares a story about his favorite jacket and his father’s reaction.

“This is not a nice jacket, but if you’re going to make it, those colors, allow me to tell you, may I suggest, you make it blue with gray.” Nicolas chuckles, “Even today it’s my favorite jacket 12 years later. When I wear it and it’s photographed on Instagram, I receive calls requesting the jacket. He was ahead of his time.”

To honor his father, Nicolas legally changed his surname, a plan he and his father had discussed and hoped to do someday. Bijan’s sudden passing felt like the right time to make the change. Nicolas dropped the family surname, Pakzad, and became Nicolas Bijan.

“I honestly believe I am continuing his legacy and honoring my father, my late father, because I am keeping his name prevalent in future generations.”

Soon, it was evident that the baton had been passed to Nicolas when his visage began replacing his father’s on billboards and ad campaigns. They infused the brand’s classic superior savoir-faire style with the new sartorial prince of Beverly Hills, the new Bijan. But at first, it wasn’t easy for Nicolas.

He was attending school at night, working in the boutique during the day, and often sent jet-setting to various parts of the world on behalf of his father’s business. It was something his father, Mr. Mahboubi, and Ms. Manijeh Messa, the store’s General Manager and Chief Design Editor, enlisted him to do at a young age.

“The fact that Manijeh, Dar and the team at Bijan trusted me to do this as such a young man, I salute them for that,” says Nicolas. “But early on, when I would go see an important client in his home country, the truth is that I had more anxiety and felt more uncomfortable on those trips than when I went skydiving. Going to important clients’ homes in their resident country may sound glamorous, but it is very intimidating. As a young man, it was those uncomfortable, outside the comfort zone, moments that I believe played a role in making me who I am today.”

Success took ingenuity and a little luck.

“Fortunately for me, it was a perfect storm. Many of our clients culturally are open to a son succeeding a father. In America, you don’t see it as much, but in the Middle East, in Asia, in some parts of Europe and Africa, there are no questions asked. The son follows the father. I had an advantage when I may not have been qualified to be doing what I was doing at 19 years old. On one of my first trips, I went to visit a royal family member of a country. I believe he wanted me to succeed because he was familiar with all of these factors, and he thought ‘The kid’s not a bad kid. I want to support him. And hey it’s only a couple of million bucks.’” Nicolas laughs, embarrassed by the significant amount of money.

To keep him centered, Nicolas keeps the “Pink Panther” theme song as his cell phone ring tone, a grounding reminder of his father’s first boutique in Tehran and the legacy lessons his father taught him about not believing in one’s own “hoopla.”

Nicolas’ approach has been to learn from people he most admired as he had entered into an extraordinary world of successful people. “Every single person—whatever it might be, I’d ask myself, what can I learn from this person, what do I admire about this person? And how do I implement that in my own future? And that’s what I did for the last 10 years of my life.”

Mr. Mahboubi claims that the House of Bijan has quadrupled its revenues since Bijan’s passing, under the combined leadership of Nicolas, Mr. Mahboubi and Ms. Manijeh.

When asked about his mentor, besides his father, Nicolas mentions Ms. Manijeh. It was her guidance, her belief in him, and her encouragement that helped him get through the difficult time.

“She was the one who pushed me and at times protected me...she taught me so much,” he says. “Like the bumper on the bowling lane, without a doubt, she’s the one who kept me from becoming something that my father would not have wanted me to become.”

In 2017, the company added a boutique at the Waldorf Astoria in Beverly Hills. And then Nicolas received a call from Steve Wynn who insisted Nicolas get on the next plane to hear his pitch for a House of Bijan in his Wynn Hotel in Las Vegas. In 2018, a new beautiful Bijan boutique opened in the Wynn Las Vegas, outfitting travelers from around the globe.

When asked about his favorite three men in the world that he’d like to dress, Nicolas candidly admits he “loves” this fun question.

“James Bond, the character. He’s a style icon,” he says. “It’s not about my favorite Bond actor, it’s which Bond was the best dressed to me.”

Elon Musk is the second. “To me he’s the coolest, a disruptor of the status quo. He rejects or questions conventional wisdom. And you know who else did that? My dad. The fact that he [Elon Musk] has just changed the world, at least three times in my lifetime, is inspiring, and he’s just getting started.”

And the third? Tom Brady. “He’s tall, he’s in good shape. He’s handsome. You put any piece of my clothing on him and he is going to make my job really easy.”



Besides the new boutiques in the Waldorf Astoria and in Las Vegas, the House of Bijan continues to expand, most notably with its foray into e-commerce, which became a necessary part of the business during COVID-19 lockdowns. The decision to sell products on the website was a concept foreign to the House of Bijan but spurred on by the pandemic.

When the essential element in the buying experience is predicated upon seeing the colors and workmanship in person, while touching and experiencing the fabrics and natural skins, how does the House of Bijan convince buyers to trust the merchandise over the internet?

Mr. Mahboubi explains, "We have 3000 ties, that are all unique, every season. So, we send photographs and ship the merchandise of 10 or 12 or 20 ties to them. And they end up keeping eight or 10 and returning eight or 10... We are getting customers now from countries that we rarely had any business (from) for the first 44 years. Through the web, our boutique managed to give them a little taste of Bijan and in the end, they're wanting more and more."

About this time, even before, brands on social media were gaining momentum. Nicolas did not waste any time; he jumped in, head first.

"Authenticity is one of the most powerful tools," Nicolas believes. "By showing one's humanity and personal journeys through a transparent lens, social media can be extraordinarily useful." He posted the real moments, his thoughts and his nervous actions leading up to his proposal to Roxy and the actual surprise in Paris when he got down on his knee. According to Nicolas, millions of viewers witnessed the authentic proposal on social media.

DESIGNER BIJAN AND MANIJEH MESSA, HIS LONGTIME FRIEND AND GENERAL MANAGER OF THE HOUSE OF BIJAN

PHOTO COURTESY OF HOUSE OF BIJAN

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LISA BLOCH AND NICOLAS BIJAN IN THE LIVING ROOM OF HIS BEVERLY HILLS HOME PHOTO BY JENNA PEFFLEY

“I’m at this point right now as a new father where I’m having fulfillment from my beautiful daughter, my role as a husband and now my role as an entrepreneur. It’s really exciting.”

“Social media gives you a power that my father didn’t have. He would’ve had to pay millions of advertising dollars [for the same message]. I can talk to 150,000 people that have an interest in Bijan or an interest in luxury men’s wear.... It’s the world today.”

As for the House of Bijan, Nicolas credits his father for all of the success.

“He built a legacy that continues to live on beyond his life. The House of Bijan family led by Dar, Manijeh and myself, have been steering the ship that was already going there. We made sure we didn’t hit the rocks and sink, but my father built something that was bigger than him. And if I take credit for any of that, I’m doing a disservice to what he built, because he really built the business.”

In Ms. Manijeh’s private office, adorned with a 10-foot-high mesmerizing Fernando Botero oil painting, she shares, “Nicolas has a heart like gold. He’s so kind, so generous. He’s very charming like his father. He has so much respect for the people that are older than him. He also wanted to try a lot of things outside of his father’s business... He needs to fly. He needs to live and continue to build his own name.” Her eyes fill with tears, “It’s heartbreaking for me. But he has made the right decision. For sure he’s going to be very successful.”

Mr. Mahboubi adds, “He wants to make his own footprint. Everybody that knows Nicolas, knows that Nicolas is going to be very successful in whatever he touches. I realized it was a big loss for the company [when Nicolas stepped down from Bijan operations], but he remains a major shareholder along with his sisters. This is his legacy. Some things cannot be separated from his father’s legacy.”

Headquartered in Beverly Hills, just down the street from the House of Bijan, Nicolas has been working for over a year on NB44, his new brand, a contemporary iteration of the lessons he learned from his father.

Thinking it through, “I even went to my father’s resting place and spoke to him.”

What would he say to you, if he were sitting here with us?

“To be cautious. My father would want me to be very conservative in a way of planning for the future.”

Bijou’s birth further ignited Nicolas’ enthusiasm.

“I’m at this point right now as a new father where I’m having fulfillment from my beautiful daughter, my role as a husband and now my role as an entrepreneur. It’s really exciting.”

What is unique about NB44?

Nicolas is very tight-lipped on specifics, but he describes an unassuming yet extremely sophisticated rooftop penthouse with a private members club vibe and a meeting place for a contemporary crowd where they can create bespoke looks—designed in Beverly Hills and made in Italy. One thing Nicolas was clear on, NB44 will have a strong digital foundation with an extremely high level of service and quality.

“Products at NB44 will be sold digitally. The idea is to bridge the gap that exists in the e-commerce market today, an industry that I believe is ripe for disruption. NB44 plans to disrupt it by allowing a human touch or relationship, the kind of trust that you would have in a brick-and-mortar business, but we will provide through a digital experience.”

How are you going to do that?

“You’ll see.” He chuckles, confidently. “I can’t wait to show you.”



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Back to the Future



BY TIM LAPPEN

The Courier's Fine Autos Contributor Tim Lappen is the Fine Autos Editor for Haute Living, Haute Time, Haute Residence and Haute Auto and a partner in a Century City law firm where he chairs his firm's Family Office Group and the Luxury Home Group. He can be reached at TLappen@gmail.com, and his website is www.LifeInTheFastLane.org.



THE HUMMER EV IS A TECHNOLOGICAL POWERHOUSE (OVER 1,000 HORSEPOWER WITH GOODIES GALORE).

Visions of the future (as conceptualized in books, movies, and television shows, in any case) are often divided into either post-apocalyptic dystopias or Shangri-las of cutting-edge technological conveniences. When it comes to the vehicles of tomorrow, they have almost always fallen into the latter category, with predictions of personal space planes and gravity-defying hovercrafts.

While there are a few “flying cars” and “automatic drones” being proposed, we aren’t quite there yet. For one, we seem to still have enough trouble with the two-dimensional world of forward, back, left, right – without adding the third (up and down).

And to that end, a host of automakers are incorporating technologies in their current fleets that would have seemed unimaginable only a decade ago. Here we take a look at the latest advances in safety, efficiency, communication, navigation, and emergency services to aid us in our 2D world.

We’re familiar with the term “Driver Assistance,” which can be anything from warning the driver of a mechanical issue to controlling the car when the driver apparently is making a mistake. Many cars now offer (at least as an option) lane-keeping assistance and are programmed to keep the car between the lane markers. Some have a little difficulty with that task when the roads are wet or especially when there’s snow, but they generally do a good job. The new all-electric **Hummer EV** offers GM’s “Super Cruise,” a self-driving mode that even changes lanes upon the driver’s command with a touch of a button.

“Active Cruise Control” not only allows the driver to pick a speed but also to select the space the driver wants to leave behind the car in front. These devices can keep the car at a set speed, whether going uphill or down, and also slow the car to a complete stop and then resume when the traffic starts moving again. Many new cars offer this feature, including the ground-breaking **Mercedes-Benz EQS**.



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THE ALL-ELECTRIC AUDI RS E-TRON GT

Automatic braking is often included as part of the driver assistance network, but it has a special place on the list, as many car makers offer this option, and sometimes it's even standard. If the vehicle senses that the differential between the speed of one's car and the speed of another object (a fixed object or even another moving car), it can audibly warn the driver and also can apply the brakes, either softly or very swiftly, depending upon the level of urgency it senses. These systems can help make “rear-enders” a thing of the past and enable insurance companies to offer a discount to drivers whose cars have such systems in place. The new **Cadillac CT5-V Blackwing**, a 660+ horsepower six-speed stromer, has this feature (and many more).

But of all the new Driver Assistance developments “Safe-Assist” systems might be the most exciting and underrated. Monitors at the back of the car warn drivers when opening the door is unsafe due to approaching traffic, including a nearby cyclist. Some cars flash the lights in the driver's side mirror quickly, and some initially disable the interior door handle, so the driver has to pull the handle twice to get the door to open (presumably to signal the driver to check the mirror to find out why it didn't open the first time). The high-performance all-electric, exotic **Audi RS e-tron GT** offers the flashing mirror lights and the temporary door release disconnection.

The latest cars now employ multiple cameras (the new Hummer EV has enough to offer 18 different camera views) and computer systems that “stitch” the images together to give any number of options, including a “blimp shot,” as if viewing the car from a blimp hovering above. It allows for much safer backing up, parking and pulling out into traffic, especially on those cars which have “cross-traffic warnings,” which alert the driver to vehicles approaching from the left or right front of the car or the back. The Hummer's cameras are perhaps the most numerous, in part because two of them are below the truck, to be sure that any obstacle a driver is about to go over is not too tall (and those underbody cameras have their own remote-controlled washing system).

As far as navigation is concerned, it's hard to believe that “OnStar” was introduced by General Motors in 1996. GM touts it as the industry's first built-in system of “telematics” (monitoring vehicles using GPS engineering and on-board computerization to show the vehicle's location and movement on a computerized map). It was designed to provide both an automatic crash notification and security system. When

a car's airbags deploy, the built-in OnStar module immediately connects to an Advisor who relays the information to emergency responders. That same system can allow the OnStar operator (once given permission by the police) to locate and then to slow down or even stop a car, a terrific service for recovering stolen cars without the need for high-speed chases.

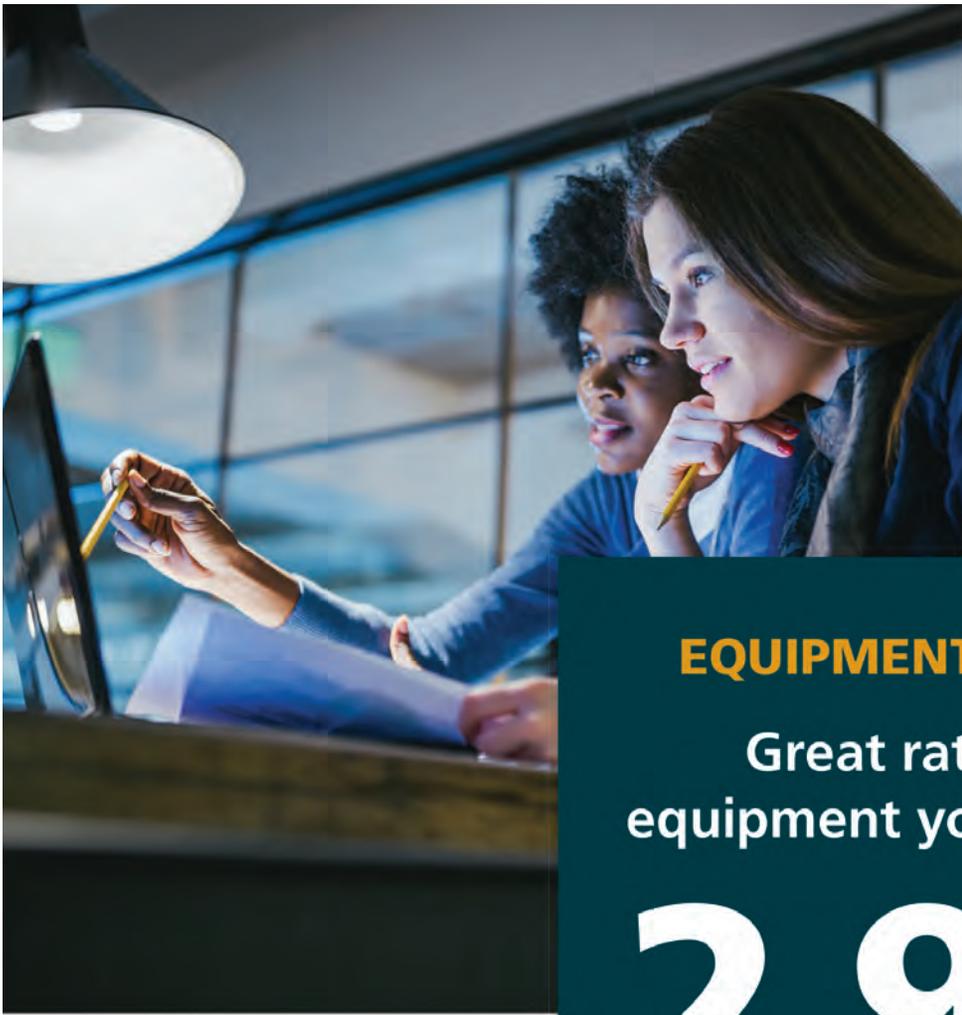
Automakers have for years now accepted that the age of the smartphone is here to stay, and they have continued to expand technologies to make it easier and safer for drivers to use them with less distraction. For example, Google's Android Auto and Apple's CarPlay app mirroring and phone integration systems, which allow you to transfer navigation routes from phone to car and stream music through the car's audio system, are now widely standard (in fact it's easier to find new cars with this tech than without it). But both Google and Apple continue to expand capabilities on these platforms. The latest version of Android Auto will feature “Fast Pairing,” which wirelessly syncs phone and car with a single tap. The new **BMW iX EV** will be among the first to debut this feature. Apple introduced its upgrades to its CarPlay iOS earlier this year, and among them is a function called “Driving Focus” mode that reduces notifications while the app is active or when it senses that you are driving.

Phones may have replaced cameras, wallets, and maps, and soon keys will be a thing of the past. Many car manufacturers now include the ability to lock, unlock, and even charge electric cars and other features, which allows drivers to use their phones for tasks which previously required being in the car and using a physical key. The technology is quickly advancing. With secure authentication offered with Bluetooth connectivity, automakers like Ford and Hyundai are using complex encryption tech to further boost security. One day soon car owners will be able to grant access to others to enter vehicles to retrieve items or give permission to drive, then rescind after the tasks are completed—all from across town or the globe with no keys required to change hands.

While notions of intergalactic travel and teleportation still remain firmly in our collective imaginations, the practical necessity of getting from point A to point B is in fact becoming easier and safer. Who knows what the future holds? One thing is certain, with the continued merger of cars and tech, it's definitely something to look forward to.



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NICHOLAS KONTAXIS, "BUY YOURSELF A CAKE"

The show was curated by Arthur Lewis, Partner/Creative Director at UTA Artist Space. Last year, Lewis took on Nicholas as a client. He had heard about Nicholas' work from colleagues and arranged a studio visit. Krisann was concerned that Nicholas' inability to articulate would affect Lewis' decision. It didn't. "I said he didn't need to talk, he is such an amazing abstract painter," said Lewis. "It's true that it is how the world is today with social media and self-promotion. And journalists love doing deep dives, diving deep into the feelings of the artist, the stories behind the works during interviews. But Nicholas' works truly speak for themselves."

Despite being essentially non-verbal, while painting Nicholas has surprised his family with short phrases, small glimpses, beyond his artwork, of his inner thoughts. Krisann started compiling a list of them. To her they are pure gold. All of the titles of Nicholas' artwork are pulled from her list. And so, they have such poignant titles as "Never Going to Get Invited" and "Take Me With You."

The paintings themselves are completely enveloping, due in part to their sheer size. The large format canvases, some nearly the size of billboards, are filled with striking colors applied with thick paint. "There is such a tactile nature of the work," explained Lewis. "There is one piece he had done where he had spilled spices like cinnamon and cardamom on the canvas. It happened in a very organic way. There's so much texture. You can get lost in every brush stroke, every stroke of the palette knife. They really invite you, or beg you, to sit in front of them in quiet contemplation. The paintings speak their own vibrant language."

Though they have drawn comparisons to Jasper Johns and Sam Francis, to Nicholas' neurosurgeons, Nicholas' paintings reflect his own inner neurology, specifically mimicking the neural pathways, firing of synapses, and explosion of vivid colors. Many who experience seizures report seeing intense bursts of color, or auras, during episodes.

"I thought the connection to his neural network was really fascinating, that Nicholas' art could reflect him in that way," said Euthym, who works as an emergency department physician and is the Medical Director of the Emergency Department at Eisenhower Health in Rancho Mirage where the Kontaxis family lives. "His art is very free form, but there's a structure in it. And that's very Nicholas."

Euthym sees another comparison, Muhammed Ali. Nicholas is a huge fan of the legendary boxing champion, collecting his T-shirts and magazines. "We often make the analogy that Nick is a little bit like a boxer. He gets knocked down, and he gets up again—and again," said Euthym. "But his seizures are just a part of him, they do not define him. Nick is just a really sweet kid who loves everybody. He doesn't have any negativity towards anyone. He is very accepting and non-judgmental. He just paints and loves it. He listens to music and goes for it. We're all so grateful."

The love and support of this family is one of the things that struck Lewis the most. "His parents had built him this beautiful enclave to paint in," said Lewis. "And I watched how his family supported him. They were all in on it, and you could feel there was so much love there between all of them. It was extraordinary. It's so rare that you get to see, on that level, the physical manifestation of love. I was so moved, I started crying."

The expansive studio his parents built for him is Nicholas' domain. Unencumbered by time, Nicholas spends hours painting while listening to his music—everything from Justin Bieber and Bruno Mars to gospel and Byzantine chants. It was important to Krisann and Euthym that Nicholas have a space of his own, a place where he could explore and experience life where there aren't as many limitations.

"He has so many parameters," said Krisann. "And when so many doors are closed to you, you keep looking for doors to open. And sometimes that search brings you to places that some people won't often find."

Now, at 26-years-old, even after thousands of seizures, Nicholas continues to expand his world through his art. He has become one of the most sought-after young abstract painters today. He isn't just surviving; he's thriving.

"Art is transformative. It's a light," said Krisann. "You don't have to stay in the dark. You can move through it. Nicholas doesn't have to stay in the darkness of epilepsy, he moves through it, every day. Those paint strokes are moving him through it. And that is beautiful to me. The world offers us these tiny things to grab onto—whether it's a stroke of a paintbrush or a typewriter key—and those tiny things offer something intangible, they offer salvation."



NICHOLAS WITH HIS PIECE, "CATCH ME"

PHOTOS COURTESY OF NICHOLAS KONTAXIS STUDIO



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Chef Isaac Gamboa, Prospect Gourmand
Tri-Tip Marinade
Pinquito Chili Beans
Grandma Libby's Potato Salad

“I was born and raised in Santa Maria, California where there’s a large BBQ community. My mom was born there also. My grandparents were born in New Mexico and Colorado and migrated to that area and started grilling in that Central Coast way [a hand crank grill over open flame] but with New Mexico influences. My grandmother always had chiles shipped from New Mexico for her beans, and she added black olives to her potato salad which gave it a distinctive Central California twist (my mother and my aunts still do this). The marinade my grandfather made for the tri-tip had a little Asian influence, borrowed from the large Filipino community there, so you’ll see soy sauce listed as an ingredient. My grandparents had 10 kids, so there are about 50 grandkids, and when they had a party everyone got together—spouses, kids, in-laws, friends. I remember I’d be out playing with my cousins, my grandmother would be in the kitchen making the side dishes and my grandfather would be out in the strawberry fields cooking on the grill. The night before he would marinate the beef and chicken in giant metal trash cans lined with bags. The next morning he’d wake up at 5 a.m. and light up the wood fire grill. As far back as I can remember my family has made these recipes. They mean a lot to me, and whenever I go back home to visit, my brothers and I make them the same way all over again.”

FRESHLY COOKED MARINATED TRI-TIP
 PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHEF ISAAC GAMBOA

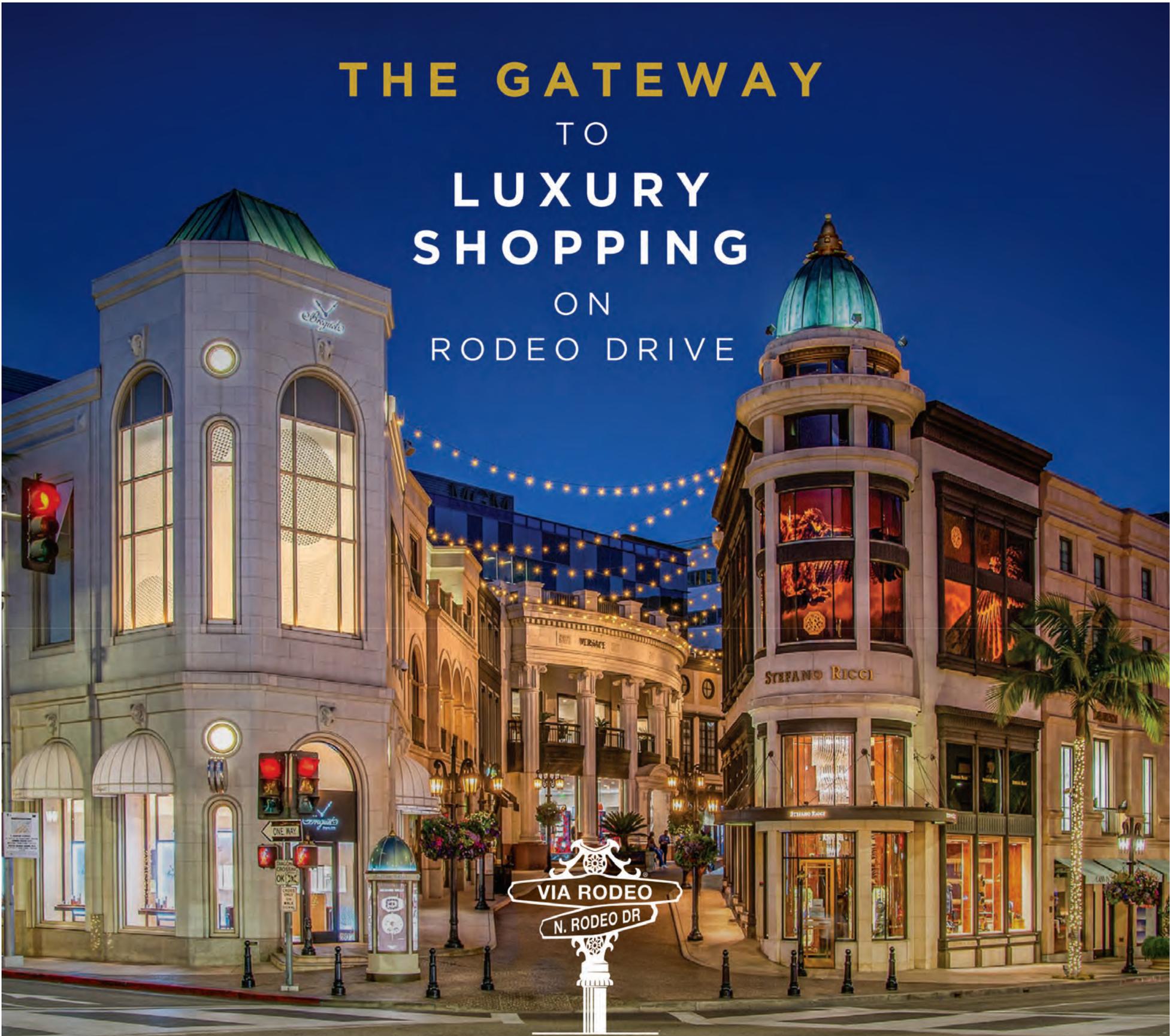
Tri-Tip Marinade Ingredients:

- ½ cup water
- 1 cup soy sauce
- 1½ cups canola or vegetable oil
- 8 cloves garlic, peeled
- ½ tablespoon ground black pepper
- 1 whole tri-tip beef, slightly trimmed

Directions:

1. Puree all ingredients in blender and marinate beef for 10 hours or overnight in fridge.
2. Next day, grill over wood, charcoal, or gas grill until cooked to medium (tri-tip lends better to a medium cook), about 25 to 30 minutes total (15 to 20 minutes on each side).

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Pinquito Chili Beans Ingredients:

- 2 pounds dry Piquito beans
- 1 pound ground beef
- 2 tablespoons chopped garlic
- 1 Spanish onion, diced small
- 12 ounces fire roasted green chile (Anaheim or Hatch)
- 1 can (16 ounces) whole peeled plum tomato
- 1 can (10 ounces) Las Palmas red chile sauce
- Salt and pepper to taste

Directions:

1. Soak beans overnight and cook in simmering water until just tender, 30 to 45 minutes.
2. Cook ground beef in a small 4-quart pot until browned, then add garlic and onion and cook until translucent (about 5 minutes).
3. Add chiles, tomatoes, and chile sauce to beef, then add mixture to the beans and continue to simmer for 30 to 45 minutes.
4. Season with salt and pepper.

Grandma Libby's Potato Salad Ingredients:

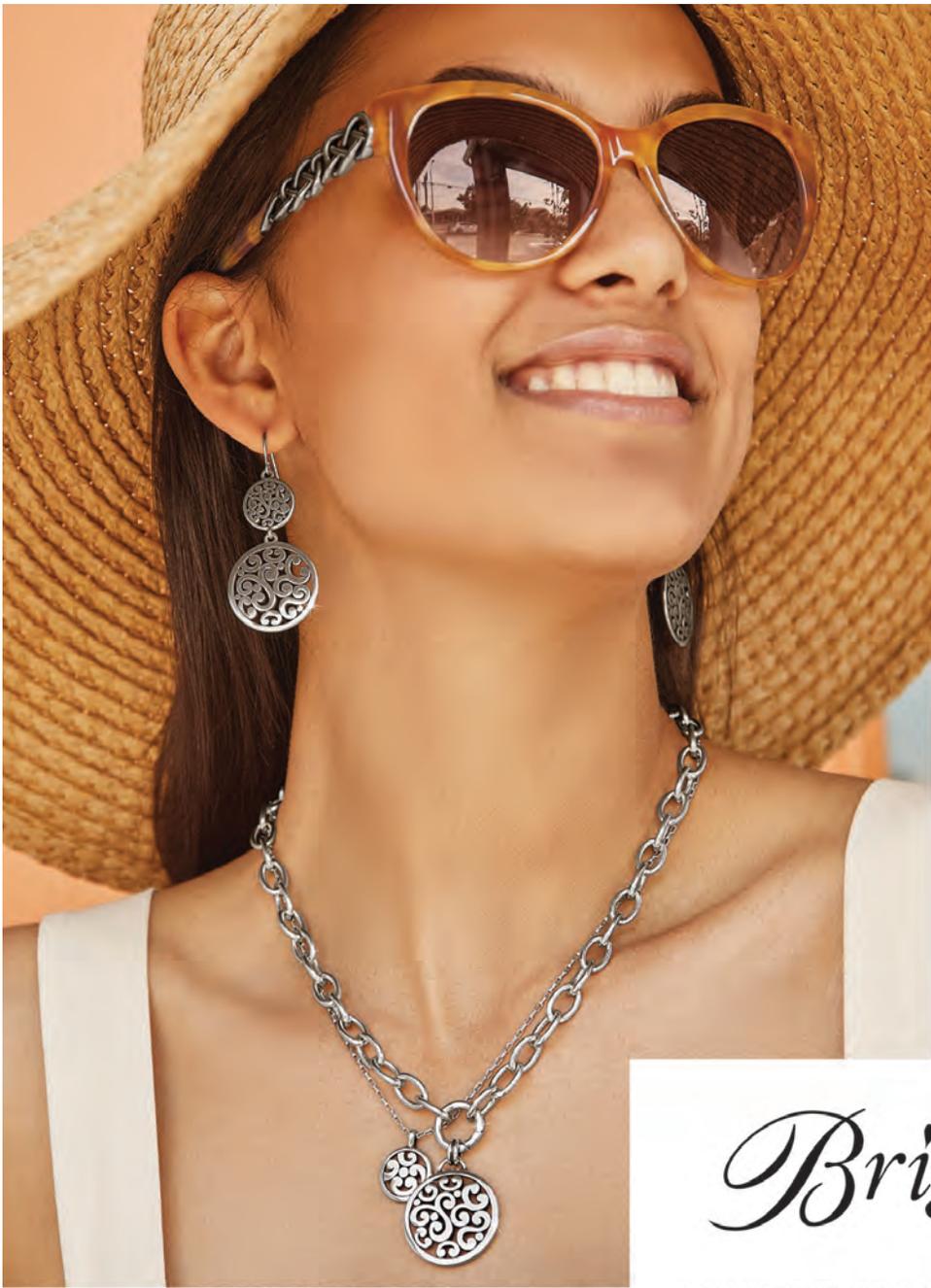
- 2 pounds Russet potatoes, peeled, diced
- 1 cup Best Foods mayonnaise
- 2 stalks celery small, diced (2 cups)
- 4 hard-boiled eggs, diced
- 1 tablespoon yellow mustard
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup diced Kosher pickles
- 1 can (6 ounces) California black olives, pitted
- 1 bunch celery leaves (optional, for garnish)
- 1 hard-boiled egg, sliced
- 1 pinch cayenne pepper (optional)

Directions:

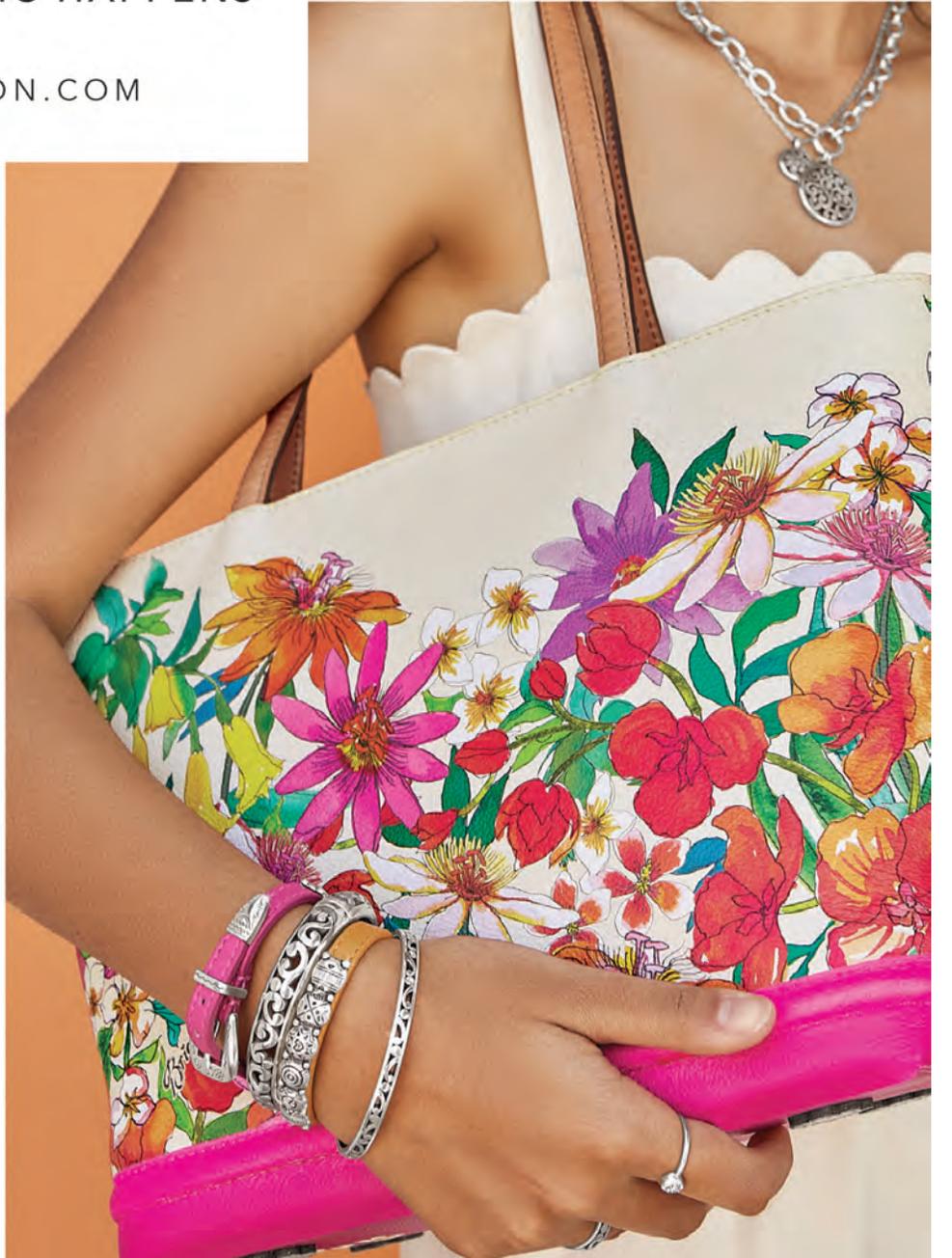
1. Boil the potatoes until fork tender, drain, and allow to cool to room temperature.
2. Combine all ingredients in a large bowl while potatoes cool.
3. Mix potatoes into the bowl, garnish with celery leaves, egg slices, and sprinkle with a pinch of cayenne pepper, if desired.



TRI-TIP WITH PINQUITO CHILI BEANS AND GRANDMA LIBBY'S POTATO SALAD
PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHEF ISAAC GAMBOA



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SPICE-RUBBED LAMB RACK AND ZUCCHINI-FETA FRITTERS WITH VINEGAR-MINT SAUCE

PHOTO BY ANDREA D'AGOSTO

Chef Curtis Stone, Maude

Spice-Rubbed Lamb Rack with Vinegar-Mint Sauce and Zucchini-Feta Fritters

Cherry-Amaretto Lattice Pie

“My mum Lozza was the cook in the family, preparing meals for my older brother Luke and me. She was a single mum so she was incredibly busy, but on Sundays we always had a big dinner, either a pork roast or lamb. Aussies enjoy their lamb much more than Americans do; it’s a very prevalent and important staple. We have such diverse cuisine, taking influences from Southeast Asia and our British cousins, but I’d venture to say that lamb might be our national dish. I’ve been making lamb since I can remember. And summer is my favorite season for fruit, and I look forward to the appearance of stone fruit every year. Cherry pie is just perfect (and nobody says you can’t have a slice for breakfast). Grilling and stone fruit just scream summer to me. Cooking for people is the best way to say “I love you” without words. I love being outside at the grill, keeping an eye on the boys in the pool and gathering around the table for dinner with long summer days and warm nights. And pie? I always say pie is just like a big hug and a great way to end a meal.”

Spice-Rubbed Lamb Rack with Vinegar-Mint Sauce and Zucchini-Feta Fritters Ingredients:

Vinegar-Mint Sauce:

- 1 cup (not packed) fresh mint leaves
- ½ cup good-quality red wine vinegar
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1 teaspoon sea salt

Lamb:

- 2 tablespoons black peppercorns
- 2 tablespoons coriander seeds
- 2½ teaspoons fennel seeds
- ¾ teaspoon cumin seeds
- 2 tablespoons smoked paprika
- 1 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 2 lamb racks (about 2½ pounds total), rib bones frenched
- 2 tablespoons olive oil

Fritters:

- 1½ pounds zucchini, coarsely grated
- 8 ounces feta, crumbled
- ¼ cup chopped green onions
- ¼ cup chopped dill
- ¼ cup chopped mint
- ¼ cup chopped flat-leaf parsley
- 2 large eggs, beaten to blend
- 1 cup (2½ ounces) panko breadcrumbs
- 1 tablespoon cornstarch
- Grapeseed oil (for deep frying)

Directions:

To make vinegar-mint sauce:

Place mint in medium bowl. In small saucepan, bring vinegar, sugar, and ½ cup of water to a boil over medium-high heat, stirring until sugar dissolves. Pour vinegar mixture over mint and steep for 30 minutes. Mix in sea salt and strain sauce.

To make spice rub:

In small frying pan over medium-high heat, stir peppercorns, coriander seeds, fennel seeds, and cumin seeds for about 2 minutes, or until spices are toasted. Transfer to mini food processor and grind to fine powder. Pulse in 2 teaspoons kosher salt. In small bowl, mix freshly ground spices with paprika and cayenne.

To cook lamb:

1. Prepare covered grill for indirect medium-high heat. For charcoal grill: Just before grilling lamb, bank all hot coals to one side of grill and leave other half empty. For gas grill: Preheat all burners to medium-high heat. Just before grilling lamb, turn burners on one half of grill off and keep other burners on medium-high heat.

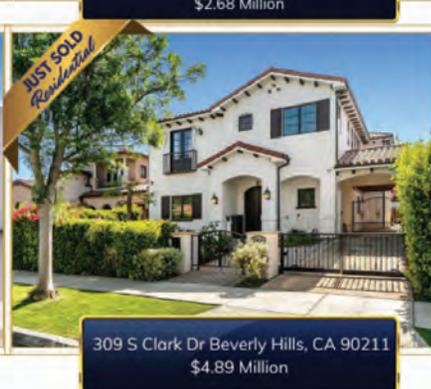
2. Coat lamb with oil and sprinkle spice mixture all over lamb. Grill lamb uncovered over direct heat, turning as needed, for about 8 minutes, or until brown all over. Transfer lamb to indirect heat, cover grill, and cook 20 to 24 minutes or until instant-read thermometer inserted into center of lamb registers 125°F for medium-rare doneness. The internal temperature of the grill will rise from 300°F to 400°F as the lamb cooks. Rest lamb on cutting board 8 minutes.

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CHERRY-AMARETTO LATTICE PIE
PHOTO BY RAY KACHATORIAN

Meanwhile, to prepare fritters:

1. In medium bowl, toss zucchini with 1 teaspoon salt. Set aside for 10 minutes. Transfer zucchini to center of clean tea towel. Gather corners of towel together to enclose, then squeeze excess moisture from zucchini. Return zucchini to bowl.

2. Stir feta, green onions, dill, mint, parsley, eggs, breadcrumbs, cornstarch, $\frac{3}{4}$ teaspoon salt and $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper into zucchini. Divide mixture into 16 even portions.

3. Add enough oil to 5-quart casserole pot to reach depth of 2 inches and heat oil to 350°F. Working in batches, deep fry fritters for 5 minutes, or until crispy and golden brown.

4. Transfer to large plate lined with paper towel. Season with salt and pepper.

To serve:

Carve lamb racks into chops. Divide chops evenly among plates and serve with vinegar-mint sauce and fritters.

Cherry-Amaretto Lattice Pie

Ingredients:

- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup plus 2 teaspoons sugar
- 3 tablespoons cornstarch
- $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon salt
- 5 cups pitted fresh dark sweet cherries (about 2 pounds unpitted cherries)
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup amaretto
- 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
- 1 cinnamon stick
- Buttery Pastry Dough (recipe follows), shaped into 2 disks and chilled
- 1 tablespoon unsalted butter, cut into $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch cubes
- $1\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoons whole milk
- Vanilla ice cream, for serving

Directions:

1. Position one rack in the lower third of the oven and a second rack just above it. Set a baking sheet on the bottom rack. (Being near the heat source will help the bottom crust bake and brown properly. The baking sheet will catch any bubbled-over juices.) Preheat the oven to 425°F.

2. In a medium bowl, combine $\frac{3}{4}$ cup of the sugar, the cornstarch, and the salt. Stir in the cherries, amaretto, lemon juice, and cinnamon stick; set aside.

3. Unwrap the larger disk of dough, set it on a floured surface, and lightly dust top of dough. Roll out dough into a 13-inch round, occasionally rotating dough and dusting it with flour to prevent sticking. Brush away the excess flour and transfer dough to a 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch glass pie plate, centering it in the pie plate and letting the excess dough hang over the edges. Lightly press dough into the dish. Refrigerate the pie shell.

4. On the floured surface, roll out the other disk of dough into a 12-inch round. Using a large knife, cut 10 1-inch-wide strips from dough round.

5. Transfer the cherry filling to the pie shell, then scatter the butter on top. Arrange dough strips over the filling, forming a lattice (see tips below). Trim dough overhang to $\frac{3}{4}$ inch. Pinch the bottom crust and strips together and fold the overhang under. Crimp the edges to seal. Lightly brush the lattice with the milk, and sprinkle the remaining 2 teaspoons sugar over it.

6. Bake the pie on the rack above the baking sheet for 20 minutes. Reduce the oven temperature to 350°F, and bake the pie for about 1 hour longer or until the crust is deep golden and the filling is bubbling. If the crust begins to brown too quickly, tent the pie with foil. Let the pie cool on a wire rack until warm, about 1 hour.

7. Cut the pie into wedges and serve warm with ice cream.

Buttery Pastry Dough:

The secret to homemade pastry dough is to avoid blitzing your butter to smithereens in the food processor. Leaving pea-size pieces of butter in the dough is key, because they will melt in the oven and release water, which will become steam. The steam helps to puff up the dough and contributes to that melt-in-your-mouth texture. The dough can be made up to 1 day ahead, covered, and refrigerated. Alternatively, it can be frozen for up to 1 month.

Ingredients:

- 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups all-purpose flour
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon fine sea salt or table salt
- $\frac{1}{2}$ pound (2 sticks) cold unsalted butter, cut into $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch cubes
- About $\frac{1}{3}$ cup ice water

Directions:

1. In a food processor, combine the flour, sugar, and salt and pulse to blend. Add the butter and pulse about 10 times, or until the butter is in pea-size pieces; do not overprocess. While pulsing the processor, add $\frac{1}{3}$ cup of the ice water, then pulse just until moist clumps of dough form, adding more water 1 tablespoon at a time if necessary.

2. Transfer dough to a work surface and divide it in half (make one half slightly larger) and shape each piece into a thick disk. Wrap each disk individually in plastic wrap and refrigerate for at least 30 minutes before rolling out.

How to Lattice:

Lay half of the strips across the filling, spacing them evenly. Fold back every other strip; then place another strip perpendicular at the folded edge of the strips. Unfold the folded strips so they lie over the perpendicular strip. Fold back the other set of strips. Stopping about 1 inch from the first perpendicular strip, place a second perpendicular strip at the folds, and unfold the folded strips. Repeat with the remaining 3 pastry strips to cover the pie with the lattice.

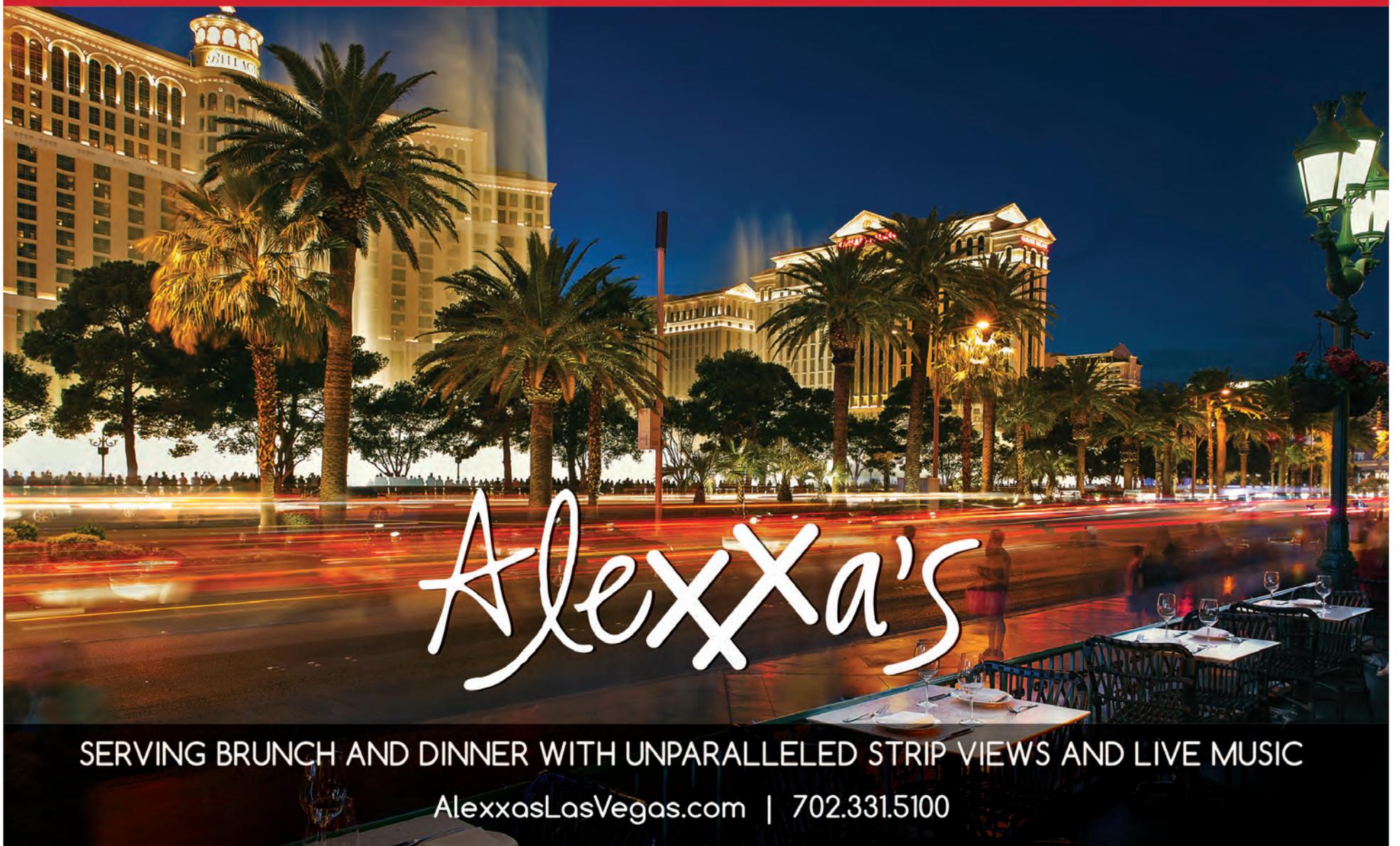
If weaving feels a bit intimidating, just lay half of the strips across the pie parallel to each other, then lay the remaining strips across them, perpendicular to the bottom strips. Don't worry if your strips aren't perfect – all the more handmade charm.



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SUMMER CALENDAR

Now - July 3

Broadway in Hollywood:

“Pretty Woman: The Musical”

8 P.M. TUESDAY - FRIDAY

2 P.M., 8 P.M. SATURDAY

1 P.M., 6:30 P.M. SUNDAY

At the Dolby Theatre, Broadway in Hollywood presents the Los Angeles premiere of “Pretty Woman: The Musical,” filled with iconic moments from the original movie. Set in 1980s Hollywood, the musical stars Adam Pascal as Edward Lewis and Olivia Valli as Vivian Ward. It is led by two-time Tony Award-winning director and choreographer Jerry Mitchel and produced by Paula Wagner. “Pretty Woman: The Musical” features the hit song “Oh, Pretty Woman” by Roy Orbison and Bill Dee, along with an original score written by Grammy winner Bryan Adams and Jim Vallance. Additionally, the tour will play at the Segerstrom Center for the Performing Arts in Costa Mesa from July 5-17.

<https://prettywomanthemusical.com/>

Now - Sept. 4

J. Paul Getty Museum:

“The Lost Murals of

Renaissance Rome” and “Judy

Baca: Hitting the Wall”

The Getty’s two new exhibits showcase mural art from around the world, including downtown Los Angeles and Rome. Through these exhibitions, guests will have the opportunity to learn about the vulnerability of mural art. “The Lost Murals of Renaissance Rome” highlights works from The Getty Collection, such as Federico Zuccaro’s “Early Life of Taddeo Zuccaro,” a series of 20 drawings that scholars believe were designed for frescoes in Palazzo Zuccari. The series demonstrates the role of facade murals in the city’s artistic life. Centuries later, Judy Baca created the mural “Hitting the Wall” in 1984, the same year women were allowed to participate in the Summer Olympics marathon, which she portrays in the mural located on a freeway underpass in downtown Los Angeles. The exhibition will feature sketches, colorations, and an actual-size reproduction of part of the mural.

https://www.getty.edu/visit/cal/events/ev_3360.html

June 18

Skirball Cultural Center:

Katy Tur’s “Rough Draft”

1 P.M. DOORS OPEN

2 P.M. EVENT

Writers Bloc Presents and the Skirball Cultural Center feature MSNBC anchor Katy Tur. Her new book “Rough Draft” includes stories from her life in TV news, from the daughter of groundbreaking Los Angeles helicopter journalists to a national news anchor and a mother of two. The book examines the gift and curse of a family legacy and the responsibilities and roles of the news. It also poses the question: to what extent do we each get to write our own story? Jacob Soboroff, MSNBC correspondent and author, will join Tur in the conversation. The book will be available for purchase, and a book signing will follow the program.

<http://www.skirball.org/programs/words-and-ideas/katy-tur-rough-draft>

June 22

**The Wallis Annenberg Center
for the Performing Arts:**

**“Reimagine: Beethoven and
Ravel”**

6:30 P.M. PRE-CONCERT

7:30 P.M. PROGRAM

In The Wallis’ Bram Goldsmith Theater, Ukrainian-American pianist and Yamaha Artist Inna Faliks pays homage to Beethoven and Ravel with live performances of imaginative and rich new works for the piano by contemporary composers Paola Prestini, Billy Childs, Timo Andres, Richard Danielpour, Peter Golub, Ian Krouse, David Lefkowitz, Mark Carlson, and Tamir Hendelman. Beethoven’s Bagatelles, op. 126, Ravel’s Gaspard de la Nuit, and new works will be performed. The performance celebrates Faliks’ CD release of the program on Navona Records. Tickets are priced from \$29-79 per person. Guests must provide proof of vaccination, a negative PCR test within 48 hours, or a verifiable antigen test within 48 hours.

<https://thewallis.org/faliks>

June 25 - July 10

Center Theatre Group:

“To T, or Not to T? A Comedic

Trans Journey through

(T)estosterone and Masculinity”

8 P.M. TUESDAY - FRIDAY

2 P.M., 8 P.M. SATURDAY

1 P.M., 6:30 P.M. SUNDAY

Center Theatre Group presents “To T, or Not to T?” at the Kirk Douglas Theater. Written and performed by transgender actor/writer/comedian D’Lo, the one-person play is an unapologetically bold and comedic personal autobiography, which follows D’Lo’s transformational journey starting with his childhood in Lancaster, California. With direction and dramaturgy by Adelina Anthony, the play examines how his love for hip hop and feminism, his chosen family, and his relationship with his immigrant father shaped his decisions as a human and an artist. Originally produced at the Los Angeles LGBT Center, “To T, or Not to T?” was commissioned as a workshop production by Dixon Place in New York City. Tickets start at \$30 and are available on the website. <https://www.centertheatregroup.org/tickets/kirk-douglas-theatre/2021/block-party/>

June 25 - Aug. 18

Open Fist Theatre Company:

“A Midsummer Night’s Dream”

8 P.M. FRIDAY, SATURDAY

7 P.M. SUNDAY

At Atwater Village Theatre, Open Fist Theatre Company presents “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” in the Antebellum South, moving the setting from Athens, Greece to Athens, Georgia circa 1855. The creative team includes director and choreographer James Fowler, lighting designer Gavan Wyrlic, scenic designer Jan Munroe, costume designer Mylette Nora, sound designer Nayla Hull, prop masters Bruce Dickinson and Ina Shumaker, assistant choreographer Faith Knapp, production manager Amanda Weier, production stage manager Jennifer Palumbo, and associate producer Carmella Jenkins.

There is a preview of the performance on June 24. Tickets are \$25 for general admission, \$15 for students, seniors and veterans with a valid ID, and pay what you will for previews.

<https://openfist.org>

July 2 - 4

Hollywood Bowl: Fireworks Spectacular

5:30 P.M. GATES OPEN

7:30 P.M. SHOW

The July 4th Fireworks Spectacular with Steve Martin and Martin Short will take place at the Hollywood Bowl. The Los Angeles Philharmonic will join Martin and Short, two of the most beloved, influential, and acclaimed entertainers, in celebrating Independence Day. Conductor Thomas Wilkins and the Los Angeles Philharmonic will perform a program of favorites. As part of the tradition, there will be fireworks on each of the three nights of the show. Tickets are half off for children 12 and under.

<https://www.hollywoodbowl.com/events/performances/1662/2022-07-02/july-4th-fireworks-spectacular-with-steve-martin-martin-short>

July 8 - 24

The Broad Stage: Indian Ink Theatre Company's "Mrs. Krishnan's Party"

At The Edge at The Broad Stage, Indian Ink Theatre Company hosts a production of "Mrs. Krishnan's Party." For 17 performances, the audience will enter the world of Mrs. Krishnan's convenience store back room where music flows, garlands decorate the ceiling, and Mrs. Krishnan throws a party. Through the joyous celebration of life, strangers become friends and laughter abounds. With the help of audience participation, each show is different. The actors manage the dancing, cooking, music, and guests. Tickets range from \$45-65.

<https://thebroadstage.org/performances/2022-23/theatre/mrskrishnansparty>

July 8 - Aug. 21

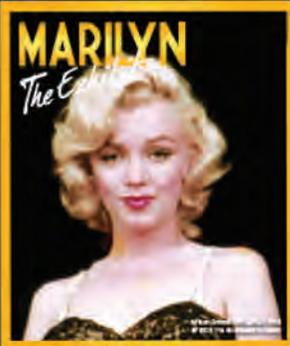
Louis Vuitton: "200 Trunks 200 Visionaries"

Excitement is growing for the summer season of events in Beverly Hills, beginning with the Concours d'Elegance on Father's Day. July will bring another highlight to Rodeo Drive, with the debut of the Louis Vuitton "200 Trunks 200 Visionaries" traveling exhibition. It is open to the public from July 8 to Aug. 21 at 468 N. Rodeo Drive. The exhibition showcases Louis Vuitton trunks as reimagined by 200 of today's most notable visionaries across disciplines. It was conceived to honor the spirit of innovation embodied by the brand's founder on the 200th anniversary of his birth. Participants include architect Peter Marino, astrologist Susan Miller, designer Pierre Yovanovitch, artist Qualeasha Wood, swimmer Théo Curin and more.

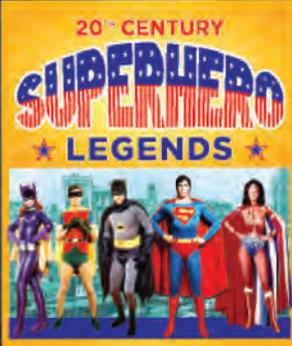
<https://eu.louisvuitton.com/eng-el/magazine/articles/louis-200-exhibition#>

HOLLYWOOD MUSEUM

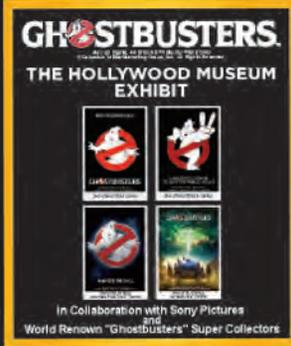
★ IN THE HISTORIC MAX FACTOR BUILDING ★



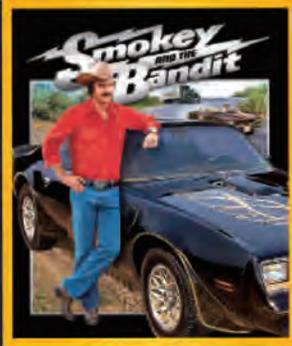
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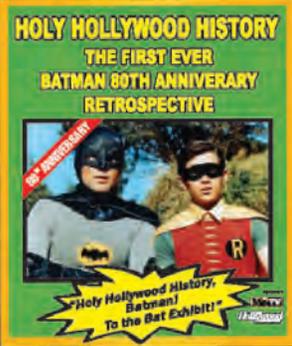
20th CENTURY
SUPERHERO LEGENDS



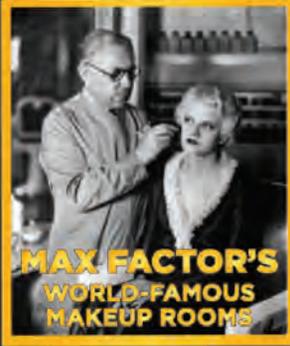
GHOSTBUSTERS
THE HOLLYWOOD MUSEUM EXHIBIT



Smokey and the Bandit



HOLY HOLLYWOOD HISTORY
THE FIRST EVER
BATMAN 80th ANNIVERSARY
RETROSPECTIVE



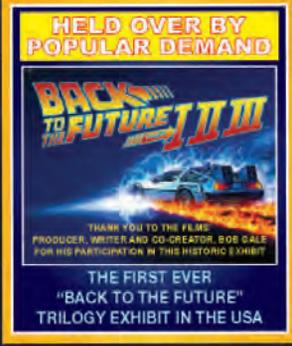
MAX FACTOR'S
WORLD-FAMOUS
MAKEUP ROOMS



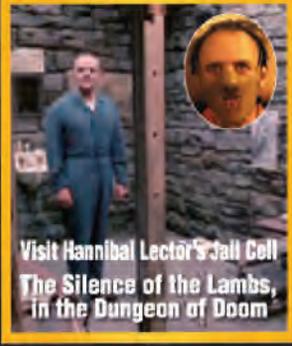
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—Johnny Grant, Hollywood's Honorary Mayor

JUNE 17, 2022

BEVERLY HILLS COURIER

PAGE 73

Heatwave



1. This bold geometric patterned pareo skirt by **Tory Burch** might be great for a quick wrap après-swim, but it's so stylish you might just keep it on all day. \$248 at *Tory Burch*, 366 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-274-2394 and toryburch.com

2. Gold bangles are like the white T-shirts of jewelry—they can be deceptively sophisticated. You'll want to add a few of these diamond-studded bracelets from the latest "HW" collection by **Harry Winston** to your stack. Starting at \$8,600 at *Harry Winston*, 310 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-271-8554 and harrywinston.com

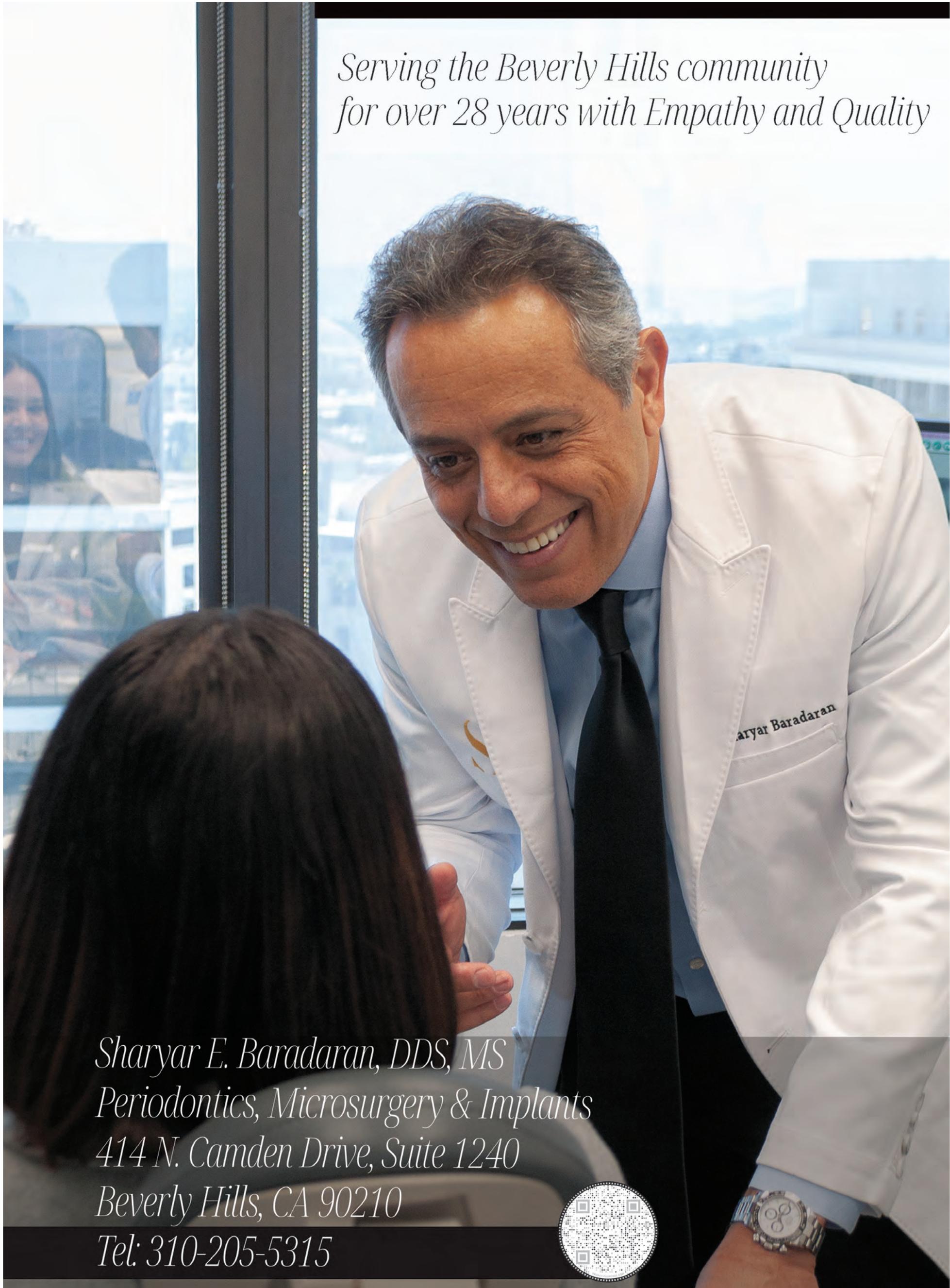
3. Ditch your old baseball cap for this reversible (and packable) bucket hat by **Fendi**. It's a look that says "sporty, summery and chic" and not "I just came from the gym." \$770 at *Fendi*, 201 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-623-3420 and fendi.com

4. An **Hermès** scarf is eternal, conjuring images of women in convertibles driving along coastal roads in Capri with silk swaths, tied around their heads, billowing in the breeze behind them. Need we say more? \$495 at *Hermès*, 434 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-278-6440 and hermes.com

5. Huge handbags have their purpose, but if you're looking to downsize, a sleek tomato red **Louis Vuitton** crossbody purse packs a punch while toting just the essentials. \$6,750 at *Louis Vuitton*, 295 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-859-0457 and us.louisvuitton.com

6. Call it Christmas in July if you need a reason to put this **Cartier** "Libre" watch bracelet on your wrist. Oozing with Old Hollywood glamour, the dual-sided piece features enough diamonds, emeralds, and sapphires to make Gloria Swanson swoon (in fact it was modeled after one worn by the screen legend). For more information, including pricing, contact *Cartier*, 370 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-275-4372.

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Periodontics, Microsurgery & Implants
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Tel: 310-205-5315*



Surfs Up

1. We guarantee you'll be the envy of the shoreline with these beach accessories by **Dior Maison**, part of the fashion house's "Dioriviera" capsule collection. *Prices upon request at Dior, 319 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-247-8003*
2. Leave it to **La Perla** to create a line of swimwear designed to make you look your best while wearing very little. This one-piece swimsuit features underwire, light padding, and major tummy-tucking Lycra. *\$560 at laperla.com*
3. You won't wear this to the beach, but you can take a bit of the sea with you in this one-of-a-kind coral, sapphire and diamond tassel necklace by **David Webb**. It's as breathtaking as most sunsets. *For more information, including pricing, contact David Webb, 9500 Wilshire Blvd., 310-858-8006 and davidwebb.com.*
4. The iconic "Cosmograph Daytona" by **Rolex** was named in honor of the Florida racing track famous for its long straight beaches, where the sand is packed harder than cement—and land speed records were broken. *\$17,950 at Gearys Rolex, 360 N. Rodeo Drive #1, 310-887-4200*
5. L.A.-born artist **Kenny Scharf**, in collaboration with **Vilebrequin**, infused the brand's iconic tortoise motif with a little cartoonish humor in these classic-style swim trunks. *\$315 at Vilebrequin, 9519 Wilshire Blvd., #2, 310-205-9087 and vilequebrin.com*
6. Made of recycled nylon and emblazoned with palm trees this **Saint Laurent** trifold wallet will make you feel like you're on holiday every time you have to pay the check. *\$345 at Saint Laurent, 469 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-271-4110 and ysl.com*



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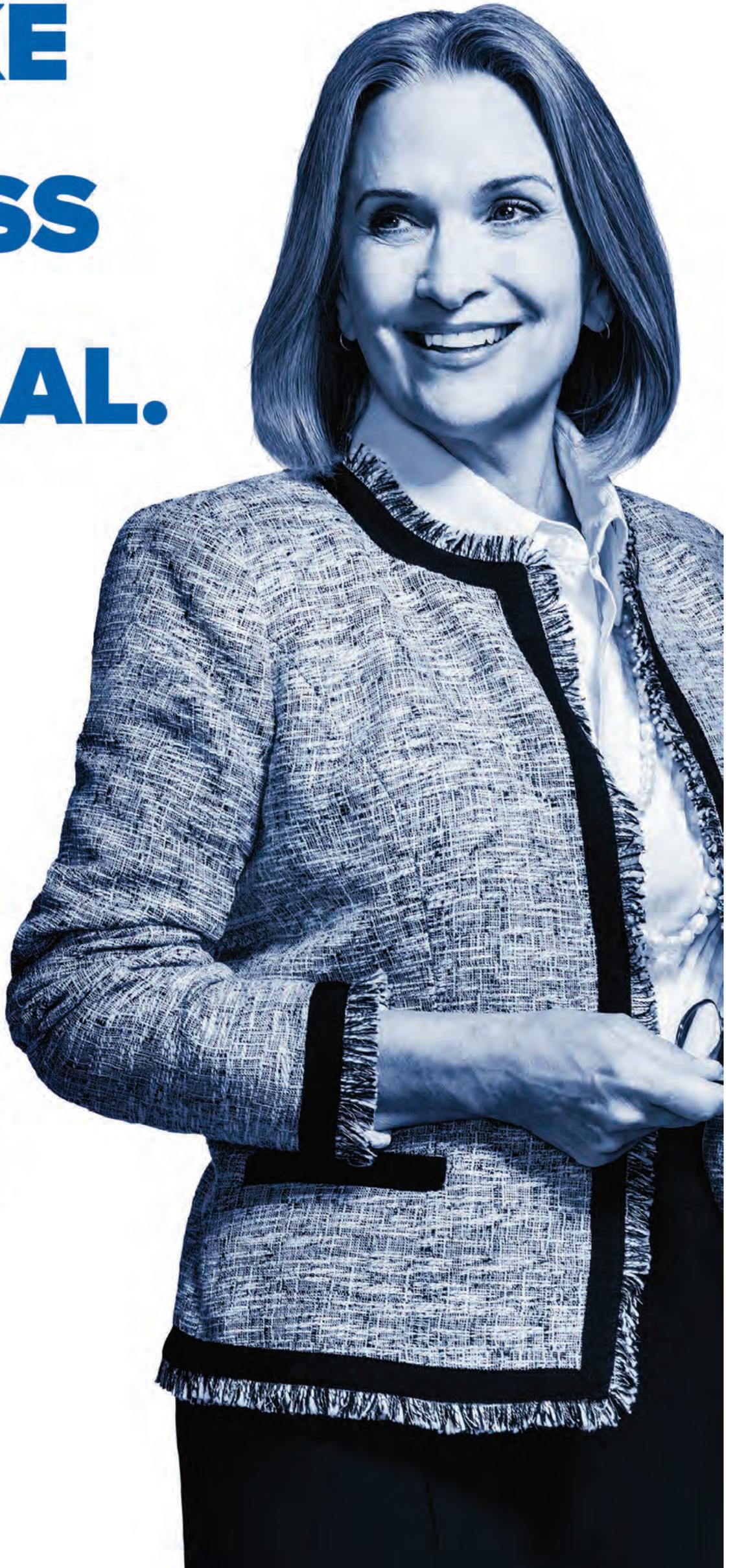
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TAMBOUR STREET DIVER

LOUIS VUITTON

Racist and Antisemitic Flyers Found in Westwood

BY SAMUEL BRASLOW

Residents of the Los Angeles neighborhood of Westwood discovered antisemitic and racist flyers apparently distributed by the same group behind a spate of similar incidents in Beverly Hills and across the country.

The flyers contain a link to the Goyim Defense League, a “loose network of individuals connected by their virulent antisemitism,” according to the Anti-Defamation League. Residents in Beverly Hills previously discovered similar flyers on Nov. 28, the first day of Hanukkah, on Dec. 18, and then again on April 15, the first night of Passover.

On May 21, members of the group drove through parts of Los Angeles and Beverly Hills in a rented U-Haul plastered with antisemitic posters, live streaming as they heckled passersby with a megaphone before stopping at the Beverly Hilton.

Officers with the Beverly Hills Police Department (BHPD) engaged twice with the members, according to a summary of the livestream by the hate group research

outlet Left Coast Right Watch. The first time, BHPD officers informed them that they were trespassing on private property and needed a permit to use an amplified sound device. The same officers later pulled the U-Haul over after one member had been walking in the roadway and jumping into a moving vehicle. The hate group members were let off with a warning.

The flyers made multiple antisemitic declarations, including, “Every single aspect of the media is Jewish,” “Every single aspect of the Ukraine-Russia War is Jewish,” “Every single aspect of Disney child grooming is Jewish,” and “Every single aspect of the COVID agenda is Jewish.”

The flyers also played on racist themes as well, saying that Jews are “the real slave bringers.”

Jewish groups quickly condemned the latest incident.

“We are appalled by the antisemitic flyers spread in Westwood,” Jeffrey I. Abrams, Regional Director

of Anti-Defamation League (ADL) Los Angeles, told the Courier in a statement. “Not only do these flyers claim that Jews are responsible for the spread of COVID-19 and are in total control of the media and financial institutions, but the messaging has expanded to target other minority groups including the Black community. The claim that Black people are somehow equally responsible for the American slave trade is outrageous and particularly offensive during Juneteenth commemorations.

“While the subject matter differs from previous incidents, the harmful intention is the same, as is our response. These hateful, antisemitic, racist messages can and do inspire violence against Jews and other minority groups and it cannot be tolerated.”

Since 2016, the ADL has documented an alarming rise in antisemitic incidents. Four of the worst years for anti-Jewish hate have occurred in the last five years, according to an annual survey conducted by the organization since 1979.

“This spate of flyers comes on the heels of a string of similar incidents around Los Angeles, Kern, Riverside and San Bernardino counties over the last eight months,” Abrams said. “Our county is witnessing an epidemic of antisemitic vitriol. ADL’s 2021 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents showed that vandalism, such as these hateful flyers, increased by 12% from 2020 to 2021. What’s more concerning is that we saw a 28% increase in harassment and a 367% increase in assaults in the same time period.” ●

(Life, Love, and Legacy continued from page 1)

As Senior Rabbi of the oldest, largest and most prestigious synagogue in Southern California, Leder is a beloved local spiritual figure with a national profile. Like his four other books (two of them best sellers), *For You When I Am Gone* draws upon more than three decades of experience as a rabbi. This book was inspired by the thousand or so eulogies Leder has written after meeting with family members of the deceased. Over the years, he has become an expert in piecing together the key points of a life’s legacy.

“If you ask the right questions, everyone’s life is hilarious, sad, adventurous, foolish, and wise; everyone’s life is interesting,” Leder writes. “Everyone’s life is a textbook about your own life. Hearing other people’s stories has enriched my life, informed my life, and ennobled my life.”

Nonetheless, the central thesis of *For You When I Am Gone* is that it is better for us to tell our own story. To do so, Leder recommends a device known as an ethical will.

Unlike an actual last will and testament, an ethical will holds no legal significance. It won’t transfer any real or personal assets. Yet, what it does convey is many times more valuable; namely, the lessons of a life lived well or even not so well. In creating a document that contains the stories, regrets, challenges and successes that have shaped our life, we can pass on lessons learned to

the next generation.

As Leder writes in the book’s introduction, “It is a way of saying not only that we, the storyteller matter, but even more so the beloved listener. To share our story with someone is to say, you matter to me. And if we do not tell our story, who will?”

The concept of ethical wills dates back to the ancients and has long been part of the Jewish tradition. Leder himself has conducted workshops on writing ethical wills for some time. He wrote about the practice in his last book, *The Beauty of What Remains: How Our Greatest Fear Becomes Our Greatest Gift*. This book goes a step further, serving as a how-to manual for gathering material to include in the document.

For You When I Am Gone is divided into 12 chapters, each representing a key question to contemplate when preparing an ethical will. The questions include topics most would just as soon not dwell upon, such as “What Do You Regret?” “What Was Your Biggest Failure?” “Have You Ever Cut Someone Out of Your Life?” and “What Got You Through Your Greatest Challenge?”

Other questions conjure up the best things – and best moments – in life: “When Was a Time You Led with Your Heart?” “What Makes You Happy?” “What Is a Good Person?” and “What Is Love?”

Still others call for reflection on what we will leave behind, such as “How Do You Want to Be Remembered?” “What Is Good

Advice?” “What Will Your Epitaph Say?” and “What Will Your Final Blessing Be?”

Leder notes that while details of each answer will be personal to the writer, there are universal elements of the human experience, such as love, forgiveness and the strength of family ties that inevitably shine through.

That is what makes this work so powerful, even at the modest length of 216 pages.

The strength of *For You When I Am Gone* comes in the weighty examples Leder uses to illustrate each chapter. He asked a disparate group of friends to answer the questions posed in the book, which he reprints anonymously. Members of the group come from different ethnicities, religions, professions, sexual orientations and levels of fame and fortune. One suspects Leder may have chosen the respondents for their richly textured lives. But that really doesn’t matter. What does matter is that all shared themselves so selflessly. Each chapter is filled with voices that are raw, humorous, contemplative and deeply thoughtful.

Vignettes begin with lines such as “I wish I had gotten better therapy earlier,” “I came out as a gay man in my mid-thirties,” “My greatest challenge in life has been my battle with alcoholism and addiction” and “I fail every day – often publicly and in big ways.”

It is at times unsettling to peer into lives that we do not know. But it is obviously a testament to the esteem in which Leder is

held that the participants lay themselves so bare. Leder himself ventures into details about his own life – including the complicated relationship with his late father – that many would be uncomfortable sharing.

But that is precisely the reason why the book succeeds.

It is both humbling and thought-provoking to read the examples provided by Leder and the others. Reading them demystifies the concept of writing an ethical will. In fact, it is impossible for the reader not to contemplate one’s own responses to those 12 essential questions, compiling the material for an ethical will of our own.

In the introduction to *For You When I Am Gone*, Leder said he believed he was imposing on his busy set of friends when he asked them to participate in the book. By the end of the exercise, every one of them expressed their gratitude to him instead.

So will readers.

For You When I Am Gone: Twelve Essential Questions to Tell a Life Story is published by Avery, an imprint of Penguin Random House. ●

SUMMER STYLE 2022 IS AVAILABLE IN PDF FORM ON BEVERLYHILLSCOURIER.COM

Make Music Day Beverly Hills Set for June 21



The second annual Make Music Day Beverly Hills will take place on June 21 from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., and will include a mix of free outdoor musical events around the city. It is part of Make Music Day, a global music celebration that takes place

on the summer solstice each year and brings people of all ages and skill levels together to make music. More than 1,000 cities around the world are expected to participate. Events in Beverly Hills range from Musical Family Story Time to a drum circle, guitar and piano performances and more.

Arts and Culture Commissioner Karla Gordy Bristol said, “I have had a life-long passion for music, and with music being a universal language, it’s so exciting to bring Make Music Day Beverly Hills to our diverse community for all people to gather, participate and enjoy the gift of music! I am so honored to be a part of this Commission, working with an amazing team of commissioners and Community Services staff, bringing important and significant programs to our community like Make Music Day Beverly Hills to enhance the arts and culture experience in our City.”

For more information about Make Music Day Beverly Hills, and the schedule of events, view www.beverlyhills.org/makemusicday.



Brizendine, left and Parker at the Visionary Women salon

(Visionary Women continued from page 6)

Lu Parker of KTLA News then led the conversation with New York Times bestselling author, Louann Brizendine, M.D., about her latest book, *The Upgrade, How the Female Brain Gets Stronger and Better in Midlife and Beyond*. The message of the book is being hailed as revolutionary. Dr. Brizendine, the Lynn and Marc Benioff Endowed Chair in Clinical Psychiatry at UCSF, and founder of UCSF’s Women’s Mood and Hormone Clinic, cleverly, candidly, and with humor, contextualized the female physiology and discussed the road map she prescribes in the book to reshape the terrain at this time in life in “which your true self - body, mind and soul - can flourish.” Using her unparalleled expertise, Dr. Brizendine explains in *The Upgrade* the best strategies for hormones, exercise, sleep, mindset and brain health. “Welcome to the better half of your life,” declared Dr. Brizendine. *The Upgrade, How the Female Brain Gets Stronger and Better in Midlife and Beyond* is newly published by Harmony Books, an imprint of Random House.

Next stop: more subway.

PURPLE (D LINE) EXTENSION TRANSIT PROJECT
Section 1 – Beverly Hills Update

STATION CONSTRUCTION CONTINUES
We’re building more subway stations connecting the Westside and downtown LA.

TRAFFIC ALERT
La Cienega Station construction continues, while maintaining two lanes of traffic on Wilshire Bl in each direction from 9am–4pm. N Gale Dr at Wilshire Bl will remain closed through September.

MEETING HOURS
Community Construction Update webinars are held virtually on the first Wednesday of the month, from 12–1pm.

CONTACT US

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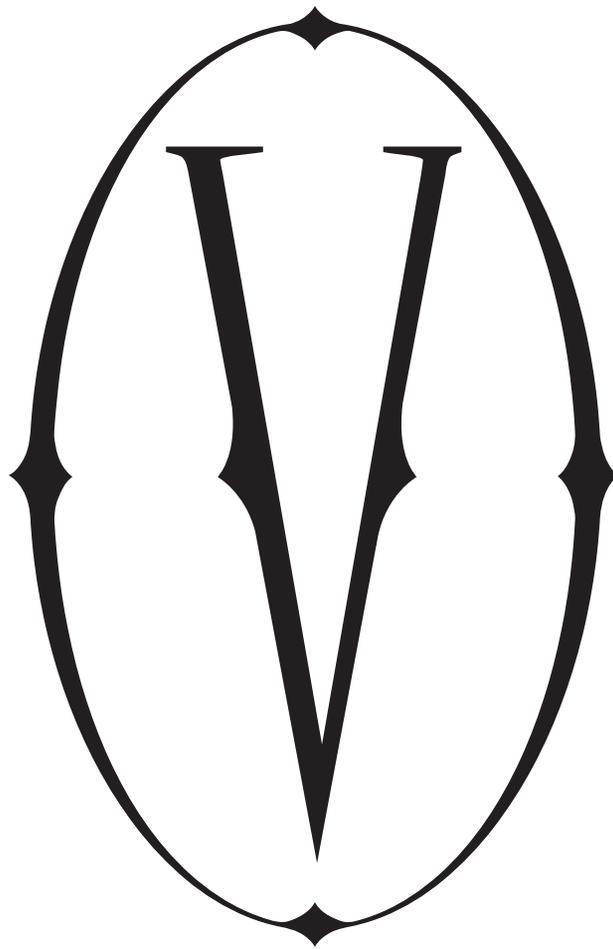
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*A father is someone who sacrifices
everything for the happiness of his child*



*Happy
Father's Day
from our team at Vertigo*

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Birthdays



PEGGY WIEDERHORN
June 17



MARY HERMAN
June 18



MARCI LANDIS
June 19



KAREN POPOVICH LEVYN
June 20



LIONEL RICHIE
June 20



LINDA SCHWARTZ
June 20



SHANA FORMAN
June 21



JOYCIE FICKETT
June 22



Astrology

BY HOLIDAY MATIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). When you're the solution, it's hard to really shine unless there's also a problem. Being willing and open, the right problems will come to you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). In one mood you'll say, "no regrets." In another mood there's a list of things you would do differently if you could. And so, you will use each mood well; the past will be examined, and it will be released.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Others avoid confrontation, but you're not afraid of the challenges involved in getting to justice. It's your specialty! A little communication can set things a lot right.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Most of the boundaries of the world are unseen, but the owners tend to know where the lines are. Avoid crossing the wrong boundaries. As you

explore, ask where the lines are.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Both moods have their merits. You're considerate and you love to please, but you're also careful not to waste a lot of effort where it won't be appreciated.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll have the biggest impact when your efforts are well-matched to the situation. Go on and jot down those notes to yourself. You'll be surprised by your own pen.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The ego likes to think it's the source of your strength, but real strength has nothing to do with posturing. You'll hear your ego out and then tell it to relax. Writing will help you get mentally and emotionally organized.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Don't assume that being happy is better than other emotional tones. The best feeling is the one that's coming up, no matter what it is. Fully feeling is fully processing your life.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You've given plenty of

thought to your situation and now you'll take action. Thousands of decisions will get made below your consciousness. You'll land in a sweeter place than you ever thought possible.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). While romance plays smoothly in the imagination, getting into a relationship is messy by comparison and often uncomfortable in its compromises and adjustments. Still, it will be worth it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll manage people well as you focus on their efforts. No one can help what they were born with, but when you praise good work instead of inborn talent, you'll get optimum results.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The heart defies logic. For instance, the bigger your heart gets, the less worried you are about breaking it. The elasticity of love offers its own strange protection.



This week's adoptable pup is Adam. He's a 3-year-old, 6-pound chihuahua and is very sweet. To add this boy to your family, please contact Shelter of Hope at 805-379-3538.
www.shelterhopepetshop.org

SUDOKU
06/17/22 ISSUE

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SUDOKU ANSWERS
06/10/22 ISSUE

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PUZZLE ANSWERS
06/10/22 ISSUE

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L	O	V	E	S	I	C	K	B	A	G	B	E	N	S	T	E	I	N
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BEVERLY HILLS COURIER

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PLEASE CONTACT 310-278-1322
ADVERTISE@BHCOURIER.COM

THE NEW YORK TIMES SUNDAY MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE
06/17/22 ISSUE

LET'S GET LITERATURE

BY CHRISTINA IVERSON AND KATIE HALE / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Christina Iverson, of Ames, Iowa, is the assistant crossword editor for The Los Angeles Times. Katie Hale is a stay-at-home mom in London, England. The idea for this puzzle started with Katie. She had a few minutes to kill while waiting for an online course to start. As she stared at a copy of "The Great Gatsby," the phrase THROW A FITZGERALD popped into her head. She laughed ... and started adding syllables to other authors' names. Some of the results appear here. This is Christina's and Katie's third Sunday collaboration for The Times. — W.S.

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| <p>ACROSS</p> <p>1 Precursor to a circuit breaker</p> <p>5 ___ bar</p> <p>10 Pointed remark</p> <p>14 Common spa descriptor</p> <p>19 "Hello there, sailor!"</p> <p>20 Gourmet mushroom with poisonous look-alikes</p> <p>21 Somewhat</p> <p>22 Core workout challenge</p> <p>23 Looks up from reading "Frankenstein"?</p> <p>27 Moody North Yorkshire setting</p> <p>28 Handy</p> <p>29 Restless</p> <p>30 Split hairs?</p> <p>31 Words exchanged during an "altar"-cation</p> <p>32 Revise</p> <p>33 Reads "Catch-22," "Closing Time" and "Something Happened" — and doesn't stop there?</p> <p>39 Atmospheric driving hazard</p> <p>42 Came to</p> <p>43 Assistant</p> <p>44 The joy of text?</p> <p>45 Expression of a grump</p> <p>47 Cheeky remarks ... or something near the cheek</p> | <p>48 Kendrick Lamar's 2017 best rap album Grammy winner</p> <p>50 "Aquaman" actor Jason</p> <p>52 English indie-pop singer Parks</p> <p>53 Sleek reef swimmers</p> <p>55 Borrows "The Color Purple" from the library instead of "The Flowers"?</p> <p>60 1960s activist Bobby</p> <p>62 Word with play or fight</p> <p>63 Belgrade resident</p> <p>64 See 36-Down</p> <p>65 First in a line of 13 popes</p> <p>67 Strands</p> <p>69 Lifewater and Elixir brand</p> <p>71 "Wow!"</p> <p>74 Fashion guru Tim</p> <p>76 "___ the spirit!"</p> <p>78 D.E.A. target</p> <p>81 Listens to "Tom Jones" on audiobook?</p> <p>85 Matterhorn range</p> <p>87 Wheely good invention?</p> <p>88 Off</p> <p>89 ___ tube</p> <p>91 H</p> <p>92 Conclude by</p> <p>94 Dawson in the Pro Football Hall of Fame</p> <p>95 "Chat another time!" in an I.M.</p> <p>97 Bolt in a sprint</p> <p>99 Director Guillermo ___ Toro</p> | <p>100 Reads "Lady Chatterley's Lover" so many times its spine splits?</p> <p>105 Cryptids on snowy mountains</p> <p>107 Mars bar with shortbread and chocolate</p> <p>108 [sigh]</p> <p>109 Pilot green-lighter, in brief</p> <p>111 "Ask away!"</p> <p>113 Iconic scarecrow topper</p> <p>117 Donates some copies of "King Lear" to the Renaissance Festival?</p> <p>120 Still</p> <p>121 Curling locale</p> <p>122 Musical with the song "Another Suitcase in Another Hall"</p> <p>123 ___ Rachel Wood of "Westworld"</p> <p>124 Castles, essentially</p> <p>125 Chances</p> <p>126 Not let lapse</p> <p>127 It can be outstanding</p> | <p>8 Person in a head set?</p> <p>9 Keebler cookie with shortbread and chocolate</p> <p>10 Send away</p> <p>11 Biblical analogue of Aron in "East of Eden"</p> <p>12 High-___ (kind of jeans or apartment building)</p> <p>13 South Korean "Princes of Pop"</p> <p>14 Jimmies and corkscrews</p> <p>15 Debbie of "Fame" and "Grey's Anatomy"</p> <p>16 Things often next to napkins in place settings</p> <p>17 Spanish Agnes</p> <p>18 Absolut alternative</p> <p>24 Put in order</p> <p>25 Text-writer's segue</p> <p>26 Philosopher David</p> <p>31 Alternative to a diaphragm</p> <p>32 Like games marked 1->99</p> <p>33 Strong wind</p> <p>34 Pains for preschoolers</p> <p>35 Chivalrous avatar of Vishnu</p> <p>36 Sounds from a 64-Across</p> <p>37 Saint associated with a "fire"</p> <p>38 Birds on Canadian dollars</p> <p>40 Big-eyed hatchling</p> <p>41 1989 film for which Denzel Washington won best supporting actor</p> <p>46 Follower of "So" or "lo"</p> |
|--|--|---|--|

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|--|--|---|---|
| <p>49 Patronized a restaurant</p> <p>50 Homes for cattaits and bulrushes</p> <p>51 Childhood friend</p> <p>54 Blueberry-picking girl of children's literature</p> <p>56 "Yuck!"</p> <p>57 "You're right about that!"</p> <p>58 "You're not right about that!"</p> <p>59 "Chiquitita" singing group</p> | <p>61 Endurance, so to speak</p> <p>66 Scarfs down</p> <p>68 Norm: Abbr.</p> <p>70 Geological span</p> <p>71 Chose</p> <p>72 QB's protection</p> <p>73 Very rarely</p> <p>75 Ancient home of a mythical lion</p> <p>77 Delphic prophet</p> <p>79 Barbershop specialty</p> <p>80 Fiber-___</p> <p>82 "I'm in favor"</p> | <p>83 Rat</p> <p>84 The Big Easy</p> <p>86 Sound</p> <p>90 Fabric made from jute</p> <p>93 Med. exams with intradermal injections</p> <p>95 O'er yon</p> <p>96 "The Muppets" villain Richman</p> <p>98 Macroalgae</p> <p>101 Costa ___</p> <p>102 Baby birds?</p> <p>103 Deuces</p> | <p>104 Cold War pact city</p> <p>106 Use, as influence</p> <p>109 "Here I come, weekend!"</p> <p>110 In ___ veritas</p> <p>111 Reported</p> <p>112 Back</p> <p>113 Abrade, in a way</p> <p>114 Head: Fr.</p> <p>115 Horse with endurance</p> <p>116 Billowy dress style</p> <p>118 To's counterpart</p> <p>119 Broadway, for one: Abbr.</p> |
|--|--|---|---|

ANSWERS FOUND IN NEXT WEEK'S PAPER...

Public Notices

RFQUAL # 22-350-50

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

**NOTICE OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A
QUALIFIED PLUMBING CONTRACTORS LIST**

Notice is hereby given that the City of Beverly Hills ("CITY") requests qualified plumbing contractors to submit their name and pertinent information to be placed on a list of qualified plumbing contractors. This list shall comply with Section 22034 of the California Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act.

Purpose of the List

The purpose of the list is to have a compilation of interested and qualified plumbing contractors (License Class "C-36") that the City may use for negotiated or informal bidding as projects arise for one year, with an up to three year extension. Up to five of the highest ranking contractors will be on the qualified roofing contractors list. The City reserves the right to reject any or all submissions and to waive any informality or irregularity.

Contractor's questionnaire and forms can be downloaded from the City's PlanetBids portal: <https://www.planetbids.com/portal/portal.cfm?CompanyID=39493>

The item is listed as: *Notice of the Establishment of a Qualified Plumbing Contractors List*

The last date to submit a fully completed questionnaire is **5:00 PM Thursday, June 30, 2022**. All qualification submittals are required to be submitted electronically via Planet Bids. The electronic submittal system will close exactly at the date and time set forth in this request for qualifications.

Answers to questions contained in the questionnaire are required. The CITY will use these documents as the basis of rating Contractors with respect to whether each Contractor is qualified, and reserves the right to check other sources available. The CITY's decision will be based on objective evaluation criteria.

The CITY reserves the right to adjust, increase, limit, suspend or rescind the prequalification rating based on subsequently learned information. Contractors whose rating changes sufficiently to disqualify them will be notified, and given an opportunity for a hearing consistent with the hearing procedures described below for appealing a pre-qualification rating.

Any questions regarding any error, omission, ambiguity or conflict in the questionnaire should be submitted through PlanetBids no later than **2:00PM on June 22, 2022**. Questions sent via email or over the phone, with the exception of those related to accessing or using PlanetBids, will not be answered. Requests for clarification received after this date or sent/posed directly to Staff may be disregarded. For any other questions regarding this prequalification, please contact City Contact(s) below:
Karen Domerchie (kdomerchie@beverlyhills.org)

Contractors are responsible for submitting and having their documents accepted before the closing time set forth in the request for qualifications. **NOTE:** Pushing the submit button on the electronic submittal system may not be instantaneous; it may take time for the Contractor's documents to upload and transmit before the documents are accepted. It is the Contractor's sole responsibility to ensure their documents are uploaded, transmitted, and arrive in time electronically. The City of Beverly Hills will have no responsibility for documents that do not arrive in a timely manner, no matter what the reason.

The prequalification packages shall be labeled **"NOTICE OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUALIFIED PLUMBING CONTRACTORS LIST"**

The prequalification packages submitted by Contractors are not public records and are not open to public inspection. All information provided will be kept confidential to the extent permitted by law. However, the contents may be disclosed to third parties for purpose of verification, or investigation of substantial allegations, or in an appeal hearing. State law requires that the names of contractors applying for prequalification status shall be public records subject to disclosure, and the first page of the questionnaire will be used for that purpose.

Each questionnaire must be signed under penalty of perjury in the manner designated at the end of the form, by an individual who has the legal authority to bind the Contractor on whose behalf that person is signing. If any information provided by a Contractor becomes inaccurate, the Contractor must immediately notify the CITY and provide

updated accurate information in writing, under penalty of perjury.

The CITY reserves the right to waive minor irregularities and omissions in the information contained in the prequalification application submitted, and to make all final determinations. The CITY may also determine at any time that the prequalification process will be suspended.

Contractors who submit a complete prequalification package will be notified of their qualification status no later than ten business days after submission of the information.

The CITY may refuse to grant prequalification where the requested information and materials are not provided by the due date indicated above. There is no appeal from a refusal for an incomplete or late application. Neither the closing time for submitting prequalification packages will be changed in order to accommodate supplementation of incomplete submissions, or late submissions, unless requested by the CITY in its sole discretion.

In addition to a contractor's failure to be pre-qualified pursuant to the scoring system set forth in the prequalification package, a contractor may be found not prequalified for either omission of, or falsification of, any requested information.

Where a timely and completed application results in a rating below that necessary to pre-qualify, an appeal can be made by the unsuccessful Contractor. An appeal is begun by the Contractor delivering notice to the CITY of its appeal of the decision with respect to its prequalification rating, no later than two business days following notification that it is not pre-qualified. The notice of appeal shall include an address where the Contractor wishes to receive notice of the appeal hearing. Without a timely appeal, the Contractor waives any and all rights to challenge the decision of the CITY, whether by administrative process, judicial process or any other legal process or proceeding.

If the Contractor gives the required notice of appeal, a hearing shall be conducted no earlier than five business days after the CITY's receipt of the notice of appeal. Prior to the hearing, the Contractor shall, in writing, be advised of the basis for the City's pre-qualification determination.

The hearing shall be conducted by a panel consisting of three members of the Public Works Department senior management staff (the "Appeals Panel"). The Appeals Panel shall consider any evidence presented by the Contractor, whether or not the evidence is presented in compliance with formal rules of evidence. The Contractor will be given the opportunity to present evidence, information and arguments as to why the Contractor believes it should be pre-qualified. Within one day after the conclusion of the hearing, the Appeals Panel will render a written determination as to whether the Contractor is pre-qualified. It is the intention of the CITY that the date for the submission and opening of bids will not be delayed or postponed to allow for completion of an appeal process.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022103393 The following is/are doing business as:
1) PARXTC EXPORT TRADING COMPANY REFERRAL NETWORK
2) ANDREW NETWORKS NETWORKS 3) PARXTC UNGC SDG'S ACTION TEAM NETWORK 4) PARXTC AHIABGA NETWORK 5) PARXTC AHIABGA-TV MEDIA TEAM 6) PARXTC AHIABGA-TV 7) PARXTC AMERICAS-AFRICA-EURASIA-OCEANIA SDG'S ACTION TEAM 8) PARXTC TANAY RIZAL PHILIPPINES TREASURE MOUNTAIN EASYPAY AND LOAD 9) PARXTC PORTFOLIO OF ENTERPRISES 10) PARXTC GLOBAL UNITYNET SERVICES 11) PERSONALIZED ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVES (P.A.R.) REFERRAL NETWORK 9595 Wilshire Blvd. #900, Beverly Hills, CA 90212; 1820 W. Florence Ave. #777, Los Angeles, CA 90047; PARXTC Export Trading Company, Inc. 9595 Wilshire Blvd. #900, Beverly Hills, CA 90212; The business is conducted by: **A CORPORATION (#4593770)**, registrant(s) has **NOT** begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on: **Andrew Williams, Jr., CEO**. Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: May 11, 2022; Published: May 27, June 03, 10, 17, 2022 **LACC N/C BEVERLY HILLS COURIER**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022103390 The following is/are doing business as:
THE STEM AND THE FLOWER
9461 Charleville Blvd. #126, Beverly Hills, CA 90212; **Essem International, LLC** 9461 Charleville Blvd. #126, Beverly Hills, CA 90212; The business is conducted by: **A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (#201435210281)**, registrant(s) has **NOT** begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on: **Stephan Memmi, CEO**. Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: May 11, 2022; Published: May 27, June 03, 10, 17, 2022 **LACC N/C BEVERLY HILLS COURIER**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022103396 The following is/are doing business as:
LIP MONSTERS
3932 Wilshire Blvd. #211, Los Angeles, CA 90010; **Victoria Greenwood** 3932 Wilshire Blvd. #211, Los Angeles, CA 90010; **Brian Shuster** 3932 Wilshire Blvd. #211, Los Angeles, CA 90010; **Gregory Kaplan** 3932 Wilshire Blvd. #211, Los Angeles, CA 90010;

The business is conducted by: **COPARTNERS**, registrant(s) has **NOT** begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on: **Victoria Greenwood, General Partner**. Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: May 11, 2022; Published: May 27, June 03, 10, 17, 2022 **LACC N/C BEVERLY HILLS COURIER**

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CASE NO: 22STCPO1881 ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

In the Matter of the petition of: **Michael Thomas Morris** To all interested person(s): Petitioner: **Michael Thomas Morris** current residence address: **10866 Wilshire Blvd. #1650, Los Angeles, CA 90024** filed a petition with the **Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 111 North Hill St. Los Angeles, CA 90012, Stanley Mosk Courthouse, on May 13, 2022** for a Decree changing names as follows:
Present Name: **Michael Thomas Morris**
Proposed Name: **Michael Thomas Aurelius Morriatti**
The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING:
Date: **July 11, 2022**
Time: **10:00am**
Dept: **#74**
Room: **#735**
The address of the court is: **Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 111 North Hill St. Los Angeles, CA 90012, Stanley Mosk Courthouse.**

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the information in the foregoing petition is true and correct.
Signed: **Michael Thomas Morris**
Judge of the Superior Court
Michelle Williams Court, Sherri R. Carter, Executive Officer/Clerk, By: N. Miramontes, Deputy Clerk
Dated: **May 13, 2022**
Published: **May 27, June 03, 10, 17, 2022**
Beverly Hills Courier

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022103388 The following is/are doing business as:
A NURSES TOUCH CONCIERGE SERVICE 468 N. Camden Dr. #425-B, Beverly Hills, CA 90210; **The Intuitionist Corporation** 468 N. Camden Dr. #425-B, Beverly Hills, CA 90210; The business is conducted by: **A CORPORATION (#4855001)**, registrant(s) has **NOT** begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on: **Dhyana Landa, CEO**. Statement is

filed with the County of Los Angeles: May 11, 2022; Published: May 27, June 03, 10, 17, 2022 **LACC N/C BEVERLY HILLS COURIER**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022103386 The following is/are doing business as:
WILSHIRE HILL CLEANERS 8621 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, CA 90211; **Shahram Haghghi** 8621 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, CA 90211; **Dalia Setareh** 8621 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, CA 90211; The business is conducted by: **A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP**, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on February 1990: **Shahram Haghghi, General Partner**. Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: May 11, 2022; Published: May 27, June 03, 10, 17, 2022 **LACC N/C BEVERLY HILLS COURIER**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022100895 The following is/are doing business as:
ROBERTS STATISTICAL & CONSULTING SERVICES 9350 Wilshire Blvd. #203, Beverly Hills, CA 90212; **Paul Edward Roberts** 9350 Wilshire Blvd. #203, Beverly Hills, CA 90212; The business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on April 2022: **Paul Edward Roberts, Owner**. Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: May 06, 2022; Published: May 27, June 03, 10, 17, 2022 **LACC N/C BEVERLY HILLS COURIER**

filed with the County of Los Angeles: May 11, 2022; Published: May 27, June 03, 10, 17, 2022 **LACC N/C BEVERLY HILLS COURIER**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022103386 The following is/are doing business as:
WILSHIRE HILL CLEANERS 8621 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, CA 90211; **Shahram Haghghi** 8621 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, CA 90211; **Dalia Setareh** 8621 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, CA 90211; The business is conducted by: **A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP**, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on February 1990: **Shahram Haghghi, General Partner**. Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: May 11, 2022; Published: May 27, June 03, 10, 17, 2022 **LACC N/C BEVERLY HILLS COURIER**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022100895 The following is/are doing business as:
ROBERTS STATISTICAL & CONSULTING SERVICES 9350 Wilshire Blvd. #203, Beverly Hills, CA 90212; **Paul Edward Roberts** 9350 Wilshire Blvd. #203, Beverly Hills, CA 90212; The business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on April 2022: **Paul Edward Roberts, Owner**. Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: May 06, 2022; Published: May 27, June 03, 10, 17, 2022 **LACC N/C BEVERLY HILLS COURIER**

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME 20220035630 The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name: **Beverly Loan Company**, 9440 S. Santa Monica Blvd. #101, Beverly Hills, CA 90210; The fictitious business name referred to above was filed on (date): February 12, 2020 in the county of **Los Angeles**; **Beverly Loan Company, Inc.** 9440 S. Santa Monica Blvd. #101, Beverly Hills, CA 90210; The business is conducted by: **A CORPORATION**, declare that all information in this statement is true and correct, Signed: **Jordan Tabach-Bank, CEO**; Statement #2022105929 is filed with the County of Los Angeles: May 13, 2022; Published: May 27, June 03, 10, 17, 2022 **LACC N/C, Beverly Hills Courier**

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CASE NO: 22SMCP00226 ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

In the Matter of the petition of: **Arash Khalilzadeh Moghaddam** To all interested person(s): Petitioner: **Arash Khalilzadeh Moghaddam** current residence address: **442 S. Palm Dr. Apt. #C Beverly Hills, CA 90212** filed a petition with the **Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 1725 Main St., Santa Monica, CA 90401, Santa Monica Courthouse, on May 31, 2022** for a Decree changing names as follows:
Present Name: **Arash Khalilzadeh Moghaddam**
Proposed Name: **Ari Moghaddam**
The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show

cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING:
Date: **July 22, 2022**
Time: **8:30am**
Dept: **#K**
The address of the court is: **Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 1725 Main St., Santa Monica, CA 90401, Santa Monica Courthouse.**
I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the information in the foregoing petition is true and correct.
Signed: **Arash Moghaddam**
Judge of the Superior Court
Lawrence Cho, Sherri R. Carter, Executive Officer/Clerk, By: Marcos Mariscal, Deputy Clerk
Dated: **May 31, 2022**
Published: **June 03, 10, 17, 24, 2022**
Beverly Hills Courier

cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING:
Date: **July 22, 2022**
Time: **8:30am**
Dept: **#K**
The address of the court is: **Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 1725 Main St., Santa Monica, CA 90401, Santa Monica Courthouse.**

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the information in the foregoing petition is true and correct.
Signed: **Arash Moghaddam**
Judge of the Superior Court

Lawrence Cho, Sherri R. Carter, Executive Officer/Clerk, By: Marcos Mariscal, Deputy Clerk
Dated: **May 31, 2022**
Published: **June 03, 10, 17, 24, 2022**
Beverly Hills Courier

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022112690 The following is/are doing business as:
CHALMERS CLUB 906 S. Robertson Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90035; **RP Tabletop, Inc.** 906 S. Robertson Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90035; The business is conducted by: **A CORPORATION (#2708278)**, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on January 2022: **Rahim Partiel, President**. Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: May 24, 2022; Published: June 03, 10, 17, 24, 2022 **LACC N/C BEVERLY HILLS COURIER**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022115080 The following is/are doing business as:
1) **BEVERLY LOAN COMPANY**
2) **BEVERLY LOAN**
9440 S. Santa Monica Blvd. Suite #101, Beverly Hills, CA 90210; **LAC BH LLC** 9440 S. Santa Monica Blvd. Suite #101, Beverly Hills, CA 90210; The business is conducted by: **A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (#2013061047)**, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on December 2021: **Evangelina Quiroz, Secretary**. Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: May 26, 2022; Published: June 17, 24, July 01, 08, 2022 **LACC N/C BEVERLY HILLS COURIER**

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

Classifieds

ANNOUNCEMENTS

49
SCHOOLS &
INSTRUCTIONS

50
PROFESSIONAL
SERVICES

55
JOBS
WANTED

87
HOSPICE CARE

**GO OUT FOR SOME
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