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THE WEATHER, BEVERLY HILLS

☀️ Friday	81° 63°
☁️ Saturday	80° 61°
☀️ Sunday	78° 60°
☀️ Monday	79° 62°
☀️ Tuesday	81° 64°
☀️ Wednesday	84° 66°
☀️ Thursday	84° 67°

Sing for Hope Pianos Debut

BY SAMUEL BRASLOW



Jazz pianist Tommy Costner and bassist Chris Golden playing at the launch of the Sing for Hope Piano program

The Hills were alive with the sound of music on Aug. 5, when the Sing for Hope Pianos program debuted 16 custom-painted pianos across the city. Local pianists played each upright piano, all of which will now be available for public enjoyment until Sept. 6. The musicians marked the occasion by playing Bach's Minuet in G Major in unison throughout the city.

In a special performance at the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing

Arts, Sing for Hope co-founders and celebrated sopranos Monica Yunus and Camille Zamora sang "The Flower Duet" ("Sous le dôme épais") from the opera Lakmé by Léo Delibes. The ceremony at the Wallis also saw actor and activist Monique Coleman receive Sing for Hope's annual Art for All Award for her work advocating for youths across the world.

(Sing for Hope continues on page 13)

Beverly Hills Reacts to Vaccine Requirements

BY SAMUEL BRASLOW AND BIANCA HEYWARD

Rising COVID-19 cases have sent both the public and private sectors scrambling for ways to preserve hard-won openness while protecting the public. In an effort to protect staff and patrons, restaurants around Los Angeles and Beverly Hills have started requiring proof of vaccination. This comes after New York City announced the strictest requirements so far, mandating proof of vaccination for gyms, performances, and indoor dining. On Aug. 4, the Los Angeles City Council introduced a motion to consider an even stricter measure.

Beverly Hills has yet to consider any vaccination requirements for either private businesses or public facilities and employees, but Mayor Robert Wunderlich told the Courier that the City Council would have to consider all its options. "With the trajectory of COVID of vaccinations, with the continued emergence of the Delta variant, I wouldn't be surprised if it comes back before the City Council for us again to have to discuss what requirements we want to put into effect in the city," he said.

For a few months following the devastating winter surge, it seemed that Los Angeles County was on track to beat the virus.

(Vaccine Requirements continues on page 14)

Beverly Hills Holocaust Survivor Immortalized Through Hologram Technology

BY MICHAEL WITTNER



Firestone answered thousands of questions in front of 116 cameras in 2015.

For almost 50 years, Beverly Hills resident Renee Firestone has been telling the world how she survived Auschwitz and became a prominent fashion designer.

Even though Firestone turned 97 in

April, she will be available for questions for decades to come.

On July 31, the Holocaust Museum LA debuted a life-size hologram of Firestone trained to reply to a seemingly infinite number of questions using a week's worth of pre-recorded answers. The hologram is a permanent installation called "Dimensions in Testimony" created by the USC Shoah Foundation, an LA-based nonprofit founded by Steven Spielberg dedicated to creating and preserving audio-visual Holocaust survivor testimonies. Similar holograms are on display across the country.

(Holocaust Survivor continues on page 18)

Proposed Ridgeline Ordinance Worries Local Residents

BY SAMUEL BRASLOW

Residents of Los Angeles' hills have raised questions about a proposed Ridgeline Protection Ordinance that would institute new development and building regulations in order to better preserve the city's ridgelines.

"Los Angeles has the rare distinction of being a city bisected by a mountain range," City Planning Associate Patrick Whalen said at a Nov. 20, 2020 community workshop presentation.

(Ridgeline Ordinance continues on page 16)



NOW
HOLOCAUST MUSEUM LA REOPENS: "DIMENSIONS IN TESTIMONY"

Holocaust Museum LA reopens with USC Shoah Foundation's "Dimensions in Testimony," a new permanent and interactive installation. This experience offers visitors the opportunity to have a virtual one-on-one conversation with 97-year-old Holocaust survivor Renee Firestone. To create an interactive biography, the exhibit uses specialized display technologies, advanced filming techniques and natural language processing. The museum also has innovative new programs for community outreach and education.
<https://www.holocaustmuseumla.org/>

NOW – AUG. 10
EL CAPITAN THEATRE: DISNEY'S "JUNGLE CRUISE"
Showings at 12 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 7 p.m., 10:30 p.m.

Shown in Dolby Vision Laser Projection & Dolby Atmos Audio Technology, Disney's "Jungle Cruise" will be presented by Hollywood's El Capitan Theatre. Guests will have the opportunity to see costumes from the movie and to take a picture at a "Jungle Cruise" themed photo op. Tickets are \$22 for adults and \$18 for children or seniors. There is also a special offer for D23 Gold Members as they can receive one box of popcorn, a bottled beverage and a "Jungle Cruise" skipper hat.
www.elcapitantickets.com
<https://www.fandango.com/el-capitan-theatre-aacon/theater-page>



NOW – AUG. 22
THE OFFICIAL SUMMER FAIR OF LOS ANGELES

State Fair Entertainment offers a new experience for Los Angeles with the Official Summer Fair of Los Angeles. Live music returns, and the fair includes motocross shows, world-famous fair food, extreme dog stunt shows, and over 50 attractions and rides. There are free tickets for a limited time as well as fast passes, VIP admission, and unlimited ride bundles available for purchase.
<https://statefairent.com/tickets/>



NOW – SEPT. 6
SING FOR HOPE WITH CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS AND WALLIS ANNENBERG CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

Sing for Hope partners with the City of Beverly Hills and the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts in order to bring 16 artist-designed pianos to Beverly Hills parks and public spaces. The public can play, interact with, and enjoy the pianos, designed by Los Angeles-based visual artists. They will be placed throughout the city in areas such as Beverly Hills City Hall, Beverly Gardens Park, the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, Will Rogers Memorial Park, La Cienega Park, and Roxbury Park. At the conclusion of the program, the pianos will be moved in the fall to public schools across the greater Los Angeles area.
<https://singforhope.org>



AUG. 7
WORLD DOG DAY 2021 CELEBRATION AT WEST HOLLYWOOD PARK
11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

The City of West Hollywood is co-sponsoring the The Vanderpump Dog Foundation's 5th annual World Dog Day event at West Hollywood Park, located at 647 N. San Vicente Boulevard. Admission is free and open to the public; canine companions must attend on a leash. All activities will be outside and socially distanced; masks are encouraged. This family-friendly event includes live performances, an adoption area, animal education area, doggy agility park, doggy fashion show featuring past adopted rescue dogs and celebrity judges, food trucks, plus exhibitors featuring pet-friendly products and services.
www.vanderpumpdogs.org/world-dog-day

AUG. 7
GEFFEN PLAYHOUSE: "2021 BACKSTAGE AT THE GEFFEN"

Comedian, actor, writer and producer Tone Bell will host the "2021 Backstage at the Geffen," the Geffen Playhouse's signature annual fundraiser. Le Conte Avenue will become an outdoor theater and fine dining experience for 150 guests, and the Geffen Playhouse will be a

beautifully lit backdrop for the event. Chef Abigail Chilton of Alligator Pear Catering will prepare a delicious 3-course dinner, which will be followed by a performance of music and intimate theater stories by secret celebrity guests. The event will also be live streamed, so guests can watch from home.

https://www.geffenplayhouse.org/support/events/backstage-at-the-geffen/?utm_source=wordfly&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ToneBellBackstage&utm_content=version_A

AUG. 7
WALLIS ANNENBERG CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS SUMMER @ THE WALLIS: SALASTINA
8 p.m.

The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts continues Summer @ The Wallis on its outdoor stage with Salastina. The L.A.-based chamber music ensemble is recognized for its accessibility and "elegant virtuosity." The performance celebrates the 100th birthday of "Tango Master" Ástor Piazzolla with his original arrangement of Four Seasons of Buenos Aires, a set of four tangos for piano, violin, bandoneón, electric guitar and double bass. Founded in 2010 by violinists Kevin Kuman and Maia Jasper White, Salastina is composed of world-class studio musicians. Over the past decade, American Public Media's prestigious Performance Today has featured more than two dozen Salastina performances on its airwaves, reaching millions of people nationwide.
<https://thewallis.org/Salastina>

AUG. 7, 8, 11, 12, 13 PREVIEW
AUG. 14 – SEPT. 5 SHOW OPENS
INDEPENDENT SHAKESPEARE CO.: "THE TEMPEST"
7 p.m.

The return of in-person performances at Independent Shakespeare Co. will begin with "The Tempest." Independent Shakespeare Co. will use a new location at the Old Zoo in Griffith Park to create a site-specific production to present Prospero's island in the play. Directed by Artistic Director Melissa Chalsma, "The Tempest" will begin previews at the Griffith Park Free Shakespeare Festival on Aug. 7, and performances will open on Aug. 14 at 7 p.m. All Festival performances and events are free. Space is limited as there is a capacity limit of 250, and audience members must reserve seating on the grass. Reservations are required as walk-ups may not be accommodated.

AUG. 12
GRAMMY MUSEUM: "RESPECT"

The GRAMMY Museum releases "RESPECT" as part of the Museum's Public Programs digital series, which shows new, intimate sit-down recorded interviews with artists and musicians. The new digital panel features Jennifer Hudson, Stephan Bray and Jason Michael Webb and is moderated by Variety's Chris Willman. Other new programs the museum will be releasing are on Aug. 19 with James McMurty, Arlo Parks and Maisie Peters and on Aug. 26 with

Merry Clayton and Lou Adler as well as Anderson East, Saint Motel and Jon Randall. Archived programs from 2019 will also be released this month, such as "Local Natives" and "Of Monsters & Men."
<https://grammymuseum.org/>

FRIDAYS AUG. 13 – SEPT. 10
THE MUSIC CENTER: "DANCE DTLA"
7-11 p.m.

The Music Center's free Friday night "Dance DTLA" series returns for dancing under the stars and in-person lessons. Designed for all ages and interests, the 18th season of this summer series offers five weeks of dancing and art-making workshops. "Dance DTLA" takes place on the Jerry Moss Plaza, and each Friday focuses on a different genre of dance. Top L.A. dance instructors provide lessons with steps that are easy to follow, so guests can practice the dance moves. Styles of dance range from Disco to Cumbia, Motown, Bollywood and Salsa, and each night features local DJ sets. No dancing experience is necessary. Select dates-Aug. 20, Aug. 27, Sept. 10-include free art-making workshops as well.
musiccenter.org/dancedtla

AUG. 14
GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF LOS ANGELES 2021 GALA
8 p.m.

The Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles (GMCLA) 2021 Gala will take place on Aug. 14. Andra Day and Shoshana Bean will both join the GMCLA Gala Livestream. The event will be hosted by Carson Kressley, and there will be live performances by GMCLA's Aftershock and celebrity guests. The "Voice Award" will be presented to Dr. Jerry Abraham. Funds will be raised for GMCLA's return to schools for the Alive Music Project and GMCLA's reopening season. The gala is supported by a \$50,000 Challenge Grant from Carol and Richard Weaver with a sponsorship from Morgan Stanley.
https://gmcla.org/events/gala-2021/?mc_cid=189a9a944d&mc_eid=6b591b7e79



AUG. 15
CICLAVIA RETURNS TO OPEN STREETS EVENTS: CICLAVIA-WILMINGTON

After canceling events in 2020, CicLAvia resumes open streets events with CicLAvia-Wilmington. During the event, guests can enjoy biking, walking, skating, and community activities. On Oct. 10, CicLAvia will celebrate its 11th anniversary with CicLAvia's Heart of LA; on Dec. 5, there will be a third event with CicLAvia-South LA. Public streets are turned into public parks, which can illustrate the accessibility of neighborhoods to Angelenos, both visitors and residents.
<https://www.ciclavia.org/>



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Council Honors Commissioners, Beverly Hilton

BY MICHAEL WITTNER

At the beginning of its Aug. 3 formal meeting, the Beverly Hills City Council offered plaques and fond words for new and outgoing commissioners, as well as The Beverly Hilton Hotel.

They welcomed Karla Gordy Bristol as its new Arts and Culture Commissioner, and bade a fond farewell to outgoing Arts and Culture Commissioner Michael Smooke and Charitable Solicitations Commissioner Pam Kraushaar.

Later in the evening as part of the Consent Calendar, the Council approved the appointments of Zachary Sokoloff, Kathy Bronte, and Kandace Lindsey-Cerqueira to the Rent Stabilization Commission, roles the Commission has been trying to fill since two commissioners unexpectedly resigned in April. The three new commissioners did not address the Council.

The Council started off by welcoming Karla Gordy Bristol, a talent and events producer who hosts the “Beverly Hills View” public affairs show on BHTV, among many other endeavors. Recently, Gordy Bristol helped bring in live entertainment for the

Sing For Hope Pianos kickoff event on Aug. 5 at The Wallis.

“I’m very honored and happy to do this for my city, which I’ve been living in since ‘71,” Gordy said. “I look forward to many great events in the city, and perpetuating culture and following my predecessors, who did a remarkable job on the Commission during their term, and I hope I can do the same.”

The Council then honored outgoing Commissioner Michael Smooke, a real estate development attorney who helped oversee the Commission’s transition from the Fine Arts Commission to the Arts and Culture Commission.

“It has been a great privilege and honor to serve as a commissioner in Beverly Hills,” Smooke said. “The ACC is truly one of the most important commissions because it elevates the everyday life experience of our citizens and workers and guests by making art and culture thrive in Beverly Hills. Thank you for allowing me to serve my city.” (Council Honors Commissioners continues on page 15)

Remembering Luanne Wells

BY BIANCA HEYWARD



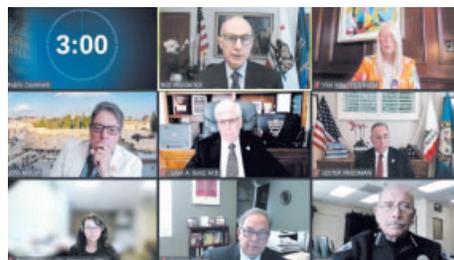
BHUSD Board Member Mary Wells and Luanne Wells. Photo Courtesy Mary Wells

Philanthropist and longtime supporter of the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts Luanne C. Wells passed away on July 15 at her home in Beverly Hills. She was 87 years

old. Born and raised in Beverly Hills, Wells attended Hawthorne School and Beverly Hills High School. (Luanne Wells continues on page 14)

Gun Safety in Beverly Hills

BY MICHAEL WITTNER



At the Aug. 3 City Council Study Session, Beverly Hills Police Chief Dominick Rivetti offered council members legislative and non-legislative options for increasing gun safety in Beverly Hills, at the request of Mayor Robert Wunderlich.

Wunderlich said he asked the BHPD for ideas due to rising crime nationwide, a recent district court ruling against California’s 32-year-old assault weapon ban, and a similar attempt in early 2020 by then-Mayor Friedman that was stalled by the pandemic.

The Giffords Center to Prevent Gun Violence says that California gun laws are the strongest in the nation. Currently, anyone who wants to purchase a firearm in the state must participate in a firearms safety course, undergo a background check, pass a written test, and perform a safe handling demonstration, among other requirements.

The state also places a series of strict limits on which type of firearms can be purchased, and who is licensed to sell them.

Beverly Hills also has its own rules applying to firearms dealers. The Municipal Code requires a special city permit for dealers, and forbids them from operating in residentially zoned areas. They must hold \$1,000,000 in

liability insurance and sign an agreement to assume responsibility for damages occurring due to their products. Anyone banned from owning a firearm or convicted of any firearm-related offense in the last five years is also prohibited from operating a dealership.

Additionally, the city forbids anyone under the age of 18 from entering a licensed location. Rivetti’s proposed non-legislative options would raise this age to 21, which is also the minimum age to buy a handgun in California.

To further increase gun safety in Beverly Hills, Rivetti worked with BHPD staff to propose legislative and non-legislative options.

Proposed legislative options include an ordinance mandating residents secure firearms inside their residence in a locked container; amend the Municipal Code to prohibit firearms dealers near schools or parks; amend the Municipal Code to prohibit people banned from buying guns from entering firearms locations; and enact an ordinance prohibiting the possession of firearms on city property and/or parks.

Non-legislative options include firearm safety courses for Beverly Hills residents who own firearms; a program to provide low-cost or free DOJ-approved trigger or cable locks; a city prosecutor to prosecute misdemeanor gun possession crimes; and a Gun Letter Program to provide recent firearm purchasers with gun safety information.

Chief Rivetti told the Courier that his staff is currently working to put non-legislative options in place, especially safety education programs for firearms owners. ●

Council Reviews Outdated Policy and Operations Manual

BY MICHAEL WITTNER



No legislation came out of the City Council's Aug. 3 Study Session, and that's just the way Beverly Hills residents want it.

The Council reviewed a number of changes that city staff made to bring the city's Policy and Operations Manual, a 102-page guide to city government and history, fully in line with the Beverly Hills Municipal Code. At the end of the discussion, Council advocated for a significant rewrite of the Manual, which they felt was unfocused and unwieldy.

The meeting got off to a rocky start after word got out that staff was changing the Manual to allow legislation to be passed

during afternoon Study Sessions, which begin at 2:30 p.m. Fifteen angry residents wrote or phoned in to accuse the city of underhandedly attempting to deprive working residents the chance to watch and weigh in in real time.

"All legislation should only be passed during the formal Council meetings and not during the Study Sessions," resident Georgia Pine wrote in, echoing many strongly worded letters. "The public deserves transparency from its legislators. We do not accept silent passage of ordinances. We are a republic, not a dictatorship."

But to the surprise of even many council members, the Municipal Code has actually allowed the Council to pass legislation during Study Sessions since 2008, and staff was updating the Manual, which had previously barred any binding legislative action from being passed during Study Sessions.

(Policy and Operation Manual continues on page 15)

Council Members Support CicLAvia Open Streets Event

BY MICHAEL WITTNER



Nonprofit CicLAvia sponsors open streets events throughout LA County

It's tough to imagine Santa Monica Boulevard without a single car, but at some point in 2022 it may be filled with booths and bikes instead. At the Aug. 3 Study Session, Transportation Planner Jessie Holzer presented council members with a first look at the CicLAvia Open Streets event, a potential partnership

with West Hollywood and Los Angeles to extend car-free streets all the way from East Hollywood to the intersection of Santa Monica Boulevard and Beverly Drive for an entire Sunday in either April, May or August of next year.

(CicLAvia continues on page 16)

Solidarity Dinner to Combat Hate

BY ANA FIGUEROA



Consul General of Israel to the Pacific Southwest, Dr. Hillel Newma, and Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti hosted a solidarity dinner for a discussion on combatting hate and discrimination on July 29. The dinner took place at Pat's Restaurant in the Pico/Robertson neighborhood of Los Angeles, after the restaurant was targeted with Anti-Semitic vandalism earlier this year.

Leaders from the Jewish, Muslim, Christian, African American, and Asian American community came together to find

common threads and speak about how to rise above hate together. Other VIP guests included LAPD Chief of Police Michel Moore, LA City Councilmember Paul Koretz and California State Senator Sydney Kamlager.

"I appreciate the attendees for sharing their intimate stories and struggles with overcoming hate. As a community of diverse backgrounds we can overcome hate together," said Newman. ●

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Member FDIC

New Restorations Complete as Greystone Slowly Reopens

BY CARL ROBINETTE

After more than a year of cancellations and postponements at Greystone Mansion, the Beverly Hills landmark has hosted its first wedding since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

“We had been working so closely with some of the families and going through the heartbreak of planning and postponement, and planning and postponement,” Beverly Hills Community Services Director Jenny Rogers told the Courier. “When we were finally able to host that first wedding, that was the moment we kind of came into the daylight on this thing. That was such a glorious moment.”

Several weddings and other events were scheduled and canceled multiple times as public health restrictions were loosened and retightened over the course of the pandemic.

“It was emotionally tolling and it felt really disappointing every time,” the June bride, Kristin McIntosh, told the Courier. “You dream about your wedding day. Everything was ready to go and the rug just kind of felt like it was pulled out from under us.”

Like many others, Irvine residents Kristin and Ryan McIntosh had to permanently cancel their engagement party and bridal shower while they waited for California and the rest of the world to reopen. During that time, they considered other venues but the bride had her heart set on Greystone.

“We recognized the fact that Greystone would be one of the very last venues to open once things started to ease up a little bit, and I just couldn’t let it go,” said McIntosh. “It was really hard to find something that would live up to Greystone, and honestly nothing ever did.”

The city’s Recreation and Parks Commission, which oversees Greystone, has been following government health guidelines, opening park spaces incrementally over the last year. But they have used the time off to restore key features of the Greystone property.

Most recently, an \$800,000 renovation of the mansion’s library was completed in spring of this year.

(Greystone continues on page 12)

Amanda Foundation Spreads Love in Beverly Hills

BY MICHAEL WITTNER



The Amanda Foundation trains registered vet technicians

People often ask Amanda Foundation President Teri Austin who “Amanda” is. The answer, in a sense, is every living, sentient creature. “Amanda” is Latin for “worthy of love,” and the Beverly Hills-based animal rescue organization is unique in its dedication to helping all animals, humans included.

“These creatures, who cannot speak for themselves, who will love us unconditionally, no matter who you are, you can be living under an on-ramp under the freeway or you could be living in Beverly Hills, and your dog will love you, and your cat will love you just the same,” Austin told the Courier.

The Amanda Foundation hopes to take its emotional cue from the many animals it rescues and treats. In addition to rescuing, spaying, nursing, and housing hundreds of animals from the city’s shelters and streets, the Foundation provides pop-up free mobile veterinary clinics in low-income neighborhoods; teaches grade school students about animals and how to care for them; and provides a paid work-study vet tech licensing program.

“Most programs are someone my age and my background putting something on a flyer saying ‘Leave water out for your pets,’ and then, sayonara,” said Austin, 64. “We think all these things are related, and you can’t solve one without another.”

The holistic Foundation started small 35 years ago. At the time, the population of stray animals in Los Angeles had ballooned to such levels that some residents in poorer neighborhoods said they had to walk around with baseball bats to protect themselves against aggressive animals. Austin— then an actress with recurring roles on “Knots Landing,” “Beverly Hills 90210,” and somewhat ironically, a fur coat-donning character on “Seinfeld” — and other volunteers from the Amanda Foundation went canvassing around the most affected areas for about

a year and a half talking to residents about their animals and their health needs. They determined that the best way to solve the stray animal problem was to bring free spaying, neutering, and health services to the residents.

Austin worked with Los Angeles Councilmember Mark Ridley-Thomas to create an ordinance that would require all dogs and cats over four months to be spayed, neutered, and licensed. The ordinance also provided a free way of doing that: the Spaymobile, one of the Amanda Foundation’s most widely recognized symbols.

“I told the Councilman that the Amanda Foundation would buy the Spaymobile, and we would hire and train the staff, and we would work the program, and we would ask the city to pay a portion of what it costs to give this service,” Austin said, noting that the City of Los Angeles pays one-third of the Spaymobile’s costs.

The Spaymobile has been out of commission since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, but for over two decades, it spayed or neutered about 5,000 animals a year. Before the ordinance and the Spaymobile and several spaying/neutering programs like it— Los Angeles city shelters housed over 75,000 animals a year, Austin said. Now, the number is closer to 50,000, despite a larger population with higher rates of pet ownership.

But 50,000 is still a lot, and the Amanda Foundation hosts about 100 rescue dogs and cats in its Foothill Road facility, many of them from Los Angeles city and county shelters. Because it is the only rescue organization in the country that also doubles as a full-service veterinary hospital, the Foundation tries to take in sick or wounded animals who might be put to death in city shelters because no one wants to adopt them.

Beverly Hills

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Foundation President Teri Austin walks 4-month-old Titus. Photos by Michael Wittner

“We concentrate on the ones who don’t have someone speaking for them, other than the animal shelters, which have limited resources and hundreds of animals,” Austin said. “Because we have a hospital, we do take a large number of animals who will be with us for a longer period of time because they are older.. When people talk about rescuing, it’s not just puppies and kittens, it’s not the dog that got put in the shelter because it chewed up

the couch: it’s the 7-year-old dog who now has diabetes.”

This all takes place in a tiny stucco building on Foothill Road, conveniently located right across the street from the Beverly Hills Community Dog Park. The building has been a veterinary hospital and kennel since it was built in 1924, and the Foundation bought the building once the vet retired. This long-standing presence has allowed the Foundation to forge a strong bond with

the Beverly Hills community.

“One of the nicest things about being part of this community is I’ll have some woman come in the door - she’s like 30 and she’ll have a 6-year-old with her, and she’ll say, ‘I got my puppy from you when I was eight,’” Austin said. “And that happens a lot.”

But a Beverly Hills address also gives outsiders the mistaken impression that the Foundation is rich, when funds are actually tight: the money earned from the vet hospital funds the rescue operations.

As the Foundation expands in size and scope, it is quickly outgrowing the little old stucco building. It is currently trying to raise \$10 million to build a brand new hospital on the same spot, which will allow more animals to board more spaciouly, new equipment, and the establishment of a full-service teaching hospital.

Education is another cornerstone of the Foundation’s mission: it wants to teach humans, often disadvantaged ones, to care for animals. Currently, it is training a few students to become veterinary technicians, a

program that will expand once the teaching hospital is established. Before COVID, the Foundation traveled to schools all over the LA area, from Beverly Hills to Watts, to offer programs ranging from one to ten sessions.

The program, known as “Creating Compassion,” provided students hands-on instruction in basic animal biology, behavior, veterinary surgery techniques, and information about animal-related career options. At the end of the 10-hour program, some students even helped out on the Spaymobile.

Of course, students also get to meet animals.

“A lot of the cruelty that I have seen in neighborhoods where there’s a lot of frustration for a lot of reasons, it’s commonly because of a lack of a bond between the animal and the person - it was never taught,” Austin said. “When we can get the kids to handle and touch and feed them in a relaxed setting, the whole idea is to touch their hearts and create some compassion.”

For more information, visit amandafoundation.org.

www.beverlyhillscourier.com



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THE PENINSULA
BEVERLY HILLS

Lessons To Carry into a Post-Pandemic Sex Life

BY SARI COOPER



By Sari Cooper, Certified Sex Therapist,
Director Center for Love and Sex, and Founder Sex Esteem®

Courier columnist **Sari Cooper** is an AASECT Certified Sex Therapist and Director of The Center for Love and Sex, a boutique sex coaching and sex therapy practice. Sari is also the founder of Sex Esteem®, which produces entertaining private curated “sex-edification” events and talks for couples, parents, schools, campuses, and organizations on a diverse array of sexuality topics. With over 25 years of experience, she is a sought-after media guest expert and writer on the topic of relationships, monogamy, and eroticism.

As a certified sex and couples’ therapist who guided many couples and singles through this period, I can tell you what hurdles might await partners when issues that have remained stagnant during what I call “COVID time” resurface. As in any crisis, some of my coupled clients’ disagreements were put on hold in order to meet the day-to-day demands of work, children doing virtual schooling, older relatives in need or battling illness, in addition to intrafamilial conflicts around politics. Conflicts erupted due to the stress around potential COVID-19 exposure and contagion, financial strain due to job loss, lack of alignment around priorities and less sexual activity. Many couples were grateful to have family support, food, shelter, and access to technology that connected them to their loved ones as they weathered the lockdown quarantines in their community.

According to preliminary survey results conducted by The Kinsey Institute of 1,117 30-50-year-old married individuals (both heterosexual and same-sex marriages), 74% of participants agreed the pandemic strengthened their marriage and 82% agreed it made them feel more committed to their marriage. A small percentage (17%) of women reported a decrease in emotional and sexual satisfaction in their relationships, while only 11% reported an increase in their emotional satisfaction and 9% reported an increase in sexual satisfaction. However, given the gendered disparity carried by heterosexual women who did more childcare and housework and who lost or left jobs due to lack of support for their children and on Black and Hispanic families who suffered more loss of lives due to COVID and to police violence, we have to focus on how we are going to take some lessons from these unprecedented times and strengthen our relationships.

Compassionate Communication

Two of the principles of my Sex Esteem® model are compassion and communication. What this entails is the mutual exploration of how your partner is faring with a present-focused groundedness to really let the other partner’s expression of bone-deep emotions seep in and to follow up this inquiry with curiosity to hear more. For those couples who already had strong communication skills going into quarantine, they fared better during those pressured times and flourished

with a little bit more time to share. In fact, while under lockdown many families found they had more time to have meals together because afterwork drinks or dinners, commuting and/or kids’ after school activities were no longer part of their schedule. Many of my adult clients indicated they felt like they were less distracted by the demands of a hectic social life and were able to appreciate the slower pace. Many of those couples with school-aged children were more worn out by the attention needed by their virtual schooling programs.

One lesson that I would encourage couples to retain from the early COVID lockdown days is to not only carve out joint repasts as a couple and as a family, but to place all phone and technology aside during this meal. Breaking bread is literally an age-old ritual and allows for partners to combine the senses of taste, smell, and sight with present-focused emotional intimacy as they take each other in. For couples with kids, I invite them to reserve some nights for “date nights” in which they eat on their own after their children’s meal.

While many couples use couple time to catch up on household tasks, their kids’ school updates or upcoming events, I guide people to leave these subjects for more of a business catch-up call. The date is all about boosting the sensuality and erotic energy by eating at a table (not in front of a screen), savoring the food and each other through gazing, authentic conversations, and flirtatious banter.

Many surveys from people during COVID quarantine time reported the increased levels of anxiety, depression, and loneliness that Americans felt. The moodiness and terse communications that these emotional states cause can cause an intimate date to go off the rails pretty quickly. I teach my clients to utilize a scale choosing any number out of ten as a shorthand to quickly communicate how anxious, sad, frustrated or exhausted they feel throughout the day, so their partner is aware what state their partner is in before they reunite at dinnertime. They are also able to understand that this state may have nothing to do with them and therefore are less likely to build a narrative focused on how their partner is upset with them. For example, it’s helpful for a partner to know that their mate is feeling a 7/10 of anxiety about an upcoming presentation at

work so that they don’t take their edginess personally. They can then have a lot more compassion for them when they meet up in the kitchen to prepare and/or eat their meal.

And for those who might conflate compassion for feeling sorry for someone, I’d like to update this outlook. Compassion is not the same expression as sympathy. The renowned meditation teacher and author Sharon Salzberg states, “Compassion is something we develop concurrently with the development of wisdom. Compassion is the natural response of clear seeing or understanding.” I see compassion in the couple realm as the ability to see your part and your partner’s part and the wisdom is the ability to differentiate between them. It is not just feeling sorry for someone, it requires reflection and at times actions.

I also encourage partners to ask what their partner would find most helpful instead of forging ahead with unsolicited advice on what they think would remedy the situation. If one partner says they’re feeling 9/10 of frustration with a workplace colleague, their partner can ask if they would like anything beyond a listening ear.

Defining Intentions (priorities around values)

The COVID pandemic brought into clear relief the potential of our own mortality and for many families, the loss of beloved parents, siblings, and friends. For many people, the experience of sudden or early loss can heighten the meaning they carry forward in the rest of their lives. It’s as if there’s a refocusing of one’s relationship’s mission after a painful and traumatic loss. The renowned psychiatrist Irving Yalom once wrote: “Death loses its terror if one dies when one has consummated one’s life!”

I invite people to reflect deeply on what they valued the most about their partners during this time of potential or actual loss and how they might reconnect with the meaning of their relationships. Some partners spent more time creating Zoom gatherings with their families so that family members living alone or in more restricted lockdowns would not feel so isolated. Some of our clients were challenged by political statements their relatives espoused as the country approached the national election. The conflicting viewpoints they heard from parents or siblings who lived in different



parts of the country regarding COVID, the election and the vaccine resulted in a deep sense of loss in how to remain connected to family. I helped guide clients to define and address their existential dilemmas regarding their civic and equity commitments while also remaining loving daughters, sons, nieces, nephews and grandchildren. I help folks approach their lives' moral values using what family therapists call a 'both/and' framework so that opposing belief systems can be held under a larger umbrella they have of their life's meaning which includes acceptance and love.

Erotic Exploration

While a recent survey by Kinsey reported less frequency in sexual scenarios occurring during quarantine, they also discovered that 20.3% of respondents added a new additional sexual behavior to their sexual menu since the pandemic began. Some couples in my practice used the lockdown period to expand their sexual repertoires since they now had more time to explore scenarios they had always wanted to try.

I urge couples to make and keep commitments they may have made during the lockdown so they can continue to renourish their joint erotic menu despite the lure of outside social opportunities increasing. For the couples who experimented and kept up the practice of playfulness, their

previous sexual ennui was replaced by an urgent sense to center passion in their erotic scripts. This is not so uncommon at times when one's sense of mortality is awakened. I always reference the scene in "Moonstruck" where the mother played by Olympia Dukakis, after discovering her husband's affair asks her daughter's fiancé: "Why do men cheat?"

When the fiancé finally comes up with the answer: "I don't know.. because they're afraid of death?" her face lights up and in recognition of the eureka moment she cries: "That's it!"

Many of the clients I have worked with over the years before COVID time who had broken their monogamous agreements had in fact experienced some traumatic loss(es) in their childhood or in their early adulthood. The losses include: a parent's early death to cancer, a best friend killed in a car crash, a college roommate's suicide or the death of a relative who repeatedly sexual abused the client when they were a child. While I don't excuse a person's breaking their sexual exclusivity agreement with their partner/spouse, I view the death anxiety a potential flight response to the recognition of how quickly a life can be taken.

In the Kinsey study mentioned above, researchers found that "participants who made new additions were significantly more likely than those who did not to report

that their sex life had improved since the pandemic began." I encourage couples to continue to schedule and show up for erotic dates which allows for anticipation, novelty, and creativity to grow their sensual lives long after we all shed our COVID boundaries. By consciously using the term erotic I'm not dictating which of the myriad sexual behaviors in which humans partake. Rather, I'm inviting an embodied, present based state of being in which all one's senses are involved in creating, enveloping and connecting through sensual play.

Work/Life/Environmental Wellness

For other couples, the need to cook meals reminded partners how much their goals of eating healthy food, supporting local growers, maintaining regular exercise and sleep regimens optimized their moods and mission to align with body-mind wellness. For those partners who had the privilege of leisure time, it was also a way partners and families could connect more intimately in a fun activity (think about all the bread-baking pics featured on social media). I think this lesson of holistic health has been felt by many people who are requesting a hybrid work-life to enable them to continue the wellness routines which make them feel

more alive and balanced each day. According to a Harvard Business School survey 81% of respondents said they didn't want to return to full time in-person work or wanted some sort of hybrid schedule. Couples have tasted a new way of living that gives them more time with one another and their families and the new post-COVID normal is going to need to reflect these needs.

While in quarantine, some couples returned or reignited an interest in spiritual or religious worship through virtual services. Despite the Pew Research Center's surveys reporting rates of religious affiliation decreasing steadily in the past several years, some clients found they were longing for more comfort and meaning during this anxiety-provoking time. The connection to something larger than one's own personal needs and belief in a larger purpose has been shown to come out of natural disasters or wartime. Online services by churches, mosques, synagogues and Buddhist communities helped to keep people psychologically grounded to deeper spiritual and existential beliefs.

I invite you to reflect on what rituals, habits and priorities you want to bring into more conscious practice in your post-COVID life. ●


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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Council of the City of Beverly Hills, at its regular meeting to be held on **Tuesday, August 17, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard** will hold a public hearing to consider adoption of:

AN INTERIM ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS EXTENDING INTERIM ORDINANCE NO. 21-O-2841 ESTABLISHING A MORATORIUM ON FRACTIONAL OWNERSHIP OF RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL PROPERTY, DECLARING THE URGENCY THEREOF AND MAKING A DETERMINATION OF EXEMPTION UNDER THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)

The proposed ordinance would extend Interim Ordinance No. 21-O-2841 for an additional 10 months and 15 days, pursuant to Government Code Section 65858. The interim ordinance established a moratorium on fractional ownership of residential and commercial property for a period of 45 days, and the proposed ordinance would extend these regulations to apply for a 1-year period in total, in order to provide additional time to study the potential effects of fractional ownership and draft regulations for permanent adoption.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The proposed ordinance has been assessed in accordance with the authority and criteria contained in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA, Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq.), the State CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Sections 15000 et seq.), and the environmental regulations of the City. The adoption and implementation of the interim urgency ordinance represents minor alterations in land use limitations and do not result in any changes in land use or density, and the ordinance does not authorize construction. In fact, the ordinance imposes greater restrictions on certain properties in order to protect the public health, safety and general welfare because the ordinance will impose a temporary moratorium on certain fractional ownership in the City in order to protect the public health, safety and general welfare, and will thereby serve to avoid potentially significant adverse environmental impacts during the term of the moratorium. It can therefore be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the proposed amendments may have a significant effect on the environment. Accordingly, the City Council will consider finding the interim urgency ordinance exempt from the environmental review requirements of CEQA pursuant to Sections 15305 as a minor change to land use regulations and 15061(b)(3), of the California Code of Regulations because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question would have a significant effect on the environment.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Pursuant to Executive Order N-25-20 members of the Beverly Hills City Council and staff may participate in this meeting via teleconference/video conference. In the interest of maintaining appropriate social distancing, members of the public can access City Council meetings telephonically, through live webcast, and BHTV Channel 10 on Spectrum Cable.

To submit Audio/Oral comments during the hearing call: 310-288-2288, to submit written comments please email: cityclerk@beverlyhills.org, to submit video comments (during public comment only) use <https://beverlyhills-org.zoom.us/my/bevpublic> (passcode: 90210). To Watch Video Live use <http://beverlyhills.org/live> or On-Demand use <http://beverlyhills.org/citycouncilmeetings>.

It is recommended that public written comments be submitted to the City Clerk's office by 12:00 p.m. on the meeting date. Public comments will also be taken during the meeting when the topic is being reviewed by the City Council. Written comments should identify the Agenda Item Number or Topic in the subject line of the email. Written comments will be allowed with a maximum of 350 words, which corresponds to approximately 3 minutes of speaking time. If a comment is received after the agenda item is heard, it will not be a part of the record. Public comment via video conference will be 3 minutes per each individual comment, subject to City Council discretion.

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

If there are any questions regarding this notice, please contact **Chloe Chen, Associate Planner** in the Planning Division at **(310) 285-1194**, or by email at cchen@beverlyhills.org. Please also contact us to add your email to the interested parties list for this ordinance, so that important updates and notifications may be sent to you.

HUMA AHMED
City Clerk



If you are an individual with a disability and need a reasonable modification or accommodation pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA") please contact (310) 285-2400 or (310) 285-6881 (TTY) preferably 24-hours prior to the meeting for assistance.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

DATE: Thursday, August 26, 2021
TIME: 1:30 PM, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard
LOCATION: Meeting will be held via teleconference; details provided below

The Planning Commission of the City of Beverly Hills, at its REGULAR meeting on **Thursday, August 26, 2021** will hold a public hearing beginning at **1:30 PM**, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard to consider the following:

DRAFT ORDINANCE TO AMEND PARKING REQUIREMENTS AND THE IN LIEU PARKING PROGRAM FOR RESTAURANT USES, AND CHANGES TO PRIVATE TRAINING CENTER REGULATIONS. On December 10, 2019, the City Council adopted an interim urgency ordinance (Ordinance No. 19-O-2796) that reduced the parking requirements for restaurants and made changes to the in lieu parking program for restaurants in order to encourage more restaurant uses in the city. The draft ordinance would keep the changes made to restaurant parking requirements and in lieu parking regulations for restaurants. In addition, the draft ordinance proposes changes to the regulations applicable to private training centers in order to remove barriers to entry for such uses in certain areas of the city.

The current parking regulations and in lieu parking regulations applicable to restaurants are contained in both Ordinance No. 19-O-2796 and Articles 27 and 33 of Chapter 3 of Title 10 of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code. At this hearing, staff will present a draft ordinance to replace the interim urgency ordinance regulations, which incorporates the direction provided by the Planning Commission at their July 22, 2021 study session discussion on this topic.

The draft ordinance has been assessed in accordance with the authority and criteria contained in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA, Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq.), the State CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Sections 15000 et seq.), and the environmental regulations of the City. Upon review, the project appears to be exempt from CEQA regulations, pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the State CEQA Guidelines, which is applicable to projects for which it can be seen with certainty that there is no potential to have a significant effect on the environment. In addition, the draft ordinance appears to qualify for a Class 5 Categorical Exemption (Minor Alterations in Land Use Limitations) in accordance with the requirements of Section 15305 of the State CEQA Guidelines, which is applicable to projects with minor alterations to land use limitations in areas with an average slope of less than 20% and do not result in changes to land use or density. Since the draft ordinance will make changes to regulations pertaining to restaurant and fitness uses, these exemptions are applicable. Accordingly, the Planning Commission will consider a recommendation to find the draft ordinance exempt from further environmental review under CEQA pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) and 15305.

How to Participate

Pursuant to Executive Order N-25-20, members of the Beverly Hills Planning Commission and staff may participate in this meeting via teleconference. In the interest of maintaining appropriate social distancing, members of the public can participate by listening to the meeting at (888) 468-1195 (participant code 105093) and/or offer comment through email at commentPC@beverlyhills.org. Public comment can be offered during the meeting by calling (310) 285-1020 or by video via at <https://beverlyhills-org.zoom.us/my/bevpublic> (**passcode: 90210**).

Written comments should identify the Agenda Item Number or Topic in the subject line of the email. In order to have written material included in the Commissioners' packet, it must be received no later than 8 calendar days before the date of the hearing. Comments will be read into the record, with a maximum allowance of 3 minutes per individual comment (approximately 350 words), subject to the Commission's discretion. It is recommended that written comments be submitted prior to the posted meeting date/time. If a comment is received after the agenda item is heard, but before the close of the meeting, the comment will still be included as a part of the record of the meeting, but will not be read into the record.

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

If there are any questions regarding this notice, please contact **Chloe Chen, Associate Planner** in the Planning Division at **(310) 285-1194**, or by email at cchen@beverlyhills.org. The case file, including associated documents are on file in the Community Development Department, and can be reviewed by any interested person at 455 North Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills, CA 90210. Please submit a request to review such documents to the assigned planner.

Sincerely,
Chloe Chen, Associate Planner



Members of the public may listen to this meeting telephonically at (888) 468-1195 (participant code 105093). Written public comment can be offered electronically prior to and during the meeting by emailing commentPC@beverlyhills.org. Oral public comment can be offered during the meeting by calling (310) 285-1020. Live meeting coverage will be available via BHTV Channel 10 on Spectrum Cable and webcast live at www.beverlyhills.org/watchlive. If you are an individual with a disability and need a reasonable modification or accommodation pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), please contact (310) 285-1194 prior to the meeting for assistance.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

DATE: Thursday, August 26, 2021
TIME: 1:30 PM, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard
LOCATION: Meeting will be held via teleconference; details provided below

PROJECT ADDRESS:

9908 South Santa Monica Boulevard (nearest cross street: Charleville Boulevard)



The Planning Commission of the City of Beverly Hills, at its REGULAR meeting on Thursday, August 26, 2021, will hold a public hearing beginning at **1:30 PM**, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard to consider the following:

Amendments to existing Planned Development and Vesting Tentative Tract Map approvals for a four-story mixed-used commercial and residential building located at **9908 South Santa Monica Boulevard**. The Planned Development and Vesting Tentative Tract Map were approved by the City Council (Resolution 20-R-13277) on February 18, 2020. The requested amendments include the following:

Vesting Tentative Tract Map

- Reduce the number of residential condominium units from 25 to 17.

Planned Development:

- Reconfigure the alley accessible loading space from parallel to perpendicular to the alley. Repurpose a portion of the rear yard from a loading space to a residential private open space area that includes a swimming pool.
- Modify the exterior of the building, including:
 - o Reduce building modulation from 13,356 SF to 7,858 SF of modulation area
 - o Reduce side yard setbacks approximately 2"-4"
 - o Add a swimming pool to the second level terrace
- Modify the rooftop of the building, including:
 - o Increase in enclosed rooftop structure floor area from 2,613 SF to 5,262 SF
 - o Additional roof-top structures, including new private amenity rooms for individual units as well as reconfigured and enlarged shared residential amenity space.
 - o Increase the number of roof-top pools from one to five
 - o Modify landscape screening at the perimeter of the rooftop.
 - o Increase the number of elevator enclosures from three to six.
- Modify the interior of the building, including:
 - o Reconfigure and reduce commercial floor area from 13,036 SF to 12,560 SF.
 - o Increase residential floor area from 76,969 SF to 77,432 SF.
 - o Increase the number of residential elevators from three to six
 - o Eliminate shared residential corridors on the 2nd through 4th levels
- Decrease the number of on-site parking spaces from 176 to 148. Maintain 54 public parking spaces required by the Project's Development Agreement.

The City of Beverly Hills previously certified a Final Environmental Impact Report (Final EIR) for the mixed-use Project on February 4, 2020 (City Council Resolution No. 20-R-13272). The Project modifications have been assessed in accordance with the authority and criteria contained in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA, Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq.), the State CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Sections 15000 et seq.), and the environmental regulations of the City. An addendum has been prepared to evaluate the proposed modifications to the Project. The Planning Commission will consider the certified Final EIR and the addendum prepared for the proposed project modifications to the Planned Development and Vesting Tentative Tract Map approvals.

How to Participate

Pursuant to Executive Order N-25-20, members of the Beverly Hills Planning Commission and staff may participate in this meeting via teleconference. In the interest of maintaining appropriate social distancing, members of the public can participate by listening to the meeting at (888) 468-1195 (participant code 105093) and/or offer comment through email at commentPC@beverlyhills.org. Public comment can be offered during the meeting by calling (310) 285-1020 or via video at <https://beverlyhills-org.zoom.us/my/bevpublic> (*passcode: 90210*)

Written comments should identify the Agenda Item Number or Topic in the subject line of the email. In order to have written material included in the Commissioners' packet, it must be received no later than 8 calendar days before the date of the hearing.

Comments will be read into the record, with a maximum allowance of 3 minutes per individual comment (approximately 350 words), subject to the Commission's discretion. It is recommended that written comments be submitted prior to the posted meeting date/time. If a comment is received after the agenda item is heard, but before the close of the meeting, the comment will still be included as a part of the record of the meeting, but will not be read into the record.

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

If there are any questions regarding this notice, please contact **Masa Alkire, AICP, Principal Planner**, in the Planning Division at **(310) 285-1135**, or by email at malkire@beverlyhills.org. Copies of the project plans and associated application materials are on file in the Community Development Department, and can be reviewed by contacting the project planner listed above.

Sincerely,
 Masa Alkire, AICP, Principal Planner

Members of the public may listen to this meeting telephonically at (888) 468-1195 (participant code 105093). Written public comment can be offered electronically prior to and during the meeting by emailing commentPC@beverlyhills.org. Oral public comment can be offered during the meeting by calling (310) 285-1020. Live meeting coverage will be available via BHTV Channel 10 on Spectrum Cable and webcast live at www.beverlyhills.org/watchlive. If you are an individual with a disability and need a reasonable modification or accommodation pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), please contact (310) 285-1135 prior to the meeting for assistance.



www.beverlyhills.org



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

DATE: Thursday, August 26, 2021
TIME: 1:30 PM, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard
LOCATION: Meeting will be held via teleconference; details provided below

The Planning Commission of the City of Beverly Hills, at its REGULAR meeting on **Thursday, August 26, 2021** will hold a public hearing beginning at **1:30 PM**, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard to consider the following:

DRAFT ORDINANCE TO AMEND INCLUSIONARY HOUSING REQUIREMENTS. On December 17, 2019, the City Council adopted an interim urgency ordinance (Ordinance No. 19-O-2797) that, among other things, implemented inclusionary housing requirements for certain types of residential developments, which requires that housing units at various levels of affordability must be provided as part of the development. The ordinance specifically requires the following:

- For residential projects with 5-9 units, one (1) low-income unit must be provided or an in lieu fee may be paid (calculated based on the square footage of the development);
- For rental residential projects with ten (10) or more units, at least 10% of the units must be rented to very low-income, low-income, or moderate-income households, though such units may also be provided on a different site located in the city;
- For condominium residential projects with ten (10) or more units, at least 10% of the units must be rented to very low-income, low-income, or moderate-income households, though such units may also be provided on a different site located in the city; and
- For all single-family subdivisions, at least 10% of the units must be sold to very low-income, low-income, or moderate-income households, though such units may also be provided on a different site located in the city.

The current inclusionary housing requirements are contained in both Ordinance No. 19-O-2797 and Article 48 of Chapter 3 of Title 10 of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code. At this hearing, staff will present a study prepared on the financial feasibility of inclusionary housing requirements for both residential and commercial developments, potential changes to such requirements, and seek the Planning Commission's feedback on this information. Staff plans to bring forth a draft ordinance incorporating the Commission's input at a later hearing.

The draft ordinance has been assessed in accordance with the authority and criteria contained in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA, Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq.), the State CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Sections 15000 et seq.), and the environmental regulations of the City. Upon review, the project appears to be exempt from CEQA regulations, pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the State CEQA Guidelines, which is applicable to projects for which it can be seen with certainty that there is no potential to have a significant effect on the environment. In addition, the draft ordinance appears to qualify for a Class 5 Categorical Exemption (Minor Alterations in Land Use Limitations) in accordance with the requirements of Section 15305 of the State CEQA Guidelines, which is applicable to projects with minor alterations to land use limitations in areas with an average slope of less than 20% and do not result in changes to land use or density. Since the draft ordinance will make changes to inclusionary housing requirements for certain types of development projects and do not make changes to land use or density allowed, these exemptions are applicable. Accordingly, the Planning Commission will consider a recommendation to find the draft ordinance exempt from further environmental review under CEQA pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) and 15305.

How to Participate

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If there are any questions regarding this notice, please contact **Chloe Chen, Associate Planner** in the **Planning Division** at **(310) 285-1194**, or by email at cchen@beverlyhills.org. The case file, including associated documents are on file in the Community Development Department, and can be reviewed by any interested person at 455 North Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills, CA 90210. Please submit a request to review such documents to the assigned planner.

Sincerely,
Chloe Chen, Associate Planner



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A crew of three working to maintain the historic doors on the garage at Greystone Mansion. Photo by Carl Robinette



The new state of the art sound and lighting system are hidden to preserve the historical integrity of the theatre at Greystone Mansion. Photo by Carl Robinette.

(Greystone continued from page 6)

The library had been remodeled by its original matriarch, Lucy Doheny, in the 1940s, according to caretakers of the property. Doheny later stripped the library and moved it to her new home when she left the mansion in the 1950s, leaving little more than the original hardwood flooring behind. Various renovations to the space were done over the years, but all were far from preserving the original 1928 design.

Shortly before the pandemic struck, the city architect's office began working off of a single black-and-white photo and designer's sketches from the 1920s to replicate and restore the original library.

"Some of it is interpretation because we only had one black-and-white photo," Beverly Hills City Architect, Mandana Motahari, told the Courier. "It was a great honor to be able to match something to its original style of architecture. Many of the other rooms have stayed original, so the fact that this room was significantly changed gave us a good canvas to work on. It was very gratifying."

From intricate wood paneling and a hand-carved Italian marble fireplace to an embossed ceiling and ornate lighting fixtures, the library is now very near its original appearance, according to city officials who worked on the restoration.

Friends of Greystone, the property's booster and historical preservation group helped fund and drive the library project. The plan is to use the library as a museum space to house artifacts from the Doheny family provided by Friends of Greystone. Artifacts will include items like oil paintings, a horse saddle, table settings, engraved brushes and other household items.

"Almost all of the artifacts and treasures were original to the house when the Doheny's lived there," Friends of Greystone's

President Susan Rosen, told the Courier. "We, as an organization, have been very lucky to receive these artifacts that tell the history. Besides just when the family lived there, it's also part of California history. The City of Beverly Hills is very fortunate to have this estate."

The mansion's theatre was also restored just before the pandemic hit California, which meant its March 2020 grand opening had to be canceled. That project included the installation of state-of-the-art sound and lighting that is hidden within the walls and ceiling, preserving the historic integrity of the space while bringing it up to modern functionality.

"It's a beautiful space," Greystone's Venue Coordinator Sara Scrimshaw, told the Courier, "and we're looking forward to welcoming the community into that space."

A new date for a grand opening has yet to be set, but once open, the theatre will be able to showcase live performances and films. While the interior of the mansion remains closed to the public until further notice, solo performances have been recorded in the theatre during the pandemic and streamed on Beverly Hills Television under the title "Music in the Mansion."

Other maintenance projects like restoring a historic brick walkway and regular upkeep of the property were made easier during the closure as crews were able to work uninterrupted, Scrimshaw said.

Reservations are currently required to visit the grounds at Greystone Mansion, but they are open and free to the public.

"It's been wonderful," said Scrimshaw. "We've been open since late April for the grounds. We've got camps onsite as well. We're looking forward to in the future being able to open up the inside of the mansion and share the library with the community." ●



Dancers with the Debbie Allen Dance Academy join in the Sing for Hope ceremony

(Sing for Hope continued from page 1)

The Sing for Hope Piano program began in New York City over 10 years ago. The program describes itself as the “country’s largest annual recurring public arts project” with the goal of democratizing music. The public can find its pianos at Beverly Hills City Hall, Beverly Gardens Park, the Wallis

Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, Will Rogers Memorial Park, La Cienega Park, and Roxbury Park.

Following the month-long residency of the pianos in Beverly Hills, they will go to underserved schools throughout the county, including Jordan High School in Watts, Vanalden Early Education Center in Tarzana,

Montebello Gardens Elementary School in Pico Rivera, Dorris Place Elementary School in Elysian Park, View Park Preparatory High School in Hyde Park, and George Washington Carver Middle School in South Park.

Each of the 16 pianos has been hand painted by a diverse group of artists, including established figures like Chaz Guest and younger talents like Yalda Sepahpour. Other

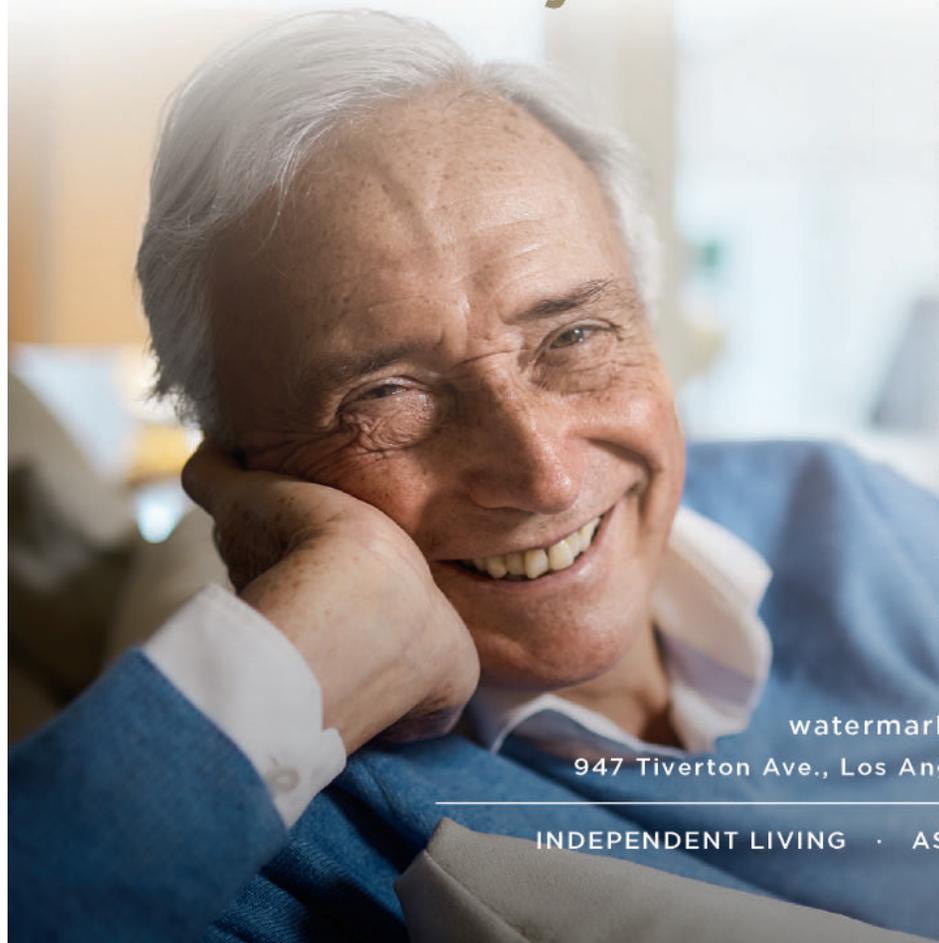
artists include Adam Rodgers, Alexandra Nechita, Benow, Çiğdem Akbay, Gooney, Helena Faitelson, Laishan Mui Ito, Laurie Tsou, Marisabel Bazan, The Miracle Project with GRoW @ The Wallis (a performing arts program for young people across the autism spectrum), Mireille Fournier, Ms. Yellow, Punk Me Tender, and Sheila Darcey. ●



A young boy plays on one of the publicly available Sing for Hope pianos

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(Vaccine Requirements continued from page 1)

While the vaccine rollout was not without its problems, the high enthusiasm, long lines, and occasional chicanery for the medical breakthrough was promising. Even as the county and the nation resolved vaccine supply issues, interest seemed to wane. Lines shrunk, mega vaccination sites closed, and doses went unused.

The latest surge of the Delta variant marks the fourth wave of COVID-19 infections in the United States. Case counts and hospitalizations in L.A. remain far below the winter deluge, which inundated hospitals and killed thousands, but have nonetheless seen worrying gains in the last two months. In that period of time, L.A. County has seen an 18-fold increase in coronavirus cases and a five-fold increase in hospitalizations. Unvaccinated people have driven both trends.

Beverly Hills experienced a particularly intense form of whiplash with this latest wave. The City Council planned to repeal parts of its COVID-19 urgency ordinance at its first in-person meeting in almost a year and a half on July 15. The meeting came the same day Los Angeles County reinstated an indoor mask mandate and the City Council scrapped plans to repeal the ordinance and returned to virtual hearings.

Private businesses have responded to the surge with increased safety measures of their own, requiring proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test. Already, dozens of restaurants and bars across the county have announced these sorts of requirements, including some in Beverly Hills. While the industry has been forced to pivot several times to align with Public Health orders since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, now, the mandates are coming from the businesses.

“For the time being, all we require from our staff is a negative COVID test result if they have a fever or show any other Covid like symptoms,” Giuseppe Mollica, the general manager at Via Alloro, told the Courier. “Should the local officials require a mandatory vaccination for all staff, then we will comply. We are not asking our customers (yet), but again should something change, we’ll comply. Understandably there is some concern among our customers, as well as our staff, and we will address it as necessary. We are taking all possible precautions to protect and prevent any outbreak.”

“We require the workers, but not the customers,” Vartan Kemanjian, the manager of Euro Caffe on Canon Drive, told the Courier. “LA County Health Department, they tell us what to do. They haven’t told us that the customers need to be vaccinated, but our employees, yes, of course.”

Popular eateries such as Croft Alley and Urth Cafe will soon be implementing vaccine mandates of their own.

“This is something that has to be discussed,” the manager at Il Pastaio, Nina Chua, told the Courier. “No further comment.”

The surge has prompted an about-face by cities, states, and federal agencies, all of which had gleefully begun the process of reopening in the spring. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) partially revised its recommendation on face masks on July 27, advising that everyone should wear one inside regardless of

vaccination status in areas with “substantial” or “high” transmission rates. Even before that, L.A. County mandated indoor masking for everyone starting July 18.

On Aug. 4, Los Angeles City Councilmembers Nury Martinez and Mitch O’Farrell introduced a motion to consider requiring proof of vaccination against COVID-19 “to enter indoor spaces, including but not limited to, restaurants, bars, retail establishments, fitness centers, spas, and entertainment centers such as stadiums, concert venues, and movie theaters.” Later the same day, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Chair Hilda Solis issued an executive order requiring the county’s 110,000 employees to provide proof of vaccination by Oct. 1.

Health experts in the city are also putting pressure on the private sector. Dr. Lee Hilborne, Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at UCLA’s David Geffen School of Medicine, and a member of the Beverly Hills Health and Safety Commission, urged the city to take robust action. “It seems it’s time for cities (counties and states) to consider requiring proof of vaccination to enter publicly accessible indoor spaces. At least as a community, we should launch this discussion and potentially follow the lead of other prominent cities that have made this informed public health decision,” he told the Courier.

While Beverly Hills boasts one of the highest rates of vaccination in the county (78 percent of those 16 years and older have received at least one dose, compared to 71 percent county-wide), its population may be at higher risk for hospitalization from the Delta variant compared to other areas. A report by data science company, Cogitativo, lists Beverly Hills among the top 10 cities in LA County at the greatest risk for increased hospitalization.

According to CEO Gary Velasquez, Cogitativo built machine learning models that combined COVID-19 infection and vaccination data with anonymized health records from California health insurers to determine which zip codes had the greatest risk for COVID-19 infections resulting in hospitalization. The model specifically broke down risk into 20 clinical conditions including hypertension, obesity, and diabetes. Having any of these clinical conditions increases someone’s chance of hospitalization if they develop COVID-19, Velasquez said.

For the most part, the results confirmed what health officials already knew—that majority-minority communities like Inglewood and Palmdale face higher risk than majority white areas. But the report also listed Beverly Hills, an affluent, majority-white city with high vaccination rates.

Velasquez attributed this to the relative seniority of Beverly Hills’ residents. According to the most recent census data available, 21 percent of Beverly Hills residents are 65 years or older. This, compared to Los Angeles, in which only 12 percent of residents are over the age of 65.

“Unfortunately, as you get older, part of aging is you have these clinical conditions,” Velasquez told the Courier.

The Courier will continue to update this story as it develops.

Additional reporting by Michael Wittner

Concerts on Canon Return

BY SAMUEL BRASLOW



Michael Libow and his band Rod Lightening and the Thunderbolts of Love .

After postponing the event for a year due to COVID-19, the City of Beverly Hills kicked off its annual Concerts on Canon summer music series with a performance by local cover band Rod Lightening and the Thunderbolts of Love. The evening show saw crowds come out to Beverly Canon Park in full, filling up rows of chairs, spreading out picnic blankets, and dancing to classic rock tunes.

(Luanne Wells continued from page 4)

She became an important figure in the arts community, joining the board of directors in 1998 of the Beverly Hills Cultural Center Foundation, before it was reimagined as The Wallis. Wells was the widow of the former Disney president, Frank G. Wells, who died in 1994.

Wells served as a director and member of the Executive Committee of The Wallis for 23 years. She was an active member of several Wallis committees including the Architect Selection Committee, Construction Committee, and Landscape Committee. As the namesake of the Wells Family Education Courtyard, she steered generous support to The Wallis early and consistently, allowing the organization to plan ambitiously to include not only performing arts, but also arts learning, education and community service in its programming.

“Luanne Wells was among the longest-serving and most-dedicated members of The Wallis Board of Directors,” Rachel Fine, The Wallis’ Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer, said. “As a Beverly Hills High School student, she frequented The Wallis when it was the United States Post Office, which housed her favorite candy store. Her passion for the original historic building is well represented by the beautiful landscaping to which she committed much time, energy and care, as well as the Education Courtyard, which bears her family’s name. With her elegance and grace working in tandem with her

“The turnout is wonderful tonight. I think you’re seeing built-up demand,” Mayor Robert Wunderlich, who came with his wife, Andrea Spatz, and his golden retriever, Luna, told the Courier. “The Concerts on Canon have been a long time institution in the city and Michael Libow and Rod Lightning and the Thunderbolt of Love, they’ve been regulars here, so it’s a great band to kick off the concert series.”

Band frontman and luxury real estate agent Michael Libow was just as enthusiastic to perform as the crowd was to watch.

“We have been so eager to perform for a live audience for two years now,” he told the Courier. “Without an audience, there’s no feedback, there’s no energy.”

According to Libow, the band has been playing together for about 16 years, with Libow joining 13 years ago.

The concert series will take place each Thursday from Aug. 12 to Sept. 9. ●

intelligence, thoughtfulness and spark, she was an invaluable Board member for more than two decades. She’s irreplaceable and will be deeply missed by everyone at The Wallis.”

Wells and her late husband established Environment Now, where she served as Executive Chairman. Other examples of her philanthropy included the creation of the Frank G. Wells Environmental Law Clinic at UCLA and the launch of the Santa Monica Baykeeper and the San Diego Baykeeper, where she served on the Board of Directors. She spent much of her spare time in Malibu breeding horses and other animals, as well as cultivating various species of trees.

“We are heartbroken over the loss of Luanne,” said daughter in law and BHUSD School Board Member, Mary Wells. “She will leave a huge hole in all our lives. She was truly an exquisite woman with a formidable presence. We will miss her terribly as a loving and fun-loving grandmother, mother and friend. Her generosity and delight in bringing family and friends together created a legacy for all of us.”

Wells was also a member of the California Institute of the Arts’ Board of Trustees, the Getty Conservation Council, the Junior League of Los Angeles, Blue Ribbon of the Los Angeles Music Center, and served on the boards of the Bravo Colorado Vail Valley Music Festival, the Hereditary Disease Foundation, the American Diabetes Association, and Shambala, a rescue program for wild animals. ●

DUI Checkpoint Aug. 6

The Beverly Hills Police Department Traffic Bureau will be conducting a sobriety and driver’s license checkpoint on Friday, August 6 at an undisclosed location within city limits. The checkpoint will be operational from approximately 9 p.m. and conclude at approximately 2 a.m. All traffic will pass through the checkpoint. Motorists will be stopped and contacted by uniformed officers, who will be checking for alcohol and/or drug-impaired drivers. Officers will also check to make sure all contacted drivers have a valid driver’s license.

The Beverly Hills Police Department supports the new effort from the Office of Traffic Safety that aims to educate all drivers that “DUI Doesn’t Just Mean Booze.” If you take prescription drugs, particularly those with a driving or operating machinery warning on the label, you might be impaired enough to get a DUI. Marijuana can also be impairing, especially in combination with alcohol or other drugs, and can result in a DUI. The BHPD Traffic Bureau is available to answer questions at 310-285-2196. ●

(Policy and Operation Manual continued from page 5)

The Code, which designates Study Sessions as regular City Council meetings subject to the restrictions of the Brown Act, supersedes the Manual.

City policy analyst Cynthia Owens told the Council that while they can and do approve purchase orders and pass minor motions and resolutions during Study Sessions, the Manual “simply clarifies that while Council may take formal action at our Study Session meetings, it is the intent of Council to hear and take action on major items at the evening formal session.”

Council members asked if something could be done to codify that intent.

“Can we put into code something that would restrict our ability to do something - for example, if the state says that for a Brown Act meeting, if it’s a regular meeting, you do have the authority to pass ordinances. Can we put in our own Code that we would deny ourselves that authority?” Mayor Robert Wunderlich asked Roxanne Diaz, a former Beverly Hills chief assistant city attorney and current partner at City Attorney Laurence Wiener’s law firm who is filling in for him.

According to Diaz, the Council could pass an ordinance specifying the types of actions it is allowed to take during different sessions. Diaz warned the Council against inhibiting its powers too much, since restrictions on Study Session actions may prolong evening meetings.

Council members agreed that the Ad Hoc

Committee consisting of Wunderlich and Councilmember John Mirisch should further review Study Sessions at an unspecified date.

The Council also directed the Ad-Hoc Committee to work with staff and the public to use the current Policy Manual as a “jumping off point” for a more well-organized, well-defined, user-friendly Manual. While Councilmembers’ visions for a redone Manual varied, they all agreed it “needs work,” to quote Vice Mayor Lili Bosse.

The Council began asking for updates in February 2019, when a long presentation by a developer caused residents wishing to comment to leave prematurely in frustration. As staff sought to review the processes for quasi-judicial review, they realized the Manual hadn’t been updated since 2009, so they reached out to every department for updates. With input from council members and the public, proposed changes range from updating council member names and organizational charts to updating processes for quasi-judicial hearings and placing items on the agenda.

The Manual is a mix of city policy points, city history, and detailed descriptions of each department. Council members said they still had numerous issues with the finer points of the document and also felt that it should be split up into a policy document and an employee handbook.

“I don’t think we need to start from scratch, but we do need to separate the process,” said Councilmember Julian Gold. “I think we can use a lot of the content from

(Council Honors Commissioners continued from page 4)

Finally, council members honored outgoing Charitable Solicitations Commissioner Pam Kraushaar, an administrative assistant for the office of BHUSD Superintendent Michael Bregy.

“We are a small but mighty commission... our charge is to help protect the citizens from fraudulent charities,” Kraushaar said. “I just want to thank everyone, and I already miss my fellow Commissioners. It was very enjoyable, and I just love giving back to the city in any way I can.”

Council members also recognized the Beverly Hilton, which worked with the Community Services Department to deliver

nutritious meals to over 200 seniors every single weekday for 14 months during the pandemic as part of its Senior Meals Delivery Program. Beverly Hilton Hotel Manager Michael Robertson accepted a proclamation of appreciation, alongside Food and Beverage Director Alberico Nunziata.

“We want to always be an active member of the community, but I also want to thank you on behalf of these team members, because it gave work opportunities to many of our long-tenured staff, and the ability to have a secure and stable home for their families,” Robertson said. “I want to thank you all for that trust.” ●

both, but I think that we have to set out with objectives: the first objective is to create a handbook and a reference that describes the city and everything about it, and the other is to really call out those things which are our policy as a separate working document which can be referenced in the first document, but which is very articulate, concise, and pointed policy procedure document...I think we need to think of them as different documents with different purposes. I don’t think you can fix this to be that. I think the only way to get there is to tear it apart and put it back together.”

Wunderlich, Bosse, and Friedman more or less agreed but differed on whether this would mean a full repeal of the document,

or simply a heavy-duty revision. In the event that a full repeal takes place, a new Ad Hoc Committee would likely need to be appointed, and the city employees would find themselves without a Manual.

Mirisch was not in favor of a repeal, arguing instead for the addition of a concise corollary detailing city policy. “This I think should be the master document,” he said. “I would not throw the baby out with the bathwater in this case. I think it’s a document that we should look at as an iterative document that there are going to be changes made to it as policy changes, but I think it’s useful to have that kind of reference.” ●

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The City of Los Angeles is considering new rules to protect its ridgelines, starting with parts of Bel Air and the Hollywood Hills Photo by Samuel Braslow

(Ridgeline Ordinance continued from page 1)

“The ridgelines of these mountains provide dramatic and unique natural backdrops to the city and are among the factors that established Los Angeles’ sense of place. In addition to the scenic and aesthetic benefits of ridge lines, they are also important ecological resources in the city, often serving as corridors for wildlife.”

The ordinance, proposed by Los Angeles City Councilmember Paul Koretz, would create a new Ridgeline Protection (RP) District that would apply to areas within 50 feet of the crest of a hill. The idea for the ordinance was first proposed in 2016, with the Los Angeles City Council instructing the Department of City Planning to draft an ordinance in 2019. City Planning released a draft in May. Similar laws exist already in Calabasas, Grass Valley, and unincorporated Los Angeles County.

“To facilitate the protection of these natural ecological, topographic, and aesthetic resources, the City has developed a method to identify ridgelines that may merit additional protection by evaluating their height, slope, topographic features, and potential for wildlife connectivity,” the proposed ordinance reads.

As it is drafted now, the ordinance would roll out in a pilot area defined by the 405 Freeway on the west, Laurel Canyon on the east, the Mulholland corridor on the north and Sunset Boulevard on the south. Beverly Hills would not be impacted. The pilot area would cover about 4,500 parcels.

The proposed ordinance would establish two tiers of ridgeline protection: RP1 and RP2. The former, more restrictive designation is meant to protect the physical integrity of a ridgeline by limiting the location and height of developments built along it. Structures must be set back from the lowest level of nearby ridgeline by 50 feet and must be 50 feet below the lowest point of the ridgeline. Additionally, RP1 prohibits grading within 50 feet of the ridgeline.

According to Whalen, this designation would apply mostly to undeveloped areas. “Given the level of development that has already occurred in many of the hillside areas of the city, it is anticipated that RP1 will be fairly sparingly applied and will be most useful for targeted application for pristine

ridge line segments that are threatened by development,” he said.

The second designation, RP2, is meant to protect the visual integrity of ridgelines, preventing obstruction by new developments by setting height limits. Under this protection level, structures may not exceed 18 feet above the lowest point of the surrounding ridgeline, essentially limiting developments to one story.

Confusingly, though, a map of the pilot area released by the Planning Department seems to categorize all 4,500 parcels as RP1 with no inclusion of RP2. In a July 31 letter from the Doheny Sunset Plaza Neighborhood Association, which represents 2,000 households north of Sunset in the 90069-zip code, the association expressed their strong frustration at the scope of the RP1 designation.

“While there may be a few ‘remaining ridgelines,’ nearly all of these areas are urbanized, the parcels are developed and the areas for the most part could hardly be construed to be on a ridgeline with remaining value as a scenic or ecological resource,” association president Ellen Evans wrote to the Planning Department. The letter expressed support for “preserving natural ridgelines,” but said the sweeping RP1 classification burdened homeowners “with significant and needless market uncertainty and resulting property value damage related to their homes.”

Even the RP2 designation has its detractors. Shawn Bayless, executive director of the Bel Air Association, explained to the Courier that he does not see a reason to limit the height limit on ridgelines that have already been developed. “Folks want to look at ridgelines that haven’t been developed: great, let’s talk about it. But otherwise, it’s just a penalty to existing homeowners,” he said.

He gave as an example Somera Road, one of Bel Air’s many branching tributaries that run along the crest of the hills. The ridge in Somera’s case has already been graded and paved over, Bayless points out. “What’s the virtue of an 18-foot height limit on a street that already has homes on it? All you’re doing is penalizing the folks that haven’t put a second story on.”

Bayless, a former Director of Planning and Legislation for City Council District 5, warned that the height limit could have

(CicLAvia continued from page 5)

Despite various concerns about parking, cost, and traffic controls, council members were enthusiastically on board.

CicLAvia is a nonprofit that draws its name from the Spanish word “ciclovía,” meaning “cycleway.” Since 2010, it has closed down over 226 miles of streets all over LA County to over 1.8 million people and opened them up to bikes and pedestrians. Beverly Hills asked CicLAvia for help hosting its own open streets event, since the focus on vibrant public spaces, sustainable transportation, and healthy living coincide neatly with the city’s Complete Streets Plan.

The organization told Beverly Hills that it cannot host any new events in the near future but encouraged the city to partner with its neighbors to the east. If approved, the three cities would each pay an estimated \$200,000 to \$400,000 for a one-day event and apply jointly for Metro grants of up to \$500,000. Much of the Metro grant would go towards CicLAvia’s \$300,000 fee.

Each city would pay for its own security, sanitation, supervised traffic control, water stations, and hubs, consisting of points along the route offering music, dance, art, games and food. Holzer suggested including the Beverly Hills Farmers’ Market and planning events at Beverly Gardens Park.

Except for Councilmember Julian Gold, who recused himself from the conversation because he lives less than 500 feet from

the proposed roadway, council members enthusiastically touted the program as a great showcase for both bikes and Beverly Hills.

“This is an opportunity for us as a community to show how getting on a bicycle and using other modes of transportation is encouraged,” Councilmember Lester Friedman said, while suggesting sponsorships at the western Beverly Boulevard terminus. Friedman also stressed the importance of safe vehicle crossing points to help get cars across Santa Monica Boulevard at select points.

Councilmember Mirisch was also supportive, but also advocated researching grants for biking events that take place only in Beverly Hills.

Vice Mayor Lili Bosse has taken part in CicLAvia events in the past, and called it a “wonderful, wonderful program” that will boost the local economy. She raised concerns that the event might be more expensive than anticipated and may result in an influx of parked cars in the residential neighborhoods near hubs. She advocated publicizing the city’s public lots and restricting parking in residential neighborhoods.

Mayor Robert Wunderlich, who has also participated in CicLAvia events, said the event “is very much in line with the things we want to do to promote community, and promote mobility.” ●

unintended consequences, forcing homeowners to expand down the hillside. “If you plug a hole in one area, it just puts more pressure on another,” he said.

Residents have also raised concerns about the impact on existing houses that would not be in compliance with the ordinance. For the thousands of structures already built along and on the applicable ridgelines, the proposed ordinance ensures that they “may be maintained, repaired or structurally altered provided the building conformed to the requirements of the zone and any other land use regulations at the time it was built or established.”

Even so, the proposal has many residents spooked, including Alison MacCracken. “If our house burns down, or if an earthquake makes it perish, or if we just want to tear it down to rebuild it, because the majority of the homes in the hills are actually quite old, you wouldn’t be able to rebuild it,” MacCracken told the Courier. “Say goodbye to rebuilding, financing, resale value, reverse mortgages, et cetera.”

Benjamin Resnick, a land use attorney whose firm of Jeffer, Mangels, Butler and Mitchell represents homeowners in the pilot area, elaborated on these concerns in a public hearing held by the Department of City Planning on June 17.

“The truth of the matter is, if you’re applying the city’s nonconforming laws and if there’s another wildfire and buildings are destroyed to more than 50% of the value of the house or replacement of the structure, you don’t get a right to rebuild it under your legal nonconforming status,” Resnick said.

After the hearing, Koretz announced the formation of an advisory committee of hillside design professionals to help revise the draft ordinance.

MacCracken, a realtor, and her husband, a real estate attorney, mobilized their

neighbors to voice their opposition to the proposal, printing letters and taking them door to door throughout the pilot area. She even spent her Fourth of July canvassing. The result: Hillside Neighborhoods United (HNU).

“We are for protecting pristine ridgelines and the wildlife but making us build or rebuild our homes down a hill would require many more caissons, retaining walls, harm more pristine environment, and cause the animals even more harm,” MacCracken says of the group. “There are enough regulations in place to prevent more of the huge mansions we have seen built in the past decade. We do not need more housing regulations.”

Koretz, who introduced the motion calling for the ordinance, pushed back against MacCracken and her group’s characterization of the ordinance, describing it to the Courier as “misinformation.”

“Fact number one, these ordinances are not intended to impact existing buildings. These wildlife and ridgeline protections will apply to new developments,” Koretz said.

Though he did not address what would happen to structures in the case of fire or other disaster, Koretz stressed that the proposed ordinance still has a long way to go before it has a chance to become law. “Number two, these are draft ordinances that the Planning Department has released for public comments. This is the process by which we find and address any specific problems.”

The Planning Department announced in a June 30 newsletter that it will finalize the ordinance in the coming months and expects that the ordinance will make it to the Planning Commission in the winter of 2021. ●

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Birthdays



MICHAEL LIBOW
August 7



CHARLIZE THERON
August 7



DAVID DUCHOVNY
August 7



ANNA KENDRICK
August 9



GILLIAN ANDERSON
August 9



ANTONIO BANDERAS
August 10



VIOLA DAVIS
August 11



JOE SHOOSHANI
August 12



Astrology

BY HOLIDAY MATIS

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 6). You are good at what you do and excellent at describing it, making you a marketing genius who earns top dollar for positioning yourself so well. You'll get deep satisfaction from a key relationship with many rich layers. There's a test in October and prize in November. You'll celebrate love and then be swept up in it. Libra and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 30, 2, 22 and 14.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The reason you want to know about someone is more than sheer curiosity. You wonder about the potential. Do you share commonalities? Is there an opening? Can you make a connection? The right questions will be key.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You have an urge to open all the windows and doors so fresh, life-giving air can circulate. This is the same urge that sends you adventuring into the wide, busy world.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). In much of life, the first step is a point of no return. This is why arenas allowing for experimentation are so popular. They

embody the nature of play, which is to try things without serious consequence or commitment.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). As compassionate as you are, listening to talk that goes on and on meaninglessly feels like an assault. With a healthy appreciation for pleasant, articulate brevity, you'll craft your side of the conversation accordingly.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). To some degree you can choose your teachers and your students, though life will surprise you in this regard. You'll get the equivalent of a weird substitute or rambunctious pupil and make the most of it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The work feels like a grind because it is. But at least it's a grind that matters, as it feeds and fortifies you and others. This gets harder before it gets easier, but heavenly forces will eventually come to your aid.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). That which disturbs you also interests you. Do you dare look into it? A tiny peek will be an interesting exercise in your sensory and emotional responses. One small dose can start your process of immunity.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Humility must be cultivated. Without it, we are prone to mistakes of arrogance.

The things we are so certain of become dangerous. A humble heart purifies your personal atmosphere and all you do there.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Just because you have the right of way doesn't mean you should proceed. It's best to proceed, head on a swivel, ready to yield, speed up and do whatever assists the flow.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). When you're not strong enough to knock down the wall that closes you in, inspect it for weakness; one crack is all you need to start chipping away.

Don't see it? Look closer. There always is one.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). On a spinning planet, even the most stable and concrete relationships are changing all of the time. Don't let that throw you off-balance. You're at your best when you expect the road to wind.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Belonging is a feeling happening in a person, a poetic sense or a spiritual resonance. It's not a fact. Belonging is subjective truth. The only person who can tell you where, if and how you belong is you.



Halley is a 6-lb. Maltese mix who loves to sit on laps and go for walks. She is 2-years old and is looking for a new family to call her own. If you can help Halley, please call Shelter of Hope at 805-379-3538. www.shelterhopepetshop.org



A hologram of survivor Renee Firestone answers questions through pre-recorded answers. Photo by Michael Wittner

(Holocaust Survivor continued from page 1)

“We’re so lucky because now we have Renee forever,” Holocaust Museum CEO Beth Kean told the Courier, noting that Firestone has been a longtime board member and speaker at the museum. “This virtual version of Renee now makes me feel better, knowing that we can continue to learn from her and learn the lessons of the Holocaust.”

Firestone saw her high-tech doppelganger for the first time at the museum’s reopening, where her likeness answered a variety of questions from youth groups, students, and community leaders. According to Kean, studies have shown that holograms help visitors ask the sensitive questions they might be afraid to ask actual survivors.

“When [the Shoah Foundation] were testing out their new holograms, they incubated them here, so we would have students meet a real survivor, hear their story, ask them questions, and then they would walk into a room and see the hologram of the survivor and ask them completely different questions, and we realized that they weren’t afraid to hurt the survivor’s feelings,” she said.

Firestone, who has spoken about her experiences surviving the Holocaust everywhere from Congress to NASA, said it was surreal to see an almost lifelike version of herself recount intimate details from a troubled history.

“I was not prepared for it, and then it’s interesting to watch yourself and hear yourself, and wonder, did you answer the right things,” Firestone - the real, three-dimensional Firestone - told the Courier. “I don’t know if people would understand what happened, even if I explain. It is not understandable.”

But Firestone spent a week in 2015 answering thousands of questions filmed in front of 116 different cameras trying her best to help future generations understand. Algorithm software picks up keywords in questions and matches them to the nearest correct answer. Occasionally the hologram is stumped, and politely replies, “Can you ask me about something else?” Even though the hologram moves on, it logs the question to provide better answers in the future.

Six years after that long week of remembering, the result is a smiling woman, glowing bright white in an otherwise black room. While the woman waits for visitors to formulate a question, she swings her legs and fiddles with her clothing.

On a private tour of the Holocaust Museum, the Courier tapped a red button on a microphone and asked the two-dimensional Firestone where she was born, and her remarkable story began.

“I was born in a town called Uzhorod, in Czechoslovakia. I had a wonderful childhood, as I said before. I had lovely parents and I never needed anything that I couldn’t get, and we were sort of a little bit maybe freer than the Jewish religious children, and we could afford and we could do the things that were fun.”

The middle child of an owner of a prosperous men’s tailoring and textile business, Firestone, née Weinfeld, lived an idyllic childhood until the outbreak of World War II. In 1941, her older brother was sent to a work camp. In 1944, at age 20, Firestone and her mother, father, and younger sister were rounded up in a cattle car crammed with 120 other Jews and deported to Auschwitz. While her father and brother survived, her mother and sister did not. Firestone’s younger sister Klara, after whom her daughter is named, was murdered at the hands of the infamous Dr. Josef Mengele, known for performing sadistic, deadly medical experiments on prisoners.

“I had many times when I thought that that’s the end,” the holographic Firestone answered when asked if she was ever afraid. “In Auschwitz, for example, almost every selection when there were selections, I knew that I could be one any minute. Fear of that was there all the time. We never felt safe enough thinking that yes, I would survive. Never.”

But survive she did, though she isn’t completely sure how. “My survival I think was pure luck,” the hologram says after a long pause. “I don’t remember doing anything to save myself. I often think about it, but I think my survival was only luck.”

After her liberation in 1945, Firestone settled in Prague. She then got married to another survivor named Bernard Firestone

and moved to Allentown, Pennsylvania in 1948, before eventually settling in Los Angeles, where she had an aunt. She always knew she wanted to work in the clothing industry like both of her parents. A sister of a friend promised to get her a job at a blouse factory, but soon after, that friend died, taking with her Firestone’s shot at the factory job. As a young girl who had just arrived in the country, she decided to go it alone, getting some fabric and a sewing machine. Bold as brass, she took her blouses to Saks Fifth Avenue in Beverly Hills, and they loved the blouses so much that they put in a big order. When Firestone told them she couldn’t afford to make the blouses, Saks agreed to advance the funds. The rest is history. Firestone set up shop on Robertson Boulevard, and later collaborated with Rudi Gernreich, another survivor who became a big-name designer.

“My mother was California fashion royalty,” Klara Firestone told the Courier. “She was part of a generation of designers who took Fifth Avenue away from Fifth Avenue.”

Today, some of Firestone’s clothing is exhibited at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art’s permanent collection.

Firestone has lived in Beverly Hills since the late 70s and has spoken at local schools. She’s become something of a hometown hero. When she turned 97 in April, the Beverly Hills Fire and Police Departments honored her by driving a caravan of police and fire trucks in front of her home.

Like many survivors, Firestone was at first reluctant to share her experiences and relive the trauma. But starting in the

1970s, she started working with the Martyrs Memorial, the precursor to today’s Holocaust Museum, and the Simon Wiesenthal Center, the human rights organization that runs the Museum of Tolerance. In the following decades, she testified in front of the Senate Judiciary Committee and the House Foreign Affairs Committee, the U.S. military, NASA, the United Nations, and countless university and school groups. She was also featured in five documentaries, including Spielberg’s 1998 “The Last Days.”

For many years, Firestone served on the board at the Holocaust Museum, the nation’s first museum dedicated to the Holocaust. The 60-year-old museum - whose largest benefactors are the Goldrich family of Beverly Hills, according to Kean - just reopened to the public by appointment only, but it has provided an array of virtual programming throughout the pandemic, including virtual tours given by Holocaust survivors in their 80s and 90s.

“I like to say that the museum may have been physically closed, but we’ve never been more open,” Kean told the Courier. “The survivors know that with everything happening in the world, and while they’re still alive, they need to continue to tell their stories and educate young people.”

“I think that everybody who experiences, who watches some injustice being done to somebody should speak up,” Firestone’s hologram will remind young people for generations to come. “Don’t stand watching it, listening to it, and do nothing. First of all, speak up, and try to protect if you can.” ●



Firestone immigrated to the United States in 1948. Photo courtesy USC Shoah Foundation

SUDOKU
08/06/21 ISSUE

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SUDOKU ANSWERS
07/30/21 ISSUE

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PUZZLE ANSWERS
07/30/21 ISSUE

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BEVERLY HILLS COURIER

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THE NEW YORK TIMES SUNDAY MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE
08/06/21 ISSUE

OFF BRAND

BY MATTHEW STOCK / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Matthew Stock, who turns 25 this month, works for a math-education nonprofit in East St. Louis, Ill. The idea for this puzzle came about in January, when he was on a long road trip and passed a Honda Odyssey. He reinterpreted the name as "Honda odyssey" (small "o"), which aptly described what he was on. That bit of wordplay didn't make it into this puzzle, but similar ones with other brand names did. This is Matthew's sixth Times crossword, and his second Sunday. — W.S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 A is one
 - 8 Ozone-harming compounds, for short
 - 12 Actor Guy
 - 18 "How awesome!"
 - 19 Play with, as a cat might a toy mouse
 - 20 Naysayers
 - 21 Five guys?
 - 23 It might have desks and drawers
 - 24 Shade of purple
 - 25 Those: Sp.
 - 26 Green giant?
 - 28 Ambulance driver, for short
 - 30 Finished first
 - 32 "___-ching!"
 - 33 Just
 - 34 Like basalt and obsidian
 - 37 Something sent on a Listserv
 - 40 Police broadcast, for short
 - 41 "Special Agent ___" (animated Disney show about a bear)
 - 42 Main character in Larry McMurtry's "Lonesome Dove"
 - 43 Apt name for a Christmas caroler?
 - 44 ___ Clarendon, first openly transgender W.N.B.A. player
 - 48 Jolly rancher?
 - 51 Hole
 - 52 Diagnosis characterized by repetitive behavior, in brief
 - 53 Focus of a marathon runner's training
 - 54 Grand opening?
 - 55 Sides (with)
 - 58 ___ school
 - 59 Dessert with some assembly required
 - 61 Grammy recipient Lisa
 - 63 What pro bono lawyers waive
 - 65 General mills?
 - 69 The British 20-pence and 50-pence coins, geometrically
 - 71 Member of a South Asian diaspora
 - 72 Photo finish
 - 75 Every last drop
 - 76 Bank, often
 - 78 Exams offered four times a year, for short
 - 81 Grown-up pup
 - 82 "I promise I won't laugh," often
 - 83 Certain guiding principle
 - 84 Texas instruments?
 - 87 Meadow grass with brushlike spikes
 - 90 Fermented Baltic drink
 - 91 "Ugh, gross"
 - 92 Stag's date?
 - 93 Doc treating sinus infections
 - 94 X, in linear functions
 - 95 Dolphins' div.
 - 97 Like many a company softball game
 - 99 "That stinks!"
 - 100 Subj. devoting extra time to idioms
 - 102 ___ milk
 - 103 Band aid?
 - 107 Truce
 - 109 Litter-box emanation
 - 113 Efflux
 - 114 Old navy?
 - 117 Like many a grillmaster
 - 118 Supermodel Kate
 - 119 Headache helper
 - 120 Took a little look
 - 121 [Hey, over here!]
 - 122 Rough patch
- DOWN**
- 1 Standing on
 - 2 Texter's "Hilarious!"
 - 3 Soy something
 - 4 Ones working block by block?
 - 5 Hoodwink
 - 6 Drift apart
 - 7 Certain Ivy Leaguers
 - 8 Pac-12 school, informally
 - 9 Qualification shorthand
 - 10 "Ple-e-e-ease?"
 - 11 Help when writing a letter
 - 12 Its national drink is the pisco sour
 - 13 State of disorder
 - 14 Some vacation rentals
 - 15 Lube up again
 - 16 Old pal
 - 17 Actress ___ Creed-Miles
 - 19 South American capital
 - 20 Figures
 - 22 Statements of will?
 - 27 "The power of global trade" sloganeer
 - 29 ___ Millions
 - 31 Into crystals and auras, say
 - 34 Its calendar began in A.D. 622
 - 35 Inflated feeling of infallibility
 - 36 Letters on a stamp
 - 38 ___ B or ___ C of the Spice Girls
 - 39 Actor Alan of "Crimes and Misdemeanors"
 - 40 Binghamton Rumble Ponies or Birmingham Barons
 - 41 "My b!"
 - 43 Sign
 - 44 Feudal lord
 - 45 Plots of western films?
 - 46 Brain-freeze cause, maybe
 - 47 Does a summer job?
 - 49 Warrant
 - 50 Magic can be seen here
 - 51 Relating to land, old-style
 - 56 They can help you see or taste
 - 57 Like the odds of finding a needle in a haystack
 - 60 Airline based near Tel Aviv
 - 62 Deserving of a timeout, say
 - 64 Big spread
 - 66 "No need to elaborate"
 - 67 Like the Hmong language
 - 68 ___ Ng, author of "Little Fires Everywhere"
 - 69 12/24, e.g.
 - 70 ___ Perlman, role for Timothée Chalamet in "Call Me by Your Name"
 - 73 Means of divination
 - 74 "What ___?"
 - 77 Indicate availability, in a way
 - 79 "Weekend, here I come!"
 - 80 Side dish at a barbecue
 - 85 Upsilon preceder
 - 86 Producer of the world's most widely read consumer catalog
 - 88 Genre for One Direction
 - 89 "... finished!"
 - 90 Ties
 - 94 Android alternative
 - 95 Exclamation after a sigh
 - 96 Teeny-tiny
 - 97 Sporty wheels
 - 98 Eccentric
 - 99 Explorer Richard who made the first flight over the South Pole
 - 101 Attempt to control the narrative, in a way
 - 103 Lava, e.g.
 - 104 Took to court
 - 105 Omar of "Love & Basketball"
 - 106 Rolls around while exercising?
 - 108 Quick talk
 - 110 What nyctophobia is the fear of
 - 111 Slobbery cartoon character
 - 112 "___ over" (words after letting off steam)
 - 115 Often-contracted word
 - 116 Tech sch. in Troy, N.Y.

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- 66 "No need to elaborate"
- 67 Like the Hmong language
- 68 ___ Ng, author of "Little Fires Everywhere"
- 69 12/24, e.g.
- 70 ___ Perlman, role for Timothée Chalamet in "Call Me by Your Name"
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Public Notices

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CASE NO: 21STCP02231
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

In the Matter of the petition of:

Sherman Edward Jackson
To all interested person(s):
Petitioner:
Sherman Edward Jackson
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 July 12, 2021 for a Decree changing names as follows:
Present Name:

Sherman Edward Jackson
Proposed Name:

Derrick David NoHeart
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: August 23, 2021

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:
Sherman Edward Jackson
Judge of the Superior Court
Michelle Williams Court,
Sherri R. Carter,
Executive Officer/Clerk,
By: Nick Miramontes,
Deputy Clerk

Dated: July 12, 2021

Published: July 16, 23, 30,
August 06, 2021

Beverly Hills Courier

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2021156722

The following is/are doing business as:

1) LICK MAGAZINE 2) LICK MAG 3) LICKMAG.COM 4) LICKMAG.NET 5) LICKMAGAZINE.COM 6) LICKMAGAZINE.NET 7) LICKSHOP.COM 311 N. Robertson Blvd., Beverly Hills, CA 90211; BZI Media Services, Inc. 311 N. Robertson Blvd., Beverly Hills, CA 90211; The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed January 2013: Barbara Zawlocki,

President: Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: July 12, 2021; Published: July 23, 30, August 06, 13, 2021 LACC N/C

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2021156718

The following is/are doing business as:

MGI INVESTMENTS, LLC 1801 Century Park East 25th Fl., Los Angeles, CA 90067; MGI Investments, LLC 1801 Century Park East 25th Fl., Los Angeles, CA 90067; The business is conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed July 2016: Theingi Cossar, CEO: Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: July 12, 2021; Published: July 23, 30, August 06, 13, 2021 LACC N/C

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2021156720

The following is/are doing business as:

1) BENMO 2) BENMO USA 6646 Colgate Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90048; Benmo LLC 6646 Colgate Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90048; The business is conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed August 2019: Roy Benmoshe, CEO: Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: July 12, 2021; Published: July 23, 30, August 06, 13, 2021 LACC N/C

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2021156724

The following is/are doing business as:

DAVID J. BAILEY DBA WASHINGTON PLACE APARTMENTS 439 N. Canon Dr. #300, Beverly Hills, CA 90210; David J. Bailey 439 N. Canon Dr. #300, Beverly Hills, CA 90210; The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed January 2000: David J. Bailey, Owner: Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: July 12, 2021; Published: July 23, 30, August 06, 13, 2021 LACC N/C

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2021 144644 The following is/are doing business as:

1) SNT PERFORMANCE 2) STREET AND TRACK PERFORMANCE 843 Florence Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90044; Sergio Huapaya 3843 Florence Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90044; The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed June 2021: Sergio Huapaya, President: Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: June 29, 2021; Published: July 30, August 06, 13, 20, 2021 LACC N/C

NOTICE TO BIDDERS FOR THE ON-CALL PAVEMENT REPAIRS WITHIN THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA

BIDS – Electronic Bids for the **ON-CALL PAVEMENT REPAIRS** within the City of

Beverly Hills, California, will be received up to the hour of 2:00 p.m., on Thursday, August 5, 2021 at via Planetbids. Bid results will be sent to all bidders through Planetbids and award of the contract will be made during a subsequent meeting of the City Council.

SCOPE OF THE WORK -

The work to be done shall consist of furnishing all the required labor, materials, equipment, parts, implements, supplies and permits necessary for, or appurtenant to, the construction and completion of the project indicated above in accordance with Standard Drawings and the Specifications prepared for this project. In general, the project consists of asphalt and concrete pavement, curb & gutter, and general right-of-way repairs. The project is on-call, project lists will be provided with locations in Beverly Hills and West Hollywood. This project is a one (1) year contract with the option for the City to extend for another two (2) years in one (1) year increments.

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

<https://www.planetbids.com/portal/portal.cfm?CompanyID=39493>

CITY CONTACT – Any questions or requests for information can be directed to the project manager, Manu Paul S. Dhaliwal, P.E., through PlanetBids no later than 12:00 PM, July 29, 2021.

PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTOR REGISTRATION NUMBER

– The Contractor is required to register with State of California Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) and meet requirements to bid on public works contracts. A Public Works Contractor Registration No. shall be submitted with the bid. All subcontractors are also required to register with the DIR.

BIDDER'S SECURITY:

In accordance with Public Contract Code Section 20170 et seq., each Proposal shall be accompanied by cash, a certified or cashier's check payable to the City, or a satisfactory Bid Bond in favor of the City executed by the Bidder as principal and an admitted surety insurer as Surety, in an amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the amount set forth in the Bid.

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

NOTICE INVITING PROPOSALS

Project: Beverly Hills High School South Campus Modernization Temp P.O.C. Power to Swim Gym (B3/B4), Utility Relocation Away from Retaining Walls, Mega Trench Water / Power, Sanitary Sewer & Storm Drain B1 to Moreno

Owner: Beverly Hills Unified School District

Lease / Lease Back Contractor: ProWest Constructors, CSLB #: 706619

PROPOSAL RELEASE #1

PROPOSAL DATE: SEPTEMBER 7, 2021

PROPOSAL TIME: 2:00 PM

PROPOSAL PACKAGES

02	SWPPP / Erosion Control Implementation
03	SWPPP / Erosion Control Monitoring
04	Sound Blanket Fencing
05	Survey & Layout
06	Temp Power & Relocation Site Electrical
07	Mega Trench Site Electrical
08	Site Utilities

Submit sealed proposals to: ProWest Constructors, 22710 Palomar Street, Wilton, CA 92595. For Proposals in the amount of \$150,000 and over, a Proposal Bond in the amount of 10% of the Lump Sum Base Price shall accompany the Proposal. For Lump Sum Base Price amounts of less than \$150,000, Proposal Bond shall not be required.

Proposal Documents available August 10, 2021 at IB Reprographics (951) 682-1850, www.ibrepro.com and www.BidMail.com.

One non-mandatory Job Walk has been scheduled for Wednesday, August 18, 2021 at 8:00 AM. ATTENDANCE IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED. Participants shall meet at the ProWest jobsite trailer at Beverly Hills High School, 241 S. Moreno Drive, Beverly Hills, CA 90212.

This project extends Temporary Power from Buildings B3 and B4 to the Swim Gym, Football Field, and Track area to allow existing power to be relocated away from the new retaining wall #2. The Permanent Power and Water Mega Trench will be constructed along Heath Avenue. The permanent power and water will feed into the future Building C, the Swim Gym and Athletic Fields. The scope of work also includes extending a new sanitary sewer and storm drain line from Building B1 to Moreno Drive, SWPPP implementation, excavation and back fill for utilities, and saw cut removal and patch back of existing A/C paving.

Prequalification of MEP Subcontractors. Each prospective Electrical, Mechanical, or Plumbing ("MEP") subcontractor holding C-4, C-7, C-10, C-16, C-20, C-34, C-36, C-38, C-42, C-43 and/or C-46 specialty licenses (as defined in Public Contract Code section 20111.6) planning to participate in bidding on certain public projects to be undertaken by the District, must be prequalified prior to submitting bids for such public projects. Pursuant to Public Contract Code Section 20111.6 bidders on all public projects using funds received pursuant to the Leroy F. Greene School Facilities ACT of 1998 or any funds received from any future state school bond that involve a projected public project expenditure of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) or more must be pre-qualified.

The purpose of the proposal is to enable ProWest Constructors to select the most qualified firm that provides the best value to ProWest Constructors and the District and with whom ProWest Constructors will subcontract. Based on the received proposals, ProWest Constructors will create a list of the highest-ranking respondents, based on a best value selection criteria and will identify the selected firm(s) to enter negotiations for specific scopes of work to be subcontracted. Formal award of any subcontracts will not occur unless and until the District has reviewed and approved the scope and price of the subcontracted work.

ProWest Constructors reserves the right to request additional information at any time, which in its sole opinion, is necessary to assure that a proposer's competence, business organization, and financial resources are adequate to perform the requested work. ProWest Constructors also reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any informality or nonsubstantive irregularity in any proposal.

Contact Lease / Lease Back Contractor, ProWest Constructors – (951) 678-1038 for further information.

Published August 6, 13, 2021

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

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