# BEVERLY HILLS COURIER

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BEVERLYHILLSCOURIER.COM

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THE WEATHER, BEVERLY HILLS CA

<del> </del>	Friday	61°   41°
<del>\</del>	Saturday	63°   43°
<u>~</u>	Sunday	62°   44°
<u>~</u>	Monday	62°   43°
<del>\</del>	Tuesday	60°   43°
<del>\</del>	Wednesday	60°   45°
$\Box$	Thursday	61°   45°

# BHPD Arrest Trespassing Suspect



Photo by Bianca Heyward

Police have arrested a suspect in connection with recent incidents on Laurel Way.

BY BIANCA HEYWARD

The Beverly Hills Police Department (BHPD) has arrested a suspect wanted in connection to a recent string of trespassing incidents on the 1000 block of Laurel Way and Crescent Drive. According to the BHPD, a suspect identified as Christopher Turner was taken into custody on Jan. 18 after detectives located him outside a home on Laurel Way.

Turner, 35, is being held at the Beverly Hills city jail facing a charge of felony burglary. Officers also detained "a female companion" as the department continues to investigate. Located a few blocks north of the Beverly Hills Hotel, Laurel Way is a quiet residential enclosure off North Beverly Drive. On Jan. 15, BHPD officers were dispatched just

See TRESPASSING SUSPECT, page 13

# City Won't Extend Height Limits for Walls, Fences and Hedges

BY CLARA HARTER

The Beverly Hills Planning Commission shot down a potential extension of allowable wall, fence and hedge heights for private residences after determining there were more public safety risks than benefits to such a change.

The City Council already recently increased allowable heights through an October 2022 ordinance to enhance the security of residential properties. The Council later asked the Planning Commission to study and consider a further height expansion.

The ordinance passed in October only applies to the central area of the city, where crime levels and security risks were deemed to be highest. It generally increases the maximum allowable heights in rear yards and alley-adjacent side yards from seven or eight feet to 10 feet for walls and fences and 16 feet for hedges.

The Planning Commission held a study session at its Jan. 12 meeting to discuss potential additional height changes for walls, fences and hedges in the central, hillside and See HEIGHT LIMITS, page 13

# All Ages Invited to Mayor's Youth Mental Wellness Event

BY ANA FIGUEROA

The next installment of Mayor Lili Bosse's Mental Wellness Series is billed as a "youth" event. But actually, it is designed for every age and the age we live in now.

Hosted in conjunction with the city's Teen Advisory Committee, the Jan. 29 Mayor's Youth Mental Wellness Event features a keynote from the fashion brand Madhappy; an array of local mental health resources plus hands-on workshops to inspire creativity.

Taking place on the Crescent side of City Hall from 12:30 - 3 p.m. in the afternoon, it promises to be a street fair of positivity, acceptance and inclusion with one important theme: No one should feel alone.

Bosse spoke with the Courier about the genesis of the event as well as its important



The co-founders of the clothing/lifestyle brand Madhappy will present the keynote at the Mayor's Youth Mental Wellness Event Jan. 29.

mission.

"I really wanted to work with the Teen Advisory Committee (TAC) and have them share what they wanted this to look like. They have done the hard work on this. It is See MENTAL WELLNESS, page 13 Deadline Nears for Community Assistance Grant Funding

BY CLARA HARTER

Community Assistance Grant Funding allows Beverly Hills to extend its social safety net to vulnerable individuals whose needs aren't met by the city's existing services and the Jan. 24 deadline to apply for this year's fund is approaching.

During the last funding cycle 27 different local and regional non-profit organizations were given grants and the city anticipates receiving even more applicants this year.

"The Community Assistance Grant Funding is our city's way of giving back to our community, especially those in the most

See GRANT FUNDING, page 11



# Courier Calendar

**NOW - JAN. 22** L.A. ZOO LIGHTS: ANIMALS AGLOW WED.-SUN. 6-10 P.M.

The Los Angeles Zoo presents a reimagined winter tradition for the 2023 season. The Zoo hosts an immersive landscape filled with lantern sculptures of animals among blooming flowers, towering trees, and more. Value night tickets are available for select dates (full calendar available online) with adults priced at \$34 and children (2-12) priced at \$27. Premium night tickets (specific dates also online) cost \$39 for adults and \$32 for children. Members save up to 27% on nightly tickets. lazoo.org

**NOW - JAN. 22** VIBRATO GRILL JAZZ: TASHA TAYLOR, TÉKA, "EVERY NOTE COUNTS" 7 P.M., 9:30 P.M.

Vibrato Grill Jazz will host three shows from Jan. 20-22. On Jan. 20, Tasha Taylor plays R&B and soul for two shows at 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Téka plays two shows on Jan. 21 at 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Cover for both shows is \$25. On Jan. 22, the show "Every Note Counts" - The Music of Nan Schwartz, highlighting sophisticated orchestra jazz, is scheduled for 7 p.m. Cover is \$50 or \$25 at the bar. Reservations are available online. vibratogrilljazz.com

**NOW - FEB. 19** THE HAMMER MUSEUM: "JOAN DIDION: WHAT SHE MEANS" TUES.-SUN. 11 A.M.-6 P.M.

The Hammer Museum presents "Joan Didion: What She Means." The show is an exhibition as portrait, a narration of the life of one artist by another. It features about 50 artists, including Betye Saar, Vija Celmins, Felix Gonzalez-Torres, Maren Hassinger, Silke Otto-Knapp, John Koch, Ed Ruscha, Pat Steir, among others. More than 200 works are included, featuring the mediums of painting, ephemera, photography, sculpture, video, and footage from a number of films for which Didion authored screenplays. Opening less than a year after her death at age 87, and planned since 2019, the exhibition follows a meandering chronology, tracking the evolution of her voice throughout her career as a writer and pioneer of "New Journalism." The exhibition closely follows her life according to the places she called home and is laid out in chronological chapters of her life. Admission to the Hammer is free. hammer.ucla.edu

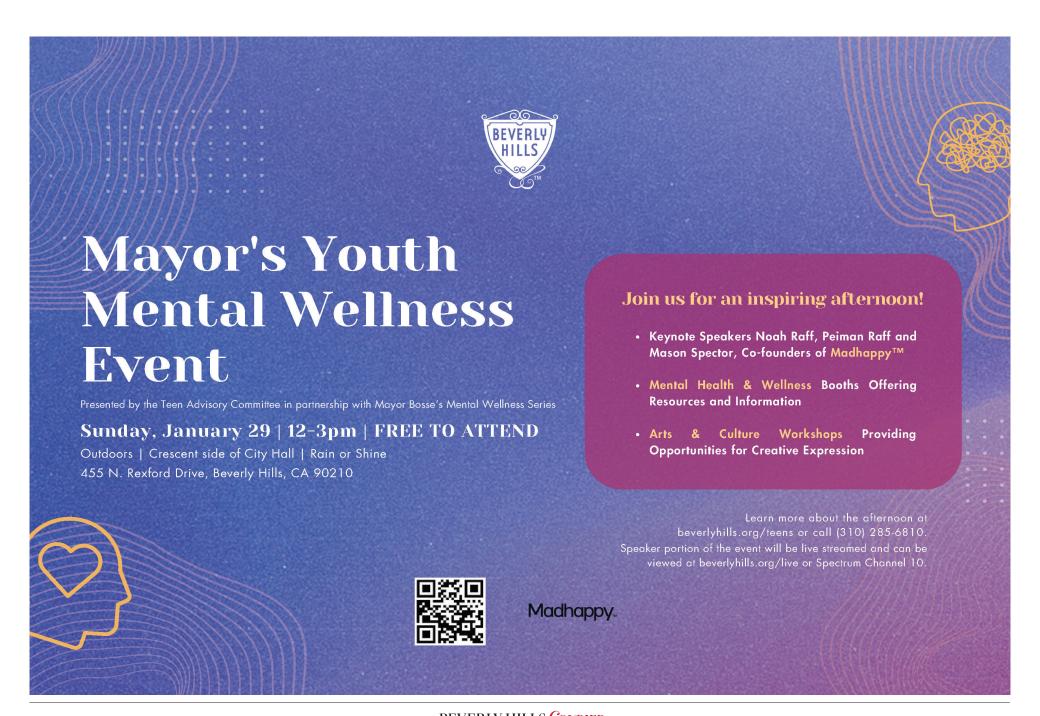
IAN, 21 **RE|STRUCTURED NEWS: "LOS ANGELES IN 2030: A CONVERSATION** ON THE FUTURE OF REAL ESTATE" 2-4 P.M.

RE|STRUCTURED News presents "Los Angeles in 2030: A Conversation on the Future of Real Estate," a panel event hosted at UCLA's Schoenberg Hall. RE|STRUCTURED News is a biweekly real estate newsletter that informs readers on current real estate news covering different sectors - all in less than five minutes. Moderator Richard K. Green, the director of the USC Lusk Center for Real Estate. will facilitate a conversation amongst real estate industry professionals to discuss topics such as affordable housing, homelessness, the state of the city, and how technology is providing solutions for industry-wide issues. Panelists include Bret Nielsen, COO of Anderson Real Estate, Chris Fraley, CIO of RealtyMogul, Saira Rahman, VP of New Investor Initiatives at Fundrise, and Neyshia Go, Senior Global Real Estate Advisor at Sotheby's International Realty. General admision tickets are \$35 and student tickets (with valid student ID) are \$25. Doors open at 1:30 p.m.

IAN. 21 THE FOUNTAIN THEATRE AND LOS ANGELES LGBT CENTER: "ROE"

The Fountain Theatre and the Los Angeles LGBT Center partner to present a screening of the Fountain's "hyperstaged" reading of "Roe" by Lisa Loomer at the LGBT Center's Renberg Theatre. This version of "Roe" was filmed and livestreamed during the production's final performance at the Fountain, telling the story of real-life women Norma McCorvey, known as "Jane Roe," and Sarah Weddington, the lawyer who argued the case. The show depicts the landmark Supreme Court case that gave women the right to safe, legal abortion. Tickets are \$20. Parking is free. The Los Angeles LGBT Center Renberg Theatre is located at 1125 N McCadden Place, Los Angeles. fountaintheatre.com

ucla.evenue.net





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# BHUSD Board Holds First Meeting of 2023



The BHUSD Board held its first meeting of the year on Jan. 17.

BY BIANCA HEYWARD

The Beverly Hills Unified School District (BHUSD) Board of Education convened for its first meeting of 2023 on Jan. 17. The board's diverse agenda included updates from Superintendent Dr. Michael Bregy regarding new kosher meal options available for students in the district, an increasing demand for electric vehicle chargers on campus, and the nationwide search for a new Beverly Hills High School (BHHS) principal.

After former BHHS principal Mark Mead was promoted to director of student safety last summer, Bregy appointed Drew Stewart and Kim Decatrel as interim co-principals for the 2022-2023 school year, giving the administration time to find a replacement. However, as the search for a new principal continues, Stewart and Decatrel will finish the school year out. "It is one of the most important decisions that I will make," Bregy said regarding who he See BHUSD BOARD, page 15

# City National Bank to Pay \$31 Million to Settle Lending Discrimination Case

The Justice Department announced an agreement on Jan. 12 to resolve allegations that City National Bank (City National) engaged in a pattern or practice of lending discrimination by "redlining" in Los Angeles County. City National is the largest bank headquartered in Los Angeles and among the 50 largest banks in the United States. This resolution will include over \$31 million in relief to impacted individuals and communities. The agreement, which is part of the Department's nationwide Combating Redlining Initiative that Attorney General Merrick B. Garland launched in October 2021, represents the largest redlining settlement in its history.

"Fifteen months after I vowed that the Justice Department would be aggressively stepping up our efforts to combat discriminatory practices in the housing market, we have today secured the largest redlining settlement in Department history," said Garland in a statement. "So



The complaint filed by the DOJ against City National Bank

far, the Combating Redlining Initiative has secured over \$75 million dollars in relief for communities that have suffered from lending discrimination. The Justice Department will continue to build on our efforts to vigorously enforce federal

See CITY NATIONAL BANK, page 15



# Stephanie Harris Named Interim Community Services Director



Stephanie Harris

City Manager Nancy Hunt-Coffey has announced that Stephanie Harris has been named Interim Community Services Director for the City of Beverly Hills, effective immediately. The department's current Director, Jenny Rogers, recently announced she would be taking an extended personal leave from her duties.

"I am pleased that Stephanie has agreed to assist during this busy time for the department," said Hunt-Coffey. "With large community events on the horizon in the months ahead, Stephanie will work closely with Assistant Director Patty Acuna and the department's leadership team to ensure the continued success of our award-winning programs."

Prior to joining the City Manager's Office last year as Community Outreach Manager, Harris worked in various roles in the Community Services Department since joining the city in 2014.

# British Actor Julian Sands Missing in San Gabriel Mountains

Search-and-rescue teams are searching for British actor Julian Sands, one of two hikers who went missing in the San Gabriel Mountains last weekend. The San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department has been searching for Sands in the Mt. Baldy area since he was reported missing on Jan. 13. The 65-year-old Sands, a resident of North Hollywood, gained international notoriety in the 1985 film "A Room With a View." He has also appeared in "Naked Lunch," "Warlock," "24" and "Smallville." Sands, the father of three, was born in the United Kingdom. The search for Sands has at times utilized helicopters, drones and ground crews. However, Mara Rodriguez, Public Information Officer for the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, told the Courier on Jan. 19 that the terrain is presently "too treacherous and icy" to send in ground crews.

According to a report by the BBC, Sands has spoken of his love of hiking and



Photo by arp/depositphotos.com

Julian Sands

mountain climbing. "When asked in 2020 what made him happy, he replied: 'Close to a mountain summit on a glorious cold morning,' said the report.

This is a developing story. •



Please join us at the **next** Business with Bosse event! This initiative was created by Beverly Hills Mayor Lili Bosse to put a spotlight on local businesses and **just how special they are!** 

The community is invited to meet at each showcased business and enjoy a sampling of what makes our Beverly Hills businesses so special.

For more information and to view upcoming events, visit **beverlyhills.org/businesswithbosse** 

Questions? Email us at businesswithbosse@beverlyhills.org



### Thursday, January 26, 2023

Join us for a special tour from 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.



### Mr. Brainwash Art Museum

465 N Beverly Dr. Beverly Hills, CA 90210

Two-hour free parking at the garage located at: 438 N Beverly Dr.

It's time to
be together
again &
have fun
as a
community
while
supporting
our local
businesses.

# Community

## Luxury Hotels Provide a Refuge for Residents in Power Outage



Photos courtesy of Sally Sakhai

Sally Sakhai with Avah, 10, Ella, 6, and Aaron, 2

BY MICHELE RAPHAEL

Trousdale Estates residents have been beleaguered by ongoing power outages for the last year and a half, a hot-button issue that's been discussed in heated city council meetings with Mayor Lili Bosse, councilmembers, and representatives from Southern California Edison. On the morning of Jan. 12, yet another power outage in the neighborhood reached a peak problem, with rain and cold weather making the situation

untenable for many residents. By 4:24 p.m., Bosse, who had expressed her concern in the community's WhatsApp group, offered a compelling solution: discounted, government rates at the city's Waldorf Astoria Beverly Hills, for \$150 a night, and The Beverly Hilton, for \$125 a night.

The Courier also reached out to Beny Alagem, the owner of Waldorf Astoria Beverly Hills and The Beverly Hilton.

"When I received a call from Mayor Lili Bosse and the City Manager Nancy Hunt-Coffey about the need, it was a great honor to be able to serve our residents. Lili always has top thinking of the residents. It's business and government working together for the benefit of the residents," said Alagem.

"Before it got dark, we were going to make sure that anyone that needed a hotel had a hotel," Bosse told the Courier.

It was a luxurious and needed fix for Sally Sakhai and her family of five, including their 2-year-old son.

"It's been difficult to get work done, and the kids become restless and scared in the dark," Sakhai, who owns furniture design and manufacturing company Pangea Home with her husband, Omid, told the Courier. During previous outages, she bought tea lights to help to illuminate the home and tried to work from a hotspot, which became useless without electricity to keep devices charged. "This time it would have been impossible to stay with the baby, when it's freezing at night," she said.

Texting back and forth with the mayor was comforting, Sakhai added, referring to the messages on the 163-member WhatsApp group. "I cannot say enough about Lili, and as I've told her, my nickname for her is 'Above and Beyond,' because that's who she is. She cares, she's honest and no-nonsense. We needed somewhere to stay, and she secured these rates for us."

Sakhai said the booking process was much easier than she's used to, explaining that when she called the hotel, they simply took her name and set up a room for her family, including a basket for her children with coloring books, crayons, and plush toys. "It was next-level customer service," she said.

Newlyweds Kayla and Brian Gabbay also took refuge at the Waldorf Astoria on the evening of the 12th, after learning about Bosse's offer to residents on the WhatsApp channel. "My husband and I feel so fortunate to be part of a community that is



Ella Sakhai asleep at the Waldorf Astoria Beverly Hills

supported by Mayor Bosse, who pretty much works around the clock to alleviate residents' issues," Kayla, who works in real estate and marketing, told the Courier. "It's a reminder to be mindful of electing councilmembers who are dedicated to our needs."

As for the Sakhai family, the hotel stay provided them the opportunity to recharge, as their older children slept soundly and went to school the next day, and they all were well rested. "It felt like a staycation," she said, adding that she thinks it would be a great idea for the city to create a monthly program for local hotels to have discounted rates for city residents to experience their hospitality.

"Beyond that, I wish there could be an exception for Lili to have a lifetime appointment," Sakhai joked. "In all seriousness, this is also a shout out to Edison about the outages. Clearly, something is wrong underground and it needs to be fixed."

In response to inquiries from the Courier, Dave Song, Public Information Officer for Southern California Edison, said, "We are keenly aware of the hardship the residents of Beverly Hills face during an outage, emphasizing the utility service's efforts to give concrete reasons for outages. As we stated late last year, the company is focused on the timely completion of infrastructure improvement projects in the city to safely deliver reliable electric service."

# Annual Dance Concert Set for February



The Beverly Hills High School Dance Company will perform at its annual dance concert on Feb. 1, 2 and 3 at the Saban Theatre. BHHS Dance Company seniors (L to R): Ariella Landau, Jenifer Cohen, Ori Cohen Raab and Abigail Wolf



For more information, visit:

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# **Arts & Entertainment**

### 'When You Finish Saving the World' – Is There Room for Me?



Photo courtesy of Beth Garrabrant and A24

Finn Wolfhard and Julianne Moore

BY NEELY SWANSON

Jesse Eisenberg, in his feature film writing and directing debut, has given us a remarkably insightful film about longing, miscommunication, emotional connection and disconnection, and the need for understanding.

In "When You Finish Saving the World" we meet the Katz family. The focus is on Evelyn, altruistic leader of a women's shelter who has put all of her heart and energy into providing a safe place for battered women who need to start afresh. Her voice, soft, even comforting, says so much about how she would like to be perceived by the greater community. She has always been passionate about social justice and is visibly disappointed that her son Ziggy is an entitled, shallow, uninformed teen lacking meaningful values. Ziggy's life is social media and for the last several years he has been writing modern folk music with, I must admit, uninteresting and unimaginative lyrics that are livestreamed across the ether to the third world where he has a big following, especially in China. Each new song is presented on Zoom where a thumbs up means a monetary gain, and many thumbs up means even more money and better positioning on his hosting platform.

Ziggy, the personification of slacker youth, is a disappointment to his mother. She had such hopes for him when he was a tot and accompanied her to all her protest marches. Today, he knows little or nothing about the world at large, political issues, or even his own governmental processes. Evelyn, for her part, dismisses all of Ziggy's interests as trivial. Truth be told, it's hard to take him seriously. When asked by his mother what his livestream long-term goals are, he replies, "To get rich." There is no connection between mother and son. Not that Ziggy's pursuits reflect any depth of personality but Evelyn doesn't spend a lot of time listening to him. Nor he to her.

Grounding the story, if not the characters, is Roger, the paterfamilias. Deliberately not explored, Roger is wallpaper in the background who is the unacknowledged glue that keeps the wheels moving. He cooks, he

listens, he works, and he is ignored to the point that you realize Evelyn and Ziggy are two sides of the same narcissism.

There's a lot of heavy lifting in relationships and, in their own ways, neither Evelyn nor Ziggy is prepared to do anything other than paper over the differences. Ziggy has fallen for the beautiful smart girl at school, Lila. She's a social activist who wears her politics on her sleeve. Veering to the left, she sees the ills of the world in black and white. Ziggy, entranced, understands nothing of her worldview because the only world he sees are the foreign faces on his music platform. Social injustice? Invasion? Historical exploitation? Modern day slavery? These ignite her passion. He'd love to enter her world if he can find a shortcut to knowledge. Alas, there is no shortcut as his mother points out. His ignorance, previously worn proudly on his sleeve, is now his undoing.

Evelyn, dismayed by Ziggy's superficiality, chooses to remedy this by attempting a do-over with another teen. Angie, recently brought to the shelter with her teenage son Kyle after a domestic abuse incident, is

grateful for the space. Disorganized, unsure of her place in the world, she has been graced with a child of depth and thoughtfulness. It was Kyle who enabled his mother to leave her situation. Evelyn is immediately taken with Kyle, the better son, wasted on a mother without ambition. But, like Ziggy, Kyle's ambitions are limited, both by his upbringing and his vision. When he leaves school, he'd like to go back to working for his father as a mechanic at his auto repair shop. Evelyn sees a different future for Kyle and proceeds to "adopt" him, filling his head with college aspirations. Maybe Kyle can be her do-over. But highlighting Evelyn's obtuse worldview is her inability to value personal success, no matter how limited or alien to her values, whether it's Kyle or Ziggy.

Sadly, neither Evelyn nor Ziggy see a detente in their relationship. They cross paths but there is an anti-magnetic force that conspires to pull them apart. And always in the background is Roger, ready to listen or comfort or just be noticed.

Eisenberg strides the line of superficiality and depth with ease. Almost a slice of life,

much like the French do so well, very little seems to happen until, almost imperceptibly, Ziggy and Evelyn are forced to glance internally and understand that something is lacking within them. Worldviews aren't changed and yet a window opens.

Adding to Eisenberg's deceptively simple scenario are his outstanding actors. The story is underpinned by the supporting actors who put the conflicts in motion. Eleonore Hendricks plays Kyle's mother. Off balance, she can still see that Evelyn is adding pie in the sky to her son's practical dreams. Her aspirations for Kyle may be colored by her inability to see the intelligence that Evelyn sees or at least imagines, but she does understand that there is a lifetime of satisfaction in repairing a car compared to feeling inadequate academically. Billy Bryk, Kyle, reveals the maturity within this working-class kid who has not had the encouragement to aspire higher than car repairman. But Bryk makes us see, even if Evelyn can't, that there is great satisfaction in a job well done even if it's not a job valued by the Evelyns of the world.

Outstanding character actor Jay O. Sanders as Roger, father to Ziggy and husband to Evelyn, has the exceptionally difficult role of making his presence known. That he plays his disappointment under the

radar is exactly who Roger is and allows us into his life, as barely illustrated as it is. No doubt intended to be a background presence, he elevates it to a critical level in understanding who his wife and son are.

Finn Wolfhard is Ziggy, all dull affect, shallowness, and in the end perplexed at who he is or who he should be. Ziggy is actually the least interesting character in this story, and that is by design. Sometimes it's more difficult to portray diffidence and apathy than excitement and passion. He has no greater goal than thumbs up on an app.

Finally, there is the always excellent Julianne Moore as Evelyn whose very passion is underscored by some of the same apathy seen in her son. She is magnetic and makes us admire her as she tries to help others and cringe when she misappropriates another woman's child to find the satisfaction as a guiding force that she lacks with her own son.

The soundtrack, composed of Wolfhard's own music for Ziggy and the classical music that brings pleasure to Evelyn, underscores the vast chasm between the characters.

This small, independent film deserves attention and an audience. I was drawn in.

Opening Jan. 20 at the AMC Century City and the AMC Grove.  $\bullet$ 



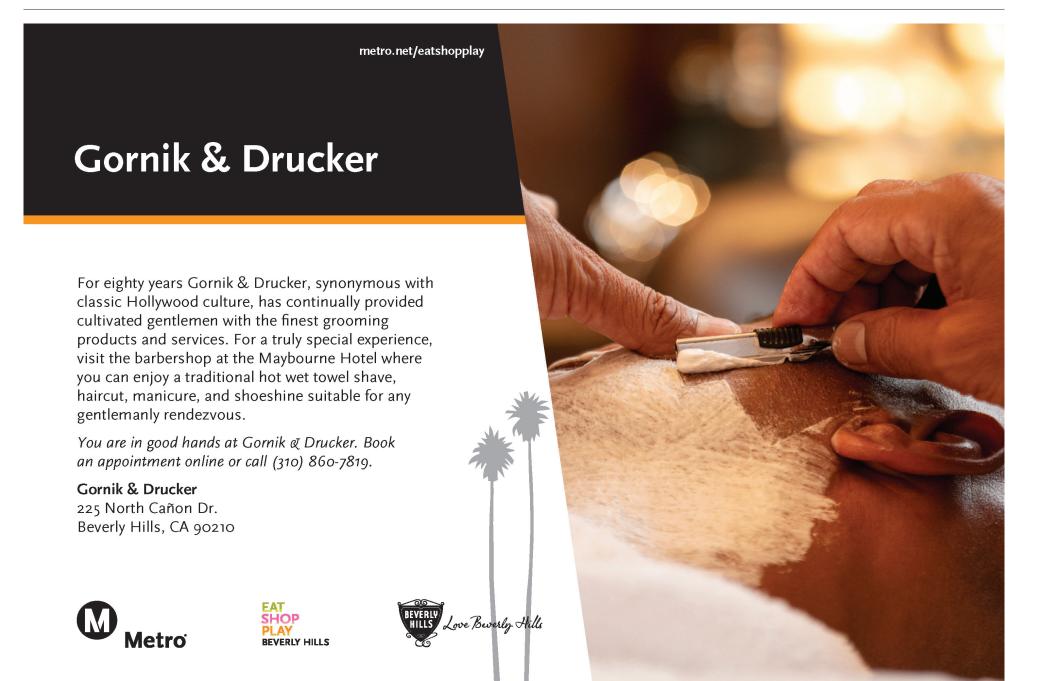
Photo courtesy of Karen Kuehn and A24

Jay. O. Sanders, Julianne Moore and Finn Wolfhard



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

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





### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**DATE:** Thursday, February 9, 2023

**TIME:** 1:30 PM, or as soon thereafter

as the matter may be heard

**LOCATION:** Meeting will be held in person at:

Commission Meeting Room 280A Beverly Hills City Hall 455 North Rexford Drive Beverly Hills, CA 90210



Members of the public may also participate via teleconference;

details provided below

**PROJECT** 421 North Rodeo Drive, Suite S-1 **ADDRESS:** (nearest cross street: Brighton Way)

The Planning Commission of the City of Beverly Hills, at its REGULAR meeting on Thursday, February 9, 2023, will hold a public hearing beginning at 1:30 PM, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard to consider the following:

Conditional Use Permit. A request for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to allow for the establishment of a cosmetic spa located at <u>421 North Rodeo Drive</u>. Pursuant to Beverly Hills Municipal Code (BHMC) §10-3-1620.2, a CUP shall be obtained prior to the establishment of such facility.

This project 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 qualify for a Class 1 Categorical Exemption (Existing Facilities) in accordance with the requirements of Section 15301 of the state CEQA Guidelines. This exemption is applicable to the minor alteration of existing public or private structures involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. Accordingly, the Planning Commission will consider a recommendation to find the project exempt from the environmental review requirements of CEQA.

#### How to Participate

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

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

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

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

Any written comments received by end of the day on Tuesday, January 31, 2023 will be attached to the agenda report regarding this item. Any comments received after Tuesday, January 31, 2023, but prior the public hearing, will be distributed to the Commission under separate cover.

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

If there are any questions regarding this notice, please contact **Kaitlin McCafferty**, **Associate Planner**, in the Planning Division at (310) 285-1164, or by email at **kmccafferty@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,

Kaitlin McCafferty, Associate Planner



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



### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**DATE:** Thursday, February 9, 2023

**TIME:** 1:30 PM, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard

**LOCATION:** Meeting will be held in person at:

Commission Meeting Room 280A Beverly Hills City Hall 455 North Rexford Drive Beverly Hills, CA 90210

Members of the public may also participate via teleconference;

details provided below

The Planning Commission of the City of Beverly Hills, at a REGULAR meeting on February 9, 2023, will hold a public hearing beginning at 1:30 PM, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard to consider:

A DRAFT ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF REVERLY HILLS ESTABLISHING.

A DRAFT ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS ESTABLISHING PROHIBITIONS ON FRACTIONAL OWNERSHIP OF RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL PROPERTY, AND MAKING A DETERMINATION OF EXEMPTION UNDER THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)

Interim Ordinance No. 21-O-2841 was originally adopted on July 15, 2021, and established a moratorium on fractional ownership of residential and commercial property, which is the shared ownership of a property, entitlement to ownership rights of a property, entitlement to use of a property, or possession of a property. The effective period for the interim ordinance was subsequently extended twice by the City Council, and the interim ordinance will expire on July 15, 2023. Staff will bring forth a draft ordinance for review by the Planning Commission that is intended to replace the existing interim ordinance. The draft ordinance will include most of the same regulations as the interim ordinance, with potential minor changes to the language. Staff will recommend that the Planning Commission review the draft ordinance, and adopt a draft resolution recommending approval of the draft ordinance to the City Council.

This project has been assessed in accordance with the authority and criteria contained in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the State CEQA Guidelines, and the environmental regulations of the City. Since the project does not authorize construction, and actually imposes greater restrictions on certain properties to protect the public health, safety and general welfare, there is no possibility that it may have a significant effect on the environment. In addition, the project reflects minor changes in land use limitations, and do not result in changes to land use or density. Accordingly, the Planning Commission will consider a recommendation to find the project categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to Sections 15061(b)(3) and 15305 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations.

#### How to Participate

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

- <u>In Person</u>: Submit a speaker card to the Recording Secretary at the meeting.
- Oral Comment: Call (310) 288-2288, select Option 1 when prompted. You will be
- placed on a brief hold, and called upon to make a comment at the appropriate time.

  <u>Video Comment</u>: <a href="https://beverlyhills-org.zoom.us/my/bevpublic">https://beverlyhills-org.zoom.us/my/bevpublic</a>, enter passcode:
- 90210 when prompted.

  Written Comment: Email commentPC@beverlyhills.org
- Audio Only: Call (310) 288-2288, select Option 2 when prompted.
- <u>Watch LIVE</u>: BHTV Channel 10 on Spectrum Cable or <u>www.beverlyhills.org/watchlive</u>

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

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

Any written comments received by end of the day on Tuesday, January 31, 2023 will be attached to the agenda report regarding this item. Any comments received after Tuesday, January 31, 2023, but prior the public hearing, will be distributed to the Commission under separate cover.

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

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

#### Sincerely:

Chloe Chen, Senior Planner



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



The Beverly Hills Human Relations Commission

#### **GRANT FUNDING, from page 1**

need," Human Relations Commission Chair Noelle Freeman told the Courier.

"Although we focus on organizations that help our most vulnerable population including homeless individuals, active and frail elderly, disabled and low-means residents, we're also looking to help organizations that provide a cultural and artistic benefit to our community," she added.

Every year money from the city's general fund is allocated to CAGF and distributed by the Human Services Division with guidance from the Charitable Solicitations Commission and the Human Resources Commission. The application for this year's funding is available at <a href="https://www.beverlyhills.org/cagf">www.beverlyhills.org/cagf</a>.

The goal of the CAGF is to create a seamless continuum of care from city services to services offered by partner organizations and improve the overall quality of life in Beverly Hills.

For example, an unhoused individual may come into initial contact with the city through the Beverly Hills Outreach or Ambassador teams, which can then provide referrals to CAGF community partners such as PATH for shelter, Saban Community Clinic for healthcare, All Saints' Episcopal Church for food and Step Up on Second for mental health services.

City staff from departments including fire, police, library, public works and parking enforcement can also make referrals to partner organizations.

This system also helps elderly residents access resources. A need may first be noticed or communicated to city staff or outreach teams, who can then provide referrals to partners like Jewish Family Services for case management, Affordable Living for the Aging for income assistance, Maple Counseling Center for mental health care and BH Active Adult Club for a social and creative outlet.

"We typically have over 30 qualifying applications and we anticipate even more this year," Freeman told the Courier. "For FY 2022-23, we received \$2,484,009 in community funding requests, more than \$550K above the last year's base budget (FY 2021-22) of \$1,922,499."

There are several criteria used to consider applications.

The two most important criteria are that the organization: 1. provides a unique service that addresses an unmet community need and 2. does not rely solely on CAGF to remain viable and the services they offer would cost more to the city if the city provided them directly.

In addition, the city seeks organizations that support its commitment to providing a social service safety net and organizations that enable the city to meet its regional obligation to ameliorate social issues.

Cultural organizations applying for CAGF must meet the first two essential criteria and demonstrate a history of exemplary cultural opportunities in line with community needs.

Cultural community partners selected in the last funding cycle include the Beverly Hills Theatre Guild, Writers Bloc, Theatre 40, Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts and West Coast Jewish Theatre.

Applications include a questionnaire designed to assess how well the organization meets the qualifying criteria, documentation of 501c.3 status or proof of 501c.3 status through partnership, a copy of the organization's most recent Form 990 and a copy of any current Charitable Solicitations Permits from the city.

Applications must be postmarked no later than Jan. 23 by email to humanservice@beverlyhills.org, or submitted to the City of Beverly Hills, Human Services Division, 444 N. Rexford Drive, 2nd Floor Library Admin, Beverly Hills, CA 90210 by 5 p.m. •

## Hilton & Hyland Appoints David Kramer as President



Photo courtesy Hilton & Hyland

Kramer, Hyland and Carter

Hilton & Hyland Real Estate, Inc. has appointed David Kramer as president, effective immediately. Kramer will work closely with Chairman Lori Hyland and CEO Billy Jack Carter to strategize the future growth of the luxury brokerage. Kramer has been with the company since 2005.



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

The Beverly Hills City Council is seeking a qualified Beverly Hills resident to fill a vacancy on the

# RENT STABILIZATION COMMISSION TENANT COMMISSIONER ONLY

Deadline to apply: Friday, February 24, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

#### Duty:

This Commission acts as an advisory to the City Council to provide recommendations for amendments to the Rent Stabilization Ordinance.

#### **Applicant Qualifications:**

A tenant, subtenant, lessee, sublessee, or any other person entitled to the use or occupancy of any apartment unit in the City of Beverly Hills.

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



Huma Ahmed City Clerk



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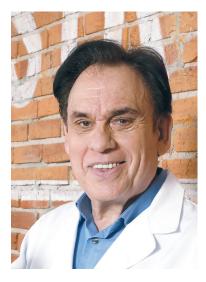
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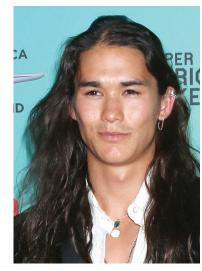
Adjudicated as a Newspaper of general circulation as defined in Section 6008 of the Government Code for the City of Beverly Hills, for the Beverly Hills Unified School District, for the County of Los Angeles, for the State of California and for other districts which include the City of Beverly Hills within each such district's respective jurisdiction in proceeding number C110951 in Superior Court, California, on February 36, 1976.

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# **Birthdays**



EARL MINDELL January 20



BOOBOO STEWART January 21



MARC AXELROD January 22



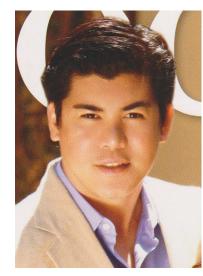
AHRYA FAR January 22



JULIA JONES January 23



ROCHELLE MAIZE January 23



OLIVER TOLENTINO
January 26

# BEVERLY HILLS COURIER

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### Astrology

BY HOLIDAY MATIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). People remember who you are because you make an impression. Interacting with you is a little different from what people would normally get and because of this, they feel something. Emotional response is what creates memories.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It is good to yearn sometimes because it tells you that what you want is deeply important to you and worth putting some effort into. Once you understand this, get into action. Yearning is better as a fuel than a personality trait.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You'll be surrounded by dynamic people. Avoid comparison. Let success stories inspire instead of intimidate you. What matters most now is consistent action toward your aim.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You've sparked someone's interest and will have the opportunity to make a further impression, a pitch, or both at a face-to-face meeting. This will go well because you'll show up

early and come prepared.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). There's so much you could say, do and bring to the table but you'll be wise to focus on what fits the situation. This takes discernment and maturity. They'll know you by your effective, efficient contribution.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Scientists have proven that story-telling activates more of the brain than other information delivery systems. You'll tell stories to connect with someone or make a point. The story will change as you shape it for maximum impact.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Even though social conditioning is in and of itself a mask, there are moments you feel safe enough to take it off. You are both vulnerable and powerful in those moments when your private and public selves merge.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Often, we become so familiar with our own struggles that we don't know what we're doing wrong, nor can we see a clear way out of the trap. An astute outside observer will be an enormous help today.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Is it a hobby or an obsession? A loved one may want you to dial it back, assuming you'll have more attention to pour their way. But you're more inclined to finish what you started. Your passions feed your soul.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You may end up at the same destination as everyone else, but your way of getting there will be different. No need to keep checking where everyone is. Stick to your own route and focus on enjoying the scenery where you are.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). People around you will be inclined to show you how much they like you. Accept the attention. Rejecting praise is like turning down cake: it might offend the baker. You don't have to eat it all up, but at least take a bite.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You may have the sensation that you are steering the action like a child turning the little steering wheel at the front of the grocery cart. You go right, left, full circle -- but the cart always goes where your mom wants it to.



This week meet Gem. She's a 2-year-old, 18-pound Parson Russell terrier. Gem is energetic and perfect for an active family. To meet her, please contact Shelter of Hope at 805-379-3538.

shelterhopepetshop.org

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### MENTAL WELLNESS, from page 1

really their event," said Bosse.

The TAC is comprised of 6th-12th grade students who live in or attend school in the Beverly Hills Unified School District. The group holds monthly meetings and works on special events and community outreach programs such as this Jan. 29 event.

"In this generation it's so important that they hear from each other because I really do believe that growing up is hard enough on its own. So often kids and teens think that whatever they're feeling they didn't want to share it with anyone else," said Bosse.

When TAC members were asked about their vision for the event, they immediately suggested that Madhappy would be the perfect fit.

Created in 2017 by co-founders Noah Raf, Joshua Sitt, Peiman Raf and Mason Spector, Madhappy is a streetwear line founded to encourage discussion about mental health. With positive messages such as "Local Optimist" and "Sharing is Caring" emblazoned on hoodies, T-shirts, leggings and more, Madhappy has attracted fans such as LeBron James and Cardi B. After hosting a succession of pop-ups over the years, the LVMH Ventures-backed Madhappy will open a dedicated storefront in West Hollywood this year.

Two of the company's founders, Peiman Raf and Spector, launched The Madhappy Podcast in 2021. And The Madhappy Foundation is a recently created 501(c)(3) organization that distributes a portion of the company's proceeds in the mental health space.

The Mayor's Youth Mental Wellness Event kicks off at 1 p.m. with a conversation with The Madhappy Podcast co-founders. This keynote speaker portion of the afternoon will be livestreamed at <u>beverlyhills.org/live</u>.

Bosse is particularly enthusiastic about the participation of Madhappy.

"The Raf brothers went to Beverly High and that is what is so great about having them here. They themselves went to our schools. When I reached out to Noah Raf to see if he would be willing to do this, he said absolutely. It was serendipitous since this was the TAC's first choice," she said. Bosse adds that the Madhappy message is perfect for these times. The Madhappy community, called "The Local Optimists," is connected to mental health resources and news through the podcast, as well as newsletters and social media channels.

"I think we can learn a lot from the way the Madhappy brand has taken away the stigma that goes with asking for help. What they've done is encourage people to be comfortable with their feelings. I'm curious to hear how they found the courage to be public about times in their lives when they had their own mental wellness challenges. I so admire it. To take it to a clothing line that people can proudly wear is such a step in the right direction. I think they are walking the walk. For me, they are inspiring to every generation," said Bosse.

In addition to the keynote, the Mayor's Wellness Event will also include mental health and wellness booths offering resources and information from local agencies such as the Maple Counseling Center, Norman Aid, Bulldog Aid and the city's own police, fire, and parks and recreation departments.

Also on the program are an array of Arts and Culture workshops for anyone interested in expressing nascent talents. These include poetry sessions with poet Brian Sonia-Wallace, the West Hollywood City Poet Laureate whose work explores the topics of queerness, grief and transcendence. The iconic East L.A. printmaking collective Self-Help Graphics will be on hand to conduct poster-making screenprint classes. And Iranian American artist and designer Parisa Parnian, founder of Savage Muse, will conduct a workshop in collective mural making.

"If we can touch one person with an 'aha moment,' it will be worth it," said Bosse.

She adds, "The struggles that anyone would have at 15, 18 or 90 are very similar, whether it's depression or anxiety or sadness or feeling alone. I believe that this event is going to resonate with every generation. The conversation about mental wellness, whether it's with Dr. Edith Eger at 95, or the founders of Madhappy at 30, knows no boundaries at all. No matter what age you are, you will feel you aren't alone."

#### **HEIGHT LIMITS, from page 1**

Trousdale Estates areas of the city.

Commissioners heard comments from the Beverly Hills Police Department (BHPD) as well as residents in favor of and opposed to additional height expansions before deciding they were not necessary.

"I'm not interested in pursuing this further," said Planning Commission Chair Myra Demeter. "I do not feel that there's any value in our time in discussing changing the heights of hedges, fences, etc., in any of the areas. I'm happy with the way it is."

Commissioners did, however, note the need for more clarity – and a possible extension – on maximum allowable camera pole heights and asked staff to return with a report on this at a later meeting.

Members of the public who were in favor of increasing the height levels in the additional neighborhoods were largely interested in enhanced security.

"The community should have the ability to protect and secure our collective properties given the increase in home invasions," wrote resident Andrew Gitkin in a written comment to the Commission. "Having the ability to reinforce our rear alley walls with higher hedges to deter crime is very important."

The BHPD generally supports the use of hedges, fences, and walls for security, but does not have a specific height recommendation, according to the staff report. The department did note that a potential downside of taller barriers is that they may make it slightly more difficult for police to access properties in an emergency.

Commissioners discussed additional safety drawbacks to higher heights including the potential for suspicious individuals to hide behind these barriers and for increased collisions when vehicles pull in and out of properties.

Some community members also brought up these safety concerns as well as potential fire concerns.

"An increase in a fence height would not give the owner more security, but would rather make it more difficult for the fire department to access the property," said Karen Platt, co-president of the Trousdale Estates Neighborhood Association. "Trousdale is in the highest possible wildfire risk area. Most of our residents have had their fire insurance canceled. We are highly concerned about a fire running through our neighborhood."

Ultimately, commissioners were not convinced that there are adequate safety issues to merit height increases.

"We live in a very safe place and yes, there are going to be people that are going to be afraid of things that most other people wouldn't be, but there's not much we can do about that," said Commissioner Peter Ostroff.

Commissioners also spoke to the need to preserve the aesthetic appearance of neighborhoods and not unnecessarily harden the look of residential areas.

"I think that there is a balance between aesthetics and what we want our city to look like and security," said Demeter. "I do not believe that our city should depend upon the height of hedges, etc. solely for its security. I think that there are other methods."

Other security methods that were discussed during the meeting include camera systems, motion sensor alarms, maintaining landscaping so it communicates an active presence and having a dog.

The commission recommended that residents worried about security reach out to BHPD, which can deploy personnel to inspect private properties and provide recommendations on crime prevention through environmental design. •

#### TRESPASSING SUSPECT, from page 1

before 8 a.m. in response to what was first thought to be a residential burglary, and ultimately "downgraded from a burglary to a trespass," according to a BHPD statement. Similar trespassing reports on Laurel Way followed in the coming days, as police officers saturated the area in search of the suspect. Ring camera security footage showed a suspect hiding from police in the bushes. He was camouflaged in a ghillie suit, an ensemble resembling foliage that is used by hunters. The footage shows police cruisers passing by the suspect, who then gets up and dashes away.

In the afternoon of Jan. 15, BHPD sent out an advisory alert with photos of the suspect, seeking help from the public to identify the perpetrator. The public safety notice included two images of the suspect captured on surveillance footage, in what initially seemed to be inside a house. However, the footage actually captured a fireplace in an outdoor living space. The suspect never gained entry to the house. The photos rapidly circulated on social media, causing unease among neighbors while the suspect remained at large.

On the evening of Jan. 17, the BHPD again reported that officers were "in the area of the 1000 block of Laurel Way related to a trespassing call." While officers were assisted

from above by drones and a Los Angeles Sheriff's Department helicopter, no suspect was apprehended. However, by the next day, the BHPD announced Turner's arrest.

"I would like to thank our incredible Beverly Hills Police Department for working around the clock and being the best of the best," said Mayor Lili Bosse in a Jan. 18 statement.

"I am thankful to our residents for their patience and our department's tireless efforts to bring this suspect into custody," said BHPD Chief Mark Stainbrook. "Crime of any kind will never be tolerated in Beverly Hills."



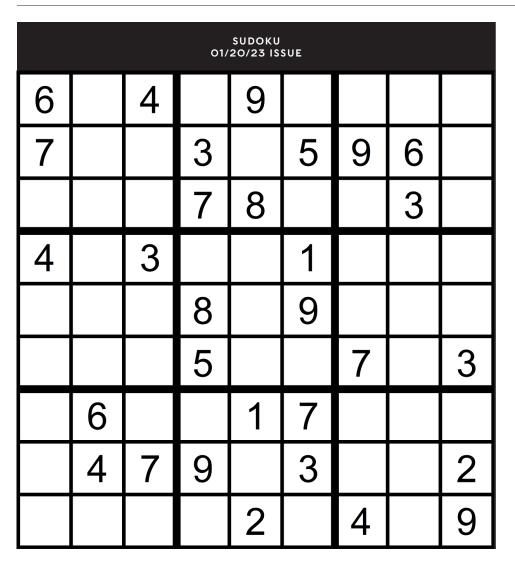
Security footage of the suspect

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# **Fun & Games**



SUDOKU ANSWERS O1/13/23 ISSUE											
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PUZZLE ANSWERS 01/13/23 ISSUE																				
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#### THE NEW YORK TIMES SUNDAY MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE 01/20/23 ISSUE

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#### DO YOU HEAR THAT? BY WYNA LIU / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Wyna Liu is an associate puzzle editor for The Times, which she joined in 2020. She helps select and edit clues for the puzzles that appear in the paper. The thing she loves most about her job is "talking puzzles with other people who love them!" (That would be the rest of us on the Games team.) When Wyna isn't working, she makes jewelry and magnetic objects, teaches yoga and spoils her  $\log$ . — W.S.

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#### BHUSD BOARD, from page 4

will recommend for the position to the board. "It's a very comprehensive process that will involve a lot of people, including our students, because it's really important that I get their feedback about their next principal as well." Bregy also emailed a survey out to the community this week, asking for input regarding the role.

"We've really marketed the position," Dr. Bregy said. "I look forward to updating the board and our community where we are in this process, but I'm very transparent about what this process looks like...

There's no front runner, these are authentic interviews. I'm not even in the first round because I don't want there to be any perception that the superintendent is picking somebody that he knows."

Candidates must apply by 4 p.m. on Jan. 27, 2023, at <u>bhusd.org/apply/</u>.

In the coming days, Bregy will also announce updates on the Konheim building, anti-bullying measures, elevators at the high school and the construction committee. The next board of education meeting will be held on Jan. 31 at 5 p.m. •

#### CITY NATIONAL BANK, from page 4

fair lending laws and work to ensure that financial institutions provide equal opportunity for every American to obtain credit."

U.S. Attorney for the Central District of California Martin Estrada noted, "In the words of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the issue of fair housing is a 'moral issue.' Thus, ending redlining is a critical step to closing the widening gaps in homeownership and wealth, especially in a city as large and diverse as Los Angeles," "It is unacceptable that redlining persists into the 21st century, and this case demonstrates our commitment to combat redlining and hold banks and others accountable when they engage in unlawful discrimination. Through this agreement, we are taking a major step forward by removing unlawful and discriminatory barriers in residential mortgage lending, and meeting the credit needs in Los Angeles."

"Redlining" is an illegal practice in which lenders avoid providing credit services to individuals living in communities of color because of the race, color, or national origin of the residents in those communities. The complaint filed in federal court alleges that from 2017 through at least 2020, City National avoided providing mortgage lending services to majority-Black and Hispanic neighborhoods in Los Angeles County and discouraged residents in these neighborhoods from obtaining mortgage loans. The complaint also alleges that during that time period other banks received more than six times as many applications in majority-Black and Hispanic neighborhoods in Los Angeles County than City National each year. In addition, City National only opened one branch in a majority-Black and Hispanic

neighborhood in the past 20 years, despite having opened or acquired 11 branches during that time period. And unlike at its branches in majority-white areas, City National did not assign any employee to generate mortgage loan applications at that branch.

Under the proposed consent order, which is subject to court approval and was filed on Jan. 12 in the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California along with a complaint, City National Bank has agreed to do the following:

Invest at least \$29.5 million in a loan subsidy fund for residents of majority-Black and Hispanic neighborhoods in Los Angeles County; at least \$500,000 for advertising and outreach targeted toward the residents of these neighborhoods; at least \$500,000 for a consumer financial education program to help increase access to credit for residents; and at least \$750,000 for development of community partnerships to provide services that increase access to residential mortgage credit:

Open one new branch in a majority-Black and Hispanic neighborhood and evaluate future opportunities for expansion within Los Angeles County; ensure at least four mortgage loan officers are dedicated to serving majority-Black and Hispanic neighborhoods; and employ a full-time Community Lending Manager who will oversee the continued development of lending in majority-Black and Hispanic neighborhoods;

Conduct a Community Credit Needs Assessment, a research-based market study, to help identify the needs for financial services for majority-Black and Hispanic census tracts within Los Angeles County.

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# Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I am feeling very betrayed by the BH City Council for turning over the parking permit process to an agency that services many different municipalities. I was just called by a supervisor who said that one of the applications I submitted is still pending so I should wait until it is denied to reach out to them again. Last time I was called at 7 a.m. by an agent who said I needed a registration which is not even requested in the application. When I told him I thought it was rather early to be calling (he woke me up), he said this is when they start calling.

Then there is the matter of there being five different workshops conducted by the BH Police department to help people fill out this application. Is this a good use of police time and energy?

I have lived at my same address on the 300 block of S. Oakhurst for almost 40 years. My gas bill is in my husband's name. He was not home when I filled out the application, so I used my own driver's license in order to establish my residency in my home. On my block, there is no parking for even 10 minutes without a permit. This means that in order to buy the privilege of ever having a visitor or a repairman or a cleaning crew come to my home, or to park in front of my own home, I need to pay a hidden fee or tax to the city. I have been paying and resenting this for as long as there has been permit parking. But now, I seem to need to jump through hoops and meet unwarranted standards in order to do the above. Certainly the city is prioritizing bureaucracy above the life quality of its residences. Even if I owned no vehicles, I would need to buy these permits in order to live here in any way except as a hermit. The City Council or Parking Commission should reverse this decision immediately.

Nadene Alexander Beverly Hills

## COVID-Related Hospitalizations Tumble

The number of COVID-19-positive patients in Los Angeles County hospitals tumbled below the 1,000 mark, while more than 1,400 new infections were reported in the latest data.

According to state figures, there were 958 COVID-positive patients in county hospitals as of Jan. 18, down sharply from 1,024 that were reported last Saturday, the last day for which figures were previously released. New figures show the number of patients dropped every day since Jan. 14 to reach 958 by Jan. 18.

Of those patients, 104 were being treated in intensive case units, down from 125 on Jan. 14.

The county reported 1,414 new COVID infections on Jan. 18, raising the cumulative total from throughout the pandemic to 3,663,899.

Health officials have stressed that the official number of cases is an undercount, due to the large number of people who rely on at-home tests without reporting the results to the county. Other people don't test at all, despite being possibly infected, officials said.

The seven-day average daily rate of people testing positive for the virus was 6.1% as of Jan. 18, roughly the same as a week ago.

Another 21 virus-related deaths were reported by the county, giving the county an overall death toll of 35,052.

County Public Health Director Barbara Ferrer said last week the seven-day average daily number of new virus infections in the county was about 1,900, down from about 2,300 at the beginning of January. The county was averaging 162 virus-related hospital admissions per day last week, down from 192 in late December and from 211 in early January, she said.

The county was also averaging 23 new COVID-related deaths per day, up from 15 during the past week in December. Ferrer said the increase was expected, given the spike in case numbers that occurred at the end of the year.

Ferrer also presented numbers showing the disproportionate impact of COVID hospitalizations and deaths on people aged 80 and older. She said the death rate for that age group was five times higher than the rate for people aged 65 to 79, and the hospitalization rate was three times higher.

Most people who die with COVID-19 are elderly or have an underlying health

Ferrer again encouraged residents to continue taking precautions such as wearing masks in indoor settings, and ensuring they are up to date on vaccinations and boosters.

L.A. County remains in the federal government's "medium" transmission range. Masks are still required indoors at healthcare and congregate-care facilities, for anyone exposed to the virus in the past 10 days, and at businesses where they are required by the owner. Otherwise, they are only strongly recommended at indoor settings.

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# **Public Notices**

RFQ #23-350-31

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

REQUEST FOR PREQUALIFICATION
OF BIDDERS AND PREQUALIFICATION
INSTRUCTIONS FOR:

#### HIGH SPEED ROLL-UP DOORS REPLACEMENT AT MULTIPLE CITY BUILDINGS

Notice is hereby given that the City of Beverly Hills ("CITY") has determined that all bidders for High Speed Roll-Up Doors Replacement Projects ("Project") must be pre-qualified prior to submitting a bid on that Project. It is mandatory that all Contractors who intend to submit a bid, fully complete the prequalification questionnaire, provide all materials requested herein, and be approved by the CITY to be on the final qualified Bidders list.

No bid will be accepted from a Contractor that has failed to comply with these requirements. If two or more business entities submit a bid as part of a Joint Venture, or expect to submit a bid as part of a Joint Venture, each entity within the Joint Venture must be separately qualified to bid. The last date to submit a fully completed questionnaire is 5:00 PM Thursday, February 2nd, 2022.

Contractors must register as a vendor at the following website in order to download the prequalification package, and to receive clarificationss and notifications when issued.

The Prequalification package may be viewed on, and downloaded from the City's PlanetBids portal: https://pbsystem.planetbids.com/portal/39493/bo/bo-detail/96708

This item is listed as: Prequalification High Speed Roll-Up Doors Replacement at Multiple City Buildings. Answers to questions contained in the questionnaire are required. The CITY will use these documents as the basis of rating Contractors with respect to whether each Contractor is qualified to bid on the Project, and reserves the right to check other sources available. The CITY's decision will be based on objective evaluation criteria. The CITY reserves the right to adjust, increase, limit, suspend or rescind the prequalification rating based on subsequently learned information. Contractors whose rating changes sufficiently to disqualify them will be notified, and given an opportunity for a hearing consistent with the hearing procedures described below for appealing a prequalification rating.

While it is the intent of the prequalification questionnaire and documents required therewith to assist the CITY in determining bidder responsibility prior to bid and to aid the CITY in selecting the lowest responsible bidder, neither the fact of prequalification, nor any prequalification rating, will preclude the CITY from a post-bid consideration and determination of whether a bidder has the quality, fitness, capacity and experience to satisfactorily perform the proposed work, and has demonstrated the requisite trustworthiness.

All qualifications submittals are required to be submit electronically via PlanetBids. The electronic submittal system will close exactly at the date and time set forth in this request for qualifications.

Any questions regarding the questionnaire and qualification package should be submitted via PlanetBids by 2:00PM, 26th January 2023. Questions sent via email or over the phone; with the exception of those related to accessing or using PlanetBids, will not be answered.

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

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

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

The CITY reserves the right to waive minor irregularities and omissions in the information contained in the prequalification application submitted, and to make all final determinations. The CITY may also determine at any time that the prequalification process will be suspended for the Project and the Project will be bid without prequalification.

Contractors may submit prequalification packages during regular working hours on any day that the offices of the CITY are open. Contractors who submit a complete prequalification package will be notified of their qualification status no later than ten business days after submission of the information.

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

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

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

If the Contractor gives the required notice of appeal, a hearing shall be conducted no earlier than five business days after the CITY's receipt of the notice of appeal and not later than five business days prior to the date of the Notice Inviting Bids for this Project. Prior to the hearing, the Contractor shall, in writing, be advised of the basis for the City's pre-qualification determination.

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

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022275104 The following is/are doing business as: 1) INTELICHOICE1

2) INTELICHOICE1 ARMS/

9171 Wilshire Blvd. #500, Beverly Hills, CA 90210; 140 N. Hamilton Dr. #1, Beverly Hills, CA 90211; George Rizkalla 140 N. Hamilton Dr. #1, Beverly Hills, CA 90211; The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on October 2021: George Rizkalla, Owner. Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: December 21, 2022; Published: January 13, 20, 27, February 03, 2023 LACC N/C BEVERLY HILLS COURIER

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2023002291 The following is/are doing business as: DIAS DE SOL

351 N. La Jolla Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90048; Renata Diaz-Garza 351 N. La Jolla Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90048; The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL, registrant(s) has NOT begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on: Renata Diaz-Garza, Owner. Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: January 05, 2023; Published: January 13, 20, 27, February 03, 2023 LACC N/C BEVERLY HILLS COURIER

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2023002288 The following is/are doing business as: 1) RENEW WINDOWS & DOORS 2) THE BIDET COMPANY

5330 Yarmouth Ave. #310, Encino, CA 91316; Architectural Elements, Inc. 5330 Yarmouth Ave. #310, Encino, CA 91316; The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION (#3270813), registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on February 2017: Peter S. Cherney, Secretary. Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: January 05, 2023; Published: January 13, 20, 27, February 03, 2023 LACC N/C BEVERLY HILLS COURIER

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2023002293 The following is/are doing business as:

ROYÁL INDIAN TAÑDOORY
1934 West 3rd St., Los Angeles,
CA 90057; Mostary Fardoushy
Enterprise, LLC 1934 West 3rd
St., Los Angeles, CA 90057;
The business is conducted by: A
LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
(#202252914388), registrant(s)
has NOT begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on:
Hafsa R. Chowdhury, Managing
Member. Statement is filed
with the County of Los Angeles:
January 05, 2023; Published:
January 13, 20, 27, February 03,
2023 LACC N/C

BEVERLY HILLS COURIER

NOTICE-

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

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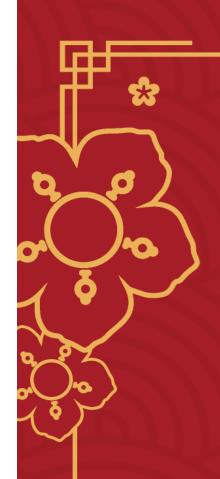
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