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THE WEATHER, BEVERLY HILLS

☀ Friday	69° 45°
☀ Saturday	71° 48°
☀ Sunday	74° 44°
☀ Monday	73° 45°
☀ Tuesday	68° 47°
☀ Wednesday	69° 45°
☀ Thursday	76° 51°

City Council Approves Homeless Pilot Program



BY MATTHEW BLAKE

The Beverly Hills City Council approved at its Nov. 15 meeting a \$665,000 six-month pilot program to help homeless people. Approximately \$421,000 of the money will go toward a no-bid contract to Nastec

International, the Calabasas-based private security firm that has contracted with Beverly Hills since 2020.

In February, the city gave Nastec an added \$817,000 contract to provide armed security. Nastec was first hired by the city amid concerns over 2020 election protests.

It has since been retained due to general concerns regarding crime.

Nastec is now slated to provide an over-night homeless response team. In tandem with the contract, the city is setting up a non-emergency hotline regarding such calls, 310-285-2468. (The final 2-4-6-8 numbers spell B-H-O-T or Beverly Hills Outreach Team).

Multiple councilmembers questioned what the Nastec security workers would do with the unhoused person.

"Where would we take them?" said Councilmember John Mirisch.

Jenny Rogers, director of community services, said that was not clear yet. The city does have a contract with a hotel to house some people, Rogers said, and is seeking to partner with more shelters.

The pilot program also will give \$83,000 to Bonterra, a software company that will track services provided to homeless individuals in Beverly Hills. And Step Up on Second, a Santa Monica-based mental health services provider, is set to receive \$122,000 to expand

See PILOT PROGRAM, page 12

Study Session Considers Golden Globes, Parking Program

BY NATHAN ANSELL

The Nov. 15 City Council Study Session was a look into the near future, discussing an event and a program launch both scheduled to occur in 2023. Mayor Lili Bosse and the rest of approved street closures related to the upcoming Golden Globe Awards and the Preferential Parking Program.

The discussions about the program were, in effect, a recap and continuation of a Town Hall meeting two weeks ago. City Council was reminded of the proposed changes with license plate recognition technology and the use of "permit by plate," a newly acceptable alternative to hangtags for vehicle verification.

Once again, consultant Julie Dixon and Beverly Hills Police Department (BHPD) representatives fielded questions on the scheduled 2023 relaunch, this time in hopes of earning City Council approval.

"The system remains very much the



Photo by Nathan Ansell

The Beverly Hills City Council at the Nov. 15 Study Session

same," Chief of Police Mark Stainbrook said. "It'll give us information to fight crime and provide better security in the city."

This time, the most common concern from audience members was the same as

See STUDY SESSION, page 12

Bass Wins LA Mayor's Race

BY BIANCA HEYWARD

As the Courier went to press on Nov. 16, the Associated Press declared U.S. Rep. Karen Bass the winner of the Los Angeles mayor's race. In an email to supporters reported by City News Service, Bass wrote, "The results are in, and it is the honor of my life to be elected as your mayor. Angelenos came together, across every neighborhood and all walks of life, to be heard -- and I hear you. Despite some undecided county races, the future makeup of the Beverly Hills Unified School District (BHUSD) Board of Education looks all but certain for incumbent Rachele Marcus and Judy Manouchehri. At press time, Marcus leads with 32.39% of the vote, and Manouchehri, about 500 votes behind Marcus, with 28.73%. Candidate Michal Amir-Salkin received 17.53%, Farrah Dodes received 17.20%, and Janessa LaVoice with 4.15% of the vote.

See RACES, page 12



Courier Calendar

NOW - DEC. 4
CENTER THEATRE GROUP/
AHMANSON THEATRE: "2:22 - A
GHOST STORY"
TUES.-FRI. 8 P.M.
SAT. 2 P.M., 8 P.M.
SUN. 1 P.M., 6:30 P.M.
 Center Theatre Group and the Ahmanson Theatre present the first U.S. run of "2:22 - A Ghost Story." This four person show stars Constance Wu as Jenny and Finn Wittrock as her husband Sam, with Anna Camp and Adam Rothenberg playing their old friend Lauren and her partner Ben, respectively. Jenny believes that their new home is haunted, but Sam is uncertain and with Lauren and Ben as their first dinner guests, belief and skepticism clash, against a tonal backdrop of unease. They decide to stay up until 2:22 a.m. to know for certain. Tickets for this production are on sale starting at \$40.
centertheatregroup.org

NOW - JAN. 8
L.A. ARBORETUM: LIGHTSCAPE
5:30-8:45 P.M.
 The new holiday tradition, Lightscape, returns to L.A. Arboretum with new installations and a longer trail. The walking, family-friendly experience

features dazzling displays of light, color, and sound now also includes the Winter Cathedral. The host of Lightscape, L.A. Arboretum, is located at 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia. Tickets are staggered in 15-minute intervals. Adult tickets are \$39 on peak days and \$37 on non-peak days. Children (3-12) are \$20 on peak days and \$18 on non-peak days. Infants (0-2) are free. Members of the Arboretum receive \$3 off tickets. A \$3 fee applies to each ticket purchase. Flextime tickets are available that allow guests to arrive during early or late time slots on the ticketed date, with a separate entrance and on-site parking included for \$80 (\$75 for members). Off-site remote parking is included with ticket purchases with on-site parking priced at \$20 for standard and \$40 for valet.
arboretum.org

NOW - FEB. 19, 2023
MOCA GEFFEN: JUDITH F. BACA:
"WORLD WALL"
TUES., WED., FRI. 11 A.M.-5 P.M.
THURS. 11 A.M.-8 P.M.
SAT.-SUN. 11 A.M.-6 P.M.
 MOCA presents an exhibition of celebrated Chicana artist Judith F. Baca with "World Wall." The show features

a portable mural titled "World Wall: A Vision of the Future Without Fear," which the artist began in 1987. The project is ambitious, utopian, and international, and made up of nine 10-by-30-foot panels. Rooted in the philosophy that to achieve world peace, we must first be able to envision it. Five of the panels were contributed by artists and community groups from Finland, Russia, Israel and Palestine, Mexico, and Canada. This exhibit in Baca's hometown is the first-ever complete presentation of the project. The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA is located in Little Tokyo's Historic District at 152 N. Central Avenue, Los Angeles. Admission to this exhibition is free.
moca.org

NOW - MAY 21, 2023
LACMA: "CONVERSING IN CLAY:
CERAMICS FROM THE LACMA
COLLECTION"
 LACMA presents "Conversing in Clay: Ceramics from the LACMA Collection." The exhibit explores the medium of ceramics through 14 case studies. These historical pieces are in visual dialogue with contemporary works to illustrate the technical achievements, symbolism, and resonances throughout time.

Through references to the past and clay's materiality, the exhibit also includes how artists today relate to international artistic traditions of ceramics. "Conversing in Clay: Ceramics from the LACMA Collection" features recent acquisitions, including works by Nicholas Galanin, Steven Young Lee, Courtney Leonard, Roberto Lugo, Mineo Mizuno, Elyse Pignolet, and more.
lacma.org

NOV. 18 - 19
VIBRATO GRILL JAZZ: CAROL
WELSMAN AND BILL CANTOS AND
FRIENDS
7 P.M., 9:30 P.M.
 Vibrato Grill Jazz will host two shows on Nov. 18 and 19. On Friday, Nov. 18, Carol Welsman will perform contemporary jazz and vocals. On Saturday, Nov. 19, Bill Cantos and Friends will perform, featuring John Ferraro on drums, Hussain Jiffry on bass, and Danny Janklow on sax. Seasonal food is available. The cover for both shows is \$25. Reservations are available online.
vibratogrilljazz.com

See CALENDAR, page 77



City of Beverly Hills
Holiday Décor

November 17, 2022 through January 1, 2023

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BEVERLYHILLS.ORG/HOLIDAYSBH





CH City Hall-Unwrap the Magic Projection Show

VC Visitor Center

CT Christmas Tree Display

LL Lights on the Lily Pond

GG Glowing Gardens at Beverly Cañon Gardens

HL Holiday Lights

M Menorah Display

RD Beverly Hills Express Median Décor

S Santa with Reindeer & Sleigh

W The Wallis

P Parking



Happy Holidays

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Fire in Beverly Hills Destroys Carport, Four Vehicles

A fire in Beverly Hills destroyed a detached carport, three vehicles and a motorcycle, with some minor extension into the attic space of an apartment building on the evening of Nov. 12.

The incident took place on the 400 block of Shirley Place at approximately 6 p.m. According to Beverly Hills Fire Department Battalion Chief David Perusse, "All residents were evacuated from the buildings adjacent to the fire by BHPD, from 401 to 435 Shirley. Two residents were relocated for the night until a Building and Safety representative can inspect the apartment units." ●



Both vehicles in the structure were completely destroyed.

Photos by William Brenner, M.D.



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ON YOUR
MIND?



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beverlyhills.org/live

WHEN:

No RSVP necessary;

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City Honors Rally Organizers



At the request of Beverly Hills Mayor Lili Bosse, the City Council presented a proclamation at its Nov. 15 meeting commending Nooshin and Camyar Meshkaty for organizing the Nov. 5 “Solidarity with the Heroic People of Iran” rally in Beverly Hills. Members of the community who were also part of the rally showed their support and took part in the group photo. Pictured (second row from left): Councilmember Lester Friedman, Vice Mayor Julian Gold, Bosse, Camyar Meshkaty, Councilmember John Mirisch and Councilmember Sharona Nazarian. Pictured in pink suit, front center: Nooshin Meshkaty

Jay Leno Expected to Make Full Recovery from Burn Injuries

Comedian Jay Leno should make a full recovery from the burn injuries he suffered to his hands, face and chest in a fire that erupted while he worked on a vintage car in a Burbank garage, his doctor said on Nov. 16, although his recovery may not happen as quickly as the former “Tonight Show” host originally thought.

“I do anticipate him making a full recovery,” Dr. Peter Grossman of the Grossman Burn Center in West Hills told reporters.

Grossman said the comedian suffered serious injuries, but “his condition is good.” “He’s Jay Leno,” Grossman said. “He’s walking around and he’s cracking jokes. I can tell you he’s incredibly kind to our nursing staff. He’s been appreciative of everybody here and he’s an ideal patient, and one who understands the seriousness of his injury.”

Leno was injured last weekend when a gasoline fire erupted at his Burbank vintage-car garage. Grossman said Leno was underneath a car when the fire began, and he suffered “pretty significant burns to his face and hands.”



Photo by s_buckley/depositphotos.com

Jay Leno

See LENO, page 77

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Bosse Hosts Tour of Veuve Clicquot Solaire Culture Pop-Up



Photo by Bianca Heyward

Residents were taken on a special tour of the Veuve Clicquot Solaire Culture Exhibit with Mayor Lili Bosse on Nov. 14.

BY BIANCA HEYWARD

As part of her Business with Bosse initiative, Mayor Lili Bosse was joined by dozens for a special private tour of the Veuve Clicquot Solaire Culture pop-up exhibit before its doors opened to the public on Nov. 14.

Located at 468 North Rodeo Drive, the Solaire Culture exhibit celebrates 250 years of the Champagne house through an immersive and colorful tour of Veuve Clicquot's legacy and heritage since its inception in 1772. Dubbed "la Grande Dame de la Champagne," the exhibit See **VEUVE CLICQUOT**, page 8

Beverly Hills Book Launch Party

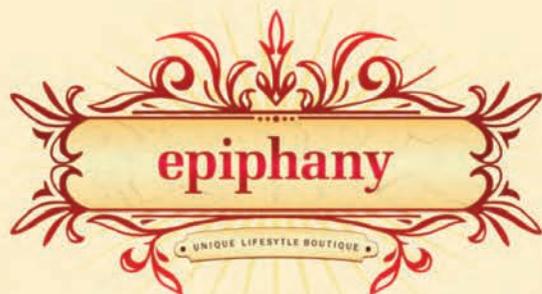


Mossanen at the launch party

On Nov. 8, bestselling author Dora Levy Mossanen was feted at a book party to celebrate the publication of her new novel, "Love and War in the Jewish Quarter." The party was hosted by David and Negin Ascher and Carolyn Mahboubi at the Beverly Hills home of the Aschers. More than 200 people attended.

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FAMED COMEDY PRODUCER TURNS LAUGHTER INTO CHARITY

By Marvin I. Schotland



This is one in a series of articles looking at some of our community's most notable philanthropists and how they are achieving their vision of tikun olam – repairing the world. In each case, these generous people have partnered with the Jewish Community Foundation to facilitate their charitable giving.

During his lifetime, prolific comedy writer and producer Mickey Ross touched the lives of millions of television viewers each week, bringing laughter into their homes. The Emmy-Award-winning Ross, who passed away in 2009 at the age of 89, is associated with some of the most legendary programs of TV's Golden Age, writing 80 episodes of the classic "All in the Family," and going on to produce shows such as "The Jeffersons" and "Three's Company," re-runs of which continue to be broadcast and streamed to this day.



Among many other causes, the Ross Endowment supports Homeboy Industries' vocational training programs for former gang members.

An Endowment to Help Angelenos in Need

Yet it is another legacy altogether through which Ross positively impacts thousands of Angelenos each year and will continue to do so forever. Several years before his passing, he established at the Jewish Community Foundation of Los Angeles the Michael and Irene Ross Endowment Fund which was the beneficiary of about \$10 million from their sizable estate. He also donated 50 percent of all residual payments from his shows, providing an ongoing source of additional contributions to the endowment.

The endowment exists to support Mickey and Irene's desire to provide greater L.A.'s neediest residents with assistance meeting their basic human needs: food, housing, healthcare and education. Since the Ross Endowment began distributing funds in 2011, it has awarded grants of about \$6 million to

causes and programs across the local Jewish and secular communities for those purposes.

Growing Up in Poverty

Mickey's own early childhood influenced the intentions of the Ross Endowment. Born Isadore Rovinsky into a Yiddish-speaking immigrant New York City household in 1919, he grew up in poverty and had vivid memories of the Great Depression. That experience drew him to help people in need – irrespective of their faith – and shaped the kindness and humility that I witnessed up close in my personal interactions with Mickey as he contemplated his legacy late in life.

Not unlike many of the generous philanthropists that I've been privileged to work with, humility best describes Ross. Other adjectives include courageous, as he was a bomber pilot during World War II, and bold, since he cut his comedy teeth working with such legends as Carl Reiner, Sid Caesar, Don Adams and Norman Lear.

Improving Lives Through Grantmaking

Today, those same attributes drive the Ross Endowment's substantial grants each year. At Homeboy Industries, for example, funding from the endowment helps sustain an intensive, 18-month program to assist former gang members in achieving personal, professional and vocational goals. Annual grants to Jewish Family Service's SOVA food pantries ensure that thousands of people each year do not go hungry. Giving to the Los Angeles I Have a Dream Foundation provides long-term support to help youth in under-resourced communities to reach their full potential. And Ross Endowment support helped Bet Tzedek's Holocaust Survivors Justice Network secure millions of dollars in compensation for elderly Holocaust survivors.

Designing Effective Giving Strategies

Referred to The Foundation by his trust-and-estates attorney, Ross and his longtime business manager Mads Bjerre worked with our Center for Designed Philanthropy – which assists individuals and families in developing their charitable goals and fulfilling their philanthropic passions – in formulating the giving strategies that reflected Mickey's vision. Today, the Center team continues to work collaboratively with Bjerre based on a foundation of trust developed over the years of recommending grants that reflect Ross's philanthropic vision.

"Mickey and Irene would feel very good knowing how their endowment is helping people get back on their feet," said Bjerre. "The causes and programs The Foundation is supporting through the Ross Endowment are precisely the kind Mickey and Irene had in mind to fulfill their charitable legacy."

Vital Support for Pandemic Relief

Nothing underscores this more than support from the Ross Endowment during the pandemic. After The Foundation decided to focus all of its 2020 grantmaking on COVID-19 Response Grants, it then invited the Ross Endowment to support the initiative. Bjerre recognized immediately that it would fulfill the Ross's intention to assist L.A.'s neediest citizens. "I know that Mickey would have been proud and grateful to support COVID-19 response and relief," Bjerre stated.

Bjerre continued: "For all his success in entertainment, Mickey remained a modest, low-profile man uninterested in personal publicity or accolades. He lived very modestly especially in relation to his financial resources. He never reconciled himself to the fact that he'd become a wealthy man."

Preserving His Beloved Roots

Instead, it was an inquisitive mind and respect for his roots that fueled a deep affinity for *yiddishkeit* (Jewish life) in the broadest sense. Mickey Ross's own words sum things up best. In a rare interview with the Los Angeles Times, he spoke of his interest in the study of Jewish culture, saying: "I was born of immigrant parents. I love their attitude, their ways, their morals. I don't want to see that lost." Mickey and Irene Ross's charitable legacy are a living testament that they won't be.

Marvin I. Schotland has been president and chief executive officer of the Jewish Community Foundation of Los Angeles (www.jewishfoundationla.org) since 1989. Under his leadership, The Foundation has grown from \$90 million in charitable assets to over \$1.5 billion and awarded nearly \$1 billion in grants over the past decade. Schotland retires at year end.

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Holiday Shopping Forecast for Los Angeles: Spending with a Touch of Reserve

By Brent Schoenbaum, Summer Taylor and Rebecca Lohrey, Deloitte & Touche LLP



More money. Fewer gifts. Faster shopping.

That's the top-line summary for the average Los Angeles resident's holiday spending plans, according to Deloitte's 2022 Holiday Retail survey. Surveyed Angelenos plan to spend \$1,655 on average this holiday season, a figure 19% lower than last year. Still, that's 14% higher than the national average of \$1,455 and 9.5% above pre-pandemic 2019 spend. Talk of a coming recession seems to not bother Los Angeles shoppers, as 72% say they'll spend the same or more on this year's holiday purchases, about level with last year's 74%.



How do we know this? For 37 years, Deloitte has polled national and local consumers on their holiday spending plans. This year's survey samples 565 Los Angeles shoppers and 4,986 national consumers. The Los Angeles survey was fielded from Sept. 6 to Sept. 21, 2022. The poll also queries national retail executives on their holiday outlook; this year's survey includes 40 high-level buyers and managers, 93% of whom work for organizations with \$1 billion or more in annual revenue.

Despite their plans to spend \$200 more than the average national shopper on gifts, Los Angeles consumers indicate they're economizing on some fronts. First, they plan to spend 30% less than last year on non-gift items, for instance holiday décor. Second, they plan to buy fewer gifts – nine, compared with 16 last year. Third, they're spending less across all categories, with the exception being gift cards. Shoppers say they'll spend \$329 on gift cards this season, a 34% jump from last year's \$246.

Top categories for purchases this year include clothing and accessories (\$259 this year, compared with \$369 last year); home and kitchen (\$222 versus \$308 last year); electronics and accessories (\$220 compared with \$351 last year); food and beverage (\$213, versus \$315 last year); toys and hobbies (\$195 versus \$248); and health and wellness (\$138 versus \$276). Finally, Fido and Fluffy should prepare to be disappointed, as expected spending on pets has been cut in half, to \$119 from \$237.



The question is always why people are behaving the way they do – in this year's case spending less on certain categories and buying fewer gifts. The answer this year is rising prices. Two-thirds (65%) of Angeleno shoppers expect higher prices this year due to inflation, compared with 56% in 2021.

As for timing, surveyed Angelenos indicate that earlier is better this year. Almost one-third (31%) expect to exhaust their holiday budgets by Halloween, versus 19% in 2021. Their shopping sprees will last 5.1 weeks, compared with 5.7 weeks last year; that's faster than the 5.8 weeks indicated by national shoppers. While the survey did not ask shoppers about why they plan to complete purchases early, it may well be due to concerns about product shortages.

Even as they indicate speed is of the essence, roughly the same number of shoppers this year as last plan to participate in post-Halloween holiday shopping events, hitting the stores on Thanksgiving Day (8% this year versus 10%), Black Friday (24% this year, 25% last), Small Business Saturday (13% this year, 15% last), and Cyber Monday (23% this year, 25% last year).



Speaking of hitting the stores, shoppers indicate a slight uptick in in-store shopping, to 35% from 32%. More plan to shop with their phones – 57%, which is a 10-point jump from 2021. More will shop online – 56%, compared with 45% last year. Venue-wise, the big winners will be warehouse membership clubs, on the to-visit list for 29% of shoppers, compared with 23% last year. Small independent stores and boutiques can expect less traffic, with 14% of surveyed consumers planning to shop there, compared with 19% last year.

The pandemic, which played a major role in holiday shopping plans for the last two years, seems not to be a factor this year, except for one category: Shortages. Conditioned, we think, by the stockouts during the pandemic, 69% of shoppers expect shortages of items, especially in electronics and accessories and toys and hobbies. There's a disconnect, though, as 100% of the retailers surveyed expect their ordered holiday inventory to be delivered on time, up dramatically from 57% last year.

What does this all mean? To us, it seems the constrictions of the pandemic have more or less eased, and that price concerns (even if not a recession) are governing shopping habits. Still, nine gifts to unwrap beats a lump of coal. Happy holiday shopping... and holiday giving!

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COMMUNITY

VEUVE CLICQUOT, from page 6

pays homage to Barbe-Nicole Ponsardin, known as Madame Clicquot, who took over her husband's wine business after being widowed at age 27 in Reims, France.

"It starts often with amazing women who have a vision," Bosse said on Nov. 14. "We're going to get to see incredible art and understand where this remarkable Champagne came from."

Adorning the walls are works by 10 female artists whose artistic interpretations of Madame Clicquot were commissioned for the occasion: Yayoi Kusama, Sheila Hicks, Monique Frydman, Moyoco Anno, Tacita Dean, Pénélope Bagieu, Inès Longevial, Olimpia Zagnoli, Rosie McGuinness and Cece Philips. The first piece in the show is Kusama's "Twist with Madame Clicquot!" where an original portrait of the Madame is reimagined with the artist's signature red polka dots.



Photo by Bianca Heyward

"Twist with Madame Clicquot!" by Yayoi Kusama

"The story of this brand is so rich and unique, and it starts with this audacious woman who was the first owner of this Champagne maison," said Nelson Elliot Gillum, Marketing Director at Moët Hennessy. "And her and her husband, while he was still alive, took joy in running the family winery. It was really small, and the family focused on other businesses. But through a legal loophole at a time when women weren't allowed to have bank accounts, and in France they weren't allowed to own property, she was able to take this business and grow it to the budding empire that it is today. We're standing in the glory of her work 250 years later. Really, she's truly the first modern day businesswoman."

Conceived by French curator Camille Morineau and designer Constance Guisset, the exhibit includes a film component to virtually tour the brand's vineyards and chalk cellars, an interactive library, original Champagne bottles from the 1840's that were found in the Baltic Sea, original bottle

labels, the trademark registration certificate for Veuve Clicquot labeling and sealing from 1874, and more.

The pop-up exhibit also includes the Yellow Café, where guests can purchase lite bites and taste pairings of Veuve Clicquot. In addition, the gift shop has an array of Veuve Clicquot's collectible items, Champagnes, and other merchandise branded by its distinctive yellow color. All proceeds from the Yellow Café will go to support RE:Her, a nonprofit comprised of women restaurateurs dedicated to empowering female entrepreneurs in the food and beverage industry.

Solaire Culture marks the first global traveling exhibition from the LVMH owned brand tVeuve Clicquot, which debuted in Tokyo this June, and will next make its way to London after Beverly Hills. Running through Nov. 20, the exhibit is open daily from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Admission is free, and all guests must be 21 or older to attend. To book tickets, visit [visit https://solaireculture.veuvecliquot.com/en-us/exhibition](https://solaireculture.veuvecliquot.com/en-us/exhibition).

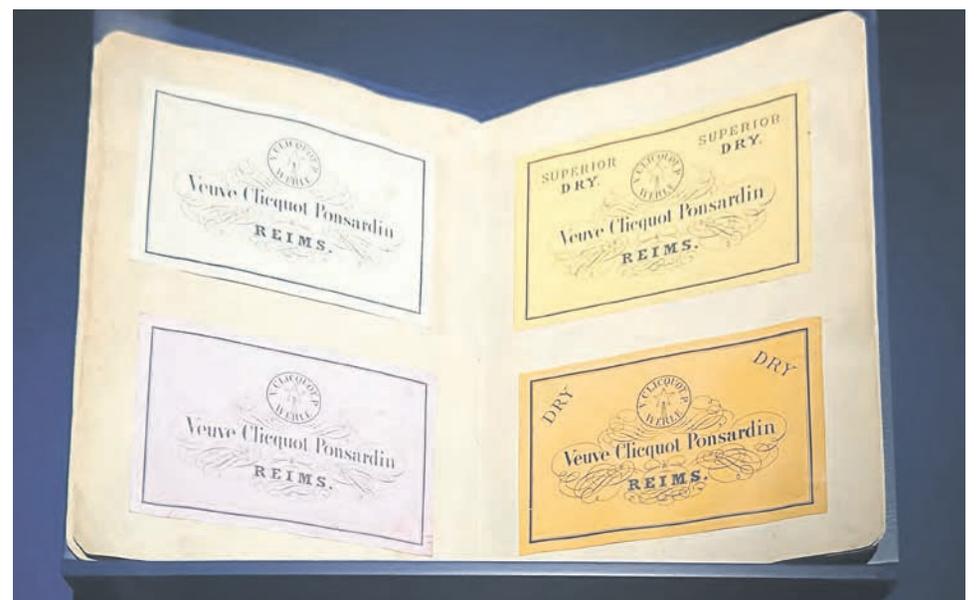


Photo by Bianca Heyward

A booklet of Veuve Clicquot labels from the 19th century

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AC Hotel by Marriott	Black Bear Diner
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Los Angeles	Tarzana

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Arts & Entertainment

“The Menu” –Tasty

BY NEELY SWANSON

Seth Reis and Will Tracy, the writers of “The Menu,” have offered up a frothy mixture of dark comedy, thrills, and ultimately horror that goes down as smoothly as strawberry puree. Director Mark Mylod has taken this concoction and whisked it into a mile-high soufflé.

Four couples and a trio, all strangers, have been invited to a remote coastal island in the Pacific Northwest to eat at one of the world’s most secluded and renowned restaurants where Chef Julian Slowik presides. Strictly prix fixe at \$1,200 per person, this is not for the light of purse but for the food adventurer following the art of molecular gastronomy by its greatest practitioner. They are in for a big surprise.

We first meet Tyler, foodie extraordinaire, who can’t stop talking about what a privilege it is to have scored an invitation. His date, the gorgeous young Margot, hangs on his every word, at least initially. Hints are dropped that like the meal, she, too, has been bought and paid for. Like all true believers, he borders on the insufferable. While waiting for the boat that will take them the not insignificant distance from



Photo courtesy Searchlight Pictures

The cast of the film “The Menu”

the mainland to the restaurant, we get a glimpse of the other guests.

Lillian Bloom, renowned restaurant critic and her magazine editor Ted wait with the smug knowledge that Lillian claims to have discovered Slowik. He will face a high bar to meet her impossible expectations. Failure is so much more interesting than

success, at least in her book, literally and figuratively.

An obnoxious fading movie star who claims to know the chef has come with his assistant Felicity. Each utterance by the so-called actor (and this description will fatefully come into play later in the evening) announces his vulgar ignorance. Felicity,

who has her own entitlement issues, has clearly had it. And then there are the three software millionaires, employees of the restaurant’s billionaire owner/investor who will join them, so to speak, later in the evening. Already in the bag, they are the personification of Elon Musk times three: arrogant, See MENU, page 78



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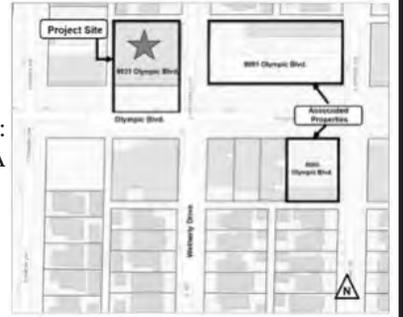
Find out more information at beverlyhills.org/holidaycraftfair.

Enter the Cookie Baking Contest at beverlyhills.org/cookiecontest.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

DATE: Thursday, December 8, 2022
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 ADDRESS: 9031 Olympic Boulevard
(nearest cross street: South Wetherly Drive)

The Planning Commission of the City of Beverly Hills, at its REGULAR meeting on **Thursday, December 8, 2022**, 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 the continued operation of a vehicle service use located at **9031 Olympic Boulevard (Jim Falk Lexus Automotive Group)**. The request does not include any modifications to the existing operation or conditions of approval previously imposed by the Planning Commission. The request applies only to 9031 Olympic Boulevard; however, the operation of the vehicle service use is also associated with properties located at 9000 Olympic Boulevard and 9001 Olympic Boulevard.

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. The proposed project involves renewing a previously approved entitlement that does not involve any modifications. 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:

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

It is recommended that written public comments be submitted to the Planning Commission Recording Secretary by 11:30 AM on the meeting date. Public comments will also be taken during the meeting when the topic is being reviewed by the Planning Commission.

Written comments should identify the Agenda Item number or topic in the subject line of the email. In order to be read at the meeting, written comments will be allowed with a maximum of 350 words, which corresponds to approximately three (3) minutes of speaking time. If a comment is received after the agenda item is heard, it will not be a part of the record.

Any written comments received by end of the day on Tuesday, November 29, 2022 will be attached to the agenda report regarding this item. Any comments received after Tuesday, November 29, 2022, but prior to 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 **Judy Gutierrez, Associate Planner**, in the Planning Division at **(310) 285-1192**, or by email at jgutierrez@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,
Judy Gutierrez, 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.

PILOT PROGRAM, from page 1

their homeless outreach hours.

Noting Step Up on Second's record of collecting data on the homeless, Mirisch suggested providing more money for Step Up on Second and less for Nastec.

But councilmembers did not translate their objections into amending the measure.

Vice-Mayor Julian Gold, for example, sought performance metrics for the program and also wondered how the security company would appropriately deal with the homeless. "We haven't talked about what training looks like," Gold said.

But "rather than going through my laundry list" of concerns, Gold said he would vote on the pilot program now and revisit later with an eye toward performance metrics.

The measure follows an August City Council meeting focused upon homelessness, where many residents testified the unhoused are a public safety issue.

There is little data on homelessness specifically in Beverly Hills. A one-day tally of the homeless earlier this year counted 27 people, according to a city report.

Beverly Hills v. SCE

In response to continuing power outages, Mayor Lili Bosse recommended the city send a formal complaint to the California Public Utilities Commission. Bosse also said the city might sue Southern California Edison. Those developments came after Larry Chung, local public affairs vice president

at SCE, and Paul Grigaux, the utility's distribution vice president, answered questions – but mostly listened to criticisms – from councilmembers.

Protracted exchanges between public utilities officials and councilmembers previously took place at the Oct. 13 Council meeting. Since then, there have been additional blackouts including a three-hour outage in the Trousedale neighborhood on Oct. 24.

A fire on Nov. 12 on the 400 block of Shirley Place was also fresh on the Councils' minds. The conflagration did not cause any reported injuries, but it destroyed a car port, three vehicles and required resident evacuations, according to the Beverly Hills Fire Department.

Councilmembers and residents from the Trousedale neighborhood argued that power outages are not just an inconvenience leading to spoiled food but a serious health and safety issue. Bosse posed the hypothetical of someone who may be hooked up to an electronic medical device.

Also, the councilmembers worried about police resources being thinned amid responding to blackout-related issues.

According to Bosse, the city is "united" in its animus to Southern California Edison and "hundreds of residents" are watching this meeting.

"There are people who are literally living in fear," Bosse said.

"I left a third-world country so I wouldn't

have to deal with these types of things," said Councilmember Sharona Nazarian, who is an Iranian immigrant.

For its part, SCE restated plans that it would complete an upgrade of a Harratt circuit in Trousedale by March 31. The circuit, a source of recent outages, is to be upgraded from four to 16 kilowatts of power.

Chung acknowledged there would be future blackouts, some planned, others not.

"There will be more outages," Chung said, but added the durations should be "much shorter."

Also testifying Tuesday night was Stephen Sawyer, a government relations representative from Spectrum, the brand name of cable and Internet giant Charter Communications.

According to a presentation from Shana Epstein, the city director of Public Works, "Staff periodically receives complaints about poor service" from Spectrum though, "The vast majority of the complaints are resolved to the city's satisfaction once city staff is able to redirect the calls through a more responsive avenue."

Sawyer recommended residents download the Spectrum app as they can communicate their issue quicker through there, particularly when Internet service is down. Bosse expressed skepticism about this solution and related that residents are complaining to her about long wait times (Sawyer said he would get back to the city about average customer wait times).

Still, the tone of the Spectrum discussion was less combative. Unlike SCE, Spectrum does not have a service monopoly. Indeed, councilmembers related their own experiences with the company. Gold, for example, informed Sawyer he no longer uses Spectrum.

Wilshire Skyline Project

After a three-hour debate in an Oct. 28 meeting, the Planning Commission approved developer Wilshire Skyline's six-story, 29-unit development at 149-159 S. Maple Drive.

The project will displace three smaller multifamily buildings and up to eight tenants.

Three residents spoke out against the project on Tuesday, leading Mirisch to call for the Council to take up at the next meeting a plan to protect residents displaced by developments.

Airbnb Violation

The city attorney's office noted at the meeting that a resident must pay \$75,000 and allow their home to be searched without notice by the city as part of a settlement reached over an illegal short-term rental.

Under city law, residents cannot use their homes more than twice each calendar year for a short-term rental. Per City Attorney Laurence Weiner, a resident listed their home on Airbnb without first reporting it to the city. ●

STUDY SESSION, from page 1

the previous Town Hall: resident reporting with the lack of a visual indicator. Councilmembers asked a more varied spread of topics, from fiscal impact to forged parking credentials.

Throughout their presentation, Dixon, Stainbrook and BHPD Sergeant David Tomlin emphasized the importance of messaging prior to the "soft launch" in February. All three argued that increased public awareness would help the implementation in its early stages.

"It's really about education and outreach," Dixon said. "Letting folks ask questions, anything that they need to understand about signup."

Ultimately, the proposal received unanimous support from City Council.

The second and final agenda item began with an overview of the upcoming 80th Golden Globe Awards from the Community Development Department's Stephanie Murillo. The Golden Globes, which have taken place at The Beverly Hilton every year since 1974, have become an annual city tradition – both the Hilton and the Waldorf Astoria are set to host studio after parties, as usual.

NBC will televise the television awards ceremony on Jan. 10, 2023, after the 2022 Golden Globes were not aired due to a lack of diversity within the Hollywood Foreign Press Association. The Globes will take place on a Tuesday for the first time in over 50 years, mostly to avoid scheduling conflicts with the NFL.

"[The Golden Globes] spotlights the city of Beverly Hills as the heart of the entertainment industry," Murillo said. "To ensure the safety and protection of the community and event attendees are served, various streets and sidewalk closures surrounding the event

will be fully or partially closed."

After Murillo and a BHPD lieutenant spoke about security personnel, Dick Clark Productions (DCP) staff members were invited to the microphone to preview the event.

"We'll have a wonderful party, big new sets, a wonderful red carpet," DCP Vice President of Production Fonda Anita said. "It's great to have high-profile guests, but we are very cognizant of how we impact the locals nearby."

Councilmember Lester Friedman raised points about traffic concerns for the Tuesday timeslot and the use of drones for camera angles. In response to production-focused questions from Councilmember John Mirisch, DCP representatives promised an "immersive" set featuring innovative views, camera angles, and presentation features.

"I'm also obviously supportive; this is a tradition in Beverly Hills," Vice Mayor Julian Gold said. "We like to not only honor Dick Clark's memory, but his good sense to understand that this event belongs here."

From previous generations' stars such as Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jr., and Elizabeth Taylor to more recent entertainers like Jennifer Aniston and Eddie Murphy, many of the Globes most recognizable guests over the years have been Beverly Hills residents themselves.

In his speech to the councilmembers, DCP Executive Vice President of Television Barry Adelman agreed with Gold's comments – the location was now in the event's DNA.

"[Clark] called me one night when he was thinking about the Globes, and he said to me, 'Please, whatever you can do, don't let them ever move the show out of Beverly Hills,'" Adelman said. "He believed there was some magic going on at that hotel." ●

RACES, from page 1

In the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisor's race representing the 3rd District, West Hollywood City Councilmember Lindsey Horvath has expanded her lead over Senator Bob Hertzberg by about 15,000 votes at press time. The latest results show Horvath received 51.82% of the vote, and Hertzberg at 48.18%. Over 600,000 ballots countywide are believed to still be outstanding from the Nov. 8 election, although it's unclear how many of them are from the county's District 3. The District 3 seat covers a majority of the San Fernando Valley, stretching from Westlake Village and Malibu to Calabasas, West Hills, Porter Ranch, San Fernando, Panorama City and Northridge, while also stretching to West Hollywood, Beverly Hills and Santa Monica.

On Nov. 15, incumbent L.A. County Sheriff Alex Villanueva conceded defeat to former Long Beach police Chief Robert Luna as results from last week's election continued to favor Luna in the race to head the largest sheriff's department in the nation. In the last week, Villanueva has consistently trailed behind Luna, with the latest results showing Luna up by nearly 20 percentage points with 60.29% of the vote, and Villanueva with 39.71%.

"I want to wish the incoming sheriff well," Villanueva said at a Nov. 15 news conference. "I want him to succeed for a simple reason – the safety of the community depends on him succeeding. The welfare of every single person on the department depends on him succeeding."

In the Los Angeles mayoral race, Rep. Karen Bass has built a nearly 50,000-vote lead over developer Rick Caruso, holding 53.06% of the vote to his 46.94%. After the Nov. 15 update, an estimated 565,050 ballots still need to be processed according to the clerk's office, but it's unclear how many of the uncounted votes are from the city of Los Angeles. The last five updates after Election Day have all resulted in gains for Bass, who took the lead in the vote count on Nov. 11.

To ensure that each vote is counted, California law requires election officials to accept ballots that are postmarked by election day up until one week after the election, which extends and slows the vote count period.

The Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's office announced on Nov. 15 that updates on election results will now be reported daily between 4 p.m. and 5 p.m. through Saturday, Nov. 19.

To see the latest election results, visit <https://results.lavote.gov>. ●

Questions? Comments? Concerns?

The Courier wants to hear from you!

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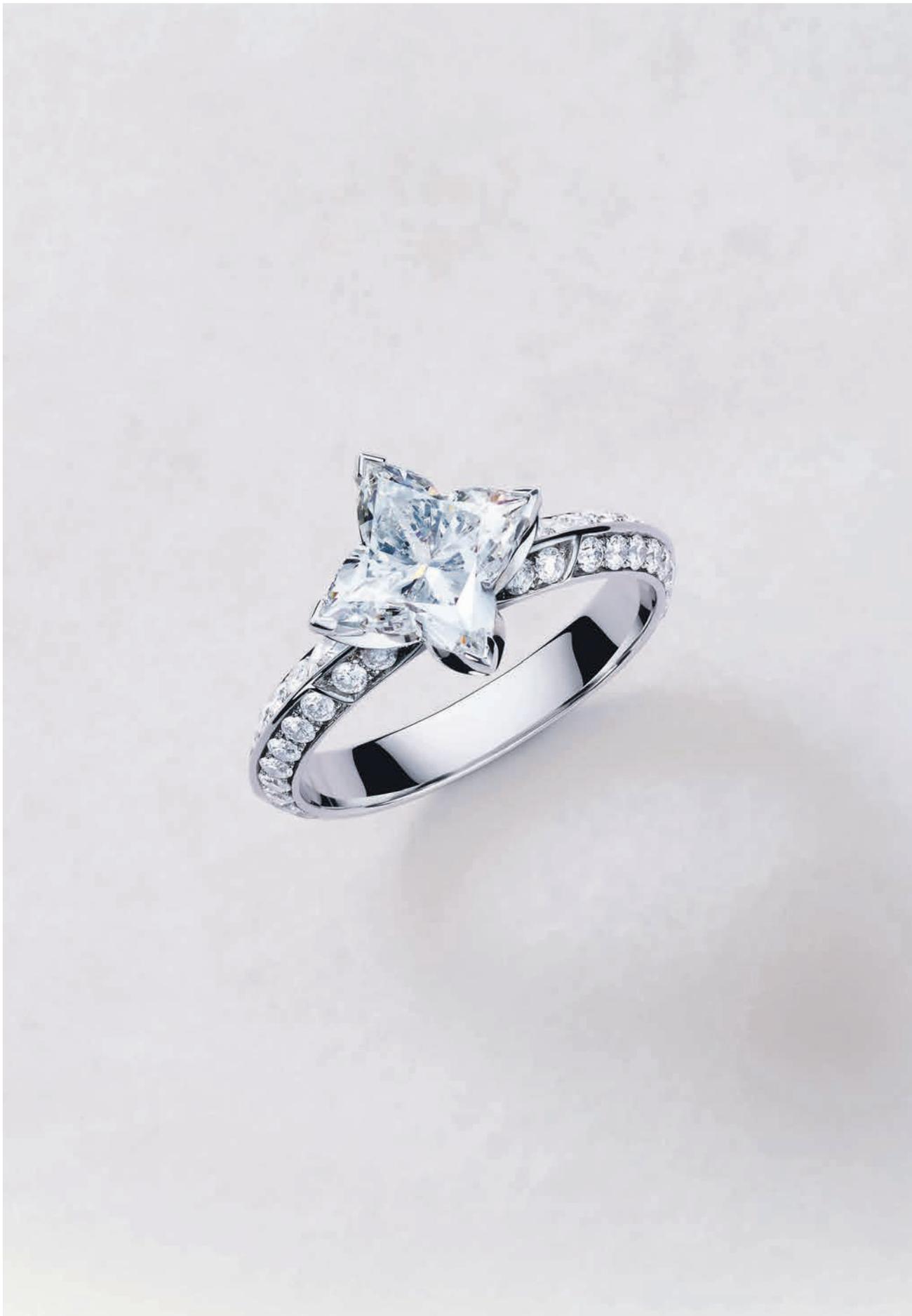


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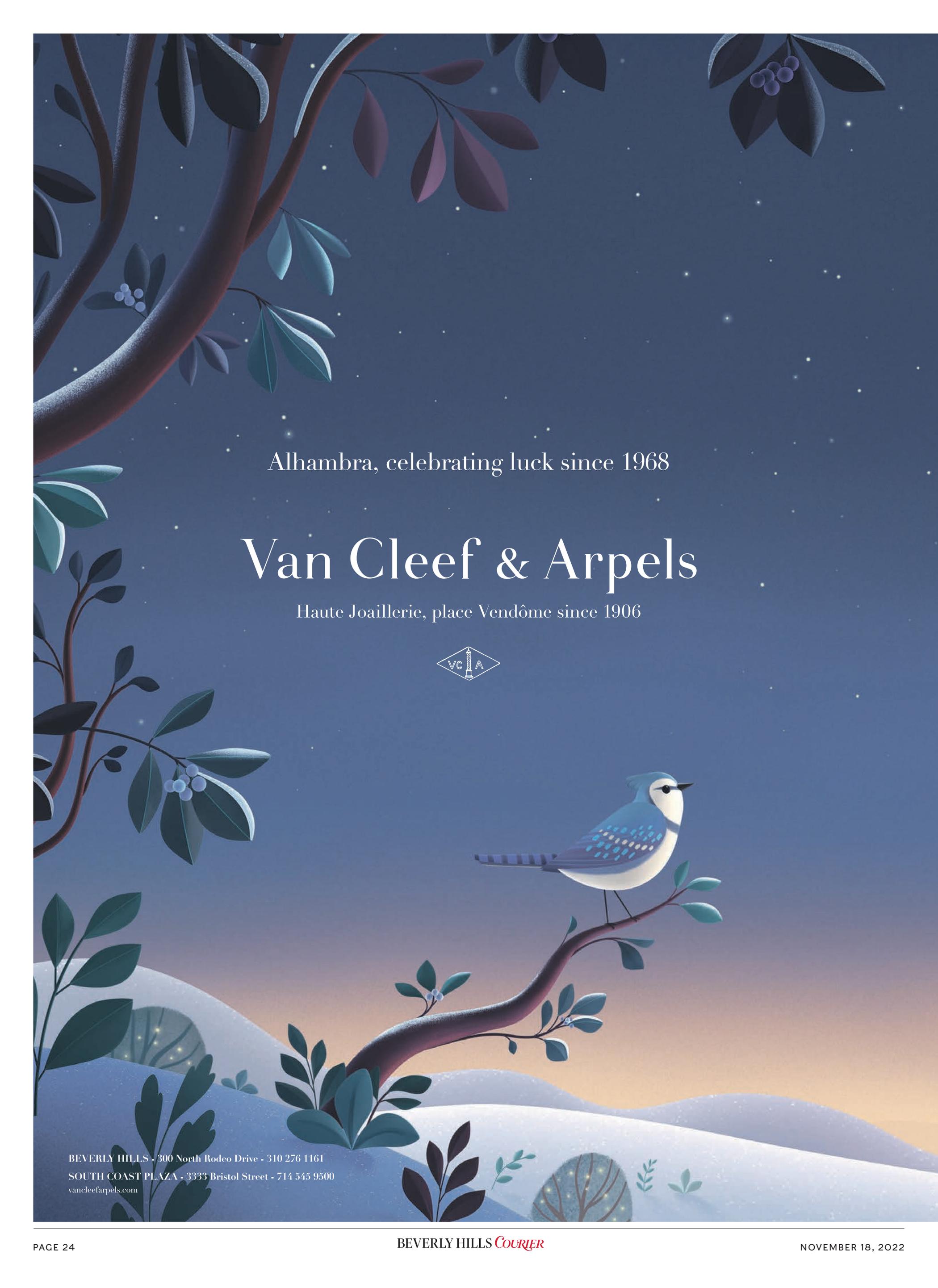


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JOHN BENDHEIM

Hooray! The holiday season has arrived in Beverly Hills! And while we joyously celebrate with friends and family, let's also celebrate our beautiful city, where innovation breathes excitement, trends are born and groundbreaking concepts take flight. It's no wonder like-minded people from around the world are drawn to Beverly Hills. In this issue, we celebrate many of our city's goodies and the people who continue to make it a world-class destination.

When we learned there was a non-alcoholic spirit trend sweeping the nation, we reached out to the city's popular watering holes. Unsurprisingly, they were ahead of the high-ball curve. In "Where to Get in the Holiday (Zero-Proof) Spirit," top mixologists share the latest alcohol-free concoctions on their mocktail menus.

To help you sparkle and shine in our epicenter of style this celebratory season, we've curated "Must-Haves for the Holidays." For you animal lovers, we tracked down Beverly Hills' furry trendsetters and pet influencers for "The Celebrity Pooches of Beverly Hills." And we introduce you to a major player in the art world, Arthur Lewis, Partner and Creative Director of UTA Artist Space, who has brought the hottest young artists from around the globe to our city.

It's no surprise Beverly Hills is at the forefront of the "Mindfulness" movement. We found local meditation teachers, sound bath healers, and breathwork instructors—and therapists—who have been teaching Mindfulness for years and offer their insights in "How to Practice Mindfulness in Beverly Hills."

And finally, we are thrilled to present our cover story "Beverly Hills' World-Famous Eyebrow Queen." The trailblazing Anastasia Soare recounts how, with sheer determination and a dream, she built an empire beginning here in Beverly Hills, and revolutionized the beauty industry, creating a multibillion-dollar category from a single idea—eyebrows.

A big shout out and thank you to John, my partner, for helping me secure our cover story. And importantly, thank you to our phenomenal local, national and global advertisers who continue to support the Courier's publications each week throughout the year!

John and I and the entire Courier team wish you great health, happiness and many reasons to celebrate with your loved ones, friends and co-workers during the holidays and throughout the new year.

We hope you always rely on the Courier for your local news and events, and heartfelt community connections in Beverly Hills and beyond!

LISA FRIEDMAN BLOCH, PUBLISHER

COVER PHOTO: ANASTASIA PHOTOGRAPHED IN ABH STUDIO
PHOTO COURTESY ANASTASIA

PHOTO OF LISA FRIEDMAN BLOCH BY KAREN RAY PHOTOGRAPHY
PHOTO OF JOHN BENDHEIM BY KAREN RAY PHOTOGRAPHY

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The Celebrity Pooches of Beverly Hills

BY LINDA IMMEDIATO

If you own a dog, then you already know that yours is better than anyone else's. Yours is empirically the cutest, most adorable, most-talented superstar in the world. While you can rest comfortably in that knowledge, some people are putting those claims to the test, creating social media accounts for their furry family members, entering them in dog shows or signing them up for film and television work. But if your pooch is going to be the next big time pet influencer or A-list movie star, you'll need dogged determination.

Pet influencers can make big bucks. Take @jiffpom, the highest paid dog on Instagram. With 10 million followers on that platform (and 20 million on TikTok), he's the most followed animal on social media. The tiny Pomeranian commands \$35,000 per single post and has an estimated net worth of \$25 million. Doug the Pug has 3.5 million Instagram followers and makes \$13,000 per post. But these pups didn't get there overnight. According to Pets on Q, a pet influencer talent agency (whose founders starred in the Netflix series "Pet Stars"), having a successful Instagram pet is about creating high-quality photos and unique posts with a distinct voice (posted at least two to four times daily to increase impressions), maintaining a high engagement rate, and having quality followers. And of course, you'll be expected to provide analytics and metrics for the account if you want to get paid for any brand endorsements. If this sounds like a full-time job, it absolutely is.

Television and movie work is a whole different breed. Sarah Clifford, owner of the pet talent agency Animal Savvy, represents dogs—and everything from tortoises to chickens—for film, television, and print work. A trainer for two decades, with 23 years in the film industry, Clifford explained that on-set dogs have to be professionally trained by experts with specific movie industry skills for many years. "I get emails all the time saying, 'Oh, my dog is really cute,' and that just doesn't cut it," said Clifford. "Because sometimes their dogs are really cute, but the client is under a deadline and has a shooting schedule, and they're paying a lot of money to have a trained dog on set. There's not a lot of room for error if the dog isn't performing and hitting his marks. And it has to do it multiple times. Obedience classes are a great start, but to do film or print work they have to have a very specific type of training."

Of course, there's always a chance to have your pooch score some recognition at our local dog show. Last year, the City of Beverly Hills Community Services Committee held its first Beverly Hills Doggy Daze 90210 pet contest. It was a rebranding of the previous event known as Woofstock, held for more than a decade at Roxbury Park. Over 600 dogs were submitted in a dozen categories, and thousands of residents cast their votes for the winner.

To fully understand the scope of creating a true celebrity canine, we scoured social media, staked-out movie sets, and tracked down prize-winning pups to find these furry fame hounds. These pooches have shared screen time with the likes of Beyoncé; they've walked Oscar red carpets and Fashion Week runways—they are the most famous four-legged stars of Beverly Hills. (But don't worry; we're sure yours is cuter.)



TOP: SEBASTIAN SPORTING A COLLAR FROM HIS ACCESSORIES LINE, LUXURY PET FASHION
BOTTOM: WITH BEYONCÉ IN THE SINGER'S FILM "BLACK IS KING"
PHOTOS COURTESY ALLYSA PAYNE

The Brand Ambassador

Sebastian, or Sebastian The Standard, as he's known to his 19.7k Instagram followers, is one of Beverly Hills' most popular doggy denizens on social media. His feed is filled with pictures of him (often alongside his mom, handbag designer Allysa Payne) at various spots around town—chilling on the outdoor patio at Il Pastaio (where he's a regular, and they know him by name), staying cool in the shade under the awning of The Maybourne Café, or just strolling along Rodeo Drive. With his wild mane of white fur and permanent ear-to-ear smile, the 5-year-old standard poodle is often stopped by fans who line up to snap selfies with him wherever he goes. Beyond social media, Sebastian's credits include a photo shoot for Vogue Italia (shot on location in Malibu by Ukrainian photographer Yulia Tregub Morris), campaign imagery for singer Saweetie's collaboration with the women's fashion line Pretty Little Things (the shots made their way onto giant billboards in Times Square), and a role in Beyoncé's film "Black is King." For the latter,





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Love Beverly Hills





TOP: SEBASTIAN ON SET WITH POP STAR SAWEETIE
 BOTTOM: ON A WALK AROUND BEVERLY HILLS
 PHOTOS COURTESY ALLYSA PAYNE

Sebastian was handpicked by Beyoncé herself. “She really wanted him,” said Payne. “It was a huge production, shot on location at ‘the Godfather House’ in Beverly Hills. I was thrilled and, more importantly, Sebastian absolutely loved it.” Now, Sebastian has embarked on the next phase of his career—brand ambassador and potential mogul. Payne is expanding her line of leather and faux python bags (under the label Allysa Payne Beverly Hills) to include a collection of high-end dog collars, leashes and accessories called Luxury Pet Fashion. And who better to model the blinged-out, made in Italy, doggie gear? Sebastian, of course. New products are launched on his Instagram where the poodle sports the latest looks with Payne in matching ensembles. “I like the idea of Sebastian as an entrepreneur,” said Payne, “and positioning the brand from a dog’s point of view because people are so much more responsive to animals, especially dogs.”



TOP: BEVERLY HILLS BRUNO
 BOTTOM (LEFT): POSING FOR INSTAGRAM
 PHOTOS COURTESY LIZZIE BOWERS

The Top Model

A micro teacup poodle weighing in at just 2 pounds, Bruno is known for his impeccable fashion sense and his irresistible videos on Instagram where he goes by the handle Beverly Hills Bruno TM. The trademark symbol isn’t official; it’s just a little extra flourish his owner Lizzie Bowers bestowed upon him. Given his outsized personality, it’s fitting. Decked out in designer duds (like a teensy Gucci bomber jacket) and his face-framing fur upswept in a signature bow, he bobs and grooves to tunes from chart-toppers like Harry Styles in the clips on his feed and wins hearts and likes, and followers—16.6k of them so far. Most

PETS CONTINUES ON PAGE 54



FAR RIGHT: BRUNO ON THE RUNWAY AT DESIGNER ANTHONY RUBIO’S L.A. FASHION WEEK SHOW
 PHOTO BY ARUN NEVADER/GETTY IMAGES

GIVE GREATNESS.



Happy Holidays

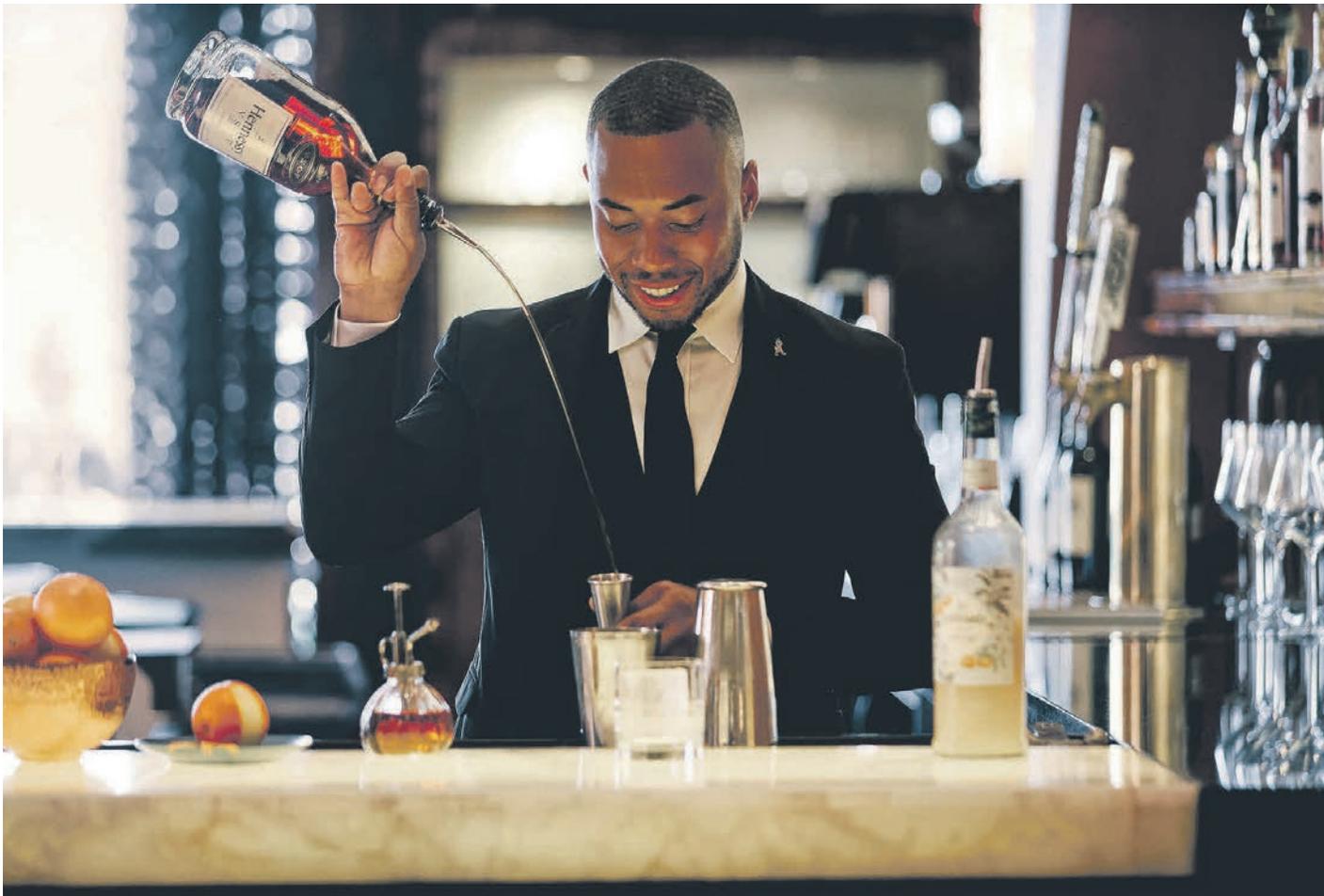

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Where to Get in the Holiday (Zero-Proof) Spirit

BY LINDA IMMEDIATO



SERVING UP REFRESHING ALCOHOL-FREE LIBATIONS AT THEBLVD LOUNGE
PHOTO COURTESY THEBLVD LOUNGE

Tis the season of cocktail parties, holiday dinners and festive gatherings, giving us a months-long reason to celebrate—and imbibe. But not everyone will be toasting at Thanksgiving with goblets of wine or popping bottles of bubbly as they ring in the New Year.

According to the Bacardi Cocktail Trends Report 2022, 58% of those who drink alcohol are increasingly opting for non- and low-alcoholic cocktails across the globe. This worldwide trend is not a temperance movement; it isn't about morality or enforced sobriety; it's about choices and having options. And it's being driven largely by the younger generation and the health-conscious.

After years of constantly thinking about our individual health and the collective well-being of our communities, it's not surprising many are choosing to get in the holiday spirit, sans spirits.

To understand why this shift has happened we have to look to the early days of the pandemic when there was so much uncertainty and anxiety compounded by lockdown, imposed isolation and the stress of navigating work from home and remote schooling logistics. There was a palpable tension that seemed to hang in the air everywhere—along the sparse-shelved supermarket aisles, in the spaces between the social-distanced, masked-clad people waiting in epic lines outside of shops. Adjusting to the “new normal” of this unprecedented event began to take its toll. And many Americans turned, as they have in the past during times of crisis, to drinking.

According to a study published in December 2020 by the National Library of Medicine (an organization within the National Institutes

of Health), in-store alcohol sales jumped 54% and online purchases spiked 262% between March 1 and April 18, 2020 (compared to sales data for the same week in 2019). And throughout the rest of 2020, alcohol consumption remained high, with 60% of participants in the study reporting that their drinking increased in 2020. “Of those, 45.7% reported that their drinking had increased because of increased stress, 34.4% reported that their drinking had increased because of the increased availability of alcohol, and 30.1% reported that their drinking had increased because of boredom. Almost two-thirds of the participants (63.7%) listed some combination of these three reasons. The remainder either gave no reason (1.7%) or some other reason (4.0%), such as ‘It gives me the feeling of going out,’ [or] ‘I feel safer because I am at home...,’” the study stated, also noting that similar alcohol consumption spikes were reported in the wake of 9/11.

Numbers remained high but fluctuated throughout 2021 as many tried to course correct, culminating in a worldwide movement spurred by social media. Known as Dry January (with its own hashtag), millions publicly pledged to abstain from alcohol for the entire month. The trend continued and has gained steam.

According to a report by NielsenIQ published this year, U.S. retail sales of non-alcoholic spirits have grown 116%; non-alcoholic beer jumped 21%; and non-alcoholic wine rose 20%.

The zero-proof industry is now expected to become a multibillion-dollar industry. Dozens of brands like Seedlip, Amass and Monday

SPIRITS CONTINUES ON PAGE 60

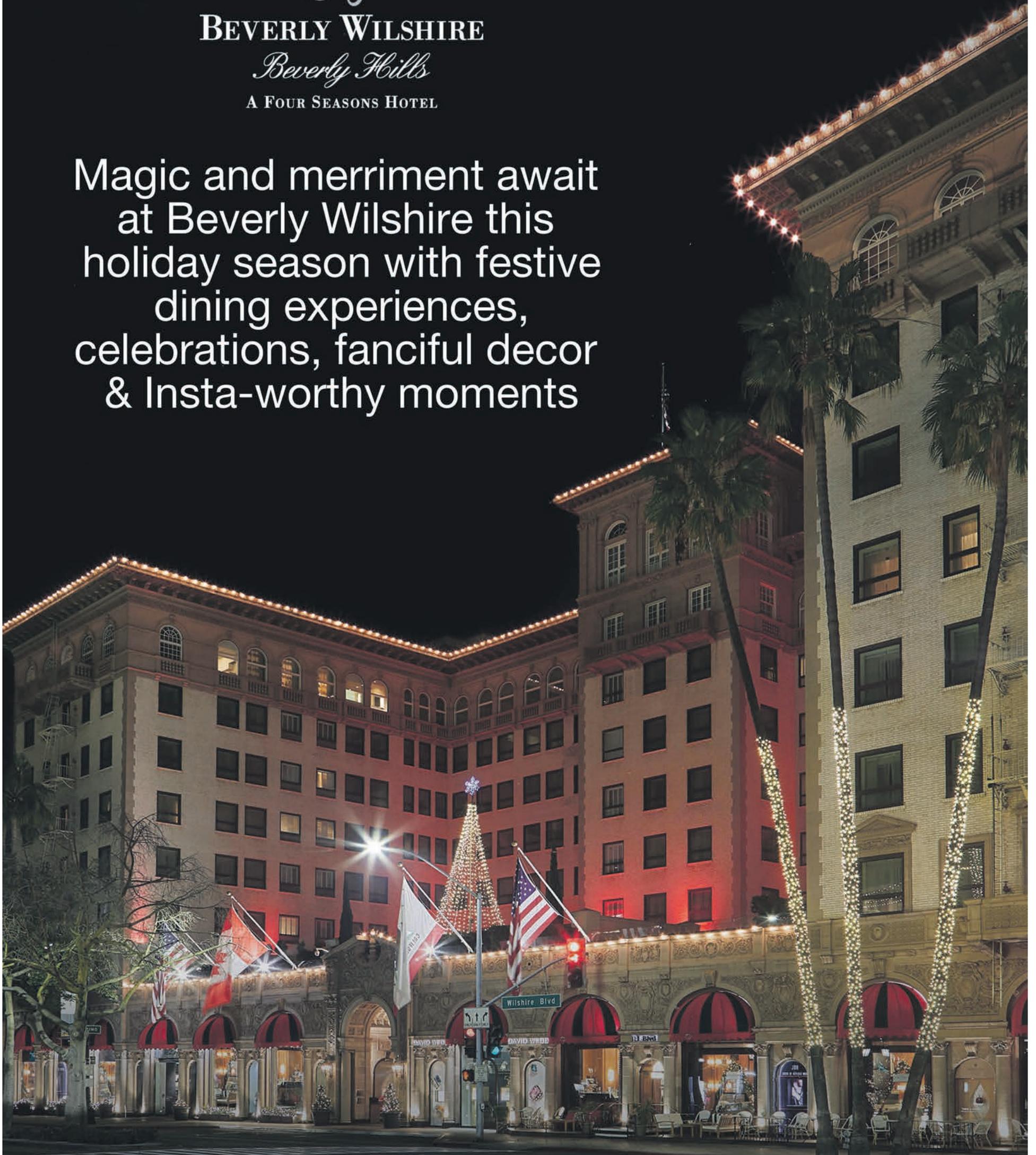


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How to Practice Mindfulness in Beverly Hills

BY LINDA IMMEDIATO



GROUP MINDFULNESS AND MEDITATION RETREAT LED BY SHEHERA MOCELLIN (FAR LEFT)
PHOTO COURTESY SHEHERA MOCELLIN

Mind over matter. It's all in your mind. The mind is a terrible thing to waste. We're all familiar with these 20th century aphorisms that acknowledge the power of the human brain. These days, however, you're more likely to hear the word "mindfulness" bandied around than any of these prior pithy observations. It's so often used that it's become a commodity. There's a whole category of products devoted to "mindfulness" on Goop, where the word is listed in a drop-down menu under "wellness" between "aromatherapy" and "sex toys." That might be expected, but search Amazon for "mindfulness," and you'll get over 40,000 results. So, what exactly is mindfulness?

The concept of mindfulness stems from Buddhist and Hindu teachings and encompasses the belief that the first step toward enlightenment begins with being present and aware. "Sati" is a Pali word, which roughly translated means "mindfulness." Spiritually speaking, it's a way to connect to yourself and to the universe, bringing more peace and harmony into your life.

In practice, mindfulness is the intentional act of remaining in the present moment by focusing your conscious attention on anything and everything that you do. This includes ordinary, everyday tasks like eating to controlling an otherwise involuntary action like breathing, to going inward and taking a mental inventory of your thoughts and emotions. By focusing your awareness on your actions, thoughts, emotions and your body, you become better able to recognize shifts, and to pinpoint any problems and process them as they arise. This holistic approach to mindfulness is what's called "mind, body, spirit alignment." And the goal is to have all three in balance.

Mindfulness has been shown to have scientific evidence-based benefits—it can reduce pain, stress, anxiety, and depression. It can lead to healthier eating habits and a better night's sleep. And there are myriad ways to practice mindfulness in Beverly Hills—from local meditation retreats, to sound baths, and breathwork classes. You'll even find many therapists in the area who incorporate mindfulness techniques in their sessions, combining ancient Eastern practices with Western psychology and psychotherapy. These hybrid therapies are said to help those working through difficulties like past traumas or rocky marriages.

One of the more common ways people are introduced to mindfulness is through meditation. In its very essence, meditation offers a chance to slow down, breathe, collect oneself, reflect, and remain present. There are many different types of meditation—all involve closing your eyes and taking deep regulated breaths. Some, like Transcendental Meditation, involve clearing your thoughts to allow you to tap into the deep subconscious layers of the mind. Others are guided, with an instructor painting mental images for you to follow. During the pandemic, downloads of guided meditation apps like Headspace, which touted the benefits of mindfulness, exploded.

In recent years, meditation studios have proliferated across Southern California, popular with the after-work set looking to unwind after the daily grind at the office. Here in Beverly Hills, nestled up against the rugged hills of Beverly Glen Park, lies InsightLA's Benedict Canyon Retreat House. For 20 years, the nonprofit has been offering meditation classes, workshops, and retreats in locations across Los Angeles. The hacienda-style home, surrounded by San Pedro cactus and wild scrubland just off Benedict Canyon, is one of its main retreat centers and is host to half, full, and multiday retreats, where in-person meditation groups (for those fully vaccinated) explore topics like "Mindful Self-Compassion" and "Strengthening the Heart."

Through Insight in Action, InsightLA's community outreach branch, the center partners with other nonprofits and schools to provide free online mindfulness training to vulnerable populations, teachers, caregivers, and first responders.

The meditation center also offers online-only, single-class special events, which bring voices from around the world into your home. For example, last month an online class entitled, "The Mindful Journey: A Discussion with Members of the First All-Black Climbing Team to Summit Mt. Everest," was led by a group from the Full Circle Climbing Team who shared their experiences scaling the world's tallest mountain and how extreme athletes use mindfulness techniques to overcome obstacles. This month, you can log on to meditate with Venerable

MINDFULNESS CONTINUES ON PAGE 66

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The Soul of an Artist: UTA's Arthur Lewis' Journey from Collector to Patron

BY LINDA IMMEDIATO



LEFT: ARTHUR LEWIS IN HIS BEVERLY HILLS HOME

RIGHT: "THE END OF THE BEGINNING" BY ESIRI ERHERIENE-ESSI, A RECENT ACQUISITION BY LEWIS

LEFT PHOTO BY JEFF MCLANE; RIGHT PHOTO BY MARTEN ELDER, COURTESY OF THE ARTIST AND NINO MIER GALLERY

In 2015, United Talent Agency (UTA), one of the largest talent agencies in Hollywood representing some of the biggest stars in the film industry, expanded with a Fine Arts division with Joshua Roth at the helm. A year later, they opened the UTA Artist Space gallery in Boyle Heights. After a couple of years, the decision was made to move it closer to headquarters in Beverly Hills into a sleek, natural-lit building designed by Ai Weiwei. And in 2019, Arthur Lewis was brought in as partner and creative director.

Since joining UTA Fine Arts, Lewis has lured some of the biggest and brightest new artists from around the world to Beverly Hills. During his tenure, the Artist Space has exhibited diverse showcases for artists, including Blitz Bazawule, Enrique Martínez Celaya, Ernie Barnes, and Mandy El-Sayegh. Lewis also serves on the board of major art institutions across the country. To his peers and the young artists in his orbit, he is a mentor, a collaborator and a stalwart supporter of the arts.

But Lewis didn't tread the well-worn pathways toward a career in art. His was a circuitous route; a peregrination that had him crisscrossing the country on a detour through fashion. But along his journey, he witnessed firsthand how the two worlds often dovetailed.

Lewis was born in New Orleans and relished his childhood in the land of *étouffée*, jazz clubs and the pageantry of endless parades. But it was the art museums of the Big Easy that called to him. While most kids spent Saturday mornings glued to cartoons, Lewis had his own ritual. He made a weekly pilgrimage to the New Orleans Museum of Art where he combed through the historic New Orleans collection and delighted in the traveling antiquities, like the King Tut exhibit, that arrived from far-flung lands. These little escapes and explorations of his youth would have a lasting impact.

At 18, Lewis headed off to Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia where he studied political science. "None of that was for me," Lewis laughed. So, when it came time for a summer job, he didn't apply to a local politician's office; instead, he headed back to New Orleans and scored a position at Saks Fifth Avenue as a department manager. "And

you know, honestly, back then I thought retail was going to be my whole life. That's *the* thing I wanted to do," he said. From there Lewis went to work at Armani Exchange. But he had impressed his bosses so much during his time at Saks that he was asked to join the team setting up the Contemporary Sportswear department at the store in Beverly Hills. He jumped at the chance and moved to the West Coast. A brief stint at Banana Republic in Santa Monica followed, and while there he met the company's then-President Maureen Chiquet. "She told me I was in the wrong job. She said I was a 'merchant.' I didn't even know what that meant," Lewis chuckled. "But I trusted her, and I took a new role altogether." That new role was in the merchandising department of Banana Republic in San Francisco. He rose up through the ranks quickly, landing the position of Senior Vice President of Merchandising at Banana Republic's sister company, Old Navy. Lewis would eventually move back east, to New York City for a job as Executive Vice President of Product Management and Design for Kohl's. But his time at Old Navy, where he said he "had one of the best runs in retail," left a lasting impression on him. Every now and then Lewis takes a trip down memory lane, Googling the ad campaigns he worked on while at the company. "What we were doing was crazy good," he said proudly.

One of the things he loved about the job was visiting with the design team, especially when they came back from trips abroad, and watching their inspirations take form. Perhaps it tapped into that part of him that's still the kid from New Orleans slinking off to see sarcophagi in dusty museums. But it was the work of the graphic designers that began to excite him the most. These creatives drew heavily from the art world, whether it was a specific work of art or an artist's use of color. Lewis would get lost in the designers' mood boards. There, pinned in plain sight, he could see how artworks were deconstructed and reconstructed into articles of clothing. "One of my favorite all-time examples of this was this amazing painting from Damien Hirst," Lewis explained. "And

LEWIS CONTINUES ON PAGE 69



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Must-Haves for the Holidays

Merry and Bright

BY LINDA IMMEDIATO

This year, we can finally celebrate the season of merry-making as we used to when we didn't have to turn in proof of vaccination along with an RSVP, or have to finagle sipping a cocktail while wearing a mask. The holidays just seem more joyous. Even the city itself seems to be brimming with holiday spirit. The jingle of Christmas music, from the recently upgraded sound system, drifts along the thoroughfares. There's a new Hanukkah menorah statue and a 14-foot Christmas tree in Beverly Gardens Park, a light sculpture exhibit at Beverly Canon Gardens, and a light show projection at City Hall. And as you eye your stack of invitations to holiday parties or begin to plan a gathering you're hosting, you may be looking to step up your cheer quotient this year as well. We've compiled this collection of the latest offerings at local shops to inspire you to sparkle up your wardrobe or warm your home. You might even find some gift ideas for loved ones on your list.

1. Made of 20-carat gold and engraved with the year 2022, Baccarat's Annual Christmas ornament (available at **Gearys**) is destined to become a treasured family holiday heirloom. \$160 at **Gearys**, 351 N. Beverly Drive, 310-273-4741 and gearys.com

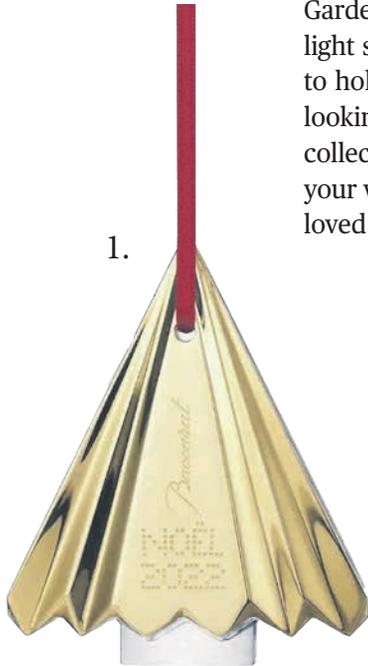
2. Tired of your go-to LBD? Upgrade your cocktail wardrobe with this 1940s Hollywood-inspired dress from **Badgley Mischka**. \$595 at **Neiman Marcus**, 9700 Wilshire Blvd., 310-550-5900 and neimanmarcus.com

3. The construction of each pair of these **Ferragamo** patent leather slip-on shoes takes five days, requires 160 different phases, and is done almost entirely by hand. \$1,150 at **Ferragamo**, 357 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-273-9990 and ferragamo.com

4. Make your fashion statement a festive one in **Gucci's** wool linen herringbone formal jacket for men. The cardinal red blazer, festooned with gold-toned buttons, speaks for itself. \$3,600 at **Gucci**, 347 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-278-3451 and gucci.com

5. Channel your inner Wonder Woman with this elegant **Tiffany & Co.** 18-carat gold cuff from Elsa Peretti's "Bone Collection." \$16,000 at **Tiffany & Co.**, 210 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-273-8880 and tiffany.com

6. An evening bag should never be an afterthought. In fact, you might want to build your entire ensemble around this one made of bright red, recycled fox fur patches by **Fendi**. \$4,400 at **Fendi**, 201 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-623-3420 and fendi.com



Sparkle and Shine



1. You'll rival the sparkle of disco balls and out-flash paparazzi cameras in this sequined **Carolina Herrera** gown. \$5,490 at *CH Carolina Herrera*, 230 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-276-8900 and carolinaherrera.com

2. This chic portable wireless speaker from **Louis Vuitton** offers a booming 360 degrees of sound and a colorful light show, so you can bring the party with you wherever you go. \$3,100 at *Louis Vuitton*, 295 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-859-0457 and us.louisvuitton.com

3. Nambe's sleek, contemporary revamp of a traditional menorah (available at **Neiman Marcus**) is made with the company's signature eight-metal alloy. It has a silver-like luster but will never tarnish. \$175 at *Neiman Marcus*, 9700 Wilshire Blvd., 310-550-5900 and neimanmarcus.com

4. Sumptuous and soft, the "Oasi Cashmere Shirt Jacket" by **Zegna**, shown here in ink blue, offers a fresh and modern take on the classic navy blazer. \$4,650 at *Zegna*, 337 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-247-8827 and zegna.com

5. The blue sunburst color of the dial on the 5205G by **Patek Philippe** gently fades to black as it nears the white gold bezel, calling to mind the heavenly shades of nightfall. A prominent moon-phase indicator adds to the effect. It's a timeless timepiece that will make any collector of fine watches swoon. \$55,590 at *Gearys Patek Philippe*, 360 N. Rodeo Drive, #2, 310-887-4200 and gearys.com/patek-philippe

6. These versatile high-shine slingbacks from **Prada** work for both formal occasions and casual ones. Their neutral silver metallic shade will match any outfit. \$1,200 at *Prada*, 343 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-278-8661 and prada.com



MUST-HAVES FOR THE HOLIDAYS CONTINUE ON PAGE 72



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ANASTASIA

Beverly Hills' World-Famous Eyebrow Queen

BY LISA FRIEDMAN BLOCH

In the mid-'90s, Anastasia Soare would stroll the Triangle, taking note of empty storefronts and jotting down realtor names and numbers on posted "For Lease" signs. She had already amassed a following of devotees who flocked to get their brows done by her, but had grown tired of working at the back of someone else's salon.

"I came to America with the idea that I was going to work in Beverly Hills. It was not even a question—I *would* work in a salon in Beverly Hills," she says.

But after accomplishing this, she firmly set her sights on her next goal, to realize her dream of owning her own salon.

While on her reconnaissance walks, Anastasia often found herself drawn to a building at 430 North Bedford Drive. For two years it sat vacant with a sign on its façade that read, "Dembo Realty," until one day, she decided to take the plunge. She called the realtor who later set up a meeting with the landlord.

When, face-to-face, the landlord heard Anastasia's plans to open an eyebrow salon, he was incredulous, "You do eyebrows!? Get outta here. You can't pay rent. This is Beverly Hills lady."

Undeterred, Anastasia returned to his office with magazine photos and articles of her famous clients.

"I'm going to make this street famous," she told him. "You have to believe in me."

He didn't.

Driven by her convictions and life experiences, she tried again.

"I am sure your grandparents or great-grandparents came here. Immigrants as well. Somebody gave them a chance. Please give me a chance. Six months. If I don't make it, I will leave."

The landlord eventually gave in.

In May of 1997, "Anastasia" opened its doors to a long line of awaiting customers, many of them celebrities. Vindication was quick to follow, when the landlord, seeing the crowd from his office across the street, called the salon to verify that all of the people were, in fact, queuing up for eyebrow service. When the receptionist confirmed, he was astounded and asked to speak to Anastasia. She got on the phone and told him flatly, "Like I told you, I'm going to make this street famous." To this day, 25 years later, the space has remained her flagship salon.

Anastasia recounts this defining moment in her life from a hotel suite in Paris. She's taking a break from her jam-packed traveling schedule, which has taken her all over the European continent, to virtually connect with me in our Beverly Hills Courier offices.

To beauty buffs and die-hard makeup aficionados, Anastasia probably needs no introduction. Even women who prefer to go au naturel have, more than likely, at least heard of the eyebrow brand, "Anastasia Beverly Hills." In the early aughts, Anastasia revolutionized the cosmetics industry by creating a then-unheard-of niche centered around a technique and product devoted to something most never gave a second thought to—eyebrows. These days, brows are a multimillion-dollar category in the beauty industry. You can't walk down a beauty aisle without bumping into a display case of products promising thicker, fuller, tidier, better-shaped brows, all thanks to Anastasia's trailblazing concept.

In June, Forbes published its list, "America's Richest Self-Made Women 2022," which ranks the wealthiest women in the United States. The article placed Anastasia at number 38.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of Anastasia Beverly Hills, with products now available in almost 2000 stores internationally. To fully understand the scope of her rise to a globally recognized mononym with a beauty empire, Anastasia, from Paris, takes us back to the start. It was 33 years ago, at age 32, clutching her two-year-old daughter, Claudia, in her arms, when Anastasia boarded an airplane from her Eastern Bloc homeland en route to America.

Born in Constanta, an ancient town founded around 600 B.C., Anastasia grew up in Romania's fifth-largest city and largest port on the Black Sea. Despite being immersed in culture, Roman mosaics, celebrated Greek mythological history and ancient ruins, life was challenging under Communistic regimes for Anastasia and her family. By the 1980s, it became untenable. Severe rationing of food, electricity and gas was commonplace.

In 1986, while traveling on a ship for work in Europe, Anastasia's husband, Victor, obtained asylum in Italy at the American Embassy, thereby opening the door for Anastasia and their daughter to come to America.

After three long years, Anastasia was able to legally leave her mother and sister (her father had passed away when she was a young girl) and travel for the first time, boarding the airplane, with Claudia in tow, bound for America. Their eventual landing spot was Los Angeles.

"Everybody on the planet Earth, from every small town to a big town, dreams of Beverly Hills. I was dreaming 30, 40 years ago. People are still dreaming. So that was my dream, like everybody else."



ANASTASIA (LEFT) WITH MAKEUP ARTIST CECILIA MORENO (CENTER) IN HER EARLY SALON
PHOTO COURTESY ANASTASIA

In Communist Romania where all information was controlled, Anastasia's introduction to Beverly Hills was through movies.

"I mean it was very hard for us to even buy a Vogue magazine. But I remember 'Beverly Hills Cop,' with Eddie Murphy. I think I watched that movie 100 million times. And 'Pretty Woman,' another movie."

These celluloid images—of ritzy boutiques along Rodeo Drive, palm tree-lined, sun-drenched streets dotted with sprawling mansions, where handsome men in European convertible sports cars escorted incredibly stylish women to lavish dinners—captured Anastasia's imagination. And they flickered on the screen in stark contrast to the realities of life that surrounded her. She knew she was going to Beverly Hills.

She arrived to find those two-dimensional moving images come to life. Beverly Hills seemed to fulfill all of its onscreen promises. But her unwavering desire to live in America prevented her from considering what the transition would be like in a new country, far from home.

"I never, ever for a minute, thought what I'm going to do there. Or it's going to be bad, I'm going to be lonely. But when I arrived in the United States, in Los Angeles, I felt like, oh my God, I don't know anyone. I don't speak the language. I miss my family, I miss my home, I miss everything. I cried for the first six months. Every day."

A stranger in a foreign land, Anastasia had to support herself and her daughter. Returning to Romania was not an option as the revolution was about to take place. At this time, she was offered her first job in an American salon, as a waxing aesthetician, to replace another Romanian woman going on maternity leave. It was there she quickly learned the techniques in America were very different from those back in Romania.

"As aestheticians, we had to go to a pharmacy and make a custom cream because you couldn't go into a department store to buy a cream. This is why sometimes I think women are so lucky to live in the United States. You can choose from whatever you want. You are overwhelmed by so much. In Romania we didn't have any," she says.

Anastasia describes beauty school in Romania as an intense and extensive two-year program. "You need to learn biology and chemistry. People didn't go to a dermatologist for anything other than dermatitis or a really (serious) skin condition," she says. "But for a facial, for pimples, they used to go to an aesthetician."

It was while working as a waxing aesthetician that she discovered

how little attention was given to eyebrows. Worse yet, she remembers the style was extremely thin with an unnatural high arch. Recalling the lessons from her art teacher in Romania, she knew that when painting a portrait, the eyebrow is important as the shape affects the subject's emotion. If you want to change the emotion, you have to change the shape of the eyebrow. But how can that be done when the brow was so thin and round?

Having also learned about Leonardo da Vinci's use of Golden Ratio proportions in his works, she had the idea to apply the concept to eyebrows with respect to the bone structure of the face. Maybe a system could be designed by applying this mathematical theory to enhance eyebrows. Anastasia went to the library in Los Angeles to do more research.

After months of studying da Vinci's mastermind approach, she went to an art store and created a stencil, a tool to shape the eyebrow. She began to work on her own eyebrows until she obtained the perfect, natural arch. Soon clients would take notice.

"My clients would ask me, 'What did you do? Did you cut your hair? You look different. You look better,'" she says.

Clients wanted Anastasia to work her brow magic on them, but the process took extra time. Soon the owner of the salon complained to Anastasia that the eyebrows were eating up the "facial" time, and since the salon did not charge à la carte for eyebrows, she could no longer provide the ancillary service.

This did not hold Anastasia back. She began taking house calls on weekends. Eventually, entire households, men and women, wanted her service. This convinced her she was on to something.

"The transformation with the right-shaped eyebrows was so incredible that I really believed that [the concept] would make a difference on everybody's face."

Deciding this was her path, she opened up the Los Angeles Times looking to rent her own space. "I told my husband, 'I'm going to open my own business and it's going to be in Beverly Hills. I don't want to go anywhere else. Only in Beverly Hills.'"

She admits it was scary at first, but she had a vision. She believed in eyebrows.

"Look, I left my family. I left my country, I left everybody, all my

friends. I left my house to come here. I'm not going to do this for the rest of my life. To be in a small little room. I want to build something. And I have this vision. I really believe in it. Everybody was saying, 'You are crazy...You can't pay rent doing eyebrows. This is not big enough.'

Between 1992 and 1996, she rented a small room at Juan Juan in Beverly Hills, and Anastasia, driven, focused and passionate, built an impressive clientele of movie stars and entertainers, supermodels, successful business executives and local folks, such as Kim Kardashian, Jennifer Lopez, Eva Longoria, Naomi Campbell, Victoria Beckham and Oprah Winfrey. Since eyebrow products were limited on the market, Anastasia took a playbook page from her time in Romania, mixed together drugstore products—Vaseline, aloe vera and eye shadow—and used them in her salon.

One such client, actress Poppy Montgomery, and her agent approached Anastasia about Poppy filming in Canada for several months and requested Anastasia to provide a small traveling case of the products Anastasia used in the salon. About the same time, her clients would comment, "My eyebrows look perfect when I leave, but after I take a shower, I still have gaps. It's not the same. I need products."

Anastasia recognized the big opportunity to mass-produce eyebrow products. Ever resourceful, she made several stencils and filled many little containers with her formulas for the clients who could not regularly come into the salon. The concept was revolutionary. She knew she needed to manufacture these products and capitalize on what she felt was "lightning in a bottle." So, she hopped on a plane to Italy, the only place where cosmetics were mass-produced at that time, and began working with a manufacturer.

She also knew that the timing was right to pursue her dream of opening her own salon. By now Romania had recovered from the revolution. The government was giving back Anastasia's home. Feeling the pull to return, she decided to visit Romania and contemplate moving back, permanently. But after one week, she knew she belonged in Beverly Hills.

"I think it was very good for me to do that because I realized that it was important to close that door," Anastasia says of her visit to her native country, which only served to strengthen her resolve to make it here in America. "And I said to myself, 'Okay, this is where I'm going to build a business. This is the country that will give me the opportunities.' In Romania, I couldn't do it."

It was after this trip, armed with a renewed sense of resolve, that she found her own eyebrow salon in Beverly Hills, at 430 North Bedford Drive.

Shortly afterward, Anastasia would make a decision that would forever entwine her business with Beverly Hills where she knew she would make her mark. Her lawyer approached her, advising that her single name was not strong enough for her company. He suggested adding "Beverly Hills" to the brand's name. She wholeheartedly agreed. "I felt this incredible pride to represent the city as it was my dream to be in Beverly Hills."

Anastasia officially became "Anastasia Beverly Hills."

At this point, her daughter Claudia was a young child, and as a single mother, Anastasia often brought her to the salon.

As a child back in Romania, Anastasia would spend time at her parents' tailoring shop, which they operated out of the front of the family home. It was there that Anastasia received first-hand knowledge, watching her parents, and then her mother alone, interact with clients.

"My mother used to cater to the wives of leaders of the Communist Party. But even with normal people, she never made a separation. Everybody wanted to look beautiful. And she loved that." Anastasia credits her mother with passing down this egalitarian legacy of ensuring customer satisfaction for all, a legacy Anastasia was passing down to Claudia.

In 2000, Anastasia finally launched her first full-scale eyebrow product line. It was a resounding success with her clients. Her motto about success? "It's 10% talent, 90% hard work. The harder you work, the luckier you get."

She proved her "lucky" theory soon thereafter. Two executives from Nordstrom came into the salon for an eyebrow treatment after reading



MOMENTS FROM ANASTASIA'S LIFE, PAST AND PRESENT:

1. ANASTASIA IN HER STUDIO
2. ANASTASIA, HER DAUGHTER CLAUDIA, AND HER MOTHER
3. ANASTASIA AND KRIS JENNER AT THE L.A. BALLET GALA
4. ANASTASIA LAUNCHING "BROW FREEZE" AT ABH STUDIO
5. ANASTASIA WITH BROW ARTISTS FROM THE BEVERLY HILLS SALON, INCLUDING, TRACY TAYLOR, ANITA IKNADOSSIAN, JASMINE KIDD, AND ALEXANDRA CHAVEZ
6. ANASTASIA WITH STEFANIA MAGIDSON, FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT OF BLUE HERON
7. ANASTASIA AT THE OFFICIAL 2015 WHITE HOUSE CHRISTMAS PARTY

PHOTOS COURTESY ANASTASIA (PHOTO #4 MAKEUP BY ROKAEL LIZAMA)

“I left my family. I left my country, I left everybody, all my friends, I left my house to come here... I want to build something. And I have this vision. I really believe in it.”

about her innovative approach to eyebrows in magazines. While buying her products following their appointments, they told Anastasia that they wanted her products to be sold at Nordstrom.

Anastasia knew that going from a single, local boutique to being a part of a well-respected national department store chain with dozens of locations across the country would be transformative. But she was true to her mission. Instinctively, she felt her products would not be successful unless the employees were trained with her eyebrow products and techniques. Focused, confident and determined, Anastasia convinced the top brass at Nordstrom to invest in brow studios within their stores.

Peggy Moore, VP of Cosmetic Merchandise Manager of Nordstrom, shares, “I was honored to be the first national merchandise manager to launch Anastasia products and services for Nordstrom stores,” she says. “In our first meeting, I remember she was genuine, and her business plan was unique. She understood the customers’ needs, the retailers’ needs, as well as how to bring it together in a profitable way. She was the hardest working vendor that I ever met, and her tireless efforts surely paid off. She was and still is the real deal.”

But training beauty consultants all over the country on how to work with the products, along with waxing and shaping, became an exhaustive process. Her hard work ethic went into full gear.

“Saturday, we’d finish at the salon at 7 in the evening. We’d take our carry-on, fly on the red eye to one city. The next day, Sunday, I would wax eyebrows all day long, and Claudia would teach the client how to use the products. Then at 7 p.m. on Sunday, we’d go to another city close by. We’d do another event on Monday in Nordstrom, and Monday night we’d fly back and arrive at midnight. We worked seven days a week. This is how we used to train the aestheticians.”

Claudia, now a college student, was by her mother’s side as always, going on these training trips and working part time, manning the front desk at the salon. Until one day, fed up with Claudia showing up to work late for the umpteenth time, Anastasia fired her. In disbelief, Claudia left the salon and looked for another job.

Anastasia claims her multi-tasking daughter was extremely efficient and talented, particularly in servicing the customers, answering phones, and facilitating credit card transactions. Still, Anastasia felt she needed to teach her daughter a lesson. A month passed. Anastasia hired several people to replace the work of Claudia. Anastasia missed her but was unwilling to beg her to come back.

“One day, Claudia came in [to the salon] and said, ‘Mom, can I borrow some money? Because after taxes, I don’t have enough money to pay my rent.’ I told her, ‘You wanted to be independent, I’m sorry. Go and get another job. I’m not going to give you the money because you need to learn.’” With that, Anastasia went back to her appointments. An hour later, Claudia was still there. Seeing her daughter’s resolve, she softened, and offered Claudia her job back but warned, “the moment you walk inside this store, I’m not your mother. And you have to work harder than everybody else. Because I’m going to be tougher on you than everybody else. I will set an example with you.”



ANASTASIA WITH HER MOTHER, THEN AND NOW
PHOTOS COURTESY ANASTASIA

The anecdote illustrates just how much Anastasia believes that the key to achieving one’s goals is by putting in the work. But there’s another belief she’s always held on to: “You have to put it in the universe, and it happens.” In other words, if you believe in something strongly enough and you put it out there, it will happen.

Years earlier, when she first landed in Los Angeles, the only show Anastasia wanted to watch, even though she did not understand English, was “Oprah.” She claims it was how she eventually learned the language. When pushed, she admits, “I wanted to learn how she asks questions because one day I’m going to be on her show, and I need to know how to answer. And of course, well that was the joke.”

In May of 2006, that day really happened. Oprah Winfrey’s production company called the salon; Claudia took the call. They asked Anastasia to appear on the show. As it turned out, the producer had been her client for years, and Anastasia never knew, as she chose not to ask clients what they did for a living. Later, Anastasia learned, coincidentally, that Oprah had been traveling on a private yacht, and the owner’s wife and several other guests began talking about their eyebrow lady who is getting famous, just doing eyebrows. Hearing both accounts, Oprah said I have to meet this woman.

She did, on live television in front of millions of viewers. Anastasia reshaped, plucked and waxed Oprah’s eyebrows with stunning results. Suddenly, Anastasia was in nearly every home in America. It was a game changer.

The television segment catapulted Anastasia Beverly Hills from a local salon and niche beauty brand into the national spotlight.

The business flourished, and Oprah became a regular client. But more so, Anastasia formed a friendship with Oprah and shared many incredible moments with her. “I was able to be close to her and to see what kind of person she really is; so considerate, so incredible, so generous and so smart. And oh my God, I learned so much from her. Not only that, but I learned that I have to be even more humble than I was before. One of the best gifts that I ever had is to meet her and to be around her.”



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She joined Oprah and a multitude of celebrities, including Nelson Mandela, at the opening of Oprah’s Leadership Academy for Girls, south of Johannesburg, South Africa, in January of 2007. “That was the moment when I said, ‘This should be my mission to give back in life. Because this is what is the ultimate happiness.’”

A female founder and CEO, Oprah Winfrey inspired Anastasia to “pay it forward.” Over the years, Anastasia has honored her commitment. She has recognized and reenergized the ongoing efforts to create positive change for women all around the world. And most importantly, Anastasia believes in the importance of education. “I think it’s important to give back, to sponsor children to go to school.”

Anastasia supported the building of a small community school in Africa for Albino children. In Los Angeles, she assists United Friends of the Children in putting foster youth through beauty school with the belief that these young people can make a living, be self-sufficient and enjoy what they do. In Romania, she has been a part of the Blue Heron Foundation for 16 years.

“When we started, there were so many orphanages in Romania with children. They didn’t have windows. They didn’t have doors. It was tragic. It was such an honor for me to partner with Blue Heron to help those kids. I could not stop crying because everybody was talking about how this organization changed their lives. Now the kids are growing. We put them in schools. I sponsor children in the university. It’s amazing.”

Blue Heron Founder and President Stefania Magidson counts Anastasia as one of the organization’s faithful supporters, calling her “an intelligent, fearless woman who built a renowned beauty empire, who has not hesitated to give back as soon as she was in a position to do so.” In fact, Magidson says that thanks to Anastasia’s generous financial support and presence in the community, she has inspired many other



TOP LEFT: ANASTASIA (CENTER) AND BLUE HERON FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT STEFANIA MAGIDSON (CENTER, LEFT) WITH BLUE HERON SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS AND MENTORS IN ROMANIA
TOP RIGHT: ANASTASIA AND OPRAH
PHOTOS COURTESY ANASTASIA

donors to align their philanthropic efforts with the organization. “We continue to be enormously grateful that we can always count on her support.”

Anastasia managed to juggle her philanthropic efforts while building her brand, which for years continued to grow apace. In the intervening years between 2007 to 2010, she expanded, launching a plethora of new brow products—powders, waterproof gels, crème tints, and a collection of every imaginable tool, from brow brushes to tweezers, needed to maintain arches.

In 2010, Anastasia appointed Claudia the President of Anastasia Beverly Hills after Claudia had tirelessly worked her way up the ranks at the company, mastering every aspect of the business.

Anastasia credits Claudia for one of many invaluable contributions to the company. She led the company to Instagram in the earliest years of the platform.

Claudia shares, “2011 was when I realized that social media had power. And that’s when I started dabbling on Instagram. Finally, I got the brand onto Instagram in August 2012. And my mom didn’t really get it. But she didn’t have money for advertising and marketing, compared to all the other brands at Sephora and Ulta. So, I said, ‘You need to speak to the customers directly, and this is how you are going to do it.’ And she said, ‘Okay.’”

They began posting and encouraging special relationships with beauty product users. Claudia studied them, and the competitors, and admits she is a good “pattern reader.”

“I saw the patterns, and I thought we should make some makeup starting with the ‘Contour Kit.’”

This was Anastasia’s first foray into makeup. Launched in 2014, based on what had become her signature use of the Golden Ratio in supporting one’s natural bone structure, the kit presented highlights and shadows used to bring balance and proportion to the face. It also made contouring popular among all beauty lovers, not just professional makeup artists.

Anastasia Beverly Hills sold 50,000 kits in one day, leaving Anastasia and Claudia in shock and without stock for four months. They no longer needed to travel as extensively. Instead, they could post videos on social media and reach, and teach, more clients than ever.

It’s undeniable. Claudia’s visionary instinct to embrace social media has enabled Anastasia Beverly Hills to have an extraordinary social media presence.



ANASTASIA APPLYING HER LATEST PRODUCTS
PHOTO COURTESY ANASTASIA

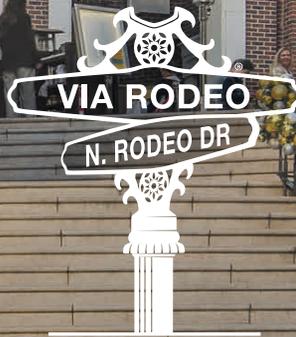
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ANASTASIA DEMONSTRATING HER GOLDEN RATIO TECHNIQUE PHOTO COURTESY ANASTASIA

“I’ve made so many mistakes. People think that if you are successful, you don’t make mistakes. Of course, you do. This is how business is. You need to try, and you make mistakes and you learn, and remember never to do it again.”

By 2015, the Anastasia Beverly Hills Instagram feed was listed as the most followed beauty account by digital think tank L2, which ranked 106 major beauty brands based on their digital reach.

Three years later, in 2018, CNBC published a report that the private equity firm TPG (Texas Pacific Group) had made a strategic investment in Anastasia Beverly Hills, valuing the company at \$3 billion dollars. Anastasia maintained the largest ownership.

Today, there are approximately 80 brow studios inside Nordstrom stores, and the brand is carried in national retailers Sephora, Macy’s, Ulta, Saks Fifth Avenue, Dillard’s, and on the biggest e-commerce outlet, Amazon.

The mother-daughter team continually pushes the brand’s expansion forward, creating and identifying room for improvement in the formulas, such as eyeshadows, liquid lipsticks, and color palettes. Claudia has led the creative team into exciting new areas like the Norvina Collection (Norvina was the name Anastasia had planned to give her daughter, after her paternal grandfather). This latest inspiration is a series that provides makeup for professionals and an exciting entry point into vivid color for all consumers.

“She’s smart, she’s hardworking, she is incredible. And I’m so proud of her,” says Anastasia of her daughter.

When asked about staying in front of the trends within the competitive beauty industry, she says that they strive to innovate while always engaging with their audience.

“Presently, we are working on many different ideas as we want to expand, but the ideas need to make sense. We try many formulas, technologies, and ideas evolve, but for us to go forward, we have to believe in it 100%.”

While Anastasia touts that the brand works for everyone, regardless of age, race or sexual orientation, she also makes it clear that she’s never strayed from her tried-and-true Golden Ratio methodology.

And she admits she’s made mistakes along the way.

“I’ve made so many mistakes. People think that if you are successful, you don’t make mistakes. Of course, you do. This is how business is. You need to try, and you make mistakes and you learn, and remember never to do it again.”

When asked about her biggest achievement, Anastasia points to her daughter. “I think that I was able to give my daughter this drive and the fact that she loves what she does so much, and she has a purpose, in life together with me, is I think my biggest achievement.”

It’s interesting to note that her list doesn’t include founding her company, a homegrown, local business in Beverly Hills, now a global success, or the fact that she’s never taken on a partner.

To financially help her fund the company throughout the years, Anastasia turned to the real estate business, another passion of hers. And she’s done remarkably well, buying, redesigning, and reselling homes in Beverly Hills. She shyly admits “for myself.” Then she clarifies, “I put everything I made back into the business. Because remember, I didn’t have any investors. I was a 100% owner.”

For Anastasia, her ambition and dedication are always paramount. She approaches her goals and works to fulfill her dreams with laser-like focus.

“When I came here, my goal was to be significant. To do something that is going to make me proud and would satisfy the way I am. Because I cannot be mediocre. I need to be the best in what I do. When I see the result, the final result gives me joy.”



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of his wardrobe is bespoke, made to order for him, and some off-the-rack from Mr. Speck's Playhouse on Robertson Boulevard. Bruno isn't new to fashion; he's actually a veteran of New York and L.A. Fashion Week runways. He's a favorite of fashion designer and international pet couturier Anthony Rubio, who flew him out to San Antonio for a jam-packed, five-day trip, which included fashion shows, television appearances (including two morning show broadcasts), and a charity gala. "Bruno loves the attention, but he's a bit of a diva," explained Bowers, who does all of Bruno's photo and video shoots herself. "He doesn't always cooperate." Back in 2018, Bowers set out to build Bruno's Instagram presence. But it wasn't easy. "I basically Googled how to do it," she said. With consistent, twice daily posts, navigating shifting algorithms, following and engaging with other posters hourly, she gradually amassed an audience. At one point, she was juggling two Bruno accounts, which combined had 20k followers. "It basically became a full-time job," she said. "During the pandemic, I had more time, but now, I've slowed down, and I've gotten busy with other things." Though she still posts regularly, especially on those occasions when Bruno is invited to chill with his paw-squad, a group of fellow pet influencers whose owners throw lavish house parties and provide stunning backdrops for the perfect Insta stories. But at the end of the day, for Bowers it's about sharing the joy she gets from Bruno with the rest of the world—and making sure Bruno enjoys the ride as well.



CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: COSMO SHOOTING A TARGET AD; FILMING FOR THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS; AND IN A COMMERCIAL FOR PROGRESSIVE INSURANCE
PHOTOS COURTESY SOPHIA KRYSZEK

The 200-pound Great Dane is trained to go to an exact mark or move between different marks, when to lift his head, bark, make specific movements or facial expressions all directed by Kryszek a distance (30 or 40 feet) away and often without vocal commands. Add to that the ability to ignore the distractions of dozens of people on set. There are strict rules on set to protect animals, and the American Humane Society is always there to make sure they are followed. Fresh water and doggie craft services must be supplied. The dogs can only work a certain number of hours, which on longer movie shoots means there are typically five or six dogs rotated in to play the one on screen. "It's really easy to teach him something new because he enjoys it so much," said Kryszek. "For me, the main thing is just for the dogs to have fun with it. And the more fun they have, the more they enjoy it, the more we enjoy doing it with them."

The Leading Man

Cosmo is a bonafide movie, television, and modeling veteran. Among the 5-year-old's credits are a national Gucci ad campaign, commercials for Progressive car insurance and for the City of Beverly Hills. He appeared in *Vogue*, in a spread shot by the legendary fashion photographer Steven Klein. In fact, Cosmo has done so many jobs over the years, his owner Sophia Kryszek can't keep track of all of them, and many of the productions who've hired Cosmo don't often share footage of the completed work afterward. But for Kryszek and Cosmo, it's not really about the finished product; it's all about the enjoyment they both get from doing the work itself. They train every day, as they have since he was a puppy, and each new job offers a chance to train something new. Cosmo's training goes beyond the usual sit and stay commands.





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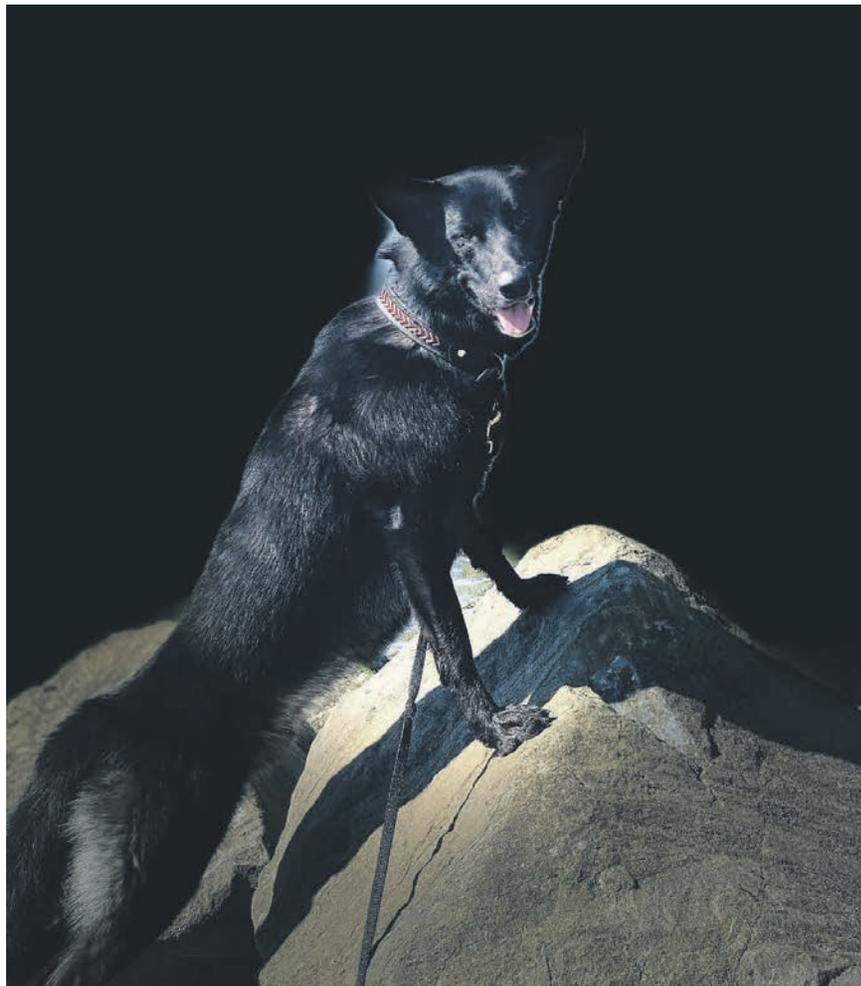


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The Character Actor

Nitro, a 3-year-old Alaskan Noble, is a pro on set. Known for his range, he's played everything from a wolf to a guard dog to a pampered pooch. He's appeared in ads for White Tiger Vodka and Nikon cameras and onscreen in the movie "Beowulf," and has done his fair share of red carpet appearances (including the Oscars). His owner Irena Hauser has trained him since he was a pup, and they continue to train daily. "He is so full of energy; we use that in his work, which is why he is so good with jobs that require a lot of movement and more intense physical roles," said Hauser. "I think that's one of the reasons why he's often cast to play a wolf." Hauser works with a few pet talent agencies that work directly with casting directors. The audition process is relatively simple: they'll ask Hauser to send recent photos of Nitro, and if they're looking for any specific behaviors, they'll ask for a video of the dog performing them. After Nitro is cast, Hauser will be given a list of commands he will be expected to perform once the cameras are rolling. And the dog will be expected to repeat these tasks over and over and with as few mistakes as possible. "It's important to remember that the dogs aren't machines. My first and foremost consideration is always Nitro's safety and making sure he's enjoying himself." But practice time is Hauser's favorite way to bond with her beloved pooch. "Dogs like Nitro need to have something to do; they enjoy it," said Hauser. "They get bored if they're not being challenged. He's having the most fun when he's learning and figuring out what's the next thing I want from him."

TOP: NITRO PLAYING A WOLF ON FILM SET
BOTTOM: NITRO (LEFT) AND COSMO ENJOYING DOWNTIME
PHOTOS COURTESY IRENA HAUSER



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Best Holiday Hound

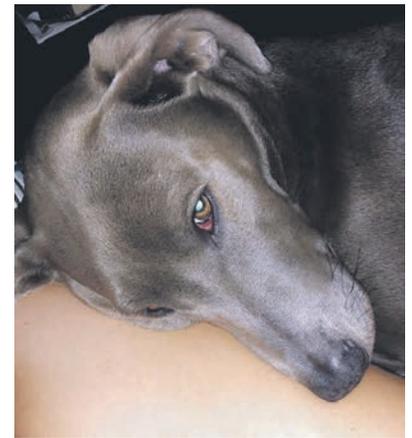
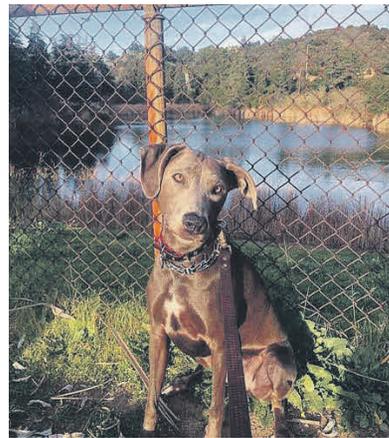
Winnie, a 4-year-old Shih Tzu-poodle mix, loves to dress up in costumes. Last year, adorned simply in a giant red bow, she took home the second-place prize for “Best Holiday Hound” at Beverly Hills Doggy Daze 90210 contest. But Winnie’s mom, Nadina Szew, says that Halloween is her family’s favorite holiday. On Winnie’s Instagram account (@dodettewinnie), you can scroll through snapshots of the pup trick-or-treat-ready, dressed as a UPS carrier and a four-legged prison inmate. “Winnie loves the attention,” said Szew, “she’s quite a natural in front of the lens.” On her feed, Winnie also dons sunglasses and sundresses and poses with Szew in matching outfits. “I just had this overwhelming feeling of love and pride,” said Szew. “It is such a source of happiness, and I believe that we can all take a little bit of that in our daily lives.” Social media has fallen for Winnie, too, and dozens so far have showcased her in featured posts. Are there any product endorsements in Winnie’s future? Perhaps, but for Szew, who works as a volunteer coaching parents and caregivers who are dealing with kids who have eating disorders, Winnie is more of an emotional support dog than an additional income stream. “During the pandemic, our family went through a lot of hardship and Winnie helped all of us through that stressful time.”

TOP: WINNIE, READY FOR HER CLOSE UP
 BOTTOM: ON A JOY RIDE AND TRICK-OR-TREATING
 PHOTOS COURTESY NADINA SZEW



Best Pooch in a Park

When Emma Carden entered her 5-year-old dog Violet in last year’s Doggy Daze 90210 contest, she didn’t know what to expect. Violet isn’t a purebred; she doesn’t have papers or even the level of social media clout that Carden thought many of the other contestants would have. But she knew one thing—that Violet is impossibly adorable and photogenic. “I already had great pictures of Violet, so I needed to decide which category I should enter her under. Going on local hikes is really our thing, and I found the perfect shot of Violet in Franklin Canyon. The lighting was super beautiful, and Violet looked like she was



VIOLET AND HER AWARD-WINNING SHOT (TOP LEFT)
 PHOTOS COURTESY EMMA CARDEN

in her element. I just knew that was the shot and submitted it for ‘Best Pooch in a Park,’” said Carden. Thousands of Beverly Hills residents cast their votes. Carden rallied Violet’s fans on the pup’s Instagram account (@emmalovesyOu). She was thrilled when the results were tallied, and Violet had taken the first-place prize. “I was beyond proud,” she said. These days when she’s not winning contests, Violet spends her time hiking in Coldwater Canyon or strutting down Rodeo Drive with her favorite toy panda in her mouth. “She’s happy just doing normal dog stuff, and for me, I can’t imagine life without her,” Carden said. “Unconditional love, that’s the gift you get when you have a dog, and there’s nothing better than that.”



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Mezcal are popping up to meet the demand. Even celebrities like Katy Perry and Blake Lively are jumping on the booze-free bandwagon with alcohol-free wines.

In February 2021, Boisson, an entire boutique dedicated to high-end non-alcohol (NA) spirits, wines, and brews, opened in Brooklyn, New York. A year later, four more Boisson shops opened across Manhattan. And now the company's West Coast expansion has begun—first, with a storefront in Brentwood this summer, and this month, the Beverly Hills outpost opened with a tightly-curated selection of the best NA brands on the market. Co-owner Nick Bodkins has said that his goal is to provide non-alcoholic shoppers with the same experience as someone walking into an upscale liquor or wine store, including having a knowledgeable

staff on hand to answer any questions. “Most of our customer base is composed of people exploring non-alcoholic options for the first time. Whether they are sober, ‘sober curious’ rethinking their relationship with alcohol or simply moderating,” he said.

“Choosing a location is about neighborhood, walkability, and central location that will allow us to facilitate same-day delivery in a super-efficient way. With these criteria in mind, we chose Brentwood, Beverly Hills and Studio City as our inaugural locations to bring free-spirited sips to Angelenos.”

Local bars have also taken note of the trend. We reached out to popular drinking spots in Beverly Hills to find out what alcohol alternatives they are serving up this holiday season.



THE MAYBOURNE BAR'S "HUNDRED ACRE WOOD" AND "HENDRI-X & TONIC" COCKTAILS
PHOTO COURTESY THE MAYBOURNE BAR

THE MAYBOURNE BAR

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Discreetly tucked away just off the lobby of The Maybourne Beverly Hills Hotel sits The Maybourne Bar. It's a little jewel box of a space with a show-stopping bar—carved in Art Deco style from a single piece of solid Turkish silver onyx—as its centerpiece. Polished curving nickel fixtures and giant glowing Lalique lamps accent the room. Bartenders outfitted in seersucker suits and penny loafers serve up cocktails inspired by The Five Elements Theory, which simply states that everything in nature is connected by Earth, Water, Fire, Air, and Space. But in addition to the fiery-Mezcal and earthy-gin-based concoctions on the menu, you'll find a selection of artisanal handcrafted spirit-free cocktails. Award-winning mixologist Chris Amirault, who spearheads the drinks program at The Maybourne Bar, says that he's witnessed a spike in requests for zero-proof drinks. “Lots of guests are skewing

in the non-alcoholic direction. But I wouldn't call it a trend because non-alcoholic cocktails are here to stay,” he said. “At The Maybourne, we draw a lot of inspiration from The Aviary [in Chicago], which was arguably the first bar to make their own non-alcoholic ‘spirits,’ and we try to do the same since we have the culinary capabilities to do so.” As a result, the options offered here are more refined and complex. The most popular is the “Hendri-x & Tonic” made with Maybourne Cucumber Zero Gin and East Imperial Tonic, a non-alcoholic spin on the timeless gin and tonic, built on the flavors of Hendrick's gin. The “Hundred Acre Wood” is a mix of Lapsang Souchong tea, honey, lime, pineapple and coconut cream, which tastes like a smokey piña colada. The “Melanie,” comprised of Ghai aperitif, pomelo sherbet and soda water, is a citrusy slightly bitter version of a classic Aperol Spritz.



HOLIDAY CHEER THROUGH THE YEARS

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THE HIDEAWAY

421 N. RODEO DRIVE

310-974-8020

Secreted below Two Rodeo Drive sits the recently opened subterranean hotspot The Hideaway. The uber-hip, swanky, Mexican surf-and-turf restaurant and bar is the brainchild of party planner to the stars Jeffrey Best and nightlife impresario Sylvain Bitton (with Hollywood heavyweight actors Ryan Phillippe and Evan Ross among its investors). An ode to 1970s Baja, inspired by Best's childhood trips to a fishing village in Rosarito, the glowing amber-lit space features a spacious patio, intimate cabanas and a central fireplace. The menu from Chefs Alex Moreno (formerly of Best's Habana in Irvine) and Viet Pham (formerly of Best's Firefly in Irvine) boasts riffs on traditional Mexican dishes like wasabi-guacamole, lobster tempura and barbacoa short ribs. Overseeing the bar and its cocktail program is Julian Cox (formerly of Bestia and Otium). While tequila is somewhat of a no-brainer at an establishment such as this (in fact there's even a button on the dining tables to call for another round), The Hideaway also has a selection of non-alcoholic options on offer. Their most popular zero-proof libation is called the "Post Melón" (a tongue-in-cheek nod to the chart-topping, tattooed-faced crooner Post Malone). It's made of lemongrass, fresh lime, housemade coconut cream, and honeydew. The latest seasonal cocktail is called "So Fresca, So Clean" (another pop culture reference, this one a play on the hit song by Outkast) made with hibiscus, lime, pineapple juice and dragon fruit. And for those recovering from an evening of overindulgence, Cox says you can't go wrong with a classic Virgin Bloody Mary. "People and particularly Gen Z are looking for healthier options for beverages in general," he said. "I've definitely seen an uptick in requests. The non-alcoholic or spirit-free section of the menu is now quite common, particularly in higher-end restaurants and bars on the West Coast."



THE HIDEAWAY'S "SO FRESCA, SO CLEAN" SEASONAL MOCKTAIL
PHOTO COURTESY THE HIDEAWAY



CUT LOUNGE'S ZERO-PROOF COCKTAIL, "DOUBLE HAPPINESS"
PHOTO COURTESY THE CUT LOUNGE

CUT LOUNGE AT BEVERLY WILSHIRE, A FOUR SEASONS HOTEL

9500 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD

310-275-5200

The CUT Lounge (sister to Wolfgang Puck's adjacent Michelin-starred steakhouse CUT) has been a favorite watering hole for post-work crowds ever since it first opened in 2016. The Richard Meier-designed space, with its monochromatic décor and dim lighting, provides a serene backdrop for those looking to unwind after a stressful day at the office. Bookending the large glass and steel doors at the entrance are two windows showcasing high-end bottles of spirits with the reverence of fine jewelry in the shops along Rodeo Drive. And inside on lighted shelves behind the bar, the full selection of liquors are on display with the same level of veneration. But after all of the worry and stress during the uncertainty of the COVID-19 days, some patrons are looking for something other than the standard shaken or stirred options. "I think the past few years have made people rethink their drinking habits. And mocktails are a refreshing and fun alternative that allow you to savor various flavor profiles," offered General Manager Charles Hueston. "The 'Double Happiness' is our most requested mocktail. Not only do people love the name, but it also naturally brings happiness with the combination of pineapple juice, passionfruit, orgeat (a sweet syrup made from almonds, sugar, and rose or orange flower water) and lime," he shared. Other options include an "Apple Ginger Spritz" made with fresh apple cider, lemon, sweet honey and ginger syrup and an earthy "Rosemary Limeade" with fresh sprigs of the woody herb.



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SIGNATURE "BOOZELESS BEVYS" AT THEBLVD LOUNGE
PHOTO COURTESY THEBLVD LOUNGE

THEBLVD LOUNGE AT BEVERLY WILSHIRE, A FOUR SEASONS HOTEL

9500 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD
310-275-5200

You might expect martinis and single malts to be the preferred drinks of choice at THEBLVD Lounge with its vaulted ceilings, wood and leather paneling and Old World-meets-Minimalist vibe. And you wouldn't necessarily be wrong. But according to General Manager Sanju Beri, requests for non-alcoholic options are becoming more frequent. They've become so common, in fact, that the selection of zero-proof options have been given a playful moniker. Here they aren't mocktails, they're "Boozeless Bevys." "We are seeing a lot of millennials and women choosing our 'Boozeless Bevys' over cocktails. I think more people are doing cleanses, choosing a vegan diet or just looking to lead an overall healthier lifestyle," he explained. "Opting for a mocktail over a cocktail has many health benefits, including hydration, fewer calories and more nutrients." To meet the rising demand, the lounge has added four mocktails to the drink menu. The "Pear Nojito" is a refreshing and fruity option made of fresh lime and pear juice; the "Winter Passion" is a mix of passion fruit puree, agave syrup, aquafaba (a liquid derived from chickpeas that creates a foamy froth) and ginger ale with hints of spice. The "Garden Nojito," Beri explained, not only aids in digestion (thanks to fresh mint) but is also a great hangover remedy as well. "The cucumber contains vitamin B and electrolytes to help replenish essential nutrients back into the body. And the fizziness from the ginger ale is a great way to help settle queasy stomachs," he said. But by far the most requested right now is the "Grapefruit Spritzer," a bubbly and tangy blend of citrusy grapefruit with a hint of sweetness from agave and effervescence from a splash of soda water.

THE BAR ROOM

424 N. CANON DRIVE
310-274-6534

Lively and convivial, Porta Via's The Bar Room has been a go-to neighborhood spot for those looking to drink fine wines in a more casual yet sophisticated environment. According to owner Peter Garland, during COVID-19, crowds opted for "the hard stuff." Now, as most have returned to the workplace, he's witnessed a shift back to lunches with iced teas over tequila. "A year or so ago, we didn't have any mocktails on our menu, but now we've added a few because people want a refreshing alternative," he said. "Most of these requests actually come from drinkers who just want an alternative. It's kind of like the Impossible Burger explosion. We have an Impossible Burger and an Impossible Bolognese on our menu, and they are among our best-selling dishes. It's not like there are so many vegans all of a sudden. Most of the people who order these dishes are in fact meat eaters who still want the taste but now have a healthier option." Among the new mocktails currently on offer is a "Santa Monica Mojito" made with muddled strawberries and raspberries, mint leaves, lime juice, club soda and a mint leaf garnish; a "Malibu Spritz" with fresh squeezed grapefruit, lemon, lime, orange juices, club soda and a grapefruit twist; and the "Santa Cruz Martini," a blend of fresh watermelon juice, lemon juice, simple syrup, sparkling water and a basil leaf garnish.



THE BAR ROOM'S (FROM LEFT): "SANTA MONICA MOJITO," "MALIBU SPRITZ" AND "SANTA CRUZ MARTINI"
PHOTO COURTESY THE BAR ROOM



UMBRELLA SOCIAL CLUB'S "PORTLAND PICK ME UP"
PHOTO COURTESY UMBRELLA SOCIAL CLUB

UMBRELLA SOCIAL CLUB AT SIXTY BEVERLY HILLS

9360 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD
310-388-6860

Perched on the rooftop terrace of the SIXTY Hotel, the Umbrella Social Club offers spectacular views of the city. On cool nights, you can grab a drink and cozy up beside the flickering flames of a fireplace or kick it in a hanging wicker chair. Here, natural and biodynamic, low-sulfite, and even orange wines are very popular. "In general, people are more aware of what they are drinking," said Manager Austin Melrose. The Gen Z set in particular seems to be more focused on non-alcoholic options. "Pre-COVID, it was all about pounding Four Lokos, but leave it to a global pandemic to make the younger generation think about what they put in their bodies." And non-alcoholic drinks are an extension. "What I'm seeing is that most people are willing to try zero-proof cocktails especially when there's a functional aspect to the drink. They actually have health benefits—to lighten your mood or aid in digestion. And sometimes you just want to keep hanging out at the bar with your friends, enjoying the social aspect of being in a bar, but you don't necessarily want to keep slamming tequila shots. Having an alternative, something delicious that's helping your body or your mood, is very appealing." Right now, guests can enjoy a non-alcoholic buzz with Umbrella's "Portland Pick Me Up" cocktail, a mix of Pathfinder Amaro, Lyre's White Cane Spirit, blueberry-cinnamon-thyme syrup, and a shot of espresso.

OCEAN PRIME LOUNGE

9595 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD
310-859-4818

The real draw at this 1,400-square-foot space with its large terrace dotted with umbrellas is the food—the smoking seafood towers and sizzling prime cuts of steak. But the restaurant's Lounge is a happening draw in its own right. And while whiskey and tequila are still among the top-ordered drinks, Manager Robert Elliott has observed an increase in requests for non-alcoholic drinks coming from the dining room. The most requested is a Virgin Mojito. "I know that a lot of our competitors in the Beverly Hills area are embracing the zero-alcohol trend and actually have full menus devoted to them," Elliot said. "I've contemplated developing a few mocktail options for our program, but haven't pursued any of them yet." For now, servers offer Virgin Marys, Virgin Piña Coladas, and a non-alcoholic version of the popular "Berries and Bubbles" cocktail, made with red cranberry and white cranberry juices, sour mix, and Sprite, served with dry ice, and fresh berries.



OCEAN PRIME LOUNGE'S SIGNATURE "BERRIES AND BUBBLES"
COCKTAIL, WHICH CAN BE MADE WITH, OR WITHOUT, ALCOHOL
PHOTO COURTESY OCEAN PRIME LOUNGE



SOUND BATH HEALING WITH SHEHERA MOCELLIN
 PHOTO COURTESY SHEHERA MOCELLIN

MINDFULNESS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 36

Dhammananda Bhikkhuni, Thailand’s first fully ordained Theravada Buddhist nun, followed by a discussion on practices for compassion.

Every third Monday of the month, the Benedict Canyon Retreat House holds a group sound bath (also referred to as “sound therapy”) meditation. Sound baths are another popular way to practice mindfulness. The name alone “sound bath” conjures images of a “Calgon, take me away” experience. But, in lieu of foamy bubbles and steamy water, it’s sound waves that envelop you. The sound waves are produced by various sources, including healing instruments such as gongs, singing bowls, percussion, chimes, rattles, tuning forks, and even the human voice itself.

Shehera Mocellin, a certified Kundalini yoga instructor with an ABD in psychology, has been trained in energy and sound healing as well as meditation and breathwork. For the past seven years, she’s offered classes and group workshops focusing on these areas of her training at her Anahata Holistic Healing center on Camden Drive. During COVID-19, she was forced to offer her services via Zoom (and she still offers these online), but now she holds regular group workshops at her studio on Robertson Boulevard and by appointment only for private instruction. Mocellin also makes house calls. She has a large number of celebrity clientele and Beverly Hills regulars, who book her for one-on-one sessions. Sound healing is one of her favorite modalities.

“They say sound is the medicine of the future,” said Mocellin. “And it is. But it’s also really the medicine of the past. For centuries, indigenous people have used sound as an important tool for healing. All things in the universe vibrate at certain frequencies. The human body is no different.” During a sound bath, people are encouraged to lie down, get comfortable and feel the vibrations coming from instruments, focusing their mind and attention to the areas of the body that are responding to the music. Mocellin explained that the frequency of the notes played

corresponds to different areas of the body. “I always like to say, ‘bliss, abundance, happiness, prosperity, reside on a higher frequency.’ And so, with sound, we’re able to retune ourselves and bring ourselves to a higher frequency, which then puts us in touch with these higher emotions.” From a scientific standpoint, she further explained, the frequencies of sounds have been proven to correspond to (and have an effect on) certain parts of the body—the endocrine system, thymus, pineal and pituitary glands, the liver, heart, and the brain. The sound waves work by resetting these back to their natural frequencies.

Breathwork is another pathway to mindfulness that’s become increasingly popular; a slew of apps offer lessons right from your phone, and independent studios devoted solely to this practice are popping up all the time. During breathwork classes, you again lie down, close your eyes, and you are instructed to breathe in, slowly, through your nose, to a timed inhale count, then you hold your breath for a timed number of seconds, then very slowly control your exhale, through your mouth, to a timed number of seconds.

If you’ve ever done yoga, then you’re familiar with the importance of proper breathing. And if you’ve ever had to walk yourself back from a full-blown panic attack, or suffered from intense anxiety, then you know how crucial it is to slow your breathing which, in turn, slows your heart rate. “What regulated breathing does is balance your autonomic nervous system,” explained Mocellin. “Your autonomic nervous system is made up of the sympathetic and the parasympathetic systems. Most of us are running on the sympathetic, which is your gas pedal, and we were kind of conditioned to be in that ‘Go! Go! Go!’ state. The parasympathetic nervous system is really where deep regenerative healing occurs. And, we forget that we’re supposed to create balance between these two systems. When we’re constantly in a state of ‘fight or flight,’ it puts a lot of strain on our physical body. There’s actually about 12,000 chemicals

that are released when we are in that flight kind of state that creates havoc in our physical system.”

It’s an interesting concept that by controlling a normally mindless activity like breathing, and instead mindfully inhaling and exhaling, we can help ourselves, not only with biophysical reactions but also with our mental states. “Breath is the life force within us and most of us breathe super-duper shallow,” offered Mocellin. “We’re supposed to breathe four times per minute, but most of us are breathing anywhere from 20 to 30 times per minute, really fast, shallow breaths. When you are consciously breathing, and slowing down your breath, or bringing attention to your breath, you have the opportunity of being able to release memories and the wounds and the traumas from within your body. So, it helps to really go deep into the subconscious mind and the thoughts and the habits and beliefs that don’t serve us and just kind of create a portal of relief through the exhale.”

But mindfulness isn’t just the provenance of what some might shoehorn into the New Age label anymore. And in truth, mindfulness has been around for decades in scientific circles, especially with regards to the field of psychology.

The introduction of mindfulness in Western culture can be traced back to Jon Kabat-Zinn, a professor emeritus at the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School. Kabat-Zin had studied mindfulness under the tutelage of a series of Buddhist teachers. In the late ‘70s, he developed a program called “Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction” (MBSR) to treat chronic pain. He found the more his patients attempted to avoid physical pain, the more they became distressed. But when he introduced them to mindfulness techniques, the therapy was more effective. It was from MBSR that many of the widely regarded and prevalent therapies used today like Cognitive Behavior Therapy (CBT), and Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) were created or established.

For Beverly Hills-based licensed marriage counselor and family therapist (and certified meditation teacher), Elizabeth Winkler, mindfulness is a cornerstone of her practice. “My philosophy has evolved as I have evolved as a therapist,” she stated. “Incorporating meditation and mindfulness has helped accelerate my clients’ personal growth and expansion. I have great faith and understanding in a variety



A MEDITATION WORKSHOP AT BENEDICT CANYON RETREAT HOUSE
PHOTO COURTESY INSIGHTLA

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“When you focus on the future, it’s just worry. When you focus on the past, it’s often pain. Mindfulness is about the here and now.”

of therapeutic models such as narrative, depth-oriented, existential, and cognitive behavioral therapy. My model for treatment of each client depends, of course, on that particular person’s needs and goals. To the best of my ability, I meet my clients in their inner world and help unravel old beliefs, structures, and systems that usually do not serve them any longer.”

Winkler is trained in Unified Mindfulness, a system created by Shinzen Young, a Japanese-born, American meditation teacher, trained in the Vipassana tradition (as well as Zen Buddhism and Native American traditions). In Hindu, Vipassana means “to see things as they really are,” and one of the tenets of this tradition is to acknowledge and feel your emotions and thoughts without judging them. It is one of India’s most ancient techniques of meditation, taught more than 2,500 years ago and is believed to aid with a variety of ailments like stress and anxiety. It has even been shown to help those battling substance abuse.

Young’s use of mathematics to illustrate his abstract meditation concepts has drawn academics, like neuroscientists at Harvard Medical School, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Yale, Carnegie Mellon, and the University of Vermont to collaborate with him on research studies to bridge scientific paradigms and the benefits of meditation.

In addition to Winkler’s mindfulness-based counseling for clients, she spreads her message of the benefits of mindfulness freely with her



INSIGHTLA’S BENEDICT CANYON RETREAT HOUSE
PHOTO COURTESY INSIGHTLA

guided meditation videos, set against a soothing backdrop of crashing waves on a seashore, on YouTube. Also, she offers nearly a dozen mindfulness downloads on her website. These downloadable PDFs and audio clips, with titles like “Connecting to Your Inner Calm” and “Accept and Reset,” cover a range of topics and include mindful meditations.

Mocellin sums up the ultimate goals of mindfulness, “When you focus on the future, it’s just worry. When you focus on the past, it’s often pain. Mindfulness is about the here and now. And it’s available to us in every moment. You can be mindful of simple practices, such as your breath, such as walking, such as sipping, or such as eating, and so all of life becomes a meditative journey through mindfulness.”

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BEVERLY HILLS COURIER

NOVEMBER 18, 2022



LEFT: A PAINTING BY AMOAKO BOAFO IN LEWIS' KITCHEN; RIGHT: THELMA GOLDEN (DIRECTOR AND CHIEF CURATOR OF THE STUDIO MUSEUM IN HARLEM), LEWIS, AND ARTIST LORNA SIMPSON AT UTA ARTIST SPACE
LEFT PHOTO BY JEFF MCLANE; RIGHT PHOTO COURTESY ARTHUR LEWIS

we translated its colors into an argyle polo for men. Obviously, it was not a Damien Hirst polo, but it showed how these worlds just naturally intersected, even in bringing products to life. The whole process was just something I always loved, and it never went away.”

During his retail career, Lewis had become close to the co-founder of the Gap (Banana Republic’s parent company), billionaire Donald Fisher and his family. “They were incredible to work for, and I don’t think many people in the world know, but they have their own museum, and it’s absolutely extraordinary,” he shared. Lewis said it was Fisher’s collection that first sparked his desire to become a collector himself. It wouldn’t take long for his obsession to catch fire.

By the time he arrived on the West Coast, years later, Lewis had already amassed his own modest collection. “I moved into a little apartment in Beverly Hills. I was the youngest person in the building, and I made way too much noise,” Lewis laughed. “I had no furniture, but I had amazing art on the walls.” Lewis’ obsession with Damien Hirst remained, and he purchased his work, as well as paintings by Paul McCarthy. “Because of my New Orleans’ roots, I had a print of William H. Johnson from way back in the day of street musicians,” he said. “And like every other person in America, who is African American, I had a framed poster of [Eddie Barnes’] ‘The Sugar Shack’ hanging somewhere. I held on to it forever.”

It wasn’t until Lewis attended an art auction at the William H. Johnson Foundation here in Los Angeles that he realized he had officially become a bonafide collector. He found himself, almost compulsively, placing bid after bid. “My hand did not come down for anything. I was literally out of control,” Lewis said. “One of my neighbors, who’s a dear friend, literally yelled to me across the auction, ‘You can’t buy everything!’ And I think that’s the moment that I actually knew I’d crossed the Rubicon. And I don’t think I’ve stopped.”

Being a collector is one thing—a patron of the arts, however, is something altogether different. Lewis is both. Beyond the transactional aspect of collecting—buying the works of artists and providing financial support through that avenue, a patron is largely considered to be someone who’s made a lifelong commitment, on many levels, to champion the arts. Quite often that includes becoming an ardent advocate for art institutions. No one can deny Lewis’ efforts on that front. He serves on the board at Otis College of Art and Design, amfAR, Prospect New Orleans and USC Roski School of Art and Design. He is

a member of the National Advisory Committee for the New Orleans African American Museum and is a Global Council member for the Studio Museum in Harlem.

For Lewis, being a patron goes further than fundraising and acquisitions. “I think being a patron means you are fully committed to the community of artists themselves, to act as a sounding board for them whether things are going really great or not,” he said.

“It’s one of those communities that you slowly get invited into. And then once you’re there, it feels like such goodwill that you can’t step away from it. So, to this day, there’s not a young artist who reaches out to me who doesn’t get to have a conversation with me, because I recognize how important that conversation will be. And most times I leave really inspired, having learned something completely new that I didn’t know before. I think art affords you an opportunity to discover more about humanity because artists tell so many different stories about their existence and what life means to them, and what their families meant to them, or how they view and see the world. I think being part of that journey and making sure that those stories are told, and supported, are the things that define patronage.”

In 2019, Lewis attended a dinner for the Hammer Museum. Across the table sat Jeremy Zimmer, CEO of UTA. They struck up a lively conversation, which largely centered around the arts. Zimmer had heard Lewis was an art collector and excitedly shared with him all of the upcoming projects UTA had in the works on the fine arts front. By the end of the meal, Lewis was hired for a job he didn’t even know he had been interviewing for. At least, he thought he had been hired. “I remember going home, and thinking to myself, ‘I think I just accepted a job, but I’m not really sure,’” Lewis recalled. “It’s hard to say no to him. That’s all I’m gonna say.” Shortly after that fateful dinner, they met up again, and Lewis presented a well-thought-out plan for the gallery space. Zimmer was more than receptive. “He listened and then just said something like, ‘Great. Go! Run for it!’” said Lewis.

Of course, signing on and launching an arts program at a new gallery space in the middle of a global pandemic was no easy task, but “run” Lewis did, or tried to. He battled COVID-19-related delays and the inherent complications of opening shows under shifting CDC guidelines. “Believe it or not, this is our first full year, with shows every month, which was always our vision,” he said.

This past June, Lewis arranged a gallery show for up-and-coming

abstract artist, Nicholas Kontaxis at UTA Artist Space. Severely disabled and unable to communicate except through his art, Kontaxis' story and vibrant oversized paintings moved Lewis. "I knew that show was going to be good. I knew there was something really special there," said Lewis. "Then more than anything else, it was watching people's reaction when they walked in the gallery and took that work in and saw how amazing this young man is. I don't know that it gets better than that for me." Kontaxis' show sold out within hours on opening night.

"All of this year has been filled with so much great discovery and sharing of new ideas and new thoughts from artists," said Lewis. "And because our programming is so incredibly diverse and so dimensional, I feel like it's just cracked open this window into people not wanting to just come and see art, but to engage with it and to engage with their community in a very different way."

Diversity is something that Lewis has decidedly leaned into. "I want to make sure that women, people of color, and artists who are not necessarily seen in broad markets, and those who might feel marginalized in some way, are seen again," he said. In September, the gallery showcased the works of Chloe Chiasson, a young queer artist from a small conservative Texas town. Her larger-than-life paintings combined with three-dimensional sculptural elements jumped off the gallery's walls.

This month, the works of Chicago-based Afro-Cuban American artist Harmonia Rosales are on display. The series of paintings depict African deities (who had been worshipped for centuries, but the world has never seen) with the same reverence and iconography of the Christian gods and saints in the Renaissance paintings of the great masters. "When I first saw her paintings online, my mouth fell open. She paints like she's from the 14th century. They're insanely beautiful oil paintings," Lewis said. "I went to do a studio visit with her, and after about 10 minutes, I was sitting there thinking, 'what does she need *me* for because the paintings were so extraordinary?' After I left her place, I had to pull over to the side of the road to process what I had seen. They are not from this world."

From Rosales' point of view, this first meeting with Lewis was a little intimidating. She had already read so much about him. "I greeted him at the door, and he was this tall, well-dressed man with an inherent dominant quality only emphasized by his deep, hearty laugh that completely stops you in your tracks, so it is safe to say the intimidation was not lulled," she shared. Well, not right away perhaps, but any nervousness she felt quickly dissolved as she sat down with Lewis and described her work and her vision for her next show. His receptiveness disarmed her. "He listened. I mean he really listened, and he loved it," she said. Rosales knew the concept for her show, entitled "Garden of Eden," would be an enormously ambitious undertaking. It reimagines the airy UTA Artist Space gallery as Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel, with a 25-foot-long upturned slave ship suspended from the ceiling. Within this ship, there are several paintings that tell the story of the African gods—from the creation of land, the birth of Eve, and Eve's life through the Atlantic slave trade. "It wouldn't have come to fruition until Arthur lent his resources. And he was glad to satisfy those ambitions," said Rosales. "He is a true nurturer to artists and always leads with love and respect for their art."

Wrapping up the year's programming at the gallery is an exhibit by Justin Roiland, co-creator of the hit animated TV series, "Rick and Morty." It's the first time Roiland has ever shared his artwork with the public, and Lewis was uncharacteristically tight-lipped about the works, saying simply, "They're kind of baller, and I think people are going to be very excited." He wants to keep the details under wraps until the show opens. He did share that Roiland is an abstract painter and sculptor who's "taken his familiar television characters and placed them in an alternate universe."

The lineup of shows and the breadth of the artists exhibited at UTA Artist Space illustrate the commitment Lewis has made to seeking out



TOP: LITERARY MUSE OPENING RECEPTION (A GROUP EXHIBITION INSPIRED BY BLACK LITERARY NOVELISTS, POETS, AND SCHOLARS) HELD AT THE UTA ARTIST SPACE

BOTTOM: A PAINTING BY JERRELL GIBBS ABOVE LEWIS' BED

TOP PHOTO COURTESY UTA ARTIST SPACE; BOTTOM PHOTO BY JEFF MCLANE

new voices with unique perspectives. "There's so much more in the art world than just one story," he explained. "I think we get to see lots of different stories now. And that is what's really exciting," Lewis said.

There's a major development on the horizon that Lewis is also excited about—an expansion. A second UTA Artist Space gallery is set to open in Atlanta next year. They did a test run with a pop-up last month to see if they could engage with the community. On opening night, the valets had parked 275 cars. NBA players, rappers, filmmakers, and local patrons poured into the space. The show sold out in less than an hour. "Well, they were definitely engaged," Lewis laughed. "We saw it as an opportunity to be part of a community that is absolutely influencing culture around the world," said Lewis. "It was a pretty easy decision."

UTA is the only talent agency with a fine arts division, and the only one with a dedicated gallery space. Zuzanna Ciolek, director of UTA Artist Space, has worked alongside Lewis for the past three years. "He's been a wonderful mentor and very collaborative," she said. "He really allows everyone to spread their wings. And, he's just a great human being." Under the guidance and direction of Lewis, a rare hybrid—part art collector, part art historian, part businessman—uniquely able to bridge the two disparate worlds of art and commerce, UTA Artist Space has solidified its place as a major player in the art world. As a patron, Lewis has helped to change the lives of the artists and the art communities he's worked with. "And I couldn't ever imagine anything more fulfilling than that," he said.

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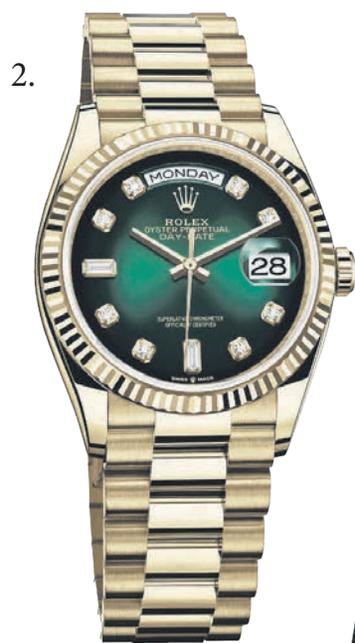
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Good Tidings

1. A pair of classic tall black boots are indispensable. You'll want to wear these from **Louis Vuitton** with literally everything this season. \$2,490 at *Louis Vuitton, 295 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-859-0457 and us.louisvuitton.com*
2. When it launched in 1956, the **Rolex Day-Date** was a major innovation. It was the first calendar wristwatch to also indicate the day of the week, a technical feat at the time. It's since been worn by so many presidents and dignitaries, it's earned the nickname the "Presidents' Watch." The latest iteration, the Day-Date 36, carries on this rich history. \$36,950 at *Gearys Rolex, 360 N. Rodeo Drive, #1, 310-887-4200 and gearys.com/rolex*
3. The 18-carat gold and malachite "Perlée Couleurs" ring by **Van Cleef & Arpels** might look dainty in its simplicity, but with its mesmerizing green striations and pearled setting, it's as audacious as a cocktail ring. \$2,550 at *Van Cleef & Arpels, 300 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-276-1161 and vancleefarpels.com*
4. A velvet dinner jacket should be a staple in any fashionable gent's party attire arsenal. This elegant, emerald version by **Tom Ford** will work for any fête no matter the dress code. \$4,590 at *Tom Ford, 346 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-270-9440 and tomford.com*
5. These jewel-like malachite boxes from **RH** provide an elegant storage solution for miscellaneous items. \$1,795 each at *RH West Hollywood, 8564 Melrose Ave., 310-652-0323 and rh.com*
6. Slinking around your wrist, the stunning "Panthère de Cartier" bracelet by **Cartier** features onyx, two emeralds and 225 brilliant cut diamonds totaling 2.55 carats, all set in 18-carat yellow gold. \$56,500 at *Cartier, 411 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-275-4272 and cartier.com*



Winter Wonderland



1. A pair of blue and gold metallic jacquard trousers from **Etro** bring a little festive flare, just add a simple black top and heels. If you're feeling extra bold, there's a matching fitted jacket with satin lapels. *\$1,295 at Etro, 9501 Wilshire Blvd., 310-248-2855 and etro.com*
2. Toast to the New Year with these sapphire-tinted glass LSA champagne flutes. They are sold in sets of two at **Saks Fifth Avenue**, perfect for a thoughtful hostess gift. *\$125 at Saks Fifth Avenue, 9600 Wilshire Blvd., 310-275-4211 and saksfifthavenue.com*

3. Inspired by a favorite childhood toy of world-renowned jeweler **Harry Winston**, "The Ultimate Kaleidoscope" functions as a working miniature kaleidoscope, a timepiece, and a pendant. A mix of whimsy and masterful craftsmanship, the exquisite trinket boasts a dizzying array of precious stones—yellow, pink and blue sapphires, tourmalines, topaz and diamonds. *Price upon request at Harry Winston, 310 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-271-8554 and harrywinston.com*
4. There's something regal looking about these mustard-colored velvet **Saint Laurent** pumps. You could imagine them peeking out from beneath the voluminous gowns of Marie Antoinette.

5. While technically part of the **Dior** Ski capsule collection, this yellow and ivory wool jacquard sweater is just as at home on the streets as it is on the slopes. *\$1,350 at Dior Men, 319 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-247-8003 and dior.com*
6. Travel in style with this luxurious rolling suitcase by **Goyard**. It's carry-on size—not that you'd even think of checking this beautiful piece of luggage. *Price upon request at Goyard, 405 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-237-5745 and goyard.com*

Comfy and Cozy

1.



2.



4.



5.



3.



6.



1. Still obsessed with the pumpkin spice craze? Nest's pumpkin chai candle (available at **Nordstrom**) will fill your home with the sweet aroma of spicy masala chai, cardamom, ginger and cinnamon. \$78 at *Nordstrom*, 10250 Santa Monica Blvd., 424-207-1177 and nordstrom.com
2. These suede Chukka boots from **Brunello Cucinelli** are destined to become your everyday go-to shoe. \$1,095 at *Brunello Cucinelli*, 220 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-724-8118 and shop.brunellocucinelli.com
3. Keep your furry family member warm with this reversible Pendleton dog coat from **Nordstrom**. One side features a Southwestern print, and the other, a quilted faux suede. \$69 at *Nordstrom*, 10250 Santa Monica Blvd., 424-207-1177 and nordstrom.com
4. The fan-shaped motif of these earrings by **Bulgari** was inspired by the mosaics of the Roman Baths of Caracalla. They're made of 18-carat rose gold, carnelian and round brilliant cut diamonds. \$3,150 at *Bulgari*, 401 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-858-9216 and bulgari.com

5. Here in Southern California, you might not need to wear these buttery mid-length gloves from **Bottega Veneta** very often, but when the temperature dips or when packing for a trip abroad, you'll be happy you have them. \$1,100 at *Bottega Veneta*, 320 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-858-6533 and bottegabeneta.com
6. Made of vicuña, the finest and rarest natural fiber in the world, the Arvel coat, with a removable knit collar, from **Loro Piana** lends a luxurious polished look and plenty of warmth. \$34,800 at *Loro Piana*, 313 N. Rodeo Drive, 310-860-0765 and us.loropiana.com

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HardWear Collection

TIFFANY & CO.

CALENDAR, from page 2

NOV. 20
ACADEMY MUSEUM OF MOTION PICTURES: “DOROTHY DANDRIDGE AND RUBY DEE: A SHARED CENTENNIAL:” “ISLAND IN THE SUN” 2 P.M.

The Academy Museum presents a series of screenings centering pioneering Black American actresses Dorothy Dandridge and Ruby Dee. This series is coordinated in conjunction with the ongoing exhibition “Regeneration: Black Cinema 1898-1971.” Each actress came from humble beginnings in local productions before breaking into cinema in the 1930s and 1940s, primarily in small roles for race films and all-Black cast productions, working consistently until becoming household names by the late 1950s. Both women experienced the advantages and frustrations of incremental civil rights advancements for Black Americans in their lives and careers, while charting their own iconic paths. “Island in the Sun” was Dandridge’s third and final film with Harry Belafonte, a slow-burning tropical melodrama of star-crossed romance.

Directed by blacklisted director Robert Rossen and filmed by Freddie Young of “Lawrence of Arabia,” Belafonte plays David Boyeur, a charismatic activist of the fictional British colony of Santa Marta. Dandridge plays a drugstore clerk who strikes up a romance with an English civil servant played by John Justin. Tickets are \$5 for all patrons.
academymuseum.org

NOV. 22 - 27
EL CAPITAN THEATRE: “STRANGE WORLD” W/ “MICKEY AND MINNIE SNOWTACULAR SHOW” AND “COOKIES AND COCOA” 9:30 A.M., 12:45 P.M., 4 P.M., 7:15 P.M., 10:30 P.M.

The El Capitan Theatre will host special screenings of “Strange World” in celebration of the holiday season. Before each showtime, holiday classics will be performed live during the “Mickey and Minnie Snowtacular Show.” The theatre also offers the “Cookies and Cocoa” event with an appearance by Mickey and Minnie Mouse, only on Saturdays and Sundays starting Nov. 26. at 9:30 a.m. For this

event, one ticket to “Strange World,” one Ghiradelli cookie or brownie, one Ghiradelli small hot cocoa or coffee, and 10% Disney merch discount at the Disney Studio Store Hollywood are included. On Nov. 22, an opening night fan event for “Strange World” is scheduled for 7 p.m. Tickets are \$50 and include a tote, credential with lanyard, notebook, 64-ounce popcorn and 20-ounce bottled beverage. Standard tickets are \$22 for adults and \$18 for children and seniors.
elcapitantickets.com

NOV. 22
BEVERLY HILLS ROTARY CLUB: THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE 3-4:30 P.M.

The Rotary Club of Beverly Hills will host a Thanksgiving Food Drive on Nov. 22. The drive will be located in front of the fire station on 445 N. Redford Drive, Beverly Hills. Suggested donation items include yams, potatoes, cranberries (canned or fresh), carrots, celery, onions, garlic, eggs, apple pie, nuts, chocolates, oranges apples, gift cards (any value from \$5-\$50), and anything else that could be

appreciated during Thanksgiving. This drive is another “Service Above Self” project. Patrons can drive up directly to drop off any goods.
bhrotary.org

NOV. 23
HOLIDAY ICE RINK PERSHING SQUARE: ICEBREAKER OPENING CELEBRATION 11 A.M.

The 20-year tradition of the Pershing Square Holiday Ice Rink returns after two years starting Nov. 23 with the Icebreaker Opening Celebration. The rink is 7200 square feet of professional-quality ice, and hosts 54,000 skaters and 450,000 spectators annually. The opening event features a live performance, special guests, and more festivities. The rink is located at 532 South Olive St., Los Angeles, which is accessible by car, bus, or Metro (Pershing Square stop). General admission to the rink, including skate rental, is \$20, locker rental is \$5, and skate helpers are \$6. Tickets must be purchased in advance online.
holidayicerinkdowntownla.com

NEWS

LENO, from page 5

The 72-year-old comedian was initially taken to Providence St. Joseph Medical Center in Burbank, but was ultimately transferred to the Grossman Burn Center. He underwent a grafting surgery, and Grossman said he will undergo a second procedure later this week. It was too early to tell if additional surgeries will be required.

He has also been undergoing hyperbaric oxygen therapy designed to stimulate oxygen circulation in the blood stream to hasten the healing process. Grossman described the burns as “deep second-degree burns, and possibly some third-degree burns,” noting that their severity can change over time.

“Our hope is when everything is all said and done he will do well,” Grossman said. “But burn injuries are progressive and dynamic and it’s hard to predict ultimately

what the final outcome will be at this stage of the game. I can say that he has been a remarkably kind and engaging resident in the hospital here. He was passing out cookies to some of the children who are here today in the burn unit, and he is incredibly compliant and we’re very fortunate that he’s been so kind to everybody here.”

Leno issued a statement on Nov. 14 saying, “I got some serious burns from a gasoline fire. I am OK. Just need a week or two to get back on my feet.”

But Grossman said that timeline may be a little optimistic. He said he told Leno he needs to “step it back a little and realize” the treatment will take some time.

“I do feel he will be back to work at some point soon and back to the things that he loves to do,” Grossman said.

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Coldwater Canyon Water Main Repairs

On Nov. 15, the city of Beverly Hills’ Office of Emergency Management alerted residents of a water main break on Coldwater Canyon Drive near Coldwater Canyon Park. The city sent out a second emergency alert on Nov. 16 at 6:55 a.m., advising the public to use caution in the area as repair work to the

water main continues. The break resulted in road closures, impacted traffic, and even left some residents without water. While city staff estimate the water will be back on at 6 p.m. on Nov. 16, repair work to the water main is expected to take longer, and no timeline has been provided yet. ●

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Courtesy of Searchlight Pictures

Arturo Castro and Hong Chau

MENU, from page 10

stupidly rich, and self-impressed without a self to claim. And finally, rounding out, or perhaps it's squaring up, the invited guests is the blasé uber rich couple making their eleventh visit to the restaurant.

The private boat deposits them on the pristine island and leaves. Soon they are greeted by Slowik's major domo, Elsa, who checks them in, discovering that she has no Margot on the list. Tyler explains that he was supposed to come with his now ex-girlfriend and substituted Margot in her place. Asked for Margot's last name, he stumbles. A fleeting flash of disturbance crosses the face of the imperturbable Elsa. Annoyed, Margot provides her last name and they, along with everyone else, pass through the magnificent wooden doors, seated by Elsa at their predetermined tables with views of the pristine open kitchen and the magnificent landscape outside the floor to ceiling windows. It does not go unnoticed that the place card at Margot's seat has the name of the ex-girlfriend. Her annoyance at her pretentious prat of a dining companion will continue to grow.

The amuse bouche, intricately prepared spherical gels of salmon caviar alongside a rare oyster, in its exotic shell, starts the evening promisingly. Tyler savors each taste sensation, commenting endlessly on its construction as Margot stares blankly at the shell in front of her. Her mood doesn't get better with the ensuing dishes, all precisely prepared with locally grown microgreens, organic dirt, and smoked whatever. A sommelier appears, as if by magic, with an extraordinary wine pairing.

For the hungry and unamused bouche of Margot, this is the emperor's new clothes. To the pretentious Tyler, her attitude is heresy and he is not above publicly humiliating his ignorant date. He, after all, has seen every episode of "Top Chef" twice and knows

from whence he speaks. Worse, Slowik has noticed that Margot is not eating. Following her into the restroom, where she has gone for a moment's peace, he confronts her. She isn't, he has surmised, one of "them." He's sure she's one of "us." He sees the world in terms of servers and takers and pegs her, correctly as it turns out, as a server, or giver.

Slowik's brigade de cuisine is organized, meticulous, and ready for whatever Chef desires. Constantly observing his guests, Slowik makes a point of talking to each, bringing out the very real horrible characteristics each harbors in their brand of entitlement. And with each subsequent course, something new and frightening is discovered about what will happen that evening, a night that will culminate in a dessert that is a sheer masterpiece.

But then there's Margot, who really isn't Margot, and her presence is disturbing Slowik. She shouldn't have come; she shouldn't be there. And not so gradually, Margot realizes it too. She is an "us" not a "them" but what, in the long run, is that going to do for her. She and the chef have a bond, but it has yet to be decided whether that is a good thing or not. They continue their game of cat and mouse, while he pursues his game of hunter with the others.

Divulging more would destroy the joy of discovery. Suffice it to say that there are movie precedents for a story like this. The 1932 classic "The Most Dangerous Game" comes to mind, but "The Menu," a decidedly black comedy, is closer in tone to Jordan Peele's intellectual horror film "Get Out" and Luis Buñuel's surrealistic "The Exterminating Angel" where wealthy guests are invited to a dinner party and find that they can't leave.

The cast is uniformly terrific. Of significance in supporting roles are Janet McTeer who, beneath her patronizing facade of gentility, screams for attention as only a very



Photo by Eric Zachanowich. Courtesy Searchlight Pictures

Ralph Fiennes and Anya Taylor-Joy

tall woman who wears stilettos would do. Reed Birney, the repeat customer, reveals the neediness below the surface of his apathetic personality. He flaunts his class as only those born to the manor would do, disdaining everyone and everything else as commonplace. He goes to the restaurant, not because he loves it, but because he can afford to. Hong Chau as Elsa is positively chilling, both in her seemingly endless moments of calm and especially in the moment she isn't. More than anyone else, she personifies the cultish nature of Slowik's followers.

John Leguizamo is very convincing, almost too convincing, portraying a washed up star who was never much of an actor at any stage of the game. His sweat smells of desperation and lack of talent. Nicholas Hoult is brilliantly pretentious, determined, like a puppy who has yet to be house-trained, to catch the attention of the chef and impress him with a knowledge that is not nearly as vast as he thinks it is. But then Slowik already knows everyone better than they know themselves.

Anya Taylor-Joy fulfills the promise she showed in "The Queen's Gambit." All giant eyes and pouty lips, hip bones showing through her satin slip dress, her Margot is much more than everyone but Slowik sees or acknowledges. There is a slyness and survival instinct that is recognized only by him. Who, he asks her, is she? She replies that she is whoever she's with wants her

to be. His cat is reluctant to let go of this mouse. She sees things clearly and needs no self-validation.

Ralph Fiennes is Chef Slowik, and he takes straight-faced glee in his portrayal of a man who has aimed at nothing less than perfection his whole life. He was the ideal actor for the dour, brilliant artist who has planned an evening no one will ever forget if anyone is left to remember. He is the surfactant (binding agent) of the menu and the culinary foam of each course. Ever serious, he is both the hero and the villain of the piece.

Watch this film for the characters; watch it for the plot and twists; and watch it for the food, all beautifully prepared. While it is a send up of precious food, it's more about the impossible to please diners who look for mistakes rather than enjoy the taste sensations, flawless execution, and impossible standards of the world's best chefs and innovators.

That Reiss, Tracy, and Mylod lived up to standards set by the masterful Buñuel is a tribute to their filmmaking. This is especially impressive because all three are primarily from the world of television, an art form not always known for its depth. They have given us a delicious movie.

Opening November 18 at the AMC Century City, the AMC Santa Monica 7, the AMC Grove 14, and the Universal Cinema AMC at CityWalk Hollywood. ●



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.

Thanksgiving Luncheon for Seniors

On Nov. 14, the Beverly Hills Firefighters' Association hosted a Thanksgiving Luncheon for the Beverly Hills Active Adult Club at Roxbury Park.



Top: Pictured (from left) Beverly Hills Fire Chief Greg Barton, Councilmember Lester Friedman, Vice Mayor Julian Gold, Beverly Hills Mayor Lili Bosse, Councilmember John Mirisch, Councilmember Sharona Nazarian and former Mayor Les Bronte
Bottom: Pictured (from left) Firefighter/Paramedic Taylor Malm, Firefighter/Paramedic Brent Weist, Firefighter Jordan Harry and Firefighter Brandon Neal



Jenny Fenton Smiley and Captain Brad McHenry

metro.net/eatshopplay

Gourmando

Gourmando is a New Mexican kitchen and cantina from Issac Gamboa.

Isaac Gamboa trained under the aegis of Michelin-starred Chef/Restaurateur Michael Mina in Las Vegas including American Fish, Nob Hill and Strip Steak; was part of the group's opening teams and honed valuable skills in fine dining and hospitality.

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Birthdays



JACKIE GAGOSSIAN
November 18



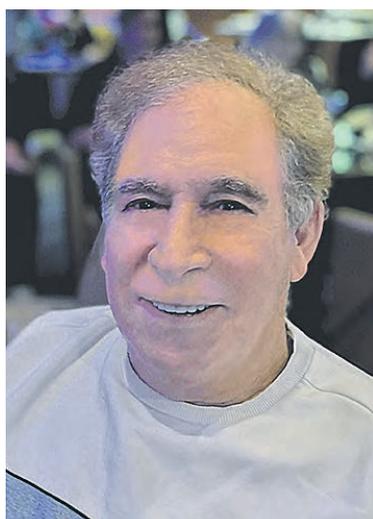
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November 19



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November 22



ANDREW ALVARADO
November 24

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Astrology

BY HOLIDAY MATIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You have a talent for fixing things. Part of your secret is that you act immediately. The best time to mend or clean things up is right at the moment they happen. There's no time to waste in blame. You focus on solutions.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Fortune favors the bold, though the risk is more than many will be able to stomach. It's perfectly acceptable, and perhaps even wise, to hang back and study what's working, and not working, for the others.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You'd be hard-pressed to find anything more valuable than the unconditional support of a true friend. You'll experience the rare and pure love of an exchange that is without motive or expectation of reciprocity.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). When you make something with your hands, you put your heart into it too. Those who experience your creation will feel this tug on their own heart -- a strange and very real phenomenon.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Is it possible to rebuild a relationship by remembering things differently? You'll entertain alternate versions of what happened and, in doing so, rewrite your memories to think of things in a more helpful way.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). If you're going to do nothing, you won't do it idly. Your version of doing nothing involves a state of readiness. To be alert and observant is not inaction; rather, it just might be the best action.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Compromise will be an integral part of your day and is a skill you should give yourself props for being so good at. Compromise requires humility and careful listening, creativity and cooperation.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Everyone has shortcomings, including the people you'll deal with today. To identify a weakness isn't necessarily a negative thing because it allows you to work on finding the opposite and equal strength.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Those who bring something to the table always enjoy the dinner better. In today's case you may feel you're

bringing the whole meal, and you'll enjoy it all the more because of your proud contribution.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). There's great comfort in knowing what to expect and feeling confident you can give what's expected of you. You may stand at a distance, pausing to collect yourself and assess things.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Because you've already shown that

you're willing to work hard, others will support your quest. Deciding what exactly that quest should be is the tricky part, of course. Success is a matter of knowing what to focus on.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Changing the future is easy. Just do one thing different. This is all it takes to alter the entire course. Also, note that the way you meet someone sets a direction for the entire relationship.



This week's eligible pup for adoption is Jody. She is approximately two years old, six pounds, and is a terrier mix. This sweet girl hails from Bakersfield and is a total couch potato. She also gets along quite well with other dogs, cats, and even chickens. To meet and potentially adopt Jody, please contact Shelter of Hope at 805-379-3538.

shelterhopepetshop.org

Police Blotter

The following incidents of assault, burglary, DUI arrest, motor vehicle theft, robbery, theft and vandalism have been reported. Streets are usually indicated by block numbers.



- | | |
|--|--|
| ASSAULT - AGGRAVATED | 10/31/2022, 8:58 p.m. at N. LINDEN DRIVE / N. SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD |
| 11/5/2022, 3:53 p.m. at S. LA CIENEGA BOULEVARD / W. OLYMPIC BOULEVARD | |
| 10/31/2022, 7:33 p.m. at N. SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD / N. DOHENY DRIVE | BURGLARY - COMMERCIAL BUILDING |
| | 11/6/2022, 8 a.m. at 8900 Block of OLYMPIC BOULEVARD |
| ASSAULT - SIMPLE | 11/2/2022, 2:30 a.m. at 100 Block of N. LA CIENEGA BOULEVARD |
| 11/7/2022, 7 a.m. at 8700 Block of WILSHIRE BOULEVARD | |
| 11/3/2022, 4:45 p.m. at 9000 Block of BURTON WAY | BURGLARY - FROM A MOTOR VEHICLE |
| 11/11/2022, 3 p.m. at 300 Block of N. CANON DRIVE | 11/8/2022, 4:30 p.m. at 9400 Block of WILSHIRE BOULEVARD |
| 11/10/2022, 6 p.m. at 9500 Block of DAYTON WAY | 11/6/2022, 12 a.m. at 200 Block of FOOTHILL ROAD |
| 11/1/2022, 9:50 p.m. at 9500 Block of WILSHIRE BOULEVARD | 11/5/2022, 1:10 p.m. at 9500 Block of BRIGHTON WAY |

Continued on page 83

Beverly Hills Community Free Shredding and Compost Event

December 4th, 2022
8 am to 12 pm*

*Event will end at 12 pm or when truck is full which ever comes first

Civic Center Drive and 3rd Street

Open to all community members
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- Stage parking line will be on Burton Way in front of courthouse and the corner of Civic Center Dr. Exit through the alley on Foothill Rd.
- For more information, please visit BEVERLYHILLS.ORG/SHRED

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(1) Annual Percentage Yield (APY) is accurate as of 11/14/2022, and cannot be combined with any other offers. The minimum balance to open a 13 Month Certificate of Deposit (CD) Promo account and obtain the advertised APY is \$2,500 - new money only. The APY assumes interest remains on deposit until maturity. A withdrawal of interest will reduce earnings. A penalty may be imposed for early withdrawal. Fees may reduce earnings. Additional terms and conditions may apply. Offer not available for Specialty Deposits or Public Funds. Deposit maximums may apply. See branch for details.

SUDOKU
11/18/22 ISSUE

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SUDOKU ANSWERS
11/11/22 ISSUE

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PUZZLE ANSWERS
11/11/22 ISSUE

S	T	A	I	R	S	G	O	I	T	E	R	D	E	S	I	R	E	
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BEVERLY HILLS COURIER

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THE NEW YORK TIMES SUNDAY MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE
11/18/22 ISSUE

LENGTH-ENING

BY MICHAEL LIEBERMAN / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Michael Lieberman, of Washington, D.C., is an attorney at Fairmark Partners, a consumer-protection firm. This is his ninth Times crossword in two years. It started when the Billy Joel title "We Didn't Start the Fire" morphed in his head to "ennui didn't start the fire." That didn't make much sense, but it did make him laugh. He went searching for other such transformations to build a puzzle around. — W.S.

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| <p>ACROSS</p> <p>1 Opportunities for singles</p> <p>7 Marbled savory snack from China</p> <p>13 A boatload</p> <p>17 "Keep Ya Head Up" rapper, informally</p> <p>20 Home of the W.N.B.A.'s Wings</p> <p>21 Talk and talk and talk and talk</p> <p>22 On the deep</p> <p>23 Poorly</p> <p>24 Why the party's about to get less hip?</p> <p>26 Maker of the Switch console</p> <p>28 Cremation receptacles</p> <p>29 Service that's not good?</p> <p>30 "The _____ Company" (Frans Hals portrait)</p> <p>32 Pie-crust ingredient</p> <p>33 Army award attribute</p> <p>35 Realtor's exclamation about a primary bathroom?</p> <p>39 Actress Moriarty of "The Boys"</p> <p>40 "My package arrived!"</p> <p>42 Landing info, in brief</p> <p>43 Sorrowful sound</p> <p>44 "Not gonna _____"</p> <p>45 Other: Sp.</p> <p>46 Structure on the continental shelf</p> <p>48 Take (down)</p> <p>49 How Shamu acknowledged the crowd's appreciation?</p> | <p>52 Go from 60 to 0, say</p> <p>54 Grp. regulating global commerce</p> <p>57 Got by just fine</p> <p>58 Some N.F.L. linemen, in brief</p> <p>60 Where someone might fiddle with your dance moves?</p> <p>62 Flat-topped military hat</p> <p>64 Ocean State sch.</p> <p>66 Takes the stage</p> <p>69 Man's name that spells a fruit backward</p> <p>70 "Prepare for a sword fight, McKellen, Fleming and all other namesakes out there!"</p> <p>75 Uncurbed enthusiasm</p> <p>76 Injury from a fistfight</p> <p>77 Byproduct of burning tobacco</p> <p>78 Bread maker?</p> <p>79 Casino do-overs</p> <p>81 Like many lifeguards</p> <p>83 Crews</p> <p>86 Neurodegenerative disease, for short</p> <p>87 1990s fitness fad</p> <p>90 Dish cooked to smooth things over after a fight?</p> <p>95 Cable channel with the comedy/drama "Sistas"</p> <p>96 TV that's trash, e.g.</p> <p>98 Pops</p> <p>99 High point of a trip to Europe?</p> <p>100 The old you?</p> <p>102 It's full of hot air</p> | <p>103 One small bite</p> <p>105 Word with bus or whistle</p> <p>106 What students in a karate class are often doing?</p> <p>109 Spiny sea creatures</p> <p>111 Flatbread made with atta</p> <p>112 Charge for a tutor</p> <p>113 Business-card abbr.</p> <p>115 Hang ominously</p> <p>116 Place for a lamp</p> <p>118 Challenge for a court jester?</p> <p>123 "That's _____" ("You may proceed")</p> <p>124 _____ film</p> <p>125 North African stew, or the dish it's cooked in</p> <p>126 Intimidating in a cool way</p> <p>127 Flavor enhancer, for short</p> <p>128 Counterpart of -ful</p> <p>129 Wears down</p> <p>130 Contents of a corn maze</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DOWN</p> <p>1 Freeware annoyances</p> <p>2 Where you might order nopales or esquites</p> <p>3 Less clear, as a memory</p> <p>4 Support group with a hyphen in its name</p> <p>5 Ankle bones</p> <p>6 About 5 o'clock, compass-wise</p> <p>7 Daly of "Cagney & Lacey"</p> <p>8 Singer-actress Kitt</p> <p>9 "Yo te _____"</p> | <p>10 The Tasmanian one has been extinct since the 19th century</p> <p>11 "Capisce?"</p> <p>12 Like wind power vis-à-vis natural gas</p> <p>13 Something a parent might tell you to watch</p> <p>14 God who was said to be in love with his sister while still in the womb(!)</p> <p>15 Core position</p> <p>16 Took a load off</p> <p>17 Thing to bash at a bash</p> <p>18 Buzz about space?</p> <p>19 Thickheads</p> <p>25 State symbol of Massachusetts</p> <p>27 "Middlemarch" novelist, 1871</p> <p>31 Showing signs of life</p> <p>33 Commanding position</p> <p>34 Located, to a builder</p> <p>36 Herman Melville's second novel</p> <p>37 "That's odd"</p> <p>38 Act unprofessionally?</p> <p>41 Channel</p> <p>45 How you might walk after getting great news</p> <p>47 "Hey, I had it first!"</p> <p>48 Comedian-actor Ken of "The Hangover" films</p> <p>50 Skewer</p> <p>51 Pinkish-red shade</p> <p>53 It moves one step at a time</p> <p>54 "Ain't I a _____?" (Sojourner Truth speech)</p> <p>55 Between, poetically</p> |
|---|--|---|--|

ANSWERS FOUND IN NEXT WEEK'S PAPER...

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <p>56 Lead-in to a sale price</p> <p>59 Lacking emotional toughness</p> <p>61 Remove from Zillow, say</p> <p>62 Show submission, in a way</p> <p>63 "Jumpin' Jehoshaphat!"</p> <p>65 Still competing</p> <p>67 Tour de France stage</p> <p>68 Envelops</p> <p>70 Pound who wrote "In a Station of the Metro"</p> <p>71 C sharp equivalent</p> <p>72 Slowly move (in)</p> | <p>73 Sends unwanted texts to, maybe</p> <p>74 Utterances of agreement</p> <p>80 Totally loved</p> <p>82 Present at birth</p> <p>84 What's so flippin' easy to cook with?</p> <p>85 Dinner at which "Dayenu" is sung</p> <p>88 Fried pastries popular in New Orleans</p> <p>89 Baby that rarely sleeps at night</p> <p>91 Kind of high-fat, low-carb diet</p> | <p>92 Unlike π</p> <p>93 Business magnate who is a Stanford University dropout</p> <p>94 Actor Omar</p> <p>95 Electronic toy with a blue "pull" handle</p> <p>97 "On Juneteenth" author _____ Gordon-Reed</p> <p>100 Some beachwear</p> <p>101 Show-off</p> <p>102 Mournful peals</p> <p>104 Play opener</p> <p>105 Rhymes with an eponymous production company</p> | <p>106 Pummel</p> <p>107 Infuse (with)</p> <p>108 Joy of TV</p> <p>110 Sole connector?</p> <p>114 Potato peeler targets</p> <p>117 Patella neighbor, in brief</p> <p>119 One may get in the way of a collaboration</p> <p>120 Purge (of)</p> <p>121 Abbr. in a birth announcement</p> <p>122 Site used by NASA, in brief</p> |
|--|---|---|--|

Continued from page 81

BURGLARY - FROM A MOTOR VEHICLE

11/10/2022, 2 p.m. at 400 Block of N. BEVERLY DRIVE

BURGLARY - RESIDENTIAL (HOME OCCUPIED)

11/12/2022, 6:22 a.m. at 300 Block of S. RODEO DRIVE

BURGLARY - RESIDENTIAL (NO ONE HOME)

11/4/2022, 10:24 p.m. at 1200 Block of COLDWATER CANYON DRIVE

11/12/2022, 2:27 a.m. at 1200 Block of LEXINGTON ROAD

DUI ARREST

11/5/2022, 12:52 a.m. at WILSHIRE BOULEVARD / N. LA CIENEGA BOULEVARD

11/12/2022, 3:15 a.m. at N. BEVERLY DRIVE / LAUREL WAY

11/1/2022, 2:11 a.m. at CARMELITA AVENUE / N. ELM DRIVE

MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT

11/5/2022, 10 a.m. at 8700 Block of WILSHIRE BOULEVARD

11/11/2022, 11:15 a.m. at 200 Block of S. ELM DRIVE

ROBBERY

11/6/2022, 10 a.m. at CARMELITA AVENUE / N. PALM DRIVE

11/1/2022, 1:14 p.m. at 400 Block of N. BEVERLY DRIVE

SHOPLIFT ROBBERY

11/2/2022, 5:26 p.m. at 9700 Block of WILSHIRE BOULEVARD

THEFT - GRAND

11/7/2022, 5:45 p.m. at 100 Block of S. OAKHURST DRIVE

11/7/2022, 4:09 p.m. at 300 Block of N. BEVERLY DRIVE

11/6/2022, 9:34 a.m. at 8300 Block of WILSHIRE BOULEVARD

11/5/2022, 1:20 p.m. at 200 Block of S. BEVERLY DRIVE

11/3/2022, 12:15 p.m. at 100 Block of S. BEVERLY DRIVE

11/12/2022, 4:44 p.m. at 400 Block of N. RODEO DRIVE

11/12/2022, 4 p.m. at 200 Block of N. RODEO DRIVE

11/10/2022, 5:08 p.m. at 9600 Block of WILSHIRE BOULEVARD

10/31/2022, 12:50 p.m. at 9600 Block of WILSHIRE BOULEVARD

9/20/2022, 5:30 p.m. at 400 Block of N. CANON DRIVE

9/19/2022, 1:42 p.m. at 300 Block of N. RODEO DRIVE

9/18/2022, 6:05 p.m. at 200 Block of N. BEVERLY DRIVE

9/18/2022, 2 p.m. at 9500 Block of BRIGHTON WAY

9/17/2022, 5:30 p.m. at 300 Block of N. RODEO DRIVE

9/16/2022, 3 p.m. at 9700 Block of WILSHIRE BOULEVARD

THEFT - GRAND (FROM VEHICLE)

11/7/2022, 8 p.m. at 200 Block of S. DOHENY DRIVE

11/5/2022, 2 p.m. at 100 Block of N. HAMEL DRIVE

11/11/2022, 12 a.m. at 9400 Block of OLYMPIC BOULEVARD

THEFT - PETTY

11/5/2022, 5 p.m. at 300 Block of N. CANON DRIVE

11/4/2022, 9:47 a.m. at 300 Block of N. CANON DRIVE

11/10/2022, 7:21 p.m. at 200 Block of N. ALMONT DRIVE

11/1/2022, 5:45 p.m. at 9600 Block of WILSHIRE BOULEVARD

10/31/2022, 12:11 p.m. at 9700 Block of WILSHIRE BOULEVARD

THEFT - PETTY (FROM VEHICLE)

11/6/2022, 3:45 a.m. at 300 Block of PECK DRIVE

11/5/2022, 3 p.m. at 400 Block of N. CAMDEN DRIVE

10/31/2022, 1:54 a.m. at 400 Block of PECK DRIVE

10/31/2022, 1:54 a.m. at 400 Block of PECK DRIVE

THEFT FROM COMMERCIAL BUILDING

9/27/2022, 1:51 p.m. at 300 Block of N. RODEO DRIVE

THEFT OF AUTO PARTS

11/3/2022, 11:14 a.m. at 300 Block of S. DOHENY DRIVE

11/1/2022, 10:30 p.m. at 100 Block of N. PALM DRIVE

Public Notices



SUMMARY NOTICE

SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NO. 22-O-2866

ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS ADDING ARTICLE 16.6 TO CHAPTER 3 OF TITLE 10 TO THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS MUNICIPAL CODE AND APPLYING THE CHEVAL BLANC BEVERLY HILLS SPECIFIC PLAN ZONING TO THE PROPERTIES LOCATED AT 456 AND 468 NORTH RODEO DRIVE; 449, 451, AND 453 NORTH BEVERLY DRIVE; AND 461 THROUGH 465 NORTH BEVERLY DRIVE

This is a summary of the above entitled ordinance of the City of Beverly Hills. This summary has been prepared and published in accordance with the requirements of Government Code Section 36933.

This Ordinance amending the City's Zoning Code and Zoning Map is associated with the construction of a single multiple-use building containing a luxury hotel; a private club; public and hotel/club dining and appurtenant uses (operated as Cheval Blanc Beverly Hills); and street level retail spaces accessible from Rodeo Drive. The Project requires the approval of various City entitlements, including: a Final EIR for the Project; a resolution approving General Plan and Master Plan of Streets Amendments; a resolution approving a Specific Plan; an ordinance approving a Development Agreement; a resolution approving a Vesting Tentative Parcel Map for the Project and this ordinance approving a Zone Text and Zone Map Amendments.

The Ordinance would establish the Cheval Blanc Beverly Hills Specific Plan zoning designation and apply that zoning designation to the property is necessary and appropriate for the adoption and implementation of the Cheval Blanc Beverly Hills Specific Plan. The Zone Text and Zoning Map Amendments include changes to the Zoning Code text and Zoning Map consistent with the amendments in the General Plan Land Use Designation Map of the Land Use Element of the General Plan adopted by the City Council to ensure that the zoning is consistent with the Cheval Blanc Beverly Hills Specific Plan General Plan land use designation.

The Project, including the Zone Text and Zoning Map Amendments, 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. A Final Environmental Impact Report (Final EIR) was prepared to analyze the potential environmental impacts of the Project. On September 20, 2022 and November 1, 2022, the City Council reviewed the Final EIR and, by resolution, certified the EIR and adopted a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program on November 1, 2022.

A certified copy of the entirety of the text of Ordinance 22-O-2866 is available for public inspection in the office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 455 N. Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills, California 90210. Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Beverly Hills held a public hearing on November 1, 2022 and adopted Ordinance No. 22-O-2866 during the regular City Council meeting on November 15, 2022.

AYES: Councilmembers Nazarian, Friedman, Vice Mayor Gold, and Mayor Bosse
 NOES: Councilmember Mirisch
 ABSENT: None
 ABSTAIN: None

Further information may be obtained by contacting the **Community Development Department at 310.285.1141.**

HUMA AHMED
 City Clerk



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— 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).

WE FILE AND PUBLISH DBA'S

For more information

Call George 310 278 1322 ext.121

grecinos@bhcourier.com



SUMMARY NOTICE

SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NO. 22-O-2867

ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS APPROVING A DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS AND 468 N RODEO DRIVE LLC, 456 N RODEO DRIVE LLC, 461 N BEVERLY DRIVE LLC, 449 N BEVERLY DRIVE LLC AND LVMH MOET HENNESSY LOUIS VUITTON INC. FOR DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF THE PROPERTIES AT 456 NORTH RODEO DRIVE, 468 NORTH RODEO DRIVE, 449, 451, AND 453 NORTH BEVERLY DRIVE; AND 461 THROUGH 465 NORTH BEVERLY DRIVE FOR THE CHEVAL BLANC BEVERLY HILLS SPECIFIC PLAN PROJECT WHICH INCLUDES HOTEL, CLUB, RETAIL, AND DINING USES

This is a summary of the above entitled ordinance of the City of Beverly Hills. This summary has been prepared and published in accordance with the requirements of Government Code Section 36933.

This Ordinance approving a development agreement is associated with the construction of a single multiple-use building containing a luxury hotel; a private club; public and hotel/club dining and appurtenant uses (operated as Cheval Blanc Beverly Hills); and street level retail spaces accessible from Rodeo Drive ("the Project"). The Project required the approval of various City entitlements, including: a Final EIR for the Project; a resolution approving General Plan and Master Plan of Streets Amendments; an ordinance approving Zone Text and Zoning Map Amendments; a resolution approving a Specific Plan; a resolution approving a Vesting Tentative Parcel Map for the Project and this ordinance approving a Development Agreement for the Project.

The Development Agreement eliminates uncertainty in planning and provides for the orderly development of the Project in a manner consistent with the City's Official Zoning Regulations and the City's General Plan. The agreement provides assurance to the Developer that the Project can proceed with the uses, density and other land use characteristics specified in the Project approvals. The City has determined that substantial benefit to the Public will accrue as a result of the development of the Project, including without limitation: the creation of a world-class architectural landmark with a visual presence in the business triangle, augmentation of the City's economic base, attraction of visitors to the City, increased tax revenues, and development of the site as an anchor location.

The Development Agreement includes the following terms:

- The Developer is required to pay the City a Public Benefit Contribution Fee of \$26 million.
- The Developer is required to pay the City an Additional Arts and Cultural Contribution of \$2 million. The contribution is in addition to the standard fine arts obligation required by Section 3-1-802 of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code.
- A 5% Municipal Surcharge on revenue from hotel rooms is required to be paid to the City. The 5% charge is in addition to the City's 14% transient occupancy tax. For hotel stays longer than 30 days the municipal surcharge increases to 19%.
- The Development Agreement has a 5-year term. The Developer has the option of exercising up to 4 one-year extensions upon payment of a \$1 million dollar extension fee per extension.
- The Developer is required to construct, open and initially operate the hotel for a minimum of 180 days and the hotel must meet a minimum luxury standard defined in the development agreement.
- The Developer is required to commence construction within 12 months of the final approval date and complete construction within 5 years of the final approval date.
- The Developer must pay the City \$52 million dollars if it fails to open and operate the Hotel within 5 years of the final approval date, subject to allowable extensions. The \$52 million includes forfeiture of the \$26 million Public Benefit Contribution, the \$2 million Arts and Culture Contribution, and payment of an additional \$24 million in liquidated damages.
- An Environmental Mitigation and Sustainability (EMS) Fee of 3% of the sale price is imposed in perpetuity on any future sale of the property.

The Project, including the Development Agreement, 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. A Final Environmental Impact Report (Final EIR) was prepared to analyze the potential environmental impacts of the Project. On September 20, 2022 and November 1, 2022, the City Council reviewed the Final EIR and, by resolution, certified the EIR and adopted a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program on November 1, 2022.

A certified copy of the entirety of the text of Ordinance 22-O-2867 is available for public inspection in the office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 455 N. Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills, California 90210. Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Beverly Hills held a public hearing on November 1, 2022 and adopted Ordinance No. 22-O-2867 during the regular City Council meeting on November 15, 2022.

AYES: Councilmembers Nazarian, Friedman, Vice Mayor Gold, and Mayor Bosse
 NOES: Councilmember Mirisch
 ABSENT: None
 ABSTAIN: None

Further information may be obtained by contacting the **Community Development Department at 310.285.1141.**

HUMA AHMED
 City Clerk



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.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
 2022217509 The following is/are doing business as:
 IMELDA INTERIANO
 2091 W. 30th St., Los Angeles, CA 90018; Josefa Interiano 2091 W. 30th St., Los Angeles, CA 90018; The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on October 2022: Josefa Interiano, Owner. Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: October 05, 2022; Published: October 28, November 04, 11, 18, 2022 LACC N/C BEVERLY HILLS COURIER

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
 CASE NO: 22BCCP00418
 ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

In the Matter of the petition of:
 Arin Ghalehmamakaei Bedrosian
 To all interested person(s):
 Petitioner:
 Arin Ghalehmamakaei Bedrosian
 current residence address:
 321 E. San Jose Ave. #D,
 Burbank, CA 91508
 filed a petition with the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles,
 300 East Olive Ave.
 Burbank, CA 91502,
 Burbank Courthouse,
 on November 04, 2022
 for a Decree changing names as follows:
 Present Name:
 Arin Ghalehmamakaei Bedrosian
 Proposed Name:
 Arin Bedrosian

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: December 30, 2022
 Time: 8:30am
 Dept: B
 The address of the court is: Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles,
 300 East Olive Ave.
 Burbank, CA 91502,
 Burbank 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:
 Arin Ghalehmamakaei Bedrosian
 Judge of the Superior Court
 Robin Miller Sloan,
 Sherri R. Carter, Executive Officer/Clerk,
 By: Dolores Camacho, Deputy Clerk
 Dated: November 04, 2022
 Published: November 11, 18, 25, December 02, 2022
 Beverly Hills Courier

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
 2022235043 The following is/are doing business as:
 FEAT CLOTHING
 2708 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA 90405; 3705 W. Pico Blvd. #853, Los Angeles, CA 90019; Feat Socks, Inc. 2708 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA 90405; The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION (#4174570), registrant(s) has NOT begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on: Taylor Offer, CEO. Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: October 27, 2022; Published: November 11, 18, 25, December 02, 2022 LACC N/C BEVERLY HILLS COURIER

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
 2022231209 The following is/are doing business as:
 1) DESDEAQUITY.COM 2) IMELDA INTERIANO 3) DA TV MAGAZINE
 4) JOINFJ 5) DA TV EVENTS
 6) DA TV STORE
 2091 W. 30th St., Los Angeles, CA 90018; Josefa Interiano 2091 W. 30th St., Los Angeles, CA 90018; The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL, registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on October 2022: Josefa Interiano, Owner. Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: October 24, 2022; Published: November 11, 18, 25, December 02 2022 LACC N/C BEVERLY HILLS COURIER

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
 2022239278 The following is/are doing business as:
 ORCHIDS O
 10390 Bellwood Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90064; SI Beaux, Inc. 10390 Bellwood Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90064; The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION, (#1401153) registrant(s) has begun to transact business under the name(s) listed on October 2022: Mariko Ohira, Vice President. Statement is filed with the County of Los Angeles: November 02, 2022; Published: November 11, 18, 25, December 02 2022 LACC N/C BEVERLY HILLS COURIER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

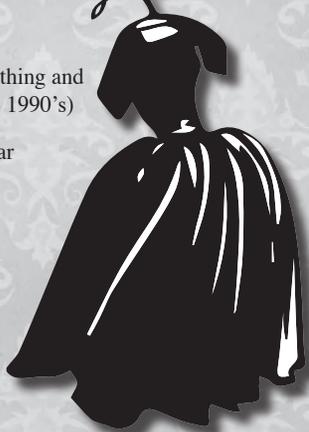
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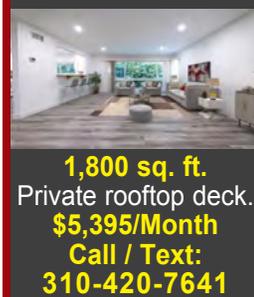
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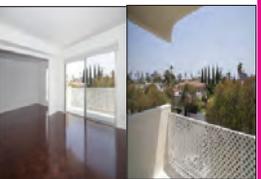
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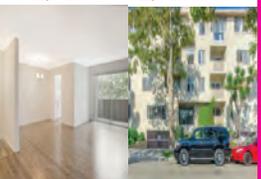
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