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MOBILE STROKE UNIT – Emergency Responders from the UCLA Stroke Unit and Beverly Hills Firefighters and Paramedics joined the Mayor and philanthropists Steve Gordon and Henry Gluck Tuesday to usher in a new era in stroke care with the Mobile Stroke Unit. Pictured (from left): Fire Captain Ettore Berardinelli; UCLA CT Tech Kevin Brown; EMS Programs Administrator Sean Stokes; Fire Captain Jonathan Borer; Fire Battalion Chief Scott Stephens; Firefighter/Paramedic Jacob Morrow; Firefighter/Paramedic City of Santa Monica Kenny Harrell; Firefighter Adam Meinhardt; Engineer Melissa Hillis; UCLA Critical Care RN Fidelia Pineda; Firefighter Bryan Miller; Engineer Dirk Seib; Engineer Selvin Sotelo; Firefighter Brien Hager; Dr. May Nour; Beverly Hills Mayor Julian Gold, MD; Henry Gluck; Steve Gordon; and Beverly Hills Fire Chief Greg Barton. For more on the Mobile Stroke Unit, see page 5.



WALK THIS WAY—Beverly Vista teachers (from left) Katina Vallens, Laura Rogers, Tracey MacGregor and Amy Arebalo are among the scores of Beverly Vista staff to leave school on Monday at 3:15 p.m., wearing black, in a show of solidarity with the teachers' union.

Impasse With Beverly Hills Teachers, District Officials Seeps Into Classrooms

By Laura Coleman

In a year that has seen a multitude of academic successes often dwarfed by the inner and external turmoil swirling around the Beverly Hills Unified School District, the current standoff between the Board of Education and the teacher's union is now threatening to encroach on students' education.

For the past week, per instructions by the Beverly Hills Education Association (BHEA) to its members, teach-

ers have been doing the minimum amount possible once the school day ends in an effort to put pressure on BHUSD in its contract negotiations with its teachers' union as part of a painful negotiation tactic known as "Work to Rule."

"Many parents are upset about how the 'Work to Rule' may affect their children. It's an unfortunate situation for all, to say the least, and we all hope it gets resolved soon as we know

(see 'BHUSD TEACHERS' page 7)

'Rent Banking' Covered At Second Rent Stabilization Ordinance Meeting

By Victoria Talbot

Landlords and tenants filled the Municipal Gallery Sunday for another round of facilitated dialogue with Prof. Sukhsimranjit Singh, moving a step closer to a conclusion of the discussions on the finalization of the Rent Stabilization Ordinance (RSO).

This meeting focused on three issues and options that can be read in the report presented by Paul Silver, Vice President of HR&A Advisors, Inc. The HR&A report forms

the basis for the discussions.

Banking of annual rent increases, in which landlords can "bank" a portion of the allowable annual rent increase to be used at a later date, is a component for many cities with rent stabilization ordinances, according to the HR&A report. The use of rent banking allows property owners some flexibility to cover expenses, but can also result in unexpectedly large rent increases for the tenants.

(see 'RENT STABILIZATION' page 13)



Barry Avrich archives

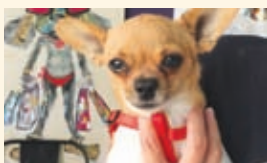
AN HONORED GENTLEMAN — Romanian born Ben Ferencz is the focus of *Prosecuting Evil*, a documentary, produced by Barry Avrich, about the conviction of 22 Nazi officials. Ben was 27 years old at the time of the trial.

For more photos, see George Christy's column on page 6.

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The Toronto International Film Festival Premieres *A Star Is Born* Starring Bradley Cooper and Lady Gaga. Also The Already-Acclaimed *First Man* With Ryan Gosling About Astronaut Neil Armstrong.

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Lili Bosse To Receive Fred Hayman Visionary Award At Golden Palm Awards Gala

By Laura Coleman

Two-time Beverly Hills Mayor Lili Bosse has been selected to receive the inaugural Fred Hayman Visionary Award at this year's Best of Beverly Hills Golden Palm Awards Gala.

Slated for Monday, Oct. 15 at the Montage Beverly Hills, the annual gala produced by the Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce recognizes outstanding local businesses and people.

"I can think of no one more deserving of this award. Her vision and energy are contagious and good for our City," said Chamber President Todd Johnson.

(see 'BOSSE VISIONARY' page 10)



Lili Bosse

Activists Seek Shooshani's Removal From Planning Commission

By Victoria Talbot

A string of controversial meetings of the Planning Commission that culminated with Commissioner Joe Shooshani personally confronting resident Debbie Weiss has led Ronald Richards, president of the Beverly Hills Hillside Protection Association (BHHPA), to send a letter to the City "requesting the removal of Planning Commissioner Farshid Joe Shooshani."

"There are facts that make Commissioner Shooshani's removal necessary to maintain the integrity of the Planning Commission," wrote Richards,

who lists nine reasons why he should be removed, including a lawsuit arising out of an encroachment permit he took out at his West Hollywood building. The case involves an oversized JLG lift parked on the street in front of Shooshani's Sunset Boulevard property with an expired permit, that was being used to change a jumbotron sign. The Plaintiffs are the family of a motorist killed in an early morning collision with the lift.

Richards contends the lawsuit influences Shooshani's judgment, noting a "concern of bias

(see 'SHOOSHANI' page 10)

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Now In Our 54th Year
499 N. Cañon Dr.,
Suite. 100
Beverly Hills, CA 90210
310-278-1322
Fax: 310-271-5118
www.bhcourier.com

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OUTLOOK BEVERLY HILLS

The weekly update
of local and SoCal events.

A Noise Within's acclaimed production of *The Impossible Man Of La Mancha* returns through Sunday, Sept 9 at the classical company's theater, 3352 E. Foothill Blvd., Pasadena.



Geoff Elliott and Kasey Mahaffy in Man of La Mancha.

The modernist take on the "play within a play" story of Don Quixote, set in a prison "holding tank," is directed by Artistic Director **Julia Rodriguez-Elliott** and stars **Geoff Elliott** as Don Quixote, **Cassandra Marie Murphy** as Aldonza and **Kasey Mahaffy** as Sancho Panza.

In addition to the beloved anthem, the score by Mitch Leigh and Joe Darion, with book by Dale Wasserman, includes the songs *I, Don Quixote, Dulcinea, It's All the Same, Little Bird, Little Bird* and more.

Performances are at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday with 2 p.m. matinees on weekends.

Tickets start at \$25. To purchase and for more information, call 626-356-3121 or visit www.anoisewithin.org.

The L.A. Zoo will celebrate **International Vulture Awareness Day** with special activities from **10 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 1** at the zoo, 5333 Zoo Dr. in Griffith Park.

Kid-friendly activities will include

crafts, "micro-trash" and "bio-fact" education stations and keeper walkabouts offering up-close views of a California condor and a King vulture at 1 p.m.

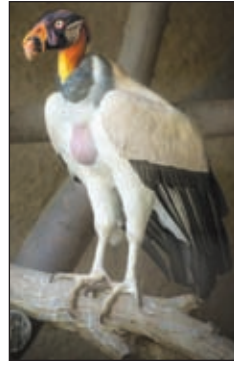
The Condor's Shadow, a documentary that follows the L.A. and San Diego Zoo's efforts to increase the condor population and save it from extinction, will be screened throughout the day.

A special edition of the World of Birds Show will feature endangered Cape vultures, among Africa's largest raptors; and the California Condor Rescue Zone will give visitors the chance to view California condors zoo home via live video feeds.

Tickets are \$21 and may be purchased online at <https://www.lazoo.org> or at the box office.

The zoo is celebrating **L.A. Fleet Week** with free admission for all active and retired U.S. military personnel and veterans from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Friday, Aug. 31. Up to six accompanying friends and family members can receive a discount of \$3 off adult and \$2 off child admission.

La Senora Research Institute will present its annual **"Tango on a Summer's Eve Concert and Milonga"** at **6:45 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 2** at the institute's home, the historic 1928 **Jose Mojica Hacienda**, 565 Dryad Road, Santa Monica.



A King vulture

After a reception and tours of the botanical gardens, the concert, in the home's music salon, will feature violinist **Alan Busted**, guitarist **Alfredo Caseres**, **Stuart Rosen** on doublebass and soloists bandoneonist **Mariano Dugatkin** and pianist **Matias Piegari**.

The milonga dance event will feature music by **Tinto Tango**.

Cost is \$60, \$35 for the milonga only.

To purchase tickets visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tango-on-a-summer's-eve-concert-tickets-48049348896?aff=erelexpmlt>.

Storytelling, art making, dancing, puppetry and more will be part of the **Hammer Museum's** free **Family Day: Kids for Peace** from **11 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 8** at the museum, 10899 Wilshire Blvd, L.A.

Highlights for the day will include: Making a garden that moves with **Beatriz Cortez**, dancing with the **Lula Washington Youth Dance Ensemble**, joining **Shizu Saldamando** in tracing portraits of loved ones, experiencing an interactive puppetry performance with **Audrey Densmore** and **Jared Ramirez**, enjoying music by **Wild Dream** and **Noah James** and **Brendan Brandt** on guitar and ukulele, and more.

For more information, visit <https://hammer.ucla.edu/programs-events/2018/09/family-day-kids-for-peace/>.

Burt Ward, Robin on the popular **Batman TV series** will headline a special **"Batman 66 Exhibit Panel"** from **1-2:30 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 8** at **The Hollywood Museum**, 1660 N. Highland Ave., Hollywood.



Burt Ward as Robin

The current Batman 66 exhibit, on display since January, will be refreshed with new items including the King Tut sculpture with a screen-accurate costume and featuring Victor Buono's face, and the original blue print of the Batmobile from Barris Customs.

Centerpieces of the exhibit, including the Batmobile, Batcycle, Burt Ward and Adam West's (Batman) original costumes and villain costumes will remain.

Memorabilia collectors appearing on the panel include Pat Evans, Rob Klein, Tom Woodruff, Alex Zsolt, Donna Loren, Kelly Delcambre and Jared Barris. Loren, who appeared on the TV show as one of the Joker's accomplices, will hold a book signing.

Tickets are \$50 and include admission to the museum and panel, refreshments and a promotional T-shirt. To purchase, visit www.thehollywoodmuseum.com.

Wags & Walks, working to promote "shelter dogs as the best dogs in the world," will hold its **Annual Benefit Gala** at **6:30 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 13** at the **Taglyan Complex**, 1201 Vine St., L.A.

The evening will honor sponsors, adopters, fosters and partners with special recognition to **Tracey Gluck**, **Ginger the Pit Bull** and ASPCA President/CEO **Matt Bershader**.

Actress **Judy Greer** and actor/comedian **Jeff Garlin** will emcee the evening that will include a silent auction.

Nonprofit **Wags & Walks** is a community of dog lovers working to promote shelter dogs through advocacy of its family-friendly foster and adoption programs. Every day the Wags & Walks team travels all over L.A. County to save dogs from high-kill shelters and place them in loving homes. Having saved more than 3,500 dogs, in January the charity opened its new facility and adoption center in L.A.

For tickets and more information, visit www.wagsandwalks.org/events.

Next stop: more subway.

PURPLE LINE EXTENSION TRANSIT PROJECT
Monthly Community Meeting in Beverly Hills

YOU'RE INVITED!

WHAT
Wilshire/La Cienega Station and Wilshire/Rodeo Station
Construction Update

WHEN
Wednesday, September 5, 2018 from 6:30 – 8pm

WHERE
Beverly Hills City Hall
2nd Floor Municipal Gallery
455 N Rexford Dr

Note: In observance of Labor Day there will be no construction activities on Monday, September 3.

CONTACT US

213.922.6934
purplelineext@metro.net
metro.net/purple
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HERE!

BEVERLY HILLS MAIN NEWS

AN ARTIST'S RENDERING IN PARIS – Vice Chair of the Design Review Commission Barry Bernstein brought the *Courier* to Paris where he visited the Picasso Residence. Here, Bernstein is pictured with his three grandchildren, Sasha, Jonah and Sophie Sloan. Vive La France! To join the Bernstein family in the Carry The *Courier* Club, snap a photo of yourself holding the *Courier* on your next trip and email it, along with caption information, to mlopez@bhccourier.com.



City To Hold Second Meeting On Lots 12-13 Tree Planting

By Victoria Talbot

The City of Beverly Hills has announced an additional public meeting to discuss soil sampling on Lot 13 to be held Thursday, Sept. 12, 6-8 p.m. in the second floor auditorium of the Beverly Hills Public Library.

Tree Care LA will discuss the tree reforestation timeline, key considerations for reforestation and the environmental management. The City has hired Lindmark Engineering to develop a formal workplan to address the future tree-planting

operation and the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) will have oversight to ensure project activities are in compliance.

This second meeting was arranged to accommodate members of the public unable to attend today's (Friday, Aug. 31) meeting at the Municipal Gallery due to the Labor Day Weekend holiday.

For more information, call the Department of Public Works Customer Service at 310-285-2467.

Beverly Hills Unified Responds Swiftly To False Allegations Of Unruly Substitute Teacher

By Laura Coleman

Hawthorne administrators took swift action last Friday afternoon following reports, which later turned out to be unfounded, that a substitute teacher had detained students in the classroom at the end of the day, even getting physical with students.

"Additional statements include the substitute teacher yelling, pushing, and kicking some students," Hawthorne Principal Sarah Kaber and Assistant Principal Richard Waters wrote families in an email sent out shortly after the alleged incident. "We would like to assure you that the substitute teacher will no longer be allowed on Hawthorne's

campus and that the school district and the police department are working closely together to ensure the safety of our students."

Beverly Hills Assistant Chief of Police Marc Coopwood later clarified that following an investigation which included working with the teacher and students involved, police determined this week that the incident was unfounded.

"We've closed the case," he said. "There was some video evidence that showed that the case was unfounded."

Prior to the investigation's closure, Beverly Hills Unified School District Superintendent Michael Bregy told the *Courier*

that the school district was working with Hawthorne's administration to assist the students and parents in the class that were affected by the substitute teacher's "unacceptable behavior."

In response to the alleged on-campus incident, Hawthorne officials called the Beverly Hills Police Department to assist and Nastec security subsequently escorted the substitute teacher off the campus.

"We strive to meet high standards for the professional conduct of all employees in our district, including substitute teachers," Bregy said.



9/11 COMMEMORATION

– Volunteers are working hard to prepare the City of Beverly Hills' 9/11 Twin Towers Beam to get it ready for the City's annual 9/11 program. This year's event is once again open to everyone and will be held at the Beverly Hills Fire Station, 445 N. Rexford Dr., on Sept. 11 at 5:30 pm.

Pictured: Haley Carrere adds rust preservative material to the beam. Carrere is donating her time, along with Solomon Marble Cleaning, Sunbelt Rentals and Anawalt Lumber for all the materials and equipment needed for this process.

The Beverly Hills Hotel Pokes Fun At Astros Pitcher Verlander With \$1 Million Tab

By Matt Lopez

Houston Astros pitcher Justin Verlander found out the hard way last week that beating the Los Angeles Dodgers in the World Series comes at a price – at least in Beverly Hills.

It all ended up being a prank, but The Beverly Hills Hotel had a little fun at Verlander's expense last Friday when he dined for lunch at the Cabana Cafe

Verlander posted the picture of his receipt on Twitter, which included a \$42 McCarthy Salad and \$30 pancakes, with one specific item circled: an item called "Dodger Killer" which the server put on his tab for a cool \$1 million.

Verlander and the Astros defeated the Dodgers in last year's World Series.

Not to say Verlander couldn't have afforded the meal – he's due to make \$28 million each of the next two seasons with the Astros – but in the end it was all in good fun,

and Verlander made light of it on social media.

"#BeverlyHillsHotel really making me pay for that World Series win. Thanks for the great lunch as always!" Verlander wrote on Twitter in the caption accompanying the photo.



Teen BHEF Seeks Applicants For 2018-19

By Laura Coleman

Beverly Hills students looking to make a difference in their community's public education are encouraged to join Teen Beverly Hills Education Foundation (BHEF), which is now accepting applications through Sept. 8.

The volunteer organization for 7-12 graders enrolled at the Beverly Hills Unified School District is designed to inspire students to make a difference in their community by providing them with opportunities to participate in service and learning projects as well as fundraising experiences.

"I find it really inspiring to see people care about the neighborhood they're in," said Beverly Hills High School senior Noelle Trost, Teen BHEF president. "It's a great opportunity to make a difference in the community."

In addition to the seven BHUSD students on the Teen BHEF board, Noelle said they would be selecting up to 35 new and returning members.



Teen BHEF board members (back row, from left): Jason Mandel, Omer Cohen and Jonah Okum; (front row): Kate Leib, Noelle Trost, Estella Rosen and Julia Mandel.

"We're looking for people who are responsible, really want to make a contribution and have really good ideas," she said.

From adopting a family during the holiday season to hosting a movie night for incoming freshmen to holding book drives and other fundraisers, Teen BHEF offers a wealth of experiences for young would-be fundraisers.

"Serving on the Teen BHEF Board is a wonderful way for

students to earn service points or volunteer hours. And, through that service they gain leadership skills and learn the value of working collaboratively," said BHEF President Cindy Trost.

To apply to join Teen BHEF, visit www.bhef.org and click on the Teen BHEF tab to find the application link. The deadline to apply is Sept. 8 and those accepted will be notified by Sept. 10.



WHERE EVERYBODY BELONGS—Hawthorne 8th grade student leaders (pictured) helped incoming middle school students acclimate this year as part of the school's WEB (Where Everybody Belongs) peer mentoring program. Top row (from left): Marissa Terranova (teacher), Evan Shaham, Edward Kim, Dylan Van Rossum, Jonathan Saboorian, Natasha Jadidolahi, Rena Nassirzadeh and Marissa Long (teacher). Bottom row, from left: Jacqueline Cohen, Alexandra Bakshian, Nikki Bennett, Ben Padilla, Julia Tabatabai and Taylor Rubin.

Kenneth Wright Discusses His Battle To Unseat Ted Lieu In 33rd District Congressional Race

By Matt Lopez

Pediatric eye surgeon Dr. Kenneth Wright ran unsuccessfully against Ted Lieu (D-California) for California's 33rd district in 2016.

At the time, Wright made no bones about the fact that he was probably going to lose.

"I told people – look, I'm not going to win this. I didn't want to lie to anyone," Wright told the *Courier* during an interview Wednesday in Beverly Hills. "I just didn't want to see Ted run unopposed, but I gained a lot of valuable experience."

Fast forward two years and Dr. Wright is running again, and this time he believes he's got a real chance to topple the incumbent.

Wright earned 33 percent of the vote in the 2016 general election and said he believes the current political climate is right for him to close that gap in November.



Dr. Kenneth Wright

Wright is a longtime pediatric eye surgeon who has published more than 100 articles and textbooks in his field. He's taken part in surgical missions all over the world, including Africa, Latin America, Asia and the Middle East. He calls himself a "New Age Republican" – he believes strongly in open borders, and says law-abiding illegal immigrants currently in the country should be allowed to remain. Along with most Republicans, he is a staunch opponent of Obamacare. On

the other hand, he's a supporter individual of freedoms and says he takes no issue with gay marriage.

Wright says he's had a difficult time garnering support from the California Republicans in a district that historically has always leaned heavily Democratic.

"They've basically given up on trying to win in many of the races, unfortunately," Wright said. "They take money and funnel it into other states."

On health care, a field Dr. Wright, who recently returned from a surgical mission in Panama, is obviously all too familiar with, he has strong feelings. Wright said patients have lost the freedom of choice, and he would begin by pushing to reverse the McCarran Ferguson Act, which allows insurance companies to remain exempt from antitrust laws.

(see 'KENNETH WRIGHT' page 12)

Charities Raise Upward Of \$95M In Beverly Hills

By Laura Coleman

While the Beverly Hills Charitable Solicitations Commission may not be the City's most sexy commission, the \$95 million raised for charities last year in Beverly Hills is certainly no wallflower.

According to the commission's 2017 Annual Report, which was recently approved by the City Council, almost \$140 million moved through the City in charitable activities last year. To that end the City's Charitable Commission is tasked with protecting residents from bogus charities and helping ensure that charities holding charitable events give at least 50 percent of their proceeds back to their charity.

"I think the amount of dollars raised for charities in the

City of Beverly Hills is very interesting," said Charitable Solicitations Commission Chair Pam Kraushaar, highlighting the \$139.5 million in total receipts of all permitted activities for 2017. "It's really all about the financial statements, and we really want to see how much they're giving back to their organizations."

The total amount of money from fundraisers in 2017 is likely much higher, considering that financial statements are still outstanding for 49 permitted events, including last year's successful fundraiser for the Friends of the Israel Defense Forces at The Beverly Hilton. In total, the commission issued 226 permits (five were cancelled) for charitable solicitations conducted in

2017 and subsequently reviewed the financial statements of 172 monetary drives and charitable events.

Many of the permits issued last year, which cost nothing, were thanks to the efforts of the commissioners who spend time researching newspapers and other forms of advertising to identify charitable events in the City for which no permit applications have been submitted.

"Our Municipal Code states that any organization that's holding an event in Beverly Hills or soliciting our residents must have a permit," Kraushaar said.

As part of the commission's 2017 annual report, the second such comprehensive

(see 'CHARITIES' page 12)

Beverly Hills High Football Team Ends 21-Game Losing Streak

By Matt Lopez

For the first time in more than two years, the Beverly Hills High school football team can call itself a winner again.

Powered by a strong running game and a stout defensive effort, new head coach Jarrod Bunch and the Normans snapped the school's 21-game losing streak last Friday in a 32-0 nonleague win over Sotomayor High at Nickoll Field.

Bunch is the former New York Giants running back who was hired over the summer to take over a program that had won just two games in the last five years.

"I told the team afterward that no matter what, we're undefeated right now," Bunch said. "We're 1-0 and the next step is try to become 2-0 this week."

Prior to Friday's win, the Normans last won a game on Oct. 30, 2015 in a 25-17 victory over Santa Monica.

Bunch, a former running

back, said he was most proud of the team's running game against Sotomayor. He highlighted the play of Ilai Dardashti, Alex Vaca and Nick Sullivan as players who were key to the success of the running game.

Each of the three players had a touchdown run in the game.

"Ilai had to have had close to 100 years, he's been coming in every day since the summer and I'm really happy with the work he's put in and the results he's seeing," Bunch said.

The victory was achieved with just three coaches on the sidelines and a roster that included a little more than 20 total players.

"We're making due with the resources we've got," Bunch said.

BHHS hosts Malibu tonight at 7 p.m. and Bunch said the team has gotten better every day in practice this week, but that he was focusing on

(see 'BHHS FOOTBALL' page 12)



STRATEGIC VISIONING—Beverly Hills Mayor Julian Gold talked about the future Monday, when he spoke to Rotary Club of Beverly Hills at The Beverly Hills Hotel. Gold talked about preparing the City for the future and changes in commerce, transportation and demographics that lie ahead. He talked about the coming subway impacts, his extensive outreach to tap leaders among the millenials, business trends and rent control. Gold chairs a group of stakeholders who brainstorm on Strategic Visioning every Thursday at 5 p.m. in Council Chambers. Pictured: Gold and Rotary Club President Jim Jahant.

BHFD Adds Mobile Stroke Unit To Emergency Response

By Victoria Talbot

The City of Beverly Hills welcomed the Mobile Stroke Unit to Beverly Hills Tuesday, ushering in a new era of integrated response that will not only save lives, but also preserve more healthy brain tissue for victims of stroke.

The Mobile Stroke Unit is essentially a specially-equipped ambulance that will deploy to select 911 calls when stroke is suspected.

Inside, a mobile CT scan unit means that doctors do not have to wait to arrive at the hospital to determine what kind of stroke a patient is having. They can begin to administer critical treatment on the way.

A team that includes a neurologist, a critical care nurse, a paramedic and CT Scan can draw blood and scan the patient's brain within minutes.

Point of care lab tests, telehealth connectivity with a hospital and stroke medications on board save critical seconds and promote better outcomes.

There are basically two kinds of strokes. Ischemic strokes are characterized by a clot that obstructs a blood vessel and a hemorrhagic stroke, which occurs when a weakened blood vessel ruptures and causes bleeding.

For ischemic stroke, medications are time-dependent, and must be administered as soon as possible from the last known "normal" to be effective. A CT scan will help to diagnose a clot so clot reducing medication (tPA) can be delivered.

But 20 percent of strokes are hemorrhagic. Medical treatment includes controlling

(see 'MOBILE STROKE UNIT' page 12)



George Christy

Barry Avrich archives



Prosecuting Evil, produced, written and directed by Barry Avrich (at right) is scheduled for a Gala Premiere on September 7, during the Toronto International Film Festival, which opens September 6. The documentary screens at the Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust on October 10.



Next week, *Prosecuting Evil* will be a hot ticket at the 42nd Annual Toronto International Film Festival.

Written, directed and produced by maestro **Barry Avrich**, the documentarian whose credits are major.

Having initially created a film about Lew Wasserman, the powerful mogul who served under MCA/Universal's Emperor Jules Stein.

The other documentary successes from Barry include *Filthy Gorgeous: The Bob Guccione Story* (Bob being the controversial publisher of *Penthouse Magazine*).

Barry produced *Blurred Lines: Inside The Art World*, the much-discussed documentary about the yeas and nays about the bewildering contemporary art market.

Also: *Show Stopper: The Theatrical Life Of Garth Drabinsky* (Garth being the Canadian visionary, whose productions lit up Broadway).

The festival opens September 6th for 10 days, and doubtlessly will draw crowds of diehard cineastes

and we just plain film-loving folks.

Prosecuting Evil focuses on **Ben Ferencz**, now 98, the last Nuremberg prosecutor, who remains with us. At 27, he convicted 22 Nazi officials of murdering more than a million Jews during the biggest murder trial in history.

Barry's film about this unspeakable brutality is destined to "have legs," as we say about classics, and will be

screened exclusively at the Holocaust Museums in New York, Washington D.C. and Los Angeles (October 10).

"I'd never prosecuted anyone nor been in a courtroom in my life," Ben told *60 Minutes'* **Lesley Stahl**.

The Romanian-born Ben immigrated to a tough New York City neighborhood. He did not speak English and his father gained employment as a janitor. A fast learner, he was awarded a scholarship to Harvard Law School, enlisted in the Army after the bombing by the Japanese at Pearl Harbor. After landing on the beach at Normandy, he fought in the Battle of the Bulge.

By the war's end, he was transferred to General Patton's Third Army and assigned to review concentration camps as they were liberated by the U.S. Army in order to investigate war crimes and collect evidence.

This all lead to the international Nuremberg trials.

The festival is premiering promising movies such as *A Star Is Born* with **Bradley Cooper** and **Lady Gaga**.

First Man starring **Ryan Gosling** in the biopic about astronaut Neil Armstrong, already acclaimed during the Venice Film Festival.

Also **Maggie Gyllenhaal's** *The Kindergarten Teacher* co-starring **Gael Garcia Bernal**.

We've attended the festival, our favorite of all, for 34 years, hosting our annual Saturday weekend luncheon at the Four Seasons Hotel, inviting the Who and the Who of Canada and the visitors arriving from all continents to market their films.



Titus Makin Jr. and Nathan Fillion



Jared Haibon and Ashley Iaconetti

Discovering early on that those who luck into visiting the festival are irresistibly drawn to vacationing in Canada year after year for 10 days of rabid movie going. And where the Canadian hospitality and manners are refreshing. As are the excellent restaurants and luxury hotels.

An event not to be

missed, offering the rewarding pleasure of being among the early birds to talk about the slate of the new season's movies.

Next for Barry Avrich is a documentary on the Canadian-born composer **David Foster**.

Online at www.bhcourier.com/category/george-christy



Meg Donnelly



Kelly McCreary



Stephanie Szostak



Jaina Lee Ortiz



Ali Wong



Afton Williamson



Colton Underwood, Eric Bigger, Kendall Long and Wills Reid partied during the Disney ABC Television Group's 2018 Summer TCA Tour at The Beverly Hilton

Celebrity Photo/Scott Downie

BHUSD TEACHERS

(Continued from page 1)

of many teachers who are equally as upset about implementing the 'Work to Rule,'" one BHUSD parent told the Courier.

Following almost a year of unsuccessful contract negotiations between BHEA and the district, in April the two sides declared an impasse and subsequently engaged in the state's impasse resolution procedure until Aug. 1, when the mediator declared that further mediation sessions would not be productive. The two parties are now set to proceed to fact-finding, which could take months.

At the heart of the impasse is the Board of Education's desire to do away with the district's teacher salary formula, passed unanimously by the board four years ago, which ties raises to property taxes.

At the time of the board's 5-0 vote in 2014 (which included currently seated board members Howard Goldstein, VP Noah Margo and President Lisa Korbatov), the salary formula was heralded as a way to attract and retain the brightest teachers by offering salaries that would one day be the highest in the county. Four years later, BHUSD teacher salaries don't even rank in the county's top 20.

However, whereas BHEA insists that the district is financially capable of continuing to honor its contractual obligation to increase teacher salaries via the salary formula without heading toward insolvency, the district contends that it must divest itself of this particular obligation in the face of BHUSD's endemic budget crisis.

"I have never felt less respected by my superintendent, human resources director, or Board of Education," one teacher emailed parents by way of explanation as to why she was adhering to BHEA's "Work to Rule" directive. "The teachers have not been able to fix this problem and the only voice these people have ever cared about is yours, the parents."

Participating BHEA members are being advised to close

their classroom doors before school, after school, during lunch and breaks, and to not spend an extra moment helping students, even going so far as to refrain from writing letters of recommendation. The association further advised its members to follow myriad directives including: not volunteering for fall carnivals, socials or any other after-hours events; not checking school email accounts or returning parent phone calls outside of school hours; and not volunteering for Catalina, Yosemite or any other unpaid chaperoning duties.

"Make no mistake - the teachers and their union are intentionally leveraging our children's education for their own ends," one parent wrote in an email.

If the two sides fail to reach consensus following the current fact-finding stage of negotiations, which is expected to begin next month, Beverly Hills teachers may opt to go on strike. The last time there was a strike in the district was 1989.

In November, the community will be asked to weigh in on the future of education in Beverly Hills in the upcoming election for two new board members to replace the seats being vacated by Korbatov and Goldstein.

The importance of how board members choose to vote was poignantly exemplified at this past Tuesday's meeting when Korbatov, who has twice served as president, proclaimed that she would not have voted in favor of the salary formula in 2014 had she known that today the district would have such a struggle to extricate itself from that obligation.

"I would like to go on record that I regret voting for the salary formula for one reason and one reason only, I voted for it because I thought it would put an end to the tug-of-war of negotiations," she said. "And you know what happened? It got worse. Any time we needed anything from the union, they handed us a bill. ... It took away the natural equilibrium of give and take for negotiations."

At Tuesday night's meeting, which BHEA President Ethan Smith estimated included 45



SUPPORT FOR TEACHERS—Beverly Vista students (from left) Allegra Steele, Sofia Jourabchi, Camden Banefsheha and Presley and Camden Forster show their support for teachers on Monday.

teachers in attendance, 16 speakers took the board to task for its failure to honor the commitment made four years ago to eventually make Beverly Hills teachers the highest paid in the county by tying their salaries into property tax revenue.

"The salary formula is flawed," explained BHUSD Assistant Superintendent of Business Services LaTanya Kirk-Carter Latham.

According to BHUSD computations, last year certifi-

cated and classified staff earned a total of \$840,578 in total raises. Divided among the 420 employees Latham estimated were comprised in those units, the average salary increase was \$2,001 per individual. However, Latham emphasized that the increase does not include several additional increases that the school district must pay annually, including: health and welfare benefits, contributions to CalSTRS and CalPERS, and adjustments for employees who move up the pay scale.

"The district can choose to settle with us at any time," said Smith. "We hope they will do so sooner rather than later and with the best outcome for our members and the community."

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POLICE BLOTTER

ASSAULTS

- 07/30 100 Copley Pl.
- 08/17 800 Whittier Dr.
- 08/19 N. Doheny Dr.
- 08/21 N. Rodeo Dr./Wilshire Blvd.

BURGLARIES

- 08/13 500 N. Camden Dr.
- 08/15 200 S. Beverly Dr.
- 08/15 200 S. Rexford Dr.
- 08/16 100 N. Maple Dr.
- 08/16 500 N. Canon Dr.
- 08/16 100 S. Oakhurst Dr.
- 08/18 300 S. Robertson Blvd.
- 08/19 9900 Durant Dr.
- 08/19 200 N. Robertson Blvd.
- 08/19 300 El Camino Dr.
- 08/19 500 Alta Dr.
- 08/20 200 S. Gale Dr.
- 08/21 8300 Wilshire Blvd.
- 08/21 8900 Burton Way
- 08/22 100 N. Robertson Blvd.
- 08/22 400 N. Bedford Dr.
- 08/22 200 S. Rodeo Dr.
- 08/23 400 S. Palm Dr.
- 08/23 100 S. Wetherly Dr.

- 08/23 400 N. Oakhurst Dr.
- 08/23 400 N. Canon Dr.
- 08/23 9300 Olympic Blvd.
- 08/23 700 N. Roxbury Dr.
- 08/26 300 S. Clark Dr.
- 08/26 1600 Loma Vista Dr.
- 08/26 300 S. Clark Dr.

GRAND THEFTS

- 04/01 500 Chalette Dr.
- 07/27 400 N. Bedford Dr.
- 07/31 100 S. Beverly Dr.
- 08/13 200 N. Rodeo Dr.
- 08/15 400 N. Rodeo Dr.
- 08/15 9700 Wilshire Blvd.
- 08/18 9500 Wilshire Blvd.
- 08/18 9500 Wilshire Blvd.
- 08/20 200 N. Almont Dr.
- 08/22 100 S. Beverly Dr.
- 08/22 100 S. Beverly Dr.
- 08/24 200 N. Canon Dr.
- 08/25 9500 Wilshire Blvd.
- 08/26 700 N. Rexford Dr.

ROBBERY

- 08/25 9500 Wilshire Blvd.

HOW DO YOU FEEL?

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Dr. Earl Mindell To Speak At Cancer Convention Saturday, Sept. 1

Longtime Beverly Hills resident, author Earl Mindell, Ph.D., known for his multi-million-seller, *The Vitamin Bible*, will be one of the opening speakers at 10 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 1, at the 46th Annual Cancer Convention at the Hilton Los Angeles North, 100 W. Glenoaks Blvd., Glendale.



Dr. Earl Mindell

He is one of 40 speakers scheduled over the three-day Labor Day Weekend cancer event hosted by the Cancer Control Society.

On Sunday, Sept. 2, one of the highlights will be the presentation of several recovered cancer patients with encouraging reports.

Also on Sunday one of the top speakers will be Tullio Simoncini, M.D., visiting from Italy.

Movies to be screened include *Hoxsey Cancer Therapy* and *What Your Doctor Won't Tell You About Cancer*, hosted by the late Eddie Albert.

Hours are from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. each day.

Admission is \$50 per day, payable at the door. For more information, call 323-663-7801 or visit www.cancercontrol.org.

Prepping for Busy Flu Season: CHLA Renovates, Reactivates Wing

Last winter, the United States experienced one of the worst influenza (flu) seasons in nearly a decade. Thousands of children ended up in hospitals across the country, including at Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA), which set new records for inpatient census—the total number of patients admitted on a given day—during this period.

In preparation for the upcoming 2018-2019 flu season, and to help manage patient admissions that continue to increase each year, CHLA has greenlighted a short-term construction project to renovate and reactivate 17 patient beds in the hospital's Mary Duque Building.

"As a crucial medical resource to families throughout Southern California and

beyond, we cannot and should not be turning away children during the busiest months of the year," says Nancy Lee, RN, MSN, NEA-BC, CHLA's senior vice president and chief clinical officer. "As our total patient visits have risen from 486,000 a year to nearly 568,000 in the last three years, this is a critical step we must take to fulfill our mission of helping every patient who needs us."

Built in 1968, the Duque Building served as part of CHLA's main hospital complex until the opening of the Marion and John E. Anderson Pavilion in 2011. Today, while it still contains some clinical, surgical and inpatient areas, the building primarily houses medical staff offices and administrative space. The roughly \$2 million construc-

tion project, which is taking place in the east wing of Duque's fourth floor, covers renovations essential to resuming inpatient care there.

Along with new beds will come other upgrades, including new physiological monitors, a new nurse call system, a new pneumatic tube transfer system and upgraded network infrastructure to bring the wing up to current hospital standards. All but two rooms will have single beds and, similar to other CHLA inpatient areas, each room will have pull-out beds that parents can use to spend the night with their child. The goal is to have the floor ready for the first patient admission by November this year.

Once renovations are finished, pending approval by

inspectors from California's Office of Statewide Health Planning and Department of Public Health, the total number of active beds at CHLA will increase to 391 (from 374). This extra inpatient space will be available until 2030, when stricter hospital earthquake compliance rules take effect across the state. CHLA has already invested about \$7 million in seismic upgrades to the Duque Building and an adjacent facility, the McAlister Building, which houses clinics, an infusion center and administrative offices.

In 2030, both would be required to either undergo additional seismic retrofitting, redeploy as non-clinical space, or be replaced completely.

Providence Saint John's Gets Grant To Expand Advocacy For Homeless

The Well Being Trust (WBT), initially funded by Providence Saint Joseph Health (PSJH) with \$100 million, has announced a series of grants.

The grants total \$8.5 million and will go to California organizations in communities served by PSJH medical centers, including those in L.A. and Orange counties.

PSJH seeded the trust two years ago with \$100 million when Providence Health & Services and St. Joseph Health united as one organization.

WBT is a national independent not-for-profit advocating for those with mental illness and partnering with various organizations to end the stigma. Locally, the trust is funding:

Providence Saint John's Health Center's Community Care Coordination Program for Vulnerable Patients. The program brings together The People Concern, St. Joseph Center and Venice Family Clinic to provide intensive patient navigation and case management for high needs

individuals experiencing homelessness, ensuring a smooth transition from the Emergency Department to community services.

Case managers at The People Concern and St. Joseph Center will work with social workers, other case managers and community care coordinators at Saint John's Health to develop a coordinated care plan for individuals and establish a permanent medical home at Venice Family Clinic. The grant will help fund

the hospital's Homeless Care Navigation Program, which provides patients who are homeless with information about resources.

The funding also will provide additional case managers for two of our partner organizations serving the homeless, St. Joseph Center and The People Concern. The goal is to expedite patient referrals from Providence Saint John's to these organizations.

Mayor Garcetti Highlights Innovative Cedars-Sinai Water Conservation System

L.A. Mayor Eric Garcetti spotlighted Cedars-Sinai's groundwater conservation program last Thursday, citing it as an example of innovative conservation as the city seeks to reduce water consumption.

The project has slashed the medical center's use of city-supplied water by 29 million gallons annually, the equivalent of supplying 267 single-family homes with water for a year.

Garcetti toured the underground water system at Cedars-Sinai with executives from the L.A. Department of Water and Power and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

"Los Angeles is changing how we think about water, by rewarding those who conserve," said Mayor Garcetti. "At a moment when climate change and drought are becoming the new normal, the Cedars-Sinai treatment facility shows how property owners can help us better withstand the effects—through a strong commitment to conservation and sustainable design."

The system, developed by Cedars-Sinai and an outside contractor, Rethink H2O of

Chapel Hill, North Carolina, captures water flowing through an aquifer beneath the medical center. The system cleans the water and pumps it to help cool the hospital's air conditioning. The processed groundwater is not used for patient or staff purposes. It is expected to be used for irrigation in the near future.

By tapping the groundwater flowing beneath the medical center, Cedars-Sinai has cut the amount of water it purchases from DWP by about 80,000 gallons a day—or 29 million gallons a year. The project was honored earlier this year with the Water Efficiency Project of the Year award from the Los Angeles Better Building Council.

"Cedars-Sinai is proudly committed to water conservation, and our Ground Water Re-Use System has taken this to a new level," said Richard B. Jacobs, executive VP and chief strategy officer at Cedars-Sinai. "Large institutions and companies have a vital role to play in the environmental health of our city, and we are so pleased to do our part. We look forward to working with Mayor Garcetti and others here today to



ON TOUR—L.A. Mayor Eric Garcetti, front right, toured the underground water system at Cedars-Sinai with Sean Collins, front left, Cedars-Sinai executive director, Facilities Planning, Design and Construction; David Wright, general manager of the Department of Water and Power, behind Collins, and Richard B. Jacobs, Cedars-Sinai executive VP, is behind Garcetti (in red tie).

advance this important agenda in the years ahead."

The project, which cost \$1.2 million to design and build, has slashed Cedars-Sinai's water bill by \$365,000 a year. The conservation effort has attracted the attention of the Department of Water and Power (DWP) which provided a

\$155,355 incentive through its Technical Assistance Program (TAP). TAP offers rebates for the installation of water-saving projects and equipment to L.A. commercial, industrial and institutional customers as well as multi-family residential customers.

"Many customers don't

realize that making investments in efficiency can actually pay for the improvement in reduced energy or water costs in a few short years," said David Wright, general manager of the DWP. "In this case, the rebate provided to Cedars-Sinai combined with water savings will pay for the total project cost in less than five years."

The Metropolitan Water District (MWD) of Southern California awarded Cedars-Sinai an additional \$168,000 through its Water Savings Incentive Program. MWD encourages water savings at businesses and industrial facilities by providing cash incentives for the installation of water-saving technologies and devices, part of a \$43 million annual effort to help Southern California conserve.

TO SEE AND BE SEEN

THE FASHION OF BEVERLY HILLS

Tesse On Sunset Serves Up Delicious Food And Wine In Sleek New Restaurant



DREAM TEAM— (from left): Mixologist Nick Meyer, pastry chef Sally Camacho Mueller, co-owners Bill Chait and Jordan Ogron, and chef Raphael Francois are the “dream team” helping make chic new restaurant Tesse a success.

By Laura Coleman

Set adjacent to Fred Segal on the Sunset Strip, just a handful of minutes from Beverly Hills sans traffic, Tesse may well be the hottest new restaurant to open this summer. Designed by Alexis Readinger of Preen, Inc. with an emphasis on wood, leather and cork, the restaurant’s sleek interior is the ideal setting for a delicious meal where diners select from a menu featuring a veritable panoply of today’s favorites.

From melt-in-your-mouth beef tartar with caper berries to creamy burrata with porcini mushrooms to thick slices of hamachi crudo with melon to buttery bucatini with bone marrow or a 26-ounce pork chop that devotees can’t resist ordering repeatedly, Chef Raphael Francois has designed a menu that does not struggle in the slightest.

While it’s hard to beat the ample

charcuterie selection of housemade sausages, pate and cured meat—(Tesse’s name is a nod to the term delicatessen)—Beverly Hills resident and genius pastry chef Sally Camacho, who helped create the sublime cake for 15,000 people as part of the City’s Centennial Block Party in 2014, does a stellar job of enticing diners to continue indulging. Indeed, patrons will be hard pressed to find a more delicious chocolate soufflé anywhere in L.A.

A particular treat at Tesse is the incredible wine selection, which can be ordered in 3 oz. half-pours. The adjacent wine shop Boutellier, which opened this week, further offers patrons a sophisticated wine experience in a stunning space, which will serve both as a haven for wine dinners as well as a destination for oenophiles.

Visit: www.tesserestaurant.com.

Marilyn Monroe Exhibit Open Now At The Paley Center In Beverly Hills



By Matt Lopez

A free exhibit opened to the public this week at the Paley Center with items on display chronicling the life and career of Marilyn Monroe.

“Essentially Marilyn: The Exhibit” opened Aug. 18 and runs through Sept. 30. It includes 15 costumes worn by Monroe from her films like *The Seven Year Itch* and *The Prince And The Showgirl*.

Aside from wardrobe, the exhibit includes a hand-annotated script from *The Seven Year Itch*. There also photographs with handwritten notes, her baby photo and much more.

The exhibit is free and open for the public Wednesdays through Sundays from noon to 5 p.m. through Sept. 30 at the Paley Center at 465 N. Beverly Dr.

Once the exhibit closes, all items on display will go up for auction in October.



CHAGALL ON RODEO—

Beginning Saturday, Sept. 15 through the end of October, Rodeo Drive’s Galerie Michael at Two Rodeo Drive will launch its highly anticipated Marc Chagall exhibition, which will feature many works that have never before been displayed. Visit lovebeverlyhills.com/chagallfestival for more information.




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Wells Bring Hope To Honor Stanley Black At September Gala

By Matt Lopez

The longtime philanthropist Stanley Black will be honored on Sept. 23 at the 10th annual Wells Bring Hope fundraiser.

Black has been a well-known supporter and donor to countless organizations in Los Angeles and beyond, including various Jewish organizations (Anti-Defamation League, Jewish Big Brothers, American Friends of Tel Aviv University, American Friends of Hebrew University, Guardians of the Jewish Home for the Aging and others), along with healthcare organizations such as the City of Hope, Vista Del Mar Child and Family Services and Children's Hospital Los Angeles.

In its 10 years, the Los

Angeles-based Wells Bring Hope volunteer organization has drilled more than 500 wells in Niger, West Africa, helping transform more than half a million lives with access to safe water.

The 10th anniversary event will be held at a private Holmby Hills estate from 5-8 p.m. Tickets are \$150, with all proceeds going toward supporting the life-saving work of Wells Bring Hope.

To purchase tickets, visit: <https://wellsbringhope.org/10th-anniversary-fundraiser/>.



Jewish Community Foundation Awards Cutting Edge Grants

By John L. Seitz

The Jewish Community Foundation of Los Angeles (www.jewishfoundationla.org) announced more than \$2 million in grants to nine innovative, local initiatives focused on transforming Jewish L.A.

This year's Cutting Edge Grant recipients serve a wide range of needs, including: training Jewish teen advisors to offer support and guidance to their peers via a smartphone application; educating and empowering Jewish clergy, educators, and older adults on the issue of elder abuse; and building a Spanish language, pro-Israel media presence in Los Angeles.

Foundation President/CEO Marvin I. Schotland stated: "This year's grant recipients are

an exceptionally diverse group of social innovators that together address a broad range of issues in Los Angeles."

Among the organizations receiving grant money were: Act. IL, Bet Tzedek, Fuente Latina, Hillel 818, IsraAID US, Jewish Big Brothers Big Sisters, Jewish Family Service, The Jewish Federation of Greater L.A. and Project Miracle.

Established in 1954, the Jewish Community Foundation manages charitable assets of \$1.25 billion entrusted to it by over 1,300 families and ranks among the 10 largest L.A. foundations. Last year, its donors distributed \$100 million in grants to more than 2,600 nonprofits with programs which span the range of philanthropic giving.

(Continued from page 1)

In addition to honoring the beloved local mayor who brought the City BOLD (Beverly Hills Open Later Days) and launched "Walks With the Mayor" alongside the hashtag #BHHealthyCity, the evening will honor five outstanding businesses.

The Peninsula Beverly Hills and Crateful Catering will be honored with the Business Excellence Award; Montage Beverly Hills will receive the Modern Luxury Award; and Gratitude Beverly Hills and Elfiefit will receive the Innovation Award.

Tickets for the black tie event, which includes dinner, beverages and live entertainment by Keith Chagall featuring Dana Bronson Trio, start at \$250 for Chamber members and \$325 general admission.

SHOOSHANI

(Continued from page 1)

due to a conflict of interest arising from construction code violations by a company owned by Commissioner Shooshani which resulted in death."

In the August 23 meeting, Shooshani first attacked the Beverly Hills Hillside Protection Association. He equated a homeowners' association formed by residents at their own expense with lobbyists, who must register with the City if they receive \$5,000 or more for the purpose of influencing City officials on development projects.

"We don't know who they are, how many people, who authorized them, are they legitimate... they call themselves 'president,' who made them president?" he exclaimed at Weiss.

He claimed to have spoken to the mayor and asked that such resident homeowners' associations be placed on the agenda for the Sunshine Task Force. He wants the City to "register" them and to discern their membership and board members in the same manner as paid lobbyists, whose interests are determined by an employer.

Then, citing a video of a Canadian news clip about the Loma Linda project and Francesco Aquilini, Shooshani accused Weiss of being an activist only out of self-interest, to protect her view.

Weiss has catalogued more than 7,000 hours of unpaid work that ultimately resulted in the Hillside Ordinance and the subsequent Basement Ordinance, to keep Beverly Hills residents from having the problems found in communities like Doheny-Sunset Plaza, Sullivan Canyon, Brentwood and much of Bel Air.

She has worked with residents throughout the City, sharing knowledge and experience

to help others learn the language of City Hall to communicate effectively with government.

Her selfless efforts have spawned an enlightened citizenry, which Shooshani has likened to lobbyists.

Their organization is not unlike the Trousdale Homeowners, the Beverly Hills North Homeowners, or the Southwest Homeowners' Association. Those organizations have unnamed membership, informal leadership proceedings and in each case, the same person has led the organization for decades without dispute.

Weiss had come to the meeting to address the Commission regarding personal attacks and a lack of civility at the Aug. 9 meeting when resident Byron Allen disparaged Commissioner Peter Ostroff, Debbie Weiss and Ronald Richards.

Despite his barrage of attacks, his Calle Vista project will progress out of the commission with a 3-2 approval, though it is located on a street that is less than 24 feet wide and where there will be over 6,000 cubic yards of export, mostly bedrock.

That is more than four times the current limit for the street, and more than twice the limit city-wide. Allen criticized neighbors who opposed the project and gathered signatures. Allen told Commissioner Ostroff, who could not make the findings to approve the project, that he should "recuse himself," because he did not have an open mind.

Chair Andy Licht allowed Allen to continue to speak for nearly 45 minutes before allowing Weiss only a 2-minute rebuttal, though she had a formal presentation and represented at least four neighbors in the audience and over 100 people who had signed a petition opposing Calle Vista.

In March, Shooshani led a 21-minute rebuke of then-Chair Lori Greene Gordon, for allegedly not supporting the commission decision at a City Council meeting to approve the Basement Ordinance.

At that time Shooshani expressed outrage that the City Council did not accept the ordinance as the Planning Commission presented it to them, which would have allowed all the pipeline projects to go through under the old rules without further consideration.

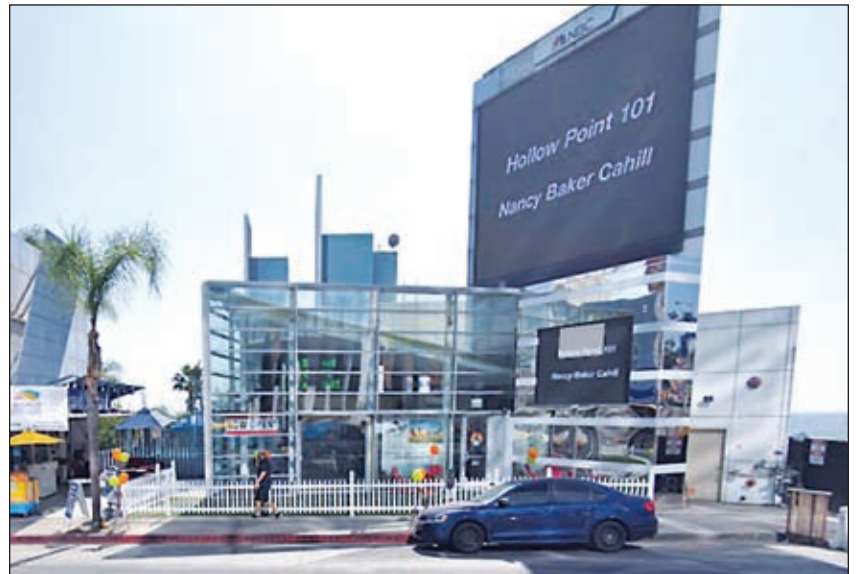
"This is a slap in our face," he said, overestimating the Commission's authority.

It is difficult to discern what Gordon said that could be construed as undermining the commission's decision. "I want to encourage you to accept the ordinance as written... You have expressed extreme confidence. I want you to have the same confidence in our ability to judge these cases fairly," where her words.

Commissioners are selected by the City Council from applicants who apply for the open seats. They serve at the behest of the council and can be removed from office at any time with a majority vote of the council. They are advisory, though the Planning Commission, Design Review and Architectural Commissions make final decisions that can be called up or appealed at the council level.

Richards contends that in deliberations, Shooshani shows "a repeated lack of analysis to determine required findings... and a failure to uphold the General Plan."

Shooshani has said on at least two occasions that he doesn't support the General Plan because he feels it is out



Pictured: The view in front of Shooshani's building in West Hollywood.

of date. On both occasions, the commission was deliberating the Friars Club project, a mixed-use condominium project that will require a zone change to complete.

Shooshani has openly expressed interest in having his children live in the condominium.

Richards also accuses Shooshani of "failing to prepare in advance of meetings," citing several instances where he says the commissioner demonstrated a lack of familiarity with an agenda item or confused items repeatedly.

Richards said that Shooshani "fails to abstain from inappropriate or rude behavior," when addressing the public. The Commissioner's Handbook states, "anyone who speaks at a public meeting, whether a member of the public or a fellow Commissioner, is treated with courtesy and respect. Behavior that is rude or dismissive is unacceptable."

At the Aug. 23 Planning Commission meeting, Shooshani drove Weiss to tears. "His conduct... has now crossed the line," wrote Richards, calling his attitude towards Weiss "excessively aggressive."

Evidently, "civility" seems

to be in short supply in the Planning Commission.

"At the Aug. 23 meeting he directed the City Attorney to create an unconstitutional... litmus test as to which organizations are 'legitimate,'" wrote Richards, citing *NAACP v. Alabama* (1958), in which "disclosure of affiliation with groups engaged in advocacy may constitute... restraint on freedom of association," and he says such inquiries infringe on the right of freedom of expression guaranteed in the First Amendment of the US Constitution.

"Shooshani's inquiry and implied threats of disclosure are attempts to intimidate expressive association in front of his Commission... We are residents who help bring about profound change and will continue to bring change to what was a series of policies and laws which were jeopardizing the Beverly Hills hillsides," Richards said.

Richards continued: "The BHPA filed the complaint as result of numerous complaints about Commissioner Shooshani. After the Aug. 23 hearing we felt it was time to air this issue publicly. It is time for Mr. Shooshani to resign or be dismissed."

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Hollywood Roundup: Emily Rossum Leaves *Shameless*, Netflix To Premiere Orson Welles' Final Film

Showtime and Warner Bros. confirmed rampant rumors Thursday that star Emily Rossum will leave the hit show *Shameless* after the upcoming ninth season.



Emily Rossum

Rossum stars in the comedy as the oldest daughter of Frank Gallagher (William H. Macy), a single father of six who spends far too much free time drinking at bars. As such, Rossum's character Fiona finds herself taking on much of the parenting responsibilities for the family.

Deadline Hollywood reported that there were "tense moments" during contract negotiations before *Shameless'*

eight season before Rossum finally agreed to return to the show at that point following a "standoff over salary."

...
Legendary filmmaker Orson Welles' final film, *The Other Side Of The Wind*, will premiere on Netflix on Nov. 2, the streaming service announced this week.

Netflix purchased the film in March 2017, nearly a half-century after production began on Welles' "notoriously unfinished" film.

Welles began production on the film in 1970, but, beset by financial issues, the production ultimately was never completed. According to a Netflix press release, more than a thousand reels of film negatives languished in a Paris vault until producers Frank Marshall and Filip Jan Rymysza spearheaded an effort last year to complete the film. —**Matt Lopez**

Film Review by Adam Sherman

Operation Finale: Inconsistently Capturing The Final Story Of Adolf Eichmann

In 1960, Mossad agents confirmed the survival of Otto Adolf Eichmann in Argentina. As one of the few surviving orchestrators of the Holocaust, it was viewed as an absolute necessity that he be extracted from Buenos Aires and brought to Israel to stand trial for war crimes, genocide, and crimes against humanity (particularly against the Jewish people).

After the successful operation in May, he spent nine months in prison, during which, he expressed no remorse for his crimes. The following April, his trial would receive prominent media coverage, during which 112 witnesses (mainly Holocaust survivors) were brought forward, and gave the world a stark picture of not only the enormity of the Nazi's depravities, but also what Hannah Arendt would coin, "the banality of evil" —the idea that one didn't necessarily need to be fanatical or deluded to engage in atrocities, merely loyal enough to do one's duty.

All in all, Eichmann's capture serves as an amazing tale in its own right, leaving one to wonder if someone like Chris Weitz (*A Better Life*, *The Twilight Saga: New Moon*, co-director of *American Pie*) can handle adapting such a weighty historical moment in history.

The answer is... somewhat adequately.

Operation Finale is self-explanatory. It is a fictionalized re-telling of the verification of Eichmann's (Ben Kingsley) identity and his captivity in Argentina before his extraction by a group of Mossad agents led by Peter Malkin (Oscar Isaac) and Isser Harel (Lior Raz).

Operation Finale is an adequately constructed film. The direction is good, the writing is good, and in spite of the foregone conclusion by real life, the film actually does maintain a sense of tension that will keep you firmly in your seat until end.

Ben Kingsley serves as the clear star of the show, managing to successfully convey the

impression of "banality of evil" that Arendt once described. (Ironic, considering his other Holocaust-related feature—*Schindler's List*—had him play the far nobler Itzhak Stern.) And yet, there are also times when Kingsley's Eichmann comes off as vulnerable, potentially even repentant. His scenes with Oscar Isaac's Peter serve as the main highlights.

Alexandre Desplat's score comes off as at odds — for lack of a better term — with the film's tone and content for the first third to half of the runtime. The music can come off as being more suited to a heist film (which, admittedly, one could technically call this) than the darker, more down-to-earth tone conveyed by the cinematography and screenplay.

While there are no real stand-outs besides Isaac's Peter and Kingsley's Eichmann, (though there are moments where Joe Alwyn's Klaus Eichmann comes close) none of the acting ever dips below passable either. However, in an era where Nazism is sadly coming back into style, it could be argued that this film came at just the right time, and it accomplishes its goals adequately, if not without some road bumps.

6.5 out of 10

SUDOKU

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America Mourns John McCain, War Hero And Political Icon

America paid tribute this week to John McCain, the Vietnam War hero and two-time presidential candidate with a legendary temper whose personal courage and insistence on treating even his foes with respect earned him near-universal admiration.

McCain died last Saturday, four days shy of his 82nd birthday, following a yearlong battle with an aggressive form of brain cancer. He is survived by his wife Cindy and seven children, three of them from an earlier marriage.

A memorial service will take place at the massive National Cathedral overlooking Washington on Saturday before McCain is laid to rest according to his wishes at the U.S. Naval Academy in nearby Annapolis, Maryland, on Sept. 2, his office said.

Former presidents George W. Bush, a Republican, and Barack Obama, a Democrat—his successful rivals in, respectively, the 2000 and 2008 elections—are set to speak at the national memorial service, according to *The New York Times*.

The hawkish McCain was an unrelenting critic of Obama's foreign policy, saying the Democratic president was weak on Libya, Iraq and Syria.

Still, Obama said he and



the senator "shared, for all our differences, a fidelity to something higher—the ideals for which generations of Americans and immigrants alike have fought, marched and sacrificed."

Bush, whose tough campaign against McCain in 2000 left both sides bruised, praised the Arizonan as "a man of deep conviction and a patriot of the highest order."

President Donald Trump said in a statement: "Despite our differences on policy and politics, I respect Sen. John McCain's service to our country and, in his honor, have signed a proclamation to fly the flag of the United States at half-staff until the day of his interment."

McCain had been away from the Senate floor since December, remaining at his Arizona ranch for treatment of glioblastoma—the same form of

brain cancer that took the life of another senator, Democrat Ted Kennedy, in 2009.

The son and grandson of four-star admirals, McCain will be buried in the cemetery of the U.S. Naval Academy on a peaceful hillside overlooking the Severn River.

As a student at the academy, he had a reputation as a rebel, but with a wit and charm that drew people to him.

In 2015, McCain himself revealed the simple epitaph he wanted on his tombstone, which will stand alongside those of naval heroes going back to the 1800s: "He served his country."

Top Senate Democrat Chuck Schumer said he would seek to rename a Senate building in McCain's honor.

— AFP

MOBILE STROKE UNIT

(Continued from page 5)

the bleeding, lowering blood pressure and terminating medications that thin the blood.

The Mobile Stroke Unit (MSU) is part of the Arline and Henry Gluck Stroke Rescue Program, the first of its kind on the West Coast and the anchor unit for a pilot program in the region, including Santa Monica, Los Angeles County and Beverly Hills.

"It's very exciting," said Mayor Julian Gold, shaking hands with Henry Gluck, whose philanthropy has brought the program to California. Local philanthropist Steve Gordon brought it to the City of Beverly Hills.

"We'd be saving lives,"

said Gluck, smiling.

Every 40 seconds, an American has a stroke. Every minute treatment is delayed can mean two million brain cells destroyed, according to Neurologist Dr. May Nour, medical director of the UCLA Arline & Henry Gluck Stroke Rescue Program. "The CT scan can image the brain and we can start intervention, such as drugs for clots, here, within two minutes," she said.

The pilot program is tracking patient outcomes and the cost-effectiveness of the program in pilot programs in cities nationwide. The results could someday signal cost savings that lead to major insurers covering mobile treatment, according to a UCLA press release.

CHARITIES

(Continued from page 5)

annual report it has ever done, the commission identified the top ten fundraising organizations and the bottom ten, as well as a list of 12 organizations that held unpermitted events in Beverly Hills.

The top fundraising organizations, based on total net proceeds, included the Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles (\$14.7 million); The Music Center (\$13 million); the Friends of Saban Community Clinic (\$3 million); Milken Institute (\$3 million); and the Simon Wiesenthal Center (\$2.2 million).

In a memorandum to the commission dated May 9, Beverly Hills Police Capt. Mark Rosen wrote: "Staff will follow up on pending financial statements and reports of unpermitted charitable solicitations until all organizations comply with the City's Charitable Solicitations Ordinance or they are referred to Code Enforcement for appropriate action."

The commission currently maintains a list on its website of organizations that give less than 50 percent of proceeds back to their charity.

"People should check the website to see if the charity is on that website," Kraushaar advocated.



CUTIE CLAIRE – Claire is a 3-year-old Apple Head Chihuahua who weighs four pounds and is in search of her forever home. To learn more about Claire and how to adopt her, visit www.shelterhopepetshop.org/ or call 805-379-3538.



SUMMER BOLD ENDS WITH NEXT NIGHT – Beverly Hills BOLD, which lit up the month of August with weekends of businesses open late and unique experiences to lure visitors in the Business Triangle, ended with the Next Night block party on South Beverly Drive Saturday. Guests enjoyed music, a wine and beer garden, pop-up merchants and a fun night out. Pictured (from left): Social media marketer Dawn McCoy, Councilmembers Les Friedman and Bob Wunderlich, Rodeo Drive Committee President Kathy Gohari, Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Todd Johnson, Councilmember Lili Bosse, Mayor Julian Gold, Beverly Hills Conference and Visitors Bureau Executive Director Julie Wagner and Noelle Freeman.

BHHS FOOTBALL

(Continued from page 5)

keeping the team grounded after an emotional season-opening win.

"Just like with any team, sometimes you can make a victory more than what it is,"

Bunch said. "You have to learn how to win, it has to become a mindset. You win, you move on and prepare for next week."

Bunch said he's dubbed tonight's game with Malibu the "Silver Spoon Bowl."

"People on the outside looking in have this perception

that kids in Beverly Hills and Malibu are born with a silver spoon," Bunch joked.

"I told the kids, 'hey, let's embrace this' and let's go out and be the best silver spoon team out there. We want those bragging rights over Malibu."

KENNETH WRIGHT

(Continued from page 5)

"They collude and fix prices," Wright said. "Why do you think all our deductibles are so similar?"

Wright is strong on the border, but says law-abiding illegal immigrants should continue to be allowed to contribute to their communities. That includes being self-sufficient, having a job and paying their fair share of taxes. He does not believe they should be able to receive welfare, nor should they be eligible to vote. He is strongly opposed to sanctuary cities.

It is communities, especially those in the inner city, where Wright has turned a large portion of his attention in trying to fix.

He brings unique ideas to the table on how to deal with a growing homeless epidemic, such as creating a "township" that he modeled after the Dome Village created by Ted Hayes.

The homeless, addicts, and others in need of help would be taken to this township – which Wright suggests placing in Fort Ord, in Northern California – where they would learn basic skills and necessities while leading structured lives. The township would be

privately funded and run as a nonprofit.

"We need to teach these people basic skills, make them productive members of society, not just give them handouts and free money and food like Rep. Lieu supports doing," Wright said. "That's not sustainable. What is sustainable is creating citizens who can support and contribute to their communities."

Wright has said he won't accept money from any lobbyists or special interests if elected.

"What for? I don't need it," Wright said. "I'm not a politician. I'm in this to help create change, not to take a check from anyone."

Wright has been very critical of Lieu's attendance record in Congress, which includes missing 233 of 2,414 roll call votes from January 2015 to July 2018, which is 9.7 percent. According to *GovTrack.us*, that is much worse than the 2.4 percent lifetime average of representatives currently serving.

"I think it's clear Rep. Lieu is most interested in moving up in the Democratic party and whatever it takes," Wright said. "He's going to vote for what they tell him to vote for and do what they tell him to do. That's where his loyalty is. My loyalty is to the people."

BEVERLY HILLS REAL ESTATE

Beverly Hills Begins Process Of La Cienega Park Outreach

By Victoria Talbot

Members of the Recreation and Parks Commission toured La Cienega Park Tuesday to acquaint themselves with the facilities as the City launches a new initiative focusing on the park.

The Beverly Hills City Council named La Cienega Park a top priority this year, whether it's a complete remodel of all the facilities or a few tweaks and repairs.

The City is going to great lengths to ensure that the future of La Cienega Park is determined by the community it serves, rather than City staff or commissions, after the City-initiated redesign of Roxbury Park resulted in a long and contentious public process that has served as a learning experience.

This time, the City has contracted with the Consensus and Collaboration Program (CCP) of the Sacramento State College of Continuing Education, a neutral, third-party organization that specializes in stakeholder engagement and facilitation for public services to conduct extensive public outreach to as many stakeholders as possible.

CCP's Dave Ceppos is leading the outreach effort, beginning with intimate meetings with small groups of individual stakeholders. Next, he will meet with small focus groups. By keeping these groups small, he said, there is less impact from influencers. Then, the City will host two townhall meetings on Oct. 8 and Oct. 24 at 7 p.m. in the La Cienega Park Community Center.

The City is seeking input from as many stakeholders as possible; a survey

"We are trying to funnel all feedback to the consultant to maintain the neutrality and integrity of the process," said Community Services Director Nancy Hunt Coffey.

At the end of the process, Ceppos will assemble a report compiling all the data to be submitted to the City Council for their consideration.

At that point, the hope is that there will be useful information to move forward with a plan for the complex.

For many residents, the City's parks are the only local venues for outdoor sports and recreation activities. Contrary to the image of Beverly Hills as home to millionaires with backyards and swimming pools, residents who own single-family homes with parking requirements in the southeast have little room for tennis courts, yards and pools. Another group without yards include renters, which makes up 60 percent of the population. Forty-two percent of rentals are four units or less, built prior to 1995, without gyms or swimming pools.

Parks also serve the needs of the regional community, including those involved in organized youth and adult sports, Community Service camps and classes, senior care, pre-schools and passive recreation.

For the first time since 1986, the City is asking residents if there are changes needed.

Built in 1928, the original 10-acre park featured a baseball diamond, tennis courts, lawn bowling, croquet, a horseshoe pitch, gymnasium bars, a putting green on La Cienega, children's swings and a swimming pool pavilion (demolished in the 1970s).

Across the street, the City's Water Treatment Plant had tennis courts built over the reservoir known as the "Reservoir Courts." For 30 years, the courts were famous for their use in international tennis tournaments. They were removed for the construction of the parking structure and in the 1980s, they were rebuilt on top of the parking.

The two sides of the street total 17.9 acres, the largest park in the City.

on a complex formula centered on Net Operating Income Principles (NOI). This discussion centered on whether there should be a single hearing officer or a rent control board should review the applications. Many suggested that a board of 3-5 members who are neutral and educated, perhaps through certification from the Strauss Institute for Dispute Resolution where Singh is the managing director, should be created. Such a board, it was suggested, could have dispute resolution duties, as well.

The next discussion will take place 1-5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 16 in the Municipal Gallery, and will be on maximum allowable annual rent increases.

The HR&A report and the facilitated dialogues, which are taped and broadcast live streaming, are also available on demand online at www.BeverlyHills.org/bhRents.



Roxbury Park is 14.10 acres and Coldwater Canyon Park is only 5.69 acres, by contrast.

In 1986, then-Director of Recreation and Parks Rick Putnam was addressing some major engineering and drainage issues at the park. He took the opportunity to reach out to the public about the needs of the community for La Cienega Park. He had 75 respon-

ders. Nearby residents wanted higher fences to keep baseballs, frisbees, and children out of their backyards. They complained of the night lighting, the noise and baseball games.

Park users wanted to move the putting green from its location on La Cienega Boulevard. They wanted a new children's playground, more benches and more planters. Recognizing the proliferation of organized sports leagues, the park was transformed into a tennis center, four fields for soccer and baseball, a partial jogging track and outdoor gym and a tiny concession stand run by Lazy Daisy (that has no air

conditioning inside) and a modest community center for preschoolers and other activities.

Parents recently improved security at the preschool patio area with their own contributions. Volunteers fenced in the play area with materials donated by a local home improvement store and strategically placed potted plants for privacy.

Inside the community room, there is a multi-purpose room/auditorium with a small kitchen and a tiny dance studio. Across the street, the tennis center has 16 courts and a small store. The top floor has recently been vacated by City staff and the bottom floor is dedicated to a group of very serious bridge players. The facilities are also available for rent.

The City encourages users to express their opinions about the La Cienega Park & Recreation Complex project. For the survey or more information, visit www.beverlyhills.org/LaCienegaParkProject.



La Cienega Park in 1930

is available online and stakeholders can send feedback to athau@beverlyhills.org that will be forwarded to Ceppos.


RENT STABILIZATION


(Continued from page 1)

Comments seemed to favor an option that would allow banking, but limit the total amount that rent can increase annually.

Exempting of properties with four units or less affects more than 40 percent of all the rental properties in the City. Of that, 210 are duplexes, 65 are triplexes and 637 buildings are quadruplexes, according to the rental registry. Landlords claim they should be exempted. tenants disagree. Discussions Sunday showed little movement on either side of the discussion.

The Rent Increase Application Process refers to the means in which landlords may apply for a rent increase over the maximum annual increase permitted in the RSO. It is currently based






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ANOTHER BIRTHDAY!?



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JOAN MANGUM



THE LEAGUE FOR CHILDREN—Gloria Ann Holden of Bel-Air (left) will be in the honor spotlight on Sept. 29 when The League for Children, an auxiliary of the Children's Bureau, stages its annual gala at The Bel-Air Country Club. She is pictured with her husband, Glen A. Holden, former U.S. ambassador to Jamaica. *Photo by Danielle Klebanow*

At The League for Children's annual gala on Sept. 29 at The Bel-Air Country Club, Gloria Ann Holden for her more than two decades of donating time, resources, and service on the league's leadership board in its dedication to prevent child abuse.

The gala's theme is "A Night of Moulin Rouge" with more than 200 guests are expected to attend the event which will feature a three-course dinner and live entertainment to dance the night away.

During the past 30 years, this longest standing auxiliary of the Children's Bureau has raised millions in charitable funds to benefit the bureau. This event is expected to bring in more than \$100,000 for the agency's work to prevent child abuse.

Among the local residents sitting on The League for Children planning committee are Mary Davis, Claudia Mirkin, Betty Hollingsworth, Carol Carfagno Richardson, Sherry Shelley, and Noreen Nash Whitmore.

For information or gala tickets, visit all4kids.org.

Project Angel Food staged its 28th annual "Angel Awards Gala" at its Vine Street headquarters, transforming its parking lot into a dazzling "under the stars" venue."

And speaking of stars, there were plenty of them on hand to honor Debra Messing of NBC-TV's *Will And Grace* who received the group's Founder's Award from her series' creators David Kohan and Max Mutchnick. Additionally, celebrity hair stylist Chaz Dean was presented the Corporate Leadership Award, presented by actress Rochelle Aytes.

Messing and Dean have been supporters and champions of Project Angel Food for many years now. Both have generously

donated their time and services to the organization which since 1989 has prepared 11 million meals and currently delivers 11,000 meals each week to men, women and children living with cancer, kidney failure, diabetes, congestive heart disease and other illnesses.

Broadway star Sheryl Lee Ralph, a Project Angel Food Trustee, paid tribute to "Angels



ANGELS—Project Angel Food's 28th gala drew a host of celebrities on hand to honor Debra Messing (left) and Chaz Dean shown above with Charro (right). *Photos by Charley Gallay/Getty Images*

Among Us," in recognition of clients, volunteers and supporters. Some of those on hand were Charlie Sheen, Joely Fisher, Charro, Goya Robles, Cheryl Tiegs, Gregory Zarian, Holly Robinson Peete, Cheyenne Jackson, Ian Nelson, Isaac Keys, Lawrence Zarian, Lidia Porto, Juan Pablo Di Pace, Megan Hilty, Pauley Perette, Robert Sepulveda, Andrew Von Oeyen, Carol Higgins Clark, and many others.

One of the highlights was a performance by The Urban Voices Project—a choir composed of artists and performers from Skid Row.

Richard Ayoub is executive director of Project Angel Food.



CANCER FIGHTERS—The sports' world came out in full force to join the Harold and Carol Pump Foundation's 18th gala. Honoree Reggie Jackson (above), flanked by hosts Dana and David Pump; other honorees included Bill Walton (above right), and Rod Carew (below) with his wife, Rhonda. *Photos by Araya Photography*



The Beverly Hilton was packed to the rafters with some of the biggest names in sports' history when the Harold and Carol Pump Foundation hosted its 18th annual gala to benefit the Harold Pump Department of Radiation Oncology, the Carole Pump Women's Center and the Thomas and Dorothy Leavey Cancer Center at Dignity Health at Northridge Hospital Medical Center.

Honorees were Hall of Famers Rod Carew, Reggie Jackson, and Bill Walton plus Dr. Marc Kerner.

Dana and David Pump are the twin brothers who co-founded the organization in honor of their father and have raised more than \$7 million toward the cure of cancer.

They hosted a "who's who" guest list including Tim Brown, Reggie Bush, Cedric the Entertainer, LL Cool J, Oscar De La Hoya, Scott Erickson, Eddie George, Franco Harris, Spencer Haywood, Sugar Ray Leonard, John Lucas, Warren Moon, Joe Morgan, Anthony Munoz, Lorenzo Neal, Norm Nixon, Ray Parker Jr, Ralph Sampson, Shannon Sharpe, Reggie Smith, John Starks, Rudy Tomjonovich, Jamaal Wilkes, Dominique Wilkins, Dave Winfield, et al.

BIRTHDAYS — Warren Berlinger, Carole Wells Doheny, Richard Gere, Nancy Jones and Itzhak Perlman (Aug. 31); Lily Tomlin, Gil Seton, and Dee Dee Myers (Sept. 1); Shelly Sterling, Salma Hayek, Mark Harmon, and Keanu Reeves (Sept. 2); Valerie Perrine, Pauline Collins and Charlie Sheen (Sept. 3); Mitzi Gaynor and Judith Ivey (Sept. 4); William Devane, Bob Fields, Murray Fischer, Carol Lawrence and Raquel Welch (Sept. 5); Jane Curtin and Swoosie Kurtz (Sept. 6); and belatedly BHPD Chief Sandra Spagnoli (Aug. 29).



FRANCES ALLEN DESERT ROUNDUP

They've been called "nerds" and "geeks," but two groups of media fans have gotten together a fortnight ago to showcase and promote their particular passion.

The Palm Springs International Animation Festival, (PSIAF), now in its second year, presented two days of 250 short, animated films. And, they are not of the "Tom and Jerry" variety. Take for example the story of *Sgt. Stubby: An American Hero*. It's the true story of an amazing dog who finds his way onto a ship crossing the Atlantic Ocean to fight in World War I, becoming the most decorated dog in American history in doing so.

Approximately 250 films from nearly 50 countries were screened in two days prior to the weekend activities of Comic Con Palm Springs.

Comic Con Palm Springs has the emphasis on doing, not viewing. This year's third annual event allows participants to dress up and come as their favorite characters from films, TV, video games and comics. By encouraging media-related characters to dress in serious, elaborate costumes, this has caused a dispute between the Palm Spring Convention Center and its current venue, the Palm Springs Air Museum, with the convention center not wanting to hold an event featuring replica firearms.

Less controversial were the presence of Tony Dow and Jerry "the Beaver" Mathers. Also present were Rancho Mirage residents Lindsay Wagner (*Wonder Woman*) and pro-baseball star turned actor, Michael Dante.

One word of advice: Be careful walking around Palm Springs ... there are reports that some Mutant Ninja Turtles are wandering around and have not left town yet

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Watermelon
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Red Ruby Grapefruit **2 lbs for \$1**
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Celery **2 for \$1**
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+CRV

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PUBLIC NOTICES

ORDINANCE NO. 18-O-2758

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS AMENDING ARTICLE 21 OF CHAPTER 4 OF TITLE 5 OF THE BEVERLY HILLS MUNICIPAL CODE TO PROHIBIT THE SALE OF FLAVORED TOBACCO PRODUCTS

WHEREAS, tobacco use causes death and disease and continues to be an urgent public health threat, as evidenced by the fact that 480,000 people die prematurely in the United States from smoking-related diseases every year, making tobacco use the leading cause of preventable death. Tobacco use can cause disease in nearly all organ systems and is responsible for 87 percent of lung cancer deaths, 79 percent of all chronic obstructive pulmonary disease deaths, and 32 percent of coronary heart disease deaths. The World Health Organization estimates that tobacco accounts for the greatest cause of death worldwide accounting for nearly 6 million deaths per year.

WHEREAS, the federal Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act (FSPTCA), enacted in 2009, prohibits cigarettes with characterizing flavors other than tobacco and menthol, largely because these flavored products are marketed to youth and young adults, and younger smokers are more likely than older smokers to try these products. When Congress enacted the FSPTCA, it found that the use of tobacco products by the nation's children is a pediatric disease of "considerable proportions" that results in new generations of tobacco dependent children and adults. Congress further found that virtually all new users of tobacco products are under the minimum legal age to buy the products.

WHEREAS, although the manufacture and distribution of flavored cigarettes (excluding menthol) are banned by federal law, neither federal law nor California law restricts the sale of menthol cigarettes or flavored non-cigarette tobacco products, such as cigars, cigarillos, smokeless tobacco, hookah tobacco, electronic smoking devices, and the solutions used in these devices.

WHEREAS, the 2014 California Tobacco Advertising Study found that flavored tobacco products are very common in California tobacco retailers as evidenced by the following:

- 97.4% of stores that sell cigarettes sell menthol cigarettes;
- 94.5% of stores that sell little cigars sell them in flavored varieties;
- 84.2% of stores that sell electronic smoking devices sell flavored varieties; and
- 83.8% of stores that sell chew or snus sell flavored varieties.

WHEREAS, according to a 2010 Surgeon General's report, menthol and flavored products have been shown to be "starter" products for youth who begin using tobacco and that these products help establish tobacco habits that can lead to long-term addiction.

WHEREAS, young people are much more likely than adults to use menthol, candy, and fruit-flavored tobacco products, including cigarettes, cigars, cigarillos, and hookah tobacco.

WHEREAS, according to a 2015 report, 70% of middle school and high school students who currently use tobacco report using flavored products that taste like menthol, alcohol, candy, fruit, chocolate, or other sweets.

WHEREAS, data from the National Youth Tobacco Survey indicate that more than two-fifths of US middle school and high school smokers report using flavored little cigars or flavored cigarettes.

WHEREAS, the California Attorney General has stated that electronic cigarette companies have targeted minors with fruit-flavored products.

WHEREAS, between 2004 and 2014 use of non-menthol cigarettes decreased among all populations, but overall use of menthol cigarettes increased among young adults (ages 18 to 25) and adults (ages 26 and older).

WHEREAS, in an undercover operation conducted in 2017, close to half of the tobacco retailers that are operating in Beverly Hills, sold tobacco products to persons under the age of 21 in violation of both State law and Beverly Hills Municipal Code section 4-2-109.

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the City Council of the City of Beverly Hills to provide for the public's health, safety, and welfare by protecting youth from commencing the inherently dangerous activity of smoking.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Code Amendment. Section 4-2-2102 (DEFINITIONS) of Article 21 (TOBACCO AND ELECTRONIC CIGARETTE RETAILER PERMITTING REGULATIONS) of Chapter 2 (REGULATORY BUSINESS PERMITS) of Title 4 (REGULATION OF CERTAIN TYPES OF BUSINESSES AND ACTIVITIES) of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code is hereby amended to add the definitions of "Characterizing Flavor" and "Flavored Tobacco Product" in alphabetical order, and to amend the definition of "Tobacco Product" as follows with all other provisions of Section 4-2-2102 remaining in effect without amendment:

"Characterizing Flavor": A taste or aroma, other than the taste or aroma of tobacco, imparted either prior to or during consumption of a Tobacco Product or any byproduct produced by

the Tobacco Product, including, but not limited to, tastes or aromas relating to menthol, mint, wintergreen, fruit, chocolate, vanilla, honey, candy, cocoa, dessert, alcoholic beverage, herb, or spice.

"Flavored Tobacco Product": Any Tobacco Product that imparts a Characterizing Flavor. A public statement or claim made or disseminated by the manufacture of a Tobacco Product, or by any person authorized or permitted by the manufacturer to make or disseminate public statements concerning such Tobacco Product, that such Tobacco Product has or produces a Characterizing Flavor shall constitute presumptive evidence that the Tobacco Product is a Flavored Tobacco Product.

"Tobacco Product": Includes (1) any product containing, made, or derived from tobacco or nicotine that is intended for human consumption, including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and smokeless tobacco; (2) any electronic cigarette; and (3) any component, part, or accessory intended or reasonably expected to be used with a Tobacco Product, whether or not sold separately. "Tobacco Product" does not include a drug, device, or combination product authorized for sale by the United States Food and Drug Administration as a tobacco use cessation product.

Section 2. Code Amendment. Section 4-2-2109 (REQUIREMENTS FOR OPERATION) of Article 21 (TOBACCO AND ELECTRONIC CIGARETTE RETAILER PERMITTING REGULATIONS) of Chapter 2 (REGULATORY BUSINESS PERMITS) of Title 4 (REGULATION OF CERTAIN TYPES OF BUSINESSES AND ACTIVITIES) of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code is hereby amended to add a new subsection "H" to read as follows:

"H. It shall be unlawful for any Tobacco Retailer or any of the Tobacco Retailer's agents or employees to sell or offer for sale any Flavored Tobacco Product. This regulation is not intended to impose any requirement which is different from, or in addition to, any requirement under the provisions of the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act relating to tobacco product standards, premarket review, adulteration, misbranding, labeling, registration, good manufacturing standards, or modified risk tobacco products."

Section 3. Code Amendment. Section 4-2-2115 (ENFORCEMENT) of Article 21 (TOBACCO AND ELECTRONIC CIGARETTE RETAILER PERMITTING REGULATIONS) of Chapter 2 (REGULATORY BUSINESS PERMITS) of Title 4 (REGULATION OF CERTAIN TYPES OF BUSINESSES AND ACTIVITIES) of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code is hereby amended to add a new subsection "G" to read as follows:

"G. The City shall not enforce a violation of Section 4-2-2109 subsection H against any Tobacco Retailer that is lawfully operating in the City until December 21, 2018."

Section 4. CEQA. The City Council hereby finds that it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility the adoption of this Ordinance will have a significant adverse effect on the environment because the Ordinance only prohibits the sale of Flavored Tobacco Products. It is therefore exempt from California Environmental Quality Act review pursuant to Title 14, Section 15061(b)(3) of the California Code of Regulations.

Section 5. Severability. If any section, subsection, subdivision, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Ordinance for any reason is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance. The City Council hereby declares that it would have adopted this Ordinance, and each section, subsection, subdivision, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, subdivisions, sentences, clauses, phrases, or portions thereof be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

Section 6. Publication. The City Clerk shall cause this Ordinance to be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation, published and circulated in the city within fifteen (15) days after its passage in accordance with Section 36933 of the Government Code, shall certify to the adoption of this Ordinance and shall cause this Ordinance and the City Clerk's certification, together with proof of publication, to be entered in the Book of Ordinances of the Council of this city.

Section 7. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall go into effect and be in full force and effect at 12:01 a.m. on the thirty-first (31st) day after its passage.

Adopted: August 21, 2018
Effective: September 21, 2018

JULIAN A. GOLD, M.D.
Mayor of the City of Beverly Hills

ATTEST:
BYRON POPE (SEAL)
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
LAURENCE S. WIENER
City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:
MAHDI ALUZRI
City Manager

VOTE:
AYES: Councilmembers Wunderlich, Friedman, and Bosse, Vice Mayor Mirisch and Mayor Gold
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
CARRIED

ORDINANCE NO. 18-O-2759

AN URGENCY ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS APPOINTING MICHELLE KAYE TO THE ARCHITECTURAL COMMISSION AND ALAN KAYE TO THE FINE ART COMMISSION ON AN INTERIM BASIS UNTIL THE CITY COUNCIL APPOINTS A PERMANENT REPLACEMENT FOR THE VACANT SEATS

WHEREAS, Section 2-2-106(D) of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code provides that commission membership shall terminate automatically if a commissioner ceases to reside in the City of Beverly Hills;

WHEREAS, Section 2-2-106(G) of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code provides that the City Council may appoint a former commissioner to fill a vacancy on a commission until such time as a new commissioner is appointed to fill such vacancy; and

WHEREAS, Alan and Michelle Kaye, who serve on the Fine Art Commission and the Architectural Commission, respectively, are no longer residents of the City as of June 2018 but have expressed a desire to continue serving on their respective commissions until the end of the year when the new commissioners are appointed.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS HEREBY ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Michelle Kaye's seat on the Architectural Commission and Alan Kaye's seat on the Fine Art Commission are now vacant, leaving such commissions with only four members. There is an immediate need to fill such vacancies with former commissioners who are already familiar with the City's procedures and subject matter of such commissions.

Section 2. It is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety that this Ordinance take effect immediately. There is an urgent need for the City Council to appoint an interim Architectural Commissioner and an interim Fine Art Commissioner in order to: (i) avoid the likelihood of tie votes that would result from even-numbered commissions, (ii) allow City business to proceed without unnecessary delay, and (iii) encourage the consideration of important matters by full five-member commissions. The interim appointments will provide the City Council time to recruit qualified candidates for permanent appointments to the Architectural Commission and the Fine Art Commission. The City Council therefore finds that it is necessary that this Ordinance take effect immediately and its urgency is hereby declared.

Section 3. The City Council duly considered this matter and concludes that it would be in the best interest of the City to appoint Commissioner Michelle Kaye to the Architectural Commission and Alan Kaye to the Fine Art Commission, each through December 31, 2018 to allow time for the City Council to appoint new commissioners to fill their vacancies.

Section 4. If any section, subsection, subdivision, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any person or place, is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this Ordinance. The City Council hereby declares that it would have adopted this Ordinance, and each and every section, subsection, subdivision, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, subdivisions, sentences, clauses, phrases, or portions thereof be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

Section 5. The City Clerk shall cause this Ordinance to be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation published and circulated in the City within fifteen (15) days after its passage, in accordance with Section 36933 of the Government Code; shall certify to the adoption of this Ordinance and shall cause this Ordinance and his certification, together with proof of publication, to be entered in the Book of Ordinances of the Council of this City.

Section 6. This Ordinance, being an Urgency Ordinance adopted for the immediate protection of the public safety and health, containing a declaration of the facts constituting the urgency, and passed by a minimum four-fifths (4/5) vote of the City Council, shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 21st day of August, 2018.

CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
A Municipal Corporation

JULIAN A. GOLD, M.D.
Mayor of the City of Beverly Hills, California

ATTEST:
BYRON POPE (SEAL)
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
LAURENCE S. WIENER
City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:
MAHDI ALUZRI
City Manager

SUSAN HEALY KEENE
Director of Community
Development

NANCY HUNT-COFFEY
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BEVERLY HILLS 443 S. Oakhurst Dr.
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440 UNFURNISHED APT'S/CONDO'S

BEVERLY HILLS ADJ. 309 S. Sherbourne Dr.

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Very Bright 2 Bdrm.+2 Bath
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Totally Redone.
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417 S. Barrington Av.
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2 Bdrm.+ 2 Bath
3 Bdrm.+ 2 1/2 Bath
4 Bdrm.+ 3 1/2 Bath
 •••••

Open floor plan, high ceilings, French oak flrs+porcelain tiles, x-lrg. walk-in closets, stainless steel appliances, quartz countertops, pool, state of the art gym, laundry hook-ups, controlled access, prkg, free WiFi. Close to Brentwood Village.
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• 3 Bd.+2 1/2 Ba.
 •••••

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BRENTWOOD

11988 Kiowa Ave.
• • • • •
2 Bd. + 2 Ba.
• • • • •
Large & Bright Unit.
Elevator, controlled access, on-site laundry facility, balcony, parking.
Close to Brentwood Village, Shops & Restaurants.
• 310/826-4889 •

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Brand New Bldg. Large Luxury Units
• • • • •
• 3 Bd.+3 1/2 Ba.
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• **Free WiFi Access** •
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(.) (.) (.) (.) (.) (.)
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310/312-9871
Shopping & Dining in Brentwood Village

BRENTWOOD

11818 Darlington Av.
1 Bdrm.+1 Bath
2 Bdrm.+2 Bath
Newly Remodeled
Spacious floor plan & master bedroom, balcony, a/c unit, fridge, stove, dishwasher, controlled access, laundry room, covered parking. Pets ok.
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Newly Updated
1 Bdrm. + 1 Bath
2 Bdrm. + 2 Bath
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Balcony, dishwasher, a/c, **heated pool,** **WiFi,** elevator controlled access, on-site laundry, prkg.
Close to Brentwood Village, Shops & Restaurants.
• 310/826-4889 •

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PUBLIC NOTICES

RESOLUTION NO. 18-R-13197

RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS FIXING THE RATE OF TAXES TO PAY THE BONDED AND OTHER VOTER-APPROVED INDEBTEDNESS OF THE CITY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2018/2019

The Council of the City of Beverly Hills does resolve as follows:

Section 1. Pursuant to law, there hereby is fixed and levied the rate of taxes, designated in the number of cents upon each One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) of the assessed value to be taxed as assessed by the County Assessor and equalized by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, as set forth in Section 2 hereof.

Section 2. Upon all of the taxable property in each of the taxing districts within the City of Beverly Hills, there hereby is fixed and levied the rate of taxes as follows:

All Districts \$0.023513

The rate so fixed is needed to raise the amount necessary to make annual payments for other indebtedness of the City approved by the voters prior to July 1, 1978.

Section 3. The City Clerk shall cause this resolution to be published and circulated in the City within fifteen (15) days after its passage, in accordance with Section 36936.1 of the Government Code; shall certify to the adoption and publishing of this resolution and shall cause this resolution and his certification, together with proof of publication, to be entered in the Book of Resolutions of the Council of this City.

Adopted: August 21, 2018

JULIAN A. GOLD, M.D.
Mayor of the City of Beverly Hills, California

ATTEST:
BYRON POPE(SEAL)
City Clerk

Approved as to form:
LAURENCE S. WIENER
City Attorney

Approved as to content:
MAHDI ALUZRI
City Manager

DON HARRISON
Budget & Revenue Officer

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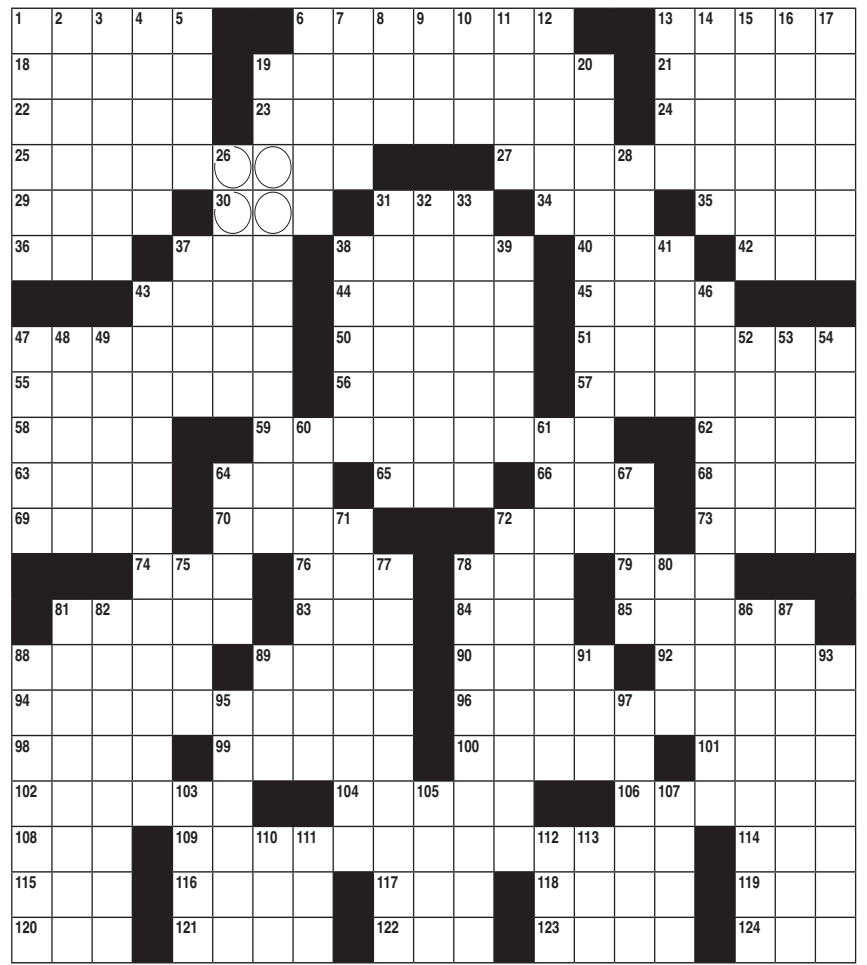
THE NEW YORK TIMES SUNDAY MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

TO THE POINT

BY OLIVIA MITRA FRAMKE / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

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ANSWERS FOUND IN NEXT WEEK'S PAPER...



Chairman 2014 Paula Kent Meehan
President & Publisher Marcia Wilson Hobbs
 Senior Editor John L. Seitz
 Special Sections Editor Stephen P. Simmons

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

As a historian, I would like to offer my opinions into the public debate over our City's future.

Beverly Hills and the Subway: Turning Point or Tipping Point?

Even without being a historian, it is often easy to recognize when a historic event happens. One is occurring right now to the heart of the Beverly Hills. It is called the Metro Purple Line and it will change the very nature of life in our City forever. The sleepy little residential lifestyle in 90210/90211/90212 will be replaced with traffic that determines when you can or can't get home. Our City which relies on the tax base of retail sales is facing five to seven years of disrupted access to our business community. As Will Rogers would have put it: If you can't get to your store... you're gonna go broke".

Then, when the subway arrives, Rodeo Drive will suddenly have to host thousands of visitors with no buying power for "luxury items." The town will have to change to accommodate the "sandals and backpack" trade or Rodeo faces losing its real customers in the crowd. It is quite possible to kill our goose that lays the golden eggs.

Why do we have to stand up for our Neighborhoods, School and Businesses?

Metro is allowed to drill under our high school and drill under our southwest residential multi-family neighborhood, Worse yet, it plans to put the station to service thousands of visitors a day on the southern residential side of Wilshire. In addition to workers and tourists, the entire homeless and transient population will have 24/7 access to our neighborhoods.

About that Station - as currently proposed:

1. RESIDENTIAL ENCROACHMENT. The station is only several hundred feet from a residential neighborhood. It is directly adjacent to alleys where renters use open garages. Current placement of the station will require thousands of people to safely cross Wilshire or else aimlessly wander our neighborhoods.

2. NO LOADING ZONE. Metro offers no provisions for loading, parking, taxi or Uber stops. Where do people load? On Reeves Drive or Wilshire Boulevard? Reeves is a one lane street, a pickup or drop off will clog it completely. Wilshire cannot afford a lost lane to waiting cars. This will impact Beverly Drive as well.

3. NO BATHROOMS! Many stations are a magnet for the homeless. Even newer ones reek of urine. The Willowbrook station is being re-configured because of the problem. We are left only with the problem. It will cost the City millions just to provide the barest and most humane of services.

4. NO DEDICATED SECURITY. Inside the station there are no police and no attendant... only cameras. There is a L. A. county sheriff on each train who is not required to disembark. The station is a public place as is our park on Reeves. Loitering is a touchy issue. The City will be required to increase police presence. Currently, BHPD knows every license plate that comes through town. Theoretically, it has a bead on everyone who enters. Subway destroys that security net.

This is Unacceptable!

Instead of an exclusive oasis of serenity in the middle of the bedlam of Los Angeles' overdevelopment, we are now just another piece of the greater L.A. traffic problem. It is the greatest loss of sovereignty since the proposed annexation battle of 1924. Residents and retail will lose big in the immediate future. Who gains? After seven years, what will be left?

But it is not a done deal. There are lawsuits still pending and the Memorandum of Agreement the City is poised to sign is contingent on many factors. We all know it will cost many millions to our City for additional policing and to build sanitary facilities. These are called "betterments."

The one betterment we must insist on is that

the entrance to the City be an escalator that delivers the subway riders to a portal on the north side of Wilshire. We cannot let Metro dump them into our residential neighborhoods. We will need bathrooms, loading zones, taxi and uber areas, even perhaps bird and bike stands.

I believe we should use the opportunity to build a world class visitors center with many tour options (not just Rodeo) and perhaps a museum or other local cultural presentations. I ask that the City reconsider the property on Wilshire, east of Canon, as our new portal. Rethink the future of our City now.

Beverly Hills is an Island.

Beverly Hills is an island in the middle of a massive metropolis. Los Angeles County has a larger population than 42 entire states. We are a small town with only four roads linking us to the outside world.

While Wilshire Boulevard used to be our major thoroughfare, it will now be impaired for five to seven years. Neighboring communities have compromised Sunset and Santa Monica Boulevards with over-development. Things are changing everyday. Olympic Boulevard is overburdened and our side streets like Charleville and Gregory Way have become gridlocked for hours at a time.

We are stuck with the subway but not stuck with bad planning and lack of consideration for the neighborhood. Now is time to act before traffic and crowds strangle our community to death. The subway is a turning point, but it can also be our tipping point.

Phil Savenick

For Beverly Hills Director of Public Works Shana Epstein to schedule a community outreach meeting regarding the Lot 13 situation at 3 p.m. on a Friday leading into a holiday weekend, would seem to guarantee that the overwhelming majority of the our citizens will not be able to attend, thereby keeping the community out of the process. While I know that this was not Shana's intent, this is the appearance.

The residents of the City have worked for the past three years to bring transparency to the operations of City Hall and had felt that progress in that direction has been made. This scheduling has the appearance of moving in the other direction, however.

I had discussed scheduling a meeting at a time more accessible to the community, but she expressed her feeling that the Friday meeting could not be changed since notices had been mailed to a large number of residents. She was prepared to video tape it and schedule a second meeting at a more practical time. I would point out that as this second meeting would require another mailing it could also be notice of a change. In any case, if the Friday meeting is to be held, I will make it a point to attend.

The best times to schedule the second meeting would be a Monday through Thursday at 6 or 7 p.m. The agenda does not need to include a discussion of how the soil sampling will be done since that only involves very small samples.

What is of greatest importance to the community is the species, size and placement of the trees and in particular: when will this long, overdue process be finally completed?

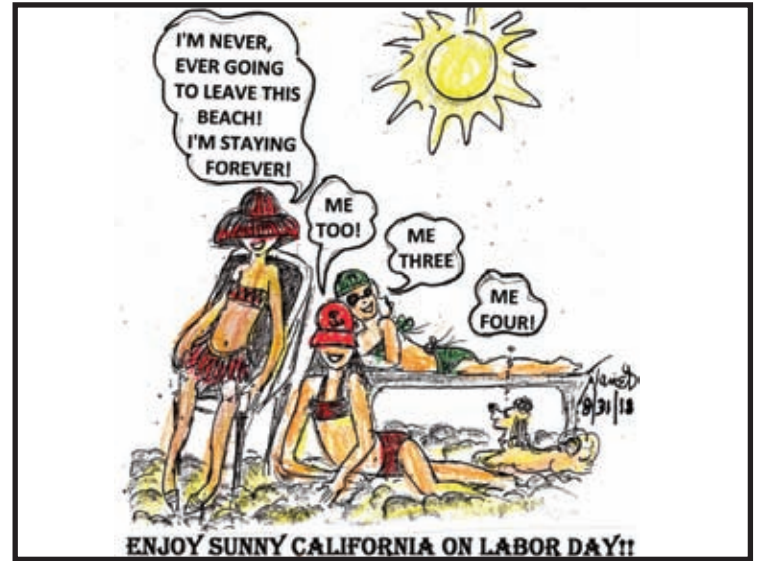
Lionel Ephraim

The *Courier's* article on the closing of Brooks Brothers last week noted that Tommy Hilfiger was the previous tenant but missed the opportunity to tie in with the Carroll & Co. recognition article on the previous page. That location was the long time former home of Carroll & Co.

Les Traub

"Infuriated" is perhaps the nicest or kindest word I can use to express how I feel about some recent experiences with our local Beverly Hills Post Office.

Last Thursday, there was no mail delivery, Friday's came after 8 p.m., and on Saturday, again no mail... and when I ever do get my mine, there



ENJOY SUNNY CALIFORNIA ON LABOR DAY!!

Cartoon for the *Courier* by Janet Salter



Astrology

By Holiday Mathis

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 31). You place yourself in service to humanity. "Humanity" is not always an easy customer, and the obstacles that ensue will contribute to your spiritual might. Truly, you gain the most from your own selflessness. You'll bank on it in October, and there's another windfall in December. Travel and romance come in mid-2019. Gemini and Pisces adore you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Between people whose history includes great love, there will always be explosive topics, buried like landmines in the field of conversation. They are usually best avoided. If you accidentally step on one, turn and run.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Thankfulness is the seed that all good things blossom from today. What you're most appreciative of is not material, rather it's the attention, help and lessons you gather.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). If the events knock you off course, take it as a cue to expand your perception and grow your influence. With a bigger worldview you will be unfazed by life's little irritations.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). To protect yourself against the thievery of time, demand that time leave you something in return for what it takes. This is most easily accomplished by working toward meaningful treasures.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). It's wasteful to wish you were anywhere else, with anyone else, doing anything else than what you're doing. Guard against this immaturity by fully joining the moment you're in.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll get the win, but winners be warned: Arrogance and pride are terrible, dangerous hitchhikers on the road to a great win. Do not pick them up. Arrogance and pride are the failures of success.

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20). You're thinking creatively, and because of this, you will see how there are wonderful experiences to be had for very little or no money. They'll take planning though. This is a lucky day for making plans.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 19). What you want is not as out of reach as you think. What seems ridiculous to expect may actually be just a little bit out of the normal pattern, and all it will take is an extra push to make it so.

TAURUS (Apr. 20-May 20). When you don't know what to do next, concentrate your efforts on just being the best you. Keeping yourself sharp and strong will ready you for the opportunities around the bend.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You'll hear many versions of the truth. Avoid trusting powerful people over honest people. As Groucho Marx once said: Who are you going to believe, me or your own eyes?

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You'll pick your goal almost arbitrarily, and that's fine for today. The purpose is to give you a reason to take every step along the way. You'll commit to the journey, not the destination.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). If you were a cast member on *Survivor*, you might conspire to handle today's challenge. Thankfully, you live in the untelevised version of reality where it is better to be kind than to drum up the drama.

is usually someone else's mixed in. I've had people drop off my mail they wrongly received, often living on the other side of town...

My payments often don't get where they are supposed to... sometimes past due because my outgoing mail is either delivered late or not at all. I know this is happening, not only from the letters posted in the *Courier*, but also many friends who have been going through the same thing for a long, long time.

Perhaps the powers running the City can get to the bottom of this, shake up the post office and straighten it out, so Beverly Hills taxpayers can finally get what we all should expect... first class service in our first class City!

Joan Magid

I was certainly not surprised that Steve Webb, "former mayor for hire," was representing clients in dealing with City staff which led to the fiasco on South Santa Monica Boulevard. Was the City's actual well-being ever part of his agenda and what was his involvement with Lots 12 & 13 during and after his tenure on the City Council.

Tom Roberts

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