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Issue 1162 • January 6 - January 12, 2022



Heart-To-Heart

Health and Safety Commission Chair Kirk Chang, M.D. is Ready to Lead

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Virtual Workshop Regarding Legislative Advocacy

City of Beverly Hills staff will cover the requirements and registration process for legislative advocates. This workshop is open to all and will be held via Zoom.

**Tuesday,
January 11, 2022**

6 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Meeting Information:

[beverlyhills-org.zoom.us/my/bhliaison](https://beverlyhills-org.zoom.us/j/90210)

Meeting ID: 312 522 4461

Passcode: 90210

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One tap mobile

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letters & email

“What’s Your New Year’s Resolution?” [Issue #1161]

[Planning Commissioner] Peter Ostroff’s letter to the editor was apparently written in response to a question about New Year’s resolutions. However, his self-important letter set forth instead his wishes and took up about six times the space allowed for the actual New Year’s resolutions of others.

Many of us long-standing residents were quite put off by Ostroff’s wish on density/height development incentives which reflect his personal passionate dream to destroy this city via his ill-conceived proposed city density bonus program. This topic was discussed by him at the August 26, 2021 Planning Commission meeting.

At that meeting he was pushing for the Planning Commission to vote against continuing the requirement for a minimum of 10% affordable housing in every new housing project. He was also pushing for a city density bonus program which would provide much more robust incentives to developers than the state density bonus program—much greater height and density, and greatly reduced parking requirements. However, unlike the state density bonus program Ostroff did not wish to require developers to provide affordable housing in return. And Ostroff did not even understand that the only rationale for density bonuses was the provision of affordable housing in exchange.

Now that Ostroff has been criticized for his views on affordable housing, he states that at least 10% affordable housing is “the right thing to do”. Even if Ostroff is sincere in his new sentiment, he wants to give greatly increased height and density far beyond what is allowed under the state density bonus program, while the state program requires much greater than 10% affordable housing for much lesser density bonuses.

Ostroff also states that he would like to see just two new tall, dense buildings added to our main streets every year. However it is doubtful that he wants to limit large development in any way, and it would not be fair to promulgate new height and density rules to apply to only two developments.

Ostroff, who does not live near the main streets in the city, states that those who have chosen to live near commercial corridors must accept that there are both benefits and burdens for their choice which include “some modest developments on those corridors” as if he wants modest developments. He also disregards that those who live near our main streets have reasonably expected the long-standing 45’ height limit to continue, and have enjoyed the existence of many small charming commercial buildings which have adequate parking.

The wish of many residents for the New Year is for a new city council majority, which would have the power to replace planning commissioners who do not have good planning ideas.

**Darian Bojeaux
Beverly Hills**

PLANNING COMMISSIONER PETER OSTROFF RESPONDS:

Public discourse is legitimate only when it is fact based and honest.

The objective fact is that under current development standards, including state density bonuses designed to incentivize, but not mandate, “affordable” multifamily housing, and prevailing market conditions, it is nearly impossible to create financially viable multifamily projects in Beverly Hills. This fact has been empirically demonstrated by Keyser Martin financial analyses. This fact has been confirmed in the real world as virtually no multi-family projects have been completed since adoption of the Beverly Hills General Plan in 2010 and few, if any, are in the pipeline.

Apparently my thoughts regarding affordable housing were not clear to Ms. Bojeaux who claims incorrectly that I have changed my position. Mandates for affordable housing without sufficient incentives to provide that housing, given our City’s development standards, only serve to make certain that no affordable housing can be constructed. I favor incentives, not mandates standing alone, that are sufficient to make financially feasible some new housing including a reasonable % (10% or ideally more) of affordable housing.

There is certainly room for reasonable persons to differ respecting the issue of whether or not some reasonable amount of new multifamily projects with some affordable units should be constructed in the city. Generally, I disagree with both the tone and substance of Ms. Bojeaux’s communications. However, it is impossible to engage in constructive discourse with Ms. Bojeaux unless and until she honestly acknowledges that her true intention and only agenda is to make certain that no multi-family development occurs.

briefs

KBEV Students Air Grievances on COVID Protocols

On Dec. 27 a student video was uploaded to KBEV expressing opinions of some students enrolled in the Beverly High Broadcast Studies course in regards to Principal Mark Mead’s response to classroom mask enforcement.

According to the video, on Dec. 16 Mead, along with security, removed the entire Broadcast Studies class to be tested for COVID. This was the first time an entire class was singled out for this type of mass testing and some students are of the opinion that this was “uncalled for, excessive, and based on a false narrative.”



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OUR DATA SPEAKS
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Students captured audio recordings of the incident.

"If you are really upset, the two places your upsetness should be directed are your classmates, and your teacher [Romeo Carey]," Mead said during the incident.

Anonymous testimonials from students were included in the Youtube video.

"After testing, he [Mead] said 'go take your anger to your teacher [Carey] because he doesn't make a safe environment for you.' I don't understand how Mr. Mead makes the school safe by making the class feel so scared to miss their finals. After all this happened, Mr. Mead made us stay home. A couple hours later he called all the students one by one and said we can come back to school. This entire experience made me feel sick. This is showing segregation between the vaccinated and the non-vaccinated. This is also showing me that there is segregation between people and broadcasting study classes in the class and the rest of the school. This is disgusting, I really felt discriminated against," one anonymous student said.

Students' voices were also altered to hide their identities.

"He stated out loud people's private information such as if someone is vaccinated or not. Mr. Mead acted erratically and did not handle the situation like a proper principal. I do not feel safe at [Beverly High] anymore," one anonymous student said.

The anonymous comments in the video were mostly directed towards the treatment Mead gave the students and his criticism towards Carey.

"He yelled at the whole class and didn't let us speak to him privately. I feel super disrespected. He blamed our teacher Mr. Carey who did nothing wrong. We later found out it was a false positive and so many students had to miss their finals because of this false positive," another anonymous student said.

Many of the students felt as if their class was being singled out.

"I felt discriminated against when Mr. Mead walked in and forced the entire class to get tested against our will. Mr. Mead is taking his job too seriously and has become a tyrant. The KBEV class loves our class and Mr. Carey and it is not right that our class is singled out. Mr. Mead also screams at us like fifth graders, this is not right. Lastly, Thursday was the most excessive overblown ridiculous action that I've experienced in the many years as a student at Beverly. It was downright insulting how our principal singled out our class, blaming the entire event on our teacher, Mr. Carey," another anonymous student said.

In total, there were eight students who anonymously aired their grievances in the video.

Mead referred Superintendent Dr. Michael Bregy for comment.

"The video allegedly produced by students and uploaded under the direction of their teacher was severely misleading. Any classrooms from TK-12 where the class does not have a clear seating chart during the time of COVID exposure are asked to test in entirety. Due to the nature of the class, this is often sports teams, science labs, music classes, and our young-

est learners where they sometimes move around the classroom. The students involved in this particular exposure did not qualify for Modified Quarantine as they did not meet the threshold per LACPDH. 'The exposed student AND the person with a COVID-19 diagnosis MUST have each worn a mask consistently and correctly during the entire exposure period.' Mr. Mead acted in his capacity as BHHS principal protecting all students, staff, and the wider community from further transmission of what was, at the time, a new and unknown highly contagious variant of COVID-19," Bregy said.

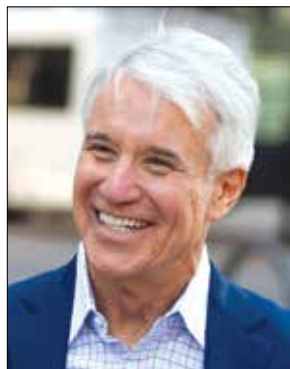
City Council Supports Recall of Gascón

At their Tuesday meeting the City Council unanimously approved a resolution in support of the recall of Los Angeles County District Attorney George Gascón. The Council previously adopted a vote of no confidence in Gascón. Many residents also called in to voice their support for the recall.

Gascón has issued numerous special directives and two subsequent amendments, which outline new policies and procedures for the Los Angeles County DA's Office, since being sworn in. Several directives are of concern for the public safety of the residents of Beverly Hills and the county.

There are three special directives of concern to the City.

They are: the Pretrial Release Policy, which eliminated cash bail for any misdemeanor, non-serious felony, or non-violent



George Gascón

felony offense; Misdemeanor Case Management, which lists numerous misdemeanor charges that will be declined or dismissed before arraignment and without conditions unless "exceptions" or "factors for consideration" exist and; Sentencing Enhancements/Allegations, which provides that the following sentence enhancements or sentencing allegations shall not be filed in any cases and shall be withdrawn in pending matters: any prior-strike enhancements, including the Three Strikes Law; STEP Act enhancements, also known as "gang enhancements"; violations of bail; and firearm allegations.

Gascón is also not seeking the death penalty for any case involving murder and is working to actively convert death sentences to life without parole for many felons who were previously convicted of murder and sentenced to death.

A recall effort for Gascón began earlier in 2021; however, it was unsuccessful in gathering enough financial support to succeed.

On Dec. 6 supporters of a new recall effort announced they will serve Gascón with a "notice of intent" to remove him from office. Organizers will have 160 days from the date of approval to collect more

than 580,000 signatures from registered voters in the County.

This follows an increase in follow-home robberies in recent weeks and repeated smash-and-grab incidents.

Beverly Hills is the first city to officially announce its support for the recall.

City Council Denies Metro Holiday Moratorium Waiver

At their Tuesday meeting the City Council denied Metro's request for a waiver of the holiday moratorium.

The Wilshire/Rodeo Station MOA outlines the allowable work hours and workdays, including the holiday moratorium dates during which there is no work permitted. However, the MOA does allow Metro to apply for a permit to work during a holiday moratorium. City Council has sole discretion to approve or deny the permit for any waiver of holiday moratorium dates.

On Nov. 23 Metro requested a permit to work during the following eleven holiday moratorium dates in 2022: The Golden Globes Awards – Sunday, Jan. 9; Martin Luther King Jr. Day – Monday, Jan. 17; President's Day – Monday, Feb. 21; The Academy Awards – Sunday, March 27; Mother's Day – Sunday, May 8; Memorial Day – Monday, May 30; Father's Day – Sunday, June 19; Independence Day – Monday, July 4; Next Night Block Party – TBD; Labor Day – Monday, Sept. 5 and; Veteran's Day – Friday, Nov. 11.

Metro and its contractor, Tutor Perini O & G, estimate that the construction will continue until early 2023.

According to the staff report, the request to waive the 2022 moratorium dates does not sufficiently explain how permitting work during the holidays would benefit the public or reduce the overall construction schedule.

There is no direct fiscal impact associated with approving or denying this request.

Residents Voice Concerns over Mixed Use Ordinance

At the City Council's Tuesday Study Session many residents called in to voice their concerns over a Mixed Use Ordinance that was adopted on Nov. 17, 2020, which allows mixed use development in certain commercial areas of the city.

The mixed use regulations that became effective on Dec. 18, 2020 requires that the City Council review the Ordinance and the areas to which the Mixed Use Overlay Zone is applied after six months, and one year of the effective date of the ordinance. The City Council satisfied the six-month review requirement on May 13.

This Ordinance allows for development of residential units above commercial uses along certain commercial corridors of the city.

"I have read with interest the Staff Report regarding the Mixed Use Overlay Zone ("MUOZ") one year after its adoption. The most important fact reported is that for the 100 acres and numerous parcels that are part of the MUOZ, there have been ZERO applications to take advantage of the opportunity to develop mixed use projects. A related fact is that there are only two instances in which applications

may be submitted." Planning Commissioner Peter Ostroff said.

Two project representatives are preparing applications and it is believed they will be submitting mixed use projects to the city in the future. However, city staff has not received any applications or concept review requests for mixed use developments. A project under this ordinance would require the review and approval of a Development Plan Review, and may also require a Density Bonus Permit if the project utilizes state Density Bonus laws. These would both be reviewed by the Planning Commission.

"Given the length of time between application and completion, it is fair to infer that, at the current rate, at most there could be two projects completed in the MUOZ within the first half decade of its enactment. These facts reveal conclusively that the speculation of some residents that numerous developers were waiting to pounce immediately after enactment were, it can be appropriately and benignly observed, greatly exaggerated. Notably, the requirement that there be a review by the Council six and twelve months after enactment was a response to those speculations. Now that review has shown that their expressed concerns were not warranted," Ostroff said.

There have also been email and phone inquiries on the Mixed Use Overlay Zone regulations and the process to utilize these regulations.

"Further, it is important to recall that the purpose of the MUOZ was to allow some reasonable amount of new multifamily and commercial development with some reasonable amount of 'affordable housing' on commercial corridors. It is my view that one or two such projects each year, not one or two each decade, is desirable. At this level, we can do our part in providing some level of additional market rate and affordable housing that is badly needed in our region, and allow for preservation and rejuvenation of our commercial corridors," Ostroff said.

According to the staff report, some initial feedback has noted that the mixed use regulations are not generous enough with regard to height and density and some developers have stated that the projects are not financially feasible without greater height and density.

Additional height, density, and reduced parking may be achieved through the use of Density Bonus provisions.

"As is suggested by the staff report and the undeniable facts, this cannot and will not occur absent incentives sufficient to allow financially feasible development of this type and at a desirable level," Ostroff said.

Rent Stabilization Commission to Discuss Habitability Standards

At their Wednesday meeting the Rent Stabilization Commission is expected to discuss possible amendments regarding Beverly Hills habitability standards, proactive inspections, an administrative board to address habitability violations and asso-

briefs cont. on page 4

ciated rent reductions, and to restrict rent increases for properties with habitability violations.

State regulations provide habitability standards. The City Council discussed that these standards are limited and suggested standards that exceed the state standards.

The commission is expected to consider the following questions in determining what modifications relating to habitability, if any, should be recommended to the City Council: whether to establish Beverly Hills habitability and maintenance standards that go beyond the state standards, such as requiring units to be painted periodically; whether to establish a proactive inspection process in addition to the existing complaint-based process; whether to have the commission act as an administrative hearing board to determine habitability violations and associated rent reductions; and whether to restrict the annual rent increase for properties with ongoing or unaddressed habitability violations during the time when there is a failure to comply with habitability standards.

City Council Discusses Prosecutorial Functions

At their Tuesday meeting the City Council discussed whether and how Beverly Hills can assume more prosecutorial functions and avoid some of the policies of the District Attorney's office that have resulted in certain crimes not being prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

Currently, the City prosecutes City misdemeanor crimes. However, the City has limited authority to prosecute state law crimes as they would have to get permission from the District Attorney. This can include possession of drugs for personal use, theft of most property that is worth less than \$950, or simple assault and battery.

The City Council discussed the proposal by the City Prosecutor's Office to handle state law misdemeanors and will bring back the item at a future date for further discussion on whether to approach the District Attorney to request his permission to prosecute state law misdemeanors.

If the District Attorney's Office approves the proposal, all services previously provided by them for state law misdemeanors would now be provided by the City Prosecutor's office.

According to the staff report, the City Prosecutor's Office estimates that the Police Department refers approximately 1,100 misdemeanor cases to the District Attorney's office each year. They have estimated that handling these cases will require around 5,500 hours.

Assumption of prosecuting state law misdemeanors is estimated to cost the City approximately an additional \$1 million per year.

City Council Discusses Campaign Contribution Limits and Lawn Signs

At their Tuesday Study Session the City Council discussed campaign expenditure limits and contribution maximums; and proposed a recommendation for posting

election related lawn signs in the city.

According to the staff report, the city currently has a voluntary campaign expenditure limit of \$80,000. If a candidate accepts that limit, the candidate may accept contributions of \$450 per person or entity. However, if a candidate does not accept the \$80,000 limit, the candidate may only accept contributions of \$125 per person or entity.

Election lawn signs are permitted within the city and Beverly Hills cannot completely prohibit or set requirements on when lawn signs can be placed. However, the City Council can request or advise the community to post signs during a particular time-period as a way to reduce the clutter of signs.

During the last Beverly Hills municipal election in March 2020, the community was requested to post signs after Jan. 6, 2020. This was a day after the Golden Globes, and eight-weeks before the election.

The next municipal election will take place in June and the City Council has proposed the timeline for the placement of campaign signage to eight-weeks prior to an election day. This would mean the week of April 11 for the June election.

Design Review Commission to Discuss Approval of New Two-Story Residence

At their Thursday meeting the Design Review Commission is expected to discuss a review and approval of a new two-story single-family residence, located at 345 South Canon Drive.

The proposed architectural style is identified as rectilinear contemporary design. The commission reviewed an earlier iteration of a design for a new two-story single-family home on the site in 2018 and a new design was submitted by a new



345 South Canon Drive

design team in 2020. The commission reviewed the proposal and provided design feedback to the applicant. The project was continued on the commission's agenda each month from Jan. 2020 through March 2021, and then considered withdrawn due to a lack of resubmittal.

The applicant has submitted a new application for an R-1 Design Review Permit.

The new design for the residence is similar to other previously reviewed submittals for this site, although now less symmetrical with further architectural detailing and an increase in the caliber of the materials palette. A landscape plan is also included that introduces a clustering of palms, a large olive tree, and a mix of drought-tolerant plantings.

The commission will also consider finding the project exempt from further review under CEQA.

Traffic and Parking Commission to Discuss EV Charging Program

At their Thursday meeting the Traffic and Parking Commission is expected to discuss a status update on the City's electric vehicle (EV) charging efforts.

In 2011, the City received several grants covering about 28 charging stations and the associated maintenance and operating fees through early 2014 from ChargePoint America/Coulomb. Between Dec. 2012 and Oct. 2015, the City supplemented its inventory of charging stations through additional grant opportunities.

The City has been responsible for the associated installation costs and the cost of energy for the operation. As of Jan. 2014, the City has been responsible for all of the associated costs of operating its inventory of stations. At the time of installation, the City's goal was to promote the use of EVs and to make charging infrastructure available to existing and future EV users.

When the original grants for the EV stations were accepted, the associated fees for hosting and maintenance were included.

Based on usage, the City adopted very few enforcement protocols; user etiquette and informal courtesies recognized by early EV adopters largely governed the accessibility and use of the charging infrastructure. Over time, EV parking spaces were installed adjacent to vehicle and pedestrian entrances.

The City currently operates 35 Level 2 EV Charging stations, located at Roxbury Park and in 14 public parking facilities.

The City Council initially approved the implementation of an EV charging policy in April of 2018 and a revised policy in Jan. 2019 to comply with Senate Bill 1000. SB 1000 prohibits cities from restricting hybrid vehicles from connecting to EV Charging stations.

The EV Charging fees include an energy fee of \$0.25 per kWh and a Station Fee with the first two hours free and \$6.00 for each additional hour. There is also a 10% credit card transaction fee paid to the City's provider.

According to the staff report, Calif. Predicts that by 2030, there will be five million zero emissions vehicles (ZEVs) in the state and will require around 700,000 charging stations to support these vehicles. The City plans to increase the number of Level 2 charging stations available to the public, as well as introducing DC fast charging stations, in parking facilities to support this growth.

Funding for the EV Charging is included in the Capital Improvement Program budget, which is funded from the Charging fees collected.

College Football Player Charged with EDD Fraud

A 22-year-old college football player from Jackson, Mississippi was taken into custody On Dec. 20 on charges alleging

he orchestrated a scheme that fraudulently sought hundreds of thousands of dollars in COVID-related unemployment benefits.

Abdul-Malik McClain surrendered to federal law enforcement in Los Angeles before being arraigned in the United States District Court.

A federal grand jury indictment charges McClain with 10 counts of mail fraud and two counts of aggravated identity theft. McClain, who was residing in Los Angeles in 2020 during the alleged scheme, pleaded not guilty to the charges against him and was ordered released on a \$20,000 bond.

It is alleged that while a member of USC's football team, McClain organized and assisted a group of other football players in filing fraudulent claims for unemployment benefits, including under the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) program.

The indictment alleges that the claims, which were filed with the California Employment Development Department (EDD), contained false information about the football players' supposed prior employment, pandemic-related job loss, and job-seeking efforts in California.

The false statements in the UI applications led EDD to authorize Bank of America to mail debit cards to the football players, the indictment alleges. Those debit cards were loaded with at least hundreds of dollars, and sometimes thousands of dollars, in unemployment benefits, which the recipients used to fund personal expenses. In some cases, McClain sought and obtained a cut for helping others file fraudulent applications.

McClain and his co-schemers also allegedly filed applications in their own names, in the names of other friends, and in the names of identity theft victims.

It is further alleged that these claims also falsely stated that the claimants were self-employed workers, including athletic trainers and tutors, who had lost work in California as a result of the pandemic.

McClain allegedly caused at least three dozen fraudulent applications to be filed with EDD during the summer of 2020 which sought at least \$903,688 in PUA benefits and led the EDD to payout at least \$227,736, according to the indictment.

Each mail fraud count carries a maximum sentence of 20 years in federal prison and the aggravated identity theft counts carry a two-year mandatory prison sentence consecutive to any sentence imposed on the mail fraud counts.

Shelée to Perform at The Wallis

Singer, songwriter, keyboardist, and actress Shelée will be returning to the Wallis with *Pretty World: Through the Eyes of Alan & Marilyn Bergman*, on Saturday, Jan. 15 at 7:30 p.m.

This event features Shelée, a protégé of Quincy Jones, performing songs written by Alan and Marilyn Bergman, the Oscar-winning married couple from Beverly Hills whose lyrics to songs such as "The Way We Were," "The Windmills of Your Mind," and "You Don't Bring Me Flowers" have earned them induction into the Songwriters Hall of Fame.

coverstory

HEART-TO-HEART

Health and Safety Commission Chair Kirk Chang, M.D. is Ready to Lead

By Danielle Berjikian

You are a cardiologist, what made you want to join the Health and Safety Commission?

I don't know if it has anything to do with being a cardiologist but my family has always emphasized community service. At least for me, it wasn't until a few years ago that my medical practice reached a state where I felt comfortable looking for new challenges. My sister Wendy actually practices medicine in Beverly Hills and through her I was able to meet with [former] Commissioners Lori Greene Gordon and Annette Saleh and they suggested applying for a commissioner position in health and safety."

Personally, I felt my inside to experience this in direct patient care would allow me to contribute my own relevant perspectives. Physicians are by nature problem solvers and each patient-physician interaction is a unique reflection of problem solving and collaboration that arises from a common desire for patient wellness.

That was a big part of it for me. I've lived in Beverly Hills since 2006 and I'm amazed and I kind of take for granted the close bonds and friendships I've developed immediately with my neighbors. I think that a strong sense of community is a strong motivator for all of us and through programs like 'Team Beverly Hills' or the 'Explorers' the city has done an amazing job fostering that sense of community from an early age.

Why did you want to become a cardiologist?

I was very intrigued by the technology. Cardiology is very cutting edge. I think the nature of the field was such that we were able to advance many things in the time since I became a physician in 1995. It was very technology and procedure driven which I was very interested in. What I really like most is that cardiolo-

gy research is very data-driven. It is very black and white. I think cardiologists are very critical of clinical trials, which is very important. All of those things appeal very greatly to me. It is not a stretch to say cardiologists are the plumbers of medicine. I think in many ways the science is very similar to the science of plumbing. So, that was what drew me to cardiology.

What are your thoughts on the tobacco policy the commission was behind?

That's still an active issue that we consider to be a very high priority. I think that there is a general decreased prevalence of smoking in general and for the city to have revisions to try and incorporate a policy that probably our entire society will follow in the future is very groundbreaking. From a physician's standpoint, the benefits of not smoking and the risk associated with smoking are clear. So, I'm all for it. I think that we continue to track that data every month as far as incorporating the policy and some of it is affected by the fact that there's a pandemic going on and people are wearing masks. So, it's a little harder to draw any conclusions from the data. But this is something I think is good for society in general. I think the rest of the world is really watching to see how we navigate this process.

Tell us about your family.

Most of my family lives in Los Angeles. I have a sister, Wendy, who is an infertility specialist in Beverly Hills. I have a brother, Joseph, who is a gastroenterologist in Washington state. I have no children, but I have two nieces who are pursuing careers in medicine and law and both have backgrounds in public health and public policy. I expect they will also work hard too in their respected neighborhoods and communities in the

near future.

How is serving on a commission different from serving on a medical committee with doctors?

For me, it's been a very refreshing experience because everybody brings very different perspectives and everybody is very motivated. It's actually been very refreshing because trying to give recommendations is not simply issues related to health alone. For example, even with COVID, we have to navigate different policies and different beliefs and so it's actually been very refreshing. It's very interesting how well we all work together despite different viewpoints. Everything is very collaborative.

From our standpoint, the commission is technically tasked with making recommendations to the City Council and City Manager and this group will continue to work together for another three years. It's very lucky that all of us bring very different motivations and expertise and I feel our interactions are very collaborative and productive despite different viewpoints. When we look towards the future, once the city emerges from the pandemic, I think that will be a reflection of the efforts that we make today. I can probably speak for the group when I say we are all very excited and motivated.

In my experience, medical committees and such, I think we're all pretty uniform in trying to make decisions that are simply discussions over whatever data has been generated. For example, with smoking, you have to not only deal with the health issues but also the impact on business, the impact on tourism, and so from my standpoint, it's been very refreshing to hear those things.

What do you hope to accomplish as chair?

Each year when we're assigned a chair we are given an area of focus and topics of interest. This year I've chosen my area of focus is on preparedness. Last year it was on resilience. Our focus this year will emphasize strategies and resources available in Beverly Hills to help us deal with problems big and small.

We're entering the third year of the pandemic and our city, as well as the rest of the world, are continuing to adapt and learn to live with COVID-19. This evolving situation continues its influence on our physical and mental well-

being. Our commission will continue to raise awareness on the city's ongoing efforts to help our community. The medical system is understandably under pressure and for most, we usually exhaust every possible alternative before seeking any type of emergency care. Through education and raising awareness, not only to residents but other health care providers, it's our hope that we can make whatever physical and mental challenges a little less scary and uncertain.

From my own personal interactions with city residents, many people are still

concerned about safety and security. So, we will continue to prioritize informing residents of the ongoing efforts of the fire and police departments. Our commission still recognizes the importance of health and safety issues prevalent before the pandemic, such as developing strategies to co-exist to deal with emerging programs and technologies, such as 5G. These were issues we had planned to look into and educate prior to the onset of the pandemic and it sort of took a back burner. I think these are things we will continue to try and focus on and inform the public on.



"Physicians are by nature problem solvers and each patient-physician interaction is a unique reflection of problem solving and collaboration that arises from a common desire for patient wellness"

—Kirk Chang, M.D.

Sheléa blends traditional pop, jazz, R&B, and soul, intended to bring a contemporary edge to classics, and a classic touch to contemporary pop standards. She has performed twice at the White



Sheléa

House; Library of Congress; Carnegie Hall; the Kennedy Center; and more. In 2020 she marked her acting debut as Dorinda Clark in The Clark Sisters: The First Ladies of



Marilyn and Alan Bergman

Gospel.

Tickets are \$29-\$79 and are on sale now.

To purchase tickets and for more information visit TheWallis.org/Shelea.

The Wallis to Present "Two Lost Souls"

Emmy Award-winning singer and actor Jane Lynch and Kate Flannery will be returning to the Wallis with their cabaret show, "Two Lost Souls," on Thursday, Jan. 20, at 7:30 p.m.

Jane Lynch, also a playwright and author, received an Emmy and Golden Globe for her portrayal of the iconic bully Sue Sylvester on "Glee." She can also be seen on Amazon Prime's "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel" with her Emmy Award-winning performance as Sophie Lennon. In 2015, Lynch embarked on her own live concert



Jane Lynch

tour. See Jane Sing with Kate Flannery, Tim Davis and The Tony Guerrero Quintet. Their holiday album, "A Swingin Little Christmas" hit Billboard's Top 10 Adult Contemporary chart.

Kate Flannery is best known for her nine seasons as Meredith the drunk on "The Office". Oth-

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Kate Flannery

er recent TV appearances include “New Girl,” “American Housewife,” “Another Period,” and “Brooklyn Nine Nine.”

Tickets are priced at \$39-\$125, and are on sale now.

To purchase

tickets and for more information visit TheWallis.org/souls.

Frieze Los Angeles Returns in 2022

Frieze Los Angeles will be returning in 2022, hosting over 100 participating galleries and a new public art section located at 9900 Wilshire Boulevard in Beverly Hills, adjacent to The Beverly Hilton hotel. The fair will run from Feb. 14 through Feb. 20.

The 2022 edition of the fair will also see the debut of Frieze Sculpture Beverly Hills, a public art initiative that has previously been realized in London and New York, featuring major works by artists that work on a monumental scale. Supported by Beverly Hills, Frieze Sculpture Beverly Hills will take place in Beverly Gardens Park as part of a program of events and public activities for Frieze Week in Beverly Hills.

“Looking forward to both of our American fairs, I am excited that they are in a position to represent the ecosystems of our galleries and, most importantly, showcase the creative community of the cities where we sit. In Los Angeles, this takes many forms, both within the framework of the tent, with significant participation from Los Angeles galleries, as well as outside

of the fair architecture. This intention extends to our inaugural Frieze Sculpture Beverly Hills presentation, which will remain on public view in Beverly Gardens Park for three months, and our continued collaborations with not-for-profits, local institutions and artists throughout Frieze Week,” Director of Frieze Los Angeles Christine Messineo said.

An expanded Frieze Week program of exhibitions and events across the city will begin on Monday, Feb. 14 and run throughout the fair. Frieze Week will encompass a broad spectrum of programming at galleries, museums, civic organizations, and other artist-driven spaces. Major institutional exhibitions taking place throughout the week include: ‘Selected Acquisitions of a Decade’ at The Broad; ‘LaTroya Ruby Frazier: The Last Cruze’ at California African American Museum; ‘Lifes’ and ‘Ulysses Jenkins: Without Your Interpretation’ at Hammer Museum; ‘Black American Portraits’ at LACMA; and ‘Pipilotti Rist: Big Heartedness, Be My Neighbor’ at MOCA.

For more information visit <https://www.frieze.com/>.

--Briefs Compiled by Danielle Berjikian

Horse Owned By Partnership Headed by BHHS Alumni Finishes Second in Santa Anita Stakes Race

Beer Can Man, owned by a partnership headed by Beverly High alumni Billy Koch and Gary Fenton, finished second in Saturday's \$250,000 Grade 2 Joe Hernandez Stakes at Santa Anita Park, beaten by a nose by Chewing Gum.

In his first race as a 4-year-old, Beer Can Man started from the rail and was second at the quarter-mile and half-mile marks of the 6 1/2-furlong race run out of the track's turf chute.

Beer Can Man took a slim lead into the

Theatre 40 Presents “Disrupting the Box”

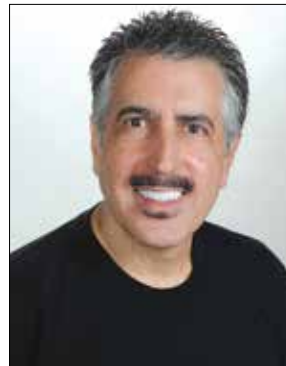
Theatre 40 will present a staged reading of a new play, “Disrupting the Box,” on Saturday, Jan. 8 at 2:00 p.m. The play is written and directed by Theatre 40 company member David Datz.

At a large non-profit organization, employees face moral decisions about how to react to the unethical new CEO.

The cast includes Alan Aymie, Jennifer Davis, Eric Keitel, Liridona Leti, David Hunt Stafford, Alana Webster, Jeffrey Winner, and Paul Zarou.

Admission is free. Reservations are not required. Covid-19 safety protocols will be observed, which means that audience members must wear masks and be vaccinated.

Theatre 40 is in the Reuben Cordova Theatre at Beverly High. Free parking is available in the parking lot beneath the theatre.



Paul Zarou



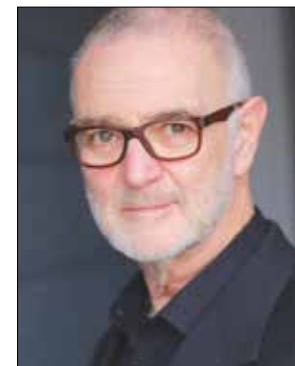
Jennifer Davis



Liridona Leti



Jeffrey Winner



David Datz

final furlong but was edged at the wire.

“We got a good trip and he ran really great down the lane,” said Flavien Prat, who rode Beer Can Man. “We just got unlucky at the end and just got beat.”

Beer Can Man was the even-money favorite in the seven-horse field and paid \$2.80 and \$2.20 for his ninth finish in the money in his 11 starts. The \$50,000 runner-up's share increased his career earnings to \$323,556.

Chewing Gum went off as the third choice at 5-1 and paid \$13.40, \$4.20 and \$3 for the first stakes win in his 23 starts.

Bran, who finished third, 1 1/2 lengths behind Beer Can Man, paid \$3.80.

The race is named for Santa Anita's race caller from 1934 until his death in 1972.

Beer Can Man is next scheduled to run Feb. 20 in the \$100,000 Grade 3 San Simon Stakes at Santa Anita.

--Steven Herbert

detention&arrestsummary

Beverly Hills Weekly received the information that appears below from the Beverly Hills Police Department. This information is released each week to the public. We assume no responsibility for errors or omissions in the Detention and Arrest Summary.

PATATAR, TOREA, 58, arrested on 12/19/21 for amount of defacement, damage or destruction is \$400 or more.

COTA, CORINA, YVETTE, 32, arrested on 12/20/21 for driving while license is suspended.

CAPRA, ELIZABETH, ANN, 34, arrested on 12/20/21 for battery against a person defendant had been dating, en-

gaged, married, or domestic relationship.

SUNBITTER, ASHID, 34, arrested on 12/21/21 for having an outside felony warrant.

HENTZE, DERICH, CHRISTIAN, 47,

arrested on 12/21/21 for having a BHD felony warrant.

LOPEZ, IVAN, 37, arrested on 12/21/21 for public intoxication.

ZAMBRANO, JULIO, IVAN, 21, arrested on 12/22/21 for having an outside felony warrant.

ENCINAS, CHRISTOPHER, MICHAEL, 19, arrested on 12/22/21 for

theft or driving of vehicle, driver unlicensed upon highway, resitting, delaying, or obstructing any public officer, peace officer, or emergency medical technician, hot/run, stopping at red signal or arrow,

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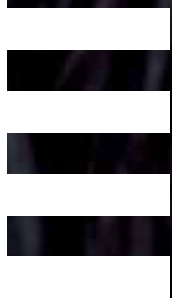
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