



IN FOCUS

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Coming Soon: A Community Park Fit for Top Dogs

Help build a dog park that will make our four-legged friends proud

Late this summer, our furry friends will have a place to run free in Beverly Hills. That's when the half-acre, off-leash Beverly Hills Community Dog Park—located at the corner of Alden Drive and Foothill Road—is slated to open. A festive groundbreaking was held on May 3 with pet-oriented vendors, food and hundreds of community members, both quadrupeds and bipeds, in attendance.

Initially, the park will be open to dog owners who live, work or are staying in Beverly Hills. The dogs will need a valid dog license and current rabies shot to obtain a permit from the City of Beverly Hills. Permits will be available online prior to the park opening.



Anakin Skywalker steals the show at the dog park groundbreaking



Amanda Foundation volunteers brought a few friends to the dog park groundbreaking

After years of studying different possible locations for a dog park, a suitable location was found on Foothill Road across from the Beverly Hills Small Animal Hospital and the Amanda Foundation, which rescues and finds homes for unwanted dogs and cats.

The dog park will be about 19,000 square feet, with separate areas for both small and large dogs. Construction

will begin immediately with soil remediation to ensure the park is safe for dogs and people. The surface will consist of decomposed granite which will require less water to maintain.

Dog lovers in the community have launched a grassroots fundraising effort to enhance the park with additional benches, trees, landscaping, art and agility features.

To donate, visit www.beverlyhills.org/dogpark.

Jump Starting Driverless Public Transportation

Public transportation in Beverly Hills has a more autonomous future. On April 5, at the request of the mayor, the City Council unanimously approved a resolution supporting the development of autonomous vehicles (A.V.s) as a mode of public transportation.

Under this initiative—developed with assistance from the City’s technology committee—the City will take a leading role in testing and deploying a fleet of driverless municipal shuttles. As envisioned, these shuttles would provide on-demand, point-to-point transportation within the City of Beverly Hills, with users requesting rides using their smart phones.

Over time, the City’s A.V. program is expected to reduce the number of private cars on the road, decrease demand for parking, increase mobility and solve the “first/last mile” challenge for future users of Metro’s Purple Line



extension through Beverly Hills. The extension, estimated to be in service by 2026, will have two stops in Beverly Hills, but no new public parking is currently planned.

Another high-tech initiative—the ongoing program to create a citywide network of fiber optic cables that will deliver high-speed connectivity to every resident and business in Beverly Hills—will enable communications with the driverless vehicles.

This groundbreaking program also calls for the City to develop partnerships

with A.V. manufacturers. A number of companies are predicting they will have A.V.s on the market in two to five years.

Early next year, Beverly Hills will host a public A.V. Summit at the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, featuring talks by experts in the field, demonstration rides and panel discussions. For more info, visit www.beverlyhills.org/av.

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Ways to Save - Detecting and Stopping a Leak

As we enjoy our spring weather, it looks like El Niño is a “no show” and drought conditions persist. As it stands now, the State Water Resources Board has extended emergency conservation rules until October 2016. Beverly Hills is still required to reduce consumption and water customers are still expected to reduce their water use by 30%.

If you have already adjusted your sprinklers to water more efficiently, changed your landscaping, and purchased water efficient appliances, there is one more easy and effective thing you can do: Keep an eye out for leaks.

Continuous flow of water from toilets, pipes, swimming pools, fountains, and water heaters are the most common types of water leaks, and once detected and stopped, can be the most

dramatic way to save. A running toilet can leak up to 100 gallons an hour.

An underground leak in a pipe (irrigation or indoor) can go undetected for months or even years, losing gallons every minute. It can add up quickly! Fortunately, the City now has tools to help customers quickly find and detect leaks. But we need the customers’ assistance:

- Sign up for the City’s Water Tracker program and check it regularly. This powerful tool will tell you when you have a “continuous flow” in your system, which is usually the sign of a leak. In addition, Water Tracker will tell you if you are meeting your water conservation goals and alert you if you are close to the maximum.
- If you find a leak, call a plumber or leak detection company immedi-



ately so they can locate and fix the problem.

- Contact the City’s Water Conservation Administrator, Debby Figoni, at dfigoni@beverlyhills.org or (310) 285-2492. She is a trained conservation expert, who can look at your overall water usage and recommend ways to save. Or call Public Works Customer Service at (310) 285-2467.

Basic Areas to Look for Leaks

Area	Potential Leak (gallons/hr)	How to Detect It
Toilet	Up to 100	Put a few drops of food coloring in the toilet tank and wait 15 minutes. If food color leaks to toilet bowl, you have a leak. To avoid staining the toilet, flush after test is complete.
Irrigation	Up to hundreds	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Check each head and riser for leaks. 2. Check the valve to see if it is leaking. 3. If there are no leaks here, turn off the valve that moves water to your irrigation system (not all homes have this) – Note that this has nothing to do with your irrigation controller. Underground irrigation leaks are more common in older, galvanized pipes.
Water Heater	Up to hundreds	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Check your heater water leaking into a nearby drain. (Note: This can also cause an increase to your gas bill.)
Pool, Jacuzzi or Pond	Up to hundreds	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Check float valve to see if it’s functioning properly. 2. Check auto fill to see if it’s running. Check the water feature for leaks.
Pipes	Up to hundreds	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If all other areas are leak free, check pipes to house, especially older, galvanized steel. 2. This often takes a leak detection company to detect leaks under asphalt or concrete.

How to Prevent Burglaries

These crimes usually occur during the day and early evening while residents are away

Did you know residential burglaries are up on the Westside of Los Angeles, including in Beverly Hills? Recent state action releasing thousands of convicts had an impact on property crimes in our area. Prevent burglaries in your neighborhood by taking the following actions:

Be mindful of your surroundings

- Observe your neighborhood, get to know your neighbors and their cars, and update your security and lighting—particularly if your home borders an alley or is near a major thoroughfare such as Sunset, Wilshire or Olympic boulevards.
- 
- Look at the cars parked on your street every time you leave your home. Is anyone sitting in a parked car or parked in a neighbor's driveway? Burglars often use rental cars, which can sometimes be identified by the license plate frame and/or bar code stickers in the windows, to "fit in" to a neighborhood. If you see an unfamiliar car, write down the license plate number and description.
 - If you see something, say something! If you see a crime in progress, call 911 immediately. Report suspicious individuals or activity by calling the



Beverly Hills Police Department's non-emergency number: (310) 550-4951.

- Be a good witness by recalling basic information. Police dispatchers will ask for a description including clothing and vehicle description.

Communicate with your family and neighbors

- Join or start a Neighborhood Watch group. Together you and your neighbors create the most effective crime prevention.
- Let neighbors know when you will be away, as well as who should be at the home and who should not. If your neighbor's alarm is activated, look out the window and be a good witness.
- Teach your children and household staff what to do and what not to do.
- Lock your windows and doors and turn on your alarm/security camera system every time you leave home—even if it's just a quick trip to the market. (False alarm fees will be evaluated case-by-case and may be dismissed. For more information, visit beverlyhills.org/falsealarms.)

Evaluate your home security from the perspective of a burglar

- Is your home easily accessible from your side yard or unlocked gates?
- How easy is it to get to the back yard or a window undetected?
- Do bushes and/or fences provide hiding places?
- Do you have signage warning people they are under surveillance (even if they are not)?
- Does your home have sufficient lighting? Sensor lights will activate when someone steps onto your property.
- Is your alarm system up to date and functioning properly? Camera systems are available that will immediately alert your smart phone and provide surveillance footage whenever someone is on your property. False alarm fees may be waived in some circumstances.



- Consider investing in a video doorbell that lets you see who is at the door from your cell phone.

Bottom line: It's better to be safe than sorry. If you think you should call the Police, do not hesitate to do so.

Want to start a Neighborhood Watch group or request a home security inspection?

Contact Sgt. Kurt Haefs at khaefs@beverlyhills.org or (310) 288-2668.

Bike Share Program Is Rolled Out

Beverly Hills Bike Share is on the downhill ride! In February, the City started a pilot program that gives riders the ability to pick up a bike in one part of Beverly Hills and drop it off in another part of the City or another Westside location. The complete program formally launched on May 10 with six docking stations.

The full system includes 50 “smart” bikes with onboard technology and approximately 100 bike docking racks. Riders can reserve bikes, purchase



rental plans, and find available bikes and docking stations via the smart phone app ‘*Social Bicycles*’ or the www.BeverlyHillsBikeShare.com website. The bright green bikes can be returned at a Beverly Hills Bike Share station for free, or at any compatible public bike rack for a small fee.

Bike Share Docking Stations:

- City Hall (N/E corner of North Crescent Drive at South Santa Monica Boulevard)
- Wells Fargo Bank adjacent (S/W corner of North Camden Drive and South Santa Monica Boulevard)
- Beverly Hills Courthouse (Civic Center Drive between Burton Way and Third Street)
- Chase Bank adjacent (N/W corner of Wilshire Boulevard and Beverly Drive)
- 280 South Beverly Drive (N/E corner of South Beverly Drive and Gregory Way)
- 331 North Maple Drive (N/W corner of Third Street and Maple Drive)

Payment Plans

Pay-As-You-Go: \$6 per hour; 10-cents per minute after the 60-minute period is exceeded

Monthly: \$25; includes 90 minutes daily ride time; 10-cents per minute after the daily 90-minute period is exceeded

Founding Member: \$99/year; includes 90 minutes daily ride time; 10-cents per minute after the daily 90-minute period is exceeded

The Beverly Hills program is compatible with the bike share system in the City of Santa Monica and future adjacent cities. Please contact Transportation Planning at (310) 285-1128 or transportation@beverlyhills.org for more information.

Santa Monica Boulevard Reconstruction Update

The North Santa Monica Boulevard Reconstruction project is scheduled to break ground late this summer. The project will completely rebuild the roadway between Doheny Drive and Wilshire Boulevard. The project design includes “green street” drainage, new decorative street lights, drought tolerant landscaping and widening a portion of the roadway on the south side between Canon Drive and Wilshire Boulevard.

Public meetings will be held prior to construction start and throughout the 18-month construction period

to inform residents and businesses about planned measures to ease traffic congestion, minimize cut-through traffic and enable access to the business triangle.

To preparation for the project, a City contractor will be performing exploratory work along N. Santa Monica Boulevard to verify and locate existing utilities under the roadway. Beginning Sat. May 14 and continuing for three weeks, one traffic lane will be closed intermittently to allow for this exploratory work. Lane closures will be limited to one lane in one direction (eastbound or westbound) at a time.



Lane closures between Wilshire Boulevard and Rexford Drive will occur Saturdays and Sundays, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Lane closures between Rexford and Doheny drives will occur Monday to Friday, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. and/or weekends from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

New Leaders Guide Beverly Hills Into the Future

Meet your new Assistant City Manager, Police Chief and Director of Community Services



Assistant City Manager George Chavez

In his 25-plus-year career with the City of Beverly Hills, Assistant City Manager George Chavez has served the City in a number of roles, including Director of Public Works Services—a role he will continue to hold until a replacement is chosen—and Assistant Director of Community Development/City Building Official.

Chavez takes over the position Mahdi Aluzri vacated last year when he was appointed City Manager. Under Chavez's leadership, the Public Works Services Department and Public Works Commission developed initiatives including exercising historic water rights, drilling shallow groundwater wells, rehabilitating the Cabrillo reservoir for non-potable water storage and distribution, and developing the Water Enterprise Plan.



Beverly Hills Police Chief Sandra Spagnoli

There's a new chief in town. Chief Sandra Spagnoli, formerly Chief of the San Leandro Police Department, arrived in Beverly Hills in March and was formally sworn in as Chief of the Beverly Hills Police Department at the City Council meeting on April 5.

A 33-year law enforcement veteran, Chief Spagnoli began her career as a police explorer at the San Carlos Police Department in 1983. She was hired there as a full-time police officer in 1990 and progressed through the ranks up to commander. She went on to serve as Chief of Police in Benicia for four years and Chief of Police in San Leandro for the past five years.



Director of Community Services Nancy Hunt-Coffey

When the top job in the Community Services Department opened up, a familiar face stepped into the role: Nancy Hunt-Coffey. For the past eight-plus years, Hunt-Coffey has overseen the Library, recreation services and fine arts as Assistant Director of Community Services.

Hunt-Coffey, a resident of Beverly Hills, ushered the Library into the 21st century as it adopted numerous technologies including eBooks and audio books that can be delivered wirelessly, self-checkout and returns that use radio frequency ID and robotics technology, and online classes and tutoring. Under Hunt-Coffey's leadership, two major projects—the Roxbury Community Center and the new Children's Library—were completed ahead of schedule and under budget.

CyberTech Conference Comes to The Wallis

Special events highlight formal partnership between the City of Beverly Hills and the State of Israel

It's time to talk cyber security. On June 30, top minds in the cyber security and technology industries will gather for CyberTech Beverly Hills at the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts. Sponsored by the City of Beverly Hills and the Consulate General of Israel, the free conference will feature keynote speakers, a product exhibition and networking opportunities.

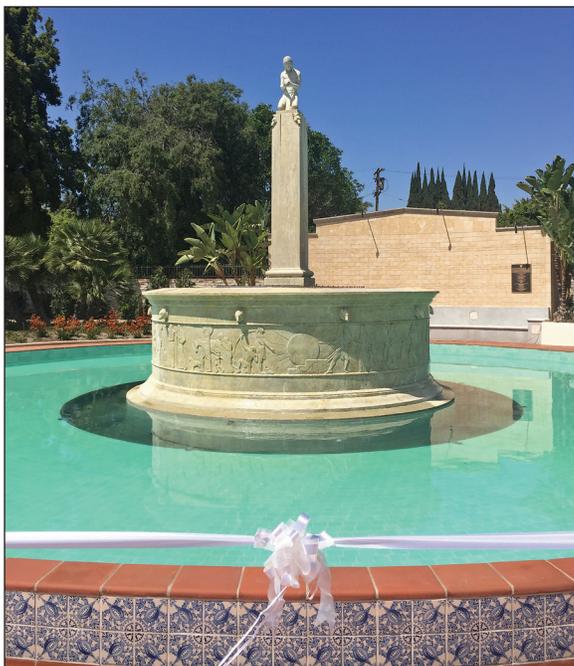
Launched in Tel Aviv in 2014, CyberTech brings together government and industry leaders from around the world to discuss cyber security and threat solutions and try out innovative technologies. Last year, the conference was presented in Toronto and Singapore. Beverly Hills is CyberTech's first U.S. destination.

CyberTech Beverly Hills is a product of the formal partnership between the City of Beverly Hills and the State of Israel that promotes cooperation, understanding and friendship through joint task forces, trade delegations and professional exchanges. In March, leaders from Beverly Hills, the state of California and Israel exchanged ideas related to water conservation and management at the California-Israel Water Summit in Beverly Hills.

For more info, visit la.cybertechconference.com.



Electric Fountain Restored to Its Former Splendor



The City of Beverly Hills and the Friends of Beverly Gardens Park (FOBGP) unveiled the restoration of the Electric Fountain at a Ribbon Cutting and Dedication ceremony at Beverly Gardens Park on April 5, 2016. The Electric Fountain features a water show with jets timed to colored lights. The City of Beverly Hills maintains its dedication to water conservation and uses recirculated water to fill and operate the fountain.

Erected in 1931, the fountain was designed by architect Ralph Carlin Flewelling. The sculpture of a Tongva Native American tribal member kneeling in prayer on top of the fountain was designed by Robert Merrell Gage. The fountain was a gift to the City of Beverly Hills from the mother of silent-screen star Harold Lloyd and the original installation was funded by the Women's Club of Beverly Hills.

The FOBGP continues to raise funds for the ongoing restoration of Beverly Gardens Park. Go to www.fobgp.org for more information.

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Calendar

MAY

Beverly Hills Art Show – Beverly Gardens Park

Saturday & Sunday, May 21 & 22
10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

- Music in the Mansion –
Library Auditorium

- Sunday, May 22
- 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

- Alfred Hitchcock's "Rebecca" –
Library Auditorium (special movie)

- Thursday, May 26
- 10:15 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.

JUNE

Concerts on Cañon – Beverly Cañon Gardens

Thursday, June 2 – Sing Along;
Thursdays, June 9, 16, 23, 30
6:00 p.m. and 7:15 p.m.

Pie Bake a'la Beverly Hills – Farmers' Market

Sunday, June 12
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

- Father's Day Concours on
Rodeo – Rodeo Drive

- Sunday, June 19
- 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

- Woofstock – Roxbury Park

- Sunday, June 26
- 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

- CyberTech Summit – The Wallis

- Thursday, June 30

- Water Wise Landscaping
Workshops

- Efficient Irrigation & Water Tracking

- Wednesday, June 22
- 6:30 p.m. – 8:45 p.m.
- Saturday, June 25
- 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

- Both classes held at City of Beverly Hills' Public
Works Building, 345 Foothill Blvd. Validated
parking is available on Third St. between
Foothill Road & Civic Center Drive.

For a complete listing of City events, go to www.beverlyhills.org/calendar