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THE WEATHER, BEVERLY HILLS CA

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|--------------|-----------|
| ☀️ Friday | 70° 58° |
| ☀️ Saturday | 69° 58° |
| ☀️ Sunday | 70° 58° |
| ☀️ Monday | 70° 58° |
| ☀️ Tuesday | 73° 60° |
| ☀️ Wednesday | 76° 60° |
| ☀️ Thursday | 75° 61° |

BHPD Officers Receive Doctorates, Reshape Future of Law Enforcement



BHPD Captain Giovanni Trejo (left) and Lieutenant Jesse Perez have recently earned doctorates.

BY AMANDA COSCARELLI

Two Beverly Hills Police Department (BHPD) officers have received doctorate degrees in Organizational Leadership from the University of LaVerne. The completion of the Ph.D. program will aid Lieutenant Jesse Perez and Captain Giovanni Trejo in their roles as leaders of the department as well as the entire community. It also inspired each

of them to shape the future of policing in their own way.

Perez and Trejo both worked as full-time officers while completing the degree requirements, including writing in-depth dissertation papers to sum up their research in the program. Both of them also have families at home. Receiving these degrees represents dedication to their team and to

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Alleged UCLA Attacker From Beverly Hills Released on Bail

BY CLARA HARTER

An 18-year-old Beverly Hills resident was released on bail after being arrested for allegedly participating in the violent attack on pro-Palestine protesters at UCLA. Edan On was arrested in Beverly Hills by the University of California Police Department on May 23 and was booked for suspicion of felony assault with a deadly weapon. He was transported to Men's Central Jail in Downtown Los Angeles where he was released on a \$30,000 bail on May 24, according to the LASD Inmate Information Center.

CNN first reported On's role in the attack and noted that he is a senior at Beverly Hills High School, which the Courier has independently confirmed.

The Beverly Hills Unified School District, citing its legal obligations under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, has refrained from confirming that On was enrolled in the district or specifically commenting about his actions. This has led to criticism from the Council on American Islamic Relations in Los Angeles (CAIR-LA), which expressed concerns in a public statement and email to BHUSD leadership.

"BHUSD's silence about Edan On's violent and well-documented attacks is See ARREST, page 16

Donated Ambulance a Source of Hope for Israelis

BY JOEY WALDINGER

Last October, Beverly Hills residents Barak Raviv and his wife, Indre, had just finished saying the Kiddush prayer for Sukkot when they began receiving alerts that Israel was under attack.

Even before the extent of Hamas' assault became clear the following day, on Oct. 7, Barak and Indre knew they had to help, and they made "an instantaneous decision" to raise funds to buy an ambulance for Magen David Adom, Israel's emergency medical services system, Barak said.

During a May 23 ceremony at Community Shul on West Pico Boulevard, the Raviv family celebrated the fruits of their labor, posing in front of the new ambulance and thanking their supporters and donors for helping keep Israelis safe.



The Raviv family at the ambulance dedication ceremony

"When we thought about doing an ambulance, we could not have imagined the outpouring of support that would come from the community," Barak told the Courier. See AMBULANCE, page 13

Recreation and Parks Commission Plans Special July Events

BY AMANDA COSCARELLI

The Beverly Hills Recreation and Parks Commission has announced a list of outdoor events in July that highlight the city's parks and green spaces. This year's theme, "Where You Belong," seeks to celebrate the many ways parks and recreation programs bring together people of all ages and abilities.

Since 1985, July has been recognized as National Parks and Recreation Month. See RECREATION AND PARKS, page 13

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the simulation center, where nurses learn how to respond to critical but rare medical emergencies, like cardiac arrest. But what cinched the award for Dimayuga was his experience working with a patient suffering from a rare blood disorder, who personally thanked Dimayuga for his care.

"I think just advocating for him and giving him that platform to speak and communicate with the medical team so that they could understand where he was coming from is kind of what led for him to say really nice things," Dimayuga said.

BHPD OFFICERS, from page 1

the field through persistence and sacrifice.

Trejo started his academic journey in 2020, after he was inspired by a tense relationship between the public and law enforcement to reshape the way they connect with one another. He remembers watching police officers around the country fail to diligently practice law enforcement procedures. He explained what he saw around the country as "less traditional police procedures," such as an increasing number of traffic stops for minor offenses such as broken taillights. He recalls a specific incident in Memphis, Tennessee, where five officers stopped a Black man, Tyre Nichols, for reckless driving. The incident resulted in Nichols being pulled from his vehicle and then beaten until he was in a coma and later died. This, among many other violent incidents between police and the public that year prompted Trejo to pursue what he calls a "meaningful systemic change" through higher education.

His dissertation entitled "Organizational Change in Law Enforcement: Exploring the Use of Change Management Practices of Police Executives Adopting Less Traditional Patrol Procedures" discusses ways in which some police chiefs have rebuilt trust within their communities by going against state laws to not stop vehicles with low-level traffic violations. "My study actually included just police chiefs because they're the ones that head the organizations and they're the ones that promote and can create the change at the top," Trejo told the Courier.

By addressing issues that have taken place throughout the country, he hopes to inspire other officers on the BHPD team. One of the most important aspects he wants to bring to Beverly Hills is an increase in dialogue between the community and law enforcement. "I think it's necessary to build those relationships and bridges between us, the police, and the community to make sure that we engage in constructive and positive conversations," the captain said.

As he worked overtime to complete his degree requirements, his family was right alongside him. One of his sons was just beginning his college journey, and his other son was pursuing his master's degree. Trejo overcame mental hurdles at home, at work and in his personal life. "[The program] placed a lot of demands on time and occupied a lot of my mental space to say it that way, where most of my thoughts, most of my time was dedicated to my program," he told the Courier. His dedication to making an impact in his field and the support of his community ultimately pushed him through.

Dimayuga's nursing career has been full of similarly rewarding experiences, and with programs like the "Off the Chart" campaign, he hopes more nurses will receive the support they need to shine.

"Through 'Off the Chart' Nursing, I think [the Mann Simms Foundation] is shining a light on the solution to the nursing care crisis by showing and giving these nurses this unrestricted gift of appreciation for their knowledge and expertise," Dimayuga said. "And I think it's a great way for them to also inspire other philanthropic communities to invest in nursing and nursing care." ●

Perez was also a huge support for Trejo as he embarked on his own academic journey. The BHPD officer entered the program as a Patrol Lieutenant-Watch Commander and SWAT/CNT Commander with 21 years of experience in the field. Throughout his doctorate program, he combined his research with knowledge that couldn't be gained in the classroom. His research paper titled "Law Enforcement and Advanced Drone Technology: A Comprehensive Inside Look at the Use and Implementation of Law Enforcement Drone Technology and Its Effect on Officer Safety, Police Culture, and Public Perception" discusses the potential of drone technology, and he plans to use this information to further the potential of police drones in Beverly Hills. "I've always been fascinated by the interwoven relationship of technology and law enforcement," he told the Courier. "And in this day and age in 21st-century policing, one of the pillars is to introduce technology into our profession in a transparent and equitable way, but in partnership with the community."

Perez also wants to increase transparency with the public about drone usage, especially after the May 7 City Council meeting, where he discussed the potential to differentiate police drones from those that are illegal. "Part of our partnership with the community is a 'no call too small' mentality," he told the Courier. His hope is for residents to feel comfortable communicating with the police department about potential concerns on a regular basis. Members of the community can report drones at any time by calling 310-550-4951.

Though he's excited that BHPD is at the forefront of police drone technology, Perez made it clear that there's no replacement for the officers on the ground. "The brave men and women who wear the Beverly Hills patch and badge—every day they go out to protect the community," he said. "[Drones] keep us safe; it keeps the community safe. However, it is those individuals who risk their lives every day to hold the line and keep the community safe."

Chief of Police Mark Stainbrook congratulated both of the officers on their academic achievements in a written statement on May 28, which said, "The department looks forward to the continued impact of their contributions on law enforcement practices and the broader community." ●

AMBULANCE, from page 1

"And I think we all know that the ambulance that's standing outside is really going to be the margin between life and death for the people of Israel today."

The ceremony, which included a musical performance and videos highlighting the work of Magen David Adom, drew both laughter and tears from the crowd of over 150.

Janet Morgan, Director of Philanthropy for American Friends of Magen David Adom, said that supporters like Raviv are the lifeblood of the organization, which plays a critical role in Israeli security. The nonprofit operates Israel's largest blood bank, flies medivac helicopters and delivers babies, services that are especially important during times of crisis, she said.

On Oct. 7, Magen David Adom "immediately activated all ambulances, mobilized all employees and volunteers," Morgan said. "They received over 21,000 calls that day."

Beverly Hills California Synagogue Rabbi Pini Dunner said at the event that support from abroad has been a source of hope for active-duty soldiers like his son, who recently lost five friends during an operation in the Palestinian city of Jabalia.

For Don Klein, one of the biggest donors to Raviv's campaign, the ambulance, which is dedicated to his parents, has personal significance beyond the lives it will help save.

RECREATION AND PARKS, from page 1

The city held a handful of successful events to celebrate the movement in 2023. At the commission's May 28 meeting, Recreation Services Manager Michael Muse proposed a list of this year's upcoming festivities.

One of the most popular events last July was the senior excursion trip to the Greystone Mansion, where attendees enjoyed a private showing of a movie that was filmed on the premises followed by a tour of the property that took them to the specific filming locations. The commission plans to bring this back with a list of other activities that are appropriate for senior residents, including outdoor family movie night, family bingo afternoon and a much anticipated "yappy hour" for dog owners.

"The goal is to make sure that we provide programming inclusive of all age groups, so that everyone has a desire and a drive and a want to come to our beautiful parks," said Muse.

Activities for younger age groups include the family fun derby race, where kids in middle school and below are eligible to race, sports day, a virtual 5k and the finale event at the Beverly Hills Farmers' Market.

With an increase in outdoor activity in summer months, the commission also discussed resurfacing options for the dog park. Following January's dog park survey, which gathered information on different dog parks around Los Angeles County, Joana Torres, community services manager, approached the commission with two options for the safest and most durable long-term solutions for upgraded ground covering. She first proposed Wool Fiber alternative wood fiber, which was a cheaper option, estimated to cost nearly \$27,000. The second option, K9Grass artificial turf, is the safest material for dogs because it's made without any

"My love of Israel was really imbued by the love that my mother and father have for Israel," Klein said. "And I can just tell you that rather than see my father's name ... and my mother's name on a tombstone, how much better it is for me to feel that we've done something worthy here, something more pragmatic, that would actually maybe save some lives."

Barak Raviv said philanthropy is a trait that runs in his family, and his family was at the heart of his campaign. Raising the money would not have been possible without Indre's support and his children's love to keep them going, and he dedicated the ambulance to his grandmother—Sara Mostysser—who has both supported and benefited from Magen David Adom's mission.

Years ago, after falling and breaking her hip, Mostysser was transported to the hospital in a Magen David Adom ambulance that she had donated and was bearing her name.

"I'm very happy to have her name today on one more lifesaving vehicle," Raviv said. ●

"forever chemicals" that are known to have negative health effects over time. But this came at a much higher price point between \$288,000 and \$432,000.

"As a dog owner, [artificial turf] would be my first choice," said Commissioner Tara Riceberg, who was hesitant to move forward with the cost. The commission has not yet made a decision due to a low attendance rate at the dog park, and questioned whether or not a costly upgrade would prompt enough residents to use the facility.

As members of the community look forward to upcoming events, the city has launched a new customer relations service called askBH, which can be reached Monday through Friday by email at askbh@beverlyhills.org, by text at 310-596-4265 or by phone call at 310-285-1000.

"Our goal is to provide an easy and reliable way to access city information and services through one point of contact," said Amy Hahn, customer service manager. At the meeting, she urged residents to report potholes, fallen trees or any other concerns to askBH, and she likened it to a 311 service for information on upcoming events. "We understand that city government can be complex," she said. "When you do have to contact the city, you shouldn't have to do that alone." ●