

bel-air

Hotel Bel-Air gets an Upgrade

The Hotel Bel-Air announced that it would place Bartech minibars in each of its 91 rooms and 32 suites. "The Hotel Bel-Air is defined by its unique elegance and impeccable service, from our accommodations and lush gardens, to our fine dining - and that includes our minibars. Bartech offered the design and product display that best fit our guest needs, as well as the most quiet, unobtrusive unit," said Carlos Lopes, Managing Director of the Hotel Bel-Air.

Acclaimed Bel Air Chef Calls it Quits

Executive Chef Peter Roelant is leaving the Four Oaks restaurant in Bel Air where he has worked for 16 years. The Belgium-born chef is currently looking at restaurant spaces in Los Angeles to cook his own brand of Modern American Bistro food. "After all my years training and working as a French Chef, I am looking forward to the opportunity to present my individual cuisine which is inspired by global flavors... and influences which I believe now represents the palate of local and national diners as well," said Roelant.

beverly hills

Beverly Hills Post Office to be Transformed

Les Bider, Eunice David, MeraLee Goldman and Lauren B. Leichtman have joined the Board of Directors of the Wallis Annenberg Cultural Center, it was announced by Board Chairman Bram Goldsmith. The Wallis Annenberg Cultural Center is currently in the midst of a \$30 million capital campaign to transform the historic Beverly Hills Post

Office on Santa Monica Boulevard into a theatrical and performing arts venue. "We are, indeed, fortunate to have these four outstanding individuals joining our Board," said Goldsmith. "Each one, in addition to having impeccable credentials as a long-time community leader, is truly passionate about the arts and excited to be a part of such a vital and exciting new edition to our city."

brentwood

VA Hospital Staffing up ER

More physicians are being hired for the emergency room at the Veterans Affairs hospital in West Los Angeles. The move comes after a task force, appointed by the hospital's chief of medicine, determined that "the increased workload, increased complexity of illnesses and substandard ratio of attending physicians to trainees" was placing patients at risk. Currently, fill-in doctors are being utilized while VA administrators consider a contract with a group of certified emergency room physicians. The estimated costs of the task force's proposals would cost more than \$1 million.

hollywood hills

Paris Hilton Controversy in West Hollywood

Organizers of the 35th Annual Los Angeles gay pride festival were deluged with phone calls following the announcement that Paris Hilton and her mother Kathy would serve as Grand Marshals. The protests stemmed partly from Hilton's trademark "Ewwwww" during an episode of her Fox series "The Simple Life"

in which she appeared to be repulsed by the idea of two men kissing. Dan Berkowitz, member of the West Hollywood Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board, told the LA Independent, "I just don't know what anybody was thinking of. My jaw dropped when I heard (the announcement)."

Lindsay Lohan vs. Paparazzi near the Beverly Center

Photographer Galo Cesar Ramirez, 24, was arrested and jailed at the LAPD's Wilshire division after allegedly chasing teen actress Lindsay Lohan and driving a minivan into her Mercedes coupe near the Beverly Center. Ramirez was held on suspicion of assault with a deadly weapon, booked on an outstanding narcotics warrant as well as a deadly weapons charge. Minutes before the incident, Lohan called police and told them she was "being harassed by paparazzi."

pacific palisades

Palisades Tap Exorcist Star for Parade

Linda Blair, star of the classic 1973 horror film "The Exorcist," will be appearing as the Grand Marshal in the July 4th parade in Pacific Palisades and will also have a booth at the celebration. For the past two years, Blair has spearheaded a grassroots public charitable organization, the Linda Blair Worldheart Foundation, which educates the public and helps rescue, feed, and provide medical care for dogs and cats. Arnie Wishnick, executive director of the Palisades Chamber of Commerce, told the Palisadian-Post, "Linda sounded like a wonderful person. She loves animals, especially dogs, so I thought she would be perfect."

Palisades Gas

A gas station Pacific Palisades granted historical monument status by the Council. The applied as a bidding three-pump station homeowners ended bid came from Ch paid 2.1 million for press time, Hoffma ent or future plan which sits at 507

santa monica

Santa Monica Murals Back

\$113,241 was awarded of Santa Monica Cultural and Historical (CCHE). The funding for the installation Macdonald-Wright Santa Monica Mural. The murals were paid ald-Wright, but for sat in the Smithsonian. Funding for the installation from Proposition 40 grants for acquisition of artifacts, but

Santa Monica Killed in Iraq

Ricardo "Rick" A eran officer of the Police Department years, was struck rocket-propelled battle in Al-Anba was serving a second a U.S. Marine. He Santa Monica Police since 1995, and years worked with ties League before January 2004. In a Monica Police Chief said, "The City of lost a great guardian