



Photographs by GENARO MOLINA Los Angeles Times

BOLINAS resident Enzo Resta peers inside the community's shut post office. "We really, really want to have this back," he says.

Film, TV jobs picture remains bleak

L.A.'s entertainment economy is buffeted by streaming services, technology, global rivals, changing tastes.

BY DON LEE AND SAMANTHA MASUNAGA

The iron fist of history seems finally to be coming for Tinseltown.

Beyond the financial blows inflicted by the pandemic and the actors' and writers' strikes, the vast Los Angeles-based entertainment industry known as Hollywood is facing the far greater forces of economic disruption that have already struck the rest of the United States.

Much like manufacturing, agriculture and other major segments of the U.S. economy before it, the result for Hollywood appears to be mixed: a possible return to prosperity and good times for some, ever tighter times for others.

"There is something of an existential question mark over large swaths of the traditional Hollywood economy," said Stuart Ford, chairman and chief executive of Los Angeles-based AGC Studios, which develops, produces, finances and licenses films and television series.

The decades-long way of making money in the film and TV industry has been turned upside down by new technologies, changing public appetites and the globalization of the workforce.

"The key thing here is that you have so many of these things happening at once that it's really hard for anybody to feel confident," said Kevin Klowden, an economics expert at the Milken Institute who has done extensive research on California's entertainment industry.

"There's a very, very real question right now on the business side that's playing out, because nobody's quite sure of the economics."

[See Hollywood, A6]

Town of Bolinas taps creativity in fight to recover post office

On the outskirts of this coastal village — just past the road sign telling visitors they are "Entering a Socially Acknowledged Nature-Loving Town" — a big wooden placard displays a set of hand-painted numbers. They are changed each morning.

"Days Without a Bolinas Post Office," the sign reads.

On June 1, that number hit 456.

That's how long it has been since the U.S. Postal Service was booted from its office in downtown Bolinas amid a fight with its longtime landlord.

In this artsy little town in west Marin County — a haven for poets and painters, writers and actors — the loss hit hard. The 1,500 citizens of ZIP Code 94924 have fought to get their post office back with their most cherished tool: creativity.

They have picketed with placards reading, "Real Mail Not Email!" They have marched in local parades dressed as letter carriers. They have composed songs and written poems and sent thousands of letters, in hand-painted envelopes, to USPS officials.

Marin County coastal community uses collective talents of artistic residents to save its nerve center

By Hailey Branson-Potts
REPORTING FROM BOLINAS, CALIF.



NEITHER snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night appear to be curbing the resourcefulness of the post office campaign.

They even drafted their own plan for a temporary post office, offered to fund it and sent it to Congress.

"It's a very Bolinas approach, breaking through bureaucracy through art and culture and pleas," said John Borg, who is helping lead the citizens campaign. "This has taken way longer than it should."

The approach is quirky, but the loss is serious.

Most people in this aging rural community abutting the Point Reyes National Seashore do not get home delivery. They relied upon daily trips to the post office for parcels, pension checks and mail-order prescriptions, not to mention the chance to catch up on the small-town scuttlebutt.

Now, they must drive at least 40 minutes round-trip, through the forest on Highway 1, to a flood-prone post office at a campground in the even smaller town of Olema.

Enzo Resta, a longtime resident and founder of the new Bolinas Film Festival, compared reaction to the loss of the post office with the cycles of de-

[See Bolinas, A7]

Quakes highlight area's fault systems

The half-dozen seen in last two weeks are reminder of region's vulnerabilities.

BY RONG-GONG LIN II AND JULIUS MILLER

Southern California was recently rattled by several small earthquakes. They produced minor shaking but nonetheless left psychological aftershocks in a region whose seismic vulnerabilities are matched by our willingness to put the dangers out of our minds.

For many, it all added to one question: Is this the beginning of something bigger?

First, a magnitude 3.6 earthquake in the Ojai Valley sent weak shaking from Santa Barbara to Los Angeles on May 31. Then came two small quakes under the east-

ern L.A. neighborhood of El Sereno, the most powerful at 3.4. Finally, a trio of tremors hit the Costa Mesa-Newport Beach border, topping out at a magnitude 3.6 Thursday.

Having half a dozen earthquakes with a magnitude over 2.5 in a week, hitting three distinct parts of Southern California, all in highly populated areas, is not a common occurrence.

But experts say these smaller quakes have no predictive power over the next major, destructive earthquake in urban Southern California, the last of which came 30 years ago.

Generally speaking, there is a 1-in-20 chance any earthquake in California will be followed by one that's larger, said Susan Hough, a seismologist with the U.S. Geological Survey. Those odds aren't high, and typically, the subsequent, larger quake would occur in the

[See Quakes, A6]

Trump cashes in after conviction

In his first fundraising swing since the verdict, former president raises millions in Newport Beach and Beverly Hills. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

Blind athlete's guide dog dies

Quebec, a yellow Labrador, had been former USC long snapper Jake Olson's companion for 13 years. **SPORTS, D3**

Backstage pass to rock history

An inside look at the Sotheby's of classic rock, Analogr in Glendale. **CALENDAR, E1**

Weather
Turning sunny.
L.A. Basin: 76/58. **B5**

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She's Hunter Biden's rock — and perhaps his secret weapon

BY MATT HAMILTON



MELISSA COHEN BIDEN and Hunter Biden walk out of federal court Friday in Wilmington, Del.

To prove to jurors that Hunter Biden was an addict who lied about his drug use to buy a gun, federal prosecutors have turned to the women closest to him.

His ex-wife recalled finding a crack pipe on the porch a day after their anniversary. A former stripper turned girlfriend told the jury about their monthlong stay in a Chateau Marmont bungalow, where dealers squired cocaine through a private entrance.

Then there was Hallie Biden, who had been married to his brother Beau. In a stormy entanglement brought on by grief over Beau's death, she briefly became Hunter's lover.

"I called you 500 times in the past 24 hours," she texted Hunter two days after he bought the gun. Hunter

[See Trial, A7]



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