

THE MALL

"**Santa Monica Place** was once just your standard, run-of-the-mill, dreary mall. Now they've redone the entire thing. It's beautiful and very high-end. Look at the list of stores: a Barney's CO-OP, 7 for All Mankind, Tiffany & Co., Bernini, Burberry, Ed Hardy. They've got a great dining deck on the top floor with a bunch of upscale restaurants. It's funny when people ask, 'Where can I eat with an ocean view?' and you're like, 'Well, have you ever heard of the Santa Monica Place mall?'"

→ **JAMES LITTLE**, HEAD CONCIERGE, THE PENINSULA BEVERLY HILLS HOTEL
395 Santa Monica Pl., Santa Monica; 310-260-8300.

THE GYM

"Upstairs from my gym is a place called **Pink Iron**, which is a women's personal training gym where almost everything is pink (the couch near the entrance to the workout room is white). The weights are pink and have hearts on them. It looks like Barbie's Dream Gym! I've never worked



Pink Iron.



out there—obviously—but how fun is that?"

→ **BARRY JAY**, FOUNDER, BARRY'S BOOTCAMP FITNESS CENTERS
1106 N. La Cienega Blvd., West Hollywood; 310-360-7465.

THE GAME

"This year, the **Lakers bench** imported Matt Barnes, who is a UCLA grad, and Steve Blake. Suddenly, they went from having one of the weakest benches in the league to having one of the strongest. And Shannon Brown spent the entire summer in a gym doing nothing but shooting jump shots. He's always been able to slam-dunk, but this year he also became a great outside shooter. So he's like a new player too. Together, they're called the Killer B's, because they're Barnes, Blake, and Brown. I believe Phil Jackson tried to make people call them the Renegades, but it didn't stick."

→ **MIKEL JOLLETT**, FRONTMAN, THE AIRBORNE TOXIC EVENT, AN L.A. ROCK BAND

Staples Center, Downtown; 310-426-6031.

THE FUNICULAR

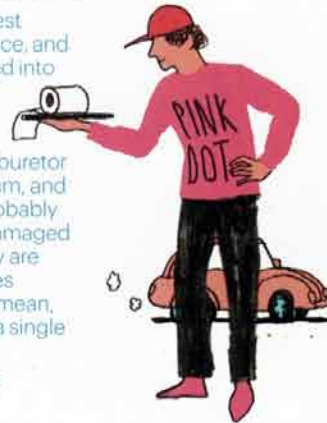
"**Angels Flight** is a downtown funicular railway that was originally



THE CONVENIENCE STORE

"I really love the **Pink Dot** convenience store in West Hollywood. Not that I go in a lot. I only entered once, and it was so scarily overlit that I thought I had stepped into the emergency room of a hospital. I like to think about this store whenever I'm going to L.A. Here are the real citizens of mythical Hollywood—quasi-legally parked and one stop away from carburetor trouble; frantic for last-minute rubbers, breath gum, and toilet paper; and desperate for a glamour that probably will never come. Yet the seemingly normal but damaged and proud customers have not given up. No, they are still trying to make it in the business, and one takes strength from their bravery. What a great store! I mean, come on, Pink Dot will even deliver to your hotel a single pack of cigarettes! That's amazing."

→ **JOHN WATERS**, FILMMAKER, AUTHOR, AND STAR OF THE ONE-MAN SHOW THIS FILTHY WORLD GOES HOLLYWOOD
8495 Sunset Blvd., West Hollywood; 323-656-6060.



THE SOUP

"This Korean restaurant **Hong Kong Ban Jum** sells three things: spicy Chinese noodle soup, sweet-and-sour beef, and cellophane noodles. But I haven't even gotten to number two and three yet. The spicy noodle soup is what I've been looking for my whole life: cheap, delicious, soulful, busy, ghetto, loved, church! This is technically called *jjambong*, and it is made 10,000 different ways from sunshine, with each way always claiming to be the best—like fried chicken. But I search for food that is an extension of the person who cooks it. It's \$5.99; it's in a crazy cool market that's bustling with people from L.A.—and the guy be-



Trails Cafe.



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modern but has a warm feel to it. You can only imagine how many people in the Valley are thrilled to be able to hop in their car and drive over there without having to fight that traffic all the way in and all the way back out."

→ **DOC SEVERINSEN**, JAZZ MUSICIAN AND FORMER TONIGHT SHOW BAND LEADER

18111 Nordhoff St., Northridge; 818-677-3000.

THE CAFE

"My favorite new discovery in L.A. is the **Trails Cafe**, this great coffee shop up in Griffith Park which I found when I was driving into the park to go for a run. They have really good coffee and delicious quiches and scones, but my favorite is the lavender shortbread cookies."

→ **PETER KRAUSE**, ACTOR, PARENTHOOD

2333 Fern Dell Dr., Griffith Park; 323-871-2102; bakery items, \$2-\$7.

