OCTOBER 19, 2020 LOS ANGELES BUSINESS JOURNAL 3



LABJ INSIDER

SCOTT ROBSON, EDITOR

The Final Frontier

For everybody who's ever thought, "I wonder what **SpaceX** is really like?" you may soon have at least a partial answer.

HBO is planning a six-episode series about **Elon Musk**'s frequently fascinating



Musk

and often enigmatic Hawthorne-based company.

The show, which is being created by Channing Tatum's Free Association production company, will reportedly recount the early days of SpaceX. And the series carries a pretty good

outer space entertainment pedigree, what with "Star Trek Beyond" writer **Doug Jung** serving as executive producer and writer.

There's certainly no shortage of material to work with around SpaceX. And given HBO's lengthy history of award-winning shows, it should make for compelling viewing.

No word yet on whether Musk, who ranked No. 1 on the Business Journal's most recent list of the Wealthiest Angelenos with a net worth of \$75 billion, will be involved in the series.

Speaking of interesting and forwardthinking companies, **Fisker Inc.** is setting up its global headquarters in Manhattan Beach.

It's one of several recent big moves by the electric vehicle maker, which was previously based in Torrance.

The company also announced last week that it had reached agreement with Canadian automotive supplier **Magna International Inc.** to develop the framework for Fisker's EV manufacturing platform.

Fisker also expects to go public soon through a special purpose acquisition company, or SPAC. And it's on track to start production on its first vehicle, the electric Fisker Ocean, in

The **Eisner Foundation**, which was founded by former **Walt Disney Co.** Chief Executive **Michael Eisner** and his wife, **Jane**, recently named a winner for the 2020 Eisner Prize.

The foundation selected **ARECMA**, a community association that provides facilities and services for a remote area of Puerto Rico for the honor

ARECMA will receive a \$150,000 gift from the foundation, which awards more than \$7 million worth of grants each year.





Sprouting Up: The Wilshire Courtyard will get two new high-rises, tripling its space to more than 3 million square feet.

Tall Order for Wilshire Courtyard

REAL ESTATE: Iconic office complex is expected to get a high-rise makeover

By HANNAH MADANS Staff Reporter

The Wilshire Courtyard, an iconic 1 million-square-foot Miracle Mile office complex, could be getting a new look.

Plans were filed with the city of Los Angeles this summer to add high-rise buildings to the property, which was acquired last year by Canada-based **Onni Group of Cos.** for \$630 million from **Tishman Spever**.

The project is being designed by architecture firm Solomon Cordwell Buenz.

The revamped complex will have 3.1 million square feet of space and will contain two new high-rise buildings: a 35-story tower and a 41-story tower, with the two to be linked by bridges.

Wilshire Courtyard's two existing buildings will be partially demolished and renovated.

In addition to office space, there will be street-level retail and

more than 2,000 additional parking spaces across eight levels. The top three levels of the parking area will be designed for potential conversion to office space.

Metro's Purple Line extension will have a stop near the building, which may reduce the number of necessary parking spots.

The offices will have 35,000-square-foot floorplates.

The new Wilshire Courtyard will also have terraces, creating more than 60,000 square feet of private outdoor space for tenants.

There will also be a shared tenant amenity floor which will have a large outdoor terrace.

In addition to more than 115,000 square feet of retail, the ground level will have a public park and plaza with outdoor seating.

The retail space will include a grocery store, according to SCB.

The asking rent for Class A office space in Miracle Mile during the third quarter was \$4.26 a square foot, the most of any area in the Wilshire Corridor, according to data from **Jones Lang LaSalle Inc.**

Covid Drives YogaWorks to Bankruptcy

FITNESS: Santa Monica company will close studios, continue digital operations

By MEDIHA DIMARTINO

YogaWorks Inc., citing pandemic-related studio closures, filed for Chapter 11 bank-ruptcy Oct. 15, with its secured-debt holder Serene Investment Management as a stalking horse bidder.

The Santa Monica-based company operated 60 yoga studios that generated approximately \$58.5 million in revenue last year. It also offered online yoga classes that contributed another \$1.6 million.

YogaWorks employed 205 workers, including 30 on a full-time basis. It closed all in-person studio locations while continuing

its livestream and on-demand operations.

The company listed \$10 million in secured debt owed to Serene, \$5.4 million in rent obligations and nearly \$4 million in debts to vendors, taxes and employee wages.

Serene will acquire YogaWorks' digital and yoga instructor training business and intellectual property unless a better bid surfaces at the auction set for mid-November.

The San Francisco-based firm is also providing of \$3.3 million in debtor-in-possession financing to support the reorganization.

"After considering a number of alternatives to overcome the financial challenge of the studio closures, we determined that implementing an orderly restructuring process is in the best interest of all of our key stakeholders," Chief Executive **Brian Cooper** said in a statement.

Maty Ezraty, Chuck Miller and Alan Finger founded the company in 1987 in Santa Monica, offering Vinyasa-style yoga classes. In 2013, the company started offering on-demand yoga videos and workshops through a service called My YogaWorks Live.

Boston-based private equity firm **Great Hill Partners** acquired the company in 2014 for about \$45 million. The studio chain went public in 2017, raising \$40 million but couldn't properly scale the growth.

INSURANCE EXPERTISE FOR ALL AREAS OF YOUR BUSINESS.

MARSH & MCLENNAN

MarshMMA.com

CA Insurance Lic. 0H18131

Business Insurance | Employee Health & Benefits | Executive Benefits | Private Client Services | Retirement Services | Risk Management | Surety