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Up Front



Can Rickie Martin bring *la vida* back to talent shows? **PAGE 3**

News & Analysis



These DTLA apartments won't be converted to condos after all. **PAGE 5**

Bars Allege Prices Hiked to Show NFL Games

HOSPITALITY: Local tavern suits up to take on DirecTV's prices.

By **CALE OTTENS** Staff Reporter

The 2015 National Football League season has begun, which can only mean one thing: Sports bars across Los Angeles will be packed every Sunday with football fans hungry for hot wings, cold beer and a chance to catch every bit of the action on big screens.

To feed that appetite, sports bar owners have no choice but to buy the NFL Sunday Ticket package

\$2,314

DirecTV bill for NFL Sunday Ticket package paid by Flights Beer Bar.

from El Segundo satellite TV provider DirecTV, the only company to offer every out-of-market NFL game on Sunday.

But Jerry Jamgotchian, who opened Flights Beer Bar in Hawthorne in March, is among the many owners who've learned that showing football each Sunday comes with a hefty price.

After he saw his bill for \$2,314 for the season, Jamgotchian decided to fight back.

Flights this month joined other sports bars around

the country in taking the NFL and DirecTV to court with claims that their exclusive arrangement violates antitrust laws.

"The NFL Sunday Ticket causes a significant economic burden on all businesses who purchase this programming because DirecTV and the NFL owners have essentially conspired to create a monopoly, which establishes an artificially high product price that cannot ever be negotiated or competitively bid," Jamgotchian said in an email. "This seems unfair on its face and is nothing more than

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Filling Vacuum

Hyperloop firms take different funding paths

By **OMAR SHAMOUT** Staff Reporter

WHEN Elon Musk released a white paper in August 2013 detailing his idea for a series of elevated vacuum tubes that

New Wine Wave Arrives in Malibu

Béatrice Cointreau looks to shore up SoCal's market with vineyard by beach.

L.A.'s wine scene lacks the pedigree of Northern California's, but that's not stopping a new local vintner from bringing her old-world expertise – and vintage name – to town.

Béatrice Cointreau, the great-granddaughter of the founder of her family's eponymous spirit, has just opened a 5.5-acre winery, **Admirable Family Vineyards**, on Kanan Dume Road in Malibu.

Cointreau, a member of the Wine Academy of France and formerly chief executive of **Champagne Gosset** in France, left



Cheers: Founder Béatrice Cointreau at Malibu's Admirable Family Vineyards.

the country after selling her shares of the business in 2007. Soon after, she said that she was diagnosed with cancer, and after she recovered, she wasn't sure what she wanted to do next. But her two eldest sons were both living in California and Cointreau wanted to be close to them.

"I fell in love with Malibu," she said.

Not only did she like the lifestyle, but the terrain inspired Cointreau to tap into her roots and start making wine. She's just produced two varietals, Vigneronne and Blanc & Blanc, although they're not yet ready for sale.

Cointreau said the local climate in Malibu, which was recently designated by federal officials as a winemaking region, has a lot of similarities to the Provence region of France.

"The wines are kind of blossoming," she said. "It's very interesting to see the parallel between here and the Provence area. We have very mild winters, it's dry and the native plants are very similar."

– Matt Pressberg