3 **Surf Report**
Plus Weather.

9 **Word Search**
Plus Comics

10 **Crossword**
Plus Horoscope.

11 **What's Up Westside**
Calendar of events.

smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

Volume 23 Issue 33 TUESDAY 1/2/24 smdp.com

Year in Review: a tough time for local restaurants

EDITOR'S NOTE:
Today is the final entry in our annual Year in Review coverage summarizing the news from 2023. You can find the regular features such as columns, breaking news and calendar listings on our website at smdp.com.

OCTOBER

Environmental impact examined for Roosevelt campus plan: Project developers and SMMUSD representatives spoke to local stakeholders, laying out the latest campus plan for Roosevelt Elementary School and the potential environmental impacts of construction. The first phase of construction would include a new one-story classroom for transitional kindergarten and kindergarten students, among other improvements.

Could the end be nigh for rental scooters?: Santa Monica City Council voted 5-2 to extend the Shared Mobility Device Pilot Program for e-scooters and e-bikes in the city but during discussion, councilmember Phil Brock said that he's not sure if he "sees the worth anymore" from the devices.

Locals can get paid to leave their car at home: The "One Car Challenge" program started in Santa Monica, which offered 200 residents up to $599 if they live in a house with at least two cars and were willing to park one of them for five weeks.

Fundraiser fuels needed levity in life-threatening situations: The Crow comedy club hosted "Storyectomy," a comedy and storytelling show raising funds for the American Cancer Society. Santa Monica resident Nicole Blaine hosted comedy classes for cancer survivors, thrivers, caregivers and medical professionals in order to "normalize" the cancer experience through comedy.

International experiences grace Grant campus: Over 20 cultures from around the world were represented at Grant Elementary School's World Culture Day. The second annual gathering had international food, sport, music and traditional clothing; as well as cultural demonstrations such as Brazilian jiu-jitsu.

Outdated policy on homeless students prompts revision by SMMUSD board: SMMUSD revised its board policy and administrative regulation and will be appointing a liaison for supporting homeless children and youths.



SMDP Photo

HOUSING: The building at 1640 5th Street could become up to 570 units of housing under a deal to redevelop the parcel, the neighboring building and a parking lot.

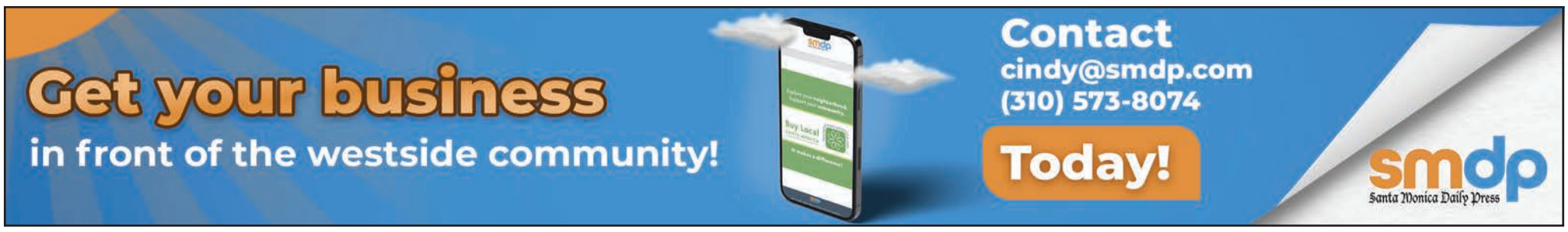
Big Check for the Palisades: California State Senator Ben Allen (D-Santa Monica) presented a check for $1 million for the restoration of Simon Meadow Park and the creation of new gathering and bathroom facilities. The funds will enhance accessibility and improve youth programming at the park.

Councilmembers clash over unregulated representation reiterates divisions among members: Councilmembers fought over the use of paid assistants resulting in new guidelines that say no councilmember shall authorize or permit any non-city employee to represent them at any meeting function or event.

New crop of district athletes bred from the middle ground: Students at Lincoln Middle School and John Adams Middle School took part in new sports programs for flag football, girls' volleyball and cross-country. Directly supported through the district with the help of the Santa Monica Education Foundation, the new middle school sports program will extend to games like basketball and soccer in the winter and spring.

'The Fans Strike Back' Star Wars-themed exhibition lands at the Promenade: An

SEE **OCTOBER** PAGE 2



FINDING A NEW DENTIST IS TOUGH!!!
(BUT WE MAKE IT EASY!!!)
YOUR CHOICE
If you don't like what we have to say we will give you a copy of your x-rays at no charge
DENTAL CARE WITHOUT JUDGEMENT!
WE OFFER UNIQUE SERVICES
*Nitrous Oxide available
*No interest payment plans
*Emergencies can be seen today
*Our dentists and staff members are easy to talk to
TRY OUR NO OBLIGATION
$20 EXAM INCLUDES FULL XRAYS
*Offer to non insured patients
OR
TRY OUR NO OBLIGATION
$99 EXAM AND CLEANING
For New Patients
INCLUDES FULL XRAYS
*Offer to non insured patients
AND OF COURSE WE DO
• Invisalign • Periodontist on Staff • Oral Surgeon on Staff
• Cosmetics and Implants • Zoom bleaching • and more
SANTA MONICA FAMILY DENTISTRY
DR. ALAN RUBENSTEIN
1260 15th ST. SUITE #703
(310) 736-2589
WWW.ALANRUBENSTEINDDS.COM
WILSHIRE BLVD.
15TH ST.
14TH ST.
ARIZONA AVE.

Ice
AT SANTA MONICA
PRESENTED BY
NETFLIX
Skate under the sun and stars just blocks from the Pacific Ocean!
OPEN DAILY UNTIL JANUARY 15
@DTSantaMonica
Don't miss your chance! Buy tickets, book a skating lesson or fire pit and more at iceatsantamonica.com

OCTOBER

FROM PAGE 1

exhibit at the Santa Monica Art Museum transported visitors to a galaxy far, far away; as The Fans Strike Back showcases more than 600 items from the Star Wars universe collected by fans of the film and television products.

Hurst continues special education mission in new role: SMMUSD approved the appointment of Victoria Hurst as the district's new special education director. Hurst has served the district for 20 of her 25 years of education experience, and said she is "honored and humbled" by the appointment.

Santa Monica Pier evacuated just days before previously scheduled emergency evacuation test: A man claiming to be in possession of a bomb climbed the 130-foot-tall Ferris Wheel on the Santa Monica Pier sparking an evacuation of the pier along with Pacific Park. Officers were able to speak to the man, 37-year-old Juan Gonzalez of Garden Grove, and eventually took Gonzalez into custody.

Students to drop and cover for earthquake preparedness: SMMUSD students took part in the 2023 Great California ShakeOut, an earthquake preparedness drill that gauged how well the district is prepared for a significant emergency. The annual drill had students practicing the "drop, cover, hold on" steps in class settings.

Friends, survivors connect again for annual walk: Longtime friends and breast cancer survivors Janna Boelke and Mande Raiher turned their tribulations into productivity, teaming as part of the "Worthe It To Thrive" fundraising unit. The fundraising team helps with the American Cancer Society's "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer" walk, which took place on Oct. 28 at the Santa Monica Pier.



SMDP Photo
FLIGHT CLUB: Actor Edward Norton was part of the celebration at Angel Flight West.

Santa Monica's annual winter ice rink gets substantial upgrade: The annual Ice at Santa Monica event received upgrades for the 2023-24 winter season, including an all-new rink along with hangout areas and a firepit. The corner of 5th Street and Arizona Avenue is turned into a skating paradise every November through January, but Downtown Santa Monica Inc. Operations & Placemaking Director Jeremy Ferguson said that the rink is 25% bigger than any previous year.

A small coffee is the gateway to a lifetime of music at Endless Noise: For nearly 30 years, Endless Noise production studio has worked with a wide swath of artists, composers and more. The studio also houses a hidden coffee shop, originally intended to be a hub for local artists. When locals and clients loved the experience, Endless Noise improved the shop to add a barista and an expanded menu, reopening the business in January 2023.

Diners delighted during local food celebration: Diners had the chance to partake in special lunch and dinner menus at local restaurants to celebrate Dine LA Restaurant Week. The 2023 fall edition of the bi-annual celebration promoted dine-in only, with 34 local locations participating in the event.

Samohi artists recognized in statewide expo: Santa Monica High School students Emmaline Thorpe, Victoria Davis and Shana Lindsey were selected as winners in the 2023 California Young Artist Expo contest.

Santa Monica teen is tackling children's anxiety: After seeing an increase in anxiety among young children during the pandemic, 17-year-old Santa Monica resident Quincy Kadin created a children's book "Frankie's Fishy Feelings" with the help of illustrator Domus Batista. The book follows Frankie the shark as she navigates a wave of anxiety and stress through her first day of kindergarten.

Orchestra goes to the movies for magical fundraiser: Barnum Hall played host to the Santa Monica High School orchestras "Movie Music Magic" concert, featuring selections from popular movie franchises like "Shrek" and "Harry Potter."

World-renowned think tank hopes to foster new ideas for its Santa Monica office: The RAND corporation asked officials to void the agreement that governs its Santa Monica office. The corporation wants officials to work on a new deal that would account for the declining number of workers physically coming into the office, with RAND stating that they cannot do anything other than leave offices vacant under current rules.

World-traveled conductor comes home for U.S. debut: A homecoming for 2013 Santa Monica High School graduate Elias Peter Brown took place on at BroadStage. Brown made his United States conducting debut alongside musicians of the LA Philharmonic, performing Stravinsky's "The Soldier's Tale." First performing at BroadStage as a Samohi trumpet player, Brown has been world-traveled since, recently coming back to the U.S. to serve as assistant conductor at the San Francisco Symphony.

Choral anniversary season performance serenades through iconic poetry: The Verdi Chorus, a longtime staple of operatic music in Santa Monica, began its 40th anniversary season with a performance of "This, and My Heart, A Portrait of Emily Dickinson and Her Worlds Through Text and Song."

Cosmic ballet continues as 'ring of fire' solar eclipse sweeps across West Coast: The United States West Coast was able to observe the cosmological event known as an annular eclipse. The path of the shadow created by the Moon passed in front of the Sun, sweeping across the country in a southeast direction from Eugene, Oregon to San Antonio, Texas. California residents were able to see between

SEE YEAR PAGE 3

YEAR

FROM PAGE 2

70-80% of the phenomena.

Homelessness, economic recovery hot topics for policy influencers: The Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce held the first Santa Monica Chamber Policy Conference at the RAND Corporation, bringing together leaders in their respective fields to talk issues pertinent to locals.

City Hall wants new security guards for the Santa Monica Pier: The City of Santa Monica sent out a Request for Proposal inviting qualified companies to compete for a private security contract on the Santa Monica Pier. CA Panther was already under contract through Dec. 31 and received an extension to their deal.

SMPD emergency responses tested in Pier exercise: The Pier played host an SMPD training exercise designed to test officers' mettle in a rapid evacuation scenario, beginning with a mock "shootout" at the eastern end of the Pier, followed by an active hostage scenario.

Heal the Bay honored for past, present victories: Local environmental group Heal the Bay received the Pongo Environmental Award for Environmental Organization on Oct. 14, highlighting the group's efforts in shifting policy and creating conversation around protecting local waterways and coastline.



SMDP Photo

FOOD: Chef Gunn Pankum celebrated 10 years at her restaurant Satdha Thai.

Family, loved ones take on walk to remember: The American Cancer Society (ACS) hosted its "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer" with the path including the Santa Monica Pier, Ocean Avenue and Palisades Park.

Fred Segal opens on Montana Ave.: Fred Segal returned to Santa Monica with a new store at 1533 Montana Ave. The brand had two stores at 5th and Broadway in the past, eventually selling one of the stores in 2012 and closing the other in 2014. Montana Avenue Merchants Association member Jane Walker said that the new store is a "perfect fit" on the avenue.

School board scopes out safety plan: The SMMUSD board voted to approve the Comprehensive School Safety Plan for each district school, with the exception of John Adams Middle School, which did not have a plan ready in time for the meeting.

Homecoming ceremony spotlights Samohi's best: A special Homecoming ceremony was held with performances from the school's pep and cheerleading squads, as well as the "Greenies" hype team. Seniors Joshua Tang and Kara Best were selected as Samohi Homecoming King and Queen during the proceeding.

Four Pepperdine students dead in Malibu crash: A Malibu resident killed four people and injured two others after losing control of his car. The driver was identified as Fraser Michael Bohm, 22, of Malibu, and was arrested for vehicular manslaughter with gross negligence and the crash prompted a wave of action and concern over the safety of PCH.

The state of real estate in Santa Monica: A combination of high interest rates, taxes, cost of living expenses and general instability started to weigh on the Santa Monica real estate market, according to local realtors. While a real estate crash is not expected, there were early signs of a softening market, such as an increase in the number of days homes are for sale and fewer homes selling at or above their listed price.

Widespread speech condition fought head-on with workshop: The American Institute for Stuttering (AIS) held two events to open up lines of communication for those interested in speech therapy.

Council rejects proposal for lottery form of outreach regarding future use of airport land: Councilmembers rejected a public lottery form of public outreach to determine the future of land use at the Santa Monica Airport by a 4-3 vote but eventually approved a more traditional outreach effort with several community workshops.

Santa Monica College sets its sights on the stars with new state-of-the-art observatory: A new, permanent observatory is in the works for Santa Monica College's new Engineering & Science Department building. The observatory, set to be operational on the building's rooftop in 2025, will have a 20.6-foot diameter and a 27.5-inch telescope.

Art perfection commended by school board: Students were recognized for several feats, including two students who earned perfect scores on college-level Advanced Placement (AP) exams in the spring of 2023. Santa Monica High School senior Emmaline Thorpe and Malibu High School senior Molly O'Neill were just two of 337 nationally to earn every single possible point on the AP 2-dimensional (2-D) art and design exam, taken by around 49,000 students in all.

Police investigating body found by 15th Street and Santa Monica Blvd: SMPD investigated a body found in the street, one of several throughout the year that were reported to involve homelessness or drugs.

When Cher Meets Gelato: Cherlato, a gelato truck that delivers high quality and unique flavors around the city of Los Angeles, was a collaboration between music icon Cher and gelato "wizard" Giapo Grazioli.

A 'foreign' offering for Samohi fall play: Santa Monica High School's fall 2023 play offering was "The Foreigner," a comedic tale that adds levity to themes of prejudice and xenophobia.

Gardens get overrun with ghosts, ghouls, goblins and gravestones for Halloween: Residents of Santa Monica offered impressive Halloween displays at their homes this year, particularly those in the neighborhood

SEE **REVIEW** PAGE 4



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **62.1**

TUESDAY
FAIR

SURF: 2-3ft
Thigh to waist

Modest to kinda fun pulse of WNW swell to work with, blending with old WNW swell leftovers. Smaller wave ear kind of day but should be some corners to pick off from the mix of long and shorter-period energy.

WEDNESDAY
FAIR

SURF: 2-3ft
Thigh to waist

Watching for another round of WNW to possibly move in, looking a bit steeper and smaller than the last run of swells. Less consistent as a result but still pretty fun when the sets show. Keeping an eye on winds, could be onshore early.

Weather

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 63.
Tuesday Night: A slight chance of rain. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 50.
Wednesday: A chance of rain. Partly sunny, with a high near 61.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2024/01/02	Tue	02:11 AM	3.82	H
2024/01/02	Tue	07:21 AM	2.71	L
2024/01/02	Tue	12:31 PM	3.66	H
2024/01/02	Tue	7:29 PM	1.08	L
2024/01/03	Wed	02:55 AM	4.04	H
2024/01/03	Wed	09:16 AM	2.44	L
2024/01/03	Wed	1:50 PM	3.05	H
2024/01/03	Wed	8:06 PM	1.52	L
2024/01/04	Thu	03:36 AM	4.31	H
2024/01/04	Thu	10:49 AM	1.87	L
2024/01/04	Thu	3:52 PM	2.67	H
2024/01/04	Thu	8:53 PM	1.91	L
2024/01/05	Fri	04:15 AM	4.64	H
2024/01/05	Fri	11:49 AM	1.18	L
2024/01/05	Fri	5:47 PM	2.68	H
2024/01/05	Fri	9:48 PM	2.21	L
2024/01/06	Sat	04:54 AM	5.02	H
2024/01/06	Sat	12:34 PM	0.48	L
2024/01/06	Sat	7:05 PM	2.90	H
2024/01/06	Sat	10:43 PM	2.40	L

Daily Lottery

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site at http://www.calottery.com

POWERball
Draw Date: 12/27
4 11 38 51 68
Power#: 5
Jackpot: 760 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 12/27
2 5 22 24 33

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 12/26
8 10 22 58 64
Mega#: 21
Jackpot: 92 M

Daily 3
Draw Date: 12/28
MIDDAY: 1 2 9
Draw Date: 12/27
EVENING: 9 6 5

SuperLotto PLUS
Draw Date: 12/27
1 3 11 16 27
Mega#: 24
Jackpot: 10 M

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 12/27
1st: 09 - Winning Spirit
2nd: 02 - Lucky Star
3rd: 11 - Money Bags
Race Time: 1:41.01

PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

PARTNER
Todd James
todd@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Matthew Hall
matt@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Charles Andrews,
Jack Neworth,
David Pisarra.

CIRCULATION
Guadalupe Navarro
ross@smdp.com

Keith Wyatt
ross@smdp.com

STAFF WRITERS
Scott Snowden
scott.snowden@smdp.com

Thomas Leffler
thomas@smdp.com

DIRECTOR OF ADVERTISING
Cindy Moreno
cindy@smdp.com

MARKETING MANAGER
Dina Araniva
dina@smdp.com

PRODUCTION
Esteban Inchaustegui
production@smdp.com

Julio Davalos
julio@smdp.com

1640 5th Street, Suite 218
Santa Monica, CA 90401
OFFICE (310) 458-PRESS (7737)
FAX (310) 576-9913

AWARD WINNER

Sustainable Quality Awards
WINNER

The Santa Monica Daily Press publishes Monday - Saturday with a circulation of 8,200 on weekdays and 8,000 on the weekend. The Daily Press is adjudicated as a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Los Angeles and covers news relevant to the City of Santa Monica. The Daily Press is a member of the California Newspaper Publisher's Association, the National Newspaper Association and the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce. The paper you're reading this on is composed of 100% post consumer content and the ink used to print these words is soy based. We are proud recipients of multiple honors for outstanding news coverage from the California Newspaper Publishers Association as well as a Santa Monica Sustainable Quality Award.

PUBLISHED BY NEWLON ROUGE, LLC
© 2023 Newlon Rouge, LLC, all rights reserved.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

FOR QUOTES PLEASE CALL 310-573-8074

or email cindy@smdp.com

CLASSIFICATIONS					
Announcements	Pets	Apartments/Condos	Real Estate Loans	Attorney Services	Wealth and Success
Creative	Boats	Rent	Storage Space	Business	Lost and Found
Employment	Jewelry	Houses for Rent	Vehicles for Sale	Opportunities	Personals
For Sale	Wanted	Roommates	Massage	Yard Sales	Psychic
Furniture	Travel	Commercial Lease	Services	Health and Beauty	Obituaries
	Vacation Rentals	Real Estate	Computer Services	Fitness	Tutoring

DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2023261526 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 12/06/23. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Social Proof Agency 2677 Centinela Ave Unit 105 Santa Monica, CA 90405Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): Ai #ON The full name of the registrant(s) is/are Robyn Nissim 2677 Centinela Ave Unit 105 Santa Monica, CA 90405If corporation or LLC- Print State of Incorporation/Organization: This Business is conducted by: An Individual The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/ ARegistrant/Corp/ LLC Name /s/: Robyn Nissim Title: Owner Robyn Nissim This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/06/2023NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. ,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS11/13/23 11/20/23,11/27/23, 01,02,23

Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMECase No. 23SMCP00644 Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Gael Macdougall for Change of NameTO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:Petitioner or Attorney: Gael Louise Macdougall a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Gael Louise Macdougall to Gael Louise Loewy The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 02/16/2024 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K Room: – The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA - COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 1725 Main Street Santa Monica, CA 90401A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press.

Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMECase No. 23GDCP00240 Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Richard Jackson Jacinto for Change of NameTO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:Petitioner or Attorney: Richard Jackson Jacinto a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Richard Jackson Jacinto to Jax Jackson Jacinto The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 02/22/2024 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: E Room: 279 The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA - COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES Glendale Court House 600 E Broadway A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press.

PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED HERE

HOURS MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00am - 5:00pm
LOCATION 1640 5th Street, Suite 218, Santa Monica, CA 90401

REVIEW

FROM PAGE 3

between Montana Ave. and San Vicente Blvd., between 14th and 26th Streets.

Council approves zoning changes allow for the sale and delivery of adult-use cannabis: Council changed the city's zoning code to allow for expanded retail cannabis sales, acknowledging the opportunity it presents in assisting the city's economic recovery.

Latest Samohi campus plan pitched to public: Updates to the campus of Santa Monica High School were brought to the public, including progress on both construction and planning for "Phase 3" and "Phase 4" of the school's campus plan. Phase 3 is the construction of the school's new Exploration building and Gold gymnasium, while Phase 4 calls for a new student center, library, administration building and performing arts center on the campus.

Rugged clothing and equipment maker Strauss opens first US store on Main St: Popular European rugged clothing and equipment manufacturer Engelbert Strauss opened up its first retail outlet in the United States on Main Street.

Volleyball tournament a scary good time: Santa MoniCARES held its second-annual Volley-Ween fundraiser tournament, raising money for local Santa Monica nonprofits during the holiday season. Teams were able to play volleyball on the beach in their chosen costumes, and those in Halloween garb took part in a costume contest.

Angel Flight West celebrates its 100,000th mission: Angel Flight West, a nonprofit organization that arranges no-cost non-emergency air travel service, celebrated its 100,000th mission.

Santa Monica to get its own sphere (or two): DTSM unanimously approved a 360-degree immersive entertainment activation on the former site of Parking Structure 3. The project will consist of two 360-degree entertainment domes similar to the newly-opened Sphere in Las Vegas, scaled down to 100 and 180-foot diameters, respectively.

NOVEMBER

Panel talks countering 'truth decay': Santa Monica College played host to a community conversation entitled "Countering Truth Decay" with a panel speaking on how to create more robust discourse on societal issues, avoiding arguments where two parties disagree on facts and observations.

Trick-or-treating brings 'normalcy' to young patients: Halloween at UCLA Santa Monica Medical Center meant a chance for patients to take part in trick-or-treating, coordinated by the medical center's Child Life department. The young patients were able to don various costumes, play games and pet therapy animals like dogs and the mini-horse "Blue Moon."

Roosevelt benches cultivate camaraderie: The Kiwanis Club of Santa Monica dedicated three "Buddy Benches" on the campus of Roosevelt Elementary School, continuing the installation of the benches at SMMUSD schools.

Celebrating 10 Years of Culinary Excellent at Satdha Plant-Based Thai Kitchen: Gourmet plant-based Thai restaurant Satdha, located on Lincoln Boulevard in Santa Monica, celebrated its 10-year anniversary with an anniversary dinner, featuring a unique 10-course tasting menu. The brand new dishes showcase Chef Gunn Pankum's skill and the diversity of flavors found in Thai and plant-based cuisine.



SMDP Photo

HALLOWEEN: Locals got into the spooky spirit in October.

Malibu group planting roots for a sustainable future: The Malibu Foundation hosted its 2023 Replant Love event at Juan Bautista De Anza Park in Calabasas, bringing together volunteers to plant a native microforest using seeds collected and propagated in the foundation's nursery.

Big real estate ruling may be years away from trickling down to Santa Monica properties: A multi-billion lawsuit shook up the real estate industry, though the impacts to the local market were still hard to predict. The National Association of Realtors was ordered to pay nearly $1.8 billion in damages last week over accusations that the organization's policy of forcing home sellers to pay commission charged to home buyers is a violation of federal antitrust laws. Consensus among locals is that there will be changes to the way commissions are paid, but any impact is likely years away due to the prolonged nature of lawsuits.

Attempt by Mayor Davis to refine

SEE NOVEMBER PAGE 5

NOVEMBER

FROM PAGE 4

language regarding Council's direction for a rotational mayor fails: A proposal made by Mayor Gleam Davis amend rules for choosing the mayor was met with a bevy of criticism from some councilmembers who said it was an attack on the upcoming Mayorship of Phil Brock. This was a notion Davis denied, stating she did not intend "in any way" to affect the mayoral rotation but the measure failed.

Inner scientists explore the universe at UCLA: The Explore the Universe event at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) hosted science-related departments to provide activities and experiments for youths aged 8-18.

Locals pay tribute with Dia de Los Muertos decor: At the carousel at the Santa Monica Pier, guests were able to honor loved ones who have passed on by contributing personal photographs in communal altars. The Santa Monica History Museum also had a pop-up exhibit with altars created by local high school students, with students from Santa Monica High School and Venice High School among those contributing.

Amal anything but little during Pier visit: Little Amal, a puppet symbolizing a 10-year-old Syrian refugee girl, captivated spectators on the Santa Monica Pier as part of the Amal Walks Across America tour.

Council votes to support the Justice for Renters Act by the narrowest of margins: City Councilmembers approved supporting the Justice for Renters Act, with four in favor, one against, and two abstentions. The act, which has qualified for the November 2024 state ballot, aims to address limitations imposed by the Costa Hawkins Act.

Los Angeles moves to end rent freeze, lower rent increases: A Los Angeles City Council committee voted 3-2 against extending the pandemic-related rent increase freeze. Instead, they approved a proposal allowing smaller rent increases for properties covered by the 1979 Rent Stabilization Ordinance.

Portraits showcase Pico passion: The "Our Pico" portrait gallery, a collaboration between the Pico Improvement Organization and photographer Sam Comen, showcased the human stories behind the storefronts. The project, funded by a grant from the City of Santa Monica's Art of Recovery program, featured engaging portraits of 41 workers in various roles, capturing the essence of hands-on work, entrepreneurship, and artisan crafting.

Local group makes trek to curb hunger: The Westside Food Bank hosted its 33rd annual 5K Hunger Walk. This event, aimed at raising awareness and funds for food assistance, saw hundreds of participants wearing blue shirts along Santa Monica's Ocean Front Walk.

Flag program turned fast friends into on-field favorites: The Samohi Lady Vikings faced an unconventional inaugural 2023 flag football season, marked by uncertainty about the game rules and skepticism in the male-dominated sport. Despite lacking traditional measures for success, the team overcame challenges, gradually gaining momentum and ultimately securing an undefeated Ocean League championship with a 16-3 overall record, including a perfect 8-0 Ocean League record. The players and coaches navigated unfamiliar territory, defying expectations and achieving a remarkable outcome.



SMDP Photo

STOP: After a fatal accident, the intersection at 19th and Idaho became a four-way stop.

Santa Monica Pier offers an impressive itinerary of events for Veterans Day: The Santa Monica Pier held an event commemorating Veterans Day with speeches from Mayor Gleam Davis, Congressman Ted Lieu and Deputy Under Secretary of the Army Mario Diaz, along with flyovers featuring Sikorsky UH-60 Black Hawks and Boeing CH-47 Chinook helicopters, a West Point drill team demonstration, plus live music.

A pair of Samohi alumni are tackling the vaping crisis: A new Santa Monica company worked to help curb the use of non cigarette nicotine vaping devices. Jones, an anti-vaping network, was founded by local natives Hilary Dubin and Caroline Vasquez Huber to help destigmatize quitting and expand access to resources available to cease the habit.

Design fair levels up homesteads for holiday season: The WestEdge Design Fair returned to Santa Monica for the first time since 2019 in November, bringing a three-day experience featuring over 175 of the latest and greatest interior design and housing lifestyle brands.

Wonderfully weird world of Seuss comes to life: The Dr. Seuss Experience opened at Santa Monica Place. The exhibit was

SEE **NEWS** PAGE 6

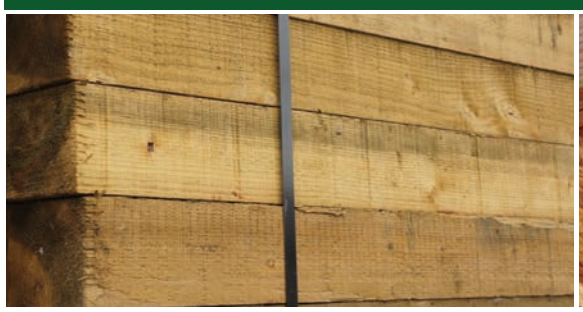
City of Santa Monica
WOODLAWN
Cemetery
Mausoleum
Mortuary
FD #2101
Helping families honor, remember, and celebrate life.



• Traditional Burial • Green/Natural Burial • Cremation
• Funeral Planning & Mortuary Services
ALL IN ONE LOCATION
1847 14th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90404 ▪ (310) 458-8717 (on-call - 24/7)
woodlawn.cemetery@santamonica.gov ▪ www.woodlawnsm.com

Buy Local
SANTA MONICA
buylocalsantamonica.com ™
Support your community!

LUMBER
Bourget Bros. features a full service lumber yard, where everything from landscape timber to drywall will enhance the home of your dreams.




Standard and Custom Windows, Doors and Hardware Available


Bourget Bros. Building Materials
1636 - 11th Street
Santa Monica, CA 90404 • (310) 450-6556
bourgetbros.com

NEWS

FROM PAGE 5

dedicated to the author's timeless children's classics and was part of a wave of pop-up shows finding success in the city.

A salon with a side of sculpture: Mauricio Navvaro, a professional hair stylist with decades of experience, channeled his artistic endeavors into a combined men's hair salon and art gallery in Santa Monica's mid-city neighborhood. Mauricio's VIP Hair Lounge specializes in men's haircuts and grooming, with the walls of the salon covered with his colorful works of art. Born in Mexico City, Navvaro has been making art for as long as he can remember, and hopes that clients find a love for artistic beauty inside the lounge.

Two weeks after fatal crash, second bicyclist injured at 19th and Idaho: A woman was killed and a second bicyclist injured at the same location in the course of two weeks. The accidents prompted a debate over road safety in the city that culminated in changes to some of the city's two-way intersections and eventually prompted a discussion at Council to increase parking taxes as a way to pay for road safety improvements.

Popular Downtown pizzeria Dagwoods set to close at the end of the year: Popular Downtown pizzeria Dagwoods announced it is set to permanently close at the end of 2023. The closure was one of several in the final months of the year including Del Frisco's, Stella Barra and the Independence Bar.

Local influences guide world-renowned string group's return: The legendary Takács Quartet returned to Santa Monica's BroadStage as part of the California Festival, a statewide affair featuring new music from symphony orchestras, chamber music groups, jazz ensembles, choirs and more.



SMDP Photo

AIRPORT: After a rocky start, the city began planning efforts for the future of SMO.

Don't feed the birds: new rule aims to curb bird poop pollution at the Santa Monica Pier: Councilmembers unanimously approved new rules prohibiting the feeding of birds and other wild animals in the area, which has been found to increase health and safety risks for humans, disease transmission and the local environment.

Los Angeles adopts rent increases of up to 6%: The City of Los Angeles imposed new caps on rent increases for its rent-stabilized apartments. Landlords who cover utilities (gas and electric) were able to raise rents by 6% while those who do not will be limited to 4%. The increases are less than would have occurred without Council intervention after the City previously voted to let a pandemic era rent freeze expire.

LA advances restrictions on new hotel development: A proposal to force hotel developers to replace housing lost in the development process advanced out of the Los Angeles City Planning Commission as part of a deal between the city and a local labor union.

Will Rogers goes to the farm: During the 2021-22 school year, Will Rogers Learning Academy introduced a regenerative farm on the corner of 16th and Maple Street, serving as one of the first such working farms on a school campus in the Los Angeles area.

Lack of affordable housing construction undermines local development rules: According to state regulators, Santa Monica did not build enough units in the very low, low and moderate income levels in recent years and that deficit put the city under a state law that allows anyone building a project with at least 50% affordable units to bypass design rules. However, the law's additional requirements on developers make it generally undesirable as a regulatory option and local officials said that while they have to comply with the law, they do not think it will have an impact on local development.

Metro stresses safety after several car-train accidents: Safety was a priority for Metro after several accidents occurred in 2023. On June 23, an Expo train came in contact with a car making an illegal left

SEE **SUMMARY** PAGE 7

SANTA MONICA RESIDENT

Save on stays with exclusive hotel discounts for locals now through January 29, 2024

Book Now

Participating Hotels:
https://www.santamonica.com/extra-bedroom/

SANTA MONICA
TRAVEL & TOURISM



SUMMARY

FROM PAGE 6

turn at the 14th Street and Colorado Avenue crossing. On June 28, another illegal left turn from a motorist resulted in an accident at 6th Street and Colorado Avenue. On Sept. 23, the crossing of 7th Street and Colorado Avenue was host to another train/car accident.

City Council votes unanimously to support California Proposition 1: Councilmembers voted unanimously to support California Proposition 1 at the request of councilmembers Caroline Torosis, Jesse Zwick and Mayor Gleam Davis. The proposition will reallocate billions of dollars to Californians with the most severe mental health needs, including those living in encampments and those with the highest problems with addiction and substance use.

DA candidates come to club meeting for intensive debate: Candidates for the role of Los Angeles County District Attorney squared off in a debate held at the Santa Monica Public Library, hosted by the Santa Monica Democratic Club for its November meeting. Incumbent District Attorney George Gascón and seven challengers took part in a lengthy discussion on hot-button issues such as Gascón's record as DA, the balancing of reform and punishment tactics, and the recently-implemented Zero Bail system in the county.

Music excellence elemental during group anniversary celebration: Elemental Music in Santa Monica celebrated its milestone 20th season for programming in 2023-24, crafting after-school ensembles for elementary, middle and high school students.

City Attorney and Rent Control Board making an effort to curb record high evictions: Record high evictions, specifically unlawful detainers, were filed in the past year and have put pressure on the city to pass initiatives mitigating the trend. A plan to curb evictions discussed by the board included addressing evictions due to small rental debts and unpermitted work, and also expanding standards for permanent relocation fees and buyout ordinances.



SMDP Photo

RESTAURANT: Several surprising restaurant closures were announced towards the end of the year and some eateries formed a new coalition to address problems related to crime and homelessness.

Local youth and parents give back to those less fortunate: The spirit of the holiday season was strong in two local families, including two children who decided to give up coveted birthday gifts to aid a vulnerable population. Local mothers Carmen Garcia-Shushtari and Elizabeth Ko had their respective sons Amory and Oliver born at UCLA Santa Monica Medical Center just one day apart in 2017, and six years later, the families collaborated during Amory and Oliver's birthdays to give back to the medical center's Child Life Department.

SMMUSD working to address over-identification of Hispanic students as learning disabled: SMMUSD worked on a new plan to identify the causes of disproportionality regarding the over-identification of minority students as having learning disabilities. Findings from the districts "Dispro Core Team" identified root causes of disproportionality, including a "lack of clarity, communication and understanding" of the districtwide support system framework, an "inconsistent implementation" of the district's English Language Arts program, and a "lack of cultural awareness and cultural competency" regarding inclusion and relationship-building with parents and students.

City Council meeting the last before there mayoral handover: Gleam Davis had her last meeting as Mayor, before the handover to Councilmember Phil Brock. The traditional ceremony was moved to the Pier's Local's Night and held in the carousel building.

McKinley kids show off their skills: Over 20 students performed in the 2023 McKinley Talent Show. After a dozen students took part in an opening dance number set to Dua Lipa's "Dance the Night," individual acts graced the stage for a packed house. Talents shown off

SEE **WINTER** PAGE 8

Outstanding Senior Care Program Comes to the Westside



Los Angeles Jewish Health is bringing their Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) to West Los Angeles.

PACE provides coordinated, comprehensive care for those 55 and older with chronic medical conditions who live in our community.

- Adult Day Healthcare & Activities
- Primary Medical & Specialty Care
- Dental, Optometry & Podiatry Services
- Home Care & Home Health Services
- Prescription Medications & Supplies
- Physical, Speech & Occupational Therapy
- Dietary Counseling & Meals
- Social Services & Caregiver Support
- Transportation

Brandman Centers for Senior Care
LOS ANGELES JEWISH HEALTH

BrandmanSeniorCare.org
(844) 952-7223
9800 W. Pico Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90035

SCAN ME



WINTER

FROM PAGE 7

included performances on piano, ukulele, flute, violin and drums; as well as specialty skills like ballet and archery.

Vikings dream run stuffed in final moments: A remarkable season for the Samohi Vikings ended just yards short of a CIF Southern Section Division 9 title, dropping the championship game on home turf to the Rio Hondo Prep Kares, 29-27.

Desperate businesses seek new coalition to tackle crime and homelessness: A group of more than 30 local businesses formed a new coalition under the auspices of the California Restaurant Association (CRA) to advocate for businesses facing what they describe as a worsening crisis driven by rising homelessness and crime.

DECEMBER

Local entrepreneurial women taste success with launch of new whiskey brand: Two Santa Monica residents ventured into the spirits scene with the launch of their debut drink, a blend combining a straight high rye bourbon and American single malt. Called Lodestar American Whiskey, it's the result of a collaboration between cousins Anna Axster and Wendellin von Schroder. Both women are self-proclaimed whiskey aficionados and originally hail from an entertainment and marketing background, traveling extensively and sampling all manner of similar spirits from all over the world to develop their taste in whiskey.

Mighty St. Monica Mariners capture CIF division title: Saint Monica Preparatory athletics secured its largest win in years in November, as the St. Monica Mariners football squad was victorious in the CIF Southern Section Division 13 championship game, defeating Walnut by a score of 28-21. The Mariners attempt to reach the Division 6-A State Championship fell one game short



SMDP Photo

CHRISTMAS: The holiday season came to Santa Monica in December.

Iconic holiday show brings dancers back to the Westside: The BroadStage in Santa Monica played host to Westside Ballet's celebration of "The Nutcracker," with the 2023 production marking the 50th anniversary of Westside's "Nutcracker" shows.

Spreading the Boy Scout message, one Christmas tree at a time: For 50 years, the Boy Scouts of America Troop 2 of Santa Monica has run its own Christmas tree lot, turning the typical holiday purchase into a memorable experience. Starting in 1973, the scout troop has had the monthlong fundraiser take place, bringing in customers from all across Los Angeles, and the fundraiser helps bring scouts along for activities like monthly campouts, a February ski trip and an annual summer camp adventure.

Medal of Honor recipients visit Pacific Palisades: The American Legion Palisades Post 283 hosted five of the 65 living Medal of Honor recipients in November. About two dozen kids showed up to the first mentorship session followed by a second panel for adults.

Bye-bye REI: Popular outdoor activities chain REI announced the closure of its Santa Monica store citing changing customer needs and an increase in the cost of doing business. Company officials said the store will not renew the lease on its downtown Santa Monica location at 4th Street and Santa Monica Blvd and will close on Feb. 29, 2024.

Santa Monica College prevails over vaccine mandate lawsuit: Santa Monica College prevailed in a lawsuit criticizing a now expired vaccine mandate. A Santa Monica College freshman, Carter Sparks, sued SMC last year claiming the school's COVID-19 vaccine mandate for in-person learning infringed on his religious freedom and right to privacy. The college argued that Sparks did not qualify for a religious exemption, stating that his application did not express a sincerely held religious opposition to vaccination. The college also said that being Catholic does not automatically entitle someone to a religious

SEE DECEMBER PAGE 11

City of Santa Monica

Holiday Tree Collection

December 26th – January 31st

Here's how you can prepare your natural tree for a second life as mulch and compost:

- Remove all decorations such as tinsel, lights, and stands.
- Place your tree curbside or in the alley next to your waste containers for automatic pick-up between Dec. 26th and Jan. 31st. Do not leave trees in parking lots or parks. No 311 request required.

Please note that flocked trees (trees with synthetic snow) cannot be turned into compost and mulch due to the synthetic materials used in the artificial snow and will be collected as trash. If you purchase a natural tree, we encourage you to not apply flocking.

Questions? Email zerowaste@santamonica.gov

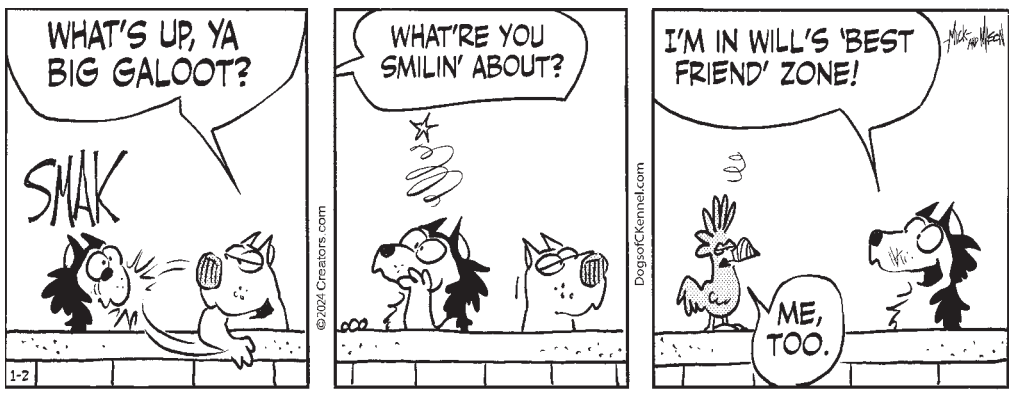
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



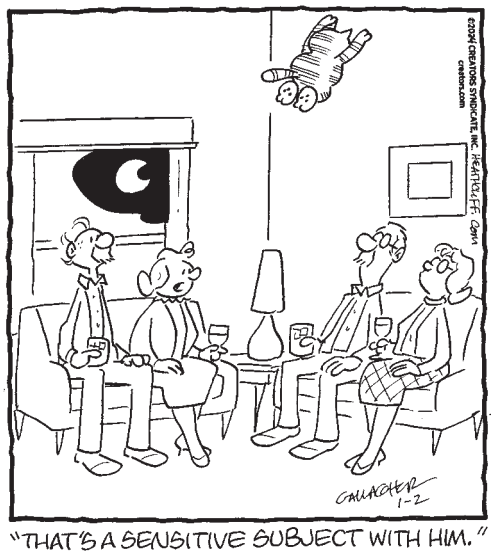
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

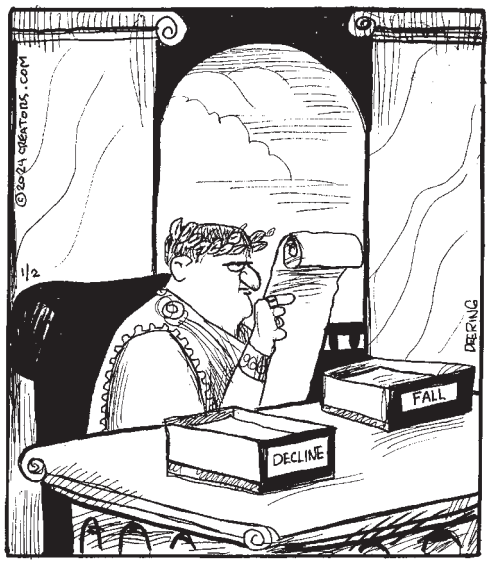
By PETER GALLAGHER



"THAT'S A SENSITIVE SUBJECT WITH HIM."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 15 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

© australianwordgames.com.au 6077

In the garden

U	A	N	T	G	N	I	W	O	S	R	E	T	S	A
D	R	E	R	R	Y	M	R	N	U	T	S	A	T	S
C	K	S	I	U	S	E	B	U	G	S	M	L	A	P
A	O	W	D	B	N	S	S	H	D	R	P	C	K	I
S	E	O	E	S	A	S	O	R	B	A	O	I	E	N
H	D	L	L	E	P	L	I	K	R	L	Y	W	L	A
E	T	H	A	W	D	B	L	A	O	L	A	N	T	C
D	L	I	W	Z	R	S	E	U	O	H	I	E	S	H
A	S	D	N	B	A	P	R	V	M	A	C	M	R	T
P	P	I	R	U	G	K	N	I	R	D	D	S	E	U
S	R	H	O	D	O	D	E	N	D	R	O	N	W	P
H	A	C	I	S	N	N	H	E	A	T	G	I	O	O
O	Y	R	E	S	T	V	I	O	L	A	S	B	L	P
S	E	O	C	A	L	I	L	O	H	A	T	S	F	P
E	X	H	A	U	S	T	Z	I	N	N	I	A	E	Y

Aphis	Colour	Hose	Pansy	Spade
Aster	Cool	Lawn	Pear	Spinach
Azalea	Dirt	Leek	Pond	Spray
Ball	Dogs	Lilac	Poppy	Stake
Bins	Drink	Lime	Rain	Thaw
Birds	Exhaust	Mess	Rest	Urea
Broom	Flowers	Nuts	Rhododendron	Vine
Buds	Growth	Okra	Shed	Viola
Bugs	Grubs	Onion	Snapdragon	Weeds
Chokos	Hats	Orchid	Soil	Wild
Clip	Heat	Palms	Sowing	Zinnia

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.

Looking for other markets

Covering the city by the bay since 2001.
To advertise, email cindy@smdp.com or call 310.458.7737
smdp Santa Monica Daily Press

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 2)

In the playlist of life, you'll get a little control over which song comes next, and a lot of control over how you'll dance to it. This year dances you in many ways: wildly, precisely, lyrically, sometimes with great skill and other times with total surrender to the beat. More highlights: You'll participate in the building of structures physical, systematic, emotional, intellectual and more. Libra and Taurus adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 2, 1, 17, 15, and 42.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You can find a kinship with people regardless of how well your interests and beliefs match up. Ultimately, you want peace, so you seek commonality and prioritize humanity above your own ego gratification.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Recycling will be a theme, and there's almost nothing you can't refresh with your creativity and care. From packaging to relationships, possessions to projects, you'll delight in and benefit from efficiency.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). No one is born with skills. They take work to develop. You learn quickly now and could pick them up like jacks — first one at a time, and then two and three at a time as the skills fit together and build on one another.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). As much as you admire someone, be careful not to mistake their skills for natural talent. Whatever you want to do, if you put in the time and effort, you can learn how to do it. Figure out what's worth learning.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your best and most unique opportunities will be wrapped inside the very thing you've labeled a flaw. Solve a problem for yourself and you could potentially be solving it for many others.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Instantaneous transformations happen in fairy tales and movies. In reality, the change either builds over time or has always been waiting inside for the right moment to burst forth, with wings.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Repetition triggers a craving for novelty. Maybe you won't even mind if it comes in the form of conflict. Where there's friction, there's sparks — embers with the potential to light up your world.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Things don't need to be perfect to be right. You celebrate harmony when it happens, and when it doesn't, you celebrate that, too, for all stories need some degree of conflict. It is what sharpens and grows us.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). There is no status among puzzle pieces. No individual piece is superior or lacking; each is needed to complete the picture. Puzzles (and life) abide by principles of fit, where there is no "better" or "worse," only more or less fitting.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). People will pitch you with their ideas about what they think you might find fun or useful. Though a bid may not coincide with your needs, listen past the particulars to what is actually being offered — namely their interest and support.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Even though people are not always as accommodating as you'd like, you don't expect anyone to behave differently on your behalf. You'll learn people's systems and work within them, nudging things in your desired direction.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You don't have to know how a thing works to believe that it does. Because your mind is open, you can be impressionable, gullible even, but both are better than cynicism, which darkens the world with its limited vision.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

C	S	I	■	A	R	E	A	■	■	■	T	O	D	D
A	T	M	■	M	E	L	B	A	■	T	O	N	E	R
M	A	P	■	I	M	M	E	D	I	A	T	E	L	Y
O	R	E	I	D	A	■	A	U	D	I	E	N	C	E
■	K	I	S	S	I	M	M	E	E	■	M	O	O	R
■	■	■	E	T	N	A	■	■	A	L	I	■	■	■
S	A	G	E	■	■	I	M	P	L	I	C	A	T	E
O	L	E	■	D	I	M	M	E	S	T	■	M	A	G
L	A	T	E	O	N	S	E	T	■	■	U	P	T	O
■	■	■	A	B	S	■	■	E	T	A	S	■	■	■
A	G	E	S	■	U	N	T	R	I	M	M	E	D	■
N	U	R	T	U	R	E	R	■	N	U	C	L	E	I
G	L	I	M	M	E	R	I	N	G	S	■	I	B	M
E	L	C	A	P	■	F	A	B	L	E	■	T	I	M
R	Y	A	N	■	■	L	A	Y	S	■	E	T	E	■

Sudoku

Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column, and 3x3 block. Use logic and process of elimination to solve the puzzle.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

6	3	4	7	2	1	5	8	9
5	7	9	4	3	8	6	2	1
1	2	8	5	6	9	7	4	3
3	1	5	8	4	7	2	9	6
9	4	7	2	5	6	3	1	8
8	6	2	9	1	3	4	5	7
7	5	1	6	8	2	9	3	4
2	9	3	1	7	4	8	6	5
4	8	6	3	9	5	1	7	2

7		1				6		
9				8		3	1	
6			4		2			7
			9	7			6	
3		7				8		4
	6			2	3			
5			1		9			8
	2	9		3				6
		6				1		9

Newsday Crossword

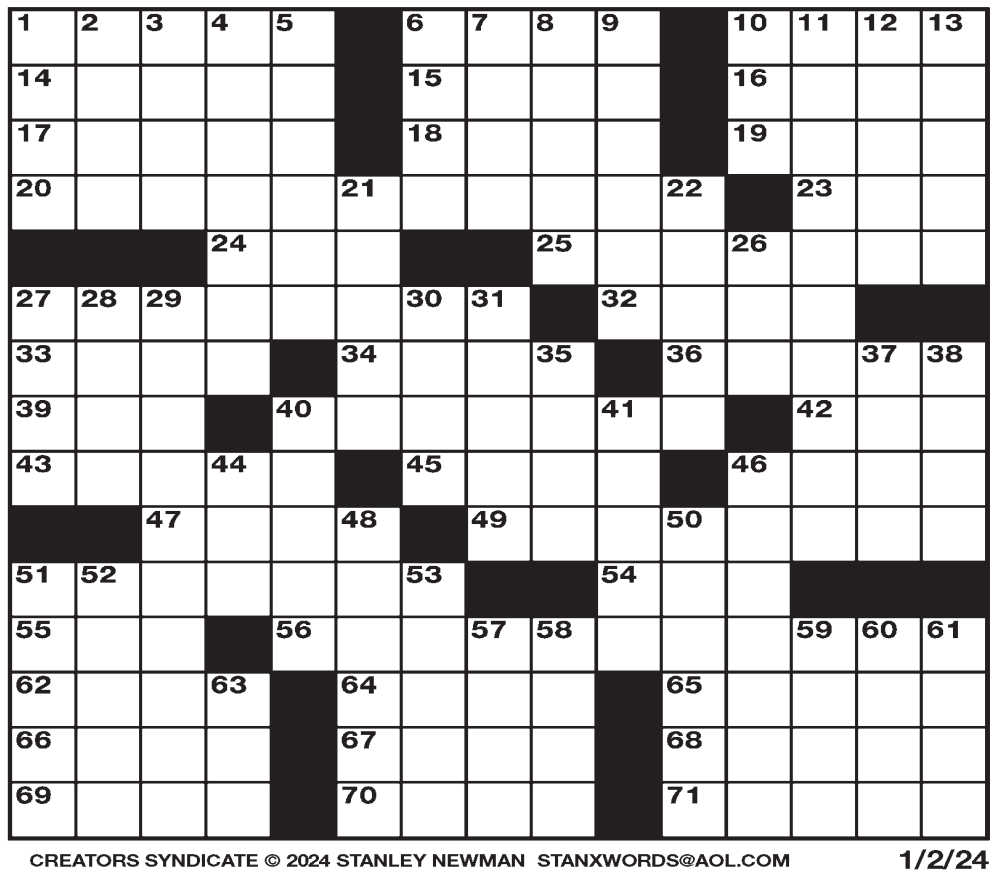
DOWN AND OUT by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Small print on a store sign
6 Assign roles to actors
10 Clock radio switch
14 Concise in wording
15 Curved shoe part
16 Sandwich shop
17 Maples and mahoganies
18 Be afraid of
19 Narrow fabric cut
20 OUT, as a secret
23 Industrious insect
24 "Resident of" suffix
25 Potato peeler's throwaways
27 Large colorful handkerchiefs
32 Pancake's shape
33 Sci-fi saucers, for short
34 White gem
36 Actor Hawke
39 Wrestling surface
40 Green gem
42 Poem of praise
43 Light-bending crystal
45 San Juan, Puerto __
46 "That's too bad"
47 Glowing gas in signs
49 Thesaurus listings
51 Unenthusiastic answer to "How's work?"
54 Period in history
55 Butterfly catcher
56 DOWN, as a computer
62 Installs, as carpeting
64 Baby horse
65 Person carrying a bag
66 Human rights org.
67 Off-road rides: Abbr.
68 Fire remnant
69 "At what time?"
70 "My country, 'tis of __"
71 Salon colorists

DOWN

1 Letter-routing abbr.
2 Infamous Roman emperor
3 Sketched
4 Log-in entries
5 Pre-euro Spanish coin
6 "Sidewalk" eatery
7 Vicinity
8 Overcharge for tickets
9 Sewing needle insert
10 Commercials, for instance
11 DOWN, in mood
12 Throw forcefully
13 Oven gloves
21 Snake poison
22 Evaporated
26 Adherent: Suffix
27 Road imperfection
28 Miles away
29 OUT, speaking of fashion
30 Imitator
31 Dresses of India
35 Frilly, as a gown
37 First man in Genesis
38 Monster's loch
40 Texter's picture
41 Unsociable person
44 Mermaid's home
46 Pre-med subject
48 Most diet-friendly, as milk
50 Gave a speech
51 Relative by marriage
52 Show how
53 Cozy diner seating
57 Install a sidewalk
58 Ultimatum ender
59 "Never let __ said . . ."
60 Swerve
61 Goes astray
63 Daylight source



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2024 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 1/2/24

MORE OF STAN'S CROSSWORDS! Play FREE from Stan's archives of Easy, Hard and Sunday puzzles at: tinyurl.com/stan-newman-crosswords

DECEMBER

FROM PAGE 8

exemption given the church doesn't have a prohibition on vaccination.

Security guard stabbed outside 5th Street office building: A homeless man was arrested outside the Daily Press office after stabbing the building's security guard. The guard was transported to a local hospital where he was treated and eventually released.

Spirits put a spin on Christmas tree purchasing process: Locals Dan Pellar and Paul Helling, both veterans of film and television, aimed to transform the Christmas tree picking process into a seasonal sip and shop adventure with their Wines & Pines endeavor. The pair transformed their respective lots at 1802 Santa Monica Blvd and 2307 Lincoln Ave into the haunt for holiday hangouts, obtaining permits from the local Alcohol Beverage Control board to sell beer, wine and canned cocktails while customers shop for the finest firs.

Santa Monica mirrors county increase in hate crimes: The Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations shared its annual analysis of hate crimes reported throughout the county in 2022, with disappointing results. Throughout 2022, a total of 929 hate crimes were reported, the highest total since 2001, and the number of victims increased from 1,763 in 2021 to 2,120 in 2022. The trend impacts Santa Monica as well, as the Santa Monica Police Department reported six hate crimes in 2022, and from January through September of this year has already reported seven more.

Smash-and-grab robbers net $50,000 worth of goods from local store: A group of hammer-wielding thieves stole about $50,000 worth of merchandise from a local store in a smash-and-grab style robbery reminiscent of other retail thefts in the region.

Homeless man arrested for trying to strangle a person in Palisades Park: A homeless man is was charged with attempted murder after trying to kill a homeless victim in Palisades Park. Tamarquis Burke was seen actively strangling another male and held on $2 million bail.

Seven Vikings selected for Bay League honors: A resounding run through the CIF Southern Section playoffs for the Samohi Vikings caught the attention of Bay League all-league team voters, with seven of the team's football standouts selected to either first or second-team offensive and defensive squads.

Metro makes move to increase Expo Line frequency: Officials with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) continued to tinker with various improvements to light rails, including the Expo Line that has several stops in Santa Monica.

spcaLA animal shelters face food shortage: A tradition of animal care dating back to the 1800s is in danger during the 2023 holiday season, as a food shortage risks serious issues arising at the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Los Angeles (spcaLA). The nonprofit animal welfare organization has served Southern California since 1877, but had to make an "urgent appeal" to area residents to donate pet food or funds in order to make it through the rest of 2023. The organization's President, Madeline Bernstein, said that spcaLA is at a "critical" food shortage due to an increasing number of pets under its care.

Accusations of antisemitism prompt federal investigation of SMC: Santa Monica College (SMC) was added to a list of educational institutions under investigation by the federal government for civil rights violations. SMC was one of six schools added to a list of investigations in early December after an initial group of educational institutions were identified by the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights as under investigation for alleged violations of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 in November.

Franklin busy with bees in growing TK program: As part of Franklin Elementary School and the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District's growing TK (Transitional Kindergarten) program, the young TK crop at the school has been involved in a project-based learning unit busy with bee knowledge and creative endeavors. Led by general education teacher Danielle Eden and special education teacher Nell Canon, the tag-team of teachers brought students into the beehive with a host of fun projects, including the creation of a bee sanctuary for Franklin's TK-Kindergarten yard.

District staff additions, appointments highlight final 2023 board meeting: Daniela Wiener was promoted from assistant principal to principal at McKinley Elementary School. The former McKinley principal, Dr. Ashley Benjamin, was promoted to the position of Director of Curriculum and Instruction in the district, and had been working in both that and the principal role during a transitional period.

Bacon is the big deal for new business openings: New openings include Bandit Bikes, El Husuba, Little Hawaii Smoothie Bar, Impasta, Pieces Los Angeles, CoComelon Party Time and Sweet Maple.

Divine Vintage is celebrating one year of creative success on Montana Avenue: Although tiny in size, Divine Vintage celebrated a big milestone after their first year of doing business on Montana Avenue.

Federal labor regulators demand Starbucks reopen shuttered location: The Starbucks corporation may be forced to reopen a location at the Santa Monica Pier that closed in 2022 following a ruling by federal regulators accusing the company of trying to undermine unionization efforts across the country.

Santa Monica Rugby Club hosts Oxford University RFC: The Santa Monica Rugby Club hosted the Oxford University first XV in an enjoyable, albeit somewhat one-sided game played at the grounds of Santa Monica High School, with the match ultimately ending in a 47-7 visitor's victory.

City Clerk honored: Long-serving City Clerk Denise Anderson-Warren was honored in her last Council meeting before retiring from public service. Anderson-Warren's first appearance in chambers was a special meeting on Friday, November 21, 2003, and she previously served as Deputy City Clerk before obtaining her certification as a Certified Municipal Clerk. A video showing archived footage of that meeting was shown as part of a tribute to Anderson-Warren.

Building connections beat by beat: Seventh-grade student mentors from John Adams Middle School visited the fifth-grade classroom of Kim Griffin at Will Rogers Learning Community, bringing the boom of drums to form a circle of community.

Council extends free parking in downtown structures for holidays: In an effort to spur last-minute holiday shopping for local residents and visitors, Santa Monica City Council extended free parking in downtown public parking structures from 90 minutes to three hours effective.



TUESDAY | JANUARY 2

WINTER SCIENCE CAMP AT HEAL THE BAY AQUARIUM

Through interactive lessons, hands-on activities, and direct interactions with local marine life, your child will think the ocean is totally sick – in the good way (mostly). They'll also learn about the gnarly ways humans have impacted even the most extreme of ocean environments and what they can do to make a difference. With all of these offerings, plus a fun ice cream party for the whole family on our final day of camp, you don't want to miss your chance to rock out this holiday season with Heal the Bay! Heal the Bay Aquarium, 1600 Ocean Front Walk, 85/day, $320/4-day week. https://healthebay.org/event/winter-science-camp-at-heal-the-bay-aquarium/

SOCIAL SERVICE ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY PROVIDENCE ST. JOHN'S COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAM

Trained community health workers will be available to meet in person with community members at the Park Center Building in Virginia Avenue Park (2200 Virginia Ave.). The first Tuesday of the month 11:30 am to 7 pm. The trained Providence St. John's staff can assist with enrollment in CalFresh, the state of California's food subsidy program created to improve the nutrition of families through access to healthy foods. Staff can also help navigate enrollment or questions for MediCal and Medicare. If you have questions about whether you qualify for benefits or if you need help completing enrollment forms, you can make an appointment by calling 310.458.8688. Drop-ins are also welcome.

PUBLIC SAFETY REFORM AND OVERSIGHT COMMISSION

Council Chambers , 1685 Main Steet, 6 p.m. Agenda online at https://www.santamonica.gov/public-safety-reform-and-oversight-commission

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS CLUB TAKE & MAKE KIT

Pick up a Character Creation Guide kit and learn how to make a Level 1 PC (player-character) for our Dungeons & Dragons Club program! The kit includes a 28-page guidebook, blank character sheet, and set of 7 polyhedral game dice. Pick up at the Main Library (601 Santa Monica Blvd) Youth Services desk and at all branch locations, while supplies last. For ages 10-18. 10 - 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY | JANUARY 3

DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET

The largest grower-only Certified Farmers Market in Southern California and a favorite for local chefs! Enjoy one of Santa Monica's farmers markets, widely considered to be among the best on the west coast and featuring field-fresh produce, hundreds of kinds of vegetables, brilliant cut flowers, breads, cheeses, delicious foods, live music and more. Downtown Farmers Market Locations: Wednesdays at Arizona Ave & 2nd St and Saturdays at Arizona & 3rd St. 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

THURSDAY | JANUARY 4

TECH & TASKS

Volunteer tutors provide help with reading documents or written tasks, using mobile devices, navigating government websites, filling out forms, using email, writing resumes, and more. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 2 - 4 p.m.

JOB HUNTING WITH CHRYSALIS

Representatives from local nonprofit Chrysalis provide drop-in resume assistance, job search tips, and on-the-spot orientations for their employment programs. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 2 - 4 p.m.

HOUSING COMMISSION

The Housing Commission regularly meets on the first Thursday of each month at 6 P.M. at City Hall, unless otherwise notified on the agenda. https://www.smgov.net/departments/clerk/boards.aspx?id=53687092551

COUNTRY NIGHT WITH BOOTS & BUBBLES, LINE DANCING AND LIVE COUNTRY MUSIC

This event is 21 and over. Any ticket holder unable to present valid identification indicating that they are at least 21 years of age will not be admitted to this event, and will not be eligible for a refund. The Venice West, 1717 Lincoln Blvd, $10.

LUNCHTIME LINE DANCE

Get fit and meet new friends learning line dances on your lunch break. We will learn new and old dances to various styles, including country, disco, Latin, soul, and more. All levels are welcome. For ADA accommodations, call (213) 228-7430 at least 72 hours prior to the event. 501 S. Venice Boulevard, Venice 12:30 p.m.

FRIDAY | JANUARY 5

KING CHRIS AND THE GROOVE THING

Doors open at 8 PM. Show starts at 9:30PM. Online ticket sales end at 7 PM, tics available at the door after 8 PM. 2 drink minimum. Born in a Louisiana bayou, KING CHRIS gathered his Sensibilities as a Singer as a young boy in churches and spiritual gatherings. where he was educated on the power of music and the spirit of the song. King Chris brings his SOULTOPIA SHOW from the Juke joints to L.A. Special guests and top players make the spirit of music come over you. Experience this special show. Feel good and Be Entertained. Harvelle's Santa Monica, 1432 4th St, $10.

SATURDAY | JANUARY 6

POLAR BEAR PLUNGE

The morning starts with a 10 a.m. check-in at Guest Services before heading to the shoreline in front of the Beach House. The first plunge takes place around 10:15 a.m. starting with the youngest Polar Bears, followed by the rest of the crowd. The most stalwart Polar Bears can take part in the 300-yard swim around a buoy. After the invigorating ocean plunge, warm up in the heated Beach House pool. Gather with friends and family, enjoy a cup of hot chocolate, and grab a photo with our very own Pat the Polar Bear mascot. Pool admission will be charged for Polar Bears and others entering the pool deck to visit, soak, swim in the heated pool, or take a hot shower. In-person registration will be available but may be limited on the day of event. Parking is $3 per hour or $8 per day. Pool Admission: $10/adult, $5/senior adult age 60+, $4/youth age 1-17. Questions? Please call 310-458-4904, email beach.house@santamonica.gov or visit www.annenbergbeachhouse.com for more information.

SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

Chill and Thrive

Complete a full-credit class in just 6 weeks!

Classes start January 2

On-campus and online

smc.edu/winter



SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

SANTA MONICA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Barry Snell, *Chair*; Dr. Margaret Quiñones-Perez, *Vice Chair*; Dr. Susan Aminoff; Dr. Nancy Greenstein; Dr. Tom Peters; Rob Rader; Dr. Sion Roy; Alyssa Arreola, *Student Trustee*; Kathryn E. Jeffery, Ph.D., *Superintendent/President*

Santa Monica College | 1900 Pico Blvd. Santa Monica, CA 90405 | smc.edu

32 YEARS

#1 IN TRANSFERS