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smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

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Local 'Polar Bears' take the plunge into 2024



Courtesy Photo

PLUNGING INTO 2024: Locals are ready to dip their toes into the Pacific Ocean on Saturday during the annual Polar Bear Plunge event.

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

The privilege of Santa Monica's proximity to the Pacific Ocean will be on display during the first week of 2024. While other cities in the northern and eastern United States have major New Year's endurance endeavors tied to surviving frigid waters, Santa Monica's "Polar Bear Plunge" event is a tongue-in-cheek naming by comparison.

The annual plunge, taking place Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Annenberg Community Beach House, reaches out to residents throughout the Los Angeles area to jump into the waters. Participants of all ages can either choose to dip their toes in the ocean, take a small plunge, or go all the way with a 300-yard swim around a buoy placed 150 yards out into the Pacific.

Beach House Recreation Supervisor Heath Hamilton said that waters will be a "little cooler than normal" in January, but the idea comes from the fact that residents can have fun in the waters year-round.

"Every once in a while, you'll see somebody in Boston jumping

SEE **PLUNGE** PAGE 6

Montana Ave. bids farewell to Sweet Lady Jane (and gluten) with bakery openings and closings

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

When one door closes, another opens and it appears the old saying applies to ovens as well as opportunities with one bakery announcing its departure from Montana Ave. just as another opens.

Over the New Year holiday, Sweet Lady Jane announced it had closed all locations and ceased operations.

Founded by Jane Lockhart in 1988 on Melrose, the company grew into a Los Angeles institution with six stores throughout the area. The company was known for its signature dish, a Triple Berry Cake, and became a go-to for celebrity events as much as it was for regular birthdays, anniversaries and special events.

SEE **BAKERY** PAGE 7

Santa Monica emergency services report fewer calls this New Year

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

It was a relatively quiet New Year in the City by the Sea.

The number of emergency calls that the Santa Monica Fire Department (SMFD) responded to over the New Year weekend was down 23%, from 213 to 164, compared to the same period last year.

According to Captain Patrick Nulty, SMFD Public Information

SEE **EMERGENCY** PAGE 4



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KCRW visionary dies at 88

Ruth Seymour, the visionary behind the transformation of KCRW-FM passed away on December 22, 2023, at the age of 88.

She played a pivotal role in turning KCRW into a local, regional, national, and international public radio and internet powerhouse by the time of her retirement in 2010. Seymour, a politically astute intellectual, broke broadcasting norms by creating an eclectic format that included news, talk, music, current affairs, and cultural programming, responding to the changing cultural landscape.

"Ruth was singular in every way," said KCRW's President Jennifer Ferro. "She had a powerful vision that never wavered. There was a spirit in Ruth that no one else has. She didn't just save NPR or create a new format—Ruth took chances and made decisions because she knew they were right. She trusted her gut. She broke rules and pursued excellence in ways that can't easily be explained. She was a force of nature. Ruth's legacy lives on at KCRW. She inspires us to be original, to host the smartest people, the most creative artists and to talk to our audience with the utmost respect for their intellect."

Her mission at KCRW was to "matter," and she achieved this by becoming the West Coast flagship station for NPR and embracing online programming, streaming, and podcasting, making KCRW globally renowned. One of her notable achievements was the creation of "Which Way, L.A.?" and the first nationally distributed weekly political roundtable, "Left, Right & Center." Seymour also led fundraising efforts for NPR during crises, establishing her as a fierce defender of public broadcasting funding in Washington, DC.

Under Seymour's leadership, KCRW's signature music show, "Morning Becomes Eclectic," became a trendsetter, featuring live performances by both established and unknown artists. She introduced "This American Life" by Ira Glass to a wider audience, turning it into an award-winning public radio and podcast favorite. Seymour's annual three-hour Chanukah tribute, "Philosophers, Fiddlers & Fools," ran for 28 years.

Seymour brought contemporary radio drama to the airwaves with series like "Jewish Stories from the Old World to the New" and a dramatized celebrity reading of Sinclair Lewis' "Babbitt." She provided a creative home for radio dramatist Joe Frank and offered Harry Shearer a weekly hour for "Le Show," showcasing Hollywood actors, political leaders, and top writers.

"Ruth was a towering figure in public radio, embracing a breadth of subject matter and styles that, frankly, does not seem possible any more. She imagined a listener who was endlessly curious, open to a wide range of opinions and musics, and worked tirelessly to satisfy that listener. There will not be one like her again," said Shearer.

Throughout her career, Seymour received numerous awards, including the Major Armstrong Award, the Peabody Award, and honors from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. She also earned accolades such as Amnesty International's Media Spotlight Award in 1997 and honorary doctorates from two universities.

"Ruth was one of the great pioneers of public radio—at her station as well as in the NPR firmament," said NPR Special Correspondent Susan Stamberg, one of the "Founding Mothers" of NPR. "She was enormously influential in our earliest days, and remained so for decades. Never feared to express her opinion, no matter how tough it was. I always thought hard, and learned much, from her criticisms. Her taste—the people she put on the air—and her passion for radio were unmatched. My favorite mental image of Ruth was during the wars in Iraq. She put on a radiothon to raise money to send NPR correspondents to cover it (the great Anne Garrels and others).

And to make her on-air pitches, she wore camouflage and combat boots! She knew it would be war to raise the funds, and she dressed for the challenge. I loved and admired her enormously, and found her to be a great teacher and inspirer."

First housed in a converted classroom where the station served as a training facility for returning veterans to learn the "new" FM radio technology, KCRW expanded in 1984, moving to the basement of Santa Monica College's student activities building. She successfully advocated for passage of the 2008 municipal bond that helped build the station's first-ever stand-alone building, now located on the campus of SMC's Center for Media and Design.

She is survived by her daughter, Celia Hirschman, her sister and brother-in- law Ann and Richard Zimmer and their children Jessica and Daniel, and her cousins Anita Getzler and Greg Epstein. Ruth's son, David, preceded her in death at the age of 25 from lymphoma.

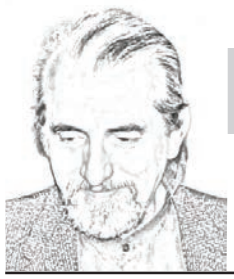
A public memorial service is being planned to honor her contributions to the world of broadcasting.

Submitted by Sarah Spitz



Marc Goldstein

RUTH SEYMOUR: The Santa Monica resident was a radio pioneer.



OPINION **CURIOUS CITY**

Charles Andrews | Send comments to editor@smdp.com

It's a New Year!

IT'S A NEW COLUMN!!

It could be.

That's the thing about writing. Every time you are faced with a blank page, there are endless possibilities, endless choices. I have a sign in my office, rooted in old school typewriter technology, that reads, "Writing is easy. You just put in a blank piece of paper and wait for the drops of blood to fall."

Don't get me wrong. It's a lot easier than filling in street potholes or flipping burgers. But a hot griddle pays better, especially in CA since Monday. About time. Why does it take so long for change that is so obviously needed? We have been shouting for a living wage for years, as the CEOs of those griddle and construction firms see their pay hit eight or nine figures. It's because someone, some group, fears losing money or power. Fear, and greed. In every area I can think of, it's either racism (misogyny, homophobia, religious fundamentalism, etc.), or unfettered capitalism, at the root.

I have spent much of the last 12 years railing in this column against injustice as I see it, in Santa Monica, California, and the nation. Most often I expressed my frustration and righteous anger, and tried to reveal facts, situations and governing philosophies that would make readers as upset as I was, upset enough to work for change, through voting. The one huge advantage we the people have, over all the money, organization, and backdoor deals is – numbers. Most people, by far, believe everyone should get a fair shake, and are pretty unhappy when they don't. Or their next door neighbor doesn't.

Bad elected politicians got us here, and only good ones can get us out. I still believe that. Of course there are no perfect politicians, but I do lose patience with the prevalence of false equivalency. "Both sides do it. All presidents lie." True enough, but while I no longer call myself a Democrat, the Republican party today is the greatest threat our democracy has faced in 163 years. And President Donald Trump made more than 30,000 false or misleading claims in his four years in the White House, as documented by several credible news organizations. Winner by a landslide. And now he seems certain to be the GOP candidate for president again. He definitely has a chance to win, again. Only now he has learned the levers of power in DC that will enable him to gut democracy and become ruler for life. This is not my paranoid, hating pronouncement. He has recently told us what he will do. And tens of millions of Americans cheered. Tens of millions more cringed.

I WILL TRY TO MAKE THIS A NEW COLUMN IN 2024

Because of some newfound realization? No. I long ago realized, as did our beloved longtime SMDP columnist Bill Bauer, that you can't scare people into action, even with the facts, and that change is slow. Slow, slow, slow. But Bill never threw in the towel, and neither will I. I have tried before to be more positive, and it lasted a few weeks. So why do I think I can do it this time around?

Because I'm tired. Tired of living in fear and anger, of the terrible suffering we are seeing from a radicalized Supreme Court taking away every woman's right to the most important, personal choice there is, about her own body and her family; of our faltering attempts at combating apocalyptic climate change falling prey to "drill, drill, drill"; of the too-widespread notion that immigrants are a threat, rather than the backbone of our nation; of the prospect that this will be the last election we will ever be able to vote in. At least until the rotten orange falls off the tree.

Santa Monica continues to be transformed into high rise ugliness and density, and now laws from Sacramento make it hard for us to fight it. Not that previous City Councils wanted to. About half of our current one has, and will, as best they can, but it's that other half. Gleam Davis, Carolyn Torosis and Jesse Zwick all espouse more and more housing crammed in here, already one of the densest cities in California. (Don't forget the nearly quarter of a million daily visitors we get, on top of our resident population.) They demand more housing for "affordability, for the homeless, for the future." All reasons which don't have any credibility. Not to mention our already high vacancy rate. So they are naive, misinformed, or disingenuous. You'll have to ask them. But we must elect at least four Council members this November who have a sense of place for Santa Monica and respect for our remarkable history. Council members who will fight first for the benefit of our residents, not developers, not inappropriate ideologue agendas, not for those who do not live here yet. Just as the next election will determine where Washington will take us, the same applies to Santa Monica. It is now or never, folks, and we need some good candidates to step forward, now.

So with all this potential doom hanging over 2024, how can I consider writing "a new column"? It's all perspective, isn't it? Perception. Faith, even. I have faith that it will all turn out for the best, that good will triumph, because people here and in our nation, pushed to the edge and forced to look into the abyss, will do what it takes to keep that from happening. We have yet to fulfill the promise of our Constitution and Declaration of Independence, but I feel most of us believe in that, our wonderful

SEE **CURIOUS CITY** PAGE 4



Surf report WATER TEMP: **61.0**

WEDNESDAY
POOR TO FAIR
SURF: 1-2ft
Knee to thigh

Watching for another round of WNW to move in, looking a bit steeper and smaller than the last run of swells. Looks like rising onshores. Stay tuned.

THURSDAY
FAIR
SURF: 2-3ft
Thigh to waist

WNW swell expected to peak for what could be another fun day of waves. Tide is a little high first thing but improves quick and stays decent for the rest of the day. Morning wind looking favorable at this point.

Weather

Wednesday: Showers before 10am, then a slight chance of thunderstorms after 10am. High near 59.
Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 47. North northwest wind around 10 mph, with gusts as high as 15 mph.
Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 60. Breezy, with a north wind around 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.
Thursday Night: Clear, with a low around 45.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
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
2024/01/07	Sun	05:34 AM	5.44	H
2024/01/07	Sun	1:13 PM	-0.18	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: 1/1
12 21 42 44 49
Power#: 1
Jackpot: 20 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 12/29
11 27 30 62 70
Mega#: 10
Jackpot: 114 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 12/30
6 14 24 28 40
Mega#: 21
Jackpot: 11 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 1/1
8 10 19 25 32

Daily 3
Draw Date: 1/1
EVENING: 6 9 7
Draw Date: 1/1
MIDDAY: 7 0 0

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 1/1
1st: 02 - Lucky Star
2nd: 03 - Hot Shot
3rd: 05 - California Classic
Race Time: 1:44.78

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Santa Monica Daily Press

EMERGENCY

FROM PAGE 1

Officer, for the period Friday December 29 to Monday January 1, there were 112 calls for emergency medical, 23 "good intent" call where there were no incidents found, 14 false fire alarms, seven service calls, four relating to hazardous conditions and four actual fires.

"We did not experience any significant events," Nulty told the Daily Press.

The Fire Department wasn't the only emergency service to report a reduction in calls. The Santa Monica Police Department (SMPD) also responded to fewer call outs, with a drop of 5.5%, from 895 to 845, over the same four day period compared to 12 months ago.

Lieutenant Erika Aklufi told the Daily Press that, generally speaking, the number of calls this year was in line with expectations, given the wide variety of issues related to the increased number of visitors, including traffic problems and some disturbances and businesses. Aklufi also mentioned that during the evening and early morning hours, SMPD had its usual, seasonal uptick in reports of loud parties and music, but she notes that there was only one "shots fired" call at midnight on Jan. 1. "It was fireworks, of course, but I'm glad to know our residents are savvier than most," Aklufi said.

Sadly though, on the morning of Tuesday, January 2, a body was discovered outside the Samoshel homeless shelter at 505 Olympic Blvd and reported to the Santa Monica Police Department (SMPD). Officers are investigating the incident and no details had been released at the time of going to press. Anyone with information relating to this incident should call the SMPD at (310) 458-8495.

scott.snowden@smdp.com



Scott Snowden

BODY: Overall, incidents were down compared to last year, but on early Tuesday morning, a body was found at 505 Olympic Blvd.

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California begins 2024 with below-normal snowpack a year after one of the best starts in decades

JOHN ANTCZAK
Associated Press

California is beginning 2024 with a below-normal mountain snowpack a year after it had one of its best starts in decades, and officials said Tuesday that the weather whiplash has made the outcome of this winter uncertain.

The water content of the statewide snowpack was 25% of the average to date, said Sean de Guzman, a water supply forecasting official with the California Department of Water Resources.

The snowpack functions as a huge frozen reservoir, providing about 30% of the water used annually in California as it melts and runs off into streams and rivers in the spring.

De Guzman conducted the first in a seasonal series of manual measurements on a snow course in the Sierra Nevada at Phillips Station, south of Lake Tahoe. The department also collects measurements with electronic instruments at more than 260 other sites.

De Guzman and his crew methodically worked across a field with minimal snow and a checkerboard of bare spots, measuring and weighing samples.

A year ago there was nearly 5 feet of snow at the location and the statewide snowpack was at 177% of average, he said in a webcast.

This time at Phillips Station, he recorded a snow depth of 7.5 inches and a snow-water content of 3 inches, translating to 30% of average to date and 12% of the average on April 1, when the Sierra snowpack is typically at its peak.

"Today's result shows that it's really still too early to determine what kind of year we'll have in terms of wet or dry," de Guzman said, adding that many things can happen with storm systems between January and April.

Still, he noted, the state's reservoir storage is at 116% of average thanks in part to last year's wet winter, which pulled the state out of a yearslong drought.

In addition, there's currently a strong El Nino, a natural and occasional warming of part of the Pacific Ocean that can lead to more precipitation than usual in California, but doesn't always come through.

> "Today's result shows that it's really still too early to determine what kind of year we'll have in terms of wet or dry
>
> - Sean de Guzman

"Right now the Climate Prediction Center's seasonal outlook for January, February, March is still showing an increased chance of above normal precipitation and snow," de Guzman said.

A year ago, the early January snowpack was already exceptional amid a barrage of atmospheric river storms that stood in stark contrast to three preceding years of drought. By April 2023, the snowpack was 237% of average to date.

The storms caused deadly and damaging flooding and crushed buildings with towering loads of snow, but when the state's Oct. 1-Sept. 30 "water year" ended, enough rain and snow had fallen to fill the state's reservoirs to 128% of their historical average.

CURIOUS CITY

FROM PAGE 3

work in progress that is America. Santa Monica? Too good to let any generation or moneyed forces bring it to ruin. We are caretakers, and must preserve and rebuild what is so good about this little city, for future generations here, in LA, and from around the world. OK, you didn't think you would have to fight for these things you took for granted, but turns out we do. Get busy. And stay cheerful. We will do this.

Charles Andrews has lived in Santa Monica for 37 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

LET US KNOW YOUR OPINION

Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

How to dispose of your Christmas tree responsibly

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

Seemingly, in the blink of an eye, the Holiday Season has once again flown past and while we contemplate how we're going to shift that Christmas excess, we should also remember that we have a responsibility to properly dispose of our fir trees.

The thing is, despite being cut down, trucked across the country, stood in the corner of the living like a disobedient child and forced to wear a gaudy glitter number that might feel more at home in Elton John's wardrobe, all for just a few short weeks…they can go on to help provide useful composting material that can be used to grow other plants and vegetables.

As such, discarded trees can indeed be placed in a green composting bin for collection, but Santa Monica residents are advised to also consider the city's Resource Recovery & Recycling alternative.

"First, it may be difficult for someone to pick up and place a tree in their green container or for people in multi-family dwellings to fit multiple trees in shared green bins," said Tati Simonian, Public Information Officer, City Manager's Office.

"To prevent extra lifting of trees by residents, our crews are ready to pick up trees placed on the ground next to residential containers curbside or in alleys within 10 business days from the time of placement," Simonian said.

According to Simonian, offering the holiday tree pickup service also allows residents to continue to use their green bins for food scraps and yard waste. Around this time of year, residents may have more gatherings centered around food and there may be more leaves and other yard waste to pick up. "We don't want trees to take up all the space in the green bin and not leave any room for food scraps and yard waste," she said.

Between December 26, 2023, and January 31, 2024, trees will be picked from the curbside or alley to receive a second life as mulch, keeping Santa Monica clean and sustainable. There is no need to contact 311 to request the pickup, this service will be provided automatically.

TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS FREE SERVICE, PLEASE FOLLOW THESE SIMPLE STEPS:

- Remove the tree's stand.
- Remove any decorations, ornaments, and lights.
- Place your tree at your normal collection spot (either curbside or alley).

"The holiday tree pickup service is just one of the many ways we are diverting what could end up in landfills, keeping Santa Monica clean, and contributing to our sustainability," said Carlos Collard, Resource Recovery and Recycling Administrator for the City of Santa Monica.

"Our crews will pick up trees between now and January 31, 2024, and trees will be recycled for further use as mulch. A 311 request is not required. We want to make it easy for people to recycle and reduce their waste while knowing that their efforts are helping our community become that much more sustainable," Collard said.

"The holiday tree pickup and recycling food scraps and yard waste all contribute to diverting what goes to our landfills," Simonian said, adding, "Santa Monica's zero waste goal is to reduce landfill trash disposal to 1.1 lbs of trash per person per day. Right now, we are calculating 3.3 lbs per person per day, down from 5 lbs in 2018. So, we're seeing an improvement, but still have some ways to go in reducing our city's overall waste."

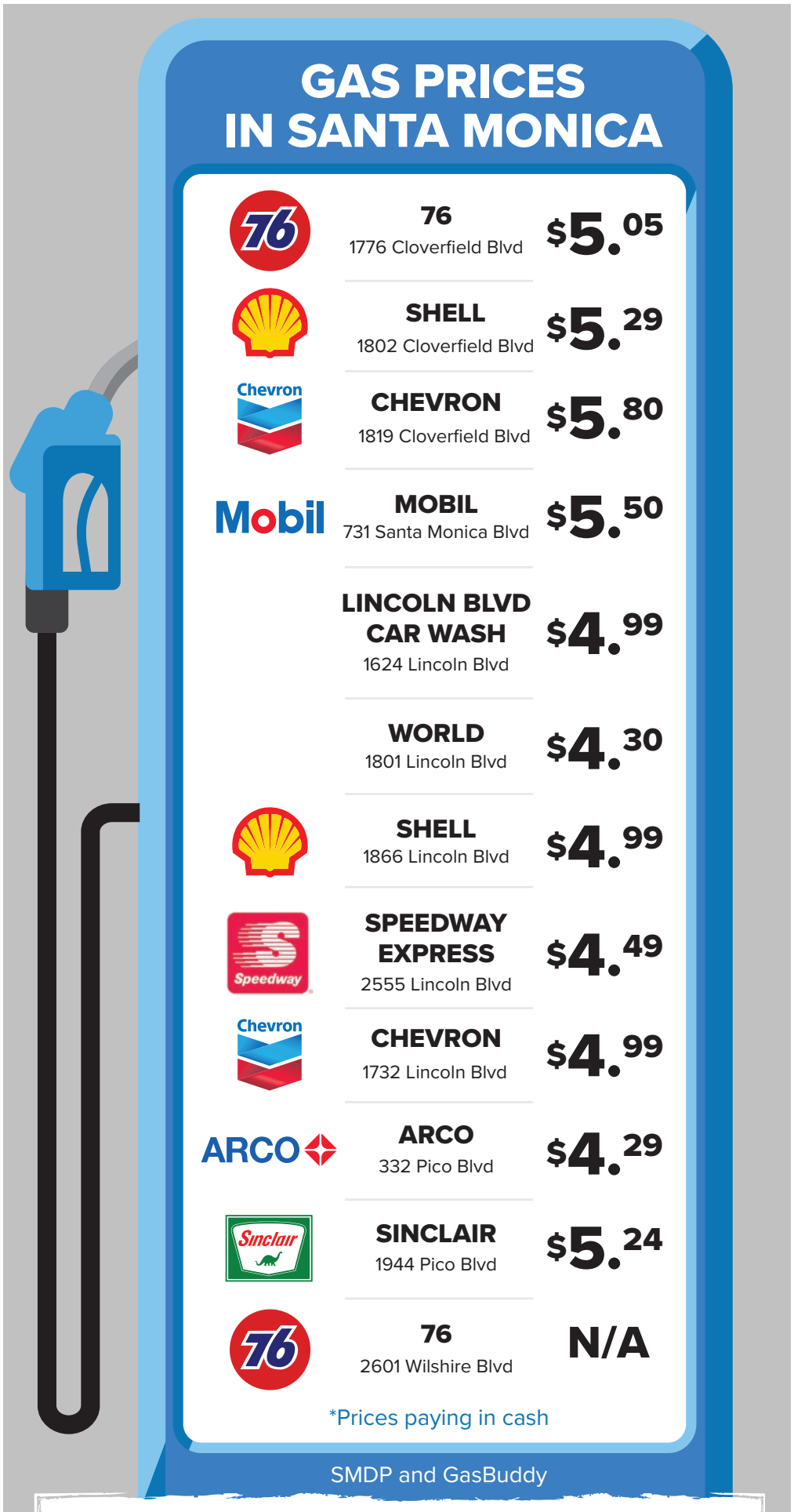
For more information on what can go in your green bin, blue bin, and black bin, email zerowaste@santamonica.gov

scott.snowden@smdp.com



Courtesy photo

DISPOSAL: The City has options tree removal.



Average gasoline prices in Los Angeles have risen 7.3 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging $4.70/g today, according to GasBuddy's survey of 2,135 stations in Los Angeles. Prices in Los Angeles are 19.9 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand 25.6 cents per gallon higher than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has fallen 4.5 cents in the last week and stands at $3.96 per gallon.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Los Angeles was priced at $3.93/g yesterday while the most expensive was $6.17/g, a difference of $2.24/g. The lowest price in the state yesterday was $3.59/g while the highest was $7.79/g, a difference of $4.20/g.

The national average price of gasoline has fallen 1.6 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging $3.06/g today. The national average is down 17.3 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 12.6 cents per gallon lower than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country.

Santa Monica Daily Press

PLUNGE

FROM PAGE 1

into the (water) on New Year's and it's 32 degrees, the water is almost frozen," Hamilton said. "Or, they're cutting holes in the ice up in Wisconsin for people to take a dip in. That's kind of a true test of how much cold you can withstand. Here in Southern California, we don't really have those types of conditions that we have to contend with ... it is wintertime, it's a different way to come and enjoy the beach, but really it's not going to be ... much crazier than the way you'd use the beach in the summertime."

After the plunge, attendees can use the beach house's historic pool for a recreational swim, with Hamilton noting the pool will be heated for the occasion. Event registration, which costs $10 for adults, $5 for seniors 60+ and $4 for youth ages 1-17, includes admission to the pool, hot showers and hot chocolate on the pool deck. Registration can be done online or in-person on Saturday, but in-person registration may be limited come event time.

"(It's a chance to) start the year with a good exercise, a good swim, then tell everybody for the rest of the year that that's the way you got your year started, having a good ocean swim," Hamilton said.

Registration costs aid the Beach House's activities throughout the year, including a birthday celebration of former property holder and actress Marion Davies in late January, a "cardboard yacht regatta" competition in June, and classes throughout the summer for swimming, yoga and beach volleyball.

Hamilton added that regular services, including the pool and other facilities, are "completely inclusive," and there is no type of membership fee or enrollment to visit the location at 415 Pacific Coast Highway.

> (It's a chance to) start the year with a good exercise, a good swim, then tell everybody for the rest of the year that that's the way you got your year started, having a good ocean swim
> - Heath Hamilton, Beach House Recreation Supervisor

"A lot of people think of this as a community center, but (also) a park that instead of having grass all around, we have sand ... everything is set up on a daily type of use, so there's no real block for anyone to come out and be a part of the beach house community," Hamilton said.

thomas@smdp.com



Courtesy Photo

BEAR: The popular local tradition returns to the Santa Monica beach this weekend.



BAKERY

FROM PAGE 1

However, a steady decline in business doomed the bakery.

"We did not come to this decision lightly nor quickly. While the support and loyalty of our customers has been strong, sales are not enough to continue doing business in the state of California, allowing us to service our lease obligations and pay our treasured employees a living wage without passing those costs directly on to you," said a statement posted online.

Sweet Lady Jane's closure comes just as another bakery opened down the street.

Modern Bread and Bagel opened at 15th and Montana in December.

Owner Orly Gottesman said she expanded her New York based company to Los Angeles in response to a growing demand for her gluten-free products and the opportunity to reduce some of her shipping costs.

"So we were shipping tons of product to the West Coast, and it was costing us like 29, 30 bucks to ship to the West Coast," she said. "And we were passing that cost on to our customers. So we had an opportunity to open in Woodland Hills in what used to be a Westfield Shopping Center and it was an outdoor mall with a splash pad and outdoor seating, lots of space. And we thought during COVID it would be a great place to open this outdoor space."

Over time, the company expanded its East Coast stores before learning that another gluten-free bakery, Breadblok, was closing. Gottesman seized the opportunity to acquire Breadblok's retail locations and production facility.

Gottesman said she sees a bright future for the business on Montana and beyond.

> So we were shipping tons of product to the West Coast, and it was costing us like 29, 30 bucks to ship to the West Coast
> - Orly Gottesman

"More and more people are getting diagnosed with gluten intolerance, whether it be celiac or autoimmune issues or inflammation issues, more and more people are being told to go on a gluten free diet," she said.

She said her products break the stereotypes associated with gluten free food and that the store just focuses on producing exemplary products that happen to be gluten free.

"So we are a new age kind of bagel sandwich shop that serves open face bagels, breakfast sandwiches, salads, bowls, pastries, coffee, breads," she said. "Everything is made from scratch, everything. We don't buy anything, we make everything. But we're delicious before we're gluten free."

Gottesman said the bakery appeals to everyone, regardless of dietary choices.



Scott Snowden

OPEN: Modern Bread and Bagel is now open at 15th and Montana.

"We're very aware of all the allergens when people do come to us, who have gluten intolerance or who are vegan, who don't eat nuts, there's a lot of that. But at the same time, there's also foot traffic. They're like, 'Oh, this looks like a really nice bakery. Let me come inside and get a bagel sandwich' and they'll come and go without knowing that what they're eating is gluten free ... That's where we're different, is that we don't only cater to people who are going to be gluten free. We cater to everyone but it still happens to include people who have to be gluten free," she said.

editor@smdp.com

ANDREA WHITE PILATES

ANDREA WHITE PILATES

1202 Montana Ave Suite C | (323) 384-8987 | andreawhitepilates.com

Owner Andrea White Marinas strives to be an inspiration of not only fitness but of mindfulness and wellness. "I am proud of the community we have built and the relationships created at the studio," she said. "Also, I take pride in the expertise and care our teachers give to our clients. It is important to me that we not only teach authentic Pilates and help our clients strengthen and tone their bodies, but educate them on posture and how to move through the world more gracefully. We pride ourselves on being an inclusive studio that welcomes a mix of ages, backgrounds and intentions for doing Pilates. We are a neighborhood studio and love getting to know the residents and people who work in the Montana Avenue area."



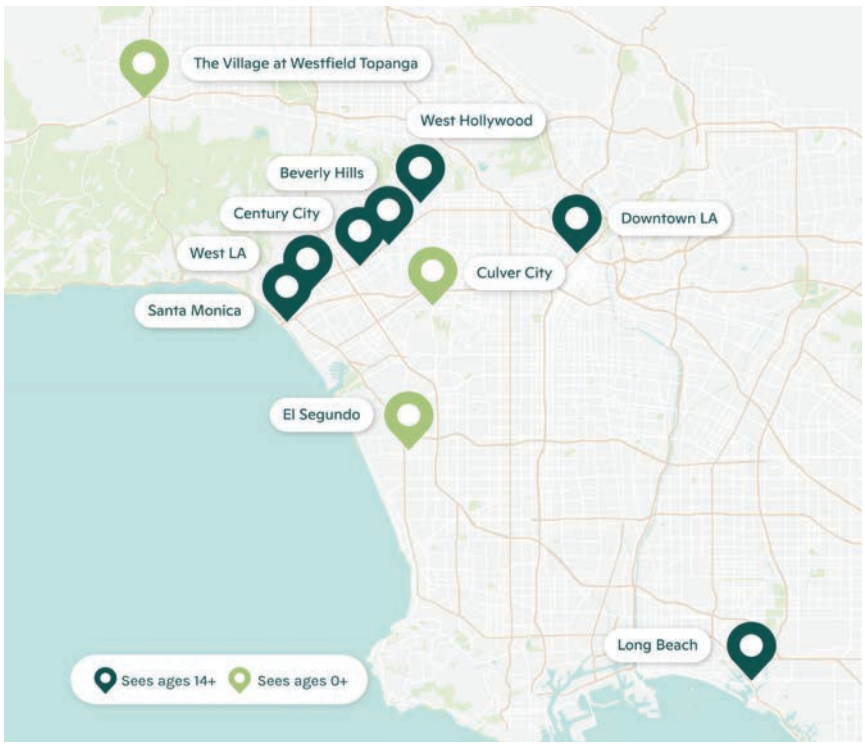
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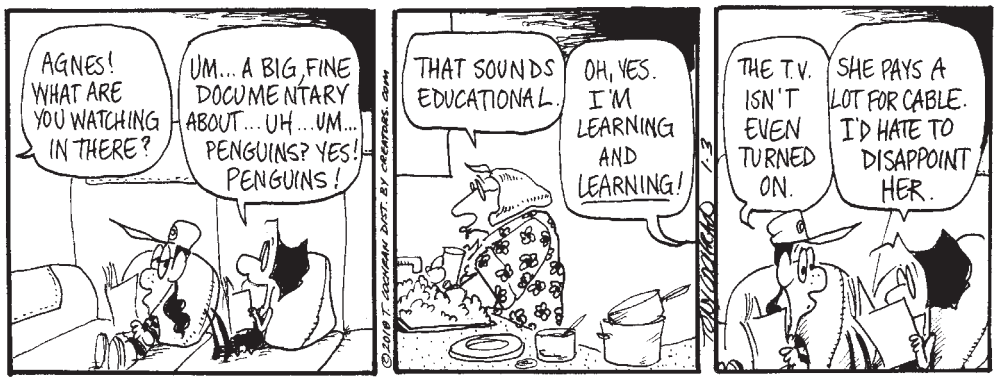
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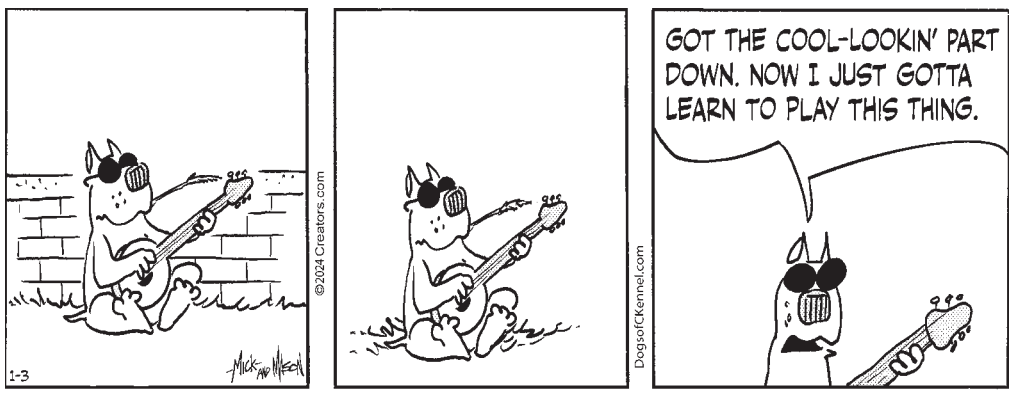
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



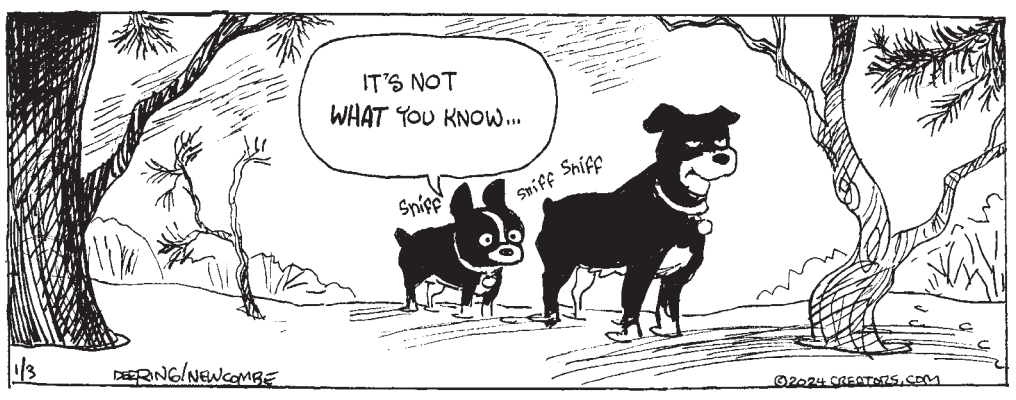
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



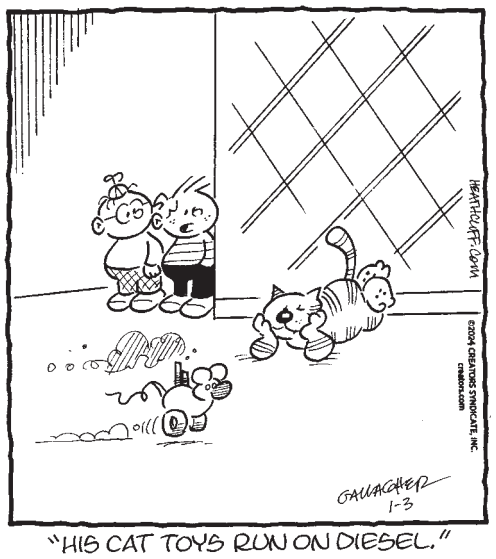
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

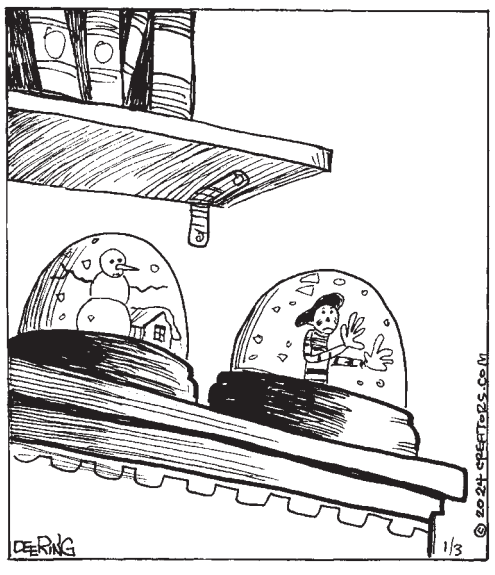
By PETER GALLAGHER



"HIS CAT TOYS RUN ON DIESEL."

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 19 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

© australianwordgames.com.au 6078

Under the sea

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

Abyss	Coral trout	Gull	Rip
Algae	Crab	Humpback	Rust
Barrier Reef	Cunje	Iceberg	Sand
	Danger	Kelp	Seals
Bass	Dart	Krill	Ship
Bottom	Deep	Magic	Shoal
Bream	Depths	Mako	Sole
Brittle star	Drift	Manta	Spectacular
Butterfly fish	Eels	Mask	Submarine
Clam	Feeding	Pipi	Tide
Conch	Fins	Rays	

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 3)

Luck, talent and risk-taking — your trifecta of good fortune this year. The more you focus on meeting someone's need, the greater your opportunities will be. You'll have the chance to heal, evolve, and build key relationships. More highlights: A joke that builds into a major deal, the blossoming of a fantastic collaboration, and a budding love. Gemini and Taurus adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 3, 46, 41 and 11.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You'll need to react to the events of the day, but you don't need to do it right away. Take your time; stay alert; gather observations. Let the information marinate, as time will be your friend.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). As much as you'd like to see all the places, ride all the rides and taste every flavor, you're not naive enough to believe "more is better." More is, and has always been, "more," and only "better" is "better."

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You'll realize that what was once an intermittent behavior is now something else, a cycle that doesn't add much to your life and maybe even subtracts from it. This is an ideal time to brainstorm the question: What am I getting out of it?

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your strong moral center will help you in your work and will prove especially reliable in navigating through the gray areas. You'll be flexible and cooperative but still remain true to yourself.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). It is said that curiosity killed the cat, but the cat also has many lives to use on its feline investigations. As for the humans, curiosity is a compass to vitality, so go where it leads today.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Even though a relationship isn't ideal in every way, there's a reason you keep coming back. Maybe it's the unfinished work that keeps you tied to it. Your creative mind sees potential for greatness there.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your attractions will change, but only on their own accord. The environmental aspect cannot be underestimated. Healthy options that are "in your face" will start the ball rolling toward building your attraction to what fortifies you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Loving relationships are not all about giving, doing and being loving. They are also largely about receiving love well, appreciating what others do without trying to control it, and letting them show you instead of being so capable that you never need their help.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Superstitions are highlighted. You'll get confirming evidence of the use of truth in a nonsensical ritual, especially involving a turnaround (as in flipping an apron, sock or shirt). Nonmagical things become magical when reversed.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Moving on is a process not to be rushed. To go faster would mean skipping lessons, all of which will have to be learned eventually anyway, so you may as well pick them up as you go.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Nostalgia will color how you feel about someone today. Of course, you remember the past the same way all humans do — imperfectly. Memory is but a wonky mimeograph, highlighting certain lines and fading others.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Attention is among the cheapest commodities. There is no lasting benefit to gaining attention for attention's sake. Those who provide service and value will naturally attract attention necessary to make their offerings known to those who can use them.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

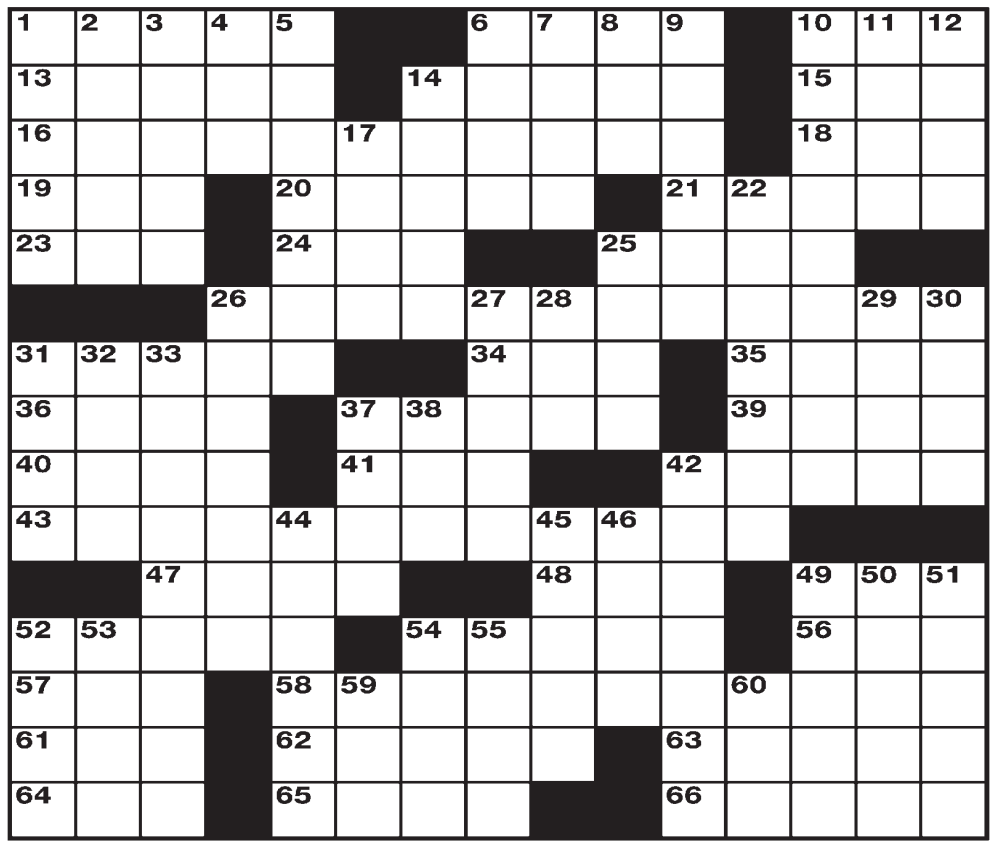
COMPLAINT DEPARTMENT by Mark McClain
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Checked-bag attachment
6 Telly network, with "the"
10 Inc., across the Atlantic
13 Scientist Curie
14 About the year of
15 __ de Cologne
16 Irreversibly refuse
18 Butter container
19 Snakelike fish
20 Central connections
21 Tries out
23 Airport screeners' org.
24 Before, in poems
25 Thick fruity spreads
26 Steel wool pads
31 Drummer Ringo
34 Liquid for frying
35 Sign on for more
36 Misplace
37 Metallic mixture
39 Any assistant
40 Swiss range
41 Bovine greeting
42 Worked on stage
43 Smeltery hot spot
47 Be nomadic
48 Suffix for puppet
49 Kid's bank shape
52 Swiss money
54 Prefix meaning "large"
56 Solemn vow
57 Captain's diary
58 Superstitious "I hope so"
61 Ostrich's Aussie cousin
62 Movie script contents
63 "__ be sorry!"
64 Used to be
65 Large antlered animals
66 Unlike rolling stones, supposedly

DOWN

1 "No more for me!"
2 Broad valleys
3 Singing syllables
4 Strive (for)
5 Come close to
6 __ one's time (wait)
7 Cupid's Greek alias
8 Earth-friendly prefix
9 Happy-hour bill
10 "Show me!"
11 With no slack
12 Gives a nickname to
14 Signs over
17 Bugle or trumpet
22 Welcome warmly
25 Popular vacation month
26 Persevere
27 Use crayons
28 River, in Spain
29 Unmannerly
30 Hurried along
31 Thick slice
32 Turnpike payment
33 Green veggie with spears
37 Clock radio switch
38 Baseball great Gehrig
42 Word formed from initials
44 Bring down, in football
45 Narrow parts of bottles
46 Aviation prefix
49 Devout
50 Objects of adoration
51 Devout
52 Went by jet
53 Small tomato variety
54 Abbey resident
55 Virtuosos
59 Nothing at all
60 Seek to win over



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



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. 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 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. Please call 310-458-4904, email beach.house@santamonica.gov or visit www.annenbergbeachhouse.com for more information.

HAVEN NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES
Stop by for information on free financial coaching services, including budgeting, credit counseling, and identity theft recovery. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd. 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

MUSIC FOR STORYTELLING WITH MILESTONE MUSIC
Charlsey Miller of Milestone Music leads this interactive music class where kids use their voices, dance moves, and imaginations to practice the fundamentals of music (rhythm, tempo, melody, rhyme) and create a brand-new original song. Limited space; free tickets available at 10:30 a.m. For ages 4-8. Montana Branch Library, 1704 Montana Avenue, 11 - 11:45 a.m.

SOUNDWAVES NEW MUSIC CONCERT
Soundwaves celebrates LA's diverse history of innovative underground music with free performances by world-class artists. Started in 2016 by librarian, author, and musician Jeff Schwartz with composer Daniel Rothman, and funded by the Santa Monica Public Library, Friends of the Santa Monica Public Library, and the Amphion Foundation, Soundwaves has collaborated with presenters including the Angel City Jazz Festival, Microfest, PianoSpheres, Jacaranda Music, the Dog Star Orchestra Festival, the Santa Monica Department of Cultural Affairs, and Cold Blue Music. Jan. 6: Isaura String Quartet. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

SUNDAY | JANUARY 7

SANTA MONICA AIRPORT ANTIQUE MARKET
Noted as One of the Top Ten "Flea Markets' in America, visit the Santa Monica Airport Antique Market, a fun outdoor (and dog-friendly!) market full of many great dealers with furniture, antiques, collectibles, art, vintage clothes, jewelry, rugs and much more. Santa Monica Airport, 2800-3200 Airport Ave, 7 a.m. - 3 p.m. $5.

PARTY ON! A SOBER COMEDY SHOW
Party On! is more than just a night of laughs, it's a celebration of recovery and a testament to the power of humor in overcoming addiction. Headlining comics from HBO, Netflix, and late night shows, will speak to the sober experience, but every comedy fan will love this show. Bergamot Station Arts Center, 2525 Michigan Ave, 7 - 8:30 p.m. $20. https://jetbook.co/e/party-on-a-sober-comedy-showcmck

MONDAY | JANUARY 8

BABY TIME
Introduce your child to storytime with interactive books, bounces, and more! Free tickets are available at 10:15 and 11:15 a.m. For ages 0-17 months. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. Session 1: 10:30 - 10:50 a.m. Session 2: 11:30 - 11:50 a.m.

LANDMARKS COMMISSION
City Hall, 1685 Main Street. 7 p.m. Agenda available online at https://www.smgov.net/Departments/PCD/Boards-Commissions/Landmarks-Commission/

MONDAY NIGHT TRIVIA
Trivia Night! Team up with groups of up to 6 people to compete for gift certificates and prizes. Questions range from pop culture to geography to the natural world... and everything in between. The Daily Pint, 2310 Pico Blvd.

VISION BOARDING
Space is limited so please RSVP by emailing silviwinthropcounseling@gmail.com. Come meditate and create your Vision Board for 2024. A vision board is a collage of images that represent goals and dreams. It can include cut-out pictures from magazines and words that help inspire you to manifest your dreams and get where you want to go. Silvi Winthrop, our wonderful meditation leader, is teaching this class. Vision boards may also help us imagine what a positive future could look like for us. Imagining a positive future is a helpful way to increase positive emotions and optimism. 10:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Palisades Branch Library, 861 Alma Real Drive, Pacific Palisades

TUESDAY | JANUARY 9

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. The first Tuesday of the month 11:30 am to 7 pm and 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Tuesdays from 9:30 am to 5 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. Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave.

TUESDAY TALES: A TRAVELING STORYTIME
This engaging & fun weekly series of stories, songs and rhymes travels to different library locations. Limited space; free tickets available at 10:15 a.m. For ages 2-5. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 10:30 - 11 a.m.

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS CLUB
Learn how to play Dungeons & Dragons at the Library, from crafting the perfect character to participating in a short campaign. Materials provided. No registration necessary. For ages 10-18. Montana Branch Library, 1704 Montana Avenue, 4:30 - 6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY | JANUARY 10

BABY & TODDLER STORYTIME
For participation details, please e-mail akagan@lapl.org or gkim@lapl.org. Lap-sit (or not!) storytime for babies and toddlers and their grown-ups to share together. One child, one lap, please. For ages under 36 months accompanied by a grown-up. 10:15 a.m. Palisades Branch Library, 861 Alma Real Drive, Pacific Palisades.

COMPUTER CLASS - INTRO TO GOOGLE DOCS
Create and format text documents using this free online word processor. Google account recommended, but not required. For advanced beginners. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

GERMAN AMERICAN BUSINESS MIXER AT SOLIDARITY
Get ready for a laid-back evening of German American networking and good vibes on the cozy patio of Solidarity Restaurant, 1414 Lincoln Boulevard, 6 - 9 p.m. $10, https://www.eventbrite.com/e/la-business-mixer-at-solidarity-tickets-769306555617

K-POP PARTY | WEDNESDAYS ON ICE
Time to slip on your best Jungkook (convince us otherwise) t-shirt and get your K-POP ON! with Ice at Santa Monica! Calling all ARMYs, BLINKs and K-Pop enthusiasts: don't forget your light sticks because we'll be keeping a close eye on which fanbase can own the ice rink and light up the night in style. 7 - 8:30 p.m. https://iceatsantamonica.com/$20.

BEAR SUPPLY HOUR
Bear Supply is a fast-paced sketch and long form improv team, performing at M.i.'s Westside Comedy Theater (1323-A 3rd St Promendade) at 9pm. Every show is accompanied by a live DJ, creating a high-octane, freakishly entertaining and one-of-a-kind improvised spectacle. $10 https://ci.ovationtix.com/34923/production/976295

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