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1945 - 2023.

smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

Volume 23 Issue 35 THURSDAY 1/4/24 smdp.com

Commissioners accuse police union of suppressing racial traffic stop data

Union representative calls allegations 'absolutely false'

The Santa Monica Public Safety Reform and Oversight Commission (PSROC) has accused the union representing local police officers of trying to suppress a report on racial profiling and traffic stops in the city.

Commissioner Angela Scott opened a recent discussion by stating that she was informed by "reliable sources" that the Santa Monica Police Officers Association (POA) was attempting to block commission's Racial and Identity Profiling Act (RIPA) findings and recommendations from making the City Council agenda, saying that while the RIPA data was "troubling," the lack of transparency and opportunity to address council with a report and recommendations was "more troubling."

"If we just present the facts, have it agendized, give City Council an opportunity to look at the data, speak to the police department, then we can move on and everyone can work collectively to create change," Scott said.

POA representative Lieutenant Cody Green strongly denied the accusation, saying the union had just raised a question of the legality of discussions that had not been properly agendized under the Brown Act.

RIPA stop data must be collected during police contacts for any detention by a peace officer of a person, or any peace officer interaction with a person in which the officer conducts a search. The data is triggered by both officer-initiated activity (like traffic stops or pedestrian stops) and any point during police contact when there is a detention or the officer conducts a search, including calls for service, consensual contacts and non-enforcement related community events.

According to the PSROC report, the 2022 data, "demonstrates that minorities are not stopped congruent to their resident population percentage within Santa Monica." Out of the SMPD's total stops throughout 2022, white individuals accounted for 49.1% of stops while representing 58.2% of the Santa Monica population. The percentage of total SMPD stops was calculated as disproportionate of Santa Monica's population for Hispanic/Latino (23.3% of total stops, 20.7% of population) and particularly for Black/African American (15.4% of total stops with 4.3% of the population), with this disproportionality being cause for concern from Scott's perspective. SMPD argues that demographic data could be skewed due to Santa Monica's status as a tourist destination.

Though the collection and reporting of stop data is a state requirement, SMPD is not required to act on the data, with the department's report on the 2022 data stating that SMPD "endeavors to utilize the data as an important opportunity (to) learn more about who the SMPD stops, searches, cites and arrests in the City."

"This RIPA report is not flattering, but as I always say, it's an opportunity to improve," Scott said. "It's an opportunity to look at the different data points and bring understanding and create change around these different issues that primarily affect our Black and Brown community."

From the data, the commission specifically pointed to a recommendation for SMPD to adopt the Los Angeles Police Department's policy on pretextual stops, which are incidents in which police can stop someone for mundane reasons, but then use the stop to investigate more serious crimes. The commission argues that pretextual stops "can be racially biased and place people of color at an unacceptable risk of danger."

Currently, SMPD allows pretextual stops, but the department does have extensive training on implicit bias and biased-based policing. The department argues that due to this training and a commitment to a diverse police force, pretextual stops are not racially biased in the city. The POA added that pretextual stops are a

SEE **RIPA** PAGE 11



THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

File Photo

RIPA REPORT: Santa Monica's Public Safety Reform and Oversight Commission questioned why its Racial and Identity Profiling Act (RIPA) findings and recommendations have not reached the agenda of City Council.



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Cemetery
Mausoleum
Mortuary
FD #2101

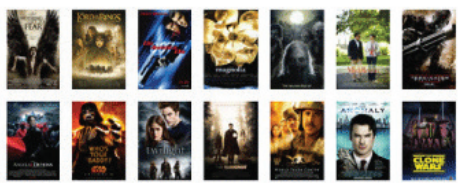


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Rent relief program targets LA County landlords



Photo by Thomas Leffler

RENT RELIEF: A new Los Angeles County program aims to curb losses incurred by smaller landlords during the COVID-19 pandemic.

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

Although the COVID-19 pandemic hasn't been a major part of general public discourse in quite a while, the pandemic period still looms large as a financial burden for some, including landlords and tenants across Los Angeles County.

An early 2023 study conducted by National Equity Atlas, produced by PolicyLink and the USC Equity Research Institute, stated that unpaid back rent from the pandemic across greater Los Angeles could exceed $1 billion. To recoup some of those costs, eligible landlords are now able to apply for the Los Angeles County Rent Relief Program, designed to "provide direct financial assistance to landlords to help them mitigate the detrimental economic impacts caused by the COVID-19 pandemic."

The rent relief program, run through the county's Department of Consumer and Business Affairs (DCBA), offers grant awards to cover eligible expenses incurred from April 1, 2022 onward on a rolling basis. Eligible expenses, according to the program's website, include "qualifying unpaid rental debt" and other "substantiated related expenses" such as utilities. The county will be providing over $68 million in grants to qualified landlords, geared toward smaller landlords who own up to four rental units. The deadline to submit an application is January 12 at 11:59 p.m. PST.

"The LA County Rent Relief Program will provide small rental property owners with much-needed direct financial assistance to alleviate the financial burdens they have experienced due to the COVID-19 pandemic," DCBA Director Rafael Carbajal said. "By helping mom-and-pop landlords in LA County, we simultaneously address the dual impact of maintaining the availability of affordable housing in Los Angeles County and reducing the number of tenant evictions due to past due rent."

Priority for the direct payments, up to $30,000 per unit, will be given to those located in "high-need areas" and income levels at or below 80% of the LA County Area Median Income. Applicants must meet eligibility requirements, such as the rental property being within the County of Los Angeles (excluding the City of Los Angeles), and the landlord being able to provide independently verified authentic proof of ownership. Besides proof of ownership, applicants must provide proof of identity, proof of income, proof of tenancy of unit applied for, proof of rent owed and proof of outstanding eligible expenses.

DCBA has been the local consumer protection agency serving County consumers, tenants, homeowners, immigrants, and workers since 1975. However, the relief program is administered by nonprofit The Center by Lendistry, which also emphasized the need to protect smaller landlords in the post-pandemic period.

"We are proud to partner with the County in delivering crucial financial assistance," The Center President and CEO Tunua Thrash-Ntuk said. "Mom-and-pop landlords, who are often from underserved communities, are the backbone of our local housing market. By helping them, we are ensuring that our most vulnerable community members continue to have a roof over their heads."

The relief program launched in December, shortly after the launch of an Emergency Renters Assistance Program in the City of Los Angeles, providing financial assistance toward back rent to low-income renters at risk of homelessness. The program, funded by Measure ULA sales tax funds, offers up to six months of rental assistance for those that have experienced "a loss of employment, reduction in household income, incurred significant costs, or experienced other financial hardship" between March 2020 and the present day.

To apply for the DCBA program, visit https://lacountyrentrelief.com.

thomas@smdp.com

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Addressing Homelessness: Facing the challenges head-on

DAVID WHITE

When I joined the city of Santa Monica a little more than two years ago, the city was in the midst of responding to a global pandemic, recovering from a severe economic crisis and working to address service gaps and much-needed program restorations. The pandemic's economic impact on the city was glaringly apparent and, similar to many other communities, we experienced a rise in homelessness.

The City Council has made it clear that Addressing Homelessness in Santa Monica is a priority, dedicating additional resources to this work in the city's recently adopted budget. As we close out 2023, I'd like to take a moment to highlight the initiatives and investments that we have implemented this year.

- The city deployed a third multi-disciplinary outreach team, known as C3 teams, to provide coverage beyond the downtown and beach area to cover the entire city. The city now funds a total of eight street outreach teams to connect with people experiencing homelessness, consisting of both general outreach workers as well as multi-disciplinary teams that include mental health professionals, housing case managers, substance use specialists, medical providers, psychiatrists, and peers with lived experience. In addition to providing street-based care, they connect people with a host of local and regional resources, including housing, to streamline the outreach process.

- A huge step forward in this year's budget was the formation of a new city department dedicated to housing and human services, with new Director Heather Averick coming in to lead the comprehensive effort to address homelessness in Santa Monica. She's been here a little under a month, so we'll give her a moment to get her bearings. But I know she's going to bring great leadership, strategies and solutions to an already hardworking team of talented staff come 2024.

- The Police Department has hired more than 20 new officers in 2023 and, thanks to new revenues from voter-approved Measure CS, resources have been allocated to expand the Homeless Liaison Program, or HLP Team, who specialize in collaboration with city departments and services related to homelessness. It will take time to hire the much-needed officers to deploy this resource, especially with anticipated retirements. Once the staffing is in place, the goal is to expand the HLP Team's outreach work to seven days a week.

- Leveraging resources from L.A. County, the HLP Team is now partnering with the Salvation Army to offer outreach services along with connections to services and housing.

- The Directed Action Response Team, or DaRT — a partnership between Police and Code Enforcement — continues to work proactively addressing homelessness and matters of public safety on and around the pier, the beach, the Promenade and in downtown public spaces.

- Creating and sustaining affordable housing remains a strong priority for addressing the foundational causes of homelessness. In the past 15 months, affordable housing buildings on Lincoln Boulevard, Pico Boulevard, and 14th Street have all opened thanks to city funding, contributing more than 150 apartments to the city's affordable housing supply.

- It's becoming more apparent that focusing attention and services around behavioral health and alternative crisis response is critical to our success in addressing homelessness. This year, thanks to $1.5 million in federal funding, the city partnered with Initium Health to study different models of behavioral health care for Santa Monica. They launched a community survey and held several community listening sessions and focus groups earlier this year.

- The city continues to invest in programs that maintain a social safety net to prevent homelessness, keeping Santa Monica families and other vulnerable community members safe and housed. The city distributed more than $10 million in grant funding to 18 local social services agencies offering 21 distinct programs and serving more than 28,000 participants.

- In a concentrated effort to keep our public spaces clean, a new Public Works team dedicated to cleaning up encampments has hit the ground running. In just the first three months of the pilot program, the Homeless Support Team, or HoST, has cleaned up 339 locations and disposed of 40 tons of trash and debris.

And our work continues. Looking forward to 2024 and beyond, I'm tremendously optimistic about upcoming initiatives.

- Beginning in January, unhoused individuals with mental health and/or substance abuse issues who commit a misdemeanor in Santa Monica will have access to the Shelter, Treatment, and Empowerment Program, or STEP Court, right here in our city. This community-based, prosecutor-led collaborative diversion court aims to reduce the number of individuals experiencing homelessness in Santa Monica through resource navigation services while lowering recidivism and allowing for reallocation of resources. It adds to our already robust programming around alternatives to incarceration.

SEE **GUEST COMMENTARY** PAGE 11



Surf report WATER TEMP: **61.3**

THURSDAY
POOR TO 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.

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

WNW swell likely on the way down with potential to see some reinforcing swell show in the late afternoon. Tide a little high early but the wind looks mellow as it drops into mid-morning.

Weather

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 64. Breezy, with a northwest wind 20 to 25 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.
Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 44. North northeast wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.
Friday: Sunny, with a high near 66. Breezy, with a north wind 5 to 10 mph becoming north northwest 15 to 20 mph in the afternoon.
Friday Night: Clear, with a low around 45.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
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
2024/01/07	Sun	7:52 PM	3.15	H
2024/01/07	Sun	11:36 PM	2.47	L
2024/01/08	Mon	06:15 AM	5.88	H
2024/01/08	Mon	1:50 PM	-0.77	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: 1/2
3 18 27 29 64
Mega#: 1
Jackpot: 140 M

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

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 1/2
13 23 27 34 35

Daily 3
Draw Date: 1/2
EVENING: 7 3 1
Draw Date: 1/2
MIDDAY: 7 4 6

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 1/2
1st: 06 - Whirl Win
2nd: 01 - Gold Rush
3rd: 08 - Gorgeous George
Race Time: 1:48.01

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Santa Monica Daily Press

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that bids will be received by the City of Santa Monica until 3:00 p.m. on the date indicated at which time they will be opened and posted for:

BID #4475 Citywide Water Feature and Pond Maintenance

Submission Deadline is February 9, 2024 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.

Bids must be submitted on forms supplied by the City of Santa Monica. Bid packages containing all forms, specifications, terms and conditions may be obtained on the **CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL.** The website for this Notice of Inviting Bids and related documents is: OpenGov (https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca). There is no charge for bid package and specifications.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

FOR QUOTES PLEASE CALL 310-573-8074

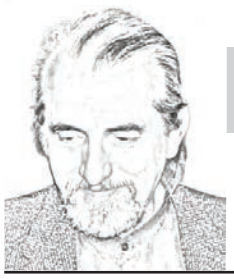
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Furniture	Travel	Commercial Lease	Services	Health and Beauty	Obituaries
	Vacation Rentals	Real Estate	Computer Services	Fitness	Tutoring

Petition to Admin Estate

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: Everett E LeGRANDE aka Everett Eric LeGRANDE aka Eric LeGRANDE CASE NUMBER: 23STPB04703 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of Everett E LeGRANDE aka Everett Eric LeGRANDE aka Eric LeGRANDE. A Petition for Probate has been filed by Carolyn Lowe in the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles-Stanley Mosk Courthouse. The Petition for Probate requests Rich Barsumian, Professional Fiduciary be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: Date: Feb 2, 2024 Time: 8:30 a.m Dept. 4 Room - Address of Court: I Stanley Mosk Courthouse 111 N. Hill St Los Angeles, CA 90012 If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney or Party without Attorney: Sheryl D. Noel 172551 Coleman & Harowitt, LLP 499 W. Shaw Ave., Ste. 116 Fresno, CA 93704 559-248-4830 01/04/24, 01/11/24, 01/18/24

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



OPINION **NOTEWORTHY**

Charles Andrews | Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Dude what you can, clock is ticking

I TOLD YOU pickin's would be slim around this time, so grab all you can. Next week will be better, but why wait, on something great (like what's listed below)?

I COULD TELL YOU a tale from my music history, I suppose, since I have the space. ...well, OK, you twisted my arm. I will.

I cannot understand why some people can't stand Jethro Tull. Revisionist history, I think. Or maybe they never saw them live. They were considered one of the top bands of the early '70s, and I still consider "Aqualung" a landmark album, musically and conceptually. A dirty, obviously homeless guy as the concept album's protagonist. Not a pretty picture.

"Sitting on a park bench, eyeing little girls with bad intent,

Snot is running down his nose, greasy fingers smearing shabby clothes,

Oh, Aqualung..."

But composer-lyricist-bandleader-founder-vocalist-flutist Ian Anderson was also a master showman, and his band was both nuanced and incredibly powerful. They could blast like locomotive breath, play pretty, and stop on a dime, no, on a pinpoint. I saw them (6/22/72) just a week after the Rolling Stones also played The Pit, with Stevie Wonder opening and Mick Taylor in the band, on the tour nearly everyone agrees was their greatest. But Tull still thrilled me. No comparisons needed. There's not a bad cut on the entire "Aqualung" album, and two or three at least are stone cold classics. Anderson took on a lot of social issues, pretty much spitting in the face of the establishment, in the UK especially, more intelligently and viscerally than almost anyone. He was my age then, 26, but looked like Aqualung before his fall from grace, with his long shaggy hair and beard and long topcoat and tights. No one else blew a rock and roll flute like he did, and it was also his dramatic stage prop.



Courtesy photo

THE DUDE ABIDES: for now...

IT ALWAYS MAKES ME A LITTLE CRAZY

When people refer to him as Jethro Tull, who was an early 18th century agricultural scientist who invented the seed drill. Move over, Ben Franklin! I think the UNM Arena was sold out (20,000, or close to it, ticket price: $4), Heads Hands & Feet opened (eh), and Tull played "Aqualung" front to back, and you'd think I would have been ecstatic, I was, but only mildly so, because I had heard an even better band that same day...

As the Arts & Media Editor of the student newspaper, I knew the right people who could get me in for the sound check. And that's what this tale is all about. I was one of maybe two or three dozen people in the cavernous, empty Pit (one of the loudest arenas ever), and I was halfway up one side when one of the Tull members came on stage and picked up his instrument and started noodling. Sounded good, with all that echo. After a few minutes another one came out, also to tune. Then a third musician and it was now cacophonous, like when a symphony orchestra tunes up individually. Then a fourth player, and finally Ian Anderson joined the noise, which slowly, almost imperceptibly, coalesced into "Thick As A Brick," which lasted a good 20 minutes. No, make that a great 20 minutes, a highlight of my life in music.

When they finished and walked off stage, a few of us who were there could only look at each other with giddy astonishment, and say, I can't believe what I just heard. I took a moment just now, and I could hear it again...

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

THE HOT CLUB OF LOS ANGELES – Looking for something different? But really good? And on a Monday? EVERY Monday? "Hot Club's brand of virtuoso, Django-style 1930s gypsy swing jazz is found nowhere else in town and even if it were, it couldn't possibly be this good. These guys are masters, individually and collectively. You will find it hard to stop smiling all night." Mon 9 p.m., Cinema Bar, Culver City, no cover.

Next thurs - DUDAMEL, LA PHIL, MAHLER 6 – They call it "The Tragic Symphony" but Mahler did not give it that nickname, nor did he care for it. In fact, he composed it during a particularly happy period of his life. He was a master at expressing the vast range of human emotions as music, and on this one he hit some pretty dark and deep corners of the psyche. (Be ready for that ending.) He employed a huge number of instruments to do it (four harps in one passage, hammers and other odd percussion), and conducted the premiere performance himself. Gustavo Dudamel is considered

SEE **NOTEWORTHY** PAGE 11

AROUND TOWN

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Polar Bear Plunge + Millionaire Bacon

SMDP's Weekly Guide to Food & Entertainment Goings-On In & Around Town includes the annual Polar Bear Plunge, Drag Bingo, a Grilled Cheese & Beer Night, and much more!



Courtesy photo

PLUNGE: The Annenberg Community Beach House will hold the annual Ocean Plunge on Saturday.

Venice West Country Night with Boots & Bubbles: Break out your westernware for line dancing and live country music. Thursday, Jan. 4, 8p.m. @ 1717 Lincoln Blvd. https://thevenicewest.com

Polar Bear Plunge: Follow your ocean plunge with a dip in the warm pool. Ocean Plunge is free! Admission required for pool access and amenities. Pool Admission: $10/adult, $4/youth, $5/senior adult, Saturday, Jan. 6, 10:00am - 2:00pm https://santamonica.gov/press/2023/12/21/polar-bear-plunge-in-the-pacific-ocean-kicks-off-2024-in-santa-monica

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." Saturday, Jan. 6, 11 - 11:45a.m. @ Montana Branch Library, 1704 Montana Avenue https://www.santamonica.gov/events/4sdh8aftg9zwhs6rhs42dfeqdh/202401061100

Soundwaves Concert Series at Main Library: This month features Isaura String Quartet. Saturday, Jan. 6, 3:30p.m. @ 601 Santa Monica Blvd. https://www.santamonica.gov/events/40ewmk8c8m7e6550bs87518ynm/202401061530

bG Gallery "Gen. X Forever Closing Party": Step back in time and relive the essence of the latchkey kid generation with Gen X Forever, a group show of Gen X artists and the second solo show of Douglas Alvarez. This exhibition celebrates the media and technology that defined an era, from VHS tapes to handheld video games. Saturday, Jan. 6, 4 - 7 p.m. @ 2525 Michigan Ave. https://santamonica.bgartdealings.com/show/bg-gallery-gen-x-forever

WHAT TO EAT & DRINK?

Abbot Kinney First Friday Food Truck Fest: About two dozen food trucks are expected to line the street for the monthly event. Friday, Jan. 5, starting at 5p.m. https://www.abbotkinneyblvd.com/

"Dry Curious January" Sunday Tasting at Ester's Wine Bar: Kick off the new year with four different non-alcoholic beverages along with a non-alcoholic wine alternative. $25/person for a flight plus a mini cheese pairing. Sunday, Jan. 7, 12-9 p.m @ 1314 Seventh St. https://www.esterswineshop.com/calendar/

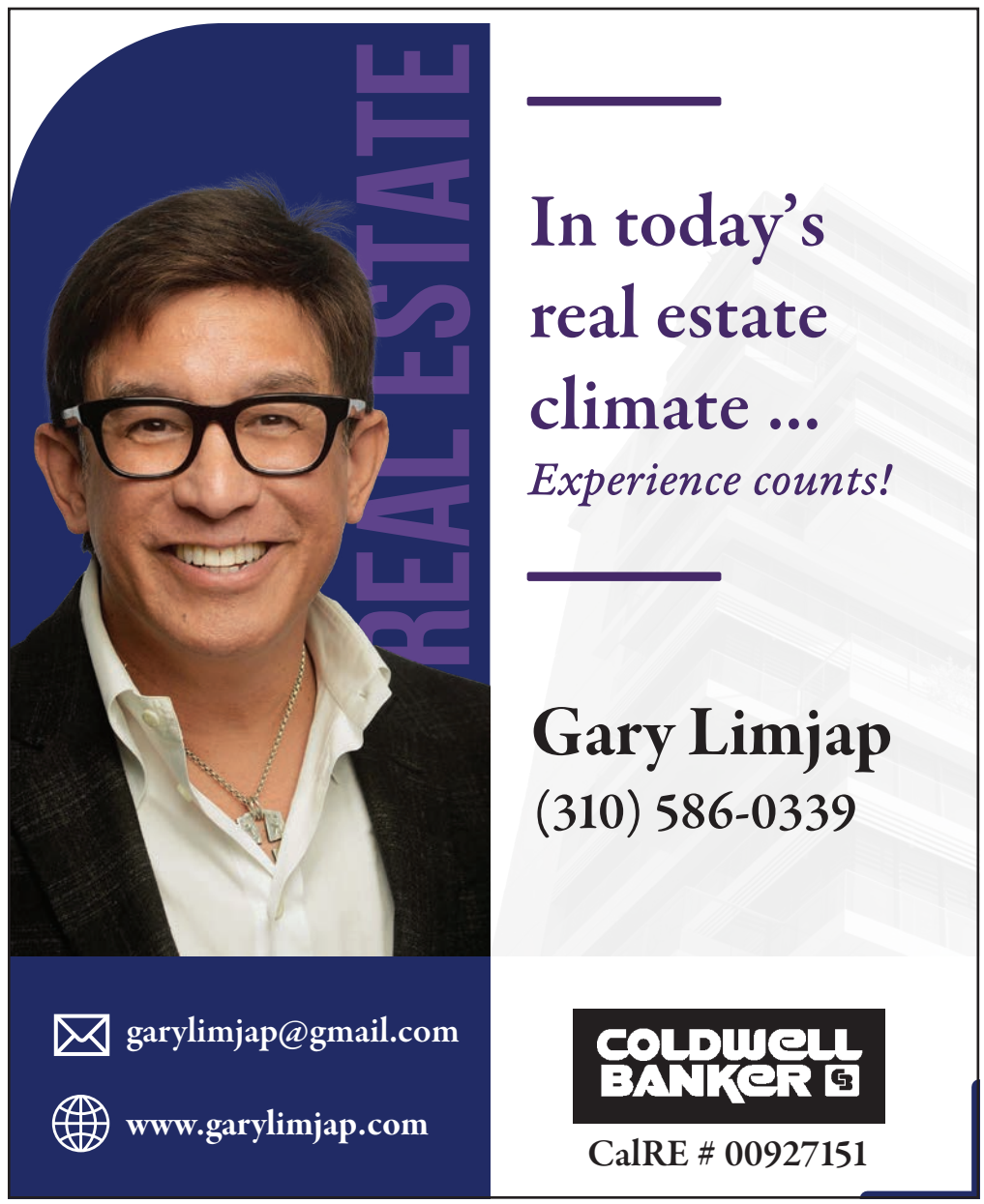
Modern Bread & Bagel Comes To Montana Ave.: Modern Bread & Bagel has moved into the old Breadblok space at 1511A Montana Ave. Modern Bread & Bagel currently has two locations in New York and one in The Valley and specialize in breads and bagels that are organic and gluten-free, offering a menu of bagel sandwiches, salads, bowls, and breakfast items. https://toddrickallen.com/2023/12/20/modern-bread-bagel-comes-to-montana-ave/

The Infatuation Lists "Sweet Maple" Among Best 2023 New Restaurants: "What makes it stand out from the bajillion other brunch options nearby? A creative Asian-leaning menu with things like bulgogi scrambles and souffleggs, similar to fluffy Korean steamed eggs. We should also point out Sweet Maple's trademarked specialty, Millionaire Bacon — thick bacon slabs candied in brown sugar, cayenne, and pepper." 1705 Ocean Ave. https://www.theinfatuation.com/los-angeles/guides/new-la-restaurants-openings

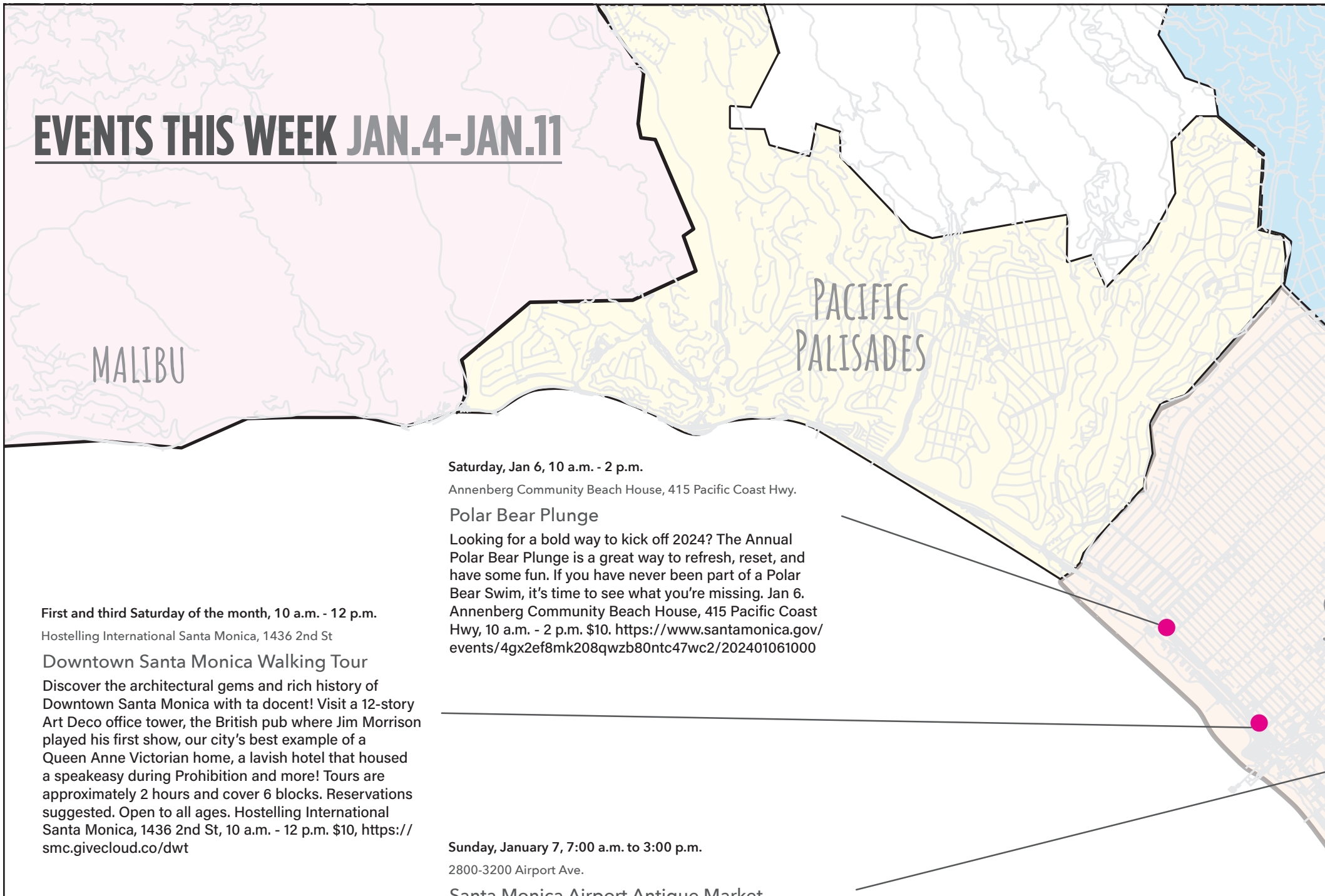
Further Afield: Salinas de San Pedro Salt Marsh Open House (Saturday, Jan. 6): For one day only, head to Cabrillo Beach for a day exploring the wetlands. Managed and cared for by the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, this salt marsh hosts a diverse community of salt-tolerant plants, invertebrates, fish, and birds. Accompanied by CMA Educators and dedicated volunteers, you'll have the opportunity to observe and explore the wonders of this unique habitat. This experience is free and welcomes participants of all ages. More info here.

Looking Ahead Around Town: MLK Events (1/11-15); Pier Locals Night (1/18), LA Wine & Food Festival (3/1-3)

If there's something you think is worth highlighting, you can reach out directly to me at sean@smdp.com. Here are my past columns and let me know if you have any feedback on Around Town: Polar Bear Plunge + Grilled Cheese & Beer.



EVENTS THIS WEEK JAN.4-JAN.11



First and third Saturday of the month, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Hostelling International Santa Monica, 1436 2nd St

Downtown Santa Monica Walking Tour

Discover the architectural gems and rich history of Downtown Santa Monica with ta docent! Visit a 12-story Art Deco office tower, the British pub where Jim Morrison played his first show, our city's best example of a Queen Anne Victorian home, a lavish hotel that housed a speakeasy during Prohibition and more! Tours are approximately 2 hours and cover 6 blocks. Reservations suggested. Open to all ages. Hostelling International Santa Monica, 1436 2nd St, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. $10, https://smc.givecloud.co/dwt

Saturday, Jan 6, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 Pacific Coast Hwy.

Polar Bear Plunge

Looking for a bold way to kick off 2024? The Annual Polar Bear Plunge is a great way to refresh, reset, and have some fun. If you have never been part of a Polar Bear Swim, it's time to see what you're missing. Jan 6. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 Pacific Coast Hwy, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. $10. https://www.santamonica.gov/events/4gx2ef8mk208qwzb80ntc47wc2/202401061000

Sunday, January 7, 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

2800-3200 Airport Ave.

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. A destination for decorators, designers, boutique owners, families with their friendly dogs and collectors of all ages. Shop for ancient to antique, Victorian to Mid-Century, from vintage to the eccentric. The dealers bring; shabby chic, architectural salvage and industrial furniture, paintings from listed European and American artists, original vintage prints, posters and lithographs, estate jewelry, vintage to couture fashion, books, candelabras, outdoor furniture and garden accessories, rugs from around the world, tribal and African art, sculpture and beads, exotic plants and more. Located next to the Museum of Flying, Jan 7. Santa Monica Airport, 2800-3200 Airport Ave. 7 a.m. - 3 p.m. $4 https://www.santamonica.com/event/santa-monica-airport-antique-market/2024-01-07/

Friday, Jan. 5 - 7, 8:30 p.m.

Hotel MdR, 13480 Maxella Avenue Marina Del Rey.

Family Paint Party

Ready for a buck at Barbianca? Join us by the pool side at Hotel MDR. Bring your posse, your family, or your date to a step by step guide to your masterpiece! All supplies are included. Jan. 5 7 - 8:30 p.m. $42 Hotel MdR, 13480 Maxella Avenue Marina Del Rey. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/family-paint-party-tickets-764263441527

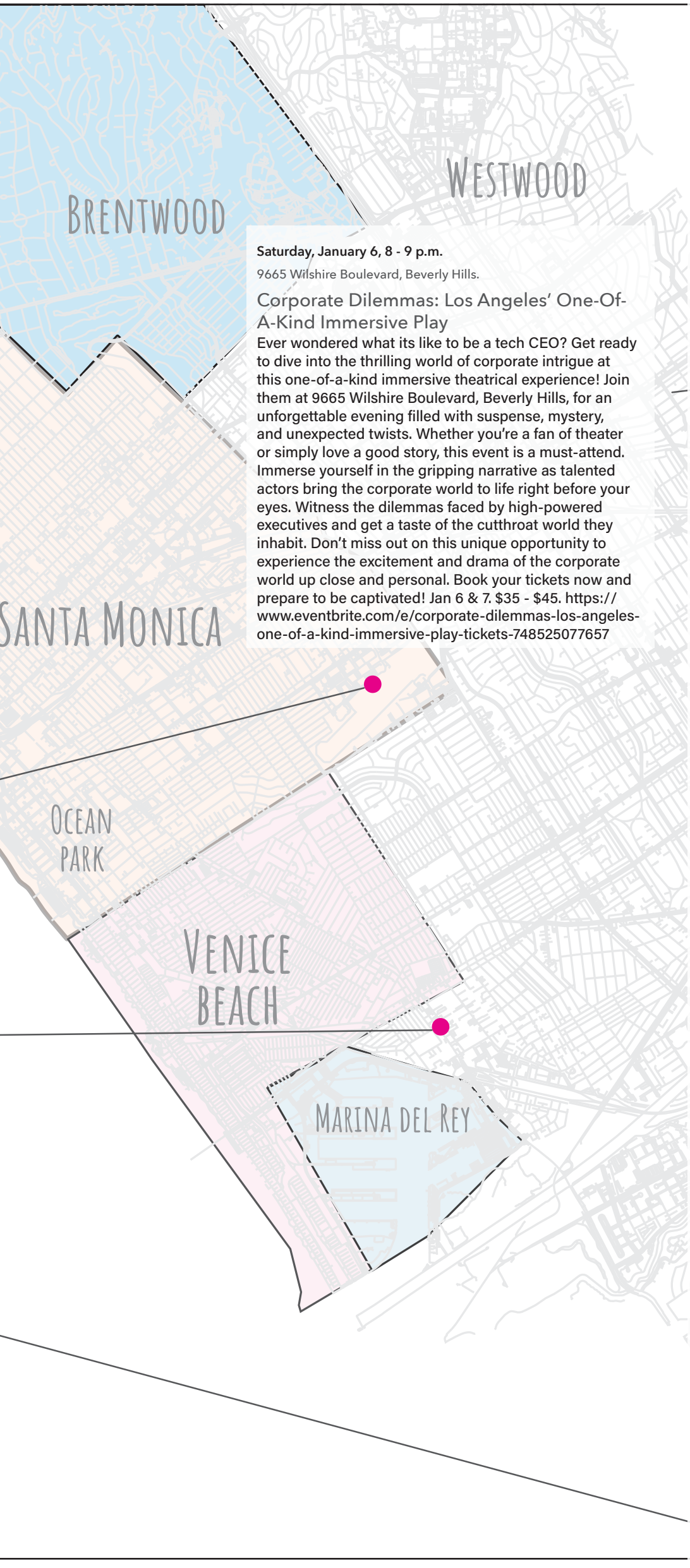
January 5, 6, 12 & 13, 7:30 p.m. start time

The Kia Forum, 3900 W Manchester Blvd, Inglewood.

EAGLES: THE LONG GOODBYE TOUR

The Eagles have added "The California Concerts" to the band's "Long Goodbye" tour in 2024 at the iconic Kia Forum in Los Angeles on January 5, 6, 12 & 13 marking the ten-year anniversary of the six Eagles' concerts in January 2014 that reopened the reimagined Forum after its magnificent $100 million renovation, and quickly transformed the building into once again being the premiere Los Angeles concert venue. The Eagles' long-time contemporaries and fellow Hall of Famers, Steely Dan, will be joining these historic shows and commemorating their own 50+ year career. $149.50 to $499.50, The Kia Forum, 3900 W Manchester Blvd, Inglewood, https://thekiaforum.com/concert/eagles-the-long-goodbye-tour/

Check out more events at: smdp.com/events



Saturday, January 6, 8 - 9 p.m.

9665 Wilshire Boulevard, Beverly Hills.

Corporate Dilemmas: Los Angeles' One-Of-A-Kind Immersive Play

Ever wondered what its like to be a tech CEO? Get ready to dive into the thrilling world of corporate intrigue at this one-of-a-kind immersive theatrical experience! Join them at 9665 Wilshire Boulevard, Beverly Hills, for an unforgettable evening filled with suspense, mystery, and unexpected twists. Whether you're a fan of theater or simply love a good story, this event is a must-attend. Immerse yourself in the gripping narrative as talented actors bring the corporate world to life right before your eyes. Witness the dilemmas faced by high-powered executives and get a taste of the cutthroat world they inhabit. Don't miss out on this unique opportunity to experience the excitement and drama of the corporate world up close and personal. Book your tickets now and prepare to be captivated! Jan 6 & 7. $35 - $45. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/corporate-dilemmas-los-angeles-one-of-a-kind-immersive-play-tickets-748525077657



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 brandnew 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.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Venice

In Loving Memory of Carol Tantau June 6, 1945 - December 28, 2023

Last Thursday, Venice lost a true community gem. In the quiet hours between December 27 and the early morning of December 28, Carol Tantau passed away peacefully in her sleep. The community is grappling with the news of losing an admired and respected leader.

Carol devoted her life to community service. Over the course of more than 30 years, she owned and operated a jewelry store on Abbot Kinney. During this time, she served on the Venice Chamber of Commerce board of directors, including several years as president, and later, for over two decades, as treasurer. Even after relocating her store to West Adams, Carol remained devoted to Venice, continuing her service as Treasurer on the Chamber board.

Throughout the years, Carol actively participated in various Abbot Kinney committees, contributing to initiatives such as renaming the street from West Washington Boulevard to Abbot Kinney Boulevard, planting palm trees, and paving the parking lots along Irving Tabor Court. Her community involvement extended to advisory boards for the City of Los Angeles, including the Community Policing Advisory Board. In her "day job," she tirelessly served others, working at Sojourn as an advocate for victims of domestic violence and as a volunteer coordinator.

Donna Lasman, CEO of the Venice Chamber of Commerce, expressed, "The Venice community has suffered a tremendous loss. Carol was a calming presence, a voice of reason. She was my anchor, guiding me through complex situations. Carol was an incredible and talented woman, leaving an indelible mark on the hearts of many. She will be greatly missed."

A Message from her Family:

Carol was the youngest of four born to Hart and Mary Tantau. She attended schools in Cupertino and Palo Alto completing her secondary education at Verde Valley School in Arizona. At UC Berkeley she earned a BA in music and became an accomplished pianist. In 1971, she moved to Southern California where she developed her artistic skills as a seamstress and jewelry designer. As her expertise grew so did her business acumen, and in 1982, she opened a combo workshop and storefront on West Washington Boulevard in Venice. This move marked the beginning of a 30-year period during which she flourished as a community force.

With her keen interest and active involvement in neighborhood development, Carol became a community builder, a fierce advocate, a creative genius, a change-maker, and a friend to many. Her advocacy for victims of domestic violence (DV) led her to working for and with Sojourn in facilitating support groups for DV victims. As times changed, so did her path and Carol relocated her shop and store to West Adams where she continued her creativity and lifelong advocacy for the disadvantaged.

Her mantra was simple yet powerful: "Speak softly and carry a big stick!"

SUBMITTED BY THE VENICE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



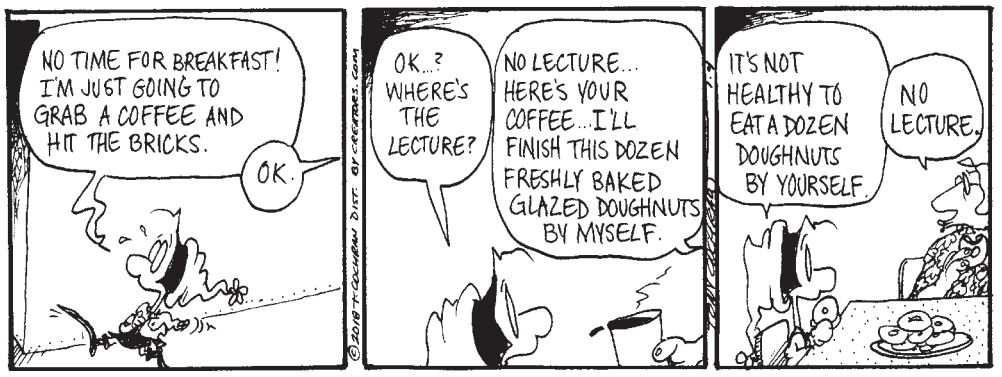
Courtesy photo

CAROL TANTAU: This past week, Venice lost community advocate Carol Tantau, who owned and operated a jewelry store on Abbot Kinney for over 30 years.



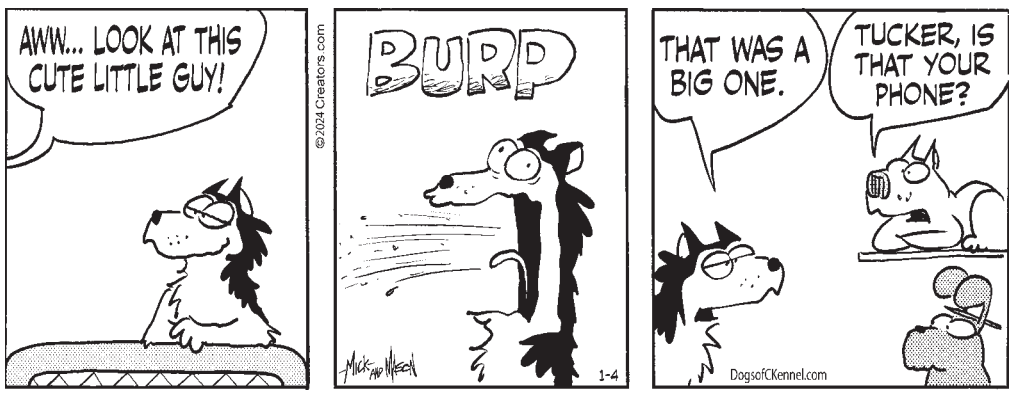
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



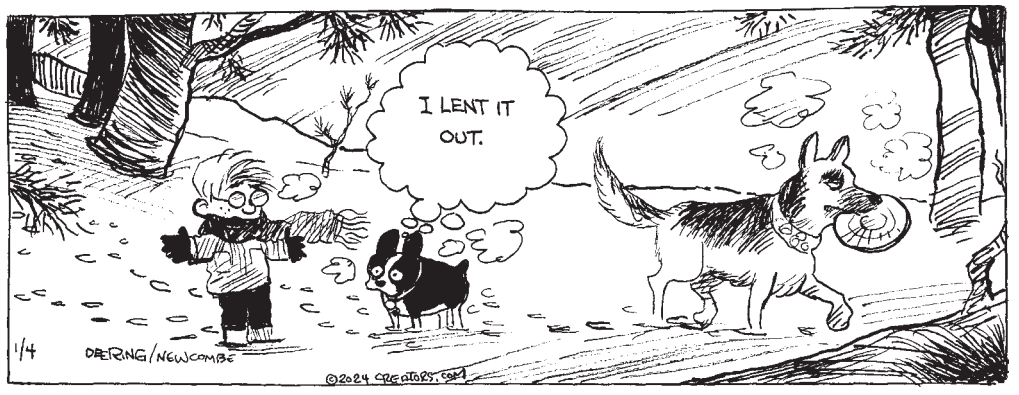
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"HE HAS MANY NICKNAMES."

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

© australianwordgames.com.au 6079

Playing games

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

Amuse	Deal	Game	Ludo	Short
Ante	Deck	Grids	Marbles	Shuffle
Aria	Dibs	Hold	Odds	Skill
Board	Dice	Home	Pass	Snap
Bonus	Doze	Indoor	Pawn	Solo
Call	Draughts	Joker	Pool	Suit
Champagne	Easy	Keno	Popular	Team
Clap	Face	Kits	Quiz	Treat
Cluedo	Faro	Land	Rest	
Coins	Fear	Lone	Risk	
Conversation	Fish	Loss	Round	
Crib	Flush	Luck	Score	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.

An undiscovered world

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To advertise, email cindy@smdp.com or call 310.458.7737
smdp Santa Monica Daily Press

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 4)

Muses will call you forward. Inspiration this big attracts all the resources necessary to set your projects assail. You'll understand problems from many angles and come up with solutions people will pay for. Invention, innovation and entertainment will be your realm of mastery. More highlights: found money, romantic flames. Virgo and Libra adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 9, 2, 22 and 12.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Feel like you're being watched? It's because you are, and for the very uncomplicated reason: you're one to watch. Inquiries, imitations and envy will be next, nothing you can't handle... comes with the territory.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'll pick up new information and skill and you may even make money while you're learning. This education may not seem earth-shattering while it's happening but will prove, in the end, to be extremely valuable.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You'll find yourself in an environment where others feel comfortable providing constructive feedback. You'll accept it with grace, apply it with humility and then sit back and watch the subsequent unfolding action with great delight.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your first impulse will be to take things on, but prioritize very carefully. Don't be so attentive that you rob others of the high that comes from making their own decisions and solving their own puzzles.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You prize gentleness and seek the nearness of kind and considerate people. You'll avoid those who show signs of harshness. A soft-spoken and compassionate approach to interactions brings about surprising results.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your encouragement has a certain style to it. The people you cheer on feel absolutely unbeatable after one of your boosts. There's no substitute for your presence, and you'll be supportive in-person when at all possible.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Even though the situation is brand new, it's already time to adjust the rules. Some of the boundaries are fine for the short term but not sustainable. What can you do to afford yourself bigger margins for error, creativity and, ultimately, greatness?

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The challenging aspects of life, like hard work to be done, difficult people you must get along with and the need to stretch resources, are all entirely manageable. It's the pleasures that will require your diligence and restraint.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). There's something you crave but don't want; long for but have deemed "unhelpful" or "unhealthy." The old stand-by, out-of-sight, out-of-mindwill work for you. Whatever you'd like to reduce, stash it away and your attention will naturally redirect.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You'll be fielding all sorts of communication today. While context is important to meaning, the most important communications are universal. When you let the details go fuzzy and get a sense of the general tone, can you tell what basic need is being expressed?

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). To avoid the hollow victory that comes with the attainment of other people's goals, you'll dig down deeper to name the aims that are meaningful to you. Then, even if the prize doesn't quite fit, it will still enhance your journey.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You'll be in a position to choose new company in some way, perhaps through hiring or dating. If you're not sure what to think of a person, look at the person's chosen environment, including relationships, responsibilities and day-to-day dealings.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

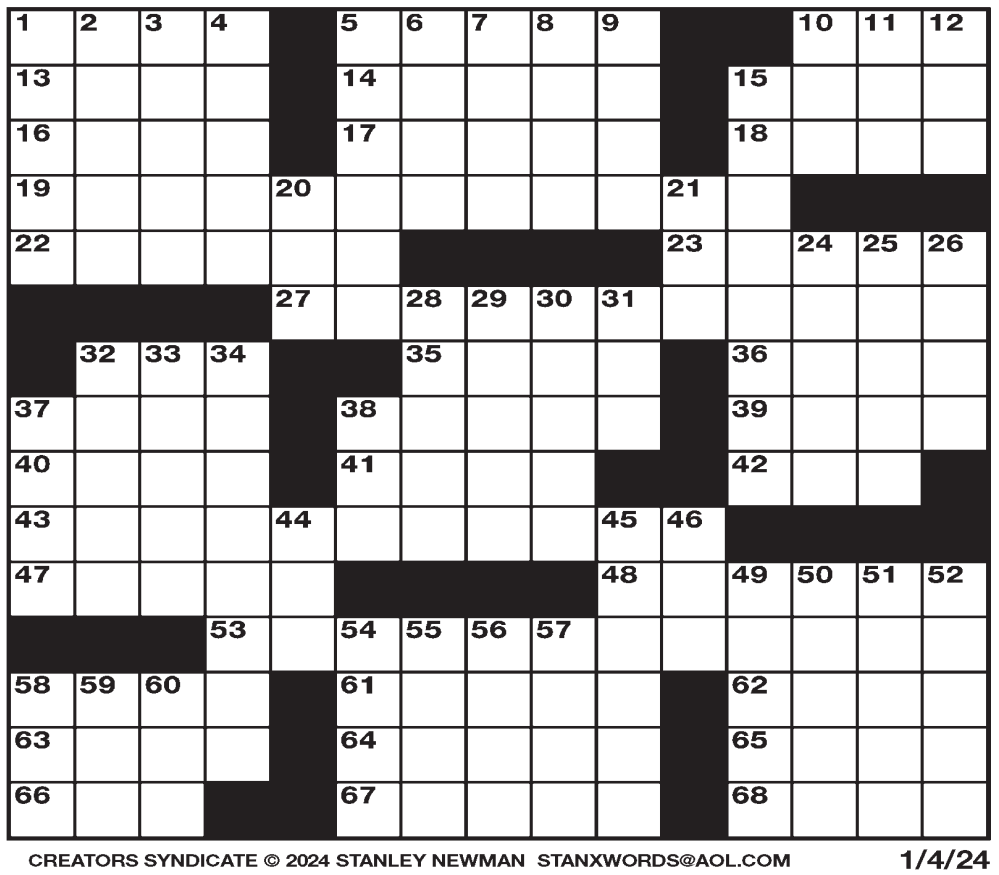
LITTLE HELPERS by Steve Faiella
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Outfitted (in)
5 Without any skill
10 Bushy-tailed canine
13 Biography
14 Lop off
15 Tailless feline
16 Slim instrument
17 Sports venue
18 Rink jump
19 1993 Lemmon/Matthau film
22 Cantina condiments
23 Writer Wharton
27 Wyatt Earp associate
32 Pic from a parlor
35 Ride for a bride
36 Small singer
37 Squirrel away
38 Principled
39 Easy pace
40 Molecule part
41 Hot spot
42 Sci-fi staples
43 Good compromise
47 Pays (up)
48 Complimentary
53 Washington Irving setting
58 Rude awakening
61 Sound from Sneezy
62 Doing nothing
63 Has debts
64 Sing like a 36 Across
65 Late afternoon
66 Crunchy lunch
67 In a mopey mood
68 Stocking stuffers

DOWN

1 Stops up
2 Scales in the sky
3 Run __ of (clash with)
4 Regards
5 Parental explanation
6 Emperor after Claudius
7 Stunt cyclist Knievel
8 Remain undecided
9 Theme park shuttle
10 Telecopy
11 Unnamed individual
12 T-shirt size
15 Jaw bone
20 Launch site
21 Slender swimmer
24 Dostoyevsky title character
25 Waterproof covers
26 Literary alter ego
28 Garlic portion
29 Added to the staff
30 Certain sultan subject
31 Cyberchuckle
32 Powerful person
33 Vote to accept
34 Violent weather
37 Response like 31 Down
38 Person with a May day
44 Designer initials
45 Wicked
46 Pasture comment
49 Rocky ledge
50 Nostalgic number
51 Puzzle out
52 Short cybermessage
54 Corrodes
55 Neutral hue
56 Punxsutawney groundhog
57 What meringue excludes
58 Assignment
59 Barn dweller
60 Permit



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2024 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 1/4/24

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

COMMUNITY NEWS

Downtown

Sing Your Song: Screening and Panel Discussion

Santa Monica Public Library and the Martin Luther King Jr. Westside Coalition invite you to celebrate the legacy of singer, actor, and civil rights activist Harry Belafonte with a screening of the documentary, Sing Your Song, followed by a panel discussion and Q & A on Thursday, January 11 at 5 p.m., in the Main Library's Martin Luther King Jr. Auditorium, at 601 Santa Monica Blvd.

Sing Your Song, a 2011 film from writer and director Susanne Rostock, documents Belafonte's significant contributions to the entertainment field, the civil rights movement and to social justice globally. In her review for Cinevue, Sophia Satchell Baeza writes, "Rostock has put together a seamless and exciting film which, though it looks at the past, also explores the future of Black communities in the US through Belafonte's outreach work. This is a fabulous documentary about a man and the times that were, and hopefully still are, a-changin".

The screening will be followed by a panel discussion and Q & A featuring Tim Conley, cinema professor at Santa Monica College, Marq Hawkins, filmmaker and Hip-Hop historian, and Maria Belafonte, writer/director and granddaughter of Harry Belafonte, and moderated by Cassandra Chase, Director of the Equity & Justice Institute at Crossroads School.

All Library programs are free and open to the public. Parking is available underneath the Main Library, several bus lines and the Metro E line stop nearby, and there are bike racks. The MLK Auditorium is wheelchair accessible. Please call (310) 458-8600 to request additional accommodations.

SUBMITTED BY JEFF KAPLAN

Pacific Palisades

Begin the Musical Year with a Chamber Music Palisades Concert

A wonderful winter's Wednesday evening awaits! Join organizers Wednesday January 24 at 8 pm when Chamber Music Palisades opens the year with a harp, violin, viola, and flute concert featuring outstanding professional performers from the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, and the studios. Included are works by Mozart, Prokofiev, Bach, del Aguila, and a world premiere by local Todd Mason.

Enjoy the sounds of their extraordinary performers: Cristina Montes Mateo, world-renowned harpist and frequent soloist with major orchestras; Maya Magub, British violinist who has performed in the world's greatest concert halls and played on numerous movies and records; Rob Brophy, violist with the New Hollywood String quartet and member of the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra; and Susan Greenberg, long-time flutist at Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, principal flute at Santa Monica Symphony, and President and Artistic Director of Chamber Music Palisades.

Todd Mason will present commentary on his World Premiere Chamber Music Palisades commissioned piece entitled Magical for flute, viola, and harp. Alan Chapman, KUSC host and long-time Chamber Music Palisades associate, will provide his informative in-person program notes.

Tickets will be available for $35 online at cmpalisades.org or at the door the evening of the concert at Saint Matthew's Parish, 1031 Bienveneda Avenue, Pacific Palisades. CMP offers free admission for full-time students with an ID.

SUBMITTED BY NANCY VARAT

GUEST COMMENTARY

FROM PAGE 3

- In early 2024, the city's much-awaited partnership with L.A. County's Department of Mental Health is set to launch, deploying a therapeutic mobile van to expand real-time response for individuals experiencing behavioral and/or mental health challenges. This team will be deployed in response to 911 calls for service, in direct partnership with first responders.

- In taking another key step in addressing our community's behavioral health needs, Initium Health will present the results of its work to develop a behavioral health strategy for Santa Monica and lay out next steps.

- The Laurel development on Michigan Avenue is set to open, bringing 57 new permanent supportive housing units for those in need. That's on top of 221 affordable units that are under construction in 11 developments across the city.

- In addition to funding housing projects, the city continues to advance its work to build affordable housing on city-owned sites, including at Parking Structure 3.

- Thanks to added city funding, SAMOSHEL, Santa Monica's homeless shelter, will expand its hours to accept referrals 24 hours a day, seven days a week, allowing our outreach teams and public safety personnel to connect people experiencing homelessness to shelter overnight, when other facilities are closed.

- Public Works is expanding the HoST team to five days a week, hiring full-time, dedicated staff and purchasing needed equipment to ramp up efforts to clean encampments in public spaces.

The city has also embarked on creating a multi-year, citywide Homelessness Strategic Plan to be completed and presented to the City Council in the spring. Building upon our strong foundation of work to date, this plan will lay out a clear, coordinated and systematic vision for the city's homelessness response system, and align all city departments around a shared vision, specific outcomes and investment of resources.

We'll invite the community to provide input once it's drafted. More to come on this exciting process very soon.

I want you, the community we serve every day, to know that we are committed to this work — and that above all, we are your partners. Our eyes are wide open, and we are focused on bringing forward and implementing real solutions.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership in addressing this critical issue for our community.

David White is the city manager of Santa Monica.

RIPA

FROM PAGE 1

"critical component of police work" and "an important tool in keeping Santa Monica safe."

Commission Chair Derek Devermont concurred with Scott's initial statement, saying he has "heard similar things" regarding efforts to prevent the PSROC recommendations from reaching council.

"I think that this commission has a duty to report to council," Devermont said. "We've reported to council on nearly every report we've passed … our job is to provide oversight and report to council and if that is being circumvented, that's a problem."

Lt. Green pushed back against the accusations saying commissioners have been nothing but "nice" and "professional" towards him, he was "wholly shocked" by allegations of potential political maneuverings he said was "based completely on rumors."

"I'm taken aback that you would come to a public forum and make such allegations without foundation, and I will tell you right now … that there is absolutely no truth at all to any of the statements made about conversations with council members by myself, especially related to those of insinuation of threats at all," Green said. "I'll tell you that's absolutely false."

Green said while he supports the commission's ability to make recommendations they deem appropriate, they "need to do so in the confines of the law," and that prior efforts by the commission to place the RIPA findings on the council's agenda were insufficient under constructs of the Ralph M. Brown Act, the law that governs public meetings. He also said that a negotiated settlement with the City allows the POA to meet and confer with council on potential items that may impact police working conditions, which he felt the commission's report and recommendations would fall under.

"If we're going to put these items on the agenda, let's have people in the community that are concerned about this have the opportunity to come out, voice their concerns, let (the commission) know their feelings on this particular issue, and then we'll move forward," Green added. "That's it. Believe me, there's no attempt to block any item by this commission, so long as we go through the proper steps."

Devermont disagreed saying any council action as result of the report would be where the conferring would take place, not the reporting itself

Devermont said he's "not sure" how the POA "would negotiate with the city about recommended changes prior to the recommended changes being received," adding that the POA's intent to enter into negotiations with council prior to the report reaching council has "never been an approach taken" with prior commission briefings.

"We can't present it to council, without you conferring about what might be eventually presented, but hasn't been presented, I don't think that holds," Devermont told Green. Devermont did note that he is not the leading authority on this issue, and that it would be helpful for a City Attorney to be present at a future meeting to discuss the matter.

Green said he appreciated the time and concern of the commission, but challenged them to find a council member that says that they had pressure put on them "inappropriately" to block the RIPA report.

Scott said it was not her intention to impact any officers' salary, benefits or working conditions, because "we all need public safety," and that she did not want to imply that it was Green blocking the report.

The local discussion came as the State released additional RIPA data for all of California. The report on police stops throughout the state, analyzed over 4.5 million stops conducted by 560 law enforcement agencies throughout 2022. Mirroring the commission's findings, the California board stated that the disparity between proportion of stops and residential population was greatest for Black individuals, and the board issued a recommendation to end all pretextual stops and searches in the state.

No formal action was taken this week. The commission will seek further guidance from the City Attorney and report back.

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NOTEWORTHY

FROM PAGE 4

a master of Mahler, and this may be your last chance to see him conduct the Sixth. (Next Thurs 10 a.m.,rehearsal, invitation only, LA Phil donors), next Thurs 8 p.m., Fri 11 a.m., Walt Disney Concert Hall, LA, $147-399.

RECOMMENDED:

TOLEDO DIAMOND – Unique, riveting, first class act. There's nothing like it, it is high performance art and great decadent fun. Degeneracy is rarely so well disciplined. Toledo may have his trademark ciggy, but it's the band that really smokes! Sun 9:30 p.m., Harvelle's, Santa Monica, $12.

COMING ATTRACTIONS: DUDAMEL, LA PHIL, MAHLER 6, Disney Hall, 1/11, 12; TOLEDO DIAMOND, Harvelle's, 1/14, 21, 28; HOT CLUB OF LOS ANGELES, Cinema Bar, 1/15, 22, 29; LIBRARY GIRL, Ruskin Group Theatre, 1/14; Whisky A Go Go 60th Anniversary presents LOVE. "FOREVER CHANGES," W. Hollywood, 1/14; ALAN PASQUA-DAREK OLES DUO, Sam First. 1/19, 20: RICK SHEA, TONY GILKYSON, Cinema Bar, 1/25; BOOKER T. JONES, The Soraya, 2/2; HOT TUNA acoustic, McCabe's, 2/10; ROBERT FRIPP, David Singleton, An Evening of Conversation, Questions, Insights, McCabe's, 3/3; ACADEMY OF ST. MARTIN IN THE FIELDS, The Soraya, 4/21; "LA TRAVIATA," LA Opera. 4/6, 14, 18, 21, 24, 27; RHIANNON GIDDENS, Theatre at Ace Hotel, 4/25; "TURANDOT," LA Opera, 5/18, 26, 30, 6/2, 5, 8; CHRIS STAPLETON, Hollywood Bowl, 6/26, 27; ROLLING STONES, SoFi Stadium, 7/10, 13.

Charles Andrews has listened to a lot of music of all kinds, including more than 3,000 live shows. He 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

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