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smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

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Local lawsuit linking Snapchat to drug deaths can proceed



File Photo

SNAP LAWSUIT: Families who lost children to drugs sold over Snapchat staged a protest at the company's headquarters on June 4, 2021. The lawsuit Neville et al v. Snap, Inc. has been allowed to move forward after a recent Los Angeles Superior Court ruling.

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

The start of 2024 brought a significant ruling in a lawsuit with major implications for a social media heavyweight.

On January 2, Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Lawrence Riff denied a majority of Snap. Inc's motion to dismiss a lawsuit filed against the company behind social media giant Snapchat. The lawsuit, Neville et al v. Snap, Inc., was filed in October of 2022 by Social Media Victims Law Center and C.A. Goldberg, PLLC, on behalf of families that had children die after taking substances sold by drug sellers operating on Snapchat.

Judge Riff allowed 12 out of 16 allegation counts to move forward, while sustaining Snap, Inc.'s demurrers to four of the counts without leave to amend. According to Matthew P. Bergman, founding attorney of Social Media Victims Law Center, there will be a status conference regarding the case in the coming weeks, with potential for the case to enter into a discovery period thereafter.

"The judge did not say we win," Bergman told the Daily Press. "The judge simply said we get to play the game, that we get to get past the starting gate."

The plaintiffs second amended complaint, dated July 20, 2023, describes the Snapchat platform as an "open air drug market" and that the platform's "role in illicit drug sales to teens was the foreseeable result of the

SEE **SNAP** PAGE 6



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Fairmont becomes second hotel to sign a deal with hotel union

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

The Fairmont Miramar hotel has signed a deal with hospitality union Unite Here Local 11 to settle the long running labor dispute at the property.

> We're excited and proud to have reached an agreement at our hotel
> - Liliana Hernandez, Fairmont Miramar worker

Union officials sent out a statement announcing the deal on Monday saying the new contract would improve the quality of life for workers.

"We're excited and proud to have reached an agreement at our hotel," says Fairmont Miramar worker Liliana Hernandez, who has been a housekeeper at the hotel for eleven years. "The last six months were challenging for us, but I am so grateful that the whole union stood behind me and my coworkers, and I'm proud of the leadership and solidarity. We hope other Santa Monica hotels follow the example of the Fairmont. Sí se puede."

The statement said that once ratified workers will receive a wage increase that keeps pace with the cost of housing, healthcare, humane workloads, improved pension payments, language in the contract that provides access to union jobs for incarcerated individuals and protections for immigrant workers.

"We applaud the Fairmont Miramar for signing this historic agreement," said UNITE HERE Local 11 co-president, Kurt Petersen. "This victory once again demonstrates our members' indomitable spirit and sends an unambiguous message to the remaining hotels that we will not stop fighting until we have won a living wage at all hotels."

Workers have been protesting at hotels throughout the region since July 4 of last year. Unite Here Local 11 represents about 15,000 hotel and hospitality workers in California, including room attendants, dishwashers, cooks, front desk attendants, bellmen, cooks and dishwashers.

A total of 25 hotels have signed a deal with the union in the past six months including Le Merigot Santa Monica however, other local hotels have yet to reach an agreement.

Protests outside the Fairmont were controversial. Union members accused the hotel of instigating violence against protesters and that incident prompted calls for government intervention by union supporters. However, residents living near the hotel have repeatedly attended council meetings to demand government intervention against the union saying the noise generated by protests violated local noise ordinances.

While the statement resolves the labor dispute at the Fairmont specifically, UniteHere officials said they will continue protests at other hotels who have yet to strike a deal.

editor@smdp.com

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed proposals for

RFP: # 391 Rate Study (Water, Wastewater, Recycled Water)

- **Submission Deadline is February 16, 2024 at 5:00 PM Pacific Time.**

RFP: # 392 On-Call Public Affairs & Communications Support for Water Utility

- **Submission Deadline is February 16, 2024 at 5:00 PM Pacific Time.**

Proposals must include forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica. Request for Proposals may be obtained on the **CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL**. The website for this Request for Proposals and related documents is OpenGov (https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca) There is no charge for the RFP package.

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GET IT DAILY...

New rule tightens worker classification standards; Uber, Lyft say their drivers won't be affected

ALEXANDRA OLSON AND DAVID HAMILTON
AP Business Writers

The Biden administration enacted a new labor rule Tuesday that aims to prevent the misclassification of workers as "independent contractors," a step that could bolster both legal protections and compensation for millions in the U.S. workforce.

Major app-based platforms including Uber, Lyft and DoorDash expressed confidence that the new rule would not force them to reclassify their gig drivers. But business groups warned the rule creates ambiguities and uncertainty for employers and much depends on how the Labor Department decides to enforce it.

The Labor Department rule, which the administration proposed 15 months ago, replaces a Trump-era standard that narrowed the criteria for classifying employees as contractors. Such workers are not guaranteed minimum wages or benefits, such as health coverage and paid sick days.

Labor advocates have supported the rule, saying employers have exploited lax rules to misclassify workers and avoid properly compensating them. In a report, the left-leaning Economic Policy Institute said construction workers, truck drivers, cleaners, landscapers, security guards and call center workers are among the most commonly misclassified workers. It estimated that misclassified construction workers lose between $10,177 and $16,729 per year.

The rule, while will take effect March 11, directs employers to consider six criteria for determining whether a worker is an employee or a contractor, without predetermining whether one outweighs the other. That's a change from the Trump-era rule, which prioritized two criteria: how much control a company has over its workers and how much "entrepreneurial opportunity" the work provides.

Advocates say the new rule offers a more comprehensive approach to determining whether workers are truly in business for themselves. In a press briefing Monday evening, Acting Secretary of Labor Julie Su said misclassified workers "sometimes work side by side with individuals who are properly classified, doing the same work."

"But misclassified employees don't get paid for all of their hours," Su said. "They've seen their economic security eroded because of misclassification."

Potentially at issue for ride-hailing, delivery and other apps is a requirement that employees consider whether the jobs performed by workers are an integral part of the company's business.

But it's up to employers to decide how to weigh each criteria, which also include how much control the employer has over the worker, whether the work requires special skills, the degree of permanence of the relationship between worker and employer, and the investment a worker makes, such as car payments.

"This rule does not materially change the law under which we operate, and won't impact the classification of the over one million Americans who turn to Uber to make money flexibly," Uber's head of federal affairs, CR Wooters, said in a prepared statement.

> "This rule does not materially change the law under which we operate, and won't impact the classification of the over one million Americans who turn to Uber to make money flexibly"
> - CR Wooters, Uber's head of federal affairs

Lyft also said the new rule will not force the company to change its business model, while warning that "this new guidance creates additional complexities and ambiguities for companies and courts alike across the country."

Flex Association, a group that represents major app-based rideshare and delivery platforms, said it will "seek to ensure implementation of this rule does not target workers who overwhelmingly turn to app-based platforms to earn supplemental income on their own terms."

The new rule comes at time when more states are passing laws that guarantee a minimum wage and other benefits for app-based workers, including New York last year.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is considering challenging the rule in court, said Marc Freedman, the chamber's vice president of workplace policy.

Freedman said the new guidelines make it difficult for companies to know whether they are giving enough importance to any of the six criteria. He said it will depend on how aggressively the Labor Department decides to implement the rule but the structure is biased towards classifying workers as employees.

"It leaves employers in the dark about whether they made the right decision," Freedman said in an interview with AP. "The only time they can be confident is if they call a worker an employee."

SEE **UBER** PAGE 8



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **57.4**

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

Steep-angled NW swell mix will trend back up through the day. Little SSW swell fades. Wind looks most favorable in the morning, then we're looking at a windy afternoon with rising WNW flow.

THURSDAY
FAIR
SURF: 2-3ft
Thigh to waist

Steep-angled NW swell mix joined by a decent pulse of NW windswell. The early morning offers the best size but lingering onshore WNW winds. Size drops into the afternoon as wind lightens some.

Weather

Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 60. Breezy, with a north northeast wind 15 to 20 mph.
Wednesday Night: A 20 percent chance of rain after 10pm. Partly cloudy, with a low around 47.
Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 61. Breezy, with a north northwest wind 15 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.
Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 43.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)	High/Low
2024/01/10	Wed	01:14 AM	2.31		L
2024/01/10	Wed	07:40 AM	6.66		H
2024/01/10	Wed	3:07 PM	-1.58		L
2024/01/10	Wed	9:39 PM	3.68		H
2024/01/11	Thu	02:00 AM	2.15		L
2024/01/11	Thu	08:22 AM	6.87		H
2024/01/11	Thu	3:47 PM	-1.73		L
2024/01/11	Thu	10:17 PM	3.82		H
2024/01/12	Fri	02:48 AM	2.00		L
2024/01/12	Fri	09:06 AM	6.86		H
2024/01/12	Fri	4:27 PM	-1.68		L
2024/01/12	Fri	10:57 PM	3.97		H
2024/01/13	Sat	03:39 AM	1.89		L
2024/01/13	Sat	09:52 AM	6.57		H
2024/01/13	Sat	5:07 PM	-1.42		L
2024/01/13	Sat	11:39 PM	4.15		H
2024/01/14	Sun	04:35 AM	1.83		L
2024/01/14	Sun	10:41 AM	6.00		H

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: 1/8
7 17 28 40 45
Power#: 2
Jackpot: 60 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 1/5
5 23 26 38 44
Mega#: 25
Jackpot: 165 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 1/6
5 13 31 38 47
Mega#: 7
Jackpot: 13 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 1/8
1 12 27 28 34

Daily 3
Draw Date: 1/8
EVENING: 4 9 8
Draw Date: 1/8
MIDDAY: 0 6 7

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 1/8
1st: 10 - Solid Gold
2nd: 12 - Lucky Charms
3rd: 05 - California Classic
Race Time: 1:49.55

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Santa Monica Daily Press

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Republican Steve Garvey has a chance to play spoiler in California's Senate race

DAN WALTERS

It may be only January, but in just a few weeks, Californians will start voting by mail in the March 5 primary and deciding which two candidates will advance to the November election for the late Dianne Feinstein's U.S. Senate seat.

It will be another milestone on what has been a very bumpy road.

Despite her age, her obviously deteriorating health and her declining popularity, Feinstein had insisted repeatedly that she would seek another six-year term to extend what had already been a three-decade-long Senate career.

Finally, Feinstein announced in February that she would not run again and three Democratic members of Congress who had been quietly positioning themselves cranked up their campaigns.

The situation took an unexpected turn in September, after Feinstein's death. Earlier, Gov. Gavin Newsom had declared he would appoint a Black woman to succeed her if there was a vacancy – clearly an effort to neutralize the backlash from his previous appointment of Alex Padilla to the Senate after Kamala Harris resigned to become vice president.

That promise seemed to favor Barbara Lee, a Black congressional member from Oakland who is one of the three senatorial hopefuls. But Newsom then amended his pledge to say that whomever he appointed would be just a caretaker so as not to tip the scales.

Newsom then zig-zagged again, disavowing the caretaker proviso and roiling the political waters by choosing Laphonza Butler to fill out the remainder of Feinstein's term. At the time, it seemed to give Butler the inside track on claiming a full Senate term, but three weeks after being appointed, she said she would not run.

That was a signal for the campaigns by Lee and her rival members of Congress, Orange County's Katie Porter and Adam Schiff of Burbank, to shift into high gear.

Schiff, who gained notoriety as one of Donald Trump's most caustic congressional critics, has consistently led in both polls and fundraising and it had seemed likely that he would finish first in the primary with either Porter or Lee claiming the other spot on the November ballot under California's top-two system.

Suddenly, however, it's become uncertain that two Democrats will finish 1-2 in March. Republican Steve Garvey, a former star baseball player for the Los Angeles Dodgers and San Diego Padres, declared his candidacy and recent polling gives him a fair chance of finishing second behind Schiff.

Although Garvey is a latecomer to the contest, a Politico/Morning Consult poll released in late December found that while Schiff was the clear frontrunner at 28% of likely voters, Garvey had claimed second place at 19%, followed closely by Porter and Lee.

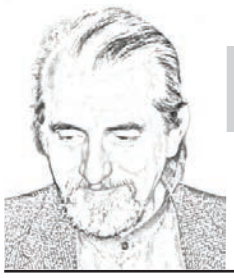
Schiff is obviously pleased with the possibility of facing a Republican rival in November rather than a fellow Democrat. In deep blue California, Schiff would be the prohibitive favorite to win a Senate seat.

Conversely, it's bad news for



Mandatory Credit: Kirby Lee-USA TODAY Sports
GARVEY: Los Angeles, California, USA; Steve Garvey attends the game between the Los Angeles Dodgers and the New York Yankees at Dodger Stadium.

SEE **GUEST COMMENTARY** PAGE 8



OPINION **CURIOUS CITY**

Charles Andrews | Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Don't Trust — Vote



Courtesy photo
ELECTION: Orange you glad you can still vote?

EVERYTHING WILL BE ALRIGHT!
I THINK....

And, you know, I think therefore I am, or therefore it is...

I do believe in the power of thought (even if you might call it prayer) but I am also a realist. I know, there's some conflict there, and maybe that's why I'm not more rich, thin and handsome.

But without trying to channel Rev. Michael Beckwith, I will say I believe there is real power in group thought, be it for good or...not good. Also, the hundredth monkey principle. As a philosophically-inclined being located between heaven and hell, I search for signs, "evidence," to support what I hope will happen, without going out on too thin a limb.

Which is why I always come back to voting. The prospects, "the polls" (often terribly unreliable, for numerous reasons), may not look favorable today, but the only thing that counts is the vote count after the polls close.

So, for example, will Donald Trump be voted into the White House again?

NO

Nevermind the polls, the reasoning, the tens of millions who voted for him the last time and worship him still, despite the same dirty tricks, lies and lawbreaking as now. (Actually, great journalism has uncovered so many crimes years after the fact, that it has now turned into a mountain.) I believe that as we get very close to election day, millions will think hard about what is at stake, what their future may look like under a Trump dictatorship (his words, not mine), grab their sandwich and water bottle and go stand in line for as long as it takes to cast their vote. We have seen it before, especially among black voters undeterred by voting restrictions aimed particularly at them. God bless 'em.

And then, of course, we will have to contend with a cowardly loser whining that he won, it was stolen, again. Maybe this time his storm troopers will even try to burn down the Capitol, like the British did in 1812, or more recently like the Brazilian nut followers of Trump wanna-be Bolsinera. The Brazilian government cracked down hard, arrested 2,000, to send a message. Another example of where we need to look beyond our borders for good examples.

CAN'T STAY ON THE COUCH

Good outcomes depend on good citizens willing to act. The same holds true for Santa Monica. For now, right now, we need a few courageous candidates for City Council to step forward and declare they will always represent the residents of this great city – the ones who live here now, not the imagined thousands developers and their elected allies are building for – despite the dirty tricks, lies and lawbreaking a candidate will have to endure. (To be clear: no lawbreaking has been formally alleged, none proven. I think we do need a Grand Jury investigation here, as there has been in other nearby cities. I think official digging for dirt could uncover a lot of ...soiled hands.)

Yes, there is a flimsy "majority" on Council now, with "The Slate" of Parra, Brock and de la Torre mostly voting on behalf of residents, and often joined

SEE **CURIOUS CITY** PAGE 8

COMMUNITY NEWS

Sacramento

Governor Newsom Calls for New Legislation Cracking Down on Property Crime

Governor Gavin Newsom has called for new legislation expanding criminal penalties, bolstering police and prosecutor tools to combat theft and take down professional criminals who profit from smash and grabs, retail theft, and car burglaries.

The Governor's legislative framework calls for the creation of new laws and expanding criminal penalties to crack down on professional thieves — those who profit from stealing goods for resale — bolstering law enforcement's ability to arrest suspects, creating a new crime addressing organized auto burglary committed to resell stolen property, eliminating the sunset provision for the organized retail crime statute, and exploring increased penalties for high-volume resellers of stolen goods.

"Building on California's existing laws and record public safety investments, I'm calling for new legislation to expand criminal penalties for those profiting on retail theft and auto burglaries. These laws will make California safer and bolster police and prosecutor tools to arrest and hold professional criminals accountable," said Newsom in a statement.

> Building on California's existing laws and record public safety investments, I'm calling for new legislation to expand criminal penalties for those profiting on retail theft and auto burglaries. These laws will make California safer and bolster police and prosecutor tools to arrest and hold professional criminals accountable
> - Gavin Newsom, Governor

PROPOSALS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK INCLUDE:

1) CRACKING DOWN ON PROFESSIONAL THIEVES: Creates new penalties targeting those engaged in retail theft to resell, and those that resell the stolen property — increasing felony penalties and prison time.

2) INCREASING ENFORCEMENT TOOLS: Bolsters existing law to ensure police can arrest suspects of retail theft, even if they didn't witness a crime in progress.

3) AGGREGATING THEFT AMOUNTS: Clarifies that the penal code allows law enforcement to combine the value of multiple thefts — even across different victims — to reach the threshold for grand theft.

4) FIGHTING AUTO BURGLARY: Creates new penalties for professional auto burglary, increasing penalties for the possession of items stolen from a vehicle with intent to resell, regardless of whether the vehicle was locked.

5) ELIMINATING ORC SUNSET PROVISION: Eliminates the sunset date for the organized retail crime statute. The law, which has been effectively used by CHP and others in the Organized Retail Crime Task Force, is set to expire on January 1, 2026.

6) INCREASING PENALTIES FOR RESELLERS: Explores strengthening the law to increase penalties for large-scale resellers of stolen goods.

According to Newsom's office, the announcement builds on the Governor's Real Public Safety Plan – which focuses on strengthening local law enforcement response, ensuring perpetrators are held accountable, and getting guns and drugs off our streets. In 2023, the Governor announced the largest-ever investment to combat organized retail crime in California history, an annual 310% increase in proactive operations targeting organized retail crime, and special operations across the state to fight crime and improve public safety. Since 2019, the state has invested $1.1 billion to fight crime and improve public safety.

"I applaud Governor Newsom for prioritizing the fight against retail theft with his release of a strong legislative package… I am confident that together, we will meet this moment with new approaches that are effective and protect our neighborhoods and hold professional criminals and repeat offenders accountable," said Chair of the Assembly Select Committee on Retail Theft Assemblymember Rick Chavez Zbur.

California law provides existing robust tools for law enforcement and prosecutors to arrest and charge suspects involved in organized retail crime — including up to three years of jail time for organized retail theft. The state has the 10th lowest threshold nationally for prosecutors to charge suspects with a felony, $950. 40 other states — including Texas ($2,500), Alabama ($1,500), and Mississippi ($1,000) — require higher dollar amounts for suspects to be charged with a felony.

"Cal Retailers applauds the Governor for continuing to lead on the issue of Organized Retail Crime and working collaboratively with retailers on legislative proposals that provide real, tangible solutions to serial theft and Organized Retail Crime in California and prioritizing the safety of our consumers, employees, jobs and economy," said California Retailers Association President and CEO Rachel Michelin. "Newsom's legislative package addressing ORC and property crimes announced today is yet another huge step in the right direction on tackling this problem. I and the members of the California Retailers Association appreciate that the Governor and his team listened to our concerns related to ORC/Retail theft and we look forward to continuing to work with the Administration, the Speaker of the Assembly, President pro Tem and members of the legislature on important policies that protect California's retail employees, our customers and the neighborhoods in which retailers operate in."

SUBMITTED BY THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

A judge has temporarily halted enforcement of an Ohio law limiting kids' use of social media

JULIE CARR SMYTH
Associated Press

A federal judge issued an order Tuesday temporarily halting enforcement of a pending Ohio law that would require children to get parental consent to use social media apps.

U.S. District Court Judge Algenon Marbley's temporary restraining order came in a lawsuit brought Friday by NetChoice, a trade group representing TikTok, Snapchat, Meta and other major tech companies. The litigation argues that the law unconstitutionally impedes free speech and is overbroad and vague.

While calling the intent to protect children "a laudable aim," Marbley said it is unlikely that Ohio will be able to show the law is "narrowly tailored to any ends that it identifies."

"Foreclosing minors under sixteen from accessing all content on websites that the Act purports to cover, absent affirmative parental consent, is a breathtakingly blunt instrument for reducing social media's harm to children," he wrote.

The law is similar to those enacted in other states. It was set to take effect Jan. 15.

Besides requiring social media companies to obtain a parent's permission for children under 16 to sign up for social media and gaming apps, it also mandates that the companies provide parents with their privacy guidelines, so that families can know what content will be censored or moderated on their child's profile.

The Social Media Parental Notification Act was part of an $86.1 billion state budget bill that Republican Gov. Mike DeWine signed into law in July. The administration pushed the measure as a way to protect children's mental health, with Republican Lt. Gov. Jon Husted saying at the time that social media was "intentionally addictive" and harmful to kids.

Husted expressed disappointment in the judge's action Tuesday.

"The big-tech companies behind this lawsuit were included in the legislative process to make sure the law was clear and easy to implement, but now they claim the law is unclear," he said in a statement. "They were disingenuous participants in the process and have no interest in protecting children."

The governor also lamented the decision.

"The negative effects that social media sites and apps have on our children's mental health have been well documented, and this law was one way to empower parents to have a role in their kids' digital lives," he said in a statement.

NetChoice filed suit against GOP Attorney General Dave Yost in U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio. The group has won lawsuits against similar restrictions in California and Arkansas.

City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: **Proposed Extension of Emergency Interim Zoning Ordinance Number 2772 (CCS) Authorizing the Establishment of Objective Design Standards for Qualifying Housing Projects that Elect to Use the Streamlined, Ministerial Approval Process Established by Senate Bill 35.**

A public hearing will be held by the City Council to extend Emergency Interim Zoning Ordinance Number 2772 (CCS) authorizing the establishment of objective design standards for qualifying housing projects that elect to use the streamlined, ministerial approval process established by Senate Bill 35. The Council adopted Emergency Interim Zoning Ordinance Number 2772 (CCS) on December 19, 2023 and will expire unless extended by Council.

DATE/TIME: **TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2024 AT 6:30 PM**

LOCATION: City Council Chamber, Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT:
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. Members of the public unable to attend a meeting but wishing to comment on an item(s) listed on the agenda may submit written comments prior to the public hearing via email to councilmtgitems@santamonica.gov or via mail to City Clerk, 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica, California 90401. Written public comment submitted before 12:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be available for online viewing. All written comments shall be made part of the public record. Please note the agenda item number in the subject line of your written comments.

You may also comment in person at the City Council hearing. Please check the agenda for more detailed instructions on how to comment in person.

Address your comments to: City Clerk
Re: SB 35 ODS Emergency Interim Zoning Ordinance Extension

VIA EMAIL: councilmtgitems@santamonica.gov
VIA MAIL: 1685 Main Street, Room 102
Santa Monica, CA 90401

MORE INFORMATION: If you want more information about this project, please contact Steve Mizokami by e-mail at steve.mizokami@santamonica.gov . For disability-related accommodations, please contact the City Clerk's Office at (310) 458-8211 or (310) 917-6626 TDD at least 72 hours in advance. Every attempt will be made to provide the requested accommodation. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines serve City Hall and the Civic Center area. The Expo Line terminus is located at Colorado Avenue and Fourth Street, and is a short walk to City Hall. Public parking is available in front of City Hall, on Olympic Drive, and in the Civic Center Parking Structure (validation free).

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the public hearing.

ESPAÑOL: Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar applicaciónes proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-2275.

SNAP

FROM PAGE 1

designs, structures, and policies Snap chose to implement (to) increase its revenues." Among the design and structural choices alleged by the plaintiffs are Snapchat's "ineffective age verification and parental controls," its automatic message deletion feature, a "quick add" feature that targets minors and a "stories" feature that facilitates drug seller engagement with minors.

By filing the demurrer papers last year, Snap, Inc. has denied the claims, stating that "it is on the frontlines to stop drug sellers from engaging in this illegal conduct" and has "expended tremendous financial and human capital resources" in these efforts. The demurrer examined the legal sufficiency of the plaintiffs' allegations, in which the majority of counts were allowed to move forward.

According to the ruling, the company had not yet formally responded to the allegations outside of the demurrer papers at the time of the filing. On Monday, the company released a statement to the Daily Press, restating its commitment to anti-drug selling rhetoric and actions.

"The fentanyl epidemic has taken the lives of too many people and we have deep empathy for families who have suffered unimaginable losses," the statement said. "At Snap, we are working diligently to stop drug dealers from abusing our platform, and deploy technologies to proactively identify and shut down dealers, support law enforcement efforts to help bring dealers to justice, and educate our community and the general public about the dangers of fentanyl."

In the statement, the company also made clear its intentions to continue defending the case.

> Think of a situation where you have a parking garage with inadequate lighting and a person is assaulted in the middle of the night by a person in that parking garage, and the courts have said (the parking garage has) a duty to exercise reasonable care to adequately light (the) facility
>
> - Matthew P. Bergman

"While we are committed to advancing our efforts to stop drug dealers from engaging in illegal activity on Snapchat, we believe the plantiffs' allegations are both legally and factually flawed and will continue to defend that position in court," the company noted.

Snap Inc.'s motion stated that all alleged counts "are based on content created and exchanged by third parties," and therefore should be barred under Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act. The statute states that "no provider or user of an interactive computer service shall be treated as the publisher or speaker of any information provided by another information content provider," with the other "information content provider" in this case being drug sellers on Snapchat.

The company's arguments related to Section 230 were that because the plaintiffs' harm arose from third-party interactions, Snap is immunized from any liability from those harms. Furthermore, the company took the position that it was not acting as a publisher in the traditional sense, and that Snapchat was not a product, but rather a service.

To those arguments, the court agreed that it cannot be liable as a publisher of a third-party drug sellers' Snapchat content, but that the allegations do not "impose liability upon Snap for publishing or failing to moderate" the content, rather independent conduct that goes beyond "incidental editorial functions" under Section 230 immunity.

"Our approach was different, we approached it from the standpoint of product liability," Bergman said. "Not attacking the content, but rather the designs of the platform. Judge Riff said that we have stated a claim, he hasn't said we are right or wrong ... (but) we can go forward on that claim in the future."

Bergman further argued that under California law, if it is "foreseeable" that an individual can be harmed by a third party, an entity such as Snap, Inc. can be held liable in some cases.

"Think of a situation where you have a parking garage with inadequate lighting and a person is assaulted in the middle of the night by a person in that parking garage, and the courts have said (the parking garage has) a duty to exercise reasonable care to adequately light (the) facility," Bergman said.

The four counts in which Snap, Inc.'s demurrals were sustained were counts related to "tortious interference with parental rights," "public nuisance," "aiding and abetting" and "loss of consortium and society." The remainder of counts, ranging from strict product liability and negligence to fraudulent misrepresentation, will be allowed to move forward, and Bergman noted that the parents were "overjoyed" by the news.

"These parents are the most inspiring clients I have represented in 30 years ... they are singularly focused on accountability," Bergman said. "They have not said a word, ever, about money. They have simply talked about suffering the worst loss that anybody can imagine, that being the loss of a child, and their singular motivation is preventing other families from experiencing the same loss."

thomas@smdp.com



COMMUNITY NEWS

Downtown

KIND and Lana Condor Invite Americans to Quit the New Year's Resolutions that No Longer Serve Them

On Quitter's Day, KIND Snacks is announcing Better You by Lana, a one-day-only immersive wellness pop-up that flips the script on how to start the New Year, with actress, Lana Condor. By launching on Quitter's Day, the day by which most Americans have quit their New Year's resolutions, KIND and Lana are inviting consumers to shut out the noise and stress that heightens around the New Year.

"It is nearly impossible to start the year without the overwhelming pressure and noise of our 'eat this, not that' culture that escalates each January," said Osher Hoberman, Chief Marketing Officer at KIND. "As a continuation of KIND's commitment to nutrition education and nourishment, we are challenging the status quo and empowering Americans to trust their taste buds to lead them to whole, recommended foods we're not eating enough of today."

> It is nearly impossible to start the year without the overwhelming pressure and noise of our 'eat this, not that' culture that escalates each January
> - Osher Hoberman, Chief Marketing Officer

"Each and every January, we all feel like we should be changing our daily routines to become better versions of ourselves. It's time to ask ourselves how well these resolutions are serving us," said Lana. "Better You by Lana certainly sounds like a wellness store in name, but the experience KIND and I teamed up to create is anything but. We will empower consumers to shut out the noise that comes with the new year."

To visit Better You by Lana, stop by Santa Monica's Third Street Promenade on 395 Santa Monica Place, Unit 146 from 12–9 pm PT. The first 100 people in line will receive a custom gift from Lana and KIND while supplies last.

SUBMITTED BY KARALYN HOOVER

Citywide

SMMUSD Celebrates the Samohi Marching Band's Remarkable Success in 2023 Competition Season

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) proudly congratulates the Santa Monica High School (Samohi) Viking Marching Band for an exceptional performance during the 2023 competition season. Under the leadership of band director, Kevin McKeown, the Viking Marching Band participated in five qualifying competitions, between Oct. 21 and Nov. 18, 2023, achieving outstanding results in each event.

"This was the most consistent group that I have taught at Samohi since 2012. Their weekly improvement led to a historic finish and has set a new standard for our program moving forward," said McKeown. "I am also a proud parent of a senior in the band, Connor, so that makes this year even more special."

The competition highlights and accolades include:

The Simi Valley 54th Annual Band Spectacular on Oct. 21, 2023: In the 5A Division, the Viking Marching Band placed first in the categories of band, color guard and percussion.

The Cleveland High School All-Valley Band Tournament on Oct. 28, 2023: In the 5A Division, the band placed first in the categories of band, color guard and percussion.

The William S. Hart Regiment 39th Rampage Tournament on Nov. 4, 2023: In the 5A Division, the Viking Marching Band placed first in the categories of band, color guard and percussion.

The 10th Annual Duarte Field Tournament on Nov. 10, 2023: In the 5A Division, the band placed first in the categories of band, color guard and percussion, as well as won the Music Effect Sweepstakes, Visual Effect Sweepstakes, Visual Performance Sweepstakes and Overall Band Tournament Sweepstakes

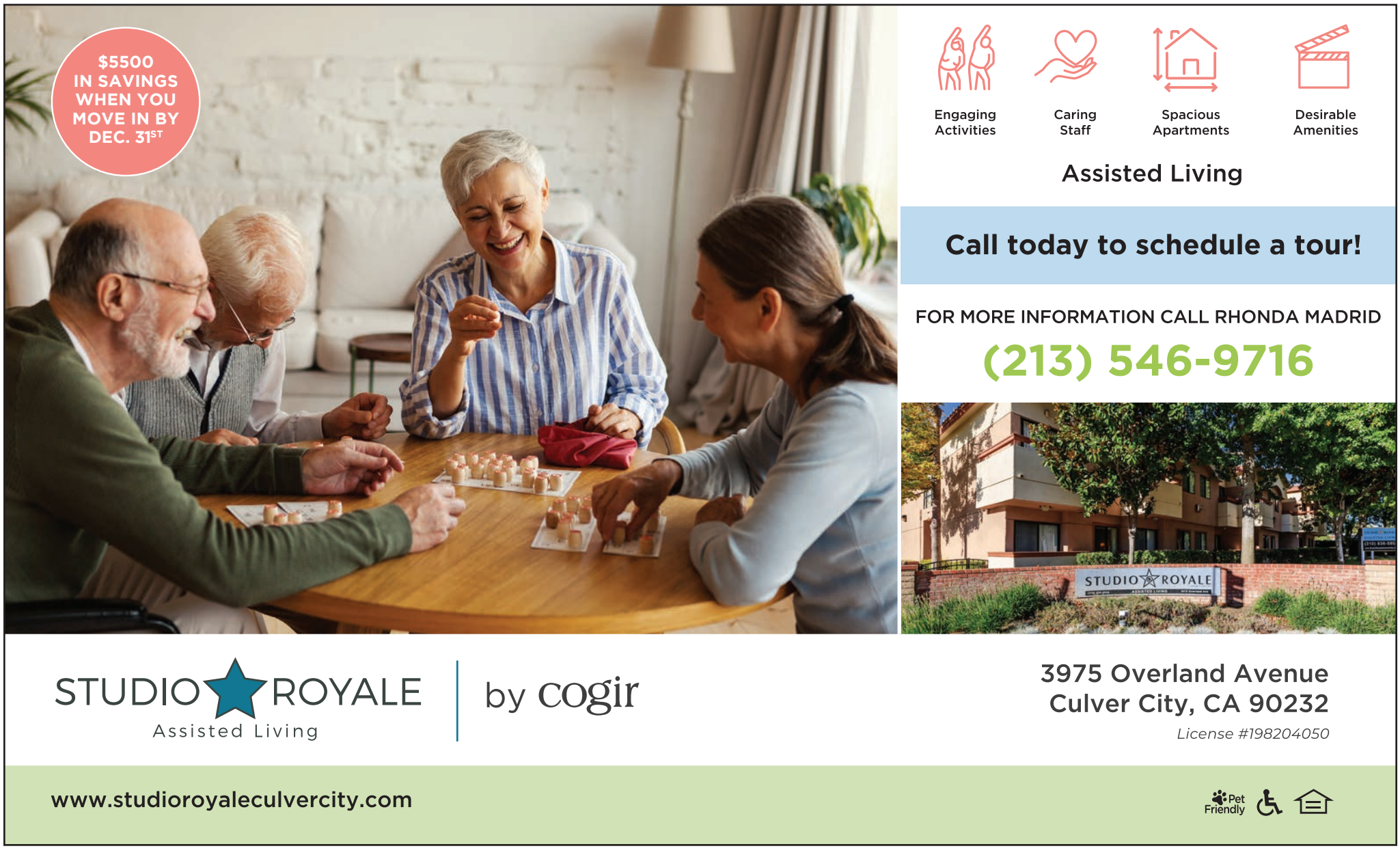
The Savanna High School Field Tournament on Nov. 11, 2023: In the 5A Division, the band placed first in the category of band and second in the categories of color guard and percussion. The band also won the Music Performance Sweepstakes, Music Effect Sweepstakes, Visual Effect Sweepstakes and Overall 4A/5A/6A Division Tournament Sweepstakes.

The Southern California School Band and Orchestra Association (SCSBOA) 5A Division Championship Tournament on Nov. 18, 2023: The Viking Marching Band received the silver medal, won the Music Effect Caption Sweepstakes and broke a new school record with a final score of 91.10.

Ensembles are categorized into classes according to the number of performers, with 5A indicating a group of 126 or more members.

Amazing job Viking Marching Band!

WRITTEN BY DIANA BOUCHAAYA, COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST



CURIOUS CITY

FROM PAGE 4

by independent Lana Negrete. But we have Gleam Davis, Jesse Zwick, and Carolyn Torosis, all voting in line with their pronouncements, that Santa Monica needs much more housing. (When the state population, and the Santa Monica schools, are all losing numbers like a one-time lottery buyer. (The characterizations above are mine, judgments based on statements and votes.)

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT

In particular, the School Board. Still so hard to convince most SM voters they're the bad guys.

But, our school district still comes up high on test scores. Yes, but not as high as we used to. And are you OK that they destroyed our beloved Samohi campus by tearing down old buildings, that could have been repurposed, for one fifth the cost, with modern multi-million dollar behemoths that often don't function properly?

Tell us about the air filters and tell us why you tore down the History Building – the HISTORY Building – when you didn't have to, when even YOUR master plan said, we don't need another new building here. You completely ignored community groups and preservation experts – and your own six-figure studies – all begging, please take a pause, let us weigh in on this important historical issue. For years, until the strong 1932 earthquake, that building WAS Samohi, built on a hill (that the School Board master plan leveled) to take advantage of sea breezes long before air conditioning. Any of the 50,000 Samohi graduates who walked onto the campus now would look around in wonder, what happened to my high school? Where is it? How could this happen?

It's a long, complicated story, but let's just say a large part of the explanation is that we voted them more than a billion (yes, with a B) dollars in school bonds, just to build buildings. It's a given that almost all school bonds pass, because most people believe the money goes to better education. Not bigger buildings. I hear much sentiment in the community that the free ride is over. The district may ask for another quarter billion dollars, to finish their master plan. (Since we wouldn't give them our historic Civic Auditorium, to become a basketball gym.) For so many more reasons than I have space to go into here, we need to change out that School Board in the next election.

THE MUIR WOODS MURAL

But here's one that's timely. In the last week or so, scaffolding has gone up around the two long walls that face Lincoln and Ocean Park, on the corner building of the former Olympic High School, now renamed and reworked, for the Obamas. But I'll bet $1,000 they know nothing about this long-simmering, planned in secret, failed plan. I'm betting that the US President who set aside more land for public use than any other president, would not be happy that the district neglected, to ruin, an environmental mural by a famous artist, only to paint their name on images there.

It looks, right now, like they are getting ready to paint something on those bare walls, and I will bet another grand it ain't a reproduction of the famous Muir Woods mural that was there for 40 years, that literally thousands in the community, and more from around the world, said they wanted to see restored and preserved.

I have written to SMMUSD COO Cary Upton, and to the entire School Board, to ask them their intentions for this space, at one of the busiest intersections in Santa Monica. So many have said, it is a welcome respite from urban traffic and craziness, to gaze into a redwood forest.

Will the School Board start now to listen to the community? I have faith they will.

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

UBER

FROM PAGE 3

Jessica Looman, administrator of the Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division, said during the press briefing that the final rule isn't intended to apply specifically to certain industries or type of work. Asked about enforcement, Looman said the department will focus on the "most vulnerable workers," particularly those who are being unfairly deprived of minimum wages and overtime pay.

The rule does not carry the same weight as laws passed by Congress or state legislatures. Instead, it offers an interpretation of who should qualify for protections under the 1938 Fair Labor Standards Act.

Financial markets appeared to shrug off news of the new rule. Shares of Uber and Lyft, which dropped 10% and 12% respectively when the administration unveiled the proposed rules in October 2022, edged higher Tuesday while the major averages ticked lower.

GUEST COMMENTARY

FROM PAGE 4

Porter and Lee. They must now scramble in the few remaining weeks before the March primary to gain the second ballot spot.

"A celebrity Republican is gaining traction in the polls, and he could advance to second place and keep us from qualifying for the general election," Porter's campaign said in a fundraising pitch last week.

Whether Garvey can win a place on the ballot, meanwhile, depends on him securing enough campaign money to raise his public profile and consolidating the GOP vote vis-à-vis several little known Republicans also running.

Although the GOP can claim only a relatively small share of the electorate, it might be enough to give Garvey a second-place finish with Democratic voters divided three ways.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.



THE PUMP STATION & Nurtury
Santa Monica, California

THE PUMP STATION

Supporting Santa Monica Parents

2727 Main St Suite A | (310) 998-1981 | pumpstation.com

The success story of the Pump Station & Nurtury is a tale of how two moms combined their efforts to provide the community with what was missing. Over 35 years ago, a lady named Corky Harvey created a "baby care boot camp" in Santa Monica to provide new parents with much needed, evidence-based support and information to care for their newborns. This later became an early incarnation of the Pump Station. Then it took the collaboration of another mom, Cheryl Petran, nearly 20 years later who recognized the potential and used her professional expertise to expand and develop the business and so the Pump Station & Nurtury as we know it today was born.

"Our clients often tell us how wonderful it is to find most of the resources for expectant and new parents integrated in one convenient location. Parents and babies come through our doors every day to access the huge selection of products we now carry and to attend classes that range from prenatal breastfeeding and baby care to baby signing and infant CPR," Harvey said.

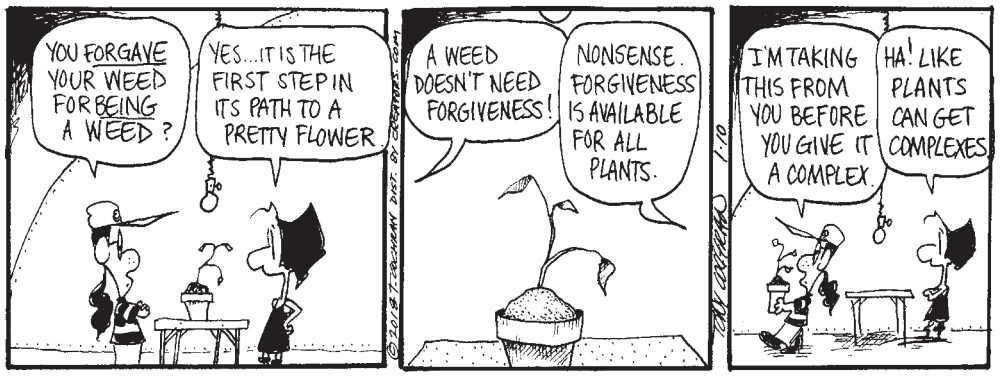
Today, the Pump Station & Nurtury provides education and support to over 300 expecting and new parents every week and their empathetic, knowledgeable and efficient team of certified experts uses information collected from decades of experience to educate parents on everything parenting, breast, baby and toddler related.

"Our goal remains the same today as when we opened more than a quarter of a century ago: we want the Pump Station & Nurtury to be a sanctuary for expectant parents, new parents and their precious babies at this very challenging and rewarding time of life," Harvey said.

An indispensable part of the local community, this one-stop-shop for all things offspring continues to help families grow in Santa Monica, safe in the knowledge that they're receiving the best care and advice possible.

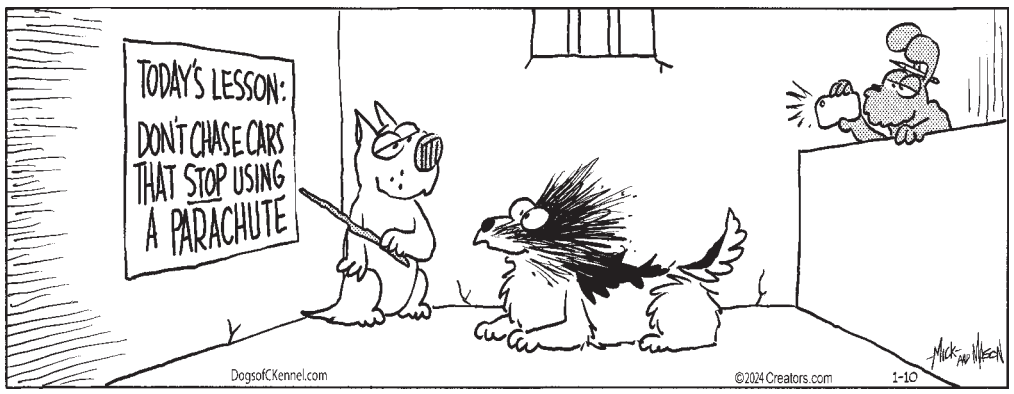
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



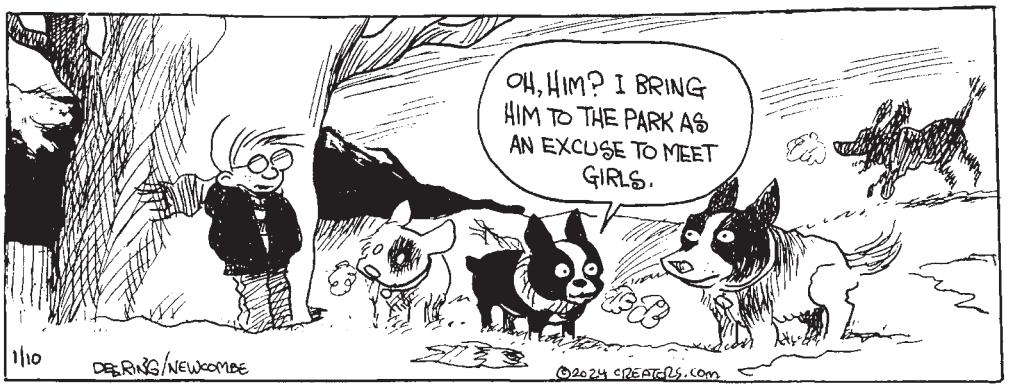
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"I WISH I HAD A FAIRY GODMOTHER."

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 6085

The human body

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

Ankle joint
Anus
Aorta
Arch
Arms
Bladder
Blood vessels
Bones
Bowel
Brow
Cell
Coccyx
Duct
Eyelashes
Femur
Foot
Heart
Heel
Hips
Ilium
Instep
Knee
Legs
Liver
Lobe
Lung
Mouth
Nails
Navel
Neck
Node
Nose
Oral
Palm
Pore
Pubis
Sebaceous gland
Skin
Skull
Sole
Tarsal
Teeth
Throat
Toes
Torso
Ulna
Valve
Vena
Waist

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Prices up, reliability down

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

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 10)

You're a superstar on the rise, undaunted by the challenges. You win, not in spite of the trials but because of them. They show you what it takes to be your best. Relationships are somehow simultaneously wild and stable. You'll focus on love and go after what attracts you, resulting in your improved health and well-being. Sagittarius and Aries adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 1, 19, 4 and 21.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You've a knack for planning and logistics. As you get this right, other things, such as people's feelings and moods, will follow suit. You'll also help people communicate better because you ask good questions and then listen well.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You didn't know what you wanted from someone until you got what you didn't want. Now you have more information to work with. You'll start to envision what shape this relationship could take.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). In science, there is no blame, only data. You'll be scientific in your assessment of a situation and you'll recognize the causes and effects without assigning moral or emotional qualities. This approach will help you solve a problem.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Most things are much easier to dismantle than they are to build up. Positive feelings like confidence definitely fit the category, which is why you are constantly looking for opportunities to elevate people and moods. In this you will succeed today.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). In song, love has been compared to a many splendored thing, a battlefield and a head cold. Your experience of love as, quite simply, a quality of attention is perhaps less singable, and yet your relationships will ring out like music today.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There's absolutely no point in arguing. For starters, the opposition won't be swayed by reason. Furthermore, they will only become sharper and more motivated if you force them to articulate their side.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You want to know why a person made a choice, and someday you may have the enlightenment you seek. But you do not have to wait until then to be at peace. Acceptance can come without understanding.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Today's work will be a cakewalk, not because the tasks are easy but because the company is. When you have fun people around you whose every intention is to assist, life gets easier.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You know what you don't know, and paradoxically, it's this humility that makes you great. It keeps you teachable. You are never satisfied that you know enough. Your curiosity is a key element to your brilliance.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your perseverance in the pursuit of your dreams is sometimes a function of your passion, but not always. Sometimes it's habit, an identity or a simple realization than you've come too far to turn back.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). "This being human is a guest house," said the poet Rumi, "Every morning a new arrival." You'll welcome all emotions and experiences, positive, negative, wanted or unwanted, as valuable guests in the house of your heart.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Find out what people want before you give them things. If you wait until after, you could let go of something valuable to you without a good reason. With the right information, you'll aim your contributions to bring joy or solve a problem.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

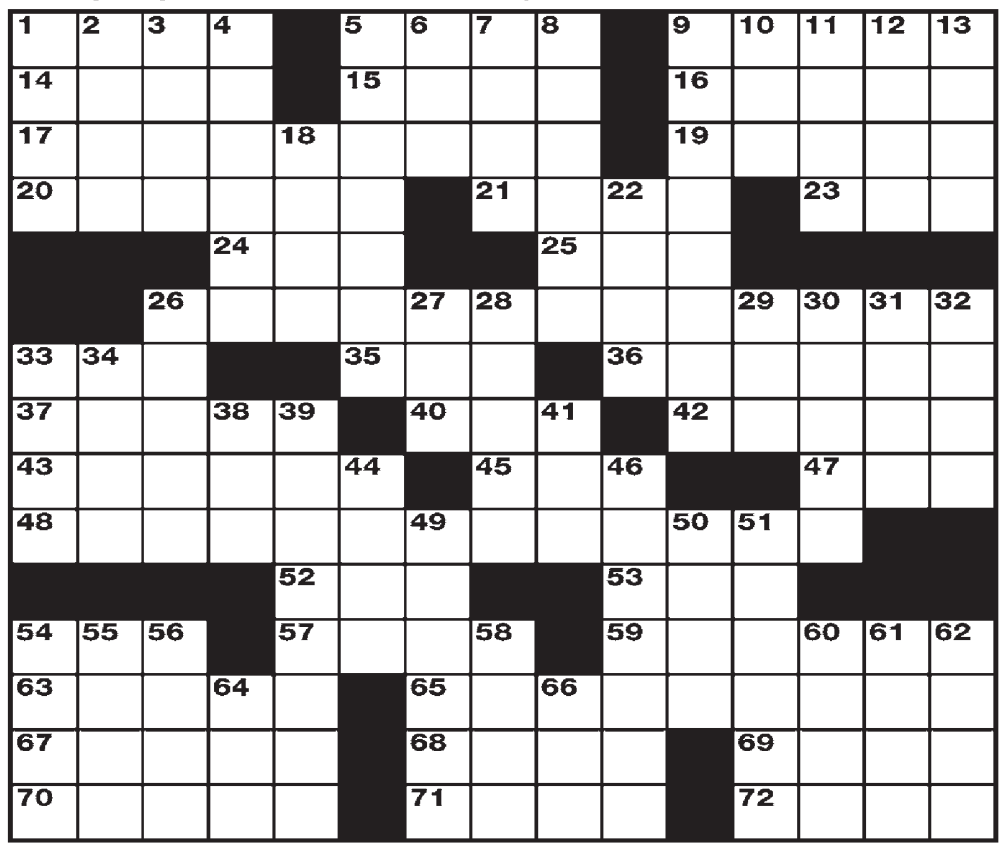
LET'S GO by Steven Faiella
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Female choir voice
5 Ping-__
9 Patient's record
14 Nickel or dime
15 Mideast leader
16 __ space (astronaut's destination)
17 Go quickly
19 "Humble" residence
20 Phonograph inventor
21 "Now!" in the OR
23 "The Raven" writer
24 Debtor's letters
25 Mess up
26 Go quickly
33 Medical insurance grp.
35 Lawn material
36 Burn a bit
37 Absorb a loss
40 Waitperson's reward
42 Bearlike Aussie beast
43 Not digital, as a watch
45 "__ the season to be jolly"
47 Light brown shade
48 Go quicker
52 Uncooked
53 Moody music genre
54 Relaxing retreat
57 Egyptian goddess
59 Expert pilot
63 Deals with adversity
65 Go quickly
67 Attentive
68 Ballerina's skirt
69 Time-consuming
70 The present time
71 Ladder rung
72 Full collections

DOWN

1 High point
2 Batch of laundry
3 Polynesian figurine
4 Baby's bodysuit
5 Snoopy's comic strip
6 Mediation syllables
7 Petty complaints
8 Hansel's sister
9 Pole to hang a jacket on
10 Center of a wheel
11 Perched upon
12 Begin again with
13 Source for apples or apricots
18 Owl's sound
22 Greek war god
26 Did so-so in class
27 Sweltering
28 Author Wharton
29 Scooby-__ (toon dog)
30 Give a speech
31 Sch. near Hollywood
32 Now more __ ever
33 Messy pile
34 __-pedi (salon service)
38 Category
39 With many souvenir stands, say
41 Pizza order
44 College transcript nos.
46 "Louder, please"
49 Surprise plot turns
50 French girlfriend
51 Reef components
54 "Scram!"
55 Sport played on ponies
56 Mimicked
58 Closed tight
60 Soothing plant
61 Penny
62 Quiche ingredients
64 Historic time
66 Chowed down



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2024 NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 1/10/24

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 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-mixerat-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

THE ART OF IKEBANA WORKSHOP
Discover modern Ikebana, the Japanese art of floral design, with Naoko Zaima. Create minimalist décor to take home with you. Limited spots available. Email library@santamonica.gov for registration. Main Library 601 Santa Monica Blvd.2 - 4 p.m.

THURSDAY | JANUARY 11

NAMI WESTSIDE RESOURCE TABLE
NAMI offers free programs to provide education, stigma reduction, and support for people with mental health conditions and their loved ones. Find resources and referrals for handling stress, anxiety, and depression. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 2 - 6 p.m.

SING YOUR SONG: A SCREENING AND PANEL DISCUSSION
Celebrate the shared legacies of nonviolent activists Martin Luther King Jr. and Harry Belafonte with a 5 p.m. screening of the documentary, Sing Your Song, about Belafonte's significant place in the Civil Rights Movement. At 7 p.m., a panel discussion follows with Harry's granddaughter, Maria Belafonte, SMC professor Tim Conley, filmmaker Marq Hawkins, and moderator Cassandra Chase, Director of the Equity & Justice Institute at Crossroads. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 5 - 8 p.m.

RENT CONTROL BOARD MEETING
Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street, 7 p.m. Agenda available online at https://www.smgov.net/Current_Board_Meetings.aspx

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. Santa Monica Public Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 2 - 4 p.m.

RAE ISLA
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. $15. https://www.ticketweb.com/event/rae-isla-with-adrienne-ackerman-the-venice-west-tickets/13773878

FRIDAY | JANUARY 12

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. FREEDOM CELEBRATION
Santa Monica Area Interfaith Council Presents: 2024 MLK Freedom Celebration "How to Get to Healing" on Friday, January 12th, 2024 from 8:30am-9:30am at Mt. Olive Lutheran. Mt Olive Lutheran Church, 1343 Ocean Park Boulevard. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/martin-luther-king-jr-freedom-celebration-tickets-767127207127

PAINT NITE: THE ORIGINAL PAINT AND SIP PARTY
Inspire 2024 with the season painting by the poolside! Bring your people or yourself and take a journey through the forest. The supplies are included. Barbianca at Hotel MDR serves the best wine and a full bar menu. Sadly, that is not included. This is an outdoor event and though there will be heaters, bring a jacket for that extra layer of warmth. Hotel MdR 13480 Maxella Avenue Marina Del Rey. 7 - 8:30 p.m. $42. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/paint-nite-the-original-paint-and-sip-party-tickets-783025128237

WOMEN OF SPACE SERIES: MORE ASTRONOMERS!
There is a long list of distinguished (and often underappreciated) women who have made critical contributions to astronomical research and significant advances in the fields of astronomy and space exploration. In a second installment of this series, Lecturer Sarah Vincent will shine a light on more of these often-hidden figures. 8 - 9 p.m. https://www.smc.edu/community/planetarium/

SATURDAY | JANUARY 13

RUMMAGE SALE
Join Santa Monica Elks Lodge for their two day multi family Rummage sale extravaganza! Are you looking for some fashion finds, unique home decor, or a vast collection of books, DVDs and vintage magazines we have treasures galore. They will be in-door so the parking lot will have plenty of room for parking. 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Santa Monica Elks Lodge, 1040 Pico Blvd.

SANTA MONICA SYMPHONY: ANNUAL MLK HOLIDAY CONCERT
In partnership with the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Westside Coalition, the Santa Monica Symphony commemorates the legacy of Dr. King. SGI-USA World Peace Ikeda Auditorium, 525 Wilshire Boulevard 3 - 5:30 p.m. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/santa-monica-symphony-annual-mlk-holiday-concert-tickets-681932326947

GARDEN OPEN HOUSE AND MLK DAY OF SERVICE
Join organizers at the oldest Community Garden as someone simply visiting and enjoying a cup of coffee, or put on your work gloves and join us in a Volunteer Day of Service in Honor of Dr. MLK,Jr. They are also accepting donations for the SMMSD Weekend Bag Program (accepting: granola bars, instant oatmeal and individual serving packets of trail mix.) To register to volunteer contact Isabel.Filson@santamonica.gov. Hope to see you at the Gardens to start the new year. Sponsored by City of Santa Monica Community Gardens and California Climate Action Corps. 9 - 11 a.m. Main Street Community Garden, 2318 Main Street.

PARENTING WORKSHOP: FAMILIES LEARN & PLAY
Discover successful parenting approaches in ways to communicate, handle emotions and more in a casual and fun setting with Noelle Fletcher, LMFT. For parents/caretakers with their children, ages 18 months to 4 years old. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

SUNDAY | JANUARY 14

RUMMAGE SALE
Join Santa Monica Elks Lodge for their two day multi family Rummage sale extravaganza! Are you looking for some fashion finds, unique home decor, or a vast collection of books, DVDs and vintage magazines we have treasures galore. They will be in-door so the parking lot will have plenty of room for parking. 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Santa Monica Elks Lodge, 1040 Pico Blvd.

PLANT YOUR OWN GROWBAG AT TESSAGROW'S GARDENING WORKSHOP'S (AGES 4-9)
Get hands-on and plant a growbag with seeds, seedlings and a butterfly while discovering the vital role of insects in our food and more. Merrihew's Sunset Gardens, 1526 Ocean Park Boulevard. $80. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/plant-your-own-growbag-at-tessagrows-gardening-workshops-ages-4-9-tickets-718061339797

MONDAY | JANUARY 15

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION
Join organizers for one of Southern California's largest birthday celebrations for Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., honoring his memory and work to ensure equality and civil rights for all people. This year is the event's 39th anniversary and embraces the theme "Stop the Hate, Start the Healing." The multiethnic interfaith program includes inspirational readings, music, and education awards presentations. The event is presented by The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Westside Coalition and sponsored by the SMC Associates, Santa Monica College, SGI-USA, RAND Corporation, and Santa Monica Bay Area Human Relations Council, as well as other organizations and individuals. https://www.mlkjrwestside.org. Soka Gakkai International (SGI) Auditorium 525 Wilshire, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

POP QUIZ TEEN 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, 7 - 9 p.m.

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD
City Hall, 1685 Main Street, 7 p.m. Agenda available online at https://www.smgov.net/Departments/PCD/Boards-Commissions/Architectural-Review-Board/

TUESDAY | JANUARY 16

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. Montana Branch Library, 1704 Montana Avenue, 10:30 - 11 a.m.

MYSTERY BOOK GROUP DISCUSSION
This community-led, monthly book discussion group currently meets online/virtually via Zoom. To register, email library@santamonica.gov. January's selection is The Fifth Witness by Michael Connelly

Submit your event online at smdp.com/events

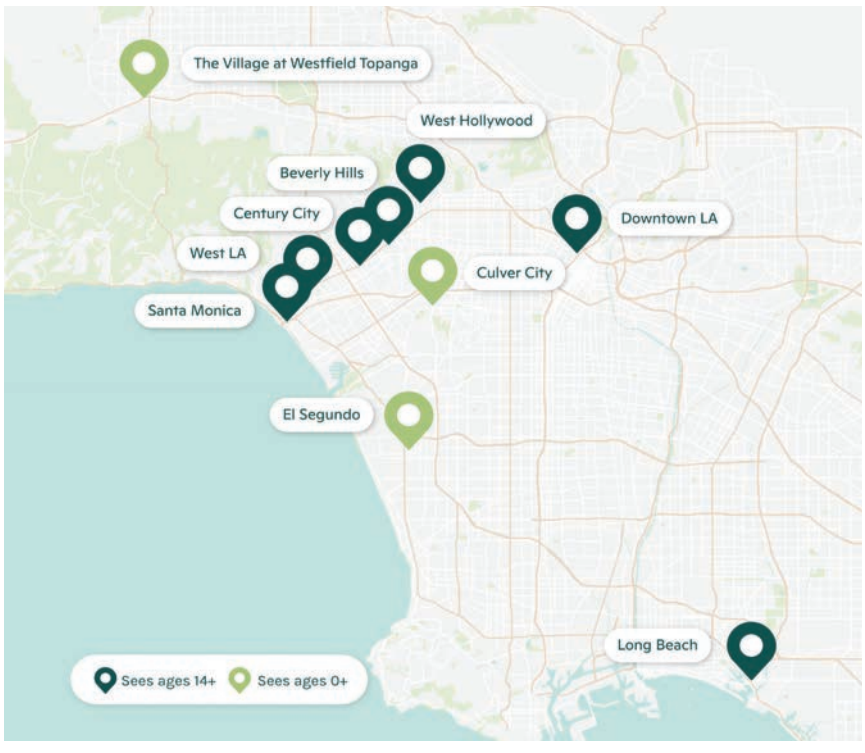
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