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smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

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4th Street gets pumped up with another gym offering



Courtesy photo

ANYTIME FITNESS: A typical Anytime Fitness gym showing the universal interior design themes and colors.

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

Fitness fanatics and gym goers are being spoiled for choice in Santa Monica as another interpretation of the workout routine is arriving as Anytime Fitness will soon open its doors at 435 4th Street. This adds to the ever-increasing number of athletic-related outlets already there, including the newly opened Fred Fitness, Road Runner Sports and SportsFest, although it looks like the promised pickleball courts are in a slight spot of bother.

Located between Santa Monica Blvd and Broadway, the historically listed site used to be home to West Elm furniture store, before it moved into the renovated building next door in 2018.

The interior of the 5,000 sq ft space currently resembles a construction site, with incomplete walls, hanging wires and pipes, but franchise owner Fraz Ahmed is supremely confident that everything will be finished by the scheduled opening date of Friday, February 21, 2025.

Anytime Fitness is an international chain of franchised gyms, operating in 31 countries, from Australia to Austria and the UK to the UAE. This new Santa Monica outlet is only one of four

SEE **FITNESS** PAGE 6

Restaurant scene offers specialty menus for fire relief fundraiser

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

Nothing brings people together better than a good meal, particularly at a time where togetherness is especially cherished.

The winter edition of Dine LA, featuring special menus crafted by the best in local dining, will be moving forward from now through Feb. 7. After the harrowing experiences residents have gone through due to wildfires, the decision was made to go forward with Dine LA with a charitable attitude.

For each reservation made, LA Tourism and Banc of California will donate $10 to the American Red Cross for wildfire recovery efforts, up to $100,000. In total, 39 Santa Monica restaurants will be participating, with the program encompassing over 400 Los Angeles County spots.

"Los Angeles' food community has demonstrated inspiring resilience and generosity," the Dine LA team said. "Many restaurants have stepped up to support people impacted by wildfires as the dining industry continues to face its own challenges. Dine LA provides a

SEE **DINE LA** PAGE 7

New council looks to make good on campaign promises for government reform

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

The Santa Monica City Council is kicking off the new year with a focus on reforming its own policies.

Council is set to consider several governance reforms aimed at enhancing governmental transparency, ethics, and operational efficiency at its Jan. 28 meeting.

Key proposals include stricter gift acceptance rules for council members, modifications to council meeting procedures, and new regulations concerning the use of city symbols in political campaigns.

The gift acceptance policy would prohibit council members from accepting gifts exceeding $100 per event or $630 from a single source annually. Exceptions would mirror state law, allowing inherited

SEE **COUNCIL** PAGE 7

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PUBLIC NOTICE

If your child attended Santa Monica Police Activities League (PAL) or went to Memorial Park or Virginia Park during the late 1980s to early 2000s, your child may have come in contact with and been sexually abused by Eric Uller, who masqueraded as a police officer.

- Over almost 30 years, he sexually abused hundreds of boys and girls.
- Victims were often too scared or ashamed to tell their parents.
- Many victims have moved away and don't know they have a right to make a claim.
- Share this notice. There may still be time to file a claim.



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GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Trump jumps back into California's water wars with a pro-farmer decree



Photo by Rich Pedroncelli, AP Photo

WATER: Gino Celli draws a water sample to check the salinity in an irrigation canal that runs through his fields near Stockton, in 2015. Celli farms 1,500 acres of land and manages another 7,000 acres, and has senior water rights and draws his irrigation water from the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta.

It would be impossible to overstate the complexity of water supply management in California.

Hundreds of federal, state and local agencies decree who or what is supplied with water, when and how much will be delivered, and the prices recipients must pay.

Moreover, there are policy differences within those broad categories. For instance, local agricultural water agencies and municipal providers to homes and businesses often have different priorities.

The politics of water are even more convoluted, involving not only the public agencies but seemingly countless outside stakeholders, ranging from developers who need water supply commitments for their projects to commercial fishermen who want to protect spawning salmon.

The proliferation of competing agendas explains why it is so difficult to reach the consensus needed to move policy forward. It's not unusual for proposed projects and policies to kick around for years, if not decades, before something concrete occurs.

For example, the proposed Sites Reservoir on the west side of the Sacramento Valley now seems likely to be built, but only after 70 years of promotion by backers. The long-planned expansion of Los Vaqueros Reservoir in Contra Costa County collapsed recently when the East

SEE **WATER** PAGE 5

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GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

As the fire risk fades, Los Angeles is busy piecing lives back together after widespread tragedy



Photo by Allen J. Schaben, Los Angeles Times via Getty Images

WILDFIRES: Wildfire victims seek disaster relief services at one of two FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers at the Pasadena City College Community Education Center in Pasadena Tuesday, Jan. 14, 2025.

At the Pasadena City College disaster resource center, the long, methodical work of putting lives back together is underway.

Residents who have lost everything — most in the Eaton fire that burned neighborhoods just a mile or so from the center — come in glassy-eyed, smelling of smoke, some in cars packed with belongings, others on foot.

There's a group of tables in the center of the room, and others along the edges. Shellshocked arrivals walk around this ring of services, considering what each has to offer.

On a recent morning, the center was busy but not frantic. Fire victims staggered in and explained their needs to a greeter in a mask who then directed them accordingly. Some lacked even identification, so they stopped first at the California Department of Motor Vehicles desk to sign up for a new license. An eye chart was tacked up behind the desk.

Other stations offered advice on insurance and helped people sign up for disaster relief. Others provided guidance for people seeking contractors. One helped people whose workplaces had been destroyed. A table staffed by the county's animal control agency gave suggestions on how to find lost pets, while the county assessor counseled visitors on how this affected their property taxes.

Assessments are based on the land and improvements, the official at the desk explained, so if a house has been destroyed, then the property needs to be reassessed. Residents may file for a "misfortune and calamity" reassessment.

There seems little doubt about that.

On this morning, several residents were dismayed to learn that their applications for FEMA assistance had been denied. Turns out it was a glitch in the FEMA system. Officials heard the complaints and rushed to fix it. Anyone receiving a denial should press ahead, they said. The application may just need more information.

This center, and another across town at the old Westfield Shopping Center and operated by UCLA (soon to become UCLA's Research Park), are fielding thousands of questions from thousands of tragedies. They are resetting the foundations for individuals and families that seemed solid just two weeks ago and now seem terribly, unfathomably tenuous.

And yet, there are reasons to be hopeful. In Pasadena, for instance, the "medical assistance" table had no takers on Friday. And the center was steadily, cheerfully processing people as quickly as they arrived.

There is a point in any disaster where rescue shifts to recovery, where the rush of adrenaline is replaced by the steady commitment to work. Less remarked on is that there is a brief moment in between those, one of stabilization, where lives have to be calmed before the work ahead can really begin. In that pause, the medical crises have largely abated, and the future

SEE **WILDFIRE** PAGE 11



Weather

Monday: Rain likely, mainly before 4pm. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 54.
Monday Night: A chance of rain, mainly before 10pm. Partly cloudy, with a low around 43.
Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 55.
Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 43.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2025/01/27	Mon	12:56 AM	2.39	L
2025/01/27	Mon	07:17 AM	6.06	H
2025/01/27	Mon	2:40 PM	-1.16	L
2025/01/27	Mon	9:11 PM	3.63	H
2025/01/28	Tue	01:37 AM	2.11	L
2025/01/28	Tue	07:55 AM	6.36	H
2025/01/28	Tue	3:12 PM	-1.36	L
2025/01/28	Tue	9:37 PM	3.82	H
2025/01/29	Wed	02:18 AM	1.84	L
2025/01/29	Wed	08:33 AM	6.48	H
2025/01/29	Wed	3:44 PM	-1.41	L
2025/01/29	Wed	10:05 PM	4.04	H
2025/01/30	Thu	03:01 AM	1.60	L
2025/01/30	Thu	09:12 AM	6.37	H
2025/01/30	Thu	4:16 PM	-1.26	L
2025/01/30	Thu	10:37 PM	4.28	H
2025/01/31	Fri	03:48 AM	1.40	L
2025/01/31	Fri	09:53 AM	5.99	H
2025/01/31	Fri	4:48 PM	-0.92	L
2025/01/31	Fri	11:11 PM	4.53	H
2025/02/01	Sat	04:40 AM	1.27	L
2025/02/01	Sat	10:38 AM	5.35	H
2025/02/01	Sat	5:20 PM	-0.40	L
2025/02/01	Sat	11:47 PM	4.77	H
2025/02/02	Sun	05:38 AM	1.19	L
2025/02/02	Sun	11:29 AM	4.51	H
2025/02/02	Sun	5:51 PM	0.25	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: 1/22
5 6 27 40 49
Power#: 5
Jackpot: 46 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 1/21
27 30 56 64 65
Mega#: 22
Jackpot: 28 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 1/22
1 3 12 16 30
Mega#: 26
Jackpot: 19 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 1/22
12 25 27 34 38

Daily 3
Draw Date: 1/23
MIDDAY: 2 9 7
Draw Date: 1/22
EVENING: 1 7 7

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 1/22
1st: 04 - Big Ben
2nd: 02 - Lucky Star
3rd: 06 - Whirl Win
Race Time: 1:43.99

GET IT DAILY...

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Santa Monica Daily Press

SMMUSD
SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

BID NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT SMMUSD invites sealed proposals for: RFP #25.19 – DISTRICTWIDE HAND-HELD RADIOS. All proposals must be electronically submitted via Secure Bids at https://colbisecurebids.com/o/smmusd/2519 on or before: Thursday, February 20, 2025 2:00 P.M. RFP forms and specifications may be obtained in the link provided within this notice.

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 #414 ANIMAL LICENSING SOFTWARE, MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT**
- **Submission Deadline Is February 24, 2025 at 3:00 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.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

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or email **cindy@smdp.com**

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Announcements	Pets	Apartments/Condos	Real Estate Loans	Attorney Services	Wealth and Success
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	Vacation Rentals	Real Estate	Computer Services	Fitness	Tutoring

Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMECase No. 24NNCP00825 Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Mary Ann Charlotte Bear for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney: Mary Ann Charlotte Bear with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Mary Ann Charlotte Bear to Mary Ann Charlotte Turner . The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 03/17/2025 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: T Room: _ The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 150 West Commonwealth Ave Alhambra, CA . A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press

Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMECase No. 24VECP00602 Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Tasha Straszewski for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney: Tasha Straszewski with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Tasha Straszewski to Tasha Straszewski Lasa . The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 02/03/2025 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: T Room: 600. The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 6230 Sylmar Ave Van Nuys, CA 91401 . A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press

Name Change

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

California is investigating OpenAI's conversion to a for-profit company



Photo by Miguel Gutierrez Jr., CalMatters

AI: Attorney General Rob Bonta speaks during a press conference where Gov. Gavin Newsom signed new gun legislation into law at the Capitol Annex Swing Space in Sacramento on Sept. 26, 2023.

BY KHARI JOHNSON

As part of what it described as an ongoing investigation, the California attorney general's office has sought answers from OpenAI about its reported plan to convert to a for-profit corporation and how it intends to transfer assets out of its existing nonprofit.

In a letter sent to the ChatGPT maker Dec. 6, deputy attorney general Christopher Lamerdin cited clauses in OpenAI's articles of incorporation under which "OpenAI's assets are irrevocably dedicated to its charitable purpose," as Lamerdin put it, as well as the office's "responsibility to protect assets held in charitable trust." In addition to asking about asset transfers, it sought information on OpenAI's restructuring plan and the value of its assets.

The attorney's general's office told CalMatters in an email, "The Department of Justice is committed to protecting charitable assets for their intended purpose and takes this responsibility seriously."

The letter asked for a response from OpenAI by Jan. 8. Asked if the attorney general received such a response, a spokesperson wrote, "To protect its integrity, we're unable to comment on an ongoing investigation."

OpenAI did not answer questions on the record about the letter or its structure as an organization.

Allowing nonprofit OpenAI to repurpose its assets to earn a profit and attract investors could set a dangerous precedent, critics argue, allowing startups to enjoy the tax writeoffs of nonprofits even when they intend to eventually become highly lucrative, capitalist enterprises.

The debate over OpenAI's business restructure comes at a time when the company is attempting to grow its influence. OpenAI increased spending on lobbying Congress sevenfold last year, and for the first time hired lobbyists to oppose bills to regulate AI in Sacramento.

In September, Reuters reported that OpenAI would move control of its core business from its nonprofit to a for-profit public benefit corporation. In November, Bloomberg reported that OpenAI was in talks with California's attorney general over the shift.

The company confirmed at the end of December that it was considering a new structure and planned to set up a for-profit public benefit corporation, although it stopped short of saying it planned to move control into the for-profit entity.

OpenAI was founded in late 2015 with the backing of "PayPal Mafia" members like LinkedIn co-founder Reid Hoffman and Tesla CEO Elon Musk. Originally a nonprofit focused on benefiting humanity through research into artificial general intelligence, it created four years later a for-profit arm to appear more attractive to investors and pour billions of dollars into computing resources in order to train powerful AI systems. Profits flowing to that part of the company and its investors are understood to be capped, creating a barrier to fundraising. A dispute between the nonprofit and for-profit arms of OpenAI broke into the open in late 2023 following an effort by the nonprofit board to oust co-founder and CEO Sam Altman, which led to an ultimatum from a majority of employees, who threatened to quit if Altman was not reinstated.

Since then, OpenAI closed a $6.6 billion funding round and, earlier this week, alongside President Trump in the White House, announced the Stargate Project, a $500 billion joint venture to build data centers and energy infrastructure that companies like OpenAI say is necessary to train large AI models.

California's attorney general, Rob Bonta, on Dec. 12 was urged in a letter from Meta to stop OpenAI from becoming a for-profit company, according to the Wall Street Journal, with Meta arguing that such a precedent could have "seismic implications for Silicon Valley" by allowing startups to enjoy privileged nonprofit tax status until they begin making money. Musk has sought to block the conversion as part of a lawsuit against OpenAI filed last summer.

SEE **AI** PAGE 7

The Blue Notebook - A Weekly SMPD Recap January 11-17

DEPARTMENT-WIDE STATISTICS

Total Calls for Service (CFS) 01/05-01/11: 2,410. 2025 Total: 3,687

Source of calls:

Citizen Initiated: 1,202 calls for service. 2025 Total: 1,917 (52% of all CFS).

Officer Initiated: 1,208 calls for service. 2025 Total: 1,770 (48% of all CFS).

Disposition for CFS: Homeless related = 14% (2025).

Encampment Calls: 9. 2025 Total: 17.

5150 Calls: 8. 2025 Total: 15.

Arrests: 83. 2025 Arrest Total: 106.

PATROL OPERATIONS DIVISION

Notable Incidents:

Grand Theft Auto / Burglary Tools – 100 Block of Arizona. Officers received an ALPR hit of a stolen vehicle and found the subject in the driver seat of the parked car. He had multiple stolen id cards and other documents, a ski mask, black beanie and burglary tools.

Arson – 1400 Block of 14th Street. An unknown suspect set fire to the contents of a trash bin on the alley side of a multi-unit apartment building. The trash bin was destroyed and the apartment building suffered minor damage. The fire was extinguished by SMFD.

Vandalism - 2200 Block of Colorado Ave. A subject becomes disruptive with employees, damages an entry/exit door, and strikes a security officers.

Theft from Motor Vehicle / Attempt GTA – 1700 Block of 22nd Street. Officers respond to a call for service of a suspect fleeing a possible attempt GTA. The victim's co-worker followed the suspect to the area of 16th and Colorado. Sky-1 (UAS-Drone Pilot) directed officers to the suspect. The suspect refuses to stop for officers and is eventually detained. Suspect is positively identified in the theft.

Traffic Collision with Injuries/Theft Incident– 20th Street and Santa Monica Boulevard. The victim was driving white Kia SUV westbound on Santa Monica Boulevard toward a local hospital. The victim lost consciousness and collided with a Toyota Corolla, continued into Alley 19 where the vehicle collided with a streetlight pole and electrical box. While passersby were attempting to help the victim out of the car, a male suspect steals the victim's purse and fled southbound in Alley 19. Fraudulent charges appear on the victim's credit cards later that day. This is under investigation. SC Edison contacted for exposed wires.

Arson Arrest - 300 Block of Palisades Park (Arson Arrest). A subject removed items from a city trash can and lit them on fire. An SMPD sergeant in the area detained the suspect and the SMFD responded to extinguish the flames. The subject, who had a non-extraditable want out of Texas for Arson, was arrested.

Found Firearm - 1 500 Blk of the Beach (Found Firearm). Beach patron located a firearm on the sand near the waterline and reported it to LA County Lifeguards. Officers responded for the handle and recovery. The Criminal Investigations Division (CID) was notified.

by Erika Aklufi

WATER

FROM PAGE 2

Bay Municipal Utility District pulled out, citing ever-rising costs.

More than six decades ago, state water officials proposed a canal to carry water around the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. After gaining legislative approval, a 1982 referendum blocked construction, and 40 years later, a proposed tunnel beneath the Delta remains stalled by a political stalemate.

Operations of existing of dams and canals are similarly fraught, particularly divvying up water among farmers, municipal users and flows to protect fish and other wildlife as supplies fluctuate due to climate change.

For years, federal and state authorities have sought to reduce diversions by agriculture — by far the largest water users — to bolster habitat flows. Farmers have resisted.

The state has sought "voluntary agreements" from farmers in the San Joaquin River watershed between Stockton and Fresno to enhance natural flows, threatening to order reductions if agreements are not reached. But unilateral action by the state would spark a legal battle over water rights whose outcome could not be predicted.

Another player in California's high-stakes water game emerged eight years ago when Donald Trump became president for the first time. He forcefully backed farmers in their conflict with state water managers, ordering the Bureau of Reclamation and other federal agencies to adopt more agriculture-friendly policies.

Four years later, after Trump was defeated by Joe Biden, the policies were reversed. Just days before Biden's tenure ended, federal and state water managers last month announced a new operational agreement.

This week, when Trump once again became president, he essentially sought to cancel that agreement and reinstate his previous policies. Based on a memo to federal water agencies, he directed them to draft a plan "to route more water from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to other parts of the state for use by the people there who desperately need a reliable water supply."

Trump not only cited farmers' needs for a reliable water supply but reiterated his belief that a lack of water deliveries to Southern California made it more difficult to fight deadly wildfires — a contention that has no basis in fact. Los Angeles had plenty of water to fight fires, but hydrants ran dry because the system was designed for fighting individual building fires, not massive wildfires, and was overtaxed.

Despite the media splash, it's doubtful that Trump's decree will be anything more than a relatively brief pause in efforts to resolve California's water conflicts simply because they are measured in decades, not any one president's term.

By Dan Walters. This article was originally published by CalMatters.

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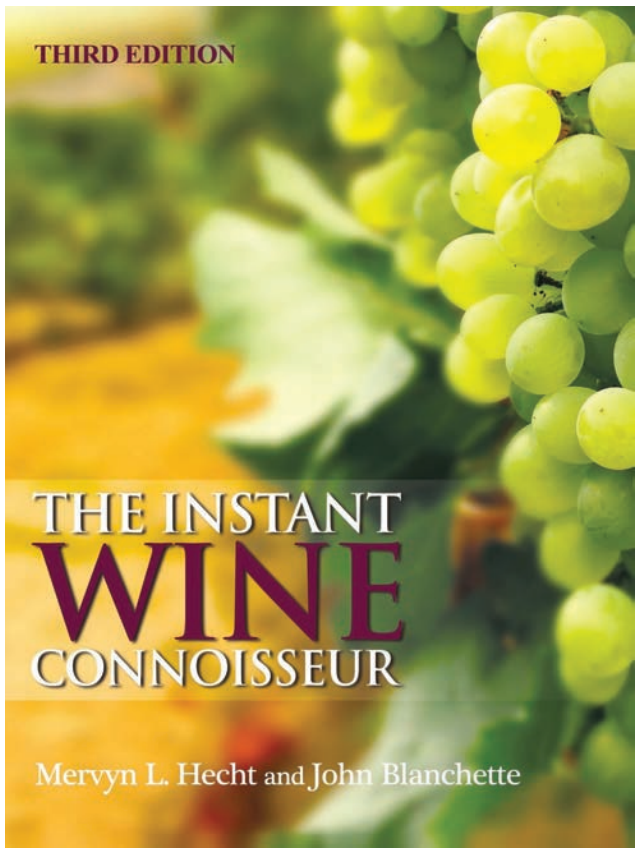
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★★★★★ Well written, particularly useful, instantly accessible.
★★★★★ ...Hecht has a joyful eye and fabulous taste



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FITNESS

FROM PAGE 1

already in the Los Angeles Westside area, the others being in Culver City, El Segundo and Redondo Beach.

"I looked at a bunch of different businesses. My background is in strategy consulting within the apparel industry, so I worked a lot with different global brands solving supply chain and merchandising problems and logistics, but I always liked the idea of doing something a little bit more entrepreneurial," Ahmed says.

One of three brothers, Ahmed grew up in St Louis in a single parent household. He originally studied to be an engineer and achieved his Master Degree in electrical engineering. However, it was clear the boys all had talent as one is now a surgeon in New York City and Fraz and his other brother have gone into business together, beginning with a series of co-working spaces.

But being a little bit of a fitness fanatic himself, he said that the idea of combining his talents and applying them to this particular industry seemed like a perfect match.

"I looked at Anytime Fitness and I loved the model, because it's a mix between a standard big box gym, which is just come in, do your thing, you're in there with a crowd of people, but you don't have that focused attention," Ahmed said, adding, "And then you have the on the other end of the spectrum, you have the studio classes, but again, it's like if you don't, if you want to do a regular workout, you can't. You could only do their classes that they offer, and if you are not available at that time, tough luck."

He said that the market positioning and subsequent branding of Anytime Fitness appealed to him as it goes to great lengths to avoid the super-fit, toned, tanned influencer-esque demographic, because that's simply not reality for most of us, adding that it's multigenerational and some people have been members for 20 or 30 years, especially in smaller communities.



Courtesy photo

ANYTIME FITNESS: The new gym is part of a wave of businesses opening Downtown.

The concept started back in 2002 when the first Anytime Fitness opened in Cambridge, Minnesota. Since then, the brand has steadily grown and four years later, the first outlet opened outside of the US in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Four years after that, the 1,000th location opened in Wake Village, Texas and in 2019, an Anytime Fitness gym was created on the cruise ship Magellan Explorer, which spends months at a time moored around the Antarctic coast, technically meaning the brand has outlets on every continent.

"The model they use is based around communities, so, this isn't trying to be a flagship store or anything, but the community here in Santa Monica is ideal, I think. Even the membership prices reflect that, so right now we're running a promotion at $50 a month. Tell me another gym here that is at the level of quality that we have at $50 a month..." Ahmed said.

He said that after his successful co-working business venture he applied the same super-analytical approach to finding the right location for his new franchised outlet to open.

"At the end of the day, it's about trying to run a business, it's about trying to be successful ... I was hesitant about Santa Monica at first, given all the problems with the homeless and some of the local politics, but [ultimately] I think there's a lot of potential here in the city ... I could have chosen any franchise brand of fitness center or gym, but the attitude and approach of Anytime resonated with me," said Ahmed.

Once completed, the new gym will offer an open-plan, warehouse-style look and feel with a free weights section, together with cardio machines, shower facilities, session space and all the things you usually find in modern, all-encompassing fitness center. Check the social media pages at facebook.com/AnytimeFitnessSantaMonicaCA and instagram.com/anytimefitness_santamonica for all the latest membership deals and Ahmed said that all the fees from pre-opening membership deals will go towards relief for victims of the wildfires.

scott.snowden@smdp.com



DINE LA

FROM PAGE 1

meaningful way to support the local restaurant community while fostering a sense of comfort and connection."

On top of benefiting recovery, diners will have access to Santa Monica's premier cuisine with pre-fixed menus curated just for the occasion. Citrin is just one of 33 Michelin-recognized restaurants participating, serving dishes like Egg Caviar, Lobster Bolognese, Wild Mushroom Risotto and Seed Crusted Liberty Farms Duck.

"Los Angeles offers such rich and creative dining experiences, and Dine LA is an excellent opportunity for local and visiting diners to explore new cuisines and neighborhoods throughout the city," Dine LA Executive Director Stacey Sun added. "We are proud to support and showcase one of the world's most diverse culinary communities, and with a range of vibrant neighborhoods and price points, there is a menu for everyone."

Citrin is joined in the American cuisine category with local favorites like 1212 Santa Monica, Chelsea, Fia, Lunetta, The Penthouse at The Huntley and The Whaler. Santa Monica also has options in Californian, Asian, Mexican, Mediterranean, Chinese, Japanese, Indian, Italian, French, Vietnamese and Spanish cuisines.

A highlight of the Californian offerings is within the Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows, as FIG Restaurant's Dine LA menu is sourced straight from the Santa Monica Farmers Market. FIG's exclusive menu features plates like Sweet Potato Falafel, Corn Agnolotti and more. Joining the Californian cuisine list are 1 Pico at Shutters on the Beach, Marelle at Sandbourne Santa Monica and Michael's.

For a complete listing of Dine LA menus and to reserve a table, visit discoverlosangeles.com/dinela.

thomas@smdp.com



Courtesy Photo

RESTAURANTS: Citrin's Lobster Bolognese will be on the menu for Dine LA Week.

AI

FROM PAGE 4

After the OpenAI nonprofit board fired Altman in 2023, nonprofit consumer advocacy group Public Citizen repeatedly argued in letters to attorneys general in California, where OpenAI is based, and Delaware, where OpenAI filed articles of incorporation, that they should investigate the organization. Public Citizen Co-President Robert Weissman wrote that OpenAI was not operating like a nonprofit, should lose its nonprofit status and be forced to operate as a for-profit business, and that any for-profit entity assuming control of OpenAI should pay a premium for that control to a nonprofit entirely separate from OpenAI.

The precedent for this approach comes from Blue Cross of California, which, following a transfer of assets to a for-profit subsidiary in the 1990s, gave more than $3 billion in stock to two foundations.

It's tough to say precisely how much such a premium is worth when it comes to OpenAI, but a day before OpenAI's $6 billion funding round last October, Weissman estimated it's worth at least $30 billion.

The Stargate Project, Weissman told CalMatters, "is more evidence that the OpenAI nonprofit doesn't really exist as an independent body, that the OpenAI nonprofit board is not exerting any meaningful authority over the for profit, and isn't even taking seriously its nonprofit mission."

Weissman wants to see the attorney general investigate how much of a premium a for-profit OpenAI would need to pay and how that valuation relates to intellectual property owned by OpenAI and companies and subsidiaries tied to OpenAI.

"The California attorney general's office is a serious regulator of nonprofits, and there's no way that this scale spin off from a nonprofit is going to take place without careful review by the California attorney general," Weissman told CalMatters. "We're hopeful they arrive at conclusions that track [with] what we've been arguing over the last year and a half."

Levi Sumagaysay contributed to this story. This article was originally published by CalMatters.

COUNCIL

FROM PAGE 1

gifts, family contributions, and campaign donations. Council members could donate unwanted gifts to nonprofits or return them within 30 days.

Proposed meeting procedure changes would reshape council participation in meetings. Speaking time would be limited: 10 minutes per agenda item, one minute for points of privilege, and two minutes for proclamations. The council would also restrict proclamations to two per meeting and move the consent calendar before closed sessions.

An additional ordinance addresses the use of city symbols in political contexts. The proposal would prohibit using the city seal, logo, or insignia in campaign materials. Candidates could depict city facilities like City Hall or public vehicles only with a prominent disclaimer: "This publication is not sponsored or approved by the City of Santa Monica."

Violations of the proposed city seal ordinance could result in misdemeanor charges with fines up to $500, or civil actions by interested parties.

Council reform was a topic of conversation for the prior council who largely bypassed proposed reforms. The four councilmembers who won election in November (Barry Snell, Dan Hall, Natalya Zernitskaya and Ellis Raskin) made government reform part of their campaign and several of the new measures are at the direct request of the new majority.

Other notable changes include implementing ranked-choice voting for board and commission appointments, allowing formal censure of council members and restricting international affairs resolutions to support for sister cities during natural disasters.

The City Council will introduce these proposals for first reading, with potential adoption at subsequent meetings. No immediate financial impacts are anticipated from the proposed reforms.

In addition, the Council will hear a lengthy item on the future of the Santa Monica Airport.

Santa Monica is planning the conversion of its airport into a 200-acre community space after its scheduled closure on December 31, 2028. At its upcoming meeting, the City Council will be asked to review three draft scenarios for the airport's post-closure land use, consider five guiding principles developed through community engagement, and provide feedback on key feasibility questions. The city has engaged Sasaki Associates to develop potential land-use scenarios focusing on nature, inspiration, economic balance, versatility, and local history. The city aims to complete feasibility analysis by December 2025 and begin environmental impact review.

There are also several requests for future action, again largely from the newly elected councilmembers.

Santa Monica City Council will discuss four significant governance and community issues at its upcoming meeting. Councilmembers will discuss codifying resident representation on boards of Downtown Santa Monica, Travel and Tourism, and Pier Corporation, mandating that at least half of appointees be local residents to ensure community oversight of critical economic and cultural organizations.

Another discussion item aims to repeal a controversial ban on sleeping bags for unhoused individuals, with sponsors arguing the prohibition is ineffective and contrary to community values of compassion. The proposed amendment would remove restrictions on comfort items and deprioritize enforcement.

Council will also examine traffic safety, with a discussion requesting the police department increase high-visibility enforcement operations and provide quarterly data reporting on traffic stops and violations.

A final proposal seeks to facilitate housing diversity by amending lot split and duplex regulations, including removing owner-occupancy requirements and allowing more flexible unit development in single-unit residential zones. The lot split discussion follows a Closed Session briefing for a lawsuit filed against the city over an approved lot split.

An item extending the City's emergency ordinance following the Palisades Fire has been continued but there will be a request for the city to draft an after action report discussing the overall response.

Council will meet on Tuesday, Jan. 28 in City Hall, 1685 Main Street. Closed Session begins at 5:30 p.m.

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DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 12/03/24 2024245647The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Strings By Reiko 3017 Pico Blvd Santa Monica, CA 90405.. Los Angeles Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): Ai #ON. The full name of the registrant(s) is/are Sounds Roads Music LLC 3017 Pico Blvd Santa Monica, CA 90405. If corporation or LLC- Print State of CA This is Business is Conducted: A Limited Liability Company . The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. Registrant / Corp/LLC Name Sounds Roads Music LLC Title: Secretary Grishma Keny . This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 08/15/2024NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE County CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. ,Business and Professions Code).

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 1/06/25 2025002893The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Mar Vista Cheap Mobile Notary 3175 Federal Ave Los Angeles, CA 90066. Los Angeles Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): Ai #ON. The full name of the registrant(s) is/are Josh's Mobile Notary LLC 3175 Federal Ave Los Angeles, CA 90066 . If corporation or LLC- Print State of CA This is Business is Conducted: A Limited Liability Company . The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. Registrant /Corp/LLC Name Josh's Mobile Notary LLC Title: CEO Josh Lipman . This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 08/15/2024NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE County CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. ,Business and Professions Code).

DBA

with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 08/15/2024NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE County CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. ,Business and Professions Code).

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTFILENUMBER: ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 1/06/25 2025002002The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Edward Avedis 101 Wilshire Blvd Santa Monica, CA 90401. Los Angeles Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): Ai #ON. 4158617The full name of the registrant(s) is/are Edward Avedis Limited 101 Wilshire Blvd Santa Monica, CA 90401 . If corporation or LLC- Print State of CA This is Business is Conducted: A Corporation . The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. Registrant / Corp/LLC Name Edward Avedis Limited Title: CEO Avedis Guerboian . This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 01/06/2024NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE County CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. ,Business and Professions Code).

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 12/16/24 2024253915The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Culver Crescent 5388 Ballona Ave Culver City, CA 90230. Los Angeles Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): Ai #ON. 202564511469The full name of the registrant(s) is/are Culver Crescent Media, LLC 5388 Ballona Ave Culver City, CA 90230. If corporation or LLC- Print State of CA This is Business is Conducted: A Limited Liability Company . The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 11/2024. Registrant /Corp/LLC Name Culver Crescent Media, LLC Title: CEO Christian May-Suzuki . This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 01/06/2024NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE County CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. ,Business and Professions Code).

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 1/15/25 2025009196The following person(s) is (are) doing business as AD-Ad Studio 521 Montana Ave Unit 203 Santa Monica, CA 90403. Los Angeles Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): Ai #ON. The full name of the registrant(s) is/are Afra Farry Architects PC 521 Montana Ave Unit 203 Santa Monica, CA 90403. . If corporation or LLC- Print State of CA This is Business is Conducted: A Corporation . The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 01/2025. Registrant /Corp/LLC Name Culver Crescent Media, LLC Title: CEO Christian May-Suzuki . This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 01/15/2025NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

DBA

STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE County CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. ,Business and Professions Code).

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 1/10/25 2025005950 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Lucina Biotherapeutics 3460 Barry Ave Los Angeles, CA 90066. Los Angeles Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): Ai #ON. The full name of the registrant(s) is/are Lucina Nutraceuticals, Inc 3460 Barry Ave Los Angeles, CA 90066. If corporation or LLC- Print State of CA This is Business is Conducted: A Corporation . The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 01/2025. Registrant /Corp/LLC Name Lucina Nutraceuticals, Inc Title: Vice President Jeanette Grant Chavez . This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 01/10/2025NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE County CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. ,Business and Professions Code).

Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMECase No. 25NNCP0039 Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Lyric Audrey Woo for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney: Lyric Audrey Woo with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Lyric Audrey Woo to Audrey Lyric Woo . The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 03/19/2025 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: 3 Room: - The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES Alhambra Courthouse 150 W Commonwealth Ave Alhambra, CA 91801 . A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press

Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMECase No. 25SMCP0012 Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Mickie Alisa Scholes for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney: Mickie Alisa Scholes with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Mickie Alisa Scholes to Mickie Alisa Arias . The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 02/21/2025 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K Room: - The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 1725 Main St Santa Monica, CA 90401 . A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press

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ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMECase No. 24SMCP00009 Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Erika Ono for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney: TErika Ono with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Erika Ono to Erika Ono Sanders . The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 02/21/2025 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K Room: _. The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 1725 Main St Santa Monica, CA 90401 . A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press

Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMECase No. 24SMCP00669 Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Ann Marie Onaindia for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney: Ann Marie Onaindia with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Ann Marie Onaindia to Ann Marie Greco . The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 02/07 /2025 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K Room: _ The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES1425 Main St Santa Monica, CA 90401 A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press

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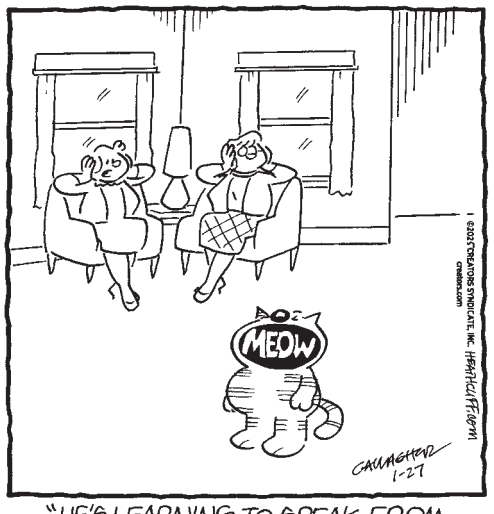
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By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"HE'S LEARNING TO SPEAK FROM HIS DIAPHRAGM."

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.

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Safe on our roads

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

Abide	Death	Laws	Rain	Step
Avoid	Defensive	Left	Ramp	Stop
Bends	Dogs	Mall	Roads	Toll
Brake	Doze	Merge	School	Traffic
Bridge	Exit	Music	Shove	lights
Building site	Fatal	Neon	Slip	Utes
	Frost	Noisy	Slow	Vans
Cabs	Gate	Obey	Smash	Walk
Calm	Impatience	Pedestrian	Snow	Way in
Care	Injury	Prang	South	
Dark	Lanes	Radio	Speed	

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 27)

Love dances through in your world, gracing life with loads of your favorite kinds of attention. Challenges exhilarate and elevate you. Games fit your talents. More than one person falls in love with your quick problem-solving, broad creativity and attunement to subtle energy. More highlights: a monthslong project that is a mighty career booster, two fun trips and expert negotiation of a lucrative deal. Scorpio and Cancer adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 6, 5, 44, 1 and 19.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You're in a position to offer feedback, support or encouragement. Recall the past responses you've received that meant the most to you and echo them now. To honor the scene with specificity will convey deep respect.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Power has many looks; mighty, intimidating, cute, unassuming. A very powerful position is the one that tells the others that whatever offer is on the table, you can take it or leave it. In this way, nonchalance can be power.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You've compromised more than your fair share lately. Maybe someone has to take one for the team today, but that someone doesn't have to be you. Let others take their turn.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You'll use your talent for turning work into a game, casting people in roles to make a group really interesting or challenging the social rules to amp up the entertainment factor.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). People have their own history, limitations and emotional complexities. These are not reflections of anyone's worth but products of their past and personality. You can admire someone while accepting their imperfections. Your empathy runs deep.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll revisit feelings and allow them to surface - a brave, deeply meaningful process. Each layer you uncover brings you closer to understanding and, ultimately, healing.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're cast, willingly or not, in the role of caregiver, problem solver and emotional stabilizer in nearly every corner of your life today. Your role as "the one who makes things work" has been reinforced by your own immense competence.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The reason children must be taught right from wrong is that there are so many nuances that seem counterintuitive to our primal instincts. As you navigate moral complexity, keep in mind that there won't always be one definitive right answer.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). A stellar attitude has you flying over your life, seeing it all with a bird's-eye perspective, which reveals options you wouldn't see from the ground. You don't have to do anything, but you get to do a lot.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). It is impossible to form a deep connection with someone you are trying to impress because the puffed-up version of yourself prevents bonding. Connections happen once egos have deflated and people feel safe enough to be vulnerable with one another.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your talent for creating memories is a perk of your curious and creative nature. What serves you in the moment will often also provide the novelty and emotional depth to become a cherished experience your mind will revisit in years to come.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). What can you do to reduce waste? Consider that unhelpful mental processes are a waste of energy, too. Anything you can do to make your thinking focused and efficient is also a force for good in the world.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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

Newsday Crossword

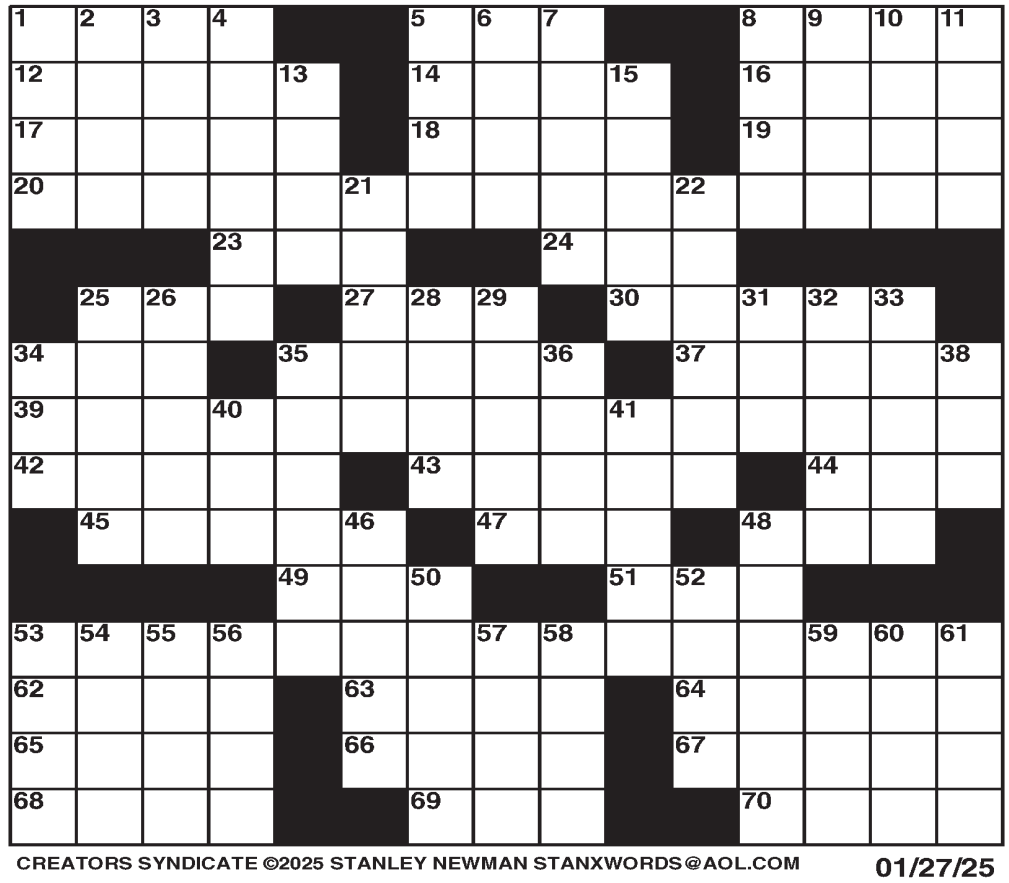
WHAT'S FOR DESSERT by Doug Peterson
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Very stylish
5 Atlanta-based news channel
8 Urban air pollution
12 Mystical glows
14 Aussie hoppers
16 *Othello* villain
17 Pilot's vehicle
18 Sworn promise
19 Entice
20 Three-layer crisp treats
23 Rural hotel
24 That woman
25 Excellent, in the '80s
27 Actor Hanks or Cruise
30 Four-team tourney rounds, for short
34 Miles __ gallon
35 Not on a tilt
37 Aladdin's magic pal
39 Dark brown ring-shaped treats
42 South Pacific island nation
43 Get educated
44 Ship's distress signal
45 "Marching" musical groups
47 High-tech "fingerprint"
48 Smallest two-digit number
49 Federal ecology group: Abbr.
51 Suffix meaning "somewhat"
53 Pineapple-slice treats that are flipped after baking
62 Plant's underground part
63 "__ of your business!"
64 In the know
65 Intersection point
66 Oak or elm
67 Ancient artifact
68 Shut forcefully
69 Sixth sense: Abbr.
70 Minor fender bump

DOWN

1 Bottle tops
2 Hawaiian dance
3 Teheran's country
4 Honest and sincere
5 Gator's relative
6 Biblical ark builder
7 V-shaped cut in wood
8 Fancy necktie fabric
9 Hawaiian island near Oahu
10 Fairy tale brute
11 Departs
13 Stitched together
15 Sneakers and sandals
21 Spy's info acquisition, for short
22 State north of California
25 Back-to-health plan, for short
26 Fragrance
28 Shape of an egg
29 Doled (out)
31 Fellows
32 Being occupied, as a chair
33 Occupy, as a chair
34 Computers that aren't Apples: Abbr.
35 Filled, as a cargo van
36 Tilt somewhat
38 Letter before tee
40 Pro and __
41 Outlet of a sink
46 Paid out
48 Started to unfreeze
50 Be very fond of
52 Lasting mark
53 Large coffee machines
54 Hotel's place to swim
55 Any carbonated beverage
56 Any line on a shopping list
57 Change for a $5 bill
58 Start to cry
59 Curly-leafed cabbage
60 Ireland nickname
61 Religious faction



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WILDFIRE

FROM PAGE 3

seems still too much to fully consider.

That is the moment that Los Angeles is experiencing today.

Those who arrive at the center come with harrowing stories of escape and loss — and often not much else. On this morning, Jackie and David Jacobs were among the visitors. They've lived in Altadena for more than 30 years, only to see their house vaporized two weeks ago. They arrived at the center with just the clothes they were wearing — and those had come from a donation.

Still, they remained focused and positive. "In life," David Jacobs reflected, "you have tribulations."

The fires in Altadena and Pacific Palisades share some characteristics and diverge on others. They both erupted on Jan. 7, the Palisades in the morning and Eaton later that evening. Both rampaged through neighborhoods with similar ferocity, overwhelming firefighters with winds that reached 100 miles per hour, hurling embers down darkened streets and across vast distances.

Their devastation and the inability of fire crews to tame them should remind critics that these fires were not local failures. These two fires erupted in different jurisdictions with different fire departments and yet suffered similar fates.

Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass has taken plenty of criticism for her response, and some may prove deserved. But the Altadena fires were outside the city of Los Angeles, so the fact that low water pressure also foiled firefighters in Altadena is evidence that it was not a Los Angeles failure but a systemic weakness: Fire hydrants are meant for fighting house fires, not wildfires, and cannot handle the strain of fast-moving blazes at this scale.

These fires were simply too big, the winds too strong, the landscape too dry. Climate change has made those problems worse and will continue to do so. The devastation is not the fault of Delta smelt or a repair to the Santa Ynez reservoir or misleading claims of cuts to the Los Angeles Fire Department budget (the budget was ultimately increased, not cut).

As stability resumes, one can only hope that reason comes with it.

If Altadena and the Palisade ignited under similar circumstances, they've been fought under different ones, including their surrounding politics.

In Bass' case, the profile of her job and the backbench of critics shoved politics to the fore. Defeated mayoral candidate Rick Caruso went on Bill Maher's show to pronounce that he would have "fully funded' the fire department, a statement that is as meaningless as it is self-serving. What is full funding? And how would it have stopped these fires?

Neither question was asked, much less answered.

Sadly, that's a reminder that catastrophe is no barrier to grandstanding, but the different political temperature around these two communities also demonstrates that it does not have to be that way. While the Palisades fire attracted politics at every level, even making an appearance in President Trump's dark and whiny inaugural address, the leadership around Altadena — an unincorporated community without its own city government — agreed to set politics aside.

There is, for instance, the longstanding question of whether Altadena might be better served by being annexed into neighboring Pasadena, an idea that floated up briefly in discussions about the fire response. Rather than squabble over whether that would have alleviated the catastrophe or somehow tamped down the wind, leaders of both areas deliberately set it aside.

Addressing reporters at the FEMA center, one Altadena town council member insisted that talk of annexation needed to be shelved for now. Pasadena Mayor Victor Gordo agreed.

"This is not the time to have political discussions," he insisted.

Behind him, the real work of recovery continued, one step at a time. As of Tuesday afternoon, the Pasadena City College Disaster Resource Center had served roughly 2,500 families.

The Jacobs were among them. They found a temporary place to live and considered the work ahead. Faith, they said, will get them through.

By Jim Newton. This article was originally published by CalMatters.



Photo by Jules Hotz for CalMatters

FIRES: Families who lost everything this month have a long recovery ahead.



MONDAY | JANUARY 27

AIRPORT COMMISSION

7 p.m. City Council Chambers, Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main St. The Commission acts in an advisory capacity to the City Council in matters pertaining to the administration of Santa Monica Municipal Airport and other aviation matters affecting the City.

TUESDAY | JANUARY 28

CITY COUNCIL

5:30 p.m. City Council Chambers, Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main St. The City Council is made up of seven members elected at-large for staggered four-year terms. Every two years, after each election, the City Council selects one of its members to serve as Mayor and another to serve as Mayor Pro Tempore. The City Council also sits as the following bodies for the City of Santa Monica: Housing Authority, Parking Authority, Public Financing, Redevelopment Successor Agency, Audit Subcommittee.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH PROCLAMATION

5:30 p.m. City Council Chambers, Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main St. Artist Lisa Diane Wedgeworth will present an original artwork proclamation in honor of Black History Month. Note that this ceremony takes place near the start of the Council session, after a public comment period, and so the start time will be sometime after 5:30 p.m.

MOVIE NIGHT AND Q&A WITH FILMMAKER

7 p.m. Shul on the Beach, 505 Ocean Front Walk, Venice. Join for a screening of "Talking to God," a comedic film about faith and finding happiness through life's challenges. Stick around after the movie for a Q&A with the filmmaker, Malta Batash. Bring your friends for a night of laughter and connection. Tickets $15, to purchase visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/movie-night-talking-to-god-q-a-following-with-filmmaker-tickets-1135231621339?aff=oddtdtcreator.

AN EVENING WITH ERIC IDLE

8 - 9:15 p.m. Robert Frost Auditorium, 4401 Elenda St., Culver City. Comedy legend Eric Idle brings the fascinating inside story of bringing "Monty Python and the Holy Grail" to Broadway as the unlikely theatrical hit "Spamalot." Tickets plus signed copy of his book "The Spamalot Diaries" $50, to purchase visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/eric-idle-with-alex-edelman-tickets-1012366634857.

WEDNESDAY | JANUARY 29

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS CLUB

4:30 - 6 p.m. Youth Activity Room, Santa Monica Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. Join the adventure for one-shot sessions with characters you created or pick up a ready-made character for the day's journey. All materials provided. Ages 10 - 14.

THURSDAY | JANUARY 30

DOG MAN PARTY

4 - 5 p.m. Youth Activity Room, Santa Monica Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. Celebrate all things from Dav Pilkey's wildly popular series "Dog Man" with crafts, games and prizes. Make a visit to "Lil Petey's Robot Shop" and build your own cardboard robot buddy with recycled materials. For ages 5 - 11.

WOMEN IN TECH LA 2025

6 - 9 p.m. LouLou Santa Monica, 395 Santa Monica Pl. #300. LA's premier tech networking event with one of the largest membership groups in Southern California and growing every month. Don't miss this opportunity to meet your next big business connection. Tickets $20, to purchase visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/women-in-tech-la-2025-tickets-1106531067209.

RENT CONTROL BOARD

7 p.m. City Council Chambers, Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main St. The Rent Control Board meets to conduct business associated with the Rent Control Charter Amendment and Regulations.

FRIDAY | JANUARY 31

FRIENDS OF VENICE LIBRARY PILATES - CORE WORK

11 a.m. - 12 p.m. Venice Branch Library, 501 S. Venice Blvd. Develop strength, flexibility and valance through the fusion of Pilates mat movement. All levels welcome. Class starts on-time, no entry after the first 10 minutes.

SATURDAY | FEBRUARY 1

RECYCLING EVENT AT CITY YARDS

9 a.m. - 2 p.m. City Yards, 2500 Michigan Ave. The City of Santa Monica is hosting a free recycling event for Santa Monica residents only. Bring your used mattresses, box springs, electronic waste, and up to five boxes of paper for shredding. Shredding will happen on-site and the paper will be recycled. For any questions, call 866-311-7266.

LIBRARY LOVERS' MONTH

10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd. Stop by a pop-up and write a love letter to the library and receive a special Library Lovers' Month token of appreciation, while supplies last.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH FILM SCREENING

2 - 4 p.m. MLK Jr. Auditorium, Santa Monica Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. Celebrate Black History Month with a screening of "Wade in the Water," a deep dive into the history of Black surfing. The screening will be followed by a panel discussion with film director David Mesfin, Black pro surfer Sharon Shaffer and more.

SUNDAY | FEBRUARY 2

REGIONAL ECONOMIC RECOVERY WEBINAR

12 - 1 p.m. Virtual. In an effort to streamline information to businesses impacted by the recent wildfires, government agencies across the region have come together to provide updates and guidance to Community Business Organizations serving the Los Angeles Region. Organizations present include the Small Business Administration and CA Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development. To RSVP, visit: https://business.venicechamber.net/events/details/la-regional-economic-recovery-community-business-organizations-weekly-webinar-02-02-2025-57158.

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