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Bloom suspends campaign for supervisor

EMILY SAWICKI
SMDP Staff Writer

Assemblymember Richard Bloom will be stepping down from political office come November, after announcing he was ending his campaign for LA County's Third Supervisorial District.

Bloom's campaign spokespeople made the announcement on Tuesday evening, Feb. 1, stating that "Bloom will not appear on the June primary ballot."

Sources confirmed Bloom would not be campaigning for a sixth and final assembly term, representing a newly drawn 51st District.

"After a great deal of thought and discussion with my family and advisors, I have decided to end my campaign for Supervisor and focus on serving my constituents for the remainder of my final term in the State Assembly," Bloom said

SEE **BLOOM** PAGE 11

No Valentine's Day love for Parking Structure 3 with demo set for Feb. 14



Clara Harter

PARKING: The City of Santa Monica will begin demolition of Parking Structure 3 at 1318-20 Fourth Street on Monday, Feb. 14, to clear the site for affordable housing. Fencing will go up on Thursday, Feb. 10. The City Council previously awarded a demolition contract to AMPCO Contracting Inc. The demolition, which is expected to take approximately six months, comes on the heels of the Superior Court of California issuing a final order in the City's favor, dismissing a lawsuit put forward by the Santa Monica Bayside Owners Association. The City-owned property is the future site of affordable housing to help address the regional affordable housing crisis. On January 11, the City Council approved an exclusive negotiating agreement with EAH Inc. to develop the project.

Market owner attacked in attempted robbery



Clara Harter

MARINE: The neighborhood voicing support for the owner of Marine Market after she was assaulted outside the store.

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

On the evening of Jan. 26, Nadia Virani, the owner of Marine Market, was locking up the well-loved Ocean Park bodega when she was attacked from behind, maced and knocked to the ground.

According to SMPD Lt. Rudy Flores, witnesses heard Virani screaming and observed two suspects on either side of her tugging at her purse. Officers responded to a call for unknown trouble at 9:22 p.m. and collected a set of keys and

SEE **CRIME** PAGE 7

Malibu asks for more time as school district separation hearing nears

About a dozen Malibu residents requested Santa Monicans Mechur and Snell recuse themselves from decision-making committee

EMILY SAWICKI
SMDP Staff Writer

Malibu representatives feel hopeful they may come to a deal with Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) leadership on the formation of an independent Malibu district.

On Wednesday, Malibu's legal representative on the district negotiation team, Christine Wood, spoke before the Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization — a committee that falls under LACOE, the Los Angeles County Office of Education — requesting a hearing set for March be pushed back a month to allow more time for negotiation.

Wood said she was making the request together with SMMUSD legal representative David Soldani.

"David [Soldani] and I would like to ask for no more than a one-month delay for the County's consideration of the District's

SEE **SMMUSD** PAGE 11

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The Royal Treatment,' `Ozark' Again Top Netflix Movie, TV Viewership

STEVEN HERBERT
City News Service

"The Royal Treatment" was the most-streamed English-language movie on Netflix for the second consecutive week, with viewers spending 26.85 million hours watching the romantic comedy in its first full week of release, according to figures released by the streaming service.

Viewership was down 37.4% from the 42.49 million hours watched the previous week, when it was available for four days.

The comedy "Home Team," inspired by New Orleans Saints coach Sean Payton coaching his sixth-grade son's team during his suspension for his involvement in the Bountygate scandal, was second with 21.05 million hours watched in its first three days of release.

There were three other films on the latest top 10 not in the previous week's.

The 2018 computer-animated monster comedy "Hotel Transylvania 3: Summer Vacation" was in the top 10 for the first time since Oct. 18-24, placing seventh with 6.28 million hours watched.

The 2018 supernatural horror thriller film "The Possession of Hannah Grace" was ninth with 5.76 million hours watched. The mystery thriller "A Perfect Enemy" was 10th with 4.87 million hours watched.

Dropping out of the top 10 were "Riverdance: The Animated Adventure," the romantic drama "After We Fell," the animated comedy "Back to the Outback" and the post-apocalyptic science fiction thriller "Mother/Android."

"Don't Look Up" dropped one spot to fourth with 10.25 million hours watched, 40.1% less than the 17.13 million hours the previous week. The satire was watched for 377.29 million hours in its 38 days of release through Sunday.

Despite an 8.3% drop from the 7.31 million hours watched the previous week, "Red Notice" rose two spots to sixth with 6.54 million hours watched, increasing the action comedy's total to 445.25 million hours in its 80 days of release through Sunday.

Netflix's most popular television program for the second consecutive week was "Ozark," with viewers watching the first seven episodes of the crime drama's fourth and final season for 96.34 million hours in their first full week of release.

Viewership was up 25.1% from the 77.01 million hours watched the previous week when it was available for three days.

The eight-episode comedy mystery, "The Woman in the House Across the Street from the Girl in the Window" was second with 40.08 million hours watched in its first three days of release.

There were five other programs that were newcomers to the top 10, including the 10-episode second and third seasons of "Ozark," seventh and ninth with 21.54 million and 20.28 million hours watched.

The first season of "In From the Cold" was sixth with 24.72 million hours watched of the eight-episode female-driven spy thriller in its first three days of release.

The fourth season of the USA Network police procedural anthology "The Sinner" was eighth with 21.32 million hours watched of its eight episodes.

The fifth season of The CW teen drama "Riverdale" was 10th with 16.46 million hours watched of its 19 episodes.

Dropping out of the top 10 were the limited series "Stay Close," the fourth season of "Cobra Kai," the sequel to the 1984 film "The Karate Kid," the second season of the fantasy drama "The Witcher," the first season of the canceled NBC supernatural drama "Manifest," the second season of the cheerleading documentary "Cheer" and the second season of the comedy "Emily in Paris."

The 10 most-watched English-language movies on Netflix were "The Royal Treatment"; "Home Team"; "Munich — The Edge of War"; "Don't Look Up"; "The Secret Life of Pets 2"; "Red Notice"; "Hotel Transylvania 3: Summer Vacation"; "Brazen"; "The Possession of Hannah Grace"; and "A Perfect Enemy."

The 10 most-watched English-language television programs on Netflix were the first part of the fourth season of "Ozark"; the first season of "The Woman in the House Across the Street from the Girl in the Window"; the first season of "Archive 81"; the first season of "Ozark"; the third season of "Too Hot to Handle"; the first season of "In From the Cold"; the second season of "Ozark"; the fourth season of "The Sinner"; the third season of "Ozark"; and the fifth season of "Riverdale."

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SMMUSD
SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District of Los Angeles County will receive sealed proposals on the following: RFP# 22.06 – High Speed Lit and/or Dark Fiber Optic Network. All proposals must be electronically submitted via Secure Bids at https://colbisecurebids.com/o/smmusd/erate on or before: **March 2, 2022; 2:00 pm.** Bid forms and specifications requests may be obtained by emailing knguyen@smmusd.org.

LA City Council Passes Motion Aimed at Fixing LA's Sidewalk Repair Program

City News Service

The Los Angeles City Council approved a motion Wednesday aimed at improving Los Angeles' system for repairing sidewalks, adopting recommendations from a report by Controller Ron Galperin that found the city's program was broken like many of the sidewalks themselves.

The motion — which was introduced by Councilmen Bob Blumenfield and Mike Bonin on Dec. 8 — previously passed the Public Works and Personnel, Audits, and Animal Welfare committees.

"Everyone who uses our sidewalks in Los Angeles knows there is a lot of work to do before we can say we have the infrastructure our city deserves. We must begin making changes on how things have been done in the past," Blumenfield said in a statement earlier this month after the Public Works Committee meeting.

"You can't fix a problem you can't measure and we can't piecemeal solutions to a problem of this magnitude. We need to build off of what the controller has outlined and start with a thorough audit of every sidewalk in the city, including places where needed sidewalks and curb ramps are missing."

In his Nov. 17 report, Galperin called for a comprehensive assessment of the city's 9,000 miles of sidewalks and a program that prioritizes fixing the damaged sections instead of replacing large swaths of sidewalk.

"Tens of thousands of sidewalks throughout Los Angeles are impassable for the elderly, individuals with disabilities and pedestrians of all ages," Galperin said. "Despite its recent focus on the issue, the city's sidewalk repair program is simply not working as it should. The sheer scale of the problem, combined with the city's inefficient and ineffective strategy to address it, means dangerous sidewalks aren't getting fixed fast enough. In fact, most won't be fixed for years or even many decades."

In the last five years, the city has received more than 1,700 claims and 1,020 lawsuits for sidewalk injuries, according to Galperin. It has paid more than $35 million in settlements, including $12 million in the 2020-21 fiscal year alone.

However, the number of sidewalk locations in need of repair is not known, as the city previously deemed a comprehensive assessment too expensive. Galperin said new technology can complete an assessment quickly and cost- efficiently.

Consideration of a potential sidewalk assessment came amid policy discussions in 2016, when Los Angeles settled a disability rights lawsuit. As part of the Willits settlement, the city agreed to spend $1.37 billion over three decades to address its broken sidewalks, inaccessible curb ramps and other barriers in the pedestrian right-of-way.

The City Council also adopted a "fix and release" policy in 2016, in which the city repairs sidewalks and then turns the responsibility over to the owners of adjacent properties along with a limited warranty. Under that policy, the city remains liable for sidewalk injuries under state law, but it can enforce the property owner's responsibility to maintain the sidewalks.

The city releases responsibility to the owner through a certificate process, and Galperin said that as of the end of June 2021, the Bureau of Engineering had only 4,800 certificates, less than 1% of the 640,000 sidewalk parcels in Los Angeles.

"If you maintain that same pace, it's going to take us 500 years to certify the sidewalks in the city," he said on Nov. 17.

He also raised concerns that the city completed sidewalk repairs at only 2,100 sites, calling that "a small fraction of locations that need fixing."

Another 50,000 reported problems have yet to be addressed, Galperin said.

He added that the current strategy results in more work than is required by law, as the city works to repair entire sidewalks on each parcel instead of focusing on the smaller defects.

"The city is doing too much work on many of its repairs, and that is taking too long ... when sometimes just a few feet of repairs are needed, let's say to fix cracks or raise sidewalks, what happens instead is a whole parcel is getting torn up. It's wasteful, and from a cost perspective, it takes way too long."

The motion passed Wednesday instructs the Bureau of Engineering to report back within 60 days with recommendations for improvements or changes to the city's sidewalk programs, including through recommendations from the controller.

Galperin had recommended the city:

— amend the municipal code to include new sidewalk inspection criteria that identifies significant defects in need of repair, instead of assessing entire parcels for compliance with accessibility standards;

— change the prioritization guidance to include sidewalks other than those near city facilities for repair;

— exercise discretion so that more sidewalk repairs can move forward and minimize the need for extensive pre-construction processes;

— expand the Bureau of Street Services' capacity to provide quicker short-term responses to sidewalk problems reported by the public;

— implement long-term solutions jointly with the settlement's sidewalk repair program;

— invest in a citywide condition assessment of all sidewalks and curb ramps to identify locations that need urgent fixes and help the city meet its ADA obligations; and

— pursue funding to address the mounting backlog of sidewalk requests.

Galperin's audit is available at https://bit.ly/320nr5U.

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DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 245 CALLS ON FEBRUARY 1

Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 2700Blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:04 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1900Blk Wilshire Blvd 2:51 a.m.
Loud Music 1100Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 3:00 a.m.
Vehicle Burglar Alarm 1100Blk 5th St 3:28 a.m.
Person With A Gun 1400Blk 12th St 5:45 a.m.
Encampment Ocean Ave / Montana Ave 5:58 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1600Blk 9th St 5:59 a.m.
Encampment 1500Blk 4th St 6:28 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1400Blk 14th St 7:09 a.m.
Encampment 1600Blk 6th St 7:22 a.m.
Fire Request Police 300Blk Santa Monica Pier 7:28 a.m.
Loud Music Lincoln Blvd / Cedar St 7:35 a.m.
Stolen Vehicle Recovered 1100Blk 3rd St 7:59 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 200Blk 23rd St 8:09 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1900Blk 6th St 8:20 a.m.
General Parking Problem 900Blk California Ave 8:22 a.m.
Burglary Investigation/Walk Through 1100Blk 2nd St 8:28 a.m.
General Parking Problem 300Blk Olympic Dr 8:55 a.m.
Burglary 1400Blk 5th St 8:56 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 900Blk 20th St 9:07 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1300Blk 3rd Street Prom 9:09 a.m.
Encampment 800Blk Palisades Park 9:28 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 800Blk Grant St 10:15 a.m.
Vehicle Parked On Sidewalk 800Blk 23rd St 10:36 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 1700Blk Lincoln Blvd 10:47 a.m.
Vandalism 22nd St / Pico Blvd 10:56 a.m.
Petty Theft 100Blk Fraser Ave 11:04 a.m.
Strongarm Robbery 1500Blk Palisades Park 11:10 a.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries 23rd St / Wilshire Blvd 11:14 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved 20th St / Pico Blvd 11:15 a.m.
Battery 500Blk Wilshire Blvd 11:20 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 26th St / Santa Monica Blvd 11:24 a.m.
Lewd Activity 1900Blk Cloverfield Blvd 11:35 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1500Blk Ocean Ave 11:41 a.m.
Battery 1400Blk Broadway 11:46 a.m.
Harassing Phone Calls 1500Blk 15th St 12:04 p.m.
Failure To Pay Parking Fee 1500Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 12:11 p.m.
Vandalism Now 2000Blk 21st St 12:23 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1200Blk 17th St 12:32 p.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1200Blk Wilshire Blvd 12:36 p.m.
Petty Theft 100Blk Fraser Ave 1:06 p.m.
Rape 1100Blk 2nd St 1:12 p.m.
Battery 1400Blk Lincoln Blvd 1:27 p.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1100Blk 6th St 1:30 p.m.
Stolen Vehicle 1400Blk 2nd St 1:33 p.m.
Bike Theft 1100Blk 4th St 1:34 p.m.
Burglary 100Blk Strand St 1:41 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 2000Blk 20th St 1:43 p.m.
Auto Burglary 3300Blk Barnard Way 1:44 p.m.
Vandalism 26th St / Wilshire Blvd 1:54 p.m.
Arson 400Blk Santa Monica Blvd 1:58 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 1300Blk 18th St 2:04 p.m.
Arson 5th St / Santa Monica Blvd 2:07 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 20th St / Pico Blvd 2:10 p.m.
Failure To Pay Parking Fee 1500Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 2:14 p.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public 2000Blk 19th St 2:15 p.m.
Grand Theft 1000Blk 3rd St 2:33 p.m.
Handicap Zone Violation 900Blk 15th St 2:37 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 20th St / Pico Blvd 2:42 p.m.
Death Investigation 00Blk Seaview Ter 2:54 p.m.
Petty Theft 2500Blk Arizona Ave 2:57 p.m.
Auto Burglary 800Blk 15th St 3:26 p.m.
Petty Theft 900Blk 6th St 3:32 p.m.
Vehicle With Excessive Parking Violations 1400Blk 17th St 3:49 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto 900Blk 9th St 3:59 p.m.
Grand Theft 1600Blk Franklin St 4:01 p.m.
Encampment 2400Blk Wilshire Blvd 4:05 p.m.
Grand Theft 900Blk 7th St 4:10 p.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 1900Blk Ocean Ave 4:16 p.m.
Grand Theft 900Blk 7th St 4:17 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1700Blk Cloverfield Blvd 4:20 p.m.
Grand Theft 300Blk Olympic Dr 4:22 p.m.
Identity Theft 700Blk Hill St 4:42 p.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries Neilson Way / Hill St 4:44 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 6th St / Broadway 5:13 p.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries 1600Blk Lincoln Blvd 5:22 p.m.
Sexual Assault 1600Blk Ocean Ave 5:26 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto 1600Blk Idaho Ave 5:53 p.m.
Identity Theft 300Blk San Vicente Blvd 6:09 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 800Blk 16th St 6:15 p.m.
Vandalism Now 1400Blk 2nd St 6:28 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries Lincoln Blvd / Michigan Ave 6:44 p.m.
Encampment 1500Blk 9th St 6:55 p.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries 21st St / Montana Ave 6:59 p.m.
Auto Burglary 2200Blk 29th St 7:30 p.m.
Fight 1500Blk Ocean Ave 7:35 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1300Blk Palisades Beach rd 8:48 p.m.
Battery 1100Blk 23rd St 9:22 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 500Blk Colorado Ave 9:35 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto 900Blk 9th St 9:36 p.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation Lincoln Blvd / Pico Blvd 9:41 p.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation 20th St / Pico Blvd 9:52 p.m.
Petty Theft 400Blk Broadway 9:58 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries City Prop Involved 1400Blk 4th St 10:02 p.m.
Vehicle Cite & Tow (Parking Problem) 900Blk Pier Ave 10:29 p.m.
Assault 900Blk 2nd St 11:25 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 47 CALLS ON FEBRUARY 1

EMS 1500Blk Broadway 1:19 a.m.
EMS 800Blk 9th St 3:11 a.m.
EMS 500Blk Colorado Blvd 3:53 a.m.
EMS 2600Blk Ocean Park Blvd 7:08 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 200Blk Bicknell Ave 7:33 a.m.
EMS 1300Blk 15th St 8:43 a.m.
EMS 1700Blk 21st St 9:57 a.m.
EMS 1200Blk Ocean Ave 11:09 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1400Blk 7th St 11:13 a.m.
EMS 700Blk Broadway 11:13 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 23rd St / Wilshire Blvd 11:14 a.m.
EMS 1300Blk 15th St 11:43 a.m.
EMS 1400Blk Broadway 11:45 a.m.
EMS 600Blk Grant St 11:59 a.m.
EMS 1400Blk 2nd St 12:24 p.m.
EMS 1400Blk 2nd St 12:24 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 2600Blk 31st St 12:24 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 600Blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:44 p.m.
EMS 500Blk Colorado Ave 1:30 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 600Blk Pico Blvd 1:31 p.m.
EMS 2800Blk Exposition Blvd 1:56 p.m.
Miscellaneous Outside Fire 400Blk Santa Monica Blvd 2:08 p.m.
Odor Of Natural Gas 800Blk 18th St 2:24 p.m.
EMS 2000Blk Santa Monica Blvd 2:49 p.m.
EMS 1900Blk 20th St 3:26 p.m.
EMS 1800Blk 9th St 3:31 p.m.
EMS 400Blk Expo Line 3:38 p.m.
EMS 1400Blk 16th St 3:50 p.m.
EMS 700Blk Broadway 4:05 p.m.
EMS 1800Blk 9th St 4:19 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1300Blk 20th St 4:22 p.m.
EMS 2600Blk 31st St 4:32 p.m.
EMS 1700Blk Main St 4:44 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury Neilson Way / Hill St 4:44 p.m.
EMS 1900Blk Cloverfield Blvd 5:12 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 1600Blk Lincoln Blvd 5:22 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 700Blk 24th St 5:27 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 21st St / Montana Ave 6:59 p.m.
EMS 700Blk Marine St 7:18 p.m.
EMS 2800Blk Arizona Ave 7:51 p.m.
EMS 2nd St / Broadway 9:27 p.m.
EMS 300Blk Ocean Ave 9:28 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 1400Blk 4th St 10:12 p.m.
EMS 1400Blk 4th St 11:06 p.m.
EMS 2200Blk 25th St 11:15 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 400Blk Washington Ave 11:19 p.m.
EMS 2300Blk Oak St 11:55 p.m.

Letter to the Editor

Andrew Hoyer — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Editor:

On Jan. 26 at the Special Planning Commission Meeting for Providence St John's DA, Commissioner Leslie Lambert asked Michael Ricks a very specific question "If we managed to put a requirement in the DA for mental health beds, would you sign it?" He replied quickly and bluntly, "NO."

Our community deserves better.

If members of the City Council told me before in private that you think St. John's should be providing our community mental health beds as part of their expansion, then now is the time to start saying it publicly. And you have to mean it and be willing to say the same word to Michael Ricks. "NO. I will not vote for a DA that does not have a mental health bed component."

You should say it without being asked. Send out a press release or give an interview. They need to hear that you don't care what a reduced Planning Commission approved. They need to hear that you want mental health beds at the only major healthcare provider in our city that you can say NO to. It will be important to start telegraphing that now for it to mean anything.

And you need to stand firm and be willing to lose all that St John's is offering.

And if you don't I will wonder why I voted for you.

Andrew Hoyer, Santa Monica Mid City Neighbors Govt Affairs Officer

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Two Charged in Woman's Killing in Venice

CITY NEWS SERVICE

Two men have been charged with murder and other counts in connection with a woman's killing outside a bicycle rental shop in Venice just over a year ago, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced Wednesday.

Isiah Eugene Caldwell Jr., 28, and Jonathan Michael Singh, 30, are each charged with murder in the Dec. 1, 2020, shooting death of Ky Thomas, 28, during a confrontation, according to the District Attorney's Office.

The two are also charged with one count each of attempted murder and conspiracy to commit murder.

Caldwell is also facing a misdemeanor count of carrying a loaded firearm on one's person or in a vehicle, while Singh is charged with possession of an assault weapon.

Caldwell, Singh and others allegedly confronted the woman, her boyfriend, her sister and her sister's boyfriend as they waited outside the bicycle rental store, with Caldwell allegedly shooting Thomas during the confrontation, according to the District Attorney's Office.

Thomas, who was shot in the area of Ocean Front Walk and 17th Avenue, died at a hospital, according to the Los Angeles Police Department.

The woman suffered a gunshot wound to the body , according to records from the coroner's office.

The victim's mother, Cortlyn Bridges, subsequently pleaded for the public's help in solving the crime.

"I'm begging you please, it could have been your child ... Just call the police and let them know, I'm begging you. My grandchildren don't have their mother," Cortlyn Bridges told CBS2 in December 2020. "They took my baby from me. Y'all took my baby ... They need to be held accountable for what they did."

Last month, she told reporters, "She left behind two kids, but you guys (the Los Angeles City Council) can put up a reward for the girl who was killed in Hancock Park, but because my daughter was African-American, there was nothing done. ... What about her two kids?"

Caldwell and Singh were arrested Jan. 26 by Los Angeles police and have remained behind bars since then, according to jail records.

The two have pleaded not guilty and are due in court Thursday, with a date is scheduled to be set for a hearing to determine if there is sufficient evidence to require them to stand trial.

In a statement announcing the charges, District Attorney George Gascón asked for the public's help "in finding additional suspects involved in the killing as we continue our pursuit of justice on Ky's behalf."

The county's top prosecutor said his "deepest condolences go out to the friends and family of Ky Thomas, and my heart breaks for her small children and her mother, who has fought so diligently for justice."

"Nothing can mitigate the pain that they must be feeling at this hour, but I hope that they will find a moment of peace in knowing that those responsible for Ky's death will be held accountable," the district attorney said.

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LA Officials Join Super Bowl Representatives to Discuss Safety Ahead of Game

CITY NEWS SERVICE

After many fans at the NFC Championship Game at SoFi Stadium were seen ignoring the mask-wearing requirement, Los Angeles County's public health director, elected officials and NFL representatives preached a message of COVID safety and personal responsibility Wednesday for those attending the Super Bowl and other affiliated events.

As was the case for all games at SoFi this year, fans at the Feb. 13 Super Bowl will be required to show proof of COVID-19 vaccination or a recent negative test, and all attendees over 2 years old must wear masks during the game unless "actively" eating or drinking, according to Russ Simons, senior vice president for campus and facility operations for SoFi Stadium.

"That doesn't mean you buy a bucket of popcorn and eat it for two hours. Actively eating and drinking," he reiterated. "We're on to you."

The NFL will provide KN95 masks to all workers and fans during the game, and people who attend the Super Bowl Experience at the Los Angeles Convention Center will receive take-home COVID-19 tests — in hopes they will use them before watching the Super Bowl at the stadium or at a gathering.

John Barker, head of live event operations and production for the NFL, said the league has been preparing for Super Bowls during COVID-19 for nearly two years, and it is "extremely confident in the plans we have in place."

Many of the measures have been in effect at SoFi Stadium throughout the season, including:

— electrostatic spraying to disinfect horizontal surfaces and common touch points;

— UVC lighting to sanitize the field; and

— touchless hand sanitizer stations, as well as touchless soap, water and towel dispensers in the restrooms.

"There's been an extraordinary level of cooperation between everyone here, and we're all laser focused on a shared commitment to the public health safety measures at NFL-sponsored events over the next 10 days, including the Super Bowl Experience at the L.A. Convention Center, and events at YouTube Theater, Crypto.com Arena and SoFi Stadium," said L.A. County Public Health Director Barbara Ferrer.

For people attending Super Bowl parties and gatherings to watch the game, Ferrer said, "Outside (is) always better than inside, fewer people (are) always better than large crowds."

To encourage people to get vaccinated during Super Bowl events, the Super Bowl Experience at the L.A. Convention Center will offer vaccinations and booster shots to anyone eligible, and people who get a dose of a vaccine will be offered free entry. Children who get vaccinated at the event will get a fast pass.

"This is a great chance to get to the front of the line. We want you to have an amazing experience," Mayor Eric Garcetti said.

Garcetti was one of many people seen at the NFC Championship Sunday without a mask, but the mayor insists he only took it off briefly to take a photo with Earvin "Magic" Johnson, and that he held his breath during the photo as a precaution. He denied flouting health regulations, insisting he wore his mask throughout the game.

He and Inglewood Mayor James Butts both highlighted the need for people to exercise personal responsibility and follow safety rules.

Following Sunday's game, Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger called for a reevaluation of the COVID-19 mask mandate, saying such rules "don't make a difference when they're not consistently followed or enforced."

Ferrer responded on Wednesday that the department would reevaluate when COVID-19 transmission in the county goes below the "substantial" or "high" classification.

"We're constantly looking at the data and trying to figure out what responses make the most sense. You know, we're still in the surge, I think we reported over 15,000 new cases today, that's still one of the highest numbers of new cases," Ferrer said.

The department on Wednesday reported 15,664 new cases and 102 new deaths.

County Supervisor Holly Mitchell, who currently chairs the board, was more blunt, saying the county "will stay the course" and maintain its mask mandate. She said the county will develop "medically informed plans to relax masking requirements when the surge is over. L.A. County's transmission is still high, so now is not the time to let down our guard."

She also insisted that mask-wearing is a "modest requirement" that "will not affect the attendance or our enjoyment of the game."

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LA Metro To Reduce Bus Service On Feb. 20 Due To Operator Shortage

City News Service

With bus operators leaving Metro at higher rates than they're being hired, the transit agency will temporarily reduce bus service beginning Feb. 20 to avoid more unexpected cancellations.

The Metro Board of Directors voted last Thursday to reduce service due to a bus operator shortage. Between Dec. 13 and Jan. 12, several bus lines had 20% or more of their trips canceled due to the shortage, including the 754, 207, 206, 204, 111, 150, 210, 108, 240, 40, 53, 117, 115 and 81, according to a staff presentation given to the board.

Metro officials said the cancellations disproportionately impact "equity focused communities," particularly in South Los Angeles.

Metro is working to "reduce service strategically throughout the network with (an) equity lens" using its NextGen Bus Plan as a framework, and working to have no change to the NextGen route network or operating days and times, they said.

The NextGen Bus Plan is Metro's re-imagined bus system that was implemented last year. The goals of the plan were to double the number of frequent Metro bus lines, provide more than 80% of bus riders with 10 minutes or better frequency, improve service and ensure a quarter-mile or less walk to a bus stop for 99% of riders.

As Metro aims to reduce cancellations during the operator shortage, service will temporarily be reduced based on a line's tier within the NextGen Bus Plan. The first tier, which typically has service every 5-10 minutes on weekdays and 7.5-15 minutes on weekends, may be temporarily reduced to 5-15 minutes on weekdays and 7.5-20 minutes on weekends. Of the lines with high cancellations, 753, 207, 204, 111, 210, 108, 240, 40, and 53 are in the first tier.

Beginning Feb. 20, bus service will be reduced by 800,000 "revenue service hours" or the time per year that a vehicle is available for service. Metro aims to begin service restoration in June 2022 at the earliest.

Metro said the reduction of operators has occurred due to a "perfect storm" that includes the national labor shortage, attrition greater than hiring and employees contracting COVID-19.

Metro bus operators began to leave the agency at higher rates than they were being hired in July 2021. Since that time, 356 bus operators have left the agency and only 207 were hired. In December, 11 were hired and 32 left.

According to Metro, reasons for people leaving include retirement, personal reasons, misconduct, new job acceptance and unsatisfactory performance.

The agency has about 3,119 bus operators, and needs to add an additional 448. It's also down 28 rail operators, with only 298 currently working.

The bus operator shortage has increased bus service cancellations to about 10%-15%, up from the pre-pandemic cancellation average of about 1%-2%, Metro reported.

To hire additional bus operators, Metro is considering increasing their pay from $17.75 to $19.12 an hour as a six month pilot. It will also set up career kiosks at Rosa Parks/Willowbrook, East L.A. and Wilshire/Vermont stations in April.

In order for full service to be restored, Metro said it will need to have no more than 30 new COVID-19 cases per month among operators, have at least 3,677 bus operators and 326 rail operators, and reduce systemwide bus service cancellations to 2%, down from the current 10%-15%.

The agency will also have to reduce its "mandatory call back" to 200 per week, down from the current average of 800. The call backs are a process in which Metro orders staff to work on their days off, which has been occurring during the operator shortage.

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CRIME WATCH BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

Crime Watch is culled from reports provided by the Santa Monica Police Department. These are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, AT 3:45 P.M.

After receiving a call regarding an in-progress auto burglary, SMPD officers responded to 1550 PCH, Lot 1 North) where a witness saw a suspect, later identified as Marcos Guzman, entering a vehicle with a broken window. Guzman was found to be in possession of burglary tools, a stun gun and drug paraphernalia. He was arrested and transported to the Santa Monica Jail.

DO YOU HAVE COMMUNITY NEWS?
Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

FINDING A NEW DENTIST IS TOUGH!!!
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YOUR CHOICE
If you don't like what we have to say we will give you a copy of your x-rays at no charge
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*Offer to non insured patients
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For New Patients
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*Offer to non insured patients
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Noteworthy

Charles Andrews
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Neil Young is Still The Man

JONI AND NEIL AND DON'T FORGET JIM AND JOHN

I contacted my press person at MusiCares to find out if this year's honoree JONI MITCHELL had anything to say at their gala fundraiser honoring her last Saturday, to find out if she commented on the Spotify scandal, and found out they had to postpone the show at the last minute. Big bummer, but I guess the wise move.

You probably know that NEIL YOUNG was holding the music streaming service accountable for the dangerous misinformation about COVID, vaccines and masks that their most popular podcaster, by far, Joe Rogan, regularly disseminates to millions. It's either my music or Joe, he demanded, and of course Spotify went with the biggest revenue cow, but are now turning flips trying to appear as though they are doing something about it, but of course it is empty talk. So happy to see their stock plunged dramatically, and that their smaller competitors gained shares.

JONI MITCHELL quickly threw in her ultimatum, but Spotify pays so little for every play that even the biggest musicians don't generate for them in a month what Rogan does in a day. It would have been encouraging though, if a slew of musicians, especially the biggest names, had all joined in, but that didn't happen. Joni got through polio as a kid, so probably is especially sensitive about vaccine disinformation.

Their integrity and social responsibility, at cost to their personal bank accounts, reminds me of the pact Doors leader Jim Morrison made with the other three, before his untimely death. Every one of us has veto power over any deals made for our music. Ray Manzarek, now deceased, and Robby Kreiger, tried to make such a deal, but Santa Monica's own John Densmore, bless his poet's soul, stepped in and took them to court and won, even though it was a handshake deal. So we may hear "Born to Run" pushing Nikes and "Masters of War" promoting the RAND Corporation, you'll never hear "LA Woman" selling anything.

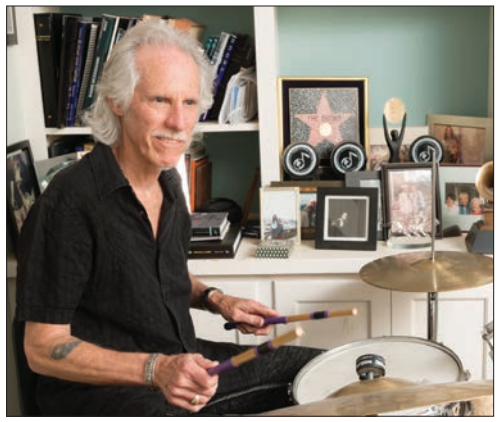
How many hundreds of millions of dollars does anyone really need?

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

EM THE MASTER — I've been giving EM's show a HIGHLY RECOMMENDED for months now and still do. She sings, dances, has dancers. She crawls across the floor like a reptile, gripping the mic and never missing a beat. She doesn't play the piano, she attacks it. Uses her voice as an instrument in creative ways. Her energy is nonstop and seemingly limitless. Writes terrific songs perfect for her act. More talent than anyone has a right to. Every Tues 9:30 p.m., Harvelle's, DTSM, $10.

RECOMMENDED:

TONIGHT! - NORWOOD FISHER presents IN-JAMATION -- Norwood of course of Fishbone infamy, a founding mother, loves to put together these messy jam sessions (Trulio Disgracias) that have their moments of transcendence. Sometimes big name players show up. But it should be fun



Courtesy photo

BEST DOOR: Densmore

in our local Trip on Lincoln, on a Thursday night for no cover. At worst you have a beer and meet some new people. At best you witness history, a lifelong story to unfurl. Thur 9:30 p.m., The Trip, Santa Monica, free.

TONIGHT! - HAMILTON — Still with us, but only five more weeks. Tonight - Thurs, Fri, Sat, Tues, Wed, next Thurs 8 p.m., Sun 1 p.m., 6:30 p.m., also Sat 2 p.m., Pantages Theater, Hollywood, $49-3000+, depending on date/time.

SOUTHSIDE SLIM – He tore it up with his stellar soulful blues band at Harvelle's in 2019, he leads a classic blues jam, a cultural wonder, on a regular basis at Roscoe's Chicken & Waffles in Long Beach, but now you can just drive, walk or skateboard to Fourth Street to our own venerable 90-year-old blues bar, Harvelle's, who seems to have made it through the worst of the pandemic, hooray! Southside delivers a mix of jazz, funk, Latin, soul and R&B, and who knows? Snoop Dogg might show up, not willing to wait in Long Beach for the next Southside show. Fri 9:30 p.m., Harvelle's. Santa Monica, $10.

TOLEDO DIAMOND — Have you gone to catch his unique show yet, every Sunday night at Harvelle's, here in SM? I've been recommending him for... decades. Trust me. You've never seen anything like Toledo. Sun 9:30 p.m., Harvelle's, Santa Monica, $12.

SPARKS – Public Service Announcement: I've never been a fan of these legendary LA art rockers but maybe I've missed something for half a century, so for all those who do worship their skinny genius carcasses, here ya go. Disney Hall! They have obviously arrived. A movie musical ("Annette") they penned hits theater screens later this year, and a new documentary ("The Sparks Brothers") trumpets: "50 years, 25 albums, 345 songs, unlimited genius." Okay. Ever since I started work at the LA Weekly in the early '80s, first as a music journalist and then as the put-upon dude who handled all the nightclub advertising (and all the really crazy owners and bookers, some still in prison, some dead), I realized there is a niche aesthetic here that glorifies the vacuous if it is weird enough. I've been relistening lately to some album cuts and remain unimpressed. Okay, let the hate mail begin. But don't forget, Sparks fans, I did just give them recognition and let you know about

SEE **NOTEWORTHY** PAGE 7

NOTEWORTHY

FROM PAGE 6

a special performance. Mon, Tues 8 p.m., Walt Disney concert Hall, $40-75.

COMING ATTRACTIONS: ALAN PASQUA, DAREK OLES DUO, Sam First, 2/11; LA PHIL with ESA-PEKKA SALONEN plays Strauss, Smith, and Salonen, Walt Disney Concert Hall, 2/11,12; BARBARA MORRISON, Vibrato, 2/13; GARRICK OHLSSON plays all Chopin, Walt Disney Concert Hall,2/13; LA PHIL with SALONEN plays BARTOK, Bjarnason, SIBELIUS, Walt Disney Concert Hall,, 2/18, 19, 20; TOM BROSSEAU, JAKE XERXES FUSSELL, McCabe's, 2/19; SARAH SILVERMAN & Friends, Largo at the Coronet, 2/19, 3/5; PETE ESCOVEDO, Vibrato, 2/20; LA PHIL with FATHER JOHN MISTY, Walt Disney Concert Hall, 2/25; HERBIE HANCOCK, Walt Disney Concert Hall, 2/27; JANIS IAN, McCabe's, 3/1, 2; THE ENGLISH BEAT, The Bourbon Room, 3/4, 5.

Charles Andrews has listened to a lot of music of all kinds, including more than 3,000 live shows. He has lived in Santa Monica for 36 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

CRIME

FROM PAGE 1

an ID from the crime scene.

The two suspects fled the east on Marine St. after witnesses began yelling. Suspects are described as 20 to 30 year old Black males wearing black hoodies and black pants. One was described as being a heavier build (180 to 200 lbs) and the other had shoulder length braided hair.

A day after the attack, Virani was back at the store. Physically injured and psychologically traumatized, Virani had few options as she relies on the market's tight margins of income and has been running the business alone since the start of the pandemic.

"I do everything by myself, going to the bank, stocking, everything all by myself from day to night," said Virani. "That's the only way I can keep the market even though it's so hard."

Virani said the immediate pain came from the liquid poured in her eyes and on her face. Once the burning faded she felt acute pain from the attack in her shoulder, chest and ribs. She is still recovering from her injuries.

Fortunately, the neighborhood has her back. Every evening following the incident residents come guard the store and escort Virani at closing time to ensure she is protected on the dark and quiet street. Virani has moved closing time to 8 p.m. and said she has no intention of staying open later again.

"We should be there physically for her, you know, at least for the foreseeable future, so that she comes to no harm," said Ocean Park resident Sekhar Singaraju. "We have to think a little proactively, because every evening she's vulnerable sitting there."

Residents have also launched a GoFundMe campaign to raise money to upgrade the security at Marine Market. While a $1,500 goal was set, donations vastly surpassed expectations and residents raised over $7,400 in the first four days.

"Donations have come from neighbors near and far. People spread the announcement to people they knew including people who had moved out of the neighborhood," said Roberta Levitow, fundraiser organizer. "It's been an incredible demonstration of the power of the neighborhood community."

The fundraiser is ongoing and money will be used to purchase security cameras and other anti-theft measures for the store. On Feb. 1, a local electrician replaced and upgraded the store's outdoor lighting free of charge.

Concerned neighbors also organized a meeting with SMPD officers and Virani to discuss best safety practices. The SMPD Community Affairs team is actively working with the surrounding residents and looking to set up a neighborhood watch.

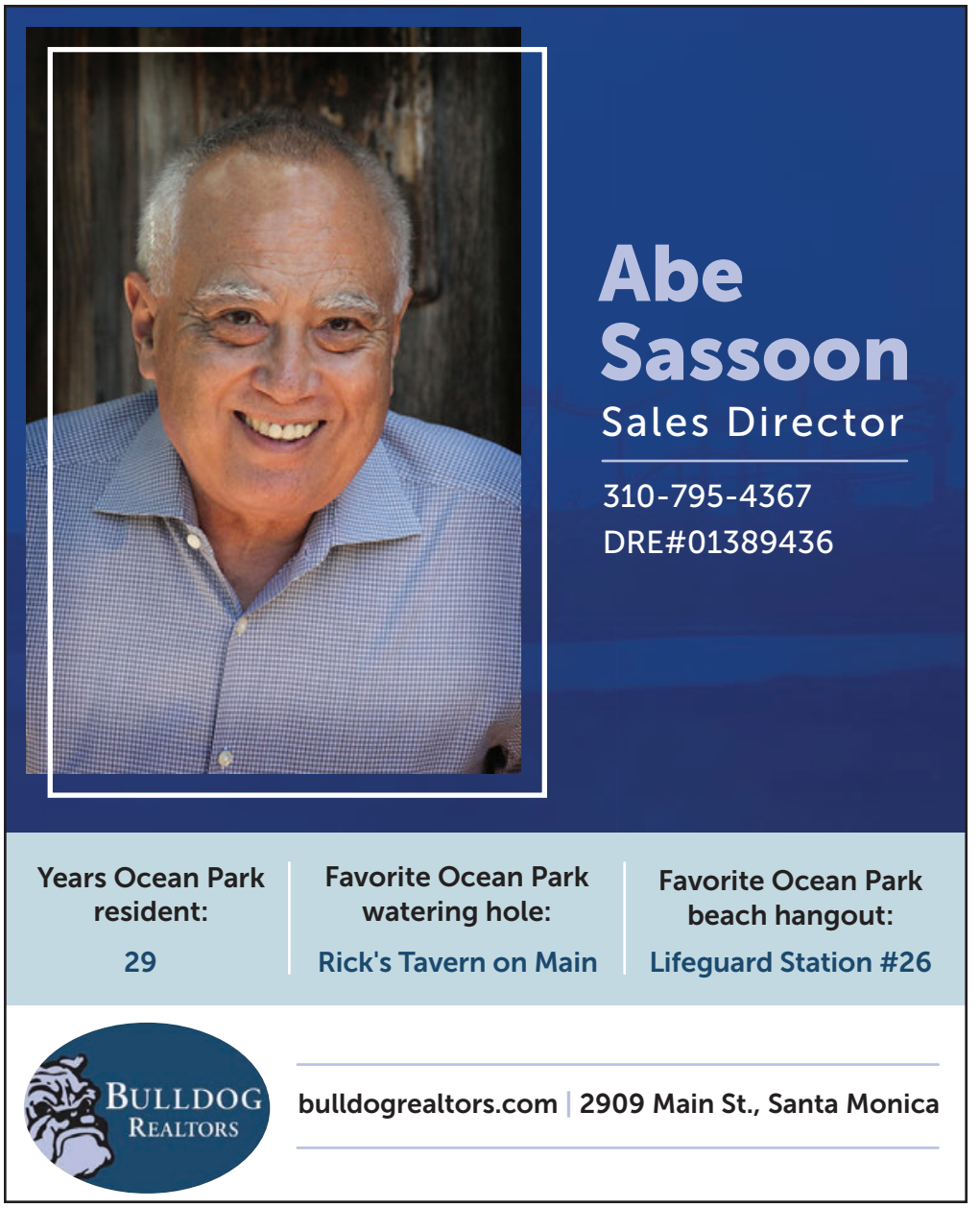
"She was maced, she was beaten and they pushed her to the ground. It was an example of the cruelty that people can demonstrate to one another," said Levitow. "Everyone involved—donors, escort neighbors, concerned neighbors, Nadia—we're all profoundly moved by this demonstration of the kindness and care that people can show one another."

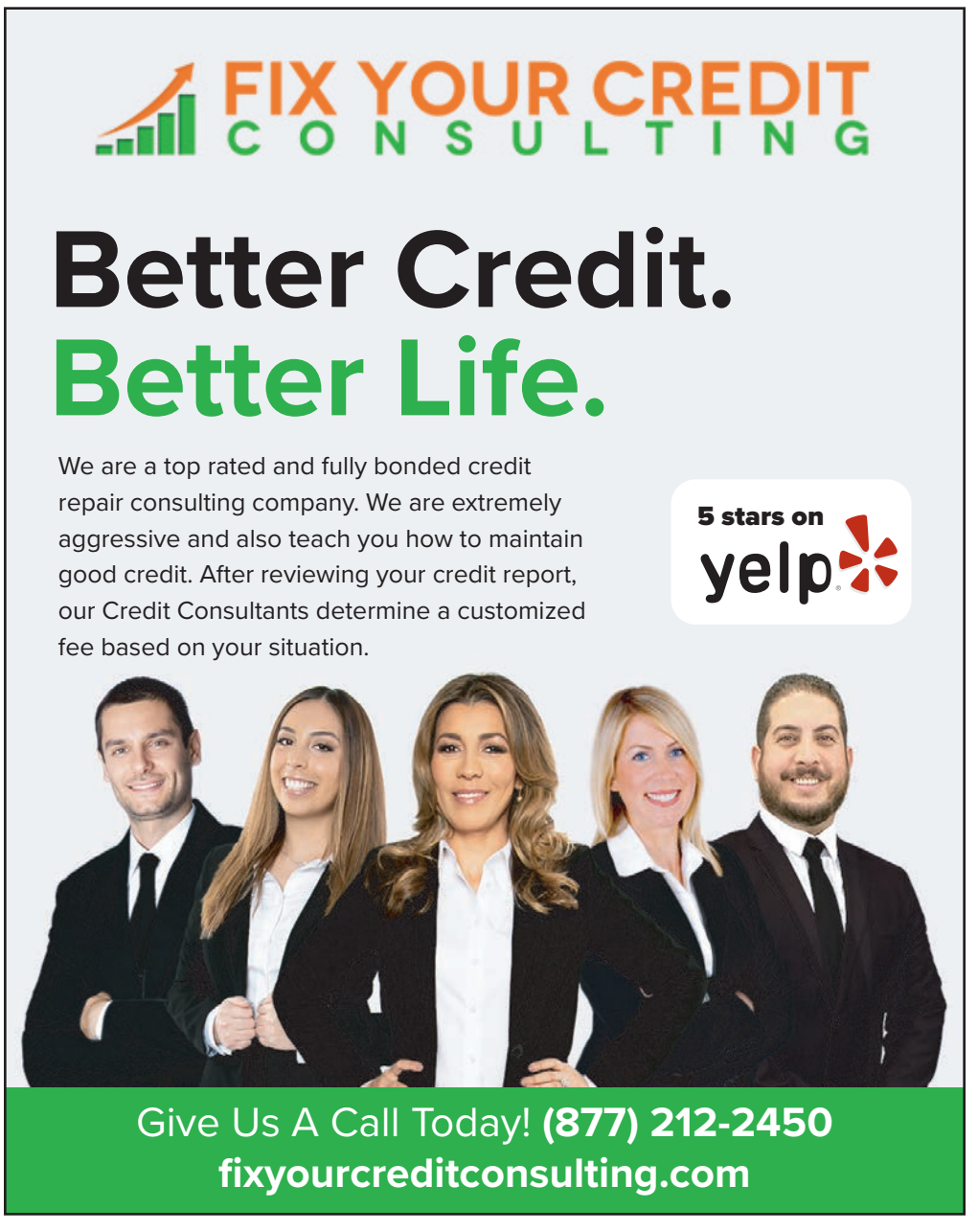
Clara@smdp.com



Clara Harter

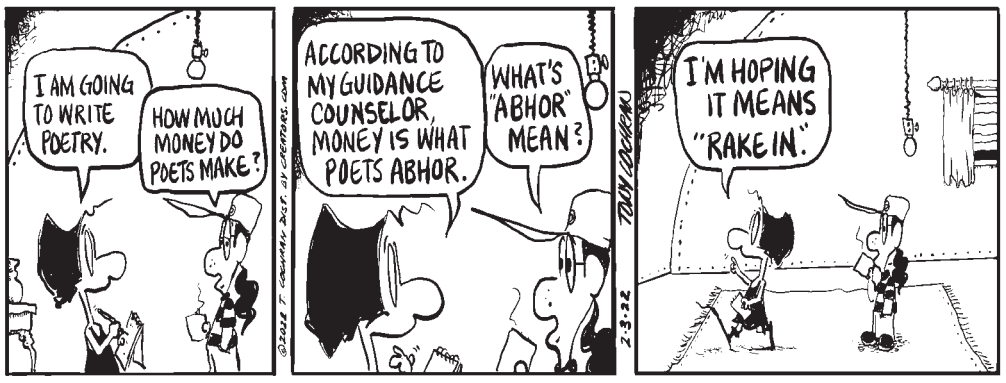
OPEN: **The store has reduced its operating hours following the attack.**





Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



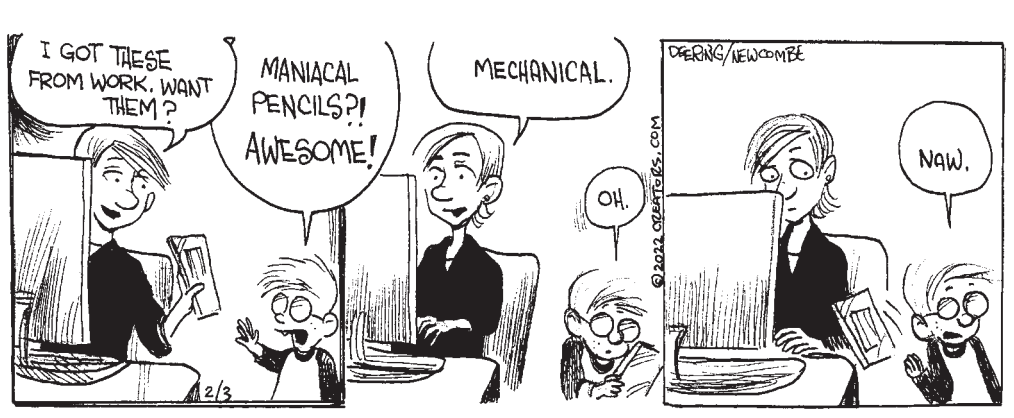
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



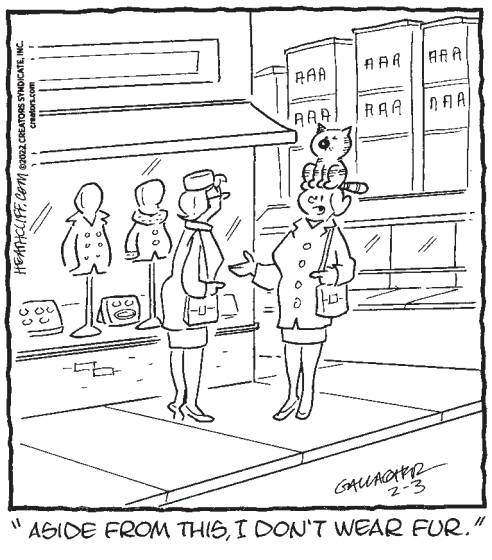
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

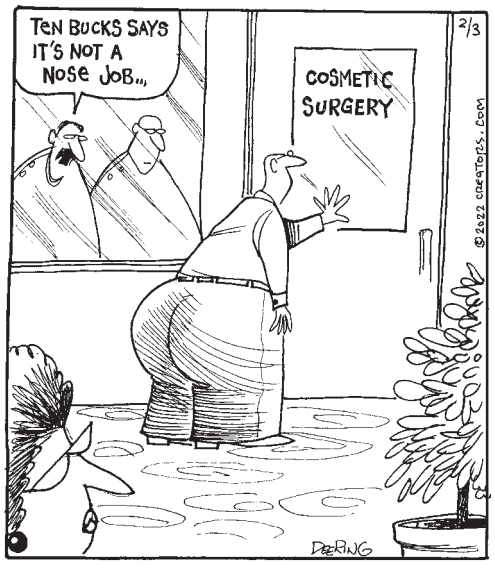
By PETER GALLAGHER



"ASIDE FROM THIS, I DON'T WEAR FUR."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 58.5°

THURSDAY - **POOR** - SURF: 1-2ft Knee to thigh high
Small blend of decreasing swells. Offshore flow may continue in AM but down from Wed.

FRIDAY - **POOR** - SURF: 0.5-1ft Shin to knee high occ. 2 ft
Nice AM conditions but minimal surf. A small NW swell from distant source slowly build in the PM and surf comes up slightly.

WEATHER

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 60. North northeast wind 10 to 15 mph.
Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 48. North northeast wind around 10 mph.
Friday: Sunny, with a high near 66. North northeast wind around 15 mph.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2022/02/03	Thu	04:12 AM	1.36	L
2022/02/03	Thu	10:16 AM	5.87	H
2022/02/03	Thu	5:09 PM	-0.83	L
2022/02/03	Thu	11:34 PM	4.47	H
2022/02/04	Fri	05:03 AM	1.40	L
2022/02/04	Fri	11:01 AM	5.11	H
2022/02/04	Fri	5:42 PM	-0.19	L
2022/02/05	Sat	12:12 AM	4.50	H
2022/02/05	Sat	05:58 AM	1.50	L
2022/02/05	Sat	11:48 AM	4.26	H
2022/02/05	Sat	6:13 PM	0.52	L
2022/02/06	Sun	12:53 AM	4.48	H
2022/02/06	Sun	07:04 AM	1.60	L
2022/02/06	Sun	12:45 PM	3.41	H
2022/02/06	Sun	6:42 PM	1.22	L
2022/02/07	Mon	01:38 AM	4.43	H
2022/02/07	Mon	08:40 AM	1.58	L
2022/02/07	Mon	2:16 PM	2.71	H
2022/02/07	Mon	7:11 PM	1.87	L
2022/02/08	Tue	02:33 AM	4.39	H
2022/02/08	Tue	10:35 AM	1.25	L

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 1/31
10 15 51 61 69
Power#: 14
Jackpot: 123 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 2/1
11 24 38 62 66
Mega#: 1
Jackpot: 22 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 1/29
9 10 22 25 34
Mega#: 27
Jackpot: 13 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 2/1
7 10 26 33 39

Daily 3
Draw Date: 2/1
EVENING: 2 2 9
Draw Date: 2/1
MIDDAY: 1 5 9

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 2/1
1st: 06 - Whirl Win
2nd: 02 - Lucky Star
3rd: 12 - Lucky Charms
Race Time: 1:48.75

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A Program of WISE & Healthy Aging
WISE Minds
A Veterans Benefit!

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (FEBRUARY 3)

It's a year of games. You're strategic, competitive and winning. You'll shine in a formal setting for key moments. Pictures will be taken. Even so, the most memorable events will be silly and strange interpersonal dynamics. You'll become even closer to your favorites. Good relationships are your pride and treasure. Cancer and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 15, 2, 28 and 39.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You'll tick five things off of your to-do list before you even get close to the part about your own enjoyment. Avoid future burnout by constructing these lists with more of an eye to pleasure.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Keep looking for that special something to add to your collection. It's out there for you. The search will be an adventure that makes your ultimate find all the more valuable.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You know what type of person you want to become, and you take action every day to move toward this glorious creature until you ultimately merge as one.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You're like a car dealer encouraging potential buyers to take a test drive of your offerings. Once people try the merchandise, they will be hooked!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You're not afraid to rock the boat in the name of justice or even for lesser reasons, like your own amusement. How hard should you rock it? That depends on how much you care who tumbles out.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You feel somewhat dependent on the good opinion of others, which makes you human, but also keeps you tethered. To be free, you'll have to give up the notion that everyone should like what you're doing.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You've struck on a method that works, and not just for you — this will work for anyone. And though there will be clear benefits to all who do it your way, it's still important to recognize that this is not the only way. Stay open-minded.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The day invites comparison between A and B. Hint: Just because two things are next to each other doesn't mean there's a logical intrinsic relationship between them.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You'll solve the problem and get a surge of gleeful excitement. This kind of charge could get addictive. And who do you have to thank for it? The problem itself, without which none of this would be possible.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). When you think about it, most people throughout human history have believed incorrect things. What sets you apart as a leader and a forward-thinker is that you question and continually update your beliefs.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Behavior tells you everything you need to know. Listen to what people do, not what they say. What they do is soundless and yet it rings out with the loudest truth.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). What's happening now is something you didn't choose, but you still have plenty of power in the situation, most notably, the power to call your trouble a teacher. Lift its heaviness and grow strong.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

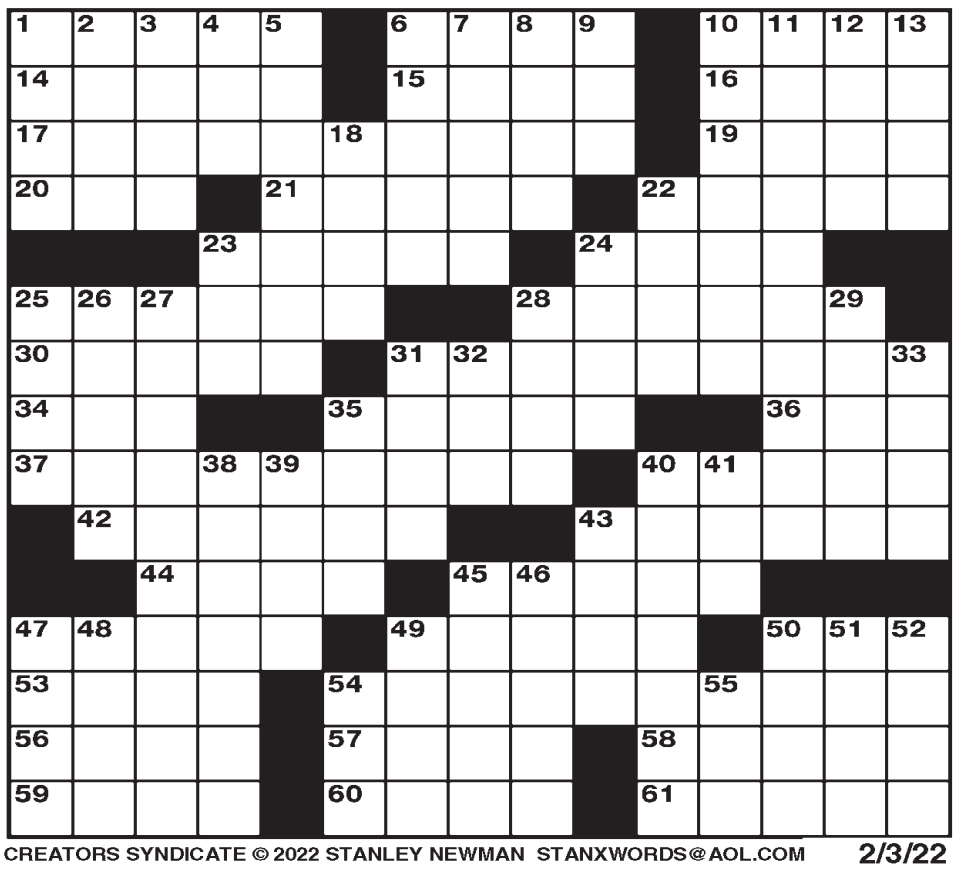
			1		9		4	
	2	8		4		3		5
1		6	3				2	
	8	2		1				7
	1		6		5		3	
6				7		1	5	
	9				4	6		1
3		1		9		2	8	
	7		2		1			

Newsday Crossword

DOUBLE DOUBLES by Jared Goudsmit
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Sound
6 "I'm relieved!"
10 Descriptor for some traditions
14 Digression
15 Wet, with "down"
16 Little lead-in
17 Play some b-ball
19 Multi-Emmy winner Fey
20 Half a score
21 Downed
22 Fell off
23 Tick off
24 Throws off-balance
25 Garments like culottes
28 Asserts
30 Ren Faire weapon
31 Takes lightly
34 Commando weapon
35 Gas in some headlights
36 Unedited
37 Impossible to mess up
40 Beta follower
42 Being borrowed
43 River near Strawberry Field
44 Somewhat improper
45 "Without question!"
47 Mexican male pal
49 CNN medical reporter
50 Designation for a big boss
53 Capture, as a client
54 Dentist's "patient"
56 Gymnast Korbut
57 See 61 Across
58 Gloom and doom, for example
59 E-commerce craft store
60 Needing a nap
61 With 57 Across, small-time

DOWN
1 Seemingly boundless
2 Laver contemporary
3 Literary celebrity
4 A rite answer
5 Diplomatic thaw
6 Something snapped
7 Hogwash
8 *SportsCenter* airer
9 Director Anderson
10 It's south of Detroit
11 Garage sale spoilers
12 Prince William's aunt
13 Truckful, say
18 *Frozen* prince
22 Nesting insect
23 Orbital segment
24 Name of the most popes
25 Wallop
26 Voice-activated buzzer
27 Fried side
28 "It just vanished!"
29 Cry of disapproval
31 Lowly laborer
32 Lennon's middle name
33 Vacillate
35 Security image
38 June celebration
39 Slightly, on a score
40 Be rewarded for one's service
41 "All men __ boys": Updike
43 Small amount
45 Target amount
46 Underdog's goal
47 Soother in some shaving creams
48 Brewer's supply
49 Vanished
50 Mint product
51 Where Prince William went
52 "Gracious!"
54 Workshop of a sort
55 Laudatory lines



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What's Up Westside

out and about in Santa Monica

THURSDAY | FEB 3

BLACK HISTORY MONTH OPENING CEREMONY
The Black History Month opening ceremony will feature local health professionals, including Phillip Brown, MD, Assistant Clinical Professor at UCLA Family Medicine, and Nakeya T. Fields, mental health entrepreneur, author, and speaker, who will discuss the importance of mental and physical health. The event will also feature tap performances by the Syncopated Ladies, the singing of the Black National Anthem by Castella, a hula hoop competition, and a healthy cooking demonstration. 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. tinyurl.com/BHMOpeningCeremony

FRIDAY | FEB 4

BLACK HISTORY MONTH EXHIBITS
The City is partnering with the Quinn Research Center to display exhibits at Santa Monica City Hall featuring Black historical figures in Santa Monica who worked in health and wellness. Additionally, the City is working with the Library, City staff, local schools and the Building Bridges Art Exchange to collect student art to display. The public is welcome to browse the exhibits during the City's regular business hours 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. 1685 Main St.

EARLY READERS BOOK CLUB
This virtual book club is for beginning readers. Enhance your reading comprehension skills, enjoy activities and learn about new books that will get you excited about reading. For grades K-2. Register here: https://bit.ly/YouthProgramSignUps. 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

SATURDAY | FEB 5

DOWNTOWN WALKING TOUR
Discover downtown Santa Monica's architecture, history and culture with one of our highly engaging docents. The walking tour covers about six blocks in two hours and begins at the city's first landmark, the 1875 Rapp Saloon. Reservations recommended. Open to all ages. 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. 1436 2nd St.

FITNESS FEST AND CONSCIOUS MARKET
The market features a collection of elevated brands and sustainable products from 25 local and minority-owned businesses with a zero waste and self-care focus. A diverse mix of free fitness classes will be offered throughout the day, including yoga, Basecamp Fitness, Chakra Dance and more. Participants are encouraged to bring their own yoga mat, towel and water for maximum enjoyment. Complimentary healthy drinks and snacks will be available for sampling from brands such as RISE Brewing Co., MUSH, Après and Barcode. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 1400 Blk of Third Street Promenade. Register at tinyurl.com/FitFridaySantaMonica

OCEAN PARK BOOK GROUP DISCUSSION
The Girl from Human Street: Ghosts of Memory in a Jewish Family by Roger Cohen. 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. New York Times columnist Roger Cohen traces his family history from the 19th century to the present, exploring Jewish and national identity, anti-Semitism, and his relationship with his mother. To register, email library@santamonica.gov.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL) CONVERSATION, HIGH
Santa Monica Public Library hosts an ongoing series of English as a Second Language (ESL) classes taught by Adult Education Center instructors. Classes are free and students must be 18 years or older to attend. Community parents and SMMUSD parents have priority enrollment. Learn more about California adult education at caladulted.org. Enrollment is through the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Adult Education Center, located at 2510 Lincoln Blvd., Room 203, Santa Monica, CA, 90405. Visit smmusd.asapconnected.com or contact Olga Saucedo at osaucedo@smmusd.org or (310) 664-6222, ext.76203 to enroll. Classes will begin in a virtual format. If live classes become possible, they will take place at the Pico Branch Library, 2100 Pico Blvd. 12 - 3 p.m.

SUNDAY | FEB 6

GALLERY OPEN
Open daily, no reservations or admission fee. Schedule subject to change with short notice, check calendar or call (310) 458-4904 to confirm. Annenberg Community Beach House. 9 - 4 p.m.

For help submitting an event, contact us at
310-458-7737 or submit to events@smdp.com

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 22 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 5379

Sharp shooter

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

Action	Cock	Hide	Runner
Airgun	Comb	Hits	Safety
Ammo	Concentrate	Hollow-nosed	Shot
Arms	Crimp	Jacket	Skeet
Automatic	Dioptre	Length	Smoke
Bird	Discharge	Magpie	Steady
Bolt	Drag	Oils	Success
Breech	Eight	Pins	Test
Butt	Fast	Pistols	Ways
Caps	Fire	Plug	
Cartridge	Gauge	Rifle	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Budget accommodation

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BLOOM

FROM PAGE 1

in a prepared statement provided by his campaign. "I am very proud of the campaign we ran, and I am grateful to everyone who helped to build it. I believe that the future of Los Angeles County is bright, and that our communities can and will solve the challenges we face. I am as committed as ever to working for that future, but I am going to take some time to decide how I can best be of service."

The announcement means 2023 will be the first year this century that Bloom has not held political office; he was first elected to Santa Monica City Council in April 1999, serving 13 years including numerous stints as mayor, before going on to represent Santa Monica in Sacramento. Bloom was elected to the State Assembly in 2012. Because of term limits, he would have lost his seat in 2024 had he been elected to a final term this November.

Bloom has represented the 50th Assembly District since he was first elected to the seat in 2012. For the past 10 years, the District has included Santa Monica, Malibu, Agoura Hills and West Hollywood. The drastically redrawn 51st District will include Santa Monica and inland communities from Hollywood all the way to Griffith Park.

Bloom declined to speak to the Daily Press for this story.

Progressive Democrat Rick Chavez Zbur, who is aggressively campaigning to fill the 51st District seat, said he considered Bloom a friend and said his legislative priorities would align with what Santa Monican voters have come to expect from their representative in the State Assembly.

"I consider myself a progressive champion. I think if you look at the organizations that are supporting me, it's really the progressive organizations that I think Santa Monicans respect — everything from Planned Parenthood to California Environmental Voters to Equality California," Zbur said. "I think every single union that's endorsed has endorsed my candidacy so far. And so, I think my perspective is aligned with the values of people in Santa Monica. It would be an honor and a privilege to represent them and I'm going to be an energetic member of the community and I think, you know, very much aligned with the perspective that Richard Bloom has had as a member of the assembly, as well."

Bloom's decision to drop out of the race came as competitors like West Hollywood Mayor Lindsey Horvath and California Senator Robert Hertzberg continued to gather high-profile endorsements from politicians and labor groups. California Senator Henry Stern is also campaigning to fill the Third District seat, which will be left vacant by Supervisor Sheila Kuehl. Another candidate, LA County Controller Ron Galperin, announced he was dropping out of the race in early January.

emily@smdp.com

SMMUSD

FROM PAGE 1

petition. The City and the District have a mediation scheduled in the month of March and to give that an opportunity to happen and potentially have the parties reach an agreement," Wood said. "You know, the City is very eager to have their petition heard, since there's already been a considerable delay, but we want to give the mediation an opportunity to work. So, in that vein, we'd like to ask the county committee to delay for no more than one month its consideration of the City's petition."

For his part, Soldani said the District was not making the request "together" with Malibu; rather, the SMMUSD would not stand in the way of the requested extension.

"The City did approach us requesting an opportunity to mediate, which we have agreed with. But to be clear, the school district's not asking for a continuance because it's not our petition to continue. It's really the City's ask," Soldani said. "We certainly do not oppose that request. As we have indicated, we will sit down with a third party mediator to have a discussion with the petitioners to see if there's any common ground we can reach. But I want to be clear that that request is not coming from the school district side of things."

The committee, made up of Chairperson Frank Ogaz, Vice Chairperson John Quintanilla, and members John Nunez, Estefany Castaneda, Charles Davis, Ralph Mechur, Barry A. Snell, Donald LaPlante, Martha Deutsch, Cherise Moore and Suzan T. Solomon, granted the one-month extension, meaning the hearing that was set to take place on March 2, 2022, was moved to the April 6, 2022 meeting.

Committee members noted there was no opposition to the request from the 14 members of the public who spoke at the meeting.

Those members of the public included many residents and teachers from Malibu who continued to make their case for District separation, citing what they called unequal school programs and resources and the physical distance between the communities of Malibu and Santa Monica.

SMMUSD Board Member Jon Kean called in saying he disagreed with many of the comments but he did not wish to "engage in any back-and-forth" at the meeting.

"Comments from members of the public today have provided misinformation, disinformation [and] blatant distortions. But I simply want to say that the dearth of comments from the District side today is not from lack of interest or lack of passion," Kean said. "We believe we have made our case; we believe the city of Malibu has made its case. We await the response from this committee and are not viewing today as a re-litigation of the case or a chance to further the distortions that have been placed on the committee."

Some members of the public echoed requests that committee members Ralph Mechur and Barry Snell recuse themselves from the hearing. Mechur, a former longtime SMMUSD Board Member and Santa Monica resident, and Snell, a current Santa Monica College Board Member and fellow Santa Monica resident, did not respond to the requests.

Other committee members said the 30-day delay might allow "more time for [the] county committee to work out the conflict of business issue that still is waiting to be determined."

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Santa Monica Daily Press
Classifieds
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Help Wanted

EXPERT MACHINE & TOOL, INCExpert Machine & Tool, INC.Needs Full-Time/Per-Time BookKeeper (CA) Expert Machine & Tool, INC looking for a full-time/ per-time Data Entry/ Bookkeeper remotelyWorking hours:- 20-25HR weekly. Salary:- $18-$20/Hourly Flexible schedule and a pleasant work environment. SKILLS/ EXPERIENCE: Excellent communications capabilitiesAbility to analyze, problem solve and must possess exceptional attention to detailcomfortable working office setting. Must be fully vaccinatedInterested candidate email/ send resume to (david.muriphy19@gmail.com

Name Change

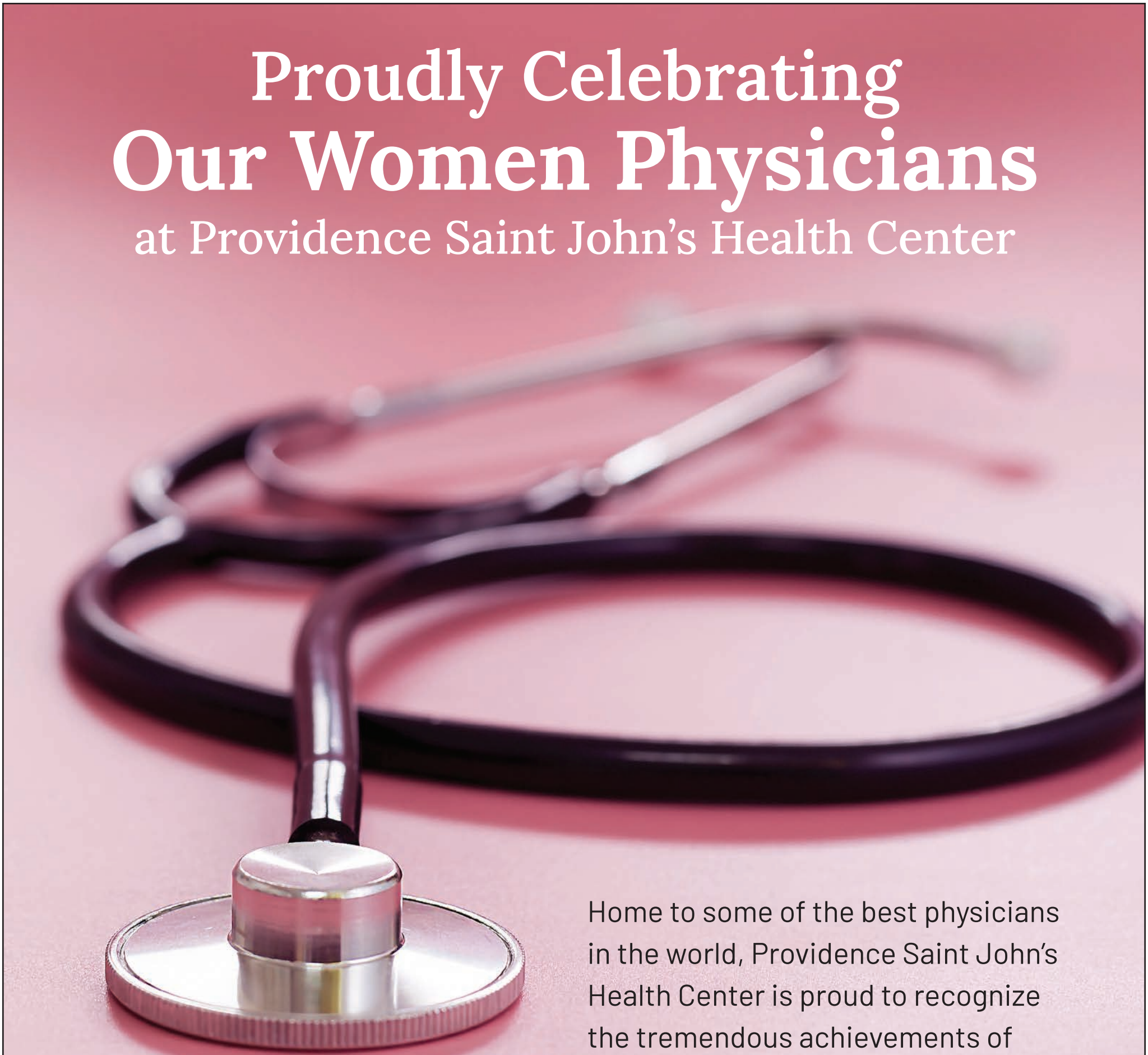
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 21SMCP00675 Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles Petition of Ella Rose Roller by Jasmine Lopez for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney: Ella Rose Roller by Jasmine Lopez filed a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Ella Rose Roller to Ella Rose Lopez Santa Rosa 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 2/25/2022 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K Room: - . The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA - COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES,1725 Main Street Santa Monica CA 90405 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. Date:12/1/2021

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HOURS MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00am - 5:00pm
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