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Santa Monica Daily Press
THURSDAY
02.13.20
Volume 19 Issue 79
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Shoplifting theft
A man was arrested for stealing from a grocery store.
Page 4

It's Art Fair Season
There are several options nearby.
Page 7

Santa Monica prepares for mixer, Greens Festival and other Black History Month events

BRENNON DIXON
SMDP Staff Writer

Black History Month was formally recognized as a national celebration in 1976 and in the years since, local residents have used the month to recognize the Black Americans who've helped shape their community and country.

This February features a multitude of free events occurring in Santa Monica between now and the end of the month, so residents — young and old — still have plenty of time to get out and celebrate the occasion.

In an effort to celebrate Black professionals in Santa Monica who have demonstrated displays of outstanding leadership or service, the city of Santa Monica will host the inaugural "Celebrating Black Excellence Community Mixer" on the Third Street Promenade for the first time in its history.

The community mixer is set to occur Tuesday, Feb. 25 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., according to Delana Gbenekama, who recently said the event has been in the works for some time now and it feels great to finally see it come to fruition.



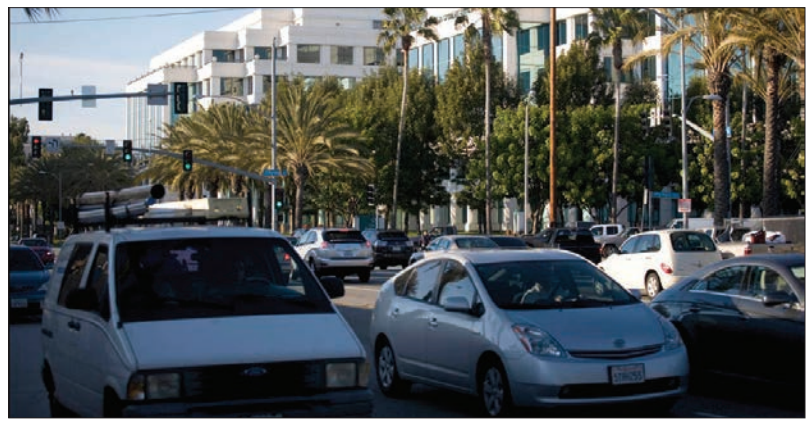
Courtesy image

HISTORY: Nominations are still open for the Celebrating Black Excellence Community Mixer.

"In Santa Monica's history, you've had a lot of people of color who have been displaced from the community. Even in spite of that, we have a black population here and we want people to know they're here and they're contributing a lot,"

SEE **EVENTS** PAGE 11

Two-thirds of municipal employees drive alone to work, according to new report



File photo

TRAFFIC: A local group is criticizing City Hall for employee traffic.

MADELEINE PAUKER
SMDP Staff Writer

Although most municipal employees work in Santa Monica's transit-rich downtown, just 16% commute by train, bus, bike or walking, according to a report that a local slow-growth advocacy group released Tuesday.

The city of Santa Monica has long emphasized the need to get drivers out of their cars and into sustainable modes of transit that reduce traffic, but two-thirds of city employees continue to drive alone to work, according to the Santa Monica Coalition for a Livable City report.

Coalition leaders called the city hypocritical for promoting types of transportation that 84% of its own workforce does not use. Instead, they said, the city incentivizes them to drive by offering free employee parking.

SEE **REPORT** PAGE 4

Council approves Wilshire plan, extends recreational pot ban

MADELEINE PAUKER
SMDP Staff Writer

Santa Monica City Council approved a plan to make Wilshire Boulevard safer, voted to extend a ban on recreational marijuana and postponed voting to allow restaurants not to disclose surcharges ahead of time at its Tuesday meeting, which lasted just one hour and 45 minutes.

WILSHIRE BOULEVARD

The council approved a set of safety improvements for Wilshire as part of the city's Vision Zero initiative, which seeks to eliminate fatal and severe traffic collisions by 2026. The plan grew out of last year's Wilshire Safety Study, which found that 89% of severe injuries to pedestrians and bicyclists occur at intersections without traffic lights and 20% of crashes involve a left turn from sidestreets, despite representing only 1% of overall traffic volume.

"After a full year of grant-funded community conversation about making Wilshire a better street while protecting its importance as a major travel corridor, we're coming back with significant improvements that will make the boulevard safer for everyone, whether you're walking, biking, busing, scooting or driving," Mayor Kevin McKeown said in a

SEE **PLAN** PAGE 10

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SANTA MONICA MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District of Los Angeles County (SMMUSD) will receive sealed bids from contractors holding a type **"B"** license, on the following: **Bid #20.08.M - DSA#03-120369 Malibu Elementary School Playground Project at Malibu Elementary School.** This scope of work is estimated to be between **$250,000 -$300,000** and includes: Demolition of existing playground surfaces, equipment, and landscape elements at Upper (Kindergarten) and Lower playgrounds, including hauling and removal of demolished material. Installation of new play and walking surfaces including artificial turf and decomposed granite. Installation of new OFCI playground equipment per manufacturer instructions. Installation of new landscape plantings, mow strips, and irrigation. Restoration and modification to exterior site benches and arbors. Construction of new site seating, relocation of vertical log posts from lower to upper playground and other associated improvements per bidding documents. All bids must be filed in the Districts Purchasing Office located at 1651 16th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90404 on or before 3/11/20 no later than 2:00 PM at which time and place the bids will be publicly opened. Each bid must be sealed and marked with the bid name and number. Bidders must attend a Mandatory Job Walk to be held at the site, on 2/18/20 at 10:30 AM. All General Contractors and Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing (M/E/P) Subcontractors must be pre-qualified for this project per bidding documents. To view the projects bidding documents, please visit ARC Southern California public plan room www.crplanwell.com and reference the project Bid #.

Prequalification Due Date & Instructions for Application Submission: All applications are due no later than 2/26/20 - Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District has contracted with Colbi Technologies, Inc. to provide a web-based process for prequalification called QualityBidders. To submit an application at no cost please visit www.qualitybidders.com. Once you have been approved, you will receive an email indicating your approval expiration date and approval limit. The Districts approved contractors listing can be obtained via the FIP website at http://fip.smmusd.org/contractors.html.

Mandatory Job Walk: 2/18/20 at 10:30 AM

Job Walk location: Malibu Elementary School located in Malibu, CA at 6955 Fernhill Drive, Malibu, CA 90265 – **All Attending Contractors MUST meet the District representatives at the front office to be signed in. Attending Contractors will then be escorted onto the campus to the meeting room from that location.**

Bid Opening: 3/11/20 at 2:00pm

Any further questions or clarifications to this bidding opportunity, please contact Sheere Bishop-Griego at smbishop@smmusd.org directly. In addition, any pre-qualification support issues relative to Colbi Technologies, Inc., website or for technical support please contact support@qualityBidders.com directly.

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, February 13

What College-Bound Student Athletes Need to Know

Get familiar with the different options for playing sports in college, what steps to take to prepare, and when to start the process. Presented by college counselor Diana Hanson of Magellan Counseling and College Mentors. Main Library, 7 - 8 p.m.

Just For Seniors: 'Appy Hour' Device Workshop

Bring your smartphone or tablet and get help with learning how to use your device. Ocean Park Branch Library, 4 - 5 p.m.

Book Talk: Born Criminal: Matilda Joslyn Gage, Radical Suffragist

Author Angelica Shirley Carpenter discusses Born Criminal: Matilda Joslyn Gage, Radical Suffragist, in conversation with Councilmember Greg Morena, a direct descendant of this key player in the first fifty years of the women's rights movement. A book sale follows the program. Co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters Santa Monica. Ocean Park Branch Library, 7 - 8:30 p.m.

LEGO Challenge

Create a LEGO maze that another person must solve blindfolded! Are you up for the challenge? Ages 3 & Up. Main Library, 3:30 - 5 p.m.

Cursive Kids: Invisible Ink

Practice cursive with a secret message Valentine using invisible ink. For all levels in cursive. Montana Avenue Branch Library, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Current Events Discussion Group

Join organizers for a lively discussion of the latest news with your friends and neighbors. Fairview Branch Library, 1 - 2:30 p.m.

Rent Control Board Meeting

The Rent Control Board meets to conduct business associated with the Rent Control Charter Amendment and Regulations. 7 p.m.

Friday, February 14

Fireside at the Miles - A Valentines Evening where Dance meets Music

45 minutes of dance choreographed by Angela Todaro and an hour of music presented by Petty Chavez will provide a beautiful evening by the fire. 8 - 10 p.m. Tickets available online at https://www.eventbrite.com/o/santa-monica-cultural-affairs-28633534451

Music and Movement at the Library

A musical story time that will have little ones singing and dancing along as they learn important early literacy concepts. Fairview Branch Library, 3:30 - 4 p.m.

LA Law Library QuickLook Legal Research Class

LA Law Library legal research specialists teach free, monthly 45-minute overviews of legal information search tools and techniques as part of their regular "office hours" visits.*www.lalawlibrary.org/CLASSES. Topic: Small Claims. Main Library.

Saturday, February 15

Hollywood Revisited

A most glamorous and fun show, Hollywood Revisited, will be performed at 7 p.m. at St. Augustine by the Sea Episcopal Church at 1227 4th Street. Featuring Broadway singers wearing the actual costumes worn by the great stars of Hollywood and singing music from the Golden Age of Hollywood. This promises to be an evening of stunning fashion and great music and lots of humor. Tickets can be purchased at the door for $20 adults/$10 students.

Fireside at the Miles - The Joe & Joshua Show

Joe and Joshua are back to make you laugh! An evening of theater that mixes sketch comedy, music and honest storytelling. Stage Raw calls it, "sharp, satirical, and often incisive, providing both laughs and food for thought." 8 - 10 p.m. Tickets for sale at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-joe-joshua-show-tickets-84653243129

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

Woods, Thomas spending time off course and in same pairing

DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

Tiger Woods and Justin Thomas are separated by about 17 years on the calendar and 70 victories on the PGA Tour, neither of which has kept them from becoming friends away from golf.

Thomas first met Woods in 2015 on the range at The Players Championship his rookie year. They grew closer a year later during some of the darker moments for Woods when his back was killing him, he wasn't playing and had days where it was tough to walk. His future was never more uncertain.

Both are represented by Excel Sports, and Thomas asked agent Mark Steinberg if it was OK to reach out to Woods. Thomas and Rickie Fowler became regular visitors.

"I was thinking about him and wanted to hang out," Thomas said. "That's when we became close. He couldn't do much. We wanted to make sure he was still positive, not getting down on himself, that we were still believing in him."

Now they seem to spend as much time on the golf course.

Woods and Thomas will be playing together the opening two rounds of the Genesis Invitational, joined this year by Steve Stricker, as Woods goes for his record 83rd victory on the PGA Tour. It's the third straight year that Thomas and Woods have been in the weekday groups at Riviera, which probably isn't a coincidence, especially now that Woods is the tournament host.

Thomas was asked late last year why Woods likes him.

"I don't know," he said. "To be honest, because I don't view him as Tiger Woods. I view him as one of my buddies. I needle him. To be perfectly honest, I don't kiss his (behind) like some people do. I absolutely respect him so much, and how much time he's given me. But it's just two buddies hanging out."

They seem to hang out a lot inside the ropes. Even though Thomas and Woods have played in the same event only 35 times since Thomas joined the PGA Tour in 2015, they already have played together in 14 rounds.

More alarming is the record. In the early years for Woods, it was rare for anyone to have a higher percentage posting the lower score. In the 14 times Woods and Thomas have been in the same group, Thomas has a 10-1-3 advantage.

The only time Woods got him was the final round in the Bahamas last year, and Thomas is still fuming about that. Looking back, he was more caught up in beating Woods than winning the tournament, and he fears it cost him.

They started out two shots behind Gary Woodland, playing a few groups ahead of the leaders.

"I was so wrapped up in beating him that I forgot about the tournament," Thomas said. ""I was tied for the lead with seven holes left. All I had to do was go 2 or 3 under. I just remember getting done and I was so mad. I've played a lot of golf with him, but never on a Sunday where we both had a chance."

As playing captain at the Presidents Cup a week later, Woods took Thomas as his partner in two team matches, which they won. Woods said on Tuesday that he carried Thomas in those two matches, which got no argument from the youngster. Thomas replied Wednesday that if he hadn't made a 15-foot birdie putt on the last hole of the second session, Woods would not have gone undefeated for the week.

There's the needle.

Woods recalls those days when he could only play four tournaments — two at his holiday event in the Bahamas — over two years. He says Thomas and his father, Mike, would come by and ask him how to hit various short-game shots. He also learned that Thomas wasn't there to be his lackey.

"J.T. always wants to win," Woods said. ""He's highly motivated and extremely competitive, and we compete in everything we do together. That's one of the things that I loved about him when I exited the game for a little bit and he was kind of coming onto the scene. He's so interested and thirsty for knowledge"

Riviera doesn't hold the best of memories for either one.

This is the one course where Woods can't seem to win. He is 0-for-10 as a pro. Next in line for courses where Woods has played the most without winning are Sheshan International in Shanghai and the TPC Scottsdale for the Phoenix Open. He has played each four times.

Thomas played Riviera in 2012 at the NCAA Championship when Alabama met Texas for the title. He lost his match against Jordan Spieth, who holed a fairway bunker shot on the 15th for eagle. What stung just as badly was losing a 5-shot lead in the final round last year to J.B. Holmes.

For both, there's plenty to keep their minds occupied this week. Riviera boasts the strongest field of the year so far, with nine of the top 10 in the world. Rory McIlroy heads the list, having returned to No. 1 in the world this week.

SEND YOUR LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 42 CALLS ON FEB. 11

EMS 1100blk 2nd St 1:43 a.m.
EMS 1600blk Santa Monica Blvd 2:12 a.m.
EMS 1800blk Lincoln Blvd 4:43 a.m.
EMS 800blk Wilshire Blvd 5:48 a.m.
EMS 1400blk Montana Ave 6:22 a.m.
EMS 700blk Pico Blvd 8:21 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 2600blk 26th St 9:06 a.m.
EMS 900blk 20th St 9:54 a.m.
EMS 2600blk Lincoln Blvd 10:10 a.m.
EMS 1900blk Pico Blvd 11:07 a.m.
EMS 1800blk 17th St 11:19 a.m.
Public Assist 1300blk 19th St 11:19 a.m.
EMS 1700blk Main St 11:41 a.m.
EMS 2500blk Colorado Ave 11:47 a.m.
EMS 1400blk 16th St 12:20 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 16th St 1:17 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 11th St / Olympic Blvd W 1:23 p.m.
EMS 2800blk 3rd St 1:36 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 15th St 2:47 p.m.
EMS 2700blk 3rd St 3:03 p.m.
EMS 500blk Olympic Blvd W 3:46 p.m.
EMS 1100blk 26th St 4:01 p.m.
EMS 800blk Pico Blvd 4:03 p.m.
EMS 1900blk Pico Blvd 4:12 p.m.
EMS 2400blk Oak St 4:25 p.m.
EMS 900blk 4th St 4:31 p.m.
Carbon Monoxide Alarm 600blk Ocean Park Blvd 5:21 p.m.
EMS 800blk 18th St 6:08 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 2700blk Highland Ave 6:09 p.m.
Elevator Rescue 3000blk Main St 6:13 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 17th St 6:22 p.m.
EMS 300blk Santa Monica Pl 6:41 p.m.
EMS 300blk Santa Monica Blvd 6:54 p.m.
Miscellaneous Outside Fire 1200blk Harvard St 7:03 p.m.
EMS 800blk 2nd St 7:54 p.m.
EMS 1900blk Cloverfield Blvd 8:57 p.m.

SMMUSD
SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

SANTA MONICA MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District of Los Angeles County (SMMUSD) will receive sealed bids from contractors holding a type **"B"** license, on the following: **Bid #20.06.SMS - DSA#03- 118549 OBAMA Center Windows, Paint, Floors, Doors, HVAC & Demo Project at OBAMA Center.** This scope of work is estimated to be between **$750,000 -$1,000,000** and includes the Replacement of windows and doors, interior renovations, HVAC upgrades, bathroom plumbing fixture upgrades, demolition of 4 portable classroom buildings, demolition of existing playground equipment and associated play surfaces and other associated improvements per bidding documents. All bids must be filed in the Districts Purchasing Office located at 1651 16th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90404 on or before 3/11/20 no later than 2:30 PM at which time and place the bids will be publicly opened. Each bid must be sealed and marked with the bid name and number. Bidders must attend a Mandatory Job Walk to be held at the site, on 2/18/20 at 2:00 PM. All General Contractors and Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing (M/E/P) Subcontractors must be pre-qualified for this project per bidding documents. The projects bidding documents are planned to be available Friday, February 14th, 2020, please visit ARC Southern California public plan room www.crplanwell.com and reference the project Bid #.

Prequalification Due Date & Instructions for Application Submission: All applications are due no later than 2/26/20 - Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District has contracted with Colbi Technologies, Inc. to provide a web-based process for prequalification called QualityBidders. To submit an application at no cost please visit www.qualitybidders.com. Once you have been approved, you will receive an email indicating your approval expiration date and approval limit. The Districts approved contractors listing can be obtained via the FIP website at http://fip.smmusd.org/contractors.html.

Mandatory Job Walk: 2/18/20 at 2:00 PM

Job Walk location: OBAMA Center located in Santa Monica, CA at 721 Ocean Park Boulevard, Santa Monica, CA 90405 – **All Attending Contractors MUST meet the District representatives at the front office to be signed in. Attending Contractors will then be escorted onto the campus to the meeting room from that location.**

Bid Opening: 3/11/20 at 2:30pm

Any further questions or clarifications to this bidding opportunity, please contact Sheere Bishop-Griego at smbishop@smmusd.org directly. In addition, any pre-qualification support issues relative to Colbi Technologies, Inc., website or for technical support please contact support@qualityBidders.com directly.



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Letter To The Editor

R M Koncan — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

American Politics

EDITOR:

Abraham Lincoln famously concluded the Gettysburg Address with the quote: "Government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

Today, 99% of the people have 1% representation in our government. While 1% enjoy 99% representation. It appears the hallowed pledge "shall not perish from the earth" is in serious jeopardy.

R M KONCAN, PACIFIC PALISADES.

REPORT

FROM PAGE 1

"It is the height of hypocrisy, not to mention bad planning, for the city to make it more difficult for residents to drive while at the same time encouraging and rewarding its employees to drive solo by paying for their parking," SMCLC steering committee members Diana Gordon, Victor Fresco, Jeff Segal and Sherrill Kushner wrote in the report.

SMCLC obtained the data by filing a public records request that captured a memo Planning Director David Martin sent to City Manager Rick Cole last August detailing the results of a survey of 4,481 trips taken by 1,587 city staff in a single week last June. As of September 2018, the city employed 2,170 people, 17% of whom live in Santa Monica, said city spokesperson Constance Farrell.

Almost 67% of trips to and from work were taken by employees driving alone and 9% were taken by staff who carpooled. 3% of trips were made in zero-emissions vehicles and 1% were made by motorcycle.

About 7% of trips were taken by train, 7% by bicycling or walking and 2% by bus. The remaining 2% of trips did not take place because employees telecommuted.

Farrell said the proportion of city employees commuting without a car is more than double the regional average of 7.4%.

The city's ratio of employees to car trips, or the AVR, is 1.61, well above the regional AVR of 1.35 and the citywide AVR of 1.54 for large employers. But the AVR is down from a high of 1.92 in 2008, according to a 2015 report.

Farrell said the city offers robust green commuter incentives, including biking and walking incentives, transit reimbursement, parking cash-out, a compressed workweek and telecommuting.

"The city of Santa Monica is committed to getting our workforce to green commute," Farrell said. "We will continue to work with our staff to find green commuting solutions that work for different commuting needs."

SMCLC leaders said they think the city is making parking more difficult and expensive for residents, workers and visitors while not doing enough to reduce its own workforce's reliance on cars.

"This is despite SMCLC having repeatedly raised this issue since 2016 in an unsuccessful effort to get the city to reduce this traffic-clogging, environmentally harmful situation," they said in the report.

The report situates the 3,500 vehicle trips taken by city employees each week in the context of traffic resulting from development downtown and a forthcoming state mandate for Santa Monica to build 9,000 units in the next eight years. The report also notes that the upcoming Plaza at Santa Monica project at 4th Street and Arizona Avenue is projected to bring in 5,000 new car trips each day.

"This projected growth, if it occurs, will be centered on our boulevards and the area around Bergamot, bringing sharply increased traffic into already congested areas," coalition leaders said.

madeleine@smdp.com

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.



File photo

GREGORY ERIK AUDETTE

ON JANUARY 30 AT APPROXIMATELY 4:30 P.M.

Officers responded to the Vons Supermarket, 1311 Wilshire Boulevard, regarding a subject being detained by loss prevention security for shoplifting. Officers accepted the private persons arrest for shoplifting $146.56 worth of property. Gregory Erik Audette 51, homeless, was arrested for shoplifting. Bail was set at $5,000.

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AWARD WINNER

AWARD WINNER

WINNER

OPINIONS EXPRESSED are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff. Guest editorials from residents are encouraged, as are letters to the editor. Letters to the Editor can be submitted to letters@smdp.com. Receipt of a letter does not guarantee publication and all content is published at the discretion of the paper. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content. All submissions must include the author's name, address and phone number for the purposes of verification.



Curious City

Charles Andrews

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Will All Those Voices Count?

Editor's Note: Due to a production problem. Curious City was delayed a day.

I'VE HAD IT WITH THAT MURAL!

And I'm sure my editor, and publisher, the steamed School Board, and a some of you would be happy if this was my last column about it. Well, it is. At least for a good while. Believe me, I've got other fish to fry. This is Santa Monica, after all.

What more do you want from me? For six years I've been writing about it, and working tirelessly with Jerry and Marissa Rubin, my co-founders of Save the Muir Woods Mural (SMWM), to get the point across that the Santa Monica community at large has, in that time, declared its strong attachment to the environmental painting, and its desire to see it continue at that location without unnecessary changes. In very large numbers.

It's on a school building and therefore under the purview of SMMUSD and the School Board, but even the Board agrees that in these four decades that wall has become a part of the community.

Many organizations, like the Sierra Club, have given their support. And many prominent Santa Monicans, like State Sen. Ben Allen (and his mother), City Council member Sue Himmelrich, nearly every ex-mayor who isn't still on Council, four of seven School Board members, ministers, other newspaper columnists, Derek Smalls and many more.

But our School Board continues to plow ahead as if those residents and their expressed desires don't exist. And the local media continues to mostly ignore them too.

NOT ALWAYS INTENTIONALLY

Some headlines have been worded somewhat misleadingly. Some photo captions have been just plain wrong. Most news stories go straight to the School Board for comment and ignore those who have for years opposed their intended, and recent, destruction of the 41-year-old mural.

I know, it's not good form to criticize your "competitors" (we all fight for our piece of the same shrinking advertising pie). But media coverage clearly affects public opinion. There's a lot of misinformation out there. The end is near and I fear that the stacked deck is about to be played out. If I don't write about "the rest of the story," who will?

CONSIDER MY DILEMMA

To try to convince the School Board to vote to repaint this iconic, environmental message for the 21st Century (prescient in 1978 when it was painted), this realistic, transportive sylvan sanctuary in our tense, urban midst. While being as gentle as possible in pointing out the ways they have skewed the process unfairly to get the result they want. The people have a right to know.

Here's an ungentle comparison. You remember that impeachment so-called trial we had recently in the U.S. Senate? Where Senators took a sacred oath to be impartial and examine the evidence. Declared they already had their minds made up. And then wouldn't allow any evidence?

The seven School Board members promised last October to make a decision based on what the community wanted for that mural. Then some of them showed up at those three days of meetings that they said would decide that, but they didn't just observe, they added their personal two cents in, with scowls and head shakes at any expression of preserving it with a repainting, and smiling and nodding at any suggestion to trash it.

I was told by one participant that at the table meetings that Saturday his comment in favor of that exact mural was not allowed to be entered into the record, and he was pretty sure that person preventing it was associated with the school district.

RACIST?

When a Board member was reported to have sourly remarked to his tablemates, "John Muir was a racist," that hardly seems to me like neutral observation to ascertain community opinion.

A well-respected neighborhood leader was at that table, got mad and went home, did some homework and wrote a scorching many-page email refuting that prejudicial assertion, that was sent to all the Board members, the Superintendent, and others. It should be required reading in school. But what effect did that remark, especially from a Board member, have?

A Board member referred to a smaller group that was "all or nothing." Troublemakers, right? But that "smaller" group included not only most who spoke or had their words recorded Saturday, but also SMWM, which represents hundreds who sent emails, the support of many respected civic groups and many, many prominent Santa Monicans. But neither the School Board nor the media reporting on this have acknowledged that widespread support.

The School Board declared it wants to hear from as many community members as possible, and they will be open to any and all ways of reaching them,.

Really? Try contacting the Save the Muir Woods Mural group. Because in six years, you have never done that.

Elections do have consequences, don't they?

Charles Andrews has lived in Santa Monica for 34 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

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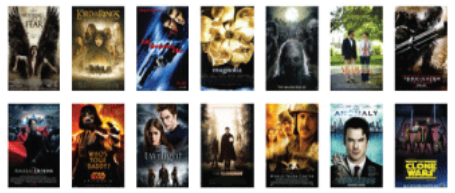


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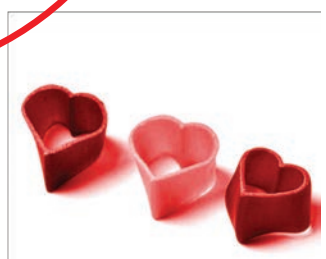
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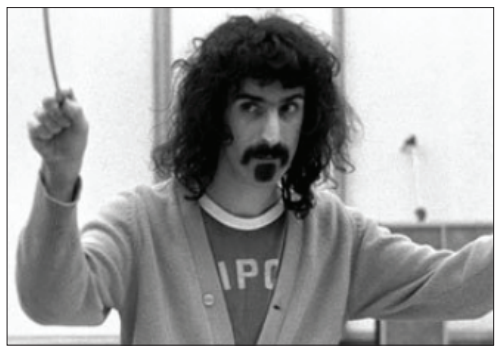
502 Santa Monica Blvd. 424-433-8100 ortosantamonica.com

Noteworthy

By Charles Andrews

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Mavis Live, Coltrane on Vinyl



Courtesy image

ZAPPA: Frank Zappa's music will be performed by his son this weekend.

NICOLE RECOMMENDS:

CLASSIC ALBUM SUNDAYS Presents: ALICE COLTRANE'S "PTAH THE EL DAOUD" (For all you audiophiles, this is an ongoing series that is part lecture, part listening, focusing on one album per event, combining listening examples with a contextualizing lecture, culminating in a listening of the album in its entirety on a world-class hi-fi sound system — all vinyl, no BS. I attended December's presentation of Nina Simone's "Black Gold" and I still think about it often) — Sun 3 p.m., In Sheep's Clothing, DTLA, $15.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

TONIGHT! — MAVIS STAPLES, Son Little (I've seen this great lady/national treasure perform half a dozen times and each show is etched in memory, she is an essential American performer from her days with her Staple Singers family at age 11 through crucial involvement in the Civil Rights movement, Pops Staples was a close friend of MLK Jr., to White House performances, she's in the Blues AND the RnR Hall of Fame, 20 yrs, turned down Bob Dyan's marriage proposal as a youngster, first tried skateboarding on her 80th birthday, works with some of the hippest young producers, probably doing this show because of long close friendship with local Carolyn Clark Powers who feted her at Kennedy Center honors and donated $10M to MOCA for free admissions, Mavis has done it all, touched so many, and still feels she's got lots to do, this show also a fundraiser for my favorite radio station, 88.5, so how many reasons do you need to go?) — Thurs 8 p.m., The Soraya, CSUN Northridge, $36-$200.

RECOMMENDED:

TONIGHT! — GERALD CLAYTON - STEVE LEHMAN DUO (you know the routine, every time Gerald Clayton is playing somewhere within Earth-to-Mars range, you must go, because he is phenomenal and inspiring) — Thurs, Fri, Sat, 8, 930 p.m., Sam First, LAX, $15-$20.

TONIGHT! — NORTH MISSISSIPPI ALLSTARS (life doesn't usually give you a second chance, I missed them recently at McCabe's so now I have to trek downtown, but gladly, for their unique brand of Americana incorporating roots music as a framework for improvisation and blending experimental/psychedelic excursions into Hill Country anthems) — Thurs 8 p.m., Teragram Ballroom, DTLA, $20-$25.

DWEEZIL ZAPPA performs "HOT RATS Live!" ("+ Other Hot Stuff 1969!" it's been 50 years since Frank dedicated his game-changing album to month-old baby son Dweezil, now 50 himself and quite the axe-slinger, touring for decades playing his own, his father's, and others' music with his "rocking teenage combo," they will be performing the entire Hot Rats album in sequence live, also including an assortment of other psychedelic, avant-garde, odd metered toe tappers well known to Zappa freaks, this is too cool) — Fri, The Rose, Pasadena, also Sat, The Canyon Agoura Hills, and Sun, The Canyon Montclair, all 9 p.m., $39-$79.

LA OPERA - EURYDICE (classical music and opera both recognize the need to groom the next generation and we are fortunate in LA to have several sterling organizations doing just that, with high-quality modern productions, now LA Opera goes after the old Orpheus tale, young bride dies of snakebite on her wedding night, descends to underworld, meets up with Pop but gets a chance to rejoin Land of the Living and husband Orpheus but this time it's told from the woman's POV, the NY Times said, "If contemporary opera has a rising wunderkind, then [composer Matthew] Aucoin has to be it," partnering with librettist-playwright Sarah Ruhl, a world premier) Fri, next Thurs 7:30 p.m., Sun 2 p.m., Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, DTLA, $49-$284,

ENGLISH BEAT (the Beat had two great lead singers who continued on to front General Public, sadly toaster Ranking Roger passed nearly a year ago but he had long split with Dave Wakeling and they formed rival Beat bands at times, other times reunited, but so many of the familiar songs featured Wakeling's voice that when you see him and any other three or four top notch musicians backing brilliantly, it sounds spot on like the EB or GP, because of That Voice, and I've never seen a show of his, and I've seen many, where the crowd wasn't hopping and grinning nonstop and repeating Oh yeah! THAT song, I LOVE that song!) Sat 9 p.m., The Canyon Santa Clarita, $28-$38.

L.A. CAFE PLAYS (I've been writing all my life and I don't have this kind of nerve: to show up at 9:00 a.m. on a Sunday, be given a prompt and LESS THAN 4 HRS TO WRITE A ONE-ACT PLAY, for 2 or 3 actors, then the director comes in with the actors, never having seen it, does a quick run-through reading and you go home thinking OMG what have I done, that was HORRIBLE, I'll never be able to show my face in this town

SEE **NOTEWORTHY** PAGE 10



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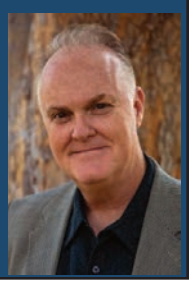
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Culture Watch

By Sarah A. Spitz

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

It's Art Fair Season



Courtesy image

HOUSE: 1. The Futuro House in Idyllwild, CA, by architect Matti Surronenen, photographed by Tom Blachford, Toth Gallery, New York.

We've just had PhotoLA at Barker Hangar, the LA Art Show at the Convention Center, the super upscale Frieze Los Angeles will be up and running again at Paramount Studios starting this weekend, and the grassroots stARTup Art Fair opens at the Kinney Venice Beach Hotel, also this weekend. That's where you can meet artists and buy work directly from them without gallery intervention.

It might seem obvious but I've come to the conclusion that I'm only attracted to art that I like. When you're confronting hundreds, if not thousands, of phenomenal photos, provocative paintings, colorful collages and stunning sculptures, you need a strategy for how not to become overwhelmed. My go-to is whatever my eyes are drawn to. Here's some of what I loved at the first two shows; I hope it inspires you to explore the others to find what you like.



Courtesy image

GALLERY: Work by Shawn Theodore, ParisTexasLA gallery.

PHOTO LA

Last year and this, I was blown away by Reuben Wu's atmospheric drone-lit landscapes, set in natural environments made to look otherworldly with white-outlined geometric circles, lines and figures imposed on, around and above them. While you might think these figures were added after processing, they're actually made via time lapse by the drones lighting the scenes as the photo is being taken, adding a sort of sci-fi twist to the images. This set of photos is part of a series he calls "Lux Noctis," which he's published in book form. photo-eye in Santa Fe, NM is his gallery. He's also co-founder of the band Ladytron.

Quite possibly the single most arresting images to my eyes were by a German-born, Philadelphia-based photographer, Shawn Theodore, showing by way of ParisTexasLA gallery in LA, whose extraordinary images of black women in brilliantly colored and patterned clothing simply grab you by the throat and make you look. The one that made me stop in my tracks was an image of two forearms and hands holding a gold rope. At first I thought it was a commentary about a noose, but I was told it is what it is: a golden rope, that's both beautiful and provocative.

As it did last year, Susan Spiritus Gallery in Irvine drew me like a magnet. I had the chance to speak with photographer Xan Padron, a Spanish-born artist who creates an intriguing series of photos that look like linear film strips laid one upon another. He takes time lapse photos from a fixed position against a single backdrop, here dark blue and bright red, as people pass by. Each person appears in motion, the individual images are composited horizontally in a single row, then row upon row of these "strips" are "terraced" vertically atop one another to create an arresting image of humanity, multiplicity in miniature and motion.

Australian photographer Tom Blachford, represented by Toth Gallery, New York, has a special eye for architectural structures that he transforms into surreal visions. He uses only natural light; some of the images lit by the moon look like daylight shots that

SEE CULTURE WATCH PAGE 11

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Spotlighting the finest restaurateurs, recipes from culinary innovators and the latest dining trends, as well as parties and events throughout the season.

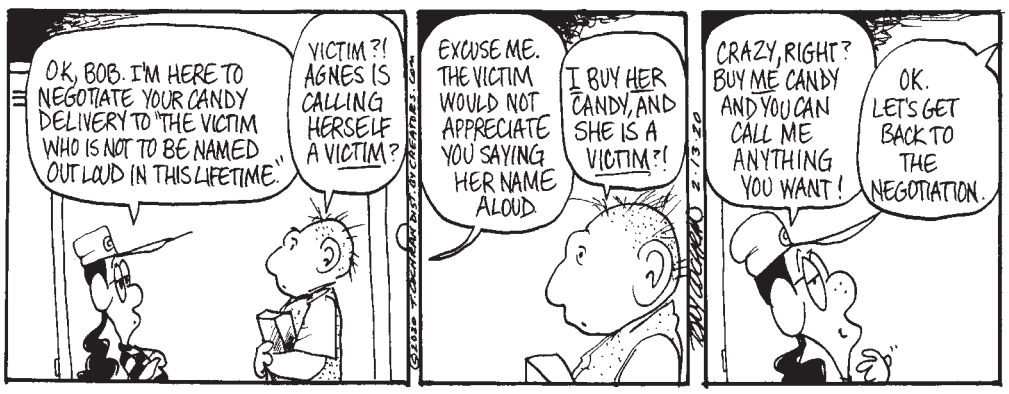


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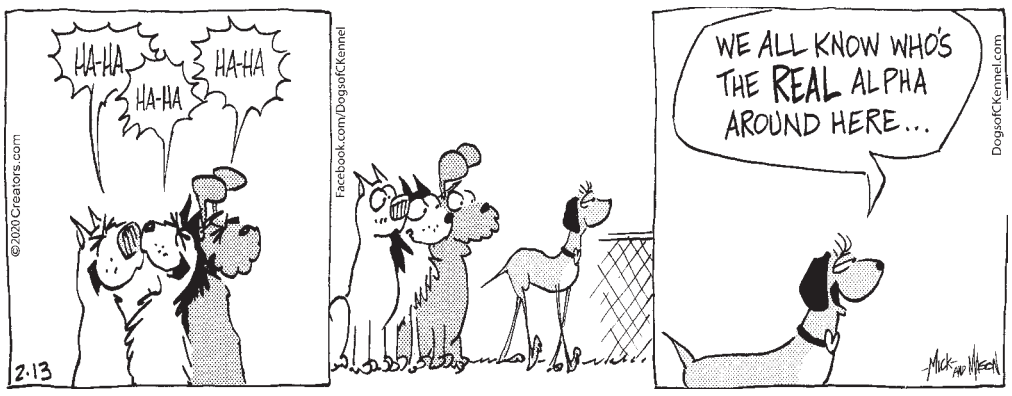
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



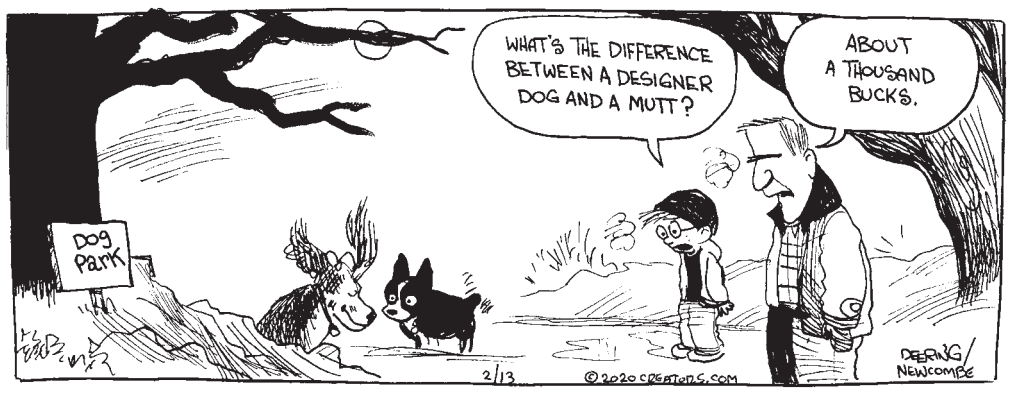
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Zack Hill

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SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 59.4°

THURSDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ waist to stomach high
Modest SSW swell. Steep NW swell peaks.

FRIDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ waist to stomach high occ. 4 ft
Modest SSW swell. NW swell lingers then eases in PM.

WEATHER

Thursday: Patchy fog before 10am. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 64. North northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming west southwest in the morning. Winds could gust as high as 15 mph.
Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 50.
Friday: Sunny, with a high near 63.
Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 50.
Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 66.
Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 52.
Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 65.
Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 52.
Washington's Birthday: Sunny, with a high near 65.

Date	Day of the Week	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2020/02/13	Thu	12:11 AM	4.84	H
2020/02/13	Thu	06:13 AM	1.01	L
2020/02/13	Thu	12:06 PM	4.34	H
2020/02/13	Thu	6:20 PM	0.44	L
2020/02/14	Fri	01:00 AM	4.90	H
2020/02/14	Fri	07:31 AM	1.02	L
2020/02/14	Fri	1:20 PM	3.47	H
2020/02/14	Fri	7:02 PM	1.18	L
2020/02/15	Sat	01:58 AM	4.92	H
2020/02/15	Sat	09:13 AM	0.85	L
2020/02/15	Sat	3:12 PM	2.89	H
2020/02/15	Sat	8:01 PM	1.85	L
2020/02/16	Sun	03:07 AM	4.97	H
2020/02/16	Sun	10:49 AM	0.39	L

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL calottery
Draw Date:02/08
35 49 50 59 66
Power#: 67
Jackpot: 70 M

MEGA MILLIONS calottery
Draw Date: 02/11
4 6 32 52 64
Mega#: 6
Jackpot: 40 M

SuperLotto PLUS calottery
Draw Date: 02/08
6 24 26 28 32
Mega#: 24
Jackpot: 7 M

Fantasy 5 calottery
Draw Date: 02/11
4 17 18 27 37

Daily 3 calottery
Draw Date: 02/11
Evening: 1 0 1
Draw Date: 02/11
Midday: 1 3 0

Daily Derby calottery
Draw Date: 02/11
1st: 5 - CALIFORNIA CLASSIC
2nd: 6 - WHIRL WIN
3rd: 2 - LUCKY STAR
RACE TIME: 1:48.50

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (FEBRUARY 13)

Here comes the meaningful work – work that's measured in how far it can take you, also in how far you can take it. Where to stop will be an important thing to sense, as you'll be switching vehicles for the next leg of your journey. Your grateful heart and exemplary hosting skill will contribute to many happy occasions. Libra and Leo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 2, 30, 33, 44 and 11.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Expectation determines satisfaction. But if you've never done a thing, how do you know what to expect? Having an open mind that's not too attached to any outcome takes maturity. Mature people have more fun!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your creativity isn't so much about what you're able to come up with on your own, rather it's the connections you make between things, what you choose and how you bring them together. Does that take the pressure off?

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Don't worry about being authentic. It could be argued that it's not really "a thing" anyway. If not you, who else could you possibly be? Focus on being useful to those around you and your soul essence will naturally shine.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The popular belief that habits take 21 days to establish has since been proven incorrect by social scientists who agree it takes much longer. The one you're trying to form will be worth the persistence. Also, it will get easier.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). There are certain loops of activity that bring you comfort, solace and a sense of being healthfully at home. Then there are the deadly boring loops you'd best interrupt right now, and much is aligning to help you with that.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You care enough to do the work, but you don't know which work to do. You're not sure which moves would be effective and neither do you know the order to put them in. Get instruction, even if you have to pay for it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Whoever gave you the idea that change should be easy and fun was perhaps trying to sell you something. Change will be a mixed bag. Relax. It's better when you expect the work without dreading it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're a creative person trying to communicate about a need that goes beyond what words, images, music, tastes or anything you've experienced could possibly fulfill. This soul ache will be the source of much beauty.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). It feels good to deliver something that people want. You weren't always able to assess what this might be. Acknowledge the fact you've tapped into something. This is just the beginning.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Black and white thinking may be useful in a few situations. But for 99% of this nuanced and colorful life, "always," "never" and other sweeping generalities simply are not going to serve you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Big, buttery biscuits have their time and place. However, today you'll take your indulgences in a different form, perhaps luxuriating in scrumptious, savory words or media that lands in the sweet spot of your appetite for drama.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). A drop of ink can discolor the whole glass of water, but it won't do much to the ocean or the lake for that matter — even the bathtub will be fine. Just add some bubbles, think bigger and avoid people with outdated pens.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

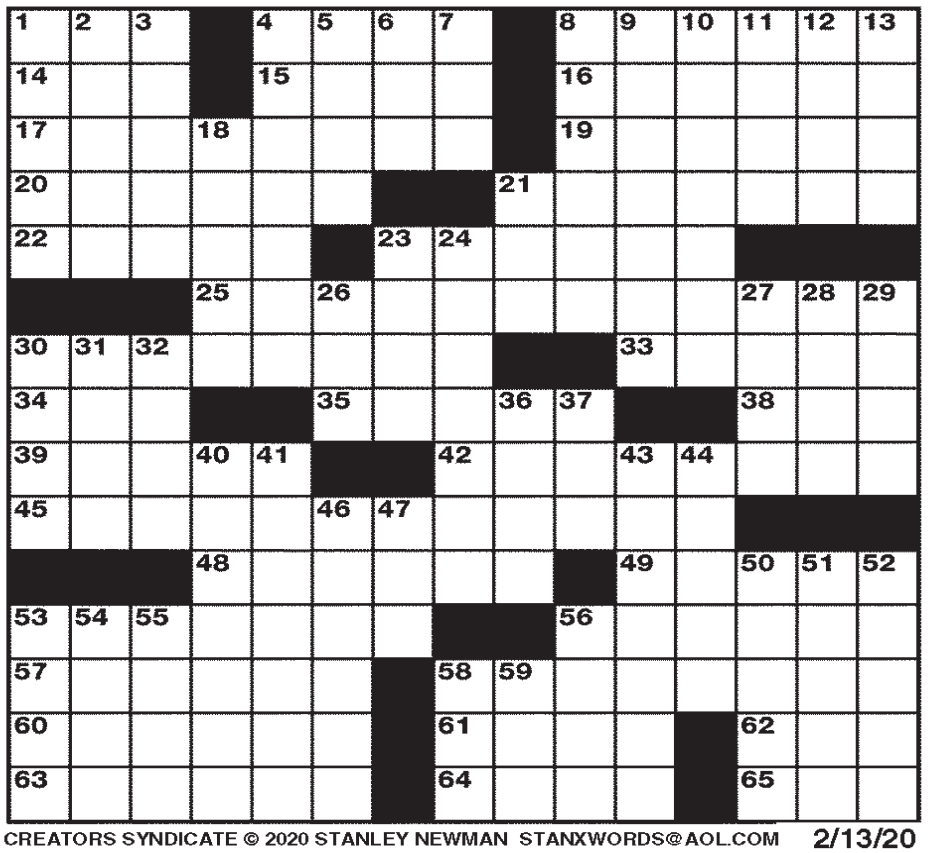
	1		5			6		8
	5			6			4	
		3	1		2			5
	7		6				1	
5		8		1		2		4
	9				4		3	
3			7		6	1		
	8			2			9	
9		6			1		5	

Newsday Crossword

FLYING COLORS by Jeff Eddings
Edited by Stanley Newman
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ACROSS
1 Assigned work
4 Hamlet, for one
8 Garden path coverings
14 Have a bug
15 ABC sister network
16 Prelude
17 Symbol of happiness
19 Alpo alternative
20 Flies apart
21 Executive team
22 High-level HS science class
23 What some boats hold
25 Justice League superhero
30 Legislative vacancy
33 "American" island group
34 Kit __ (Hershey brand)
35 Piece of flatware
38 May honoree
39 Nautical command
42 Where cash might be cached
45 Summer stinger
48 Back from the sea
49 Inane
53 Old-school studio storage
56 Golf ball feature
57 20 Questions category
58 Snoopy's imaginary nemesis
60 *Fifty Shades of Grey* woman
61 Caspian Sea feeder
62 Curator's expertise
63 Visited many cities
64 Motown superstar
65 Pal of Falstaff

DOWN
1 *Star Wars* series captor
2 Lubricate
3 Jacket material
4 Loan recipients
5 Without any guarantee
6 *Planet Money* airer
7 Cut off
8 Wool source
9 Sandwiches with sauerkraut
10 Espresso server
11 Valhalla overlord
12 Symbol in Tolkien books
13 Minor conflict
18 Endorse digitally
21 __-de-sac
23 Two-Oscar Penn
24 Descriptor for doves
26 Cry of the terrified
27 Austen title character
28 Shelter topper
29 File identifier
30 None the worse for wear
31 Cover, as with cobblestones
32 List shortener
36 Public persona
37 Four-legged forest ranger
40 Big house
41 Presented proportionately
43 Clearly written
44 Leaf pore
46 Emulated Ahab
47 Stewart once of *The Daily Show*
50 Harpo Productions CEO
51 Regional plants
52 Boy portrayed by Barbra
53 Don't eat
54 Excited about
55 In __ of (supplanting)
56 Decisive deadline
58 Floor décor
59 Important timeline portion



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NOTEWORTHY

FROM PAGE 6

again but then at the first performance at 7:30 that evening, bygolly, not so bad, you got the laughs you aimed for, it's a pretty dang good play!) — Sun 7:30 p.m., $15, 9 p.m., $10, Ruskin Group Theatre, SM.

Electric HOT TUNA with David Bromverg Quintet (I can't believe it was 50 years ago that two of the original Jefferson Airplane, guitarist Jorma Kaukenen and bassist Jack Casady, strode off on their own to play blues, oh sure, two white guys from the Bay Area, heard a couple of the legends and now think they can add to the genre, but sho' nuff they did, they were young teen friends in DC, their first album was real, it was the blues, and they've been at it ever since, outlasting the JA that descended into JStarship dreck, and David Bromberg is the real deal too, solo guitar or big band he is totally respected) — Tues 9 p.m., El Rey Theatre, LA;

DVORAK 7, IVES 1 - DUDAMEL (oh Gustavo, you crazy Venezuelan you, pairing Ives and Dvorak in a series, starting with possibly Dvorak's best, and my fave, the 7th, though the "New World" is most performed, and Ives, how, after all, can you take anyone named Charles seriously, he was a flop for most of his lifetime as a composer but a star life insurance salesman, Mahler loved him so that's good enough for me) — next Thurs, Fri 8 p.m., Walt Disney Concert Hall, $64-$209.

COMING ATTRACTIONS: DVORAK 8, IVES 2 2/22, 23, DVORAK 9, IVES 3 2/27, DVORAK 9, IVES 4 2/28, Disney Hall, DTLA; SARAH SILVERMAN & Friends 2/22, Largo, LA; LONNIE LISTON SMITH 2/23, Lodge Room, Highland Park; LA OPERA - EURYDICE 2/23, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, DTLA; Mardi Gras with THE DAMN WELL PLEASE ORGAN TRIO, Starving Darling 2/25, Harvelle's, SM; GERALD CLAYTON 2/26, Mr. Musichead Gallery, LA; LEO KOTTKE 2/26, Largo, LA; MARIA MULDAUR 2/28, TOM PAXTON 2/29, McCabe's, SM; CHIEFTAIN'S IRISH GOODBYE TOUR 3/1, Disney Hall, DTLA; LYRIS QUARTET & Mezzo-Soprano JESSICA RAUCH perform New String Quartets by LA-Based Composers 3/3, In Sheep's Clothing, DTLA; LIQUID KITTY'S PUNK ROCK BBQ - Spring Forward Edition 3/8, Harvvelle's, SM; SOUL ASYLUM 3/11, Teragram Ballroom, DTLA; AARON NEVILLE 3/13. The Rose, Pasadena.

Charles Andrews has listened to a lot of music of all kinds, including more than 2,000 live shows. He has lived in Santa Monica for 34 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

PLAN

FROM PAGE 1

statement.

The first phase of the proposal, which will cost $1 to $1.5 million and take one to two years, will make 13 cross streets without traffic signals right-turn-only, restrict U-turns at several intersections, add pedestrian warnings throughout the corridor and enhance north-to-south bicycle crossings. It will also relocate several bus stops and add queue jump lanes at Lincoln Boulevard and 14th Street.

The second phase of the proposal would add a traffic light at Wilshire and 16th Street, extend the curb at seven crosswalks to improve pedestrian visibility and reduce crossing distances, and add protected left turns at six intersections.

In the third phase, a traffic light would be added at Wilshire and Chelsea Avenue to facilitate bicycle connections and improve access to Douglas Park, additional curb extensions would be installed, all bus stops would be relocated to the far side of intersections and additional bus queue jump lanes would be added.

A curbside management plan, which could include dedicated short-term parking for deliveries and rideshare pick-up, would be put in place. Light poles may be upgraded or replaced.

The estimated cost for the design and construction of the plan is about $11.5 to $13.5 million, including $1 to $1.5 million for phase one, $4.5 to $5 million for phase two and $6 to $7 million for phase three.

The city currently has funding for the design and implementation of the phase one improvements and a small portion of the phase two improvements. For the remainder of phase two and phase three, staff would pursue grants from Caltrans and Measure M.

MEDICAL MARIJUANA

The council voted without discussion to extend Santa Monica's current marijuana regulations to 2023, which allow two medical marijuana dispensaries and an unlimited number of medical marijuana manufacturers are allowed to do business in certain parts of the city. The council passed the original regulations in October 2017, a few months after recreational marijuana became legal in California.

In August 2018, the city announced that 21 applicants had been deemed qualified to be considered for one of the two medical marijuana permits. Officials ranked the top two applicants based on their business experience and the details of their proposed operations.

But the dispensaries that were not selected are appealing the decision and city staff asked the council to extend the regulations for another three years because the appeals will not be resolved until early next year. Santa Monica may not see a dispensary open until 2021 or 2022.

RESTAURANT SURCHARGES

City staff pulled an item from Tuesday's agenda that would have altered Santa Monica's minimum wage ordinance.

The ordinance, which guarantees workers a $15 hourly wage by next July, currently requires that businesses distribute service charges, such as healthcare surcharges, to employees, and mandates that businesses explain any service charges to customers before a transaction.

The City Attorney's Office proposed changing the ordinance to apply to all surcharges, including delivery, sustainability and catering fees, and remove the portion of the ordinance that requires businesses to disclose surcharges prior to purchase. The revisions would also prohibit false or misleading surcharges.

City spokesperson Constance Farrell said allowing businesses not to disclose surcharges before money changes hands would ensure Santa Monica's law is consistent with existing federal law regarding commercial speech, part of which relates to a business' ability to accurately convey pricing and cost recovery approaches to consumers.

She added that applying the ordinance to all surcharges would provide clarity to businesses and consumers, who had been confused about which charges were covered under the ordinance.

Farrell did not specify whether the proposed changes to the ordinance would return to for a council vote at a later date.

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CULTURE WATCH

FROM PAGE 7

become dreamlike. His ability to capture the most intriguing angle, the combination of natural surroundings contrasted with man-made environments, buildings, homes, cars, swimming pools makes these photos seem like fantasies, but they're quite real and open to any imagined narrative that you provide.

THE LA ART SHOW

Of all the galleries I toured at the Convention Center for the grand-daddy of all LA art fairs, to me the most compelling work came from those representing Spain's contemporary artists. Sadly for me, I never received a catalog and honestly, I forgot to shoot photos of all the wall plaques and names of the galleries so I'll just do my best to offer a roundup of my opinions.



Courtesy image

IMAGE: "XT 1876" image of Bolivian salt flats by Reuben Wu, photo-eye Gallery, Santa Fe, NM.

Art Gallery Anquins in Reus, Spain featured some delicate and poignant sculptures by artist Jesus Curia. These are small, wood and bronze pieces that are representational, but feel very spiritual, like excavated icons that could be seen as little gods in human form.

Artist Fernando Palacios's stunning abstract painting in shades of teal and grey to me represents the power of the sea. You feel the tearing and pulling of the tides. And Patricia Escutia does tiny repetitive writings that look like prayers in a foreign vocabulary, filling an entire canvas. Both were at Bea Villamarin, from Gijon, Spain.

Robert Peterson, represented by Patrick Painter Gallery in LA, is a portraitist of African-American figures, and the work is stunning. James Brown, Muhammed Ali, and others are brilliantly, photo-realistically presented.

DU Kun's amazingly series, "Revels of the Rock Gods" represents his love of Chinese rock music (he's a musician too). What looks initially like big portraits sitting on pedestals are actually faces composed of multiple sets of design details from Chinese temples, set on holy mountains, which become their bodies. These monumental portraits are wholly original and tremendously imaginative. He's represented by Tokyo's Mizuma Art Gallery.

That's just a tiny taste of what was on offer. There's more this weekend—so go see some art!

Sarah A. Spitz is an award-winning public radio producer, retired from KCRW, where she also produced arts stories for NPR. She writes features and reviews for various print and online publications.

EVENTS

FROM PAGE 1

Gbenekama said. "I've gotten a lot of feedback from community members who've told me: 'Oh my God, I can't believe that we're finally doing this. I'm so happy about this,' so it feels great to have an event like this and hear how much it means to people."

Gbenekama said she hopes attendees will mingle and get to know each other at the "casual" event that will feature vendors, awards and other activities. She added the city's Black History Month Committee is still accepting nominations for community members, employees and difference-makers who should be honored at the mixer until Saturday, Feb. 15 — and residents can submit nominations online at bit.ly/BHMnom.

"We want to highlight people who are demonstrating outstanding service or leadership so however you feel that person is demonstrating that, we encourage you to submit their name and story," Gbenekama said.

OTHER BLACK HISTORY MONTH EVENTS OCCURRING IN THE LOCAL AREA:

- Local residents are invited to a community talk and tea with artist April Banks, who has recently been hosting several community events as part of the Belmar History + Art project. Occurring Sunday, Feb. 16 from 2-4 p.m. at the 18th Street Arts Center, the event will focus on the history of the Belmar neighborhood and how African Americans migrated and built their lives in Santa Monica. Banks and historian Dr. Alison Rose Jefferson will discuss how the face of the community has changed dramatically over time as they aim to celebrate the rich legacy of African American contributions to Santa Monica life.

- Historian and heritage conservation consultant Alison Rose Jefferson will discuss her new book that focuses on the "struggle for leisure and public space for all" with emphasis on the Santa Monica area beginning at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 26. "Living the California Dream: African American Leisure Sites during the Jim Crow Era" is set to transpire at the Montana Library Branch, which is located at 1704 Montana Avenue in Santa Monica.

- The annual Santa Monica Greens Festival is set to return to Virginia Avenue Park on Saturday, Feb. 29. Featuring chef cooking demonstrations, a community Greens cooking contest, a Black History exhibit, arts and crafts, a scavenger hunt, musical performances, book readings and more, local residents are invited to join the fun from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For a more comprehensive list of events occurring in Santa Monica during Black History Month, visit santamonica.gov/blog/blackhistorymonth.

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DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 331 CALLS ON FEB. 11

Public Intoxication 1500blk 2nd St 12:14 a.m.
Encampment 1300blk The Beach 3:11 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 1600blk Lincoln Blvd 7:13 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved 3000blk Ocean Front Walk 7:27 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 1000blk Yale St 7:31 a.m.
Burglary Investigation/Walk Through 1200blk Lincoln Blvd 8:07 a.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 1900blk 18th St 8:07 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 11th St / Broadway 8:33 a.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries 1500blk 11th St 8:34 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 1400blk Stanford St 9:04 a.m.
Vehicle Parked On Sidewalk 100blk Ocean Park Blvd 9:19 a.m.
Vehicle With Excessive Parking Violations 1300blk Euclid St 9:22 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 2900blk Ocean Park Blvd 9:22 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 1600blk Appian Way 9:30 a.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries 18th St / Santa Monica Blvd 9:52 a.m.
Fraud Report 2100blk Ocean Ave 10:04 a.m.
Assault W/Deadly Weapon Now 1500blk 2nd St 10:04 a.m.
Person Down 2600blk Lincoln Blvd 10:10 a.m.
Construction Noise 1500blk Lincoln Blvd 10:19 a.m.
Found Property 3000blk 4th St 10:51 a.m.
Vehicle With Excessive Parking Violations 1300blk Maple St 10:52 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 400blk Raymond Ave 11:09 a.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 1400blk Berkeley St 11:39 a.m.
Found Property 1300blk 17th St 11:57 a.m.
Stolen Vehicle Recovered 1400blk Berkeley St 12:01 p.m.
Identity Theft 900blk 17th St 12:08 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1800blk 19th St 12:18 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 20th St / Wilshire Blvd 12:29 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1500blk 14th St 12:40 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 1200blk 3rd Street Prom 12:41 p.m.
Public Intoxication 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 12:50 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 22nd St / Montana Ave 1:00 p.m.
Hit And Run Felony Investigation 9th St / Wilshire Blvd 1:01 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 300blk Olympic Dr 1:03 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 11th St / Olympic Blvd W 1:05 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 2400blk Pearl St 1:07 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 2400blk Santa Monica Blvd 1:18 p.m.
Bike Theft Report 200blk Broadway 1:31 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1500blk Euclid St 1:35 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 2600blk Lincoln Blvd 1:40 p.m.
Found Property 300blk Olympic Dr 2:08 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 1300blk 18th St 2:32 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 2500blk Santa Monica Blvd 2:44 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 1400blk Ocean Ave 2:55 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 2400blk The Beach 3:17 p.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 700blk California Ave 3:25 p.m.
Burglary Report 1500blk 6th St 3:29 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 900blk 9th St 3:46 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 2000blk Idaho Ave 4:00 p.m.
Encampment 1900blk 19th St 4:12 p.m.
Abandoned Vehicle 1900blk Ocean Ave 5:11 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 1200blk Harvard St 5:25 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 1100blk 21st St 5:25 p.m.
Stolen Vehicle Recovered 1100blk 20th St 5:39 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred 2600blk Pico Blvd 5:40 p.m.
Public Intoxication 300blk Santa Monica Pl 5:41 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1500blk 10th St 6:21 p.m.
Fraud Report 900blk 9th St 6:25 p.m.
Assault Now 2500blk Kansas Ave 6:32 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 1800blk Cloverfield Blvd 7:30 p.m.
Found Property 300blk Santa Monica Pier 7:37 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 300blk Santa Monica Pier 7:58 p.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 900blk 9th St 8:47 p.m.
Fight 2800blk Lincoln Blvd 8:59 p.m.
Strongarm Robbery Just Occurred Ocean Ave / Pico Blvd 9:48 p.m.
Encampment 1400blk Palisades Beach Rd 10:11 p.m.
Fight 800blk Santa Monica Blvd 10:35 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1300blk 3rd Street Prom 11:38 p.m.



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