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To soothe the city.

smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

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More units but no parking at proposed downtown development



Graphic Courtesy Tighe Architecture

PROJECT: This rendering by Tighe Architecture imagines the 700 Santa Monica Boulevard location as a 99-unit residential apartment building.

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

As city officials slowly come to terms with new state mandates that allow builders to double the density of proposed projects, some residents are balking at the implementation of other rules that facilitate car-free construction.

At a Feb. 5 meeting of the Santa Monica Architectural Review Board (ARB), the board approved the design, colors, materials and landscape plans for a residential apartment building at 700 Santa Monica Boulevard. The property as proposed will have no residential parking spots on site.

The building, developed by North Carolina-based Grubb Properties along with architectural firm Tighe Architecture, will be an eight-story, 99,930 square foot, 99-unit residential apartment building that includes 10 affordable units. Of the 99 units, 64 will be one-bedroom, 16 will be two-bedroom, six will be three-bedroom and 13 will be studio units. Branded as Link Santa Monica, the building will also include residential amenities such as an outdoor cooking area and fire pits on the roof deck, as well as a common residential courtyard on the second floor.

No vehicle parking will be provided at the building, with the project instead calling for 146 bicycle parking spots. City Planning Manager Jing Yeo told the Daily Press that the elimination of minimum parking requirements was established with the adoption of the Downtown Community Plan in 2017, and was codified in Section 9.28.060(A)(1)(d) of the City's Zoning Ordinance.

SEE **APARTMENTS** PAGE 12



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Designer looks to open opportunities with SMC collaboration

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

Taking an idea into a full-fledged business is one of the world's most arduous processes, requiring a unique blend of resources, knowledge and perseverance. From crafting a product and getting it manufactured, to forging connections and strong marketing ties, the path may seem too daunting for a young entrepreneur.

This process applies to the fashion world, which Los Angeles-based designer Jade Marlin called a "privilege industry" that is inherently expensive to bust through the glass ceiling. To lower the entry barriers, Marlin's foundation implemented a "fashion academy" to give youth and aspiring adults alike the push in a successful direction, something several Santa Monica youth have already taken advantage of. The Jade Marlin Foundation's latest Santa Monica connection is a new partnership with fashion professors at Santa Monica College (SMC), which is leading to an SMC "fashion summit" this coming November.

> To really be a designer, to get it out there, it costs $50-100,000 on marketing, manufacturing, it's a lot
> - Jade Marlin

"To really be a designer, to get it out there, it costs $50-100,000 on marketing, manufacturing, it's a lot," Marlin said of the industry of which he is a continual rising star. "So what I wanted to do is create a program to help (not just) all races, but definitely some of the low-income black and brown (kids), caucasians, (etc) ... to let them (know), you can be a designer. I didn't have a lot of money ... but I just kept my faith, and I kept the journey."

Before the Jade Marlin Foundation, before Jade Marlin the designer, his journey was as Jade Marlin, the baseball player. Playing for the since-closed Temple Christian High School in Perris, he starred in left field, eventually playing in independent leagues with hopes of advancing in the Los Angeles Dodgers' minor league system. As he put it, however, "life takes its course," and an injury hampered his progression.

The outfielder had a backup plan in architecture, though, something he fell back on with a fashionably creative mindset.

"I was going through a depression with baseball ... so I just started ... drawing and sketching T-shirts," Marlin said. "And next thing you know, I was like, 'oh, let me see if this will work.' So I went to a local swap meet and started designing T-shirts, and it was pretty cool, people started liking it."

His design career advanced when a manufacturer took notice at the MAGIC Las Vegas fashion trade show, what Marlin called the "Grammys of fashion," and he began development on

SEE **FASHION**
PAGE 6



Photo Courtesy Jade Marlin

FOUNDATION: Fashion designer Jade Marlin has done educational work in the Santa Monica community through his Jade Marlin Foundation.

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HOA HOMEFRONT

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Reader Questions – Is My Dog Allowed?

KELLY G. RICHARDSON, ESQ. CCAL

Dear Mr. Richardson: I am hoping you could help me with my HOA that's trying to remove my daughter's support dog because of its weight and breed. They are threatening to come and have her removed because she got too big. Can they do this? It would devastate my daughter if they took her dog. S.L., Highland

Mr. Richardson, our CC&Rs state that no animal of any kind shall be kept in any unit. Recently, a resident adopted a large dog. The board approached the resident and a few days later she provided a letter from a psychiatrist stating that she suffers from anxiety and that the dog is a support animal. The letter claims that the Fair Housing Act gives her the right to keep the animal despite the CC&Rs. Do HOAs have any recourse in this situation? The resident is a renter, not an owner, if that makes any difference. Thank you, K.W., Redondo Beach

Dear S.L. and K.W.: Emotional support animals are not "pets" and are not subject to HOA pet rules. The HOA must allow such animals as a "reasonable accommodation," per the Fair Housing laws and regulations. However, the dog could become an unreasonable accommodation if it menaces or bothers other residents or damages the property. HOAs can hold the owner responsible for problems the dog causes. Also, the HOA can require that the animal be under the control of the individual – per Fair Housing Regulation 12185(d)(6). As to restricting size or breed, Regulation 12185(d)(5) specifically bars breed, size, and weight limitations as to assistance animals.

Sincerely, Kelly

Dear Kelly: Our HOA just fined me for renters having two dogs over the 25-pound limit in the rules and regulations. Is that allowed? Our rules and regulations were updated in 2003. I thought Davis-Stirling outlawed the ability of HOAs to discriminate based on dog size, weight, or breed. A.B., Solana Beach.

Dear A.B.: Since 2001, when Civil Code Section 1360.5 became effective, the law has protected the right of HOA residents to have at least one "pet", defined as any dog, cat, domesticated bird, or aquatic animal in an aquarium. That law is now found at Civil Code Section 4715. To me, the word "any" means any dog, not just small ones. I do not think weight or breed restrictions are enforceable, as the right to "any" dog is protected. Section 4715(e) says it applies to governing documents amended in 2001 or later, so your HOA's 2003 rules would have to comply with the statute.

The size of a dog isn't what makes it a nuisance. It is the animal's behavior and/or its care by its owner that can create problems for other residents. In the rules, the HOA should focus on the way dogs can be bad neighbors and not worry about what kind of dog it is. The kind of dog neighbors want is just a good dog. Therefore, regulate barking, menacing, damage to property, or other ways in which dogs might harm the property or other residents. Honestly, a small dog can be just as much of a nuisance as a large one, so don't worry about size.

Best, Kelly

For information on Fair Housing, visit www.calcivilrights.ca.gov/housing. To read any California statute, the official website is www.leginfo.legislature.ca.gov.

Kelly G. Richardson, Esq. is a Fellow of the College of Community Association Lawyers and Partner of Richardson Ober LLP, a California law firm known for community association advice. Submit potential column questions to kelly@roattorneys.com. Past columns at www.HOAHomefront.com. All rights reserved®.

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Surf report — WATER TEMP: **59.4**

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

Fresh pulse of better-angled WNW swell looks to potentially top out overnight then hold through the morning. Wind looks favorable in the morning. Decent day for the small wave gear.

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

Morning window looks doable with a mix of old and new WNW swells in the water. Keeping an eye on winds, recent model runs have trended more favorably, especially for the morning. Strong new W/WNW swell builds in the afternoon.

Weather

Friday: Patchy fog before 10am. Otherwise, partly sunny, with a high near 64. Light and variable wind becoming west southwest 5 to 10 mph in the afternoon.
Friday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 52. Calm wind.
Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 64. Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming southwest in the afternoon.
Saturday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 52.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2024/02/16	Fri	01:57 AM	5.04	H
2024/02/16	Fri	09:56 AM	0.55	L
2024/02/16	Fri	4:45 PM	2.58	H
2024/02/16	Fri	7:37 PM	2.42	L
2024/02/17	Sat	03:11 AM	4.96	H
2024/02/17	Sat	11:27 AM	0.09	L
2024/02/17	Sat	7:03 PM	2.98	H
2024/02/17	Sat	9:53 PM	2.80	L
2024/02/18	Sun	04:30 AM	5.01	H
2024/02/18	Sun	12:30 PM	-0.35	L
2024/02/18	Sun	7:43 PM	3.36	H
2024/02/18	Sun	11:32 PM	2.73	L
2024/02/19	Mon	05:38 AM	5.18	H
2024/02/19	Mon	1:17 PM	-0.65	L
2024/02/19	Mon	8:09 PM	3.61	H
2024/02/20	Tue	12:32 AM	2.46	L
2024/02/20	Tue	06:32 AM	5.39	H
2024/02/20	Tue	1:53 PM	-0.81	L

Daily Lottery

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site at http://www.calottery.com

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 2/14
1 4 45 47 67
Power#: 18
Jackpot: 306 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 2/13
1 3 19 25 58
Mega#: 20
Jackpot: 457 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 2/14
10 14 28 33 47
Mega#: 9
Jackpot: 10 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 2/14
12 15 21 24 39

Daily 3
Draw Date: 2/14
EVENING: 1 4 5
Draw Date: 2/14
MIDDAY: 0 6 9

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 2/14
1st: 08 - Gorgeous George
2nd: 09 - Winning Spirit
3rd: 03 - Hot Shot
Race Time: 1:42.51

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Santa Monica Daily Press

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites Contractors to complete and submit sealed bids for the:

Groundwater Injection Well SM-11i and Monitoring Wells MWi-2 & MWi-3
Drilling and Equipping
SP2678 - C

Bids will only be accepted through the CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL, ProcureNow or https://procurement.opengov.com/portal/santa-monica-ca. They must be received by the specified date and time. Late bids will not be accepted. Please allow sufficient time for uploading of documents. The bid opening will be electronic, all submitted bids will be viewable by the public via ProcureNow immediately after bid close time.

MANDATORY PRE-BID JOB WALKS: (must attend at least one)
First Meeting: February 22, 2024 at 11:00am
Second Meeting: February 27, 2024 at 11:00am
Place: At the SM11i Well Site in City Yards 2500 Michigan Ave, Santa Monica, CA 90404

PROJECT ESTIMATE: $4,500,000 to $6,000,000
CONTRACT DAYS: 540 Calendar Days
LIQUIDATED DAMAGES: $2,200 Per Calendar Day

Bidding Documents may be obtained by logging onto the City's bidding website at: https://procurement.opengov.com/portal/santa-monica-ca The prime contractor is required to have an **A License** at the time of bid submission, and subcontractor performing the well drilling portion of the project is required to have a **C-57 License.** Contractors wishing to be considered must submit Bids containing all information required pursuant to the City's Request for Bids.

Pursuant to Public Contracts Code Section 22300, the Contractor shall be permitted to substitute securities for any monies withheld by the City to ensure performance under this Contract.

BLACH CONSTRUCTION

INVITATION FOR SUBCONTRACTOR BIDS

Pursuant to California Education Code 17406, notice is hereby given that subcontractor bids will be received by Blach Construction – 3090 Bristol Street, Costa Mesa 92626. Bids must be received in accordance with Blach Construction's instructions by **Friday, February 23rd, 2024 at 2PM.** It is the bidder's responsibility to ensure timely delivery via Building Connected.

SMASH-Muir ES Water Intrusion Repairs
Bids Due: Friday, February 23rd, 2024 at 2PM

Project Scope:
Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioning, and Plumbing

Subcontractors Required:
C-20 Warm-Air Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioning, C-36 Plumbing Mechanical, Electrical, and Plumbing contractors must be prequalified to perform work.

Job Walk (Non-Mandatory): TBD. Information on the job walk to be provided through Building Connected. The job walk to be held at John Muir Elementary School located at 2526 6th St. Santa Monica, CA 90405.

Requests for Information (RFI's): Pre-bid requests for information for this project due date is TBD. Information to be provided through Building Connected. Bidders are required to indicate the project name in the title of your request submission. Submit all requests for information to Justin Gilbert at justin.gilbert@blach.com

Contract Bid Documents: Copies of the bid & contract documents including drawings and specifications are available through Building Connected. Contractors are required to submit Blach Construction prequalification questionnaire in order to be selected for the project. Please reach out to Justin Gilbert with Blach Construction at (209) 505- 2551 or justin.gilbert@blach.com for access as needed.

Prevailing Wage and Skilled & Trained Workforce Requirements: Per Public Contract Code 2601 and 2602 as well as Senate Bill 693, all subcontractors at every tier must adhere to Skilled & Trained Workforce Requirements. Additionally, prevailing wage is required on this project.

Additional information is provided in Blach Construction's Bid Documents. The Contractor and all Subcontractors under the Contractor shall pay all workers on all work performed pursuant to this Contract not less than the general prevailing rate of per diem wages and the general prevailing rate for holiday and overtime work as determined by the Director of the Department of Industrial Relations, State of California, for the type of work performed and the locality in which the work is to be performed within the boundaries of the District, pursuant to sections 1770 et seq. of the California Labor Code. Prevailing wage rates are also available from the District or on the Internet at: <http://www.dir.ca.gov>.

The successful bidder will be required to have the appropriate State of California Contractor's License to perform the work current at the time of submission to bid.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

PEN — 35 years of digital democracy

Few knew what to make of it. No one tweeted about it. There wasn't a single Facebook mention.

Thirty-five years ago, on February 21, 1989, Santa Monica opened the first municipal computer teleconferencing system in the world. The Public Electronic Network, or PEN, was initially intended to link residents to City Hall, providing information and answering questions.

Something else happened.

Within two weeks, over 500 residents signed up. Eventually, about 6000 Santa Monicans had accounts on PEN. They didn't all want to talk to City Hall. They wanted to communicate with one another, too, and turned PEN into an unexpected resident-to-resident phenomenon.

Remember, this was 1989. Social media didn't exist yet. The world-wide web as we know it was at least five years away. Very few people had email accounts. PEN access was text-only, painfully slow over old-fashioned telephone wires.

And yet, PEN exploded. The City database and mailroom saw some usage, but by far the majority of PEN activity was in the interactive public conferences, run on a software package aptly named "Participate."

PEN reached far beyond the fortunate few with home computers and the even more rare dial-up modem, which in 1989 was how a computer was forced to connect. The City put nineteen PEN terminals in public places, including libraries, and 20 to 25 per cent of PEN usage came from those public terminals.

A study of PEN by USC's Annenberg of Communications at the time concluded, "...the use of PEN is not related to the traditional socio-economic characteristics that have predicted computer usage in past research. Age, income, and education are unrelated to the frequency of PEN use...".

PENners were required to use real names, but there were no obvious social or status cues. On PEN, individuals became equals, judged on the strength of their ideas. When face-to-face meetups eventually occurred, and users saw their PENpals in person, surprise was often the order of the day.

For perhaps the first time, the voices of the otherwise disenfranchised — including the homeless — were being heard by the community. Using those public terminals in libraries, homeless individuals made a strong case for what they needed to break the cycle of joblessness and homelessness.

Within a year, a PEN Action Group formed, composed of housed and unhoused PENners working together. Determining that showers, clean clothing, and storage space were essential to homeless job-seekers, they approached the City Council in May of 1990 proposing a centralized homeless services center with showers, washers, and lockers. The Council said yes. "SHWASHLOCK" was built and is still in use near the Big Blue Bus yards in downtown Santa Monica.

Most of those 1990 City Councilmembers knew PEN well. Chris Reed, David Finkel, Judy Abdo, Denny Zane, Bob Holbrook, and Ken Genser all participated regularly. City staff also made themselves available on PEN. Discussions of local issues thrived, and new bonds were formed among activists and with City officials.

Our schools became involved, with PEN connections at Olympic High School and Samohi. By 1991, PEN had connected with international youth empowerment activists for an event at the 18th Street Art Center's Electronic Café that connected kids from New Zealand to Lithuania.

PEN was an unexpected, exuberant success. What could go wrong?

The relative anonymity of online communication empowered participation without prejudice, but it also disabled the social feedback on behavioral norms that usually shapes and enforces community civility. Flamers and trolls are not new to today's social media. Deliberately disruptive behavior first appeared in the 70s on the federal government's ARPANET system, precursor to the internet, and was documented in the 1978 book "The Network Nation" by Hiltz and Turoff.

When some users began to post distasteful messages incorporating PEN women into the writers' dark sexual fantasies, a group called PENFemmes tried to unite the 35% of PEN users who were women, systematically ignoring the attackers and working to create more woman-related discussion on PEN.

Meanwhile, though, the same personal nastiness began to permeate other parts of PEN, with ad hominem attacks aimed at fellow users and the City Councilmembers who had initially embraced PEN. What had begun as productive discussions devolved, and the most positive participants were the first to leave in dismay.

Why, you might ask, did the City not step in to maintain civility? Santa Monica faced an inescapable problem with having any government agency host a community conversation: The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution prohibits governmental interference with free speech. If a few users wanted to turn the wondrous public forum of PEN into a sewer, the City could not stop them.

By the mid-90s, PEN began to wane. In 1995, a City staffer convened excited PEN activists in a back room at the Midnight Special Bookstore on the Promenade to unveil something new the City would be rolling out: a website! with pictures!

No longer was PEN the only place to aim one's computer. The new internet was blooming. More and more people had email, supplanting the rare communication ability PEN had pioneered. In 1998, PEN opened an email gateway to the outside

SEE **GUEST COMMENTARY** PAGE 6

Recession has struck some of the world's top economies. The US keeps defying expectations

STAN CHOE AND CHRISTOPHER RUGABER
AP Business Writers

As some of the world's biggest economies stumble into recession, the United States keeps chugging along.

Both Japan and the United Kingdom said Thursday their economies likely weakened during the final three months of 2023. For each, it would be the second straight quarter that's happened, which fits one lay definition for a recession.

> First and foremost, it's important to emphasize that the market's performance is more a reflection of a thriving economy rather than unwarranted 'animal spirits' from investors
> - Solita Marcelli, chief investment officer, Americas, at UBS Global Wealth Management

Yet in the United States, the economy motored ahead in last year's fourth quarter for a sixth straight quarter of growth. It's blown past many predictions coming into last year that a recession seemed inevitable because of high interest rates meant to slow the economy and inflation.

Give much of the credit to U.S. households, who have continued to spend at a solid rate despite many challenges. Their spending makes up the majority of the U.S. economy. Government stimulus helped households weather the initial stages of the pandemic and a jump in inflation, and now pay raises are helping them catch up to high prices for the goods and services they need.

On Thursday, a report showed that fewer U.S. workers filed for unemployment benefits last week. It's the latest signal of a remarkably solid job market, even though a litany of layoff announcements has grabbed attention recently. Continued strength there should help prop up the economy.

Of course, risks still loom, and economists say a recession can't be ruled out. Inflation could reaccelerate. Worries about heavy borrowing by the U.S. government could upset financial markets, ultimately making loans to buy cars and other things more expensive. Growing losses tied to commercial real estate could mean big pain for the financial system.

But, for now, the outlook continues to appear better for the United States than many other big economies. The mood on Wall Street is so positive that the main measure of the U.S. stock market, the S&P 500 index, topped the 5,000 level last week for the first time.

"First and foremost, it's important to emphasize that the market's performance is more a reflection of a thriving economy rather than unwarranted 'animal spirits' from investors," according to Solita Marcelli, chief investment officer, Americas, at UBS Global Wealth Management.

When it upgraded its forecast for global growth in 2024 a couple weeks ago, the International Monetary Fund cited greater-than-expected resilience in the U.S. economy as a major reason.

Several unique characteristics of the U.S. economy have sheltered it from recessionary storms, analysts say. The U.S. government provided about $5 trillion in pandemic aid in 2020-2021, far more than overseas counterparts, which left most households in much better financial shape and supported consumer spending well into 2023.

The Biden administration has also subsidized more construction of manufacturing plants and infrastructure through additional legislation passed in 2021 and 2022 that was still having an impact last year. About one quarter of the U.S. economy's solid 2.5% growth in 2023 was made up of government spending. Republican critics, however, charge that the extended spending contributed to higher inflation.

"We had some policies that I do think helped us a lot," said Diane Swonk, chief economist at KPMG. "But also the structure of our economy is so much different."

> We had some policies that I do think helped us a lot
> - Diane Swonk, chief economist at KPMG

Americans have been better protected from rising rates than U.K. counterparts, for example, because most U.S. homeowners with mortgages have long, 30-year fixed rates. As a result, the Federal Reserve's rapid rate hikes of the past two years — which have lifted mortgage rates from around 3% to about 6.7% — have had little effect on many U.S. homeowners.

Yet their British counterparts carry mortgages that have to be renewed every two to five years. They've struggled with rapidly rising mortgage rates as the Bank of England has lifted borrowing costs to combat inflation.

Catherine Mann, a member of the Bank of England's interest-rate setting committee, said Thursday that the U.K. economy's slowdown should be temporary. There are already signs in business surveys that the economy is picking back up, she added.

"The data we have today is rear-view mirror," she said on the sidelines of an economic conference in Washington. Forward-looking reports "are all looking good." Like the Fed, the Bank of England is considering reducing its benchmark rate once it is confident inflation is under control.

Another benefit for the United States is that it experienced a surge in immigration in recent years, which has made it easier for businesses to fill jobs, potentially expand their operations, and has led to more people earning wages — and then spending those earnings.

Japan, by contrast, is rapidly aging and has seen its population shrink for years, as it is less open to foreign labor. A declining population can act as a powerful drag on economic growth.

In Europe, consumer sentiment is weak among consumers who are still feeling the effects of higher energy prices caused by the war in Ukraine.

Even China, whose economy is growing faster than the United States', is under heavy pressure. Its stock markets have been among the world's worst recently due to worries about a sluggish economic recovery and troubles in the property sector.

The U.S. economy faces its own challenges. Its growth is forecast to cool this year as big hikes to interest rates by the Federal Reserve make their way fully through the system.

A report on Thursday may have given a nod to that. Sales at U.S. retailers slumped by more in January from December than economists expected.

Some pillars of support for consumer spending may be weakening. Student loan repayments have resumed, consumers have largely spent their pandemic stimulus money and credit-card balances are high.

Perhaps most frustrating is the fact that prices for things at the market are still much higher than they were before the pandemic. Lower inflation means prices are rising less quickly from here, not that they're falling back to where they used to be.

Coping with inflation remains U.S. consumers' top concern, except for those making more than $150,000, according to a recent survey by Morgan Stanley.

When McDonald's CEO Chris Kempczinski discussed his company's latest quarterly results, he said he's not seeing much change in behavior among middle- and upper-income customers. But "where you see the pressure with the US consumer is that low-income consumer, so call it $45,000 and under. That consumer is pressured."

Rugaber reported from Washington.





GUEST COMMENTARY

FROM PAGE 4

world so Santa Monicans now had a free international email account.

Those of us who were privileged to enjoy PEN in its heyday have probably never since found an online community that was so engaging and so local. PEN the way it existed was a phenomenon of its time.

Today, we know that a public forum hosted by government is unsustainable so long as even a few disruptors choose to exploit their constitutional free speech, making participation unwelcome for many others.

We've also learned that online participation by the majority of an elected body is prohibited by California's Brown Act, lest policy decisions be reached outside of noticed public hearings. Someone might remind the current Councilmembers that the Brown Act probably applies to texting during meetings, too.

PEN cannot be recreated. But never should it be forgotten.

Kevin McKeown has lived in Santa Monica for 48 years. He chaired the PEN Users' Group, worked on the Santa Monica Telecommunications Task Force, and served over two decades on the City Council, including two terms as Mayor.





FASHION

FROM PAGE 2

shirts, hats and hoodies, now staples of his fashion collections.

Along with those items, Marlin now develops jeans, suits, watches and shoes; as well as bathing suits as part of a special summer-themed collection. He says the theme behind his brand is "motivation," parallel to his Foundation role, and considers both hard work and creativity paramount to making it in the industry.

"The fashion industry is very fast, it's fast-paced, and you (have) to be creative, constantly (develop) new products ... that's why it's really hard for a lot of people to make it in the fashion industry ... if you don't have new products, new designs, new sketches, new fabrics that the consumer really is interested in ... it's just hard to get to the top," he said.

While it may be difficult to reach the summit, entry into the industry has gotten easier for local youth with his Foundation, with the fashion academy offering courses in fashion, design, merchandising and fashion photography. Youth and adult mentoring programs are also available, as well as a scholarship program that gives out four fashion-related scholarships each year.

A group of 200 students each year take either the online or Pasadena in-person courses, along with the Foundation's direct give-back to the community through toy and school supply drives, with 2,000 toys given out this past December.

"I love my foundation, love giving back, I love seeing the kids happy ... helping those children and giving back (with) the fashion academy," Marlin said.

Marlin noted that he loves Santa Monica specifically, perhaps even more than his current residence in Calabasas, as the city is where he started "getting the creative mind" for fashion.

"(I enjoy) the vibe, the beach, the pier, the creativity, the different photographers I've met ... you still get that LA life, but (also) that beach life and (the) creative people that hang out in Santa Monica ... I love the restaurants, the food, I just love the laid back (vibe)," he said.

The Santa Monica connection has grown with the SMC collaboration, with Marlin noting the school's fashion program worked in alignment with his own educational goals.

> I feel like they have a really strong fashion program ... that really (drew) my attention, and they're really excited
> - Jade Marlin

"I feel like they have a really strong fashion program ... that really (drew) my attention, and they're really excited," Marlin said. "This is going to open up doors for me to do even more things inside of Santa Monica ... I love (SMC's) curriculum, they're teaching the same type of curriculum that we have (at) our fashion academy, so I thought it would be a great fit."

To learn more information about Marlin's collections, which can be found in retail stores like Walmart and Target, visit jademarlin.com. For more information about the Jade Marlin Foundation, visit jademarlinfoundation.org.

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thomas@smdp.com



Photo Courtesy Jade Marlin

FOUNDATION: Fashion designer Jade Marlin and his Jade Marlin Foundation delivered roughly 2,000 toys to local families this past December.

Nectar fills the alcohol alternative gap for health-curious locals

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

The COVID-19 pandemic was a shock to everyone when it ravaged the world in 2020, and forced many in Santa Monica and beyond to reconsider their health habits. Specifically, locals looked in the mirror about their alcohol consumption, realizing that while they may have fun with boozy drinks, they may not remember the night.

To create a more memorable experience for Santa Monica, Hannah Wilen and Neil Bhatia have stepped in with a healthy alternative to the traditional night on the town. The co-founders recently opened Kanahava at 306 Pico Blvd., cultivating a communal experience around Kava Nectar, a relaxing drink sourced from the natural roots of the kava plant grown in Hawaii and the South Pacific. The beverage has calmed civilizations for thousands of years, and has found its way into the city, combining wellness with a will to make connections.

The co-founders noted that the drink is a non-alcoholic drink "that you can actually feel," creating a tingling sensation on the tongue with its earthy and smooth taste. Kava Nectar is similar to a strong matcha, and is comparable in strength to coffee, albeit with an opposite effect. With no caffeine, sugar, alcohol, gluten or chemicals to speak of, the plant-based beverage promotes calmness and sociability, something Wilen has sworn by during her decade of drinking.

> "I grew up in a very health-conscious household, so alcohol was never really a part of my upbringing"
> - Hannah Wilen

"I grew up in a very health-conscious household, so alcohol was never really a part of my upbringing," Wilen said. "So when I (went) to college, it was pretty interesting seeing the whole alcohol culture ... it was very prevalent. As someone who doesn't like to drink or didn't like how I felt when I was drinking, Kava was an amazing alternative for me."

Bhatia also recounted how saturated alcohol culture was during his college years in New York City, lamenting that

SEE **KAVA** PAGE 11



Photo by Thomas Leffler

KAVA: Kava Nectar drinks at Kanahava, such as the Beach Nectar, have the option of being served in a coconut shell.

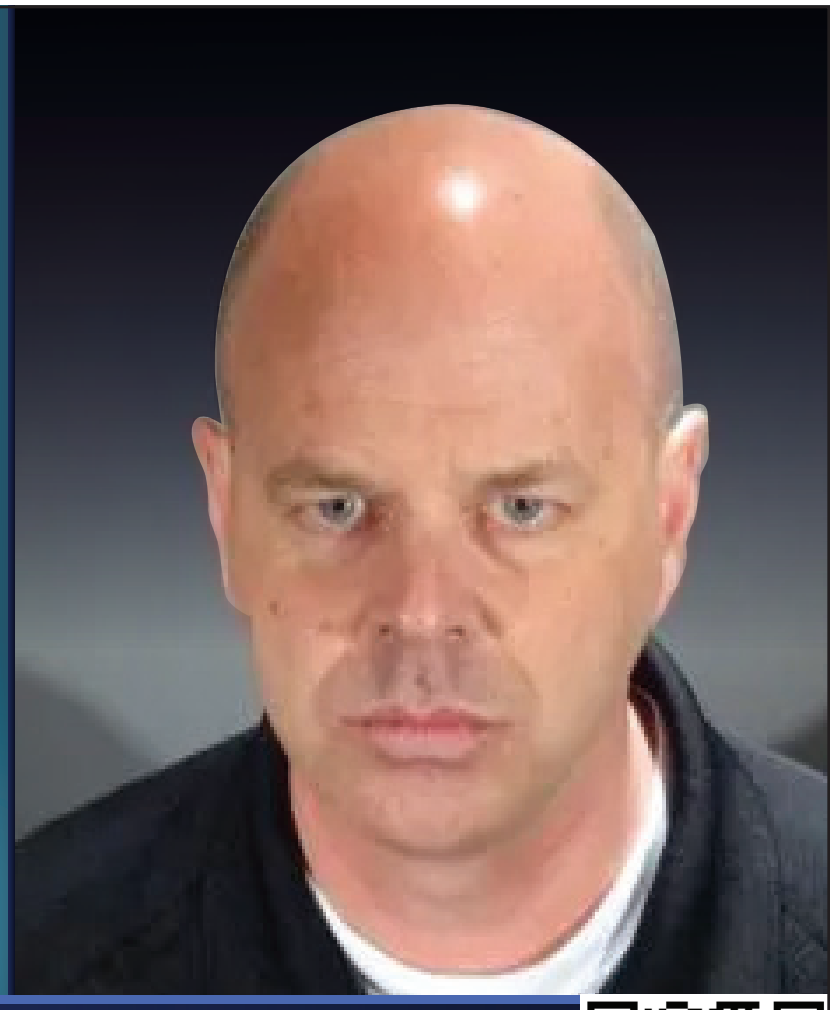
SEEKING ERIC ULLER TIPSTERS



Do you have information that can shed light on how Eric Uller of Santa Monica's Police Activities League (PAL) was able to sexually abuse hundreds of children in the late 1980s to early 2000s?

- Why were reports that Uller was sexually abusing children ignored?
- Who at PAL or the Santa Monica Police Department had information?
- How was he able to masquerade as a police officer?

Please contact our firm. Your identity will remain confidential. Help fill in the missing pieces of this puzzle so that we can understand how this happened - for almost 30 years.



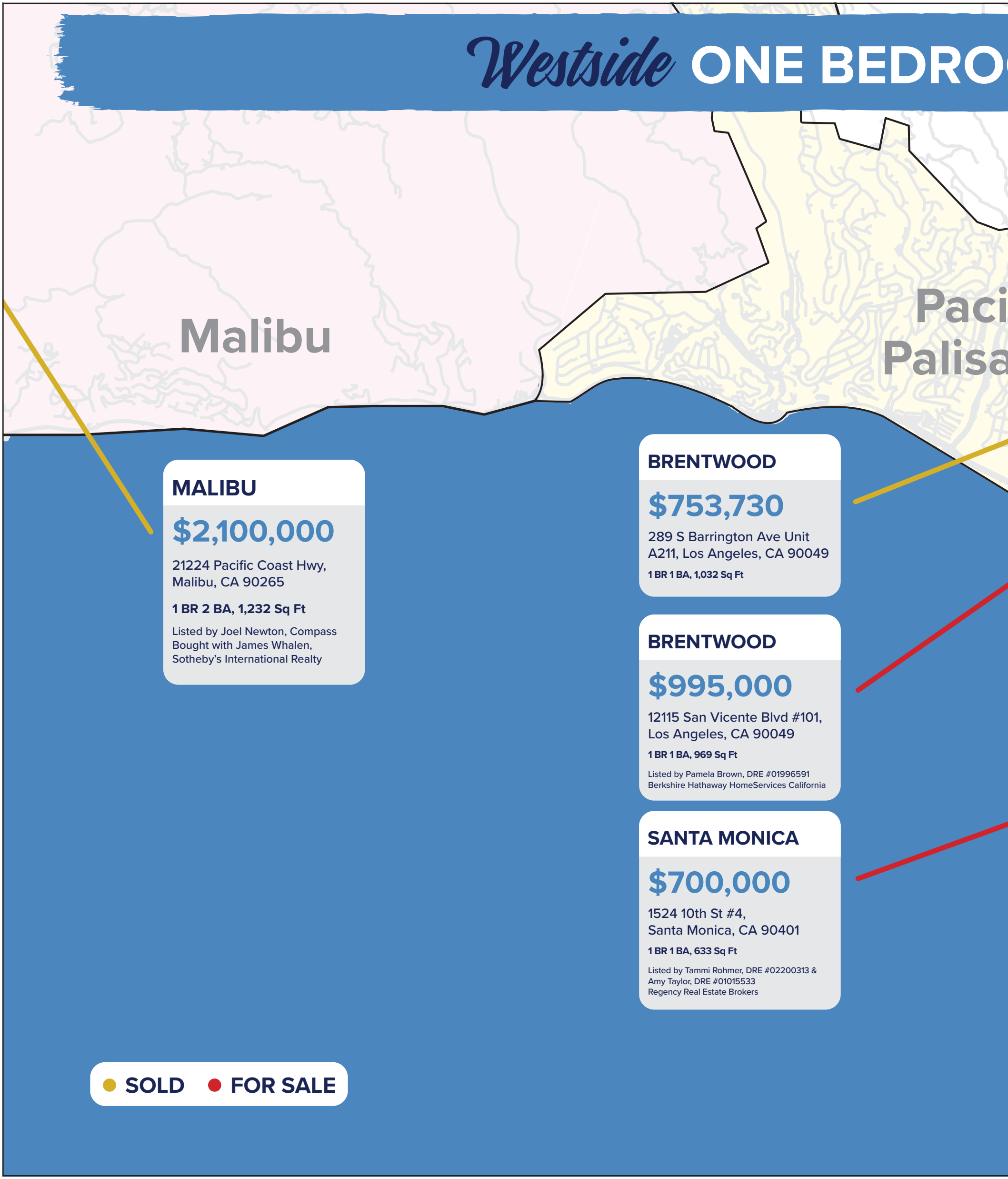
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MALIBU

$2,100,000

21224 Pacific Coast Hwy,
Malibu, CA 90265

1 BR 2 BA, 1,232 Sq Ft

Listed by Joel Newton, Compass
Bought with James Whalen,
Sotheby's International Realty

BRENTWOOD

$753,730

289 S Barrington Ave Unit
A211, Los Angeles, CA 90049

1 BR 1 BA, 1,032 Sq Ft

BRENTWOOD

$995,000

12115 San Vicente Blvd #101,
Los Angeles, CA 90049

1 BR 1 BA, 969 Sq Ft

Listed by Pamela Brown, DRE #01996591
Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices California

SANTA MONICA

$700,000

1524 10th St #4,
Santa Monica, CA 90401

1 BR 1 BA, 633 Sq Ft

Listed by Tammi Rohmer, DRE #02200313 &
Amy Taylor, DRE #01015533
Regency Real Estate Brokers

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OM CONDOMINIUMS

fic
ndes

Brentwood

Santa Monica

Ocean Park

Venice Beach

Marina del Rey

WESTWOOD

$560,000

865 Comstock Ave Unit 1B,
Los Angeles, CA 90024

1 BR 1 BA, 1,183 Sq Ft

Listed by Brandt Hartmann, Sotheby's International Realty
Bought with Susie Schechtman, RubyHome Corporation

MARINA DEL REY

$975,000

13320 Beach Ave #203,
Marina Del Rey, CA 90292

1 BR 2 BA, 1,200 Sq Ft

Listed by Tami Humphrey, Palm Realty Boutique Inc.
Bought with Sharon Crum-Herzog, Coldwell Banker Realty

MARINA DEL REY

$940,000

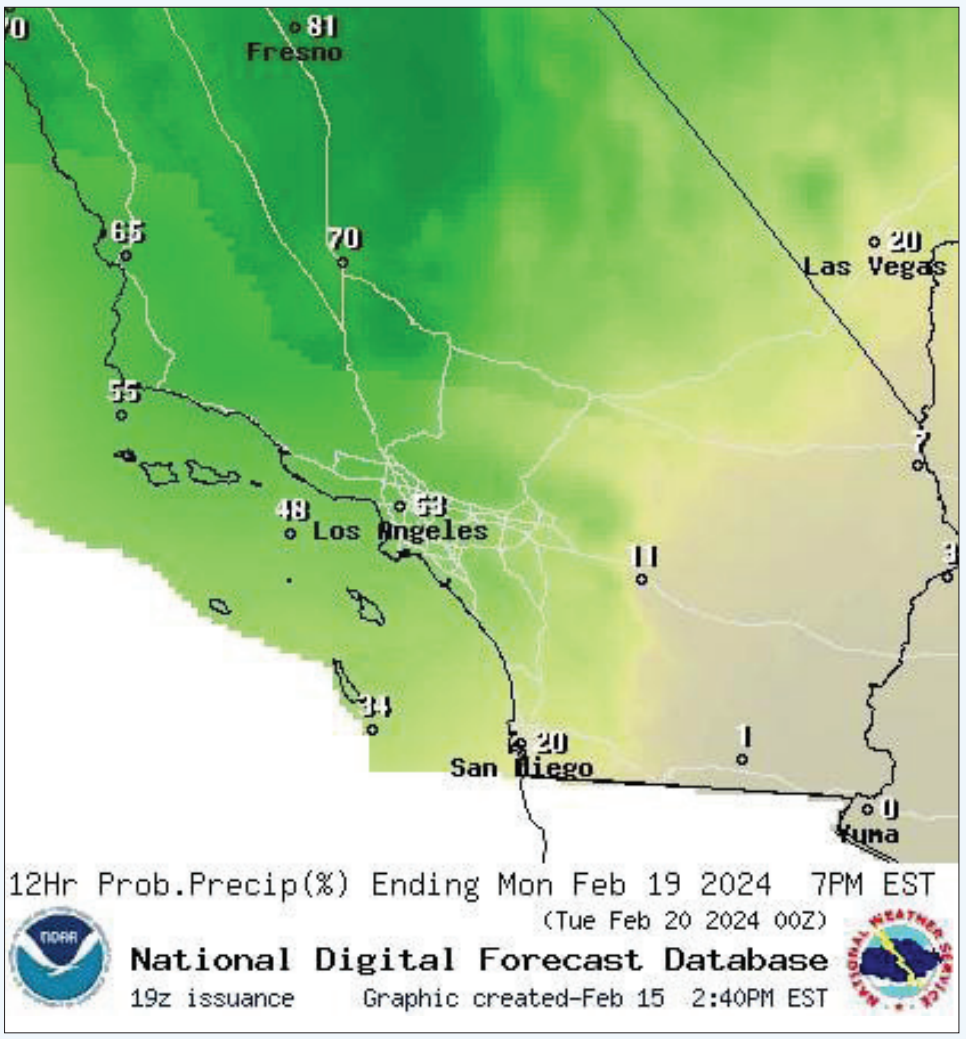
13700 Marina Pointe Dr
#1207,Marina Del Rey, CA 90292

1 BR 1 BA, 944 Sq Ft

Listed by Elana Fullmer & Cynthia Ann Festa, Rodeo Realty - Pacific Palisades
Bought with Cynthia Ann Festa, Rodeo Realty - Pacific Palisades

All data gathered at redfin.com Santa Monica Daily Press

Santa Monica set for more February rainfall



NWS

STORM: Though the Santa Monica area has recovered from a historical storm in the first days of February, another round of rain is set to inundate the city once more. According to a National Weather Service forecast discussion for the Los Angeles area, a Pacific storm will evolve over the weekend, with the wettest period scheduled for Sunday through Monday. The NWS states that it will rain "almost all day long" on Monday, and that downpours could continue all the way through Wednesday morning. According to a report by AccuWeather meteorologist Elizabeth Danco, rainfall amounts can total 1-2 inches in the Los Angeles area, with the stretch of wet weather potentially creating travel disruptions in the air and on the ground. Due in large part to the wild storm between Feb. 5-6, Santa Monica's rainfall totals in February stand at 8.97 inches, according to historical weather database Weather Underground.

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More people die after smoking drugs than injecting them, US study finds

MIKE STOBBE
AP Medical Writer

Smoking has surpassed injecting as the most common way of taking drugs in U.S. overdose deaths, a new government study suggests.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention called its study published Thursday the largest to look at how Americans took the drugs that killed them.

CDC officials decided to study the topic after seeing reports from California suggesting that smoking fentanyl was becoming more common than injecting it. Potent, illicit versions of the painkiller are involved in more U.S. overdose deaths than any other drug.

Some early research has suggested that smoking fentanyl is somewhat less deadly than injecting it, and any reduction in injection-related overdose deaths is a positive, said the study's lead author, Lauren Tanz.

> One person showed me his arms and said, 'Hey, look at my arm! It looks beautiful! I can now wear T-shirts and I can get a job because I don't have these track marks
> - Alex Kral, RTI International

But "both injection and smoking carry a substantial overdose risk," and it's not yet clear if a shift toward smoking fentanyl reduces U.S. overdose deaths, said Tanz, a CDC scientist who studies overdoses.

Illicit fentanyl is an infamously powerful drug that, in powder form, increasingly has been cut into heroin or other drugs. In recent years, it's been a primary driver of the U.S. overdose epidemic. Drug overdose deaths in the U.S. went up slightly in 2022 after two big leaps during the pandemic, and provisional data for the first nine months of 2023 suggests it inched up last year.

For years, fentanyl has mainly been injected, but drug users have increasingly smoked it. People put the powder on tin foil or in a glass pipe, heated from below, and inhale the vapor, explained Alex Kral, a RTI International researcher who studies drug users in San Francisco.

Smoked fentanyl is not as concentrated as fentanyl in a syringe, but some drug-takers see upsides to smoking, Kral said. Among them: People who inject often deal with pus-filled abscesses on their skin and risk infections with hepatitis and other diseases.

"One person showed me his arms and said, 'Hey, look at my arm! It looks beautiful! I can now wear T-shirts and I can get a job because I don't have these track marks,'" Kral said.

CDC investigators studied the trend by using a national database built from death certificates, toxicology reports and reports from coroners and medical examiners.

They were able to get suitable data from the District of Columbia and 27 states for the years 2020 to 2022. From those places, they got information on how drugs were taken in about 71,000 of the more than 311,000 total U.S. overdose deaths over those three years — or about 23%.

The researchers found that between early 2020 and late 2022, the percentage of overdose deaths with evidence of smoking rose 74% while the percentage of deaths with evidence of injection fell 29%. The number and percentage of deaths with evidence of snorting also increased, though not as dramatically as smoking-related deaths, the study found.

It's complicated to map out exact percentages of deaths that occurred after smoking, injecting, snorting or swallowing drugs, experts say. In some cases a person may have used multiple drugs, taken different ways. In other cases, no drug-taking method was identified.

The study found that in late 2022, of the deaths for which a method was identified, 23% of the deaths occurred after smoking, 16% after injections, 16% after snorting, and 14.5% after swallowing.

Tanz said she feels the data is nationally representative. Data came from states from every region of the country, and all showed increases in smoking and decreases in injecting. Smoking was the most common route in the West and Midwest, and roughly tied with injecting in the Northeast and South, the report said.

Kral described the study as "mostly good" but said it has limitations.

It can be difficult to ascertain the how and why of an overdose death, especially if no witness was present. Injections might be more commonly reported because of injection marks on the body; to detect smoking "they likely would need to find a pipe or foil on the scene and decide whether to write that down," he said.

Kral also noted that many people who smoke fentanyl use a straw to inhale vapors from the burning powder, and it's possible investigators saw a straw and assumed it was snorted.

The Associated Press Health and Science Department receives support from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute's Science and Educational Media Group. The AP is solely responsible for all content.

KAVA

FROM PAGE 7

he would forget many a night and wake up with phone numbers without a clue who was texting him. With the Kanahava environment, he discovered his calling for non-alcoholic social advocacy, stating that the drink has been in his family for a long time.

> I love concerts, I love music ... (but) if you've ever been to those concerts, it's very alcohol-fueled ... we wanted to bring a fresh take on (it)
> - Hannah Wilen

"It's just something that's really nice and relaxing ... it's a great social drink that also has that historical relevance," he said.

Both Bhatia and Wilen said Kava Nectar is an "acquired taste" but those who try it quickly take in the tingles and eventually want more, similar to someone's path with trying espresso drinks for the first time. The two eventually turned a desire for non-alcoholic communion into a business, starting with the underground rave and party scene in Los Angeles, another space traditionally dominated by booze.

"I love concerts, I love music ... (but) if you've ever been to those concerts, it's very alcohol-fueled ... we wanted to bring a fresh take on (it)," Wilen said. "There are a lot of people who want to go to raves and concerts without alcohol, but don't have any options."

The duo's message eventually brought together three different worlds: Los Angeles partygoers, the area's wellness community and curious food and drink connoisseurs. The two quickly picked up momentum for Kanahava at wellness events, athletic endeavors like last year's Malibu Triathlon, and food markets like Smorgasburg LA in the downtown area.

Eventually finding the Pico space, Kanahava was transformed into a dual-purpose abode, with a coffee shop-type environment by day and a non-alcoholic bar atmosphere by night. Wilen stated that she "saw so many happy, smiling faces" during a Feb. 10 grand opening, which is "the most important thing" to her.

"We had people sitting at our bar, and people who have never met each other ... we would see all throughout the night, strangers connecting and talking to each other and not under the influence of alcohol, and making genuine connection," she said.

The Kanahava menu starts from the source, as the kava plant can only grow in a select number of countries and needs anywhere from five to seven years before it is ready to be harvested. Wilen and Bhatia said they go to "really great lengths" to be able to bring the product to Los Angeles, with the sustainably sourced drink served at the "best quality possible."

Menu options take the nectar and mix it with multicultural ingredients and flavors, with no artificial coloring on drinks like the blue "Beach Nectar," mixing in Blue Spirulina, coconut, vanilla and house cane syrup. Another popular option is the Mint Julep Nectar, a healthy alternative to the alcoholic drink that includes mint and fresh lime alongside nectar and sparkling water. A true specialty is the Hana's Fresh Coconut Nectar, served in a whole young coconut, with reusable coconut bowls also an option with any menu drink.

The co-founders foster healthy social experiences, such as planned music and arts events on the horizon, showing how Santa Monicans can have fun without wrecking the body.

"As people are becoming more educated about the effects of alcohol on health, people are kind of (thinking), 'I don't really want to have that in my body every day,'" Wilen said.

> As people are becoming more educated about the effects of alcohol on health, people are kind of (thinking), 'I don't really want to have that in my body every day
> - Hannah Wilen

"But more so than just health, I think it's also a mental thing. Not everyone wants to use alcohol as the only way to hang out and be social and have a good night."

Kanahava is open from Wednesday-Sunday, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m., and more information can be found at kavahana.com.

thomas@smdp.com







Photos by Thomas Leffler

KAVA: Kanahava co-founders Hannah Wilen and Neil Bhatia welcomed locals into their new shop with a ribbon cutting ceremony Feb. 10.

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APARTMENTS

FROM PAGE 1

State law also eliminates the enforcement of minimum parking requirements, per AB 2097 which took effect on January 1, 2023. The bill prohibits public agencies from imposing or enforcing a minimum parking requirement on a residential, commercial or other development project that is within one-half mile of public transit, with the 700 Santa Monica Boulevard location falling within one-half mile of the Metro rail transit station at the corner of 4th St. and Colorado Ave.

The proposal replaces the five-story mixed-use building at the location presented to the ARB for preliminary review in February 2023. Recent changes to zoning code and the utilization of state density bonuses allow for the larger building with more residential units and no commercial component. The project was first envisioned with 60 apartments above ground-floor retail space, with the commercial space being taken out of the project.

ARB members were generally in favor of the project, but did lay out several conditions in its approval, such as additional refinement for plant screening along a shared apartment wall, reduction or elimination of exterior decorative lighting, and changes to a planned courtyard mural to have it be integrated into the building. ARB Chair Patrick Tighe recused himself from both the presentation and subsequent vote due to his role as Principal and Founder of Tighe Architecture who designed the project.

In a presentation to the ARB, Architect Kervin Lau stated that the mural, proposed to be 67 inches tall on the west facing wall of the courtyard, will be more graphic than commercial signage in nature. The subject matter of the mural is not included in the scope of the ARB review, however, the size, location and context of the mural within the building is within the ARB's purview, in order to ensure it qualifies as non-commercial speech and is consistent with size and location approved by the board.

Public comment both at the meeting and on social media were critical of the building's lack of vehicle parking, with Santa Monica resident Kelli Frye expressing her frustrations with the "extremely enormous" project during the ARB public hearing.

"No parking means everyone is going to be parking on 9th Street according to Santa Monica parking rules, so I disapprove of zero parking for a 99-unit (building) … it's extremely difficult to find parking already," Fry said. "I get street sweeping tickets because there's nowhere else to park."

Many comments on a NextDoor social media post created by Frye agreed with the sentiment, while some pushed back by stating the location is a positive for dense development.

"People who want and need a car daily will self-select out of this property," commented resident Michele Christensen on NextDoor. "It is designed for people who don't want or need a car or who can keep their car in a nearby public lot. I love that it is mixed size … and that the affordable units are on-site with all the great amenities."

Santa Monica is seeing a nascent wave of projects refiled to take advantage of density bonuses. Under current rules, projects can double their density if they provide affordable and moderate rate units.

While the Santa Monica Blvd. project isn't utilizing the maximum bonus laws, four other developers have filed for large projects using the density laws including:

601 Colorado (20 stories, 266 units, 40 affordable, 203 parking spaces)

1435 5th Street (16 stories, 423 units, 64 affordable, 366 parking spaces)

1437 6th Street (18 stories, 171 units, 26 affordable, 122 parking spaces)

1557 7th Street / 707 Colorado (16 stories, 266 units, 34 affordable, 184 parking spaces)

thomas@smdp.com



Photo by Thomas Leffler

PROJECT: This space at 700 Santa Monica Boulevard is being reimagined as a 99-unit residential apartment building.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Malibu

PCH closed overnight

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is working to clean up and repair damage throughout Southern California that was caused by recent atmospheric rivers.

State Route 1 (Pacific Coast Highway) in both directions between Las Posas Road and Sycamore Canyon Road in Ventura County will close overnight due to high tides and potential nighttime visibility issues after a right lane shoulder was partially washed out from storm-related erosion. The roadway is scheduled to open daily and close nightly until repairs are complete.

During these closures, motorists must use alternate routes. In addition, motorists should avoid driving, if possible, or use extra caution, as roadways are still being impacted by the winter weather. Be on alert for Caltrans crews working along highways, and please slow down in work zones.

If you must travel, be prepared for winter driving conditions and flooding. Check road conditions: quickmap.dot.ca.gov or 1-800-427-7623. More tips and information are available here: dot.ca.gov/travel.

SUBMITTED BY CALTRANS

Downtown

Authors in Conversation: Rasheed Newson & Laura Warrell

Author Rasheed Newson discusses his debut novel, My Government Means to Kill Me, with fellow novelist Laura Warrell (Sweet, Soft, Plenty Rhythm) on Wednesday, February 21, at 6 p.m. , in the Main Library's Multipurpose Room, at 601 Santa Monica Blvd. A book sale and signing follows.

A finalist for the prestigious Lambda Literary Prize in 2023, the New York Times described My Government Means to Kill Me as, "…shining a vivid light onto underappreciated aspects of our history through the life of a gay Black teenager". It's a fast-paced coming-of-age story that skillfully combines real world events and figures from 1980s New York City with the fictional life of his protagonist to create an engrossing and educational novel.

Rasheed Newson is a television drama writer, executive producer, and showrunner. With his writing partner T.J. Brady, Rasheed has worked on drama series Bel-Air, The Chi, and Narcos, among others. Rasheed lives with his husband and their two children in Pasadena.

Laura Warrell, named a "Writer to Watch" by Publishers Weekly, is a graduate of the Creative Writing Program at the Vermont College of Fine Arts. She taught Creative Writing and Literature through the Emerging Voices program at PEN America Los Angeles, Writing Workshops Los Angeles, the Berklee College of Music, and other academic institutions in Los Angeles and Boston. Her debut novel, Sweet Soft, Plenty Rhythm was chosen as a Good Morning America Buzz Pick, a Barnes & Noble Discover Pick, and an Indie Next List Pick.

All Library programs are free and open to the public. The MLK Auditorium is wheelchair accessible. Please call (310) 458-8600 to request additional accommodations.

SUBMITTED BY JEFF KAPLAN

Citywide

Trespass Arrest Authorization- UPDATED PROCESS

As a service to property owners and managers, the City of Santa Monica and the Santa Monica Police Department maintains a system for filing trespass arrest authorization letters ("trespass letters"). Trespass letters authorize SMPD officers to enforce trespassing laws without having the owner of the property or their agent present. Prior to January 1, 2024, owners of real property and their agents were required to submit the trespass letters every thirty days (occupied property) or six months (vacant property) online.

At the start of this year, California State Senate Bill 602 (Archuleta) changed the trespass letter requirements to increase the period for the trespass letter from 30 days to one year. The bill further requires that all trespass letters be notarized prior to submission.

1. Print out and complete the trespass letter form for each unique address for which you are submitting an authorization. https://santamonica.gov/media/Police/Trespass%20Arrest%20Authorization%20Form%20020824.pdf

2. Sign the form in the presence of a notary.

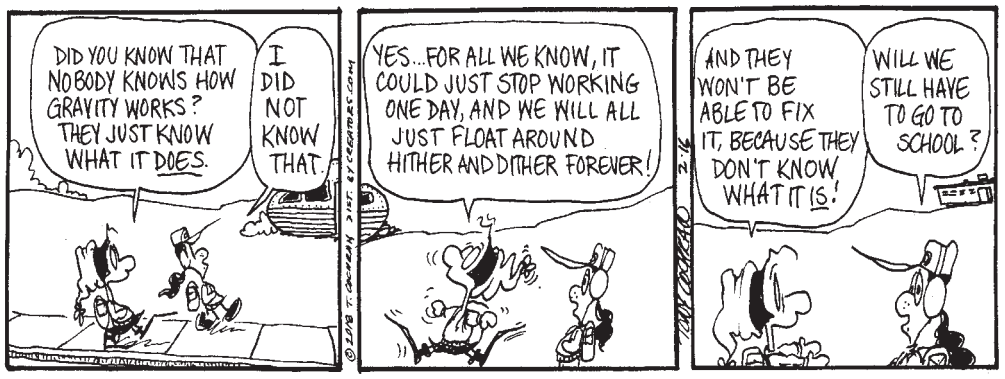
3. Mail or personally deliver the original notarized form to the Santa Monica Police Department at 333 Olympic Drive (Special Operations Division) Santa Monica, CA 90401.

For faster processing, the form can be scanned and emailed to HLPTeam@santamonica.gov. The original must still be delivered to the Santa Monica Police Department.

SUBMITTED BY SMPD

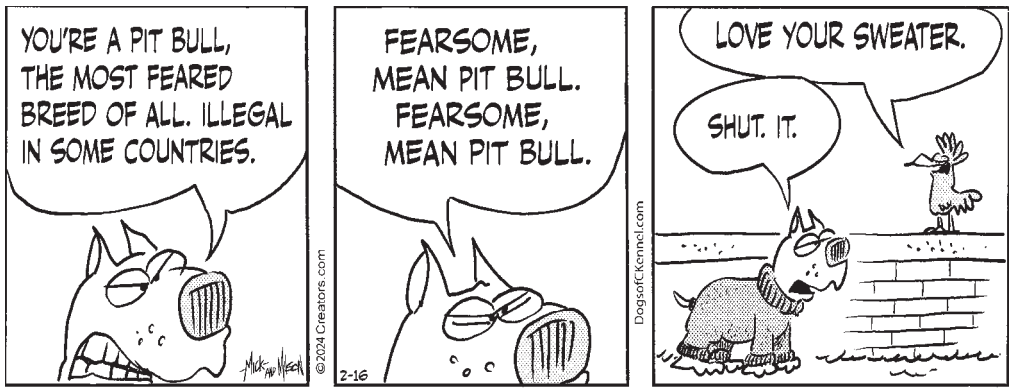
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



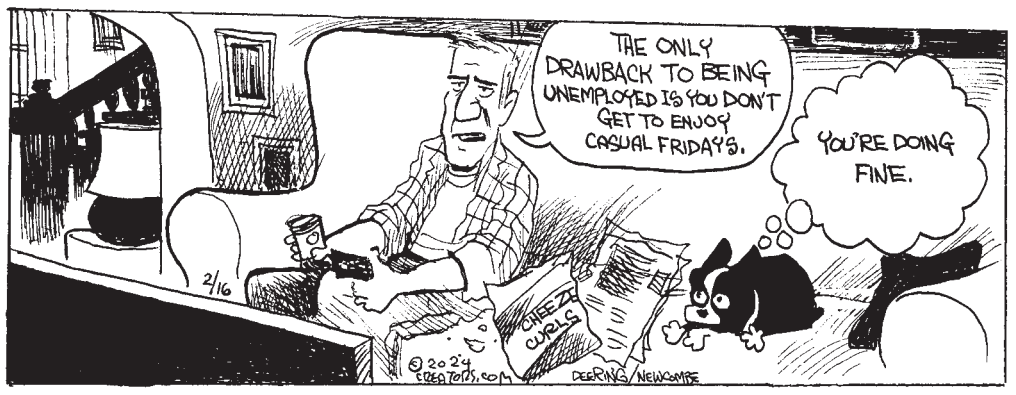
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"DOUBLE DATE."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 19 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

© australianwordgames.com.au 6122

Hiking in the Aussie bush

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

Acacia
Beauty
Bees
Bites
Bush
Cairn
Canoe
Care
Cheap
Corkwood
Cover
Creek
Damper
Danger
Dark
Dingo
Esky
Fish
Flies
Fresh
Galah
Gecko
Grid reference
Gums
Hats
Hike
Idle
Knife
Leaves
Look
Nest
Oaks
Owls
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Seasons
Shade
Slip
Smell
Soil
Spider
Spur
Tent
Track
Unique
Walk
Weeds
Yams

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Feb. 16)

You'll cultivate the right skills to give a lift to your dreams and the mood around you. You'll often be put in charge because you have the influence to nudge the action in a beneficial direction and the internal compass to know which way that is. More highlights: much music, culinary excellence and beauty comes your way as do games and bonuses. Aries and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 40, 16, 27 and 13.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). It's easy for you to help people see how they are special because you're in touch with your own uniqueness. Stereotypes aside, see people as individuals and recognize their unique qualities, characteristics and talents.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'll decline hectic agendas and recharge. Because you take breaks regularly and often, high productivity will continue by losing the hectic agendas and relaxing with people you enjoy.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). There's nothing to fear. If you're afraid it's because you're telling yourself a scary story. Follow it back. Take the individual facts and concoct an entirely different story — one that has a happy ending.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The best information isn't coming from the typical sources today, but your mind is open to everyone, all ages and expertise. When the message comes, you'll get it, act on it, make good and make money, too.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). In the thick of the pressure, you think back to where it started. They asked; you said yes. It seemed like the only nice thing to say at the time, although next time you'll try, "Can I get back to you?"

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The French culinary term "mise en place" or "everything in its place" refers to the peeling, cutting and measuring of ingredients before it's time to use them. This will apply outside the kitchen mostly. Your prep work will set you up for success.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Effectiveness requires some things to be judiciously overlooked. It's easy because you see that people are doing their best and acting in accordance with the understanding they currently hold. You find no fault in this.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). When you feel someone trying to persuade you, it is easy for you to resist. But when you don't know you're being influenced, the lure is strongly magnetic. Awareness keeps you in charge. Take your time. Make no rash decisions.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The Shirelles sang, "Mama said there'll be days like this / There'll be days like this, mama said." Worry not — these are the days that weave strength, humor and attractiveness into the beautiful fibers of your character.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're curious about people and this is true even of those you know very well. The magic question "what did you do today?" will bring real insight. When you have clarity in relationships, all moves smoothly forward.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You've a gift for accurately reading the room and delivering just what's needed to make a positive difference. Amazingly, you'll somehow observe nuances and get a feel for the big picture at the same time.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). There was a time when you had resources but no vision. There was another time you had vision without resources. Now you appreciate the position you're in as a stellar opportunity, if not a luxury.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

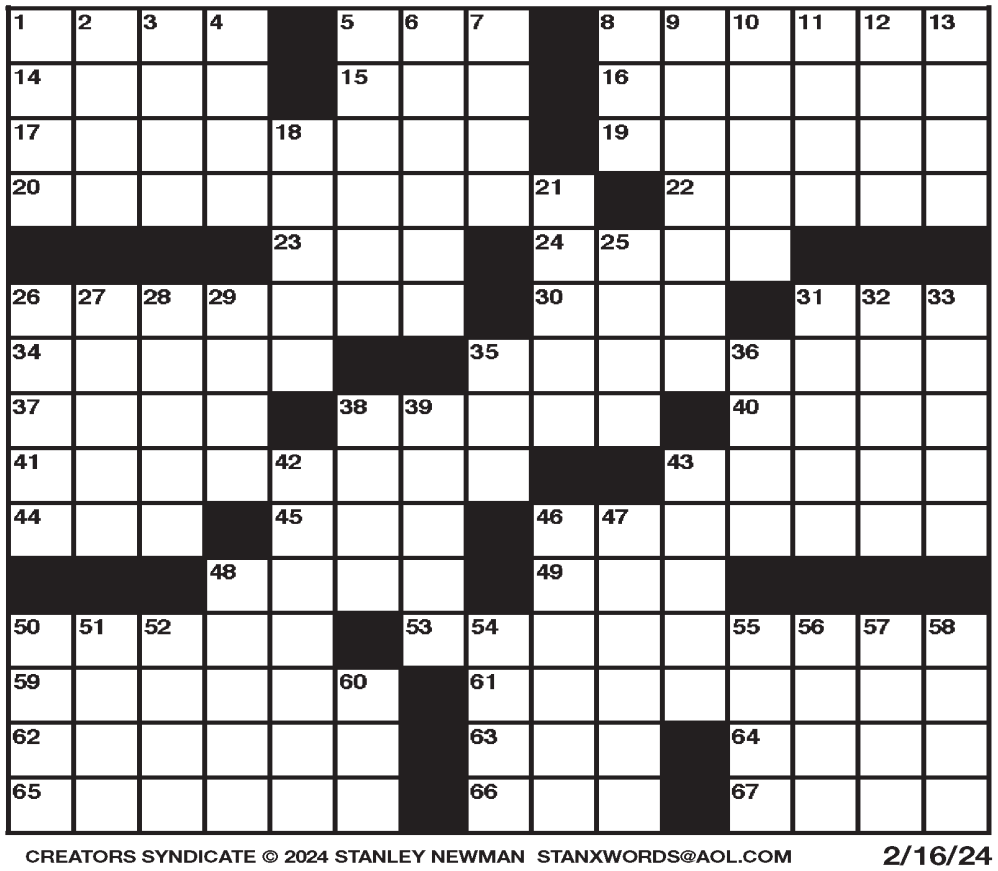
LOOK AROUND by Winston Emmons
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Look
5 Look
8 Look
14 Claim cogently
15 Fraction of a foot-pound
16 They're in the lead
17 Assuming as factual
19 Out at the moment
20 What ATMs need
22 Overdue
23 What Siri runs on
24 Without wind
26 Talkathon
30 Taking after
31 Navigation device
34 Strikingly bright
35 How an absentee might be there
37 Port near the Red Sea
38 Can't not
40 Table figures
41 Having cold feet
43 A way to say "sir"
44 Depend end
45 Clear away
46 Daughter of King Minos
48 Besides that
49 Goal of some sports
50 Alfredo alternative
53 Loads bait, say
59 Climate-changing current
61 Policy position
62 Slipped away from
63 Safari sighting
64 Slurpee rival
65 Look
66 Look
67 Look

DOWN

1 Look
2 Revlon rival
3 Piece of peel
4 Water that sounds weird
5 What some watches are
6 Physicist Rutherford
7 Custardlike
8 USMA stat
9 Run's end
10 Happy as ___
11 Opposite of alway
12 Neighborhood rep
13 Look
18 Had a bit of
21 Meager
25 "And don't forget . . ."
26 Look
27 Poet pal of Tolkien
28 Favre of football
29 "Done!"
31 Awe-inspiring
32 Climber's spike
33 Look
35 Adherent, at last
36 Plan of action
38 Anointed successor
39 Long range
42 One singing silky-smoothly
43 Pull a chair up to
46 Bard title character in a toga
47 Coast Guard operation
48 Peak of Crete
50 Look
51 *Cosmo* competitor
52 Nestled nicely
54 Lip or brim
55 Field of angles
56 It's on the Central American nation list
57 All over
58 Look
60 Not the norm



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



FRIDAY | FEBRUARY 16

TRANSFORMATION MEDITATION
Join Shaman Durek and immerse yourself in the transformative experience of "Energy Spectrum," a profound in-person meditation journey designed to harmonize your mind, body, and spirit. Guided by Shaman Durek's profound wisdom and expertise, and enhanced by the ethereal production and music by Natalia Alava, this meditation will embark you on a sacred exploration of vibrational frequencies. Begins at 7 p.m. at RA MA Los Angeles, 1729 21st St., Santa Monica. Tickets $45, can be purchased at: https://www.universe.com/events/energy-spectrum-meditation-with-shaman-durek-tickets-TPCY19.

THE NIGHT SKY SHOW
The Night Sky Show is a short program with the latest news in space exploration and astronomy. The program uses freeware sky visualization tools to show you the constellations planets and deep sky objects in the Southern California night sky. The show will last about 30 minutes followed by a short Q&A when guests can type questions into a chat box. Begins online on Zoom at 7 p.m. For more information, visit: https://www.smc.edu/calendar/index.php#event-details/7a27266e-426d-438e-89dc-be7db92574df.

WOMEN OF SPACE SERIES
There is a long list of distinguished (and often under-appreciated) women who have made critical contributions to astronomical research and significant advances in the fields of astronomy and space exploration. The show - the second installment of the Women of Space series - will shine a light on more of these often-hidden figures. Features lecturer Sarah Vincent. Begins online on Zoom at 8 p.m. For more information, visit: https://www.smc.edu/calendar/index.php#event-details/d3502855-f43d-4721-957f-49edd05c2eb5.

DANCE AT THE ODYSSEY
Odyssey Theatre Ensemble returns with its annual six-week celebration of contemporary dance that has established the company's unique "Dance at the Odyssey" festival as the go-to place to view new work by cutting edge companies and choreographers. Featuring Galiana & Nikolchev's "The Useless Room." Starts at 8 p.m. at the Odyssey Theatre, 2055 S. Sepulveda Blvd., Los Angeles. Tickets $25. For more, visit odysseytheatre.com.

BLACK VALENTINE'S
Harvelle's Santa Monica, 1432 4th St., hosts a "Black Valentine's" event featuring funk music artist Cliff Beach. The Berklee-trained singer/songwriter/keyboardist and DC native has created a style of music he coins as "Nu-funk," a hybrid of soul, traditional R&B, funk and neo-soul which he performs regularly throughout Southern California. Begins at 9:30 p.m. Tickets $10, two drink minimum. For more, visit santamonica.harvelles.com.

SATURDAY | FEBRUARY 17

CITRUS CARE AND PRUNING WORKSHOP
The monthly Pancakes in the Park will show some love for the Citrus Orchard with an Annual Citrus Care and Maintenance Program at Ishihara Park Learning Garden, 2909 Exposition Blvd., Santa Monica, beginning at 9 a.m. Led by the UC Master Gardener Orchard Team, the event covers proper tool use, techniques, tool cleaning, tree care and more, with hands-on opportunities to do pruning of the City's first and only public fruit orchard. In addition to gloves and pruners, please bring reusable plates, utensils and cups. Reserve your spot at the workshop at: https://portal.caclimateactioncorps.org/opportunities/xG72eyJFL1?%24.

ELKS LODGE OPEN HOUSE
The Santa Monica Elks Lodge #906, located at 1040 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica, will be celebrating their 120th birthday with a community celebration from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. There will be food and family fun including a Raptor Events animal presentation, bounce house, face painting, games and crafts. Santa Monica Elk members will be available for tours of the lodge and provide information about their history and charitable work. For more information, contact Gloria Steck at Gloriakiddsteck@yahoo.com or 310-463-1212.

NOTABLE FICTION BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP
Join a community-led discussion of award-winning current and classic fiction, held via Zoom. Contact library@santamonica.gov for the link. The Weight of Ink (Part II) by Rachel Kadish. 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

AUTHORS IN CONVERSATION: CURTIS CHIN & JEFF YANG
Curtis Chin (Everything I Learned, I Learned in a Chinese Restaurant) discusses his memoir about growing up as a gay Chinese American kid in 1980s Detroit. Jeff Yang (The Golden Screen: The Movies that Made Asian America) talks about the history of Asian Americans onscreen. A book sale and signing follows. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 1 - 2 p.m.

ZUMBA AND EXERCISE- IN AMHARIC
Join the fun as they Zumba and exercise for their health and wellbeing. The classes are in Amharic. Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave. 4 - 5 p.m.

SUNDAY | FEBRUARY 18

COLD PLUNGE & COLD BREWS WITH STILL LIFE & KLATCH
Explore the synergy of 'Cold Plunge + Cold Brews,' a collaborative event by Klatch Coffee and Still Life. Enjoy performance breathing guided by Ben Smith, cold plunging by Plunge, all natural energy bites by CAFF, plant based protein bars by MEZCLA, all alongside the distinctive flavor of Klatch Coffee's cold brews. Complimentary cold brews from Klatch, energy bites by CAFF, and protein bars by MEZCLA will be provided to all ticket holders, offering better-for-you ways to start your day. This event provides a unique opportunity to immerse in a morning of energy-inducing modalities, such as breathwork, cold plunging, energy bites, and even social connection. Agenda: 9 - 10 a.m. Performance breathing with Ben Smith 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Open cold plunging, Klatch cold brews, CAFF energy bites, MEZCLA protein bars, and connection Learn more about our partners and sponsors: - Still Life (@still.life) - Klatch Coffee (@klatchcoffee) - Ben Smith (@benveesmith) - CAFF (@eatcaff) - MEZCLA (@eatmezcla) - Plunge (@plunge). 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Still Life, 1041 Abbot Kinney Blvd, Venice. $20. https://momence.com/Still-Life/Cold-Plunge-%2526-Cold-Brews/99423678

SOUL FOOD & GOSPEL MUSIC - A BENEFIT FOR THE CHURCH IN OCEAN PARK
As a benefit for The Church in Ocean Park, 235 Hill Street. www.ciop4justice.org. Together for One Night Only we present the Extraordinary Arnae Batson, from Grammy nominated, Sweet Honey in the Rock and the Incomparable Linda Alvarez, who practically blew the roof off when she helped to celebrate the Grand Re-Opening of the Sanctuary. 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

MONDAY | FEBRUARY 19

MAIN LIBRARY BOOK GROUP DISCUSSION
Join a community-led online discussion of a wide range of books, chosen by the members. To register, email library@santamonica.gov. The Wright Brothers by David McCullough. 7 - 8:30 p.m.

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

TUESDAY | FEBRUARY 20

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS CLUB
Learn how to play Dungeons & Dragons, from crafting the perfect character to participating in an ongoing campaign. Materials provided. For ages 10-18. Montana Branch Library, 1704 Montana Avenue, 4:30 - 6 p.m.

MYSTERY BOOK GROUP DISCUSSION
This community-led, monthly book discussion group currently meets online/virtually via Zoom. To register, email library@santamonica.gov. February's selection is When No One Is Watching by Alyssa Cole. 7 - 8 p.m.

AUDIT SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING
the Santa Monica City Council adopted a resolution establishing an Audit Subcommittee to assist the City Council in fulfilling their oversight responsibilities for the financial reporting process, the framework for internal control, and the audit process. The Subcommittee consists of three members of the City Council and two City residents qualified to serve by virtue of their experience and expertise with governmental accounting and internal financial controls. Santa Monica Institute (SMI) Training Room, 330 Olympic Drive, 2nd Floor (Plaza Level) 6 p.m. https://www.smgov.net/departments/council/content.aspx?id=53159

WEDNESDAY | FEBRUARY 21

STUART HOUSE PRESENTS: SIMPLE STRATEGIES TO PREVENT CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE - VIRTUAL WORKSHOP
10 - 11 a.m. Conversations around body safety should happen in every family and can be done with ease and without fear or discomfort. Join this virtual workshop to discover how you can start this conversation with your child today.
Las conversaciones sobre la seguridad del cuerpo deberían ocurrir en todas las familias y se pueden hacer con facilidad y sin temor ni incomodidad. Venga a descubrir cómo puede iniciar esta conversación con su hijo/a hoy.
Online at https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYkde-tqzovH9xH6tI6ybCECrHRHZNVbIzX#/registration

FREE WALK-IN LEGAL CLINIC
Santa Monica residents can meet one on one with a lawyer from Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles for help with HOUSING issues. Third Wednesday of the month 4:30 - 7 p.m. at Virginia Avenue Park- Park Center. Immediate assistance is available by calling LAFLA directly at 800-399-4529 or visit lafla.org/gethelp. Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave.

AUTHORS IN CONVERSATION: RASHEED NEWSON & LAURA WARRELL
Author Rasheed Newson discusses his debut novel, My Government Means to Kill Me, a fast-paced coming of age story about a young, gay Black man in the mid-1980s, with fellow novelist Laura Warrell (Sweet, Soft, Plenty Rhythm). A book sale and signing follows. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 6 - 7 p.m.

CLEAN BEACHES COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING
The mission of the Clean Beaches & Ocean Parcel Tax Citizens Oversight Committee is to uphold the mission of the City of Santa Monica Watershed Management Plan: to restore a healthier balance between the urban environment and the natural ecosystem, including the Santa Monica Bay, by reducing the pollution in urban runoff, reducing urban flooding, and increasing water conservation, recreation opportunities, open space, and wildlife and marine habitat. The Citizens Oversight Committee consists of five (5) residents of the City of Santa Monica. The Clean Beaches & Ocean Parcel Tax Citizens Oversight Committee meets quarterly on the 2nd Wednesday of February, May, August, and November at 6:30 P.M. at the Civic Center Parking Structure, 330 Olympic Drive, 2nd floor Santa Monica Institute (SMI) Room, Santa Monica, California.
https://www.santamonica.gov/watershed-management

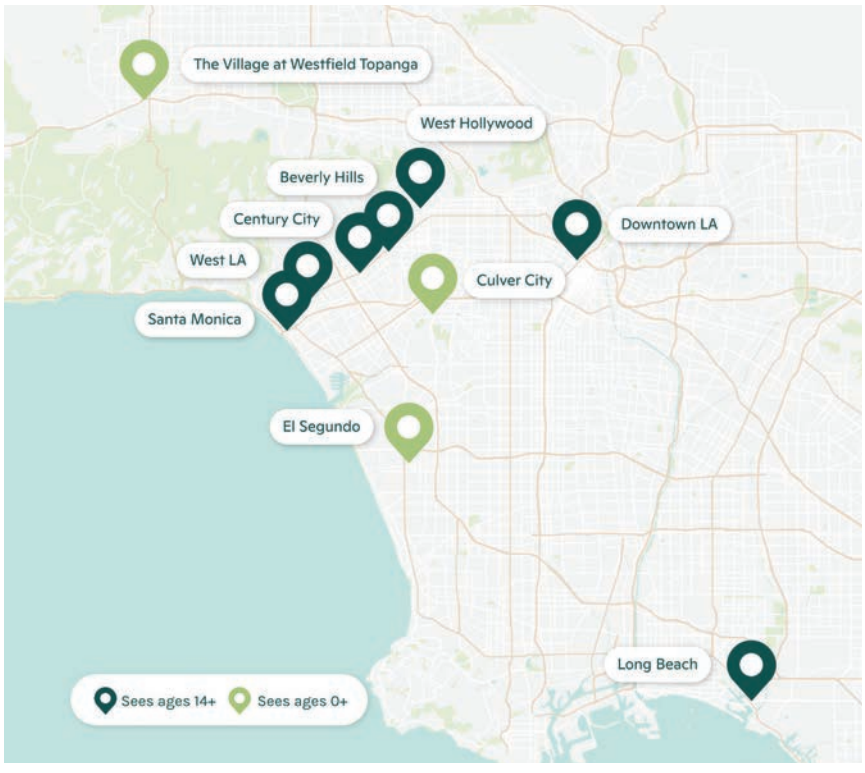
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