

2
Toxic Soil
Ben Allen wants a change.



5
Curious City
Two Pearls.

11
What's Up Westside
Calendar of events.

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New building on West LA VA campus to house 59 homeless and at-risk veterans

GRACE INEZ ADAMS
SMDP Staff Writer

Almost 60 formerly homeless veterans will receiving housing at the West Los Angeles Veterans Affairs (VA) campus just east of Santa Monica in Brentwood with the opening of the newly renovated Building 207 to serve veterans 62 and older who were formerly homeless or are considered at-risk.

Developed in partnership by The Veterans Collective, Century Housing, Thomas Safran and Associates and U.S. VETS, Building 207 is the first of 20 veteran housing and supportive services buildings planned for the West LA VA North Campus.

Many buildings on the 400 acre campus have gone unused for years and the VA has received criticism for not utilizing the land more effectively to house and provide services to veterans.

"Once complete, the West LA VA North Campus will have more than 1,200 units of veteran housing and a thriving community with services for 3,000 residents and veterans across Los Angeles County," Senior Vice President of Century Housing Brian D'Andrea said.

A lawsuit was filed against the agency by a group of homeless veterans in November 2022 for failing to build the promised 1,200 units sooner. Those who spoke at this week's event acknowledged this shortcoming but said that progress is being made, highlighting the opening of Building 207 as an example.

"Things are happening, we are making progress, it takes a while," Thomas Safran, Chairman of Thomas Safran and Associates told the audience.

Newly elected L.A. City Council Member for District 11 Traci Park which includes West L.A. also spoke at the event.

"Every veteran has a story, every veteran has a family and every

SEE **VETERANS** PAGE 7



Grace Inez Adams

OPENING: A new housing option for at-risk veterans opened yesterday.

Waymo takes testing to the next level in Santa Monica with no human sitting in the driver's seat

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

Waymo, the company behind the autonomous automobile's you've seen cautiously cruising up and down the streets of Santa Monica, has announced it will be advancing its testing to the next level, driving with no human so much as even sitting in the driver's seat.

Up until now, the testing has been carried out with an Autonomous Specialist sitting in the driver's seat, carefully watching every movement of the vehicle, with his or her hands resting only an inch or so away from the steering wheel at all times.

When this near-final phase of

SEE **WAYMO** PAGE 7



Scott Snowden

DRIVERLESS: The next phase of testing will remove human drivers from the vehicles.

Environmental sustainability remains a priority for the city

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

Nearly three decades ago, in 1994, the City Council adopted what it called the Sustainable City Program to address a growing concern for the environment. It was designed to help the community think, plan and act on environmental issues and provide criteria for evaluating the long-term impacts of our dwindling resources.

Nine years later in 2003, city staff recognized the need to provide a more comprehensive plan of action and proposed an effort to update and expand its expectations. The name was also changed to the Sustainable City Plan.

It was updated again in 2006 and 2014 and now includes goals and strategies for all sectors of the community to conserve and enhance the local resources and improve the quality of life for all community members in Santa Monica. And it will be presented to Council in March 2023 for updates once again.

"We've all heard this debate in many different ways about prioritizing economic growth at the expense of the environment. When we use data to inform our decision making, we can see that here in Santa Monica, that's simply an antiquated conversation. In fact, in the 25 year period between 1990 and 2015, jobs in Santa Monica

SEE **SUSTAINABILITY** PAGE 7



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California keeps sending toxic soil to out-of-state landfills — Newsom and legislators are slow to change course

BY ROBERT LEWIS
Special to the Daily Press

State lawmakers are planning an oversight hearing that will look into how California handles toxic soil from old industrial, military and other cleanup sites — waste contaminated with things such as lead, petroleum hydrocarbons and the infamous insecticide DDT.

A CalMatters investigation last month revealed businesses and government agencies routinely dispose of contaminated soil at landfills in Arizona and Utah — states with weaker environmental regulation and oversight — as opposed to in California where the waste would need to go to specialized hazardous waste disposal facilities.

Two of the most heavily used landfills are near Native American reservations in Arizona, including one landfill with a spotty environmental record.

California state and local government agencies largely oversee or directly manage the cleanup projects disposing the waste out of state. California's own hazardous waste watchdog — the Department of Toxic Substances Control — is one of the biggest out-of-state dumpers and has continued to take its toxic waste to Arizona despite the public revelations, according to information the department recently provided.

Gov. Gavin Newsom has positioned himself as a national leader on environmental issues. His office failed to respond to requests for comment both before and after CalMatters' initial report.

The as-yet unscheduled hearing had been planned to explore various hazardous waste issues, but the chair of the state Senate's Environmental Quality Committee said it will now also probe the out-of-state dumping.

"It's a real concern," said Santa Monica's Sen. Ben Allen. "I think at a gut level, everybody feels as though every state should be handling its own toxic waste and not sending it across borders to other states and countries with less stringent environmental standards."

CalMatters' reporting revealed that California businesses and government agencies have disposed of more than 660,000 tons of toxic soil in Arizona landfills since 2018 and nearly a million tons at a Utah landfill, according to data from the state's hazardous waste tracking system. That includes more than 105,000 tons from the state's cleanup of lead-contaminated soil in the neighborhoods around the old Exide battery recycling facility in Los Angeles County.

The out-of-state landfills are a cheaper option than California's two hazardous waste disposal facilities, which are in Kings and Kern counties.

The Department of Toxic Substances Control took most of the Exide residential cleanup waste to the South Yuma County Landfill, which Arizona environmental regulators in 2021 labeled as posing an "imminent and substantial threat" after an inspection noted windblown litter, large amounts of "disease vectors" (flies and birds), and groundwater with elevated levels of chromium – a metal that can harm people and the environment.

The landfill did make fixes to resolve those and other violations, according to Arizona regulators.

Exide waste has continued to go to that state. The Department of Toxic Substances Control shipped 52 loads of hazardous waste from the Exide residential cleanup to the Yuma landfill from Jan. 25 to Feb. 10, according to figures the department provided.



Photo by Miguel Gutierrez Jr., CalMatters
LANDFILL: The South Yuma County Landfill in Yuma, Arizona.

In Arizona, one lawmaker told CalMatters that she wasn't aware California was dumping so much hazardous waste in her state's landfills and called it "very concerning."

"Arizona is not a dumping ground and hauling California's hazardous waste so close to Arizona's agricultural hub and the Colorado River is asking for trouble no matter how many precautions they take," said Arizona state Rep. Mariana Sandoval, a Democrat whose district includes areas around the South Yuma County Landfill. "I would hope that our new governor will take a close look at this…and encourage California to find landfills in their own state for their own waste."

NEW PLAN COMING FOR CALIFORNIA TOXIC WASTE

As to whether Californians can expect any major policy change, officials largely pointed to a 2021 law requiring the state to craft a new hazardous waste management plan. As part of the process, the Department of Toxic Substances Control is scheduled to release a report in March looking at how much hazardous waste the state is generating and how it's being handled.

"The (Hazardous Waste Management) Plan will propose strategies for reducing hazardous waste generation, managing more waste in state, and addressing issues of concern, such as hazardous waste impacts to disadvantaged communities," according to a statement from the department.

A PROPOSED PLAN ISN'T DUE UNTIL SPRING 2025.

Asked how the state can justify continuing to dump hazardous waste in out-of-state landfills next to Native American reservations, California's secretary for environmental protection, Yana Garcia, declined an interview request but provided a written statement.

"The hazardous waste challenges we face across the country are decades in the making. While we know these issues won't be resolved overnight, California is fully committed to addressing this urgently, and we are prioritizing

SEE **SOIL** PAGE 8

US economy sending mixed signals: Here's what it all means

PAUL WISEMAN
AP Economics Writer

Maybe it was just too good to be true.

For a few weeks in late January and early February, the U.S. economy seemed to have reached a rare sweet spot. Inflation was steadily slowing from painful heights. And growth and hiring remained surprisingly sturdy despite ever-higher interest rates imposed by the Federal Reserve.

Perhaps, the thinking went, the Fed's inflation fighters were managing to nail a notoriously difficult "soft landing": A scenario in which borrowing and spending slow just enough to tame inflation without tipping the world's biggest economy into a recession.

"We were looking at landings that were pillow-soft," recalled Diane Swonk, chief economist at the accounting giant KPMG. "There was a bit of glee about that."

The financial markets roared their approval in the first six weeks of 2023, with stock prices surging on expectations that the Fed might soon pause and eventually reverse the series of aggressive rate hikes it began nearly a year ago.

Then something went wrong.

It began on Valentine's Day. The government said its closely watched consumer price index had surged 0.5% from December to January — five times the increase from November to December.

Over the next week and a half, two more government releases told essentially the same story: The Fed's drive to curb inflation wasn't even close to being won.

That realization brought a related worry: If high inflation was even stickier than we thought, then the Fed would likely keep raising rates — and keep them high — longer than was assumed. Those ever-higher borrowing rates would make it more probable that a recession, with layoffs and business failures, might occur.

"It's heartbreaking," Swonk said. "This has put the Fed back in defensive mode, and they're going to have to harden their resolve on rate hikes."

Unsurprisingly, the stock market has recoiled at the prospect.

Here's a closer look at the economy's vital signs at a perplexing time of high interest rates, still-punishing inflation and surprisingly strong economic gains.

INFLATION

Consumer inflation, not much of a problem, on average, since the early 1980s, started picking up in the spring of 2021 as the economy roared out of recession and Americans spent freely again. At first, Fed Chair Jerome Powell and some economists dismissed the resurgent price spikes as likely a temporary problem that would resolve itself once clogged supply chains had returned to normal.

But the supply bottlenecks lasted longer than expected, and so did high inflation. Worse, Russia's invasion of Ukraine a year ago sent energy and food prices rocketing. By June 2022, consumer prices were 9.1% higher than they'd been a year earlier — the hottest year-over-year inflation in more than four decades.

By then, the Fed had begun, belatedly, to respond. It has raised its benchmark rate eight times since March 2022 in its most aggressive credit tightening since the early 1980s.

In response, consumer inflation edged down from its mid-2022 peak. It posted milder year-over-year increases for seven straight months as supply chains unclogged and higher borrowing costs worked their way through the economy, putting a brake on overspending.

Financial markets appeared ready to declare the inflation dragon all but slain.

Then came January's unexpectedly hot consumer inflation data. Two days later, the government reported that wholesale prices had jumped 0.7% from December to January, nearly twice what forecasters had expected.

Next came bad news from the inflation gauge the Fed watches most closely: The government's personal consumption expenditures price index. It accelerated 0.6% from December to January, far above the 0.2% November-to-December uptick. On a year-over-year basis, prices rose 5.4%, up slightly from the annual increase in December and well above the Fed's 2% inflation target.

The PCE report "adds to the difficult if not impossible task facing the Fed in terms of getting inflation back to its 2% target without driving the economy into a ditch," said Joshua Shapiro, chief U.S. economist at the Maria Fiorini Ramirez Inc. consultancy.

One concern is that this time, inflation may prove harder to slow than it was initially. Households have increasingly shifted their spending away from physical goods like patio furniture and appliances to experiences like traveling, restaurant meals and entertainment events. Inflationary pressures, too, have shifted from goods toward services, where price acceleration can be harder to tame.

In part, that's because chronic labor shortages at stores, restaurants, hotels and other service-sector industries have led many employers in those industries to keep raising pay to attract or retain workers. Those employers, in turn, have generally raised their prices to make up for their higher labor costs, thereby fueling inflation.

Some economists expect the Fed to raise its benchmark rate by a substantial half-percentage point when it next meets March 21-22, after having announced only a quarter-point hike when it met Jan. 31-Feb. 1.

THE OVERALL ECONOMY

The flipside of the disquieting inflation news is good news on the state of the economy — or what would be considered good news in normal times. Even burdened by rising borrowing rates, the economy has proved stronger and sturdier than most forecasters had imagined.

"This economy today looks very different from where we thought it was in mid-January," said Peter Hooper, an economist at Deutsche Bank. "Before, we thought that things were slowing down, the labor market was softening, wage and price inflation was coming down."

With inflation pressures still persistent, Hooper said, "there's this growing expectation that the Fed has clearly more work to do."

The economy regained its footing last summer after enduring an anemic first half of 2022. The nation's gross domestic product — its total output of goods and services — contracted from January through March last year and again from April through June.

Though one informal definition of a recession is two straight quarters of negative growth, most economists set aside such concerns this time. They noted that the economy had shrunk in early 2022 because of factors unrelated to its underlying health: Leaner business inventories and a surge in imports, which widened the U.S. trade deficit.

GDP quickly regained momentum: It grew at a solid 3.2% annual rate from July through September and a 2.7% rate from October through December. Steady consumer spending contributed heavily to the growth.

Economists still foresee a recession sometime this year — they were always skeptical of a soft landing — but now see it coming later than they'd expected. A survey of 48 forecasters issued Monday by the National Association for Business Economics found that only a quarter of the respondents think a recession will have started by the end of March, down from half who had predicted so in December.

JOBS

The remarkable strength of the American job market has defied expectations throughout the economic tumult of the COVID years. 2021 and 2022 were the two best years for hiring in U.S. government records dating to 1940.

Job creation was expected to slow this year. Not so far. In January, employers added a blistering 517,000 jobs, far surpassing December's 260,000 gain. And the unemployment rate reached 3.4%, its lowest level since 1969.

What's more, American workers as a whole are enjoying nearly unheard-of job security despite some high-profile layoffs in technology and a few other sectors. The government's count of monthly dismissals and layoffs sank below 1.5 million for the first time in 2021 and has stayed there since. There are now about two job openings, on average, for each unemployed American.

But a robust job market also puts upward pressure on wages — and therefore on prices. Which means further inflation.

"The kind of wage gains we're seeing and the kind of tightness in the labor market is consistent with 3.5% to 4% inflation, not 2% or 3%," KPMG's Swonk said. "That's the hard reality of where we are."

CONSUMERS

Their jobs secure, their bank accounts still bolstered by pandemic-era savings, Americans have continued to spend, shrugging off higher interest rates and prices.

In January, retail sales rose at their fastest pace in nearly two years, rebounding from a tepid holiday shopping season. Even after accounting for inflation, consumers spent their after-tax dollars at the fastest pace since March 2021. Consumer spending on services, ranging from health care to dinners out to airline tickets, last year accounted for 95% of the economy's growth.

Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Analytics, estimates that consumers still have $1.5 trillion in "excess savings" — above what they'd have socked away if the pandemic hadn't hit — from government aid and from cutting back while stuck at home at the peak of the pandemic.

Still, inflation continues to cause hardships for millions of households. Adjusted for inflation, average hourly earnings have fallen for 22 straight months, government data shows. Many low- and middle-income families are turning to credit cards to sustain their spending.

HOUSING

The Fed's rate hikes, which so far have had only a limited effect on the overall economy, have walloped one industry: Housing.

Residential real estate depends on the willingness of people to borrow for what's typically the costliest purchase of their lives. As the Fed continually jacked up interest rates last year, the average rate on a 30-year fixed mortgage topped 7% last fall — more than double where it began 2022 — before dropping back slightly.

The damage has been severe. Sales of existing homes have dropped for a record 12 straight months, according to the National Association of Realtors. And the government's GDP report showed that investment in housing plunged at an annual rate of nearly 26% from October through December after having tumbled 18% from April through June and 27% from July through September.

AP Economics Writer Christopher Rugaber contributed to this report.

PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

PARTNER
Todd James
todd@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Matthew Hall
matt@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Charles Andrews,
Jack Neworth,
David Pisarra.

CIRCULATION
Guadalupe Navarro
ross@smdp.com

Keith Wyatt
ross@smdp.com

STAFF WRITERS
Grace Inez Adams
grace@smdp.com

Scott Snowden
scott.snowden@smdp.com

DIRECTOR OF ADVERTISING
Cindy Moreno
cindy@smdp.com

MARKETING MANAGER
Dina Araniva
dina@smdp.com

PRODUCTION
Esteban Inchaustegui
production@smdp.com

Julio Davalos
julio@smdp.com

Cristina Rios
cristina@smdp.com

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Santa Monica Daily Press

1640 5th Street, Suite 218
Santa Monica, CA 90401
OFFICE (310) 458-PRESS (7737)
FAX (310) 576-9913

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WINNER

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GET IT DAILY...

City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: Proposed amendments to the text of the Zoning Ordinance to establish an Outdoor Space Program allowing outdoor commercial activity on privately-owned property and consideration of other minor zoning changes related to economic recovery and emergency response, including two-year extensions of certain permit timeframes.

A public hearing will be held by the City Council to consider amendments to the text of Article 9 of the Santa Monica Municipal Code (Zoning Ordinance) allowing outdoor commercial activity on privately-owned property and consideration of other minor zoning changes related to economic recovery and emergency response, including two-year extensions of certain permit timeframes.

On January 25, 2023, the Santa Monica Planning Commission adopted Resolution Number 23-001 recommending to the City Council that the City Council adopt the proposed amendments to the text of the Zoning Ordinance.

DATE/TIME: **TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2023 AT 6:30 PM**

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

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

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

Address your comments to: City Clerk
Re: Outdoor Space Program & Economic Recovery Zoning Amendments

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

MORE INFORMATION:
If you want more information about this project, please contact Steve Mizokami at (310) 458-2200 ext. 2225 or by e-mail at steve.mizokami@santamonica.gov. For disability-related accommodations, please contact the City Clerk's Office at (310) 458-8211 or (310) 917-6626 TDD at least 72 hours in advance. Every attempt will be made to provide the requested accommodation. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines serve City Hall and the Civic Center area. The Expo Line terminus is located at Colorado Avenue and Fourth Street, and is a short walk to City Hall. Public parking is available in front of City Hall, on Olympic Drive, and in the Civic Center Parking Structure (validation free).

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

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

Final state emergencies winding down 3 years into pandemic

ADAM BEAM
Associated Press

California's coronavirus emergency officially ended Tuesday, nearly three years after Gov. Gavin Newsom issued the nation's first statewide stay-at-home order and just days after the state reached the grim milestone of 100,000 deaths related to the virus.

As California's emergency winds down, such declarations continue in just five other states — including Texas and Illinois — signaling an end to the expanded legal powers of governors to suspend laws in response to the once mysterious disease. President Joe Biden announced last month the federal government will end its own version May 11.

The end of California's order will have little to no effect on most people as Newsom has already lifted most of the state's restrictions, like those that required masks, closed beaches and forced many businesses to close. It offers a symbolic marker of the end of a period that once drastically altered the lives of the state's nearly 40 million residents.

Illinois' order will end in May alongside the federal order, while the governors of Rhode Island and Delaware recently extended their coronavirus emergency declarations. In New Mexico, public health officials are weighing whether to extend a COVID-19 health emergency beyond its Friday expiration date.

Texas, meanwhile, hasn't had any major coronavirus restrictions for years, but Republican Gov. Greg Abbott keeps extending his state's emergency declaration because it gives him the power to stop some of the states' more liberal cities from imposing their own restrictions, like requiring masks or vaccines. Abbott has said he'll keep the emergency order — and his expanded powers — in place until the Republican-controlled Texas Legislature passes a law to prevent local governments from imposing virus restrictions on their own.

The conflicting styles show that, while the emergencies may be ending, the political divide is not — foreshadowing years of competing narratives of the pandemic from two potential presidential candidates in Newsom and Abbott.

Newsom has used his authority to make sure all of California's local governments had restrictions in place during the pandemic, even threatening to cut funding to some cities that refused to enforce them. While California's emergency declaration is ending, other local emergencies will remain in place — including in Los Angeles County, home to nearly 10 million people.

The Los Angeles emergency order encourages mask use in some public places like business and trains and for residents who have been exposed to the virus. It will remain in effect for at least another month. Tuesday, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors will debate whether to end the order March 31.

Many public health experts say it makes sense that California's order is coming to a close.

"Three years ago, if you ... got infected you were rolling the dice about dying," said Brad Pollock, chair of the Department of Public Health Sciences at the University of California, Davis. "What's happened in the three years now is we have vaccines, we have antiviral therapy, we have much more knowledge about how we take care of patients in terms of supportive care. Your risk of dying is a fraction of what it was."

The Newsom administration's approach was to issue broad restrictions on what people could do and where they could go. California ended up faring better than other states, but they did worse than some other countries, like Sweden, said Jeffrey Klausner, professor of clinical population and public health sciences at the Keck School of Medicine at the University of Southern California.

"I think if we had better focused our resources on those most at risk, we probably could have avoided more deaths," he said.

The pandemic strained California's health care system, which has yet to fully recover, said Carmela Coyle, president and CEO of the California Hospital Association. She said hospitals remain overwhelmed — not from COVID patients, but from an influx of people returning to the health care system after staying away during the pandemic. She said a majority of California's hospitals are losing money, prompting fears some could close — just as a community hospital in the state's Central Valley did in December.

"While the state's COVID public health emergency is formally concluding, the health care system emergency remains," Coyle said.

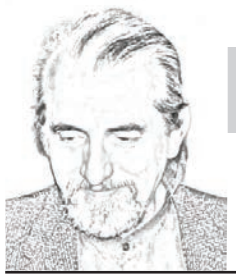
Health care workers have felt the strain, too, working long hours among people infected with a highly contagious and potentially life-threatening disease. The strain has prompted a workforce shortage, with competing proposals to remedy it. The California Hospital Association is asking for a one-time infusion of $1.5 billion to help keep hospitals afloat. Labor unions, meanwhile, are backing a bill that would impose a $25 minimum wage for health care workers.

Meanwhile, local public health departments worry the end of the coronavirus emergency will mean a return to limited funding for their budgets, an issue exposed in the early days of the pandemic when many counties did not have enough people to respond to the crisis. Newsom signed a budget last year that will spend $200 million to help public health departments hire more workers. This year, he's proposing cutting nearly $50 million in public health workforce training programs, part of his plan to cover a projected budget deficit.

"Public health is dependent on their frontline workforce, and that frontline workforce has to be skilled and trained and educated," said Michelle Gibbons, president of the County Health Executives Association of California.

Overall, Newsom's budget proposal would sustain $300 million in public health spending, including $100 million for 404 new positions in the state Department of Public Health, including areas of workforce training and emergency preparedness and response. The money will "modernize state and local public health infrastructure and transition to a resilient public health system," said H.D. Palmer, spokesperson for the California Department of Finance.

Associated Press journalists Christopher Weber in Los Angeles; Paul Weber in Austin, Texas; and Morgan Lee in Santa Fe, New Mexico, contributed reporting.



OPINION **CURIOUS CITY**

Charles Andrews | Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Two Pearls



Courtesy photo

POLITICS: Barack Obama is the subject of a recent documentary.

POLITICS - FEH

It's our downfall, our damnation. And, our salvation, our only way out.

If that sounds like a tough puzzle to solve, well, it is. But like scientists searching deepest space or researchers looking for that magic bullet against cancer, it is an endeavor worth putting our time, energy and hearts into.

I entered college with my childhood dream of becoming a doctor determining my choice of classes. One semester of the rigors of biology, chemistry and calculus punctured that dream, and I crawled off to seek a double major in psychology and political science, two areas that had always interested me. It didn't take long before I realized that I could not explain the world, to myself, through those lenses. So I fell back on what I knew I could do fairly well, writing, and eschewed an English major for the other writing choice that seemed more likely to provide a career living, journalism. Proving once again that God has a sense of humor. Journalism may not explain the world per se, but it provides a curious mind ways to peek behind the curtains, to better understand how it all works, the big picture.

PEOPLE TAKE REFUGE

In places that provide them with a different reality, at least for the moment, than what the world is forcing on them. Music of course. Sports. Nature. Yoga. Farming. Cloistered religious life. But when bombs are raining in on you, nothing counts but survival. Yes, I believe that peace on earth begins in each person's heart. But when so many peaceful hearts have been buried in the rubble of politics, are we closer or farther to that better world, better America, better Santa Monica? OK, so politics is dirty. So is sewage but you've got to have it, so you strive to make it a cleaner process.

Selecting good people is our only hope, through our established system. Not a third party. Not a revolution. So yeah, I'm saying that getting good (not perfect) candidates nominated in the Democratic Party is the path out. (Do I have to actually say it, that the anti-democracy, white supremacist, facts don't matter? GOP is a lost cause already gone over the cliff?)

WHICH BRINGS ME TO OBAMA AND MANPEARL

One you may not have heard of, but should.

CNN recently ran a documentary on B.H. Obama. And I was reminded clearly, emotionally, of how remarkable his presidency was. He accomplished so much, as the reviled first black President, with everything working against him.

He staved off a predicted great depression (can you imagine if the first black Prez let the banks fail?), saved the American auto industry, and gave us the Affordable Care Act, something that eluded every president since JFK. He cut unemployment by more than half, also homeless veterans numbers, supported marriage equality, ended the war in Iraq and began the drawdown of troops in Afghanistan (and he got Bin Laden). He secured the landmark Iran Nuclear Agreement (which Trump threw in the trash), pushed and signed the equal pay for women act – among many others. Oh yeah, and won the Nobel Peace Prize. All without a single scandal throughout his entire cabinet and staff, foe eight. The best jump shot, and by far the funniest President. And who can forget how he brought the church to its feet in Charleston by unexpectedly launching into "Amazing Grace"? Lots of credit there, because the man cannot sing.

So, add Obama to my short list of good (if far from perfect) politicians, who improved many lives and made this a better country, but how does this guy Manpearl get mentioned in the same column?

JERRY MANPEARL

Is a longtime Santa Monican who also believes we can make things better through politics, and has put his money where his mouth is. Or, other people's

SEE **CURIOUS CITY** PAGE 8

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

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

- **RFP: #348 BUSINESS LICENSE TAX MODERNIZATION**
- **Submission Deadline Is March 10, 2023, at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.**

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

City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION

SUBJECT: **To Inform Development of the FY 2023-24 Action Plan for use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Home Investment Partnership Act (HOME) funds**

Notice is hereby given that the City of Santa Monica will hold a public hearing to receive community input to inform the development of the 2023-24 Annual Action Plan, which must be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) at least 45 days prior to the beginning of the new program year. The Annual Action Plan delineates the City's specific projects and activities for one-year use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME funds to address the City's housing and community development high-priority needs as specified in the Council-adopted 2020-24 Consolidated Plan, which can be viewed at: https://www.santamonica.gov/community-development-block-grant-and-home-investment-partnership-programs

DATE/TIME: **THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2023 AT 7:00 PM**
Check agenda at www.smgov.net/rpc prior to meeting to confirm start time

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

HOW TO COMMENT:
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. Members of the public unable to attend a meeting but wishing to provide comment on this item may submit written comments prior to the public hearing via email to CCS.Mailbox@santamonica.gov or via mail to 1685 Main Street, Mail Stop 22, Santa Monica, California 90401. Written public comment submitted before 12:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be distributed to the Recreation and Parks Commission prior to the meeting and will be available for online viewing. All written comments shall be made part of the public record. Please note the agenda item number in the subject line of your written comments.

You may also comment in person at the Recreation and Parks Commission meeting. Please check the agenda at www.smgov.net/rpc for more detailed instructions on how to comment in person. The agenda will also be posted at the Santa Monica Institute room, located at 330 Olympic Drive in Santa Monica at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting.

ACCOMODATIONS:
For disability-related accommodations, please contact the Community Services Department at (310) 458-8701 or CCS.Mailbox@santamonica.gov at least three days prior to the scheduled meeting. Every attempt will be made to provide the requested accommodation.

ESPAÑOL:
Esto es un aviso de audiencia pública para invitar a cualquier parte interesada a participar en la preparación del Plan de Acción Anual del Año Fiscal 2023-24. Si necesita más información, por favor llame a Ivy Chang en la División de Vivienda y Servicios Humanos al número (310) 458-8701.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Power payments

Dear Editor,

I'd like to let other Santa Monica solar panel customers who switched to the Clean Power Alliance (CPA) in 2019 know that like me, they may not be compensated for their excess energy production. Because of this, I am switching back to SCE as my energy provider.

We installed solar panels on our home in 2018. As the State of California requires, our capacity was designed to be just over our consumption.

When Santa Monica moved to the CPA in 2019, we did not opt out of moving from SCE as the CPA said we would be paid 10% more than the SCE rate for our surplus energy.

I finally took the time to review our CPA bills to understand our compensation for our surplus energy. Since the value of our surplus energy for each year ending in April was less than $100, CPA did not send us a check, but gave us a credit for the new year's Net Energy Monitoring (NEM) credit balance that each month's surplus or deficit energy is tracked for the year.

The issue is that when we start using more energy than we generate, typically in November, they charge the deficit against the surplus energy credit first. We have a positive NEM credit balance throughout and at the end of each year. This is reset to zero at the end of the year, so the end result is that we are not receiving any payment for our surplus energy.

Because CPA doesn't send checks to customers whose excess energy value is less than $100 and that they then use this credit first (they explained that they are doing this as a standard accounting practice of first in, first out) we never get paid for our surplus energy.

CPA knows of this issue but is not doing anything to address it. The CPA service representative suggested I bring it up to the Board of Directors to try to get them to address it. I've already spent too much time on this so I'm just switching back to SCE who did pay us for our excess energy before we moved to CPA.

Karen Melick, Santa Monica

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While California wearies of snowstorms, Northeast greets one

JAE C. HONG, AMY TAXIN AND MARK PRATT
Associated Press

Jennifer Cobb and her husband planned on staying four days in their vacation rental in Southern California's San Bernardino Mountains. But that stretched into a week as they were trapped by a relentless series of storms that has piled snow so high they can barely see out the windows.

When they try to shovel themselves out, it just snows again. They're thinking of walking to a main road to see if they can hitch a ride down the mountain so they can get home to their teenage daughter and Cobb's elderly father in San Diego County.

"We hear the phantom sounds of plows, but they never come," she said. "Being stuck up here in this beautiful place shouldn't be awful, but it is."

Cobb and other beleaguered Californians weathered yet another storm Tuesday, as blizzard warnings blanketed the Sierra Nevada range in the northern half of the state, more snow was on its way to the southern mountains like the San Bernardino range, and forecasters warned that any travel was dangerous.

On the eastern flank of the Sierra, the Mono County Sheriff's Office bluntly tweeted: "The roads are closed. All of them. There is no alternate route, back way, or secret route. It's a blizzard, people."

San Bernardino County has declared a state of emergency, with mountain residents trapped in their homes and motorists stranded. More snow was expected in many communities where residents, unable to drive through deep snow on roads that were closed anyway, largely got around on foot.

The latest storm in California was one of two bookending the country, with snow closing or delaying the opening for hundreds of schools in the Northeast, which saw the most significant snowfall Tuesday of what has been a mild winter.

And Michigan again fought a battle with ice after a storm Monday left thousands of customers without power in the central part of the state. To the southeast, around Detroit, some customers still lacked power for a sixth day after a prior storm.

The storms have delayed travel, shuttered schools and overwhelmed crews trying to dig out of the snow and repair downed power lines. Nationwide, there were about 500 commercial flight cancellations and more than 2,000 delays on Tuesday, according to FlightAware.com.

In the West, the weather was expected to last into Wednesday, with winter storm warnings stretching from the Oregon coast to many of Southern California's already-snow-laden mountains.

In the San Bernardino mountain community of Running Springs, the town is covered in snow with some mounds piling more than six feet high. Some residents walked to a grocery store to stock up on food and carried back the bags atop a plastic sled.

In nearby Crestline, Michael Johnstone said his family's grocery store was running low on key inventory even though they stocked up before the storm. Authorities are escorting two full grocery trucks up to the mountain community, Johnstone said — just in time for the new storm to add as much as a foot of snow.

"We're completely out of bread. Milk is getting really light. We're almost completely out of produce," said Johnstone, of Goodwin and Sons Market. "Beer — domestic beer — is really, really low."

With 5 feet of snow on the ground, Johnstone said many of the store's employees can't make it to work, so he has been using a plow truck to shuttle them to and from work for limited hours. Most customers are coming in on foot.

For California's skiers and snowboarders, the parade of storms was too much of a good thing. Most resorts around Lake Tahoe suspended operations Tuesday. Big Bear Mountain Resort opened, but all roads leading there remained closed. Mount Baldy Resort on the massive peak that looms over greater Los Angeles opened but also anticipated an early closure.

But California's Sierra snowpack, which provides about a third of the state's water supply, continued to benefit from the back-to-back dumps of heavy snowfall. The water content of the snowpack Tuesday — in a state grappling with years of drought — was 186% of normal to date and 162% of the average on April 1, when it is historically at its peak, according to the state Department of Water Resources' online data.

In the Northeast, parts of Connecticut, New York, Massachusetts, New Jersey and Rhode Island had heavy snow forecast through Tuesday afternoon. Some areas of western Massachusetts and northern Connecticut were left with about 7 inches of snow. Two to 5 inches of snow fell across New York City, depending on the borough. The Albany, New York, area saw less snow than expected — 2 to 5 inches — but enough to close schools.

Harry Craven, the owner of Highland True Value Hardware and Bike Shop in Holyoke, Massachusetts, said there hasn't been much snow this winter and in the past couple of days residents have come in seeking ice melt and shovels. Deke Andrew, a Maine snowboarder, said he couldn't imagine such a thing as too much snow. The 51-year-old is living out of his Sprinter-style van at Sugarloaf, and was out snowboarding as snow was falling Tuesday.

"There really isn't any such a thing as too much snow in the wintertime," Andrew said. "We want as much as we can possibly get. It's incredible, and gives a purpose to the cold weather."

Taxin reported from Orange County, California, and Pratt from suburban Boston. Contributing to this report were Associated Press journalists David Sharp in Maine, Dave Collins in Connecticut, Julie Walker in New York City and John Antczak in Los Angeles, along with other AP journalists around the country.

LET US KNOW YOUR OPINION
Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

VETERANS

FROM PAGE 1

veteran has needs while they are on active duty and often even long after they return home," she said. "But tragically, too many of those stories are never heard, and while their families make sacrifices during deployments, and oftentimes for many years or decades afterwards, military families are not always adequately supported and all too often the individual needs of our veterans are not met."

There are an estimated 33,000 homeless veterans in the US, approximately 4,000 of which are in the LA area.

Tanya Bradsher, chief of staff at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs emphasized the need for continued work to address the issue.

"To be clear, this is just one step in a very long road and the work ahead of us is also a step in the right direction to end veteran homelessness," she said. "While today is the ribbon cutting ceremony, and we all know it's so much more than that, it's also about providing a home for 59 veterans that reflects the honor and dignity owed to them through their service and their sacrifice. It's about ensuring that the words 'homelessness' and 'veterans' never exist together."

grace@smdp.com



Grace Inez Adams

OPEN: Los Angeles officials gathered at the facility for the ribbon cutting this week.

WAYMO

FROM PAGE 1

testing begins, it will be the first time any fully autonomous car has driven in the Los Angeles metropolitan area.

Formally known as the Google Self-Driving Car Project, development began back in 2009 when the Waymo team — which is owned by the parent company of Google, Alphabet — was able to drive autonomously over 10 uninterrupted 100-mile routes in a significantly modified Toyota Prius.

Once the stuff of science fiction, these self-driving cars are becoming a common sight on our streets, they are also being tested in Koreatown, Downtown, the Miracle Mile, West Hollywood as well as the City of Santa Monica.

Waymo also announced that it had reached one million rider-only miles in January of this year. According to the San Francisco-based tech company, the milestone was achieved after ride-hailing operations began in 2019 in the East Valley region of the Phoenix metro area, followed by San Francisco in March 2022 and the area around downtown Phoenix in May 2022.

During this time, there were no reported injuries, no events involving vulnerable road users, and no intersection related events. There were 18 minor contact events that were too minor to meet the tow-away and police-report criteria, with 55 percent of those being the result of a human driver hitting a stationary Waymo vehicle. Every vehicle-to-vehicle event however, was the result of a human driver violating road rules and/or behaving dangerously.

Only two collisions were comparable to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's Crash Investigation Sampling System, a nationally representative collision database of collisions that were police reported and in which at least one vehicle was towed.

"For autonomous driving technology to gain public acceptance, we work everyday to earn the trust of the public. We believe that transparency and accountability are paramount for AVs' [autonomous vehicles] long-term success, and we'll continue to share meaningful safety information, and encourage others to do the same," Waymo said on its official blog.

The heavily modified "fifth generation" Jaguar I-Pace all-electric SUV features an extensive array of sensors and instruments, including LiDAR, which stands for Light Detection and Ranging. While the Waymo vehicles also incorporate cameras and radar, LiDAR offers a level of accuracy for 3D mapping at a resolution hundreds of times higher than radar and there are several of these mounted over the exterior in key positions.

Given the recent flurry of incidents involving Tesla and in particular its recent recall of nearly 363K vehicles with 'Full Self-Driving' to fix flaws in behavior, it's no surprise that public opinion remains skeptical.

scott.snowden@smdp.com

SUSTAINABILITY

FROM PAGE 1

increased by 51 percent and emissions went down by 20 percent," said Shannon Parry, Chief Sustainability Officer at City of Santa Monica.

Three primary environmental sustainability goals were outlined, water self sufficiency by 2023, zero waste by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2050 or sooner.

It's impossible to escape noticing that climate change has created a volatile water cycle in Southern California, characterized by periods of record-setting drought or intense heavy precipitation that has disrupted consistency in water availability and reliability across the region.

However, the goal of achieving 99 percent locally sourced water by 2023 has been impacted by the 2020 Regional Housing Needs Assessment and the Covid-19 Pandemic and may be impacted by as much as 20 percent, but this impact could potentially be mitigated through increased water conservation efforts to achieve 85-90 percent water self-sufficiency.

"Cumulative reduction in water demand through October 2022 is holding steady at almost 22 percent below 2013 levels and 1 percent below 2020 levels. Residential per capita water use has declined from over 100 gallons per day in 2013 to just 76 gallons per day in 2022. These are meaningful permanent reductions in water use," said Parry.

The second goal outlined was to attempt to achieve zero waste by 2030, which requires a 75 percent reduction of organic waste disposed of in landfills by 2025 and to rescue at least 20 percent of currently disposed edible food by 2025 and redirect that food to people in need. As part of this, a new mandatory recycling ordinance was adopted in November 2021 where all single- and multi-family households and commercial customers are required to separate waste using a three-bin system: black for refuse, blue for non-organics recycling such as cardboards and bottles, and green for organics recycling.

Finally, the City adopted a plan of action in 2019, which sets a goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 or sooner. The City's 2020 greenhouse gas emissions inventory found that 62 percent of emissions were generated from the transportation sector, 23 percent were generated by energy use in buildings, and 6 percent of emissions were the result of landfilled waste.

While clearly, there is still much work to be done, the City has made significant strides forward. Santa Monica was one of the first cities in the nation to ban polystyrene food service containers in 2007 and single-use plastic bags in 2011. Electrification and decarbonization in new and existing buildings is progressing and the installation of electric vehicle charging stations continues across the city.

"Addressing the existential threat of climate change is a priority for our community," Parry told the Daily Press. "After switching to 100 percent green power, we are focused on electrifying buildings and vehicles as the primary pathways to carbon neutrality. We now require that all new buildings be fully electric.

"While this will drastically reduce emissions from new buildings, most emissions from the building sector come from existing buildings. Now our emphasis is on replacing natural gas appliances with electric options such as heat pump hot water heaters for water and space heating. This movement away from burning gas will significantly lower the carbon footprint of existing buildings and improve indoor air quality."

scott.snowden@smdp.com



Courtesy Photo

GARBAGE: Santa Monica has three different bins for different kinds of waste.

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CURIOUS CITY

FROM PAGE 5

money, toward good candidates he believes in. In partnership with his wife of nearly 40 years, Jan Goodman, he has been a force in Democratic politics for at least a quarter century. When they bought a rambling home on San Vicente in 2000, it wasn't with the intention of making it a gathering place for causes and candidates, but that happened before they even got moved in.

Grass not planted, inside unfinished, they decided on a Wednesday to have a fundraiser for a candidate Jerry's age that their contractor recommended, leafletted the neighborhood, and were amazed (and inspired) by the turnout. That candidate was Santa Monica resident Tom Hayden. Their most recent guest was Karen Bass, now LA's new mayor. In between, some non-politicians, "solid folk," Jan said, like author Gore Vidal.

Their very large, gated front yard, long covered porch and the pool area, combine to accommodate large groups outside. At these events the kitchen is constantly churning out great vittles and drinks, while guests mingle, meet, discuss. Many is the time I've had an edifying chat there with someone I am on opposite sides with, for local politics. That's a good and important thing, because it shows the human side of even those we strongly disagree with. Everybody wants the best for Santa Monica (though those ideas might be radically different), everyone wants to feel safe, wants the best for their kids and grandkids. That's exactly what Jerry and Jan meant to foster with their gatherings, besides promoting candidates and causes they believe in. (Universal healthcare has always been a big one for them.)

There's more to tell about Jerry Manpearl, and I plan to, next column, but I'm writing now because he is in deep water. Admitted two weeks ago for something minor he got pneumonia, lost the use of one lung and couldn't breathe. The good docs got him through with a regimen that could only last two weeks. It ended yesterday but I don't know the results. When they pull all the plugs he will hopefully be able to breathe on his own, because the down side is not pretty.

So please send some collective goodwill to this local man of goodwill. He may be, as Jan says, the star of ICU for his hand gestures, funny texts and ebullient spirits, but this is a moment he needs the cosmic vote to go his way, so we can have this guy around for quite a while longer. He is, after all, a pearl of a man.

Charles Andrews has lived in Santa Monica for 37 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

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DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2022221544 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 10/11/22. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as BAR MONETTE 100 WILSHIRE BLVD., STE 1600 SANTA MONICA CA 90401 County of LOS ANGELES If corporation or LLC- Print State of Incorporation/Organization:. The full name of the registrant(s) is/are SMJW, LLC 100 WILSHIRE BLVD., STE 1600 SANTA MONICA CA 90401 If corporation or LLC- Print State of Incorporation/ Organization: CA. This Business is conducted by: LLC. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date) 09/2022. Registrant/Corp/ LLC Name /s/: JEFFREY M. WORTHE TITLE: VICE PRESIDENT. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 10/11/22. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish, 10/17/22, 10/24/22, 10/31/22, 11/07/22. 02/15/23, 02/22/23, 03/01/23, 03/08/23.

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Four-piece faux leather living room set for sale, as is. Buyer must pick up. Sofa, Lounge Chair, Ottoman, Low-Profile Table. Photos available. $500 or best offer secures.

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LOCATION 1640 5th Street, Suite 218, Santa Monica, CA 90401

SOIL

FROM PAGE 2

investing in the search for solutions to do so," according to her statement.

She said the bill that led to the hazardous waste planning process as well as more stable funding for the department "improved our ability to address this and other toxic waste challenges. Enhancing DTSC's regulatory oversight and requiring the research and public engagement necessary to come to consensus on solutions moves us in the right direction, but our path to achieve on-the-ground improvements will require true partnership with a multitude of stakeholders and a fundamental shift in how we produce, treat, and handle hazardous waste, across the board."

HAZARDOUS WASTE LANDFILLS IN SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

Regulators, environmental advocates and lawmakers said the issue is complicated and any solution is likely to be controversial.

California is limited in its ability to regulate interstate commerce. State regulators said there's not much they can do to stop private entities from taking waste across the border.

And California has only two hazardous waste landfills, both of them in the San Joaquin Valley: the Kettleman Hills Facility in Kings County and the Buttonwillow landfill facility in Kern County.

On paper, the sites appear to have enough space to take contaminated soil. Last year, Jennifer Andrews, a spokeswoman for WM (formerly known as Waste Management Inc.), which operates the Kettleman Hills facility, told CalMatters the site "has enough capacity to meet the State of California's hazardous waste disposal needs."

"We also have plenty of space to meet the needs of (Department of Toxic Substances Control) waste for years to come, providing the agency permits new disposal units at our site."

But the two landfills have been controversial. Both were the subject of numerous regulatory violations over the years and advocates have long protested about the sites, which are near communities of color. In 2014 the Department of Toxic Substances Control approved an expansion at Kettleman Hills, prompting environmental justice and community groups to file a civil rights complaint, records show.

Bradley Angel is executive director of Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice, one of the groups that filed the complaint, which ultimately led to a settlement agreement including provisions for more health assessment and environmental monitoring, state records show.

"They need some other alternatives and the reality is I don't see them building another hazardous waste landfill," Angel said.

He said there's "not the political appetite."

Indeed, the Department of Toxic Substances Control appeared to acknowledge as much in a 2017 report that looked at ways to reduce hazardous waste including treating more contaminated soil on site as opposed to excavating it. The report cited a "difficulty in gaining consensus in the siting of new facilities" as leading to a focus on strategies to reduce the amount of hazardous waste generated.

In other words, if you can't build more sites to take hazardous waste because nobody wants it in their backyard, then you better figure out a way to make less of it.

CLEANING UP HAZARDOUS SOIL

California's efforts to address a long history of environmental harm at old industrial and military installations produces hundreds of thousands of tons of toxic soil each year.

The Department of Toxic Substances Control "is trying to remediate contamination that was created over decades by unscrupulous private sector actors. Now, does that mean they ought to be dumping in Arizona?" Sen. Allen asked.

The senator said his committee will hold an oversight hearing on the Department of Toxic Substances Control some time this year. Other topics will likely include recent reporting from the Los Angeles Times suggesting the state isn't ensuring properties around the Exide facility are properly cleaned of lead-contaminated soil.

"There's not an easy answer here. But that doesn't mean that we accept the status quo," Allen said.

Other states could, of course, also take action. Oregon in the late 1980s adopted a rule that effectively bars California from dumping hazardous waste in that state's regular landfills. Nevada has a similar rule. (California disposed of a large amount of contaminated soil at a Nevada facility in recent years, shipping records show. But that site is designed and permitted to handle hazardous waste.)

The lawmaker whose district includes an area around the South Yuma landfill said Arizona legislation to restrict California's dumping is possible.

"Nobody wants that in their backyard," Sandoval said. "Obviously California doesn't want it in their backyard. That's why they're bringing it over to us."

Utah legislators CalMatters reached out to didn't respond to requests for comment. Regulators in that state recently signified their intent to deny a permit for a landfill on the banks of the Great Salt Lake that CalMatters reported was planning to take California's contaminated soil. CalMatters reported in January that the company behind the project filed an economic analysis with its state regulators calling the toxic soil a "unique market opportunity created by California law."

The proposed permit denial indicates there is already enough landfill capacity to handle Utah's waste needs.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.



TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 1)

Counter intuitively, the most formidable warrior is peaceful inside. The decisive, powerful action you take this year comes from a placid center. You'll achieve this core of calm through habits and practices aimed at your physical and mental strength. The calm also allows you to love freely, have fun in relationships and make exciting things happen. Libra and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 3, 30, 1, 11 and 12.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). While there are those who resist work, your industriousness exists in you as a basic drive, which today feels equal to the need for food, shelter and companionship. There's something you must do, and you will.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You've been the guest, and soon it will be your turn to be the host. The more planning you do in this regard, the better. You have the bright ideas and the organization it takes to execute brilliantly.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You haven't always been given your due care and respect, but you're not bitter. You'll be visited by the ghosts of the past, memories you could interpret numerous ways. You'll choose the most empowering.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Big plans take time to come together. The enormity of a task makes it seem daunting, but the castle is built brick by brick. Faith is an essential ingredient. Believe, keep working, and much will be achieved.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You're aware of the image you uphold, but you're also not too proud to do what needs to be done. The work at hand may be tedious and unglamorous, but it is also simple and pays directly, making it well worth the effort.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Make the distinction between compromise and sacrifice or resignation. A compromise will bond the relationship, but giving too much or settling for less than you could have will seed resentment.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The schedule may be predictable, but your mood won't be, and this changes everything. You may do the same action again, but you're never the same person twice. You'll surprise yourself in the best ways.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). What you've done so far with a project has not worked the way you wanted it to. Now you'll go about things very differently. Instead of trying to solve the problem, you'll solve yourself and the problem disappears.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Address the things that are bothering you, ideally with someone who is not involved. This will help you gain perspective. Once you get objectivity on the matter, you'll see your way to a considerate strategy.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The goal is still far off, so enjoy where you are now. There's no reason to delay your happiness. People who are successful may or may not be happy, but people who are happy are always successful.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). As impressive as a person's accomplishments may be, exemplary characters decide who they want to work and play with based on other criteria. What someone has done is less important than how they treat people.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). It is a rare soul indeed who can love unconditionally, give selflessly and accept the whole of another person. Even if it happens inside a single moment, or a season of life, it's to be cherished.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

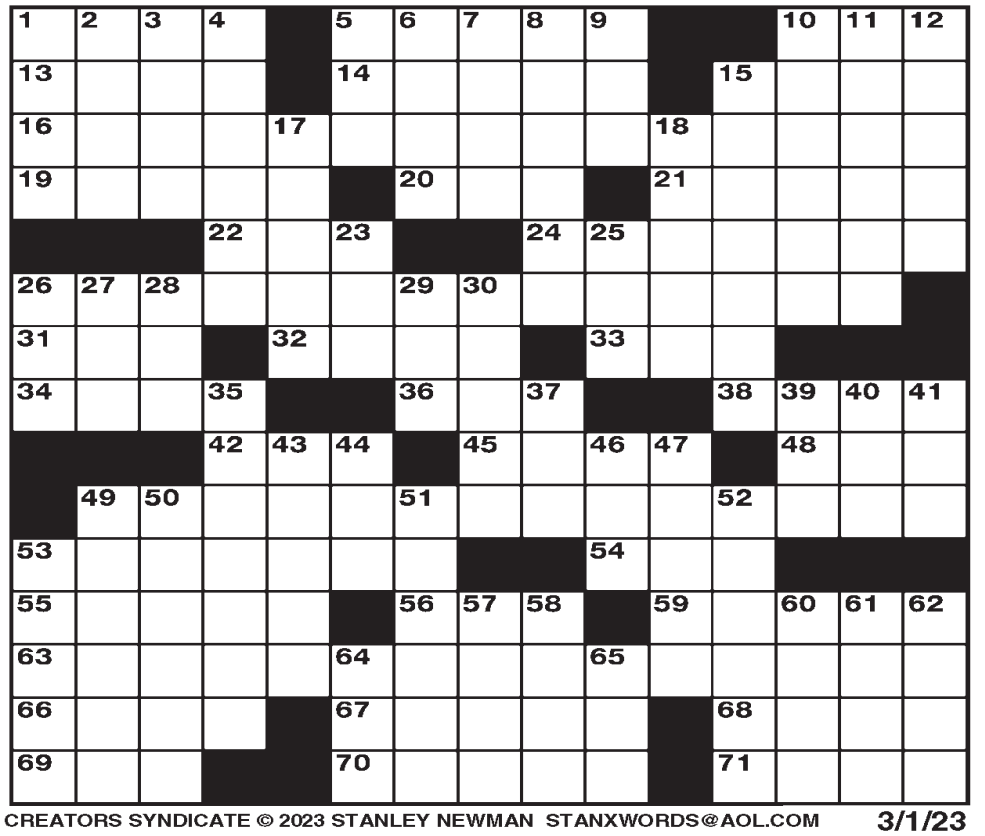
		7	2		5	3		
	9		1		7			
	4							1
4	2	6				7		8
				3				
5		3				9	1	2
6							4	
			9		8		6	
		1	3		4	8		

Newsday Crossword

VIRTUAL REALITY by Guilherme Gilioli
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Very soft mineral
5 Alternative to Maytag
10 Woodworker's tool
13 Actor Epps or Sharif
14 Batman's partner
15 Mystical glow
16 Good base to build on
19 37 Down player's shoe
20 Numbered hwy.
21 Offer of assistance
22 " __ shocked!"
24 Install in advance, as software
26 Machines spinning at construction sites
31 Important "numero"
32 Czech or Serb
33 Fuel for some stoves
34 Nevada casino center
36 Liquor in martinis
38 Offered at retail
42 Half of a semicolon
45 The thing right here
48 What fills a basketball
49 Recreation requiring exertion
53 Big name celebrity
54 Energy, informally
55 Heavy, as a fog
56 Self-importance
59 Country in the Himalayas
63 Courtroom testifier
66 Brit's outcry
67 Military horse
68 Queen in *Frozen*
69 After-tax amount
70 Follows the advice of
71 Minor fender bump

DOWN
1 Throw softly
2 Run __ (go wild)
3 Tra __ (singing sounds)
4 Restaurant rater
5 Comics barking sound
6 Tie up at a dock
7 Be adjacent to
8 Prime-time hour
9 "Not only that . . ."
10 Gentleman caller
11 Floral attractions
12 Faded away
15 Had a lighter lunch, say
17 Beloved ones
18 Amazon's speaker voice
23 Gibson or Brooks
25 Prearrange illegally
26 Mongrel dog
27 Lowest sudoku digit
28 Persona __ grata
29 Label on luggage
30 Musical about the Peróns
35 Epic journey
37 Stanley Cup org.
39 Rowboat implement
40 Illuminated
41 Physicians, for short
43 Brand of blenders
44 Game with no winner
46 Online-access co.
47 Paid out
49 Gratify
50 Allude to
51 Invent
52 Made the first bet
53 __ asst. (office aide)
57 Great delight
58 Had debts
60 Brazilian soccer legend
61 Special interest grp.
62 Exam for would-be attys.
64 Suffix meaning "somewhat"
65 Passports and dog tags

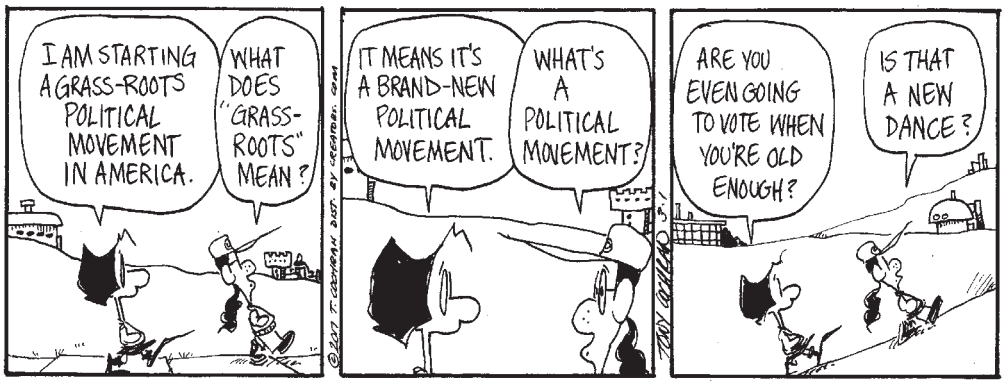


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MORE OF STAN'S CROSSWORDS! Play FREE from Stan's archives of Easy, Hard and Sunday puzzles at: tinyurl.com/stan-newman-crosswords

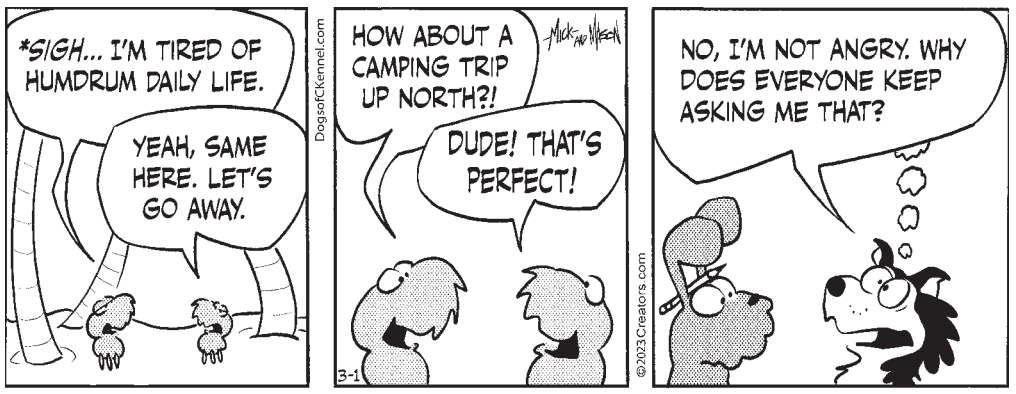
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

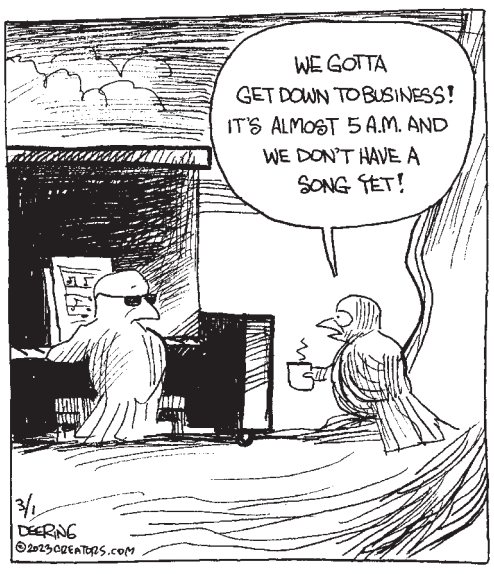
By PETER GALLAGHER



"HE'S GOT A THING FOR THE UTZ GIRL."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 16 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

© australianwordgames.com.au 5770

Puppy love

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

Active
Affenpinscher
Afghan
Akita
Alert
Bark
Beagle
Bichon frise
Briard
Chinese crested
Coat
Corgi
Digging
Dogs
Family
Fearless
Guide
Intelligent
Kennel
Litter
Love
Loyal
Mongrel
Nose
Papillon
Pets
Pharaoh hound
Playful
Poodle
Protect
Pugs
Puppy
Ridgeback
Skye
Spaniel
Toys
Yelp

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
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smdp Santa Monica Daily Press

What's Up Westside

out and about in Santa Monica

WEDNESDAY | MARCH 1

DATE CHANGE: COLORADO AVENUE PROTECTED BIKEWAY COMMUNITY POP UP WILL BE RESCHEDULED FOR MARCH 15

THURSDAY | MARCH 2

THE TAO OF ACTING WITH BILLY MCNAMARA

Join Billy and explore the Tao of Acting. Billy will be demonstrating techniques that he's learned from numerous teachers, including Guskin and Kim Stanley. These techniques have immediate application to your work on stage, film, TV, commercials, and self tapes. eventbrite.com/e/the-tao-of-acting-tickets-480083160657, 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm, IntoMeSea 1812 Lincoln Blvd Santa Monica, 90404.

FRIDAY | MARCH 3

MARIA SCHNEIDER ORCHESTRA PRESENTS DATA LORDS

2019 NEA Jazz master and seven-time GRAMMY winner Maria Schneider brings her expansive talent to BroadStage, performing arrangements from her 2021 Pulitzer Prize finalist album Data Lords. With her 18-piece orchestra, Schneider boldly explores the polar extremes of the digital and organic world. broadstage.org/performances/2022-23/jazz-blues/mariaschneider

SATURDAY | MARCH 4

BYOB (BRING YOUR BABY/BOOB/BOTTLE/BUGGY): A COMEDY SHOW

Have a baby? Date nights non-existent? We have a mid-day, raunchy comedy show for parents – by parents – that you can bring your baby to! The BYOB Comedy Show: bring your baby, boob, bottle, buggy! (Stroller parking included.) Enjoy a comedy show in the middle of the day instead of crying in the corner while your baby doesn't nap. Bring the baby to the show because they don't understand sh*t yet! (This is what happens when a mom owns a comedy club and had terrible postpartum depression.) 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm, The Crow, 2525 Michigan Avenue, Unit F4 Santa Monica, CA 90404

626 NIGHT MARKET

Mini is back this Spring 2023! We're bringing the epic flavors of our giant flagship food festivals to the Westside: Downtown Santa Monica. Welcoming new and returning food lovers from the Westside to join us. This event series will take place near Third Street Promenade at Lot 27 and will be free-to-attend for attendees as appreciation for ten+ years of support! With three dozen food, merchandise & crafts vendors, enjoy the intimate coastal vibe and casual setting to munch on favorite eats. The event will also feature a full alcohol bar with limited edition cocktails. Reserve your free tickets and get ready to munch! Tickets are limited.

ANGELA GHEORGHIU AT BROADSTAGE

Celebrity Opera is back! Vibrant opera star Angela Gheorghiu makes her return to BroadStage amidst a whirlwind tour of opera engagements. Called "alluring and expressive" (The New York Times), Gheorghiu will enchant the stage with an unmatched repertoire, including Handel, Strauss, Tosti, Massenet, and more — accompanied by Alexandra Dariescu, piano and Alexandru Tomescu, violin. broadstage.org/showinfo.php?id=480

FIRST SATURDAYS DRAG BRUNCH

Join us for margaritas, tacos and a show First Saturday of every month! no cover. Music by DJ Daunkos. Show starts at 2 pm. Lanea 217 Broadway Santa Monica, CA

SUNDAY | MARCH 5

SUNDAY TASTING AT ESTER'S WINE SHOP & BAR

Sunday Tastings are 12-9 p.m., with new themes every week, curated by Sommelier Randall Middleton. Enjoy a flight for $25/person, which includes a mini cheese pairing and link to a video of our team telling stories about the lineup. 1314 Seventh Street Santa Monica, CA 90401

LIVE DJ MUSIC

Meet at Santa Monica Place every Saturday and Sunday from 2-5pm in Center Plaza to enjoy the sounds of our DJ playing his best beats while soaking up all the Santa Monica sun. 2:00pm-5:00pm Downtown Santa Monica / Third Street Promenade

JULIA MORGAN LEGACY

11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. - Julia Morgan's Paris, a presentation with Q & A by Karen McNeill, Ph.D. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 Pacific Coast Hwy

SPECIAL SUNDAY MATINEE: THE POLARIS DAWN MISSION

11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Santa Monica College 1900 Pico Blvd, Lecturer Sarah Vincent presents a 70-minute condensed version of the March 3 Night Sky Show and "The Polaris Dawn Mission" feature show.

BLUES BRUNCH WITH KELLY'S LOT

Frank on Harmonica joins the guitars, bass and Kelly. The Venice West, 1717 Lincoln Blvd, 11 a.m.

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



SURF REPORT

WATER TEMP: **54.7**

WEDNESDAY *POOR*	**SURF:**	1-2ft Knee to thigh	Slight pick up in NW swell. Onshore flow looking lightest early then building out of the W all day long.
THURSDAY *POOR TO FAIR*	**SURF:**	2-3ft Knee to thigh	NW swell mix on the rise all day, blending with smaller Southern Hemi energy. Onshore wind looking stronger than Tue with choppy surf by midday.

WEATHER

Wednesday: Rain, mainly before 10am. High near 53. Breezy, with a west wind 15 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph. Chance of precipitation is 80%.
Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 40.
Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 58. North wind around 5 mph.
Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 43.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2023/03/01	Wed	05:04 AM	4.55	H
2023/03/01	Wed	12:53 PM	-0.16	L
2023/03/01	Wed	7:58 PM	3.49	H
2023/03/02	Thu	12:12 AM	2.65	L
2023/03/02	Thu	06:02 AM	4.81	H
2023/03/02	Thu	1:28 PM	-0.38	L
2023/03/02	Thu	8:14 PM	3.64	H
2023/03/03	Fri	12:51 AM	2.31	L
2023/03/03	Fri	06:46 AM	5.08	H
2023/03/03	Fri	1:57 PM	-0.52	L
2023/03/03	Fri	8:29 PM	3.77	H
2023/03/04	Sat	01:22 AM	1.97	L
2023/03/04	Sat	07:21 AM	5.30	H
2023/03/04	Sat	2:22 PM	-0.58	L
2023/03/04	Sat	8:45 PM	3.90	H
2023/03/05	Sun	01:51 AM	1.64	L
2023/03/05	Sun	07:52 AM	5.43	H
2023/03/05	Sun	2:44 PM	-0.56	L
2023/03/05	Sun	9:02 PM	4.07	H
2023/03/06	Mon	02:20 AM	1.34	L
2023/03/06	Mon	08:22 AM	5.43	H

DAILY LOTTERY

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

Powerball
Draw Date: 2/27
16 28 49 51 55
Power#: 23
Jackpot: 143 M

Mega Millions
Draw Date: 2/24
2 22 49 65 67
Mega#: 7
Jackpot: 145 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 2/25
4 15 22 24 32
Mega#: 7
Jackpot: 37 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 2/27
13 18 22 25 34

Daily 3
Draw Date: 2/27
EVENING: 6 6 5
Draw Date: 2/27
MIDDAY: 6 2 5

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 2/27
1st: 02 - Lucky Star
2nd: 03 - Hot Shot
3rd: 08 - Gorgeous George
Race Time: 1:47.64

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City calendar



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- MUSIC EVENTS
- LIBRARY EVENTS
- HAPPY HOURS
- CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS
- AND MORE!

