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Welcomes housing advocate.

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Getting worse.

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Who can win?

smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

Volume 23 Issue 75 THE WEEKENDER 3/1-3/3 smdp.com

City pledges more improvements to its Bike Action Plan and Vision Zero Update



Courtesy photo

CROSSROADS: Following a series of accidents last year, some tragically fatal, City Council acted quickly to implement a whole host of changes to existing road design

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

After a year of substantial debate regarding Santa Monica's road infrastructure (including the reconfiguration of 17th Street, restrictions along Wilshire and the tragic death of a cyclist in the Wilmont neighborhood), Council were briefed on the City's overall plans for bike/pedestrian safety this week including pleas from local transportation activists to do more to protect non-car users on local roads.

Following an unexpectedly lengthy round of public input that put Council behind schedule quite early on, Mobility Manager Jason Kligier, gave Council an update on its Vision Zero and Bike Action plans. And in fact, much of that public comment was on this very subject.

Connor Webb presented a short video recorded using a GoPro-style bike cam to everyone gathered in chambers that showed multiple infractions of cars crossing into bike lanes with little or, more commonly, no warning whatsoever.

SEE **ROADS** PAGE 15



Gary Limjap
(310) 586-0339

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Youth, housing advocate talks successes and future ideas

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

Personal experience always plays a role in professional ambitions, with one man's tortured childhood changing him into a force for youth and housing advocacy.

On Feb. 23, Amazon Head of Community Engagement (West) David Ambroz spoke to the Rotary Club of Santa Monica about his new book "A Place Called Home: A Memoir," during a meeting at the Hilton Santa Monica. Ambroz, who previously served the Los Angeles area as the president of the city's Planning Commission, became involved in poverty, housing and child welfare advocacy due to his own homelessness experience as a child.

Growing up homeless in New York City, Ambroz's family lived underneath Grand Central Terminal, where he endured years of neglect and malnourishment before being placed in the foster care system. There, he experienced more torment, being abused physically, emotionally and sexually. He was also sentenced to a young adult prison due to his homosexuality, which was referred to as gender dysphoria during his upbringing.

This situation fueled his emotional stance toward the children and foster youth of today. During the talk to the Rotary Club, he noted that modern foster youth are "more likely to die than go to community college" and that foster care is the "number one source" of sex trafficking recruiting in Los Angeles. He also pointed to the fact that minority children are disproportionately impacted by the system,

> Here is this highly qualified person who wants to do this work, and we have her filling out forms on multiple databases
> - David Ambroz

and that foster youth are more likely to encounter post-traumatic stress disorder than military veterans.

To combat these trends, Ambroz started FosterMore, an organization dedicated to involving the public in improving outcomes for youth and being a resource for other "exceptional organizations in this field." FosterMore partners with organizations to recruit foster parents through media campaigns, and created the Foster Care Friendly Workplace Certification initiative to "create supportive environments for workers wishing to become foster parents."

SEE **ADVOCATE** PAGE 12



Photo by Thomas Leffler

ADVOCACY: Author and advocate David Ambroz spoke to the Rotary Club of Santa Monica on Feb. 23 about child welfare and housing issues.

FINDING A NEW DENTIST IS TOUGH!
(BUT WE MAKE IT EASY!!!)
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News Binge: All of last week's stories in one place



Photo by Thomas Leffler

PISTACHIO: Major League Eating legend Joey Chestnut and LA Chargers linebacker Joey Bosa went stomach-to-stomach at Pacific Park during the Wonderful Pistachios Get Crackin' Eating Championship.

SMDP STAFF REPORT

WILL ROGERS STUDENTS KEEP CIVIL RIGHTS HISTORY ALIVE WITH POWERFUL PRESENTATIONS:

On the morning of Feb. 22, the fifth-grade students at Will Rogers Learning Community presented the "Living Museum" to fellow students, teachers and parents, showcasing a portion of the Civil Rights Movement through art and speech. Throughout the outside halls and courtyard portion of the school were fifth-graders providing factoids about Civil Rights leaders, events and topics learned during a unit on the movement, as well as more modern contributors. Several classes participated in the creation of a poster or art project on their chosen topic, with each student preparing a speech to go along with the visual aid.

BLACK COMMUNITY SPEAKS OUT OVER SILAS WHITE PROPERTY CONTROVERSY, DESCENDANTS CALL FOR LAND TO BE RETURNED:

The majority of public comment on non-agenda items during a recent City Council meeting was in regards to the controversial issue of ownership of the land where the Viceroy Hotel now sits at the corner of Ocean Avenue and Pico Boulevard. A Black entrepreneur and Santa Monica resident named Silas White purchased the land in 1957, but just one year later, the City of Santa Monica claimed the property through eminent domain. Public comment at Council included family members of the deceased White, calling for restitution. In a statement, the City said that it is "committed to getting this right" and Councilmember Caroline Torosis said the city is working on developing a citywide equity plan that will explore models for restitution and reparations, though it is unclear what action will be taken in regards to returning land to the White family.

SHELL SHOCK AS PISTACHIO EATING CONTEST GOES NUTS WITH NEW CHAMPION:

Pacific Park played host to the second-annual Wonderful Pistachios Get Cracking' Eating Championship on Feb. 26, featuring the competitors of Major League Eating (including competitive eating legend Joey Chestnut) and Los Angeles Chargers linebacker Joey Bosa. Over 1,600 pistachios were consumed in an eight-minute period, including a new world record for the tiny snack. James Webb, the fifth-ranked eater in the world from Sydney, Australia, shattered the previous record of 188 pistachios with an astonishing 338 pistachios consumed, taking home the championship title and a $5,000 check.

LAWSUIT CHALLENGES NEEDLE DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM IN PARKS:

The Santa Monica Coalition has filed a lawsuit against County Health Director Barbara Ferrer, the Los Angeles County Health Department and the Venice Family Clinic in connection with the Needle Distribution Program, which has been conducted for a period of approximately four years at Reed Park, Palisades Park and Tongva Park. In the case, the Coalition alleges that on June 12, 2018, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Board of Supervisors authorized a needle distribution program, operated by RPI Venice Family Clinic, to prevent the spread of blood-borne viruses, including HIV. The program was initially approved for a three-year term, with options to extend for two additional one-year periods. Petitioners claim that the authorization violated Health and Safety Code section 121349, pointing to several alleged infractions, such as failure to consult local law enforcement, exceeding the initial two-year operation limit and inadequate notice to law enforcement agencies.

SEE **NEWS** PAGE 7



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **60.8**

FRIDAY
POOR TO FAIR

SURF: 1-2ft
Knee to thigh

Watching for a new round of NW swell to move in PM, on the small side and inconsistent due to the steeper swell angle. SSW swell lingers. Early morning window looking clean for now with a decent tide push. Rising S winds follow.

SATURDAY
POOR TO FAIR

SURF: 2-3ft
Thigh to waist

Looking like a tough day on paper. Rising mix of NW swell, more SSW swell creeps in. Westerly winds look to rise for rougher conditions. Stay tuned.

Weather

Friday: A 30 percent chance of rain, mainly after 10am. Partly sunny, with a high near 61.
Friday Night: Rain likely. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 53. Southwest wind around 10 mph.
Saturday: Rain likely. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 60. Breezy, with a southwest wind 15 to 20 mph.
Saturday Night: M\Rain likely, mainly before 10pm. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 50.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)High/Low
2024/03/01	Fri	06:55 AM	1.15	L
2024/03/01	Fri	12:41 PM	2.53	H
2024/03/01	Fri	5:05 PM	1.88	L
2024/03/02	Sat	12:21 AM	4.49	H
2024/03/02	Sat	08:38 AM	1.10	L
2024/03/03	Sun	01:21 AM	4.44	H
2024/03/03	Sun	10:34 AM	0.69	L
2024/03/04	Mon	03:02 AM	4.52	H
2024/03/04	Mon	11:41 AM	0.09	L
2024/03/05	Tue	04:31 AM	4.90	H
2024/03/05	Tue	12:28 PM	-0.51	L
2024/03/05	Tue	7:31 PM	3.33	H
2024/03/05	Tue	11:24 PM	2.60	L
2024/03/06	Wed	05:38 AM	5.42	H
2024/03/06	Wed	1:06 PM	-1.00	L
2024/03/06	Wed	7:45 PM	3.69	H
2024/03/07	Thu	12:22 AM	2.04	L
2024/03/07	Thu	06:32 AM	5.91	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: 2/28
16 26 29 38 50
Power#: 6
Jackpot: 443 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 2/27
6 18 26 27 49
Mega#: 4
Jackpot: 607 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 2/28
13 20 35 38 39
Mega#: 10
Jackpot: 14 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 2/28
10 14 27 33 38

Daily 3
Draw Date: 2/28
EVENING: 6 5 2
Draw Date: 2/28
MIDDAY: 3 4 0

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 2/28
1st: 02 - Lucky Star
2nd: 09 - Winning Spirit
3rd: 01 - Gold Rush
Race Time: 1:44.12

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Santa Monica Daily Press

City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

SANTA MONICA
ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
SANTA MONICA CITY HALL

DATE/TIME: Monday, March 4, 2024, 7:00 PM

LOCATION: Council Chambers, (wheelchair accessible)
Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Room 250

CONSENT CALENDAR:

- 149 Hart Avenue - 23ARB-0237: Single-Unit Residential
  Review of the design, colors, materials, and plans to construct a roof deck and for additional exterior alterations to an existing single-family residence located within the Low Density Residential (R2) zone district, within a potential South Beach Historic District.

PUBLIC HEARING:

- 2601 Lincoln Blvd (Gelson's) – 23ARB-0230: Housing/Mixed Use
  Review of the design, colors, materials, and landscape plans for the construction of a Tier 1, six-story, 65' tall, mixed-use housing development consisting of 521 residential units and 30,200 square feet of ground floor commercial space located at 2601 Lincoln Boulevard in the Mixed-Use Boulevard Low (MUBL) zoning district.

More information is available online at https://www.smgov.net/Departments/PCD/Boards-Commissions/Architectural-Review-Board/ (en espanol tambien at (310) 458-2201 ext. 5547#).

The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. Those wishing to give written public comment shall email comments to planningcomment@santamonica.gov. Comments received **prior to 12 p.m.** on the day of the meeting will be distributed to the Architectural Review Board prior to the meeting and posted online. Please note the agenda item in your comments.

For disability-related accommodations, please contact (866) 311-7266 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Every attempt will be made to provide the requested accommodation.

All written materials are available in alternate languages provided the request is received 72 hours prior to the meeting.

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).

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GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

California spends billions on homelessness yet the crisis keeps getting worse



Photo by Loren Elliott for CalMatters Credit: Loren Elliott

HOMELESS: Andrea Zeppa, homeless services regional coordinator for Alameda County Healthcare for the Homeless, and Deidra Perry (R), program financial manager for Alameda County Healthcare for the Homeless, team up during Alameda County's 2024 point-in-time count in Berkeley, Jan. 25, 2024. The PIT count, which included a voluntary survey, gathers data on the county's homeless population.

DAN WALTERS

California not only has the nation's largest number of homeless people, but one of its highest rates of homelessness vis-à-vis its overall population.

The last official count found more than 181,000 Californians without homes, nearly a third of the nation's homeless population. When new data is released later this year, the number will probably approach 200,000.

The numbers have continued to grow despite many billions of dollars in federal, state and local funds having been spent – $20 or so billion by the state alone over the last five years. As the problem worsens, it consistently ranks as one of Californians' most pressing public policy issues, polling has found.

How is it, one might ask, that so much money could be spent with so little, if any, progress?

One factor, certainly, is that the underlying causes of homelessness, such as sky-high housing costs, family breakups, mental illness and drug addiction have not abated.

Another, probably, is that here is no consensus on what programs would be most successful and officialdom has taken a scattergun approach, providing money to a bewildering array of often overlapping programs and services in hopes of finding approaches that work.

Gov. Gavin Newsom, who pledged 20 years ago to end homelessness in San Francisco when serving as the city's mayor, is touting a measure on the March 5 ballot that would authorize bonds to build facilities for treating the mentally ill and redirect some funds from a two-decade-old special mental health tax into new programs. He's also won legislative approval of "CARE courts" that could compel some mentally ill Californians into receiving treatment.

The multiplicity of programs to deal with homelessness cries out for some kind of independent appraisal of what's been spent and how effective the spending has been.

We may get such an overview soon because the Legislature has approved a request from Republicans for the state auditor to delve into what's been spent.

"Homelessness is the most urgent issue facing California," said state Sen. Roger Niello of Roseville, one of those making the request. "Given the crisis has only worsened, we need to know what the money has accomplished and what programs have been effective in moving people to permanent housing."

One area the state auditor should examine is what could be termed "bang-for-the-buck" – the startlingly expensive costs of providing even the most basic services to homeless Californians.

Sacramento, like other large California cities, has a large and growing homeless population and a new report from the city auditor is indicative of that aspect of the homeless crisis.

Auditor Farishta Ahrary said the city, which faces a $66 million budget deficit,

SEE **HOMELESSNESS** PAGE 12

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Assessing the path to office for each contender seeking Los Angeles district attorney

JIM NEWTON

The first round of the race for Los Angeles district attorney – one of the nation's biggest and most closely emulated prosecutorial agencies – is down to the finish. A large field of candidates is arrayed against an unpopular incumbent, George Gascón, creating a complicated set of possible outcomes for next week's primary.

Here, then, is a brief primer on the field and what may come next.

There are 12 total candidates on the ballot, but that's misleading – seven are not in serious contention. Barring an extraordinary development, the campaigns of Debra Archuleta, Dan Kapelovitz, Lloyd Masson, John McKinney, David Milton, Craig Mitchell and Maria Ramirez will come to an end next week.

That leaves Gascón and four challengers to take seriously. Each has a path, some more promising than others.

First, Gascón: He has approval ratings that would alarm any elected leader. One recent poll found that just 24% of Los Angeles County voters approved of his performance in office.

What's worse is that 51% disapproved. In politics, when 51% of the people who elected you decide you're doing a bad job, it's usually time to start working on a new resume.

Still, Gascón is the incumbent, and he can count on a chunk of the electorate, presumably somewhere close to the 24% who approve of the job he's doing. If this were an old-style primary or a smaller field, he might be done at this point. But facing a bunch of contenders and needing only to make the top two, Gascón seems well-positioned to make the runoff.

It's after that when things would get difficult for him.

As for the rest of the field:

Jonathan Hatami is a deputy district attorney whose campaign is centered around his dislike for Gascón and his determination to reinstate sentencing enhancements that Gascón discarded. Hatami argues that doing so will protect public safety and respect victims of crime.

That's an appealing message to some voters, and Hatami has vigorously pursued it, amassing support from conservatives and those who champion a tough-on-crime world view.

It may be enough to land him in the No. 2 spot, but it seems unlikely to bring him to office in a very liberal county where support for criminal justice reform runs strong, even as Gascón has disappointed many reform advocates.

Tellingly, Hatami's major endorsements have come from outside Los Angeles, including the DAs of Riverside and Kern counties.

Eric Siddall is another deputy district attorney. He shares Hatami's antagonism toward their boss, but his message is muddier. He wants to put "cop killers" and sexual predators behind bars – but who doesn't? He has the support of the union that represents deputy DAs, so he can't be counted out, but he hasn't done much with his campaign other than snipe at his opponents.

He's a longshot.

Nathan Hochman, a former federal prosecutor, ran as a Republican for attorney general of California two years ago, but is seeking office this time as an independent. That takes footwork, and Hochman hasn't shown much.

Instead, he fulminates about how Los Angeles has become "dystopian" and promises to roll back Gascón's policies.

Dystopian? Really? In the city of Los Angeles (the District Attorney is responsible for the whole county, but the city is the biggest single piece of it), violent crime last year declined 3.2% and property crimes increased 3.5%. That's not great, but it's not Gotham, either.

Hochman has raised and spent a ton of money and enjoys some support, though he's fighting Hatami for the law-and-order sliver of the electorate. He could slip into the runoff, but he would be an easy target for Gascón in November. A strong showing by Hochman in the primary is Gascón's best bet for re-election.

Hochman is to Gascon what Steve Garvey is to Adam Schiff in the California Senate race: a political gift.

Jeff Chemerinsky, also a former federal prosecutor, brings both a commitment to tough law enforcement and an appreciation for thoughtful reform strategies. He has a record of locking up criminals but also opposes the death penalty, mass incarceration and the policies that drive it. His supporters include police reform advocates who have lost confidence in Gascón – among them, civil rights attorney Connie Rice, former Police Commission President Gerry Chaleff and former city controller Wendy Greuel.

The challenge for Chemerinsky has been the one that faces any candidate who attempts to be reasonable and smart and still be in politics: He is arguing for nuance. He does not portray Los Angeles as dystopian or reject every one of Gascón's policies, but he contends that he would do a better job executing a reform agenda and would temper it with deeper appreciation for public safety.

Chemerinsky is discovering that it's hard to speak in measured tones when everyone around you is shouting, but he is the greatest threat to Gascón's re-election and would be a strong favorite to defeat him in November – if he makes the runoff.

Underlying all of this is a fundamental question, one too deep for the candidates to have grappled with during their many, often exasperating, debates: Is Los Angeles in a state of crisis over public safety?

If the electorate thinks it is, then Hochman or Hatami will benefit politically. But just last year, the Los Angeles mayoral race tested the same question. Businessman Rick Caruso campaigned against City Hall and argued that only a clean sweep would give Los Angeles a chance to recover from its purported depths of corruption and despair. Voters thought otherwise, decisively casting their support for Karen Bass, herself an outsider to city government but one who projected greater confidence in the city and its capacity for progressive reform.

The current crime numbers argue in favor of that view, as do other facts on the ground. Homelessness, for instance, is a tragedy and a blight, but there's no evidence that voters want to return to the days of punishing police strategies or lock-'em-up-and-throw-away-the-key prosecutions.

And yes, crime is frightening, but some perspective is in order: 327 people were murdered in Los Angeles last year, and every one of those is a deep source of sadness and loss. But that's down 17% from the year before, and it pales next to the crime that once afflicted this area.

In 1992, 1,092 people were killed in this same city. That's dystopian.

Voters in L.A. want to be safe, as they do anywhere. They also see homelessness as a human crisis and addiction as a health issue. They want police and prosecutors who share those views.

Those are the views that brought Gascón to office, and they have not gone away, even if he has let down some of those who backed him.

If the choice in November is Gascón or a law-and-order conservative, Hatami or Hochman, Gascón will likely win. If it's Gascón or a moderate reformer, Chemerinsky or possibly Siddall, Gascón will probably be out and a new era will begin. The results next week will set the table for those options.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

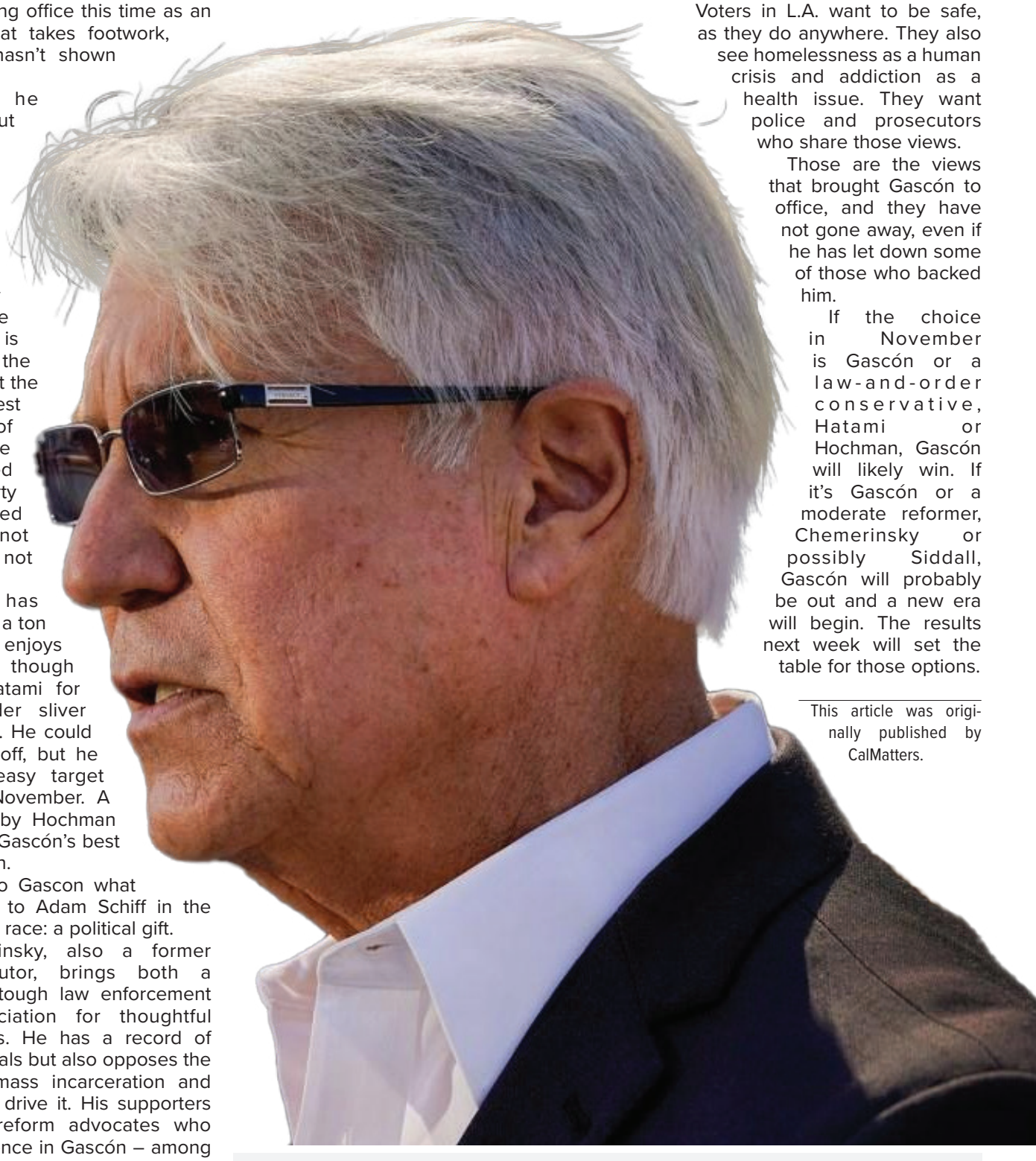


Photo by Damian Dovarganes, AP

D.A.: Former San Francisco District Attorney George Gascon speaks at a Los Angeles County Democratic Party news conference outside the Staples Center in Los Angeles in 2020.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Countywide

Board Greenlights Financial Audit of LAHSA to Strengthen Operations

Board Chair Lindsey P. Horvath's motion directing the Los Angeles County Auditor-Controller to conduct a financial review of the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) was unanimously approved by the Board of Supervisors. The financial audit is intended to offer insights and opportunities to maximize public investment in our regional homeless services system overseen by LAHSA.

"Los Angeles County is moving with urgency to eliminate every hurdle that stands in the way of our success in ending the humanitarian crisis of homelessness," said Chair Lindsey P. Horvath. "This financial audit is a proactive step to help LAHSA leadership, our Board, and importantly, the public, see where LAHSA's fiscal operations are strong and where we have an opportunity to do better. Especially as executive financial leadership at LAHSA is changing, this audit will give incoming officers a head start on where to focus. We must dig into the details to expedite the homelessness solutions our communities deserve."

The evaluation comes at a pivotal moment for LAHSA. Dr. Va Lecia Adams Kellum is approaching her one-year marker as CEO and continues to set her leadership team, including a new Chief Financial Officer. Chair Horvath; Supervisor Kathryn Barger, the motion's co-author and Chair Horvath's co-author on the County's emergency declaration on homelessness; and Mayor Karen Bass have all joined the LAHSA Commission, where Chair Horvath is also Chair.

"Audits are an important tool that lead to improvement and growth," said Supervisor Kathryn Barger. "LAHSA has gone through a lot of change in the past year, including changes at the very top, so this is an opportune time to do an internal assessment that will continue to build on the agency's commitment to transparency and accountability. I look forward to reviewing the audit's results."

The LA County Auditor-Controller will lead the audit with support from the CEO in coordination with LAHSA. A report back is due before the Board in 60 days with a scope of work for the evaluation.

SUBMITTED BY CONSTANCE FARRELL, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION

SUBJECT: To Inform Development of the FY 2024-25 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 2024-25 Annual Action Plan, which is due 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 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 21, 2024 AT 6:00 PM
Check agenda at www.smgov.net/rpc prior to meeting to confirm start time

The agenda will also be posted at the Santa Monica Institute (SMI) room, located at 330 Olympic Drive in Santa Monica at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. The agenda is subject to change up to 72 hours prior to a regular meeting and 24 hours prior to a special. Please check the agenda prior to the meeting for changes.

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. Oral public comment can be given in person on the day of the meeting. Members of the public unable to attend in person, but wishing to provide comment are strongly encouraged to submit written comments via email to RecreationAndArts@santamonica.gov. Written public comment submitted before 12:00 pm on the day of the meeting will be available for online viewing. Please note the agenda item number in the subject line of your written comments. All written comments shall be made part of the public record and will be included in the final 2024-25 Annual Action Plan submission to HUD.

ACCOMODATIONS
The agenda is available in alternate formats upon request. The City Council Chambers is wheelchair accessible. If you require any special disability related accommodations (i.e. sign language interpreting, access to an amplified sound system, etc.), please contact RecreationAndArts@santamonica.gov at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled meeting.
Translation service available upon request. Please contact the RecreationAndArts@santamonica.gov at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled meeting.
Transportation Information: City of Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines and the Metro Expo Line serve City Hall. Parking is available on Main Street, Olympic Drive, and in the Civic Center Parking Structure (validation free).

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 2024-25. Si necesita más información, por favor llame a Ivy Chang en la División de Servicios Humanos al número (310) 458-8701.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

How a proposal to keep opinions off UC websites could dangerously restrict speech

TY ALPER



Courtesy photo

UC: Free speech is in question.

Something dangerous is happening at the University of California. Echoing similar moves at many private colleges, the powerful regents of our public university system are moving to suppress political speech they dislike.

The impetus was an open letter the Ethnic Studies Faculty Council wrote last fall, criticizing the UC administration's response to the Oct. 7 Hamas attacks in Israel.

Regent Jay Sures responded by expressing his view that the letter "perpetuates hate and discrimination." He pledged to "do everything in my power" to protect "everyone in our extended community from your inflammatory and out of touch rhetoric."

Sures is now making good on that promise by pushing a policy that would ban political statements by faculty members on university websites.

My colleague at UC Davis, Brian Soucek, and I spent two years wrestling with this issue as chairs of the state's Academic Freedom Committee. After months of consultation across the entire UC system, including with university lawyers, the governing body of the UC faculty endorsed our committee's carefully crafted recommendations for making statements on political issues.

In contrast, the policy Sures proposed was rushed and breathtakingly broad. It would prohibit any "official channels of communication" from being used "for purposes of publicly expressing the personal or collective opinions" of faculty members. As written, it would prohibit any faculty member's opinion on any subject from appearing on any university-run website, course page or social media account.

It would prohibit me from posting a link to this op-ed anywhere on the Berkeley Law website.

At a recent regents meeting, the university's general counsel explained that "the original motivation for this discussion was concerns that people had about some speech that they thought was hate speech and whether the university wanted to be associated with it."

Regent Hadi Makarechian noted that the policy was brought "because some people were making political statements about Hamas and the Palestinians." Sures responded by acknowledging "there was an abuse of the websites and not a designed policy in place."

Sures told his fellow regents that the "policy as written is very clear." But it wasn't. Soucek and I pointed out the deep ambiguity of the proposal. At the meeting, the regents considered limiting the proposal to the "landing pages" of university websites, but the decision was ultimately postponed until March.

Speech restrictions that are politically motivated and target particular viewpoints are often disguised as neutral. For example, the true impetus for Sures' policy was to restrict what he and others considered to be an "abuse" of university websites and the promotion of "hate speech." But throughout the January meeting, UC officials claimed that the purpose of the policy was to avoid confusion that faculty members might be speaking on behalf of the university when they opined on political issues.

This concern is a pretext for suppression of controversial faculty speech. After all, there is an easy fix to avoid confusion, which our 2022 recommendations addressed: simply require that political statements are accompanied by clear disclaimers, like the one atop the UC San Diego Ethnic Studies website.

Many faculty of all political stripes, myself included, often bristle when departments issue statements on controversial topics. They are often performative. They can chill minority views and serve as political litmus tests, which is particularly dangerous in a university setting. Our 2022 recommendations included a number of steps departments should take to guard against these concerns, including being more judicious about issuing statements in the first place.

But here's the thing: it's much more dangerous to prohibit speech altogether. What is happening at the University of California is what often happens when those with governmental power reactively move to suppress views they dislike. They create hastily-drafted restrictions that are overbroad, vague, rife for abuse and chilling.

And, like this policy, they are usually disguised in "viewpoint-neutral" language. We should not be fooled.

Ty Alper is a law professor at UC Berkeley. He chaired the University of California's Committee on Academic Freedom. This article was originally published by CalMatters.

HOA HOMEFRONT

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Reader Question – Our HOA Has No Board

Kelly G. Richardson, Esq. CCAL

Dear Kelly, I have been a member of a small condo for over two years. There are no board members and the HOA doesn't meet either in person or virtually. All communication is via email for voting. One owner acts as an accountant, quasi-treasurer, just paying bills and preparing quarterly statements. People have given her more authority than sometimes I think is warranted. If there are no directors, what does that mean when it comes to the Davis-Stirling Common Interest Developments Act requirements? H.S., Los Angeles

DEAR H.S.:

Let me start with your last comment- HOAs act through their boards. That is the governing body normally vested with the power to make decisions for the HOA. How can there be decisions or actions without a governing body?

The legal requirements applicable to California HOAs come from the Davis-Stirling Act, other applicable statutes including Civil, Corporations, Government, and Vehicle Codes, and the HOA governing documents. Some small HOAs and even sometimes larger ones ignore these requirements, thinking that so long as they all agree everything will be fine. However all it takes is one person to dispute with the HOA and then everything crumbles. Here are some issues to consider:

The proper exercises of corporate formalities including Open Meeting Act compliance, keeping minutes, and having proper elections (among other things) are critical to ensure the volunteers' acts are considered acts of the HOA instead of the volunteers. If the HOA does not follow the process, a plaintiff attacking the HOA could argue that the liabilities are personal to the homeowner signing the contract instead of the HOA.

Insurance could also be affected by an HOA's failure to follow the requirements of the law and governing documents. Could the HOA volunteer be argued to be acting "willfully" or outside their officer role and therefore not covered by the directors and officers insurance or, worse yet, outside the immunity provided by Civil Code Section 5800?

Persons taking unilateral action without board authority are the most exposed to personal legal risk. Before a volunteer signs a contract or approves work for the HOA, they should make sure they have documentation that they are authorized to do so- but if the board doesn't meet, then it cannot authorize the contract.

Another risk regards elections. If the HOA ignores the law regarding board elections, a single homeowner could file a lawsuit and possibly invalidate the board as well as major decisions made by the improperly seated directors. If the board is properly elected but HOA decisions are not properly conducted under the law, any homeowner could sue and possibly set aside any such HOA decision, throwing the HOA into chaos.

Another byproduct of ignoring the law and governing document legal requirements is that the HOA quite likely could find it very difficult to enforce the documents when necessary.

H.S., some of the required procedures are cumbersome, and often seem to be more designed for larger HOAs staffed with professional managers and with access to lawyers and consultants. They can seem unreasonable for small HOAs. However, it's important that all HOAs do their best to comply with their documents and applicable law- because the truism that "ignorance of the law is no excuse" applies to HOAs as well.

Sincerely, Kelly

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®.

NEWS

FROM PAGE 3

DISTRICT SINGS THE BLUES ALONGSIDE NATIONAL GROUP:

In February, Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) students found out all the facts of blues music during a partnership with national nonprofit JazzReach. As part of SMMUSD's Black History Month education, district Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator Tom Whaley led efforts to secure grants for a four-day JazzReach visit to district sites. This featured the assemblies entitled "Yes Indeed!," guiding fourth through eighth graders through the history of the blues genre, and ended with a performance with the Samohi Jazz Band and a professional JazzReach combo during lunch at the Samohi Discovery cafeteria.

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF SANTA MONICA TO LEAVE LONGTIME LINCOLN FACILITY AND SELL PROPERTY:

The Boys and Girls Clubs of Santa Monica (SMBGC) recently announced intentions to sell the land parcels of its longtime facility at 1220 Lincoln Blvd and eventually relocate to a new facility within the city. Both the selling and relocation processes are running concurrently, and the transition began in January when elementary-aged students shifted after school program attendance to their respective school campuses. SMBGC Chief Executive Officer Brynja Seagren stated that a number of options were considered for the Lincoln location over the past four years, with in-depth analysis and expert consultation resulting in a decision to move facilities rather than make renovations to the older facility.

PIER MARKS STARTING POINT FOR TWO INCREDIBLE CROSS-COUNTRY JOURNEYS:

On the morning of March 1, two top athletes began to expend energy for cross-country journeys across America for important causes. Beginning at 8 a.m. at the Santa Monica Pier, both Andrew Linder and Paul Johnson took their first steps in respective journeys spanning 3,000-plus miles, heading from Los Angeles to New York City. Linder's "Pier to Park" trek will cover from the Pier to NYC's Central Park, and will be the first cross-country run completed with a 15-pound weighted vest attached, adding awareness to Sisters Rising Worldwide and the fight against human trafficking. Johnson is running with pace in mind in an attempt to break a world record of a 42-day pace for the 3,000 miles, also poised to be completed in NYC, and will be running to raise attention to military veteran wellness through Team Red, White & Blue.

VICE MAYOR LANA NEGRETE ANNOUNCES CANCER DIAGNOSIS:

The Feb. 27 meeting of Santa Monica City Council included sad news as Vice Mayor Lana Negrete confirmed that she has been diagnosed with cancer. Many residents of Santa Monica were already aware as Negrete first posted the news a few days ago on her Facebook and Instagram channels. Negrete used her platform at Council to make note of February being National Cancer Prevention Month, stating that she's going to use her voice going forward "as much as possible" to be vocal "about all things surrounding cancer." Mayor Phil Brock echoed others' thoughts by wishing Negrete the best and stating that she will beat the disease.

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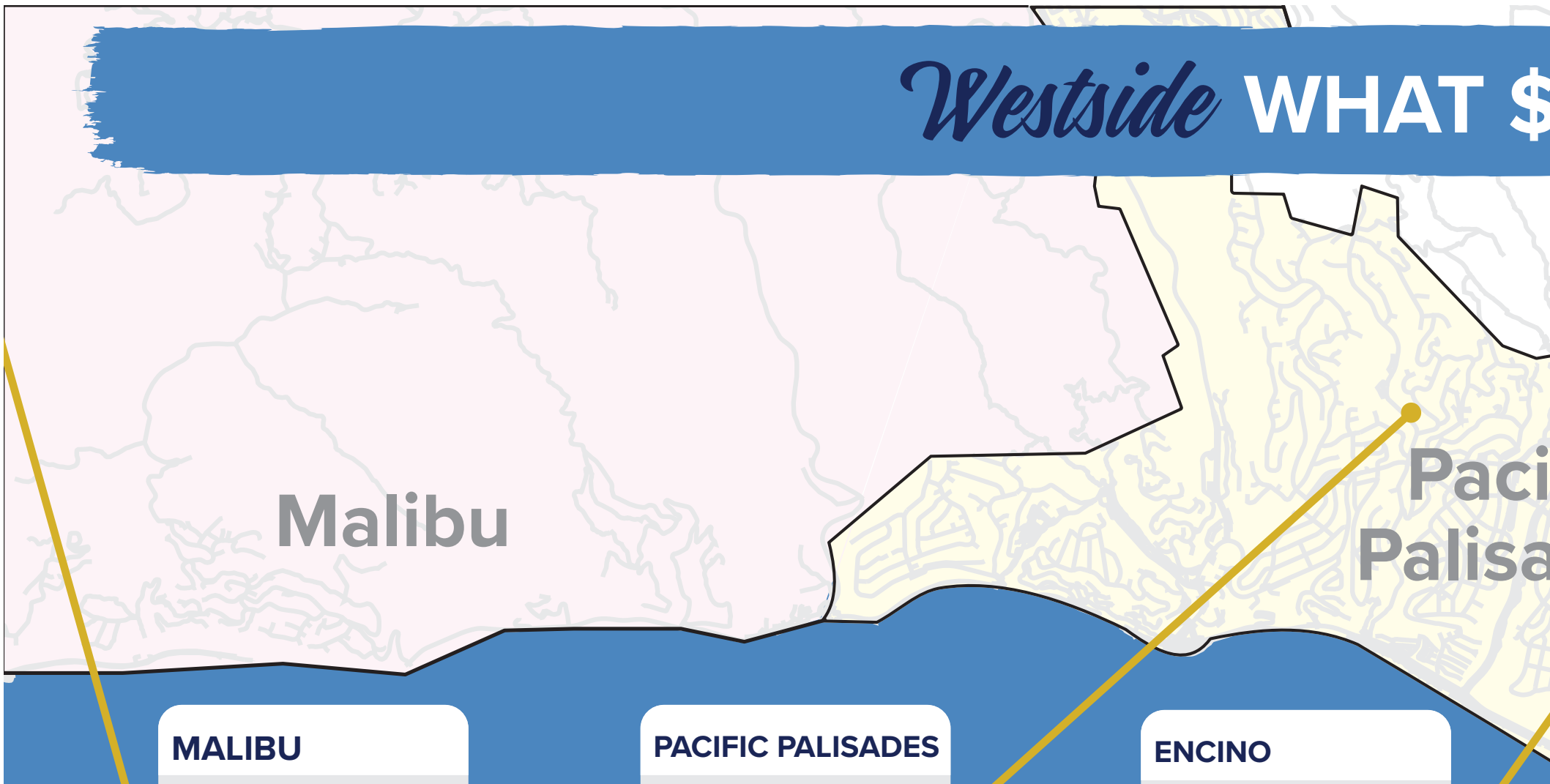
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$5,000,000

22581 Mansie Rd,
Malibu, CA 90265

4 BR 3.5 BA, 4,626 Sq Ft

Listed by Sophie Thom, Rodeo Realty
Bought with Benjamin Baylin, Compass

PACIFIC PALISADES

$4,945,000

1172 Lachman Ln,
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

4 BR 3.5 BA, 3,203 Sq Ft

Listed by Neyshia Go, Sotheby's International Realty Bought with Max Marguleas & Anthony Marguleas, Amalfi Estates

ENCINO

$4,945,000

16020 Valley Vista Blvd,
Encino, CA 91436

6 BR 6.5 BA, 7,805 Sq Ft

Listed by Sally Forster Jones & Tomer Fridman, Compass
Bought with Sally Forster Jones & Tomer Fridman, Compass

SANTA MONICA

$4,999,888

222 14th St,
Santa Monica, CA 90402

5 BR 6 BA, 4,443 Sq Ft

Listed by Jimmy Heckenberg, DRE #01910100, Rodeo Realty
JimmyHeck@HRGestates.com

SANTA MONICA

$5,100,000

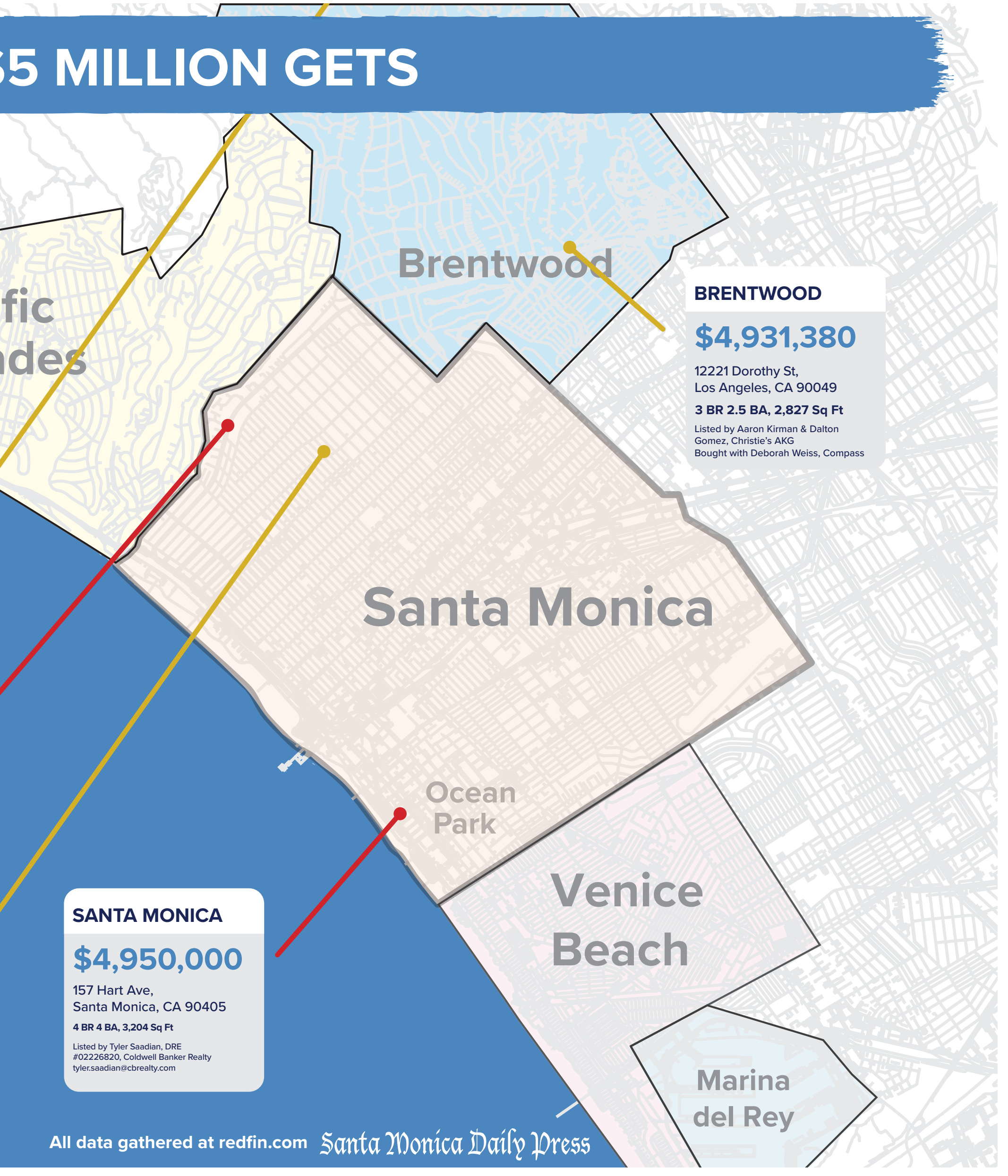
634 17th St,
Santa Monica, CA 90402

4 BR 3 BA, 2,734 Sq Ft

Listed by Daria Greenbaum, Compass
Bought with Amy Wilkes, Compass

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BRENTWOOD

$4,931,380

12221 Dorothy St,
Los Angeles, CA 90049

3 BR 2.5 BA, 2,827 Sq Ft

Listed by Aaron Kirman & Dalton Gomez, Christie's AKG
Bought with Deborah Weiss, Compass

SANTA MONICA

$4,950,000

157 Hart Ave,
Santa Monica, CA 90405

4 BR 4 BA, 3,204 Sq Ft

Listed by Tyler Saadian, DRE #02226820, Coldwell Banker Realty
tyler.saadian@cbrealty.com

All data gathered at redfin.com Santa Monica Daily Press

Raunchy relationships revisited for one-woman show

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

While young adults are experiencing their childhood, they often don't realize the impact of the time period until much later. Even then, the introspection about the environment and relationships that defined adolescence are kept within self-conversations or journal writing. However, one local budding star of the stage is putting herself out there all the way, dispensing the complexities of her youth to two captive audiences.

On Friday and Saturday evening, Kyla Frieden will lay bare her tribulations and successes at the Santa Monica Playhouse for her one-woman show "Chasing Goys," a twisted tribute to her childhood relying on theatrical cues and mixed media messages from her time on stage and in film production. Beginning at 7:30 p.m. each night, Frieden will share the "culmination" of two years spent in Los Angeles by getting back to the stage setting she loves, espousing tales of her childhood crushes and relationships with her family.

"The process (was) really cathartic, (it) sort of started and it was just a little bit of word vomit, and it (was) autobiographical, so it was just really seeing if I had something there, and then once I (felt) like it could be a coherent narrative, then it was about actually thinking about how can I make this a theatrical experience that keeps people engaged, and isn't just me reading out my memoir," Frieden said. "That was kind of the challenging part."

> "I think throughout I was trying to strike the balance of it (being) very specific to me, but I also want it to feel universal, because I know that it won't be interesting to hear something that's only relevant to me
> - Kyla Frieden

Once she connected the dots of her youth through a new "more mature" lens, Frieden began on the engagement aspect, soliciting opinions from colleagues about visual, audio and lighting cues. She added that she used her experience from attending Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut, to craft cues that elicited audience response, still wanting the show to be as "barebones as possible" but finding it "amazing how simple and effective it can be to use light and sound to convey a certain theme."



Courtesy Photo
ONE-WOMAN SHOW: Kyla Frieden will be bringing her show "Chasing Goys" to the Santa Monica Playhouse this weekend.

The show's themes include her time at a private elementary school in Cambridge, Massachusetts, differentiating herself from her family, and her evolving love and sexual life. Although the "Chasing Goys" story is intensely personal, Frieden wrote the show in an accessible way to everyone in attendance this weekend.

"I think throughout I was trying to strike the balance of it (being) very specific to me, but I also want it to feel universal, because I know that it won't be interesting to hear something that's only relevant to me," she said. "So I think it was constantly threading that needle of something that has specificity, but also I hope will resonate with the larger audience."

Growing up Jewish in the Boston suburbs, her time in the Cambridge school was jokingly described as "very not Jewish" with fellow students who looked like "they just stepped off the Mayflower." Though she pokes fun at her childhood companions, she realized that her way to differentiate herself from a sometimes overbearing family was to pursue things (including boys) who fell outside of the Jewish community.

"That's sort of where this idea of the goy comes from, just an embodiment of anything that was other, because in trying to find my own identity I sort of reached for something that felt so unfamiliar to me," Frieden added.

Another focus is on the raunchiness of her adolescent romantic encounters, incorporating mixed media such as a parody

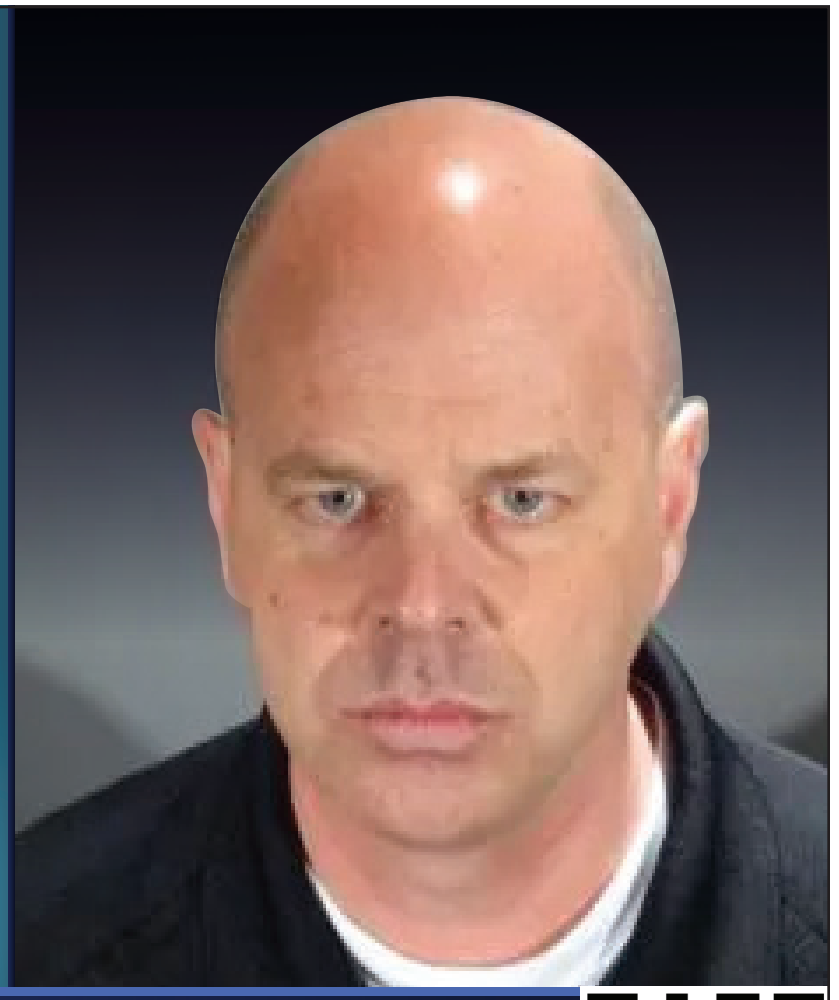
SEE **SHOW** PAGE 12

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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FRIDAY | MARCH 1

LOS ANGELES WINE & FOOD FESTIVAL

Los Angeles Wine & Food Festival, in conjunction with Frieze Week Los Angeles, is an unparalleled food and wine experience taking place in Santa Monica, March 1st-3rd, 2024. This event brings together an impressive lineup of 90 participating chefs, including 16 headliners, each contributing their unique culinary mastery to this celebration. Our festival holds a special dedication to showcasing the talents of female-owned restaurants in LA, with special thanks to our official non-profit partner, Regarding Her (RE:Her), a national non-profit committed to accelerating the growth of women entrepreneurs and leaders in the food and beverage industry. Los Angeles Wine & Food Festival isn't just an event; it's a celebration of California's places, people, and produce in collaboration with art and entertainment. $25 - $500. Santa Monica Pier, https://tickets.lawineandfood.com/e/los-angeles-wine-food-festival/tickets

SATURDAY | MARCH 2

MARINA DEL REY DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL

Enjoy the diversity and excitement of the Dragon Boats as they complete for the fastest team on the water! Watch as 40 teams compete for glory. Activities include arts and crafts, entertainment and food trucks. Burton Chace Park, 13650 Mindanao Way, 7 a.m.- 2 p.m. https://culturela.org/event/marina-del-rey-dragon-boat-festival/

STORYPALOOZA

Join with Read Across America to champion literacy and celebrate diversity of children's literature. Attendees receive free books, while supplies last. Sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Santa Monica. For families.

How to Fold a Taco reading with author Naibe Reynoso
10:15 a.m. / MLK Jr. Auditorium
Space is limited; first come, first served
Create a Reading Crown Craft
10:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. / North Courtyard
Bilingual Concert with Baila Baila
11:15 a.m. / MLK Jr. Auditorium
Space is limited; first come, first served.
Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.

SOUNDWAVES NEW MUSIC CONCERT

Soundwaves celebrates LA's diverse history of innovative underground music with free performances by world-class artists. Started in 2016 by librarian, author, and musician Jeff Schwartz with composer Daniel Rothman, and funded by the Santa Monica Public Library, Friends of the Santa Monica Public Library, and the Amphion Foundation, Soundwaves has collaborated with presenters including the Angel City Jazz Festival, Microfest, PianoSpheres, Jacaranda Music, the Dog Star Orchestra Festival, the Santa Monica Department of Cultural Affairs, and Cold Blue Music. Mar. 2: Chris Jonas - Music from the Deserts. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

ZUMBA AND EXERCISE- IN AMHARIC

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

SUNDAY | MARCH 3

JULIA MORGAN LEGACY DAY

The Santa Monica Conservancy co-hosts the annual Julia Morgan Legacy Day at the Annenberg Community Beach House. 11 a. m. - Morgan expert Karen McNeill, Ph.D. will present Julia Morgan: Engineering a Legacy, highlighting Morgan's engineering expertise and skills. RSVP required.
12 p.m. – 2 p. m. - Marion Davies Guest House will be open for touring and guests will also be able to get a close look at the Morgan designed Beach House pool. Access to the pool will be for viewing only, no lounging or swimming. RSVPs are not required to visit the Guest House and pool.
Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 Pacific Coast Highway. 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. RSVP at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/julia-morgan-legacy-day-2024-registration-819245815287

MONDAY | MARCH 4

DISABILITIES COMMISSION

The Disabilities Commission helps improve the quality of life for people with disabilities in Santa Monica by prioritizing issues of concern and advising the City Council and City Staff on those issues. The Commission recommends ways to maximize participation of people with disabilities in all facets of City life and increase awareness of the abilities, rights and issues of people with disabilities throughout the community. Civic Center Parking Structure, 333 Civic Center Dr. 6:30 p.m.
https://www.smgov.net/departments/clerk/boards.aspx?id=53687092550

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD

The Architectural Review Board established in 1974, acts "to preserve existing areas of natural beauty, cultural importance and assure that buildings, structures, signs or other developments are in good taste, good design, harmonious with surrounding developments, and in general contribute to the preservation of Santa Monica's reputation as a place of beauty, spaciousness and quality." 7 p.m. City Hall, 1685 Main Street.
https://www.smgov.net/Departments/PCD/Boards-Commissions/Architectural-Review-Board/

TUESDAY | MARCH 5

FICTION BOOK CLUB

This lively group of avid readers meets on the first Tuesday of each month to discuss a work of fiction. Books selected for discussion can be new or old and come from a wide array of genres, styles, and authors. Upcoming selections include:
March 5: Christine Falls by Benjamin Black. Donald Bruce Kaufman - Brentwood Branch Library
11820 San Vicente Boulevard, Los Angeles, 1 p.m.
https://www.lapl.org/whats-on/events/fiction-book-club-0

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.

PUBLIC SAFETY REFORM AND OVERSIGHT COMMISSION MEETING

Regular Meeting of the Public Safety Reform and Oversight Commission Agenda
https://www.santamonica.gov/public-safety-reform-and-oversight-commission

LA MADE PRESENTS: MEDITATION TO REDUCE STRESS AND INCREASE JOY

This is a workshop/presentation on meditation/mindfulness. She will go over the history of meditation, the benefits of meditation (including neuroscience) in plain language, frequently asked questions regarding how to overcome barriers and intimidation factors, and how to know you are doing it "right." The class will practice 3 very different meditation types so participants can have the experience. This LA Made program was made possible with the generous support of the National Endowment for the Humanities. For ADA accommodations, call (213) 228-7430 at least 72 hours prior to the event. Venice - Abbot Kinney Memorial Branch Library, 501 S. Venice Boulevard. 1 p.m.

SOCIAL SERVICE ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY PROVIDENCE ST. JOHN'S COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAM

Help with family nutrition and health care access is resuming at Virginia Avenue Park thanks to Providence St. John's Community Health Program. Trained community health workers will be available to meet in person with community members at the Park Center Building in Virginia Avenue Park. The first Tuesday of the month 11:30 am to 7 pm and 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Tuesdays from 9:30 am to 5 pm. The trained Providence St. John's staff can assist with enrollment in CalFresh, the state of California's food subsidy program created to improve the nutrition of families through access to healthy foods. Staff can also help navigate enrollment or questions for MediCal and Medicare. If you have questions about whether you qualify for benefits or if you need help completing enrollment forms, you can make an appointment by calling 310.458.8688. Drop-ins are also welcome. Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave.

WEDNESDAY | MARCH 6

PLANNING COMMISSION

Established in 1946, the Planning Commission envisions Santa Monica as a city of wellbeing, sustainability, and equity, and seeks to balance the many needs and priorities within our community in accordance with the City's General Plan and Specific Plans. The Commission acts through open and civil discourse that is informed by public input, impartial analysis, and best practices in land use and planning. 6 p.m. Council Chambers, 1685 Main Street. https://www.smgov.net/Departments/PCD/Boards-Commissions/Planning-Commission/

COME SING WITH THE BAND - LIVE BAND KARAOKE!!

Doors open at 8 PM. Show starts at 9:30PM. Online ticket sales end at 7 PM, tics available at the door after 8 PM. 2 drink minimum. New Band!! New Experience!! Come in Sign up SING! Harvelle's Santa Monica, 1432 4th St, $5 https://santamonica.harvelles.com/shows/249292

THURSDAY | MARCH 7

TECH & TASKS

Volunteer tutors provide help with reading documents or written tasks, using mobile devices, navigating government websites, filling out forms, using email, writing resumes, and more. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 2 - 4 p.m.

COMMUNITY INFO TABLE: JOB HUNTING WITH CHRYSALIS

Chrysalis reps provide free job resources and assistance. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 2 - 4 p.m.

EVENT SPOTLIGHT

ADVOCATE

FROM PAGE 2

In addition to uplifting foster parents, Ambroz wishes to make lives easier for social workers, recounting how his sister, a social worker for Los Angeles County, couldn't afford to buy a home within a three-mile radius of her workplace despite being in the field for decades. He also believes that social workers' time should be used more wisely, as his sister answers "I do paperwork" to people asking what her workload is like.

"Here is this highly qualified person who wants to do this work, and we have her filling out forms on multiple databases," Ambroz said.

Ambroz pointed out the differences in how society spotlights professions, saying that "we know the statistics" for professional athletes but don't know nearly as much about frontline workers.

"Our values are messed up," he added. "We need to honor and (recognize) the contributions of … social workers."

A change in values was also brought up within the realm of homelessness and housing, which Ambroz prioritized during his time on the Planning Commission. As president, he helped institute several Los Angeles policies such as the linkage fee for affordable housing, the Permanent Supportive Housing Ordinance, and the Hotel/Motel Conversion Ordinance that established regulations to facilitate the use of existing hotels and motels for supportive or transitional housing.

He bemoaned some of his constituents' distaste for the city's homeless during his talk, and offered up several additional ideas that the area could implement for increased housing availability.

"What if we built a dorm on the six acres of flat parking above the (Metro) Red Line station at Santa Monica/Vermont?" he asked. "What if we house veterans in apartments, not shelters?"

He also introduced an idea of mentorship on college campuses, where more elderly residents in need of housing could be housed in college dormitories to pass along their knowledge to new generations.

For more information on "A Place Called Home," visit davidambroz.com.

thomas@smdp.com

HOMELESSNESS

FROM PAGE 4

spent $57 million on homelessness during the 2022-23 fiscal year, $34 million of it on maintaining about 1,300 beds of temporary shelter, or enough to house about a third of the city's homeless people. Overall that's about $26,000 per bed or $2,000-plus per month, which would equal the rent on a mid-range apartment.

Three contracts for shelters between the city and the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency amounting to more than $10 million stand out. Two 100-bed facilities cost the city almost $7 million – well over $100 per bed per day – while the third, $3.3 million for a 24-bed shelter for young people, cost the city $373 per day for each bed.

Sacramento is not alone in paying a lot of money for rudimentary shelters, and costs of that magnitude indicate that California would have to spend much more than the current levels to put roofs over the heads of its homeless people.

Meanwhile, Newsom is proposing to pare back homelessness spending because the state faces a multibillion-dollar budget deficit.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

SHOW

FROM PAGE 10

of Hamilton's "Ten Duel Commandments" and a "Mad Libs" style fill-in-the-blank story to describe losing her virginity. That part of her life was a "fun piece" to revisit, she said, and that her feelings were easier to convey using these theatrical tools.

Frieden's parents may be in for a shock when they fly out from the east coast to see the show, as the performer didn't give away much of what she was going to say about her familial relationships. She said that her parents are "very supportive" and that she "love(s) them a lot," but that they're also "very kooky and fun to make fun of," adding that "they have enough confidence in themselves" to receive the good-natured ridicule.

"I think what's fun is that (our) relationship is still a work in progress and it's still evolving," she said of her parents. "It's not like I reach any one conclusion at the end of the show, but I do know that my intent in writing it was sort of a love letter to my mom almost, in a lot of ways. One that makes a lot of fun of her and can be a little bit, I guess, brutal at times … I think they'll be surprised by some of the things in it, but most of it is probably stuff they've kind of heard before, (and) I'm very interested to see how they react to it."

After the one-off performances, Frieden hopes "Chasing Goys" can have future installments at the Playhouse and beyond, and hopes to have a follow-up where she marries "a nice Jewish man."

"This is all just you, for better or for worse, and I think there's a lot of it that I'm doing for the first time … I'm just figuring out as I go," she said of the process. "But I think it is something that's very doable, and allows you to kind of just take control of your own narrative."

To purchase tickets to "Chasing Goys," visit chasinggoys.eventbrite.com.

thomas@smdp.com

GET IT DAILY...

COMMUNITY NEWS

Citywide

Jay Robert Snyder: June 14, 1948 – February 18, 2024



Jay Robert Snyder was a musician, writer, dedicated husband, and teacher. Born in Saco, Maine, Jay learned to play piano and quickly graduated to leading his own successful rock band, Euphoria's Id, before leaving high school. Jay moved to Boston where he earned a BA in music from Boston University. Moving on to New York City, Jay performed in a rock band called Fate, which included some of the musicians from his earlier band. In a highly successful music-comic act, Jay teamed up with Frank Youngblood to create the Franck ünd Jhaz team, which performed numerous times at clubs in the San Francisco Bay Area and throughout northern California and greater Los Angeles.

A virtuoso on any keyboard instrument, Jay could seamlessly segue from classical to rock, to jazz, blues, and back again. The pinnacle of Jay's career saw him playing a dual role as keyboardist and band director for prominent musicians, including Chubby Checker, Jim Stafford, the Doodletown Pipers, Jimmy Rodgers, John Davidson, the Hudson Brothers, the Limelighters, and Tony Orlando. Between 1978 and 1982, he appeared on the Tonight Show six times, where he wrote arrangements for the Great Doc Severinson Tonight Show Band. Later in his career, Jay earned a master's degree in music composition and taught music at college for several years, sharing his lifetime experience with performing, song writing, and the music industry. That's also the time when he began to publish books, including a cookbook, with a glossary of ingredients and kitchen tools for recreating his favorite recipes. When cooking, Jay drew inspiration from his musical background. He's quoted as saying "I have three go-to pieces of music to listen to while I'm cooking: Rubber Soul by the Beatles, Gregorian Chants sung by nuns, and Beethoven's 9th symphony. The choice depends on my mood, and what I want to cook." Jay was the family cook during his long marriage to Sheila Gribben who succumbed to cancer a few weeks before he passed.

Jay is survived by a brother, Stephen Sneider, of Grand Rapids, Michigan. Jay will be buried in the Eternal Meadow, an eco-friendly section of the Woodlawn Cemetery, close to where Jay and Sheila spent much of their lives. The internment will take place at 10 AM on March 5. Friends are invited to join Jay's longtime collaborator, Frank Youngblood at the gravesite. In lieu of flowers the family suggests donating in Jay's name to a charity that provides music scholarships.

Venice

Los Angeles Councilwoman Traci Park Calls for Plan to Implement Real-Time Crime Centers Following Surge in Property Crime

Responding to a troubling increase in property crime and retail theft, Councilwoman Traci Park asked the Los Angeles Police to report on how it plans to implement Real Time Crime Centers at all divisions.

Real-Time Crime Centers leverage advanced video technology, like Automated License Plate Readers and CCTV, to help law enforcement to prevent and interrupt crimes as they occur. LAPD is currently piloting the program in Hollywood, Downtown Los Angeles and Van Nuys divisions.

"The Westside has been acutely impacted by property crime and retail theft, leaving residents and businesses devastated," said Councilwoman Traci Park. "We have to be smart and embrace any technology that protects our community by preventing and deterring crime."

Councilwoman Park introduced Wednesday's motion following more than 50 car burglaries in just one weekend in Council District 11 and a spate of commercial robberies across the Westside.

Real time crime centers have proved particularly effective in other cities, big and small. In Beverly Hills, which launched its Real Time Watch Center in 2022, automated license plate readers helped authorities capture an individual suspected of murdering three unhoused individuals and a Los Angeles County government employee in December 2023.

Concurrent to today's action, the Los Angeles City Council's Public Safety Committee on Tuesday approved $15 million in state funding to secure ALPRs and create an integrated video technology platform that will help LAPD implement this program.

SUBMITTED BY JONATHAN DAVILA, COMMUNICATIONS DEPUTY

Citywide

9th Annual Flair Cares Food Drive, March 1 - 31

Flair Cleaners, Southern California's leading eco-friendly dry cleaner, is holding its 9th Annual Flair Cares Food Drive, Hang Up Hunger, March 1 - 31, 2024. The drive benefits the North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry, Food Pantry, LAX, the Salvation Army Santa Monica food pantry, and the nonprofit Santa Clarita Grocery. Flair Cleaners is matching donations up to 250 pounds of food donated by customers.

"One of the greatest feelings in the world is knowing that we as individuals can make a difference," said Gary Futterman, owner of Flair Cleaners. "Public charities, food banks and church pantries are doing more than ever before, but they need our help. Our annual food drive makes a huge difference in their ability to serve our neighbors in need."

Community members should bring unopened, canned or boxed food to any Flair Cleaners – Redondo Beach, Santa Monica, Studio City, or Valencia. Do not bring any food past its expiration date or packaged in glass. Customers using the company's Free Pickup and Delivery service can leave bags or boxes of food they wish to donate with their pickup orders in March. Donations will be delivered by Flair Cleaners to the following charities:

· The Salvation Army Santa Monica feeds meals to anyone in need - this includes homeless people of all ages, as well as individuals and families who may be down on their luck and in need of a helping hand.

For more information on Flair Cleaners, visit FlairCleaners.com.

SUBMITTED BY BONNIE QUINTANILLA, CORRIDOR COMMUNICATIONS, INC

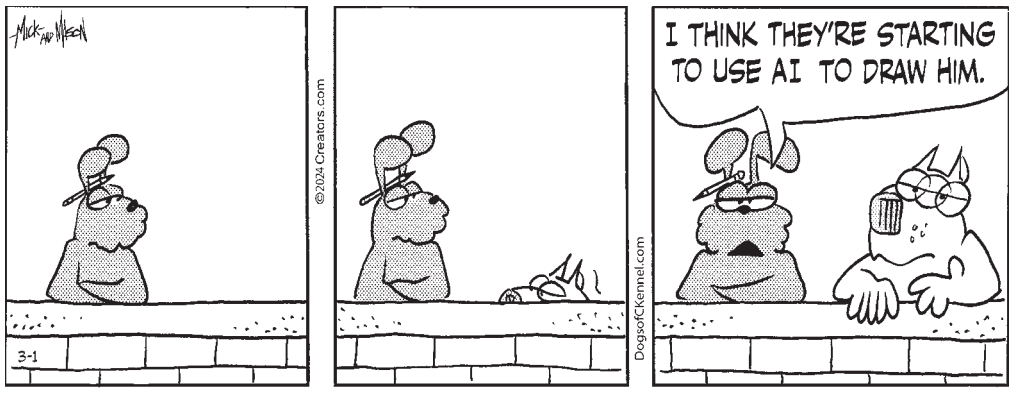
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



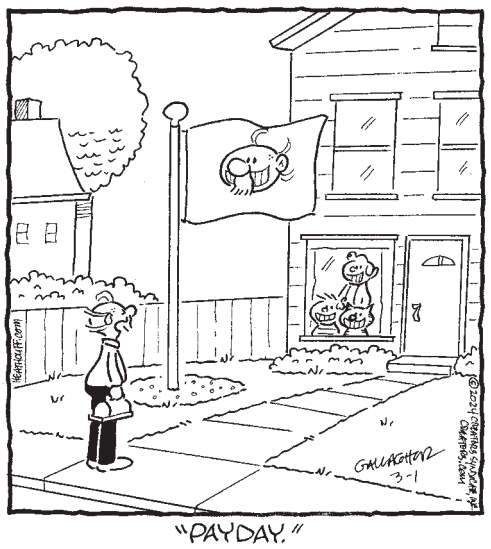
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



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 18 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

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They're never dull

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

Almond	Cyan	Jet	Opal	Smalt
Amaranth	Dark	Khaki	Peach	Tan
Aqua	Drab	Lilac	Plum	Taupe
Auburn	Dull	Lime	Puce	Teal
Azure	Dyes	Linen	Roan	Tint
Blue	Ecru	Magenta	Royal	Tonal
Brass	Flax	Mocha	purple	Umber
Buff	Gold	Mustard	Ruby	White
Camel	Green	Myrtle	Shade	Yellow
Clear	Henna	Navy	Spring	
Corn	Hues	Olive	bud	

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

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 1)

There's a blast of magic in your work life, which is, of course, not always the same as what you do for money. You turn the work of being human into a graceful dance. More highlights: Five instances of thrilling acquisition. You'll dance in creativity and unveil a masterpiece. The ones you care for will thrive, heal, produce and make you proud. Aquarius and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 12, 4, 25, 17 and 38.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You don't have to be an irreverent disruptor to see the value in adding some levity to the serious tones you move through. This can be a way of coping with something that might otherwise be difficult. Your humor helps more than just you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You're so inspired by what you love, you will produce a kind of sublime echo of it. This could happen with minimal awareness on your part, and there's no shame in the imitation, as you're putting your own spin on things.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Prioritizing gets tricky because truly important things go masquerading as ordinary and simple aspects of the day. The one to tackle first will bring you back to the basics of who you are, why you're here and what you want.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your reactive mind has served you well on many occasions so it's only natural to relax into those natural responses. But you're also trying to be different in some ways. Today you'll press the pause button and consider different manners of reacting.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Think ahead, make a plan and hold your dearest intentions at the forefront of your mind. Your ability to shut out distractions and focus intently for many hours at a time will win you a prime position or assignment.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). What you think you should be doing and what you are really doing may be two different things. When you're not on track, it doesn't mean you are misbehaving; it just means you're capable of more.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). There's much coming to you inside a package labeled "work." Love, friendship, respect, adventure and fulfillment are just some of the many perks in this package deal. So it's a good thing you signed on to do a little more than usual.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You have the courage to move forward with a good plan, but the current one isn't passing muster. Better to go back to the drawing board than to move forward with ideas that won't take you where you want to go.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Stress contributes to your decision-making process. You're unlikely to repeat a series of actions that causes you anxiety even for a big reward.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). There are those who would lead you to believe that what you're trying to accomplish is complicated, when in fact it's pretty simple. You've already nailed the hardest part — being brave enough to take action.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll be caught up in dreams of what you could create with another person. Technically, you could create these same things alone, or with someone else entirely. Be open minded. In a sense, you're a producer, waiting for the perfect cast.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Sometimes objectivity is easily obtained, sometimes not. Knowing this, you won't expect another person to abandon attachments and see things from your point of view even though you're able to do so without effort.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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

Newsday Crossword

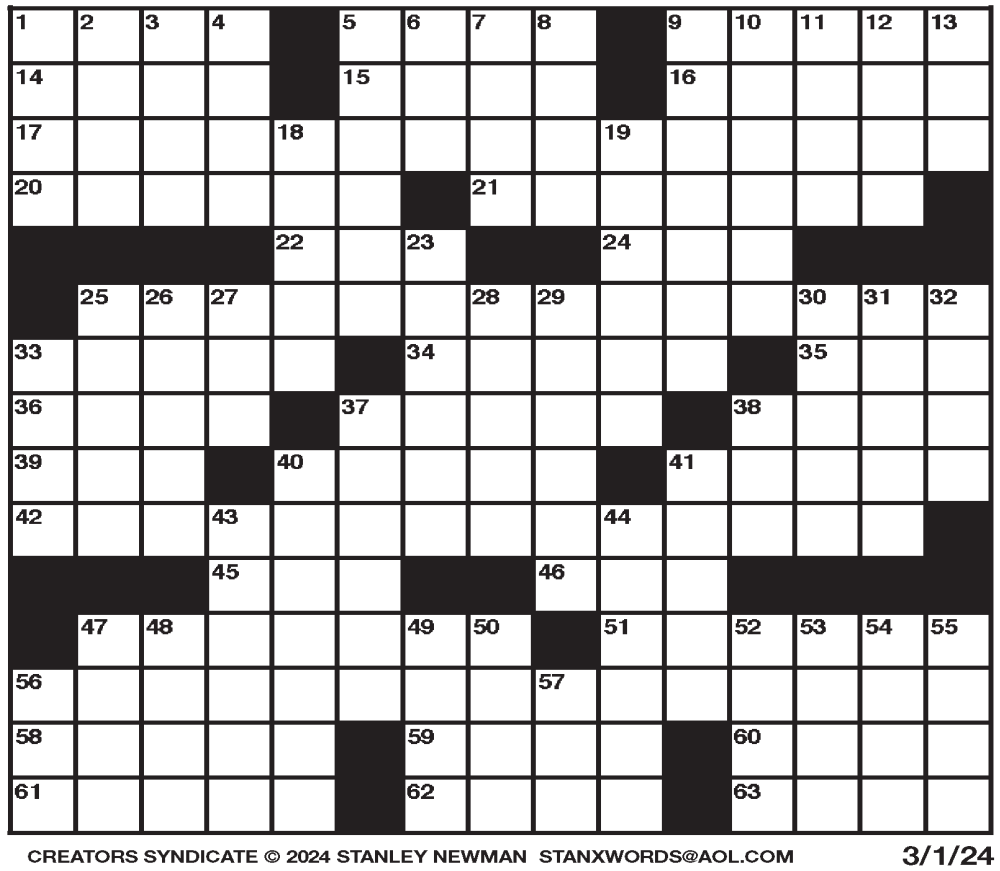
ON THE TELLY Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Loan figs.
5 Scoundrels
9 Becomes friendlier
14 Primary couleur
15 All over
16 Desktop font
17 Horse-riding impresario
20 Franciscan order's origin
21 "Have we started yet?"
22 Letters on some taps
24 Delhi bread
25 Hiawatha's transport
33 Takes pleasure (in)
34 Proclaim
35 Wht's missing here
36 Major Midwest river
37 "It wasn't to be"
38 Walk-way connector
39 Genesis 2 subject
40 Line of a letter
41 Brazen
42 Yellow Halloween wear
45 Behave
46 Univ. on the Hudson
47 Small digits
51 For laughs
56 Privacy shields of a sort
58 Perplexed
59 Quayle successor
60 Golf lesson topic
61 Narrative
62 Europe's tallest volcano
63 Arranges carefully

DOWN

1 Palindromic pop performers
2 Add to that
3 Court VIPs
4 Muslim mystic
5 Muslim leader
6 Italian cardinal
7 "Queen of Country"
8 Take a dip
9 *Ben-Hur* author
10 Esoteric knowledge
11 Real hoot
12 Whipped up
13 Guileful
18 Adidas rival
19 Connect with
23 Laughable
25 Persian faith
26 Whitman's "__ the Body Electric"
27 Onetime MGM rival
28 Lofty level
29 Raced to catch
30 Old Testament prophet
31 Chilling
32 "Careful, now!"
33 Don't go over well
37 Alternate nickname for Al
38 Sorority letter
40 *Star Trek* facility
41 Tenure
43 Monopoly role
44 Shrub in the etymology of "aspirin"
47 Tap with a club
48 It can precede many words
49 Periphery
50 Nae sayer
52 Brits' sports cars
53 Cork's country
54 Tizzy
55 Recipe abbr.
56 Some univ. degrees
57 Caterer's vessel



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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

ROADS

FROM PAGE 1

"I just wanted to provide some visual evidence to back up some statistics that we know ... UCLA commissioned a study in 2019 ... They found that 48% of respondents cited a lack of protective infrastructure as a main reason they felt discouraged to cycle, it was second only to dangerous driving behavior and speeding ... And so I urge everyone here to support and expedite and expand the bike action plan," Webb said.

> Both the public right of way and private development are rapidly changing in Santa Monica and our infrastructure needs to meet the demands that are being placed on it
>
> - Jason Kligier, Mobility Manager

Back in November of last year councilmembers voted unanimously to strengthen the City's safety commitment to reduce road-related injuries, an issue brought to the forefront of resident's minds following the tragic fatal crash involving a cyclist on Idaho Avenue.

Tania Mooser died at 19th and Idaho in October and Paul Postel survived a crash at the same location also in November, albeit with four broken and two bruised ribs. Since then, that intersection has been made a four-way stop.

"Both the public right of way and private development are rapidly changing in Santa Monica and our infrastructure needs to meet the demands that are being placed on it," Kligier said.

According to the information presented at the meeting, bicycle crashes were down in 2023 to a level much closer to 2021. Pedestrian accidents in 2023 were down from 2022, but remain much higher than they were in 2020.

Modifications to major intersections, some of which have already been implemented, include corner islands, forward stop bar, yield markings, vehicle stop bar, red curbs, green intersection markings, pedestrian lighting and new pavement.

Councilmember Gleam Davis inquired about the enforcement of violations by motor vehicles. "We saw a video tonight, and we've certainly personally observed it, where you see cars parking in the bike lanes, which of course, then force the cyclists to go out dangerously into traffic ... Have ongoing conversations about enforcement efforts with regard specifically to cycling and pedestrian safety infrastructure?"

"As directed by council [we have] begun ongoing monthly meetings between Dept of Transport, PD and the Office of Communications to coordinate our work. And we're also exploring the potential of doing a pilot program to use cameras to do monitoring of bike lanes. It wouldn't be issuing any citations, but it's just kind of testing the technology to see if there's promise here," Kligier responded.

> We'll be seeing some changes to organize the traffic flow at the intersection of Lincoln and Ocean Park boulevards ... That was one of our top 10 priority intersections from the first Vision Zero plan and ... there has been some money that's been received from various sources to roll out components of that project
>
> - Jason Kligier, Mobility Manager

Davis also asked if anything was being undertaken on Lincoln Blvd "because we've sadly had some unfortunate interactions including a pedestrian death recently," she said.

"We'll be seeing some changes to organize the traffic flow at the intersection of Lincoln and Ocean Park boulevards ... That was one of our top 10 priority intersections from the first Vision Zero plan and ... there has been some money that's been received from various sources to roll out components of that project," Kligier said, adding, "I know that we don't have all the money to roll out the full project that was originally envisioned. So it's going to be implemented in phases."

Councilmember Oscar de la Torre touched upon an extremely nuanced issue and, referencing Webb's video from earlier, asked, "There was the video that showed cars going into the bike lane, it seems like the engineering is not the best ... are we addressing all those?"

Avoiding the significantly larger conversational issue of when vehicles do in fact have to cross into bike lanes and indeed just how effective painting a green strip on the tarmac actually is without additional protection, Kligier said, "The protected bike lane network that was adopted by council was developed with safety and crash history in mind, as well as connections to destinations and making sure that our schools and parks and communities are well served. And then we are using our Vision Zero data analysis that we're updating every five years or so to prioritize where our next suite of projects will be focused."

WHERE TO BUY?

WHERE, part 3 of the 4 part series

Inglewood is an ideal place for first-time homebuyers or investors. Its entry-level pricing and potential for appreciation due to ongoing redevelopment make it a promising investment. With good transportation, including new metro lines, and proximity to the Westside, Inglewood offers convenience and accessibility. Additionally, its entertainment venues like SoFi Stadium, Intuit Dome, and Hollywood Park Casino, along with its central location to Downtown LA, Hollywood, LAX, and the Westside, make it a vibrant and desirable place to live.
If you are interested in finding out more about Inglewood and its real estate market, I'm available to answer all of your questions. Scan the QR code and set up a zoom meeting or an in-person consultation with me at my office in Marina del Rey.

REAL ESTATE MARKET APPRECIATION
INGLEWOOD CA

Time Period	Total Appreciation	Average Annual Rate
Latest Quarter 2023 Q2 - 2023 Q3	2.39% ▲	9.92% ▲
Last 12 Months 2022 Q3 - 2023 Q3	-0.10% ▼	-0.10% ▼
Last 2 Years 2021 Q3 - 2023 Q3	11.26% ▲	5.48% ▲
Last 5 Years 2018 Q3 - 2023 Q3	39.90% ▲	6.95% ▲
Last 10 Years 2013 Q3 - 2023 Q3	153.17% ▲	9.73% ▲
Since 2000 2000 Q1 - 2023 Q3	329.10% ▲	6.32% ▲

Data provided by NeighborhoodScout®



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