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The Ocean Economy
Los Angeles County will now track water-based business.
Page 4

Masters of Dance
Free classes and talks begin this month.
Page 6

Possible reduction in transfer students alarms some parents

BRENNON DIXSON
SMDP Staff Writer

Changes to school funding have prompted the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education to undertake a discussion about its interdistrict permit policies and residents fear some students may soon lose the opportunity to attend local schools.

Interdistrict permits allow students living outside district residential boundaries to attend an SMMUSD campus but as SMMUSD transitions into a basic aid model, schools will no longer receive state funding for transfers.

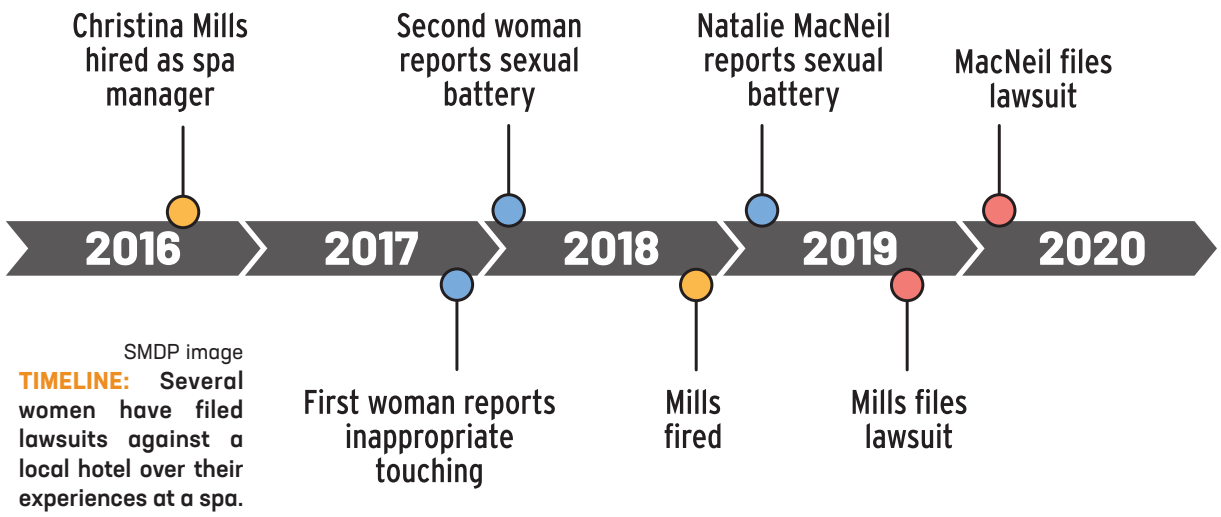
There are a number of permit types to apply for, and some of the higher-prioritized listings include: children of district, city of Malibu or Santa Monica employees, students who have moved out of district boundaries as well as those who are related to an alum.

Permits seek to give families flexibility in an otherwise rigid system, according to district staff, and they have long been hailed as a way to increase diversity.

In years past — before the district switched to basic-aid funding — SMMUSD would receive additional money for taking on interdistrict transfers but that is no longer the case, staff said during a December meeting, which poses a problem for a district facing a fiscal deficit in the foreseeable future.

SEE **TRANSFER** PAGE 11

Additional women allege abuse by hotel massage therapists



SMDP image

TIMELINE: Several women have filed lawsuits against a local hotel over their experiences at a spa.

MADELEINE PAUKER
SMDP Staff Writer

Multiple women allege they were sexually battered by massage therapists at a Santa Monica hotel spa, supporting claims made by the spa's former manager in a lawsuit filed last September.

The JW Marriott Le Merigot is now the subject of two lawsuits alleging that the hotel failed to properly respond to reports of massage therapists sexually violating spa guests. Additionally, two other women who wish to remain anonymous have told the Daily Press that they were sexually battered or touched inappropriately

SEE **LAWSUIT** PAGE 11



Photo courtesy of Scott Boyajan.

SOFTBALL: Santa Monica Girls Fastpitch celebrated their opening day on Saturday, kicking off the 2020 Spring softball season. Nearly 250 girls between the ages of 4 and 14 will be playing softball in the league this season. For more information about Santa Monica Girls Fastpitch, please go to the league's website: www.santamonicagirlssoftball.org. Santa Monica Girls Fastpitch is a non-profit, all girls softball league for ages 4 to 14 serving Santa Monica and the Westside for over 30 years.


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Westside Together

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The Intersection of Womanhood and Homelessness

DANIELLE ROMAN AND VICKY ARENAS
The People Concern

National Women's History Month originates from the very first "International Women's Day" in 1911. In 1987, Congress designated the entire month of March "Women's History Month". National Women's History Month is a time to honor women's contribution to American history, reflect on their current position in our society, and look towards a brighter future. The People Concern is proud to celebrate Women's History Month by exploring the intersectionality of womanhood and homelessness, sharing stories of strength and inspiration we witness every day, and offering services tailored specifically to meet the needs of women experiencing homelessness.

Historically, women struggled for their equality and economic independence. Today, women are still confronted with issues that increase their risk for homelessness including being disproportionately affected by domestic violence, the wage gap, lack of affordable housing, lack of affordable quality child care and greater home and caretaking responsibilities. Factors such as race, sexual orientation, education, children, mental and physical disabilities, unemployment, substance use, and lack of available resources further exacerbate the challenges faced by unhoused women.

The 2019 Needs Assessment conducted by the Downtown Women's Center (DWC) and the USC Price Center for Social Innovation reported that there are 10,845 women in the City of Los Angeles and 18,331 women in Los Angeles County who are experiencing homelessness. African American and Latinx women are overrepresented in the homeless population and women of color are also more likely to become chronically homeless. Transgender women face additional challenges when accessing services such as shelters and showers that are often designed with a cis-heteronormative ideology. These realities point to the complex, negative consequences that racism and sexism continue to have on our society today; in addition to a lack of available affordable housing and physical and/or mental health conditions, domestic violence is a leading immediate cause of homelessness for the women The People Concern encounters.

The People Concern's multi-disciplinary outreach teams throughout LA County work diligently to connect with people living outside and build trusting relationships so that they can then connect them to resources and help them restore a sense of safety and stability. These efforts take time – everyone's needs and circumstances are unique – but we are immensely proud of the women we serve and the resiliency they demonstrate in times of great adversity.

Women like Angela. Angela was an employee at a local university's student health center. She enjoyed coming into work each day and lived a simple, happy life. But following the death of her parents, she began to feel isolated, depressed and trapped in a cycle of grief. Seeking a solution to her unhappiness, Angela moved out of the country with hopes of a fresh start. Her time abroad, however, was short-lived. After losing her savings, she returned to Los Angeles, but this time, she had no home, no money and no support system. Angela's experience on the streets was traumatizing and after three years of living without shelter, she moved into one of The People Concern's interim housing facilities in Santa Monica. Not only did Angela find a warm bed, wellness activities, and staff dedicated to helping her make it home but Angela also found her passion. Since connecting with us, Angela has rediscovered singing and participates in a community choir. Today, she feels empowered to share her story with others so they can learn from her experience.

In addition to providing integrated services for people experiencing homelessness and victims of domestic violence, The People Concern offers programs designed to empower, celebrate, and unite our female program participants. These programs include daily women's wellness groups and workshops to foster a community of sisterhood such as housing 101, cooking classes, gardening, budgeting and money management, emotional management, harm reduction groups, art, and jewelry-making. Daybreak Designs, The People Concern's social enterprise, empowers women to design, create, and sell their own jewelry for a profit while perfecting their craft and acquiring valuable business skills. Additionally, The People Concern, in partnership with the UCLA Rape Center, is able to reserve emergency beds for victims of rape and assault who are experiencing homelessness. Program participants are given a safe place to sleep and assistance getting back on their feet through family reunification or referrals to other resources. Finally, Sojourn, is The People Concern's domestic violence program serving adult and children victims of domestic violence. Sojourn's 24-hour crisis intervention hotline is the entry point to all of Sojourn's services including peer counseling, advocacy, referrals, and assistance to shelter.

This National Women's History Month we celebrate the work that our partners, staff, volunteers, and supporters do every day to ensure that LA County's most vulnerable women are housed, healthy, and safe for good.

Here're a few things you can do today to support women experiencing homelessness in your community:

Contact your local representatives to voice your support for interim and supportive housing for unhoused women and families.

Donate and assemble hygiene kits that outreach teams can use to connect with people and bring them inside. Email donations@thepeopleconcern.org for more information.

Show our neighbors you care by volunteering with The People Concern's homeless services and/or domestic violence programs. Email volunteer@thepeopleconcern.org or visit https://www.thepeopleconcern.org/ for more information.

What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Monday, March 2

Disabilities Commission
Regular Meeting of the Disabilities Commission. Ken Edwards Center, Room 105, 1527 4th Street, 6:30 p.m. Visit https://www.smgov.net/Portals/AccessibleSM/content.aspx?id=16032 for more information.

Architectural Review Board Meeting
Regular meeting of the Architectural Review Board. SMI Training Room, 7 p.m.

Pico Teen Advisory Council Meeting
Have a voice at your library! Help plan programs and community service projects while earning volunteer hours. Meets once a month in The Annex Room. Grades 8-12. Pico Branch Library, 4 - 5 p.m.

Storypalooza presents Elephant and Piggie Like Reading!
Celebrate the love of reading with Elephant and Piggie Like Reading! Books. Storytime followed by book-themed activities. Ages 4-9. Ocean Park Branch Library, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 3

Wilmont Meeting
Join Wilmont neighbors and friends at their March from 6:30 - 9 p.m. at the Montana Library (1704 Montana Ave.). They will have Justin Joe, Director, Community Health Investment at Providence St. John's Medical Center, discussing future, negotiated long term benefits for local residents who will feel its 20 year expansion pains, Suzie Lockwood, SMPD Crime Prevention Coordinator and Peter Lashley, Neighborhood Resource Officer, providing a policing presentation, and we'll continue our discussion on "What Wilmont should focus on in 2020". They will have food, drink and social time starting at 6:30 p.m. and everyone is welcomed.

Walk-In Tutoring
Tutors provide help with basic reading and writing skills, using the Internet, filling out online forms, using email, resume writing, and job searches. Main Library, 5 - 7 p.m.

L.E.A.R.N.: Learn, Excel, Achieve and Read Now
One-on-one access to volunteers available to help students with homework assignments and reading comprehension. Bilingual volunteers available. Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30-6 p.m.

Write Away
Gain feedback and encouragement in your writing efforts from fellow writers in this supportive writer's meet-up. Fairview Branch Library, 12 - 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 4

Westside Writers Mingle
A monthly meeting of SCBWI, an organization of children's writers and illustrators. Open to all. Picture Book critique night. Ocean Park Branch Library, 7 - 8:45 p.m.

Planning Commission Meeting
The Commission acts through open and civil discourse that is informed by public input, impartial analysis, and best practices in land use and planning. Ken Edwards Center, 7 p.m.

Senior TAP Workshop at Ken Edwards Center
Bring valid ID showing you are 62 years or older to apply for a FREE senior reduced fare TAP card. Includes travel and TAP card use training. For details, visit bigbluebus.com/tapworkshop. Ken Edwards Center, 1 - 2 p.m.

Baby Story Time
Story time series for babies 0-17 months. March 4- April 1. A ticket is required to attend. A limited number of tickets are given out on a first-come, first-served basis, 15 minutes before the program, at the Information Desk. 11:15 - 11:35 a.m. Montana Avenue Branch Library

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Marina Del Rey

Supervisor Hahn Announces "Ocean Economy" as Newest Official Economic Sector in LA County

Supervisor Janice Hahn joined the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation CEO Bill Allen, officials from AltaSea, and entrepreneurs from new ocean tech companies to announce that the "blue economy" or "ocean economy" would become an official economic sector tracked in LA County.

According to a report released today compiled by the LAEDC and AltaSea at the Port of LA, 117,000 workers are directly employed in the region's ocean economy in LA County, with an additional 82,500 jobs sustained by the industry. The report: The Ocean Economy in Los Angeles County, was sponsored by LA County Supervisor Janice Hahn's office and released by the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC) and prepared in collaboration with AltaSea at the Port of Los Angeles. Based on the industry's significant regional economic contribution, the LAEDC took the rare step, upon the report's release, to add the "Ocean Economy" as a Southern California-based industry cluster that it will formally monitor, benchmark and track going forward; much like the LAEDC does for the region's more well-known industries such as aerospace and digital media entertainment.

The "ocean economy" is a large sector in LA County in terms of jobs. In fact, if the "ocean economy" had been included in the most recent jobs report, it would have ranked 9th in jobs behind manufacturing and ahead of Information Technology.

Supervisor Hahn made today's announcement at the Burton Chase Park Boathouse in Marina del Rey. There, she got to operate an underwater drone created here in LA County by Blue Robotics – a startup based at AltaSea.

The report also found that:

California's Ocean Economy supports 1.035 million jobs (direct, indirect and induced), or roughly seven percent (7%) of the state's total workforce, and over $53 billion in total labor income. (2018)

LA County's Ocean Economy supports 200,400 total jobs (direct, indirect and induced), produced over $34 billion in regional output, added $20 billion to the gross county product, yielded over $12 billion in labor income, and generated $1.7 billion in local taxes. (2018)

The marine transportation and tourism sectors, which employ 52,070 and 57,270 workers, respectively, in LA County, are the industry's largest local employment contributors. (2018)

LA County's Ocean Economy is forecast to grow significantly, directly employing 126,000 workers by 2023 and generating $80.1 billion in regional output, $49.8 billion in additional gross county product and $69.2 billion in personal income over the five-year period between 2019 and 2023.

Globally, the Ocean Economy is projected by the OECD to double to $3 trillion over the next decade.

The LAEDC report also highlights the growing economic, environmental and equity importance of the LA region's emerging marine-based biotechnology, conservation, renewable and high-tech sectors, which the LAEDC projects will be significant drivers of future job, venture capital and wage growth over the five-year study period. By levering the LA region's existing applied research concentrations and pronounced productive advantages over other economic regions and nations, the report concludes that LA is "well-positioned" to become a world leader in the development of marine-based solutions to address global climate change, health and water conservation challenges.

"The newly-designated 'Ocean Economy' is a strong and growing sector of our economy in LA County," said LA County Supervisor Janice Hahn. "Over the next decade we're going to see more jobs at our ports, in aquaculture, in ocean exploration, and in ocean technology we haven't even thought of yet."

The report also makes some policy and program recommendations for further building on the region's organic strengths in this industry. Key suggestions include: invest in industry-driven workforce training programs that can respond in real-time to the fast-changing labor market needs of this industry; advocate for economic and workforce development incentives and programs that support emerging ocean industries; ease regulatory barriers for sustainable aquaculture; promote marine-based renewable energy solutions; and implement local waterfront revitalization and preservation programs that achieve the co-equal goals of to combat sea level rise and to promote sustainable economic development.

"This report is not just data," said Supervisor Hahn. "It is a road map with recommendations the County can pursue with the LAEDC, AltaSea and emerging blue economy leaders – driving science-based understanding of the ocean, incubating and sustaining ocean-related businesses, and pioneering new ocean-related education programs for communities and entrepreneurs alike. This is just the beginning."

SUBMITTED BY LIZ ODENDAHL

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KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Week of February 24, 2020



Annual Water Main Replacement Project

For the week of March 2, the contractor will begin restoring the striping of the trench area of the newly installed water main on 7th Court between Santa Monica Boulevard and Broadway, Pico Boulevard between Main Street and 4th Street and on Pier Avenue be-tween Main Street and 2nd Street. The contrac-tor will be connecting the new water main on Airport Avenue east of 23rd Street.; Traffic will be reduce to one lane in each direction on Pico Blvd between Main St and 4th St, Broadway @ 7th Ct, Santa Monica Blvd @ 7th Ct and to one lane on Airport Ave. Please use alternate routes whenever possible. Please contact Carlos Rosales at (310) 458-8721 with any questions/concerns regarding this project.

Advanced Traffic Management System, Phase 5 Project

For the week of March 2, this project will upgrade the traffic signal equipment at four locations and install fiber optic cables along Montana Ave and 26th St.; The project will provide transit priority along the corridor, allow for real-time remote monitoring and management of the traffic signals, provide public Wi-Fi along the corridor, and connect the San Vicente Reservoir and the Montana Avenue Branch Library to the City's network. We appreciate your patience during the project, to provide this safety improvement and public enhancements. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Andrew Maximous at (310) 458-8291.

Fire Station #1 Construction Project

For the week of March 2, construction will continue throughout the project area located at 1377 7th Street which will affect the sidewalk and parking lane on the east side of 7th Street just north of Santa Monica Boulevard. Sidewalk and parking lane will continue to be closed all day/night through the month. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Senior Construction Manager Sebastian Felbeck at (310) 434-2675.

Annual Wastewater Main Project

For the week of March 2, sewer main repair work will be taking place in the Lincoln Ct Alley between Maple Pl North & Maple St and on Maple St between Lincoln Ct and Lincoln Blvd. Please contact Saad Malim at (310) 458-8721 with any questions/concerns regarding this project.

City Yards Modernization Project

For the week of March 2nd, construction will impact the project area located at 2500 Michigan Ave, which will affect the sidewalk and parking lane on the north side of Delaware Ave just east of 24th St. Please contact Senior Construction Manager Sebastian Felbeck at (310) 434-2675 with any questions/concerns regarding this project.

Storm Drain & Drainage Improvements Project

For the week of March 2, drainage improvements to install a catch basins will take place at 25th St and Montana Ave. Please contact Saad Malim at (310) 458-8721 with any questions/ concerns regarding this project.

Annual Paving, Snap Parking, & Beach Parking Project

For the week of March 2, work will take place in the 2800 Donald Douglas Loop North parking lot where we will be reconstructing the asphalt pavement. Please contact Jason Hoang at (310) 458-8721 with any questions/concerns regarding this project.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Noma

Residential Structure Fire

On Thursday February 27, at 2:36 p.m., Santa Monica Fire companies responded to a report of smoke coming from the roof of a residence at, 305 Alta Avenue. The first arriving engine company found a well involved attic fire and started an aggressive coordinated attack on the fire. A request for a second alarm assignment with additional resources was requested, and the fire was brought under controlled within 33 minutes.

The Santa Monica Fire Department committed six engine companies and a truck company to the incident. The Los Angeles Fire Department provide one engine and one truck company to assist. Although the fire was controlled quickly, the incident required a significant amount of overhaul to completely extinguish the fire. In addition to extinguishing the fire, firefighters completed a consider-able amount of salvage, limiting the amount of water damage to the content of the residence.

Two Chief Officers from Santa Monica Fire, and one Battalion Chief from the Los Angeles Fire Department assisted with the management of the scene. The Santa Monica Police Department provided live scene video from a drone, that assisted greatly in the management of the fire. The Santa Monica Fire Prevention Division responded and is conducting an investigation into the cause of the fire.

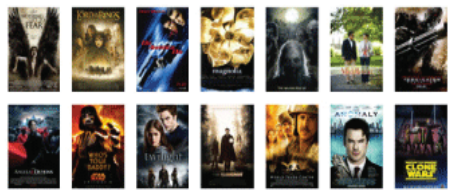
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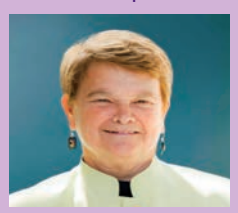
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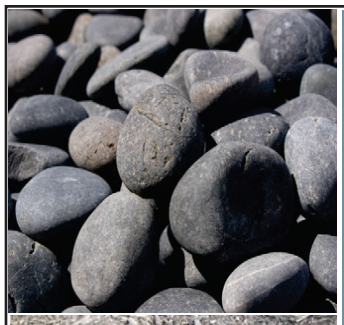


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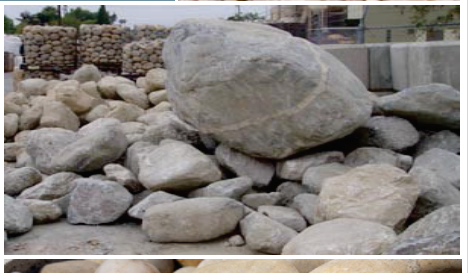
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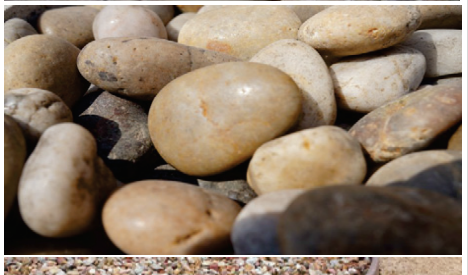














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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Downtown

Community Kids: Vote!

Community Kids is a monthly program series centered on themes of equity, community involvement, and social justice for children ages 6-12. The Community Kids: Vote! program on Thursday, March 5, at 5 p.m. will focus on the importance of voting, cover new and exciting changes in LA County's voting system designed to increase voter participation, and explore public service jobs in government. Presenters will be Zachary Gaidzic (West/Metro LA Field Deputy and Caseworker for Los Angeles County Supervisor, District 3, Sheila Kuehl) and Natalya Zernitskaya (President of the League of Women Voters of Santa Monica).

For more information, please call Youth Services at (310) 458-8621.

This program is free and open to children ages 6-12 and their families. The Santa Monica Public Library is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, call Library Administration at (310) 458-8606 at least one week prior to the event. The Main Library is directly served by Big Blue Bus lines 1, R10 and 18. The Expo Line and Big Blue Bus lines 2, 3, R3 and 9 stop nearby. Ride your bike. Bicycle parking racks are available at the library.

SUBMITTED BY DEBBIE GLASSER

Fairview Library

Read and Play

Spend the afternoon playing with family and friends in our indoor play space featuring a short family story time at 3:30 pm, followed by self-guided play activities for ages 0-5 designed to cultivate key developmental skills on Thursday, March 5 and 21. This free, 60-minute program will be held in Fairview's Community Room.

The Fairview Library is wheelchair-accessible. For special disabled services, call (310) 458-8681 at least one week prior to event. The Fairview Library is served by Big Blue Bus routes 8,16, and 44. Ride your bike. Bicycle parking racks are available at the library.

SUBMITTED BY CHRISTA MUSCATINE, YOUTH SERVICES LIBRARIAN

SMC

SMC's Spring 2020 "Masters of Dance" Series Presents Free Master Classes and Talks with Dance Professionals

The Santa Monica College (SMC) Dance Department continues its Masters of Dance series of master classes and learning workshops on March 11 with "Ballet for Utility and Effective Storytelling," presented by award-winning dancer Charlie Neshyba Hodges. The series offers a unique opportunity to experience the SMC dance studios in a small-group setting.

The Masters of Dance events are free, and the public is invited to attend as participants or as observers. Unless otherwise noted, classes and talks are held in the SMC Core Performance Center (CPC) on the main SMC campus, 1900 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica. Seating is limited and on a first-arrival basis.

The spring 2020 Masters of Dance lineup is:

• March 11 at 10:15 a.m. (CPC 304 & 308): Charlie Neshyba Hodges: "Ballet for Utility and Effective Storytelling." Award-winning international dancer Charlie Neshyba Hodges will apply his design knowledge to introduce an alternate point of view of ballet that replaces "beautiful" and "correct" with effective and useful. He teaches dance at the California Institute of the Arts, has collaborated with Twyla Tharp and Benjamin Millepied. He is also a renowned product designer who contracts with the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, and has been awarded the 2018 IDSA Gold, the 2019 IDesign Awards Gold, the Denhart Prize for Sustainability, and the Spark Finalist for Social Impact. If participating, dancers should wear appropriate black on black dancewear.

• April 22 at 10:15 a.m. (CPC 304 & 308): Virginia Horne: "Gyrokinesis®." A founding member of Thomas/Ortiz Dance and a certified Gyrotonic® instructor, Virginia Horne will teach a class in Gyrokinesis®, an expansion system that emphasizes decompression of the spine, space for the joints, and a fluidity of movement. The method helps prevent injuries, allows the body to recover from injuries, and improves the quality of movement. Horne has danced with a number of ballet companies, and performed in the national tours of 42nd St. The Musical and West Side Story, and with Jean Ann Ryan Productions. International projects include the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and MTV Italia (Rome). If participating, dancers should wear appropriate black on black dancewear.

• May 14 at 12:30 p.m. (CPC 304 & 308): Genna Moroni: "Guided Movement Inspired by Gaga." Commitment, effort, and sense of humor are the key elements for Gaga. Dancer/choreographer Genna Moroni, a founding member of Ate9 Dance Company and recently commissioned by Ballet Florida to premiere a new work at the Kravis Center, will lead a class rooted in the dynamic physicality of Gaga to inspire students to recognize their individual voices and value as movers, encourage them to open up and learn from others in the room, and understand their ability to balance strength and vulnerability as they explore a healthy balance of ambition and passion. If participating, dancers should wear appropriate black on black dancewear.

The Masters of Dance series is sponsored by the SMC Associates (smc.edu/associates), a private organization that funds speakers and special programs on the Santa Monica College campus. Additional support for the series is provided by the SMC Dance Department.

More information is available at smc.edu/dance or by calling 310-434-4100 or 310-434-3467.

Santa Monica College is a California Community College accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).

SUBMITTED BY GRACE SMITH

Community Corp.
of SANTA MONICA

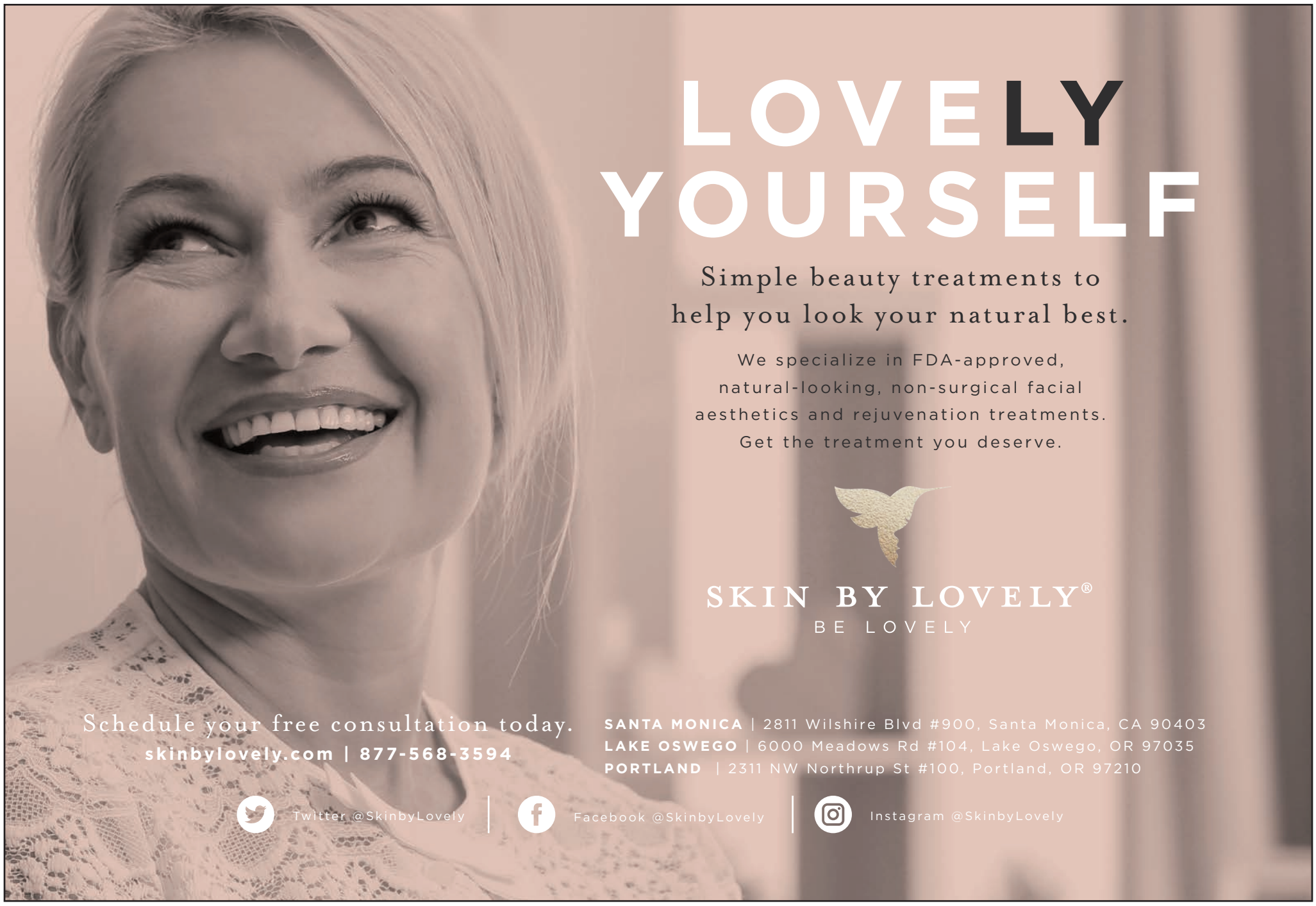
All welcome!

AffordableHousing Tour

Come see and learn more about affordable housing in Santa Monica.
Coffee and light refreshments will be provided.

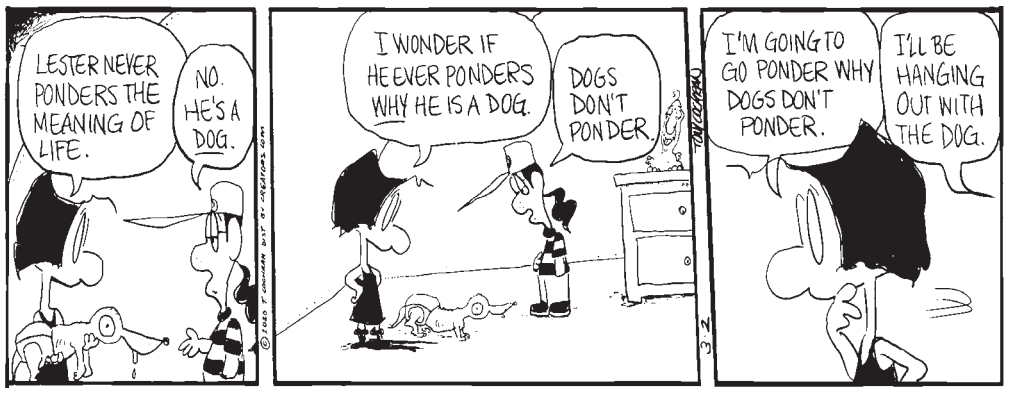
Mar. 6th, 9 to 10:30 a.m.
Starts at 2345 Virginia Avenue

RSVP: events@communitycorp.org



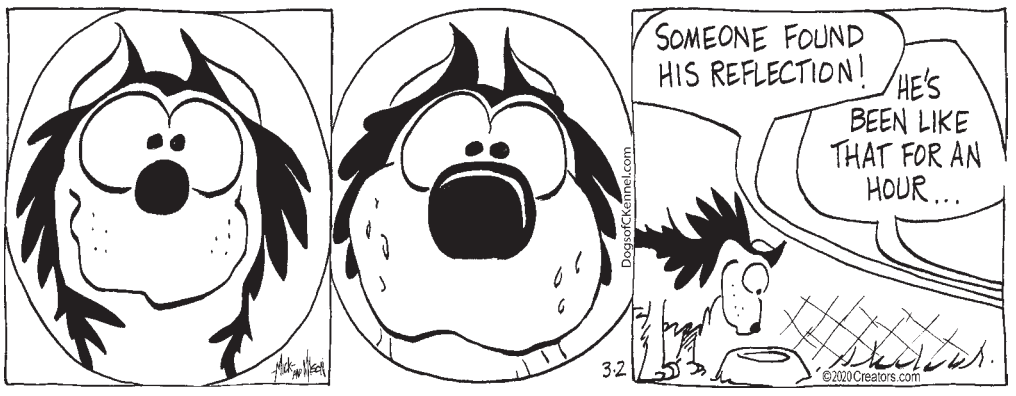
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



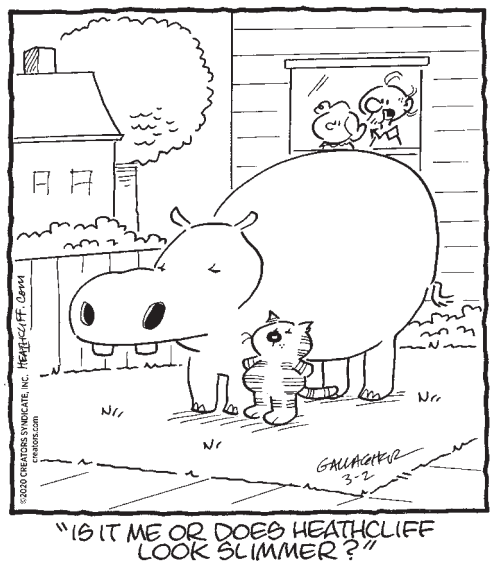
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 61.7°

MONDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ waist to stomach high
New SW swell shows. Small NW swell.

TUESDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ waist to stomach high occ. 4 ft
SW swell trends up. Lingering NW swell. Conditions looking dicey with onshore flow.

WEATHER

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 66.
Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 52.
Sunday: A chance of rain after 10am. Partly sunny, with a high near 61.
Sunday Night: A slight chance of rain before 10pm, then a slight chance of showers after 10pm. Partly cloudy, with a low around 48.
Monday: Sunny, with a high near 63.
Monday Night: Clear, with a low around 49.

Date	Day of the Week	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2020/02/29	Sat	12:05 AM	4.26	H
2020/02/29	Sat	06:43 AM	1.40	L
2020/02/29	Sat	12:29 PM	2.88	H
2020/02/29	Sat	5:46 PM	1.74	L
2020/03/01	Sun	12:43 AM	4.22	H
2020/03/01	Sun	08:12 AM	1.41	L
2020/03/01	Sun	2:21 PM	2.40	H
2020/03/01	Sun	5:57 PM	2.17	L
2020/03/02	Mon	01:41 AM	4.20	H
2020/03/02	Mon	10:11 AM	1.09	L
2020/03/03	Tue	03:04 AM	4.31	H
2020/03/03	Tue	11:26 AM	0.54	L
2020/03/03	Tue	7:07 PM	2.91	H
2020/03/03	Tue	9:51 PM	2.77	L
2020/03/04	Wed	04:23 AM	4.63	H
2020/03/04	Wed	12:15 PM	-0.05	L
2020/03/04	Wed	7:17 PM	3.25	H
2020/03/04	Wed	11:16 PM	2.53	L

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL calottery
Draw Date:02/26
8 27 29 36 47
Power#: 24
Jackpot: 80 M

calottery MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 02/25
2 9 43 49 63
Mega#: 15
Jackpot: 60 M

SuperLotto PLUS calottery
Draw Date: 02/26
4 11 24 28 41
Mega#: 25
Jackpot: 12 M

calottery Fantasy5
Draw Date: 02/27
1 12 22 24 37

calottery Daily 3
Draw Date: 02/28
Midday: 1 3 2
Draw Date: 02/27
Evening: 7 5 1

calottery Daily Derby
Draw Date: 02/27
1st: 08 - GORGEOUS GEORGE
2nd: 09 - WINNING SPIRIT
3rd: 02 - LUCKY STAR
RACE TIME: 1:48.92

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

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (MARCH 02)

There's boldness in this solar journey. What starts as a soft statement will attract the mental steel and concrete it needs to become a structure of your life. This is about identity. You will declare yourself in a new way such as "artist," "athlete" or "financial wizard" and become the person of your declaration. Scorpio and Cancer adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 22, 21, 18 and 4.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). There is very little that you really have to do. What's before you is all optional. It's good to remember that every once in a while. And when you talk about your life, phrase it as what you "get" to do.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Many valuable discoveries have been made by chance by people seeking something else entirely. Then again, chance favors the seekers. Ask any of them, or just ask yourself today, as you're definitely in the category.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The same problem seems life-altering for one person and able to be solved in a snap to another. Giving problems the scale they deserve in your life is an art that you're executing better and better.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Friends will shape your day, and this will be a reminder about how important it is to have good people in your life -- people you admire and trust to be compassionate and kind.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Though you'll be tempted to act automatically and out of loyalty and a sense of justice, taking a moment to reflect will make all the difference, as right and wrong will not be so obvious.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Speaking well will take you far. Consider taking on a speaking project. To give a speech about your life, work or any topic at all really offers an all-encompassing sort of self-development.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Of course, the expectation that matters is the one you have of yourself, but that one can be pretty harsh and unreasonable. The expectations of others in your life will be kinder.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Relationships happen because you make them happen, and they continue because you cultivate them. The natural outcropping is that you'll feel responsible for a part of another person's happiness, and in fact, you are.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). When people ask you for reminders, they don't have good organizational systems in place. On the bright side, this is the sort of extra little burden of responsibility that sparks a cool idea.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). At your heart, you're an altruist. No person can exist alone. You are only completely satisfied with an outcome if you believe that others are benefitting as much as you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The big picture will come to you. All you have to do is close your eyes and wish a moment. It won't be very hard for you to come up with excellent strategies.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). In a calm atmosphere, sudden movements are startling. In chaos, anything goes. You'll be in both sorts of conditions. You'll read the room and adjust accordingly.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

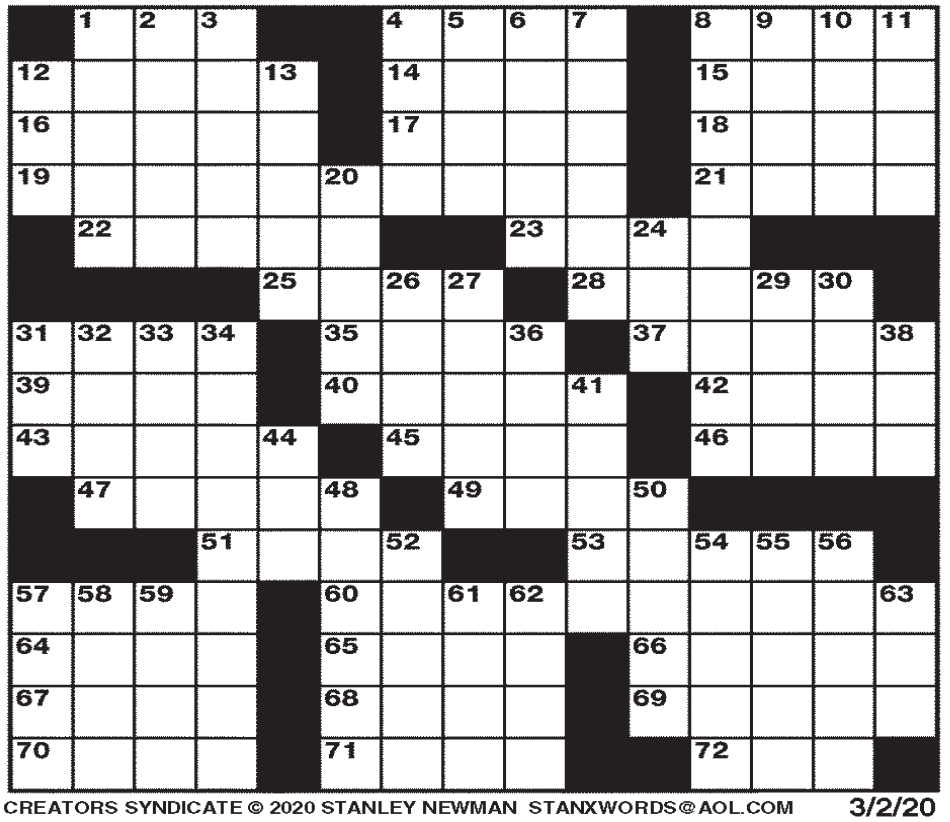
1				4		3	9	
4			1		3			
2					9		4	6
	5	8	6			2		1
			8	1	2			
9		2			7	8	6	
5	9		7					3
			4		6			5
	3	7		8				2

Newsday Crossword

BEAT IT by Brad Wilber
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 "Fool's Day" mo.
4 Make a sound of shock
8 Untidy person
12 Hawaiian dances
14 Latch __ (grasp)
15 How take-out orders are placed
16 Grouchy one
17 When trains are due: Abbr.
18 Coin in Spain or Italy
19 Shaken instrument that jingles
21 Adam and Eve's paradise
22 Utensil for oatmeal
23 Political thinker Marx
25 __-in-the-blank
28 Opposite aspects of an issue
31 Try to persuade
35 Either baseball game squad
37 Purple jelly flavor
39 Overly skinny
40 Doctor's "Open wide" request
42 Finds a purpose for
43 Witch's hex
45 Local sandwich shop
46 Prescriptions, for short
47 Plunge suddenly, as a hawk
49 Payment to a landlord
51 Walk wearily
53 Distance below the surface
57 Session in the tub
60 Orchestra section for 19 Across, plus 8 and 34 Down
64 Sandwich cookie brand
65 Urgent request
66 Florida city near St. Pete
67 Low in fat, as meat
68 __ so (nevertheless)
69 Take a snooze
70 Taunter's challenge
71 Nimble-fingered
72 Title for some wives

DOWN
1 Mysterious glows
2 Well-padded, as a turkey
3 Stallone's commando character
4 "Attendee" suffix for movie
5 Prefix for freeze
6 Offended the nose
7 Pretend to be
8 Metal calypso instrument
9 Noisy
10 Fairy tale villain
11 Unexpected benefit
12 Mtn.'s elevation
13 Good-natured parody
20 __ of measure (miles and hours)
24 Oil-drilling structure
26 Act as a guide
27 Birthday cake's horizontal part
29 Ill-at-__ (nervous)
30 Went very fast
31 Network with an eye logo
32 "How clumsy of me!"
33 From square one
34 Marching-band instrument hit with small mallets
36 Rooster or bull
38 Double-curve letter
41 Typical pious person of India
44 Text message "Very funny"
48 Exploded, as a bubble
50 Exams
52 Investigate in detail
54 Old Testament song
55 Oven countdown device
56 Optimistic feelings
57 **Typeface like this**
58 Vicinity
59 __ apart (rip up)
61 Lagoon's coral barrier
62 Isn't able to
63 Brief snooze



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DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2020028521 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 02/04/2019 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Wacky Productions Unlimited . 1833 S Cloverdale Ave , Los Angeles, CA 90019. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: Janet Miner 1833 S Cloverdale Ave Los Angeles, CA 90019, Arigon Starr 1833 S Cloverdale Ave Los Angeles, CA 90019. This Business is being conducted by: a General Partnership. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)07/1988. /s/: Janet Miner . Janet Miner , Arigon Starr . This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 02/04/2019. 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 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 02/10/2020, 02/17/2020, 02/24/2020, 03/02/2020.

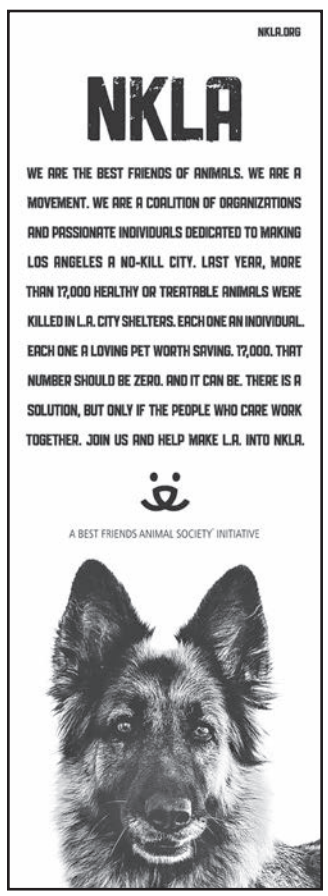
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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2020025529 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 01/31/2020 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as JL3 Associates . 100 Wilshire Blvd Suite 700 , Santa Monica, CA 90401. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: John Luque 100 Wilshire Blvd Suite 700 Santa Monica, CA 90401. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant has not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above. /s/:John Luque . John Luque . This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 01/31/2020. 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 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 02/24/2020, 03/02/2020, 03/09/2020, 03/16/2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2020036313 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 02/12/2020 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as VFTC TRAVEL, VFTC BOOKS, VFTC MUSIC, VFTC UNIVERSE . 734 Valencia St #109 , Los Angeles, CA 90017. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: J ROSS VICTORY 734 Valencia St #109 Los Angeles, CA 90017. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)02/2020. /s/: J ROSS VICTORY . J ROSS VICTORY . This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 02/12/2020. 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 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 02/24/2020, 03/02/2020, 03/09/2020, 03/16/2020.

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LAWSUIT

FROM PAGE 1

by the same massage therapist in November 2017 and January 2018.

Natalie MacNeil, who said she was sexually battered by a different massage therapist last February, filed a lawsuit against the therapist and the hotel Thursday that alleges the hotel failed to properly train, supervise and dismiss employees.

Last September, former spa manager Christina Mills filed a lawsuit alleging she was wrongfully terminated after she repeatedly asked the hotels' general manager, Damien Hirsch, for permission to fire massage therapists who had allegedly sexually violated spa guests.

The other two women who allege they were sexually battered say they reported the incidents to Mills and the Santa Monica Police Department, but the Santa Monica City Attorney's Office declined to file charges against the massage therapist due to a lack of sufficient evidence.

According to Mills' lawsuit, Hirsch denied her request to fire massage therapists and terminated her in November 2018, three months before MacNeil says she was sexually battered.

MacNeil said she booked a 60-minute Swedish massage at Spa Le Merigot on Thursday, Feb. 28, 2019 at 1 p.m. She said she asked the massage therapist, Luis Rivera, to focus on her neck, back and shoulders, where she had been experiencing pain.

She lay on her stomach and he briefly massaged the area she had described. MacNeil said Rivera had draped her very loosely in a sheet, exposing her buttocks. He then began massaging her upper thighs and buttocks.

Rivera asked her to turn over and draped her in a way that exposed her genitals. He massaged her upper thighs and then touched her genitals. MacNeil closed her legs tightly, but he touched her genitals two more times.

"I managed to say "that's enough"," MacNeil said. "They felt like the hardest words I've ever uttered in my life. I felt tears welling up … I felt so frozen in that moment."

MacNeil said Rivera stopped and briefly massaged her neck. When he finished, he said she could get dressed and left the room. She said she laid on the massage bed for a few minutes in total shock and then went to the women's locker room, passing Rivera on the way.

"I stayed (in the women's locker room) and showered," she said. "I felt really gross and I just didn't want to leave. I probably stayed there for half an hour — maybe longer — just trying to clean myself."

After exiting the locker room, MacNeil quickly signed the bill for the massage at the spa's reception desk and left the hotel.

In the days following the incident, MacNeil said she felt violated and struggled to sleep and interact with others. She confided in a few close friends, she said.

On Monday, March 4, she emailed the spa manager who had succeeded Mills, the former manager who filed the wrongful termination lawsuit, and described what had happened.

Hirsch, the general manager of Le Merigot named in Mills' lawsuit, replied to her email the following day and asked to speak with her by phone. He said he was shocked and sorry to hear of Rivera's conduct and said he would no longer be working at Le Merigot.

"He also offered me a free massage, which felt really insensitive," MacNeil said. "I was pretty upset about that."

MacNeil asked Hirsch to provide Rivera's name, photo and state registration number, which she used to contact the California Massage Therapy Council to file a complaint. An investigator at the CMTC worked with her to file a declaration against Rivera, but it was never finalized. His license expired earlier this month.

"(The investigator) wrote up the whole declaration and I was supposed to sign it to proceed forward. The declaration was written from my perspective and there were a few things she worte that were not accurate and I would have to make edits on that document," MacNeil said. "Every time I opened the document to make those edits, it was just so triggering and upsetting for me, I did not end up signing it."

MacNeil also reached out to an attorney, who told her that prosecutors typically decline to file charges in similar cases that lack forensic evidence.

Until the Daily Press contacted MacNeil earlier this month on an anonymous tip, she did not know that at least two other women had been violated by a Le Merigot massage therapist before her assault occurred and had also reported the incidents to hotel management.

"That this was brought to the attention of management and management chose their own interests over the safety of women, that is so appalling and upsetting," MacNeil said. "I can't not hold Damien Hirsch and the (hotel) to some sort of accountability for the toxic environment they created."

Sexual battery and sexual assault by massage therapists is common across the United States. In 2017, a Buzzfeed News investigation found that more than 180 women nationwide reported sexual assaults at Massage Envy, the country's largest massage chain. An October 2019 article by The Cut revealed that sexual assault lawsuits have been filed against luxury hotels in New York, Chicago and Sonoma County.

MacNeil's lawsuit accuses the defendants of sexual battery, sexual harassment, simple battery, gender violence, and the negligent training, supervision and retention of employees.

"The hotel should have reported the massage therapist to the police. That's pretty obvious," said MacNeil's attorney, Dan Gilleon. "They knew he did it once and that he would do it again."

Gilleon said he is pursuing the case in civil court because District Attorneys and City Attorneys rarely prosecute sexual battery. He filed a similar suit last month against a San Diego hotel and massage therapist on behalf of a San Diego woman who says she was sexually assaulted in December 2018.

"The reality is that DAs just don't have the resources to go after the horrific amount of sexual battery and assault that happens all the time," he said.

Columbia Sussex declined to discuss the allegations, and Hirsch could not be reached for comment.

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TRANSFER

FROM PAGE 1

With its change to basic-aid funding, the district's revenue is now a function of property taxes as opposed to enrollment, meaning more students would not equate to additional resources or funding, staff said when it was first recommended that SMMUSD engage in a discussion about possibly cutting two low-priority permit categories.

Current students who have applied and been approved for a permit will be unaffected by any of the policy changes made in the future, but it is possible the board of trustees will vote to cease accepting future students who apply for the "opportunity" and "working in SMMUSD boundaries" permit categories.

"We as a board have to get our expenses in line with the insufficient resources we are given and it is our job to look at everything," board president Jon Kean said, detailing how SMMUSD's basic aid status means funds come solely from the communities' property taxes. "At the same time, we know that we have to protect our housing-insecure families in Santa Monica and Malibu who were forced from their homes due to outside forces."

In the weeks since the December meeting, a number of community members and teachers have spoken to the board to say they feel their children are in danger of losing the ability to attend schools that have helped them flourish in their academic pursuits.

In fact, residents have felt so strongly about the potential changes that more than 30 people took the dais during last Thursday's meeting to speak on the need to maintain interdistrict permits. Because of the meeting's format, the nearly three dozen speakers had to wait until nearly the end of the meeting to share their opinions but the group of students, parents and SMMUSD alum was undeterred as one by one they took the stand to share their personal stories.

The board and district administrators were unable to respond, but Superintendent Ben Drati set aside time during his Superintendent's Report to put rumors to rest.

Nowhere was it proposed, discussed or suggested that any current students were going to be moved out of the district, Drati said during Thursday's meeting.

"There's nothing like that (and) I'm saying that because on social media… people seem to believe that we're going to move students out of the district if they're permit or current students," Drati added, but there's nothing that exists like that.

"We are engaged in a holistic budget review and that means we have to look at everything comprehensively. The discussion we are having is about how to provide the best education possible in a climate where funding lags the costs of serving students," Kean said, stating there is a misconception that current students will have to leave, the board is trying to artificially reduce school sizes and siblings will not be able to attend local schools.

"If people listen to the board conversations, they should be reassured that these fears are not based on facts," Kean said. "Speaking personally, I have no interest in not renewing existing permits."

Others agreed saying it might make sense for Santa Monica to throttle back permits but Malibu is a community that benefits from the added diversity and enrollment.

Board member Craig Foster said during Thursday's meeting that there will be many discussions that may be alarming to the public but he urged the community to be mindful of the process so the board can look back and say it did it smartly, "and we did it right."

Foster added the speeches on Thursday were thoughtful and moving and, all-in-all, it was a great night.

"We're still working on this particular policy," Foster said, "and because of the Brown Act, which says we have to work these things out in the public eye, we'll have to wait to talk about it this coming Thursday."

"Hopefully," Kean said, "our families will see that our budget process is sincere and that our goal is to strengthen our schools for the long term."

The board of education is set to again discuss the potential policy changes at its upcoming meeting on Thursday, March 5.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Fairview Library

Music and Movement at the Library

Join organizers for a musical story time that will have little ones singing and dancing along as they learn important early literacy concepts at the Fairview Library on Friday, March 13 and March 27, at 3:30 p.m.

This free program is for toddlers ages 18 to 35 months and will be held in the Community Room. The Fairview Library is located at 2101 Ocean Park Blvd.

The Fairview Library is wheelchair-accessible. For special disabled services, call (310) 458-8681 at least one week prior to event. The Fairview Library is served by Big Blue Bus routes 8,16, and 44. Ride your bike. Bicycle parking racks are available at the library.

SUBMITTED BY CHRISTA MUSCATINE, YOUTH SERVICES LIBRARIAN

Venice

Venice Book reading

Two Venice Authors, James R Smith and Laura Shepard Townsend, will read from their latest works at 7pm, Thursday, April 2, at Small World Books, 1407 Ocean Front Walk, in Venice.

Smith will be reading from his hot-selling book, Gentrifying Paradise: Resistance and Removal in 21st Century Venice California and his new book of poetry, entitled: The Dinner Party Before The Revolution. He will also read excerpts from a work in progress: Premonitions of the Future.

Shepard Townsend's novels take place a hundred years earlier during the founding days of Venice. She is currently completing the forth book of the quartet, entitled Destiny's Consent. Although the books are works of fiction, they are well researched and reveal many little known aspects of Abbot Kinney's Venice.

There is free parking on the night of the event at the adjancent lot at Speedway and Market streets.

SUBMITTED BY JAMES SMITH

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