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From Newsom.

WEDNESDAY
03.08.23

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Santa Monica Daily Press

Volume 22 Issue 94

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Latino residents targeted in crypto Ponzi scheme

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

A nationwide fraud scheme targeting Latino investors had claimed at least 30 local victims according to a warning provided by City Hall this week.

Multiple households have contacted officials claiming they have been victimized by a crypto Ponzi scheme run by agents of CryptoFX, LLC., a business at the center of a federal enforcement action in Texas.

According to the Securities and Exchange Commission, regulators filed an emergency action to stop an on-going fraudulent and unregistered crypto asset offering targeting Latino investors, run by defendants Mauricio Chavez and Giorgio Benvenuto through CryptoFX, LLC in September.



Courtesy of DFPI

FRAUD: Authorities have issued a warning about scams targeting Latinos.

Officials allege Chavez began holding paid classes for the stated purpose of educating and empowering the Latino community to build wealth through crypto asset trading. Examples of crypto assets include digital currencies like Bitcoin or NFT art.

However, the SEC said Chavez had no background, education, or

SEE **FRAUD** PAGE 7

Council to determine priorities heading into an uncertain economy

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

While Santa Monica's economy is recovering from the pandemic-era slump, the overall forecast is worrisome and Council will gather in a rare Saturday meeting this weekend to discuss priorities and provide direction on the fiscal year 2023-2025 budget.

According to the Council, the City's economy showed a strong recovery over the past 18 months, but is now showing signs of softening.

"Labor shortages, supply chain issues, historically high inflation and economic volatility continue even as the world shifts from a pandemic state," states the agenda.

This has been compounded by a continued slowdown in global tourism, together with political and economic disruptions in Europe and Asia and "realization that knowledge workers that once filled our community in the daytime have yet to return to the office in the same numbers."

While the local economy is recovering and General Fund revenues are growing, levels are still below what they would have been had the economy not been disrupted by the pandemic. These funds are generated by taxes, fees, interest earnings and other sources that can be used for the general operation of city government. As of June 30, 2022, General Fund reserves amount to 70 percent of what they were as of June 30, 2019 and it's anticipated that revenues will not fully recover for another four years.

Since 2020, demands on these reserves have been compounded by both delivery of essential services during the COVID-19 Pandemic and payments of over $107 million in legal settlement payments related to allegations of sexual abuse by a former employee.

Many sub-funds, including the Water & Wastewater Fund, the Big Blue Bus Fund and the Airport Fund remain in the black, but others are in the red and require support. The Resource Recovery & Recycling Fund will be increased

SEE **SMCC** PAGE 8

Development groundbreaking





Courtesy Photo

CONSTRUCTION: Tishman Speyer was joined on Monday by Santa Monica Mayor Gleam Davis and its project partners to celebrate the start of construction on the first phase of the Santa Monica Collection, its portfolio of eight development sites across nearly 3.1 acres in Downtown. See Page 7 for more information. Pictured are Santa Monica Community Development Director David Martin, Tishman Speyer Acquisitions & Development Managing Director David Lapidus, Councilmember Phil Brock, Tishman Speyer Design & Construction Senior Director Jonathan Nichols, City Manager David White, President & CEO WISE & Healthy Aging Molly Davies, Tishman Speyer Senior Managing Director Paul DeMartini, Mayor Gleam Davis, Tishman Speyer Senior Director Design & Construction Sandy Reek and Tishman Speyer Operations Manager, Property Operations Quinn Crutchfield.



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How passengers teamed up to restrain man on chaotic flight

MARK PRATT
Associated Press

A passenger who helped restrain a threatening man on a weekend flight from Los Angeles to Boston said Tuesday that the entire chaotic episode was over within seconds thanks to teamwork.

Simik Ghookasian said in a telephone interview that he was seated several rows behind the man, who had quietly tried to open an airliner's emergency door before trying to stab a flight attendant with a broken metal spoon, according to prosecutors.

"I heard the guy getting louder and louder and I thought it was just an argument, but he started yelling and screaming and threatening people, threatening to kill them," said Ghookasian, a Los Angeles government contractor flying to Boston on United Flight 2609 on Sunday for work.

Until the yelling, he hadn't noticed anything unusual about the man, who federal authorities have identified as Francisco Severo Torres.

Ghookasian said he saw the spoon and he was among five or six passengers who piled onto Torres and removed it from his grasp. It turned out to be the handle of a metal spoon, from which the bowl portion had been broken off, authorities said.

"That guy was really strong and was really resisting," Ghookasian said. "We had a hard time holding him down. It was total teamwork."

Ghookasian asked a flight attendant for some zip ties or duct tape, and the flight attendant produced some zip ties.

> "I heard the guy getting louder and louder and I thought it was just an argument, but he started yelling and screaming and threatening people, threatening to kill them
> - Simik Ghookasian

Ghookasian, who said he has first aid and counter-terrorism training, said he didn't have time to be scared, he just reacted and used his instincts.

"Everything just exploded in a few seconds," he said.

Torres, 33, of Leominster, Massachusetts, was arrested when the plane arrived in Boston and charged with interference and attempted interference with flight crew members and attendants using a dangerous weapon, federal prosecutors said. He was detained pending a hearing scheduled for Thursday.

The plane was about 45 minutes from Boston when the crew received an alarm that a side door on the aircraft was disarmed, according to court documents. One flight attendant noticed the door's locking handle had been moved. Another flight attendant had noticed that Torres was seen near the door and believed he had moved the handle.

Airplane doors cannot be opened once in flight due to cabin pressure.

The crew told the captain that he was a threat and the plane should be landed as soon as possible, authorities said.

Then Torres approached two flight attendants, according to the court documents. One of the flight attendants felt the metal object in Torres' hand hit him on his shirt collar and tie three times.

Torres told investigators that he went into the airplane's bathroom and broke a spoon in half to make a weapon, prosecutors said in the documents. They say he told authorities he wanted to open the door so that he could jump out of the plane.

Investigators said Torres admitted knowing that if he opened the door many people would die.

Torres said the flight attendants confronted him and he stabbed one of them in an attempt to defend himself, according to investigators. They said he believed the flight attendant was trying to kill him.

Authorities did not say where Torres got the spoon, but TSA rules allow airline passengers to bring metal utensils except knives onto planes.

United Airlines said no one was injured.

"Thanks to the quick action of our crew and customers, one customer was restrained after becoming a security concern on United flight 2609 from Los Angeles to Boston," the company statement said. "The flight landed safely and was met by law enforcement."

If convicted of the charges against him, Torres could face life in prison.

An email seeking comment from him was sent to his federal public defender, and a voicemail was left.

Torres has previously sued two mental health facilities where he was patient, according to federal court records. He sued the state-run Worcester Recovery Center and Hospital in March 2021, alleging medical malpractice for misdiagnosis. That suit was dismissed several months later.

He also sued Fuller Hospital in Attleboro, Massachusetts last May, alleging his constitutional rights were violated because he was a vegan and was denied almond milk. The suit was dismissed in June.

In both cases he acted as his own attorney.



Plunge in border crossings could blunt GOP attack on Biden

ELLIOT SPAGAT
Associated Press

A sharp drop in illegal border crossings since December could blunt a Republican point of attack against President Joe Biden as the Democratic leader moves to reshape a broken asylum system that has dogged him and his predecessors.

A new poll by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research shows some support for changing the number of immigrants and asylum-seekers allowed into the country. About 4 in 10 U.S. adults say the level of immigration and asylum-seekers should be lowered, while about 2 in 10 say they should be higher, according to the poll. About a third want the numbers to remain the same.

The decrease in border crossings followed Biden's announcement in early January that Mexico would take back Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans and Venezuelans under a pandemic-era rule that denies migrants the right to seek asylum as part of an effort to prevent the spread of COVID-19. At the same time, the U.S. agreed to admit up to 30,000 a month of those four nationalities on humanitarian parole if they apply online, enter at an airport and find a financial sponsor.

The administration has also proposed generally denying asylum to anyone who travels though another country on their way to the U.S. without seeking protection there — effectively all non-Mexicans who appear at the U.S. southern border.

The new rules put forth by Biden could help the president fight back against critics who complain he hasn't done enough to address border security issues. But the moves have also fueled anger among some of his Democratic allies who are concerned that he is furthering a Trump-era policy they view as anti-immigrant and hurting vulnerable migrants who are trying to escape dangerous conditions in their native countries.

And the new changes — and subsequent drop in illegal border crossings — are unlikely to stop the barrage of attacks from conservatives who see border security as a powerful political weapon.

Biden has been on the defensive as Republicans and right-wing media outlets have hammered him over the soaring increase in migrant encounters at the border. The new House GOP leadership has held hearings on what they call the "Biden border crisis" and talked of impeaching Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas.

Agents detained migrants more than 2.5 million times at the southern border in 2022, including more than 250,000 in December, the highest on record. According to a U.S. official who was not authorized to discuss the matter publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity, Border Patrol agents stopped migrants about 130,000 times in February, similar to January.

Among Republicans, the poll shows about two-thirds say there should be fewer immigrants and asylum-seekers, while only about 1 in 10 say there should be more.

Democrats are split: About a quarter say the number of immigrants should increase, a quarter say it should decrease, and about 4 in 10 say it should remain the same. They are slightly more supportive of asylum-seekers specifically, with 37% supporting an increase, 26% backing a decrease, and 36% saying the number should remain the same.

Under U.S. law, numbers are not capped on asylum, which was largely a policy afterthought until about a decade ago. Since 2017, the U.S. has been the world's most popular destination for asylum-seekers, according to U.N. figures. Even those who lose in court can stay for years while their cases wind through a backlogged system.

Omar Reffell, a 38-year-old independent voter in Houston, said that he supports immigration but that news coverage of "caravans of people trying to cross the border" sends the wrong message to migrants.

"People think that they just show up at the border, come across, there is not going to be any repercussions," Reffell said. "I'm not against immigration. I think immigration is good for the country, but it has to happen in a very orderly manner or it puts a lot of stress, especially on the border states being able to provide resources."

More than 100,000 migrants each month were being released in U.S. border cities late last year with notices to appear in immigration court or report to immigration authorities.

Dan Restrepo, a top White House adviser on Latin America during Barack Obama's presidency, believes the American public will accept high levels of immigration — if a systematic process can be followed.

The challenge in managing migration "is the sense of chaos and disorder that can be created by images of overwhelmed processing facilities and the like at the physical border," he said. "It's less the numbers and more the imagery" that bothers voters.

Republicans cast Biden's expansion of humanitarian parole for four nationalities as a political ploy to divert attention from the border and are not likely to let up on their criticism of the president on immigration. The Federation of American Immigration Reform, an anti-immigration group, called January's plunge in border numbers "a shell game" to boost Biden's reelection prospects.

Fox News Channel has hit hard on the story over the last year. Reporter Bill Melugin said in a "Battle for the Border" special on Nov. 3 that he had spent more than 200 days on the Texas border.

"We've been shooting the video all day long," Melugin said in a typical report from the Texas town of Eagle Pass. "We keep getting these massive groups of 150 to 200 crossing every single day."

The network's night-vision drone cameras have showed hundreds of migrants walking across the border, each one appearing as a luminous white stick slowly advancing across a dark screen.

The poll found 39% of U.S. adults approve of how Biden is handling immigration, and 38% approve of him on border security — slightly below his overall approval ratings. About two-thirds of Democrats but only

SEE **BORDER** PAGE 6

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

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

RFP: # 347 SCADA Network & Server Infrastructure Upgrades for Water Resources Division

- **Submission Deadline is April 4, 2023 at 5:00 PM Pacific Time.**

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

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF QUALIFICATIONS

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

2800 Airport Avenue Building Renovation
SP2686

Statements of Qualifications shall be submitted via OpenGov, not later than **5:00 pm** on **March 20, 2023.**

Request for Qualification documents may be obtained by logging onto the City's bidding website at: https://secure.OpenGov.com/portal/santa-monica-ca. The Contractor is required to have an **A & B** license at the time of bid submission. Contractors wishing to be considered must submit Statements containing all information required pursuant to the City's Request for Qualifications.

GET IT DAILY...

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: **Proposed Adoption of Amendments to the Land Use and Circulation Element of the General Plan, the Bergamot Area Plan, the Downtown Community Plan, and the City of Santa Monica Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance, Santa Monica Municipal Code Chapters 9.01 to 9.52, for Consistency With the 6th Cycle (2021-2029) Housing Element of the City's General Plan; Amendments to the Zoning Ordinance for Consistency with State Law Updates Related to Housing Production and Minimum Parking Requirements; Minor Changes, Clarifications and Corrections to the Zoning Ordinance, Including Modifications to Parcel Coverage Limitations for Existing Structures in the R1 (Single-Unit) District and Modifications to Standards for Accessory Structures; Amendments to the General Plan Land Use Map and the Official Districting Map for Consistent Designation in Identified Parcels; Adoption of an Emergency Interim Zoning Ordinance to Extend Interim Zoning Regulations Increasing Thresholds for Review of One Hundred Percent Affordable Housing Projects and Certain Tier 2 Housing Projects Subject to the Housing Accountability Act by Administrative Approval**

As further described below, a public hearing will be held by the City Council to consider the adoption of amendments to the Land Use and Circulation Element of the General Plan, the Bergamot Area Plan, the Downtown Community Plan, and the City of Santa Monica Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance, Santa Monica Municipal Code Chapters 9.01 to 9.52, for consistency with the 6th Cycle (2021-2029) Housing Element of the General Plan; amendments to the Zoning Ordinance for consistency with State Law updates related to housing production and minimum parking requirements; minor changes, clarifications and corrections to the Zoning Ordinance, including modifications to parcel coverage limitations for existing structures in the R1 (Single-Unit) District and modifications to standards for accessory structures; amendments to the General Plan Land Use Map and the Official Districting Map for consistent designation in identified parcels, adoption of an emergency interim zoning ordinance to extend interim zoning regulations increasing thresholds for review of one-hundred percent affordable housing projects and certain Tier 2 housing projects subject to the Housing Accountability Act by Administrative Approval.

On February 1, 2023, the Santa Monica Planning Commission adopted Resolution Numbers 23-002 (PCS), 23-003 (PCS), 23-004 (PCS), 23-005 (PCS), and 23-006 (PCS) recommending to the City Council that the City Council adopt the proposed amendments to the Land Use and Circulation Element of the General Plan, the Bergamot Area Plan, the Downtown Community Plan, and the City of Santa Monica Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance, Santa Monica Municipal Code Chapters 9.01 to 9.52, for consistency with the 6th Cycle (2021-2029) Housing Element of the General Plan; amendments to the Zoning Ordinance for consistency with State Law updates related to housing production and minimum parking requirements; minor changes, clarifications and corrections to the Zoning Ordinance, including modifications to parcel coverage limitations for existing structures in the R1 (Single-Unit) District and modifications to standards for accessory structures; amendments to the General Plan Land Use Map and the Official Districting Map for consistent designation in identified parcels.

On April 12, 2022, the City Council adopted Emergency Interim Zoning Ordinance Number 2699 (CCS) extending interim zoning regulations amending Chapter 9.39 and Section 9.40.020 of the Santa Monica Municipal Code to increase thresholds for administrative review of: 1) 100% affordable housing projects; and 2) housing projects subject to the Housing Accountability Act, Government Code Section 65589.5, that do not exceed Tier 2 maximums and are located on parcels that do not exceed 43,560 square feet, or one acre, to March 31, 2023 to allow for implementation of Housing Element Program 1A, which would make the interim zoning regulations permanent.

DATE/TIME: **TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2023 AT 7:00 PM**

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

California State law requires that communities prepare and update the Housing Element of the General Plan every eight years. The Housing Element serves as the City's guide for addressing the housing needs of all segments of Santa Monica's population. Housing needs are determined by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), which decide the numerical housing targets for each regional council of governments. Each council of government across the State then further allocates the regional housing number (known as the Regional Housing Needs Allocation – or RHNA) to every city and county within its jurisdiction. The RHNA is a targeted housing number - cities and counties must plan for the RHNA and show that under current land use and development standards, there is capacity to accommodate for this number of housing units. For the proposed 6th Cycle 2021-2029 Housing Element, the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) determined that the City's draft RHNA allocation is 8,895 units, more than 5 times than the last cycle. The significant increase in the City's RHNA housing number is indicative of the severity of the current housing crisis. The adopted 2021-2029 Housing Element demonstrates there is available capacity within its jurisdictional boundaries to meet its targeted RHNA number.

On October 11, 2022, per State requirements, the City Council adopted its 2021-2029 Housing Element, which is available online at www.santamonica.gov/housing-element-update. On October 14, 2022, the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) confirmed the City's adopted Housing Element is in full compliance with State Housing Element Law (Article 10.6 of the Government Code). The adopted Housing Element sets forth a series of goals, policies and programs to be implemented over the next 8 years of the 6th Cycle. For consistency with these goals, policies and programs, the City proposes this first phase of amendments to the Land Use and Circulation Element of the General Plan, the Bergamot Area Plan, the Downtown Community Plan, and the City's Zoning Ordinance. This first phase includes implementation of the following Housing Element Programs:

- 1A - By-Right Approvals for Housing Projects
- 1B - Streamline the Architectural Review Process and Ensure Design Review Objectivity for Housing Projects
- 1C – Incentivize Housing Development on Surface Parking Lots in Residential Zones
- 1D - Reduce Minimum Parking Requirements for Housing Projects
- 1F - Revise the Downtown Community Plan Development Standards to Support Housing Projects
- 1G - Incentivize and Facilitate the Development of Accessory Dwelling Units Through an ADU Accelerator Program
- 1J - Rezoning by Revising Development Standards to Ensure that Housing Projects are Feasible and Incentivized Over Commercial Development
- 2A – Establish a Moderate-Income Affordable Housing Overlay
- 2C - Update the City's Affordable Housing Production Program to Increase the Number of Affordable Housing Units at all Income Levels
- 2D – Update Density Bonus Ordinance to Ensure Consistency with State Law and Integration into the City's Land Use System.
- 2E – Commit to the Production of Affordable Housing on City-Owned/Publicly-Owned Land
- 4A - Zoning Ordinance Amendment to Permit Multiple-Unit Housing in Non-Residential Zones Where Not Currently Permitted
- 4B – Facilitate the Development of Housing on Surface Parking Lots Owned by Community Assembly Uses
- 4C – Provide New Housing Choices and Affordability in High Opportunity Areas Through Incentives for Additional ADUs in R1-Zone Neighborhoods
- 4E – Provide New Housing Choices and Affordability in High Opportunity Areas Through Incentives for SB9 Units in R1-Zone Neighborhoods

In addition, the City Council will be considering amendments to the Zoning Ordinance for consistency with recent State Law updates related to housing production and minimum parking requirements; minor changes, clarifications and corrections to the Zoning Ordinance, including modifications to parcel coverage limitations for existing structures in the R1 (Single-Unit) District and modifications to standards for accessory structures; and amendments the General Plan Land Use Map and the Official Districting Map to reconcile inconsistencies on approximately 40 parcels throughout the City.

The proposed Emergency Interim Zoning Ordinance would extend the interim zoning regulations related to process review thresholds for housing projects to allow for the completion of the implementation of Program 1A.

The 2021-2029 6th Cycle Housing Element Environmental Impact Report (EIR) [SCH No. 20212269242021] was certified by Council on October 12, 2021, with an Addendum to the EIR approved on October 11, 2022.

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

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

Address your comments to: City Clerk
Re: Housing Element Implementation

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

MORE INFORMATION: If you want more information about the 6th Cycle (2021-2029) Housing Element, please see the City's website: https://santamonica.gov/housing-element-update, or email housingupdate@smgov.net. For disability-related accommodations, please contact the City Clerk's Office at (310) 458-8211 or (310) 917-6626 TDD at least 72 hours in advance. Every attempt will be made to provide the requested accommodation. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines serve City Hall and the Civic Center area. The Expo Line terminus is located at Colorado Avenue and Fourth Street, and is a short walk to City Hall. Public parking is available in front of City Hall, on Olympic Drive, and in the Civic Center Parking Structure (validation free).

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

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

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Transparency on California's local ballot measures faces new threat



Photo by Larry Valenzuela, CalMatters/CatchLight Local

VOTING: A voter fills out their ballot while at the Alexander Hamilton Middle School voting center on Nov. 8, 2022.

BY DAN WALTERS

During every California election cycle, dozens of ballot measures to raise taxes or issue bonds appear on local ballots.

Long-standing state law requires that the ballot include a statement, no longer than 75 words, summarizing what each measure would do. For many years, sponsors would use their 75 words to extol the virtues of their measures, often concealing their true financial impacts.

In 2015, a Republican assemblyman from Big Bear, Jay Obernolte, carried a bill aimed at making the ballot summaries less slanted and more factual, and then-Gov. Jerry Brown signed it. Assembly Bill 809 required tax increase measures, including bonds, proposed via initiative to tell voters how much money they would raise (if approved) and how long the new taxes would remain in effect.

Two years later, Obernolte introduced Assembly Bill 195, which extended the disclosure requirement to tax and bond measures proposed by cities, counties, school districts and other local entities. It also added another requirement, that the 75-word explanation of measures be a "true and impartial synopsis" of the proposal "in language that is neither argumentative nor likely to create prejudice for or against the measure."

The latter was clearly aimed at stopping ballot measure sponsors from using the 75-word summaries to campaign for their passage, and Brown embraced that reform by signing AB 195.

Not surprisingly, local government officials and their allies didn't like it, fearing that having to explain the financial consequences of their proposals and abstain from language advocating their passage would make voters less likely to vote "yes" in the adjacent boxes. They complained that meeting all of the requirements in 75 words was impossible and found an ally in Scott Wiener, a Democratic state senator from San Francisco.

Just before the Legislature adjourned its 2019 session, Wiener used the so-called gut-and-amend maneuver to propose legislation that would repeal much of what Obernolte, who is now a congressman, had wrought. It would have allowed sponsors of tax and bond measures to skip including financial impacts in the 75-word statements and, instead, essentially allow them to tell voters, "See voter guide for tax rate information."

While voter guides are useful for engaged voters, it's fair to say that many, if not most, don't read them. They instead rely on the ballot language itself when making their decisions. Wiener won legislative approval of Senate Bill 268, but Gov. Gavin Newsom vetoed it, declaring accurately, "I am concerned that this bill as crafted will reduce transparency for local tax and bond measures."

We're now poised to do it all over again because Wiener is back with an almost identical measure, Senate Bill 532, claiming it would "improve voter transparency into the financial implications of ballot measures."

However, it would have the opposite effect, as Newsom concluded.

Obernolte's requirements are "well intentioned," Wiener said in a statement, but "present massive – and at times insurmountable – challenges to transit

SEE **COMMENTARY** PAGE 8

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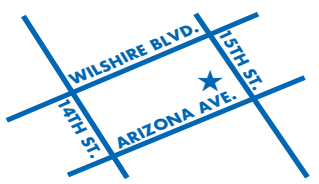
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City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that bids will be received by the City of Santa Monica until 3:00 p.m. on the date indicated at which time they will be opened and posted for:

BID #4448 Water Well & Booster Pump Repairs & Maintenance

Submission Deadline is April 20, 2023 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.

Bids must be submitted on forms supplied by the City of Santa Monica. Bid packages containing all forms, specifications, terms and conditions may be obtained on the **CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL.** The website for this Notice of Inviting Bids and related documents is: OpenGov (https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca). There is no charge for bid package and specifications.

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that bids will be received by the City of Santa Monica until 3:00 p.m. on the date indicated at which time they will be opened and posted for:

BID #4450 Water & Wastewater Supplies and Parts

Submission Deadline is April 5, 2023 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.

Bids must be submitted on forms supplied by the City of Santa Monica. Bid packages containing all forms, specifications, terms and conditions may be obtained on the **CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL.** The website for this Notice of Inviting Bids and related documents is: OpenGov (https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca). There is no charge for bid package and specifications.

BORDER

FROM PAGE 3

about 1 in 10 Republicans say they approve of his handling of either issue.

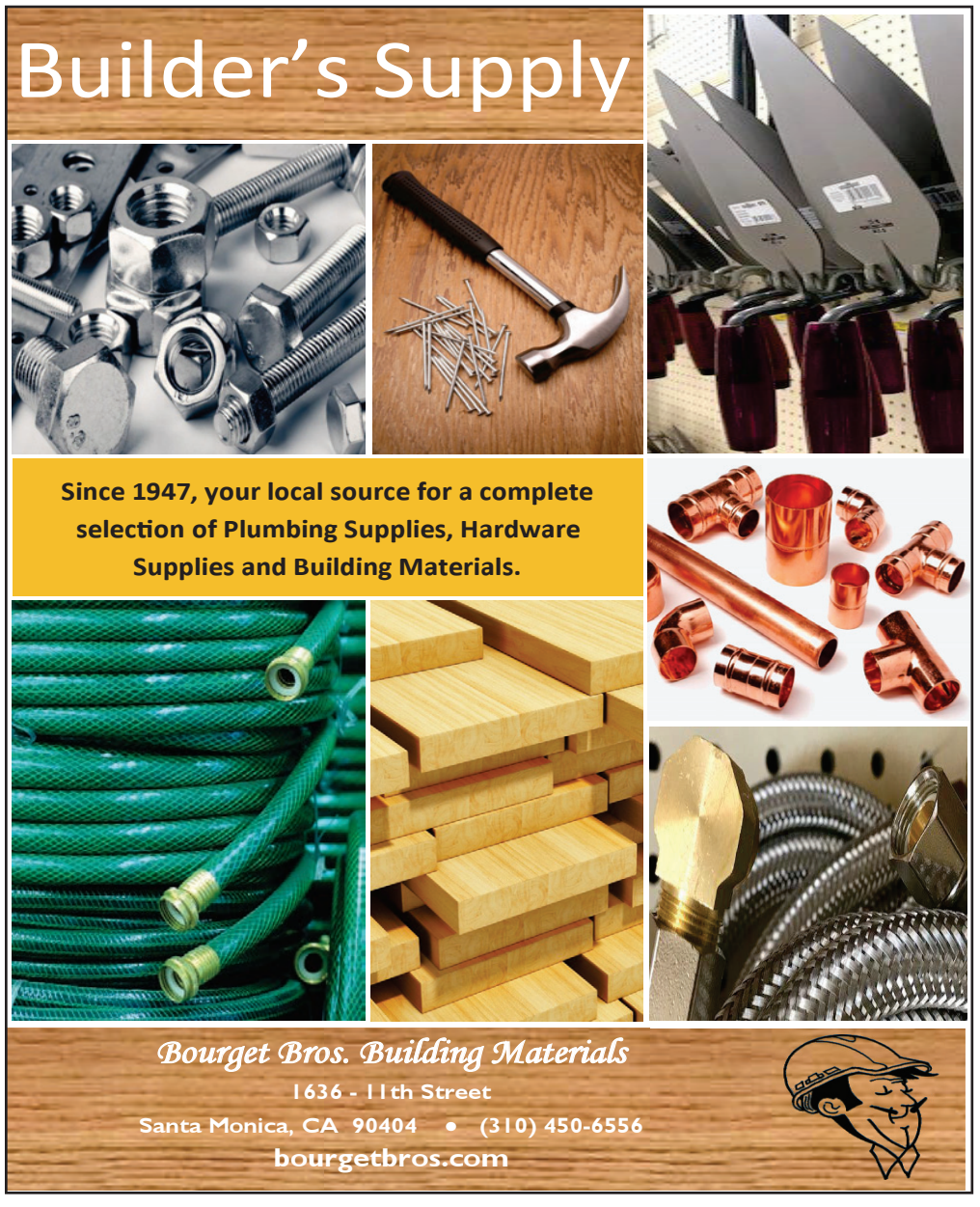
The poll was taken Feb. 16-20, just before the administration proposed on Feb. 21 that asylum should generally be denied to migrants who pass through another country without applying for protection there if it is deemed safe. The administration is angling to have the new rule take effect before the pandemic-related limits on asylum are expected to end May 11, though legal challenges appear imminent.

Becky Steelsmith, a 70-year-old independent voter from Zachary, Louisiana, is reluctant to heap blame on Biden because solutions also eluded his predecessors, but she notes that the optics are not great.

"The only reason why I disagree with Biden's handling of it is that I think he's a little too soft," said Steelsmith, a retired teacher. "I'm not saying it's his fault that it's happening. I'm saying that as president, he needs to sit down and really focus and come up with some kind of a solution, or the beginning of a solution."

The poll of 1,247 adults was conducted using a sample drawn from NORC's probability-based AmeriSpeak Panel, which is designed to be representative of the U.S. population. The margin of sampling error for all respondents is plus or minus 3.7 percentage points.





CRIME WATCH

Crime Watch is culled from reports provided by the Santa Monica Police Department. These are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

ON FEBRUARY 26 SHORTLY BEFORE 4:30 AM

Officers responded to the 1600 block of Santa Monica Blvd regarded a reported battery that had just occurred. An employee at the location stated that an individual, later identified as Yolanda Murrell, struck them in the face multiple times after being denied the opportunity to purchase a cup of coffee. The employee based the decision to deny service on prior interactions. Murrell was arrested for battery, transported to the Santa Monica Jail and issued a citation with a July 2023 court date before being released.

Tribes bury Southern California's famed mountain lion, P-22

STEFANIE DAZIO
Associated Press

Tribal leaders, scientists and conservation advocates buried Southern California's most famous mountain lion Saturday in the mountains where the big cat once roamed.

After making his home in the urban Griffith Park — home of the Hollywood Sign — for the past decade, P-22 became a symbol for California's endangered mountain lions and their decreasing genetic diversity. The mountain lion's name comes from being the 22nd puma in a National Park Service study.

The death of the cougar late last year set off a debate between the tribes in the Los Angeles area and wildlife officials over whether scientists could keep samples of the mountain lion's remains for future testing and research.

Some representatives of the Chumash, Tataviam and Gabrielino (Tongva) peoples argued that samples taken during the necropsy should be buried with the rest of his body in the ancestral lands where he spent his life. Some tribal elders said keeping the specimens for scientific testing would be disrespectful to their traditions. Mountain lions are regarded as relatives and considered teachers in LA's tribal communities.

Tribal representatives, wildlife officials and others discussed a potential compromise in recent weeks, but a consensus was not reached before P-22 was buried in an unspecified location in the Santa Monica Mountains on Saturday.

"While we have done everything we could to keep the carcass intact, the Tribes and agencies involved are still working toward a conclusion about some of the samples," the state Department of Fish and Wildlife said in a statement Monday. "What is important to understand is that the Tribes and agencies involved all agreed on moving forward with the burial and it was a moving ceremony. We have come to a better place of understanding and we look forward to continued growth from this place."

It was not clear whether the unspecified samples might also be buried with the animal in the future or if the tribes have agreed to let scientists keep some specimens for additional testing.

Saturday's traditional tribal burial included songs, prayers and sage smoke cleansings, according to Alan Salazar, a tribal member of the Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians and a descendant of the Chumash tribe.

The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, where the cougar's remains had been kept in a freezer before the burial, called the burial a "historically significant ceremony."

"The death of P-22 has affected all of us and he will forever be a revered icon and ambassador for wildlife conservation," the museum said in a statement Monday.

Salazar, who attended the ceremony, said he believes P-22's legacy will help wildlife officials and scientists realize the importance of being respectful to animals going forward.

Beth Pratt, the California executive director for the National Wildlife Federation who also attended the ceremony, wrote on Facebook that the burial " helped me achieve some measure of peace" as she grieves the animal's death.

"I can also imagine P-22 at peace now, with such a powerful and caring send-off to the next place," she wrote. "As we laid him to rest, a red-tailed hawk flew overhead and called loudly, perhaps there to help him on his journey."

Los Angeles and Mumbai are the world's only major cities where large cats have been a regular presence for years — mountain lions in one, leopards in the other — though pumas began roaming the streets of Santiago, Chile, during pandemic lockdowns.

Wildlife officials believe P-22 was born about 12 years ago in the western Santa Monica Mountains but left because of his father's aggression and his own struggle to find a mate amid a dwindling population. That drove the cougar to cross two heavily traveled freeways and migrate east to Griffith Park, where a wildlife biologist captured him on a trail camera in 2012.

His journey over the freeways inspired a wildlife crossing over a Los Angeles-area highway that will allow big cats and other animals safe passage between the mountains and wildlands to the north. The bridge broke ground in April.

P-22 was captured last December in a residential backyard following dog attacks. Examinations revealed a skull fracture — the result of being hit by a car — and chronic illnesses including a skin infection and diseases of the kidneys and liver. The city's cherished big cat was euthanized five days later.

Los Angeles celebrated his life last month at the Greek Theater in Griffith Park in a star-studded memorial that featured musical performances, tribal blessings, speeches about the importance of P-22's life and wildlife conservation, and a video message from Gov. Gavin Newsom.

To honor the place where the animal made his home among the city's urban sprawl, a boulder from Griffith Park was brought to the gravesite in the Santa Monica Mountains and placed near P-22's grave, Salazar said.

FRAUD

FROM PAGE 1

training in investments or crypto assets.

"According to the complaint, the seminars were merely conduits for soliciting investors to give their money to CryptoFX, which Chavez would then supposedly use to conduct crypto asset and foreign exchange trading," said the SEC in a statement.

The SEC also alleges he provided investors false documents that, among other things, grossly overstated his crypto experience and guaranteed that investors would not bear any losses. The defendants ultimately raised over $12 million from more than 5,000 investors.

"The SEC alleges that Chavez was actually running a Ponzi scheme; rather than use investor funds for crypto trading, Chavez used more than 90% of investor funds to pay fake returns to investors, support his lifestyle, and purchase and develop real estate that he and Benvenuto controlled," said the statement. "For his part, Benvenuto allegedly solicited a large investor into the scheme and diverted investor funds to himself and a company that he and Chavez owned, CBT Group, LLC. In total, the SEC alleges that Chavez and Benvenuto made approximately $2.7 million in Ponzi payments while diverting almost $8 million for their own use, including nearly $1.5 million that Chavez spent on cars, credit card payments, jewelry, adult entertainment, and a house in his wife's name."

The local victims reached out to city officials through a local neighborhood advocate due to privacy concerns.

"Recent information suggests that representatives of CryptoFX are continuing to communicate with local residents, primarily through the WhatsApp chat service, and actively soliciting funds," said the city in its warning. "The City urges residents who are looking to put money into any crypto-related investments, to conduct research and exercise extreme caution."

If asked to give money to CryptoFX representatives or its affiliates, residents should contact officials.

Potential victims can visit, https://www.cryptofxreceiver.com for information about filing a fraud claim.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

California Department of Financial Protection and Innovation (https://dfpi.ca.gov): The DFPI is a statewide agency that provides consumer protection in financial transactions, and regulates financial services, products, and professionals. You can file a complaint with the DFPI at https://dfpi.ca.gov/file-a-complaint/.

Haven Neighborhood Services (https://www.havenservices.org): Haven is a community-based organization that offers free financial coaching for clients. Haven staff can help victims file claims with the court-appointed Receiver in the CryptoFX SEC case. Diana Arciniega: diana.arciniega@havenservices.org (213) 375-4663.

The Santa Monica Police Department, in collaboration with Familias Latinas Unidas ("FLU"), is planning an outreach event addressing fraud prevention, in Spanish and English. The program will address common financial scams, detection and prevention of financial scams, and additional tools for consumers. To learn more about this event please contact community.affairs@santamonica.gov.

editor@smdp.com



COMMUNITY NEWS

Citywide

Tishman Speyer Celebrates Start of Construction on First Phase of its Santa Monica Collection Development

Tishman Speyer was joined on Monday by Santa Monica Mayor Gleam Davis and its project partners to celebrate the start of construction on the first phase of the Santa Monica Collection, its portfolio of eight development sites across nearly 3.1 acres in Downtown Santa Monica, CA.

The first phase of development encompasses four residential buildings with 340 rental apartments and approximately 18,700 square feet of street-level retail. This initial round will include 83 affordable apartments, 56 of which will be housed within a 100 percent affordable senior living building at 711 Colorado Avenue. Designed by KFA, the all-affordable senior building will be completed in late 2024. The other three rental buildings – the KFA-designed 1650 Lincoln Boulevard and 501 Broadway and the Studio T-SQ-designed 1430 Lincoln Boulevard – will be completed throughout 2025.

"Downtown Santa Monica's proximity to beautiful beaches and mountains, along with its vibrant local lifestyle, make it one of the region's most attractive places to live and work," said Tishman Speyer Senior Managing Director Paul DeMartini. "We are proud to partner with the local community on the Santa Monica Collection, which will deliver a critical mass of quality new housing options for individuals and families across a wide spectrum of income levels."

On the all-affordable senior living building at 711 Colorado Avenue, Tishman Speyer is partnering with WISE & Healthy Aging, a local community-based, nonprofit organization that advances the dignity and quality of life of older adults through leadership, advocacy and high-quality, innovative services.

"Building affordable housing for seniors allows our older residents to age in place with dignity and a higher quality of life. Because it is so walkable and has so many amenities close by, Downtown Santa Monica is the perfect place to build this type of housing," said Mayor Davis. "I am particularly proud that Tishman Speyer is partnering with Wise & Healthy Aging to support the residents of the project. This type of collaboration between the preeminent local agency serving seniors and a developer is a model for all senior housing projects."

"WISE & Healthy Aging is pleased to partner with Tishman Speyer to support efforts to create more affordable and accessible senior housing that is so desperately needed in Santa Monica," said Molly Davies, President and CEO, WISE & Healthy Aging. "Additionally, WISE & Healthy Aging is thrilled to be provided a two-bedroom unit to create the first elder abuse shelter in Los Angeles."

Tishman Speyer, which acquired the eight development sites in 2022, previously announced that Basis Investment Group, a certified minority and woman-owned commercial real estate investment manager, has committed 11 percent of the total equity in the project.

The balance of The Santa Monica Collection consists of 277 rental apartments, 12 percent of which will be affordable units, and 12,760 square feet of retail across four additional buildings. Tishman Speyer expects to commence construction on those buildings in 2024 with completions anticipated throughout 2026.

SUBMITTED BY TISHMAN SPEYER

First Republic Bank

4.90% APY[1]

11-MONTH CD SPECIAL

For a limited time, earn a guaranteed interest rate with a CD (certificate of deposit). Open a new CD with a $25,000 minimum balance to enjoy this special APY and term.

To get started, contact the Preferred Banking Office nearest you or scan the QR code to learn more.

firstrepublic.com/CD

Santa Monica, 431 Wilshire Boulevard, (310) 393-8889

[1] Offer subject to change without notice and applies for the initial term only. Annual percentage yield (APY) is effective as of publication date. Penalty will be imposed for early withdrawal. $25,000 minimum balance required for this special APY and term. Member FDIC and Equal Housing Lender

SMCC

FROM PAGE 1

to cover mounting costs and the Pier Fund, which was severely affected by the Pandemic and continues to seek efficiencies and revenue generating opportunities to support unfunded capital expenditures.

In March 2021, the Council adopted Addressing Homelessness, Clean & Safe Santa Monica, and Equitable & Inclusive Economic Opportunity & Recovery to inform the FY 2021-2023 Biennial Budget

The City conducted a survey in May 2022 that captured community sentiment on the most important issues in Santa Monica once the COVID19 pandemic was over. Traffic was deemed the least urgent, followed by trash and litter in the Downtown and beach areas. Crime rated the second most urgent with homelessness far and away being the most urgent.

The City has the opportunity to expand services addressing the City's priorities over the next biennial period using two new funding streams, Measure CS and Measure GS, approved by voters in November 2022. Additionally, the Council may authorize a change in the City's fiscal policy related to the expedited paydown of unfunded pension liability to free up to $2.5 million annually during the forecast period to assist in restoring General Fund services while revenues recover.

Following this meeting, City staff will return to Council on April 11, 2023, with proposed midyear budget adjustments.

If you're interested in providing public comment or opinion at a City Council meeting regarding items on the agenda, there are several ways to participate. Firstly, by writing, those should be sent via email to councilmtgitems@santamonica.gov before 12 p.m. on the day of the meeting. The second method is by in-person public comment. The meeting will be held at 9 a.m. in the Main Library (601 Santa Monica Blvd.) If this is your preferred choice, it's necessary to provide your name to the City Clerk before the public comment section is opened for that item during the meeting. A maximum allotted time of two minutes is allowed to voice any comments. Full details of how to participate can be found on the City of Santa Monica website.

scott.snowden@smdp.com

Classifieds

Help Wanted

Design Engineer, Snap Lab (4) sought by Snap Inc. in Santa Monica, CA. *Hybrid work permitted - Snap practices a "default together" approach & expects team members to work in Santa Monica office at least 80% of time (average 4days/wk). Dsg, dvlp & modify AR s/ware features & sys. BS or for. eq. + 4 yrs exp req. Base salary: $165,000-$230,000/yr.Position eligible for discretionary performance-based bonus award. Position eligible for equity in form of RSUs. OurBenefits: https://careers.snap.com/benefits. Email Resume: apply2snap@snap.com. Ref. Job Code #DESL4-0223-LT.EOE.

Technical Program Manager (4) sought by Snap Inc. (Santa Monica, CA) *Hybrid work permitted - Snap practices a "default together" approach & expects team members to work in Santa Monica office at least 80% of time (average 4days/wk). Lead dvlmpt of customer supp. products & features used by Snapchatters. MS or for. eq. + 3 yrs exp OR BS or for. eq. + 5 yrs exp req. Base salary: $145,000-$210,000/yr. Position eligible for discretionary performance-based bonusaward. Position eligible for equity in form of RSUs. Our Benefits: https://careers.snap.com/benefits. Email Resume:apply2snap@snap.com. Ref. Job Code #TPM4-0223-AK. EOE.

DBA

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

PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED HERE

HOURS MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00am - 5:00pm **LOCATION** 1640 5th Street, Suite 218, Santa Monica, CA 90401

California governor won't deliver State of the State speech

ADAM BEAM
Associated Press

California Gov. Gavin Newsom won't give a State of the State address this year, shunning the teleprompter that has frustrated him because of his dyslexia in favor of a statewide tour this month, in which he can highlight his major policy goals in a more informal setting.

It's a break from tradition for Newsom, a Democrat and potentially a future presidential candidate who has attempted many times to reinvent the speech for modern audiences. He has tried devoting the entire speech to just one topic — homelessness in 2020 — and using Dodger Stadium during the pandemic to give exhausted residents a pep talk about " brighter days ahead."

Scripted speeches have given Newsom trouble because of his dyslexia, a common learning disability that makes it harder for him to read and do other things related to reading. It's why he rarely uses notes in his public appearances and memorizes vast amounts of facts and figures. Last year, he invited lawmakers to hear his speech in a large auditorium in Sacramento in part because he could use a larger screen, according to the governor's office.

Just about every governor in the U.S. gives a State of the State address, which mimics the State of the Union speech given by the president to Congress every year. The California Constitution requires the governor report to the state Legislature every year "on the condition of the State."

Prior to World War II, governors would fulfill this requirement by sending a letter to the Legislature. That changed in the 1940s, when former Gov. Earl Warren — who would later become chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court — began giving a formal speech to the Legislature, according to Alex Vassar, who works at the California State Library and acts as an unofficial historian of the Legislature. Governors have been giving speeches ever since.

This year, Newsom plans to fulfill his constitutional requirement by sending a letter to the state Legislature. Next week, the governor's office says, Newsom plans to embark on a four-day tour of the state to highlight his priorities.

"Long gone are the days of an hourlong gubernatorial address on prime-time TV that everyone went into their living room and watched," said Matt Barreto, a political science professor at the University of California, Los Angeles, who was one of President Joe Biden's pollsters during the 2020 election. "Perhaps the governor is thinking there are more effective ways of going out into the community and speaking directly to voters."

Newsom has talked openly about his dyslexia, including writing a semi-autobiographical children's book in 2021, pledging to donate all proceeds to the International Dyslexia Association. The condition hasn't slowed him down. Newsom has given two major speeches already this year: his second inaugural address and a hourslong budget briefing for reporters, both in January.

"Building on his inaugural address and January budget, the Governor looks forward to fulfilling his constitutional obligation to update the Legislature on the state of the state — and joining lawmakers across California to outline transformative policy proposals that will strengthen our communities," Anthony York, Newsom's senior adviser for communications, said in a text message.

Tom Lackey, chair of the Assembly Republican Caucus, called Newsom's tour a way "to distract from his record of failure."

"The format of his message is less important than its contents — an honest State of the State should acknowledge that California is in trouble," Lackey said, pointing to issues like inflation, crime and homelessness.

In recent years, California's State of the State speech has faded from public view. Many governors would deliver the speech in the morning to a joint session of the Legislature, far from prime-time audiences. Those speeches served a different purpose, marking the beginning of negotiations with legislative leaders and allowing the governor to set the agenda for lawmakers' work ahead.

Newsom's biggest policy goal this year is to pass a law penalizing big oil companies for making too much profit. Newsom says it will help rein in the rising cost of gas, which hit an all time high last summer of nearly $6.44 per gallon. The Legislature has yet to act on Newsom's proposal, with some Democrats voicing concern about the proposal at a recent public hearing.

"The main complaint about the governor in Sacramento is that he doesn't communicate with the Legislature for them to know where he stands on controversies and what he prioritizes," said Thad Kousser, a political science professor at the University of California, San Diego. "By canceling his one big date with the Legislature, he could really be costing himself with this insider audience."

Not so, says Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon.

"If anything, I think this helps build the relationship between individual members and the governor, particularly at a time when we have almost a quarter of the body is new," Rendon said. "I think it's great. No, it's not at all a sign of tension between us."

COMMENTARY

FROM PAGE 5

agencies, school districts, cities, counties, hospitals, libraries, and other public entities that are legally required to rely on ballot measures to raise critical funds, especially for infrastructure projects."

The 75-word requirements are particularly difficult for complex, multi-tiered tax and bond proposals, Wiener said, leaving "little to no room to explain how the new taxes or bonds will actually be spent to benefit the local community."

Clearly, Wiener wants to make it easier to pass tax and bond measures by allowing their sponsors to once again use the 75-word summary for advocacy, rather than a "true and impartial synopsis."

They should make their case in campaigns, not use the ballot itself for propaganda.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 8)

You have many winning qualities, and moral courage shines among them. This year highlights your style. You'll change up environments and update your skills. Your relationships thrive as you radiate a calm, cool energy. Aries and Taurus adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 3, 4, 24, 18 and 27.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Because you're so daring, you'll feel most like yourself when you're on the verge of the unknown. Of all the different varieties of risk, social risk will take the most courage.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Adding a small, consistent habit to your life is favored now. Stolen moments add up. With a short period of daily practice, you could learn something remarkable, like a language or a musical instrument.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Are people working just to make you happy, or is it that your needs just happen to line up with precisely what they most want to deliver? Either way, it's a win for you. You're especially lucky in your dealings with other air signs.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). For better or worse, first impressions are extremely difficult to erase. It's one more reason to put time and thought into your presentation. You never know when someone new will be in the mix. Let the fresh power of a first impression work for you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You've done what you set out to do and yet you still want to sail on to find out what else is out there. You've a belief that things can always get better, and it will lead you to interesting places today.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Sometimes the answers are out there waiting to be discovered, but not this time. This time, the answer is inside you, just waiting to be invented by you, and furthermore, you're the only one who gets to say what it means.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Entertainment is a worthy expense as the fun and inspiration you gain will contribute to you living your best life. Tell people what you want and hope for. You'll be a beacon for others. Let people into your world and share your thought process.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Someone steered you wrong, but you'll take back the wheel and get on track. A burst of energy has you handling a list of random tasks. It will feel wonderful to get small things accomplished en masse.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Perhaps you're responsible for your own fun, but you also take responsibility for the fun of another. You're so excellent at lifting the energy and injecting levity wherever possible.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). It is possible to assign meaning to things without even realizing you're doing it or knowing where the associations are coming from. You'll understand yourself a little better as you delve into an analysis of the meanings you assign.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You want the best for loved ones, but you do not assume to know what that is. You do get the sense that you might know what it's not. When things don't feel right to you, you'll speak up. You'll help the people around you make healthy choices.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You'll get a stronger feeling of connection to the world around you as well as a more profound sense of purpose. The outdoors and green spaces will be a panacea. You'll be revived by the vitality of sunshine.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

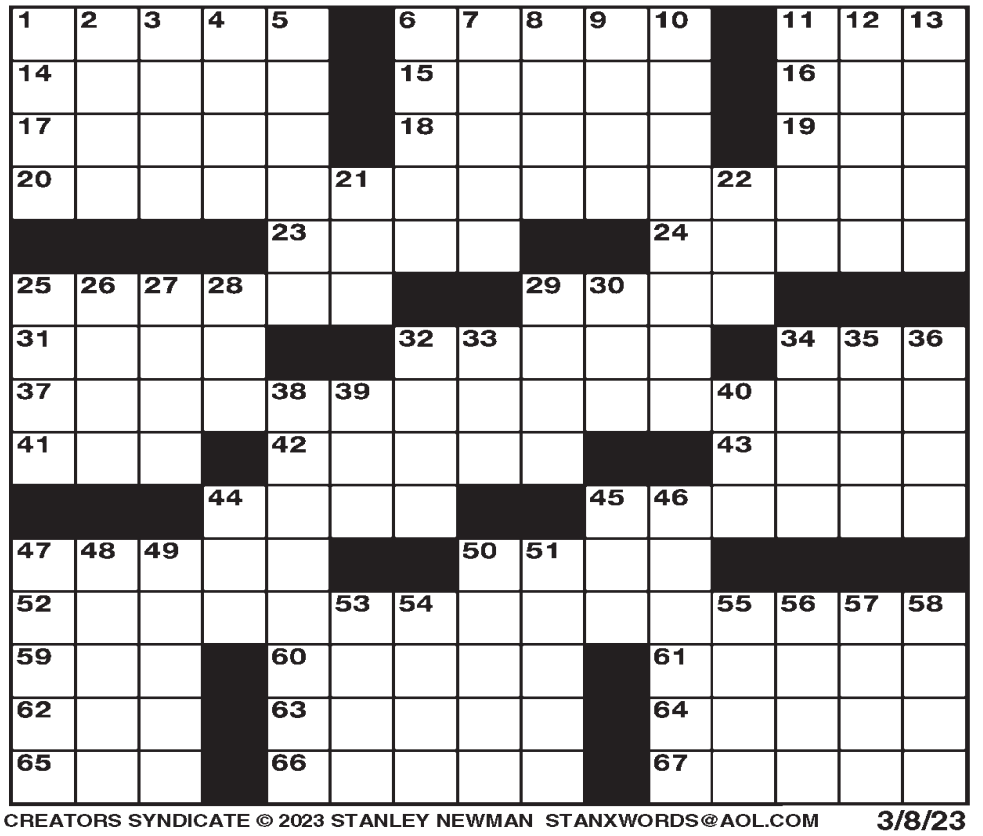
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	7		8					
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		7					5	4
	4		7	6		8		
		9			4	7		

Newsday Crossword

DIGITAL GAMING by Kevin Christian
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Speak dismissively
6 Extends over
11 Rock band's sound booster
14 School kid
15 Cockpit boss
16 Pop singer Carly __ Jepsen
17 Indoor sports venue
18 New Delhi's nation
19 Bikini part
20 Sandstone, to geologists
23 Inlets larger than coves
24 Italian currency
25 Frequent-flying elite
29 Jekyll's evil persona
31 Oodles
32 Parisian farewell
34 Ostrich cousin
37 What composers write on
41 Crafty
42 Novelist Joyce Carol __
43 Fish's breathing organ
44 Small and weak
45 Pops out of a DVD player
47 Sugary
50 Scandinavian capital
52 What to cut herbs and chicken with
59 *The Simpsons* shopkeeper
60 Philosopher who taught Aristotle
61 What rain gutters hang from
62 Danson or Koppel of TV
63 Liability's opposite
64 Fuss over one's attire
65 Poet's "before"
66 Is dressed in
67 What are needed to play the last-word theme of the puzzle

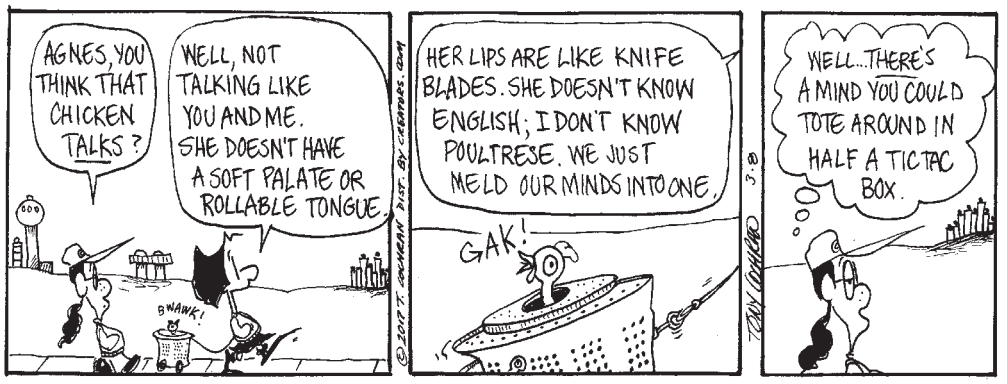
DOWN
1 Healthful havens
2 Medical breakthrough
3 Newspaper think piece
4 Pierre's "Done!"
5 Served ablaze, on menus
6 Like cacti and porcupines
7 Ice cream containers
8 *M*A*S*H* star
9 Film __ (dark movie genre)
10 Delayed one's bedtime
11 __ Day (tree-planting celebration)
12 Legendary traveler Polo
13 Reaches a maximum
21 Sit down for supper
22 Be regretful
25 Toppings for toast
26 Israeli airline
27 Broadway award
28 QR followers
29 What hula dancers sway
30 Up to now
32 Overly stylish
33 Cube at a casino
34 Grand-scale saga
35 Tuna-and-cheese sandwich
36 WWW addresses
38 Left-hander, informally
39 Tuna container
40 Era
44 Chest muscle, for short
45 Quarterback Manning
46 Biblical owner of a multicolored coat
47 Glide around a rink
48 Windshield device
49 Piano practice piece
50 Blender brand
51 Edinburgh residents
53 "If all __ fails . . ."
54 Letters on astronaut suits
55 __ Lee cakes
56 Where a casserole cooks
57 Oboist's accessory
58 IRS IDs



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2023 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 3/8/23

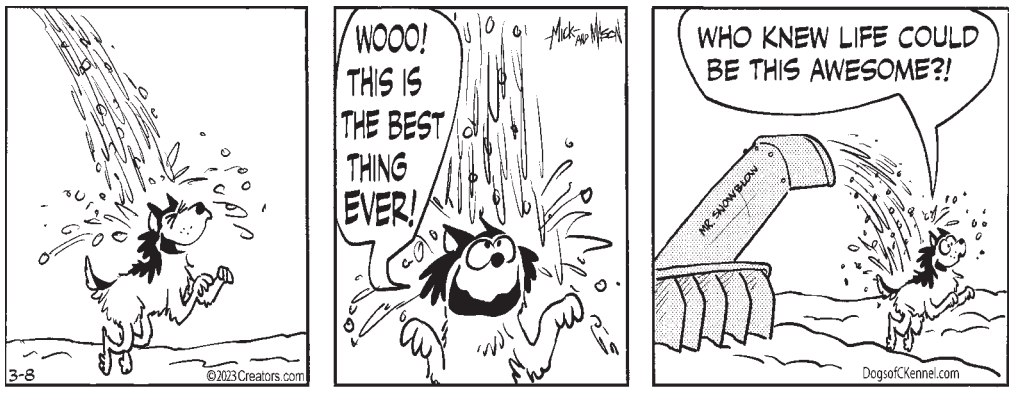
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



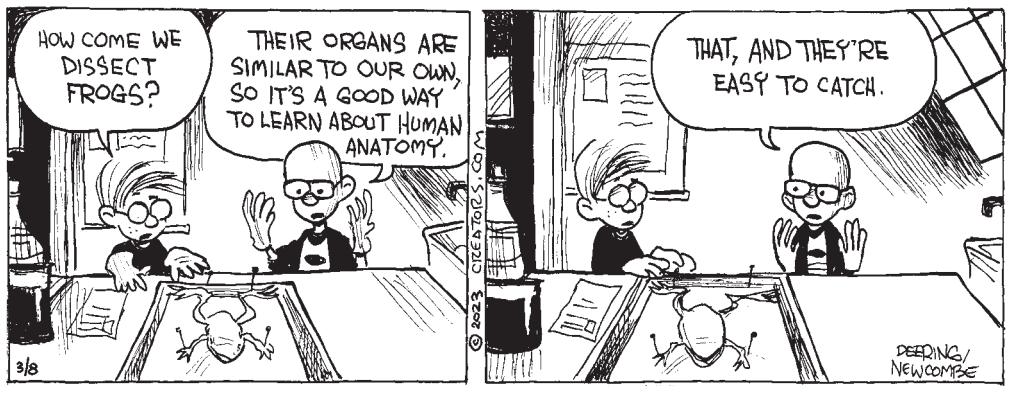
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"WE NEED TO GET ON THE BRO TRAIN."

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

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Gone fishing

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

Alert	Canoe	Flies	Maps	Snag
Amateur	Chips	Fork	Mask	Sold
Amberjack	Chub	Freeze	Mollusc	Steel
Angle	Clam	Haul	Motor	Sweep
ANSA	Coral	Item	Nets	Tench
Bait	Cunje	Kelp	Nylon	Tides
Bass	Dive	Lake	Opah	Travel
Beer	Drag	Land	Penn	Worms
Bridge	Empty	Lead	Perch	Yacht
Brown	Esky	Line	Plug	
Butterfly fish	Fees Fillet	Magic Mako	Scallops Shark	

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WEDNESDAY | MARCH 8

GEEKS WHO DRINK TRIVIA NIGHT AT NOSTALGIA BAR AND LOUNGE

Geeks Who Drink Trivia Night at Nostalgia Bar and Lounge. Modeled after pub quizzes in Ireland and the U.K., Geeks Who Drink is an authentic homegrown trivia quiz. It's a great way to drink with friends, without burning brain cells. And it's where useless knowledge means everything. Nostalgia Bar and Lounge 1326 Pico Blvd.

THURSDAY | MARCH 9

RENT CONTROL BOARD MEETING

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

ROCK N COMEDY NIGHT

2nd Thursdays of the month/. $10. 8:30 door 9 p.m. show. Rock N Pies. 1120 Wilshire Blvd.

FRIDAY | MARCH 10

DISCO FRIDAYS

Silent Disco, Loud Moves From 7-10 p.m. on March 10, April 14, and May 12, grab your glowing headphones and party it up right on Third Street Promenade. Silent disco DJ's will curate three different channels with the perfect playlist to suit your vibe. Disco Fridays are free and all are welcome. Third Street Promenade.

BRIA SKONBERG

Making her BroadStage debut, trumpeter/vocalist Bria Skonberg is one of the "most versatile and imposing musicians of her generation" (The Wall Street Journal). Linking past and present with inventive arrangements from the traditional jazz repertoire, reinterpretations of contemporary classics, and original compositions, Ms. Skonberg performs all with genuine heart and dynamic flair. The Eli and Edythe Broad Stage 1310 11th St 7:30 p.m. $18 - $34.

THE SAD SHOW

Tragedy + Time + Stand-Up Comics + The Crow's Stage + Tears = Crap Your Pants Funny If you like dark comedy, join them on Friday, March 10 for the saddest comedy show ever. The Crow at Bergamot Station Arts Center, 2525 Michigan Ave. $20.

SATURDAY | MARCH 11

BLÜ EGYPTIAN

Blü Egyptian makes their debut at Trip in Santa Monica on Saturday, March 11. 9pm. Free. All ages. Get up n' get down in yo town. TRiP, 2101 Lincoln Blvd.

SUNDAY | MARCH 12

NORTH MISSISSIPPI ALLSTARS

This event is 21 and over. Any ticket holder unable to present valid identification indicating that they are at least 21 years of age will not be admitted to this event, and will not be eligible for a refund. The Venice West, 1717 Lincoln Blvd. 8 p.m. $45.

MONDAY | MARCH 13

LANDMARKS COMMISSION

Established in 1975, the mission of the Landmarks Commission is "To protect improvements and areas which represent the City's cultural, social, economic, political and architectural history; safeguard the City's historic, aesthetic and cultural heritage; and promote the use of landmarks and historic districts for the education, pleasure and welfare of the people. 7 p.m. City Hall.

TUESDAY | MARCH 14

CITY COUNCIL

The City Council is made up of seven members elected at-large for staggered four-year terms. 5:30 p.m. City Hall.

WEDNESDAY | MARCH 15

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.

THURSDAY | MARCH 16

AN EVENING OF CHRISTOPHER WHEELDON

Christopher Wheeldon is a major choreographer of our time. Los Angeles Ballet presents an evening of three iconic Wheeldon works exclusively at The Broad Stage in Santa Monica. The Eli and Edythe Broad Stage 1310 11th St Santa Monica, CA https://rb.gy/savlkd

WESTSIDE LAUGH PARTY STAND-UP COMEDY

Westside's Laugh Party is a monthly standup show produced by Dennis Gubbins featuring the best comics from around the country with surprise drop-ins by the likes of Tig Notaro, Zach Galifianakis, Ali Wong, Demetri Martin, Damons Wayans and many others! The proceeds for each show are donated to a local charity... so there is that too! Come on out and laugh! Who knows who will show up this month.... party! Purchase tickets at westsidecomedy.com

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



SURF REPORT

WATER TEMP: **55.6**

WEDNESDAY *POOR TO FAIR*	**SURF:**	2-3ft Thigh to waist	Small, steep-angled NW swell mix and modest SSW swell. Wind looking best early — most spots should be fairly clean (but small) for the Dawn Patrol. Stronger onshore W wind for the afternoon.
THURSDAY *POOR TO FAIR*	**SURF:**	2-3ft Thigh to waist	Tiny, steep-angled NW swell mix and easing SSW swell.

WEATHER

Wednesday: Patchy fog before 10am. Otherwise, cloudy, then gradually becoming mostly sunny.
Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 46. West wind around 5 mph.
Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 61. North northeast wind 5 to 10 mph.
Thursday Night: A 30 percent chance of rain, mainly after 4am. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 51.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2023/03/08	Wed	03:24 AM	0.87	L
2023/03/08	Wed	09:22 AM	5.02	H
2023/03/08	Wed	3:47 PM	-0.02	L
2023/03/08	Wed	10:01 PM	4.62	H
2023/03/09	Thu	04:00 AM	0.72	L
2023/03/09	Thu	09:56 AM	4.61	H
2023/03/09	Thu	4:08 PM	0.35	L
2023/03/09	Thu	10:24 PM	4.76	H
2023/03/10	Fri	04:39 AM	0.63	L
2023/03/10	Fri	10:33 AM	4.09	H
2023/03/10	Fri	4:27 PM	0.78	L
2023/03/10	Fri	10:49 PM	4.86	H
2023/03/11	Sat	05:25 AM	0.60	L
2023/03/11	Sat	11:18 AM	3.49	H
2023/03/11	Sat	4:46 PM	1.25	L
2023/03/11	Sat	11:18 PM	4.90	H
2023/03/12	Sun	07:20 AM	0.63	L
2023/03/12	Sun	1:19 PM	2.86	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: 3/6
2 13 29 58 69
Power#: 4
Jackpot: 31 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 3/3
8 25 36 39 67
Mega#: 11
Jackpot: 188 M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 3/4
4 9 20 27 34
Mega#: 17
Jackpot: 39 M

FANTASY 5
Draw Date: 3/6
1 4 5 13 29

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 3/6
EVENING: 5 7 6
Draw Date: 3/6
MIDDAY: 0 5 3

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 3/6
1st: 10 - Solid Gold
2nd: 11 - Money Bags
3rd: 09 - Winning Spirit
Race Time: 1:48.46

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City calendar

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- LIBRARY EVENTS
- HAPPY HOURS
- CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS
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