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California Yacht Club celebrates the beginning of sailing season in style

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer



Kevin Roznowsk

ALL HANDS ON DECK: A huge crowd of members and guests gathered in Marina Del Rey to celebrate the past, present and future of the California Yacht Club.

Just three months after a devastating fire all but destroyed their exquisite clubhouse building, the California Yacht Club celebrated the opening day of sailing season in style over the weekend. Blessed with a beautiful sunny day, members and guests were treated to a mardi-gras-inspired party, with a bountiful banquet, activities and entertainment on Saturday evening.

However, on the night of December 11 last year, at least five fire trucks and a substantial number of firefighters were dispatched to the location of the clubhouse at Marina Del Rey. The blaze was so intense that two firefighters were injured as they tried for two hours to bring it under control.

According to John Myers, Senior Vice President, California Yacht Club, arson was soon ruled out and the cause was traced back to an electrical issue in the building's kitchen. Originally built in 1967, most of the interior has been gutted and tragically many paintings and antique memorabilia was lost.

"Since then we've been slowly and painstakingly picking up the pieces, working through insurance, but also really starting to get on with what we have to do," says Myers adding, "Fortunately, nothing besides the clubhouse was damaged, so we still have our outdoor paddle tennis and pickleball courts and we're actively encouraging the outdoor activities this summer."

Those who are keen sailors in Santa Monica might already know that a couple of sizable regattas have already taken place. However, this weekend is regarded as the "official" start to the season as the date marks a traditional time when the sea ice had melted sufficiently on the East Coast to allow sailing to once again take place. It is often accompanied by the use of large, loud canons at yacht clubs around the country to signify the "breaking of the ice." Thankfully though, the only ice you'll find here is in your gin and tonic.

Myers explains that a temporary clubhouse will be erected on the west side of the site, where part of the parking lot is currently. The asphalt surface will have some serious wooden decking laid over the top to level everything out. "This way, we're going to be able to enjoy stunning sunsets every single evening," he says.

Myers himself had only been in his role at the Yacht Club for a couple of weeks when the tragic incident happened, but he firmly believes the community, along with every member, will be galvanized by the efforts to repair and replace

SEE **YACHT CLUB** PAGE 7

6-year-old assaulted by homeless man: police in active search of suspect



Westside Current

ASSAULT: Police are looking for the suspect.

A six-year-old was hit in the face and knocked to the ground by a homeless individual while walking along Main Street. The incident happened around 7 p.m. on Sunday, at the junction of Main Street and Marine.

Witness Christina Tulluck, a Venice resident, recounted that the incident occurred while she and

SEE **ASSAULT** PAGE 7



Vikings baseball keeps rolling, track runs at Redondo

SMDP STAFF REPORT

SAMOHI SPORTS SCORES:
SANTA MONICA BASEBALL:

Tuesday, March 5:
Vikings at Peninsula
Vikings win 4-1
Batting/Baserunning:
Sage Douglass (Senior): 2-4, 2 2B, RBI, K. Bobby Munoz (Senior): 0-2, BB, K. Spencer Levin (Senior): 1-2, 2B, R, K. Blue Hunter (Junior): 1-3, 2 K, SB. Isaac Liberman (Junior): 1-4, HR, R, 2 RBI, K. Jackson Myrow (Junior): 0-3, R, BB. Aaron Heirigs (Sophomore): 0-2, BB. Brady Satinover (Junior): 1-4. Manny Lares (Junior): 1-2, R, BB
Pitching:
Gavin Kirtley (Junior): 2 IP, W, 1 BB, 3 K, 0.00 ERA. Eddie Jennings (Junior): 4.1 IP, 5 H, 1 R, 1 BB, 6 K, 0.00 ERA. Aaron Heirigs (Sophomore): 0.2 IP, 1 K, 0.00 ERA
Friday, March 8:
Vikings vs Peninsula
Vikings win 2-0
Batting/Baserunning:
Jacob Myrow (Senior): 1-2, K. Sage Douglass (Senior): 0-2, HBP. Bobby Munoz (Senior): 0-2. Spencer Levin (Senior): 0-1, HBP, K. Blue Hunter (Junior): 0-3, 2 K. Isaac Liberman (Junior): 2-3, 2B, RBI, SB. Jackson Myrow (Junior): 0-2, BB, K. Brady Satinover (Junior): 0-1, 2 R, 2 BB. Manny Lares (Junior): 0-2, K
Pitching:
Jackson Klein (Senior): 7 IP, W, 3 H, 2 BB, 11 K, 0.00 ERA



Photo Courtesy David E. Hunzicker Photography

SAMOHI: Samohi Track and Field's Phoebe Benun competed in the 1,600 Meters Varsity Finals at Redondo Union March 9.

Vikings Record: 9-2 (2-0 Bay League)
Next Game: Wednesday at Redondo Union, 3:15 p.m.

SANTA MONICA SOFTBALL:

Monday, March 4:
Lady Vikings vs Palisades
Lady Vikings win 12-3
Batting/Baserunning:
Ava Waterstone: 0-0, 2 R. Cienna Burgos: 1-2, R, SH/B, BB. Avey Thompson: 2-4, 2B, 2 R, RBI. Maya Paysinger: 0-4, RBI, 2 K. Drew Vudmaska: 1-3, 2B, RBI, HBP, 2 K. Haley Riehl: 0-1, 2 R, 3 BB. Debbie Amezquita: 0-3, SH/B. Sakura Krohn: 2-3, 2B, R, 3 RBI, HBP, FC. Talia Yermian: 3-5, 2B, 2 R, RBI, SB. Andrea Castro: 0-0, R. Bella Myers: 2-3, 2B, R, 3 RBI, BB, FC
Pitching:
Drew Vudmaska: 6 IP, W, 5 H, 3 R, 1 BB, 7 K, 0.00 ERA. Sakura Krohn: 1 IP, 1 BB, 0.00 ERA
Friday, March 8:
Lady Vikings at North (Torrance)
North (Torrance) win 7-0
Batting/Baserunning:
Cienna Burgos: 1-3, FC. Avey Thompson: 0-2, K. Maya Paysinger: 0-2, 2 K. Jasmine Arana: 0-1. Drew Vudmaska: 0-3, 2 K. Haley Riehl: 0-1, HBP. Debbie Amezquita: 1-3, FC. Sakura Krohn: 0-3. Talia Yermian: 1-2, HBP. Andrea Castro: 0-1. Bella Myers: 0-1. Brooke Meshekow: 1-2
Pitching:
Drew Vudmaska: 6 IP, 5 H, 7 R, 5 BB, 3 K
Saturday, March 9:
Lady Vikings vs Gahr (Cerritos)
Gahr (Cerritos) win 7-0
Batting/Baserunning:
Cienna Burgos: 0-2, K, FC. Avey Thompson: 0-1, K. Drew Vudmaska: 0-1, BB, K. Haley Riehl: 1-2. Debbie Amezquita: 1-2, K. Sakura Krohn: 1-2, K. Alyssa Gonzalez: 0-1, K. Talia Yermian: 0-1, BB, HBP. Bella Myers: 0-2, K. Brooke Meshekow: 0-1, HBP
Pitching:
Drew Vudmaska: 3 IP, 5 H, 6 R, 2 ER, 2 BB, K, 4.67 ERA. Sakura Krohn: 1 IP, 1 R, 4 BB, 1 K, 0.00 ERA
Lady Vikings Record: 6-5-1 (0-1 Bay League)
Next Game: Tuesday at Redondo Union, 3:30 p.m.

SANTA MONICA BOYS LACROSSE:

Tuesday, March 5:
Vikings at St. John Bosco
Vikings win 13-7
Wednesday, March 6:

SEE **SPORT** PAGE 7

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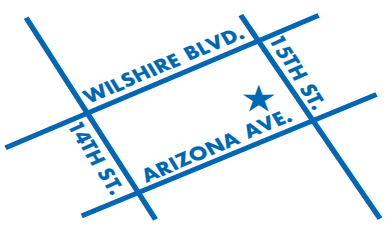
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Rotary reached for the stars with annual fundraising event



Photo by Thomas Leffler

ROTARY: The Rotary Club of Santa Monica packed the Skirball Cultural Center in Brentwood on March 9 for the club's annual Food & Wine Festival.

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

The local arm of an international organization reached for the stars Saturday in its pursuit of funding worthy causes.

During the evening at the Skirball Cultural Center, the Rotary Club of Santa Monica hosted its annual Wine & Food Festival, with the 16th edition titled "A Night Among The Stars." The grand celebration brought together members of the celebrated club to feast on fish, beef and vegetarian meals; as well as traverse a vast selection of wine tastings. More importantly, the club held a raffle, live auction and silent auction to help reach a goal of $150,000 to give back to food banks, local schools, community organizations and international causes.

Over the past six years, the Rotary Club has given nearly $139,000 to local schools to aid students through grants, vocational courses and leadership training. This year's featured charity continues that commitment, with the club's "fund in need" auction raising funds for the Guardian Scholars Program, providing copious support for foster youth attending Santa Monica College.

The Food & Wine Festival Chair, Andrea Gressinger, stated that having a feature charity is "a chance to educate people about a certain cause and to support one specific cause" which "helps people focus their giving for a bit." Like organizations before it, the scholars program has been deemed a cause worth supporting due to its wide range of aid for foster youth in need.

"(The program offers) all kinds of support to current and former foster youth … they offer scholarships, mentoring, they'll pay for books, if they have a car they'll give gas cards, (and) if they don't have a car, they'll get bus vouchers," Gressinger said. "(Foster youth) get actual job training (as well) … they don't have family to support them, a foster kid out at 18, (they're) on (their) own. So it's a really comprehensive mental health support (of) everything to help get them an education and ultimately help them be successful in the world."

Along with foundational education efforts, the Santa Monica arm of the club supports child creative and after school endeavors, giving $49,000 since 2018 to community youth efforts like The Boys and Girls Club of Santa Monica and The Pico Youth and Family Center. Fine arts have been supported in the past few years through $22,500 given to Elemental Music, The Santa Monica Orchestra Foundation, Westside Ballet and other local organizations.

"I think it's natural to not only help with the problems of today, but help when people are so young so that they don't end up having the same problems like homelessness and lack of education," Gressinger added.

Rotary Club's reach goes far beyond Santa Monica as well, as the club has been a leader of national and international causes for decades. For more than 35 years, the club has been at the forefront of eradicating polio cases as a founding partner of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, with members from across the country contributing more than $2.1 billion and many volunteer hours to the cause.

The Santa Monica club has given $133,420 to international causes since 2018, including water and sanitation projects in West Africa and Lebanon, as well as donations to the Red Rhino Orphanage in Kenya which provides a safe home for children. An international flavor will be part of the mix during auction proceedings Saturday, as one of the items to bid on is a catering service from a Club couple from Ukraine, cooking food from their homeland.

Though membership was not required for the Wine & Food Festival, Gressinger recommends membership into Rotary as well as attendance during Friday luncheons at the Hilton Santa Monica, saying the "incredibly fun group of people" always leave visitors "really surprised." A real estate agent by trade, Gressinger is grateful for her 11 years in Rotary due to partaking in real change regarding social issues.

"It really quickly became like a second family for me," she said. "The sense of share purpose and the kind of people who show up in the world this way are very special, so I feel like part of a very special group of people who, instead of sitting around complaining about the horrible things in the news and how bad the world is, we have so much joy because we're also making a difference and we have purpose."

For more information about the club, visit https://rotary5280.org/clubinfo/santa-monica.

thomas@smdp.com



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **60.6**

TUESDAY
FAIR

SURF: 2-3ft
Thigh to waist

Steep-angled NW swell looks to hold, providing enough push for small wave gear at good exposures. SSW swell backs down through the day. Best winds and favorable tide push in the early morning.

WEDNESDAY
FAIR

SURF: 2-3ft
Thigh to waist

Day kicks off with the leftover NW swell mix from the start of the week. Refresh of steep-angled NW swell possible through the second half of the day.

Weather

Tuesday: Cloudy, then gradually becoming mostly sunny, with a high near 63. East northeast wind 5 to 15 mph.
Tuesday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 52. West southwest wind 5 to 15 mph becoming northeast after midnight..
Wednesday: Partly sunny, with a high near 68.
Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 54.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)High/Low
2024/03/12	Tue	05:25 AM	-0.29	L
2024/03/12	Tue	11:29 AM	4.79	H
2024/03/12	Tue	5:26 PM	0.22	L
2024/03/12	Tue	11:43 PM	5.69	H
2024/03/13	Wed	06:20 AM	-0.28	L
2024/03/13	Wed	12:26 PM	3.96	H
2024/03/13	Wed	5:57 PM	0.94	L
2024/03/14	Thu	12:22 AM	5.58	H
2024/03/14	Thu	07:21 AM	-0.10	L
2024/03/14	Thu	1:36 PM	3.18	H
2024/03/14	Thu	6:26 PM	1.66	L
2024/03/15	Fri	01:06 AM	5.29	H
2024/03/15	Fri	08:40 AM	0.15	L
2024/03/15	Fri	3:29 PM	2.66	H
2024/03/15	Fri	6:53 PM	2.30	L
2024/03/16	Sat	02:03 AM	4.89	H
2024/03/16	Sat	10:26 AM	0.21	L
2024/03/17	Sun	03:28 AM	4.54	H
2024/03/17	Sun	11:59 AM	0.02	L
2024/03/17	Sun	7:56 PM	3.27	H
2024/03/17	Sun	11:18 PM	2.99	L

Daily Lottery

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

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 3/9
30 36 49 52 63
Power#: 16
Jackpot: 532 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 3/8
19 20 22 47 58
Mega#: 1
Jackpot: 735 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 3/9
4 7 13 22 46
Mega#: 18
Jackpot: 17 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 3/10
5 7 27 30 31

Daily 3
Draw Date: 3/10
EVENING: 9 6 8
Draw Date: 3/10
MIDDAY: 2 9 7

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 3/10
1st: 11 - Money Bags
2nd: 08 - Gorgeous George
3rd: 12 - Lucky Charms
Race Time: 1:45.28

PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

PARTNER
Todd James
todd@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Matthew Hall
matt@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Charles Andrews,
Jack Neworth,
David Pisarra.

CIRCULATION
Guadalupe Navarro
ross@smdp.com

Keith Wyatt
ross@smdp.com

STAFF WRITERS
Scott Snowden
scott.snowden@smdp.com

Thomas Leffler
thomas@smdp.com

DIRECTOR OF ADVERTISING
Cindy Moreno
cindy@smdp.com

MARKETING MANAGER
Dina Araniva
dina@smdp.com

PRODUCTION
Esteban Inchaustegui
production@smdp.com

Julio Davalos
julio@smdp.com

1640 5th Street, Suite 218
Santa Monica, CA 90401
OFFICE (310) 458-PRESS (7737)
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Santa Monica Daily Press

These gigs offer paths to higher wages for young Californians. Now they're facing budget cuts



Photo by Manuel Orbegozo for CalMatters

LEARNING THE JOB: High school senior Catalina Govea, 17, helps a fourth grade student at Linden Elementary School in San Joaquin County as part of a youth apprenticeship program on March 5, 2023.

ALEJANDRA REYES-VELARDE
Special to the Daily Press

California is just starting a statewide effort to create apprenticeship opportunities for young people, ages 16 through 24, as college becomes less affordable for many high school graduates and other costs of living are rising.

But the program has run into a funding snag. Gov. Gavin Newsom, trying to plug a budget hole that some officials say could be $78 billion, now plans to delay $25 million in next year's funding — about how much the state is spending this year on the effort.

This could be a setback for a new system that funds apprenticeships strictly for young people. Currently most apprentices are older than college age — the nationwide average age of an apprentice is 29 — and most apprenticeship programs feed into the construction trades.

State officials think much younger people should be tapping into this system.

"Not everybody can afford to go onto college, but that doesn't mean that they're not bright, hard working people," said Adele Burnes, deputy chief of the state's Division of Apprenticeship Standards. "It just means they may not be able to afford to not be earning.

"We as a state want to make sure we're creating onramps into careers … that offer them that pathway into a family-sustaining wage."

Those who complete apprenticeships can earn starting salaries of $77,000, and their average lifetime earnings could outpace their peers' by more than $300,000, according to research by Jobs for the Future, a national organization that promotes workforce development.

Last July the Legislature tasked the Division of Apprenticeship Standards with gathering data and developing a system for allocating money to groups that operate youth apprenticeship programs.

Organizations have until March 15 to apply for funding.

DEFINING YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP

The Division of Apprenticeship Standards has established grants for organizations that develop pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs targeting the state's 500,000 "opportunity youth" — young people who have dropped out or are at risk of dropping out of school, or who come from low-income families or neighborhoods, or are involved in the foster care, child welfare or juvenile justice systems.

The organizations that receive the grants are expected to develop apprenticeship programs for careers in health care, education, information technology and more.

The effort is in line with Newsom's stated goal of reaching 500,000 registered apprentices by 2029. So far, the state has about 90,000.

Typically apprenticeship programs are federally registered and involve at least 144 hours of classroom instruction and 2,000 hours of on-the-job work under the supervision of a professional.

Those who complete apprenticeships usually secure union jobs with living wages and benefits, said Taylor White, who helps design youth apprenticeship systems for New America, a national research and advocacy nonprofit.

Historically apprenticeships mostly fed the building and fire trades. Many union jobs require employees to be over 18, White said.

The national decades-long "college for all" push in high schools has steered young people by the droves toward four-year colleges. But college hasn't worked out equally for everyone.

"That hasn't necessarily resulted in the closure of the workforce and economic disparities that people expected it would," White said. It's now clear that young people need more options, she added.

While various pre-apprenticeship programs in the state prepare young people for apprenticeships, California has yet to create a central youth apprenticeship system to recruit workers who may still be in high school or college.

The state established a Youth Apprenticeship Committee that is expected to provide recommendations to the Division of Apprenticeship Standards in July.

CALIFORNIA HIGH SCHOOL APPRENTICESHIPS

One example of a new high school apprenticeship program is San Joaquin

SEE **APPRENTICE** PAGE 11

Women business leaders honored at Chamber luncheon













Photos by Thomas Leffler

BUSINESS: To celebrate International Women's Day on March 8, the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce honored several female standouts in their respective fields during the 2024 Women in Business Leadership Awards. Held at the Proper Hotel, guests enjoyed meals and each other's company before a ceremony that included performances and the day's five awardees. Earning the honors were Founder & CEO of Sensate Anna Gudmundson, Snap Inc. Director of Strategy Nona Yadegar, Activision Senior Content Manager Angela Scott, Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Director Of Info Tech Bertha Roman and UCLA Health Chief Information Officer Ellen Pollack. Gudmundson gave the day's keynote address, while guests also heard performances from singer Quinn Archer and comedian Mona Shaikh. "Our International Women's Day luncheon underscores the invaluable contributions of women in leadership roles across diverse industries," Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce CEO Judy Kruger said of the event. "We aim to inspire and empower individuals from all walks of life to recognize and celebrate the achievements of women in our community and beyond.

Sacramento gave a homeless camp a lease as an experiment. Here's what happened

MARISA KENDALL
Special to the Daily Press

When Sacramento changed its plan to demolish a homeless encampment on a vacant lot on Colfax Street, instead offering the homeless occupants a lease, activists and camp residents celebrated it as a win.

The first-of-its-kind deal, which allows the camp to remain in place and govern itself without city interference, was held up as a model Sacramento could replicate at future sites. Other cities, including San Jose, have said they're considering similar models, putting the success or failure of this encampment under the microscope.

A year later, Sacramento has not managed to reproduce the concept and has no plans to. Residents of the camp, who lack electricity or running water, complain they feel forgotten. And the county district attorney, claiming the site threatens public safety, has demanded the city clear the camp or risk prosecution.

Those troubles highlight the logistical and ethical dilemmas that come with setting aside outdoor spaces for homeless residents to go when there aren't enough beds indoors. And it comes at a time when officials across the state increasingly are turning to this last-ditch solution as they face mounting pressure to clear encampments away from sidewalks, parks, schools and other high-traffic public areas.

"The fact that people have a place where they can legally exist and not be threatened with arrest, not be run off and have to lose their belongings, where they can go to the bathroom with dignity, where there's trash pickup so they don't have to live in a place where there's trash all over, where service providers can find them regularly and they aren't going to lose contact with people as they work their way to housing — those are all good things," said Eric Tars, senior policy director of the National Homelessness Law Center. "But it would be even better if they were doing them indoors."

THEY GOT A LEASE, AND THEY MAKE THEIR OWN RULES

Camp Resolution, as the Sacramento camp is known, was started in 2022 by Sharon and Joyce Jones — a married couple in their 50s who found themselves homeless for the first time late in life. More than four-dozen people now live there, some in new-looking Bullet trailers provided by the city, and others in cars, tents and more dilapidated trailers and RVs.

Some residents have taken pains to make it more homey: Two potted plants hang from the hitch of one trailer, chickens roam the lot, and Sharon and Joyce are putting in a garden, using pallets to make raised planter beds.

"We try to make it as comfortable as possible," Joyce said, "but sometimes it's impossible."

Shortly after Joyce and her community occupied the city-owned, formerly vacant lot in 2022, city workers determined the camp was unsafe and needed to be demolished — as often happens in Sacramento and throughout California. But that's where the story takes an unusual turn. Residents of the camp, and their supporters, showed up in force to a city council meeting and persuaded council members to delay the sweep. About six months later, the city signed a lease allowing the camp to remain in place.

The lease, which advocacy group Safe Ground Sacramento signed on behalf of the Camp Resolution residents, was an experiment. Generally, similar programs are run by nonprofits contracted by a city. They often impose curfews, no-guest policies, sobriety requirements and other rules on residents. In exchange, they offer social services such as counseling or help finding permanent housing, and amenities such as showers and bathrooms.

"They don't think people experiencing homelessness are capable of governing themselves," Tars said.

Camp Resolution is different. Safe Ground Sacramento, which leases the property from the city for free, takes a hands-off approach that lets residents run the camp and write their own rules. The city gave the residents a handful of residential trailers, set up portable toilets and a hand-washing station, and provided dumpsters and ongoing trash pickup. But that's it.

Many activist groups laud that model as a best practice, saying it's important to let the residents run, or at least help run, their own camp.

"When individuals in these encampments have a sense of ownership, then it can really lead to the camp being a place that they take pride in and that they are trying to keep in as good condition as possible," Tars said. "It gives a sense of responsibility to others in that community."

It also means minimal overhead for the city: The trailers provided to Camp Resolution residents came from the Federal Emergency Management Agency at no cost to the city of Sacramento, and adding the camp to the city's existing contract for trash pickup didn't add any additional expense.

But in the case of Camp Resolution, it also means residents are left to fend for themselves. The city doesn't provide electricity or running water. Community members donate food, some residents have generators, and a nonprofit used to bring a trailer with showers every other Sunday — but they recently stopped.

"It's not going very well," Joyce said. "I think that (the city) should do a little bit more."

The Camp Resolution lease says the city would provide up to 33 trailers. Residents ended up receiving just 16. But 51 people live at the camp, meaning some people sleep in tents, in their cars or in dilapidated trailers and RVs that leak in the rain and have sprouted mold.

The city wouldn't comment on the trailers — or anything else — citing a pending threat of prosecution from the county District Attorney's Office. City officials recently sent 40 trailers to a new safe sleeping site they opened on Roseville Road, which also has plumbed toilets and showers.

Several of the Camp Resolution residents are elderly, and some have serious medical issues that make living without reliable power and water difficult. One woman, who recently turned 60, is on dialysis and gets around on an electric mobility scooter that she leaves parked outside her trailer.

Most of the residents are women, some of whom wouldn't feel safe on the streets by themselves. Jeanne Gillis, 53, was cooking ground turkey over an open flame outside her trailer on a recent Wednesday. Gillis, who used to work as a medical patients' advocate, lost her housing two years ago when she got sick with lupus and could no longer work. She'd never been homeless before and didn't know what to do — so Sharon and Joyce took her under their wing. Now she's part of their tight-knit community.

"Thank God for everybody. Because it's hard," she said, tearing up. "I don't think I'd be here if it wasn't for everybody."

CAMP RESOLUTION FACES LEGAL THREAT

Camp Resolution also faces an outside threat — Sacramento County District Attorney Thien Ho has demanded that the city close the camp. His office sent a letter to the city and Safe Ground Sacramento in November labeling the site a public health hazard. The site is contaminated by toxic chemicals left over from when it was used as a vehicle maintenance yard and held underground storage tanks for diesel and gasoline, he said. It's not safe to camp on the contaminated soil, according to his letter. But only half of the site is paved, while the other half is bare dirt — and people live on both sides.

Ho's office did not set a specific deadline for the city to clear the encampment, leaving

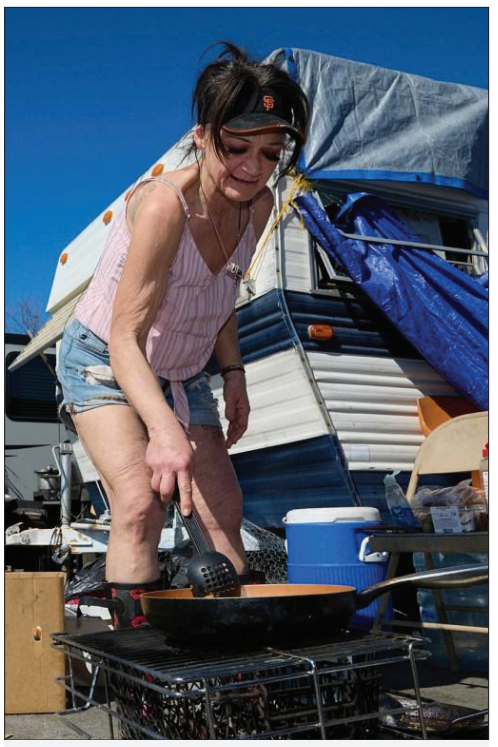


Photo by Fred Greaves for CalMatters
CAMP: Jeanne Gillis cooks ground turkey over a wood fire next to her trailer at Camp Resolution, a "self governed" homeless camp on city-owned land in Sacramento, February 28, 2024. Residents have to rely on bottled water, generators and wood fires because no utilities are provided at the camp.

SEE **HOMELESS** PAGE 8

Tool Repair & Servicing

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GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Fewer students and higher absenteeism plague California's public school financing

DAN WALTERS

California's public schools live – or die – by the numbers.

They are utterly dependent on how much money the state budget allocates each year under Proposition 98, a formula adopted by voters in 1988 that only a few wonks in and around the Capitol profess to understand – and even they often disagree.

Prop. 98 computations are also subject to political horse-trading during each budget cycle. Whatever number emerges is then distributed to school districts, primarily based on "average daily attendance."

California is one of only a few states that use attendance to distribute state aid and a perpetual debate over whether it should continue is becoming more intense because two major factors in school attendance – enrollment and student absences – have been regressing.

California experienced rapid population growth over the last two decades of the 20th century, due to a wave of migration from other states and a baby boom. That translated into a 50% increase in K-12 school enrollment, eventually topping out at 6.3 million kids.

After reaching a plateau, however, enrollment started declining as the state began losing population, thanks largely to movements to other states, and as the state's birthrate dropped dramatically.

"Demographic projections suggest enrollment will continue to decline across the state over the coming decade," according to a recent report by the Public Policy Institute of California. "The California Department of Finance (DOF) projects that declines will persist at roughly 40,000 to 60,000 students per year, resulting in enrollment levels below 5.2 million by 2032."

The inexorable decline in enrollment is exacerbated by a startling large number of students who may be enrolled but are chronically absent – what once was known as playing hooky.

During the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic almost all of California's schools were closed, but even with online classes, attendance took a nosedive. After schools were reopened, however, chronic absenteeism – students missing from the classroom 10% or more of the time – continued to be a problem. Prior to the pandemic 12% of the state's students were chronically absent, but in the first year after schools reopened the rate was 30% and since then has declined marginally to 25%, according to a new PPIC study.

PPIC researchers learned that the most absence-prone children these days are in kindergarten or the early primary grades while, prior to the pandemic, high schoolers were most likely to be missing classes.

"High levels of absenteeism among the youngest students is particularly concerning since absenteeism tends to have a snowball effect: a student is more likely to be chronically absent in later grades if they are chronically absent in earlier ones," PPIC's report noted.

During the pandemic, school finances were bolstered by billions of dollars in federal relief funds and a temporary respite from attendance-based state aid, but both of those programs have expired, so districts are beginning to feel the full impact of enrollment declines and absenteeism.

As the gaps between income and outgo widen, school officials throughout the state are contemplating school closures – which almost always generate neighborhood opposition – while pressing the state to change the attendance-based system.

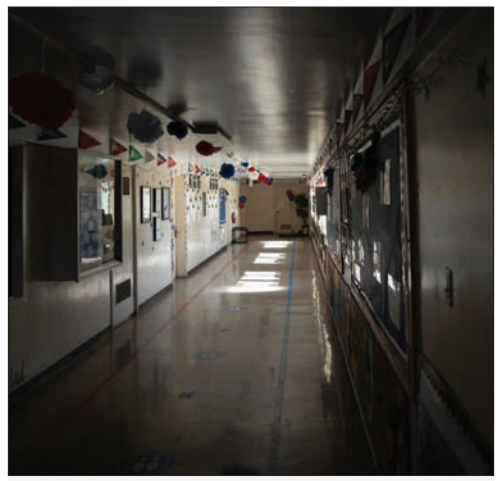
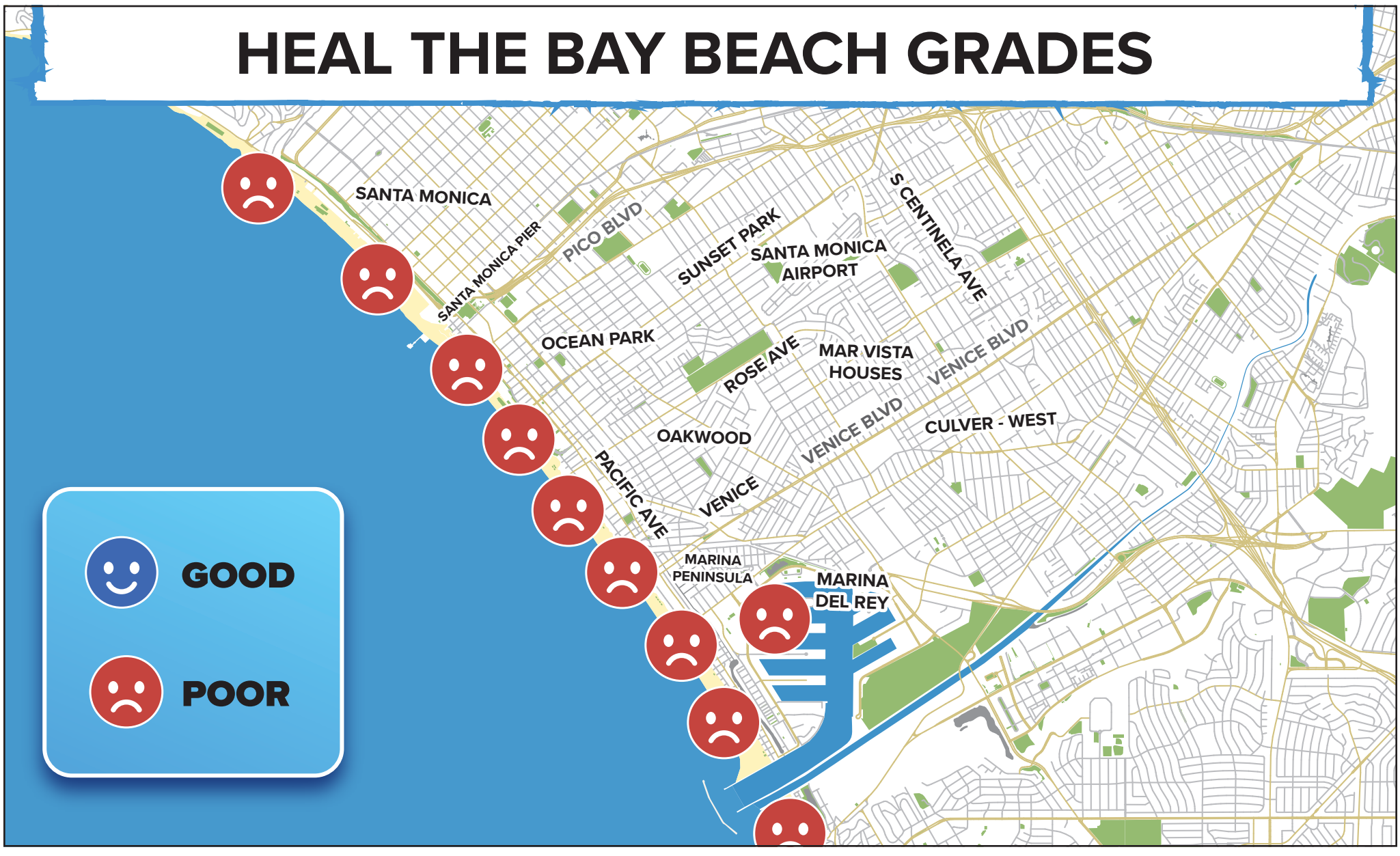


Photo by Miguel Gutierrez Jr., CalMatters
SCHOOL: St. HOPE's Public School 7 Elementary in Sacramento on May 11, 2022.

"Between 2012 and 2021, nearly 700 schools across the state were closed, resulting in roughly 167,000 students being displaced," Policy Analysis for California Education, a multi-university research project, reported recently, adding that "Black students were more likely to experience school closure than any other racial subgroup. Black students represent nearly 14 percent of the student body in schools that were closed."

Demography is destiny and California's school conundrum of declining enrollment, high absenteeism and unstable attendance will become more intense. It warrants urgent attention by the state's political figures, from the governor downward.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.



SPORT

FROM PAGE 2

Vikings vs Oaks Christian
Vikings win 11-10
Vikings Record: 3-4
Next Game: Wednesday vs Peninsula, 3 p.m.

SANTA MONICA GIRLS LACROSSE:
Tuesday, March 5:
Lady Vikings vs Peninsula
Peninsula win 16-5
Saturday, March 9:
Lady Vikings vs Valencia
Lady Vikings win 8-7
Lady Vikings vs San Marcos
San Marcos win 10-4
Lady Vikings Record: 2-5-1
Next Game: Friday vs Marlborough, 3:15 p.m.

SANTA MONICA BOYS VOLLEYBALL:
Monday, March 4:
Vikings at Culver City
Vikings win 3-0
Wednesday, March 6:
Vikings vs Peninsula
Peninsula win 3-0
Friday, March 8:
Vikings vs Redondo Union
Redondo Union win 3-0
Vikings Record: 7-5 (1-2 Bay League)
Next Game: Tuesday at Mira Costa, 4:30 p.m.

Santa Monica Boys and Girls Track and Field:
Friday, March 8 & Saturday, March 9:
Redondo Nike Track Festival at Redondo Union
Mens 100 Meters Varsity Finals:
51- Jaylen Smith (Junior), 11.32 seconds. 96- Joshua Lesley (Junior), 11.69 seconds. 98- Talib Debose (Senior), 11.70 seconds
Mens 100 Meters Freshman/Sophomore Finals:
4- Logan Hanvey (Sophomore), 11.46 seconds. 42- Arman Chibber (Sophomore), 11.98 seconds. 71- Brooklyn Todd (Sophomore), 12.26 seconds
Mens 400 Meters Varsity Finals:
5- Spencer Hotch (Senior), 49.30 seconds
Mens 400 Meters Freshman/Sophomore Finals:
32- Mario Ducille (Freshman), 56.88 seconds
Mens 800 Meters Varsity Finals:
32- Landon Kozmor (Junior), 2:02.92. 46- Nico Lombard (Senior), 2:04.88. 53- David Ervin (Senior), 2:05.95
Mens 800 Meters Freshman/Sophomore Finals:
7- Leo Lucente (Sophomore), 2:05.73. 10- Kingsley Lin (Freshman), 2:06.77
Mens 1,600 Meters Freshman/Sophomore Finals:
15- Leo Lucente (Sophomore), 4:39.19. 16- Kingsley Lin (Freshman), 4:39.97. 30- James Faries (Sophomore), 4:44.00
Mens Shot Put Varsity Finals:
19- Alberto Villasenor (Senior), 40-08.25
Mens Discus Varsity Finals:
24- Alberto Villasenor (Senior), 101-01.50
Mens High Jump Freshman/Sophomore Finals:
12- George Frank (Junior), 5-04.00
Womens 100 Meters Varsity Finals:
68- Della Turner (Junior), 13.51 seconds. 72- Rickell Lewis (Senior), 13.60 seconds. 90- Sara Gonzalez (Junior), 14.24 seconds
Womens 100 Meters Freshman/Sophomore Finals:
12- Tessa Levine (Sophomore), 13.04 seconds. 47- Nyla Ryf (Sophomore), 13.91 seconds
Womens 400 Meters Freshman/Sophomore Finals:
6- Shenandoah Markos (Sophomore), 1:03.78
Womens 800 Meters Varsity Finals:
21- Matilde Martinez (Senior), 2:26.22. 24- Cleo Topp (Junior), 2:27.32. 45- Maeko Gross (Junior), 2:33.57
Womens 1,600 Meters Varsity Finals:
2- Phoebe Benun (Junior), 5:04.98. 46- Hawene Alomayehu (Senior), 5:36.79
Womens 1,600 Meters Freshman/Sophomore Finals:
5- Selin Kocataskin (Freshman), 5:31.05. 13- Charlie Llorente (Freshman), 5:39.10. 26- Crystal Gaitan (Sophomore), 5:46.18
Womens 100 Meter Hurdles Varsity Finals:
13- Zinnia Weybright (Senior), 16.51 seconds
Womens 300 Meter Hurdles Freshman/Sophomore Finals:
8- Makena Weybright (Sophomore), 53.07 seconds
Womens Long Jump Varsity Finals:
16- Zinnia Weybright (Senior), 15-08.50
Next Meet: Tuesday, Home, Santa Monica/Coastal League Meet, 3 p.m.
Saint Monica Scores:
Saint Monica Baseball:
Tuesday, March 5:
Mariners vs St. Anthony
St. Anthony win 4-3 (8 innings)
Friday, March 8:
Mariners at St. Anthony
Mariners win 6-4
Mariners Record: 3-4 (1-2 Camino Real League)
Next Game: Tuesday at St. Genevieve, 7 p.m.
Saint Monica Softball:
Thursday, March 7:
Lady Mariners vs Bishop Montgomery
Tie 9-9 (Lightning/Rain Delay)
Batting/Baserunning:
Bella Lopez: 1-3, RBI. Savanna Hernandez: 3-4, 2 R, 2 SB. Bella Urbina: 4-4, R, 2 RBI. Bella Hernandez: 0-3, R, 2 RBI, BB. Ali Vogler: 2-4, HR, 2 R, 2 RBI, K. Katrina Olmedo: 1-4, R. Dylan Smith: 0-2, R, 2 BB. Annie Lu Rios: 0-2, RBI, BB. Megan Garcia: 1-4, R, FC
Pitching:
Bella Urbina: 1 IP, 1 H, 0.00 ERA. Katrina Olmedo: 5 IP, 9 H, 9 R, 6 ER, 3 BB, 8.40 ERA
Lady Mariners Record: 2-4-1
Next Game: Tuesday at Cantwell-Sacred Heart of Mary, 3:15 p.m.
Saint Monica Boys Volleyball:
Tuesday, March 5:
Mariners vs St. Pius X-St. Matthias Academy
Mariners win 3-0
Austin Keough (Freshman): 5 Kills, 1 Assist. Juliam Dowd (Sophomore): 1 Ace, 1 Assist. Sam Zimmermann (Junior): 1 Kill, 24 Assists. Cooper North (Senior): 4 Kills, 1 Ace. Charlie Meehan (Senior): 2 Aces. Garrett Robertson (Sophomore): 13 Kills, 6 Aces, 2 Assists. Ivie O'Brien (Sophomore): 6 Kills. Christian Gonzalez (Junior): 2 Kills
Thursday, March 7:
Mariners vs Math & Science College Preparatory
Mariners win 3-1
Austin Keough (Freshman): 5 Kills, 2 Assists. Juliam Dowd (Sophomore): 1 Ace. Sam Zimmermann (Junior): 1 Ace, 35 Assists. Garrett Robertson (Sophomore): 23 Kills, 2 Aces. Ivie O'Brien (Sophomore): 11 Kills. Christian Gonzalez (Junior): 2 Kills
Mariners Record: 5-10 (1-0 Camino Real League)
Next Game: Tuesday at Bosco Tech, 5 p.m.

YACHT CLUB

FROM PAGE 1

everything.

"If I was a betting man, I think this thing will be finished in about three and a half year's time. There's still a long way to go, working with the county and coastal commission, plus long-term lease extension discussions," he says. But Myers is optimistic, saying that great efforts are being made during this time to rescue and restore as much of the old building as possible before demolition begins, plus the addition of new features. "That old building didn't even have an elevator, so that's going to change," he laughs.

The massive, makeshift marquee will feature a similarly-sized dining area and bar and will be used for functions and private events in much the same way as the old venue was. In addition, Myers plans to have smaller, satellite-style events as well, "On busy weekends, I'm hoping to have barbecues and taco stands and other attractions both here [in front of the clubhouse] and in the parking lot."

The weekend's festivities attracted a very large crowd, many of whom enjoyed the event from the comfort of their own luxury watercraft. Standing on the impressively manicured grass lawn, the burnt shell of the clubhouse is both a spectacular and sad sight, but it's clear that the Southern California sailing community remains determined and dedicated to rebuilding, bigger and better.

scott.snowden@smdp.com







Kevin Roznowski

THREE SHEETS TO THE WIND: After the tragic fire that destroyed the clubhouse, the California Yacht Club remains determined and dedicated to rebuilding, bigger and better.

ASSAULT

FROM PAGE 1

her friends, including the young victim, were heading home from a restaurant on Main Street. They had just stopped to get ice cream when the attack happened. "The hit was violent enough that it knocked her [the 6-year-old] to the ground," Tulluck shared, noting that the child was clutching her face.

Tullock said that following the assault, she immediately called 911 and pursued the suspect for as long as possible. She described the individual as being between 25 to 35 years old, dressed in a gray hoodie and black pants.

According to the Santa Monica Police Department, the serious nature of this incident, classified as child abuse and assault, has led to its assignment to detectives specializing in juvenile crimes.

Anyone with information is encouraged to contact the Santa Monica Police Department at 310-458-8427.

Published in partnership with the Westside Current.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 24SMCP00073 VECP00032 Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles Petition of David Harrison Cleaner for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney: David Harrison Cleaner a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: David Harrison Cleaner to David Harrison Kleiner The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 04/05/2024 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K Room: - The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA - COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES Santa Monica Courthouse 1725 Main St Santa Monica, CA 90401 A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press.

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

City of Santa Monica

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

SUBJECT: To Inform Development of the FY 2024-25 Action Plan for use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Home Investment Partnership Act (HOME) funds

Notice is hereby given that the City of Santa Monica will hold a public hearing to receive community input to inform the development of the 2024-25 Annual Action Plan, which is due to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) at least 45 days prior to the beginning of the new program year. The Annual Action Plan delineates the City's specific projects and activities for one-year use of CDBG and HOME funds to address the City's housing and community development high-priority needs as specified in the Council-adopted 2020-24 Consolidated Plan, which can be viewed at: https://www.santamonica.gov/community-development-block-grant-and-home-investment-partnership-programs

DATE/TIME: THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2024 AT 6:00 PM
Check agenda at www.smgov.net/rpc prior to meeting to confirm start time

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

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

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

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

ESPAÑOL Esto es un aviso de audiencia pública para invitar a cualquier parte interesada a participar en la preparación del Plan de Acción Anual del Año Fiscal 2024-25. Si necesita más información, por favor llame a Ivy Chang en la División de Servicios Humanos al número (310) 458-8701.

HOMELESS

FROM PAGE 5

it unclear exactly what, if anything, will come of his threat.

When asked about Ho's next steps, Sonia Martinez Satchell, a spokesperson for the District Attorney's Office, indicated prosecution is still on the table.

"To date, the City has failed to move the unhoused off this toxic waste site," she said in an emailed statement. "We will not waiver from our commitment to protect public safety for all. As outlined in our letter, all available actions and recourse remain available."

But camp residents and the advocates working with them say they've heard nothing but silence from the District Attorney's Office since the November letter. That means the fate of those living at Camp Resolution is still up in the air.

Tim Swanson, spokesman for the City Manager's Office, said the city can't comment on any aspect of Camp Resolution because of the pending threat of prosecution.

Sharon and Joyce aren't concerned — they claim the camp isn't on the portion of the site that's contaminated. Ho's letter is just an excuse to try to kick them off the property, they said.

SANCTIONED HOMELESS ENCAMPMENTS IN CALIFORNIA

Faced with a massive shortage of affordable homes, desperate city officials across California are considering opening places where unhoused people can legally set up tents. The move could give them more power to clear encampments from around parks, schools, downtown zones and other high-profile areas. That's because unless cities have somewhere for displaced unhoused residents to go, the 2018 appellate case Martin v. Boise limits the extent to which they can clear encampments. That could change soon, as the Supreme Court has agreed to take up the case and will hear arguments next month. But for now, cities' hands remain largely tied if they lack enough shelter beds.

San Diego recently passed an ordinance banning encampments in much of the city. As the city ramped up enforcement, it opened two sanctioned camp sites that together can hold more than 500 tents.

After the city rejected the idea three years ago, San Jose Mayor Matt Mahan recently said he's considering opening similar sites.

Safe sleeping sites take many different forms — and have a range of price tags. In August, after the city stalled in its attempts to open safe sleeping sites, Sacramento City Manager Howard Chan single-handedly tried to identify locations for the projects. He initially said Camp Resolution could be a model for future sites — because it cost the city so little to run, it would allow the city to open more sites than if they used more expensive models.

Instead, the city in January launched its next safe sleeping site, on Roseville Road, with more services, more oversight and a greater cost — $3.2 million per year. The site has 60 rudimentary tiny homes and 40 trailers, and is governed by a nonprofit contracted through the city.

But, due to an anticipated budget shortfall for the coming fiscal year, the city has no plans to launch additional safe sleeping sites, Swanson said. At a committee meeting last month, city staff predicted that by next year, the city's budget for homeless services would be short $11 million. By the 2025-26 fiscal year, they expected to be short nearly $39 million.

LIFE AT CAMP RESOLUTION

There are about 800 people on the waitlist to get into Camp Resolution, according to Sharon and Joyce. Only six people from the camp have moved out and into permanent housing, they said. Just on the other side of the gate that separates Camp Resolution from the rest of the world, a group of people live in a cluster of cars parked haphazardly on the side of the road. Across the street, someone has erected a makeshift shack. RVs that serve as stand-in homes line the road.

Inside the gate, Sharon and Joyce tend to have the ultimate say in what goes, though there's also a council that meets on Thursday evenings to discuss camp issues. Things don't always go smoothly.

Last year a neighbor's dogs attacked Sharon and sent her to the hospital with multiple bite injuries. That led to new rules at the camp about pets. But Sharon and Joyce say it's hard to actually enforce the rules they impose.

"We need more structure," Sharon said.

As they showed off the different parts of their community, Sharon and Joyce expressed disapproval of a trash pile in the middle of the camp.

"That can go in the trash can," Joyce said. It didn't take long. A few minutes later, residents could be seen picking up the garbage and carrying it to a nearby dumpster.

CalMatters Capitol reporter Jeanne Kuang contributed to this story.

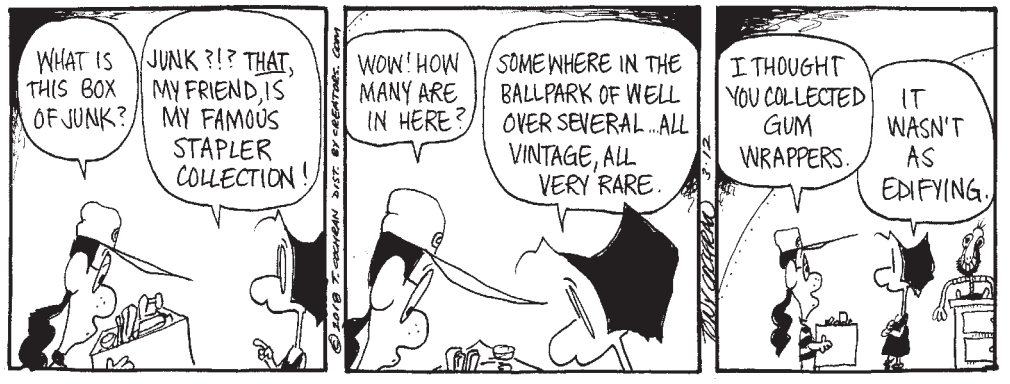
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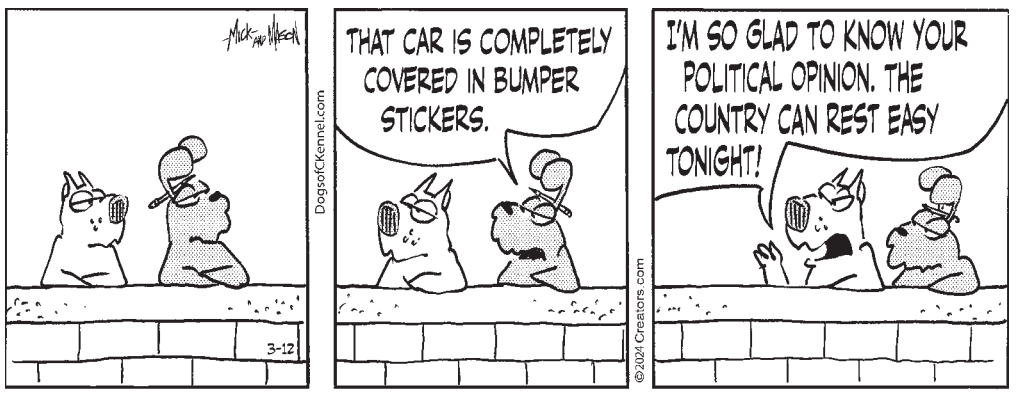
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



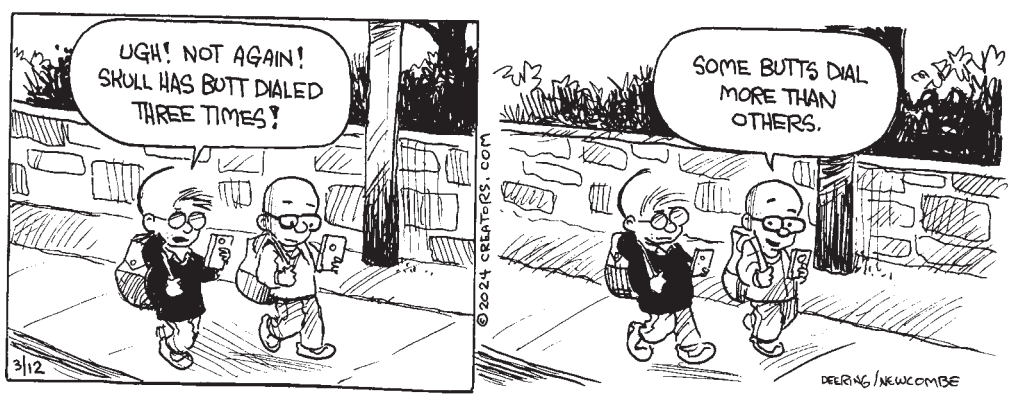
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"HEATHCLIFF! NO HYPNOSIS."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



FIND THE WORDS

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

© australianwordgames.com.au 6147

Shall we dance?

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

Adapt	Fast	Music	Steamy
Asked	Flashy	Piano	Stomp
Band	Flow	Plan	Style
Barre	Frug	Reel	Tiring
Beguine	Glide	Relax	Tripudiation
Caper	Harmony	Rondo	Trot
Carioca	Heat	Rumba	Tunes
Chasse	Hula	Salsa	Turn
Crowd	Jive	Shimmy	Veleta
Disco	Jota	Skilful	Watch
Easy	Juba	Slip	
Energy	Lead	Social	
Fancy	Legs	Sophisticated	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
It's milking time

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smdp Santa Monica Daily Press

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 12)

You soar to levels of mastery others will gather to learn from. Your perspective will enlighten as well as begin conversations that contribute to forwarding technology, art or sport. More highlights: You'll be celebrated as a wonderful friend/partner/family member. A loving influence will help you navigate through challenges with grace and clarity. Libra and Leo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 1, 10, 4 and 26.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Because you're not drawn to doing what other competitors are doing, you have an advantage in the game. Lead with your strengths, and keep taking the risks that will help you discover new ones.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). There's a new pattern emerging in your personal life. Now's the time to look at it and figure out if it's something you want to repeat. One small, healthy change could make a big difference.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Don't worry about impressing anyone, including yourself. Your best is enough. It's more than enough. And anyway, it's all you can do. It will be a beautiful feeling to free yourself from judgment and assessment.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Stay aware of how you're affected by people's energy. Some will have an intoxicating, overwhelming effect. Pace yourself and protect yourself from being overly influenced. Keep your wits about you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your curiosity takes more effort to hold back than it does to follow. You'll be scanning the environment for possible sources of inspiration. Fresh sensory input will be fuel for your fire.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Try things out. You can always discard what doesn't work. Finding your own style is a process and probably also a constant evolution as you change through the seasons of life.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You don't have to bother with the outrageous promises, miracle cures and the like. It's a relief to know that the secret to getting what you want is the same as it has always been: effective, consistent, tenacious action.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Whatever your age, all the ages you have ever been are still inside of you. Because of this, you'll draw from your experience to summon some patience and compassion for those who are younger, though your elders will mystify you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Because you're in a state of perpetual curiosity, you'll keep learning how things work. The discovery process is immersive, and you'll lose time there while doing good work. You'll accomplish much.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The small things you have in common with someone will be significant. These shared preferences and experiences are representative of something more profound.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). A world that doesn't know you will try to sell you the same things it sells to everyone. This is why it's so important you know yourself. It prevents you from wasting resources on things that are not going to work for you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You've had it hard, and now it's time you had it easy. Relax and appreciate the many ways you experience ease now, however small they may seem. Imagine how wonderful it would be if "easy" was your default. It really could be.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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

Newsday Crossword

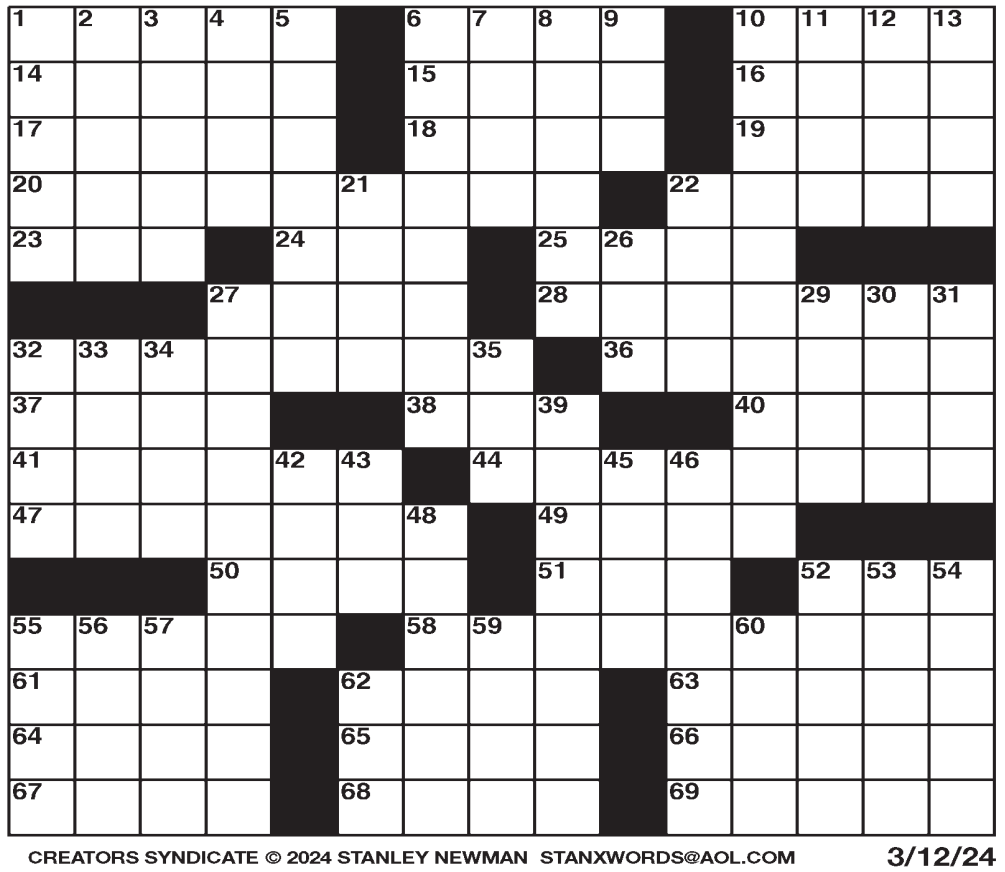
AUTHENTICITIES by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Barely enough
6 Revolve
10 Scored 100% on
14 Outdoor grilling locale
15 Fork prong
16 Secret message
17 Unwraps
18 Take a break
19 Worker's end-of-week shout
20 Authentic tale
22 Not brushed off recently
23 Sample of a drink
24 Lubricate
25 College sports org.
27 Tug on
28 What dogs wear around their necks
32 Scares suddenly
36 Mickey Mouse's company
37 Estimation phrase
38 Same old routine
40 "Don't rub __!"
41 Departs
44 *Time* or *People*
47 Authorities in their field
49 __ Star State (Texas)
50 California wine valley
51 Conclusion
52 Install, as a carpet
55 Master cooks
58 "Authentic" Lincoln nickname
61 Volcanic flow
62 Pub game projectile
63 Desert locale with water
64 Actor Baldwin
65 Cleveland's lake
66 Zinc __ ointment
67 Took one's turn
68 Magician's stick
69 Rivals of Reeboks

DOWN

1 Dalmatian markings
2 Italian resort island
3 Devoured
4 Highest sudoku digit
5 Throw away
6 Vehicle pushed by a tot's parent
7 Ship's docking site
8 Working harmoniously
9 Take-home pay
10 Authentic in dimensions, as a photo
11 Gear teeth
12 Revise for publication
13 Oppose boldly
21 Cash drawer
22 Artist Salvador
26 Boston seafood
27 Authentic bit of information
29 Prefix meaning "opposed to"
30 Horse rider's strap
31 "Auld Lang __"
32 "Filet" fish
33 Scary dinosaur, for short
34 At once, in a memo
35 Total amount
39 Having a natural gift
42 Periods of history
43 Gas additive brand
45 __ *With the Wind*
46 Et cetera
48 African desert
52 Vision improvement acronym
53 __ by (obey)
54 Affirmative answers
55 Eagle's toenail
56 __ and hardy (healthy)
57 Tied, as a score
59 "Are you out __?"
60 Cab
62 Morning moisture on grass



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

APPRENTICE

FROM PAGE 4

County's Apprenticeships Reaching Career Horizons, the first of its kind in the state.

Three of the six young people who started at its beginning in 2020 have since completed the three-year program. To date there have been 25 students in the program, said Pam Knapp, director of college and career readiness at the San Joaquin County Office of Education. Students can train as teaching aids, assistant farm managers or hospitality marketing professionals.

When Catalina Govea, a Linden High senior, applied to the program, she thought she was applying for a summer job. It turned out to be a lot more, she said.

"Once I got the position, I immediately fell in love because I knew I wanted to be a teacher," Govea said.

Govea works in Linden Elementary classrooms and in afterschool programs as a teacher's aide, assisting teachers with administrative work and students with assignments and learning about classroom management.

She also takes online college courses on childhood and adolescent development, child discipline and other education topics that will transfer when she starts at Sonoma State University in the fall.

The program, Govea said, has helped her mature and handle stressful classroom environments, experience she might not have otherwise gained until years later.

The experience was "perfect to know what my future would look like," she said.

Knapp said the apprenticeship program works well because the county Office of Education functions as an intermediary between employers, school districts, and the state Division of Apprenticeship Standards.

But the program has faced challenges convincing enough employers to hire teenagers, she added.

There are higher workers compensation rates for workers under 18, so private companies may be hesitant to hire them, Knapp said. And unions representing school workers are hesitant to hire teenagers if those jobs could instead go to union employees, she added.

"That's been the heavy lift," Knapp said. "If we want to expand this, then legislatively there needs to be some sort of an incentive, some sort of a tax credit, anything for employers to invest in the youth."

In the Bay Area, the Construction Trades Workforce Initiative is running its pre-apprenticeship programs as a pipeline for high school students interested in such fields as construction and plumbing.

Beli Achary, the initiative's executive director, said the program has done a lot of outreach work to educate school counselors and employers about the importance of opening up apprenticeships to youth. The initiative also visits high schools in the Bay Area to inform students about the careers they can explore through apprenticeship programs.

The initiative oversees, funds and authorizes several pre-apprenticeship programs with school districts and juvenile detention centers across the Bay Area. They are in the process of developing programs for at least five more school districts and Laney Community College in Oakland.

"The attitude has shifted and is a lot more positive," Achary said. "Workforce development is becoming more and more of a buzzword, which is a good thing."

ENSURING EQUITABLE OUTCOMES

Traditional apprenticeships, mostly in the building and fire trades, have skewed white and male.

Across the country, 63% of youth apprenticeships have gone to people who identify as white and 35% to those identifying as nonwhite, according to the Jobs For the Future report, which analyzed data for 2010 through 2020.

Women and girls make up 7% of all youth apprentices nationally.

After an apprenticeship, the average starting wage for youth apprentices was $31 an hour, the study said: white youth earned $29.55, Latino youth earned $32 and Black youth earned $23, it said.

While young men's pay averaged $13.08 an hour, males who had apprenticeships earned $31 an hour, a 137% boost. For young women, those with apprenticeships earned 42% more than the average, the study said.

The report says occupational segregation is key to starting wage disparities, highlighting the need to recruit to diversify various occupations.

For example, the top occupation for women apprentices was pharmacy technician, which nationally paid $12 an hour. The top occupation for male apprentices was electrician, which paid $26 an hour, according to the report.

"Providing more information and awareness, I think, will be a key part of working through some of those inequities," said Myriam Sullivan, a researcher on the report. That includes educating employers on how to keep diversity in mind when hiring and informing young people about wages in various career paths.

Sullivan said some of the lack of diversity in apprenticeships may have to do with how they're funded. Because grants typically incentivize high enrollment, that leaves little room for program leaders to think strategically about hiring diversely, she said.

California's apprenticeship grant language targets groups that serve youth who are typically shut out of these opportunities, said Burnes, of the state apprenticeship standards division. The state program also tries to ensure organizations can support youth through the completion of their programs.

"What we heard resoundingly was just how important supportive services are to opportunity youth who are trying to get into apprenticeships," Burnes said. They "face unique life challenges and barriers that might make their success in a program a step harder."

Eric Morrison-Smith, executive director of the Alliance for Boys and Men of Color, a national youth advocacy network which co-sponsored California's youth apprenticeship legislation, said the priority must be ensuring young workers have more options than they've had in the past and building worker power.

"I think the pendulum is shifting a bit," he said. "Historically the pendulum has leaned heavily on the side of 'college is the only way to get a good job.' We believe we need a solid ecosystem of economic opportunity that allows for people to make decisions that will give them more self determination over their lives."

Morrison-Smith said supporters of the Youth Apprenticeship program are lobbying Senate and Assembly leaders to ensure it remains a priority in budget negotiations.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.



TUESDAY | MARCH 12

INTRODUCTION TO PERSONAL GENETICS

In this workshop, the Personal Genetics Education Project (pgEd) will go over the recent advances in genetics, including reproductive technology, genetic testing, genome engineering, ancestry, and more. For ADA accommodations, call (213) 228-7430 at least 72 hours prior to the event. 12 - 1 p.m. Palisades Branch Library, 861 Alma Real Drive, Pacific Palisades

SPOTLIGHT ON COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

Drop in and learn how non-profits around Santa Monica make our community better and how you can make a difference. Santa Monica Public Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 1 - 3 p.m.

COMMON GROUND FILM SCREENING & PANEL DISCUSSION

Common Ground is the highly anticipated sequel to the juggernaut success documentary, Kiss the Ground. By fusing journalistic expose' with deeply personal stories from those on the front lines of the food movement, Common Ground unveils a dark web of money, power, and politics behind our broken food system. The film reveals how unjust practices forged our current farm system in which farmers of all colors are literally dying to feed us. The film profiles a hopeful and uplifting movement of white, black, and indigenous farmers who are using alternative "regenerative" models of agriculture that could balance the climate, save our health, and stabilize America's economy – before it's too late. Aero Theater, 1328 Montana Ave. 7 - 10 p.m. https://www.sustainableworks.org/commonground/

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

Virginia Avenue Park in Partnership with Providence St. John's Community Health Program to resume Social Service Assistance. Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

TUESDAY TALES: A TRAVELING STORYTIME

This engaging & fun weekly series of stories, songs and rhymes travels to different library locations. Limited space; free tickets available at 10:15 a.m. For ages 2. Montana Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave. 10:30 - 11 a.m.

WEDNESDAY | MARCH 13

DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET

The largest grower-only Certified Farmers Market in Southern California and a favorite for local chefs! Enjoy one of Santa Monica's farmers markets, widely considered to be among the best on the west coast and featuring field-fresh produce, hundreds of kinds of vegetables, brilliant cut flowers, breads, cheeses, delicious foods, live music and more. Runs from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. between 4th St. and Ocean Ave.

AUTHOR TALK

Join Santa Monica College for a chat with master storyteller and international bestselling author Christopher Paolini about his return to the World of Eragon with "Murtagh," the continuation of the epic fantasy. Begins at 1 p.m. at the Santa Monica College Library, 1900 Pico Blvd. To register and submit questions for Paolini, visit https://libraryc.org/smclibrary/41236/ register.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS NEWCOMERS MEETING

Overeaters Anonymous is a Fellowship of individuals who, through shared experience, strength, and hope, are recovering from compulsive overeating. We welcome everyone who wants to stop eating compulsively. There are no dues or fees for members; we are self-supporting through our own contributions, neither soliciting nor accepting outside donations. Begins at 5:45 p.m. at Colorado Center Community Room, 2500 Broadway.

COMMUNITY COLLECTIVE NIGHT OUT

The inaugural event for the Community Collective Night Out series begins at 6 p.m. at Viceroy Santa Monica, 1819 Ocean Ave. Connect and converse with local movers, shakers and leaders. For more information, email rsvp@viceroysantamonica.com.

THURSDAY | MARCH 14

SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

The Library Board meets the second Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Main Library, Administrative Conference Room, 601 Santa Monica Public Library. The public is welcome to attend. Current and past agendas and minutes are available on smpl.org.

RENT CONTROL BOARD MEETING

The Rent Control Board meets to conduct business associated with the Rent Control Charter Amendment and Regulations. Begins at 7 p.m. at Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main St.

LIVE STAND-UP COMEDY

Long Time No See brings comedians from Netflix, SNL, Comedy Central and more to the Westside Comedy Theater, 1323-A 3rd St., beginning at 8:30 p.m. Seating for the event is first come, first serve. General admission tickets $25, can be purchased at: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/live-stand-up-comedy-tickets-811879723107.

FRIDAY | MARCH 15

CELEBRATING DAVID BOWIE W/ADRIAN BELEW & SPECIAL GUESTS @ APOGEE STUDIO

6 - 11 p.m. Apogee Electronics Corporation, 1715 Berkeley Street. an unforgettable live in studio recording of CELEBRATING DAVID BOWIE with multiple Grammy winning Let's Dance engineer/mixer BOB CLEARMOUNTAIN. This once in a lifetime in-person event will take place at Bob's APOGEE STUDIO in Santa Monica. Get ready to immerse yourself in the mesmerizing music of DAVID BOWIE up close & personal as performed by CELEBRATING DAVID BOWIE featuring legendary guitarist ADRIAN BELEW (David Bowie, King Crimson, NIN, Talking Heads, Zappa), JESSE HUGHES (Eagles Of Death Metal), LADY BLACKBIRD, TY TAYLOR (Vintage Trouble), ART ALEXAKIS (Everclear), LISA LOEB, SCROTE, ALEX GREENWALD (Phantom Planet), SCROTE, DAVID POE, & more with an all star 10-piece touring & recording band including others who have worked with David Bowie, Iggy Pop, Seal, Miles Davis, The The, and more. Special guests announcing soon. $100-$400. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/celebrating-david-bowie-wadrian-belew-special-guests-apogee-studio-tickets-808451689767

MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR LOCAL KIDS

Your sponsorship of Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Monica's Annual Gala helps us provide enriching, empowering, and fun programming to thousands of kids each year!

May 17, 2024 | Fairmont Miramar

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