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Museum free for all.

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Santa Monica Daily Press

Volume 23 Issue 89 | THURSDAY 3/21/24 | smdp.com

Samohi turns to Harlem in exciting entertainment event







Photos by Thomas Leffler

APOLLO: Cheering, clapping and good-natured catcalling were the ingredients of a banner night at Barnum Hall, as the Samohi venue ventured to Harlem for the Samohi Black Student Union's Apollo Night on March 15. The talent show took its name from the Apollo Theater in Harlem, which opened its doors to the first amateur night in 1934, creating countless careers in entertainment. Samohi students similarly aimed to impress, as performances include both song and dance in a multitude of genres. The night also included a raffle benefiting the Black Student Union and a guest performance by Los Angeles-based rapper Kalan FrFr.

March brings high school marchers a crucial travel upgrade

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

An upgrade decades in the making has added safety and sustainability to Samohi's brightest musical talents.

On March 14, the high school's Discovery parking lot was packed with students from Samohi's Marching Band, as they played fanfare to welcome the band's new trailer onto campus for the first time. The brand-new trailer, built by Oklahoma-based company Clubhouse Trailers, will serve as home base during band competitions and keep intact the more than $300,000 worth of equipment involved in each trek.



Photo by Thomas Leffler

TRAILER: The new trailer for the Samohi Marching Band will serve as the band's home on the road during competitions.

"When we go to a competition, we've got $100,000 worth of uniforms, we've got marimbas, xylophones, drum sets, drum equipment, tubas ... (a) lot of expensive gear on there," said Samohi Jazz Bands Director and Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator Tom

SEE **TRAILER** PAGE 8

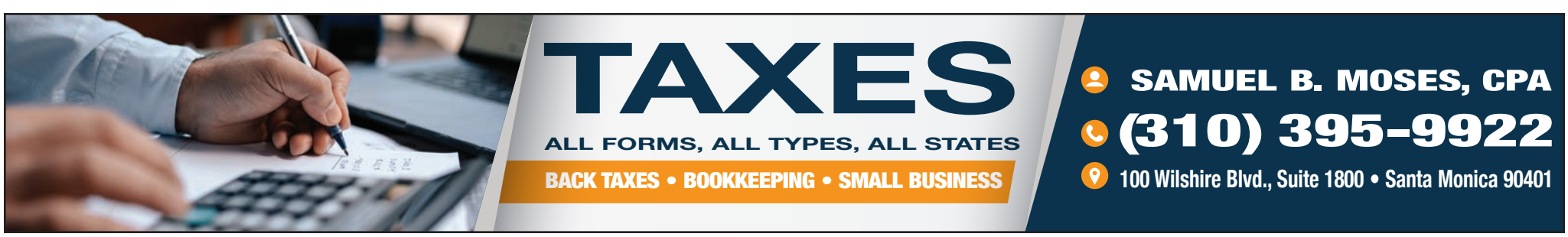
Voters pass Prop 1 to require counties to spend on programs to tackle homelessness

TRÂN NGUYỄN
Associated Press

California voters have passed a measure that will impose strict requirements on counties to spend on housing and drug treatment programs to tackle the state's homelessness crisis.

Proposition 1 marks the first

SEE **HOMELESS** PAGE 11



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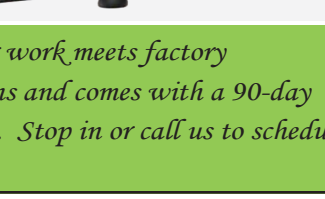
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District reaches the 'stars' with annual music tradition







Photos Courtesy SMMUSD

CONCERT: Students of all grade levels and expertises joined together in the Samohi Greek Theatre on March 16 for the 73rd annual "Stairway of the Stars" concert, highlighting Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District's exemplary musical talents. Nearly 900 students in elementary, middle and high school representing every district campus performed, showcasing the district's choir, band, jazz band and orchestra. District teachers stepped in to be guest conductors, with high school conductors conducting middle school students, and middle school conductors leading elementary students, in order for students to become acquainted with future teachers. Also at the event, the 2024 Stairway Honor Award was presented to district alum Julianna Di Giacomo. A graduate of Samohi in 1992, Di Giacomo became a standout operatic soprano, performing worldwide alongside the likes of the Los Angeles and New York Philharmonic units.

Stage, Screen and SMC



Courtesy photo

MERCHANT IVORY: Stephen Soucy (left) and James Ivory (right).

When students at Santa Monica College log onto the business communication classes taught by Stephen Soucy, they're learning from an expert whose career spans publishing, filmmaking and theatrical producing. After earning his master's in screenwriting at USC, he began working at what is now the academic publisher Pearson. That led him to SMC, as some of Pearson's authors worked at the college and the Business department chair asked Soucy to teach a business communications course.

He has taught that course, Business 32, for 20 years and counting, mentoring students in the skills needed to get their messages across for success in the fast-paced world of commerce. Topics covered include writing effective résumés and reports, crafting business plans for investors, and more.

"The way Professor Soucy teaches really prepares students for the corporate world," student Rob Ross says. "This class is one of a kind."

MODERNIST TAKE ON MERCHANT IVORY

Soucy also draws from his own experiences for his classes. "Every so often I'll throw out an example from business in the film or theatrical world," he adds that students are enthusiastic about these stories.

His extensive background includes heading the company Modernist Film, through which he produced, directed and co-wrote the documentary Merchant Ivory. The film chronicles the longtime partnership of producer Ismail Merchant and director James Ivory, whose award-winning movies — including Howard's End and The Remains of the Day — turned great literature into compelling cinema.

Creating the documentary was a daunting process of conducting nearly 60 interviews and clearing the rights to film clips, archival footage, and music (the film features interviews with Emma Thompson, Hugh Grant, Helena Bonham Carter, Vanessa Redgrave and other notable talents who worked on Merchant Ivory films). For Soucy, the project was a labor of love.

While growing up in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., Soucy recalls "watching films over and over and over again in the early days of HBO." Two movies with an especially profound effect on Soucy as he came of age were Merchant Ivory's A Room with a View and Maurice. Their works helped inspire his own career. Years later, having become friends with novelist Peter Cameron, whose novel The City of Your Final Destination became the famed duo's last film, Soucy got to know James Ivory himself.

Merchant Ivory premiered to applause at DOC NYC, the nation's largest documentary festival, and was screened at the 2024 Palm Springs International Film Festival. It has also earned critical acclaim from publications including The Hollywood Reporter.

Soucy made a worldwide distribution deal for the film with Cohen Media Group. He had cultivated a relationship with the company while making the documentary, since it owns the rights to many Merchant Ivory films. Soucy's upcoming endeavors include raising financing to direct his feature-length screenplay "Orientation," a coming-of-age story set during the AIDS crisis.

FROM MOVIE TO MUSICAL WITH ROMY AND

SEE **FILM STORY** PAGE 11



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **60.4**

THURSDAY
FAIR

SURF: 2-3ft+
Thigh to stomach

Tough through the AM high tide, gets a little better (more rideable) as it drops. Mainly small, long period SW/SSW swell on tap. Morning winds looking light.

FRIDAY
FAIR

SURF: 2-3ft+
Thigh to stomach

Another deep high tide to slog through in the morning. WNW swell could get a little refresh, blending with lingering SW/SSW swell. On the smaller side but some cruisy lines for the points and peaks for combo spots out west.

Weather

Thursday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, cloudy through mid morning, then gradual clearing, with a high near 64.
Thursday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, increasing clouds, with a low around 52. West wind 5 to 10 mph.
Friday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, partly sunny, with a high near 64. East wind 5 to 10 mph.
Friday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 53.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)High/Low
2024/03/21	Thu	02:08 AM	1.76	L
2024/03/21	Thu	07:59 AM	4.99	H
2024/03/21	Thu	2:49 PM	-0.41	L
2024/03/21	Thu	9:12 PM	4.16	H
2024/03/22	Fri	02:38 AM	1.37	L
2024/03/22	Fri	08:34 AM	5.04	H
2024/03/22	Fri	3:12 PM	-0.28	L
2024/03/22	Fri	9:28 PM	4.34	H
2024/03/23	Sat	03:07 AM	1.02	L
2024/03/23	Sat	09:05 AM	4.99	H
2024/03/23	Sat	3:32 PM	-0.10	L
2024/03/23	Sat	9:44 PM	4.54	H
2024/03/24	Sun	03:36 AM	0.72	L
2024/03/24	Sun	09:35 AM	4.82	H
2024/03/24	Sun	3:50 PM	0.15	L
2024/03/24	Sun	10:01 PM	4.74	H
2024/03/25	Mon	04:06 AM	0.47	L
2024/03/25	Mon	10:06 AM	4.56	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: 3/18
10 17 20 39 44
Power#: 16
Jackpot: 687 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 3/19
24 46 49 62 66
Mega#: 7
Jackpot: 977 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 3/16
9 12 29 32 38
Mega#: 26
Jackpot: 19 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 3/19
1 9 10 26 31

Daily 3
Draw Date: 3/19
EVENING: 1 9 2
Draw Date: 3/19
MIDDAY: 7 9 2

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 3/19
1st: 02 - Lucky Star
2nd: 04 - Big Ben
3rd: 06 - Whirl Win
Race Time: 1:43.38

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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Classifieds

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or email **cindy@smdp.com**

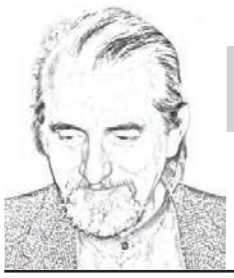
CLASSIFICATIONS					
Announcements	Pets	Apartments/Condos	Real Estate Loans	Attorney Services	Wealth and Success
Creative	Boats	Rent	Storage Space	Business	Lost and Found
Employment	Jewelry	Houses for Rent	Vehicles for Sale	Opportunities	Personals
For Sale	Wanted	Roommates	Massage	Yard Sales	Psychic
Furniture	Travel	Commercial Lease	Services	Health and Beauty	Obituaries
	Vacation Rentals	Real Estate	Computer Services	Fitness	Tutoring

Summons

Summons (Family Law) FL-110(Derecho familiar) CASE NUMBER(Número del Caso):24STFL01364NOTICE TO RESPONDENT (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): NOEL RUIZ YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF (LO HAN DEMANDANDO LEA LA INFORMACIÓN A CONTINUACIÓN Y EN LA PÁGINA SIGUIENTE) PETITIONER'S NAME IS (NOMBRE DEL DEMANDANTE): MICHELLE RIVER You have 30 calendar days after this Summons andPetition are served on you to file a Response (form FL-120) at the court and have a copy served on thepetitioner. A letter, phone call, or court appearancewill not protect you.If you do not file your Response on time, the courtmay make orders affecting your marriage or domesticpartnership, your property, and custody of yourchildren. You may be ordered to pay support andattorney fees and costsFor legal advice, contact a lawyer immediately. Gethelp finding a lawyer at the California Courts OnlineSelf-Help Center (www.lawhelpca.org), at theCalifornia Legal Services website (www lawheloca.orol,or by contacting your local county bar association.NOTICE–RESTRAINING ORDERS ARE ON PAGE 2:These restraining orders are effective against bothspouses or domestic partners until the petition isdismissed, a judgment is entered, or the court makesfurther orders They are enforceable anywhere inCalifornia by any law enforcement officer who hasreceived or seen a copy of them.FEE WAIVER: If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask theclerk for a fee waiver form. The court may order you to pay back all or part of the fees and costs that the court waived for you or the other party.Tiene 30 días de calendario después de haber recibido la entrega legal de esta Citación y Petición para presenter una Respuesta (formula no FL-120 ante la corte y efectuarentrega legal de una copia al demandante. Una carta o llamada telefónica o una audiencia de la corte no basta para protegerlo. Si no presenta su Respuesta a tiempo, la corte puede dar Órdenes que afecten su matrimonio o persia de hecho, susbienes y la custodia de sus hijos. Le corte también le puedeordenar que pague manutención, y honorarios y costos legales. Para asesoramiento legal, póngase en contacto de inmediato con un abogado. Puede obtener información para encontrar unabogado en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California((www.lawhelpca.org), en el sitio web de los Servicios Legales de California (www lawheloca orat o poniéndose en contacto con el colegio de abogados de su condado.AVISO–LAS ÓRDENES DE RESTRICCIÓN SEENCUENTRAN EN LA PÁGINA 2. Las órdenes de restricción están en vigencia en cuanto a ambos cónyuges o miembros de la persia de hecho hasta que se despida la petición, se emita unfallo o la corte de otras órdenes. Cualquier agencia del orden público que haya recibido o visto Una copia de estas órdenespuede hacerlas seater en cualquier lugar de California. ??EXENCIÓN DE CUOTAS Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario un formulario de exención de cuotas. La corte puede ordenar que usted pague, ya sea en parte o por completo, las cuotas y costos de la corte previamente exentos a petición de usted o de la otra parte.The name and address of the court are (El nombre y direcci6n de la corte son)iLOS ANGELES SUPERIOR COURT – STANLEY MOSK COURTHOUSE111 N HILL STREETLOS ANGELES, CA 90012The name, address, and telephone number of the petitioner's attorney, or the petitioner without anattorney, are: (El nombre, direcci6n y número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o deldemandante si no tiene abogado, son)iMICHELLE RIVERA, 1144 5TH ST., APT. 110, SANTA MONICA, CA 90403, PHONE:310-628-9085Date (Fecha) 2/08/2024 Clerk By (Secretario Por) David W. SlaytonDeputy (Asistente) /s/L.Murillo

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OPINION **NOTEWORTHY**

Charles Andrews | Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Jack Neworth — SMDP O.G.



Courtesy photo

JACK NEWORTH: The long time columnist is certainly noteworthy.

OG

For those of you over 40 and/or not raised in Compton or Long Beach, that stands for Original Gangsta. Jack has been writing his LAUGHING MATTERS column for the Daily Press since its beginning in 2001.

He has given us all decades of laughs and smiles, sarcasm and snark, insights and history of Santa Monica, a city he loves dearly. So much would have gone unnoticed if Jack had not written about it.

Now Jack is having some health issues, and it seems like a good time to give back, by sending him an avalanche of cards and notes (he can't get emails right now) telling him how much you appreciate him. So get 5 or 10 envelopes and drop a short note inside, or 5 or 10 postcards, or go to the store and get 5 or 10 cheery cards. Send them NOW to –

JACK NEWORTH, room 5266
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NO VISITORS, PLEASE!

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

ESA-PEKKA SALONEN, SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY, SIBELIUS, ADAMS – I so love Finnish composer Jean Sibelius, and this violin concerto is one of his gems, and it is also a favorite of much-lauded virtuoso Lisa Batiashvili, that I might be so completely delighted that I'd be tempted to leave at intermission. Of course that would be a big mistake. We have been so blessed in LA to have a decades-long parade of some of the greatest conductors and music directors wave the baton in front of our LA Philharmonic, and Esa-Pekka is in that storied list of alumni. The San Francisco Symphony is certainly world class, and doesn't make the short trip south all that often. But most compelling is the John Adams composition "Naïve and Sentimental Music," originally dedicated to and premiered by Salonen, a work that combines the scale and scope of a Bruckner symphony with Adams' free-flowing and expressive minimalist language. This will be a superb double header. Fri 8 p.m., Walt Disney Concert Hall, LA, $65-190.

SOUTHSIDE SLIM – SOUTHSIDE SLIM – Oh boy, oh boy, Southside is sliding back into town, coming north to us only so often and it is always an event not to be missed. His career history is intertwined with my other favorite local bluesman, Ray Bailey, who years ago mentored young Hank (Side) and directed him towards the rockier side of the blues. Good move Ray, because today Southside is no gentle blues crooner and picker – he rocks it hard on both guitar and vocals. On tour he has brought festival crowds to their feet cheering. When he ran into hard times he prevailed upon his father to let him live in his South LA trucking company yard and he woodshedded at least six hours a day perfecting his understanding and playing of the blues by listening carefully to the masters. Then he would trot off at night to the original Babe's & Ricky's on Central Avenue, and the Safari Club and various backyard juke joints in the neighborhood. He knew he was in the right place at the right time and that education has resulted in the hard-rockin' bluesman you can cheer for yourself, right here in Santa Monica. Sat 9:30 p.m., Harvelle's. Santa Monica, $10.

LOS STRAIGHTJACKETS – Sometimes, in life, you come up with a brilliant idea that can take you through to the end. Nashville, 1988, and a really good rock and roll band is languishing in the very competitive live music landscape there. As I recall the story, one of them had a girlfriend with family in Mexico and when he decided to go with her to visit, the whole band came along, made an outing to see the famous masked Lucha Libre wrestlers, bought some masks, decided to switch to all instrumental music (no risk there), and the rest is a history of 16 albums, world tours, and film and TV appearances. Did any of them at the time say, you know, if anyone leaves the band we can replace them with someone just as good and no one will know the difference? Like any good gimmick you have to have the goods or you won't last long. The first time I saw them, twenty-

SEE **NOTEWORTHY** PAGE 11

AROUND TOWN

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Museums Free-For-All

SMDP's Weekly Guide to Food & Entertainment Goings-On In & Around Town includes Museums Free-For-All, Pier Locals Night, and much more!

Pier Locals Night: The March edition of Local's Night includes classic car show, youth activities, DJs, and live band performances. Thursday, March 21, 3:30 - 9 p.m. FREE!

Silent Disco @ The Waterfront Venice: On the final Friday of each month, a new beachside bash takes place both in and around the restaurant and bar. Friday, March 22, 4 - 8 p.m. @ 206 Ocean Front Walk, Venice. https://smdp.com/2024/02/22/big-noise-made-from-waterfront-silence/

Museums Free-For-All: Got a list of L.A. museums you haven't visited yet? Then Saturday is your day as museums all over town are throwing open their doors for free admission with over 30 museums participating, including the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures, LACMA, Japanese American National Museum, GRAMMY Museum, the La Brea Tar Pits, the Skirball and more. Saturday, March 23. https://socalmuseums.org/annual-free-for-all-2024/

FREE Papel Picado Workshop @ 18th Street Arts Center: Papel picado is a form of traditional Mexican art that dates back to ancient times. This traditional art consists of cutouts that are often strung together with twine to create colorful banners used to decorate for celebrations and festivals. At the end of this workshop, participants will have their very own papel picado garland to take home! All ages. Workshop guidance available for English and Spanish speakers. Saturday, March 23, 1 - 4p.m. @ 3026 Airport Ave. https://18thstreet.org/event/papel-picado-workshop-with-carmela-morales/

Ester Steinberg Comedy Special Live Taping: The special is called "Schmear Campaign", featuring her take on being a mom to two toddlers, body positivity, and her father's failed political campaigns. Saturday, March 23, 7p.m. & 9p.m. @ The Crow, 2525 Michigan Ave. www.tinyurl.com/estershow

Downtown Santa Monica Celebrates Easter: Third Street Promenade Celebrate the Easter season at Third Street Promenade with fun, games, and FREE photos with the Easter Bunny. Sunday, March 24, 12 - 4p.m.

Free Screening of West Coast Hip Hop Documentary: Santa Monica College (SMC) is set to host a complimentary screening of "N.ot W.ithout A.lonzo" (2024), a documentary chronicling the history of West Coast Hip Hop and audience Q&A session with Alonzo 'Grandmaster Lonzo' Williams, Marq 'Cli-N-Tel' Hawkins, and Kim Renard 'Arabian Prince' Nazel. Wednesday, March 27, 11 a.m. @ SMC Malibu Campus, 23555 Civic Center Way.

WHAT TO EAT & DRINK?

LouLou Launches Disco Queen Weekly Disco Party: The disco and drag party is every Thursday night and "pays homage to the (in)famous Disco Queen nights in Paris filled with disco balls, smooth grooves, and over-the-top talent." Thursdays @ 395 Santa Monica Place #300.

Main St.'s Pasjoli Featured on NBC: These chef-approved kitchen tips will completely transform your home cooking California Live's Jessica Vilchis visits Pasjoli in Santa Monica to meet award-winning chef Dave Beran, who trained Jeremy Allen White for his leading role in 'The Bear.' Chef Beran shares his kitchen genius with Jess, who admits her entire outlook on cooking at home has now changed. https://www.nbclosangeles.com/california-live/these-chef-approved-kitchen-tips-will-completely-transform-your-home-cooking/3340671/

The Best Places To Eat In Venice: "From Abbot Kinney to the Boardwalk, these are the best spots to eat around Venice Beach" according to this Infatuation article: https://www.theinfatuation.com/los-angeles/guides/best-venice-restaurants

Further Afield: LA Fashion Week - Los Angeles Fashion Week unfolds its glamour and innovation against the backdrop of the historic Union Station, an iconic venue that adds a touch of grandeur to this prominent event. March 22-24.

Looking Ahead Around Town: The Other Art Fair (4/4-7), CicLAvia West LA (4/21)

If there's something you think is worth highlighting, you can reach out directly to me at sean@smdp.com and let me know if you have any feedback on Around Town: Museums Free-For-All.





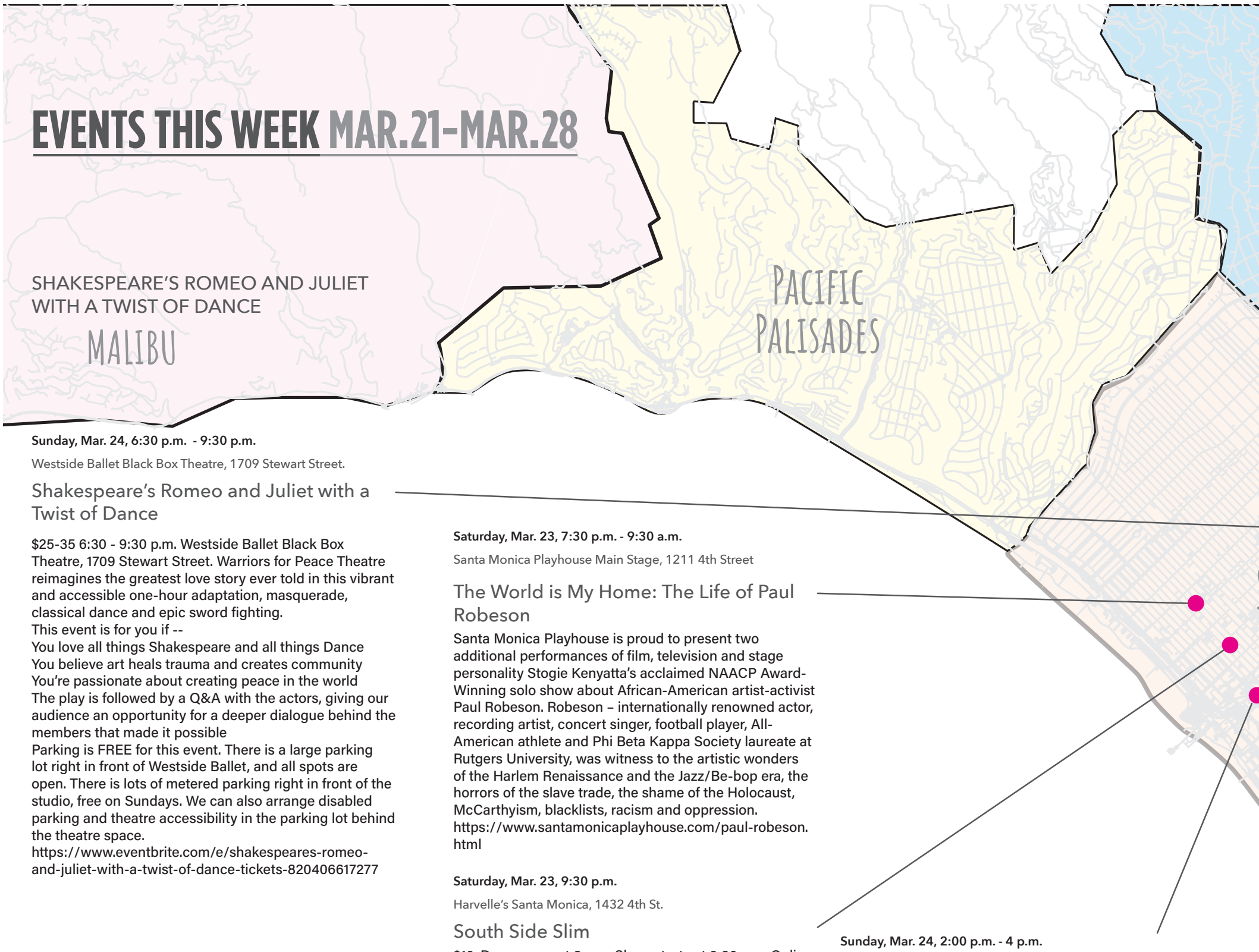
Courtesy photos

EASTER: The Easter Bunny will be visiting Downtown Santa Monica.





EVENTS THIS WEEK MAR.21-MAR.28



Sunday, Mar. 24, 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Westside Ballet Black Box Theatre, 1709 Stewart Street.

Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet with a Twist of Dance

$25-35 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. Westside Ballet Black Box Theatre, 1709 Stewart Street. Warriors for Peace Theatre reimagines the greatest love story ever told in this vibrant and accessible one-hour adaptation, masquerade, classical dance and epic sword fighting.
This event is for you if --
You love all things Shakespeare and all things Dance
You believe art heals trauma and creates community
You're passionate about creating peace in the world
The play is followed by a Q&A with the actors, giving our audience an opportunity for a deeper dialogue behind the members that made it possible
Parking is FREE for this event. There is a large parking lot right in front of Westside Ballet, and all spots are open. There is lots of metered parking right in front of the studio, free on Sundays. We can also arrange disabled parking and theatre accessibility in the parking lot behind the theatre space.
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/shakespeares-romeo-and-juliet-with-a-twist-of-dance-tickets-820406617277

Saturday, Mar. 23, 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Santa Monica Playhouse Main Stage, 1211 4th Street

The World is My Home: The Life of Paul Robeson

Santa Monica Playhouse is proud to present two additional performances of film, television and stage personality Stogie Kenyatta's acclaimed NAACP Award-Winning solo show about African-American artist-activist Paul Robeson. Robeson – internationally renowned actor, recording artist, concert singer, football player, All-American athlete and Phi Beta Kappa Society laureate at Rutgers University, was witness to the artistic wonders of the Harlem Renaissance and the Jazz/Be-bop era, the horrors of the slave trade, the shame of the Holocaust, McCarthyism, blacklists, racism and oppression.
https://www.santamonicaplayhouse.com/paul-robeson.html

Saturday, Mar. 23, 9:30 p.m.

Harvelle's Santa Monica, 1432 4th St.

South Side Slim

$10. Doors open at 8 p.m. Show starts at 9:30 p.m. Online ticket sales end at 7 p.m., tics available at the door after 8 p.m. 2 drink minimum. Henry Harris (AKA SOUTH SIDE SLIM) grew up in Oakland in the 70's and early 80's listening to a wide range of innumerable musicians, including Hendrix, Muddy Waters, Van Halen, and the Isley Brothers. He spent his mid-20's hanging out in Hollywood. During his Hollywood years he fortuitously met up with the great LA blues guitarist Ray Bailey. Bailey turned him on to blues played with a rock-infused feel. By 1998 Little Hank had transformed himself into South Side Slim, guitarist and singer/song writer. He wrote, arranged and recorded his first CD, 5 Steps, with Southside Records, a company he and blues guitarist-math professor, Jerry Rosen, had formed. He won many fans when he brought the crowds to their feet at both the Pocono and North Atlantic Blues Festivals during a recent national tour. Slim is a recent recipient of Los Angeles Weekly's Music Award for Best Contemporary Blues/R&B Artist.
https://santamonica.harvelles.com/shows/251873

Sunday, Mar. 24, 2:00 p.m. - 4 p.m.

120 Colorado Ave, Santa Monica, CA 90401

Animal Therapy + Yappy Hour at The Pierside Hotel

Calling all dog lovers! Stop by The Pierside Hotel's expansive outdoor patio on Sunday, March 24th for an exciting wellness collaboration with Bubbles Dog Rescue and Club Rewire. From 2 to 4 p.m., de-stress and enjoy the company of Bubbles' rescue pups in a serene beachside setting. Tickets are available for $25 per person and guests will be asked to purchase a 2-item minimum at the event. Don't forget to bring your furry friends along as well: signature restaurant The Surfing Fox will feature a "Yappy Hour" with $1 off of the restaurant's canine menu items including a "Barkuterie Board" with fresh fruits and veggies, Protein Bowls with lean meats, veggies and white rice, dog cookies and a "Pawsicle" with yogurt and fresh berries.

Check out more events at: smdp.com/events



Friday, Mar. 22, 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Javista Coffee WeHo, 7494 Santa Monica Boulevard West Hollywood

West Hollywood Mushroom Workshop: At The Atrium

Welcome to the West Hollywood Mushroom Workshop! Join them for an evening of growing your choice of gourmet mushrooms and sipping on adaptogenic mushroom tea provided by Culture Shrooms. All materials for the workshop included! $55 https://www.eventbrite.com/e/west-hollywood-mushroom-workshop-at-the-atrium-tickets-850118726997

Friday, Mar. 22 - 24, 12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

The Grove in Los Angeles, 189 The Grove Dr. Los Angeles

Bunny Bungalows at The Grove

If your favorite part of spring is meeting the Easter Bunny - you're not alone! Hop over to The Park at The Grove through Sunday, March 31, to capture the season's memories. Set against a lovely spring backdrop adorned with bright florals, painted Easter eggs and pastel ornamentation, families and friends can choose from three festive photo packages to take home. Sunday-Thursday: 12PM-6PM Friday & Saturday: 10AM-6PM Reservations are open and advance bookings are highly encouraged; walk-ins are subject to availability.



THURSDAY | MARCH 21

LOCALS' NIGHT

Locals' Night on the Santa Monica Pier continues its monthly series of curated entertainment for locals, by locals. Activities begin at 3:30 p.m. with a Books & Cookies storytime in the Merry Go-Round Building. Other activities include Disco Renegade's Silent Disco from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., a Classic Car Show, and performances by Olivia Prado, Manny B. & DJ Survive and Blu & Exile.

BYSTANDER INTERVENTION TRAINING

Explore what it means to be an active and empowered bystander in this 60-minute introduction to bystander intervention by LMU Cares. Learn tools to help keep your community safe and disrupt hateful behavior when you encounter it. Begins at 6 p.m. in the Santa Monica Main Library Multipurpose Room, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.

DISCO QUEEN

LouLou Rooftop Restaurant and Lounge, 395 Santa Monica Place #300, hosts the hottest new disco and drag party on the Westside beginning at 6 p.m. Disco Queen pays homage to Disco Queen nights in Paris filled with disco balls, smooth grooves and over-the-top talent. The top drag queens on the planet will host the hottest night out with resident DJ ARA playing classic disco hits. The launch event will feature a special performance by RuPaul's Drag Race fan favorite Morgan McMichaels. For more information, visit loulousantamonica.com.

BOOK LAUNCH PARTY

Zibby's Bookshop, 1113 Montana Ave., will host an in-person book launch party for Zibby Owens as she celebrates the launch of her debut novel "Blank," beginning at 6 p.m. Libby will be joined in conversation by Alexandra Potter, author of "Confessions Of A Forty-Something F**K Up." A copy of "Blank" is included in the price of each ticket. Tickets $20. To purchase, visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/book-launch-party-zibby-owens-with-alexandra-potter-tickets-782188064557.

EINSTEIN!

The Santa Monica Playhouse, 1211 4th St., will host "Einstein! - Celebrating 100 Years of General Relativity," starring writer and performer Jack Fry who shares insight into Albert Einstein's early life. Begins at 7:30 p.m., please arrive 15 minutes early. Tickets $50, VIP tickets with early entrance and pick of seats $75. To purchase, visit: https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/6236607

FRIDAY | MARCH 22

STARBIRD GRAND OPENING

In honor of Starbird's entrance into Marina del Rey, the premium fast food concept will be offering free meals to the first 500 guests during its grand opening beginning at 10:30 a.m. Starbird will also include a Starbird Golden Ticket in two orders which will be valid for free Starbird for a year. This includes 52 meals, valued at a maximum of $15, redeemable digitally once per week. Starbird is located at 13161 Mindanao Way, Marina del Rey. For more, contact amazzola@fish-consulting.com.

MUCH ADO ABOUT DYING PREMIERE

The Los Angeles premiere of Simon Chambers' IDFA award-winning documentary "Much Ado About Dying" will take place at Laemmle's Monica Film Center, 1332 2nd St., at 1:30 p.m. In the film, Chambers both cares for and documents his eccentric uncle David, showcasing his uncle's performative exuberance, anarchic charisma and physical and mental challenges. Film score by the award-winning composer Irene Buckley. Tickets $13, second showing at 7:30 p.m. For more, visit: https://www.laemmle.com/film/much-ado-about-dying#get-tickets.

THE IRL SHOW

The Crow at 2525 Michigan Ave will host The IRL Show beginning at 7 p.m. Anyone 13 and up can enjoy a night of pro-level comedy with comics from HBO, Comedy Central and NBC. Featuring Jordan Conley, Sam Salem, Reem Edan, Olivia Hill, Kristin Chirico, Chris Martin and Sean Grant. An open mic at 7 p.m. gives teenagers space to try stand-up. Tickets $10 with student ID, $20 without. To purchase tickets, visit: https://jetbook.co/e/irlhqtu.

SATURDAY | MARCH 23

POPPY DAY

Come join Waldorf Early Childhood Center, 1439 15th St., between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. for springtime fun and joyful play. Poppy Day is an event for families with children ages 0-6 that brings people together to celebrate the earth and the renewal of the spring season. From outdoor play to seed planting to crafting to puppet shows to shopping, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Adult tickets $10, children aged 1-6 tickets $12, infants 0-1 free admission. To purchase tickets, visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/poppy-day-tickets-836869859277.

COMMUNITY DOG TRAINING CLASSES

Love At First Sit, a pet care and dog behavior and training company in Santa Monica, hosts Community Dog Training Classes Saturdays at 12 p.m. at Virginia Ave Park in Santa Monica. Class fee is $5, then pay what you can after that. Class proceeds are donated to various charities for people and animals, animal shelters, and animal rescues. Class topics explore basic obedience, manners, enrichment and more.

SHERWOOD: THE ADVENTURES OF ROBIN HOOD

Packed with thrills, romance, laughter and immortal characters like Little John, Friar Tuck and Maid Marian, Ken Ludwig's "Sherwood: The Adventures of Robin Hood" tells the enduring story of a hero of the people who take on the ruthless powers that be. The show will take place at the Santa Monica College Main Campus Main Stage, 1900 Pico Blvd, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Tickets $20 general admission, $18 senior (62+), $15 SMC students, faculty and staff. Buy tickets at smc.edu/tickets or by calling 310-434-3005.

TRAILER

FROM PAGE 1

Whaley.

Whaley began the process of procuring a new trailer in 2022, after the band's nearly 40-year-old unit underwent damages in the midst of a competition trip. The band's trailer was first bought in 1997 when the apparatus was already a decade old, and had been kept alive via "handy parents" for decades. Whaley worked with district officials such as the Financial Oversight Committee, Purchasing Department and Board of Education to eventually take on the trailer at just over $200,000.

He trusted Clubhouse because the company began as a group of similarly handy marching band parents whose mission it was to help high school bands manage their equipment.

"They're good people … we were able to work it out and get it done for the kids," Whaley said. "So, for me, it was a very special moment to see that truck trailer come driving into the gate."

The purchase pays dividends through solar panels on the roof providing energy, replacing gas and maintenance costs for the old trailer's generator. The trailer also comes equipped with external and interior LED lighting so that band members can walk around at night "and not trip on things," Whaley said.

"We used to have a generator because we had to keep the batteries charged and it was this smelly generator to heat up the food, (to) feed kids when they're (at) a tournament," Whaley added. "And now we have solar paneling and battery power to power everything we need for the whole day." He also commended the solar-powered unit for matching Santa Monica's goal of being a leading city in sustainability, saying the trailer is "totally green."

The functionality extends to the downstairs area for larger instruments, speakers and props; as well as an upstairs for all other instrument cases and drum equipment. For mobility, stairs fold down from the side of the trailer for members to move in and out, and a hydraulic ramp extends off the back of the trailer for larger instruments that need to be wheeled.

"It's fit so that the equipment will be safely transported and not bashing around in there and (get) damaged, and so the kids were excited," Whaley said. "Kids and the parents didn't believe it until they actually saw that it was really here at Samohi … now that it's here, the kids are super excited about the marching band season in the fall … this will serve kids for another 40 years."

Next year's marching band season will have a lot to follow up on, as the Samohi unit under the leadership of band director Kevin McKeown took home a silver medal at the 5A level during the 2023 Southern California School Band & Orchestra Association Field Championships. Whaley called the medal "a huge honor" and another achievement for a crucial part of Samohi arts.

"It brings the music program out to the community, because many people that aren't parents don't hear the music because they don't go to the concerts (unless) they're related to some kid in the band … so the marching band is out in the community at football games, at rallies, (at) the Fourth of July parade every year … it's really something to be proud of," Whaley said.

thomas@smdp.com



Thomas Leffler

SAMOHI: Samohi's Marching Band welcomed its new trailer onto campus recently with a special performance.

City of Santa Monica

Have a Vision for Santa Monica's Future?

The City of Santa Monica is awarding $500 grants to empower residents to lead community solution-building sessions focused on at least one priority identified by the community:

- Communication & Community Engagement
- Economic Development
- Housing
- Public Safety
- Cultural Celebrations and Inclusivity
- Education
- Healing Historical Harms
- Transportation
- Homelessness
- Mental and Physical Health

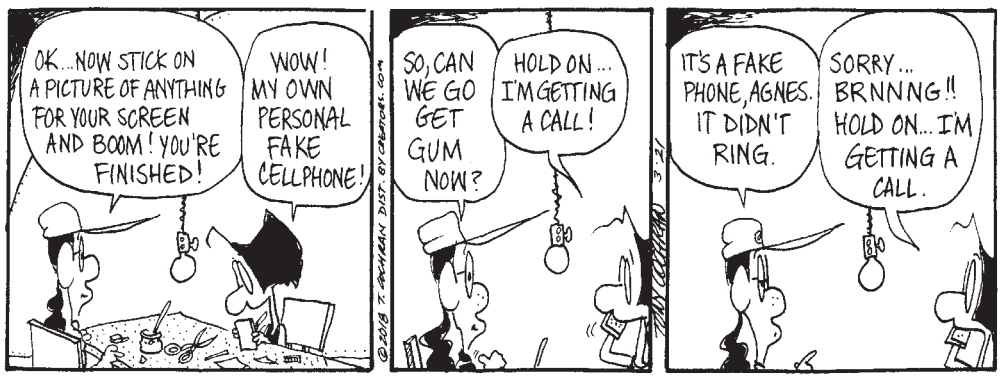
Apply by April 7, 2024 at
santamonica.gov/equity





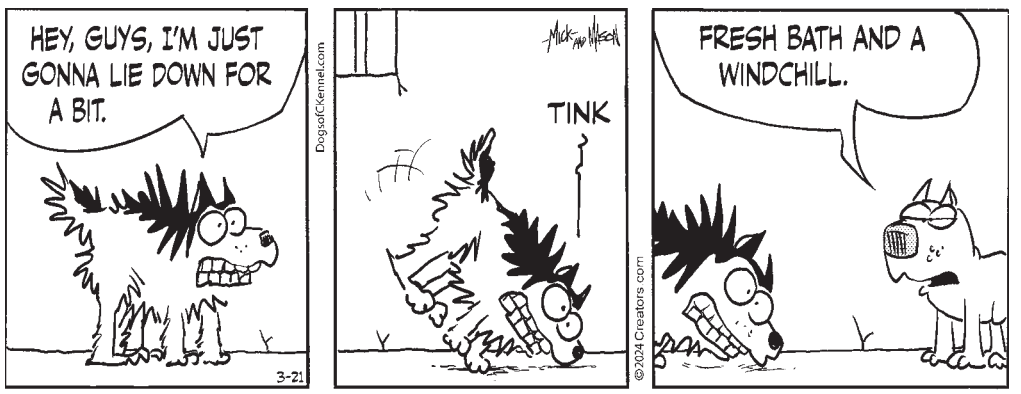
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

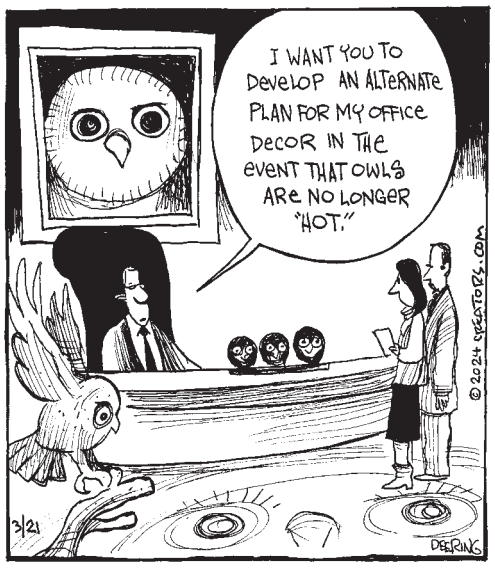
By PETER GALLAGHER



"THE ZENITH OF A STORIED CAREER."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 18 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

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Easter parade

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

Bible	Faith	Life	Song
Brunch	Family	Lovely	Sunrise
Bunny	Find	Marsh	service
Bury	Grass	Maundy	Sweets
Candles	Guide	Thursday	Tomb
Carrot	Hats	Ovation	Tulips
Catholic	Home	Prize	Turkey
Choir	Hope	Quaint	Volume
Devote	Hunt	Renew	Word
Dine	Impact	Revered	Zest
Easter	Keen	Rites	
Eggs	Lent	Solace	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Studying the rules

Covering the city by the bay since 2001.
To advertise, email cindy@smdp.com or call 310.458.7737
smdp Santa Monica Daily Press

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 21)

You'll capture just the kind of attention that most makes your heart sail. With genuine care and empathy, you'll resonate deeply with those around you and cultivate a network built on trust and mutual respect. More highlights: Stellar systems and excellent pay for churning out a success with machine-like repetition and precision. You'll share the risks and rewards with a worthy someone. Capricorn and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 10, 14, 3, 33 and 28.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). If you can make a game out of it, you will. Your playful approach to work and life will lift the atmosphere, make everyone feel happier and ultimately aid production. You'll be chosen for key roles.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Not every fiction is a lie, and true facts can sometimes paint inaccurate pictures. You value both honesty and creativity. Is there a way to do both at the same time?

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). However you are feeling, you're not the only one. Share your experience. If it's joy, you'll multiply it in the sharing, and if it's sadness, the warmth of sharing will have a diminishing effect.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). In some situations, you'd rather be appropriate than funny, and in others, humor is well worth the risk. You'll be in both kinds today, and you'll win hearts by choosing the tone that best suits your company.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll play many roles over the course of the day. You'll serve and be served; dream and do; pay and be paid. You'll order the fix and be the fixer. You'll outline the job and fulfill it, too.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). While there's comfort in predictability, too much of it creates a very uncomfortable state of boredom and irritation. You'll seek and find just the right amount of novelty — a sense of surprise but not alarm.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). All anyone can ever do is make the best of what they have to apply in the given circumstance. You'll give with abandon and decide it's good enough. You'll receive with grace and decide it's good enough.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Everyday activities will play like a celebration; your passion will be refocused and renewed. It may go in reverse order, since switching things up brings energy and energy inspires you to switch things up.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). When the apple cart of expectation overturns, it's a surprise but not a disaster. This is a chance to do some tidying up, reassess your scene and reset the accounting.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're not missing out on anything, but someone who is trying to seem interesting will arrange the pictures to give a heightened sense of reality. There's deep satisfaction and fun to be mined from a focus on your own scene.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). More than reflection, meditation, reading or any sort of spiritual agenda, it is interacting in the world that teaches you what is inside you. Experiences will reveal strengths, weaknesses and emotions you didn't know you had.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Togetherness is not always smooth, and that's a good thing. The little mistakes are a gift of bonding, and you will build trust with another person as you acknowledge and validate what goes right as well as what still needs work.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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

Newsday Crossword

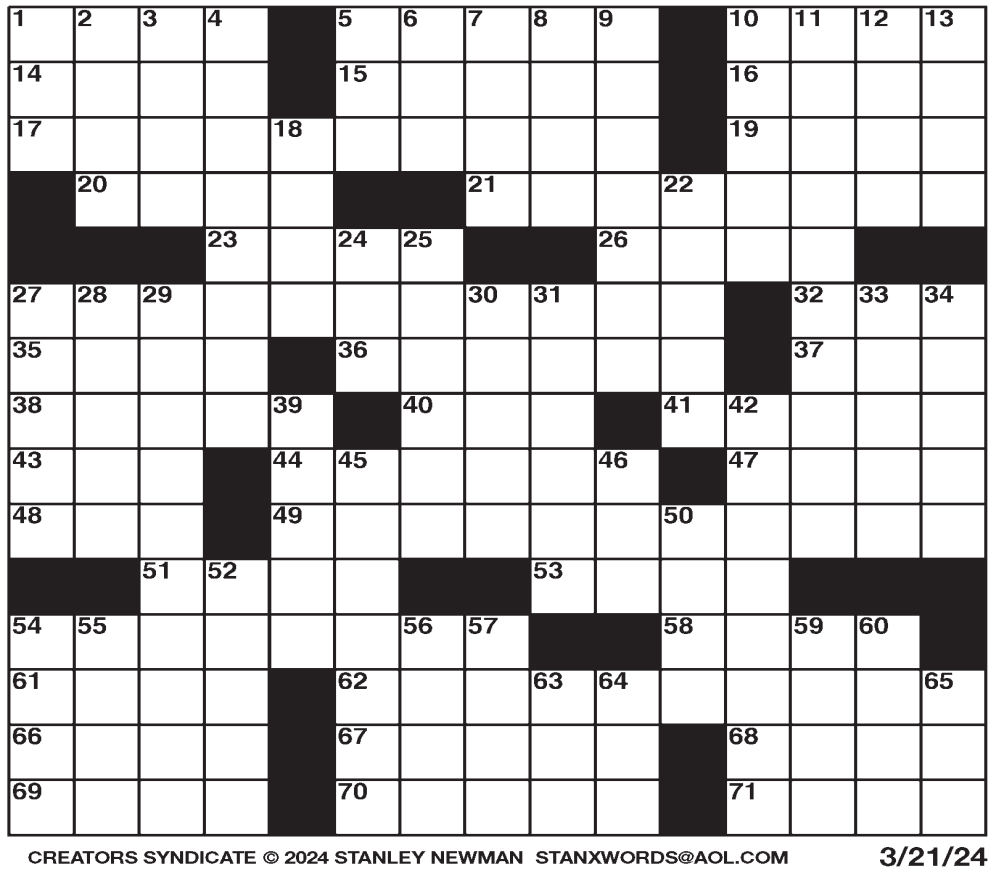
PIQUANCY by Guilherme Gilioli
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Initial "Bye"
5 Katie Scarlett __
10 River through Aragon
14 Vocal showcase
15 Stitch together
16 Quebecker's color
17 "Quit yakkin'!"
19 They carry a charge
20 Miserly
21 Steal away
23 Minor objections
26 Simulated
27 Be defeated
32 Round trip of a sort
35 Cassini of clothing
36 Still sealed
37 Ceremonial vow
38 Jargon
40 Dr. of music
41 Admit (to)
43 Shade close to bronze
44 Most people
47 Facilitate
48 "Fi" preceder
49 China's ruling house in Charlemagne's day
51 Chop __ (meat/egg entrée
53 Bad mood
54 Fizzless refreshment
58 Chew like rodents
61 Focal points
62 Retro kids' outdoor game
66 Obi-Wan before Ewan
67 Pays to play
68 '90s TV swordswoman
69 Rocket launcher
70 Uncomplicated question
71 Low card

DOWN

1 Twister-like toon
2 Car decor
3 "Omigosh"
4 Be completely unsuccessful
5 The Buckeyes
6 Dinghy designation
7 Leather piercers
8 Demolish
9 Cause to calm
10 Motorized ride
11 Ancestries
12 Lens care brand
13 Boot from power
18 Taking care of business
22 Urban addr. datum
24 Start of many PGA tourneys
25 Submit via mail
27 Runs off
28 Of the hipbone
29 Well-placed serves
30 Rapper topper
31 Tips over
33 Voter, most likely
34 Bun seed source
39 *them* author
42 Pessimist's inquiry
45 Agree
46 Modern prefix for fuel
50 At hand, in verse
52 City on the Erie Canal
54 Mexican dessert
55 Nickname for Dolores
56 Eat lavishly
57 Quits stalling
59 Taiwanese PC brand
60 Lose power
63 Ryan Gosling doll role
64 General known for poultry
65 Formal turndown



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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

NOTEWORTHY

FROM PAGE 4

some years ago, all I could think was, this is by far the best surf music band EVER. From Nashville! And of course now they are playing... everything. Sun 8 p.m., McCabe's, Santa Monica, $42.

HOT CLUB OF LOS ANGELES – You can go to the Cinema Bar any Monday, 9 - 11:30, for more than a decade now, and hear these hot players run through Django Reinhart-style '30s jazz. They should have copies of their new album "Nova" there for sale. This amazing ensemble is a treasure, just over the border from SM. Mon 9 p.m., Cinema Bar, Culver City, no cover.

RECOMMENDED:

"BOB MARLEY: ONE LOVE" – I can recommend this based on the story it tells and the trailers I've seen, and the fact that none of my hardcore reggae friends has trashed it. But none have raved, either. It does cover only a small period in his short life, when Jamaica was going through an election noted for guns and violence. Attackers broke into Marley's compound and tried to assassinate him and his family, and... well, you'll have to see for yourself. Marley was one of the most popular performers the world has ever seen, and was considered also a political and religious leader, even a prophet by many. AMC Santa Monica 7, 1310 Third Street Promenade, check theaters for showtimes, prices.

"IT'S ONLY A SHOW" – Last chance! Famous character and comedic actor Charles Nelson Reilly and Paul Linke were decades-long friends and collaborators. Linke crafted Reilly's acclaimed solo play, "Save It for the Stage," a production later immortalized on film as "The Life of Reilly!" "Show" is a tribute to Reilly, created and performed by Paul Linke. Together they took Reilly's life stories around the country, and now it lands at our airport. Linke, known for his roles in "CHiPs," "Judging Amy," and the solo show "Time Flies When You're Alive," calls this "an evening of heart, humor and the enduring spirit of a true mentor." The other recent one-man show I saw at Ruskin was simply great, and since this one has been held over several times, I think we'd all better get on over this Saturday. Only one more performance after that. Sat 5 p.m., Ruskin Group Theatre, SM airport, $20-30.

TOLEDO DIAMOND – Unique, riveting, first class act. There's nothing like it, it is high performance art and great decadent fun. Degeneracy is rarely so well disciplined. And the band is smokin'! Don't. Miss. Toledo Diamond. Sun 9:30 p.m., Harvelle's, Santa Monica, $12.

COMING ATTRACTIONS (all recommended): TOLEDO DIAMOND, Harvelle's, 3/31, 4/7, 14, 21, 28; HOT CLUB OF LOS ANGELES, Cinema Bar, 4/1, 8, 15, 22, 29; YO YO MA, KATHRYN SCOTT, Disney Hall, 4/3; SPRINGSTEEN, Kia Forum, 4/4, 7; ETHAN IVERSON TRIO with PETER ERSKINE, DAREK OLES, Sam First, 4/5; "LA TRAVIATA," LA Opera, 4/6, 14, 18, 21, 24, 27; DONALD HARRISON, Jazz Bakery, 4/7; SAINT-SAENS, ORGAN SYMPHONY, LA PHIL, Disney Hall, 4/12, 13, 14; LIBRARY GIRL, Ruskin Theatre, 4/14; MAVIS STAPLES 85TH BD, YouTube Theater, 4/18; ALBERT LEE, McCabe's, 4/19; HERBIE HANCOCK, Disney Hall, 4/20; ACADEMY OF ST. MARTIN IN THE FIELDS, The Soraya, 4/21; RHIANNON GIDDENS, Theatre at Ace Hotel, 4/25; JACKY TERRASSON TRIO, Jazz Bakery, 5/5; KRAFTWERK, Disney Hall, 5/21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30; JOHN MCEUEN, McCabe's, 5/24; CHRIS STAPLETON, Hollywood Bowl, 6/26, 27; ROLLING STONES, SoFi Stadium, 7/10, 13.

Charles Andrews has listened to a lot of music of all kinds, including more than 3,000 live shows. He has lived in Santa Monica for 38 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

FILM STORY

FROM PAGE 3

MICHELE

Soucy also produces theater, helping shepherd plays and musicals to Broadway and London's West End. "I got involved in theater by serving on the board of the Celebration Theater in Los Angeles," he recalls. His work with Celebration, one of the nation's oldest theaters devoted to LGBTQ+ plays and musicals, includes co-producing an Ovation Award-winning version of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert. Meanwhile, he invested in a Tony-winning revival of The Boys in the Band and the stage adaptation of Life of Pi.

Recently, Soucy traveled to London as co-lead producer for a musical take on the 1997 movie Romy and Michele's High School Reunion. With a book by Robin Schiff, who also wrote the film, and direction by Tony winner Kristin Hanggi, the musical is on a long odyssey to Broadway that began with a production in Seattle in 2017. London is Romy and Michele's latest step in that journey, as the show continues being refined to reach its potential. Romy and Michele was workshopped in London in January as part of MTFestUK, an annual festival dedicated to developing new musicals.

BENEFITS BACK TO THE CLASSROOM

To maximize the effectiveness of the SMC Business Communication course's online format, Soucy created video presentations to support the textbook. These videos are now used by business communication instructors across the nation.

To ensure that the course stays up to date with evolving trends, he keeps on the lookout for the latest case studies. His students play an integral part in the process as well. "I'm always asking my students to bring in real-world examples," Soucy says.

The course's popularity has also led Soucy to broaden his teaching to include a course on international business communication, preparing students for cultural differences in the global marketplace.

With a career encompassing the arts, business and education — and crossing the Atlantic Ocean — to paraphrase a lyric from the song "New York, New York", he's making it everywhere.

Article courtesy of the SMC Public Information Office

HOMELESS

FROM PAGE 1

update to the state's mental health system in 20 years and a win for Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom, who spent significant time and money campaigning on the measure's behalf. He raised more than $13 million to promote it with the support of law enforcement, first responders, hospitals and mayors of major cities. Opponents raised just $1,000.

Voters were split on the issue in early returns, and it took more than two weeks after Election Day for the result to be finalized.

Newsom celebrated after the proposition narrowly passed.

"This is the biggest change in decades in how California tackles homelessness, and a victory for doing things radically different," he said in a statement. "Now, counties and local officials must match the ambition of California voters. This historic reform will only succeed if we all kick into action immediately – state government and local leaders, together."

The measure gives the state greater control over a voter-approved tax enacted in 2004 on millionaires for mental health services that gave counties wide latitude in how to spend it. Counties will now be required to spend about two-thirds of the money on housing and programs for homeless people with serious mental illnesses or substance abuse problems.

The initiative also allows the state to borrow $6.38 billion to build 4,350 housing units, half of which will be reserved for veterans, and add 6,800 mental health and addiction treatment beds.

Opponents, including social service providers and county officials, said the change will threaten programs that are not solely focused on housing or drug treatment but keep people from becoming homeless in the first place.

With makeshift tents lining streets and disrupting businesses in communities across the state, homelessness has become one of the most frustrating issues in California and one sure to dog Newsom should he ever mount a national campaign.

Newsom touted the proposition as the final piece in his plan to reform California's mental health system. He has already pushed for laws that make it easier to force people with behavioral health issues into treatment.

William Elias, a television producer in Sacramento, said he "was on the fence" about Proposition 1 but decided to vote in favor of it because of the pervasive homelessness problem.

"That's something that's all around us right now," he said. "We got all these tents out here in front of City Hall."

Estrellita Vivirito, a Palm Springs resident, also voted 'yes' on the measure.

"It's only logical, you know, we have to do something," she said.

Katherine Wolf, a doctoral student at the University of California, Berkeley, said she voted 'no' on the measure out of concerns it would result in more people being locked up against their will.

"I was appalled of the system of laws that he has been building to kind of erode the rights of people with mental disabilities," Wolf said of Newsom.

Griffin Bovee, a Republican state worker in Sacramento, also voted against the proposition and said the state has been wasting taxpayer money.

"Sacramento really shouldn't get another dime until they actually figure out why what they're doing is not working," he said of the state's handling of the homelessness crisis. "They spent $20 billion over the past few years trying to fix that problem and it got worse."

The state accounts for nearly a third of the homeless population in the United States; roughly 181,000 Californians are in need of housing. The state, with a current inventory of 5,500 beds, needs some 8,000 more units to treat mental health and addiction issues.

Revenue from the tax on millionaires, now between $2 billion and $3 billion a year, provides about one-third of the state's total mental health budget.

Opponents, including some county officials, mental health service providers and some Republicans, said the ballot measure would cut funding from cultural centers, peer-support programs and vocational services and would pit those programs against services for homeless people.

They said the single formula also could mean rural counties such as Butte, with a homeless population of fewer than 1,300 people, would be required to divert the same percentage of funds to housing as urban counties such as San Francisco, which has a homeless population six times bigger.

Newsom's administration has already spent at least $22 billion on various programs to address the crisis, including $3.5 billion to convert rundown motels into homeless housing. California is also giving out $2 billion in grants to build more treatment facilities.



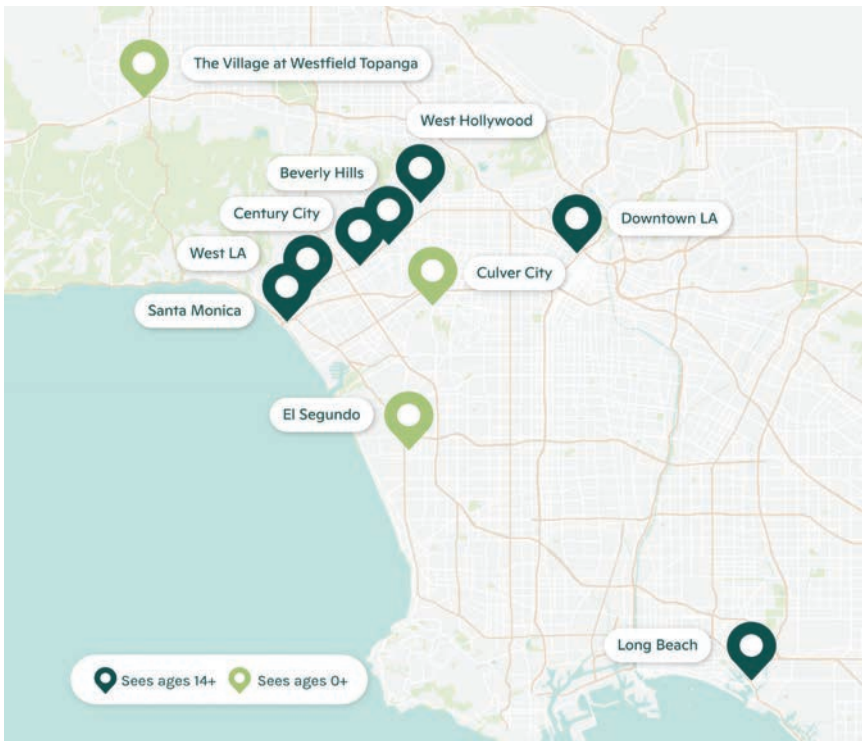
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