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WEDNESDAY
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A sneak peek inside the new Pierside Hotel



Photo courtesy Pierside Hotel

HOTEL: A rendering of the new Pierside al fresco dining area on the corner of Colorado and Ocean Ave.

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

Continuing our look at the changes being made along Ocean Avenue, the Daily Press was granted access to observe first hand the significant changes underway at the hotel formerly known as the Wyndham and now rebranded as the Pierside.

Prior to the Wyndham being at the site, located at 120 Colorado Ave — adjacent to Tongva Park and just meters from the Santa Monica Pier — it was operated as a Holiday Inn. The property itself is owned by RLJ Lodging Trust, a real estate investment trust (REIT).

According to Pierside General Manager Karina Sedigh, the plan after the site was a Wyndham was to eventually transform it to something resembling the Pierside. Replacing Wyndham as the operator of the site is the Sage Hospitality Group.

"As Santa Monica's newest hotel near one of the most iconic locations in the country, the Pierside will invigorate one of the city's most lively street corners for guests and locals alike," said Sedigh.

It might not be immediately obvious as one saunters past, but there is a significant construction project going on here and the architectural renderings give some idea of just how impressive the plans are for the Pierside. Not only will it offer 132 guestrooms and suites, but a brand new signature restaurant called the Surfing Fox on

SEE **PIERSIDE** PAGE 8

First Farmesa by Chipotle opens on Third Street Promenade

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

Global Mexican restaurant chain Chipotle has opened the first, and so far only, outlet of a new concept in healthy eating under the name of Farmesa and it's on the Third Street Promenade.

The Newport Beach-based fast food behemoth describes the idea as "a fresh, bold concept featuring delicious proteins, greens, grains

SEE **FARMESA OPENING** PAGE 7

Spring brings more wind, rain and snow to soaked California

STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

A strong late-season Pacific storm brought damaging winds and more rain and snow to saturated California on Tuesday as the first full day of spring showed little change from the state's extraordinary winter.

The storm focused most of its energy on central and southern parts of the state, bringing threats of heavy runoff and mountain snowfall that forecasters said will be measured in feet.

In the Monterey Bay region, a severe windstorm located over the ocean blasted Santa Cruz County with wind gusts up to 80 mph (129 kph) at midday. Trees and power

SEE **RAIN** PAGE 7


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Los Angeles schools shut down as staff begin 3-day strike

CHRISTOPHER WEBER
Associated Press

Tens of thousands of workers in the Los Angeles Unified School District walked off the job Tuesday over stalled contract talks, and they were joined by teachers in a three-day strike that shut down the nation's second-largest school system.

Demonstrations began at a bus yard by members of Local 99 of the Service Employees International Union, which represents about 30,000 teachers' aides, special education assistants, bus drivers, custodians, cafeteria workers and other support staff.

The workers joined picket lines in a steady rain before dawn, demanding better wages and increased staffing. Some held signs that read "We keep schools safe, Respect Us!" The district has more than 500,000 students from Los Angeles and all or part of 25 other cities and unincorporated county areas. Nearly three-quarters are Latino.

Parent Danielle Peters rallied with union members outside Hancock Park Elementary School, along with her children, Jack, 10, and Ella, 7. She said it's wrong that school workers earn as little as $15 an hour, a wage Peters remembers earning for babysitting.

"They are underappreciated, they are underpaid, and they have the most important job in the world," she said of support staff. "We care about them, and this is the least we can do."

Leaders of United Teachers Los Angeles, the union representing 35,000 educators, counselors and other staff, pledged solidarity with the strikers.

"These are the co-workers that are the lowest-paid workers in our schools and we cannot stand idly by as we consistently see them disrespected and mistreated by this district," UTLA President Cecily Myart-Cruz told a news conference.

> "People with some of the most important responsibilities in our schools should not have to live in poverty
>
> - Adam Schiff U.S. Rep.

Myart-Cruz was joined by U.S. Rep. Adam Schiff, a Democrat and U.S. Senate candidate, who said the strikers were earning "poverty wages."

"People with some of the most important responsibilities in our schools should not have to live in poverty," Schiff said.

On the picket lines, Danielle Murray, a special education assistant, told KABC-TV working conditions have been been declining every year.

"We're very understaffed," Murray said. "The custodial staff is a ghost crew, so the schools are dirty. They're doing the best they can."

She added, "Some people are saying, 'If you want more money, get a better job.' Well, some of us have bachelor's degrees, but we choose to work with a special population that some people don't want to work with. We want to make a difference to these students."

Superintendent Alberto M. Carvalho accused the union of refusing to negotiate and said that he was prepared to meet at any time day or night. He said Monday a "golden opportunity" to make progress was lost.

"I believe this strike could have been avoided. But it cannot be avoided without individuals actually speaking to one another," he said.

Local 99 said Monday evening that it was in discussions with state labor regulators over allegations that the district engaged in misconduct that has impeded the rights of workers to engage in legally protected union-related activities.

"We want to be clear that we are not in negotiations with LAUSD," the union said in a statement. "We continue to be engaged in the impasse process with the state."

Those talks would not avoid a walkout, the statement said.

During the strike, about 150 of the district's more than 1,000 schools are expected to remain open with adult supervision but no instruction, to give students somewhere to go. Dozens of libraries and parks, plus some "grab and go" spots for students to get lunches also planned to be open to kids to lessen the strain on parents now scrambling to find care.

"Schools are so much more than centers of education — they are a safety net for hundreds of thousands of Los Angeles families," Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass said in a statement Monday. "We will make sure to do all we can to provide resources needed by the families of our city."

Workers, meanwhile, said striking was the only option they had left.

Instructional aide Marlee Ostrow, who supports the strike, said she's long overdue for a raise. The 67-year-old was hired nearly two decades ago at $11.75 an hour, and today she makes about $16. That isn't enough to keep pace with inflation and rising housing prices, she said, and meanwhile her duties have expanded from two classrooms to five.

Ostrow blames the district's low wages for job vacancies that have piled up in recent

SEE **LAUSD STRIKE** PAGE 8



Yellen says bank situation stabilizing, different from 2008

FATIMA HUSSEIN
Associated Press

Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen projected calm on Tuesday after recent regional bank collapses but told a gathering of bankers that additional rescue arrangements "could be warranted" if any new failures at smaller institutions jeopardize financial stability.

Yellen, who made her remarks at the American Bankers Association, said that overall "the situation is stabilizing."

"And the U.S. banking system remains sound," Yellen said, drawing clear differences between recent events and the 2008 financial meltdown, which triggered trillions of dollars of financial losses globally.

"This is different from 2008," she said. "2008 was a solvency crisis, rather what we're seeing now is contagious bank runs."

Yellen's remarks come after a series of troubling bank developments this month.

Silicon Valley Bank, based in Santa Clara, California, failed on March 10 after depositors rushed to withdraw money amid anxiety over the bank's health. It was the second-largest bank collapse in U.S. history. Regulators convened over the following weekend and announced that New York-based Signature Bank also had failed. They said that all depositors at both banks, including those holding uninsured funds, those exceeding $250,000, would be protected by federal deposit insurance.

And last week a third bank, San Francisco-based First Republic Bank, was fortified by $30 billion in funds raised by 11 of the biggest U.S. banks in an attempt to prevent it from collapsing.

The government is now determined to restore public confidence in the banking system and to prevent any more turmoil. The Justice Department and the Securities and Exchange Commission have launched investigations into the Silicon Valley Bank collapse, and President Joe Biden has called on Congress to strengthen rules on regional banks and to impose tougher penalties on executives of failed banks.

Yellen said the government's intervention was necessary to "protect the broader banking system" and more rescue efforts could be necessary, noting that the government is still closely monitoring the banking sector.

"Similar actions could be warranted if smaller institutions suffer deposit runs that pose the risk of contagion," she said.

When Yellen was asked by the association's president, Rob Nichols, what policies need to be adjusted in light of recent events, she said, "I don't want to speculate at this point on what those adjustments might be. What I'm focused on is stabilizing our system."

Yellen faced the Senate Finance Committee last week and offered upbeat reassurances to rattled bank depositors and investors that the U.S. banking system "remains sound" and Americans "can feel confident" about the safety of their deposits.

She will appear in front of congressional panels twice more this week, in the Senate and the House, and will inevitably face more questions about the nature of the bank failures and the government's effort to quell them.

> "Similar actions could be warranted if smaller institutions suffer deposit runs that pose the risk of contagion"
>
> - Janet Yellen Treasury Secretary

"Let me be clear: The government's recent actions have demonstrated our resolute commitment to take the necessary steps to ensure that depositors' savings and the banking system remain safe," she said.

While details are still being released on the banks' failures, Democratic lawmakers and some economists say a 2018 rollback of portions of a far-reaching 2010 law intended to prevent a future financial crisis were a primary cause of the institutional failures.

Ahead of Yellen's speech, at a panel discussing the state of the banking system, Scott Anderson, president of Zions Bank, said he doesn't think the 2018 rollback is related to the bank failures.

"Congress needs to be careful," Anderson said. "They need to look at what happened. They need to have a thorough debate and a thorough discussion. But they shouldn't jump to any immediate conclusions. I don't think these failures show that there's any problem within the banking regulations that we have now."

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Lead Data Scientist, People Analytics sought by Snap Inc. (Santa Monica, CA) *Hybrid work permitted - Snap practices a "default together" approach and expects team members to work in Santa Monica office at least 80% of time (average 4vdays/wk). Provide insights thru custom analytics solutions and visualizations. M.S. or for. eq. + 3 yrs exp; OR B.S. or for.eq. + 5 yrs exp req. Base salary: $145,000-$210,000/yr. Eligible for discretionary performance-based bonus award.Eligible for equity in form of RSUs. Our Benefits: https://careers.snap.com/benefits. Email Resume:apply2snap@snap.com. Ref. Job Code #LDS-0323-SW. EOE.

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Embedded Software Engineer sought by Snap Inc. (Santa Monica, CA) *Hybrid work permitted - Snap practices a "default together" approach and expects team members to work in Santa Monica office at least 80% of time (average 4 days/wk).Dvlp low level eng. solution on RTOS, Android and Linux-based sys. Base salary: $165,000-$230,000/yr. Eligible fordiscretionary performance-based bonus award. Eligible for equity in form of RSUs. Our Benefits:https://careers.snap.com/benefits. Email Resume: apply2snap@snap.com. Ref. Job Code #ESWE-0323-YM. EOE.

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WINNER

LET US KNOW YOUR OPINION

Santa Monica Daily Press **editor@smdp.com**

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City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
HOUSING AND HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION

The City of Santa Monica announces it has committed funds in the amount of $9,703,769, which includes an existing acquisition and predevelopment loan of $467,735, to Community Corporation of Santa Monica for the construction activities associated with a future affordable housing development located at 1342 Berkeley Street targeted to young adults (aged 18-24) and low-income households.

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

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

RFP: # 355 AWS Support and Enhancement for Geographic Information system (GIS)

- **Submission Deadline is April 19, 2023 at 5:00 PM Pacific Time.**

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

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Protecting neighborhood businesses

Dear Editor:

A few days ago I received the following email from a neighbor in Sunset Park. For me, it expresses the essence of what neighborhood businesses mean to our residents and why they should be protected.

"For my birthday recently, I asked my husband to take me to the nearby Lazy Daisy Cafe for lunch, as they have an outdoor patio. Before the pandemic, we used to go there for lunch almost every weekend, but we've been living like hermits and hardly eating out for the last few years.

When we arrived, I guess he quietly asked the hostess to do something special for my birthday not realizing that they don't have a dessert menu.

We finished our lunch and paid the bill, and my husband figured she had forgotten about his request, but then four staff members suddenly came out and surrounded our table. With a flourish, one of the waiters placed a large plate on the table in front of me. It contained a pancake dusted with powdered sugar, artfully arranged thinly sliced strawberries, and a lighted candle. Then they all sang "Happy Birthday!" Best birthday cake ever!"

This is a small, personal story, but I am sure many residents share similar experiences. It goes to the heart of why many have struggled to retain the small scale zoning that now exists in our Neighborhood Commercial Districts. Almost 700 letters were received recently by the City Council, expressing residents' and small businesses' support for asking the State to approve an amendment of the City's Housing Element to retain current zoning in neighborhood business districts. Neighborhood business districts are among the city's most successful commercial areas with very low vacancy rates and lots of sidewalk dining and activity. To paraphrase Jane Jacobs, "Look at what's working and replicate it elsewhere rather than planning it out of existence."

This request to keep the current low density zoning in our neighborhood business districts is not about being a NIMBY, YIMBY or any other acronym used by people who disagree with one another. It is about protecting locally owned businesses and the livelihoods they provide their owners.And it is about protecting complete, walkable neighborhoods that further sustainability goals and give meaning to the word "community" to thousands of our residents. It is NOT about locking people out of Santa Monica through exclusionary zoning. The Housing Element lists potential housing development sites with a capacity that far exceeds the number of housing units that the City is required to produce. These sites were selected because of their transit adjacency, and because their locations further the City's stated goal to protect our neighborhoods.

Although a member of the City Planning Commission, I am submitting this letter solely as a Santa Monica resident.

Leslie Lambert, Santa Monica

COMMUNITY NEWS

California

Family Centered Treatment Listed as Truama Informed Practice Under $100,000,000 California Department Of Health Care Services Request For Application

As part of the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI), the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) released a Request for Application (RFA) on February 9, 2023, seeking proposals for the second round of grant funding totaling $100,000,000. For the second round of EBP and CDEP grant funding, DHCS seeks proposals to scale trauma-informed care available to children, youth, parents and caregivers in California.

Authorized as part of the 2021 Budget Act, CYBHI is a multi-year, multi-department package of investments that reimagines the systems that support behavioral health (BH) and wellness for all California's children, youth, and their families. Efforts focus on promoting social and emotional well-being, preventing behavioral health challenges, and providing equitable, appropriate, timely, and accessible services for emerging and existing BH needs for children and youth ages 0-25. The $4.7 billion investment of state General Funds for CYBHI will improve access to, and the quality of, BH services for all children and youth in California, regardless of payer.

In Round Two, DHCS seeks to scale trauma-informed care available to children, youth, parents and caregivers in California with a specific focus on children and youth from Black and Indigenous People of Color (BIPOC) and LGBTQIA+ communities.

See the flyer by clicking HERE. Deadline to submit: April 10,2023

SUBMITTED BY MAX GEIDE

COMMUNITY NEWS

Santa Monica History Museum

Santa Monica History Museum Announces Partnership With Quinn Research Center

The Santa Monica History Museum will embark on a new partnership with the Quinn Research Center(QRC), collaborator on the museum's celebrated exhibition Broadway to Freeway: Life and Times of Vibrant Community.

Santa Monica History Museum Board Chair Kathleen Rawson said "We're thrilled to be partnering with the QRC with creation of a new gallery in our exhibition hall, aptly named the Quinn Gallery, in honor of Santa Monica leader and educator Dr. Alfred T. Quinn."

Opening in June 2023 the Quinn Gallery will advance the museum's commitment to inclusivity as they continue their mission to share the rich, diverse history of Santa Monica.

Carolyne Edwards, QRC co-founder commented, "We are looking forward to this wonderful opportunity for ongoing collaboration with the Santa Monica History Museum."

The Quinn Research Center (QRC) is an archive of Black family history and Santa Monica Bay culture. Established by Carolyne and Bill Edwards, as tribute to the legacy of Dr. Alfred T. Quinn, a prominent Santa Monica Black educator and community leader.

Broadway to Freeway: Life and Times of Vibrant Community closes April 16.

SUBMITTED BY LISA DANNENBAUM



Courtesy SM History Museum

MUSEUM: Pictured from left: Rob Schwenker, SMHM Executive Director; Kathleen Rawson, SMHM Board Chair; Bill Edwards, QRC co-founder; Carolyne Edwards, QRC co-founder and Susan Gabriel Potter, SMHM President. With a portrait of Dr. Alfred T. Quinn at SMHM.

LA County

COVID-19 Hospitalizations, Deaths Continue to Outpace Other Respiratory Illnesses

As hospitalizations and deaths remain higher for COVID-19 than other respiratory illnesses, residents still need to take sensible protections to keep those at higher risk safe.

Since October, 69 Los Angeles County residents are known to have died from flu-related illness, a likely undercount since testing and reporting for flu are less robust than they are for COVID-19. Using U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) modeling data, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Public Health) estimates that the true number of flu-associated deaths since October is likely closer to 540.

Even using the higher flu figure, there have been more than triple the number of COVID-19 deaths during the same period, with 1,891 LA County residents dying from COVID-related illness from Oct. 1, 2022, to March 1, 2023.

In LA County from 2020-2022, COVID-19 was the second leading cause of death behind coronary heart disease.

Fairmont Miramar

Big Beads in the Ballrooms

The Santa Monica Bead & Design Show takes place April 14-16 at the Fairmont Miramar Hotel and presents over 175 artisan exhibits. In sync with the spectacular setting, the show creates a dynamic and interactive shopping experience, with a diverse selection of beads and artisan supplies, jewelry, one-of-a-kind art wear, and antiquities.

Among the vast and eclectic displays of new and old, traditional and contemporary, finished pieces and components –you'll find lampwork beads, hand-cut gemstones, antique beads, vintage findings & embellishments, hand-dyed silks, crystals, turquoise, antique pearls, tribal textiles, cloisonné jewelry, and many more treasures!

Step into a world of handwork and enjoy meeting and talking directly from skilled artisans, many who have spent decades perfecting their skills, or from tradespeople and merchants who have searched the world for unique gems, beads, and antiquities. You can also get creative and try your hand at mixed media or jewelry making techniques in one of the workshops offered at the show.

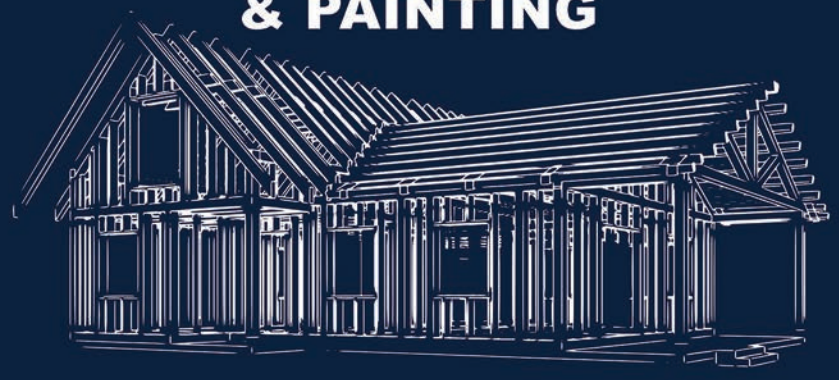
Now with more exhibits than ever before, Santa Monica Bead & Design Show will fill two ballrooms inside the beautiful Fairmont Miramar Hotel. Shop over 175 artisan exhibits, socialize with other artful-minded souls –and watch designers and craftspeople demonstrate their work. April 14 - 16, Friday - Sunday. Tickets are $8 online, or $10 at the door, good for all days. Open to the public —everyone is welcome. www.beadanddesign.com, follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

Garan-Beadagio, LLC produces 14 annual shows in Pasadena, Santa Monica, Walnut Creek, San Rafael, and Tucson. While each one promotes artisanship, handcraft, and design in its unique way, they share the tradition of offering the public the widest range of artisan creations to be found anywhere.

SUBMITTED BY CASEY KENNERSON

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Should California referendum law become harder to use?

DAN WALTERS
Special to the Daily Press

Over the last decade, as Democrats achieved total control of the state government and their policies took a turn to the left, those who oppose the ideological trend have increasingly used the only avenue still available – ballot measures to overturn what legislators and governors have wrought.

Recent elections have seen a spate of initiatives (to write new laws) and referenda (to block legislative laws) sponsored by business interests to overturn the Capitol's decrees. Proponents have included the tobacco, bail bond and plastics industries, as well as ride-hailing services such as Uber and Lyft.

Next year, voters are certain to face two other business-sponsored measures: referenda by the fast food and oil industries to block newly enacted regulations on their operations. Others could be added. For instance, were Gov. Gavin Newsom to succeed in imposing fines on gasoline refiners for exceeding profit limits, another oil industry referendum is likely.

> "Per-signature payment is often the most cost-effective method for collecting the hundreds of thousands of signatures needed to qualify a ballot measure
> - Former CA Governor Jerry Brown

New laws being challenged by referenda, including the two already headed for the 2024 ballot, are suspended until voters render final judgment.

Understandably, progressive politicians and their allies, particularly labor unions, dislike business use of ballot measures to thwart their legislative gains. As the syndrome has evolved, there have been efforts to make placing measures on the ballot more difficult.

A few systemic changes have been enacted, affecting the process on the margin, but there hasn't been a successful frontal assault. In 2018, then-Gov. Jerry Brown vetoed a bill that would have banned paying signature gatherers on a per-name basis, using the same words he used in his 2011 veto of similar legislation.

"Per-signature payment is often the most cost-effective method for collecting the hundreds of thousands of signatures needed to qualify a ballot measure," Brown wrote. "Eliminating this option will drive up the cost of circulating ballot measures, thereby further favoring the wealthiest interests."

Contrarily, those who would make qualification of measures more difficult, or at least more expensive, contend that it's the current process that favors those with the deepest pockets (i.e. business groups), and that their money encourages paid signature gatherers to lie to voters about proposed measures to persuade them to sign petitions.

Does that occur? Absolutely. But it also happens when labor unions and other left-leaning interest groups circulate their measures and when politicians themselves use the ballot process.

Proposition 47, a 2014 measure sponsored by Brown, was especially deceptive, claiming that it would reduce penalties only for non-violent felons, when it also benefited those who commit certain types of rape, domestic violence and other heinous crimes.

The latest effort to kneecap those who resist the Legislature's progressive legislation was unveiled Monday – a bill to require that unpaid volunteers gather at least 10% of signatures on all referenda and on initiatives seeking to repeal or amend recently enacted laws.

Assembly Bill 421 also would require paid signature gatherers to undergo mandatory training, register with the state for the specific measures they are presenting to voters, wear badges, and use unique identification numbers that would allow their petitions to be traced back to them.

The coalition of progressive groups advocating AB 421, and its author, Assemblyman Isaac Bryan, a Culver City Democrat, argue that the proposed changes would make the ballot measure process fairer and more transparent.

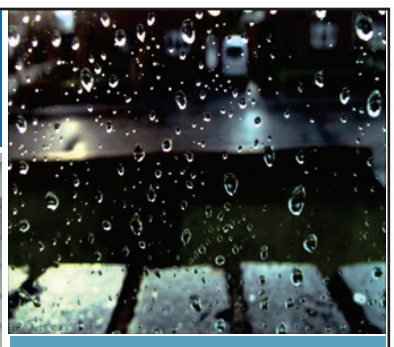
It's entirely possible that AB 421 will be enacted, but ironically, business interests could challenge it by referendum.

Moreover, it could run afoul of a 1988 U.S. Supreme Court decision overturning a Colorado law that banned a statute against paid signature gatherers. It declared that petition circulation is "core political speech" and the use of paid signature gatherers is "the most effective, fundamental, and perhaps economical means of achieving direct, one-on-one communication with voters."

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

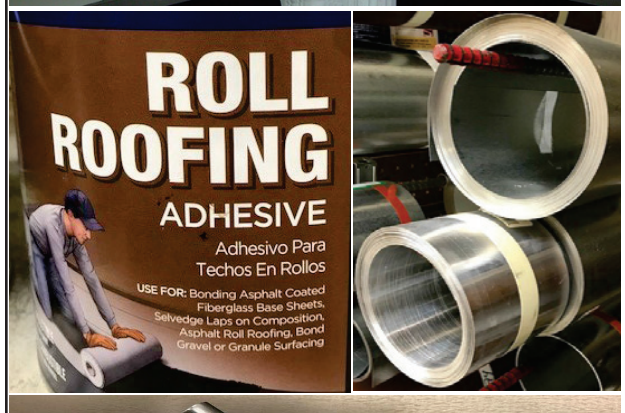
Roofing Supply

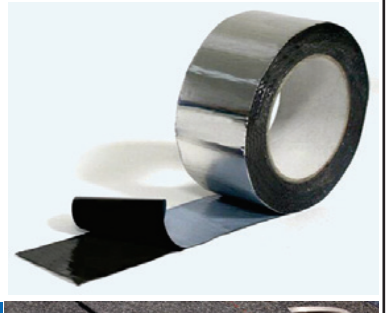




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SEND YOUR NEWS TO THE EDITOR

Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

FARMESA OPENING

FROM PAGE 1

and vegetables." Located in the Kitchen United MIX food hall at 1315 Third Street on the second floor, the modest outlet will serve walk-in customers together with a delivery service operated through marketplace apps like DoorDash and Uber Eats.

"We've been focused on really creating opportunities for us to learn on new ventures like Farmesa and the Santa Monica location gave us an awesome chance to do that. It's a super dense population, so there are a lot of people here and we think that people here are very interested in this type of culinary space," Nate Lawton, Head of New Ventures at Chipotle, said.

Farmesa was created with the collaboration of James Beard Award-winning Chef Nate Appleman, the company's Director of Culinary Innovation. Appleman has been contributing to Chipotle's menu since the mid-2000s. So what does the Chef recommend?

"My favorite dish would be the Ora King salmon and I like to have that with the Chipotle white rice and the corn, plus the roasted broccoli and golden beets. And you need the Green Goddess dressing 'cause that has tons of herbs, cilantro, cucumber and serrano, so it's got a little spice to it. And I think that's the perfect Farmesa dish," Appleman said.

Visitors and residents to Santa Monica will be able to try out this new concept from Chipotle, which aims to combine healthy eating with convenience.

"Our focus is really the kitchen, with the culinary element, which is where we can spend our time learning and perfecting the Farmesa formula," Lawton said. "This will allow us to reach a large number of consumers, learn quickly, and evolve our concept and menu so that we can deliver on our goals before expanding."

> "Our focus is really the kitchen, with the culinary element, which is where we can spend our time learning and perfecting the Farmesa formula
> - Nate Lawton, Head of New Ventures at Chipotle

And yes, we tried Appleman's recommendation and yes, it was delicious.

"We also expect feedback from consumers and our guests and the way this whole operation is set up and based on what we learned, we can actually evolve," Lawton said.

scott.snowden@smdp.com



Farmesa

NEW CONCEPT: (L-R) Julian Ayala–Farmesa crew, Mike Spain–Farmesa Project Manager, Nate Lawton–VP Chipotle New Business Development, Aaron Ganz–Ganz Media, Nate Appleman–Director of Culinary Innovation Farmesa, Sheldon Jang–Sr Operations Manager, Brigette Gonzalez–Farmesa GM, Susan Hojer–SM Chamber, Councilmember Phil Brock, Judy Kruger–SM Chamber CEO, Mike Shane–New Business Development, Art Lesmez–Chamber Ambassador, Pam O'Connor–former SM Mayor and Andrew Halarewicz–Chamber Ambassador

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RAIN

FROM PAGE 1

lines were reported downed, the National Weather Service said.

More than 126,000 Pacific Gas & Electric customers were without power by early afternoon, mostly in the region south of San Francisco, according to PowerOutage.us.

The National Weather Service said the storm is a Pacific low pressure system interacting with California's 12th atmospheric river since late December.

California's unexpected siege of wet weather after years of drought also included February blizzards powered by arctic air.

The storms have unleashed flooding and loaded mountains with so much snow that roofs have been crushed and crews have struggled to keep highways clear of avalanches.

The Mammoth Mountain resort in the eastern Sierra Nevada announced that it will remain open for skiing and snowboarding at least through the end of July.

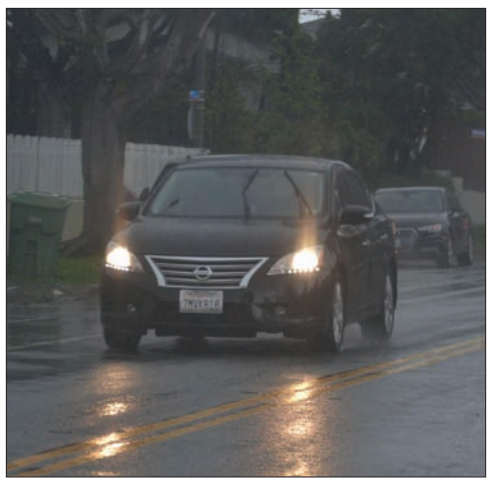
With a season-to-date snowfall of 634 inches (16.1 meters) at the main lodge, it was likely just one storm away from breaking the all-time record of 668 inches (16.9 meters) set in the 2010-2011 season.

As of Tuesday afternoon, Santa Monica Police and Fire Department spokespeople said no serious weather-related incidents had been reported in the city. Erika Aklufi of the SMPD said the primary incidents they had received calls for were burglary alarms being set off by the rain and wind and non-injury traffic collisions.

A flood watch and high wind advisory went into effect early Tuesday morning. The City cautioned residents about the possibility of fallen tree limbs and power outages. Rain is expected to continue into Wednesday, but partially sunny skies are forecast for Thursday.

Grace Adams contributed to this report







Matthew Hall

PIER RAIN: The Santa Monica Pier shrouded in fog on Tuesday.

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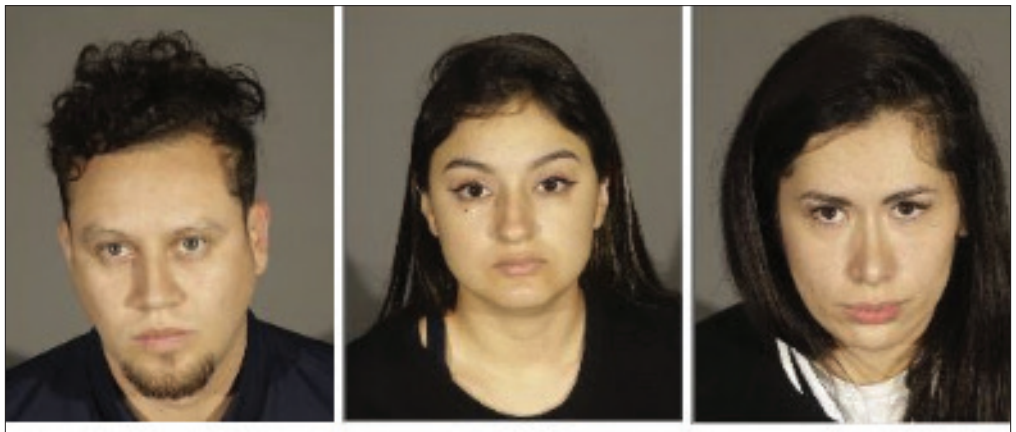
CRIME WATCH

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

In the early morning hours of March 18, 2023, three subjects, Michael Leonardo Pico-Quintero, Tatiana Yuli Arango-Cheves and Sindy Milena Peralta-Porras, were arrested for identity theft, possession of stolen property, and grand theft. They were found in possession of more than twenty cellphones in a Faraday bag, several stolen credit cards and a black Louis Vuitton purse containing a stolen identification card.

Victims who tracked their phones to the location reported they had last seen their phones in The Victorian located at 2640 Main Street and Jameson's Pub located at 2702 Main Street.

If you believe you might have been a victim of these theft suspects and need to file a stolen property report, please call our non-emergency line at 310-458-8491. If you have information about these suspects or the incident, please contact: SMPD Watch Comander (310)458-2249 (24 hours) or Detective Jauregui at (310)458-8451 / Martin.Jauregui@santamonica.gov.



From Left to Right:
MICHAEL LEONARDO PICO-QUINTERO DOB: 8/10/1991
TATIANA YULI ARANGO-CHAVES DOB: 6/13/1995
SINDY MILENA PERALTA-PORRAS DOB: 5/31/1994

Courtesy of SMPD

A PHONE-Y THIEVING TRIO

PIERSIDE

FROM PAGE 1

the ground floor complete with an outdoor, al fresco dining area.

"We're honored to introduce the Pierside to the market and are confident that the hotel will be received as a true Santa Monica staple for solo travelers, couples and families alike given its unbeatable location, upscale offerings, destination-inspired programming and unparalleled culinary experience."

The plan very much seems to be to utilize a combination of a marine-themed aesthetic, together with muted textures, warm woods and a neutral color palette, which is evident in every room, from the hotel lobby to the actual suites. In fact, the lobby is set to feature a floating fireplace "intentionally placed to bask in the Pierside's spirited ambience."

Practicality is key within the suites themselves as outdated items like the minibar fridge are nowhere to be seen, thankfully. They're a waste of space and cannot be used for any actual useful purpose other than making guests feel really awful about themselves after they've succumbed to a $20 Twix.

Games consoles are even available to hire from the main reception to keep the kids happy, along with a wide variety of beach accessories, from bodyboards to bicycles.

Despite the ongoing construction, rooms are available for bookings at a discounted rate as work continues. Sedigh is hopeful for a hard launch, celebrating the completion of every component of the project sometime in mid-summer.

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LAUSD STRIKE

FROM PAGE 2

years.

"There's not even anybody applying because you can make more money starting at Burger King," she said. "A lot of people really want to help kids, and they shouldn't be penalized for wanting that to be their life's work."

The union says district support staffers earn, on average, about $25,000 per year and many live in poverty because of low pay or limited work hours while struggling with inflation and the high cost of housing in LA County. The union is asking for a 30% raise. Teachers want a 20% pay hike over two years.

Carvalho said the district has offered a wage increase totaling more than 20% over a multiyear period, along with a 3% bonus. In addition, the deal would include a "massive expansion of healthcare benefits," the superintendent told Fox 11 on Monday.

The strike has wide support among union members.

SEIU members have been working without a contract since June 2020, while the contract for teachers expired in June 2022. The unions decided last week to stop accepting extensions to their contracts.

Teachers waged a six-day strike in 2019 over pay and contract issues but schools remained open.

Associated Press writers John Antczak in Los Angeles and Collin Binkley in Washington contributed to this report.

MOST LOVED 2023 Santa Monica

TOP 5 NOMINEES

BUSINESS ON THE SANTA MONICA PIER

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- BIG DEAN'S OCENT FRONT
- RUSTY'S SURF RANCH
- PIER BURGER
- SODA JERKS ICE CREAM

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March 31st

and sure your favorite business gets the top spot!

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 22)

Welcome to your year of youth. It will be as though you are reverse-aging in the months to come. Your energy will increase, and your views will become more hopeful and forward-thinking. More highlights: the support of a big team with means, an award that comes from thousands of miles away and a lovely person reordering your world. Gemini and Cancer adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 13, 3, 32, 17 and 48.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You'll reach one checkpoint and be up, the next you'll be down. These measurements are a matter of tradition, though less important than you might imagine. What matters is not how you're counted on arrival but that you arrive at all.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Each family is its own country with customs and language foreign to outsiders. You will interact with those from another family. Tread lightly, as it's easy to cross boundaries you don't realize exist.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Because you are so open and approachable, where you go is very important. If you're in a place where like minds and upbeat people are, you'll probably get more out of the interactions you're bound to have.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Self-care is different for everyone. For some, silence is self-care, and for others a long conversation is self-care. Exposure to a variety of experiences will teach you what nurtures you. It's not always what you expect.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). There's not one style of being that's better than another, though there are styles more or less suited to the moment. What suits you best today will be poetic and organized aesthetically rather than logically.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Don't expect the breakthrough to come to those who are ready for it. Luck goes by its own rules. Often, opportunity arrives at the same time as problems, challenges and setbacks. Good fortune has many faces.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your mood turns social just in time to make some key connections. You're like a hitchhiker in that you'll get where you're going because other people going the same direction could use a little company.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There are those who would be more comfortable if you were to stick with the way it's always been done, but you're not living for them. Get on your own side. Do it your way. Experimentation is both necessary and fun.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your attraction to the exotic leads you to new people and realms. You will come bearing gifts, and you will not stay too long in one place. When the mystique has worn off, you will move along.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You get the feeling that it's all going to be different just as soon as you get to the other side of this barrier, which could break open at any moment. This belief is the key to your persistence. Keep going.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Loved ones will tell you exactly what they want, though not in words. So it's mighty convenient that you're paying close attention today and are even more sensitive than usual to the subtleties of interaction.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Relationships will be like a rubber band. When pulled a distance away from the other person, energy will build in the bond. At a certain point, this will cause you to come quickly and forcefully back together.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

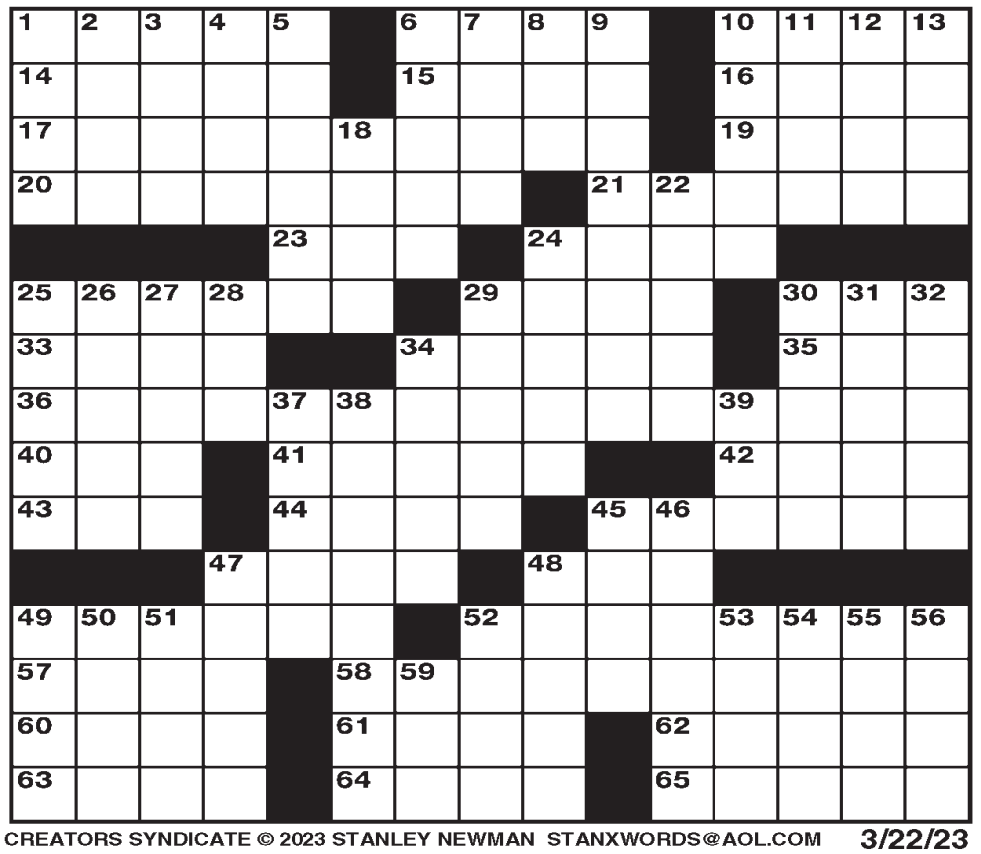
			2	1	6		8	
9	6							1
		5				4		7
	1		6		9			
			7	8	5			
			1		2		3	
3		2				6		
8							5	2
	5		9	2	8			

Newsday Crossword

MEN AND BEASTS by S.N.
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Mountaintops
6 Dishonest imitation
10 Shelter for doves
14 Corvette or Camaro
15 Variation of color
16 Carpet's coverage
17 Golf great who won his first Masters at 21 (1997)
19 Traffic tie-ups
20 Person from Madrid
21 Make a stone statue
23 Purpose of an activity
24 Genghis __
25 Not at school
29 Package of copier paper
30 Shout out
33 Work hard
34 Card game authority
35 River, to a 20 Across
36 Legendary Wild West showman
40 Insect in a colony
41 *Evita* surname
42 *Othello* villain
43 Six-point NFL plays
44 Be durable
45 Amounts bet
47 Cord in a firecracker
48 Hardly any
49 It's taken to get into Mensa
52 Lemon pie topping
57 John who cofounded the Sierra Club
58 Longtime Alabama football coach
60 Where a ship docks
61 "Checkmate"
62 Lawful, informally
63 Quick and agile
64 Bills picturing Hamilton
65 Vermont or Virginia

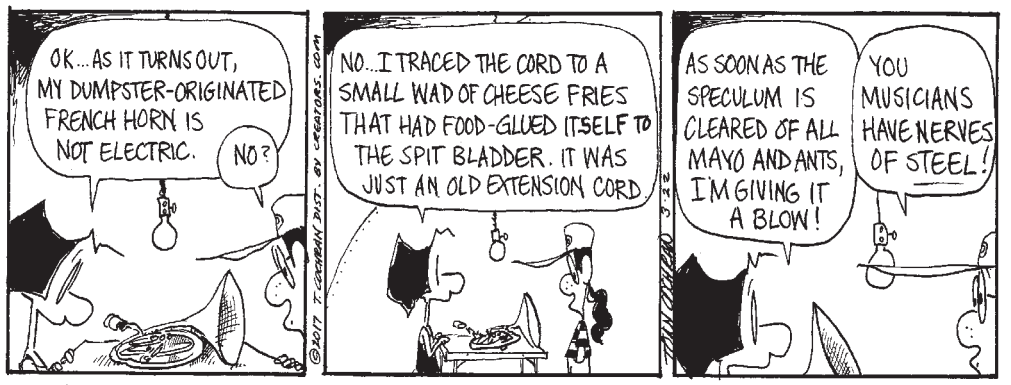
DOWN
1 Comedy routines
2 Cookie's chocolate morsel
3 "Big" prefix for bucks
4 __ so (nevertheless)
5 Person from Damascus
6 Thundery weather
7 Parka attachment
8 "As well as . . ."
9 Where soldiers have supper
10 Spicy New Orleans cuisine
11 Spoken aloud
12 Short-term worker
13 Toward the right, on a map
18 Bide one's time
22 Desert caravan animal
24 Enter, as a password
25 Facing a pitcher
26 Obligated (to)
27 Prepares, as flour for baking
28 Assistant to Santa
29 Worker made of metal
30 Frog's sound
31 Chain of hills
32 Toys on strings
34 Carousel mount
37 Superior school grade
38 The __ (in any respect)
39 US spy group
45 Person from Belgrade
46 Performs with a baton
47 Sea shuttle
48 Frond-bearing plants
49 Little tricksters
50 Witty remark
51 Layer of a wedding cake
52 Most significant
53 Russian's refusal
54 Superstar "Lady" singer
55 Storage facility rental
56 Diminutive suffix
59 Wool-bearing female



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2023 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 3/22/23

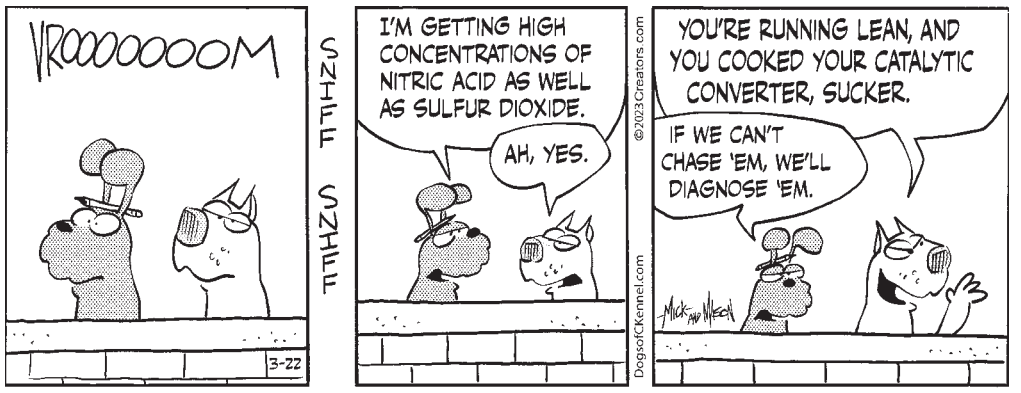
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



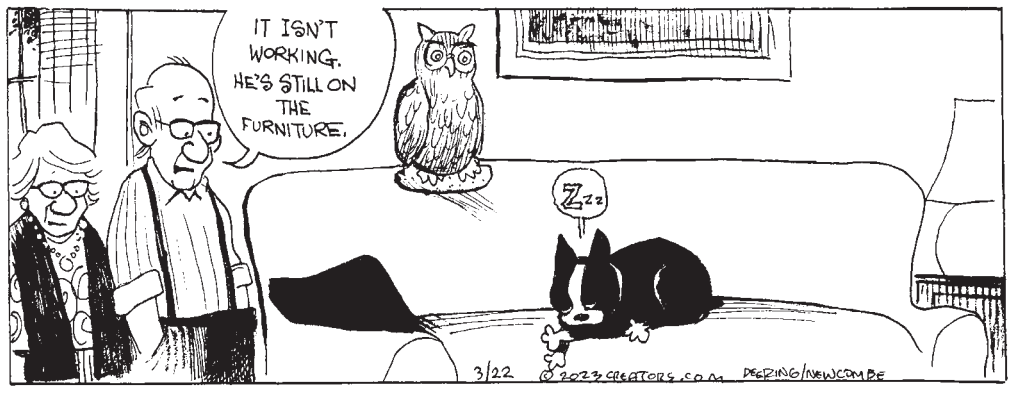
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

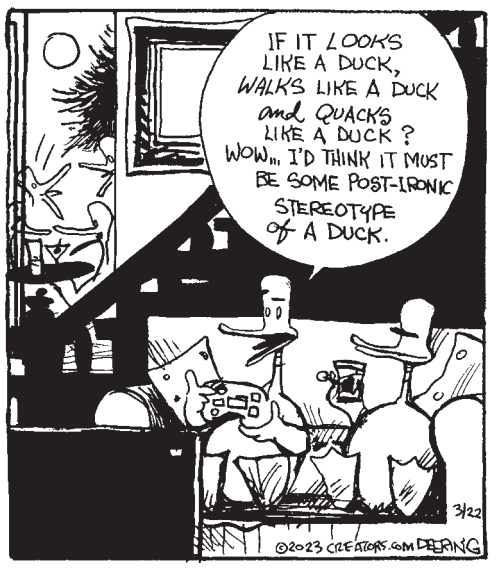
By PETER GALLAGHER



"IT'S A GARBAGE APE HYMN."

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

© australianwordgames.com.au 5791

Life-giving trees

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

Alder	Coral	Hovea	Pear
Bark	Elms	Ironwood	Pine
Beech	Eucalypt	Karri	Plum
Birds	Fell	Koda	Poplar
Branch	Flame	Lantana	Rain
Broom	Flower	Leaves	Riberry
Buds	Fruit	Lime	Rotten
Bunya	Germinate	Maple	Seed
Cedar	Ginkgo	Myrtle	Soil
Chestnut	Green	Noahs	Teak
Chop	Growth	tamarind	
Cone	Guioa	Palm	

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

What's Up Westside

out and about in Santa Monica

WEDNESDAY | MARCH 22

GEEKS WHO DRINK TRIVIA NIGHT AT NOSTALGIA BAR AND LOUNGE

Modeled after pub quizzes in Ireland and the U.K., Geeks Who Drink is an authentic homegrown trivia quiz. It's a great way to drink with friends, without burning brain cells. And it's where useless knowledge means everything. For more information visit: https://www.eventvesta.com/events/31675-geeks-who-drink-trivia-night-at-nostalgia-bar-and-lounge

THURSDAY | MARCH 23

DRAG BINGO AT THE BUNGALOW

Join The Bungalow every Thursday at 7pm for Drag Bingo hosted by Alejandro Queen. info.sm@thebungalow.com (310) 393-8355

FRIDAY | MARCH 24

BEYONCE NIGHT : A NIGHT OF RENAISSANCE

This event is 21 and over. Any ticket holder unable to present valid identification indicating that they are at least 21 years of age will not be admitted to this event, and will not be eligible for a refund. The Venice West 1717 Lincoln Blvd, Venice, CA https://rb.gy/jyaews

SATURDAY | MARCH 25

BHAKTI NIGHT WITH GRAMMY AWARD ARTIST MICHAEL GUNGOR

Bhakti Night with Grammy award artist Michael Gungor. 7:30pm-9:00pm. 1235 4th St. Santa Monica, CA

SUNDAY | MARCH 26

LOS ANGELES YOUTH ORCHESTRA SPRING 2023 CONCERT AT BARNUM HALL

The Los Angeles Youth Orchestra presents the Spring 2023 Concerts, 'To Stir the World', on Sunday, March 26 at 7:30pm at Barnum Hall in Santa Monica and Monday, March 27 at 7:30pm at Ambassador Auditorium in Pasadena. The Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Russell Steinberg, will perform Dvorak's Symphony No. 7. The Ruth Borun Concert Orchestra, conducted by Jorge Padron, will perform Saint-Saens' Intro and Royal March of the Lions; Rachmaninoff's Vocalise; Grieg's Holberg Suite; and De Falla's Ritual Fire Dance. www.eventbrite.com/o/los-angeles-youth-orchestra-19228767714

MONDAY | MARCH 27

PARENT & ME UKULELE

The Enrichment Program at Virginia Avenue Park is a component of the Virginia Avenue Park After School program. The Enrichment program is comprised of Artists in Residence who are hired to teach enrichment classes to the youth in our program. These programs are high quality and teach the youth with a hands-on approach. This class is taught by Santa Monica Youth Orchestra (SMYO) and requires registration with SMYO and Virginia Ave. Park. This class is every Monday from 5:30PM-6:30PM Registration in-person only, begins on Monday March 6, 2023. For more information, call our office at (310) 458-8688

TUESDAY | MARCH 28

GUNNAR

Produced by OBrien at the legendary Henson Recording Studios, Best Mistake encompasses a guitar-heavy sound echoing the eclectic mix of influences that form GUNNARs musical DNA (90s alt-rock, mid-aughts garage rock, singer-songwriters and classic country). Already well on his way to rock stardom GUNNAR has amassed 22M global streams of his music to date, 5.7M Youtube plays and 48M TikTok plays with a following of over 250,000 fans on the platform. The Venice West 1717 Lincoln Blvd, Venice, CA https://www.ticketweb.com/event/gunnar-best-mistake-album-the-venice-west-tickets/12936285

WEDNESDAY | MARCH 29

KIDS OCEAN DAY FUNDRAISER

Join us for a beach party fundraiser at the beautiful Annenberg Community Beach House catered by Back on the Beach Cafe. Kids Ocean Day empowers kids to save the Earth by connecting them to the beaches and ocean. Your support provides kids with a hands-on opportunity to make a difference and to fall in love with the beaches and ocean. Annenberg Community Beach House 415 Pacific Coast Hwy Santa Monica, CA

TUESDAY | MARCH 30

THE OTHER ART FAIR

Presented by Saatchi Art, The Other Art Fair is an art fair unlike any other. Where elitism is the norm, The Other Art Fair dares to deviate by creating a space where art is for everyone. The fair continues its mission to reframe art, and how it is enjoyed; offering a fair that is inclusive, evocative, and inspiring, with a vibrant program of exciting features, guest exhibitions, immersive installations, live poetry readings and DJs.

PIANO DUET CONCERT: 4HANDSLA

11:15am-12:15pm, Santa Monica College 1900 Pico Blvd, Santa Monica, CA https://www.smc.edu/calendar/index.php

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



SURF REPORT

WATER TEMP: **57.7**

WEDNESDAY *POOR*	**SURF:**	4-6ft Chest to overhead	Even if the wind isn't great, a day to surf at sheltered spots. Chunky W swell tops out through the second half of the day. Exposures are overhead and tucked away points have fun size. Watch the afternoon/ evening low tide window.
THURSDAY *FAIR*	**SURF:**	3-4ft+ Waist to shoulder	Leftovers down from a Wednesday peak but still offering a few fun size waves through the early morning tide push. Will likely have northerly winds in the morning, favoring the south facing points.

WEATHER

Wednesday: Rain likely, mainly before 11am. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 56.
Wednesday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 49. West southwest wind 5 to 15 mph.
Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 60. West southwest wind 5 to 15 mph.
Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 49.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2023/03/22	Wed	04:23 AM	-0.15	L
2023/03/22	Wed	10:28 AM	5.26	H
2023/03/22	Wed	4:36 PM	-0.21	L
2023/03/22	Wed	10:48 PM	5.56	H
2023/03/23	Thu	05:10 AM	-0.30	L
2023/03/23	Thu	11:15 AM	4.62	H
2023/03/23	Thu	5:06 PM	0.41	L
2023/03/23	Thu	11:20 PM	5.56	H
2023/03/24	Fri	05:58 AM	-0.26	L
2023/03/24	Fri	12:06 PM	3.91	H
2023/03/24	Fri	5:33 PM	1.07	L
2023/03/24	Fri	11:53 PM	5.39	H
2023/03/25	Sat	06:50 AM	-0.05	L
2023/03/25	Sat	1:05 PM	3.23	H
2023/03/25	Sat	5:57 PM	1.71	L
2023/03/26	Sun	12:27 AM	5.08	H
2023/03/26	Sun	07:51 AM	0.24	L
2023/03/26	Sun	2:33 PM	2.71	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: 3/20
1 27 32 47 67
Power#: 14
Jackpot: 96 M

Mega Millions
Draw Date: 3/17
26 28 29 39 49
Mega#: 25
Jackpot: 272 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 3/18
8 10 16 19 36
Mega#: 12
Jackpot: 43 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 3/20
1 2 4 7 25

Daily 3
Draw Date: 3/20
EVENING: 3 7 2
Draw Date: 3/20
MIDDAY: 8 3 4

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 3/20
1st: 08 - Gorgeous George
2nd: 09 - Winning Spirit
3rd: 03 - Hot Shot
Race Time: 1:46.04

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City calendar

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A complete list of all the happenings in the **City of Santa Monica** and surrounding areas!

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FIND ALL EVENTS INCLUDING

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