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5 **Topanga protest**
To open roads.

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Plan your weekend.

smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

Volume 24 Issue 90 THURSDAY 3/27/25 smdp.com

Montana Avenue corner lot slated for four story apartment building

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

A residential project proposed for a corner lot on Montana Avenue would replace 10 existing homes with a new 24-unit apartment building, according to a recent application submitted to the City of Santa Monica.

The development, planned for 745–749 17th Street, is being led by property owner and applicant Empire Associates. The proposed four-story structure, with a gross floor area of 49.487 sq ft, would include a mix of studio, one-, two-, and three-bedroom apartments. These would all be built over a 56-total space underground parking garage (27 compact and 29 standard plus bicycle storage). Information about how many EV charge points there might be is not available yet.

Design plans submitted with the application feature a white, textured facade and metal balconies on units facing outward. The project was designed by Bica Architects, a firm

SEE **BUILDING** PAGE 11



Courtesy image

DEVELOPMENT: Plans for the project at 17th and Montana call for doubling the number of units on the lot.

Water rate hike approved to support aging infrastructure

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

The Santa Monica City Council unanimously approved a water rate increase this week to fund rehabilitation of the city's aging water storage reservoirs and replace critical infrastructure.

The approved plan will increase water rates by 20% in the first year, followed by increases of 16%, 9%, 9%, and 6% over the subsequent four years. Wastewater rates will rise by 7% for the first three years, followed by 6% increases in the final two years.

For the average single-family home, the combined bimonthly water and wastewater bill will increase by approximately $37 each year over the five-year period, or about $19 monthly. Multi-family residential buildings with eight units will see approximately $80 increases in bimonthly bills, translating to roughly $10 monthly per unit. Commercial customers can expect bimonthly increases averaging $146 per year.

SEE **WATER** PAGE 11

Elemental Music gala supports local music education

EMILY CALL
Special to the Daily Press

More than 125 artists, community members and philanthropists gathered Sunday at the Hilton Santa Monica Hotel & Suites for the Tasting Notes Gala to support Elemental Music's education programs.

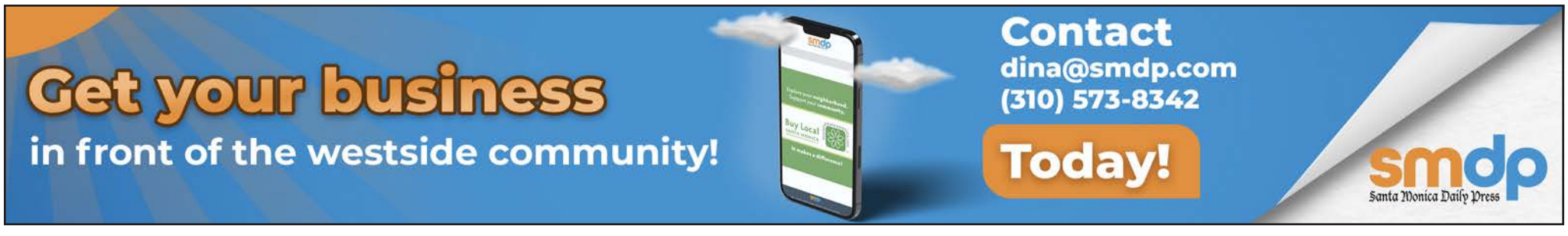
Will Ferrell and Viveca Paulin-Ferrill served as lead sponsors for the March 23 event, which

SEE **MUSIC** PAGE 4



Courtesy Photo

AWARD: Nimish and Nancy Patel were honored.



AGING AND DISABILITY ACTION PLAN

We need to hear from you!

Let's make Santa Monica even more age- and disability-friendly. The City is developing an action plan to better serve older adults, people with disabilities and caregivers.

GET INVOLVED

City of Santa Monica

SCAN FOR SURVEY



OPINION **NOTEWORTHY**

Charles Andrews

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Gerald goes Gershwin

AM I ONLY tossing in these occasional political announcements because I no longer write my CURIOUS CITY column on a regular basis? No. Trump's chaos directly affects the arts. One example: he fired the board at the Kennedy Center in D.C., a preeminent arts institution nationally, and put himself in charge. Will we now see honors go to the likes of Carrie Underwood, Lee Greenwood, Kid Rock, Jason Aldean, 3 Doors Down, Billy Ray Cyrus? Ted Nugent, the Village People? Will Roseanne Barr be singing the national anthem? Stay (out of) tuned.

For reference, these were the 2024 honorees: Francis Ford Coppola, Bonnie Raitt, Arturo Sandoval, Grateful Dead and the Apollo Theater. One more sandbox for the bully baby to kick apart.

Republicans have introduced a bill to withdraw all funding for PBS and NPR, apparently overlooking the latter's drift to the right for years. Trump said he thinks that's a good idea.

GLOBAL PROTEST AGAINST TRUMP AND MUSK – SAT, APRIL 5 – You can find more info lots of places. I'm so glad we're finally seeing Americans take to the streets to protest great wrongs b y their government, the way Europeans have for decades. It is effective. You can do something. And this is only the beginning.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

Tonight! - MOZART'S "COSI FAN TUTTE," LA OPERA – There's no question that Wolfgang A. was one of the most inspired and popular composers of all time. His music will live forever. He loved operas and wrote 22 of them (10 while still a teenager). Most experts name "Figaro," "Don Giovanni" and this one as his three best. Stage and Cinema just declared, "LA Opera's exceptional 'Così' production seduces with wit, beauty, and the unsettling aftertaste of truth, lingering long after the final note fades." The LA Times outstanding critic Mark Swed complained about Amadeus' story line, but I find I sometimes have to ignore that flaw in the libretto of some operas. Hey, they are often centuries old, no quick cuts or short attention spans. You go more for the music, which you likely won't hear live anywhere else. Thurs 7:30 p.m., Sun 2 p.m., Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, LA, $49-400.



Courtesy photo

MUSIC: GERALD CLAYTON.

HOT CLUB OF LOS ANGELES – You can go to the Cinema Bar any Monday night, 9-11:30, for almost 14 years now, and hear these hot players run through Django Reinhart-style '30s jazz. This amazing ensemble is a treasure. Mon 9 p.m., Cinema Bar, Culver City, free.

"WE ♥ L.A.!," DUDAMEL, LA PHIL – I'm not a fan of classical music written for movies, and it's all John Williams after intermission. BUT – the first half is killer. Leading off with "The Star-Spangled Banner" played by the Palisades Charter High School Band, then "Kauyumari" by Gabriellla Ortiz, a composer I now love but never knew until Gustavo commissioned and programmed her work several times, Mahler's "Adagietto" from his Fifth Symphony, which knocked me out at Disney a few weeks ago, and perhaps best of all, variations on Gerdshwin's "I Got Rhythm" performed by Christina Aguilera and the three incomparable mostly-jazz pianist Gerald Clayton. If that was the only number on the bill, I would still fight the cross town traffic on a Tuesday night, Tues 8 p.m., Hollywood bowl,

RECOMMENDED:

TOLEDO DIAMOND – His decades-long Sunday night residency at Santa

SEE **NOTEWORTHY** PAGE 11

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AROUND TOWN

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Bergamot Comedy Festival, Penmar Sunset Sessions, & More!

SMDP's Weekly Guide to Food & Entertainment Goings-On In & Around Town includes Bergamot Comedy Festival, Penmar Sunset Sessions, Grilled Cheese & Beer Night at Andrew's Cheese Shop, and much more!

National Geographic Live: Untangling the Mind: The series is an immersive storytelling experience sure to capture the imaginations of those with all degrees of science knowledge. Neuroscientist Steve Ramirez will guide the audience on a journey through the most remarkable human organ – the brain – to see what really makes humans who we are. Thursday, March 27, 7:30p.m., BroadStage, 1310 11th St. https://broadstage.org/tickets-shows/calendar/nat-geo-live-untangling-the-mind/

A FUNgi Mushroom Growing Workshop: Ready to grow your own mushrooms? This hands-on workshop covers everything from cultivation methods to contamination prevention. Walk away with your own inoculated grow kit and the knowledge to nurture your fungi at home. Thursday, March 27, 6:30p.m., MUD\WTR, 2515 Main St. https://widget.hellowalla.com/enrollments/42196



Courtesy image

COMEDY: Bergamot is hosting a multi-day event.

Sunset Sessions at the Penmar Kick Off: Enjoy live music, beer, wine, cocktails, food, and great company every Friday. Bring your favorite blanket and join the community on the green while watching the sunset and listening to local artists. Friday, March 28, 6 - 9p.m., 1233 Rose Ave. https://thepenmar.com

Celebrate Women's History Month at with a screening of Fly Like a Girl (2019), followed by a panel discussion: Santa Monica has a rich aviation history with the Museum of Flying and Santa Monica Municipal Airport staples in our destination. This film screening and panel discussion for the 2019 film "Fly Like a Girl" is in honor of Women's History Month and highlights trailblazing female pilots and astronauts and inspires aspiring young pilots to follow their flight dreams. Saturday, March 29, 11:00a.m., Main Library 601 Santa Monica Blvd. https://www.santamonica.gov/events/4jjy00p21r8f8y2hbd69ym7axs/202503291100

Strong Words Speakeasy: Strong Words returns to the Westside at Socalo for dinner and drinks followed by a very special spoken word event with powerful back room storytelling. Strong Words is a Los Angeles based community event that celebrates diversity through storytelling, poetry, and music. Saturday, March 29, 7:30p.m., 1920 Santa Monica Blvd. https://www.socalo.com/event/strong-words/

Bergamot Comedy Festival: The week-long event will feature a lineup of performances from 53 up-and-coming comedians, educational workshops, and networking programs providing underrepresented voices the amplification and professional advancement they need and deserve in the comedy space. This year's comedy fest will include the debut Storytelling Showcase featuring eight dynamic storytellers and titled Metamorphosis, where performers will tell a personal story that will transform the audience as it transformed their own lives. Monday, March 31 - Saturday, April 5, The Crow, Bergamot Station https://bergamotcomedyfest.com/schedule/

Michael C. Thorpe: Quilts: On display now through Sunday, May 4 at the California Heritage Museum, Quilts is a contemporary exhibit by fabric and thread visual artist Michael C. Thorpe. Based in New York City, Thorpe's primary focus is paint on textiles upon learning quilting at a young age from his mother Susan, telling stories about identity his as a Black man in America, including his former college basketball career at Emerson College and the use of language with vibrant imagery to evoke alternative perspectives on the human experience. 2612 Main St. https://californiaheritagemuseum.org/

ONGOING: "Two Bit Circus" Pop-Up; LiteBrite Experience

SEE **AROUND TOWN** PAGE 11



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **64.4**

THURSDAY
FAIR

SURF: Knee to thigh 1-2FT

Waves edging up as new swell mix moves in. AM winds looking light. Possible new round of shorter-period NW swell moving in, along with some fresh SSW swell for more widespread fun zone surf. The fresh SPAC swell will do the heavy lifting across most of the region, could be fun for the summer points by the end of the day. Morning winds looking light, afternoon onshores manageable at this point.

FRIDAY
FAIR TO GOOD

SURF: Waist to shoulder 3-4FT+

Surf size builds through the morning but the wind outlook is dicey. Still a day to watch. New WNW swell mix likely to build through the morning, peak by the afternoon as some SSW swell lingers. The storm sending the WNW has yet to develop but there's good agreement across the reputable weather models it'll setup a decent shot of surf for the winter points. The leftover SPAC swell helps the beachbreaks early, gets a little overpowered as the NW builds. The main concern for the day is the wind outlook as a trough of low pressure passes by north of the region. AM could be ok though.

Weather

Thursday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, cloudy, then gradually becoming mostly sunny, with a high near 63.
Thursday Night: Patchy fog. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 52. West southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.
Friday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a high near 63.
Friday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 52.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)High/Low
2025/03/27	Thu	02:21 AM	0.86	L
2025/03/27	Thu	08:25 AM	5.54	H
2025/03/27	Thu	2:57 PM	-0.74	L
2025/03/27	Thu	9:10 PM	5.01	H
2025/03/28	Fri	03:05 AM	0.19	L
2025/03/28	Fri	09:10 AM	5.48	H
2025/03/28	Fri	3:27 PM	-0.51	L
2025/03/28	Fri	9:38 PM	5.50	H
2025/03/29	Sat	03:50 AM	-0.39	L
2025/03/29	Sat	09:56 AM	5.19	H
2025/03/29	Sat	3:57 PM	-0.11	L

Daily Lottery

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

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 3/24
6 23 35 36 47
Power#: 12
Jackpot: 484 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 3/25
1 5 17 39 62
Mega#: 8
Jackpot: 20 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 3/22
9 24 27 33 40
Mega#: 19
Jackpot: 12 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 3/25
1 9 11 14 28

Daily 3
Draw Date: 3/25
EVENING: 6 9 4
Draw Date: 3/25
MIDDAY: 9 6 9

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 3/25
1st: 12 - Lucky Charms
2nd: 06 - Whirl Win
3rd: 03 - Hot Shot
Race Time: 1:49.19

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The Santa Monica Daily Press publishes Monday - Saturday with a circulation of 8,200 on weekdays and 8,000 on the weekend. The Daily Press is adjudicated as a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Los Angeles and covers news relevant to the City of Santa Monica. The Daily Press is a member of the California Newspaper Publisher's Association, the National Newspaper Association and the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce. The paper you're reading this on is composed of 100% post consumer content and the ink used to print these words is soy based. We are proud recipients of multiple honors for outstanding news coverage from the California Newspaper Publishers Association as well as a Santa Monica Sustainable Quality Award.

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Santa Monica Daily Press

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

Public Notice

County of Los Angeles Department of the Treasurer and Tax Collector

Notice of Divided Publication

Pursuant to Revenue and Taxation Code (R&TC) Sections 3702, 3381, and 3382, the Los Angeles County Treasurer and Tax Collector (TTC) is publishing in divided distribution, the Notice of Online Public Auction of Tax-Defaulted Property Subject to the Tax Collector's Power to Sell in and for the County of Los Angeles, State of California, to various newspapers of general circulation published in the County. A portion of the list appears in each of such newspapers.

Notice of Online Public Auction Tax-Defaulted Property Subject to the Tax Collector's Power to Sell (Sale No. 2025A)

Whereas, on Tuesday, January 7, 2025, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, State of California, directed the County of Los Angeles Treasurer and Tax Collector (TTC), to sell certain tax-defaulted properties at the online public auction.

The TTC does hereby give public notice, that unless said properties are redeemed, prior to the close of business on Friday, April 18, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time, the last business day prior to the first day of the online public auction, TTC will offer for sale and sell said properties on Saturday, April 19, 2025, beginning at 3:00 p.m. Pacific Time, through Tuesday, April 22, 2025, at 12:00 p.m. Pacific Time, to the highest bidder, for not less than the minimum bid, at the online public auction at www.govease.com/los-angeles.

The minimum bid for each parcel is the total amount necessary to redeem, plus costs, as required by R&TC Section 3698.5.

If a property does not sell during the online public auction, the right of redemption will revive and remain until Friday, June 6, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time.

The TTC will re-offer any properties that did not sell or were not redeemed prior to Friday, June 6, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time, for sale at the online public auction at www.govease.com/los-angeles beginning Saturday, June 7, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. Pacific Time, through Tuesday, June 10, 2025, at 12:00 p.m. Pacific Time.

Information regarding this sale is available at ttc.lacounty.gov. Bidders are required to pre-register at www.govease.com/los-angeles and submit a deposit of 10 percent of the spend limit that is set by each registered bidder. Bid deposits must be in the form of a wire transfer, cashier's check or bank-issued money order at the time of registration. Registration will begin on Friday, March 14, 2025, at 8:00 a.m. Pacific Time and end on Tuesday, April 15, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time.

Pursuant to R&TC Section 3692.3, TTC sells all property ``as is`` and the County and its employees are not liable for any known or unknown conditions of the properties, including, but not limited to, errors in the records of the Office of the Assessor (Assessor) pertaining to improvement of the property.

If TTC sells a property, parties of interest, as defined by R&TC Section 4675, have a right to file a claim with the County for any proceeds from the sale, which are in excess of the liens and costs required to be paid from the proceeds. If there are any excess proceeds after the application of the minimum bid, TTC will send notice to all parties of interest, pursuant to State law.

Please direct requests for information concerning redemption of tax-defaulted property to the Treasurer and Tax Collector, at 225 North Hill Street, Room 130, Los Angeles, California 90012. Phone calls can be directed to (213) 974-2045, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time. TTC's website is located at ttc.lacounty.gov and emails can be directed to auction@ttc.lacounty.gov.

The Assessor's Identification Number (AIN) in this publication refers to the Assessor's Map Book, the Map Page, and the individual Parcel Number on the Map Page. If a change in the AIN occurred, the publication will show both prior and current AINs. An explanation of the parcel numbering system and the referenced maps are available at the Office of the Assessor located at 500 West Temple Street, Room 225, Los Angeles, California 90012, or at assessor.lacounty.gov.

I certify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed at Los Angeles, California, on February 27, 2025.

ELIZABETH BUENROSTRO GINSBERG
Treasurer and Tax Collector
County of Los Angeles
State of California

The real property that is subject to this notice is situated in the County of Los Angeles, State of California, and is described as follows:

PUBLIC AUCTION NOTICE OF SALE OF TAX-DEFAULTED PROPERTY SUBJECT TO THE POWER OF SALE (SALE NO. 2025A)
3702 AIN 4119-001-089 ROBERTS, CLEO AND KELLEY, HOLLENE LOCATION CITY-LOS ANGELES $7,566.00
3711 AIN 4277-013-041 MANSOUR, SABOUR H C/O C/O COLDWELL BANKER LOCATION CITY-SANTA MONIC $103,002.00
3712 AIN 4284-001-043 GILBERT, BRIAN G TR 827 BAY HOUSE TRUST LOCATION CITY SANTA MONIC $47,314.00
3713 AIN 4286-003-001 202 MAIN LLC C/O C/O SOHEIL DARVICH LOCATION CITY-LOS ANGELES $615,271.00
CN114581 534 Mar 13,20,27, 2025

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

COMMUNITY NEWS

Wilmont

Saint Monica Prep Names Dr. Erin Luby as New President

Saint Monica Preparatory has appointed Dr. Erin Luby as its new president, effective July 1, 2025, following a nationwide search.

Luby joins the Catholic school from Seattle Preparatory School, where she has served as principal since 2016. She previously held leadership positions at St. Ignatius College Prep in Chicago.

"I am deeply honored to serve as the next President of Saint Monica Preparatory," Luby said. "I am inspired by the vibrant energy of this community and look forward to working in partnership with everyone to build upon the school's nearly 100-year legacy."

Luby holds a doctorate in education from Loyola University and degrees from the University of Notre Dame. She is a faculty member with Notre Dame's Remick Leadership Program and has served on the Jesuit Schools Network Board since 2021.

The school expressed gratitude to Deacon Kevin McCardle for his leadership during the transition period.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

Topanga

Topanga Community Plans Rally to Advocate for Canyon Road Reopening

A coalition of Topanga community groups will hold a rally on March 30 to advocate for the reopening of Topanga Canyon Boulevard, which has been closed since recent fires and subsequent mudslides made the road impassable.

The event will take place from 1-4 p.m. at Grandview Drive and Topanga Canyon Boulevard, featuring music, sign-making, children's activities, local businesses and food trucks.

"Sometimes Topanga gets overlooked unless we speak up. Of course, the road needs to be repaired so it's safe and secure. All we're asking of our elected officials is that it happen quickly and that our community be informed of the schedule," said event organizer Sahaja Douglass.

Community members say the prolonged closure has severely impacted local businesses, complicated school commutes and cut off residents from medical care and employment opportunities.

The rally is supported by the Topanga Chamber of Commerce, Topanga Town Council, Topanga Association for a Scenic Community, Topanga Community Center and the Coalition to Open TCB.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

11th Street

Santa Monica Organizations Host Workshop on Navigating Difficult Community Conversations

The Santa Monica Bay Area Human Relations Council and the League of Women Voters of Santa Monica will host a free community workshop on handling challenging civic discussions on Thursday, March 27.

The "Community Dialogue: Tools for Difficult Conversations in Community" event will run from 5-7 p.m. at the Barrett Art Gallery on Santa Monica College's Performing Arts Campus.

"The quality of our civic discourse is dependent on our ability to be self-reflective," said Maria Rodriguez, League of Women Voters of Santa Monica vice president. "Our communities have been seeking tools to better equip ourselves when we're in community spaces, and this event is a response to a clear community need."

The two-part program will feature sessions on self-reflection led by Dr. Christiane Wolf from InsightLA and de-escalation techniques facilitated by Claudia Bautista Nicholas and Erika Bell.

Julie Rusk, Human Relations Council board co-chair, said the organizations are "committed to creating spaces where neighbors can come together and explore new possibilities for how we engage on the issues that really matter in our community."

Registration is available at communitydialoguesm.eventbrite.com.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

MUSIC

FROM PAGE 1

raises funds for music education programs serving over 800 students annually. Nearly 70% of these students receive need-based scholarships or tuition-free programming.

The gala honored Santa Monica residents Nimish and Nancy Patel for their commitment to community service and support of music education. Nimish Patel, recently appointed to the U.S. Advisory Committee on Trade Policy and Negotiations, is a senior partner at Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp and has served on the Santa Monica-Malibu School Board. Nancy Patel has served over a decade on the SMMUSD PTA Board and as president of the Santa Monica-Malibu Education Foundation.

California State Senator Ben Allen recognized the Patels with a Certificate of Recognition at the event.

The fundraiser featured both live and silent auctions with donations from local organizations including Angel City Football Club, Birdie G's, BroadStage, Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, Maestro Foundation, Marina Racquet Club and Pacific Symphony.

Attendees enjoyed offerings from local wineries, distilleries and restaurants including Ayara Thai, Chicken King, Clos Solène Winery, Hayashi Whisky, Hunni Soju and Il Forno.

Notable guests included Gigi Decavalles-Hughes, former City of Santa Monica Finance Director; Jennifer Ferro, President of KCRW; Vincent Landay, Oscar-winning producer; and Jonathan Moerschel, violist of the Avery Fisher Career Grant winning Calder Quartet.

The gala was organized by Elemental Music committee members Janie Docter, Victor Komlos, Kenny Burgomaster, Marcia Capparela, Tony Huynh and Jean Wong.

While final fundraising totals are still being calculated, projections suggest Tasting Notes 2025 may be the most successful Elemental Music gala to date.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

I judged Gavin Newsom's podcast before listening. Then I realized I was part of the problem



Courtesy photo

NEWSOM: California Gov. Gavin Newsom speaks to reporters in the spin room after a presidential debate between President Joe Biden and Republican presidential candidate former President Donald Trump in Atlanta, Thursday, June 27, 2024.

When I saw the headlines about Gov. Gavin Newsom's new podcast, "This is Gavin Newsom," I rolled my eyes.

Media outlets buzzed with criticism. He was pandering to the right, giving platforms to extremists and abandoning Democratic values. Featuring far-right figures like Steve Bannon and Charlie Kirk felt like a betrayal — not just of progressive ideals, but of the communities Newsom had once fiercely championed.

As a California voter, I felt let down. I've marched for women's rights, knocked on doors for state lawmakers and even stayed politically engaged while living out-of-state. I once believed in Newsom's vision: flawed but fearless. But lately, his leadership feels like it's pivoting toward national optics, not California needs.

So when I heard about the podcast, I assumed the worst. Before listening, the headlines read: "Newsom flip-flops on trans rights." I was furious. It was surely another calculated move toward a bigger stage, or another politician trading values for visibility.

Then, I listened.

What I found wasn't capitulation. It was a conversation. Newsom wasn't yielding ground — he was entering the arena, however imperfectly. In a tense exchange with Kirk, the two sparred over transgender athletes in women's sports.

But when I heard him say, "Some of these things are more nuanced than we want to acknowledge. I get why people are concerned about fairness. I don't think it's transphobic to say that," I paused.

That didn't sound like betrayal. It sounded like someone trying to hold space for a hard conversation.

I'm not saying people should validate harmful rhetoric. But there's a difference between giving in and digging in. Leaning into nuance and listening to what's actually said, not just the loudest headline.

Newsom didn't land every punch, but he showed up in the ring.

The real gut check came when a friend asked me if I listened to the whole thing. I hadn't. I'd gone off the headlines. I always tell others to check their sources, dig deeper and avoid outrage as a substitute for understanding. And yet, I'd done exactly that.

In today's media climate, that's easy to do. A lot of headlines aren't designed to inform — they're crafted to provoke. And in a world of constant alerts, who has the time?

But this podcast reminded me that headlines are the hook, not the whole fight. We have to stop shadowboxing. We have to listen.

Ironically, the podcast's critics only amplified its reach. Right-wing outrage helped boost Newsom's visibility, intentionally or not. It echoed Trump-era dynamics of controversy as fuel and attention as currency. It made me wonder if we're all playing into the same script, feeding the spectacle we claim to despise.

But here's what matters: Newsom engaged. He challenged the binary narratives that dominate political discourse. He didn't have all the answers,

SEE **GUEST COMMENTARY** PAGE 11

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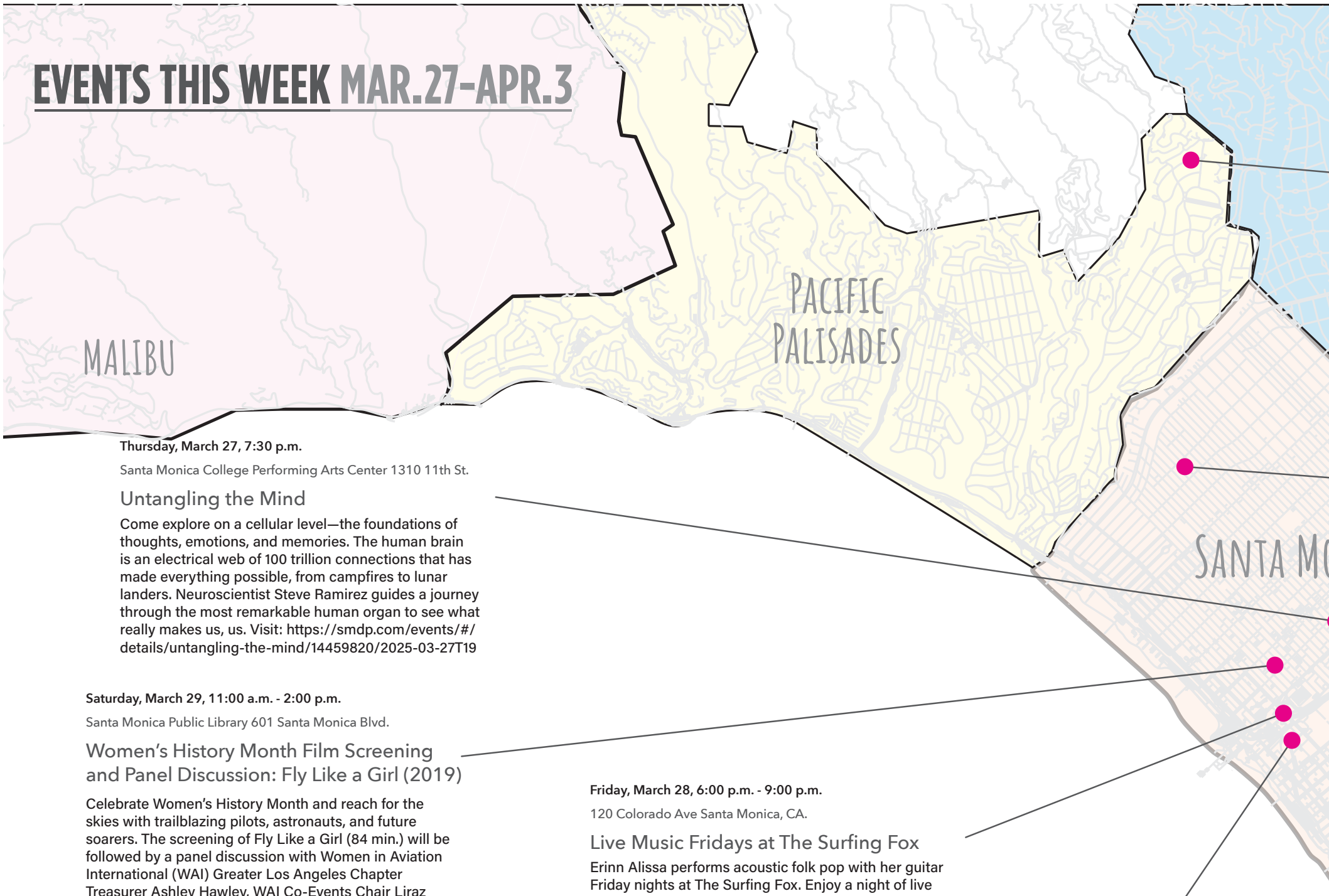
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EVENTS THIS WEEK MAR.27-APR.3



Thursday, March 27, 7:30 p.m.

Santa Monica College Performing Arts Center 1310 11th St.

Untangling the Mind

Come explore on a cellular level—the foundations of thoughts, emotions, and memories. The human brain is an electrical web of 100 trillion connections that has made everything possible, from campfires to lunar landers. Neuroscientist Steve Ramirez guides a journey through the most remarkable human organ to see what really makes us, us. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/untangling-the-mind/14459820/2025-03-27T19

Saturday, March 29, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Santa Monica Public Library 601 Santa Monica Blvd.

Women's History Month Film Screening and Panel Discussion: Fly Like a Girl (2019)

Celebrate Women's History Month and reach for the skies with trailblazing pilots, astronauts, and future soarers. The screening of Fly Like a Girl (84 min.) will be followed by a panel discussion with Women in Aviation International (WAI) Greater Los Angeles Chapter Treasurer Ashley Hawley, WAI Co-Events Chair Liraz Bershadsky, and Aerospace Engineer and Chief Product Officer at Airspace Experience Technologies Dr. Anita Seng. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/women-s-history-month-film-screening-and-panel-discussion-fly-like-a-girl-2019-/15241537/2025-03-29T11

Friday, March 28, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

120 Colorado Ave Santa Monica, CA.

Live Music Fridays at The Surfing Fox

Erinn Alissa performs acoustic folk pop with her guitar Friday nights at The Surfing Fox. Enjoy a night of live music, tasty bites, and Foxtails! Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/live-music-fridays-at-the-surfing-fox/14385252/2025-03-28T18

Thursday, March 27, 5:00 p.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Santa Monica Institute (SMI Room) 330 Olympic Blvd.

League of American Bicyclists - Bike Advocacy Workshop

Join us for a hands-on workshop on advocating for biking in America with the League of American Bicyclists!. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/league-of-american-bicyclists-bike-advocacy-workshop/14857121/2025-03-27T17

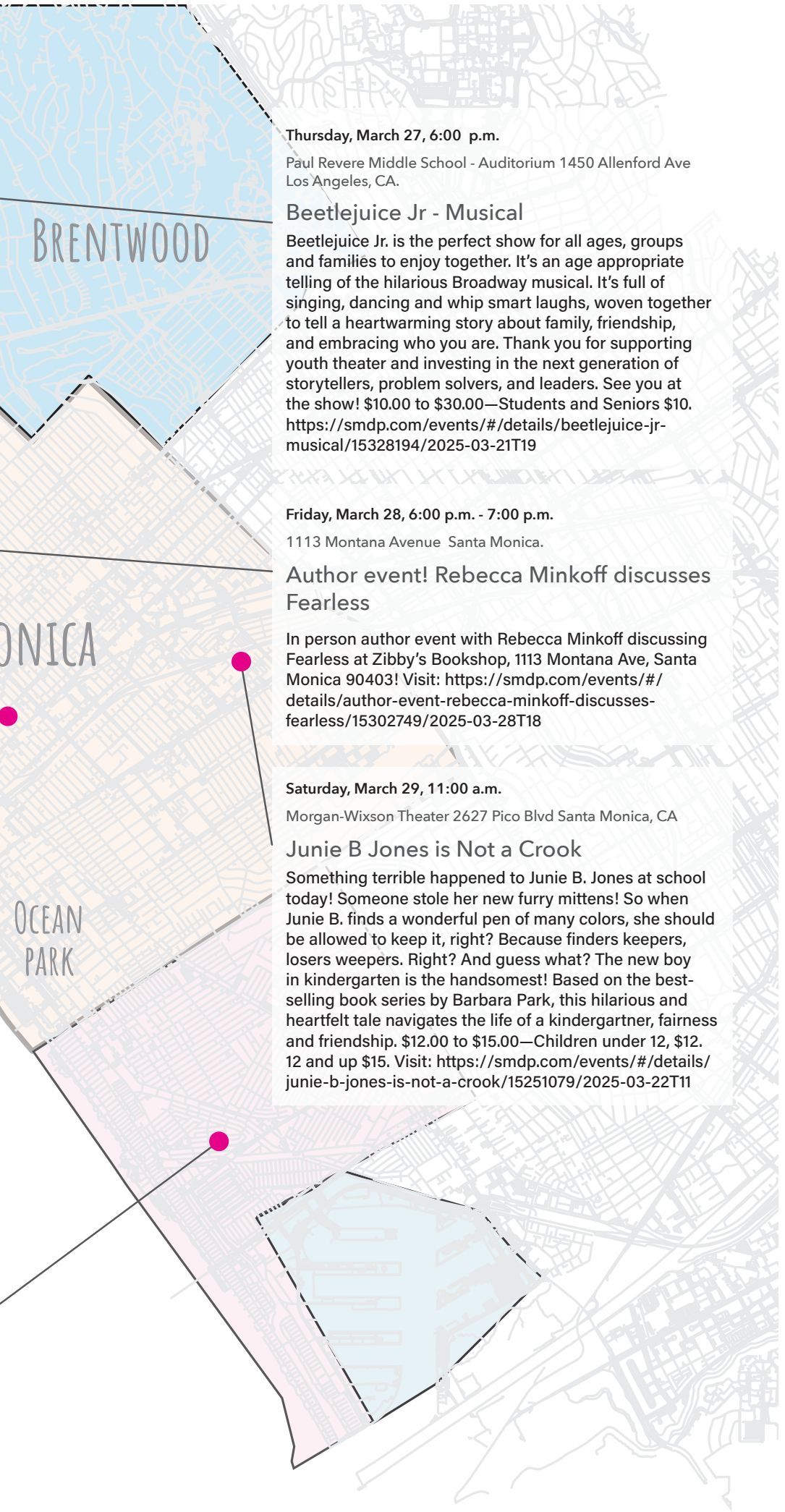
Friday, March 28, 9:45 a.m.

Venice Branch Library 501 S Venice Blvd.

Friends of Venice Library: Pilates - Core Work

Develop strength, flexibility and balance through the fusion of Pilates mat movement. All levels welcome. Please be EARLY. Class starts on-time at 9:45am. No entry after the first ten minutes. No class the day before the Friends' Book Sales. For ADA accommodations, call (213) 228-7430 at least 72 hours prior to the event. Para ajustes razonables según la ley de ADA, llama al (213) 228-7430 al menos 72 horas antes del evento. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/friends-of-venice-library-pilates-core-work/14548475/2025-03-28T09

Check out more events at: smdp.com/events



Thursday, March 27, 6:00 p.m.

Paul Revere Middle School - Auditorium 1450 Allenford Ave Los Angeles, CA.

Beetlejuice Jr - Musical

Beetlejuice Jr. is the perfect show for all ages, groups and families to enjoy together. It's an age appropriate telling of the hilarious Broadway musical. It's full of singing, dancing and whip smart laughs, woven together to tell a heartwarming story about family, friendship, and embracing who you are. Thank you for supporting youth theater and investing in the next generation of storytellers, problem solvers, and leaders. See you at the show! $10.00 to $30.00—Students and Seniors $10. https://smdp.com/events/#/details/beetlejuice-jr-musical/15328194/2025-03-21T19

Friday, March 28, 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

1113 Montana Avenue Santa Monica.

Author event! Rebecca Minkoff discusses Fearless

In person author event with Rebecca Minkoff discussing Fearless at Zibby's Bookshop, 1113 Montana Ave, Santa Monica 90403! Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/author-event-rebecca-minkoff-discusses-fearless/15302749/2025-03-28T18

Saturday, March 29, 11:00 a.m.

Morgan-Wixson Theater 2627 Pico Blvd Santa Monica, CA

Junie B Jones is Not a Crook

Something terrible happened to Junie B. Jones at school today! Someone stole her new furry mittens! So when Junie B. finds a wonderful pen of many colors, she should be allowed to keep it, right? Because finders keepers, losers weepers. Right? And guess what? The new boy in kindergarten is the handsomest! Based on the best-selling book series by Barbara Park, this hilarious and heartfelt tale navigates the life of a kindergartner, fairness and friendship. $12.00 to $15.00—Children under 12, $12. 12 and up $15. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/junie-b-jones-is-not-a-crook/15251079/2025-03-22T11



THURSDAY | MARCH 27

LA LAW LIBRARY OFFICE HOURS

2 - 6 p.m. Lobby, Santa Monica Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. A LA Law Library legal research specialist helps patrons find answers to legal questions, learn about the law, or prepare to go to court. Legal research specialists are not attorneys and cannot provide legal advice, help fill out forms, or interpret the law.

FRIDAY | MARCH 28

AUTHOR EVENT! REBECCA MINKOFF DISCUSSES FEARLESS

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Zibby's Bookshop is excited to welcome Rebecca Minkoff as she discusses Fearless: The New Rules for Unlocking Creativity, Courage, and Success. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/author-event-rebecca-minkoff-discusses-fearless/15302749/2025-03-28T18

SATURDAY | MARCH 29

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH FILM SCREENING

11 a.m. - 2 p.m. MLK Jr. Auditorium, Santa Monica Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. Celebrate Women's History Month with a screening of "Fly Like a Girl" followed by a panel discussion with Women in Aviation International (WAI) Greater Los Angeles Chapter Treasurer Ashley Hawley, WAI Co-Events Chair Liraz Bershadsky, and Aerospace Engineer and Chief Product Officer at Airspace Experience Technologies Dr. Anita Sengupta.

TEEN MOVIE

3 - 5 p.m. Youth Activity Room, Santa Monica Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. Join for a 90's themed movie night watching the Shakespeare-inspired teen movie "10 Things I Hate About You." 90s attire is encouraged. Snacks and beverages will be provided. For ages 13 - 18. Supported by the Friends of the Santa Monica Public Library.

SUNDAY | MARCH 30

GREASE

2 - 4 p.m. SMC Theater Arts Complex Main Stage, 1900 Pico Blvd. Organized by the SMC Theater Arts Department, "Grease" tells the story of a summer romance that may cross clique lines. Tickets $30, $25 seniors, $18 for SMC students, faculty and staff. Buy tickets at smc.edu/tickets or by calling 310-434-4165.

JUNIE B JONES IS NOT A CROOK

11:00 a.m. Morgan-Wixson Theater 2627 Pico Blvd. $12.00 to $15.00—Children under 12, $12. 12 and up $15. Something terrible happened to Junie B. Jones at school today! Someone stole her new furry mittens! So when Junie B. finds a wonderful pen of many colors, she should be allowed to keep it, right? Because finders keepers, losers weepers. Right? And guess what? The new boy in kindergarten is the handsomest! Based on the best-selling book series by Barbara Park, this hilarious and heartfelt tale navigates the life of a kindergartner, fairness and friendship. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/junie-b-jones-is-not-a-crook/15251079/2025-03-30T11

FLOW INTO SPRING: BEACH PILATES

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Lifeguard Tower 28. Flow into Spring with a 45 min Pilates workout experience on the beach led by Flow Pilates Club. Grab your comfiest workout set or sweats and be ready to work your core and connect with an amazing community. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/flow-into-spring-beach-pilates/15302750/2025-03-30T09

VENICE ELECTRIC LIGHT PARADE - SUNDAYS AT SUNSET

7:12 p.m. Windward Plaza 1501 Ocean Front Walk Venice. Join the Magic of the Venice Electric Light Parade Every Sunday Night! Looking for a unique and vibrant way to end your weekend? The Venice Electric Light Parade (VELP) is here to light up your Sunday evenings! Founded by Marcus Gladney, this family-friendly weekly event celebrates community, creativity, and safe cycling. Bring your LED-lit bicycle and join us for an unforgettable ride along the iconic Venice Beach. Details: When: Every Sunday evening. Meet 45 minutes before sunset. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/venice-electric-light-parade-sundays-at-sunset/14970341/2025-03-30T19

MONDAY | MARCH 31

SMC JAZZ ENSEMBLE

7:00 p.m. - 8:15 p.m. Santa Monica College Performing Arts Center 1310 11th St. $10; free with any student I.D. Frederick Keith Fiddmont, Conductor. Jazz is alive and well at SMC! Come enjoy jazz ensemble arrangements from the masters of the idiom, special guest performances, and new works from aspiring composers and arrangers. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/smc-jazz-ensemble/15093592/2025-03-31T19

THE GORDONS IMPROV RESIDENCY

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Westside Comedy Theater 1323-A 3rd St. $10.00. Welcome to The Gordons Improv Show at Westside Comedy Theater! IMPROV RESIDENT TEAM NIGHT! Check out our current lineup of Resident Improv Teams! These teams perform Long-Form Improv all inspired by a suggestion from the audience. Think of it as a sitcom made up on the spot. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/the-gordons-improv-residency/14863274/2025-03-31T19

20 QUESTIONS TRIVIA @ O'BRIEN'S

8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. O'Brien's Irlsh Pub & Restaurant 2226 Wilshire Blvd. 20 Questions Trivia is like no other trivia show, because you're a part of the show. Wrong answers count for partial credit if they're funny. Every week the show has a theme, and all the questions and/or answers revolve around that theme. That makes it possible to figure out the answer even if you don't know it. And every question is followed by a song, which is usually an additional clue to the correct answer. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/20-questions-trivia-o-brien-s/11788864/2025-03-31T20



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March 24-28

Santa Monica Education Foundation

$25,000
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Triple YOUR Impact Today!

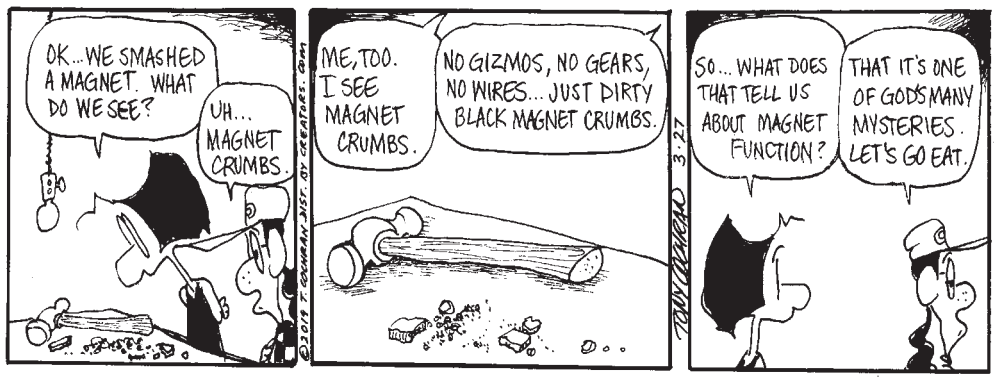
$2,500
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TRUST. EXPERIENCE.

SMEDfoundation.org/give

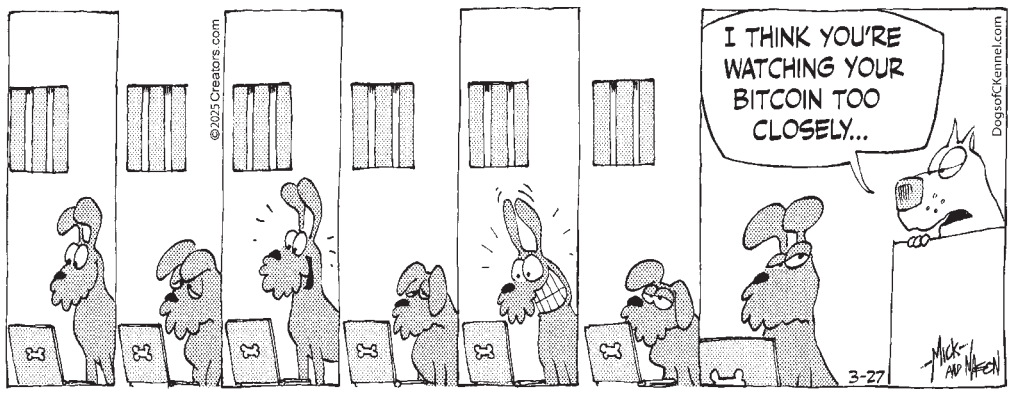
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



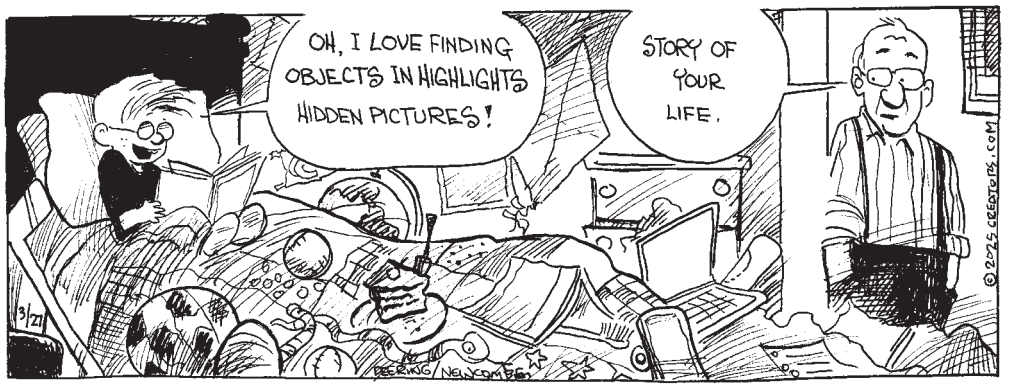
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



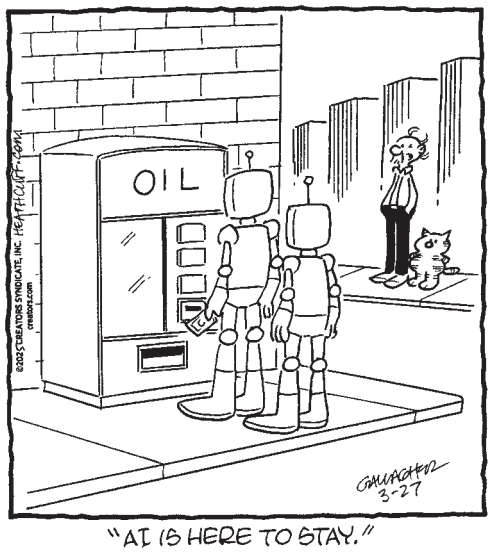
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

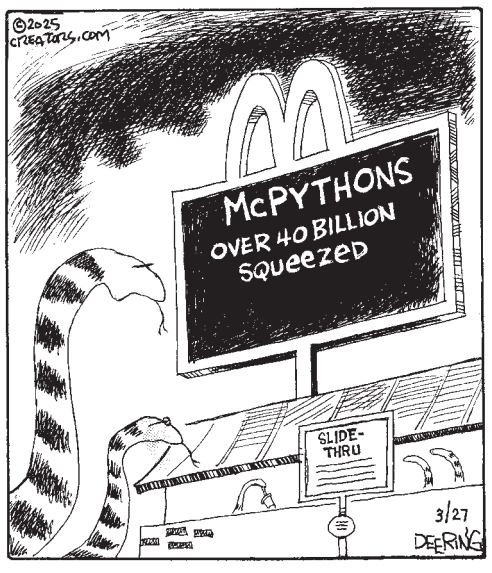
By PETER GALLAGHER



"AI IS HERE TO STAY."

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 26 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 6527

Our defence forces

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

Academy	Destruction	Jets	Rank
Anzac Day	Egypt	Korea	Rescue
Army	Ensign	Lethal	Sabre
At war	Fear	Lost	Safe
Attack	General	Major	Sailors
Base	Greece	Mates	Ships
Bomb	Grit	Mess	Submarines
Civvies	Guard	Navy	Tents
Club	Guns	Orders	Train
Crime	Heroes	Patrol	Unit
Deadly	Ills	Pride	
Depot	Iraq	RAAF	

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

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 19)

The world will celebrate something you make because it has you in it -- your voice, your perspective, your heart. Love takes on a passionate new dimension, bringing deep fulfillment. More highlights: Your specialized interests will bring you into new projects and lucrative arrangements. An uplifting mentor will be an inspiration and guiding light to you, and surprising perks will arise as the relationship develops. You'll apply your talent to helping family. Virgo and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 11, 40, 12, 31 and 33.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You don't quit. Your persistence has served you in the past, and it will serve you even more in the future. You'll continue to make art out of pain, comedy out of discomfort, friendships out of thin air. You are electric.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It takes confidence to be mysterious, and you have that. One must be cool enough to linger in the tension of the unknown, which would be nerve-wracking for those who need validation and acceptance. Your magnetism is strong today.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). When kids play grown-up, they zero in on the fun stuff -- glamorous jobs, big decisions, total freedom. But real adulthood? It's mostly what you're doing today: errands, bills and resisting the urge to make reckless choices just because you can. Still, it pays off in a way your inner child would love.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You only have access to your half of the relationship, so it's impossible to truly know how the other person is experiencing it. Yet, you'll try your best, projecting yourself into what you imagine their perspective might be. Even if you don't get it right, the effort fosters mutual respect.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The way people regard us is shaped by their own limitations or misunderstandings, not necessarily a reflection of who we truly are. You're moving toward the realization that you don't need to know another person's opinion to move forward.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). If you know how to reach your goal but don't do what's necessary to get there, something needs to change. Is it the goal? Is it you? When the match is right, you'll want to do what it takes. Today brings a liberating realization freeing you to find a better fit.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). A casual relationship is slipping naturally into your rhythm. It blends effortlessly with the beat of your life, like an instrument that suddenly makes the whole track groove better. Before long, you'll wonder how you ever made music without it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There's a vulnerability that comes custom fitted to the way you care about someone. Care deeply, and liability deepens, too, which can be frightening. To invest in someone is to hand over a bit of control. When you choose well, it's worth it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The thread of family is a connection worthy of the work, which can be considerable. Familial relationships are often tangled and unpredictable, with confusing emotional connections. But despite the twists and turns, the ties endure.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Carnival rides give you clear signals when it's time to get off; everything slows down, and you're gently brought back to the ground. The ride you're on now won't offer such obvious cues, but you'll pay attention, and instinct will tell you when to step off.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You are completely loved by someone who sees you in the best possible light. You're far harder on yourself than they would ever be. But today, you see yourself through their eyes -- and you're so much kinder to yourself because of it.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Certain safeties and assurances are a given for you today. Many would consider this a charmed life. The privilege isn't lost on you. You don't regard the tasks before you as things you have to do so much as get to do.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

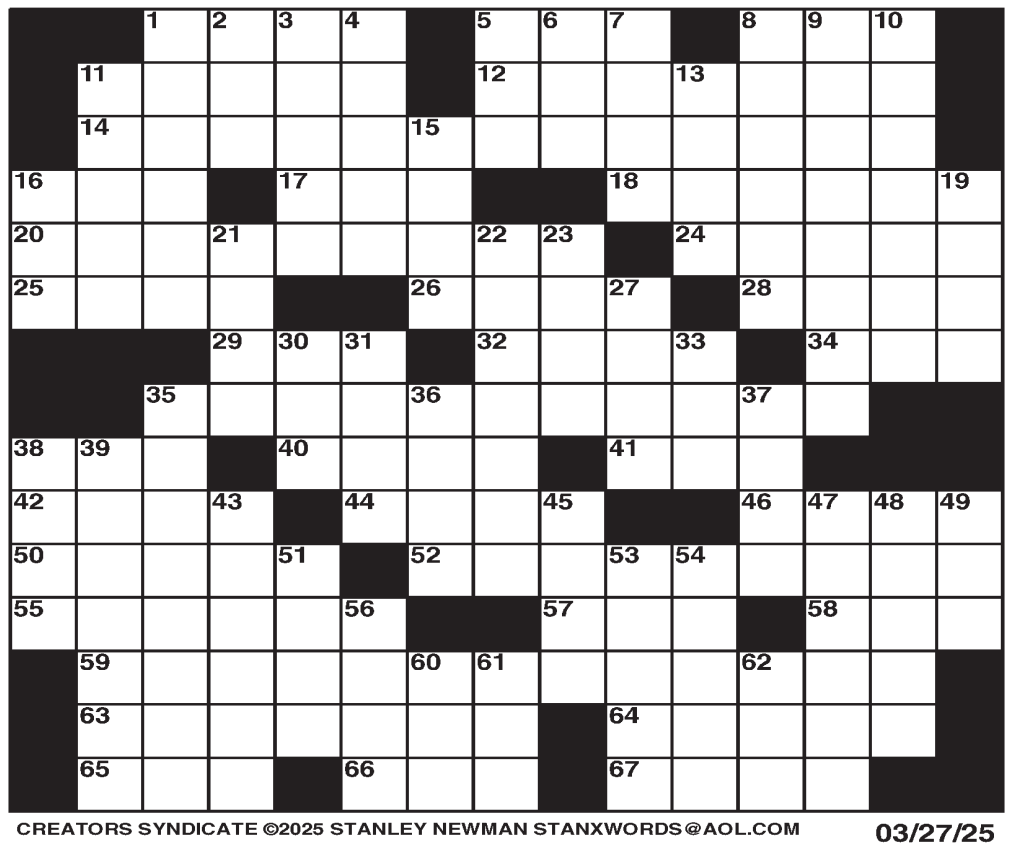
NOT SO HOT by Lin Josephson
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Cardinal point
5 Spot with springs
8 Uncommon sense
11 Novel's need
12 In name only
14 Something completely different
16 Scurried off
17 Rankle
18 California neighbor
20 Hostile looks
24 Emergency signal
25 Note to self
26 It means "averse to"
28 Fair attraction
29 __ chi class
32 Bit of change
34 Coral habitat
35 Far from a consolation
38 Medical record datum
40 Play first
41 Have yet to pay
42 Loose ground
44 Profusion
46 Mischief makers
50 High hope
52 Purposely excluded
55 Royal Navy weapons
57 Authorize
58 Apply leverage to
59 Venerable breakfast box
63 Metaphorical founders
64 Part of LED
65 Bracket shapes
66 Tactile encouragement
67 "Regrettably..."

DOWN

1 Term from a name
2 Be under par
3 Slow mover
4 Latin land
5 Auto products brand
6 Remarkable thing
7 Energy source
8 Magic medicine
9 Jonathan Swift, e.g.
10 Come before
11 Elbowroom
13 Capitalizes on
15 Southern fried fare
16 Glass border
19 First floor apartment, perhaps
21 Head for
22 Person writing cryptograms
23 Apple topper
27 Data
30 Best effort
31 "Et tu" time
33 Get a glider started
35 Brainy
36 Young whale
37 Apt rhyme for "restrain"
38 Mixes in
39 Treetop nibbler
43 Mystical cards
45 Coyote cousin
47 Noisy bikes
48 Prize money
49 Muddy place
51 Fit well together
53 Mrs. Fitzgerald
54 Net sales
56 Instructional bit
60 What a coup could end
61 What ends every Nov.
62 RV stopover franchise



CREATORS SYNDICATE ©2025 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM

03/27/25

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

WATER

FROM PAGE 1

"This is the only viable option because it would rehabilitate all four potable water storage reservoirs on an eight to 10-year period," said Councilmember Caroline Torosis. "As the climate crisis intensifies, and as we know how important it is to have safe, clean potable water, we have to invest in making sure that we have a system that has all the capital improvement projects funded."

The rate increase will fund rehabilitation of four water storage reservoirs with a combined 40-million-gallon capacity — equivalent to about four days of the city's total water supply. These reservoirs, ranging from 60 to over 100 years old, are essential for daily water demands and responding to emergencies like the recent wildfires that threatened the region.

Sunny Wang, Water Resources Manager for Santa Monica, emphasized the risks of deferring maintenance on the aging infrastructure and said all water in the city must pass through a reservoir before distribution making them a linchpin of the service.

"The risk of failure in a seismic event, or just due to the age of the reservoirs itself — anywhere from 60 to 70 years old, 100 years old — is inability to provide water during emergencies like the wildfire event," Wang told the council. "Depending on which of the four reservoirs fails, we could lose our entire water supply."

Despite the increases, city officials note that Santa Monica's water rates remain competitive with neighboring communities. The proposed first-tier water rate for single-family homes still falls within the range of rates charged by Culver City, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, and Beverly Hills. For multi-family properties, Santa Monica's rates are comparable to those in Pasadena, Beverly Hills, and Culver City.

Wang highlighted that Santa Monica offers greater water supply diversity than many neighboring systems, a factor that proved crucial during recent emergencies.

"During the fires, we actually ramped up our water supply to 110%," Wang said. "We were able to do that because of our sustainable water infrastructure project that we ramped up to 100% to fill water trucks if needed, and that didn't put any strain on our potable water supply for the fire hydrants."

The rate increases follow five years of revenue shortfalls totaling approximately $27 million across the water and wastewater funds. Officials attribute these shortfalls to the COVID-19 pandemic, which reduced commercial and multi-family residential water usage, and climate change impacts that created alternating drought and wet winter periods affecting water consumption patterns.

Despite these financial challenges, the Water Resources Division successfully delivered several key projects over the past five years, including the Arcadia Water Treatment Plant expansion and an advanced water metering infrastructure system. The city secured these achievements by obtaining grants, low-interest loans, and deferring routine capital projects.

The rate structure maintains provisions for low-income customers, offering discounts on first-tier water rates for qualified single-family households. The discounts, which benefit more than 360 customer accounts, are subsidized by the city's General Fund at approximately $115,000 annually for water services and $40,000 for wastewater services.

The city plans extensive community outreach before final adoption, including neighborhood meetings and forums. Officials will distribute Proposition 218 notices to customers beginning April 11, with a public hearing scheduled for June 10. If adopted, the new rates would take effect July 1.

editor@smdp.com

BUILDING

FROM PAGE 1

also responsible for other recent developments in and around the neighboring area.

The applicant is seeking density bonus incentives under state housing law, which would allow exceptions to certain zoning regulations. In return, four of the 24 units – three one bedroom and one studio apartment – would be reserved as affordable housing for very low- and moderate-income residents.

The proposed building would include shared amenities located on both the ground and top floors, according to architectural drawings. The site is currently occupied by 10 small residential buildings, which would be demolished to make way for the new construction. No timeline for approval or construction was included in the filing.

If approved, the project would add to a growing list of infill housing developments aimed at addressing the city's ongoing housing shortage.

scott.snowden@smdp.com

NOTEWORTHY

FROM PAGE 2

Monica's Harvelle's, the oldest blues bar in LA (almost a century!), is a treasure that you shouldn't assume will always be there. Toledo choreographs (literally) a truly unique show, a blend of '50s hipster jazz and his dancing dames and a most modern smokin' hot band that gets better all the time. Every Sunday 9:30 p.m., Harvelle's, Santa Monica, $12.

COMING ATTRACTIONS (also recommended): MOZART'S "COSI FAN TUTTE," LA OPERA, Dorothy Chandler, 3/27, 30; TOLEDO DIAMOND, Harvelle's, 3/30, 4/6; HOT CLUB OF LOS ANGELES, Cinema Bar, 3/31, 4/7; "WE ❤ L.A.!," DUDAMEL, LA PHIL, Hwd Bowl, 4/1; CARMEN LUNDY, Jazz Bakery, 4/5; TONY GILKYSON & RICK SHEA, CINDY LEE BERRYHILL, McCabe's, 4/6; LA OPERA Presents TERENCE BLANCHARD QUINTET, TURTLE ISLAND STRING QUARTET, Soraya, 4/6; POPAGANZA, Pacific Opera Project, Ebell, 4/7.

DOWN THE ROAD (also recommended): VIVALDI "4 SEASONS," MOZART, HAYDN, LA PHIL, Disney Hall, 4/10, 11, 12, 13; DUDAMEL, LA PHIL, GREEN DAY, CHARLI XCX, otherrs, Coachella, 4/12, 19; MIGUEL ZENON QUARTET, Jazz Bakery, 4/13; LIBRARY GIRL, Ruskin, 4/13, 5/11, 6/8, 7/13, 8/10, 9/14, 10/12, 11/9, 12/14; TOLEDO DIAMOND, Harvelle's, 4/13, 20, 27; HOT CLUB OF LOS ANGELES, Cinema Bar, 4/14, 21, 28, 5/5, 12, 19, 26; PUSSY RIOT, Lodge Room, 4/20; ALBERT LEE, McCabe's, 4/26; LIGHT UP THE BLUES! NEIL YOUNG, STEPHEN STILLS, more, Greek, 4/26; LUCKY STARS, Broadstage, 4/26; LA OPERA'S "AINADAMAR," Dorothy Chandler, 4/26, 5/3, 4, 7, 15, 18; PATRICE RUSHEN, Disney, 5/2; BEETHOVEN with ESA-PEKKA, Disney, 5/2, 3, 4; BEACHLIFE FESTIVAL, PRETENDERS, JACKSON BROWNE, ALANIS MORISSETTE, MARCUS KING, more, Redondo Beach, 5/2, 3, 4; JACK WHITE, Hwd Palladium, 5/12, 13; WILLIE, DYLAN, others, Hwd Bowl, 5/16; JON BATISTE, Disney, 5/19; GERSHWIN, "Also Sprach Z," LA PHIL, Disney, 5/23, 24; DIEGO FIGUEIREDO/KEN PEPLOWSKI, Jazz Bakery, 5/24; LOVE, Echo, 5/31; RICKY GERVAIS, Hwd Bowl, 5/31; BLUE NOTE JAZZ FEST Day 2, GRACE JONES, STANLRY CLARKE N.4EVER, others, Hwd Bowl, 6/15; RHIANNON GIDDENS, STEVE MARTIN, others, Hwd Bowl, 6,18; JOHN FOGERTY, Hwd Bowl, 7/6; PAUL SIMON, Disney, 7/7, 9, 11, 12, 14, 16; ALISON KRAUS, UNION STATION, Greek, 7/13; FATHER JOHN MISTY, LUCINDA WILLIAMS, Greek, 7/25; TEDESCHI TRUCKS BAND, Greek, 8/13; FLAMING LIPS, MODEST MOU SE, Greek, 9/4; NEIL YOUNG, Hwd Bowl, 9/15; NINE INCH NAILS, Kia Forum, 9/18, 19; ORIANTHI, Canyon Agoura Hills, 10/3.

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 39 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Not even Kauai. Send love and/or hate mail to: therealmrmusic@gmail.com

AROUND TOWN

FROM PAGE 3

WHAT TO EAT & DRINK?

Grilled Cheese & Beer Night @ Andrew's Cheese Shop: Expect a tangy, zippy starter salad, four courses of their famous grilled cheeses paired with four specialty beers, with an Imperial Stout Float with French Vanilla Ice cream for dessert. $75/person. Friday, March 28, 7:30p.m. @ 728 Montana Ave. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/andrews-march-grilled-cheese-beer-night-tickets-1250776559359

Crudo e Nudo Mischief Wine Take-Over: Mischief winemaker, Jeff Bowers, will be joining us for dinner March 28th. Bowers, LA winemaker, illustrator, and film programmer, makes organic, low intervention wines highlight California's Central and South coast terroir and individuality. Join us for an evening of thoughtful pairings and early Spring vibes. Friday, March 28, 5:00p.m., 2724 Main St. https://resy.com/cities/santa-monica-ca/venues/crudo-e-nudo/events/mischief-wine-take-over-2025-03-28

Spotlight on Female Winemakers at Wallys: Discover the remarkable talent of female winemakers as we explore a curated selection of wines, complemented by artisanal cheese and charcuterie. $35. Saturday, March 29, 12p.m., 214 Wilshire Blvd. https://www.opentable.com/booking/experiences-availability?rid=1020850&restref=1020850&experienceId=437494

Santa Monica Brew Works Launching 'We Love LA' Beer Line with Proceeds Going to Los Angeles Wildfire Relief Efforts: Santa Monica Brew Works is leading the effort highlighted in this KTLA video report and already has 200+ partner breweries signed up. https://ktla.com/news/california/200-breweries-launching-we-love-la-beer-line-with-proceeds-going-to-los-angeles-wildfire-relief-efforts/

Santa Monica's Next Great California-Italian Restaurant Comes From the Chef Behind Alimento: This EaterLA report details how Zach Pollack will open Cosetta along Ocean Park Boulevard in Santa Monica in early April. https://la.eater.com/2025/3/20/24390619/cosetta-santa-monica-zach-pollack-italian-californian

Tar & Roses Furry Friend Fridays: The downtown staple is encouraging people to bring their fur babies to their patio by offering them and you a treat. 602 Santa Monica Blvd. https://www.tarandroses.com/

Further Afield: Experience the Future of Experiential Dining at The Gallery: Using cutting-edge 360° technology and live performers, The Gallery brings you ever-changing immersive dinner shows. It is an interactive sensory journey going beyond the traditional restaurant experience, guiding guests through a five-course meal inspired by the elements—Earth, Water, Air, Fire, and Aether. 330 West Olympic Blvd. https://feverup.com/m/297455

Looking Ahead: Wellness & Waves (4/5); Juniper Market (4/12); Earth Day Celebration (4/22)

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: Bergamot Comedy Festival, Grilled Cheese & Beer Night, & More!

GUEST COMMENTARY

FROM PAGE 5

but he asked the questions. That kind of engagement doesn't signal weakness. It signals a shift toward dialogue, not division.

In my own policy work, I've learned that compromise isn't everyone getting what they want. It's about understanding what people are willing to give up and why. That requires listening past the surface, asking deeper questions and staying at the table even when it's uncomfortable.

As sociologist Pierre Bourdieu wrote, "A political compromise is not the negation of struggle, but its transformation into a more strategic form."

I judged the podcast before I heard it. In doing so, I nearly missed a model for the kind of political discourse we desperately need — one grounded not in performative outrage but in curiosity, respect and the belief that progress lies, not on the extremes, but somewhere in the messy middle.

Nanette Star is a policy director, writer and public health strategist. She has two decades of experience working in tribal and urban Indian health systems, federal policy and health equity initiatives. This article was originally published by CalMatters.

SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

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SPRING & SUMMER



Photo by Jonathan Ng

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