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Changing demographics seen as a challenge to reducing homelessness

MADELEINE PAUKER
Daily Press Staff Writer

City Hall will prioritize mental health treatment and building new housing in its efforts to reduce homelessness.

City Council voted Tuesday to follow a four-pronged strategy to address homelessness that staff recommended, emphasizing the City should explore opening a behavioral health center and operating a van for field-based mental health services, create permanent supportive housing for homeless Santa Monicans and develop a cohesive homelessness strategy with neighboring communities.

The "four pillars" approach also aims to expand homelessness prevention efforts, such as a program that provides rent assistance to low-income seniors, and commit funding for the City's new C3 and HMST teams, which connect people on the street with housing and services.

Santa Monica's homeless population jumped 26 percent between 2016 and 2017 but grew by four percent in 2018 and three percent in 2019, according to annual Homeless Count data. Despite slowing population growth, the city's police and fire departments report they are dealing with the mental health and substance abuse problems of homeless individuals more frequently.

Mayor Gleam Davis said she thinks visible mental illness makes residents uncomfortable and the

SEE **HOMELESSNESS** PAGE 6

Court allows Council to stay pending results of CVRA appeal

MADELEINE PAUKER
Daily Press Staff Writer

The City of Santa Monica will not hold a district-based election or vacate its City Council until an appellate court rules on the voting rights case it has been fighting for almost two years following a recent ruling by the California Court of Appeals.

Judge Yvette Palazuelos ruled Feb. 15 that the City of Santa Monica's at-large election system violates the California Voting Rights Act (CVRA) because it suppresses the voting power of the Santa Monica's Latino population. The ruling prohibited councilmembers who were elected in at-large elections from serving past Aug. 15 and ordered the City to hold a special election on July 2 to elect councilmembers according to a seven-district map drawn by the plaintiffs in the case, Maria Loya and the Pico Neighborhood Association.

The City appealed the final ruling, automatically halting the order to

SEE **CVRA** PAGE 6

Hotel workers rally for enhanced protections



Madeleine Pauker

RALLY: Members of Unite Here Local 11 gathered at City Hall this week to support increased worker safety.

MADELEINE PAUKER
Daily Press Staff Writer

Local hotel workers are calling on the City of Santa Monica to create a new law that would provide them with a way to call for help when they experience sexual harassment or assault on the job.

City Council voted last October to create legislation to protect hotel workers from sexual violence and unreasonable workloads, as well as train them to identify human trafficking when it occurs in their workplaces. In a demonstration in front of City Hall Tuesday, workers represented by UNITE HERE Local 11, a union representing hotel workers in Southern California and Arizona,

and Councilmembers Ana Maria Jara and Kevin McKeown said they have been waiting five months for City staff to bring an ordinance back to Council and demanded that the process be expedited.

Nellie Ruiz, who worked at a downtown hotel for two years, said workers urgently need panic buttons they can use to report misconduct and remove themselves from dangerous situations, a measure Council endorsed in October. Women in hotel jobs are at an increased risk of sexual assault because they often work in isolated rooms and rely on tips, according to the City's Commission on the Status of Women.

"Coming from the worker perspective, five months is a really long time," she said. "This is something that needs to happen now."

Ismelda Reyes, a laundry attendant, said the only training she received to prevent sexual assault was to block the doors of hotel rooms with her cart.

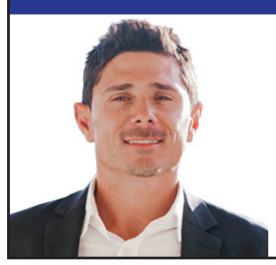
"I don't know what I would do if I ever found myself in a dangerous situation with

guests in the rooms, since there

SEE **HOTEL RALLY** PAGE 6

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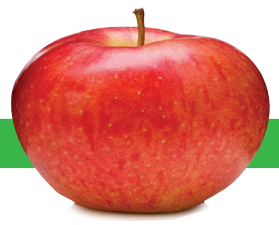
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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, March 28

Manifesto Writing with Max King Cap

Say it Like You Mean It! Manifestos feature concentrated writing that exists to challenge, draw attention, and provoke. Choose a position, a mantra, an oath–then spell it out on a single sheet of paper. Whether you focus on content or font design, make every mark count! You can try a classic numbered-clause manifesto, make it short and sweet - a one sentence meme, or craft a mission statement that lays out the groundwork for your future. Explore the possibilities! Cost: $5 Register online or call 310.458.2239. Palisades Park 1 - 3 p.m.

Classic Film & Discussion: A Face in the Crowd (1957)

Film scholar Vivian Rosenberg screens and discusses this classic in which an Arkansas drifter is discovered by the producer of a small radio station and becomes an overnight media sensation, ultimately rising to great fame and influence on national television. (film run time 125 min.) Montana Avenue Branch Library 2 - 5 p.m.

Gallery Artist Talk

On and off the Street is an exhibition of street photography examining the blurred lines of overlapping public, private and personal space. Curated by M. Robert Markovich. Featured artists are Philip Adam, Cindy Bendat, Tommi Cahill, M. Robert Markovich, Douglas McCulloh, and William Purcell. Join us for a conversation with the artists and light refreshments. Annenberg Community Beach House Terrace Lounge 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Soundwaves Concert: Susan Svrcek PianoSpheres Preview

Contemporary piano music performed by Susan Svrcek. Main Library Martin Luther King, Jr. Auditorium 7:30 p.m.

Friday, March 29

Women Making a Difference Infinity and Beyond

A panel featuring Loretta Hidalgo Whitesides, Space Exploration Author and Astronaut in Training. 1-3 p.m. at Ken Edwards Center (1527 4th Street). Free.

Saturday, March 30

View Deck Closed

The View Deck will be closed to the public on March 28 and March 30 due to a private event. Annenberg Community Beach House All Day.

Cesar Chavez Celebration

In collaboration with Familias Latinas Unidas (FLU), celebrate Cesar Chavez. Enjoy a speaker presentation, a play performed by FLU and a documentary. Pico Branch Library 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Ganggangsullae Round Dance with DaEun Jung

Explore the Korean Ganggangsullae group dance form. Wear clothes to move in and comfortable shoes. Cost: $5 Register online or call 310.458.2239. Palisades Park 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Play, Learn, Grow

Spend the morning playing with family and friends in our indoor play space with centers for art, music, games, and sensory play. For families. Fairview Branch Library 11:15 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

Sunday, March 31

Paul Stein & Leo Marcus: Unknown Romantic Masterpieces from Delius & Reger

Join us for a program of violin and piano sonatas by Frederic Delius and Max Reger. Delius and Reger wrote sonatas in the second decade of the 20th century, coping in different ways with the emergence of "modern" music out of the romanticism of the late 19th century. Main Library Martin Luther King, Jr. Auditorium 2 - 3:30 p.m.

Monday, April 1, 2019

Pico Teen Advisory Council Meeting

Have a voice at your library! Help plan programs and community service projects while earning volunteer hours. Meets once a month in The Annex. Grades 8-12. Pico Branch Library 4 - 5 p.m.

Architectural Review Board Meeting

The Santa Monica Architectural Review Board normally meets on the first and third Monday of every month in the City Council Chamber. City Hall Council Chamber 7 p.m.

Money Smart Week: Social Security, Taxes and Retirement

Don't be an April fool with your money. In this lecture, financial advisor Adam Strauss teaches you everything you don't know – but should – about social security, taxes and retirement. Fairview Branch Library 7 -8:30 p.m.

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

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SAN FRANCISCO

Facebook extends ban on hate speech to 'white nationalists'

Facebook is extending its ban on hate speech to prohibit the promotion and support of white nationalism and white separatism.

The company previously allowed such material even though it has long banned white supremacists. The social network said Wednesday that it didn't apply the ban previously to expressions of white nationalism because it linked such expressions with broader concepts of nationalism and separatism – such as American pride or Basque separatism (which are still allowed).

But civil rights groups and academics called this view "misguided" and have long pressured the company to change its stance. Facebook said it concluded after months of "conversations" with them that white nationalism and separatism cannot be meaningfully separated from white supremacy and organized hate groups.

Critics have "raised these issues to the highest levels at Facebook (and held) a number of working meetings with their staff as we've tried to get them to the right place," said Kristen Clarke, president and executive director of the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, a Washington, D.C.-based legal advocacy group.

"This is long overdue as the country continues to deal with the grip of hate and the increase in violent white supremacy," she said. "We need the tech sector to do its part to combat these efforts."

Though Facebook said it has been working on the change for three months, it comes less than two weeks after Facebook received widespread criticism after the suspect in shootings at two New Zealand mosques that killed 49 people was able to broadcast the massacre on live video on Facebook.

As part of the change, people who search for terms associated with white supremacy will be directed to a group called Life After Hate, which was founded by former extremists who want to help people leave the violent far-right.

Clarke called the idea that white supremacism is different than white nationalism or white separatism a misguided "distinction without a difference."

She said the New Zealand attack was a "powerful reminder about why we need the tech sector to do more to stamp out the conduct and activity of violent white supremacists."

BARBARA ORTUTAY AND MICHAEL KUNZELMAN, ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO

Assembly Democrats want lower threshold to raise local taxes

California voters could decide next year whether it should be easier for their local governments to raise taxes and issue bonds for public projects.

Such actions currently require support from two-thirds of local voters. A constitutional amendment proposed Wednesday would lower that to 55 percent.

Lawmakers say the two-thirds threshold allows a minority of voters to derail needed projects.

It would apply to public infrastructure projects such as fire and police facilities, parks, public libraries, broadband expansion and affordable housing.

It needs support from two-thirds of both houses to go on the ballot. A majority of voters would then need to approve it. Democratic Assemblywoman Cecilia Aguiar-Curry says she wants it on the November 2020 ballot.

A taxpayer group says increased parcel taxes would hurt property owners.

KATHLEEN RONAYNE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO

Audit finds poor planning led to California DMV issues

California auditors say the Department of Motor Vehicles didn't properly prepare for customers lining up to get new federally approved drivers' licenses, leading to hours-long wait times last year.

The finance department auditors said Wednesday that the DMV had significant deficiencies in planning and implementation as Californians began updating their drivers' licenses to meet new federal security standards known as Real ID.

Airport security checkpoints won't accept cards without special markings required by the federal government after Oct. 1, 2020. Californians must apply in person at DMV offices to get the new cards.

But auditors say the long lines that angered drivers and lawmakers merely highlighted significant underlying weaknesses. They include outdated computers and problems with scheduling appointments.

Department officials must submit a corrective action plan within 60 days.

DON THOMPSON ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

5 arrested in brutal assault on pregnant Los Angeles teacher

Anti-gang officers and detectives arrested three men and two women suspected of taking part in a brutal carjacking and assault on a pregnant school teacher last week, the Los Angeles Police Department said Wednesday.

The victim suffered 11 stab wounds, a punctured lung and lost two teeth, but she is recovering and her baby is fine, police said.

All five suspects were apprehended within three days through an extensive investigation, witness statements, surveillance video and intelligence gathering, a department statement said.

The case was quickly presented to the Los Angeles County district attorney's hardcore gang division. All five were charged Monday with attempted murder, carjacking, robbery and hit-and-run. The filing includes gang enhancements against all defendants and additional aggravated mayhem and great bodily injury enhancements against one suspect.

The attack occurred March 20 in the Sunland area of northern Los Angeles.

The teacher was parking on a street outside her home when three men surrounded her vehicle and one asked to borrow her cellphone, police said.

"The victim refused, and one of the suspects punched and stabbed the victim multiple times as she remained seated in the driver's seat of her vehicle," the statement said. "The victim was then forcibly dragged out of her vehicle while another suspect removed property from inside the vehicle."

One assailant fled in a waiting car while two others stole the teacher's car but quickly crashed and then ran off.

The victim, first-grade teacher Tanya Nguyen, spoke from bed in an emotional Facebook video last weekend, saying she was overwhelmed by the support she has received.

"I'm going to get through this, I promise," she said.

A gofundme account was established to help pay her medical bills.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

UCLA

UCLA Receives Multiple Awards at 2019 Kiwanis Youth Convention

UCLA's chapter of Circle K International (CKI) attended the 65th Annual Circle K International California-Nevada-Hawaii District Convention in Los Angeles, California on March 22-24, 2019, where the club was recognized in outstanding achievements, placing in five competitive categories with a total of 16 award acknowledgments. With 159 members, the chapter raised over $11,000 for various charities and volunteered over 8,100 service hours this past year.

The UCLA Chapter received the Camille Goulet Distinguished Club Award, First Place in Mei Po Wong Overall Service in the Platinum Division (chapters with more than 110 members), Second Place in Outstanding Total Achievement in the Platinum Division, Second Place in Total Funds Raised for Independent Charities, and Third Place in Totals Funds Raised for the Pediatric Trauma Program. UCLA has been recognized in club achievement at the district and international levels in previous years as well.

In addition to the club's overall achievements, the following committee-related awards were presented: John Woodall Distinguished Membership Development and Education Award to Ethan Vuong, Christina Kieu, Amir Patel, Deborah Bor, Belen Bravo, and Jeffrey Lin, Don Hall Distinguished Kiwanis Family Relations Award to Belen Bravo and Leslie Adame, and Distinguished Appointed Board Award to Kylee Lyons, Gina Apinyavat, Kevin Ru, Belen Bravo,

SEE **COMMUNITY BRIEFS** PAGE 11



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Sustainable Quality Awards
WINNER

Culture Watch

By Sarah A. Spitz | Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Spring Potpourri



Courtesy photo

MOVIE: Steve Bannon charges up a crowd in new documentary, "The Brink."

Sometimes there's just too much happening to focus on one event. This week, two movies and two book events deserve your attention.

THE BRINK: STEVE BANNON

The last thing I want to do is promote Steve Bannon, the notorious former Breitbart News editor and former Trump advisor. They've been in a spitting match since Bannon was dismissed as chief strategist, though it's said he still has a direct line to The White House.

One thing he hasn't done is go quiet. Instead he's parlayed his power into stoking a global white nationalist movement. The documentary examining this, called "The Brink," premiered at Sundance this year, and is coming to The Landmark Theatre in West L.A. starting tomorrow (Friday, March 29).

We see how he does watching his political influence on the 2018 U.S. midterm elections and in his efforts to mobilize and unify far-right parties in the upcoming May 2019 European Parliament elections, using dark money, hateful rhetoric and deceptive propaganda.

Producer Marie Therese Guirgis ran Wellspring, an arthouse film company that Bannon's investment group bought in 2003, then closed in 2006. As he got involved in the Tea Party movement, and later in the Trump campaign, she grew disgusted and wrote him about her feelings. She was surprised when he wrote back, and decided to ask him if she could do a documentary about him; after four "asks," he finally said yes.

She chose filmmaker Alison Klayman, whose "Ai Weiwei: Never Sorry" was shortlisted for a 2012 Academy Award. In Bannon's testosterone-driven world, Klayman, a one-woman film crew, was also often the only woman. She followed him around the world, from London to Prague, Budapest, Venice, Rome, shooting fly-on-the-wall, verité, non-stop footage, sometimes 10 hours a day. There is no narrator; just Bannon and his those he interacts with in their own words. Many of which are xenophobic, anti-islamic and anti-semitic.

Klayman says the film is not trying to humanize him. Instead, she says she wants to "demystify him. He's obviously a human being, he's hungry, he gets angry. You want your enemy to be a monster, but in truth, they're human, and for me that's what makes them scarier."

The result is a disturbing look at a very chilling man, sadly an emblem of our times and a warning that people need to pay attention and fight back. https://www.landmarktheatres.com/los-angeles/the-landmark

MARY KAY PLACE IN PERSON

You loved her in "Big Love," and maybe even more in "Fernwood Tonight." But the new feature film "Diane," shows you a very different side of Mary Kay Place. The movie opens tomorrow (Friday, March 29) at the Nuart Theatre in West L.A., and these are usually short runs, so go very soon.

Diane is a woman of a certain age for whom everyone else comes first. She's got a lot on her plate, checking on sick friends, volunteering at a soup kitchen, and trying to save her heroin-addicted adult son, while close friends around her are dying. Despite her sacrifices, she's harboring a painful secret that impacts her world and she needs redemption.

This very quiet but powerful film is well

SEE **CULTURE WATCH** PAGE 11

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Noteworthy

By Charles Andrews
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

I'm Gaga Over Great Music

Numero Uno reason I moved here nearly 40 years ago, and boy was I right: you never lack for great live music in LA.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

RICK SHEA, I SEE HAWKS IN L.A. (hooray! two of my favoritest California country groups, together, just outside SM, at a cool little watering hole, no cover charge and sanely priced drinks, The Cinema Bar is so tiny you should get there early if you want to snag a seat but you will want to stay all night, dance a little longer), Fri 9 p.m., The Cinema Bar, Culver City, free.

CUNLIFFE, OLES AND ERSKINE (can't miss this, so I will catch the early show then boot scoot over to The Cinema Bar and by 11 I should have a head, heart and soul full of great music, I've known the rep of GRAMMY-winner Cunliffe for decades but don't think I've ever seen him, he played and arranged for the great Buddy Rich, was 1989 winner of the prestigious Thelonious Monk piano competition, performed with the Clayton Brothers and the Clayton Hamilton Jazz Orchestra for 10 years, I became an instant fan of bassist Darek Oles when I saw him play not long ago with skins magician Peter Erskine, right here, longtime SM denizen Erskine loves this club because it's in his backyard and is such a terrific jazz room, this is a rare opportunity in a small, cool venue, don't miss it), Fri 8 p.m., 9:30 p.m., Sam First, LAX, $20.

RECOMMENDED:

TONIGHT! — LA PHIL - GERSHWIN, RAVEL (met each other at a New York party in 1928 and expressed deep mutual admiration and passion for jazz, this concert bookends two Gershwin compositions with two Ravels, starting with the "Cuban Overture" and ending with "An American in Paris"), Thurs, Fri 8 p.m. — "Casual Fridays" drops one 17-min. Ravel, and ticket prices, no intermission BUT free drinks in the garden beforehand and an apres-concert meet with orchestra members and more drinks, alllright — Sat, Sun 2 p.m., Walt Disney Hall, DTLA, $76-$229.

TONIGHT! — LA CHAMBER ORCHESTRA - Barber's ADAGIO FOR STRINGS (moving into its second half century, proclaimed "America's finest chamber orchestra" by PRI, sure you've heard that adagio a thousand times but you will certainly enjoy #1001, and it is being presented in its original form, a string quartet, also Prokofiev and Bartok), Thurs, Moss Theater, SM, Fri, The Huntington, San Marino, both 7:30 p.m. $49.

TONIGHT! — SOUNDWAVES (Pianospheres preview with Susan Svrček, chamber arrangements of Schoenberg, crazy as usual, can't wait), Thurs 7:30 p.m., Main Library, DTSM, free.

MARY STALLINGS QUINTET (singer Ruth Price brings another talented vocalist to the Jazz Bakery, whose "sensitivity, lyrical depth and harmonic sophistication" have been recognized by the likes of Dizzy Gillespie, Billy Eckstine, Count Basie, Cal Tjader, Ben Webster and Wes Montgomery), Fri 8 p.m., Moss Theater, SM, $35.

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS (the music is so good, the story so unusual and creepy-funny-sad, haven't seen it yet but it's one of my faves so I'm just telling you it's there, through Apr. 16), Fri, Sat 8 p.m., Sun 2 p.m., Morgan Wixson Theater, SM, $23-$28.



Courtesy image

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

ABDULLAH IBRAHIM EKAYA SEPTET (with the passing a little over a year ago of trumpeter Hugh Masekela, pianist-composer Ibrahim becomes Cape Town's last Jedi, as both were members of the late-'50s groundbreaking all-African bebop unit the Jazz Epistles, Nelson Mandela called Ibrahim "South Africa's Mozart," this was planned as a reunion concert with Masekela but when you're in your mid-80s, such things are less and less certain, we are fortunate to see so many of these master musicians at all), Sat 8 p.m., Sun 5 p.m., Moss Theater, SM, $30-$45.

UNKNOWN ROMANTIC MASTERPIECES by DELIUS an REGER (back to MLK Auditorium for more invigorating classical programming, early 20th Century sonatas from violinist Paul Stein and pianist Leo Marcus), Sun 2 p.m., Main Library, DTSM, free.

LA PHIL - (how cool is this? the Phil brings "Springtime in Watts" to the Macedonia Baptist Church of LA, a free neighborhood concert featuring four brass, four strings and one big ol' choir, the Voices of Macedonia, the combined adult voices of all the local Macedonia Baptist Churches' choirs, Beethoven, spirituals), Sun 6 p.m., Macedonia Baptist Church of Los Angeles, free.

FISHBONE (oh sure, Galactic headlines, and Con Brio, no disrespect but I'm gonna go because it's Fishbone, an LA institution of 40 years, I caught them in their infancy after I moved to LA in '80 and couldn't believe I was seeing these insane black kids from the Valley running madly all over the stage and table tops blasting rock and funk, ska and punk, Angelo singing mostly from the floor, with so much energy they actually destroyed clubs, believe me I witnessed it and it was beautiful, and here's

SEE **NOTEWORTHY** PAGE 11

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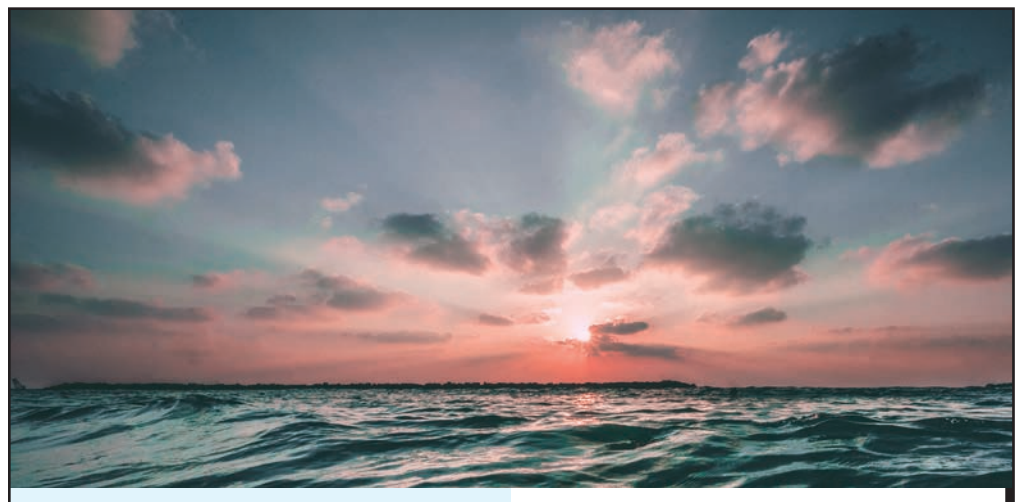
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HOTEL RALLY

FROM PAGE 1

has never been any real training," Reyes said.

Ruiz said workers also need to be compensated fairly for their work and be protected against mandatory overtime, which Council directed staff to include in the ordinance. Since Santa Monica enacted a higher minimum hotel wage, she said, hotels have forced workers to clean more rooms during their shifts, often forcing them to take on unpaid overtime and forgo breaks.

"It's not fair and it keeps us from spending time with our families," Ruiz said.

Several other cities, including Seattle and Emeryville, have passed similar laws protecting hotel workers, and ballot measures in Long Beach and Palos Verdes are also in the works, according to Local 11.

McKeown said the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce and local hotels have asked to meet with him this week about the ordinance and he thinks they want to stall the ordinance. He said he wanted to pass the ordinance in October rather than asking staff to study the issue further.

"Back in October, I made the motion for this ordinance … don't bring this back for more study, we know what we want," he said. "Here we are five months later still waiting for the ordinance … let's push to get this ordinance back on the agenda."

madeleine@smdp.com

HOMELESSNESS

FROM PAGE 1

City should invest in mental health resources for that reason. Councilmember Ted Winterer said businesses have expressed interest in helping fund a van that would intervene in mental health crises on the street and urged staff to set the project in motion as soon as possible.

"When I speak with people around the community, the discomfort they feel with some of the people experiencing homelessness is because of the fact that they are mentally ill," Davis said. "For people who don't regularly work with people experiencing mental illness, that can be very uncomfortable. Addressing that mental health component has to be foremost in our minds."

Council also expressed support for replacing Samoshel, a downtown homeless shelter that was built as a temporary structure 25 years ago, and potentially including the mental health center in the new facility. The City is looking to complete a new structure in about five years.

John Maceri, executive director of The People Concern, which operates Samoshel, told Council that the shelter was designed for a very different homeless population than the one it serves today.

When Maceri first joined the nonprofit in the late 1990s, 80 percent of Samoshel clients were dealing with mental illness or substance abuse, mainly in the form of alcoholism. Those clients would typically get sober, go back to work and rent an apartment, typically without rental subsidies. The remaining 20 percent needed lifelong support, typically due to disabilities, he said.

"Housing was more available and affordable," he said. "Most of them could earn enough money to pay their rent."

Today, Maceri estimates that 90 percent of Samoshel clients need additional support, mainly because more have disabilities and housing has become far more difficult to find and afford in Los Angeles.

"Many people can be self-sufficient without being self-supporting because they can't afford rent in the Los Angeles market without some sort of subsidy," he said. "We have more housing vouchers available today than ever before, but we can't find units, so we do have people staying longer in interim housing."

Maceri also addressed what he called an "orchestrated smear campaign" against The People Concern, refuting the allegations that some current or former clients have made about Samoshel over the past three years.

Several clients told Council in January that the shelter's staff had neglected their health and safety, failed to place them in permanent housing and retaliated against them for speaking against The People Concern. The City investigated the claims and released a report last week that found Samoshel is operating in accordance with City and Los Angeles County standards and has a robust grievance process in place.

"We have never violated anyone's civil rights, discriminated against or harassed anyone," Maceri said. "Our vocal critics are housed and remain housed because of us, despite them speaking out against us."

At the meeting, eight Samoshel clients told Council that the shelter and its staff saved their lives by providing medical treatment and stable living conditions. They called the facility a model for other shelters in Los Angeles.

Wayne Salters said the shelter's staff got his diabetes and high blood pressure under control and provided him with a safe place to stay.

"The people at Samoshel brought me off the street and basically saved my life," he said. "They come in with a smile every day and pat us on the back even if we're not having a good day."

madeleine@smdp.com

CVRA

FROM PAGE 1

hold new elections, but it was legally unclear whether Palazuelos' order for current members to vacate their seats would also be stayed pending appeal. Palazuelos declined to issue a stay on that part of her order but the California Court of Appeals granted a ruling in the City's favor on Wednesday clarifying current councilmembers would be able to retain their seats.

Acting Presiding Justice Elizabeth A. Grimes signed the order, which grants an automatic stay pending the disposition of the appeal.

It will be at least one year before oral arguments can be heard in appellate court, according to the City's attorneys.

"The court seems to have agreed with the defendant's view that procedural rule providing that mandatory injunctions are stayed pending appeal applies to paragraph 9 of the final ruling, which prohibits council members from serving beyond August," said Kevin Shenkman, lead attorney for the plaintiffs. "While we have a different view, we respect the court's decision. Ultimately, the stay only deserves to delay the inevitable."

Councilmember Kevin McKeown said the stay will give the City time to have a public input process if it is eventually required to move to district elections.

"It's the right decision for residents because it avoids an expensive, disruptive, low-turnout election," he said.

madeleine@smdp.com

The Re-View

By Merv Hecht

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Teddy's Red Tacos As Reviewed In The Los Angeles Times



Merv Hecht

TORTILLA: Merv found an expectation gap between the review and reality at Teddy's Red Tacos.

I've been reading the restaurant reviews in the Los Angeles times for many years. When Irene Verbilia wrote them they caused saliva to drool from my mouth. When Jonathan Gold wrote them I didn't go to many of the restaurants he wrote about because they were too far away, but I liked reading about Asian food. Out of habit, when I read a review, if it sounds interesting I try out the restaurant —If it's not too far away.

Recently the restaurants that I've been reading about in the LA Times are not what I expect when I get there. I was sucked in again a few weeks ago when I read about Teddy's Red Tacos near the Washington street pier. This is a small chain of taco spots, but I've only been to the one on Washington Boulevard.

Let me say that my kids and I love tacos. We love Tacos Por Favor on Olympic. We like

the tacos at Lares on Pico, and at Gilberts near SM college and at El Cholo on Wilshire. But there is more to eating tacos than the taco itself. There are other considerations to look for if you want a good taco experience: the hot sauce, the salsa bar, and the ambiance. A good review prepares you for those items as well as the quality of the food.

Teddy's Red Tacos fails the test, and so did the review.

Ambiance is one factor. The ambiance at Teddy's Tacos is disappointing. It doesn't look particularly clean. The high communal tables and hard chairs are not comfortable. Both the back door and the front door were open, and a cold breeze blew through the seating area.

The tacos are not bad. The "dipped" tortilla is quite tasty, and the quality of the meat is OK, although a bit flat. But there is only one red sauce on the table, in a plastic squeeze bottle, and it's too hot for some but not nearly hot enough for me.

And there is no salsa bar. The salsa bar at Tacos Por Favor has at least 4 different sauces (there are five at El Cholo, but no bar), sliced jalapeño peppers, and delicious marinated carrots! Next is the menu. When I want a taco, I want some choices. Do I feel like chicken, beef, or seafood? The menu at Teddy's is really small. And there is NO BEER! So, after a taco, two of us decided to order the "beef birria."

Now good Birria is magic. It's a soupy stew made from goat meat and bones. The Birria at Monte Alban on Santa Monica Blvd is the best in town. I've never seen it made with beef before. And I hope never to see it again. It looked and tasted more like vegetable soup. Maybe there was some beef in it, but I didn't see any, and it was bland. The three of us each had a taco. Two of us had the soup. The two of us who had the soup were pretty sick the next day. My daughter, the most intelligent amongst the three of us, didn't have the soup and didn't get sick.

So goes the life of a restaurant reviewer. It's not as exciting as some people think. And it's more dangerous than you might expect. But I like danger and so I'm going to keep reviewing.

Merv Hecht, like many Harvard Law School graduates, went into the wine business after law. In 1988, he began writing restaurant reviews and books. His latest book is "The Instant Wine Connoisseur" and it is available on Amazon. Or you might like his attempt at humor in "Great Cases I Lost." He currently works for several companies that source and distribute food and beverages, including wines, internationally. Please send your comments to: mervynhecht@yahoo.com.



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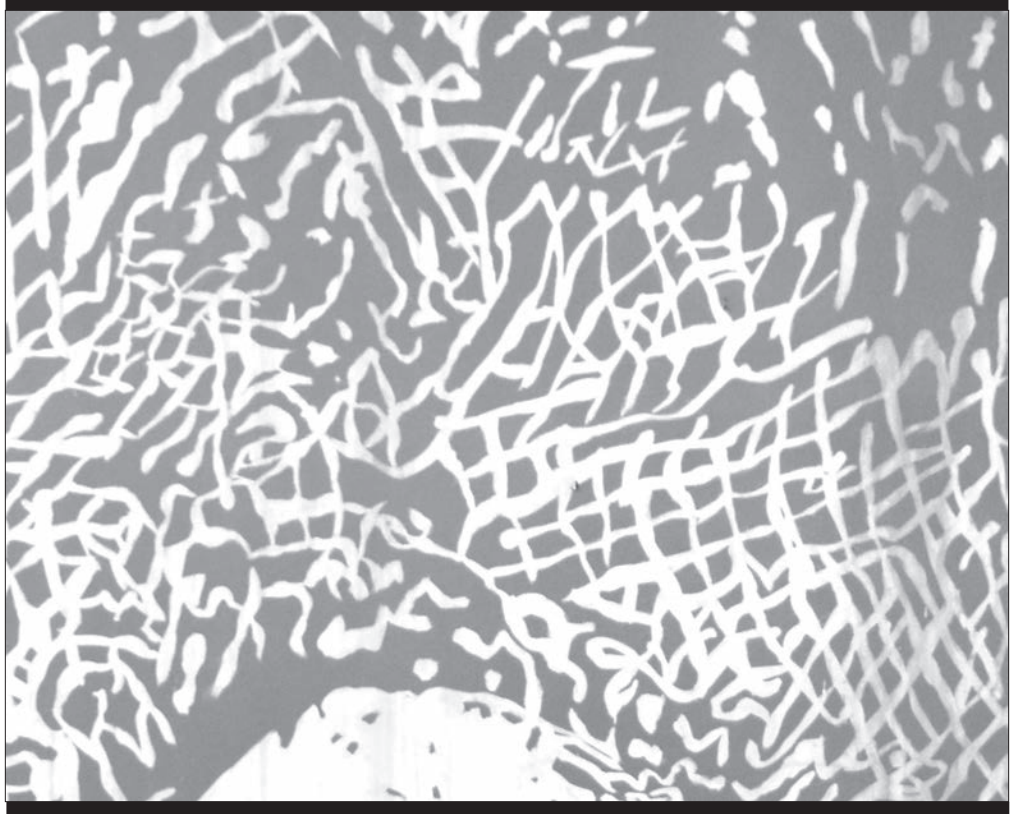
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DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 329 CALLS ON MARCH 26

Fraud 1500blk Ocean Ave 1:05 a.m.
Burglary 1500blk Ocean Ave 1:49 a.m.
Traffic collision - unkn injuries 100blk California Ave 2:11 a.m.
Child molestation 2200blk Colorado Ave 2:45 a.m.
Vandalism 1100blk Harvard St 6:43 a.m.
Encampment 1600blk the beach 6:46 a.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 700blk 17th St 7:07 a.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 7:31 a.m.
Assault w/deadly weapon 2800blk Pico Blvd 7:31 a.m.
Auto burglary 1800blk 34th St 8:03 a.m.
Violation of restraining order 300blk Olympic Dr 8:36 a.m.
Auto burglary 1600blk Appian Way 8:39 a.m.
Traffic collision with injuries 21st St / Pennsylvania Ave 9:07 a.m.
Traffic collision - no injuries 2200blk Lincoln Blvd 9:34 a.m.
Hit and run 2000blk Broadway 9:43 a.m.
Failure to pay parking fee 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 10:15 a.m.
Hit and run 800blk 9th St 10:48 a.m.
Abandoned vehicle 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 10:54 a.m.
Auto burglary 2800blk Arizona Ave 10:55 a.m.
Auto burglary 2600blk 5th St 10:57 a.m.
Traffic collision - no injuries 7th St / San Vicente Blvd 11:03 a.m.
Truant juvenile 2400blk 29th St 11:11 a.m.
Grand theft Ocean Ave / Arizona Ave 11:51 a.m.
Fraud 500blk Wilshire Blvd 11:54 a.m.
Critical missing person 800blk 5th St 12:04 p.m.
Fight Main St / Strand St 12:16 p.m.
Petty theft 1100blk 11th St 12:25 p.m.
Encampment 500blk Interstate 10 12:35 p.m.
Petty theft 200blk Bay St 12:35 p.m.
Traffic collision - no injuries 18th St / Wilshire Blvd 12:51 p.m.
Theft suspect in custody 300blk Colorado Ave 1:03 p.m.
Auto burglary 2900blk Arizona Ave 1:03 p.m.
Traffic collision - no injuries city prop involved 4th St / Olympic Blvd W 1:06 p.m.
Petty theft 300blk Wilshire Blvd 1:34 p.m.
Assault 2700blk Olympic Blvd 1:41 p.m.
Petty theft 2400blk Pico Blvd 1:48 p.m.
Battery 2400blk Virginia Ave 2:07 p.m.
Fraud 1700blk Pearl St 2:08 p.m.
Hit and run 400blk 20th St 2:14 p.m.
Hit and run Cloverfield Blvd / Broadway 2:40 p.m.
Petty theft 200blk Bay St 2:41 p.m.
Petty theft 1800blk 34th St 3:00 p.m.
Auto burglary 2300blk 29th St 3:15 p.m.
Encampment 1400blk Marine St 3:16 p.m.
Indecent exposure 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 3:22 p.m.
Vandalism 1700blk Main St 3:29 p.m.
Battery 500blk Olympic Blvd W 3:36 p.m.
Auto burglary 1000blk 24th St 3:38 p.m.
Stolen vehicle recovered 1600blk Euclid St 3:41 p.m.
Hit and run Pacific Coast Hwy / California Incline 3:54 p.m.
Assault w/deadly weapon 22nd St / Pearl St 4 p.m.
Vehicle parked on sidewalk 16th St / Ocean Park Blvd 4:09 p.m.
72 hour psychiatric hold 00blk Vicente Ter 4:19 p.m.
Bike theft 300blk Santa Monica Pier 4:20 p.m.
Auto burglary 900blk Pacific Coast Hwy 4:39 p.m.
Out of order traffic signals Lincoln Blvd / Olympic Blvd W 4:43 p.m.
Vehicle blocking driveway 2400blk 6th St 4:56 p.m.
Traffic collision with injuries 4th St / Interstate 10 5:00 p.m.
Assault w/deadly weapon 1300blk 10th St 5:04 p.m.
Theft suspect in custody 300blk Colorado Ave 5:09 p.m.
Elder abuse 2400blk 3rd St 5:13 p.m.
Petty theft 800blk 4th St 5:31 p.m.
Fight 3rd Street Prom / Broadway 5:35 p.m.
Burglary 1000blk 9th St 5:43 p.m.
Person with a gun 1100blk Lincoln Blvd 5:48 p.m.
Fight 1200blk 7th St 5:56 p.m.
Encampment 1100blk 12th St 6:25 p.m.
Hit and run 1600blk 26th St 6:30 p.m.
Construction noise 1200blk Washington Ave 6:57 p.m.
72 hour psychiatric hold 00blk Vicente Ter 7:11 p.m.
Hit and run 1800blk Main St 7:36 p.m.
Traffic collision with injuries 800blk Pacific Coast Hwy 7:44 p.m.
Assault w/deadly weapon 2400blk 16th St 9:14 p.m.
Battery Ocean Ave / Wilshire Blvd 9:24 p.m.
Speeding 200blk Interstate 10 9:45 p.m.
Burglary 3000blk Santa Monica Blvd 10:44 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 34 CALLS ON MARCH 26

Public assist 900blk 7th St 1:02 a.m.
Emergency Medical Service 1300blk 15th St 4:09 a.m.
EMS 2300blk Pier Ave 5:50 a.m.
EMS 1300blk Grant St 6:57 a.m.
EMS 2200blk 29th St 7:36 a.m.
Automatic alarm 2000blk Santa Monica Blvd 7:52 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1200blk 4th St 8:32 a.m.
Traffic collision with injury 21st St / Pennsylvania Ave 9:07 a.m.
EMS Cloverfield Blvd / Interstate 10 9:10 a.m.
EMS Cloverfield Blvd / Interstate 10 9:46 a.m.
EMS 500blk Georgina Ave 9:51 a.m.
EMS 1500blk 14th St 10:07 a.m.
EMS 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 10:30 a.m.
EMS 1800blk 17th St 10:55 a.m.
EMS 1500blk 14th St 11:03 a.m.
Automatic alarm 3000blk Main St 11:28 a.m.
Broken gas main Cloverfield Blvd / Colorado Ave 11:43 a.m.
EMS 700blk 10th St 1:13 p.m.
EMS 500blk Olympic Blvd W 1:28 p.m.
EMS 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 2:14 p.m.
EMS 1800blk 17th St 2:15 p.m.
EMS 600blk 25th St 3:24 p.m.
EMS 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 3:36 p.m.
EMS 1700blk Lincoln Blvd 3:55 p.m.
EMS 22nd St / Pearl St 4:01 p.m.
Traffic collision with injury 11th St / Interstate 10 5:00 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 17th St 5:07 p.m.
EMS 3rd Street Prom / Broadway 5:39 p.m.
EMS 700blk 24th St 7:26 p.m.
EMS 2600blk Kansas Ave 8:21 p.m.
EMS 500blk Colorado Ave 9:46 p.m.
Traffic collision with injury 16th St / Wilshire Blvd 10:02 p.m.

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 3/23
24 25 52 60 66
Power#: 5
Jackpot: $750 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 3/26
4 14 22 43 58
Mega#: 9
Jackpot: $75 M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 3/23
11 24 25 45 47
Mega#: 22
Jackpot: $30 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 3/26
11 27 28 30 33

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 3/27
Midday: 6 5 0
Draw Date: 3/26
Evening: 7 3 1

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 3/26
1st: 3 - HOT SHOT
2nd: 5 - CALIFORNIA CLASSIC
3rd: 12 - LUCKY CHARMS
RACE TIME: 1:43.71

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SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 61.2°

THURSDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 3-4 ft waist to chest high
Shorter-period WNW swell lingers. A little more SSW swell. Variable to light onshore wind possible in the AM.

FRIDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3 ft+ waist to stomach high occ. 4 ft
Fading shorter-period WNW swell. Touch more SSW swell showing. Offshore morning winds return.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

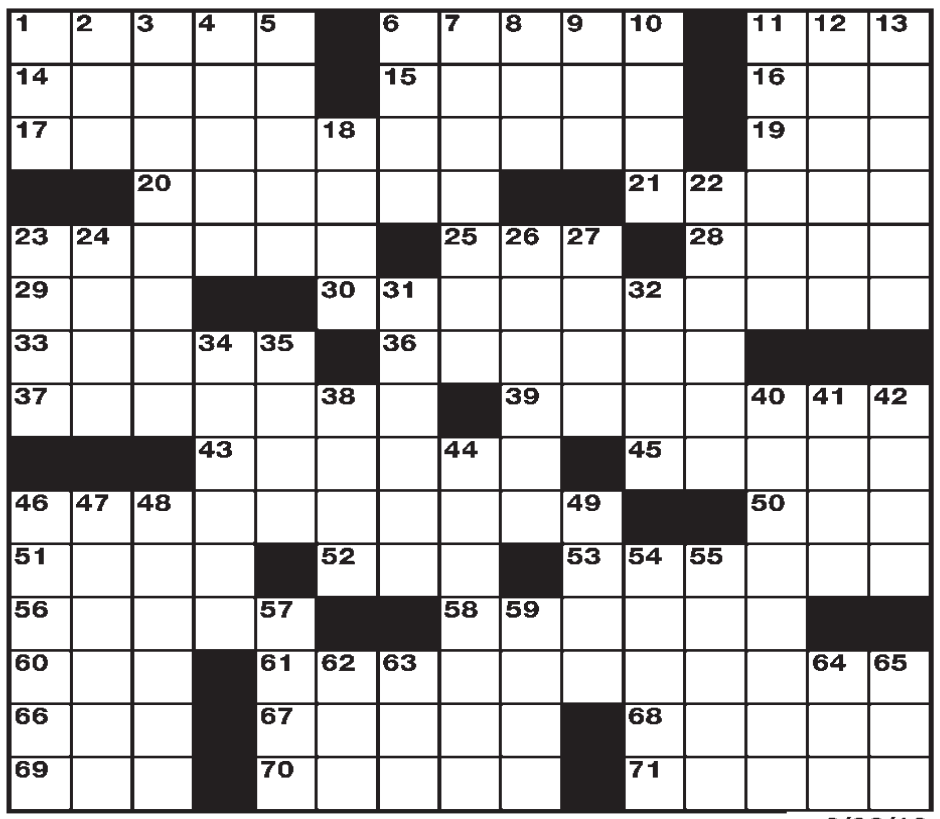
	6	2	7				9	
8					9	6		2
1	9			6			4	
2					7			9
		9	1	5	4	7		
5			2					6
	5			7			1	8
9		6	8					5
	1				5	9	6	

Newsday Crossword

GIANT SOUNDS by Gonsalves and Lim
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Padlock hardware
6 Home heating sections
11 Lofty peak
14 Winning position
15 Whispered comment
16 Traffic controller employer
17 In a down mood
19 __ Alamos, NM
20 To a greater degree
21 Summit successes
23 Generic dog
25 Dietary std.
28 Shoe seller's question
29 Charlottesville sch.
30 Proud time in a Churchill quote
33 Air again
36 Ump's call
37 Special customer event
39 Joint filing figures
43 Horrify
45 Small hill
46 Market research panel
50 Diminutive ending
51 They may defer your taxes
52 Bard's brouhaha
53 Irish playwright
56 City in Yemen
58 Certain ingot measures
60 24/7 news source
61 Cause of a gridiron turnover
66 Era
67 Computer screen font
68 Cleared the yard, perhaps
69 It's ignored in *alphabétisation*
70 Pre-departure query
71 Cyberbusiness

DOWN
1 Shrine for the NHL or NBA
2 Organic compound suffix
3 Glass flutes, e.g.
4 Some cotton shirts
5 Tower top
6 Sharp turns
7 *Look Back in Anger* playwright
8 Zero, in soccer
9 www.tulane.__
10 Leak in or out
11 55-union association
12 Founder of Taoism
13 Non-bidder
18 Squishy ball brand
22 Kutcher before the camera
23 Baby-feeding ritual
24 A thing of the past
26 Arnaz/Ball studio
27 "Unto us __ is given" (*Messiah* line)
31 "People are saying . . ."
32 Robin's jocular cohort
34 Patriotic chant
35 Day breaks
38 Org. with the best female drivers
40 Lasagna-like dish
41 She, in Cherbourg
42 Amuse overwhelmingly
44 Cause to embarrass oneself
46 Of dollars and cents
47 County in Florida and California
48 Neighbor of Nice
49 Read carefully (over)
54 Task force
55 Up now
57 At a distance
59 Unite
62 Cult conclusion
63 Palermo pronoun
64 Tiki bar adornment
65 "Bad" cholesterol, per the CDC



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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 28)

You'll discover new resources inside yourself. It comes about when you give yourself tasks that require great concentration and stamina. To turn inward for periods of time will build a core of strength you'll apply in many areas of life. You'll sign an important document in June. A stellar career move happens in August. Gemini and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 10, 4, 39 and 18.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You're giving a performance of sorts, and you're not exactly sure how well it's going. If you ask too many questions, it might tip the other person off to your feelings of insecurity. But you can afford to ask one or two. Make them count.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). With your vast projects, deep thoughts and complicated ventures of late, it may feel like the way you're living your life is unsuitable for small talk. But when you're with the right people, all flows naturally.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The friendlier the environment, the more you worry someone is about to sell you a timeshare. And then there are the shark tanks. If you seem like you don't belong, they'll eat you alive. Act like you've been there.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). People do different things to get through the tension of a workday. Some joke around. Some socialize. You'll have the easiest time of it when you isolate, turn on some tunes and focus hard in your own little bubble.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Rumination is unhelpful. But if you never think about the past, how can you learn from it? You'll split the difference. Think it over until you come up with one thing you could have done differently, and then move on.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Remember the time you heard of someone's good fortune and didn't feel the least bit happy? It's something to consider before sharing your own good news. Shield yourself from the repercussions of jealousy.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You want to give voice to your admiration but are apprehensive about doing so, as you're afraid your flattery will sound foolish. The more specific and reasoned your compliment, the better it will land.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Some people can't write because they are blocked. You're the opposite today. You feel blocked in another area of life, and you'll write your way out of it. Getting your feelings down, if only to be read by you, will liberate you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). While no one is against you, there are those who are adamantly for themselves who happen to be positionally opposed to you. Someone will have to move to the side.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Persuasion is a subtle art. When the point of influence is detected, it ceases to work. You are most persuasive when you don't even realize it's what you're doing.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). It's time for another you-to-you review on the topic of caring for yourself. It's easy to forget, with so many people around wanting and needing things from you, that self-care is your No. 1 job on the planet.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Top lawyers don't build their entire case in the opening statement and neither should you. Your audience will stick with you today as you present your information in a thoughtfully ordered way.

Mercury, Mood Organizer

The mind loves a category. Just like a house would be a mess if you put all its contents into a big heap, your mind would be a mess without a process of categorizing and sorting. Mercury goes direct in Pisces to take this categorization effort to a feeling level. Start by naming your feelings. It will help you to figure out where to put them.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTION

"My children, who happen to both be Leos, complain nonstop. We are a middle-class family and my children are lucky enough to live in a decent house, go to a good school, wear clothing similar to their peers' and take part in many of the games and activities that are common among their friends. Yet they still complain. Whatever I give them, they quickly decide that they want more or different. They constantly compare what they have to what others have. They whine and wheedle until I'm sick of hearing them. How do I get them to realize how lucky they really are?"

It's time for brutally honest self-evaluation. Do you do the same thing? Do you compare and contrast what you have with others? Do you focus on the negative when you could be giving thanks for all that's going well? Your Leos are socially driven and will adapt to the emotional climate you set. Proud lions are concerned with appearances and how well they measure up. Your job is to provide a complaint-free, positively focused model. Reward acts that show strength of character and ignore their complaints. When they cease to get your attention by whining, the whining will stop.

CELEBRITY PROFILES

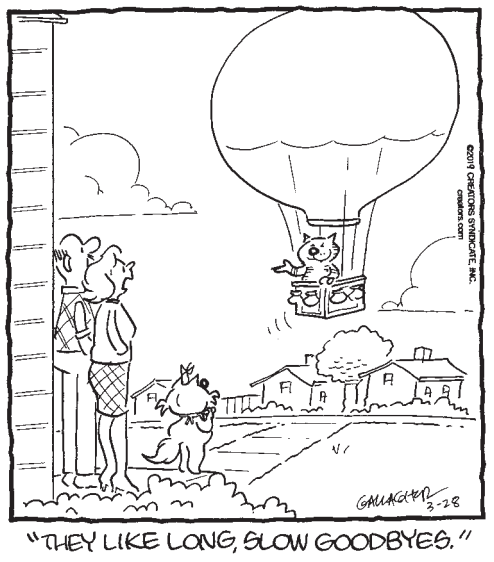
Aries natives are risk-takers. Grammy winner Lady Gaga eats risk for breakfast. Whether she's wearing a meat suit, diving off a stadium, posing for her painter friend, Tony Bennett, or going from pop diva to bonafide actress and movie star, she keeps it Aries hot. Her Scorpio moon lends a talent for transformation. Mercury and Jupiter in Pisces are ideal aspects for actors.

WORD UP!

Impedimenta
plural noun [im-ped-uh-men-tuh]
baggage or other things that retard one's progress, as supplies carried by an army: the impedimenta of the weekend skier.

Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"THEY LIKE LONG, SLOW GOODBYES."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



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NOTEWORTHY

FROM PAGE 5

the thing, I saw them a couple years ago in MacArthur Park and the craziness has toned down but the showmanship and artistic energy remain, oh and they have very cool t-shirts so bring some extra cash), Fri 8 p.m., The Fonda Theatre, Hollywood, $38.

HR (what a character, HR, stands for Human Rights and he has stood and sung for that all his performing life, first as frenetic frontman for DC punkers Bad Brains from the late '70s on, my son Chris turned me on to them, and since in a solo career much more Rasta elder mellow, he seems to have recovered from brain surgery in '17, always a fascinating cat), Sun 8 p.m., Saint Rocke, Hermosa Beach, $15.

ROYAL SCOTTISH NATIONAL ORCHESTRA, DANNY ELFMAN (sharing my birthday but no longer a lad, LA's own Danny Elfman is no longer waiting for an invitation to arrive, Oingo Boingo enshrined him, Tim Burton put his music on the big scream and now he continues to conquer the classical world with his new violin concerto, "Eleven Eleven," plus you get Prokofiev and m'man Sibelius's remarkable one-movement 7th Symphony), next Thurs 8 p.m., The Soraya, Northridge, $49-$109.

COMING ATTRACTIONS: MEAT PUPPETS, Troubadour, WHwd, Apr. 6; The RE-PETE SEEGER CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION with Peter Alsop, Ellen Geer, Ross Altman, Earnestine Phillips and others, Will Geer Theatricum Botanicum, Topanga Canyon, Apr. 6; I SEE HAWKS IN L.A., Grand Annex, San Pedro, Apr. 6; The VERDI CHORUS, First United Methodist Church, SM, Apr. 6, 7; PETER ERSKINE presents Daniel Szabo's "Visionary," Jazz Bakery, Moss Theater, SM, Apr. 13; LA Times Festival of Books, USC, Apr. 13-14.

BODACIOUS BIRTHDAYS: LADY GAGA (1986) — There are a lot of things I appreciate about Stefani Joanne Angelina Germanotta, but I think I like the idea of Lady Gaga more than the actual music. Admittedly I'm not that familiar with it but her social consciousness and activism are off the charts. She has spoken out, organized and raised money for countless good causes. She also has nine GRAMMYS, two Golden Globes, an Oscar, fashion awards, made an album with Tony Bennett and performed convincingly with Metallica, and on and on, certainly one of the most multi-talented and influential artists of our time, and popular, as her $300M+ bank account proves. I vividly remember the first time I saw her, on TV, strikingly costumed, skillfully pounding a grand piano into submission, straddling the bench at an angle like a mounted warrior, to face the audience/camera squarely, yow. Good on ya, Gaga, we need lots more like you.

Charles Andrews has listened to a lot of music of all kinds, including more than 2,000 live shows. He has lived in Santa Monica for 33 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

CULTURE WATCH

FROM PAGE 4

worth your while, and Mary Kay Place is both vulnerable and fearless as Diane. And you can meet her: She's doing Q&As at the 7 pm screenings on Friday, 3/29 and Saturday, 3/30. Get tickets here: https://www.landmarktheatres.com/los-angeles/nuart-theatre.

SANTA MONICA REVIEW AT THE EDYE

Come celebrate the Spring 2019 edition of local literary journal, Santa Monica Review. L.A. literary legend David Kipen (Libros Schmibros, "Dear Los Angeles: The City in Diaries and Letters") will welcome the audience for an early evening of refreshments and readings by select authors.

Santa Monica Review is the only nationally distributed literary magazine published by a community college, Santa Monica College. The launch party takes place on Sunday, March 31 from 5 to 7 pm at the Edye, located at the SMC Performing Arts Center, right behind the Broad Stage at 1310 11th Street in Santa Monica.

Authors reading include Erik Kongshaug, Kareem Tayyar, Marilyn Manolakas and Suzanne Greenberg. Parking is free and tickets are just $10 https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/4071600.

Santa Monica Review will also be featured at the Los Angeles Times Festival of Books, April 13-14 at USC.

KITTY FELDE'S MYSTERY FOR KIDS

A former public radio colleague of mine, Kitty Felde, who served as Washington, DC correspondent for KPCC, is also an internationally produced playwright, and she created an award-winning podcast, "Book Club for Kids." She'll be discussing and signing her debut mystery novel "Welcome to Washington, Fina Mendoza," for ages 7 – 12, on Saturday, March 30 at 2:30 p.m. at Children's Book World in West L.A.

Her half-dozen years covering Capitol Hill inspired Kitty to write "Welcome to Washington, Fina Mendoza," which goes behind the scenes in Congress, exploring the legend of the Demon Cat of Capitol Hill. Anyone who sees it is cursed with bad luck, and she's seen it. The only way for Fina to save her loved ones – and herself – from "cat"astrophe is to solve the mystery of the Demon Cat.

The event is free and books will be available for sale. Bring the kids! Children's Book World is located at 10580-1/2 W. Pico Blvd.; for more information, call 310 559-2665 or email: cbwchildrensbooks@gmail.com

Sarah A. Spitz is an award-winning public radio producer, now retired from KCRW, where she also produced arts stories for NPR. She writes features and reviews for various print and online publications.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 3

Leslie Adame, Christopher Lam, Amir Patel, and Jeffrey Lin.

The chapter's elected board was awarded with Distinguished Awards for President (Jeremy Figueroa), Administrative Vice President (Angeli Indran), and Secretary (Braden Lem). Lem also received an award for his punctual submission of club Monthly Report Forms. In addition, Kevin Ru received the Outstanding District Committee Member Award. Gina Apinyavat and Kylee Lyons received the First and Second Place in Outstanding Total Service Hours, respectively. Apinyavat also received Second Place in Outstanding Single Service Project for her work as the Large-Scale Service Chair, while Chris Lam received Third Place in Outstanding Club Website for his work as the Technology Chair.

"I have attended District Convention for the past 3 years and each year is even greater than the last, being an amazing opportunity to reflect on the accomplishments of the club," said Jeremy Figueroa, the 2018-2019 President. "District Convention is a time of celebration, for both UCLA CKI and the California-Nevada-Hawaii District as a whole. At this year's DCON, UCLA was fortunate enough to earn awards of 16 different categories. This feat would not have been possible without the dedication and passion of our membership towards our organization. This past year, I, as club President, have bared witness to my peers pouring countless hours into helping our community at large. Seeing these individuals be recognized for their hard work is a massive honor. Regardless, awards are merely titles; they do not define who we are as people nor the impact of our work. Regardless of whether an award was given for a particular category, the members of UCLA CKI have accomplished so much this past term. I am honored and privileged to have been able to serve these individuals as President."

Circle K International is the largest collegiate service organization in the world, with more than 13,000 members in 17 countries. Chartered in 1974, the UCLA chapter falls into the California-Nevada-Hawaii district of the organization, where more than 3200 members serve the community and raise funds for charities.

For more information on UCLA CKI, please visit http://uclacki.org.

SUBMITTED BY BLAIRE YU, CIRCLE K INTERNATIONAL AT UCLA

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