2 **Animal Shelter**
Ready for kitten season.

4 **Builder's Remedy**
Could get a makeover.

5 **Bay Street Boards**
Keeps local culture alive.

6 **Foster Youth**
New plan for extracurriculars.

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Seasonal spectacle 'Ice at Santa Monica' exceeds expectations



Courtesy of DTSM

SKATING: The ice rink underwent some changes this year but officials say they were all for the better.

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

Last winter's "Ice at Santa Monica" seasonal skating activation was more successful than anticipated, according to a recent report presented by the Downtown Santa Monica Inc. (DTSM) Marketing and Business Development Committee.

Every year, the corner of 5th Street and Arizona Avenue is transformed into an ice skating rink, but last year DTSM partnered with specialist company Willy Bietak Productions, Inc. to produce something never seen before in the city.

Opened on November 1 last year, the 2023-24 project was 25% bigger than any other previous year, plus there were s'mores from S'moreology and clear boarding around the boundary edges to create a bigger, more open experience.

In previous years, the rink had been constructed upon tons of flattened sand, but that wasn't particularly cost effective and it was extremely problematic to clear up afterwards. Last year, the entire ice rink structure was constructed upon a wooden framework that has been painstakingly laid flat over the uneven surface of the parking lot space using laser

SEE **ICE** PAGE 7



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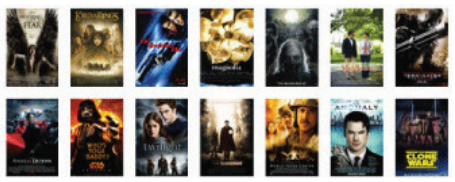
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Santa Monica Animal Shelter readies itself for 'kitten season'



Elizabeth Noble
SHELTER: Animal Control Officer Taylor Schilling with a handful of the cutest kittens, all of whom will be looking for a forever home.

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

It's that time of year again and the city's animal shelter is preparing to be overrun with an abundance of the most adorable kittens you've ever seen and every single one of these precious pussy cats is looking for a forever home.

While the pregnancy period for a cat is significantly shorter than that of a human, with a typical pregnancy lasting about 65 days, in the wintertime cat comrades seek out companionship, just like the rest of us. So when springtime rolls around, the world is once again blessed with litter upon litter of the most loving little kittens and that in turn means the animal shelter reaches its full cat quota.

Unfortunately, as the winters are gradually getting warmer, our four-legged friends are getting frisky earlier in the year and "kitten season," which is generally regarded as the warm-weather months between spring and fall, is getting longer.

"Kitten season is the time of year when there is a larger number of kittens and cats who are soon to have their litters, being brought into the shelter. For the Santa Monica Animal Shelter 'kitten season' used to start in April and continue until August," Elizabeth Noble, Chair, Santa Monica Animal Shelter Foundation says.

"But every year we are seeing kitten season begin earlier and last longer and this year is no exception. Spring has only just begun and already they have had many litters of young kittens, as well as pregnant cats that are about to have their litters, brought to the shelter," says Noble.

> But every year we are seeing kitten season begin earlier and last longer and this year is no exception. Spring has only just begun and already they have had many litters of young kittens, as well as pregnant cats that are about to have their litters, brought to the shelter
> - Elizabeth Noble, Chair, Santa Monica Animal Shelter Foundation

"A longer season means that they need

SEE **KITTEN SEASON** PAGE 7

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Garvey effect: Schiff's strategy sunk down-ballot Democrats but could lead to more GOP losses



Photo by Miguel Gutierrez Jr., CalMatters

SCHIFF: U.S. Rep. Adam Schiff, D-California, addresses the Woman's Caucus at the Democratic Party convention in Sacramento on Nov. 17, 2023.

PAUL MITCHELL

For nearly two decades, California has not been a hospitable environment for statewide Republicans, and that's why nobody has spent millions of dollars on TV ads in any Republican campaign in more than a dozen years.

Well, not until this year's primary election. And it took a Democratic campaign and allied independent expenditures to do it.

More than $10 million was spent on ads attacking Steve Garvey. They were, however, thinly veiled support ads targeting Republican voters. The goal was to consolidate Republican votes for Garvey and get him into the run-off in November, thus helping U.S. Rep. Adam Schiff avoid a costly and competitive race against a fellow Democrat, Rep. Katie Porter.

And it worked – maybe too well. Garvey secured the top spot in the U.S. Senate primary partial term, and nearly tied with Schiff in the full term.

From the day Garvey announced his candidacy, understanding this race didn't require complex sabermetrics. The math was simple, and it starts with 40%: That is the electoral cap for Republicans in California – no statewide candidate with an 'R' next to their name has surpassed that figure since 2014.

It is also close to their floor, with all statewide Republican candidates receiving around 34-39% since 2016.

Early polling may have had him much lower, but the math always catches up.

While Garvey's showing in this election won't mean much come November, it did have an impact on turnout among Republicans and Republican-leaning independents statewide, which potentially impacted other races.

In a post-election survey conducted for Capitol Weekly, primary voters in California were asked which race on the ballot most compelled them to vote. The Senate race was the top reason for Republican Garvey voters who were not voting for former President Donald Trump, and it was even more important for conservative-leaning independents, with nearly 60%.

If the Garvey effect – not just the normal dynamics of a low-turnout election – increased the concentration of Republicans and Republican-leaning independents, it could have hurt Gov. Gavin Newsom's Proposition 1 and some Democrats in the short-term. But that also may rebound to the benefit of Democrats come November.

SEE **GUEST COMMENTARY** PAGE 8



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **57.2**

WEDNESDAY
POOR TO FAIR
SURF: 1-2ft
Knee to thigh

Small scale new NW swell mix on tap. Wind looks light for the AM with surf best-suited for the small wave gear.

THURSDAY
POOR TO FAIR
SURF: 1-2ft
Knee to thigh

Small too very small surf is currently expected.

Weather

Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 68. Northeast wind 5 to 15 mph becoming southwest in the morning.
Wednesday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, increasing clouds, with a low around 51. West southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.
Thursday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, partly sunny, with a high near 59. Southeast wind 5 to 10 mph.
Thursday Night: A 30 percent chance of showers after 11pm. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 46.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)High/Low
2024/04/03	Wed	05:04 AM	4.68	H
2024/04/03	Wed	12:46 PM	-0.50	L
2024/04/03	Wed	7:42 PM	3.66	H
2024/04/04	Thu	12:23 AM	2.32	L
2024/04/04	Thu	06:17 AM	5.03	H
2024/04/04	Thu	1:26 PM	-0.76	L
2024/04/04	Thu	8:01 PM	4.14	H
2024/04/05	Fri	01:18 AM	1.56	L
2024/04/05	Fri	07:16 AM	5.33	H
2024/04/05	Fri	2:02 PM	-0.85	L
2024/04/05	Fri	8:25 PM	4.68	H
2024/04/06	Sat	02:07 AM	0.76	L
2024/04/06	Sat	08:09 AM	5.46	H
2024/04/06	Sat	2:36 PM	-0.74	L
2024/04/06	Sat	8:52 PM	5.24	H
2024/04/07	Sun	02:53 AM	0.01	L
2024/04/07	Sun	08:58 AM	5.38	H
2024/04/07	Sun	3:09 PM	-0.45	L

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Draw Date: 4/1
19 24 40 42 56
Power#: 23
Jackpot: 1.09 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 3/29
11 30 33 38 60
Mega#: 16
Jackpot: 45 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 3/30
6 16 18 24 26
Mega#: 16
Jackpot: 23 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 4/1
7 8 13 23 25

Daily 3
Draw Date: 4/1
EVENING: 4 1 0
Draw Date: 4/1
MIDDAY: 7 8 8

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 4/1
1st: 11 - Money Bags
2nd: 10 - Solid Gold
3rd: 07 - Eureka
Race Time: 1:46.61

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Santa Monica Daily Press

California's most controversial housing law could get a makeover

BEN CHRISTOPHER
Special to the Daily Press



Photo by Zaydee Sanchez for CalMatters

HOUSING: A building set to have forty apartment units with four retail stores is under construction at the intersection of Wilshire and 6th Street in Santa Monica. May 24, 2023.

For the last two years the "builder's remedy" has been the unruly teenager of California housing laws.

Running roughshod over zoning regulations while sowing angst among local elected officials, the law lets developers build as much as they like, wherever they like, in cities and counties that have blown past deadlines to get their housing development blueprints certified by state regulators.

Despite its use as a hardball negotiating tactic by aggressive developers, no project has broken ground, much less finished, as a result of the builder's remedy. That's partially because relatively few developers are willing to make use of the confusingly-worded law for lack of legal certainty.

Now, some of California's most powerful Democratic lawmakers are pushing legislation that would clear up, but also rein in, the state's most controversial housing statute. Nearly a year and a half since a developer first used the law to propose a zoning-code-blowing project, 2024 may be the year that the builder's remedy grows up.

"The 'builder's remedy' has sort of lived in the Twitterverse, but actually making it a clear law, so that everyone is following the same rules of engagement and we know what the rules are...(that) is really what we're aiming to do here," said Assemblymember Buffy Wicks, a Berkeley Democrat, who chairs the Assembly appropriations committee and who authored AB 1893, which she said would "modernize" the law.

The proposed overhaul, outlined in a newly amended draft of the bill published this morning, includes new perks for developers, textual edits to clear up how the law would apply and a new "streamlining" provision that would let developers bypass environmental review and public hearing requirements so long as they pay their workers union-level wages and meet basic environmental requirements.

But the bill would also put a cap on how big builder's remedy projects can be, while prohibiting its use in industrial zoned areas. That's a break from current law, in which the sky — and the California Building Code — is the limit.

"We tried to land this bill in a place where it is a stick — it's holding our cities accountable — but it's not overreaching in its scope," said Wicks.

Wicks' bill is backed by Attorney General Rob Bonta, who has ramped up the state Department of Justice's enforcement of housing production law since coming into office in 2021.

"It has been over 30 years since the builder's remedy was enacted and it's remained in effect, largely unchanged, since then," Bonta said in a statement. The bill is meant to provide clarity to "local governments, planners, developers, and courts," he added, while also ensuring that housing actually gets built in cities and counties that don't have certified housing elements, rather than getting stuck in legal limbo.

This is one of at least two bills aimed at tying up the builder's remedy's perceived loose ends.

AB 1886 by San Diego Assemblymember David Alvarez, a Democrat, would specify that jurisdictions without state certified housing plans would be subject to the builder's remedy until those plans are passed by local officials and signed off on by the California Housing and Community Development department. That's a response to cities that have argued that the state's stamp of approval isn't necessary.

DOES THE BUILDER'S REMEDY NEED FIXING?

The builder's remedy has been on the books for more than three decades, but was only recently given new life by pro-housing legal scholars and state housing regulators.

As cities and counties have scrambled to plan for their share of the 2.5 million new homes that Gov. Gavin Newsom wants built across California by the end of the decade, the builder's remedy — which spells a total loss of local control over land use — has been among the most menacing possible consequences of non-compliance.

It's also been a reliable path to litigation.

Though the state doesn't gather data on builder's remedy projects, the pro-housing legal advocacy group YIMBY Law has identified 93 projects with roughly 17,000 potential units spread across 40 mostly affluent California cities. Jurisdictions have refused to process nearly half of these applications, arguing that the law doesn't actually apply, that it's been misinterpreted or that the law itself is unconstitutional. Eight of the projects are the subject of current lawsuits. Few, if any, builder's remedy projects have actually resulted in new housing — yet.

Defenders of the current law say that isn't surprising: Large residential developments take years to complete and the current legal ambiguities in the newly unearthed law are being ironed out by the courts in developers' favor.

"The builders remedy is already a very successful program at motivating cities to get in compliance with the housing element law and in generating applications for housing that would otherwise not be possible in the highest income, highest opportunity places in California," said Sonja Trauss, YIMBY Law's founder. The group has not taken a position on Wicks' bill.

Though all builder's remedy projects remain on paper, the law has taken on an outsized significance in the politics of California housing over the last 15 months.

For "Yes In My Backyard" activists who blame development-averse local governments for the state's housing shortage, the builder's remedy has been celebrated as the policy equivalent of the "F—- Around and Find Out" meme.

For opponents, the builder's remedy is the most extreme logical conclusion of the state's recent push to build more housing.

Jen Wolosin is a Menlo Park city council member whose district includes the former headquarters of Sunset Magazine, now the site of a proposed builder's remedy project with three residential towers and 805 housing units. The tallest would reach 421 feet. Nothing is moving forward just yet. The builder's remedy application simply holds the project's place in the permitting queue. Even so, Wolosin, who was endorsed in her 2020 election by Peninsula for Everyone, a local YIMBY group, called the proposal "jaw dropping" and "outrageous" in its scale relative to the surrounding low-lying neighborhood.

"I don't like seeing cities flaunt state law and exacerbate the housing crisis," she said. "That offends me."

But, she added, in lacking all "guardrails," the builder's remedy "can turn off people who would otherwise want to help solve the housing crisis."

A sizable chunk of California municipalities are still legally vulnerable to the "remedy." At last count, nearly 40% of cities and counties have failed to have their "housing elements" certified by the state.

LEGAL GRAY AREAS HOLD BACK WIDE-SPREAD ADOPTION

Wicks' bill would add some of those guardrails.

The bill would cap projects at twice the current zoned density. That doesn't include whatever add-ons are allowed under the state's density bonus law, which gives developers added height and density in exchange for building affordable units. The bill would also allow cities to impose "objective" standards of development, including architectural style requirements, if they already apply to other dense multifamily areas and aren't prohibitively expensive to abide by.

Putting restrictions on the builder's remedy may seem an ideological 180 for Wicks and Bonta, both of whom have allied themselves with YIMBY activists. Even so, the bill has received outright support or optimistic neutrality from many of the state's pro-housing organizations. Leaders of California Community Builders and Habitat

SEE **HOUSING** PAGE 7

Brothers bring skate, surf culture back to local roots



Photo by Thomas Leffler

BAY STREET: (L-R) Kevin Hairston joins the three Bentivoglio brothers, Francesco, Sante and Galeazzo, in running Bay Street Boards.

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

Alva. Peralta. Adams. Skateboard and surfing culture on the Westside has been defined by many names over the years, with the latest being Bentivoglio.

The Bentivoglio clan in Santa Monica consists of three brothers who have taken their love of the culture to the next level, operating Bay Street Boards at 3216 Santa Monica Blvd. Approaching its 10-year anniversary, Bay Street is a local love letter to the athletic endeavors and the places that brothers Galeazzo, Sante and Francesco grew up in.

Moving around a lot as kids, Galeazzo and Sante eventually resided in Santa Monica across the street from Douglas Park, back when the park's duck pond was for skaters instead of quackers. As Sante said, seeing everyone from athletes to "random lawyers to some random cop" knowing how to skate emphasized how ingrained the lifestyle was during the sport's boom period.

> That's partly why we opened, (to) keep skateboarding culture here alive and thrive in the way that we (want to) see
> — Sante Bentivoglio

"That's partly why we opened, (to) keep skateboarding culture here alive and thrive in the way that we (want to) see," Sante said.

Prior to opening, Galeazzo was working in the corporate world while Sante was plying his trade in another local surf shop, but both were growing tired of the squeeze that big-name brands were putting on surf and skate stores across Los Angeles. Entire sections of stores would be bought out by these brands, relegating local vendors to fight for scraps. Bay Street came out of fighting for these locals' voices, while reminding visitors of past stalwarts of skate and surf society like Horizons West.

"Every couple years, more of the stores seem to get sold and corporatized somehow, and (we) started getting frustrated with it, a lot of people started leaving," Galeazzo said. "And at some point, we were just like, well, we could just do our own (thing)."

The duo founded Bay Street 10 years

SEE **BOARDS** PAGE 8

GAS PRICES IN SANTA MONICA

76	1776 Cloverfield Blvd	$5.09
SHELL	1802 Cloverfield Blvd	$5.49
CHEVRON	1819 Cloverfield Blvd	$5.79
MOBIL	731 Santa Monica Blvd	$5.70
LINCOLN BLVD CAR WASH	1624 Lincoln Blvd	$4.99
WORLD	1801 Lincoln Blvd	$4.89
SHELL	1866 Lincoln Blvd	$5.39
SPEEDWAY EXPRESS	2555 Lincoln Blvd	$4.89
CHEVRON	1732 Lincoln Blvd	$5.59
ARCO	332 Pico Blvd	$5.29
SINCLAIR	1944 Pico Blvd	$5.14
CHEVRON	1330 Santa Monica Blvd	$5.50
CHEVRON	1348 Pico Blvd	$5.69
CHEVRON	432 Wilshire Blvd	$5.60

*Prices paying in card

Average gasoline prices in Los Angeles have risen 9.5 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging $5.08/g today, according to GasBuddy's survey of 2,135 stations in Los Angeles. Prices in Los Angeles are 21.3 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand 24.7 cents per gallon higher than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has declined 2.9 cents in the last week and stands at $3.99 per gallon.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Los Angeles was priced at $4.45/g while the most expensive was $5.99/g, a difference of $1.54/g. The lowest price in the state yesterday was $3.93/g while the highest was $7.49/g, a difference of $3.56/g.

The national average price of gasoline is unchanged in the last week, averaging $3.51/g. The national average is up 16.1 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 0.9 cents per gallon higher than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Foster kids miss out on sports and music. A new California plan aims to help them catch up

ANA B. IBARRA
Special to the Daily Press

Foster kids often miss out on Little League or music lessons. That's one of the consequences of changing homes, or living with a family on a tight budget.

Now California has a new plan to give them opportunities for the kinds of extracurricular activities that can build character and community.

It's included in a proposed revision to how the state pays for foster care that's intended to make more money available to high-needs kids. Youth advocates are especially enthusiastic about the funding for extracurricular activities, which would come in the form of a monthly stipend of at least $500.

"These kids are always underfunded," said Brian Blalock, senior directing attorney at the Youth Law Center. "And especially when the kids are with grandma and the kids are with relatives, often on fixed income. It's where we most want these young people as a system, and as a consequence, grandma's maxing out credit cards to keep the grandbaby in basketball and dance and tutoring."

The California Department of Social Services put forward the proposal last month, as part of a restructuring to the state's foster care payment system that was prompted by a 2015 law. Lawmakers are expected to consider it in budget deliberations this spring. By law, the state must adopt updated foster care pay rates by Jan. 1, although the changes would not roll out until 2026.



CalMatters

MUSIC: A proposal by the California Department of Social Services looks to set aside money for extracurricular activities for foster youth.

Aside from the money for activities, the proposal includes a new scale for payments to foster families and money earmarked for support services like therapy and mentoring. Children with greater needs would receive more money.

If the Legislature and Gov. Gavin Newsom sign off on the plan, the department estimates California will spend about $1 billion a year by 2028-29 on foster care payments.

Some money will come from the federal government, but the vast majority will be put up by the state's general fund. For comparison, California spent a total of $459 million in foster care pay in 2023-24.

State officials say the proposal is meant to create room for positive experiences in foster care.

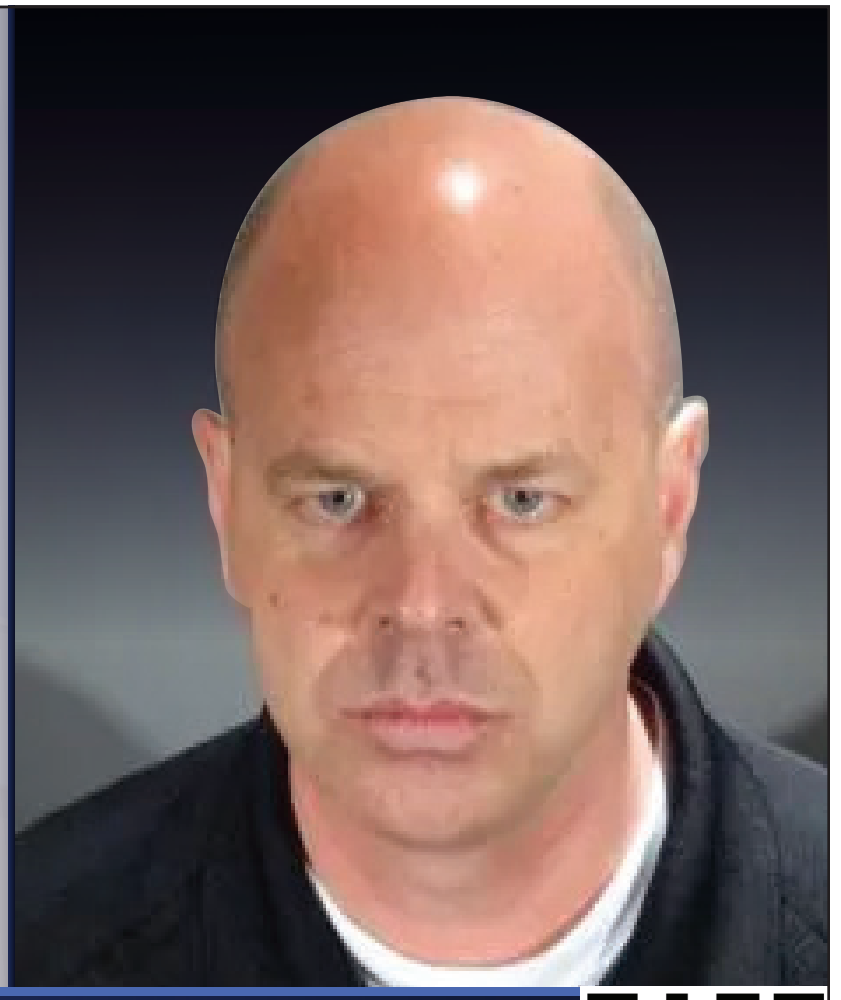
"Most importantly it is attuning to the fact that all of these children have strengths, and focusing on those strengths and building those strengths is really key to addressing that trauma and improving the well-being of all of our children," said Angie Schwartz, deputy director of the Children and Family Services Division at the California Department of Social Services, during a webinar in March.

ASSESSING CHILDREN'S NEEDS IN FOSTER CARE

Under the state's proposal, compensation for caregivers would be based on a tiered system of kids' assessed needs. This would range from $1,788 a month for most kids to

SEE **FOSTER** PAGE 11

Did Eric Uller drive your child home from Santa Monica Police Activities League (PAL) between the late 1980s and early 2000s?



While masquerading as a police officer, Uller sexually abused hundreds of children. It often occurred while giving them a ride home.

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ICE

FROM PAGE 1

levels.

The 2022-23 season saw 50,813 skaters between the dates of Nov. 16 to Jan. 16, with a rink revenue of $1,053,767 and total DTSM expenditure of $1,099,767. The 2023-24 season saw 53,910 skaters between the dates of Nov. 1 to Jan 15, with a total rink revenue of $1,096,792 and a total DTSM expenditure of $126,829.

Andrew Thomas, DTSM CEO, explained during the meeting that in previous years, visitors would buy a ticket, get a wristband and would be able to skate all day. For the 2023-24 season, the activation shifted to sessions and as such visitors would skate for one hour, unless there was a space on the ice, which meant you could skate a bit longer. Adopting a session-based ticketing structure, Thomas explains, provided predictability.

"So before we couldn't sell tickets online and you couldn't book your time in advance because we were never sure how much space would actually be available on the rink," he said during the meeting.

Regarding the admission fee, DTSM makes approximately 25 cents on the dollar, which makes a total of just under $240,000. On the sponsorship deal with Netflix, DTSM made $220,000. There were other incomings and outgoings including fire pits, concession stands and events and such like, but "the lion's share of revenue came from admissions and sponsorship."

There is one outstanding expenditure, which is an invoice for electricity from Edison, but Thomas told the Daily Press, "Our financial report includes pricing for utility costs, which we are clarifying now. The cost of utilities at the ice rink will likely decrease once we receive final statements from Edison."

With expenditures of approximately $127,000, the net profit is just under $389,000. DTSM has a contract with the City of Santa Monica to use lot 27 and any profit over $300,000 is divided with the City, a figure under that amount does not have to be shared. Because DTSM went over that by $88,950, they write a check to the City for $44,475 and thus DTSM makes $344,475.

"It's better than what we shared last year," Thomas said. "So this year, we were pretty bullish on how the rink would perform this year, we were guessing about $310,000 is what we might bring in, in revenue. So we exceeded that which is great. And hopefully next year, we can keep doing that."

The Ice at Santa Monica activation was open for 11 weeks, or 76 days, had 563 sessions with just 14 sessions rained out. During that time, 53,910 skaters were in attendance, with 123,993 visitors in total. There were a number of hosted weekly themed events including, but limited to, Abba Disco Night, Pride Night, Holiday Pet Pageant, Ugly Holiday Sweater Night and yes, even Taylor Swift's birthday.

"The 2023-2024 Ice at Santa Monica season was successful financially and, more importantly, as a community benefit. We were open for more days, with more opportunities to skate than in the 2022/2023 season. The weather certainly helped this year, but we also switched our business model to allow for online ticket sales, which enabled us to guarantee spots on the ice for more skaters than ever before," Thomas told the Daily Press.

"Our title sponsor, Netflix, showed a lot of love to the Santa Monica community by covering the cost for every skater during many peak days and times, including over the Thanksgiving weekend, the Friday before Christmas, and the day after Christmas."

scott.snowden@smdp.com

KITTEN SEASON

FROM PAGE 2

additional resources to be able to care for the increase in the number of kittens and mama cats in their care. They need lots, and lots, of kitten food, and supplies, and the kittens will need months of extra care before they will be old enough to be available for adoption."

The Shelter has kittens ranging from hours old to months old and Noble explains that there are three main ways that kittens arrive at the shelter. The first is that someone finds the kittens within the city limits and they bring them in. The second way is that a resident brings their pregnant cat to the shelter and the third is that someone calls the shelter and reports that there is a kitten, or cat family, that needs their help and the Animal Control Officers will come to their rescue.

While intervention clearly makes the difference between life and death for these fragile felines, Noble stresses that the best thing anyone can do is to call the shelter for assistance. "We had a resident call who thought they were helping when they found a litter of newborn kittens and placed them in a box for the Animal Control Officers to pick up. However, if you find a litter of kittens do not remove them from where you found them," Noble says.

The kittens at the shelter need months of care before they're going to be old enough to be available for adoption. Anyone can contribute and all donations are very gratefully received. The best way to offer assistance is to make a monetary donation at smasf.org to help cover the cost of veterinary care, surgeries and additional medical needs as they arise. But with all of those little hungry mouths to feed, the shelter also needs kitten food and you can help, even if it's just a little bit, by shopping their wishlist on chewy.com.

Moreover, with all of this additional kitten chaos, the shelter itself is constantly requiring improvements. Noble says that this year, the large-scale improvement project that the shelter is raising funds for is to upgrade the cat isolation room.

"The shelter needs a proper space where they can care for all the cats and kittens that arrive at the shelter. The current space is inadequate and must be renovated," Noble says, adding that some of the necessary improvements to the space include painting the room with a special paint that can be cleaned, new cages that are designed for a cat isolation space and a ventilation system.

"The renovation project is going to be a costly undertaking, with an estimated cost of $100k, but it is a vital shelter improvement," Noble says.

scott.snowden@smdp.com

HOUSING

FROM PAGE 4

for Humanity California are attending a press conference in Sacramento today where Bonta and Wicks will unveil the latest version of the bill.

"Part of why the YIMBY movement emerged was to have a clear process in place to have homes actually being built and if you're going to have to end up in court all the time, that's not really ideal," said Matthew Lewis, a spokesperson for the state advocacy group, California YIMBY.

The group does not yet support the bill, but Lewis said it agrees with Wicks' general intent. "The builder's remedy is fantastic, we love it, it's one of the most popular things among YIMBYs. But with the big asterisk — not if a city decides to sue you all the time."

Supporters of the legislation say it will resolve two problems that are currently slowing the law down.

The first is legal. As written, the builder's remedy includes seemingly self-contradictory provisions that seem to simultaneously allow developers an unlimited amount of density while also empowering local governments to apply their own standards. Both of those things can't be true at the same time.

"This is just a crazy-making provision of the law," said Chris Elmendorf, a UC Davis law professor who has done more than anyone to revitalize and popularize the long-forgotten statute.

Setting explicit numeric limits on what is allowed could make it more difficult for opponents to argue that a builder's remedy project isn't consistent with the law.

Converting the builder's remedy from a supersized bargaining chip in an open-ended negotiation into a policy that "anyone with a calculator can figure out" would likely encourage more traditional developers to make use of it, said Dave Rand, a land-use attorney who represents many builder's remedy projects.

In a perk for developers, the bill would also reduce the number of affordable units that builder's remedy projects are required to provide. Currently developers have to set aside at least 20% of the units for lower income renters or buyers. The bill would cut that number to 10% while exempting projects of 10 units or fewer from any affordability requirement.

A CREDIBLE HOUSING THREAT

Keeping developers from proposing supersized "completely preposterous" developments could also help limit the political backlash to the law, said Louis Mirante, a lobbyist with the Bay Area Council, which regularly backs legislation to speed up housing construction. "Legislators are worried about maintaining the credibility of housing laws to their housing skeptical colleagues."

The proposal is likely to face plenty of skepticism regardless. The bill is scheduled to go before the Assembly's Housing and Community Development committee on April 17.

> Part of why the YIMBY movement emerged was to have a clear process in place to have homes actually being built and if you're going to have to end up in court all the time, that's not really ideal
> - Matthew Lewis, California YIMBY

As negotiations continue over future amendments continue, pro-development lawmakers and lobbyists will need to come to a shared conceptual understanding of what the builder's remedy is actually for, Elmendorf said.

For cities that failed to get their housing plans enacted on time, the builder's remedy has been seen as a "punishment," he said.

This new bill could represent a different way of thinking about the law, one that doesn't unleash unmitigated chaos on a city's planning department, Elmendorf said, but kicks in "as a default statewide zoning code that applies when cities haven't come up with a good enough alternative on their own."

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

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GUEST COMMENTARY

FROM PAGE 3

Several of the most tightly fought legislative and congressional contests were expected to result in two Democrats emerging from large fields with lots of spending. Then on Election Night, many of these candidates found a Republican, often a complete unknown, in the coveted spot for the General Election.

We saw this in the shadow of Schiff's congressional district. In the fight for his replacement, Assemblywoman Laura Friedman and state Sen. Anthony Portantino were in a tight battle with other high profile Democrats, including former L.A. City Attorney Mike Feuer and actor Ben Savage.

They collectively spent millions fighting for a spot in the General Election, but the second spot was won by Alex Balekian, a relatively unknown Republican who spent $10,000 on a launch video but little else.

Friedman, who came in first in the Schiff district, saw a similar thing in her legislative district, with four Democrats spending money but a Republican who spent none slipping into the top two. The same thing happened with Portantino's Senate seat, with Yvonne Yiu, who ran for state controller in 2022, spending $3 million and getting boxed out of the second spot by a Republican who spent less than 3% of that.

In over a dozen races, largely unknown Republicans advanced over candidates with million-dollar campaigns or independent expenditure backing.

Newsom's Prop. 1 ballot measure was also affected. While that ultimately passed by less than a percentage point, the result may have been closer than expected because a larger number of Republicans and conservative-learning independents came out to vote.

While individual Democrats around the state have had their hopes of making it to November dashed, the fact is that Schiff's play may ultimately be a big win for Democrats. The Golden State is home to seven very competitive congressional districts. A close U.S. Senate battle, with the potential to waste $100 million, would not have helped the cause.

Additionally, with more Republicans in run-offs for safe legislative and congressional districts, Democrats in those areas aren't going to have to spend money in expensive intraparty battles, and can instead raise money for others.

Democrats can join me in blaming Schiff for the next seven months of Garvey's grueling baseball analogies, but he can't be blamed for hurting Democrats statewide. Turnout will be sky high in November, and the same math that got Garvey into the General will ensure he can't win it.

It might not have been the goal, but this political play by Schiff and his allies has taken a lot of costly and expensive distractions off the table and enhanced Democrats' prospects for November.

Paul Mitchell is the vice president of Political Data, a voter data firm based in California, and owner of Redistricting Partners, a redistricting consulting firm. This article was originally published by CalMatters.

BOARDS

FROM PAGE 5

ago, with Galeazzo taking on a multitude of roles, while Sante focused on board crafting and artistic projects, including board repair and in-house Bay Street designs on apparel like shirts and hats. The two eventually brought on younger brother Francesco as shop master, as well as Henry Power as shop manager, world-class skater Kevin Hairston as a web designer and Emerald Benjamin for social media.

"I don't think anyone really told us like, hey, we need another shop, but we just kind of felt like we did," Galeazzo said. "For whatever reason we opened up and then, I think a lot of people (shared) that sentiment ... I think a compliment we get a lot ... (is that) we are similar to (an) old shop ... that (was) around back in the day."

Keeping a throwback vibe means Bay Street is a true do-it-yourself outfit, relying on repair efforts and rentals for surfboards and wetsuits as a big bulk of the business. The location is one of the few shops in the entire region that does repairs, with Galeazzo noting that "most people are not really willing to get that dirty" dealing with materials and the dust that comes with sanding and other repairs.

Bay Street also opens its doors to sell used boards, which has become a "huge market" for the brothers.

"We (were) kind of hoping the community would take a gamble on us, so I've always felt like (helping) the small local brands ... we've always been open, (had) open arms where they're taking a gamble," Sante said.

To celebrate the 10-year anniversary, the location is in the process of scheduling several events, such as a beach demonstration for surf equipment, taking place at Tower 20 on the Santa Monica Beach at 8 a.m. Saturday. The team is also committed to taking part in art gallery releases, as the artistic world goes hand in hand with skate and surf culture.

"Skateboards are (art), our surfboards are functional art," Sante said. (It's) a lot of working with your hands, so I think there's a lot of creatives in (this) world ... it (can be) an artistic expression rather than a sport, so I think there are a lot of creative minds (here)."

The brothers always had some sort of confidence in their ability to stick around for the decade, not wanting to be caught in the daily gloom and doom of how long they could last. Sante said there have "been a lot of ups and downs," but their DIY attitude and work ethic have made them a local staple.

"I really truly think that we took every opportunity we could, especially in those first (few) years," Sante added. "We worked here every day from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., grinding, doing insane amounts of shows ... just being there present ... this was super hard work to do, but I'm glad we did it right, because I think it was worth it. The hard work pays off. It is a testament to everything that not just me, but everyone (that) shares all (our) views that have come on over the years."

Bay Street Boards is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sundays. For more information and to visit the online shop, go to baystreetboards.com.

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thomas@smdp.com

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- Education
- Healing Historical Harms
- Transportation
- Homelessness
- Mental and Physical Health

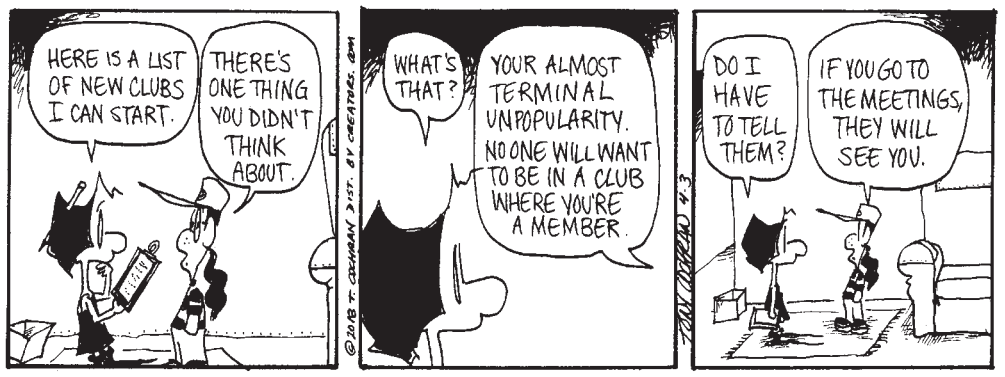




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Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



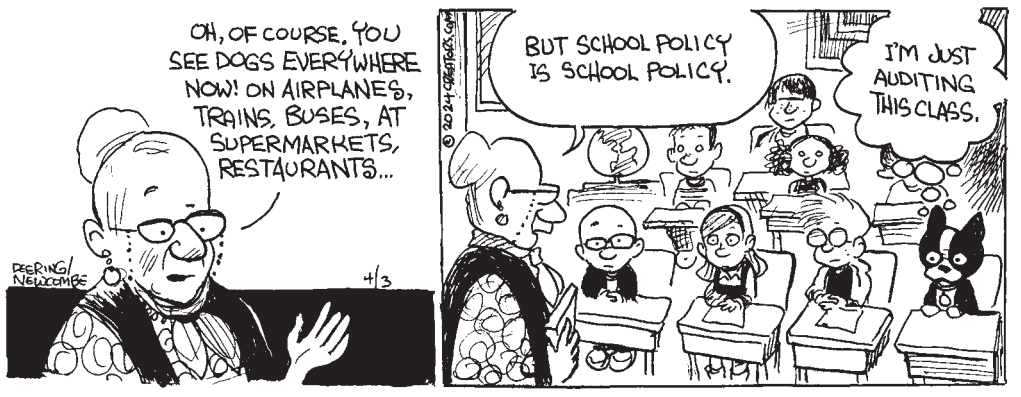
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



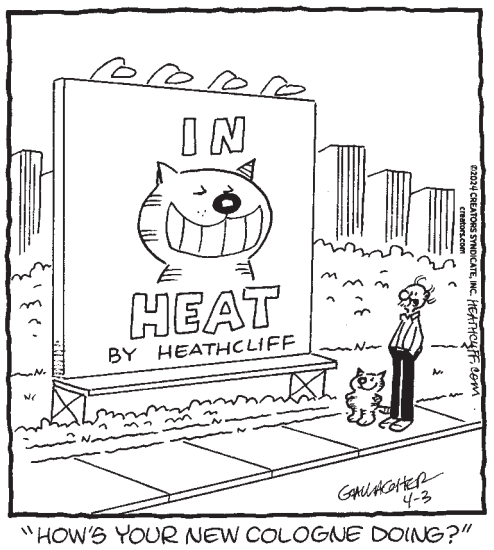
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"HOW'S YOUR NEW COLOGNE DOING?"

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 23 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 6169

Gameshows past and present

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

ADbc	Hard	RocKwiz
Answer	Have a Go	Rowdy
Brain	I Do, I Do	Say G'day
Cost	Jigsaw	Sport
Download	Language	Steam Punks!
Event	Man 'O' Man	Success
Exciting	Memory	Television
Fast	Money	The Cube
Flashback	Obscure	Tic-Tac-Dough
Forget	Pot Luck	Tricky
Funny	Quest	Vidiot
Greed	Quiz	Wrong

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 3)

A banger of a year! Just as music relies on the space between notes, success depends on a delicious problem to solve. You'll do this with a fantastic team. You'll lose yourself in the project only to find yourself in the warmth and admiration of the wonderful people involved. More highlights: whirlwind travel, a nest egg of security and the expansion of family. Cancer and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 10, 3, 33 and 16.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Even though you are a high-energy person, you can pull off a slow burn with the best of them. The trick is in finding contentment in the present moment. People will be magnetized by your serene warmth.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You've hit your limit of clutter, and you'll not only clear, clean and organize. You'll also make new policies going forward to avoid unnecessary purchases and consumerism-driven habits.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Take your time in deciding who belongs in your support circle. Observe potential candidates, especially how they communicate with you and others, whether they listen to other perspectives without judgment and how they handle differences of opinion.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You love a topic enough to devote yourself to learning its deeper layers. Teaching will enforce your love. Instead of telling people what to do or explaining things, you'll demonstrate and thus inspire.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You have aspirations for your personal life and you're willing to grow into the person who can handle these things. You expect things to feel a little weird. Being slightly uncomfortable just means you're stretching.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Maybe you've never had the kind of relationship where a partner listens to your wild ideas without batting an eye and cheers you on like a hype squad at a pep rally for your dreams. But if you're open to it, it's coming your way.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Simplify your daily routines and habits to reduce complexity. Attention is a precious commodity. If it weren't, people wouldn't be working so hard to get yours. Eliminate the unnecessary. Focus on essentials.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You'll be as effective as your support system, so use discernment to choose well. Seek people who are more concerned with seeing the big picture come together than they are with getting ego needs met.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your relationship should be a dance where kindness takes the lead, and disagreements are just spicy breakaway moves that keep things interesting before you rejoin and get in step. All spice and no dish is not sustainable.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You live by your own rules, cultivate habits aligned with your goals and exercise qualities you value, resulting in a surge of inner strength. Compassion, humility and integrity sing in harmony — the soundtrack of your day.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The paradox of effort and ease is very much alive in your day; you'll be reminded how striving often leads to frustration and suffering, while surrendering and letting go brings ease and fulfillment. Balance between doing and being.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). When you consider the complexities and nuances of a situation, you wonder if it's worth it to get involved at all. But that's the problem with thinking. It never accurately represents actual experience. And so you will boldly go and see for yourself.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

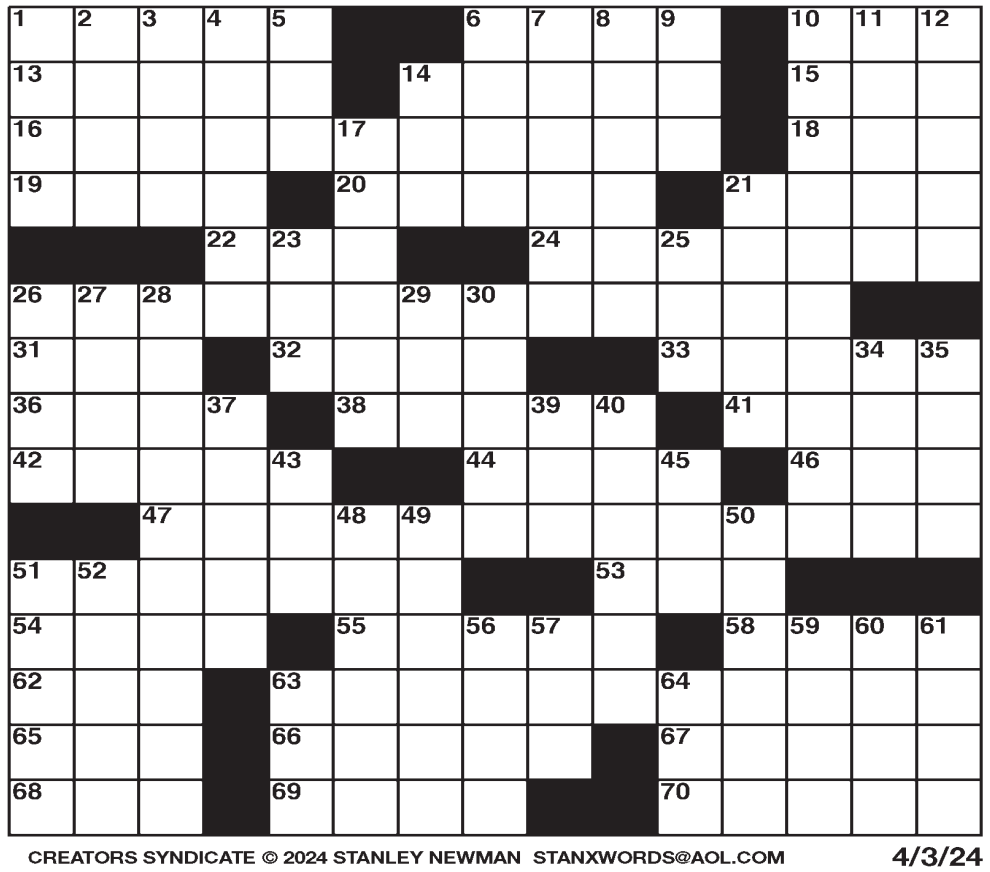
SHOE BUSINESS by Chris Gross
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 British noble
6 Boxing punches
10 Colonel Sanders' chain
13 Single-handedly
14 Nintendo video game brother
15 "Colorful" ending for Cray-
16 Single-person business owners
18 [The writer's mistake]
19 Appear to be
20 Important occasion
21 __ butter (cosmetic ingredient)
22 Sixth-sense letters
24 Film's male protagonist
26 Tricky-to-pronounce phrase
31 Spanish gold
32 Oahu neighbor
33 Aromatic closet wood
36 "So long!"
38 Kid's stuffed bear
41 Country in the Andes
42 Skiing surface
44 Mined rocks
46 Teapot topper
47 Lincoln Center's Manhattan neighborhood
51 Lean back in a living room chair
53 To date
54 Have sore muscles
55 Timex competitor
58 Skilled
62 French king
63 Fine fabric drapery
65 Rural hotel
66 Lauder of lipstick
67 Made public
68 Yuletide beverage
69 Novelist Gerritsen
70 Unwanted garden plants

DOWN

1 Male singing voice
2 Burn-soothing plant
3 Duty assigned
4 About 1,000,000 bytes, for short
5 After-tax amount
6 Green mineral
7 "Isn't that true about me?"
8 New parents' celebrations
9 Maritime distress signal
10 Seller of matzo ball soup
11 Aviator
12 Crème de __ (chocolate liqueur)
14 Dallas NBAer
17 Iterate
21 Ram or lamb
23 Tally up
25 List shortener
26 Stroller riders
27 Spoken aloud
28 "Hands off" art gallery sign
29 Election Day day: Abbr.
30 Black __ spider
34 Seldom getting rain
35 Impolite
37 Orchard fruit
39 Rap star Dr. __
40 Response to "Who, me?"
43 "Shaky" prefix for center
45 Fr. holy woman
48 Pack into a crate
49 Gives feedback
50 Sculpture on a pedestal
51 __ to go (eager)
52 Money-saving, in brand names
56 Looks at
57 Skating surface
59 Hold back, as breath
60 Wasn't truthful
61 Finish lines
63 Allow
64 Propel a dinghy



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FOSTER

FROM PAGE 6

$6,296 for kids with the greatest needs for support.

That would replace the current model which bases a caregiver's pay on where a child is placed. Right now group homes are paid a higher rate than grandparents or foster families, for example.

The acuity of a child's needs will be evaluated with a tool known as the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths assessment. While this assessment is used today, it doesn't determine funding. Kids are usually assessed every six months.

This assessment takes into account a number of things, including kids' behavioral and emotional needs, risk behaviors and how the child is doing in school, socially and physically.

Foster care services providers and the Legislative Analyst's Office have raised questions about the reliability of the assessment tool and whether it will be done consistently.

"There's real worry about children potentially being scored at a lower tier or at a lower level, and then that determining the tier of services that they would get," said Christine Stoner-Mertz, CEO of the California Alliance of Child and Family Services, which represents organizations that work in child welfare.

Stoner-Mertz said the state needs to figure out a process for when children switch tiers, especially if their level of need begins to decline and they are bumped down to a lower funding level.

"How are we working with families to prepare them for what could often be perceived as losing those supports that are, in fact, making the child more stable in their home?"

For the first time, children and their caregivers may also be eligible for "immediate needs" dollars, which would fund support services like therapy and mentoring. This would come in amounts between $1,000 and $4,100 a month and would be reserved for the 25% of children with the greatest needs.

SUPPORTING HOME-BASED FOSTER CARE

For the past several years, the state has been working to place more kids with families rather than in group homes. Research shows that kids tend to do better at a home with a family. The state has decreased the number of children being placed in congregate settings by almost 60%, according to the social services department.

> There's real worry about children potentially being scored at a lower tier or at a lower level, and then that determining the tier of services that they would get
>
> - Christine Stoner-Mertz, CEO of the California Alliance of Child and Family Services

Organizations that support foster families are watching the state's proposal closely, and some are worried it does not provide enough money for the nonprofits that do the work to place kids in homes.

The nonprofits, known as foster family agencies, play an important role in this process by recruiting foster parents and training them, as well as providing social work support.

The California Alliance of Child and Family Services notes that the rate paid to foster family agencies has remained mostly flat for almost 20 years.

A recent survey by the alliance showed foster family agencies have high turnover rates of social workers because they cannot compete with the salaries offered by other employers. The survey also showed 68% of foster family agencies are at risk of downsizing because of insufficient funding.

As proposed, the state would pay the nonprofits $1,610 a month for most children and up to $7,213 for kids with the greatest needs. The alliance representing the nonprofits says the monthly rates need to be between $2,245 and up to $10,650 to be sustainable.

"We want to have more home-based care, and this is what (foster family agencies) do and support," said Adrienne Shilton, vice president of public policy at the California Alliance of Child and Family Services. "So we're perplexed by that, in terms of stated goals and then (the rates) we see here."

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

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WEDNESDAY | APRIL 3

PLANNING COMMISSION

Established in 1946, the Planning Commission envisions Santa Monica as a city of wellbeing, sustainability, and equity, and seeks to balance the many needs and priorities within our community in accordance with the City's General Plan and Specific Plans. The Commission acts through open and civil discourse that is informed by public input, impartial analysis, and best practices in land use and planning. City Hall, 1685 Main Street, 6 p.m.

COME SING WITH THE BAND - LIVE BAND KARAOKE!

Doors open at 8 PM. Show starts at 9:30 p.m. Online ticket sales end at 7 p.m., tics available at the door after 8 p.m. 2 drink minimum. $5. Harvelle's Santa Monica, 1432 4th St, https://santamonica.harvelles.com/shows/253042

THURSDAY | APRIL 4

HOUSING COMMISSION

The Santa Monica Housing Commission is a city advisory body whose mission is to protect and improve the quality of life of all Santa Monicans by listening to input from city residents and staff, publicly deliberating, and providing recommendations to both the Santa Monica City Council and Santa Monica Housing Authority Board on issues related to housing in Santa Monica. The Santa Monica Housing Commission is committed to strengthening the social, economic, and cultural vitality and diversity of Santa Monica through habitable, fair, and equitable housing for all. City Hall, 1685 Main Street, 6 p.m.

FRIDAY | APRIL 5

PILATES MOVEMENT

The Abbot Kinney Memorial Branch Library, 501 S. Venice Blvd., hosts a pilates movement class beginning at 11 a.m. Develop strength, flexibility and balance through the fusion of pilates mat and various styles of movement. All levels welcome. No entry after the first ten minutes. Program generously funded by the Friends of Venice Library.

SO HOW YOU DOING?

The play "So How You Doing?: A Playful Play on Co-Dependency," written and directed by Tom Parker and produced by Denise Klein, is a theatrical experience with audience participation based on codependency. The audience accepts the role of mental health colleagues and observers of a meeting of group therapy participants, sharing stories with humor, emotion and insight before tension mounts, requiring a solution. As a show souvenir, the host offers the audience a Codependency Assessment to take home "for someone who may need it." Starts at 1 p.m. at Santa Monica Playhouse, 1211 4th St. Tickets $25. To purchase, visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/so-how-you-doing-a-playful-play-on-co-dependency-tickets-859861979327.

AN AFTERNOON WITH MEG MEDINA

Santa Monica Public Library and Children's Book World are honored to present an afternoon with author Meg Medina, the Library of Congress' current National Ambassador for Young People's Literature. Ms. Medina will introduce her new platform, ¡Cuéntame! Let's Talk Books, a Spanish-English bilingual effort that encourages young leaders to connect with each other while talking about books. Starts at 4 p.m. in the Thelma Terry Room at Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave.

SATURDAY | APRIL 6

VIRGINIA AVENUE PARK FARMERS MARKET

The family market in the heart of Pico neighborhood's Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave, is widely considered to be among the best on the west coast. Featuring field-fresh produce, hundreds of kinds of vegetables, brilliant cut flowers, breads, cheeses, delicious foods, live music and more.

DOWNTOWN SANTA MONICA WALKING TOUR

Discover the architectural gems and rich history of Downtown Santa Monica, beginning at Hostelling International Santa Monica, 1436 2nd St., at 10 a.m. Visit a 12-story Art Deco office tower, the British pub where Jim Morrison played his first show, the city's best example of a Queen Anne Victorian home, a lavish hotel that housed a speakeasy during Prohibition and more. Tours are approximately 2 hours and cover 6 blocks. Reservations suggested. Open to all ages. Tickets $10. For more information, visit: https://smc.givecloud.co/dwt.

GEEBO THE CLOWN

The Abbot Kinney Memorial Branch Library, 501 S. Venice Blvd., hosts the incredible Geebo the Clown, El Payaso Loco, starting at 10:30 a.m. Think clown, magician, and incredible balloon animals. The whole family will enjoy this funny show full of magic tricks, sight gags and balloons. Geek's performance is to celebrate El die de los ninos/El die de los libros (Children's Day/Book Day), commonly known as Dia, a nationally recognized initiative that emphasizes the importance of literacy for all children from all backgrounds. This program is generously funded by the Library Foundation of Los Angeles.

COMMUNITY DOG TRAINING CLASSES

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

PET-CHEWLLA PET ADOPTION FAIR & FESTIVAL

Green Dog Veterinary Center, 210 Main St., Venice, is hosting the second annual Adoption Fair and Pet Festival starting at 1 p.m. You'll have the chance to meet adoptable dogs and cats needing great homes from eight different Los Angeles-based rescues. A day filled with furry friends, fantastic food, lively tunes and refreshing drinks. Donate to the silent auction, shop local vendors and get your face painted or a flower crown for your dog. This event is family-friendly, and leashed pets are encouraged to come.

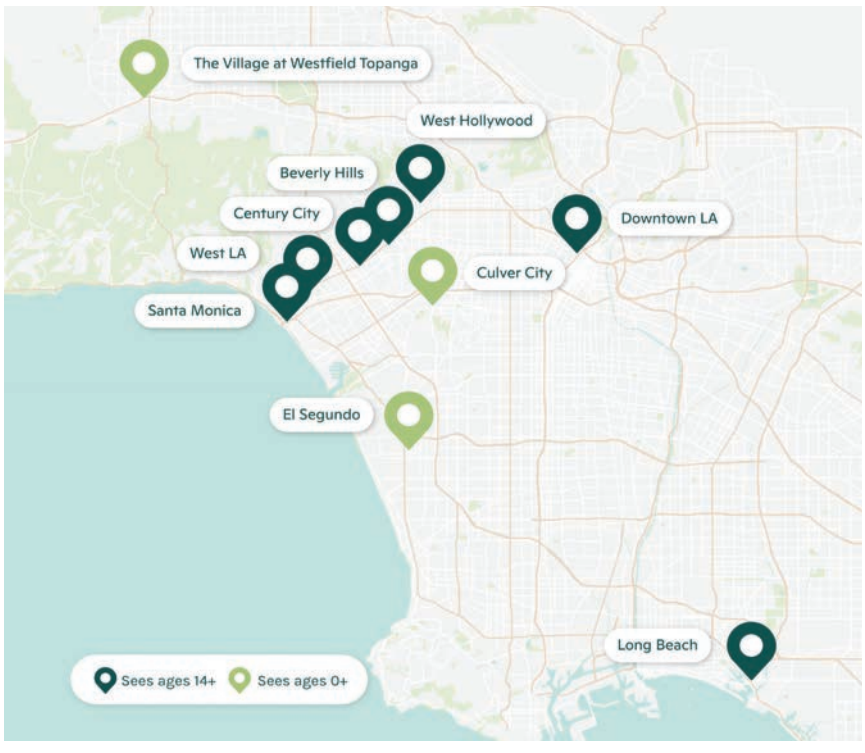
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