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THURSDAY
04.20.23

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Santa Monica Daily Press

Volume 22 Issue 131

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Berkeley's ban on natural gas is overturned setting "an important precedent for future cases"



SMDP Photo

STOVE: Berkeley lost the ability to outlaw gas appliances.

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

Berkeley's breakthrough measure that banned the use of natural gas in new construction was overturned on Monday by a federal appeals court, thus supporting the argument made by restaurant owners who claimed that the city bypassed federal energy regulations when it approved the ordinance.

In September of last year, Santa Monica joined over 60 other cities across California, including Berkeley, in passing all-electric building codes. Known as Ordinance #2722, it prohibited gas infrastructure, commonly referred to as "natural gas piping," in new buildings.

While both the Berkeley and the Santa Monica zero emission building code incorporate an exemption based on "public interest," the Santa Monica Zero Emission Building Code allowed for permit applications for the two exceptions, "cooking appliances in commercial kitchens" and "medical buildings, laboratory equipment or clean-rooms."

The Berkeley municipal code was a little stricter. Exemptions exist if "the applicant establishes that it is not physically feasible to construct the building without natural gas Infrastructure" and "an equivalent all-electric system or design is not available." However, newly constructed buildings shall "nonetheless be required at a minimum to have sufficient electric capacity, wiring and conduit to

SEE **GAS** PAGE 8

Promenade set to welcome three new restaurants arriving at Kitchen United Mix

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

Santa Monica's evolving food scene continues to flourish with three more unique eateries coming to, and finally filling out, the Kitchen United Mix food court on the city's Third Street Promenade.

Gogo Ya, which specializes in crispy nori sushi tacos and bento bowls, is already open; Ms. Clucks Deluxe, offers Japanese-inspired twists on chicken and dumplings and is set to open in late April and Mr Roni Cups will offer Italian pizza and will open in mid-May.

All three quirky-named, fast-casual restaurants will sit either side of Farmesa on the second floor of the Kitchen United Mix, at 1315 Third Street. Gogo Ya and Mr Roni Cups will share the space to the right of the Chipotle spin-off, if you're looking at it, close to the outdoor dining area, while Clucks Deluxe will be to the left.

However, these aren't brand new culinary concepts, James Beard Award-Winning Chef Tim Cushman and restaurateur Nancy Cushman have been operating the first outposts of all three outlets in Boston since 2018.



Gogo Ya

TACO?: Spicy torched hamachi topped with truffled jalapeno butter and scallions.

"I've always had immense reverence for Los Angeles' food

SEE **RESTAURANT** PAGE 7

Armed robber could serve 20 years for 26 day crime spree

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

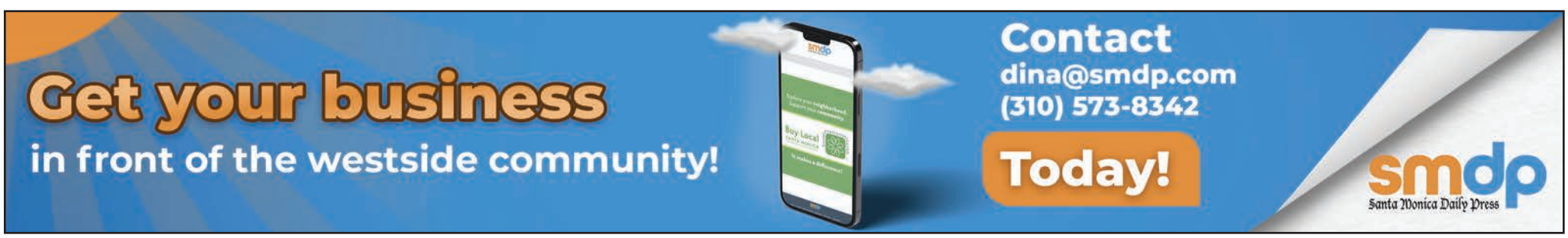
A serial armed robber connected to at least one gas station robbery in Santa Monica was arrested this week.

Namir Malik Ali Greene, 23, from Los Angeles was arrested Monday and is charged with interference with commerce by robbery (Hobbs Act). He is alleged to have committed 31 robberies (or attempted robberies) of gas stations/convenience stores and at least two carjackings during a three and a half week crime spree from March 21 to April 15.

The complaint affidavit alleges, on April 4, Greene robbed eight gas station convenience stores and attempted to rob one more. During each robbery, Greene allegedly pointed a black semi-automatic handgun at the store clerk and demanded money from the cash register. On that day, Greene stole at least $2,554 from gas station stores in Hermosa Beach, Marina del Rey, Long Beach, Pico Rivera, Whittier, Montebello, Santa Monica, and Los Angeles' Mid-City neighborhood, according to the affidavit.

According to the US Attorney's Office, Greene allegedly stole at least $15,360 in cash during his robbery spree and primarily targeted stores in Los Angeles County. He also allegedly carjacked a motorist at a Fullerton gas station on March

SEE **ROBBERY** PAGE 7



City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: Development Agreement 13DEV-010
315 Colorado Avenue
APPLICANT: Macerich SMP LLP
PROPERTY OWNER: Macerich SMP LLP

A public hearing will be held by the City Council to consider the following request:

Introduction and first reading of an ordinance to cancel Development Agreement (13DEV-010) that was originally approved by the City Council on April 22, 2014 for a portion of the Santa Monica Place retail center that was previously occupied by the ArcLight Cinemas movie theater. The 2014 Development Agreement was necessary at that time to allow for additional building height to a maximum of 84 feet for the conversion of the then-vacant retail space on the third floor into a multi-screen movie theater complex. Community benefits negotiated as part of the Development Agreement have all been satisfied or were directly related to the movie theater use. This public hearing is in response to a request from the Applicant ("Macerich") in order to reoccupy this vacant third floor tenant space that has not been used as movie theater since 2020. Macerich has leased the space to a new museum, a permitted use in the Downtown Community Plan's Transit Adjacent Zone. The building also complies with current Downtown Community Plan development standards for height.

Pursuant to Santa Monica Municipal Code Chapter 9.60, proposed cancellation of a Development Agreement requires the City Council to adopt an ordinance to approve the cancellation request.

DATE/TIME: **TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2023 AT 7:00 PM**

LOCATION: City Council Chamber, Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT:
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. Members of the public unable to attend a meeting but wishing to comment on an item(s) listed on the agenda may submit written comments prior to the public hearing via email to councilmtgitems@santamonica.gov or via mail to City Clerk, 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica, California 90401. Written public comment submitted before 12:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be available for online viewing. All written comments shall be made part of the public record. Please note the agenda item number in the subject line of your written comments.

You may also comment in person at the City Council hearing. Please check the agenda for more detailed instructions on how to comment in person.

Address your comments to: **City Clerk**
Re: Santa Monica Place DA Cancellation

VIA EMAIL: councilmtgitems@santamonica.gov
VIA MAIL: 1685 Main Street, Room 102
Santa Monica, CA 90401

MORE INFORMATION: If you want more information about this project, please contact Roxanne Tanemori at (310) 458-2200 ext 8202, or by e-mail at roxanne.tanemori@santamonica.gov. For disability-related accommodations, please contact the City Clerk's Office at (310) 458-8211 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Every attempt will be made to provide the requested accommodation. All written materials are available in alternate languages provided the request is received 72 hours prior to the meeting. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines serve City Hall and the Civic Center area. The Expo Line terminus is located at Colorado Avenue and Fourth Street, and is a short walk to City Hall. Public parking is available in front of City Hall, on Olympic Drive, and in the Civic Center Parking Structure (validation free).

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the public hearing.

ESPAÑOL : Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar applicaciónes proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-2275.

California bills to expand state tax credits could send $1 billion to low-income families



Pablo Unzueta for CalMatters

HELP: Isaias Hernandez, 35, the executive director for the Eastmont Community Center, helps a taxpayer with their taxes during a free tax preparation event that was held at the Nakoak Community Center in Gardena on April 1, 2023. "Our goal is to make sure that low-income families have access to free and safe tax preparation that is reliable," Hernandez said. "Families have a lot going on in their lives and sometimes they just need a trusted source."

ALEJANDRA REYES-VELARDE
Special to the Daily Press

When Reyna Bonilla lost her job cleaning hotel rooms in 2020 at the start of the pandemic, she used tax credits and other pandemic relief to chip away at past-due rent so she and her two children could stay in their Koreatown apartment in Los Angeles.

This year things are different. Bonilla cleans homes a few days a week but only makes about $10,000 a year. Most of her pandemic aid has phased out, so she struggles to keep up with expenses.

Add to that, her youngest child turned 6 in November, making Bonilla ineligible for California's Young Child Tax Credit. Her tax refund will be $1,083 less this year, squeezing her already tight budget.

"Sometimes I say I'm going to save money and I start saving," she said, "but the prices go up and I can't do it anymore."

Advocates say California's tax credits are more crucial now, as low-income families like Bonilla's struggle to financially recover from the pandemic as other government relief programs end.

For instance, the federal government in 2020 expanded its tax credits to send advanced monthly payments to low-income families with children and, for the first time, included very low-income earners. It helped cut child poverty, but the federal credit expansion ended in December 2021.

Democratic Assemblymembers Mike Gipson of Gardena and Miguel Santiago of Los Angeles recently authored two bills that would expand California's Earned Income Tax Credit and its Young Child Tax Credit.

Combined the bills would cost about $1.1 billion annually, in a year the state is predicting a $22.5 billion to $25 billion deficit.

Who gets earned income, young child tax credits?

"The need for lower-income tax credits is as dramatic as ever," said Teri Olle, California campaign director of the Economic Security Project, a nonprofit based in New York.

"Gas prices, food prices — none of that is better than it was before the pandemic. Now a lot of these supports that have been in place are expiring and people are left with higher prices, a higher cost of living and nothing to support them. "

Currently the California Earned Income Tax Credit gives credits of $1 to about $3,400 to tax filers who earn as much as $30,000 in annual income.

In 2022, 3.6 million Californians received the state's earned income tax credit, according to the Franchise Tax Board. It had a modest impact; about 83% of those filers got less than $300 in state tax credits.

That's partly by design. The state earned income tax credit is structured to provide an incentive for people to work, so it phases in more cash as earned income increases to $30,000.

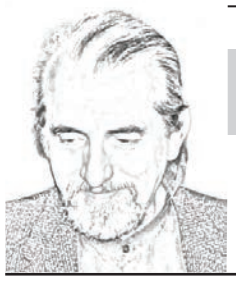
For instance, someone who earned only $200 in 2022 and has three children would receive $67 in earned income credit, while someone who made about $9,000 with three children would receive $3,417.

Those who make $30,000 receive $1, regardless of how many children they have. Those who earn more don't qualify.

It targets working individuals with dependents who are most in need. But it leaves out many people who can't work because they are caring for loved ones and single filers who don't have dependents but struggle to get by, advocates said.

"It doesn't go far enough, especially in the economy we find ourselves in," Gipson said.

SEE **INCOME** PAGE 8



OPINION **NOTEWORTHY**

Charles Andrews | Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Where to see Hawks in SM

GRATITUDE – SO IMPORTANT

A LOCAL NOTE, not music, but trees – Santa Monica peace activist JERRY RUBIN will be presiding over the dedication of a "Tree of Gratitude" planted by the City to acknowledge the lifetime work of Jerry's late wife MARISSA. It will take place this Saturday – EARTH DAY – at noon in Palisades Park, just north of the Pier. What a great way to acknowledge and celebrate Earth (currently on life support) Day, and sweet Marissa, who was truly one of our most outstanding citizens.

IT'S 4/20 TODAY. I should have saved last week's big photo of Marley ("BOB MARLEY ONE LOVE EXPERIENCE," see below) for today. Because of the auspicious date.

Speaking of reggae: I've recently gone back to obsessively playing the soundtrack to the landmark 1972 Jamaican film, "The Harder They Come." Every cut is amazing, geezam! It's on my Top Ten Albums of All Time list.

For a long time I was reluctant to admit the movie and soundtrack were my introduction to, and love songs from, the island. Then foremost authority on the subject Roger Steffens (see below) assured me, "Oh no, that was almost every American's first blush with reggae." Of course, Steffens caught fire with The Wailers first major label release, and it became his life. He was invited, from his "Reggae Beat" show on KCRW, to join an early Wailers tour. I never even got to see Bob live. (But my wife did, at Santa Barbara Bowl. In fact, you can spot her skanking up front, in the video of the concert. I am, of course, very envious.)

WILLIE NELSON will celebrate his actual birthday, #90, while on tour – here in LA, at the Hollywood Bowl, with a pair of concerts, 4/29-30. Who doesn't love Willie? A true American icon. A bearded, longhair Texan known for smoking prodigious amounts of weed all his life, even after busts and IRS harassment. Who will be there to celebrate him and sing his songs? A lineup to make this perhaps the concert of the century. Sturgil to Stapleton, Snoop to Sheryl (Dogg to Crow), The Chicks, Norah to Tom Joneses, Beck to Ziggy.

I must at least note the recent passing of RYUICHI SAKAMOTO (71), the barrier busting Japanese synthesist-composer-activist-actor. I picked up his "Thousand Knives" LP mid-'70s and was fascinated and hooked.

Happy Birthday, Mom, IRENE CATHERINE CLEMENS ANDREWS, still miss you, and love you so much.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

SOUTHSIDE SLIM - I've written glowingly about Southside every time he comes to town, and every time I try to catch his show because he is simply one of the best bluesmen around, for his powerful vocals and his electric guitar.10 bucks? Are you kidding me? Sat 9 p.m., Harvelle's, Santa Monica, $10.



Courtesy Photo

BAND: See any Hawks here?

I SEE HAWKS IN LA – My failing, I suppose, but I have always had difficulty finding the right words to convey what a pleasure it always is to listen to this fine outfit ensemble of very talented players and singers, decades on the scene. I've heard them so many places over the years but I can't think of a more ideal room for what they do than our own McCabe's. Country, alt country, folk Americana, ditch trying to find a label and just sit back and take in what exquisitely laid-back music they put forth into the universe, Perhaps, yes, from the perspective of a high flying hawk. Sun 8 p.m., McCabes, $24.

THE HOT CLUB OF LOS ANGELES – Hot Club's brand of virtuoso, sometimes breakneck Django-style 1930s gypsy swing jazz is found nowhere else and even if it was, it couldn't possibly be better than this. These guys are masters, individually and collectively. They manage to record and play high-profile gigs and still show up every Monday night here, for years. Aren't we lucky? Mon 9 p.m., Cinema Bar, Culver City, no cover.

RECOMMENDED:

TONIGHT! - GEORGE KAHN JAZZ & BLUES REVUE – That's a lot of letters and words but this is a lot of show, with a lot of players and singers and ranging across genres and styles from standards to swing to bop to a little bit o'soul and R&B to his own compositions. Even though he lives "over the border," he's pretty much a local guy with son Evan (successful cellist) a Samohi grad and wife Diana a well-known vocal coach at SMC. Always entertaining. And at Herb Alpert's sumptuous venue tucked away in the hills. Thurs 7:30 p.m., Vibrato, Beverly Glen, $10-30.

TONIGHT! - BLONDIE – I mean, really, who knows for sure, but most of the original band is still together and they had so many great songs and Debbie Harry probably still has it, still has that look at least, that cool, so among all the bands of that era still around, I think this is a good bet. With the Linda Lindas. Thurs 8 p.m., Greek Theatre, LA, $60-160.

TODAY! - BOB MARLEY ONE LOVE EXPERIENCE – OK, I still haven't seen it, busy, out of town, but I will, and my recommendation stands. Bob Marley was one of the greatest performers and musicians (his compelling, hypnotic, otherworldly vocal instrument) ... ever. And his Wailers were musically phenomenal, and his songwriting was unique and remarkable. Silverlake's Roger Steffens, the world's foremost authority on Marley, if not reggae itself, is leading tours every weekend at 1 and 3, and he would not do that if it wasn't up to snuff. This covers only "the Island (record label) years," but that's what most people are familiar with. Thurs-Sun-Wed 11 a.m. - 8 p.m., Fri-Sat 11 a.m. -10 p.m., Mon-Tues 11 a.m. -5:30 p.m., Ovation Hollywood, $20-70.

IGGY POP – If you know his history you will be thrilled to see him still going crazy, if not you won't even think about going. Um, that's too bad. Who knew he could have such longevity, one of the most interesting and enduring volatile rockers, credited with giving birth to punk? Fri 8 p.m., Regent Theater, LA, $

"PICASSO AT THE LAPIN AGILE" – Read carefully. It's an "absurdist comedy." By the inarguably absurd comic Steve Martin. I laughed, but it is not intended to have you in stitches the entire time. It is the absurd and thought-provoking fantasy that Picasso and Einstein may have hung out together in a Paris cafe in the early 20th century, before either was famous. What might they have been like? Who else might have passed through? No one knows so Martin could go anywhere. One place he went was to make the "ordinary" women involved sound smarter than those two wise guys. Some shows are selling out. Fri, Sat 8 p.m., Sun 2 p.m., Ruskin Group Theatre, Santa Monica Airport, $20-35.

TOLEDO DIAMOND – Unique, riveting, first class act. There's nothing like it, it is high performance art and great fun. Degeneracy is rarely so well disciplined. Could be the most memorable 12 bucks you ever spent. Sun 9:30 p.m., Harvelle's, Santa Monica, $12.

COMING ATTRACTIONS: IGGY POP, Hollywood Palladium, 4/27; BOB MARLEY ONE LOVE EXPERIENCE, Ovation Hollywood, 4/28-30; "PICASSO AT THE LAPIN AGILE," Ruskin Group Theatre, 4/28-30; WILLIE NELSON 90, Hollywood

SEE **NOTEWORTHY** PAGE 6

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that bids will be received by the City of Santa Monica until 3:00 p.m. on the date indicated at which time they will be opened and posted for:

BID #4455 Cornerstone Learning Management System

Submission Deadline is May 17, 2023 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.

Bids must be submitted on forms supplied by the City of Santa Monica. Bid packages containing all forms, specifications, terms and conditions may be obtained on the **CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL.** The website for this Notice of Inviting Bids and related documents is: OpenGov (https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca). There is no charge for bid package and specifications.

PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

PARTNER
Todd James
todd@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Matthew Hall
matt@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Charles Andrews,
Jack Neworth,
David Pisarra.

CIRCULATION
Guadalupe Navarro
ross@smdp.com

Keith Wyatt
ross@smdp.com

STAFF WRITERS
Grace Inez Adams
grace@smdp.com

Scott Snowden
scott.snowden@smdp.com

DIRECTOR OF ADVERTISING
Cindy Moreno
cindy@smdp.com

MARKETING MANAGER
Dina Araniva
dina@smdp.com

PRODUCTION
Esteban Inchaustegui
production@smdp.com

Julio Davalos
julio@smdp.com

Cristina Rios
cristina@smdp.com

AWARD WINNER

AWARD WINNER

Santa Monica Daily Press

1640 5th Street, Suite 218
Santa Monica, CA 90401
OFFICE (310) 458-PRESS (7737)
FAX (310) 576-9913

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Sustainable Quality Awards WINNER

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SMMUSD
SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Notice of Public Hearing – Measure R Parcel Tax

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Education of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District will conduct a public hearing on the matter of the 2023-24 Special Parcel Tax (Measure R) regarding applying a Consumer Price Index (CPI-U) adjustment. The public hearing will be held on May 4, 2023 at 7 p.m. in the Santa Monica-Malibu District Office at 1717 4th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401 and via Zoom. The link to provide public comment via Zoom may be found at the top of the agenda. Agendas may be found at https://www.smmusd.org/Page/4047. Subsequent to the public hearing on May 4, 2023 at the regularly scheduled meeting, it is the intention of the Board of Education to adopt a resolution to levy the tax at the rate of $496.00 per parcel, which includes a 5.1% CPI adjustment. The CPI-U for Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, base year 1982-84=100, from February 2022 through February 2023, was used to calculate the adjustment. Information to apply for the Measure R Senior Exemption may be found at https://www.smmusd.org/Page/3905. The application form and supporting documentation must be completed, signed and returned by June 30, 2023. To be added to the mailing list, please email MeasureR@smmusd.org.

SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS
CALLING FOR BIDS
DISTRICT: SANTA MONICA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
BID: 032823SH
TITLE: SMCCD Classroom AV Upgrade

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN hat the above-named California Community College District, acting by and through its Board of Trustees, hereinafter "the District" will receive up to, but not later than the below-stated date and time, sealed Bid Proposals for the Contract for the Work of the Project generally described as:

SMCCD Classroom AV Upgrade

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF THE BID PROPOSALS: All Bid Proposals shall be submitted on forms furnished by the District. Bid Proposals must conform with, and be responsive to, the Bid and Contract Documents, copies of which may be obtained from the District as set forth above. Only Bid Proposals submitted to the District at or prior to the date and time set forth shall be considered.

MANDATORY PRE-BID JOB WALK: APRIL 21, 2023 AT 10PM SHARP. NO LATE ARRIVALS.

BIDDER'S ATTENDANCE AT THE JOB WALK IS MANDATORY. COVID 19 PROTOCOLS IN EFFECT; SOCIAL DISTANCING, FACE COVERING OVER NOSE AND MOUTH REQUIRED. SIGN-IN IS REQUIRED. LATE ARRIVALS NOT PERMITTED. BIDDERS ARE TO MEET OUTSIDE OF THE MEDIA SERVICES BUILDING, PEARL STREET, SANTA MONICA, CA 90405. THE BID PROPOSAL SUBMITTED BY A BIDDER WHOSE REPRESENTATIVE(S) DID NOT ATTEND THE ENTIRETY OF THE MANDATORY JOB WALK WILL BE REJECTED BY THE DISTRICT AS BEING NON-RESPONSIVE.

PROJECT ESTIMATE: $380,000.00

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF THE BID PROPOSALS: MAY 9, 2023 AT 2PM. All Bid Proposals shall be submitted on forms furnished by the District. Bid Proposals must conform with, and be responsive to, the Bid and Contract Documents, copies of which may be obtained from the District as set forth above. Only Bid Proposals submitted to the District at or prior to the date and time set forth shall be considered.

Bidding Documents may be obtained by logging onto the District bidding website at: https://www.planetbids.com/portal/portal.cfm?CompanyID=13721#.

The Contractor is required to have a valid **C-7 license, CADIR and required certs** at the time of bid submission. Contractors wishing to be considered must submit Bids containing all information required pursuant to the District's Request for Bids.

Substitute Security- In accordance with the provisions of California Public Contract Code §22300, the Contractor shall be permitted to substitute securities for any monies withheld by the District to ensure performance under this contract.

AD RUN DATES 4/12/2023 & 4/20/2023

California boy dies when stabbing suspect's car hits teens

The driver of a car that crashed into a group of Southern California high school students, killing one and injuring three, was arrested for investigation of murder and other crimes, including an earlier stabbing, authorities said Wednesday.

The students were struck while on a sidewalk Tuesday afternoon near Westlake High School in the city of Thousand Oaks, west of Los Angeles. The car overturned.

"Eyewitnesses said that they actually saw the suspect make an intentional move to drive his vehicle up onto the sidewalk," said Deputy Wendell Campbell, public information officer for the Thousand Oaks Police Department.

Campbell said he did not know if investigators had determined a motive.

Austin Eis, 24, was booked into jail on suspicion of murder, attempted murder, attempted robbery, burglary, brandishing a firearm, resisting arrest, kidnapping, felony use of tear gas and assault with a deadly weapon, the Ventura County Sheriff's Office said in a statement.

Eis faces arraignment Thursday. It was not immediately known if he has an attorney.

The boy who was killed was identified as 15-year-old Wesley Welling of Thousand Oaks. His sister Hannah told KTLA-TV she saw it happen and called her mother and 911.

"I pulled up to the scene and they were still doing CPR on him," his mother, Kelly Welling, told the station. "It's literally the worst call, the worst nightmare that any parent can deal with."

Another 15-year-old boy and two girls, ages 16 and 14, were injured. One victim remained hospitalized, and two others were released, Campbell said.

The boys were initially identified as 16, and one of the girls was said to be 15. Campbell said that was due to differing sets of ages listed by first responders.

The crash followed the stabbing of a Walmart employee and an assault on another employee in adjacent Simi Valley, and a non-injury disturbance at the home of the suspect's parents in nearby Camarillo, authorities said.

The circumstances of the store incident remained under investigation. There was no information on the condition of the stabbing victim, who was hospitalized.

Area law enforcement officers were looking for the car in which the stabbing suspect fled when they learned it was involved in the Thousand Oaks crash.

Eis was treated for injuries before being booked. A firearm was recovered from the vehicle, Campbell said.

Asked if the suspect was transient and living in the car, Campbell said that was not confirmed but it appeared likely.

"During this time of unimaginable loss, our thoughts and prayers remain with these students, their families, friends, and the entire Warrior community," the Conejo Valley Unified School District said in a statement on Facebook.

Texas cheerleaders shot after one says she got in wrong car

A man shot and wounded two cheerleaders in a Texas supermarket parking lot after one of them said she mistakenly got into his car thinking it was her own — the latest in a string of recent U.S. shootings apparently sparked by someone showing up at the wrong place.

The shooting in Elgin, east of Austin, happened early Tuesday in a parking lot that serves as a carpool pickup spot for members of the Woodlands Elite Cheer Company, team owner Lynne Shearer said.

Heather Roth, one of four team members transferring rides in the lot after practice, said she got out of her friend's car and into a car she thought was hers, but there was a stranger in the passenger seat, KTRK-TV reported. She said she panicked and got back into her friend's car, but the man got out of his vehicle and approached. She said she tried to apologize through her friend's car window, but the man threw up his hands, pulled out a gun and opened fire.

Roth was grazed by a bullet and was treated at the scene, police said. Her teammate Payton Washington, 18, was shot in the leg and back.

"Payton opens the door, and she starts throwing up blood," Roth said.

Washington was flown to a hospital in critical condition. Doctors had to remove part of Washington's spleen, KTRK-TV reported.

Someone who witnessed the shooting said the shooter fled the scene after the attack, police said.

Police arrested a suspect, 25-year-old Pedro Tello Rodriguez Jr., who is charged with engaging in deadly conduct, a third-degree felony. Online court records do not list an attorney for him.

Shearer said Washington, a high school senior from Round Rock, north of Austin, is one of her team's stars and was born with only one lung.

"She's really a huge face in the all-star cheerleading world," Shearer said. "She's a mentor and role model to so many kids in this industry. She's an amazing athlete, amazing kid, so everybody knows her and everybody's praying for her."

Washington has committed to competing for Baylor University's acrobatics and tumbling team next year, and her and her Woodlands teammates were set to compete at the The Cheerleading Worlds in Orlando, Florida, this weekend. Shearer said the team will now be "competing for her."

The attack comes days after two other high-profile shootings that occurred after victims went to mistaken addresses. In one case, a Black teen was shot and wounded after going to the wrong Kansas City, Missouri, home to pick up his younger brothers. In the other, a woman looking for a friend's house in upstate New York was shot and killed after the car she was riding in mistakenly went to the wrong address.

After the deluge: Floods may taint more drinking water in California

ALASTAIR BLAND
Special to the Daily Press



Photo by Larry Valenzuela, CalMatters/CatchLight Local

WATER: Orchards flooded in Madera County after three weeks of storms throughout California on Jan. 17, 2023.

When Kelli and Tim Hutten made an offer for a house in the quiet Monterey County town of Moss Landing last summer, they looked forward to mild weather, coastal views, trails along nearby wetlands and being a bit closer to family. Unfortunately, the Huttens also knew that something wasn't right with the neighborhood's groundwater.

"We knew there were water contamination issues," Kelli Hutten said. "During escrow we did as much research as we could, but there's a lot to learn."

By the time they moved in with their newborn baby, the details were clear: Their private well water contained five times the federal government's limit for nitrate, which usually leaches from farms. The Huttens immediately signed up for delivery of drinking water, paid for by a state program, and installed a filtration system. Nitrate in water can cause a dangerous circulatory condition in infants called blue baby syndrome, and it has been linked to cancer, too.

The Huttens' community in the Salinas Valley, one of the nation's most productive farm areas, is just one of many towns in California plagued by nitrate contamination of drinking water. For decades, high levels have contaminated groundwater basins throughout the state — especially in disadvantaged farm communities in the San Joaquin and Salinas valleys — as well as much of the world.

Now this year's heavy rains may worsen this widespread contamination as fertilizer from crops and orchards and manure from ranches and dairy farms are flushed into underground water supplies.

In agricultural regions, decades' worth of fertilizers applied to orchards and row crops, and tons of cow manure stored in ponds, releases nitrogen into the ground. As much as 40% of nitrogen in fertilizer may eventually enter groundwater supplies.

Thousands of households have wells contaminated with nitrate. For public water systems, about one in every 10 water samples collected from 20,000 wells in the Tulare Lake Basin and the Salinas Valley exceeded the drinking water standard for nitrate, according to a 2012 UC Davis report to state officials. But the full scope of the problem is unknown, partly because Central Valley residents have an estimated 150,0000 private drinking water wells, which are not routinely monitored for pollutants.

More than 250,000 people served by public water systems or private wells in the Tulare basin and Salinas Valley "are currently at risk for nitrate contamination of their drinking water," the report says.

Nationally 40% of shallow wells underlying farmland may exceed the federal standard for nitrate in drinking water.

While a popular mantra among water-quality managers declares that "dilution is the solution to pollution," it doesn't always work that way.

Helen Dahlke, a UC Davis professor of integrated hydrologic sciences, said stormwater percolating into the ground will flush soil nitrates into groundwater basins, causing levels to jump.

Whether the concentrations drop again soon "depends on how much clean water comes along on the back end," she said. Flooding will probably provide enough water to dilute nitrate-tainted runoff, while groundwater basins recharged by rainfall alone are likely to remain elevated, she said.

Michael Claiborne, an attorney with the Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability, which works with disadvantaged communities lacking clean water, is concerned that farms now or recently flooded have been swamped by filthy water that is now percolating into groundwater basins. These farms include Central Valley parcels intentionally flooded after Gov. Gavin Newsom issued an executive order on March 10 to encourage using stormwater to recharge depleted groundwater.

"There are a lot of dairies that are completely flooded, and that includes the lagoons where they store their manure," he said.

Other groups, including the Community Water Center and Clean Water Action, have also raised concerns that the recent flooding of lands saturated with fertilizers and pesticide residues will contaminate groundwater.

Patrick Pulupa, an executive officer with the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, said it's unknown how flooding will affect basins underlying large dairy farms.

"We don't know whether a lot of recharge on these lands will make (nitrate contamination) worse or push it out," he said.

In some places, floodwaters have had clear and immediate impacts on groundwater.

In February, a levee protecting the small Tulare County town of Seville breached. Water swamped many properties and overtopped several drinking water wells.

Homeowner Linda Guttierez, who also serves on the town's water service district, poured bleach into her well to kill any pathogens that might have entered the system.

Seville often doesn't have enough water. Last summer and again in the early winter, farmers nearly depleted the community's wells, she said. To get by, drinking water, paid for by the state, is delivered to residents. The community of about 600 people has also received a $1 million grant to drill a new, deeper well.

Meanwhile, the heavy snow in the Sierra Nevada, visible from her yard, will soon melt, and more flooding is expected.

"Be careful what you ask for, because you just might get it, and you might get it all at once," Guttierez said.

WATER DELIVERIES ARE A SHORT-TERM FIX

Thomas Harter, a UC Davis professor who co-authored the nitrate report for state officials, said the contamination will haunt at least another generation of Californians. That's because the lag time between the application of fertilizer and its entry into groundwater basins can be many years, and decades more may pass before the nitrate reaches a well.

"Even if we were able to change how we manage agricultural fertilizer today, it would still take years or decades before wells actually see an improvement," he said.

In southwest Sonoma County, a few miles west of Petaluma, the local groundwater is unsafe to drink — and the source of the issue is plainly visible. Beef and dairy cows range freely over the watersheds and creek bottoms that drain toward Bodega Bay.

Their manure festers in muddy watering holes, and for locals in and around the small town of Valley Ford, this means living on bottled water.

Sampling of Valley Ford's three main wells last June found nitrate at twice the federal drinking water standard of 10 milligrams per liter, and a few months earlier it was nearly triple, at 28. More recent sampling found it at almost 12, still enough to prompt a notice from the state warning residents that pregnant women and infants should not consume the water. Locals declined to discuss the issue with a CalMatters reporter.

State programs to bring safe drinking water to communities affected by nitrate are now serving at least 1,048 households in the San Joaquin Valley and about another 300 in the Central Coast region. These initiatives include the Central Valley Salinity Alternatives for Long-term Sustainability program, and the State Water Resources Control Board's Cleanup and Abatement Account.

Kelsey Hinton, communications director for the Community Water Center, said bottled water deliveries must be provided for affected communities but said they should not be considered a long-term fix.

"It's a short-term Band-aid solution," she said.

Her organization advocates for projects that connect small communities to major surface water supplies or provide them with improved wells that tap into clean water — a resource that is guaranteed by state law.

"We decided as a state in 2012 that everybody deserves access to clean, affordable water," Hinton said, referring to the Human Right to Water law.

The most well-documented health impact associated with nitrate consumption is blue baby syndrome, or methemoglobinemia, a condition in which ingested nitrates can displace blood oxygen and cause suffocation. The federal standard for nitrate in drinking water, 10 milligrams per liter, is aimed at preventing blue baby syndrome.

But even at concentrations below the blue baby threshold, nitrate may cause ovarian cancer, according to 2015 research from the National Institutes of Health. Another study produced a similar conclusion for pregnant women and preterm births. Nitrate also has been linked to bladder cancer, thyroid cancer and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

AWASH IN NITROGEN FROM FARMS

If California's historic winter successfully dilutes nitrate in some groundwater basins, these gains are likely to be lost to continued fertilizer use, future drought and groundwater overdraft, which can concentrate impurities in the water.

Nitrate is "the most ubiquitous pollutant of groundwater resources," UC Davis researchers reported in 2014, and it "is becoming more acute and is affecting larger areas and more people."

Nitrate loading in groundwater "presents a significant threat to human health as pollution gets substantially worse each year," the Central Coast Water Quality Control Board warned in 2017.

Synthetic fertilizers used for fruit trees and row crops are the biggest source of groundwater nitrate contamination, contributing nearly 60% of the problem in California, according to a 2017 report commissioned by the California Department of Food and Agriculture. Dairy production is responsible for about 20%.

Harter of UC Davis calculated that nearly 1 million tons of nitrogen are applied to farmland in the Central Valley alone every year. Roughly half is removed via harvest of crops, while some escapes into the atmosphere. That leaves an estimated 360,000 tons to percolate into the ground.

In the Salinas Valley alone, tens of millions of pounds of nitrate enter groundwater basins every year from farms, according to a 2017 state estimate.

Harter said farmers must "reduce the application of nitrogen" but that many err toward overfertilizing when calculating the nitrogen needs of their plants.

That may be changing. Parry Klassen, a peach and watermelon farmer near Reedley and executive director of a nitrate management organization called the Valley Water Collaborative, said farmers are paying closer attention to the nitrate needs of their plants and how much they apply.

Klassen said the days of gross fertilizer overloading are over, due in part to skyrocketing fertilizer costs — an economic outturn of the war in Ukraine. "The finetuning is what we're working on now,"

SEE **WATER** PAGE 6

City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

SUBJECT: 23ENT-0067 (Minor Use Permit)
2612 Main St
APPLICANT: Tobi Smith
PROPERTY OWNER: Santa Monica City Parking

A public hearing will be held by the Zoning Administrator to consider the following request:

The applicant requests approval of a Minor Use Permit (MUP) to allow a mobile food truck off-street venue on an existing surface parking lot in the R3 (Medium Density Residential) zoning district. Pursuant to Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC) Section 9.08.020, mobile food truck off-street venues in the R3A overlay parcels between Ocean Park Boulevard and Hill Street along the east side of Neilson Way are permitted with the approval of a MUP.

DATE/TIME: **TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2023 AT 10:30 AM**

LOCATION: City Council Chamber, Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. Members of the public unable to attend a meeting but wishing to comment on an item(s) listed on the agenda may submit written comments prior to the public hearing via email to planningcomment@santamonica.gov or via mail to the address listed below. Comments received prior to 5:30 P.M. the day before the meeting will be distributed to the Zoning Administrator prior to the meeting and posted online. All written comments shall be made part of the public record. Please note the agenda item in your comments.

You may also comment in-person at the Zoning Administrator hearing. Please check the agenda for more detailed instructions on how to comment.

Address your comments to: Becky Cho, Associate Planner
Re: 23ENT-0067

VIA E-MAIL: planningcomment@santamonica.gov
VIA MAIL: City Planning Division
1685 Main Street, Mail Stop 28
Santa Monica, CA 90401

MORE INFORMATION
If you want more information about this project or wish to review the project file, please contact Becky Cho by e-mail at becky.cho@santamonica.gov. The Zoning Ordinance is available on the City's website at www.santamonica.gov. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (866) 311-7266 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Every attempt will be made to provide the requested accommodation. All written materials are available in alternate languages provided that the request is made with 72 hours of the meeting. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines serve City Hall and the Civic Center area. The Expo Line terminus is located at Colorado Avenue and Fourth Street and is a short walk to City Hall. Public parking is available in front of City Hall, on Olympic Drive, and in the Civic Center Parking Structure (validation free).

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the public hearing.

ESPAÑOL
Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar applicaciónes proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-2275.

GET IT DAILY...

WATER

FROM PAGE 5

he said.

A state program now 20 years old seeks to improve nitrate management on farms and reduce loading into soil and groundwater. Updated in 2012 to specifically address groundwater, the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program requires all Central Valley farmers to report nitrogen application and crop harvest.

The idea is to create an accurate nitrogen accounting system that tells state officials exactly how much nitrogen is threatening drinking water supplies, said Sue McConnell, who manages the program for the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board.

About 25,000 farmers are now enrolled and submitting reports of the data, though clear trends in fertilizer use are not detectable.

For farmers, applying exactly what a plant needs is a difficult task, according to several sources. Klassen said changes in the weather or other conditions can reduce a plant's vigor and productivity during the growing season, causing it to uptake less nitrogen and leaving unused nitrogen in the soil.

Even under-fertilizing doesn't necessarily work. It can stress plants, causing them to shut down and stop absorbing nitrogen.

"And then you're still overfertilizing," said Harter of UC Davis.

Harter said California's farmers have overall been improving — though not perfecting — their fertilizer efficiency in the past several decades.

But, he added that the explosion of California's dairy industry late last century has offset those advances. "It's created a huge manure surplus that the dairy industry is trying to deal with," Harter said.

SEARCHING FOR SOLUTIONS

Geoff Vanden Heuvel, director of regulatory and economic affairs at the Milk Producers Council, said the dairy industry is committed to finding solutions for people affected by nitrate in their water, and for reducing nitrate loading in the first place.

"The dairy industry is going to be a contributor to finding long-term solutions for people who don't have adequate or clean water to drink — that's a genuine commitment," he said.

California's nitrate problem poses daunting challenges in how to sustainably grow food while protecting drinking water resources and ecosystems. Indeed, the dilemma is more complex than other issues surrounding agricultural pollution.

"This is not as straightforward as going pesticide-free," said Jennifer Clary, the California director of Clean Water Action. "You need fertilizer to grow crops."

One way to reduce fertilizer leaching is using what scientists refer to as "fertigation," by which small and measured doses of fertilizer are applied via drip irrigation lines. Studies suggest this could help draw down groundwater nitrate levels over several decades.

Sustainable Conservation, a company in Modesto, is studying the potential for turning manure into a liquid fertilizer in fertigation systems. Applied widely, this method could save 250 billion gallons of water and cut the use of synthetic nitrogen fertilizer by 250 million pounds annually, said Ryan Flaherty, the company's director of circular economies.

Groundwater recharge has shown promise for reducing nitrate contamination, particularly when focused on problem sites. But it takes almost biblical amounts of water. In a study conducted last year, Dahlke, Harter and their research teams spent four weeks dousing part of an almond orchard with 30 feet of water. That would be impossible to apply broadly, but it could be effective if used only where nitrate concentrations are very high.

Nor is flushing it into rivers or the ocean a fix. Nitrogen loading strips aquatic ecosystems of oxygen, creating nearly lifeless ocean dead zones like a giant one in the Gulf of Mexico. Scientists say the Earth's nitrogen overloading has crossed a key planetary boundary, categorizing the crisis in the same ranks as climate change, mass extinction and deforestation.

Some water quality advocates see relatively simple solutions to nitrate contamination. Claiborne, for one, thinks California needs fewer cows.

"I think we're going to have to see herd size reductions," Claiborne said.

He said in a sustainable agriculture system, all or most of the manure generated by livestock would be applied as fertilizer to the crops used to feed them — a closed loop regime without excess or runoff.

Vanden Heuvel said that's achievable, and something that dairy producers are rallying for. He said the industry produces a surplus of raw manure, which "you certainly don't want to put on anything going into the human food chain…We're trying to get this nitrogen repackaged so that it can be applied to more crops."

Vanden Heuvel said the state's dairy industry hasn't grown in at least 12 years and that many dairy owners are already considering relocating to the Midwest, where feed is more available and water more abundant.

Clary said it's just a matter of time before farmers pull back on applications of nitrogen to crops.

"They've been overfertilizing for 80 years, and we've spent 10 years trying to figure out how to control it," Clary said. "It's totally doable. If California can figure out how to be the biggest agricultural power in the world, we ought to be able to figure out how to do it without hurting people."

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

NOTEWORTHY

FROM PAGE 3

Bowl, 4/29, 30; TOLEDO DIAMOND, Harvelle's, 4/30, 5/7, 14, 21, 28; HOT CLUB OF LOS ANGELES, Cinema Bar, 5/1, 8, 15, 22, 29; BOHEMIAN STRINGS, LA PHIL, Disney Hall, 5/2; DVORAK, BRUCKNER, Disney Hall, 5/5, 6, 7; DANIEL SZABO TRIO W/ PETER ERSKINE, Sam First, 5/5; LA CHILDREN'S CHORUS, Disney Hall, 5/7; ZIGGY MARLEY, Disney Hall, 5/9; "OTELLO," LA OPERA, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, 5/13, 17, 20, 28; DUDAMEL, LA PHIL, "BEETHOVEN 7TH," Disney Hall, 5/25, 26, 27.

Charles Andrews has listened to a lot of music of all kinds, including more than 3,000 live shows. He has lived in Santa Monica for 37 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at Charles Andrews

CRIME WATCH

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

ON APRIL 1

The City of Santa Monica Dispatch Center received a call from Nordstrom on 2nd and Broadway for a suspect being detained by their Loss Prevention staff for shoplifting. The suspect, identified as 40 year-old Alan Wane Nater, was observed on surveillance video taking multiple items from the 3rd floor men's section before exiting without paying. Nater was arrested and charged with shoplifting and possession of drug paraphernalia.

RESTAURANT

FROM PAGE 1

scene, and can't wait to be back in my old stomping grounds," said Tim, who began his career in Southern California working for pioneering chefs like Michael Roberts, Roy Yamaguchi, and Nobu Matsuhisa. "I'm proud and humbled to re-join such a vibrant culinary community."

And the city of Santa Monica continues to be a tantalizing testbed for our taste buds as new trends give us new flavors to explore and enjoy.

"Across the world, young chefs with lots of experience and really good restaurants are starting to open more, especially with the pandemic having finally passed," says Tim. "Everyone has this new energy. There's always room for growth and evolution and the food scene changes all the time."

The menu of Gogo Ya will be anchored by signature crispy nori sushi tacos and bento bowls, with fillings like torched salmon teriyaki and soy braised shiitake and hon shimeji mushroom. The menu of Ms. Clucks Deluxe will include a Cajun karaage sandwich, spicy chicken and dumpling soup (with ramen noodles and truffled chicken wontons) and — unique to this location — the chicken smashburger featuring a teriyaki glazed chicken smash patty, ginger pickle relish, sesame mayo, lettuce, tomato, and onion.

However, Mr Roni Cups is said to come from Tim's decades-long research and development into all things dough and toppings. The menu will boast 10" round and pan pizzas made with 48-hour fermented dough made from imported Italian flour, resulting in a crisp-yet-airy crust, and rotating, seasonal toppings.

According to Tim, the name Mr Roni Cups was inspired by the little, curled cup-like shapes that slices of pepperoni often make when baked atop a pizza. Apparently, this is a well-known thing in some parts of the country.

"We're just having a bit of fun with it," laughs Nancy. "When we were thinking of a name, we wanted it to sound fun. It's kind of goofy, but it makes us smile and hopefully it'll make other people smile too."

Gogo Ya is now open, from Tuesday-Saturday from 11-3pm, with expanded hours coming soon. Customers will be able to dine-in at Kitchen United's communal seating areas and outdoor patio, or alternatively order take-out and delivery on UberEats, DoorDash and Grubhub.

scott.snowden@smdp.com





Gogo Ya

FOOD: Tim and Nancy Cushman are opening a trio of new concepts in the Promenade's food court.

ROBBERY

FROM PAGE 1

21 and he allegedly robbed an Anaheim gas station on April 15. Approximately 90 minutes prior to the Anaheim robbery, Greene allegedly carjacked a victim in Los Angeles and used the victim's Honda Accord as his robbery getaway car.

Two days later, law enforcement located the stolen Honda Accord in Ontario and initiated a traffic stop. Greene instead tried to escape, and a vehicle pursuit ensued, with Greene eventually losing control of the car, colliding with a curb, and disabling the vehicle, according to the affidavit. Greene allegedly fled on foot and was apprehended shortly afterward by law enforcement, who took him into custody.

Greene was identified from security camera footage, eyewitness testimony, his tattoos, his jewelry, and photographs in his Instagram account, according to the affidavit.

If convicted Greene would face a statutory maximum sentence of 20 years in federal prison.

editor@smdp.com

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GAS

FROM PAGE 1

facilitate future full building electrification."

The code was passed in the San Francisco suburb in 2020 and was intended to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases that contribute to global warming. With some exceptions, it banned new residential and commercial buildings from installing natural gas piping in favor of electrical lines.

A lawsuit by the California Restaurant Association (CRA) claimed the regulation violated federal law that gives the government authority to set energy-efficiency standards for appliances such as stoves, furnaces and water heaters.

Two years ago, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco rejected a lower court judge's decision that had upheld the Berkeley ordinance. In her 2021 decision, District Judge Yvonne Gonzalez Rogers said the city was not trying to regulate energy efficiency for appliances, only the fuel they used.

However, Judge Patrick Bumatay wrote in the 3-0 Ninth Circuit ruling that a local ordinance that bans appliances such as gas stoves "impacts the quantity of energy" they consume, which is regulated by the federal government.

Sarah Jorgensen, partner with Reichman Jorgensen Lehman & Feldberg, who represent the CRA, said in a statement, "The Ninth Circuit's ruling today underscores the importance of a consistent national energy policy, which was Congress' intent the whole time. Cities and states should not be permitted to overrule energy decisions that affect the country as a whole.

"The panel's unanimous decision that Berkeley's ban on natural gas piping is preempted by EPCA [Energy Policy and Conservation Act] sets an important precedent for future cases, especially with other cities considering similar bans or restrictions on the use of natural gas."

The ruling was expected to be appealed, according to a statement from a group of environmental advocates.

Matt Vespa, a senior attorney with the nonprofit Earthjustice, called the decision misguided.

"As we face a climate and air quality crisis from coast to coast, it is vital that cities and states maintain all legal pathways to protect public health, cut climate emissions, and increase safety by addressing pollution from buildings, and we'll continue to fight to ensure this authority is preserved," Vespa said in a statement.

Additional reporting from the Associated Press.

scott.snowden@smdp.com

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

FOR QUOTES PLEASE CALL 310-573-8074

or email cindy@smdp.com

Legal Notices

NOTICE INVITING SUBMITTALS FORAS-NEEDED HAZARDOUS WASTE REMOVAL SERVICESThe Los Angeles County Department of Beaches andHarbors is seeking qualified firms for one or more contractsto provide as-neededhazardous waste removalservices within Los AngelesCounty.Vendors submitting a bid mustbe able to demonstrate aminimum of five years'continuous experience inremoval of hazardous materialsfor public and/or private sectorentities.The County may requireadditional minimumqualifications. The deadline forsubmitting bids will be 5:00p.m., May 16, 2023.Further information regardingthe Invitation for Bids (IFB) isavailable at:https://doingbusiness.lacounty.gov/.To view and print a copy of theIFB, please visit:http://beaches.lacounty.gov/request-for-proposals/, and clickthe ''Request for Proposals''link.The County reserves the rightto cancel the IFB and to modifyany and all terms andconditions of the IFB, includingminimum qualifications. Forfurther information, emailAngelica Vicente atAVicente@bh.lacounty.gov.CN995734 04-13-23 Apr 20,2023

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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

INCOME

FROM PAGE 2

RAISING MINIMUM CHILD CREDITS

His Assembly Bill 1498 would raise the minimum credit to $300 from $1, regardless of number of dependents, as long as a recipient makes less than $30,000 a year.

On the other hand, California's Young Child Tax Credit currently gives $1,083 to filers with a dependent under the age of 6. Once a family's youngest child turns 6, the family no longer qualifies for the credit.

Santiago's AB 1128 would enable tax filers with dependents who also qualify for the state Earned Income Tax Credit to continue qualifying for the young child tax credit after the youngest child ages past 6. Those families would keep the child tax credit until the child reaches 18, or as old as 23 if they are a student.

Families with a dependent with disabilities also would qualify for the young child tax credit regardless of their dependent's age.

Santiago said the proposal is a "modest" ask that would greatly benefit families that suffered the biggest financial losses during the pandemic.

"This program is one of the most effective anti-poverty programs we have," he said. "We can expand the current program and help more people than have ever been helped."

The young child tax credit bill would benefit 700,000 to 1 million more children each year, said Monica Lazo, a senior policy manager of Golden State Opportunity, an anti-poverty organization.

Lazo believes there is ample support for stretching California's tax credits.

"The will is there," she said. "We are in a recession, but there's a lot of folks that always come out unscathed — because they have certain tax credits those of us in the working class don't have access to."

'ESSENTIAL WORKERS' COULD BENEFIT

Many very low-income workers were forced to go to work during the pandemic, she said, while higher earners often could work from home.

"These are people who are helping our local economy; we declared them essential," she said. "So this is a way we can help them and really prove to them they are essential."

Research shows that people spend tax credits almost immediately on basic needs, such as school supplies for their children, which means the money immediately goes back into the economy. For every $1 of tax credit, $1.70 is invested in a local economy, said Anna Hasselblad, director of public policy for United Ways of California.

"Where you're going to see the greatest economic stimulation and impact is if you invest it in folks with lower incomes," Hasselblad said. "They're going to put that money to work immediately."

Bonilla said she has spent her tax credits on electricity bills, clothing and shoes for her children. If she were to get an extra $1,083 in child tax credits each year, Bonilla said, she would save it for future expenses for when her daughter starts college.

"There wouldn't be so much worry. I would have extra money," she said.

Expanding California's earned income tax credit would benefit people of color the most because they make up three-quarters of eligible workers in the state, said Alissa Anderson, policy researcher at the California Budget & Policy Center, a research nonprofit.

It also would simplify the process of claiming tax credits; the Franchise Tax Board would more easily identify qualifying workers and automatically send funds, Anderson said.

SEEKING BIPARTISAN SUPPORT

Tax credits traditionally receive bipartisan support, but the two bills may face a challenge in the projected state budget deficit. If passed, the proposed earned income tax expansion would cost about $460 million annually and the proposed expanded youth tax credit would cost about $700 million annually.

Both bills are new versions of a proposal last year which would have provided a one-time payment of $2,000 per child to families who received California's earned income tax credit.

That proposal, also sponsored by Santiago and anti-poverty organizations, included a permanent increase of the earned income credit's $1 minimum payment to $255.

Last year, the state had a projected surplus of $31 billion. But as inflation rose, other state priorities arose, such as the "middle class tax refund" that gave households $9.5 billion in financial relief.

Santiago pulled the bill from the Senate Governance and Finance Committee because it did not have enough votes to pass, a spokesperson for Santiago said.

Assemblymember Tom Lackey, a Republican from Palmdale, said the long-term benefits of tax credits outweigh the short-term financial challenges. Lackey co-authored the earned income credit bill and supports the young child tax credit expansion bill.

"The Republican Party believes in fiscal responsibility," he said. "When you recognize the contribution people are making and allow them to reinvest that money themselves, instead of allowing government to take that discretion, it's a better pathway. It's the people's money."

State Sen. Nancy Skinner and Assemblymember Phil Ting, Democratic chairpersons of the budget committees, declined to comment on the feasibility of the bills.

The Senate has stated it intends to protect the state's earned income tax and young child tax credits from budget cuts and would support the tax credits once the economy improves.

IS IT WORTH IT?

Advocates say there's plenty of evidence that spending more via tax credits pays dividends. Studies show tax credits are associated with better grades, higher educational attainment and improved earnings later in life.

Households receiving such payments had significant declines in credit card debt and were less likely to rely on payday loans, pawn shops or on selling blood plasma, according to a Brookings Institution study.

A month after the child tax credit payments stopped, 3.7 million children joined the nation's poverty ranks, according to a Columbia University study. The national child poverty rate went from 12.1% to 17% from December 2021 and January 2022.

That includes 553,000 California children who floated above the poverty line thanks to the tax credit, according to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, a Washington, D.C., think tank.

Hasselblad, of United Ways of California, said the proposed expansions of the earned income and child tax credits are "comfortable" compromises to request from the state.

"It's a lot of money; we're not pretending otherwise," she said. But "there's an immediate return on investment."

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 20)

Welcome to your year of laughter. You feel comfortable in your own skin, so others loosen up around you and life gets funnier because of it. You'll naturally come into self-esteem enhancing practices that pave the way for upbeat, comfortable and easy social interactions. You'll feel loved and appreciated and you'll pay that forward in creative ways. Gemini and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 10, 11, 3 and 16.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your decision-making process is the same whether you are judging a melon, a potential employee or a personal relationship. You'll pose questions and gather up sensory and intellectual information until you're ready to act.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You respect people and, by extension, honor the spaces they require to feel comfortable and safe. Do this for yourself too. Recognize and protect your own boundaries. Knowing what you're saying yes to makes it easier to say no.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). If you really want to go "there" but a road to "there" does not exist, make one. Keep track of where you are at every step. This map will be a gift to the travelers that come after you.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Being current will matter. You don't have to join the trends, but you like to know about them so that you have the option. You'll pay attention buzzwords and note useful aspects of the culture. You're right in step.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). When you try for a prize, you commit to the work needed to get it. You won't judge the work because you're well aware that sometimes glamorous jobs can be tedious and unglamorous jobs can be superfun.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Today's adventure won't happen in the big, wide world; rather, it will be an inner exploration and discovery. This takes as much courage as other kinds of travel, if not more. You will behold valuable treasures.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). New friends and future business partners will enter your realm with your permission. If you desire the excitement, it's coming for you. Attend events, classes and the like and you'll magnetically draw interesting people to you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). If you have the sneaking suspicion that someone is just waiting for your signal to move, you're right. There is big interest in you and/or your work. They are biding their time, trying to figure out the right approach.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). "Brains over brawn" will be a theme. As strong and capable as you are, it's your thought process that saves the day. You will overcome obstacles regardless of whether you have the money or authority to do so.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Due to your self-sacrificing style, you eat last and clean up first. You listen more than you talk. You have the oldest phone in your family. And you're the richest in every way.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll have an unusual caller today — a muse of sorts — a spring of effervescence. Capture the inspiration in a way that you can revisit later because this kind of visitation is special and rare.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). How much joy can you handle? The challenge of the day is to feel all you can — to pack in the good vibes and keep giving your attention to the things that are going right.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

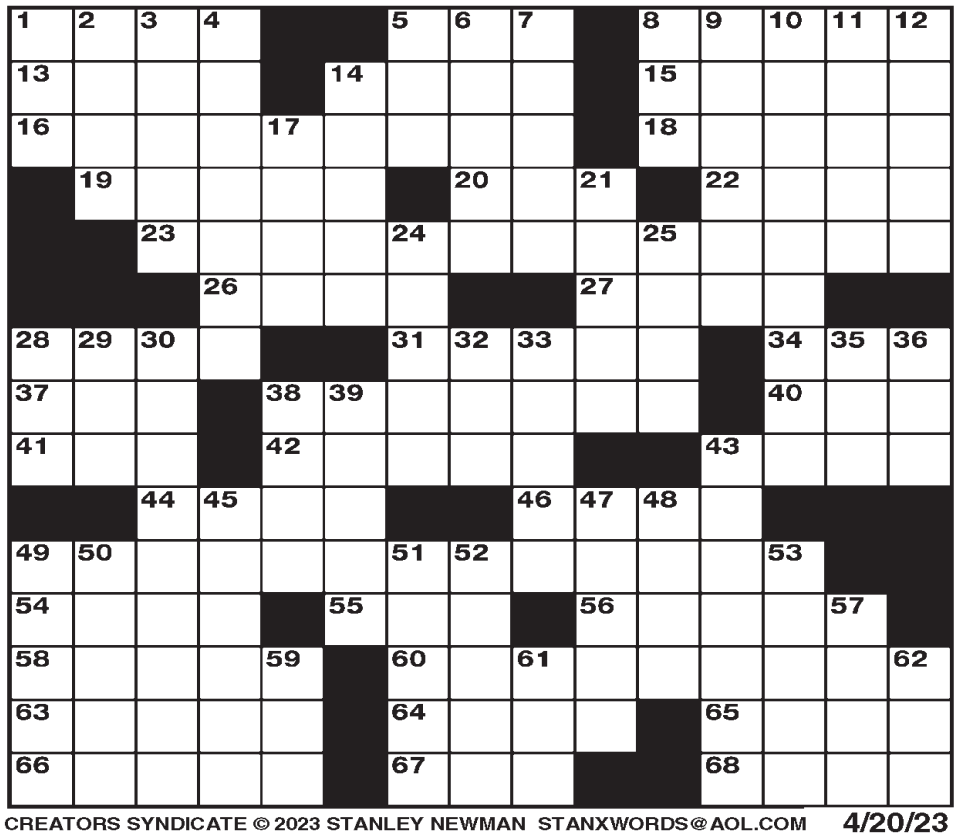
3		2	6		1	7	9	
								6
	9		4		2			8
9		1		8		4		5
	4		9		6		1	
6		7		1		9		2
2			7		8		4	
4								
	7	3	1		5	6		9

Newsday Crossword

DOUBT-FULL by Winston Emmons
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Hindu melody
5 Ans.-machine recording
8 Fast-moving
13 Overthrows, say
14 Baylor's city
15 Pointless
16 Skeptic's comment
18 It's not a no
19 Autumn month in Melbourne
20 Gaping mouth
22 Dear: Fr.
23 Skeptic's comment
26 Soup with sushi
27 Bus system
28 Cricket gear
31 Org. founded on Lincoln's 100th birthday
34 Female squirrel
37 "That explains it"
38 Skeptic's comment
40 Hear, as a case
41 Not very bright
42 Carefree song syllables
43 How much to take
44 Miniseries episode
46 Parks once honored by the 31 Across
49 Skeptic's comment
54 Ending meaning "merchandise"
55 Administered
56 Long section of an index
58 Ornithological
60 Skeptical comment
63 Swahili and English are its official languages
64 Little lady
65 "That explains it"
66 Verges
67 First boxer in the US Olympics Hall of Fame
68 Pond creature

DOWN
1 Spanish king
2 Surveyor's finding
3 Financial page diagram
4 Gurus' homes
5 Many a monthly
6 Hapless one
7 Did OK, gradewise
8 Monocle part
9 Excedrin alternative
10 Take notice of
11 Brewing giant that owns Budweiser
12 Maker of golf course mowers
14 Desolate region
17 Nickname for Rihanna
21 Laura Bush, née __
24 Harding portrayed by Margot Robbie
25 Slimming procedure, for short
28 Sinister
29 Sushi tuna
30 Monkeying (with)
32 Gestural communication: Abbr.
33 Tangible honor
35 Dr. show settings
36 Needle hole
38 Houston ballplayer, familiarly
39 Pianist Rubinstein
43 Women's workout wear brand
45 Nautical assent
47 *Island of the Blue Dolphins* author
48 Alejandra's assent
49 Up and about
50 Spoke gushingly
51 Pooh pal
52 How sardines may be found
53 Waterfowl
57 Big number
59 Ctr. for military pilots
61 Dodeca-fraction
62 On the other hand

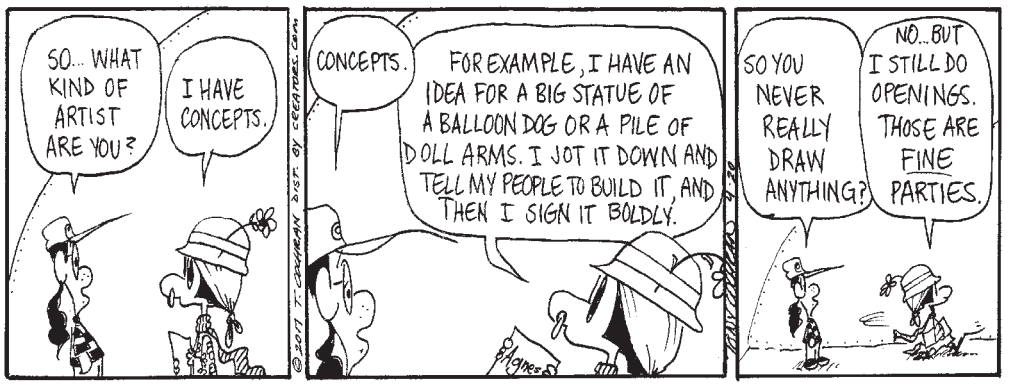


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MORE OF STAN'S CROSSWORDS! Play FREE from Stan's archives of Easy, Hard and Sunday puzzles at: tinyurl.com/stan-newman-crosswords

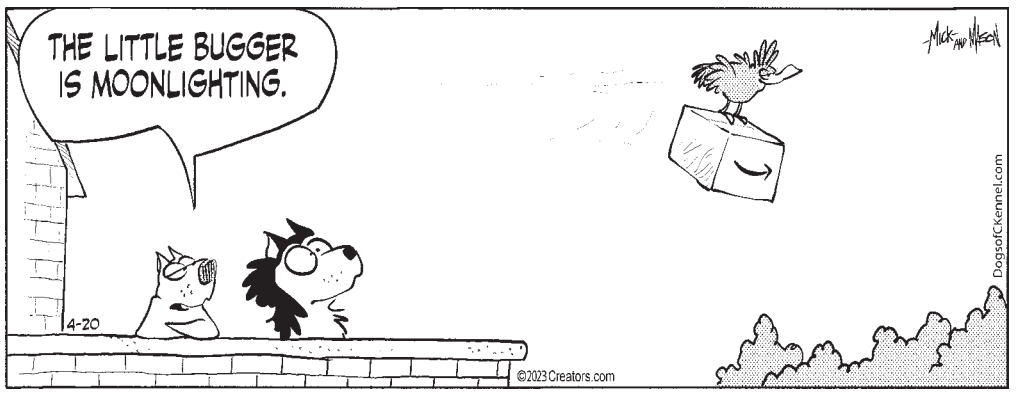
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



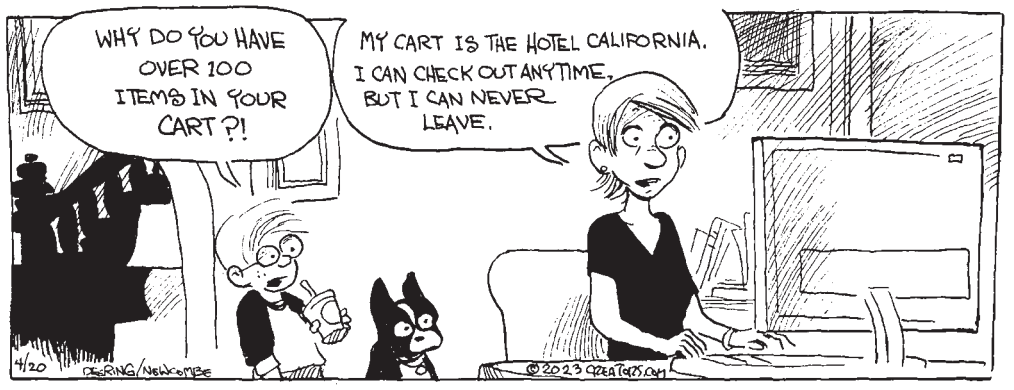
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



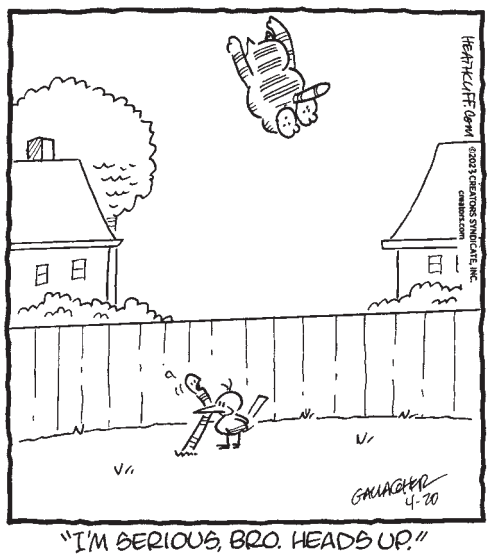
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"I'M SERIOUS, BRO. HEADS UP."

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

© australianwordgames.com.au 5820

It's rodeo time

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

Animal rights	Faster	Open	Sport
Appaloosa	Fences	Pinto	Stall
Arabian	Foal	Pony	Timekeeper
Bull	Foolhardy	Ranch	Trailer
Chase	Gate	Reins	Turf
Clown	Hurt	Remount	Vaquero
Colt	Jamboree	Risky	Whinny
Cowboy	Lasso	Rough	Whoa
Donkey	Mane	Run	
Fair	Mare	Saddle	
	Money	Spectators	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.

Not much that I don't like

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smdp Santa Monica Daily Press

What's Up Westside
out and about in Santa Monica

THURSDAY | APRIL 20

WESTSIDE LAUGH PARTY STAND-UP COMEDY
Westside's Laugh Party is a monthly standup show produced by Dennis Gubbins featuring the best comics from around the country with surprise drop-ins by the likes of Tig Notaro, Zach Galifianakis, Ali Wong, Demetri Martin, Damons Wayans and many others! The proceeds for each show are donated to a local charity... so there is that too! Come on out and laugh! Who knows who will show up this month.... party! Purchase tickets at westsidecomedy.com . 1323-A 3rd St Promenade. A stands for Alley. Santa Monica, CA

FIND YOUR VOICE: POETRY READ OUT LOUD WORKSHOP
Learn how to read poetry aloud to revise and develop rhythm. To register, go to: https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0scOutrj8vH9ehjmlyU0-VK97VA6I6AQJ7%20#/registration

SUNSET VIBES SILENT DISCO @ SANTA MONICA
COME FOR THE SUNSET...STAY FOR THE VIBES! Eat, Drink and Dance.. under the stars, perched above the beautiful Pacific Ocean on the World Famous Santa Monica Pier! It's Local's Night at the Santa Monica Pier! Join us every THIRD THURSDAY of the month as the Pier celebrates the Community of Santa Monica. Gather your friends and family and head down to the Pier for amazing entertainment including youth activities, a car show, local DJs and bands, art exhibits, and our newly announced Sunset Vibes Silent Disco @ The Santa Monica Pier! Santa Monica Pier. 200 Santa Monica Pier. Santa Monica, CA 90401

FRIDAY | APRIL 21

DOCUMENTARY: 'DOSED: THE TRIP OF A LIFETIME' + Q&A
A loving mother of four is granted the right to legally use magic mushrooms to treat her end-of-life anxiety. She then embarks on a remarkable journey of personal transformation and healing while exploring lesser-known possible cures for cancer, like cannabis oil.
– Three of the screenings of 'DOSED: The Trip of a Lifetime' will be followed by expert Q&A panel discussions.
– The Saturday, April 22nd, 7:30 pm screening will be followed by a Q&A hosted by the Los Angeles Medicinal Psychedelics Society.
– The Monday, April 24th, 7:30 pm screening will be followed by a Q&A hosted by PsychedeLiA Integration.
– And the Tuesday, April 25th, 7:30 pm screening will be followed by a Q&A hosted by NEST Harm Reduction and featuring special guests from the documentary.
These Q&A screenings are sure to sell out first so please get your tickets well in advance!
Daily screenings from April 21st until April 27th, 2023, at 1 pm, 3:10 pm, and 7:30 pm. https://www.laemmle.com/film/dosed-trip-lifetime

SATURDAY | APRIL 22

UC MASTER GARDENERS AT PICO FARMERS MARKET
Visit with the UC Master Gardeners at the Saturday Pico Farmers Market. The booth is filled with free advice on how to care for plants, how to troubleshoot a gardening problem, and much more. Free seeds and seedlings are available on a limited basis. Market attendance is subject to change based on weather and holidays.

MALIBU RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY
Come and experience Santa Monica College's new Malibu Campus for class demonstrations, lectures, tours and more! 10:00am-11:30am 23555 Civic Center Way Malibu, CA 90265 USA

SŌ PERCUSSION AND CAROLINE SHAW WITH SPECIAL GUEST SHODEKEH TALIFERO
The brilliant multi-genre quartet, Sō Percussion, joins forces with two preeminent collaborators to present a mesmerizing evening of new music. Selections from Let the Soil Play Its Simple Part, their 2020 song cycle, will be performed with co-composer Caroline Shaw, the youngest winner ever of the Pulitzer Prize for Music. Groundbreaking breath artist, beat boxer, and composer Dominic Shodekeh Talifero joins Sō Percussion for their exhilarating collaboration Vodalities: Paradigms of Consciousness for the Human Voice. Tickets https://broadstage.my.salesforce-sites.com/ticket/

SUNDAY | APRIL 23

SHARK FEEDING
Feast on a little knowledge while our swell sharks, horn sharks, and round stingrays chow down. Come and watch the Aquarium staff feed these important keystone species and learn about the part sharks play in marine ecosystems, every Sunday at 1 pm and 3 pm. Heal the Bay Aquarium. 1600 Ocean Front Walk. Santa Monica, CA

THE HEBREW HILLBILLY: FIFTY SHADES OF OY VEY!
The longest-running solo musical play in the U.S., "The Hebrew Hillbilly: Fifty Shades of Oy Vey!" comes to the Santa Monica Playhouse. Raised in the Deep South, Shelley Fisher has had success as a jazz and blues vocalist and recording artist in L.A., along with creating her own romantic-comedy cooking show, "Forkplay". She even had a close encounter with The King himself, Elvis! Her tale is a heartwarming testament to the power of dreams, determination and finding purpose beyond the Hollywood sign. Santa Monica Playhouse 1211 4th St, Santa Monica, CA https://www.goldstar.com/events/santa-monica-ca/the-hebrew-hillbilly-fifty-shades-of-oy-vey

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



SURF REPORT
WATER TEMP: **56.1**

THURSDAY *POOR*	**SURF:**	2-3ft Thigh to waist	Small SSW and NW swells ease. Cleanest for the morning, but be sure to factor in the deep mid morning high tide. Combo breaks west of Pt. Dume have the edge.
FRIDAY *POOR TO FAIR*	**SURF:**	2-3ft Thigh to waist	Small off of NW swell mix and a little blend of SSW swell. Cleanest for the morning with a nice incoming tide push then too.

WEATHER

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 76. Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming west in the afternoon.
Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 58. West northwest wind 10 to 15 mph.
Friday: Sunny, with a high near 77. North wind 5 to 10 mph becoming west southwest in the afternoon.
Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 59.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2023/04/20	Thu	04:16 AM	-0.74	L
2023/04/20	Thu	10:25 AM	4.30	H
2023/04/20	Thu	3:54 PM	0.82	L
2023/04/20	Thu	10:07 PM	5.99	H
2023/04/21	Fri	05:00 AM	-0.84	L
2023/04/21	Fri	11:14 AM	3.87	H
2023/04/21	Fri	4:22 PM	1.34	L
2023/04/21	Fri	10:37 PM	5.87	H
2023/04/22	Sat	05:44 AM	-0.75	L
2023/04/22	Sat	12:09 PM	3.44	H
2023/04/22	Sat	4:49 PM	1.83	L
2023/04/22	Sat	11:08 PM	5.59	H
2023/04/23	Sun	06:32 AM	-0.50	L
2023/04/23	Sun	1:13 PM	3.06	H
2023/04/23	Sun	5:14 PM	2.28	L
2023/04/23	Sun	11:41 PM	5.20	H
2023/04/24	Mon	07:25 AM	-0.15	L
2023/04/24	Mon	2:46 PM	2.84	H

DAILY LOTTERY

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

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 4/17
23 25 35 63 64
Power#: 25
Jackpot: 251 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 4/18
7 9 15 19 25
Mega#: 4
Jackpot: 20 M

SuperLotto PLUS
Draw Date: 4/15
17 30 31 36 46
Mega#: 1
Jackpot: 51 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 4/18
2 9 15 28 34

Daily 3
Draw Date: 4/18
EVENING: 1 7 6

Draw Date: 4/18
MIDDAY: 3 8 2

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 4/18
1st: 07 - Eureka
2nd: 03 - Hot Shot
3rd: 09 - Winning Spirit
Race Time: 1:43.87

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- Sharlyne Massillon
SMC Basic Needs Manager

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