2 **Prom Season**
At Samohi.

3 **Homeless crisis**
Efforts afoot in City Hall.

5 **News Binge**
Catch up on the headlines.

6 **What's Up Westside**
Calendar of events.

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Little blue box hopes to 'chirp' away at crime

You might have already seen his posts on the social media app Nextdoor, but long-time Santa Monica local Stephen McMahon has come up with an ingenious way to discourage the homeless from making camp and taking drugs in his building's courtyard parking space and thus also preventing the inevitable repeat burglaries.

His idea is straightforward and is a testament to the axiom that necessity is the mother of invention. He combined the concept of blue flashing light — that is known to keep people awake, which is why it's often used in warehouses and on heavy machinery — together with the extremely annoying sound of crickets and created a deterrent that he has proved to be highly successful.

"I grew up in Missouri and you always get crickets in your house. And they're very irritating and annoying and it's really hard to find them," McMahon laughed. "And at the same time they had started a program at Reed Park over here with blue flashing strobe lights. So I looked that up and discovered that blue strobe lights prevent you from sleeping, they use them in warehouses and such like.

"So, I thought 'blue strobe light, cricket, cricket chirping' and if I put those two things together and add some kind of motion detector, I might have something," he said.

McMahon lives on Lincoln Blvd, a stone's throw away from Reed Park and he says that the unpleasantness they have to deal with is relentless. He explains that because the courtyard roadway was raised decades ago, none of the buildings can install gated parking. Consequently, he and other residents and neighbors have frequently been confronted with a homeless individual when walking to their vehicles.

He talked of one instance where over $20,000 of items were stolen from locked storage in his building's garage. This was the tipping point for McMahon as he was exasperated by the lack of action taken by law enforcement.

"One night they broke into our storage room, which used to be the laundry room and it had been there since 1961 and no one had ever broken into it. But they broke into it. And they stole everything," he said.

He says that they were able to get images of the perpetrators and even the license plates on their vehicle and using his own resourcefulness, he was able to pinpoint the location of the suspects to the Lakewood area.

"I have a lot of law enforcement in my family history," he smiled, adding, "Going all the way back to my ancestors in Ireland."

He said that shortly after that, he saw all the stolen items appear on the marketplace app Offer Up, all with "the same address that this car is registered to."

"It's not PD's fault," he said. "Or maybe it is, I don't know. The city attorney can't afford to prosecute. They [the perpetrators] have no assets … I say 'you can't do anything, but it's over $20,000 worth of stuff. We've got serial numbers.' They said 'I'll just take a report' and then suggested I sign up for the arrest authorization program, big wow."

Needless to say, all of McMahon's neighbors felt equally as frustrated and as head of the HOA for his building, he felt compelled to try and figure out some sort of solution.

"Everyone had confidence in the project, except for me," he laughed.

McMahon went on an ad-hoc crash course in building circuit boards and even carpentry and developed the first prototype that was fitted inside the garage's storage units. And then when he and his wife reviewed CCTV footage a few days later, they found to their complete surprise that it had worked, very effectively, on multiple occasions.

Individuals who had come to the secluded and confined space of the open parking garage to either take drugs, pass out or defecate, or more likely a combination of all three, were made to feel uncomfortable and ill at ease and, unable to stop the light and the sound, eventually decided it might be a better idea to just move on.

"Sourcing the original components was the first massive hurdle to overcome. The chirper came from a child's toy, but it didn't chirp for long enough, so that had to be addressed," he said. Then there was a problem with overheating, so that had to be addressed too. And then they saw someone attempting to disable the device by spraying water onto the speaker and even poking it with a metal coat hanger. Naturally, McMahon came up for an idea to solve that problem too.

Today, he is making self-contained variations of the device, now officially called the Blue Chirper, but he can't keep up with demand. "Everyone wants one now," he said. "But at the moment it's just me, making these things. And with the time spent building it and buying all the necessary components, I have to charge around $1,000."

But this could all soon change. McMahon himself is an extremely modest man, who has had a fascinating career as a director of photography in the entertainment industry. He even has some wonderful stories to regale about working with the late Roger Corman. Born in Missouri, he moved to New York when he was still young before moving again to Southern California where he attended film school at UCLA and he has lived in Santa Monica ever since.

And now, as components lay strewn across tables and chairs

SEE **BLUE CHIRPER** PAGE 5



Story and photo by Scott Snowden

BLUE CHIRPER: Stephen McMahon has come up with a way to keep people out of his property.



Gary Limjap
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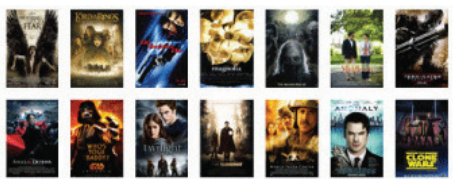
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Boutique anything but budget during prom season



Photo by Thomas Leffler

BOUTIQUE: Samohi students searched for 2024 prom looks on the campus' prom boutique, a collection of clothes and accessories free to all students.

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

One of the last milestones in the high school career of Samohi's 2024 class took place over the weekend, as the Los Angeles Airport Marriott was bouncing with sharp-dressed dancers during Saturday's prom night. While a student's prom look is paramount to a successful night, not everyone had access to a robust closet until a group of volunteers broke down financial barriers.

In the lead-up to prom, Samohi Bilingual Community Liaison Johanna De la Rosa opened the doors of classroom E100 to all Samohi students needing a suit or dress for the big night, curating a free "prom boutique" that students could step into during the afternoon hours. The boutique featured a selection of designer clothes and accessories that go far beyond what you may see at a typical thrift store.

Along with the vast amount of clothing options taken from donations, the boutique also offered tailoring services by parent volunteer Julie Flanders and a host of help from student volunteers.

"A lot of (students) have never tried on evening wear, they've never put a suit on (or) never put a dress on, so just to see them say oh, that looks nice on me, it (feels) good … (it) gets them out of their baggy clothes," Flanders said.

Originally conceived by De la Rosa in 2019, the boutique has come back stronger than ever after the COVID-19 pandemic complicated prom night for a couple of years. The Samohi staff member worked with school officials to create the space in order to be inclusive and accepting of all students.

"A lot of times, the kids who cannot afford anything will not come in because they don't want to be singled out, (but) the doors are open (here) so that any kid can walk in," De la Rosa said. "I don't care what you have, what you don't have, it's all for you."

Promoting inclusivity means crafting an environment where every Samohi student can adequately prepare for prom, one of the pivotal nights in their social lives. The boutique gatherings held during lunch and after-school hours also enhance social connections between lifelong pals and new acquaintances alike.

"I'm always emotional (because) I love how they come in with friends and help each other, to see this is really fun because I see kids that normally don't hang out together, but then they come here and they're helping each other," De la Rosa added.

Flanders added that the spring semester is "so expensive" for seniors with events like prom and graduation taking much preparation and funding. Being a volunteer at the boutique is "fantastic," she notes, because of being able to provide designer-level clothing at the ultimate bargain, and because boutique items are unique and won't be replicated by other prom-goers.

The space also allows students to choose clothing for occasions outside of prom, such as graduation, making the boutique a year-round help for the Samohi public.

"It's just such a welcoming environment, it makes me want to stay here and it makes me want to help support as much as possible," Samohi Student Activities Director Stefani Tovar said. "It just reminds me of why Samohi is such a special community."

thomas@smdp.com

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Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

BECOMING SANTA MONICA

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Dystopia: Santa Monica's Sincerest Efforts on the Homelessness Emergency

On Tuesday evening the City of Santa Monica extended the local emergency on Homelessness through May of 2025, signaling to the state that we are in fact, in a crisis.

The new director of Housing and human services, Heather Averick was supposed to present the data and new initiatives, but the presentation was shelved, lost in the fog, to make time for the overwhelming number of folks who wanted to comment on the City's impending Israeli-Gaza resolution.

So, we never got Ms. Averick's full presentation, but the report was published. I have to honestly say that what's in action is refreshing and promising.

In 2022 Santa Monica hired the consulting firm Moss Addams LLP to analyze and research the effectiveness of the city's approach to homelessness. The report issued in November of 2022 had some excellent recommendations, and I'm delighted to see that the city has enacted many of them.

It's very inspiring: A dedicated encampment clean-up team. Teams of trained mental health professionals working directly police officers to assist mentally ill people in a productive way. Lots of new homeless housing enacted and on the way. So so much more.

Not the least of which was creating a Director of Housing and Human Services position and hiring Ms. Heather Averick in that role to lead the efforts.

I haven't seen the 'Performance Measurement Framework' that Moss Addams called for. That seems particularly important in understanding the effectiveness of the current strategies, and both the City and Downtown Santa Monica, Inc. declined to comment for this column. So, if the data is there, I can't see it.

But overall it's really promising and I encourage you to read the report:

https://santamonicacityca.iqm2.com/Citizens/Detail_LegiFile.

When I speak with clinicians and support staff in the community, they praise Santa Monica's response and commitment to helping the unhoused. They speak to the leadership amongst the neighboring cities and a desire for other cities to follow Santa Monica's lead.

In so many ways the City is doing what can be done—taking the situation very seriously. And yes, I think many of us don't feel safe the way we used to. Monday's attack by a homeless man on the beach gives all of us pause.

But we have to give credit where it's due. Many of the initiatives created in response to the Moss Addams report are in their infancy and will take time to bear fruit.

But I can't help feeling like the issues are so much bigger than our small city can meet.

We don't have the resources to house all of the people that show up on our terminating bus and train lines. We don't have the staff to help ALL of those suffering from substance abuse and mental illness in our fair city...

But more than all of that, Santa Monica alone can't create an economy where housing, and income and opportunity give everyone a chance at a decent life. Low-income housing initiatives fight against the prevailing economic forces of living in one of the nicest environments in the world, and the supply and demand inherent to that truth.

Are moving the goal posts of housing rights fair to everyone else and does that matter? What is fair anyway?

Locally and nationally, we are hurtling toward a breaking point. The inequality that has only risen in my lifetime continues to push those who are the neediest, out of reach of the resources to adequately live.

If it feels dystopian, I think that's because it is. We are in our little bubble trying to do the right thing. But like a cancer we can only ignore the truth for so long. The homelessness crisis is a symptom of something greater and that something is affecting us all.

But we can't not do the right thing, just because it feels fruitless, because these are real people, who need help.

What will it take for our society to remember how to take care of one another? Other countries aren't suffering in quite this way. How many air craft carries would it take to properly house and support the many Americans who are mentally ill and need help?

How bad does it have to get?

Or do we continue to hide, the rich and the poor, living in alternate universes only vaguely sharing resources and otherwise watching each other through windows and television dramas?

And so, the declared Emergency continues, with sincere efforts... sidelined by other dystopian world affairs, awaiting some sea change at the highest levels of our society, some watershed moment where we remember that we're all human beings who deserve dignity and a chance at a meaningful life.

Miles Warner is a Santa Monica parent and resident.

LET US KNOW YOUR OPINION

Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **60.8**

MONDAY
FAIR
SURF: 4-5ft
Chest to head

Similar to Monday as SW swell continues with a chance at some extra NW windswell mixing in. Still mostly walled for the open beachbreaks but the extra NW energy would help to break up some of the lines.

TUESDAY
FAIR TO GOOD
SURF: 4-6ft
Chest to overhead

SW swell continues, along with lingering NW windswell. Generally walled at open beachbreaks but some broken up lines due too. Winds looking light for much of the morning, best early. Nice tide push then too.

Weather

Monday: Patchy drizzle before 11am. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 63.
Monday Night: Patchy drizzle after 11pm. Cloudy, with a low around 53.
Tuesday: Patchy drizzle before 11am. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 66.
Tuesday Night: Patchy drizzle after 11pm. Cloudy, with a low around 55.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)High/Low
2024/05/20	Mon	02:36 AM	0.33	L
2024/05/20	Mon	08:37 AM	3.54	H
2024/05/20	Mon	1:45 PM	1.50	L
2024/05/20	Mon	8:10 PM	5.43	H
2024/05/21	Tue	03:09 AM	-0.12	L
2024/05/21	Tue	09:19 AM	3.51	H
2024/05/21	Tue	2:10 PM	1.73	L
2024/05/21	Tue	8:34 PM	5.69	H
2024/05/22	Wed	03:43 AM	-0.48	L
2024/05/22	Wed	10:00 AM	3.46	H
2024/05/22	Wed	2:37 PM	1.93	L
2024/05/22	Wed	9:00 PM	5.88	H
2024/05/23	Thu	04:19 AM	-0.73	L
2024/05/23	Thu	10:44 AM	3.38	H
2024/05/23	Thu	3:05 PM	2.12	L
2024/05/23	Thu	9:30 PM	6.00	H
2024/05/24	Fri	04:58 AM	-0.87	L
2024/05/24	Fri	11:32 AM	3.29	H

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POWERBALL
Draw Date: 5/15
19 42 45 55 69
Power#: 6
Jackpot: 77 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 5/14
13 19 43 62 64
Mega#: 6
Jackpot: 393 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 5/15
19 30 39 41 42
Mega#: 2
Jackpot: 36 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 5/16
3 8 11 17 39

Daily 3
Draw Date: 5/16
EVENING: 4 0 9
Draw Date: 5/16
MIDDAY: 3 8 7

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 5/16
1st: 02 - Lucky Star
2nd: 06 - Whirl Win
3rd: 01 - Gold Rush
Race Time: 1:45.22

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SMDP STAFF REPORT

KIDS, ADULTS AGREE ON WELLNESS DURING MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH:

Locals of all ages and backgrounds have come together this month in the name of mental wellness. May marks Mental Health Awareness Month across the nation, and McKinley Elementary School staff and students delivered messages about mental well-being during the May 2 meeting of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education. Board members were given information on a host of enrichment activities and clubs at the school aimed at nurturing "all aspects" of a child, including intellectual, social-emotional, physical, creative and cultural needs.

FOSTER YOUTH FLOURISHES IN ANIMATION INTERNSHIP THANKS TO LOCAL GROUP:

Chrisie Morris, a rising senior at Cal State University Long Beach, made a major step in the animation industry in 2023 with an internship at DreamWorks Animation, working on shows like "Kung Fu Panda: The Dragon Knight." Morris landed the role with help from Santa Monica-based Ready to Succeed LA, an organization dedicated to assisting foster youth and first-generation college students gain internships and work experience.

14,000 GALLON SEWAGE SPILL CLOSES BEACHES, SANTA MONICA UNAFFECTED:

Earlier this month, approximately 14,400 gallons of untreated sewage poured forth into Ballona Creek and out into Santa Monica Bay, with Los Angeles County Department of Public Health officials warning people to stay out of the water and the wet sand from Ballona Creek and to one mile north of Venice Beach and one mile south of Dockweiler. Beach Water Quality Advisories were still green after the spill for the beaches of Santa Monica, with the small exception of the water around Santa Monica Pier which has its own unique set of issues.

FAMILIES FIRED UP FOR FIRE SERVICE DAY ACTIVITIES:

The Santa Monica Fire Department opened up Fire Station 1 on May 11 to locals excited to learn more about its vital role in the community. During the open house for Fire Service Day, firefighters and other fire department staff let children and families explore fire engines and take a fire station tour to gain insight on day-to-day operations. Other local and regional partners were present as well, with the American Red Cross providing hands-only CPR and emergency preparedness information, along with other information booths hosted by UCLA's Stop the Bleed emergency response initiative and the California Army National Guard.

CITY'S TALLEST APARTMENT BUILDING COULD COME TO 6TH AND COLORADO:

On the evening of May 13, a community meeting was held over Zoom to enable local residents to listen to and comment on the mixed residential-retail project proposal set for 601 Colorado Ave. The project covers two lots and measures approximately 150 ft by 150 ft., and is set to be positioned between 6th Street and 6th Court facing onto Colorado Ave. opposite the Big Blue Bus depot. Currently there is a row of abandoned outlets in that location that are frequently used by the homeless as illegal, makeshift shelters.

MAIN STREET'S BOARD GAME TWIST A BOON FOR LOCAL RESTAURANTS:

Main Street restaurants passed "Go" over the weekend, collecting business from local patrons with a board game twist. The ninth annual traversing of the Monopoly board took place Sunday as popular bars and eateries took part in the "MAINopoly: Taste of Main Street" event that's continued to bring the board game to life. Locals headed into 20 locations like Jameson's Pub, Tavern on Main, Rabano and Ashland Hill, taking part in a food or drink sampling that gave participants a "stamp" of their dedicated game board.

YOUTH COUNCIL ADDS VITALITY TO LOCAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICES NONPROFIT:

On May 11, the Young Professionals Advisory Council (YPAC) of the Chrysalis nonprofit hosted its inaugural Cheers to Changing Lives cocktail party at Expert Dojo, eclipsing a $40,000 fundraising goal by bringing in $50,195 for the organization. The YPAC was founded in 2019 with a primary goal of building the next generation of advocates and donors for Chrysalis, which is dedicated to serving individuals navigating barriers to workforce entry to find and retain employment. In its first five years, the YPAC has built a young professional membership base from Fortune 100 companies, hailing from industries ranging from venture capital and real estate to entertainment and technology.

CYCLIST AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY BOOSTED AS COUNCIL VOTES TO PROHIBIT HARASSMENT AND PROVIDE LEGAL PROTECTIONS:

At the May 14 meeting of Santa Monica City Council, council members voted unanimously 7-0 to hear and approve a new ordinance (Section 3.75) of the Santa Monica Municipal Code that will prohibit harassment of bicyclists and provide a private right of action in civil court for violations. The ordinance would not be enforced by City officials and would not require the expenditure of City resources, other than potentially some educational efforts. For this section, the definition of "bicycle" is expanded to include not only vehicles propelled solely by human power, but also those propelled by a combination of human and electric power.

ROCK GODS, COMEDY ICONS SUPPORT LOCAL CLINIC'S MISSION AT GALA:

The Venice Family Clinic hosted its inaugural HEART (Health + Art) Gala at 3Labs in Culver City on May 11, a star-laden evening of entertainment that raised $2.7 million for the clinic's innovative health services. The clinic, which includes locations in Santa Monica and Venice, provides services and health programs to more than 45,000 people in need in Los Angeles County. The clinic wouldn't be in its prominent position without the aid of art, as the organization's first Art Walk and Auction in 1979 helped save the clinic. A host of musical icons and

SEE **NEWS** PAGE 7

BLUE CHIRPER

FROM PAGE 1

at home, with a number of devices all in varying stages of construction taking up precious desk space, he's practically fighting off energetic investors who want a piece of the action. He has a meeting with an old colleague coming up soon who might be able to help put the Blue Chirper into a specifically designed, pre-formed, reinforced plastic casing, rather than the thick wooden box it's in now.

McMahon doesn't spend much time on social media but he does have a page set up for the BlueChirper at: https://nextdoor.com/pages/bluechirper-santa-monica-ca/.

scott.snowden@smdp.com



Scott Snowden

IN THE BOX: Local resident Stephen McMahon's new invention is a new way to deter local crime.

City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION

SUBJECT: 23ENT-0225 (Appeal of FWHM 23ENT-0103)

1902 18th Street
APPELLANT: Howard Cornin
PROPERTY OWNER: Howard Cornin

A public hearing will be held by the Planning Commission to consider the following request:

Appeal of the Zoning Administrator's denial (23ENT-0103) of a height modification to increase an existing 42" block wall to a proposed height of 6' along the front and east side parcel lines in the front yard setback. The applicant also requested approval to modify an existing block wall ranging from 5'-3" to 7'-3" in height along the west side parcel line in the front yard setback to a proposed height of 6'. The design of the proposed walls has been modified to include visual transparency above 42" in height. The subject property is located in the Low Density Residential (R2) zoning district. Pursuant to Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC) Section 9.21.050(A)(1), fences, walls, and hedges cannot exceed a maximum height of 42 inches within the required front yard setback as measured from the lowest finished grade adjacent to either side of the fence, wall, or hedge. Pursuant to SMMC Section 9.04.050(D), in the cases of fences, walls, or hedges that are parallel to and within 5 feet of a public sidewalk, grade shall be the elevation of the closest point on the sidewalk. SMMC Section 9.43.080(B) allows an applicant to request a modification to these height limitations in the front, side, and rear setbacks.

DATE/TIME: **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 2024, AT 6:00 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 planningcomment@santamonica.gov or via mail to the address listed below. Comments received prior to 12 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be distributed to the Planning Commission 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 Planning Commission hearing. Please check the agenda for more detailed instructions on how to comment.

Address your comments to: **Shira Moch, Associate Planner**
Re: 23ENT-0225

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 Shira Moch by e-mail at Shira.Moch@santamonica.gov. The Zoning Ordinance is available on the City's web site 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 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) 458-2201 ext. 5547.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

An obscure California commission wants to rein in Big Tech. Small businesses could get hurt instead

In 2006, after 31 years of research and collaboration with holistic health experts and practitioners, I decided to invest in my own holistic wellness practice in Sacramento. It's been incredibly rewarding to improve lives. I love what I do, and I'm grateful to be a leader in our small-business community.

But life-changing products and services aren't enough to build a successful small business. Today, every business needs a compelling digital presence to survive – and I've worked diligently to establish one that works.

I'm extremely concerned about a proposal being considered by an obscure state body called the California Law Revision Commission. While the commission's hearings tend to be overlooked, it is notable – and unsettling – that reportedly 90% of its legislative recommendations have become law.

The potential proposal is part of an review of state antitrust laws and meant to strike a blow against the biggest technology companies, such as Google and Meta. However, small local businesses like mine could take the hardest hit.

Here's why: Connection, convenience and consumer information.

To succeed, small businesses have to attract customers, quickly give them helpful information, and make it easy for them to locate a brick-and-mortar store or website. Digital platforms like Amazon, Instagram and Google provide a number of tools and services like affordable advertising, customer reviews and ratings that help small businesses grow. They are often free.

The proposed recommendations could totally upend the way those tools and services work. They would prohibit "self-preferencing," which can occur when big digital platforms favor their own products and services over those from other comparable services.

What does that mean for me? Right now, if you search for my business online, our Google business profile will immediately pop up, allowing you to click on a map to find our location, read reviews of our business, check our hours, click a button to visit our website, or call to talk to an expert. The law revision commission suggests breaking all that information apart and forcing Google to show other companies' maps, reviews and compilations of our business information.

Those kinds of changes would be disastrous for local businesses like mine that rely on existing low-cost digital services. They would also make it more difficult to create a consistent, positive online presence, which is vital for building and maintaining a credible brand.

Our online ratings, paired with directions to our Sacramento location, helped establish our business and sustained us during COVID. About half of our new clients found us by searching and scheduling appointments online. And trust me, a lot of small business owners would share the same story.

Even my word-of-mouth referrals go online to review ratings, shop and instantly get directions from their vehicle or mobile device.

Interestingly, the Europe Union recently prohibited self-preferencing under new regulations, and small businesses there are surely hurting as a result. Since taking effect in March, Google Maps in business profile search results are static, so customers there can't click for directions. Imagine if California decides that self-preferencing means that my business profile can no longer show my reviews or Amazon is prohibited from offering two-day delivery with Amazon trucks.

European policymakers may have been aiming for Big Tech companies, but small businesses acutely feel the pain of lost customers and revenues.

It requires consistent determination, dedication, discipline and digital tools to run a small business. From balancing faith and family life to persevering through the pandemic, this labor of love has ensured the health and vitality of my family and surrounding community. Digital tools have helped me sustain my business and graciously succeed.

The California Law Revision Commission needs to understand that digital tools help people like me grow our businesses and support our local communities and economies. The commission must consider the consequences of proposing policy changes and make sensible recommendations that help support California businesses instead of damaging them.

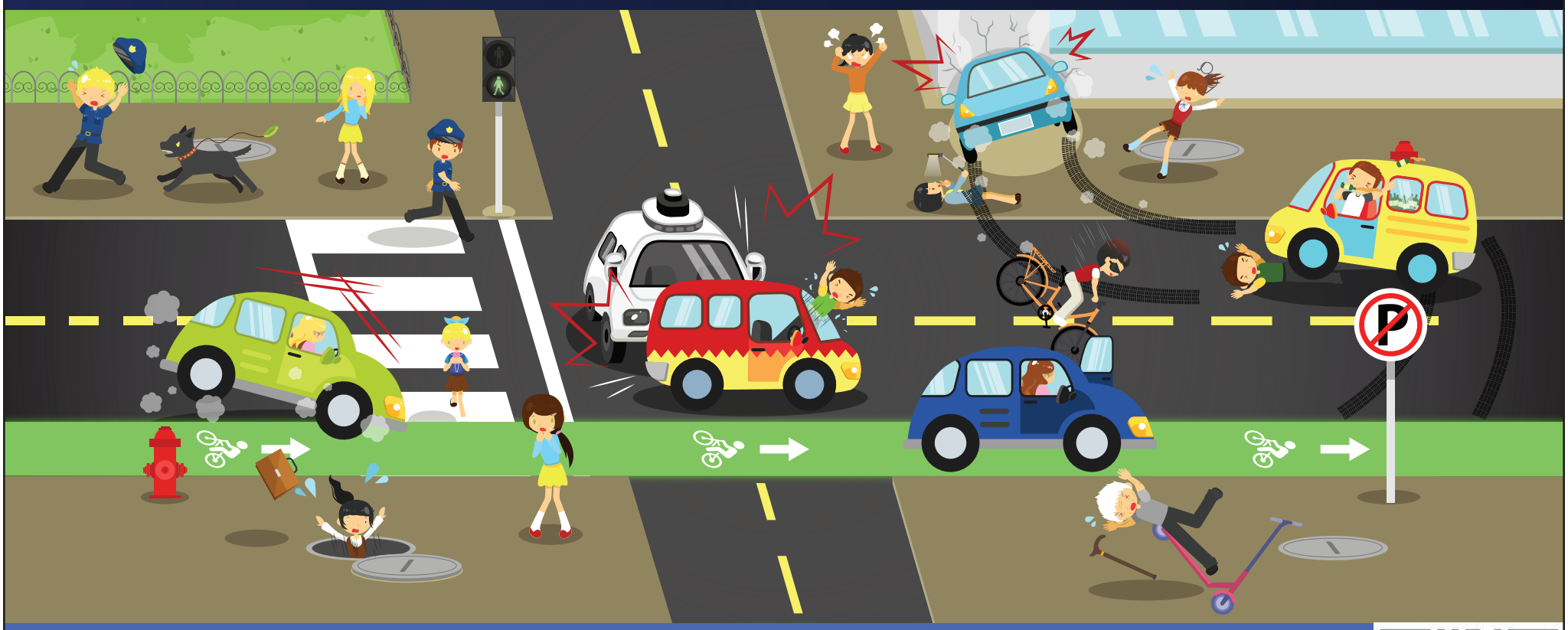


REUTERS/Andrew Kelly/File Photo

TECH: The logo for Google LLC is seen at the Google Store Chelsea in Manhattan, New York City, U.S., November 17, 2021.

Angela Harris is a small business owner in Sacramento. She founded Wellness of Life Internal Restoration Clinic and Wellness of Life Products. This article was originally published by CalMatters.

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New heroes, Mean Girls make May Locals' Night a special affair



Photos by Thomas Leffler

PIER: Though it was the final edition of Locals' Night on the Santa Monica Pier until September, the evening packed in enough activities to fill residents with Santa Monica spirit through the summer. The day began with the Rick Crocker 5K Challenge, an annual run benefiting the Santa Monica Police Activities League dedicated to the memory of Officer Rick Crocker, a member of the Santa Monica Police Department (SMPD) who lost his life while serving in Iraq in 2005. After the 5K, the Pier stage played host to the "New Heroes" commendation ceremony, with SMPD Chief Ramon Batista, Santa Monica Fire Department Chief (SMFD) Matthew Hallock and Mayor Phil Brock welcoming new hires to SMPD and SMFD. The typical Locals' Night fare of a classic car show and musical performances was augmented by a special showcase of the John Adams Middle School-Santa Monica Alternative School House (SMASH) musical theater company, who shined on the west end of the Pier with selections from "Mean Girls Jr." Below the Pier, Olympic volleyball player Sinjin Smith led a teaching session in the sport.

NEWS

FROM PAGE 5

comedy legends took part in the evening, including U2 guitarist The Edge, who received the HEART Award alongside wife and artist Morleigh Steinberg.

WESTSIDE BALLET SHOWCASES 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF MOVEMENT MASTERY:

The 50th anniversary of the Westside's premiere ballet theater company paid homage to an iconic ballerina with two stunning shows, featuring one dancer who recently brought national glory to the company's legacy. Over the weekend at the BroadStage, Westside Ballet of Santa Monica presented the "Masters of Movement" series for its 50th anniversary spring performances, set around a tribute to the legendary Patricia Neary, one of the 20th century's pioneering ballerinas. The showcases culminated with Neary receiving a Lifetime Achievement Award for her remarkable career.

GILBERT'S CELEBRATES FIVE DECADES OF CULINARY AND CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE:

Gilbert's in Santa Monica celebrated its 50th anniversary on Monday with a throwback menu, entertainment and a community party focusing on the history that has built up within its walls. The restaurant's current iteration came to be in the mid 1970s, but the man behind the legend, Gilbert Rodriguez Sr., was born significantly earlier. Born on August 31, 1928 in Texcoco, Mexico, Rodriguez eventually moved to the United States to work in the fields, but due to cold weather, he switched to working in various restaurants in Santa Monica.

POETRY, FILM MERGE TO FORM UNIQUE FESTIVAL ATMOSPHERE:

Two art forms that continue to resonate on the Westside combined this past month in an affair crossing all genres and generations. In April, Beyond Baroque in Venice hosted the third International Poetry Film Festival Los Angeles, dedicated to bringing poems to life through the visual medium. Ranging from student films to professional productions, various poems were used as scripts for filmmakers, creating their own short-form interpretations of the written works to a rousing reaction from the Beyond Baroque audience.

HOMELESS MAN DRAGS WOMAN ACROSS THE BEACH PATH BY HER HAIR

Malcolm Jimmy Ward, Jr., age 48was arrested on May 13 for assaulting a woman on the beach. Ward is accused of grabbing the woman by her hair and dragging her toward the restrooms. Bystanders stepped in and Ward was subsequently arrested.

MID-CITY CYPRESS PROJECT IN THE WORKS WHILE ANOTHER GETS SHOT DOWN

Mid-City Santa Monica may be on the verge of adding a prominent housing location, while another proposal for the area was recently shot down by the city's Architectural Review Board (ARB). Two buildings at 1801 and 1819 Santa Monica Blvd. are currently in the process of being approved by the ARB, with the side-by-side projects planned to be two eight-story projects consisting of 288 units, including 30 affordable housing units. The project is yet another potential undertaking submitted by Cypress Equity Investments, which has been heavily involved in Santa Monica development in recent years. Another Cypress submission, a proposed eight-story mixed-use apartment complex at 2025 Wilshire Blvd., was temporarily struck down by the ARB during its April 29 meeting due to issues like the project looking like an office building instead of a residential complex.

Classifieds

Name Change

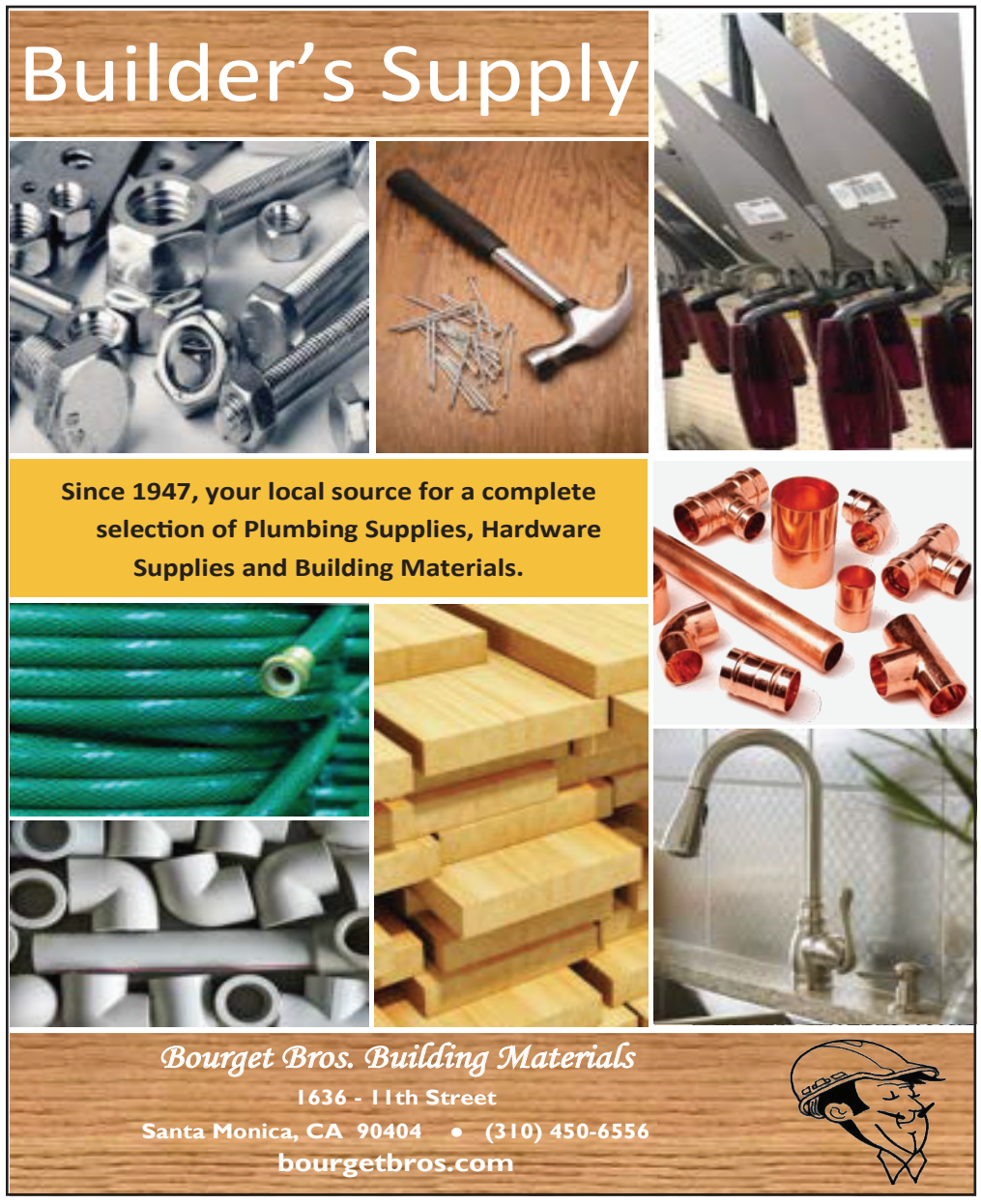
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMECase No. 24SMCP00234Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Samira Dabirian and Hamidreza Hoveida for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney: Samira Dabirian and Hamidreza Hoveida a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Ilya Hoveida to Daniyar Hoveida The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 07/05/2024 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K Room: - The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA - COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES Santa Monica Courthouse 1725 Main St Santa Monica, CA 90401A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press.

Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMECase No. 24SMCP00166Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Nora Moftar for Change of NameTO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:Petitioner or Attorney: Nora Moftar a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Nora Maftar to Nora Moftakhar The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 06/14/2024 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K Room: - The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA - COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES Santa Monica Courthouse 1725 Main St Santa Monica, CA 90401A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press.

Name Change

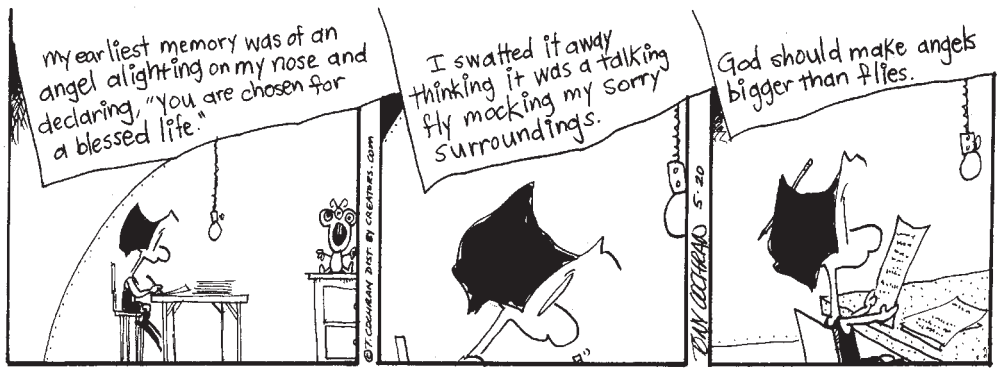
HOURS MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00am - 5:00pm **LOCATION** 1640 5th Street, Suite 218, Santa Monica, CA 90401




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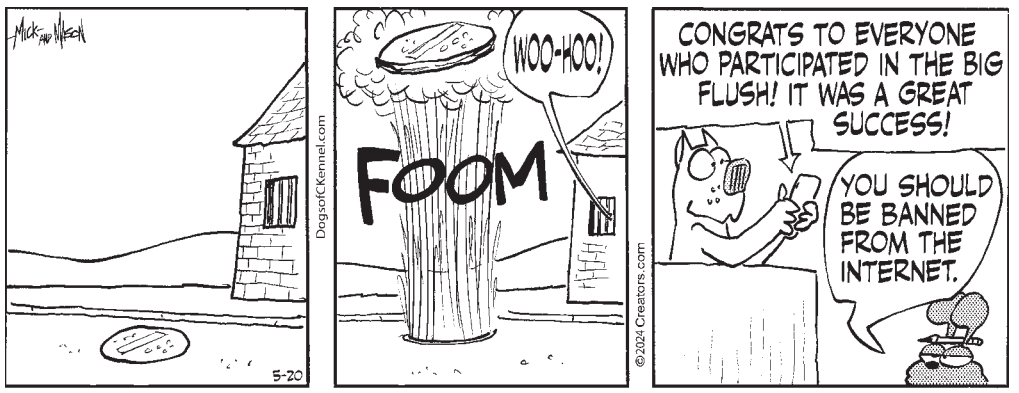
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



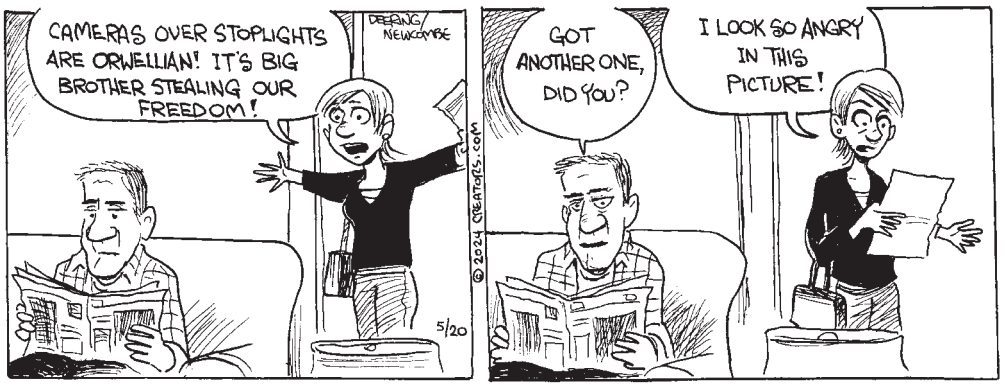
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



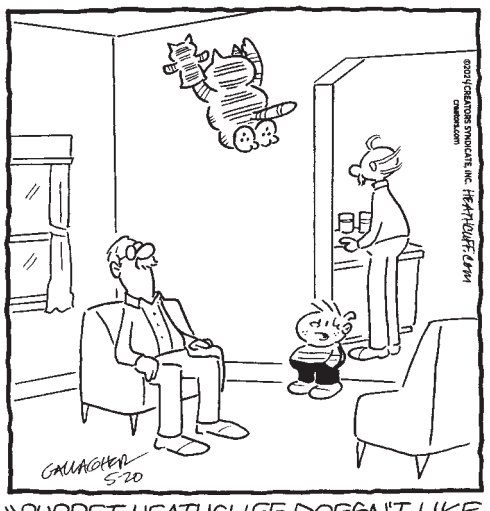
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

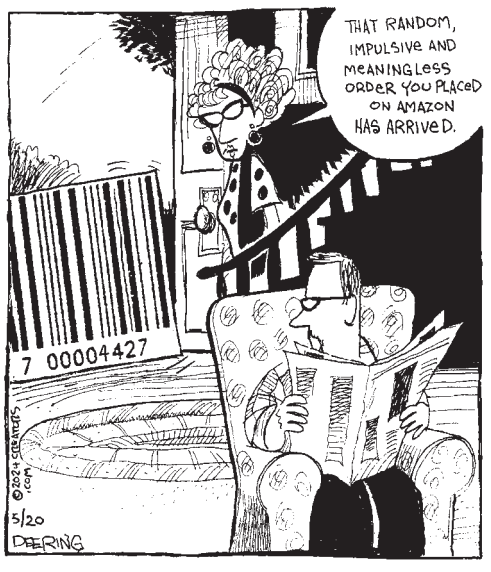
By PETER GALLAGHER



"PUPPET HEATHCLIFF DOESN'T LIKE PUPPET JOKES."

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

© australianwordgames.com.au 6216

Learning to play

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

Alpenhorn	Dance	Lyre	Rhythm
Anvil	Delightful	Melody	Rock
Aria	Drone	Method	Romantic
Bagpipe	Drum	Neck	Score
Band	Duet	Noisy	Singer
Bass	Euphonium	Notes	Stop
Baton	Fife	Oboe	Teacher
Bell	Flute	Octave	Tenor
Boom	Gong	Opera	Time
Chang	Harp	Piano	Tuba
Choir	Hear	Piccolo	Wood
Crwth	Jazz	Radio	Wrist

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (May 20)

This trip around the sun, you will be cherished, valued and loved beyond measure. Laughter echoes through the halls of your heart. A fresh responsibility will bring out the best in you, amping up your creativity and talent. More highlights: a journey with several legs, mastering your game and winning matches, and seeing the fruits of your labor ripen and multiply. Libra and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 2, 10, 4, 14 and 18.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Even though you're a bit nostalgic for the past, you fully realize that the best time to be alive is now. Your opportunities are numerous, and your ability to seize them has never been better.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You notice when people are saying something that clashes with what they really mean. You'll not only notice but you'll make a plan based on what you feel is true rather than what someone says is true.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Relationships help you develop yourself. Your participation in a group will promote curious aspects of you, the sort you will be examining in private moments of reflection for years to come.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). When it doesn't look how you thought it would, you will proceed undeterred. This is the glory of you — a person who keeps their cards close to the vest and doesn't see glory at all yet somehow gets it in the end.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You think about what other people might be thinking, and this gives you an advantage. Social acuity benefits every part of your life. Today, it will help you figure out what to delegate. It would be inefficient to do everything on your plate all on your own.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You can't give to everyone. Save your resources until you are compelled to give them. Your resources are wide-ranging, the most precious being your attention. That is also the most difficult to wrangle, but you'll do a good job.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Friendships have taken a different form in recent years, but don't forget the shape of the old form because it's the best and most fortifying one. A hundred digital friends can't compare to one lunch at the same table.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You have tricks up your sleeve. While seeming like you are minding your own business, you're really quite nosey. You pay attention, read the room, and figure out what's happening and how you might fit into it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Because you really care about the puzzle at hand, you'll do what it takes to unravel it. Research gives you a huge advantage. The best wins are group wins, so involve as many as you can.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're ready to face something you've long ignored. It was good that you didn't deal with it back there. It would have taken too much from you. Now you can handle it swift and pretty, with grace.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Love yourself, please yourself, save yourself. There is no saving anyone else. You can help, and you can love, but today is a day when saving is a thing that each person must do individually.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). There's a group you'd like to fit into. You won't have to change anything about yourself to be accepted there, but it will help to highlight certain aspects of your life and leave others out of mention.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

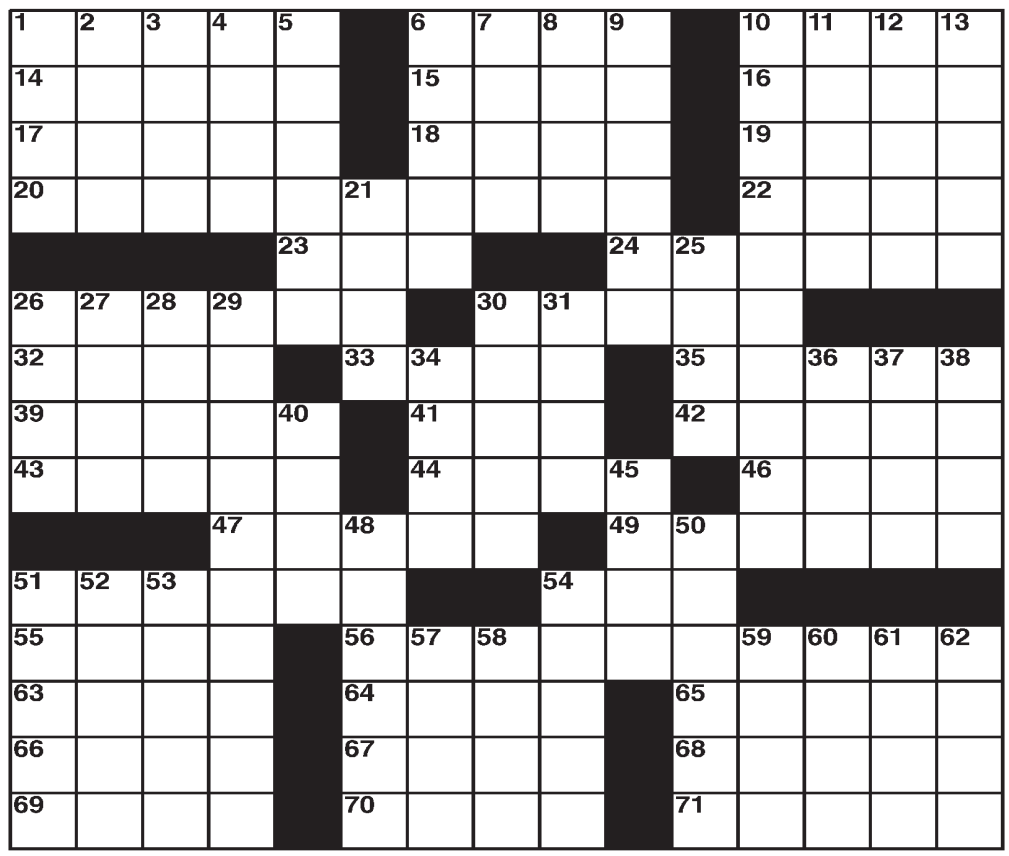
BYWORDS by Sally R. Stein
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Campers' shelters
6 One-for-one trade
10 Trips around a racetrack
14 Having a mustache and beard
15 Walk down memory ___
16 "A likely story!"
17 Koran student's faith
18 "Do __ others..."
19 Short memo
20 Gradually and steadily
22 Dutch cheese
23 __ and aah
24 Tags on T-shirts
26 In an easy way
30 Hot, as a temper
32 Admired celebrity
33 Capital of Norway
35 Nearby
39 End-of-newscast summary
41 Cat's foot
42 Big African beast not a rhino
43 Low-effort school course
44 Great Salt Lake's state
46 Bright store window light
47 Robins and wrens
49 Current __ (things in the news now)
51 Diamond-shaped sock pattern
54 Athlete who's paid
55 Take an elevator to a higher floor
56 Right next to each other
63 And others: Abbr.
64 "That's clear to me"
65 Extremely low-quality
66 __ Scotia, Canada
67 High-five, for example
68 Oxygen and carbon dioxide
69 Cafeteria's plate holder
70 Change for a $20 bill
71 Overact on a stage

DOWN

1 The one right here
2 Toward sunrise
3 Egypt's main river
4 Sandy golf hazard
5 $ for dollars, for instance
6 Half-melted snow
7 Desire to have
8 Initial poker payment
9 Women, men and children
10 How a poem is read completely
11 A person's house
12 Leaf of a flower
13 Stalks of flowers
21 Spool + string toy
25 Curved part of the foot
26 What to call a king
27 Notion
28 Soft shoes without laces, for short
29 Sportscaster's detailed commentary
30 Shoes without heels
31 Des Moines' state
34 Potato, slangily
36 Unwrap, as a gift
37 Place to park in a lot
38 Extremely long time
40 Jack and Jill's bucket
45 Parsley or oregano
48 Withstand, as temptation
50 Sea journey
51 Insurance seller
52 Copter's spinning part
53 Green tropical fruit
54 Baby chicks' sounds
57 Bit of land in an ocean
58 College official
59 Did the backstroke
60 "In that case..."
61 Song for two singers
62 Otherwise



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05/20/24

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

Classifieds

DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2024092582 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 04/30/24The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Trim 2736 Main St Santa Monica, CA 90405Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): Ai #ON. The full name of the registrant(s) is/are The Geronimo Trim Hair Inc Main St Santa Monica, CA 90405If corporation or LLC- Print State of CAThis is Business is Conducted: a Corporation The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 03/2001Registrant/Corp/ LLC Name /s/: Trim Hair Inc Title: President Nicholle Roybal This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 05/2/24NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. ,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS., 05/13/24, 05/20/24, 05/27/24, 06/03/24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2024094673 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 05/1/24The following person(s) is (are) doing business as A Corners BarberShop 2640 Lincoln Blvd Suite 1B Santa Monica, CA 90405Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): Ai #ON. The full name of the registrant(s) is/are David Reyes 11819 Birch Ave Hawthorne, CA 90350If corporation or LLC- Print State of This is Business is Conducted: An individual The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/ARegistrant/Corp/ LLC Name /s/: Trim Hair Inc Title: President Nicholle Roybal This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 05/1/24NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. ,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS., 05/13/24, 05/20/24, 05/27/24, 06/03/24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2024102012 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 05/10/24The following person(s) is (are) doing business as JMC Transport 1115 East 67th ST #2 Los Angeles, CA 90001Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): Ai #ON. The full name of the registrant(s) is/are Mario S Martinez Salamanca 1115 East 67th ST #2 Los Angeles, CA 90001If corporation or LLC- Print State of This is Business is Conducted: An Individual The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 05/2024Registrant/Corp/ LLC Name /s/: Mario S Martinez Salamanca Title: Owner Mario S Martinez Salamanca This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 05/10/2024NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. ,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS.05/20/24, 05/27/24, 06/03/24, 06/10/24

Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 24SMCP00194 Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles Petition of Duane Yoichi Kumagae for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney: Duane Yoichi Kumagae a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Duane Yoichi Kumagae to Duane Kumagai The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 06/07/2024 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K Room: - The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA - COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES Santa Monica Courthouse 1725 Main St Santa Monica, CA 90401 A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press.

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



MONDAY | MAY 20

GOVERNING AND ELECTIONS IN THE AGE OF AI

Experts from the City of Santa Monica, SMC, and SMMUSD will discuss how AI creates challenges and has potential to impact their roles in positive ways. 6:30 - 8 p.m. SMC, Public Policy Institute, Student Services 183, 1900 Pico Blvd.

SANTA MONICA ARTS COMMISSION

6:30 - 8 p.m. Santa Monica Arts Commission meetings generally start at 6:30 p.m., preceded by the monthly Public Art Committee meeting at 5:30 p.m. Meeting times and location subject to change, please check the posted agenda. https://www.smgov.net/portals/culture/agendas.aspx

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD SPECIAL MEETING

7 p.m. Santa Monica Public Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. The Architectural Review Board established in 1974, acts "to preserve existing areas of natural beauty, cultural importance and assure that buildings, structures, signs or other developments are in good taste, good design, harmonious with surrounding developments, and in general contribute to the preservation of Santa Monica's reputation as a place of beauty, spaciousness and quality." https://www.smgov.net/Departments/PCD/Boards-Commissions/Architectural-Review-Board/

VIRGINIA AVE PARK ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

7 p.m. Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave. The Virginia Avenue Park Advisory Board (VAPAB) serves as an advisory body to the Recreation and Parks Commission and the Director of Housing and Human Services Department.

MAIN LIBRARY BOOK GROUP DISCUSSION

7 - 8:30 p.m. Virtual. Join a community-led online discussion of a wide range of books, chosen by the members. To register, email library@santamonica.gov.

COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY, ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, AND THE ENVIRONMENT

The Commission on Sustainability, Environmental Justice and the Environment shall act in an advisory capacity on sustainability, environmental programs and policy issues. The Commission closely monitors the Santa Monica's Sustainable City Plan and advises the Council on plan implementation. The Commission on Sustainability, Environment Justice, and the environment is an expert panel made up of seven (7) members selected by the City Council with 4 year terms. Commissioners must have significant expertise in one or more areas of environmental policy and must reside or work in Santa Monica. 7 p.m. Civic Center Parking Structure, 333 Civic Center Dr

AN EVENING WITH AMY TAN

In 2016, Amy Tan grew overwhelmed by the state of the world. In search of peace, the bestselling author turned toward the natural world just beyond her window and, specifically, the birds visiting her yard. What began as an attempt to find solace turned into something far greater—an opportunity to savor quiet moments during a volatile time, connect to nature in a meaningful way, and imagine the intricate lives of the birds she admired. The Backyard Bird Chronicles maps the passage of time through daily entries, thoughtful questions, and beautiful original sketches. With boundless charm and wit, she charts her foray into birding and the natural wonders of the world. $50 General Admission ticket + signed copy of Amy Tan's book, $25 General Admission ticket, $125 VIP Reception with Amy Tan (6:30-7:30pm)+ Reserved Section Seat and Signed Book. 8 p.m. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/an-evening-with-amy-tan-tickets-841949773437

TUESDAY | MAY 21

MYSTERIOUS BOOK CLUB

Join organizers for the next meeting of the Mysterious Book Club a group of readers who love mystery and suspense. We are reading The Expendable Man by Dorothy B. Hughes. You'll enjoy this view of California and Arizona in the 1960's. We welcome new members. Come even if you haven't read the book. You can meet everyone and you'll know the title for next month. Why does Hugh Denismore, a seemingly comfortable new intern driving his mother's Cadillac from LA to Phoenix, get so upset at the sight of a few redneck teenagers in Indio? Why is he reluctant to pick up a disheveled girl hitchhiking along the desert highway? And why is he the first person the police suspect when she is found dead in Arizona a few days later? Palisades Branch Library, 861 Alma Real Drive, Pacific Palisades. 1:30 p.m.

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smc.edu/summer

ON-CAMPUS AND ONLINE CLASSES



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