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Lawmakers warned public transit could fall off a "fiscal cliff"

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Santa Monica resident and State Senator Ben Allen joined a group of lawmakers and transit advocates on Tuesday to argue for more public transportation funding in the state budget.

Statewide, transit agencies have been sounding the alarm over an impending end to federal money that has helped offset declines in funding over the past few years. Without support from the State, advocates have warned the impending "fiscal cliff" will damage transit infrastructure with cuts to services and increased fares.

While the 2008 Great Recession hit transit agencies hard, the pandemic was a bigger problem. Not only did it pull more riders out of the system, the recovery has been slower and some of the lasting changes to employment, like remote jobs, will have a continued impact on transit systems.

CalMatters recently reported that statewide, monthly ridership dropped from 100 million in February 2019 to about 20 million in June 2020. As of June 2022, the numbers rebounded to about 60 million, but varied by region and transportation mode.

For the Los Angeles metro system, ridership is at about 74% of pre-COVID levels. Bus ridership is at about 687,746 riders per month compared to 871,496 in 2020 while train ridership is at 124,439 riders per month compared to 158,823 in 2020. Metro said bus riders are returning faster than train riders as telecommute jobs likely impact rail commuters more than bus riders.

Santa Monica's Big Blue Bus (BBB), is still struggling to bounce back from COVID-19, with annual ridership in fiscal year 2021-22 (July 2021 through June 2022) at 6,312,168. That 6.3 million number is a substantial increase over the previous fiscal year 2020-21 ridership of 5 million passengers, but way down compared to the last substantially pre-pandemic period, fiscal year 2019-20, when 12.5 million riders were recorded.

Federal grant money that has

SEE **TRANSIT** PAGE 8



Courtesy image

BEN ALLEN: State Senator Ben Allen is one of a group of lawmakers advocating for more transit funding.

Tourists stabbed and groped by homeless man over Memorial Day weekend

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

A homeless man was arrested over the Memorial Day Weekend after groping and stabbing multiple people near the Pier.

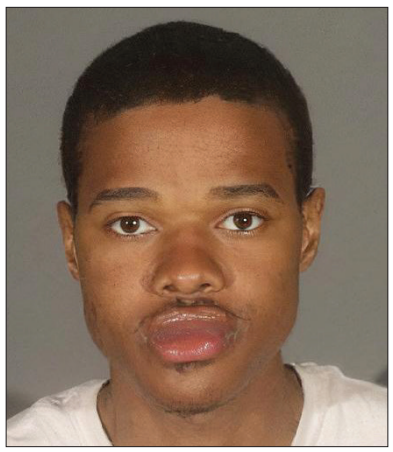
Johnathan Peck was arrested at about 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 27 and is accused of groping two women and then stabbing friends of the victims with a sharpened wooden stick.

According to SMPD, officers were contacted by a Spanish-speaking tourist from Mexico who said that Peck had approached her and grabbed her breast. Peck walked away but remained nearby and when a friend of the victim confronted Peck about the groping he stabbed the friend in the face and neck with the stick.

Peck fled the area but was later arrested by officers on the Pier. During the investigation, officers learned Peck was responsible for a second assault. According to officers, Peck grabbed another woman's breast shortly and also stabbed her male companion with the stick.

The two stabbing victims were transported to a local hospital for minor injuries.

editor@smdp.com



Courtesy photo

ARREST: The suspect was arrested for multiple stabbings and gropings.

New school Superintendent expected soon

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

The end of the school year could mark a new beginning for the Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District as the School Board is scheduled to appoint a new Superintendent on June 1.

The appointment was announced last week and is formally listed on the June 1 agenda as the first "Major Action Item."

The SMMUSD Board recently conducted candidate interviews and the June 1 announcement will come about six months after former SMMUSD superintendent Ben Drati announced in November 2022 that he would be leaving the district at the beginning of 2023.

The Board appointed Mark Kelly as interim superintendent and hired the executive search firm Leadership Associates to head up the process.

The new superintendent is expected to start work by the beginning of July of this year, just ahead of the 2023-2024 school year.

While the Superintendent search is an important step for the district, it's not the only item of substance on the agenda.

The board will receive an update on the preliminary budget for the upcoming school year, discuss plans to meet state-mandated educational targets and be notified of new negotiations with the teachers union (covering class size, safety, salary, additional compensation

SEE **SMMUSD** PAGE 8



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State asked to stop diverting iconic Mono Lake's water to Los Angeles

ALASTAIR BLAND
Special to the Daily Press

As trickling snowmelt in the Sierra Nevada slowly raises Mono Lake — famed for its bird life and outlandish shoreline mineral spires — advocates are pressuring state water officials to halt diversions from the lake's tributaries to Los Angeles, which has used this clean mountain water source for decades.

Environmentalists and tribal representatives say such action is years overdue and would help the iconic lake's ecosystem, long plagued by low levels, high salinity and dust that wafts off the exposed lakebed. The city of Los Angeles, they argue, should simply use less water, and expand investments in more sustainable sources – especially recycled wastewater and uncaptured stormwater. This, they say, could help wean the city off Mono basin's water for good.

In December, the Mono Lake Committee, the basin's leading advocacy group, sent a letter to the State Water Resources Control Board requesting an emergency pause on water diversions from the lake. The water board hosted an online workshop to discuss the matter in February, and it is now considering further actions to restore the naturally saline lake.

Geoff McQuilkin, the Mono Lake Committee's executive director, said the lake will probably rise another four feet in 2023 — reason, as he sees it, to double down and halt exports.

"This is a year to take advantage of," he said. "We'd like to lock in these gains."



Photo by Sierra Farquhar for CalMatters

LAKE: Mono Lake on the eastern edge of the Sierra Nevada on May 20, 2023.

But the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power is pushing back. The agency began diverting the Mono basin's water in 1941, and officials say this supply, though a minute fraction of its overall demands, is a vital part of its portfolio, which includes water imported from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and the Colorado River. The agency also has brushed away claims that the basin's wildlife — especially nesting birds — are threatened by the city's diversions. "The Mono Basin ecosystem remains healthy," the department recently stated. Moreover, the city has already cut exports from the lake's tributaries by 85%, starting in the early 1990s, when landmark hearings triggered tighter rules on sending the basin's water to Los Angeles.

"That's approximately 70,000 acre-feet per year," said Anselmo Collins, the city water department's assistant general manager of the water system, during the February workshop.

Historic diversions to Los Angeles amounted to between 80,000 and 100,000 acre-feet, and more, of the basin's water annually. Beginning in 1995, that was cut to between 4,500 and 16,000 acre-feet annually. Mono advocates say that's still too much.

The state water board has remained tight-lipped about how it may respond to the demands from Mono Lake's advocates. Samuel Boland-Brien, a supervising engineer with the board, said the agency plans to hold a hearing, though he couldn't say when, to discuss options for recovering Mono Lake.

Its surface elevation is currently around 6,380 feet, and in the past 30 years it has never risen much past 6,385 — still seven feet below a target recovery level of 6,392 feet, established in 1994.

"The need to reach that level isn't optional," Boland-Brien said.

While existing rules on Mono Lake diversions are designed to manage the basin's ecosystem – broadly categorized as public trust resources – they don't take into account the needs of the basin's indigenous residents, namely the Kutzadika'a tribe.

Dean Tonenna, a Kutzadika'a botanist, said his people were left out of the 1990s negotiations that led to the existing diversion rules. "The tribe has not been meaningfully engaged in any of the discussions or workshops that led to the decision," Tonenna said.

He said "a racist legacy" led to the lowering of the lake and still compromises his people's connection to the ecosystem. Now, he and other local tribal members want their interests considered.

Brian Gray, a senior fellow and water law expert with the nonprofit Public Policy Institute of California, said the dilemma over how to restore Mono Lake could prompt a review of the historical decisions that gave Los Angeles ownership of a share of the basin's water. If state officials conclude that

SEE **LAKE** PAGE 4



Facing GOP backlash, McCarthy labors to shore up votes for debt deal in time to prevent US default

LISA MASCARO AND AAMER MADHANI
Associated Press

Under fire from conservatives, House Speaker Kevin McCarthy worked strenuously Tuesday to sell fellow Republicans on the debt ceiling and budget deal he negotiated with President Joe Biden and win approval in time to avert a potentially disastrous U.S. default.

Leaders of the hard-right House Freedom Caucus lambasted the compromise as falling well short of the spending cuts they demand, and they vowed to try to halt passage by Congress. A much larger conservative faction, the Republican Study Committee, declined to take a position, leaving McCarthy hunting votes.

With tough days ahead, the speaker urged skeptical GOP colleagues to "look at where the victories are." Unhelpfully for Biden, he said of the Democrats on "Fox and Friends," "There's nothing in the bill for them."

A key test was coming late Tuesday when the House Rules Committee was to consider the 99-page bill and vote on sending it to the full House for a vote expected Wednesday evening.

> This deal fails, fails completely, and that's why these members and others will be absolutely opposed to the deal
>
> - Rep. Scott Perry, R-Pa., the chairman of the Freedom Caucus

Quick approval by both the House and Senate would ensure government checks will continue to go out to Social Security recipients, veterans and others, and prevent financial upheaval worldwide by allowing Treasury to keep paying U.S. debts. The deal would restrict spending over the next two years, but it includes environmental policy changes and expanded work requirements for some older food aid recipients that Democrats strongly oppose.

The Republican speaker said he would be talking with lawmakers as they return to Washington from the long Memorial Day weekend ahead of crucial votes.

"This is just the first step," McCarthy said of his agreement with Biden.

With few lawmakers expected to be fully satisfied, Biden, a Democrat, and McCarthy, a Republican, are counting on pulling majority support from the political center, a rarity in divided Washington, to prevent a federal default.

McCarthy could expect no help from the right.

"This deal fails, fails completely, and that's why these members and others will be absolutely opposed to the deal," Rep. Scott Perry, R-Pa., the chairman of the Freedom Caucus, said, flanked by others outside the Capitol. "We will do everything in our power to stop it."

Ominously, the conservatives warned of potentially trying to oust McCarthy over the compromise.

"There's going to be a reckoning," said Rep. Chip Roy of Texas.

Liberal Democrats decried the new work requirements for older Americans, those 50-54, in the food aid program. And some Democratic lawmakers were leading an effort against a surprise provision to greenlight a controversial Mountain Valley Pipeline natural gas project through Appalachia.

Biden spent part of the Memorial Day holiday working the phones, calling lawmakers in both parties.

"I feel very good about it," Biden told reporters Monday. "I've spoken to a number of the members," he said, among them Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell, a past partner in big bipartisan deals who largely has been sitting this one out.

To progressive Democrats raising concerns about the package, the president had a simple message: "Talk to me."

Wall Street was taking a wait-and-see approach. Stock prices were mixed in late trading. U.S. markets had been closed when the deal was struck over the weekend.

Overall, the package is a tradeoff that would impose some federal spending reductions for the next two years along with a suspension of the debt limit into January 2025, pushing the volatile political issue past the next presidential election. Raising the debt limit, now $31.4 trillion, would allow Treasury to continue borrowing to pay the nation's already incurred bills.

All told, the package would hold spending essentially flat for the coming year, while allowing increases for military and veterans accounts. It would cap growth at 1% for 2025.

Policy issues were raising the most objections.

Liberals fought hard but were unable to stop new work requirements for government food assistance. The Republicans demanded the bolstered work requirements, but some said the changes to the food stamp program were not enough. They were also pushing to increase work requirements for health care and other aid; Biden refused to go along on those.

Questions were also being raised about the unexpected provision that essentially would give congressional approval to the Mountain Valley Pipeline, a natural gas project important to Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W. Va., that many Democrats and others oppose as unhelpful in fighting climate change.

The top Democrat on the House Natural Resources Committee, Rep. Raul Grijalva of Arizona, said including the pipeline provision was "disturbing and profoundly disappointing."

But Manchin on Tuesday touted the pipeline project as something "we know we need."

The House aims to vote Wednesday and send the bill to the Senate, where Democratic Majority Leader Chuck Schumer and McConnell are working for passage by week's end.

Senators, who have remained largely on the sidelines during much of the negotiations between the president and the House speaker, began inserting themselves more forcefully into the debate.

Some senators are insisting on amendments to reshape the package from both the left and right flanks. That could require time-consuming debates that delay final approval of the deal.

For one, Democratic Sen. Tim Kaine of Virginia planned to file an amendment to remove the pipeline provision.

But making any changes to the package at this stage seemed unlikely with so little time to spare. Congress and the White House are racing to meet the Monday deadline now less than a week away. That's when Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen has said the U.S. would run short of cash and face an unprecedented debt default without action.

A default would almost certainly harm the U.S. economy and spill around the globe, as the world's reliance on the stability of the American dollar and the country's leadership fell into question.

Associated Press writers Stephen Groves, Kevin Freking, Seung Min Kim, Darlene Superville, Mary Clare Jalonick and Farnoush Amiri contributed to this report.

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed proposals for

RFP: # 364 PERMITTING SYSTEM

- **Submission Deadline is July 10, 2023 at 5:00 PM Pacific Time.**

Proposals must include forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica. Request for Proposals may be obtained on the **CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL.** The website for this Request for Proposals and related documents is OpenGov (https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca) There is no charge for the RFP package.

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LAKE

FROM PAGE 2

the basin would benefit from having more water, he said, the water board "would have an obligation to reconsider its water rights decision, and specifically address the question of whether Los Angeles should be cut back, partially or completely."

The lake's defenders insist this would have almost no impact on the city's water supply. The city's 2023 Mono Lake diversions will amount to about 1% of the district's annual water use.

Sean Bothwell, executive director of the California Coastkeeper Alliance, said opportunities for water recycling and stormwater capture, as well as simply using less water in the first place, could more than make up for the relatively small amount of water the city draws from the Mono Lake basin.

"The Department of Water and Power really does not rely on this lake … so why continue to destroy Mono Lake when they have these other options available?" he said.

Boland-Brien noted that the 1994 decision called for "a hearing" if the target lake level wasn't reached by 2014. When that time came, the lake was 12 feet below the intended level, and dropping, for a severe drought had begun. Lake advocates agreed to give it more time.

Now, nine years later, the lake level is about the same as it was then, but there is still no firm date — or even an approximate one – for when that overdue hearing will occur.

"That's where a lot of the focus is now – when will that hearing be scheduled, and what will be determined in terms of whether additional actions are necessary?" Boland-Brien said.

THE LEGACY OF MONO LAKE

For decades, essentially the sky was the limit on exporting Mono basin water to Los Angeles. The legal cap, written into the city's water rights, was 167,800 acre-feet per year, with no considerations for the environment or local users. Exports ranged as high as 156,000 acre-feet — a peak recorded in 1978 — and in the 1970s and 1980s, exports averaged more than 80,000 acre-feet annually.

This rate of diversion put the lake on pace to eventually disappear — a fate met long ago by Owens Lake, 125 miles to the south of Mono and sucked dry by the same aqueduct system. By the 1980s, Mono Lake's surface had plunged 45 feet. Half the lake's volume was sacrificed for Los Angeles taps, toilets, lawns and pools, and its salinity level doubled, according to the Mono Lake Committee.

A landmark lawsuit challenged the city's diversions in 1979, and a court injunction halted exports in 1990. After weeks of hearings in 1993 and 1994, the state water board ordered the city's water department to reduce its diversions to a maximum of 16,000 acre-feet — deemed a sustainable level. The goal was to draw the lake over 20 years back to the target of 6,392 feet. Officials determined that this would protect native shrimp, flies, birds and geologic features, while preventing lakebed dust from endangering local communities.

The new rules included some key triggers: at a lake level below 6,380 feet, diversions are cut by 72%, and below 6,377 feet, diversions are banned.

But in the past 29 years, the lake level has only partially recovered.

"We've given it almost 30 years with the rules they established in 1994, and it hasn't worked," said Martha Davis, a board member of the Mono Lake Committee.

At the L.A. water department, Adam Perez, the Los Angeles Aqueduct manager, said "the lake level at Mono Lake continues to trend upwards."

Long-term lake level records, however, don't reflect this. The surface elevation has surged several times in the past three decades, usually in the year or so following wet periods. Each time, however, its surface level has dropped again — apparently a consequence of ramping diversions up to 16,000 acre-feet when the lake swells past 6,380 feet. Climate change is not helping either, causing decreased precipitation in the region and increased evaporation from streams and the lake itself.

McQuilkin said this rise-then-fall pattern will continue unless the water board steps in.

"Are we going to watch levels go up and then watch the lake drop again like it did in 2017?" McQuilkin said.

To L.A. water managers, the lake elevation is secondary. What matters, Collins explained at the February hearing, is that the basin's resources are sufficiently protected. Salinity levels, though variable with the lake's volume, have remained for decades within the acceptable range for the lake's invertebrate life, Collins said. He also pointed out that the land bridge that can form during low water periods, making nesting birds especially vulnerable to coyotes, has not fully emerged for many years.

"There is no emergency condition at Mono Lake," Collins said.

He added that the four main creeks that enter the lake "have been restored and are being protected," fish populations in these creeks are thriving and waterfowl habitat has been enhanced.

But Boland-Brien, at the water board, said achieving the 6,392-foot level is a clear mandate.

Tonenna, with the Kutzadika'a tribe, said proposed solutions to protect gulls nesting on the lake's islands from coyotes and prevent dust from lifting off the exposed lakebed — respectively, electric fences and sprinkler systems — are expensive and unworkable.

"All of this can be solved by putting water back into the lake," Tonenna said. "That's the most cost-effective way."

WHY L.A. CLINGS TO THIS TRICKLER

L.A.'s Department of Water and Power serves more than 4 million people. Its water comes from a variety of sources: As of 2020-21, about 41% was water purchased from Metropolitan Water District, which draws most of its water from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and the Colorado River; 48% came from the Eastern Sierra, mostly the Owens Valley; 9% was pumped from local aquifers; and 2% was recycled water. In recent years, the Department of Water and Power's surface water diversions from the Mono Basin have amounted to between 1 and 3.5% of its total supplies.

There is momentum to restructure the city's water sources, with plans to greatly expand water recycling and stormwater capture programs, while continuing to improve on water conservation – already an area of deserved bragging rights for Los Angeles: In spite of a 25% increase in population since the 1980s, the city now uses almost 30% less water.

In 2019 former Los Angeles mayor Eric Garcetti set a goal of recycling 100% of the city's wastewater by 2035 — part of a broader plan to acquire 50% of the city's water from local sources by the same year. His vision aligns with that of Gov. Gavin Newsom, whose water strategy plan, released last summer, endorsed more water recycling, capturing stormwater and using less.

The progress prompts many to question why Los Angeles clings so tightly to the trickle it receives from the Mono basin.

"That's the funny thing — it's such a drop in the bucket," said Bruze Reznik, executive director of the environmental group Los Angeles Waterkeeper. "I think the department recognizes they don't need the water, but they just keep it because they have a right to it."

Gray suggested a practical reason Los Angeles isn't letting go: An appropriative water right holder who fails to put its water to beneficial use for five consecutive years can lose its water right permanently.

"By diverting this small amount now, they're protecting their entire water rights," he said.

The Natural Resources Defense Council's Mark Gold, who has been involved in the Mono Lake dispute since the 1990s, pointed out that Mono basin's water "is the cleanest water in the city by far" and said "it's also carbon-free, because it's 100 percent gravity fed once it's in the aqueduct."

Perez at the city's water department said by email that purchasing the water currently diverted from the Mono basin from elsewhere would cost $44 million per year. And increasing reliance on other sources, he added, would just transfer impacts to other watersheds, "resulting in increased environmental pressure on those already-strained systems" of the Delta and the Colorado River.

"Imported supplies remain a vital source of the City's water resources," he wrote, "especially in consideration of the unpredictability and the unprecedented climate variability we continue to see in the desert southwest."

But environmentalists say there are better options. Andy Lipkis, the founder of the urban greening organization Tree People, told the water board at the February workshop that Los Angeles has a wealth of untapped opportunities to capture local rainwater and runoff, far beyond what Mono Lake provides.

"It's entirely possible for Los Angeles to conserve and capture well over the 4,500 acre-feet of water that the (water department) states it needs," he said.

Wastewater treatment facilities could create a torrent of recirculated water. Reznik said Los Angeles could be treating and pumping back into its supply system more than 300,000 acre-feet per year within two decades.

Planned projects include Operation Next, sometimes referred to as Hyperion 2035, and a collaboration between the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts, each of which aims to treat and reuse more than 150,000 acre-feet of water annually that is currently discharged into the ocean.

A window of opportunity for further developing California's water recycling programs will open wide later this year, when a new law takes effect requiring the state water board to adopt statewide rules on implementing direct potable reuse systems — considered the gold standard in water recycling.

Conservation is certainly the cheapest approach to reducing exports from impacted watersheds. Each resident of Los Angeles uses, on average, 70 to 80 gallons of water daily in and around the home.

"If every Angeleno could just drop one gallon, we'd get that 4 million gallons" diverted daily on average from Mono Lake, Reznik said, adding that even a 10-gallon per person reduction in daily use "is not a crazy number. There are places in the world doing 40, 50 gallons per day."

But to detach itself from its Mono basin water prematurely could be a risky gamble for Los Angeles, said Charley Wilson, executive director and CEO of the Southern California Water Coalition. He said that in water supply management, unlike the energy sector, there is little room for error or failure.

"You can't make a mistake — you can't go through rotating outages with water," he said. "You have to have the alternatives fully in place before you start eliminating or closing out these historic, embedded infrastructure projects."

WATER RIGHTS AND RIGHTING WRONGS

The city of Los Angeles defends its diversions from the Mono basin as though it has a right to take the water — which legally it does.

But water rights are not permanent fixtures of California law. They can be modified and, in extreme cases, revoked, if the water board determines such action is needed "to prevent waste, to ensure the reasonable and beneficial use of the available water, and to protect the public trust," Gray explained.

Already, the Los Angeles water department's capacity to exercise its water rights has been greatly diminished, with diversions limited to about 10% of historical levels. The question now is whether, and to what extent, the water board will further cut the city's privileges.

Perez said reduced diversions would compromise "the basic human right to water for the residents of Los Angeles."

But such equity considerations were not made of people living in the Mono basin in the 1940s.

"Since the day that settlers first came to our areas, we've been pushed off our lands, we've been robbed of our water," Tonenna said.

The state water board is now developing its Racial Equity Action Plan, which among other things considers "tribal beneficial uses and cultural resources, and related ecosystems when developing, implementing, and enforcing instream flow requirements."

"The board has committed itself to evaluate the water rights system because of the effects of historical and systemic racism that effectively precluded a number of groups from ever obtaining water rights, or that actually stripped certain groups of their ancestral aboriginal water rights," Gray said.

Jeffrey Mount, a water supply expert at the Public Policy Institute, is among the many who think Los Angeles could painlessly give up Mono Lake's water. He envisions an arrangement by which Los Angeles sells its water rights to a non-governmental organization better situated to steward the ecosystem. The lake could be managed back to something resembling its natural state. Equity and ecological issues associated with diversions would evaporate, while in times of plenty water could be offered to Los Angeles at market rates.

"You operate the facility with the environment as the priority objective, selling surplus water when you have it to fund improving the environment," Mount said.

Davis, with the Mono Lake Committee, would like to see a similar priority swap, with the lake basin's needs coming before those of Los Angeles. She said Mono Lake's plight reflects a statewide problem that ecosystems are often maintained at barely viable levels, which makes them especially vulnerable to drought and other climate change impacts.

"Imagine if Mono Lake had been at 6,392 at the beginning of this drought," she said. "If the lake is higher, then there is more flexibility for the lake to drop and not have all the ecological problems that we're seeing. But we're managing our ecosystems at the bottom."

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

The easiest way to get a $7,500 tax credit for an electric vehicle? Consider leasing.

TOM KRISHER
AP Auto Writer

Thanks to a boost from the government, leasing — not buying — is becoming the most affordable way to get your hands on an electric vehicle.

Last year's Inflation Reduction Act provided a federal tax credit of up to $7,500 to use toward an EV. Under the rules, a dealer can apply that credit to any leased electric vehicle, no matter where it's made, to reduce a customer's monthly payment.

Not so for people who buy an EV.

For buyers, only EVs made in North America qualify for the full tax credit. And only 10 of the 49 electric vehicles for sale in the United States this year meet that requirement. Even then, the EV must contain certain percentages of battery parts from the United States or countries with which it has a trade deal for the buyer to receive a full $7,500 credit.

> "Lease affordability has surpassed purchase affordability"
> - Elizabeth Krear, vice president of the EV practice at J.D. Power.

Why the distinction between leased and purchases vehicles?

The Treasury Department says that in establishing the tax credit, Congress classified leased — but not purchased — EVs as "commercial" vehicles. Under the law, commercial vehicles are exempt from the North America manufacturing and battery-content requirements. The result is that people who lease enjoy a much wider selection of EVs that qualify for the $7,500 credit.

"Lease affordability has surpassed purchase affordability" in a J.D. Power index that includes total cost of ownership, said Elizabeth Krear, vice president of the EV practice at J.D. Power.

Many consumers have become aware of the difference and are capitalizing on it. In April, Krear said, leases accounted for 41% of all U.S. EV deliveries — four times the percentage in December, before the new rules took effect.

Geoff Pohanka, president of a 21-dealership group in Maryland, Virginia and Texas, said he is anticipating an increase in leasing. Buyers, he predicts, will increasingly recognize that the tax credit will help defray the typically substantial cost difference between an EV and a similar gas-powered vehicle.

"It definitely makes sense," he said. "Incentives can move the market if that narrows the affordability issue between gas and electric cars."

Pohanka, whose group sells vehicles from multiple automakers, said the tax credits have just begun to lower the cost of leasing. Still, the rules governing the credit are complex enough that some buyers appear unsure if they would qualify for it. The rules not only make distinctions between leased and purchased vehicles. They also include income thresholds that disqualify some buyers.

To qualify for the tax credit, a car cannot cost more than $55,000. SUVs, pickups and vans can't exceed $80,000. And a buyer's gross income must be no more $150,000 if single, $300,000 if filing jointly and $225,000 if head of a household.

Given the confusion he has noticed among customers about qualifying for the tax credit, Pohanka said some EVs are sitting longer on dealer lots than they otherwise would.

"This disruption, I think, is very damaging to the momentum on electric vehicles," he said.

Critics, including some lawmakers on Capitol Hill, say they regard the Treasury rules that allow many leased, but not purchased, EVs to receive the full tax credit to be an unfair loophole. They argue that it benefits automakers that produce all their vehicles overseas and have yet to build EV and battery factories in the United States. These foreign manufacturers, they say, can devote themselves to leasing EVs in the United States at the expense of domestic automakers.

Sen. Joe Manchin, a West Virginia Democrat and a key author of the tax-credit language, wanted the North American manufacturing requirement to help boost U.S. manufacturing jobs. He included the battery requirements to incentivize companies to build a domestic EV supply chain. But Manchin says the Biden administration is circumventing the law's intent by allowing tax credits for vehicles manufactured overseas.

"The administration continues to ignore the purpose of the law, which is to bring manufacturing back to America and ensure we have reliable and secure supply chains," he said in a statement.

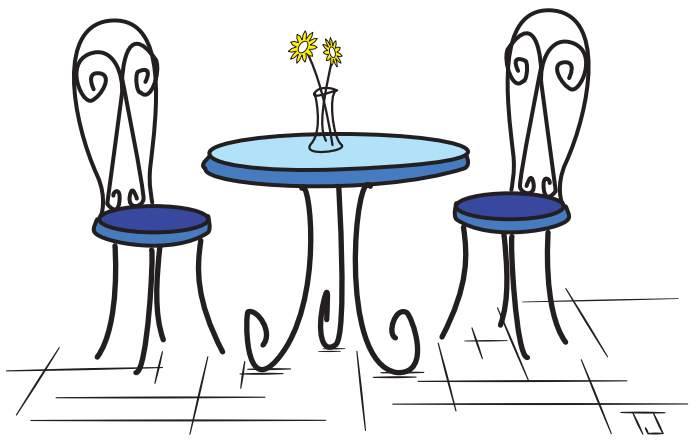
Foreign automakers had complained that they were excluded from the tax credit for buyers despite doing what the bill intended — building U.S. battery and assembly plants.

The Treasury Department denies creating a loophole and says it was Congress that exempted commercial vehicles from the manufacturing and battery requirements. When a dealer buys a vehicle and leases it to someone, it amounts to a commercial

SEE **ELECTRIC CAR** PAGE 7

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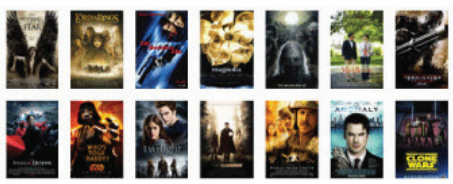
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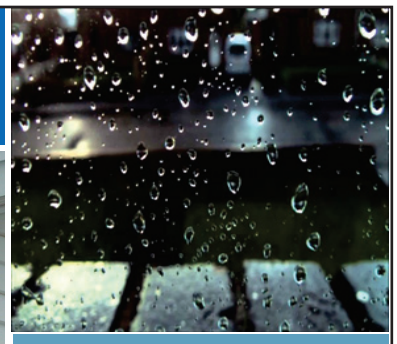
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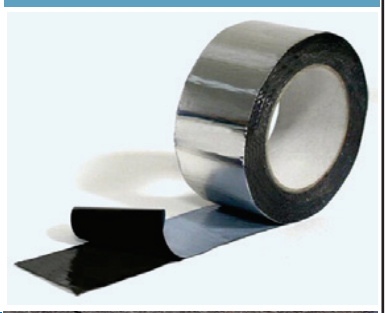
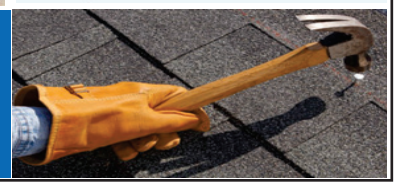
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No kidding: California overtime law threatens use of grazing goats to prevent wildfires

TERRY CHEA
Associated Press

Hundreds of goats munch on long blades of yellow grass on a hillside next to a sprawling townhouse complex. They were hired to clear vegetation that could fuel wildfires as temperatures rise this summer.

These voracious herbivores are in high demand to devour weeds and shrubs that have proliferated across California after a drought-busting winter of heavy rain and snow.

"It's a huge fuel source. If it was left untamed, it can grow very high. And then when the summer dries everything out, it's perfect fuel for a fire," said Jason Poupolo, parks superintendent for the city of West Sacramento, where goats grazed on a recent afternoon.

Targeted grazing is part of California's strategy to reduce wildfire risk because goats can eat a wide variety of vegetation and graze in steep, rocky terrain that's hard to access. Backers say they're an eco-friendly alternative to chemical herbicides or weed-whacking machines that make noise and pollution.

But new state labor regulations are making it more expensive to provide goat-grazing services, and herding companies say the rules threaten to put them out of business. The changes could raise the monthly salary of herders from about $3,730 to $14,000, according to the California Farm Bureau.

Companies typically put about one herder in charge of 400 goats. Many of the herders in California are from Peru and live in employer-provided trailers near grazing sites. Labor advocates say the state should investigate the working and living conditions of goatherders before making changes to the law, especially since the state is funding goat-grazing to reduce wildfire risk.

California is investing heavily in wildfire prevention after the state was ravaged by several years of destructive flames that scorched millions of acres, destroyed thousands of homes and killed dozens of people. Goats have been used to clear fuels around Lake Oroville, along Highway 101, and near the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library.

"My phone rings off the hook this time of year," said Tim Arrowsmith, owner of Western Grazers, which is providing grazing services to West Sacramento. "The demand has grown year after year after year."

His company, based in the Northern California city of Red Bluff, has about 4,000 goats for hire to clear vegetation for government agencies and private landowners across Northern California. Without a fix to the new regulations, "we will be forced to sell these goats to slaughter and to the auction yards, and we'll be forced out of business and probably file for bankruptcy," Arrowsmith said.

Companies have historically been allowed to pay goat and sheepherders a monthly minimum salary rather than an hourly minimum wage, because their jobs require them to be on-call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. But legislation signed in 2016 also entitles them to overtime pay. It effectively boosted the herders' minimum monthly pay from $1,955 in 2019 to $3,730 this year. It's set to hit $4,381 in 2025, according to the California Department of Industrial Relations.

So far the herding companies, which have sued over the law, have passed along most of the increased labor costs to their customers.

But in January, those labor costs are set to jump sharply again. Goatherders and sheepherders have always followed the same set of labor rules last year. But a state agency has ruled that's no longer allowed, meaning goatherders would be subject to the same labor laws as other farmworkers.

That would mean goatherders would be entitled to ever higher pay — up to $14,000 a month. Last year a budget trailer bill delayed that pay requirement for one year, but it's set to take effect on Jan. 1 if nothing is done to change the law.

Goatherding companies say they can't afford to pay herders that much. They would have to drastically raise their rates, which would make it unaffordable to provide goat grazing services.

"We fully support increasing wages for herders, but $14,000 a month is not realistic. So we need to address that in order to allow these goat-grazing operations to exist," said Brian Shobe, deputy policy director for the California Climate and Agriculture Network.

The goat-grazing industry is pushing the Legislature to approve legislation that would treat goatherders the same as sheepherders. A bill to do so hasn't yet received a public hearing.

Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher, who heads the California Labor Federation, said goatherders are among the "most vulnerable workers in America" because they are on temporary work visas and can be fired and sent back to their home country anytime. Most of them work in isolation, speak minimal English and don't have the same rights as Americans or green-card holders.

"We have a responsibility as a public to ensure that every worker who's working in California is treated with dignity and respect, and that includes these goatherders," said Gonzalez Fletcher, who sponsored the farmworker overtime bill when she was a state Assemblywoman representing San Diego.

Arrowsmith employs seven goatherders from Peru under the H-2A visa program for temporary farmworkers. He said the herders are paid about $4,000 a month and don't have to pay for food, housing or phones.

"I can't pay $14,000 a month to an employee starting Jan. 1. There's just not enough money. The cities can't absorb that kind of cost," Arrowsmith said. "What's at stake for the public is your house could burn up because we can't fire-mitigate."

ELECTRIC CAR

FROM PAGE 5

transaction. The dealer or a finance company receives the tax credit and retains ownership of the vehicle.

"Eligibility for the commercial vehicle credit is a straightforward reading of the Inflation Reduction Act as written by Congress and application of longstanding tax law regarding leased assets," Ashley Schapitl, a spokeswoman, wrote in a statement. "There was no room for Treasury interpretation."

Hyundai, with three EV models made in South Korea and for sale in the United States, is among the beneficiaries of the leasing provision. A spokesman for the Korean automaker said that leases amounted to 30% of its U.S. EV deliveries in the United States from January through March. In 2022, that proportion was only 5%.

The average monthly ownership cost on an EV leased for three years has dropped $403 since December, largely because of the tax credits, J.D. Power found. By contrast, for an EV purchase financed over five years, the average monthly cost has declined by only $118.

Hyundai is offering to lease an Ioniq 5 SE rear-wheel-drive EV for $499 a month for three years, though the customer must put down nearly $4,000. Buying the same EV would cost $865 a month for five years at the average new-auto loan rate of 7%.

Though it may be cheaper, leasing won't fit into everyone's financial plans. Unlike with a purchase, monthly payments don't end when a loan is paid off.

Experts note, too, that not everyone who leases an EV will receive the tax credit, even if they qualify for it. The automakers and dealers are allowed to decide whether to pass along the tax credit to their customers; they aren't required to do so.

> "At that time, it will be a different playing field"
>
> - Elizabeth Krear, vice president of the EV practice at J.D. Power.

Krear said some companies are passing the entire $7,500 credit on to qualifying consumers, thereby reducing their monthly payments. Others are passing on only a portion of it.

Eventually, as automakers make adjustments to comply with the North American manufacturing and battery-composition requirements, buying an EV could cost less than leasing over the long run, Krear said, though there are too many variables to predict when that might happen.

"At that time, it will be a different playing field," she said.

Girl Scout Career visit



Courtesy Photo

SCOUTS AND COPS: Girl Scout Troop 223 (the Capybaras patrol) recently completed a career trip at the Santa Monica police department. The girls met with K9 officers Marioni and Barcella and talked about the dogs, training and the police department. They also received stickers, baseball cards of the dogs and police pens. They then took a tour of the station, where they visited the holding cells, juvenile lounges, police cars and shooting range. The troop also learned about the Police Explorer Program where teens 15-20 years old can intern and observe police officers.

"In Troop 223 we are always learning about the world around us whether we are completing merit badges, going on campouts or coming to career trips or good term trips," said patrol leader Julia Gallivan."

Visit https://www.girlscoutsla.org/en/get-involved/join.html for information on Girl Scouts.



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GET IT DAILY...

TRANSIT

FROM PAGE 1

helped offset losses for several years is about to expire but Governor Newsom's recent budget proposals delay or cut some transit funding as the State looks to close a multi-billion dollar budget shortfall.

San Francisco State Senator Scott Wiener gathered a group of lawmakers and transit agency leaders in Sacramento this week to advocate for a restoration of that funding.

"If we don't address the transit fiscal cliff, we will see massive and devastating transit service cuts, deeply harming the millions of Californians who rely on transit to get to work, school, or the grocery store. I'm disappointed the Governor's revised budget proposal continues to cut billions in transit capital funding and disappointed the proposal continues to lack any funds to address the fiscal cliff," said Senator Wiener. "Public transportation isn't optional, and failing to address the massive budget shortfalls our transit systems face would be disastrous for our state's climate goals and Californians' ability to get around. I'm grateful the Governor is committing to work with the Legislature to address this critical issue, and I look forward to collaborating to protect public transportation and the vital services it provides Californians."

> "As a result of the challenges of the pandemic, we know that the model has gotten seriously implicated
> - Ben Allen Senator

Senator Allen said public transit is an absolute necessity for economic growth, climate goals and social justice as it allows individuals to keep a job without the expense of operating a personal vehicle. He said addressing transportation challenges are vital to the Los Angeles area as the city prepares to host the World Cup in 2026 and the Olympics in 2028.

"As a result of the challenges of the pandemic, we know that the model has gotten seriously implicated," he said. "We now have a raft of safety challenges that have made it worse and it becomes a potentially dangerous downward spiral."

In addition to the impacts of COVID, safety concerns have plagued the Los Angeles transit system with reports of unsafe behavior on trains and crimes at or near platforms. Last week a bus driver was stabbed by a 17-year old suspect during an argument about fares.

Allen said so much as already been put into the systems that to let them decline further would be a tragedy.

"And my deep fear here is that if we don't act on Senator Wiener's proposal, that we're going to make it so that all of this investment, all the promise of public transit will not be met," he said. "And that will be such a tragedy for us. Socially, societally, spiritually, environmentally, infrastructurally, logistically and that's why we've come together to really try to elevate this issue and make sure that folks in the Governor's office are hearing how important it is that we act."

Wiener's proposal would restore funding to the systems and provide local transit agencies with some flexibility to decide if they need to spend on infrastructure improvements or fund operating costs. The proposal would cover the projected shortfalls by increasing flexibility within existing transit capital programs, directing diesel tax revenues to transit operations, directing currently unallocated cap and trade revenues to transit operations and directing a portion of the increase in federal highway funding to address fiscal shortfalls. These proposals would cumulatively have a General Fund impact of $213 million in next year's budget.

Metro Deputy Executive Officer Michael Turner said the local system is representative of the statewide crisis and needs more support.

"We need the state to step up and help provide statewide solutions so that we can keep these systems operating," he said.

editor@smdp.com

SMMUSD

FROM PAGE 1

and benefits).

Staff changes, including a recognition of retirees and several appointments will also be part of the meeting.

The regular meeting will be held on June 1 in the new District Administrative Offices (1717 4th St., Santa Monica, CA) or via Zoom webinar (meeting ID: 895 1690 4644; passcode: 044331; call-in number: 669.900.6833). The meeting will start at 4:30 p.m. with a closed session and the public portion will begin at 5:30 p.m.

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (May 31)

Your cosmic birthday gift is a showcase for your many talents and relationships that reveal new depths of your personality. More highlights: exploring new avenues of knowledge and expanding your mind in exciting ways, family bonding and the attainment of a personal expectation that provides profound gratification. Libra and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 2, 10, 6 and 12.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). There's a game of "who done it?" today. The innocent can become rattled under questioning and seem guilty. And if the guilty people are seasoned, they can fool you with their calm. It will be better to acquit all than to accuse the wrong person.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your quick and confident answers are like a breath of fresh air. You don't leave others gasping for your decision. And one of the reasons people like and trust you is that once you make up your mind, you tend to stick to it.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You don't understand the ones who show up just to get a paycheck. That's not you. You want to enjoy the work and the people you work with. It's a thrill to get things right, as you will several times today.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You're the star of a fairy tale today. You won't find it too difficult to elude wolves, trolls or giants, but watch out for the candy houses. Avoiding monsters is easier than resisting sweet temptation.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll watch someone deftly handle the task that has you shaking in your boots. Eventually, experience will lead you to master the things you fear, just as it always has. For assurance, just look at all you're already adept at!

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Trust in your own solution-finding system, refined through past dilemmas. You'll run a tight ship today. The crew respects your logical orders and believes in your ability to get everyone to the intended destination.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The ability and willingness to adapt must be exercised or it will go away. This is why you're willing to adjust to new things, even absurd things. It's better than the sameness that can lead to numbness, complacency or stagnation.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You see challenge as an opportunity for growth rather than an insurmountable obstacle. Remain adaptable and open to new experiences and opportunities.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Abilities and intelligence can be developed through dedication and hard work. They can also be developed through avoiding responsibility and seeking an easier way. Keep an open mind. There's a lot that's not worth doing. What's the smart, efficient way?

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The playwright Moliere said, "Trees that are slow to grow bear the best fruit." He must not have been a fig lover. Sweetness doesn't always have to take a long time. You should at least see signs of it early on in a process or relationship.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). There's a dreamy feel to the day as you notice details that don't quite make sense, seem vividly strange or vaguely unreal. An earth sign will be your touchstone.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). As long as you're the one telling it, the story may as well be kind to you. This is especially true regarding stories you tell yourself. You've been too hard on yourself lately. Is there a more empowering version?

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

L	E	W	I	S	■	S	O	L	E	■	A	F	R	O
A	R	E	N	T	■	C	R	A	G	■	S	L	E	D
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N	E	T	S	■	R	O	T	S	■	N	O	T	A	S

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

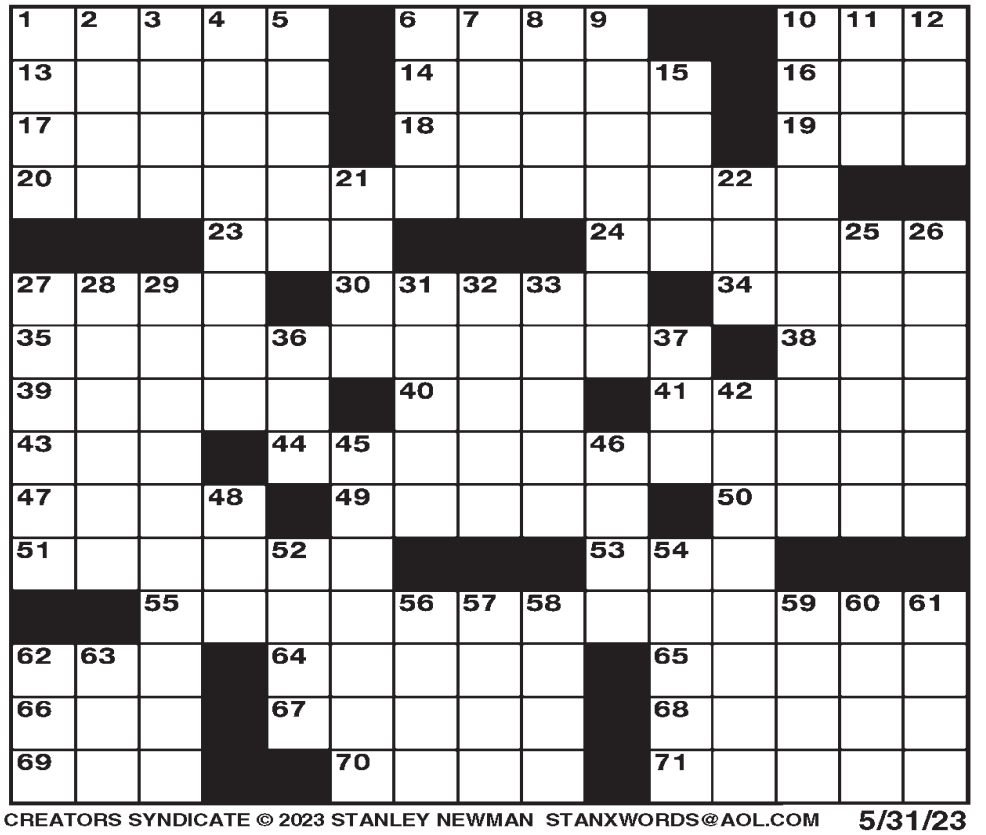
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		6		1		4		
9		4			3		2	

Newsday Crossword

GLOBAL BREAKFAST by Winston Emmons
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Japanese raw fish
6 Spanish omelet ingredients
10 Finance degree: Abbr.
13 Guys who create commercials
14 "__ words were never spoken"
16 Not at work
17 Money, informally
18 Eric who wrote *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*
19 Employ
20 Breakfast bread that's browned
23 "Dude!"
24 "Don't you agree?"
27 Ill-at-__ (nervous)
30 Kindergarten adhesive
34 Spanish boy
35 Breakfast with bread soaked in 6 Across
38 Super Bowl org.
39 See 50 Across
40 Utah's capital, initially
41 Engaged in, as warfare
43 Part of the psyche
44 Thick "cultured" breakfast in a plastic container
47 Voicemail signal
49 School course that's simple
50 With 39 Across, by its very nature
51 Circumvented skillfully
53 Become inedible
55 Breakfast thick strips of pork
62 Menagerie
64 Signs of the future
65 Make amends
66 Keogh plan alternative
67 Poetic "under"
68 Cable service device
69 Canary or kitty
70 Plumlike fruit
71 "Am not!" rebuttal

DOWN
1 Identical
2 Japanese wheat pasta
3 Urban pollution
4 Recklessly resolute
5 "The bombs bursting __"
6 Engrave
7 Measure of carbs or protein
8 Wise teacher
9 Photos of the photographer
10 Increasing, as costs
11 Urban vehicle
12 Breakfasted, say
15 Football officials
21 Future college junior
22 Rustic hotel
25 Deduces logically
26 Shared with, as a story
27 Lacking vitality
28 Henry VIII spouse Catherine of __
29 Additional layer of paint
31 Not in port
32 Sneaker bottoms
33 Not tasteful
36 Gear tooth
37 Early afternoon hour
42 Washing machine part
45 Gives a new title to
46 Knitting material
48 Notable time span
52 Quote book abbr.
54 44th president
56 Distribute cards
57 Fascinated by
58 Tennis great Arthur
59 See 62 Down
60 Small bills
61 Jules Verne sub captain
62 With 59 Down, number on an envelope
63 Mine resource

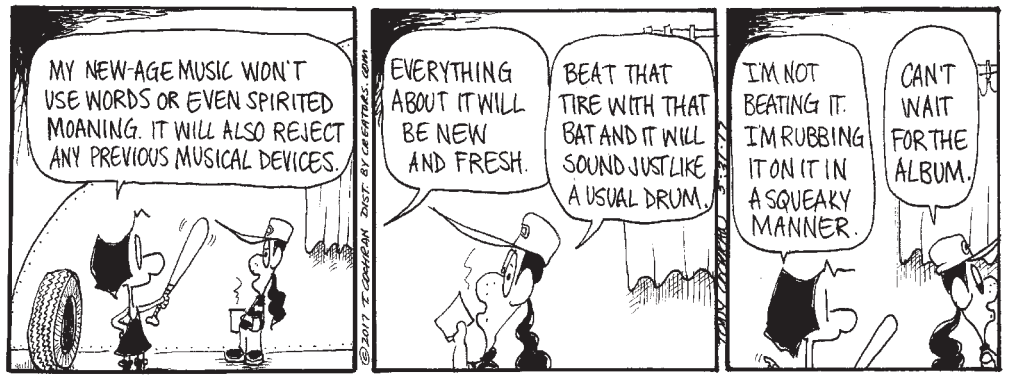


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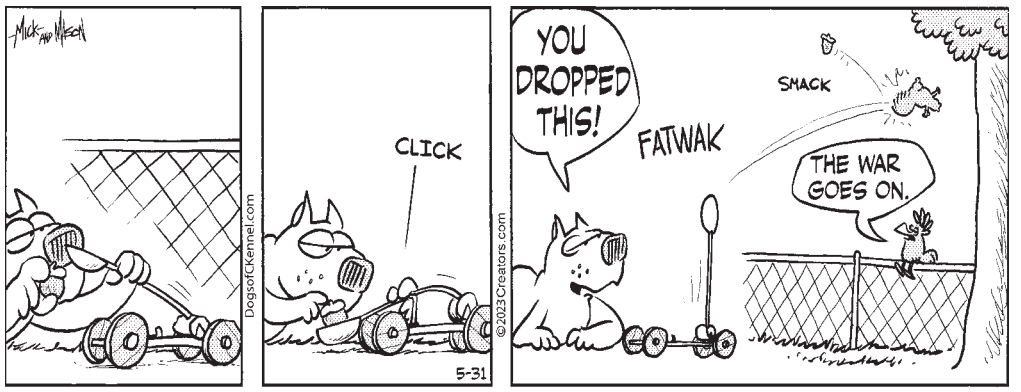
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



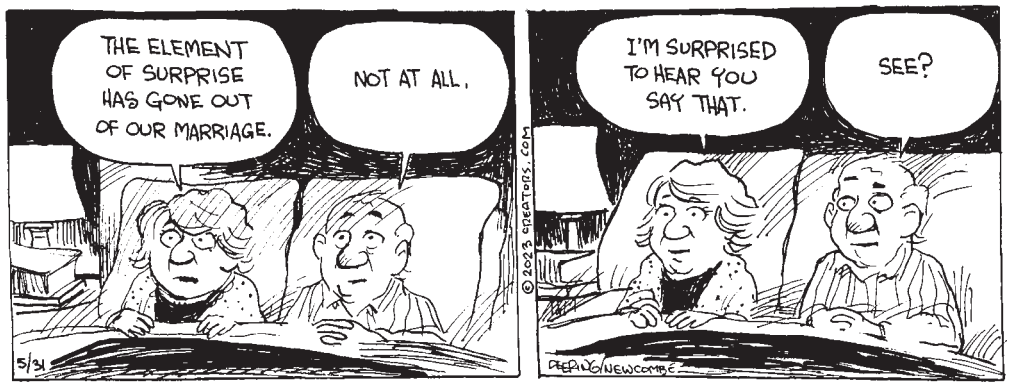
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"WATCH OUT. IT SEEMS A LITTLE TOO NORMAL."

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

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On holidays

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

Alps	Cars	Hats	Omeo	Stay
Ascot	Cash	Hire	Ouse	Surf
Aspen	Colo	Idle	Races	Tent
Avalon	Dawn	Kite	Read	Trip
Avoca	Drinks	Leura	Regatta	Uluru
Away	East	Manly	Rest	Umbrella
Bait	Eden	Maya	Search	Visa
Bass	Eldon	Meals	Ship	Weipa
Beach	Escape	Melbourne	Shop	Yamba
Beds	Farms	Miami	Snow	
Beer	Game	Molle	South	
Bush	Green	Moon	Australia	
Calm	Island	Music	Spot	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.

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What's Up Westside
out and about in Santa Monica

WEDNESDAY | MAY 31

KID'S CLUB
Come play with us on the first Wednesday of every month for a fun, family-friendly musical morning hosted by Twinkle Time, a bilingual, Billboard pop-artist for kids, and featuring special guests each month. This is an all ages event and FREE to attend for parents and children. Snacks will be provided by GOGO SQUEEZ (while supplies last). Santa Monica Place 395 Santa Monica Place Santa Monica, CA 90401

THURSDAY | JUNE 1

COMING OUT WEST: LGBTQ+ ELDERS SHARE STORIES
Santa Monica History Museum and The Outwords Archive present an exhibition of oral histories, ephemera and historical objects from LGBTQ+ elders with ties to Los Angeles and the Santa Monica Bay area. 2 pm-5 pm Santa Monica History Museum 1350 7th Street Santa Monica, CA 90401 https://santamonicahistory.org/

FRIDAY | JUNE 2

"BEETHOVEN & HUNCHBACK"
Jeremiah Selvey, Conductor. Gary Gray and Frank Basile, Pianists. The SMC Concert Chorale and SMC Chamber Choir join forces with the SMC Symphony Orchestra and guest soloists for a performance of the Finale ("Ode to Joy") from Beethoven's 9th Symphony and Jake Runestad's A Silence Haunts Me, a stunning modern setting of a letter in which Beethoven discloses his deafness to his brothers. The SMC Chamber Choir will also present a medley from The Hunchback of Notre Dame. The Broad Stage Performing Arts Center.

SATURDAY | JUNE 3

SAMO PRIDE
SaMo PRIDE kicks off on Saturday, June 3rd with a PRIDE Festival that will turn the entire downtown district, from Third Street Promenade through Santa Monica Place to the Santa Monica Pier, into a party zone. All ages are welcome to enjoy musical performances, PRIDE-related treats, free swag, games, and much more. A family zone located at Santa Monica Place will provide kid-friendly PRIDE programming and an engaging place for kids to play and learn about queer history. Downtown & Third Street Promenade, 3rd St Promenade Santa Monica, CA 90401

2023 SANTA MONICA ANIMAL SHELTER OPEN HOUSE FUNDRAISER
Enjoy a fun afternoon for the whole family to raise much needed funds for the Santa Monica Animal Shelter. At the event: Win fantastic items in our raffle and silent auction. Enjoy a live performance from School of Rock West LA House Band. Face painting by the wonderful The Magical Atelier. Awesome balloon animals, headbands and bracelets from Wild About Balloons LA...and much more! All funds raised help the Santa Monica Animal Shelter and made a difference in the care and well-being of the animals. Santa Monica Animal Shelter, 1640 9th St Santa Monica, CA 90404

SUNDAY | JUNE 4

PARTY ON! A SOBER COMEDY SHOW
Party On! is more than just a night of laughs, it's a celebration of recovery and a testament to the power of humor in overcoming addiction. Headlining comics from HBO, Netflix, and late night shows, will speak to the sober experience, but every comedy fan will love this show. The Crow 2525 Michigan Ave., F4 Santa Monica, CA

MONDAY | JUNE 5

DISABILITIES COMMISSION
The Disabilities Commission helps improve the quality of life for people with disabilities in Santa Monica by prioritizing issues of concern and advising the City Council and City Staff on those issues. The Commission recommends ways to maximize participation of people with disabilities in all facets of City life and increase awareness of the abilities, rights and issues of people with disabilities throughout the community. Join us for our monthly meeting. Civic Center Parking Structure 333 Civic Center Dr Santa Monica, 90401 SMi Room in the Civic Parking Structure https://www.smgov.net/departments/clerk/boards.aspx?id=53687092550

TUESDAY | JUNE 6

CRUNCHES AND COCKTAILS AT LANEA
Every Tuesday join Yoga Sculpt at Corepower Santa Monica at 5:30pm then head to Lanea for some apps on them and Happy Hour all night long! All Corepower students get 10% off at Lanea and Cult Santa Monica every day. Just show your CPY App Member Card! 217 Broadway. Santa Monica, CA

WEDNESDAY | JUNE 7

STAR BAKER COMEDY SHOW
Created and hosted by Kelly Shanley, Star Baker Comedy Show is inspired by the hit series The Great British Baking Show. Each month, different comics will compete for the title of "Star Baker" by sharing their best signature joke, showstopper joke, and technical joke. The Crow 2525 Michigan Avenue, Unit F4 Santa Monica.

THURSDAY | JUNE 8

SPECTRUM GESTALT 10
Reception Saturday June 10th 5-8pm. Join us for the 10 Year Anniversary of Spectrum Gestalt. bG Gallery Bergamot Station, 2525 Michigan Ave, Space A2 Santa Monica, California 90404

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



SURF REPORT
WATER TEMP: **62.6**

WEDNESDAY *POOR TO FAIR*	**SURF:**	3-4ft+ Waist to shoulder	S swell eases through the day. There's a minor NW windswell but shape will still probably be walled for most of the beachbreaks.
THURSDAY *FAIR*	**SURF:**	2-3ft+ Thigh to stomach	S swell continues to wind down with potential for a bit more NW energy to bit in the mix — potential recipe for peakier shape outside of the points compared to the past few days so worth keeping an eye on.

WEATHER

Wednesday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 65. Southwest wind 5 to 15 mph.
Wednesday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 58.
Thursday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, partly sunny, with a high near 64.
Thursday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 58.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2023/05/31	Wed	01:55 AM	0.66	L
2023/05/31	Wed	07:48 AM	3.48	H
2023/05/31	Wed	1:02 PM	1.41	L
2023/05/31	Wed	7:34 PM	5.50	H
2023/06/01	Thu	02:32 AM	0.01	L
2023/06/01	Thu	08:39 AM	3.53	H
2023/06/01	Thu	1:33 PM	1.63	L
2023/06/01	Thu	8:02 PM	5.91	H
2023/06/02	Fri	03:11 AM	-0.57	L
2023/06/02	Fri	09:27 AM	3.57	H
2023/06/02	Fri	2:07 PM	1.83	L
2023/06/02	Fri	8:34 PM	6.27	H
2023/06/03	Sat	03:51 AM	-1.03	L
2023/06/03	Sat	10:15 AM	3.57	H
2023/06/03	Sat	2:43 PM	2.01	L
2023/06/03	Sat	9:10 PM	6.52	H
2023/06/04	Sun	04:35 AM	-1.33	L
2023/06/04	Sun	11:06 AM	3.54	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: 5/29
21 33 35 62 64
Power#: 24
Jackpot: 239 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 5/26
12 20 37 41 64
Mega#: 1
Jackpot: 187 M

SuperLotto PLUS
Draw Date: 5/27
4 17 20 21 36
Mega#: 19
Jackpot: 63 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 5/29
8 10 12 30 37

Daily 3
Draw Date: 5/29
EVENING: 0 1 1

Draw Date: 5/29
MIDDAY: 4 4 8

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 5/29
1st: 08 - Gorgeous George
2nd: 05 - California Classic
3rd: 04 - Big Ben
Race Time: 1:46.05

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Providers who get you

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