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Santa Monica Daily Press

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City opens application process to fill McKeown's council seat

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

City Council has opened the application process to appoint a new member to fill the seat vacated by Kevin McKeown.

Applications are due by noon on June 22 and will be reviewed by City Council during a June 29 meeting. The appointed member will serve the remainder of McKeown's term until November 8, 2022.

The City's charter outlines that the appointment process should take place in the event of a vacated seat. McKeown's seat will be declared vacant on June 11 and Council has 30 days to select a replacement. If they fail to do so, the City will move to an election.

In Wednesday's special meeting Councilmembers Parra and Brock raised questions about the financial process to run a special election. The County quoted the City at a hefty $528,000 price tag to have Santa Monica's 72,500 registered voters participate in the November 2, 2021 election.



File Photo

KEVIN MCKEOWN

City staff released the online application on Thursday morning, which includes questions on applicants' political experience, community connection, and goals and vision for City Council. Applicants must be residents and registered voters of the City of Santa Monica, and must not be a City employee. The form and additional details can be found at smgov.net/councilappoint.

Councilmember McKeown announced his decision to step down from City Council during a May 25 meeting to the apparent surprise of his fellow Councilmembers. McKeown was first elected to City Council in 1998 and is now in his sixth consecutive term.

During his 24 year tenure on City Council he served as Mayor twice — first in 2015 and then again during the especially turbulent year of 2020.

As a longtime rent controlled tenant, McKeown has a strong interest in affordable housing and worked on legislation to make renters more secure and protected, with direct support to seniors.

McKeown also has a keen interest in sustainability and helped found

SEE **COUNCIL** PAGE 11

Contract for parking structure demolition up for debate



File Photo

PARKING: Plans are advancing for removing Structure 3.

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Council could approve a multi-million dollar contract Tuesday for the demolition of Parking Structure 3.

Plans for the demolition of PS3 stretch back more than 20 years. The site was initially earmarked for a retail and cinema development, but this plan failed to materialize and in 2018 Housing Commission prioritized PS3 for a future affordable housing site. The project stalled for several years before

SEE **PARKING** PAGE 5

Co-creator of TV hit series Lost finds Venice's vibe a good fit. Here's why

DOUG RAPP
Venice Current / SMDP Staff Writer

Evanston, Illinois, and Venice may not seem to have much in common, but they do for veteran TV writer and producer Jeffrey Lieber.

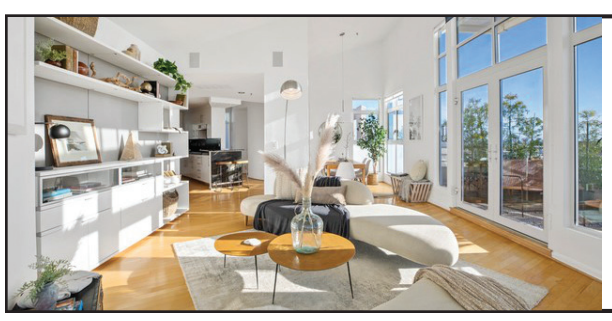
Growing up there, Lieber recalled Evanston as a "super-progressive" place, noting their recent push for reparations.

"When I moved to California, I started looking immediately for something that felt like that [Evanston]," Lieber said. "Venice does to me, in terms of being a complex, economically varied, racially and socially varied kind of place with all the upsides and downsides of that."

Lieber left the Chicago area for L.A. in 1995, looking to transition from acting and playwriting into film and TV work. Living in Brentwood and Hollywood, he followed a familiar path to the entertainment industry: writing spec scripts, landing then losing agents.

Settling in Venice by 1997, Lieber worked as an associate producer on the R-rated video game Blue

SEE **VENICE** PAGE 11



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Your column here

Kabir Chopra — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Save the Library

"Ramona did not consider herself to be a pest. People who called her a pest did not understand that a littler person sometimes had to be a little bit noisier and a little bit stubborn in order to be noticed at all." - Ramona the Pest, Beverly Cleary

Beverly Cleary's works, like the beloved Ramona series, sparked millions of people's love for reading. Before finding fame as a best-selling and award-winning children's author, Ms. Cleary was a librarian. Throughout her life, Ms. Cleary was a vocal advocate and de facto spokesperson for America's Public Library System. Today, her memory serves as an inspiration for "Save Santa Monica's Library," a grassroots coalition of librarians, patrons, parents, children, and members of the Santa Monica community working to save Santa Monica's Library (it isn't just a clever name).

The City's proposed Biennial Fiscal Year 2021-2023 Budget was not up to the task to fully re-open the libraries so we got together and started writing emails and letters. And, on May 26, 2021, at the end of the second Study Session for the proposed budget, Councilmembers Parra, McCowan, and Brock responded to their community and all requested "ways for staff to find a path forward" to expand library services beyond what was in the proposed budget. We hope their distinguished colleagues on the Council will also honor our community's wishes come June 22nd, when Council approves and adopts the final budget.

Over the next few weeks, SMDP readers will hear stories from the community on what the library means to them. We are not professional advocates. We are Santa Monicans who want a robust library system for our community; we are former librarians who know best what the City has lost; and, we are everyday people who miss our library. We are neighbors, friends, and friendly faces some may remember.

If readers agree, we hope they will tell the City Council to prioritize bringing back library services in the Fiscal Year 2021-2023 Budget to balance out the massive cuts the library suffered last year. Cutting 45% of library staff and closing our beloved library branches might have made sense during lockdown, but it does not make sense today. Santa Monicans should not be left asking, "why is the library still closed" in 2023, as the proposed budget contemplates. We must tell City Council to take the necessary steps to re-fund the Santa Monica Public Library system, re-staff our libraries with librarians, and re-open the closed branches to whatever extent possible in the current budget and the next. And keep doing it until our library system is back to normal.

We ask SMDP readers to join Save Santa Monica's Library in being a little bit noisier and a little bit stubborn in order to be noticed for the same reasons Ms. Cleary spoke out for libraries: because fighting to save Santa Monica's Library is worth being a pest for! Share your stories with us and let City Council know what libraries mean to you!

Save Santa Monica's Library
Working to Save Santa Monica's Library
Join Us: Save.SM.Library@gmail.com
Follow Us on Twitter: @SaveSMLibrary1

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SACRAMENTO

California State Assembly Passes Legislation to Remove Vestiges of Redlining and Segregation Moves to the Senate

The California State Assembly supported a measure to remove vestiges of redlining and segregation that have hindered affordable and supportive housing. AB 721, authored by Assemblymember Richard Bloom, will invalidate density restrictions in housing covenants that do not conform with local zoning.

"We know racial restrictions in housing covenants go against our values as Californians. The same is true about density restrictions that aim to keep low-income and communities of color out of certain neighborhoods."

Court decisions and the California Legislature have made racially restrictive covenants unenforceable. However, the racial restrictions are often contained in longer covenant documents with restrictions on the size and number of units allowed, which can act as clear barriers to the development of affordable and supportive housing. The time and expense needed to remove the covenants deter developers from acquiring and developing on these otherwise ideal project sites.

AB 721 will clarify that density restrictions in private covenants cannot be used to curtail affordable and supportive housing. The measure allows for the owner of a property who commits to building 100% affordable units for lower income household may build as many units as the local zoning code allows. AB 721 also preserves and strengthens local control by restricting private landowners from overriding local zoning.

"Affordable housing developers have to walk away from ideal project sites because of these private covenants that date back to the 1930s. We need to make sure these restrictions don't continue to stand in the way of affordable housing production."

SUBMITTED BY GUY W. STRAHL

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DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 273 CALLS ON JUNE 3

Audible Burglar Alarm 700blk Pier Ave 12:46 a.m.
Armed Robbery Report 1600blk Ocean Ave 2:31 a.m.
Loud Music 1500blk Berkeley St 2:50 a.m.
Fight 11th St / Pico Blvd 3:58 a.m.
Smoking Violation 1600blk Santa Monica Blvd 5:10 a.m.
Encampment 100blk Broadway 5:59 a.m.
Encampment 300blk Olympic Dr 6:29 a.m.
Burglary 2800blk 3rd St 7:15 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 2500blk Santa Monica Blvd 7:33 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1300blk Palisades Beach Rd 8:09 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 1100blk California Ave 8:14 a.m.
Lost Property 1400blk Ashland Ave 8:33 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1700blk San Vicente Blvd 9:16 a.m.
Burglary 1400blk 5th St 9:18 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 9:27 a.m.
Burglary 2500blk Main St 9:30 a.m.
Civil Dispute 2900blk 31st St 9:33 a.m.
Overdose 2100blk Pier Ave 9:42 a.m.
Family Disturbance 2500blk Pico Blvd 10:11 a.m.
General Parking Problem 1500blk Ocean Ave 10:24 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 20th St / Pearl St 10:41 a.m.
Burglary 200blk California Ave 10:52 a.m.
Battery 1100blk Lincoln Blvd 10:55 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1700blk Appian Way 10:58 a.m.
Fraud 300blk Olympic Dr 11:00 a.m.
Burglary 1500blk 6th St 11:15 a.m.
Auto Burglary 1300blk 2nd St 11:19 a.m.
Identity Theft 2800blk Neilson Way 11:32 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 1000blk 16th St 11:37 a.m.
General Parking Problem 1000blk 14th St 11:45 a.m.
General Parking Problem 1000blk Berkeley St 12:06 p.m.
General Parking Problem 2400blk 20th St 12:15 p.m.
Petty Theft Now 1300blk Wilshire Blvd 12:28 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 2600blk 28th St 12:32 p.m.
Burglary 800blk Lincoln Blvd 12:34 p.m.
Bike Theft 1400blk 2nd St 12:37 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1300blk 2nd St 12:44 p.m.
Fight 2200blk Virginia Ave 1:09 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 2700blk Barnard Way 1:11 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries Main St / Pacific St 1:16 p.m.
Auto Burglary 2300blk 3rd St 1:24 p.m.
Indecent Exposure 1500blk 2nd St 1:42 p.m.
General Parking Problem 3100blk Broadway 1:47 p.m.
Speeding 1800blk Cloverfield Blvd 2:06 p.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation Pacific Coast Hwy / California Incline 2:22 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 300blk Olympic Dr 2:24 p.m.
Injured Person 2000blk Ocean Front Walk 2:27 p.m.
Family Disturbance 1200blk 6th St 2:35 p.m.
Health & Safety Code Violation 2400blk 10th St 2:38 p.m.
Burglary 2500blk Main St 2:44 p.m.
Indecent Exposure 1500blk Ocean Ave 3:02 p.m.
Found Property 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 3:35 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 800blk Montana Ave 3:56 p.m.
Found Person 200blk Santa Monica Pier 3:57 p.m.
Burglary 300blk Arizona Ave 4:15 p.m.
Attempt Strongarm Robbery Just Occurred 1400blk Wilshire Blvd 4:20 p.m.
Found Property 200blk Broadway 4:24 p.m.
Family Disturbance 1500blk Yale St 4:46 p.m.
Petty Theft 1500blk 2nd St 4:48 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 1700blk Bryn Mawr Ave 4:54 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1900blk Santa Monica Blvd 5:13 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 1200blk 14th St 5:23 p.m.
Family Disturbance 1600blk Ocean Ave 5:39 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto 600blk Santa Monica Blvd 5:39 p.m.
Family Disturbance 1500blk Yale St 5:52 p.m.
Petty Theft 1800blk 16th St 5:54 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 300blk Civic Center Dr 6:03 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 800blk Lincoln Blvd 6:06 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 2100blk 21st St 6:07 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 100blk Wilshire Blvd 6:08 p.m.
Found Property Lincoln Blvd / California Ave 6:15 p.m.
Defrauding Innkeeper 1500blk 4th St 6:23 p.m.
Child Endangerment 1500blk Ocean Ave 6:34 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 6:39 p.m.
Assault W/Deadly Weapon 1400blk 2nd St 6:40 p.m.
Battery 1700blk Ocean Ave 6:43 p.m.
Defrauding Innkeeper 1400blk 4th St 6:51 p.m.
Living In A Vehicle 2100blk 3rd St 7:12 p.m.
Encampment 9th St / Montana Ave 7:15 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2500blk Wilshire Blvd 7:20 p.m.
Identity Theft 1700blk Bryn Mawr Ave 7:27 p.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries 4th St / Strand St 7:57 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 1400blk Olympic Blvd 7:58 p.m.
Loud Music 2700blk Neilson Way 8:30 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 1200blk Yale St 8:32 p.m.
Burglary Investigation/Walk Through 2200blk Colorado Ave 8:45 p.m.
Attempt Burglary 1400blk 6th St 8:45 p.m.
Child Abuse 1600blk Appian Way 8:51 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 8:54 p.m.
Speeding 4th St / Georgina Ave 9:01 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 25th St / Pico Blvd 9:05 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 2400blk Virginia Ave 9:10 p.m.
Speeding 600blk Palisades Ave 9:12 p.m.
Fight 1500blk 2nd St 9:19 p.m.
Prowler 100blk Hollister Ave 9:40 p.m.
Loud Music 2400blk 4th St 9:56 p.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation 2200blk Lincoln Blvd 10:05 p.m.

Your column here

David Haake and Cris Gutierrez

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Saving energy

As members of the non-profit Clean Power Alliance's (CPA) Community Advisory Committee representing the Westside, we are proud of Santa Monica's long-standing environmental leadership. The City of Santa Monica was one of the first entities to join CPA and the first to opt-in to 100% Green Power.

Since then, in just three short years, CPA has grown to become the nation's top provider of green power. During this time, CPA's customers have avoided more than 2.1 million metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions, equivalent to 455,000 automobiles being taken off the road every year. CPA's new renewable resources are both replacing polluting fossil-based power plants and cleaning up the electricity grid that will increasingly power our vehicles.

The City of Santa Monica made a well-informed decision, reflecting community input, in choosing CPA's 100% Green Power rate to greatly reduce Santa Monica's carbon footprint. Choosing 100% Green Power is the best decision a local elected official can make to quickly mitigate the many harmful effects of greenhouse gas emissions locally and beyond. In fact, Santa Monica's emissions dropped by 17% with its choice of 100% Green Power.

Now with the hot summer months approaching, we would like to share some of the many ways that CPA is assisting Santa Monica residents, businesses, and schools. CPA invests in its member agencies' communities and customers—its participants. CPA has dedicated $200 million to develop and implement local programs to directly benefit the many diverse communities it serves. These proactive local programs address CPA's key sustainability goals: Local Energy Procurement, Resiliency and Grid Management, and Electrification. Santa Monica's residents, most of whom live in multi-residential properties, need such strategies to have local energy solutions implemented in a timely and practical manner.

For example, CPA's Power Share program is providing 100% Green Power energy at a 20% discount to eligible customers within disadvantaged communities, including those disadvantaged communities located within Santa Monica. The Power Share program will also soon bring community solar facilities to disadvantaged communities throughout CPA's service territory.

CPA's Power Response program offers both residential and commercial demand response incentives to reduce energy usage, especially during time periods of very high energy usage that bring added stress to the power grid. CPA also offers a Peak Management Pricing program specifically designed for businesses. This program provides bill discounts for responding to elevated price signals, which typically occur during the hottest days of the summer when grid demand and wholesale prices are at their peak.

CPA's Power Ready program provides the opportunity for all 32 of its member agencies to receive a solar powered battery storage emergency backup system, which will provide emergency power to one of their critical facilities such as a fire or police station, emergency operation center, or a community-cooling center. These systems will be provided at no charge to the participating member agencies.

CPA's local programs strategic plan also includes electrification programs for public electric vehicle charging stations and building electrification code incentives. CPA will soon launch its CALeVIP program, providing funding incentives for much needed electric vehicle charging stations that will be accessible to the public 24 hours a day.

With the expiration of utility customer protection plans soon to take place, CPA is now offering a financial assistance program that allows customers to receive up to $8,000 of debt forgiveness after making 12 payments on time. In addition, CPA recently completed its $2 million COVID-19 relief program, which provided over 77,000 financially impacted residential and commercial customers with electricity bill assistance.

The combination of these various local programs and financial assistance programs, recently led to the U.S. Green Building – Los Angeles Chapter (USGBC-LA) presenting CPA with its Policy Leadership Award. USGBC-LA acknowledged CPA for its ongoing work in centering equity in the delivery of clean energy here in Southern California.

In a relatively short period of time, CPA has grown to become the single largest provider of 100% renewable energy to customers in the nation, a fact Santa Monica residents and businesses can be very proud of being a part of, particularly to confront the climate crisis in an urgent manner.

CPA was founded and is built upon the environmental concerns, ideas, and choices of its participants. We welcome all stakeholder inputs as we help California and our nation remain leaders on the path toward a cleaner energy future for generations to come. Santa Monica residents, businesses and schools can be immensely proud of their City Council for its unanimous leadership in joining CPA and receiving 100% renewable energy since 2019. Santa Monica has for decades taken its sustainability commitments seriously and has taken bold climate actions. CPA looks forward to continuing to serve you, as we help lead the way to a cleaner energy future here in Santa Monica.

David Haake and Cris Gutierrez serve as members of Clean Power Alliance's Community Advisory Committee, representing CPA's Westside which includes the cities of Beverly Hills, Culver City, Malibu, Santa Monica, and West Hollywood. Haake also leads the Sierra Club's Clean Break Team. In addition, Gutierrez leads Climate Action Santa Monica's Power Working Group.

Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

Your column here

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

A Healthy Main Street is a Healthy Ocean Park

Editor:

As we emerge from the pandemic, how can the City recover in a way that celebrates community while rebuilding our economic vitality? That is exactly what the Ocean Park Association (OPA) and City staff seek in presenting a plan to City Council on June 8th to pilot a program that reserves two blocks of Main Street for pedestrians on four weekends this summer. OPA has been planning the pilot for months to ensure a safe and family friendly environment and help our local businesses survive.

For months, we have worked closely with the Fire, Police, and the Transportation Departments to address any concerns about pausing car, bike and scooter travel down a short section of Main St. We also intend to gather data that measures our successes and guides further improvements. In jointly developing a safe, shared street plan, we have assessed traffic flows, parking, buses, noise, fire access and public safety. We are Santa Monica and we put community wellbeing first!

We also have worked closely with our local businesses because we believe a Healthy Main Street equals a Healthy Ocean Park. Who wants vacant storefronts and more graffiti? Who wants to lose more jobs and opportunities for residents during a difficult time? The Main Street Business Improvement Association is a full partner in the effort, contributing expertise, monies, and staff as we seek together to help our merchants thrive again.

Over the last few weeks, we have noticed public concerns from a small number of loud voices who oppose revitalizing our streets after COVID and expanding the al fresco program, even though it is supported by more than 80% of residents responding to our survey. We reached out especially to the minority of skeptics, listened to their issues and adjusted the pilot accordingly. For example, parking spaces have already been increased on Main St. through the removal of K-Rail barricades. Additional directional signage will also be erected, for another example.

Nonetheless, we must clear up misinformation being circulated around town. Bars and restaurants will, in fact, follow their usual hours; noise levels will continue to be covered under existing enforcement; the closure is set for Saturday and Sunday over four summer weekends only. In addition, we are measuring the impacts on surrounding streets so we can assess the pilot based on data, not unproven assertions. OPA believes in listening to all our neighbors, as well as our members.

Ocean Park is doing something very special with this plan: we heard from all constituencies, studied past Main St. events, evaluated highly successful open streets pilots in nearby cities such as Culver City and West Hollywood, and collaborated with the business community and City staff to build a safe and viable shared streets pilot. The Council will be voting on not just a pilot program, but also a new model of engagement between the City and a neighborhood. This program will lead the way in Santa Monica coming back stronger than ever from the pandemic and coming together on the streets we share and love.

We hope everyone will join us in moving forward together!

Sean Besser, Chair, Main St. Committee, Ocean Park Association

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 30 CALLS ON JUNE 3

EMS Lincoln Blvd / Santa Monica Blvd 12:37 a.m.
EMS 2600blk Olympic Blvd 1:26 a.m.
EMS 2000blk Arizona Ave 2:52 a.m.
EMS 1400blk 17th St 8:02 a.m.
EMS 500blk 10th St 8:03 a.m.
Wires Down 400blk San Vicente Blvd 8:47 a.m.
EMS 1600blk Wilshire Blvd 9:17 a.m.
EMS 100blk Ocean Park Blvd 9:25 a.m.
EMS 2100blk Pier Ave 9:42 a.m.
EMS 1400blk 17th St 10:41 a.m.
EMS 1100blk Lincoln Blvd 10:55 a.m.
EMS 900blk 17th St 11:05 a.m.
EMS 2600blk 28th St 12:32 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 2nd St 12:43 p.m.
Carbon Monoxide Alarm 1400blk Ocean Ave 1:16 p.m.
EMS 3000blk Paula Dr 1:24 p.m.
EMS 1900blk Cloverfield Blvd 2:41 p.m.
EMS 1400blk 17th St 4:50 p.m.
EMS Ocean Ave / Georgina Ave 5:25 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1000blk Stanford St 5:31 p.m.
EMS Ocean Ave / Georgina Ave 5:33 p.m.
EMS 900blk 9th St 7:08 p.m.
EMS 4th St / Strand St 7:57 p.m.
EMS 3200blk Airport Ave 8:10 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 600blk Euclid St 8:32 p.m.
EMS 400blk Colorado Ave 9:06 p.m.
EMS 2600blk Main St 9:21 p.m.
EMS 900blk 2nd St 10:33 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 20th St 11:17 p.m.
EMS 1400blk California Ave 11:17 p.m.

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Robert Lemle

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Your column here

Hunter Hall Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Businesses need help

I have been on Main Street for close to a decade. First as a business operator, then an MSBIA board member, now as its Executive Director. During that time, I have worked closely with City staff and the residents association (OPA) on a variety of projects conceived of, designed, and executed with one goal in mind: to make Main Street and Ocean Park the best version of itself possible.

We've been very successful, and our track record speaks for itself. For several years we've collaborated on MAINopoly, Summer Soulstice, Howl-O-Ween, and the annual Holiday event with our world-famous shopping cart tree. We are also currently launching version 2.0 of our Main Street Rewards program, which directly benefits OPA residents.

We doubled down on our partnership in 2020 which is how we were able to bring Main Street Al Fresco to life so fast last June and also how we put local artists to work painting gorgeous murals on the concrete barriers with Beautify Earth. We are in the process of launching the first ever 'Zero Emissions Delivery Zone' in the United States alongside LACI.

The consensus on al fresco so far is that it is a smash hit, with a 90% approval rating by the City's own data.

Our newest pilot program proposal before City Council on June 8th continues this progress. We have been advocating for the next iteration of al fresco dining and more pedestrian/cyclist friendly streets since the summer of 2020 (long before that even) when we realized the limits of our current al fresco set up, as great as it is. Merchants and pedestrians simply need more space.

Puzzlingly, a small but overly vocal super-minority of residents and shop owners who claim to speak for far more individuals than they actually do have surfaced repeatedly over the past few months to decry this plan. Selfishly, they have knowingly misrepresented the facts over and over, with all of the fear-mongering, wild speculation, lies, and petty personal attacks you would expect to see in a Christopher Guest film.

Does anyone really believe that the Merchants Association, and the Residents Association, in collaboration with City Staff would pursue a plan that would damage the fabric of the neighborhood and hurt businesses? Come on. Yet that's exactly what this small, but overly vocal band of naysayers would have you believe. Don't fall for it. We're talking about one weekend a month for the next 3-4 months. The City will be collecting data before, during, and after each weekend, and we will be adjusting accordingly. Its' a 'Pilot Program'. A test! The whole point is to see what works, and what doesn't.

MSBIA and OPA aren't just piloting a street closure though. We are piloting a new, better, and more efficient way of managing commercial/residential neighborhoods where merchants and residents collaborate and iterate together instead of bicker and feud. Again, our record speaks for itself. All of our events and collaborations have been grand slams in the eyes of customers, tourists, locals, and the City.

We've repeatedly reached out to all businesses and residents within our sphere of influence, listened to their concerns and adjusted this pilot accordingly, which we do with everything else too. We spent a considerable amount of money to reshuffle many concrete barriers for a third time to give back some parking spaces in key areas, and directional signage will also be posted for this pilot, keeping errant automobiles away from wandering into residential pockets. Noise will NOT increase as a result of this activation either. Think "European Plaza", NOT "Bourbon Street".

It seems some of these regressive personalities believe merchants and residents should be at odds instead of work creatively together. Why is that? After all, we all want the same thing: a healthy, vibrant, safe neighborhood.

Yes, Covid restrictions are due to be lifted on June 15, but businesses still need a massive injection of cash, opportunity, and stability to survive and thrive. Anyone who thinks otherwise has never run a business, or hasn't been economically affected by Covid. Many of these shops and restaurants have taken on massive debt and haven't gotten much in the way of federal aid either.

MSBIA is a formally structured organization that is over 22 years old, as is OPA. We have both always invited participation, and welcomed healthy discussion and dissent. Yet none of these dissenters and fear-mongers participate. Why is that? It's because they don't know how to participate in a constructive manner and that they are greatly outnumbered. So, they resort to making things up, slipping fear-mongering notes under people's doors in the wee hours of the morning, and forming ad hoc, anonymous neighborhood groups that purport to represent a greater constituency than The Ocean Park Association or MSBIA. Again, don't fall for it.

We (OPA & MSBIA) have found a better way for residents and businesses to work with The City that saves money, time, and headache. We've essentially settled on a process where we work out the details amongst ourselves in an open and collaborative environment and then approach The City with a proposal, which makes everything easier, cheaper, and more pleasant.

Hopefully, informed citizens, businesses and city council will see this pilot for what it is: the next logical step towards a greener, more pedestrian and cyclist centric business district with a healthy and thriving climate for everyone.

Hunter G. Hall is the Executive Director, Main Street Business Improvement Association

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Sacramento

California State Assembly overwhelmingly approved Assembly Bill 1282, the California Pet Blood Bank Modernization Act,

The California State Assembly overwhelmingly approved Assembly Bill 1282, the California Pet Blood Bank Modernization Act, authored by Assemblymember Richard Bloom (D – Santa Monica) and Senator Scott Wilk (R - Santa Clarita), along with Assemblymembers Kevin Mullin (D – San Mateo), Devon Mathis (R – Visalia), and Chad Mayes (I – Yucca Valley). AB 1282 which seeks to address both the shortage of animal blood for veterinary transfusion medicine and phase out the obsolete, inhumane practice of captive closed colony canine blood banks in our state.

"The legislature made progress in previous sessions to envision a path forward to expanding the supply of blood for dogs through a voluntary model similar to human blood banking," said Assemblymember Bloom. "Governor Newsom called on us to work with him and stakeholders to craft a better balance to ensure that we transition away from the outdated and inhumane model into one we can be proud of. We can do so much better for the animals in our state."

AB 1282 authorizes California licensed veterinarians to operate community blood banks to produce and sell or transfer animal blood and blood products.

Currently, voluntary community-based blood banking isn't allowed in California. Instead, California is the only state in the country that requires animal blood to come from so-called "closed colony blood banks" that source blood from animals kept, housed, or maintained at a facility for the purpose of collecting their blood. These closed colony blood banks require hundreds of animals to be in cages for years while their blood is routinely harvested with animal blood demands only increasing.

AB 1282 allows for a more humane solution for sourcing animal blood while also establishing conditions to eventually phase out captive close colony canine blood banks.

"I have been working on this issue passionately for three years and I am pleased to have the bi-partisan support and co-authorship from my colleagues in both houses. With the continued thoughtful engagement of stakeholders, I am hopeful that the Senate will share the Assembly's support, and that Governor Newsom will sign AB 1282 into law this fall," said Assemblymember Bloom.

AB 1282 now heads to the Senate and will be referred to relevant policy committees.

SUBMITTED BY GUY W. STRAHL

PARKING

FROM PAGE 1

shifting into high gear recently.

The consent calendar for Council's June 8 meeting includes approval of a $2.5 million contract with AMPCO Contracting, Inc. for the work plus $172,800 with Arcadis Inc to provide construction observation.

"The Project would remove the entire structure, pave the site, cap all existing utilities at the property line for future use, and install fencing around the property. After demolition, the paved surface lot could temporarily be available for activities and programming in coordination with Downtown Santa Monica Inc., pending approval from the California Coastal Commission, until construction of the future affordable housing development commences," said the staff report.

Coastal Commission conditionally approved the demolition of Parking Structure 3 in May allowing the City to advance its efforts to build an affordable housing development on the lot.

The decision was met with opposition from some community members and Downtown business owners who have mounted a campaign to keep the structure in its current form.

The structure is located at 4th St and Arizona Ave, in close proximity to the Promenade, and contains 337 spaces. City Hall has said a previous renovation of Parking Structure 6 added 400 spaces to the downtown total to account for the loss of Structure 3. Project critics say the loss of the 337 spaces would jeopardize economic recovery downtown just as businesses emerge from Covid-era shutdowns.

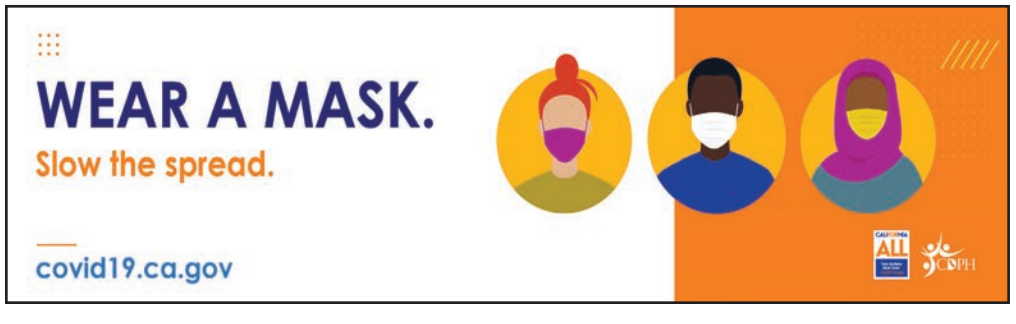
The Commission approval was based on a study by Walker Consultants, which concluded that the loss of PS3's spaces would not adversely impact parking availability and coastal access in the surrounding area. The study determined that the redistributed parking demand could be accommodated within the existing capacities of nearby Parking Structures 1, 2 and 4. However, critics have said the study is invalid and shouldn't be used to justify any decisions about the project.

The site was identified for possible demolition due to the cost of necessary repairs.

"PS 3 needs major repairs, including a seismic retrofit and replacement of the elevators, which were estimated to cost $4.5 million dollars in 2018. Construction costs have significantly increased since that time and staff anticipate the repairs now would cost considerably more than estimated in 2018," said the report.

Council will meet on June 8 via teleconference. Closed session begins at 5:30 with open session to start no earlier than 6:30 p.m. The Consent Calendar is part of open session and while items are usually passed as a group motion with no discussion, individual items can be pulled for detailed debate.

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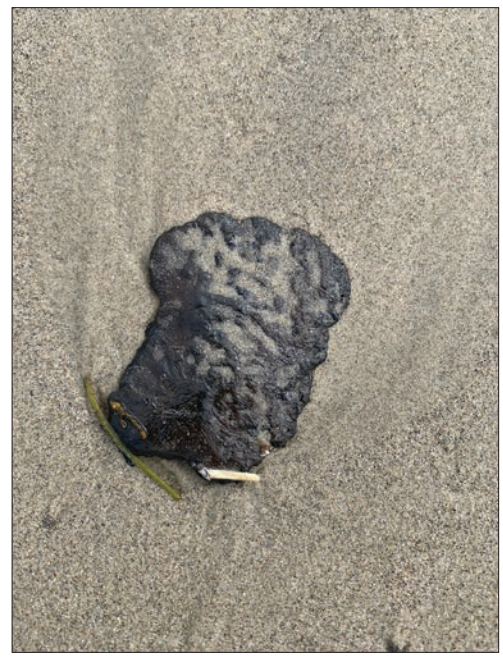
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A Shore Thing

Matthew King
Send comments to editor@smdp.com





Matthew King

BEACH BLOBS: Jellyfish and tar are common hazards on local beaches.

Memorial Day traditionally marks the kickoff of prime beach-going season. The shoreline is indeed a magnificent getaway. But as with any decent playground, dangers lurk. Here's some advice for staying out of harm's way this summer.

BACTERIAL POLLUTION

The good news is that water quality at local beaches continues to be very good, with 91% of L.A. County beaches receiving an A or B grade in the summer in Heal the Bay's latest Beach Report Card. But bacteria-polluted hot spots remain. It's a good idea to swim at least 100 yards from piers, storm drains and creek/river mouths. Think the length of a football field.

BIG SURF

Summer brings south swells to Santa Monica Bay, which can trigger pounding surf. If the waves look overwhelming to you or your family, they probably are. Play it safe and stay close to shore. If you do go in, dive underneath big waves, almost skimming the ocean floor, instead of trying to swim through or jump over them. If you surf, admit your limitations and don't put yourself needlessly in danger.

RIPTIDES

If you are caught in a rip current, don't fight it. Instead, swim parallel to shore for a few yards until you are free from its grip. Then you can safely swim to shore when you reach calmer water. Many people exhaust themselves flailing in place trying to swim directly to shore, necessitating a guard rescue. To identify rips, look for unusual gaps as waves break and create whitewater that sucks out back to sea. The water is usually sandy/discolored and choppy on the surface.

JELLYFISH

Jellies float through the ocean carried by currents, so they don't seek human contact. But when certain species bump into swimmers, venom stored in sacs on their wavy legs can cause significant irritation. Wearing a long-sleeve rash guard offers some protection. If you are stung, applying white vinegar can help denature the toxins released by the animals. And don't let your kids play with dead jellyfish on the shore; they can still sting.

STINGRAYS

Stingrays are actually members of the shark family, and are attracted to the warm shallows of the Bay during summer. Rays will pump venom into your body, much like a bee, If you step on or get hit by their barbs. The sting is extremely painful (trust me, I got nailed right off the Jonathan Club recently.) The only relief comes from soaking your foot in very hot water to disperse the toxins. Doing the stingray shuffle – sliding your feet on the ocean floor as if on skis – can help you avoid this fate.

SHARKS

Yes, there are white sharks in the Bay. No, it's highly unlikely that you'll ever see one or be bothered by them. Whites spotted in our waters recently are smaller juveniles. They are feeding on bottom fish not mammals. There have only been 11 fatal white shark encounters in ALL of California since the 1980s. Eating a hot dog is more dangerous, statistically, than taking a swim in the ocean. And those leopard sharks you see skittering in the shallows? Don't worry about them. Their mouths are about the size of a quarter and they like to nibble on sand crabs, not toes.

RED TIDE

Algal blooms that pop up in the Bay during warmer months turn the sea to a rust tint. The water isn't polluted. It's just filled with millions of phytoplankton. Some species can produce toxins that can harm local marine life or poison shellfish (thus the advice to avoid mussels and clams during summer). While not toxic to humans, blooms can cause eye and skin irritation for swimmers. My advice if you see a bloom? Pick a different swim spot.

TARBALLS

Black sticky clumps of tar on the beach are typically NOT from oil tankers or offshore

SEE **A SHORE THING** PAGE 11

US adds 559K jobs as firms still struggle to fill positions

CHRISTOPHER RUGABER
AP Economics Writer

U.S. employers added a modest 559,000 jobs in May, an improvement from April's sluggish gain but still evidence that many companies are struggling to find enough workers as the economy rapidly recovers from the pandemic recession.

Last month's job growth was above April's revised total of 278,000, the Labor Department said Friday, yet well short of employers' need for labor. The unemployment rate fell to 5.8% from 6.1%.

The speed of the rebound from the recession has caught employers off guard and touched off a scramble to hire. The reopening of the economy, fueled by substantial federal aid and rising vaccinations, has released pent-up demand among consumers to eat out, travel, shop, attend public events and visit with friends and relatives.

The result has been a disconnect between companies and the unemployed: While businesses are rushing to add workers immediately, many of the unemployed are either seeking better jobs than they had before the pandemic, still lack affordable child care, worry about contracting COVID-19 or have decided to retire early.

That mismatch resulted in the sharp slowdown in hiring in April, when employers added far fewer jobs than economists had forecast and many fewer than had been hired in March. The mismatch appears to be easing only moderately for now.

"There is a gap between the economy and labor market," said Nela Richardson, chief economist at the payroll processing firm ADP.

May's job gains, she said, are "more lackluster than one would expect given the strong state of economic growth."

Still, many economists expect hiring to catch up with demand in the coming months, especially as federal unemployment aid programs end and more people pursue jobs. In the meantime, many large chains, including Amazon, Walmart, Costco, and Chipotle, have raised starting pay to better attract applicants. So have other employers: Wages jumped in May for a second straight month, a sign of companies trying to attract more workers. And the average work week remained elevated, which suggests that businesses are working their current staffs for longer hours to try to meet rising customer demand.

Yet even so, the number of people working or looking for work last month slipped slightly in May after three months of gains.

The bulk of last month's job growth was at hotels, restaurant and bars, which gained 220,000 positions. Retailers lost jobs for a second straight month. And despite a hot housing market, the construction industry shed 20,000 jobs, its second straight month of cuts, likely reflecting supply shortages and soaring costs for building materials.

The economy expanded last quarter at a robust 6.4% annual rate, and economists envision growth in the current quarter reaching a sizzling pace of 9% or more. All that growth, driven by higher spending, has raised inflation fears. But for now, it has mainly propelled demand for labor.

Job postings in late May were nearly 26% above pre-pandemic levels, according to the employment website Indeed. Government data shows that posted jobs are at the highest level on records dating back to 2000.

And consumers are opening their wallets. In April, they increased their spending after a huge gain in March that was fueled by the distribution of $1,400 stimulus checks. With more Americans feeling comfortable about staying in hotels and visiting entertainment venues, spending on services jumped.

In fact, service industries, including banking, retail, and shipping, expanded at the fastest pace on record in May. The evidence suggests that consumers have begun to embark on a long-anticipated shift away from the sizable goods purchases that many of them had made while hunkered down at home to spending on services, from haircuts to sporting events to vacation trips.

The number of people seeking unemployment aid has fallen for five straight weeks to its lowest level since the pandemic began, a sign that layoffs are dwindling. There are still 15 million people receiving either federal or state jobless aid, though that number has also declined from roughly 20 million in February.

Though the economy still has 7.6 million fewer jobs than it did before the pandemic struck, job postings in late May were nearly 26% above pre-pandemic levels, according to the employment website Indeed. Government data shows that posted jobs have reached their highest level on record dating back to 2000.

Many businesses blame a $300-a-week federal unemployment benefit for discouraging some of the jobless from taking work. Republican governors in 25 states have responded by cutting off that benefit prematurely, starting this month, before the benefits are scheduled to end nationally on Sept. 6.

Becky Frankiewicz, president of the temporary staffing firm Manpower Group's North American division, said many of the firm's clients are raising pay and benefits to try to attract more applicants. Some of these companies, particularly in manufacturing and warehousing, are also trying other tactics, like paying their workers weekly or even daily, rather than every two weeks. Manpower is also encouraging its clients to make job offers the same day as an interview rather than waiting.

About 60% of Manpower's temporary placements are leaving their jobs before a temporary assignment ends, Frankiewicz said, mostly because they are receiving better offers.

"People have options," she said. "Companies have to offer speed in cash, speed to hire and a lot of flexibility in how they work."

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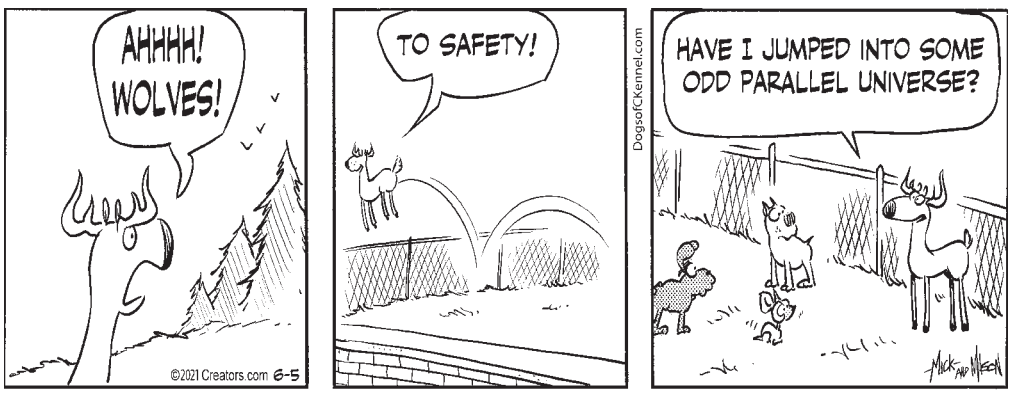
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



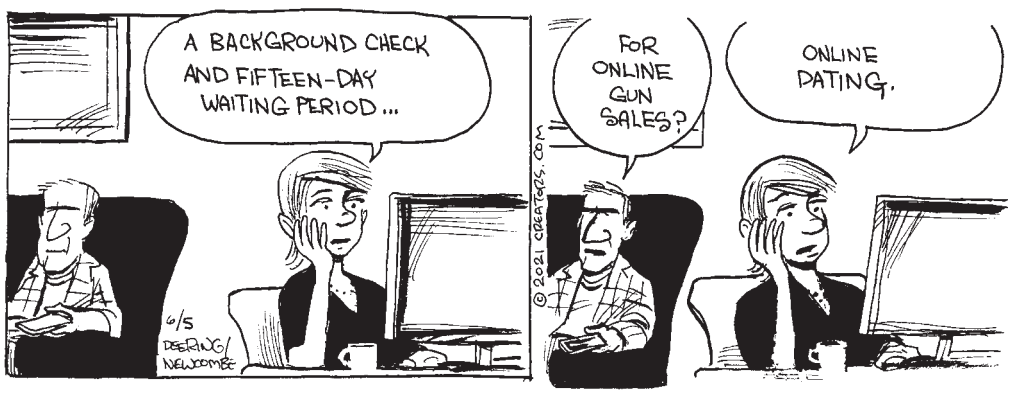
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"THAT BOTHERS ME."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 64°

SATURDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 3-5ft Waist to head high
Watching wind - could see southerly wind continue. Lingering SSW swell slowly begins to taper off late in the day. NW swell mix should keep combo breaks fairly peaky. Eye on the tropics.

SUNDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 3-4ft+ Waist to shoulder high
Could see southerly wind persist. SSW swell easing, NW swell mix easing. Still some peaks likely.

WEATHER

Saturday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 65.
Saturday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, cloudy, with a low around 58.
Sunday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 64.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2021/06/05	Sat	01:43 AM	1.02	L
2021/06/05	Sat	07:27 AM	3.51	H
2021/06/05	Sat	12:55 PM	1.28	L
2021/06/05	Sat	7:27 PM	5.25	H
2021/06/06	Sun	02:21 AM	0.54	L
2021/06/06	Sun	08:21 AM	3.48	H
2021/06/06	Sun	1:26 PM	1.58	L
2021/06/06	Sun	7:52 PM	5.46	H
2021/06/07	Mon	02:55 AM	0.14	L
2021/06/07	Mon	09:06 AM	3.48	H
2021/06/07	Mon	1:54 PM	1.84	L
2021/06/07	Mon	8:17 PM	5.64	H
2021/06/08	Tue	03:27 AM	-0.18	L
2021/06/08	Tue	09:46 AM	3.46	H
2021/06/08	Tue	2:21 PM	2.05	L
2021/06/08	Tue	8:42 PM	5.78	H
2021/06/09	Wed	03:59 AM	-0.40	L
2021/06/09	Wed	10:25 AM	3.44	H
2021/06/09	Wed	2:49 PM	2.22	L
2021/06/09	Wed	9:10 PM	5.86	H
2021/06/10	Thu	04:32 AM	-0.53	L

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 6/2
6 7 11 66 67
Power#: 19
Jackpot: 286 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 6/1
7 11 33 58 63
Mega#: 23
Jackpot: 45 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 6/2
9 23 27 28 41
Mega#: 12
Jackpot: 52 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 6/3
6 11 26 33 36

Daily 3
Draw Date: 6/3
EVENING: 6 9 5
Draw Date: 6/3
MIDDAY: 6 3 5

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 6/3
1st: 10 - Solid Gold
2nd: 01 - Gold Rush
3rd: 04 - Big Ben
Race Time: 1:44.45

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (JUNE 5)

The Mars and Pluto opposition on your solar return signifies enormous good fortune to come from embracing the polarities inside you. You will progress in strength, and also in weakness. Knowledge will be balanced by humility, power by mercy. Your wishes, including the goodness you want for others, will come quickly to hand. Cancer and Capricorn adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 32, 9, 19 and 5.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Media encourages all to privately rate, approve or disapprove of what we see. It's an unattractive practice that takes us out of our own lives to deal in the business of others. It's far more charismatic to tend to your own realm.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It's better to get into a small chunk of a project than bite into one you won't be able to finish in a day. Also, in light of the Mercury situation, you're wise to leave wide large margins for human error.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). What matters to you may not be important to the others... yet. While you wait for things to come around, focus on what the group is currently about, and find your place in that.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Excellent taste is not always the easiest thing to have. The rest of the world so rarely complies. Today will be the exception. You'll have much to feast your senses on.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Clean up and you'll get back what you thought you'd lost and what you'd totally forgotten about as well. Other found items will prevent you from unnecessary future purchases.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There is this hum, too low to be audible, and yet you sense it in the background. It's what the composer calls a "pad" that glues the other tones together, lending reassurances and a soft place to land.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). True power is not given; it is earned. And because truly powerful people have earned their status, they have spent time at every level and can access any as though with a dial, turning their current up or down to suit the situation.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You will invite people to support you, but this is not an open invitation. To ask everyone would be taking away from those who really need what you do. Small groups will be lucky for you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Use your feelings. Push your senses into a situation and you'll notice they can travel further into a sense of knowing than your thoughts and questions can get you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your mind is calm, your heart full. This allows for your inner grace, almost supernatural in its depth, to show itself in the kindest consideration for the feelings and reactions of others.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Leaving things as they are isn't so easy. To alter the course of things, all you have to do is be there. But this principle works in your favor, too. All you have to do to make a difference is show up.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You really don't know what criteria another person is using to make a decision, and no light on the matter will come through what the person says either, as people don't even know themselves why they do the things they do.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

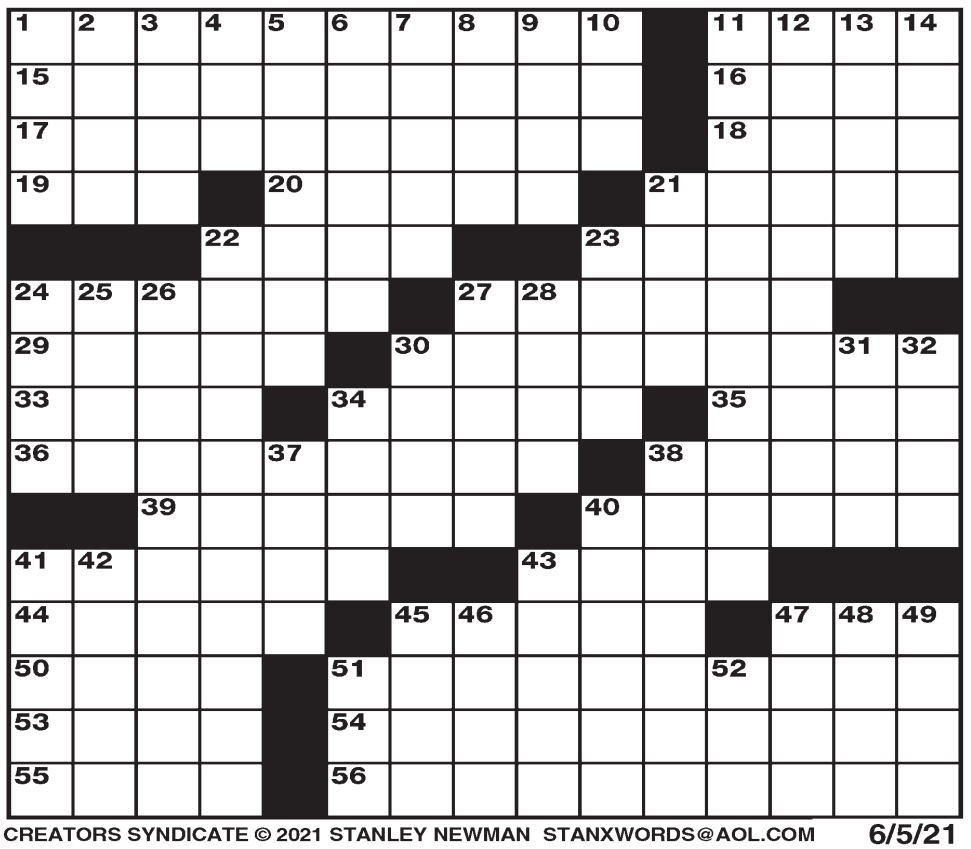
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	1			9		6		3
7			2		3	8		
6		3						2
				5				
9						7		1
		6	7		2			5
5		7		1			3	
2			6				9	

Newsday Crossword

THEMELESS SATURDAY by Stella Zawistowski
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 It'll let you in
11 Pro group, for short
15 Practice delayed infuriation
16 French roast
17 Pull the strings of
18 Exasperated cry
19 They can take you to O'Hare
20 Venerable brew brand
21 A question of place
22 Pro __
23 *Bibliothèque* stock
24 Satellite that fell in '89
27 Stable state
29 Pop star from Tottenham
30 Spa cycling
33 Biofuel source
34 Its coat of arms has a moose and a pine
35 Bash in some Elvis films
36 They're extra
38 What Pixar followed up with *Up*
39 One way to run
40 Equestrian accouterment
41 Big name in the oil business
43 Far from a decision
44 Signals dropped
45 Helps with fencing, say
47 Just over five shots
50 Sainted princess of Kiev
51 Angular abode
53 Zoom, perhaps
54 Typical Old Master
55 Word from the Greek for "hearth"
56 Recycled paper from long ago

DOWN
1 Ne plus ultra
2 Seam stuff
3 Disagreeable guy
4 Balance specialist
5 Process starter
6 Minimal DNA
7 Package deal
8 Moving walkway maker
9 Reason for a dryer discount
10 Ultimate bit
11 Marvel antagonist
12 Move all around
13 Put away
14 Rightmost part of many prices
21 Where the NFL's smallest city is
22 Destination of some Scandinavian ferries
23 Express, for instance
24 Guy in the NATO alphabet
25 Binged
26 Person in front
27 Caught
28 Spam holders
30 But not
31 Event in a tent
32 Court figure
34 Picasso contemporary
37 Tie __
38 Combat participant
40 Encouraging words
41 Bite hard
42 Poet who inspired Raggedy Ann dolls
43 Conductors' concerns
45 Selection on the *Amadeus* soundtrack
46 What Fido might fetch
47 "Ha-ha, but be serious"
48 What a kitchen unitasker doesn't have
49 Irksomely self-assured
51 Macaroni, as in "Yankee Doodle"
52 Follower or clip or slip



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Binary Puzzle

Each cell should contain a zero or a one. No more than two similar numbers below or next to each other are allowed. Each row and each column is unique and contains as many zeros as ones.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1
0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1
1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	1
1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1
1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0
0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1
1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0

				0							
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				1	1				1	1	
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		1		0				1		0	0
					1			1			
		1			1		1			0	



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 19 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 5135

Way up there

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

Airport
Ants
Automobile
Bats
Bees
Blimp
Cicada
Cocky
Crow
Ducks
Eagle
Falcon
Finches
Flies
Flying saucer
Gull
Hawk
Hens
Heron
Ibis
Imago
Insect
Katydid
Kestrel
Kite
Locusts
Martin
Midge
Motorcycle
Myna
Owls
Raven
Rook
Shag
Swan
Take-off
Teal
Tern
Toucan
Turkey
Wasp
Windscreen

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A SHORE THING

FROM PAGE 6

drilling. Instead they come from natural oil seeps on the ocean floor, triggered by normal geological activity. On average, about 420 gallons of oil from local seeps reach the sea surface daily in Santa Monica Bay. The globs then wash onshore. While they are natural, tarballs can be a real pain when stepped on. The best way to remove beach tar from the bottoms of your feet is to rub a little olive oil on them. Skip the gasoline or other toxic solvents.

MANMADE THREATS

People holding up the line by taking three-minute beach showers, meticulously washing and re-washing every body part as if any stray particles of sand left on their bodies were potentially radioactive? Numbskulls riding electric scooters on the water's edge? IG-conscious wanna-bes who take up surfing but are too self-absorbed to learn basic etiquette as they snake your wave? Sorry, you're on your own ...

More diversity: Historian Alison Rose Jefferson sent me a note reminding me that Nick Gabaldon may have been one of L.A. County's first recognized surfers of color but he did not serve as a lifeguard. Also, the Black Surfers Collective is hosting a "Black Out at Bay Street" family gathering on June 19, from 9 a.m. to noon. All beach lovers are encouraged to drop by Tower 20 and say hello. I'll be there.

Matthew King grew up on the beaches of Santa Monica, where his father served as a County lifeguard for 30 years. He sneaks away from his communications and marketing consultancy as often as he can to surf Bay Street and other local breaks.

VENICE

FROM PAGE 1

Heat before his first feature, Tangled, was produced in 2001. A co-writing credit on Tuck Everlasting followed the next year. Within a few years, Lieber was working steadily in television, writing and/or producing on shows such as Miami Medical, NCIS: New Orleans and his current role as an executive producer on the reboot of Charmed. (Lieber is also credited as one of the three creators of megahit Lost, based partially on an early pilot he wrote, even though he had no further involvement in the show. He explains here.)

Starting in a 900-square-foot bungalow, Lieber and his wife, musician Holly Long, eventually moved to a larger craftsman-style house on one of the walk streets near Abbot Kinney Boulevard. They started a family there: their daughter is studying photography at NYU and their son is still in high school. They also have two rescue pitbulls.

Lieber said he's seen waves of changes in his 24 years in Venice. A neighbor who's been here since the early 1980s told him the police used to knock on doors and ask residents if they could paint their house number on the roof so police helicopters would know their location. "That's how she was introduced to Venice," Lieber said with a laugh.

In Lieber and Long's early days of living here, Lieber recalled hearing some neighbors arguing. "The woman said, 'All you want to do is get high and have sex!' I wandered inside and I said to my wife, 'The first rule of living in Venice is when we fight, we close the windows.'"

"We're so on top of each other," Lieber continued. "I sort of love that on some level. I love that we're on top of each other because it forces us to care about each other. It forces us to interact with each other."

Coming from the Chicago area, Lieber said he was used to interacting with people on public transportation, but L.A. is so car-centric most people are isolated, except in Venice.

"There are very few neighborhoods in L.A. that feel like neighborhoods," he said. "Venice really does."

"Venice is its own little pocket. We're part of L.A., but also we're not part of L.A. We exist unto ourselves and we've always been a hugely independent community."

Asked about the current state of Venice with increasing homelessness, Lieber said, "It's complicated...I know both the feeling of walking and seeing encampments three blocks from my house and being sad that visual landscape is being ruined. And I understand that it's hard. We live in a world where the economic disparity is primal and apparent."

"I don't want to be Santa Monica, that aseptic sort of clean world. I don't want that. But I wish we could find a way to both honor the fact that we live in a community that's always been economically diverse and also find a way to keep the sidewalks safe and keep people safe."

Despite Venice's evolving state, Lieber said his family has no plans to move since everything they need is here.

"I like being in the mix," he said. "I need a fair amount of noise when I write and happily Venice is one of those places where you can get that life on the street."

This story was published in partnership with the Venice Current.

COUNCIL

FROM PAGE 1

the Clean Power Alliance and bring 100 percent renewable electricity to Santa Monicans. He also helped initiate the first bike share program in the region and moved Big Blue Bus's diesel fuel to more sustainable alternatives. He was an early supporter of the plastic bag ban and helped ban single-use plastic bags and polystyrene food packaging.

"Kevin has dedicated his life to making Santa Monica stronger, greener, and more equitable," said Mayor Sue Himmelrich in a City press release. "This is a man who loves Santa Monica in his bones and demonstrated unrelenting integrity and dedication to the community as a tenured Councilmember."

Clara@smdp.com

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