2 **Homeless crisis**
Shots over pills

3 **Health care**
Beware of tax peril.

4 **State regulators**
Protect consumers and profit.

5 **Curious City**
The work isn't finished.

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Santa Monica celebrates its Most Loved businesses at annual awards











Matthew Hall

MOST LOVED: Santa Monica officials and businesses gathered at City Hall on Tuesday night for the annual Most Loved awards. Businesses competed in 85 categories and winners were chosen by a vote of the people. See this weekend's edition of the Daily Press for the official magazine with a complete list of winners.

Seventh graders dress for success for Lincoln interview day

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

It's never too soon for young students to consider their future goals, as superstars in their respective fields often have their minds made up career-wise from an early age.

The seventh-grade class at Lincoln Middle School can attest to this, as students dressed for success on Tuesday to take part in the 33rd edition of Worthwhile Life Interviews. At the Lincoln library, students were interviewed by local community members on the topics of "Who Am I?" and "What is a Worthwhile Life?," inspiring introspective thoughts about where the students may end up later in life.

Students got ready for the event all year long, preparing for the mini-interview experience by building "Who Am I" folders with a host of written materials. Throughout the year, the "Who Am I" project included pieces of poetry, argumentative essays, informational essays and a collage of their interests; helping nail down potential career paths that are further broached in the professional-style interviews.

"Research shows that it's beneficial for kids at this age group to practice articulating their goals, and it synthesizes the

SEE **LINCOLN** PAGE 6

SMPD gains four new officers but Council cuts spending for road improvements

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

Council prioritized public safety over streets at its last meeting by diverting money from road projects to the Santa Monica Police Department.

The fiscal year 2024-25 proposed budget study session in Tuesday's City Council meeting generated nearly three hours of discussion that was ultimately dominated by a trade off between a number of Capital Improvement Program (CIP) items, such as essential sidewalk maintenance and CCTV camera upgrades, in favor of adding four additional police officers in addition to its full quota.

SEE **BUDGET** PAGE 7



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How shots instead of pills could change California's homeless crisis



Photo by Larry Valenzuela, CalMatters/CatchLight Local

SHOTS: Dr. Rishi Patel from the Akido street medicine team checks on a homeless man living in a vineyard in Arvin on May 28, 2024. Street medicine teams throughout California are increasingly using long-acting injectable antipsychotic medication to stabilize the mental health of people living in homeless encampments.

MARISA KENDALL

As Dr. Rishi Patel's street medicine van bounces over dirt roads and empty fields in rural Kern County, he's looking for a particular patient he knows is overdue for her shot.

The woman, who has schizophrenia and has been living outside for five years, has several goals for herself: Start thinking more clearly, stop using meth and get an ID so she can visit her son in jail. Patel hopes the shot — a long-acting antipsychotic — will help her meet all of them.

Patel, medical director of Akido Street Medicine, is one of many street doctors throughout California using these injections as an increasingly common tool to help combat the state's intertwined homelessness and mental health crises. Typically administered into a patient's shoulder muscle, the medication slowly releases into the bloodstream over time, providing relief from symptoms of psychosis for a month or longer. The shots replace a patient's oral medication — no more taking a pill every day. For people who are homeless and routinely have their pills stolen, can't make it to a pharmacy for a refill or simply forget to take them, the shots can mean the difference between staying on their medication, or not.

"They've been an absolute game-changer," Patel said.

Street medicine teams bring the shots directly to their patients wherever they are — whether it's in a tent along Skid Row in Los Angeles, in a dugout in the middle of a field in the Central Valley, or along the bank of a stream in Shasta County. Doctors can diagnose someone, prescribe the medication, get their consent and give the shot within a matter of days — or sometimes even more quickly — and with minimal paperwork and red tape. They don't need a psychiatrist's sign-off.

It's estimated that California is home to more than 180,000 homeless residents. How to help the sickest of them — people with severe, untreated psychosis who might wander into traffic or otherwise put themselves in danger — has become a hot-button issue, with Gov. Gavin Newsom and state lawmakers creating new and sometimes controversial ways to get people into treatment. In a recent UCSF survey of homeless Californians, 12% reported experiencing hallucinations in the past 30 days, and more than a quarter said they'd ever been hospitalized for a mental health condition.

Doctors say the goal of giving an antipsychotic shot to someone living in an encampment is to get them thinking clearly, so that they can start engaging with social workers, sign up for benefits and get on housing waitlists. While Newsom's new CARE Court allows judges to order people into mental health treatment, and other recent legislation makes it easier to put people with a serious mental illness into conservatorships, doctors administering street injections take a different approach. The treatment is voluntary, and people can get help where they are, instead of in a locked facility.

Some success stories are dramatic. Doctors talk about patients who one day are babbling incoherently, and a week after a shot, are having conversations.

"It's been pretty common that that's the initiation of, 'We're going indoors,'" said Dr. Coley King, director of homeless health care for the Venice Family Clinic in Los Angeles. He said he's seen dozens of patients get off the street after taking these shots.

As with any medication, the shots can have side effects. And while a patient can stop taking a pill and generally put a stop to a negative reaction, once they've been given a shot, they have no choice but to wait a month for the drug to wear off.

Despite some street doctors' rave reviews, injectable antipsychotics still aren't reaching everyone who experts say they could help. Street medicine teams report having just a handful of patients on these medications at any one time (King's team in Los Angeles has about two dozen). Some patients don't want the shots, balking at the idea of having a drug in their system for an entire month, especially if they have feelings of paranoia related to health care.

And street doctors complain that hospitals still seem to prefer discharging patients from temporary psychiatric holds with a bottle of pills they may or may not take – instead of

SEE **HOMELESS** PAGE 7

Get your health care through Covered California? Beware of this tax peril

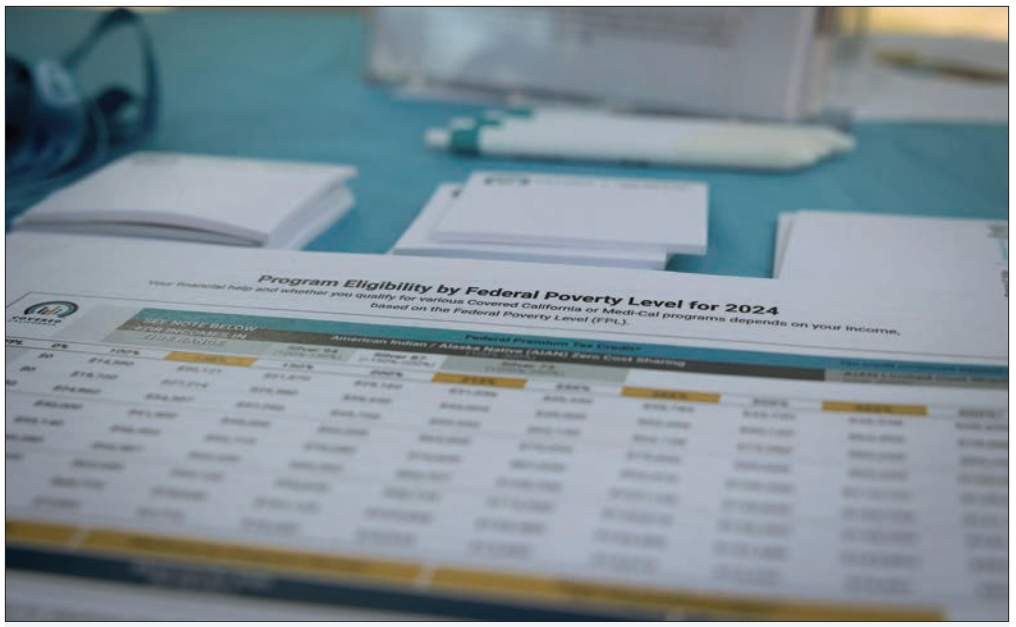


Photo by Miguel Gutierrez Jr., CalMatters

TAX: A booth with information on Covered California at the California Native Americans Day celebration at the state Capitol on Sept. 22, 2023.

ANA B. IBARRA

Every tax season hundreds of thousands of Californians are hit with an unexpected bill: They owe hundreds of dollars or more to the IRS because they accepted more money in subsidies for health insurance than they were allowed.

The chargeback can sting. Collectively, 415,000 California households owed the IRS close to $690 million in 2021 in charges related to the health care subsidies, according to agency data from the most recent year available. That is roughly $1,662 per person or family. Many people who end up owing money live in lower-income households.

This repayment rule is connected to the federal Affordable Care Act and the state-based health insurance plans it encouraged. Covered California, the state's insurance marketplace, offers generous premium subsidies to those who qualify based on their income, but people can unknowingly receive too much aid if they underestimate how much they'll earn the following year or if they lose a dependent and do not report that change.

The federal government collects any "excess" aid when people file their taxes. The government calls this process "reconciliation."

Ten years after the rollout of the insurance marketplace, many Californians continue to be caught off guard come tax filing time. Often the charges come as a shock.

"They feel like they're following the rules, they're getting their coverage. And, they just kind of feel like they're getting in trouble for doing everything right," said Audrey Casillas, assistant director of community economic development services at Koreatown Youth and Community Center. Her nonprofit helps local low-income residents prepare their taxes at no cost as part of a Los Angeles County tax assistance program.

The people who receive excess aid are not wealthy. About half of the households who owed the IRS for excess premium subsidies in tax year 2021 earned less than $50,000, according to data from the agency.

Alex Hernandez, an insurance broker in Merced, said most people can avoid this clawback by reporting any changes in income and dependents to Covered California as soon as possible. This way the agency will adjust the amount of premium subsidies a person or family is receiving, and they'll avoid an unpleasant surprise come tax filing time.

Hernandez tells clients to report all taxable income to the agency— that includes any extras, such as a bonus or significant winnings from a lucky night at the casino.

"Some members who are doing the enrollment themselves think that they need to go by last year's income, and that's not always the case," Hernandez said. People should instead estimate income based on their current situation, he explained.

DON'T WAIT FOR OPEN ENROLLMENT

Covered California in an emailed response to questions from CalMatters said it sends a notice reminding enrollees to report any changes, such as income and household size, before they sign up for or renew coverage.

"Consumers are reminded throughout the notice to ensure their information is accurate, and states what the tax implications are if information is incorrect," Jagdip Dhillon, a Covered California spokesperson, said in an email.

Of course, people shouldn't wait until open enrollment to declare changes. Enrollees can report changes at any point, either with the help of an enrollment counselor or by calling Covered California directly.

"People may need mid-year reminders, if you're only getting this (notice) once a year it can be kind of late," said Cynthia Cox, director of the program on the Affordable Care Act at KFF, a health policy organization that conducts polling and research. "Open enrollment is in November and tax season is April. It might be a good idea to think about it in July."

SEE **TAX** PAGE 11



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **59.5**

WEDNESDAY — ***FAIR***
SURF: 2-3ft+ Thigh to stomach

Very rideable but on the modest/playful side off a mix of swells. Probably enough windswell and leftover S swell mixing with the SW energy to be at least semi peaky W of Dume. AM wind looks decent right now. Dawn patrol a little drained.

THURSDAY — ***FAIR TO GOOD***
SURF: 3-4ft+ Waist to shoulder

SW swell is up a touch from Wednesday but it will be borderline whether there's enough leftover S swell and NW windswell to break up shape. Might be a few open sections to work with, otherwise the spots with some structure are best.

Weather

Wednesday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, increasing clouds, with a high near 71.
Wednesday Night: Patchy dense fog. Otherwise, cloudy, with a low around 60. Southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.
Thursday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, partly sunny, with a high near 71.
Thursday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 59.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)High/Low
2024/06/05	Wed	03:35 AM	-1.26	L
2024/06/05	Wed	10:01 AM	3.66	H
2024/06/05	Wed	2:32 PM	1.96	L
2024/06/05	Wed	8:56 PM	6.71	H
2024/06/06	Thu	04:20 AM	-1.43	L
2024/06/06	Thu	10:54 AM	3.63	H
2024/06/06	Thu	3:14 PM	2.20	L
2024/06/06	Thu	9:35 PM	6.62	H
2024/06/07	Fri	05:05 AM	-1.39	L
2024/06/07	Fri	11:47 AM	3.58	H
2024/06/07	Fri	3:56 PM	2.40	L
2024/06/07	Fri	10:15 PM	6.37	H
2024/06/08	Sat	05:50 AM	-1.18	L
2024/06/08	Sat	12:41 PM	3.54	H
2024/06/08	Sat	4:40 PM	2.57	L
2024/06/08	Sat	10:57 PM	6.00	H
2024/06/09	Sun	06:35 AM	-0.86	L
2024/06/09	Sun	1:35 PM	3.52	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: 6/3
19 29 35 36 45
Power#: 16
Jackpot: 185 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 5/31
4 11 23 33 49
Mega#: 23
Jackpot: 560 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 6/1
3 10 12 17 21
Mega#: 16
Jackpot: 41 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 6/3
1 8 15 30 31

Daily 3
Draw Date: 6/3
EVENING: 5 0 3
Draw Date: 6/3
MIDDAY: 6 3 5

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 6/3
1st: 03 - Hot Shot
2nd: 04 - Big Ben
3rd: 09 - Winning Spirit
Race Time: 1:46.83

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Summons

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GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Why California regulators have to protect both consumers and company profits

DAN WALTERS



Photo by Ted Soqui for CalMatters
REGULATORS: From left, California Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara and Raul Vargas, CEO of Farmers Insurance, speak during the Global Sustainable Insurance Summit in downtown Los Angeles on April 4, 2024.

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the Southern Pacific Railroad wielded almost total control over California's politics, angering farmers who believed they were being gouged by high freight rates and fueling a powerful populist movement.

Farmers' complaints spawned several efforts to regulate them and finally gave birth in 1911 to the California Railroad Commission. Just a year later, the commission's rate-setting authority was expanded to natural gas, electric power, telephone and water utilities. In 1946, its name was changed to the California Public Utilities Commission.

The commission's five members, all appointed by the governor, oversee hundreds of billions of dollars in utility bills each year, issuing its decrees after mind-numbingly complex legal and financial proceedings.

In theory, the CPUC is protecting customers of monopolistic utilities. However it also implements policy decrees, such as shifting power generation to renewable sources, and must – in its rate-setting role – ensure that the regulated utilities earn enough profit to maintain access to capital and debt markets.

It's that latter role that comes into play when the CPUC sanctions sharp increases in electric power rates, as it has been doing in recent years, much to the dismay of both residential customers and businesses that need electricity to survive.

California households and businesses now pay the nation's highest power rates, although their actual power bills are marginally lower vis-a-vis other states due to California's relatively temperate climate.

Thirty-six years ago, California voters subjected insurance premiums to the same kind of regulation by passing Proposition 103. It shifted the state insurance commissioner from an appointee of the governor to an elected position and gave the office new regulatory authority.

The measure's sponsors promised that regulation would maintain a lid on consumer insurance costs and contend that it's done so. However, unlike electric utilities, insurers are not monopolies and cannot be compelled to do business in California, so the insurance commissioner has the implicit duty to also maintain their profitability so they continue to offer coverage.

Over the last couple of years, in response to costly payouts for wildfires, insurers have been leaving the state or refusing to renew policies in fire-prone regions. Left without insurance, homeowners have flocked to the insurer of last resort, the California FAIR plan, which not only has high rates but imposes strict limits on coverage.

It's a crisis, affecting not only current property owners, but those who aspire to homeownership and must have insurance to obtain mortgages.

Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara has proposed a regulatory overhaul to entice insurers to continue writing policies in California. It would allow them to include projections of future losses and the costs of reinsurance in premiums and speed up rate change rulings.

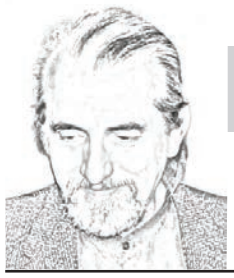
Lara is drawing fire from Consumer Watchdog, whose leaders wrote Prop. 103 and which has received millions of dollars in "intervenor fees" for participating in rate-setting proceedings. However, Lara draws support from legislators whose constituents are seeing their policies vanish and from Gov. Gavin Newsom. Last week, Newsom endorsed one aspect of Lara's plan by submitting a budget trailer bill that would, if enacted, speed up rate-setting cases.

"This proposal requires the Department of Insurance to modernize and streamline its rate application process to get back to the expedited timelines outlined in Prop. 103," Alex Stack, a spokesperson for the governor, said.

What's happening underscores how regulators must protect the profitability of the corporations they oversee. It's something to keep in mind as the state expands financial regulation of the health care industry, which is by far California's biggest economic sector.

Ultimately there's no free lunch.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.



OPINION | CURIOUS CITY

Charles Andrews | Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Sometimes we get it right



Courtesy Photo

CIVIC CENTER: Saved! But don't stop there.

SOMETIMES, 34 TIMES

And in these perilous times, maybe that's enough. For now. Because we need hope. We need to know that no matter how tough the task, we can prevail, it can eventually turn out okay, we'll be alright. It's not the Pollyanna side of me that says that, it's the pragmatist, that tells the idealist occasionally to hush, for a moment of clarity, and action. Globally, nationally, and in Santa Monica, we are going to be alright. But "God helps those who help themselves."

History is my holy book, because history is a collection of facts. Despots try to rewrite it, to mark a false path that benefits them. History tells us where we have been, where we come from, and you need to know that to decide how to get where you want to go. Our master of history, national treasure Ken Burns, had some moving words in his recent undergraduate commencement address to the students of Brandeis University, and I will turn to them in my next column (Wednesday after next), for clarity in how our nation can get through this existential crisis.

It is well worth the 20 minutes to listen to the entire speech. Pieces of it have been showing up on walls and sidewalks in New York, it was reported.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9n1OqPzIKH4

HERE IN SANTA MONICA

We can find words of wisdom, common sense and hope. Other than mine, I mean. Some people try to make me out to be an impossible-to-please nostalgic malcontent who only wants Santa Monica to be that sleepy beach town of the '50s. First of all, although my family did spend some summer vacation time here in the '50s I was too young to know where I was. When I made the move to LA in 1980, while exploring the sprawling urban mass I stumbled upon SM, and that was it, love at first sight. It took six years, in other parts of LA, for the best schools for my son Chris – I know we all think SM has a lock on that, but it's not so, and wasn't then – but I finally made it. And became, after an arduous four-year process, an owner of a condo I could never otherwise afford, through Santa Monica's TORCA program, now dismantled. It's so wrong that our Council leaders over the decades have not focused on home ownership (generational wealth building), keeping longtime Santa Monicans in their homes, and owning those homes, instead of only the quick fix of rent control, that keeps people renters-not-owners for life. And also, not incidentally, makes for a political party (SMRR) with an iron grip on things. And now they are backing the overdevelopment that is ruining the long standing world-famous character of Santa Monica, also foisting the fallacy that building thousands more "affordable units" will get people off the streets. What a scam we have been sold. It does increase the number of renter voters though, doesn't it?

What have we gotten right lately? Well, the approval of a bid for revitalization of our legendary concert venue, the Santa Monica Civic, is quite a big deal. It's a conglomerate with good cred and deep pockets, and the deal is the taxpayers of Santa Monica, already stretched so thin, will not have to pony up a penny. It's a bit of a miracle, but one that fits perfectly into the narrative, well-supported but up until now little recognized, that Santa Monica is and should be known as, a mecca for the arts. I have been beating that drum for

SEE **CURIOUS CITY** PAGE 6

GAS PRICES IN SANTA MONICA

76	1776 Cloverfield Blvd	$5.07
SHELL	1802 Cloverfield Blvd	$5.09
CHEVRON	1819 Cloverfield Blvd	$5.79
MOBIL	731 Santa Monica Blvd	$5.59
LINCOLN BLVD CAR WASH	1624 Lincoln Blvd	$5.59
WORLD	1801 Lincoln Blvd	$5.15
SHELL	1866 Lincoln Blvd	$5.49
SPEEDWAY EXPRESS	2555 Lincoln Blvd	$5.15
CHEVRON	1732 Lincoln Blvd	$5.50
ARCO	332 Pico Blvd	$5.19
SINCLAIR	1944 Pico Blvd	$5.09
CHEVRON	1330 Santa Monica Blvd	$5.49
CHEVRON	1348 Pico Blvd	$5.70
CHEVRON	432 Wilshire Blvd	$5.50

*Prices paying in card

Average gasoline prices in Los Angeles have fallen 8.3 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging $4.93/g today, according to GasBuddy's survey of 2,135 stations in Los Angeles. Prices in Los Angeles are 37.1 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand 7.3 cents per gallon higher than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has fallen 1.8 cents in the last week and stands at $3.82 per gallon.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Los Angeles was priced at $4.09/g while the most expensive was $6.09/g, a difference of $2.00/g. The lowest price in the state was $3.99/g while the highest was $6.79/g, a difference of $2.80/g.

The national average price of gasoline has fallen 5.8 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging $3.50/g today. The national average is down 15.9 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 1.9 cents per gallon lower than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country.

Santa Monica Daily Press

CURIOUS CITY

FROM PAGE 5

years, as has Phil Brock since I met him 12 years ago. That was actually an issue of sports, with the folks in Cultural Affairs stonewalling me on why a basketball court at Joslyn should not be closed. But, sports, arts, they're both resident oriented.

We blew it on the Sci Fi Museum that was supposed to go into the old Sears Building, because no one on city staff checked enough to find out the guy behind it is a convicted child molester. And no one picked up the ball to lobby for the location of the new Meow Wolf artscape, so cool, in Santa Monica, and so it will be built in Westchester. Close, but no cigar. A real loss. Here, we do need a master plan, to promote Santa Monica as a City for the Arts. Is destroying the Bergamot Art Center a good idea?

I CHIDED BROCK

For not taking a stronger stand in the beginning on saving the Civic, but he always indicated he would vote to keep it, and did. I don't always agree with the politics Brock plays, but there is no question the well-being of residents here is his primary motivation, and no Council member has put in more hours, in every area of our civic concerns. We need more trips to DC where the power and money for Santa Monica is, and fewer dreams of Vienna.

And don't ever forget, especially as you vote in November: our School Board fought to take over the Civic and turn it into a basketball gym, after misspending tens of millions of dollars on faulty and unneeded buildings at Samohi, and demolishing a building that did not need to go, the History Building. I believe that is a stain those elected members will carry to their graves. I mean, "The History Building," the iconic center and heart of Samohi going back nearly a century, and they didn't need to tear it down, and they brushed aside all community outrage and pleading, and professional studies to the contrary. They had their master plan, and nothing could get in the way. And I'm betting they will be asking us for even more bond money, maybe another quarter billion, above the more than $1.1 billion we have already given them, because they have not yet completed that Samohi master plan.

This is way more than enough is enough. Santa Monica is a gem, and deserves much better leadership and decision making, on Council and on the School Board. Please become informed. It's easier than you think, and so important, if you love this little city. Ask a trusted friend who you know does understand all this. Then VOTE.

I GOT ALL WOUND UP

Again. And will have to delay the observations of others who care, like Houman David Hemati, Lana Negrete, and Ken Burns. Stay tuned, every other Wednesday.

Charles Andrews has lived in Santa Monica for 38 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

IT'S DECKING SEASON!

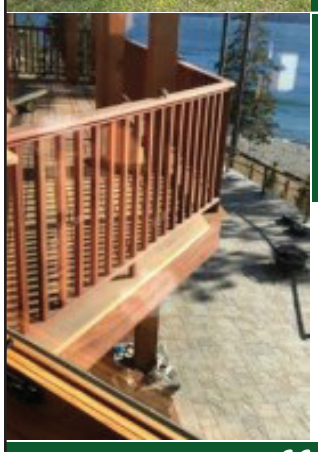


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LINCOLN

FROM PAGE 1

information that we've been talking about all year ... it (also) gives them real-world skills of interviewing, interviewing skills, as well as using academic language and an interview (in) a professional setting," Lincoln Humanities teacher Elizabeth Hartson said of the event.

The "Who Am I?" And "What is a Worthwhile Life?" questions were discussed in all subject areas this year, ranging from talks in subjects like English, history, math, science and electives. In class sessions, teachers used sentence framing to give them the language for a successful interview, transferring lessons in the classroom to conversational skills.

Students were able to prepare answers for their interviews ahead of time, but weren't able to take these scripted answers into the interview, mirroring a real-life job hunt and building aptitude in public speaking.

"(It's) giving them confidence," Hartson said. "I think in most situations in the real world, there'll be times when you need to present yourself in a positive light, (and) I think throughout school and then when they're looking for a job, I think it's just a good confidence builder."

Hartson served as advisor for the event alongside fellow Humanities teacher Sara Greenfield, who called Worthwhile Life one of the best days of the year for her students.

"(They) rise to the occasion, they're all nervous when they come into the interview, then as they leave, they're super relieved and excited and proud," Greenfield said.

The public speaking setting also allowed students to break out of their classroom shells for the day, aided by the adult volunteers that kept a curious, vibrant energy while speaking to the young Lincoln Lions.

"(For) kids who might have struggled in class at times, it's really great to see how good they feel after doing the interviews, (and) our interviewers really make a point on focusing on everything positive," Hartson said. "It's just a really heartwarming, nice experience for everyone."

thomas@smdp.com





Photo by Thomas Leffler

LINCOLN: Seventh-grade students at Lincoln Middle School took part in the annual Worthwhile Life Interviews on Tuesday, a preparation for potential career paths.

HOMELESS

FROM PAGE 2

giving them a long-acting shot.

LOSING TRACK OF PATIENTS

One of the biggest challenges street doctors face in administering these shots is following up with patients.

In Kern County, Patel hasn't seen the woman he's looking for since his team gave her first antipsychotic shot almost two months ago. Now she's past due for another dose.

It's worrying, Patel said, "because I don't know how she did on it."

The last place they saw her was at an encampment known as "The Sump" in the Central Valley farming community of Lamont, where she lived in a plywood shack along a muddy ditch behind a farm. But code enforcement recently cleared everyone out of that area, and Patel's team doesn't have a phone number or any other way to contact her.

The first place they look is another encampment known as "the Shrine," because it once held a shrine to Santa Muerte, a Mexican saint of death often prayed to by drug dealers. The team drives the van through an empty field of dead, yellow grass. Several people are living in room-sized pits they've dug into the dirt and covered with tarps and sheets of metal. Next to the vacant land is a vineyard, with rows of vines dotted with small, green grapes.

She's not there, so the team hands out sack lunches and bottles of water, then gets back in the van and leaves.

"We've seen results," said Kirk McGowan, a street medicine nurse with Akido. "But we've seen more failures than successes. That's just kind of the nature of the situation."

WHO SHOULD PRESCRIBE ANTIPSYCHOTIC INJECTIONS?

In most cases, the people prescribing and administering antipsychotic shots in homeless encampments are general practice doctors — not specially trained psychiatrists. That's because despite the growing prevalence of street medicine, street psychiatrists are still rare, according to a recent USC report.

"You look over your shoulder and there's not a psychiatrist there helping you out," King said. "And we want to meet the need. We want to take care of these patients. They're really, really ill, they're really disorganized, and suffering and dying on the streets."

There are no legal restrictions preventing a general practice doctor from administering these injections. But some practitioners think the responsibility should be reserved for psychiatric providers.

"These medications are in there for an extended period of time," said Keri Weinstock, a psychiatric nurse practitioner who practices street medicine in Shasta County. "They do come with risks. There are specialty things that come along with some of these specialty meds, and it's a lot to learn when you have to know everything else, too."

Some street doctors who give these shots seek out additional psychiatric training, while others learn on the job — often with a psychiatrist on speed dial, just in case.

"I don't think it's rocket science to diagnose schizophrenia, as long as we've done it with some thoughtfulness," King said.

In-the-field diagnoses aren't always clear-cut, Patel said. Sometimes, people do such a good job of hiding their symptoms that it's hard to tell they're dealing with psychosis. Or, instead of experiencing obvious hallucinations or other symptoms commonly associated with schizophrenia, patients experience "negative symptoms," such as extreme social withdrawal.

When those types of cases arise, Patel calls a psychologist for a second opinion.

While these drugs are generally considered safe, they do come with a risk of side effects that can include dizziness, sedation, stiffness and decreased mobility. Those symptoms might be no big deal for someone living in a house, but for someone on the street, could be catastrophic, said Dr. Shayan Rab, a street psychiatrist with Los Angeles County's Homeless Outreach and Mobile Engagement team. It could make someone more vulnerable to being attacked or robbed, or prevent them from accessing food or shelter.

"It's a very serious kind of action that's being taken and a lot of time needs to be spent before you say, 'Hey, this individual is safe for a long-acting injection,'" he said.

To make sure a patient doesn't have an adverse reaction, doctors typically give them an oral dose of the same medication for a few days before administering the shot.

There's also a risk that after a street doctor gives someone a shot, that patient could later get sent to the hospital on a temporary psychiatric hold. Doctors there might not know the patient already has a long-acting dose of antipsychotic medication in their body, and might give them another dose.

Before giving someone a shot, Dr. Aislinn Bird wants to be 100% sure their symptoms are actually caused by psychotic disorder, such as schizophrenia, and not complex PTSD, major depressive disorder, methamphetamine use, or something else. Overdiagnosis of psychotic disorders is rampant, especially in the African American community, Bird said.

"You have to be sure you really know the correct diagnosis," said Bird, who serves as director of Integrated Care at Health Care for the Homeless in Alameda County.

But Dr. Susan Partovi, who practices street medicine on Skid Row in Los Angeles, said that's an "antiquated way of thinking." When someone is experiencing psychosis, it's an emergency that needs to be treated as soon as possible, no matter the cause, she said. Her preference is to treat the symptoms first, and then see if the patient wants to work on other issues, such as substance use.

Antipsychotic injectables, such as Abilify and Invega, tend to be most prevalent in street medicine practices. But street doctors also administer long-acting injectable HIV medication, as well as medication for addiction such as Vivitrol — an injectable, long-acting medication that can help reduce cravings for opioids and alcohol, and protect against overdose.

SILENCING THE VOICES IN HIS HEAD

Ricardo Fonseca Jr., who goes by "Ricky," has been homeless for two years, living in a tent behind a Dollar Tree, then in a park in rural Kern County. The 31-year-old said he was working as a welder until he had a sudden mental breakdown and started hearing voices.

The voices said horrible things to him. Sometimes they yelled, and he yelled back, scaring those around him. He used methamphetamine to cope.

"It was getting to the point where I just felt like killing myself," Fonseca said.

Two months ago, Fonseca started taking a monthly shot of the antipsychotic drug Abilify. Since then, "everything's changed," he said.

Now, Fonseca is staying at a friend's house and considering going to school. He says he's stopped using meth.

"I can finally hear the birds and the crickets," he said. "I couldn't hear them before."

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

BUDGET

FROM PAGE 1

The original choice, selected by City staff, to create funding for the four extra officers was to eliminate two one-time projects (sidewalks and security cameras), eliminate increases to city-wide facilities renewal program beyond base funding of $2 million and finally the use of Measure CS funds.

Each option comes with its own unique set of pros and cons. Measure CS was approved by voters in 2022 and increases taxes paid by visitors when staying in Santa Monica. The tax increase was pitched to voters "to address homelessness, improve 911 emergency response times and neighborhood police protection, make public areas safer and cleaner, including streets, sidewalks, parks, and the beach, and provide other vital City services."

Councilmember Gleam Davis expressed concern with the proposals.

"I was reading some historical documents from the early 2010s 2012 and back then there were some financial issues with cities, including Santa Monica. They were put on Moody's watch list, because we were tapping into our reserves [and there is] a risk that if we start tapping into our reserves, rating agencies will consider downgrading our bond," she said.

Police Chief Ramon Batista explained that currently, the department stands at 212 active officers, with 16 positions vacant. With the new officers, the department can now hire a total of 20 officers. Fifty five officers have been hired over the past two years.

There were options available to Council including manipulation of other projects on the CIP list or possibly additional cutbacks to hire eight new officers. However, few alternatives were discussed and Vice Mayor Lana Negrete was the only councilmember to suggest an alternative, which was to substitute eliminating the annual paving and sidewalk repair program with the court/ally equivalent. "I feel like if we're going to do Sophie's Choice that seems like a better choice," she said.

Davis was in agreement, remarking that part of her day job was dealing with "slip 'n fall" lawsuits in the City of Los Angeles and anything that might increase those in the City of Santa Monica was not a good idea.

Councilmember Caroline Torosis asked Batista which would be more useful to the police department, CCTV or extra sworn officers, to which he replied, "When faced with a question about whether a person needs pants or shoes, a person needs both. This case, the department needs both."

The department ultimately received both after Council chose to make additional cuts to facilities programs rather than cut the cameras.

The final motion was to remove the annual paving program from the Held List (FY25-26 $250,000) and divert that to police department recruitment and hiring. The CCTV program goes back into the Funded List and the $500,000 alley renewal also goes into the police department staffing and recruitment. And on an ongoing basis, the city wide facility program will be reduced by $500,000. Finally, the Quick Build program will move from the Held List and go into the Funded list.

The issue of reducing airport fees was also discussed, but little to no action was possible. This is because under the conditions of the Consent Decree together with rules instigated by the FAA, the airport must remain non-profit and any surplus monies cannot be invested in other elements of the airport. Consequently, fees must be reduced to bring the profit back to zero. Breaking these terms could result in very expensive federal litigation.

The motion was made by Brock, seconded by Negrete and passed unanimously 7-0. A final public hearing of the budget will be presented to Council on June 25, 2024.

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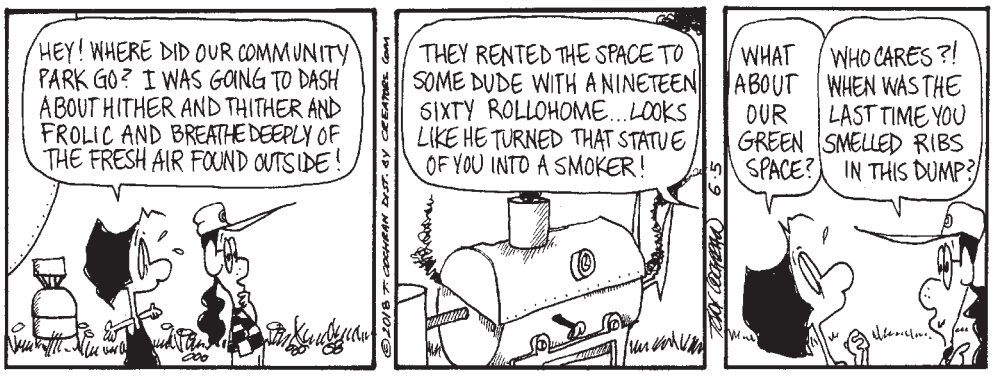


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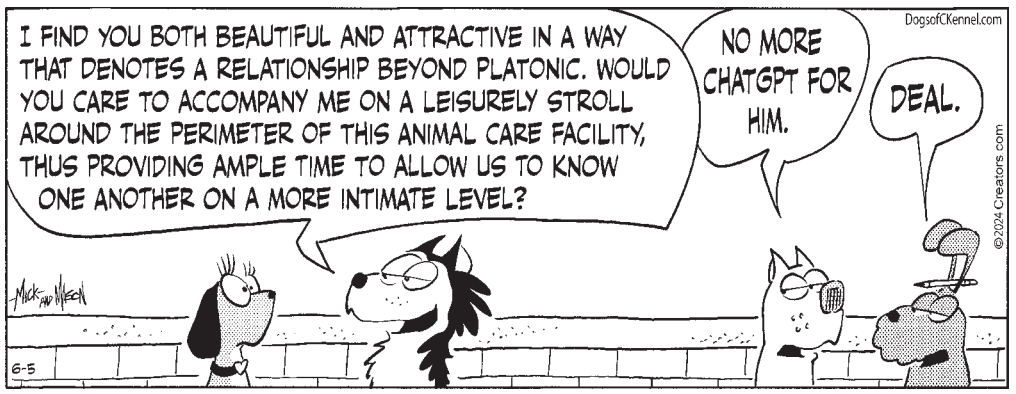
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



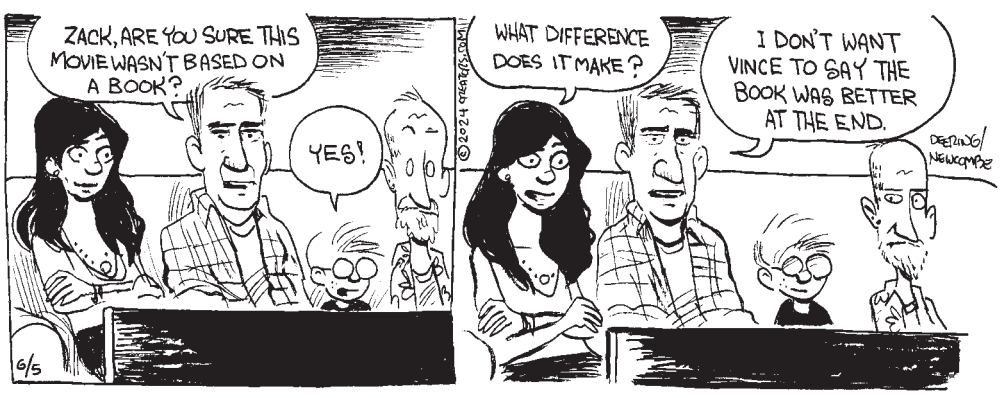
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



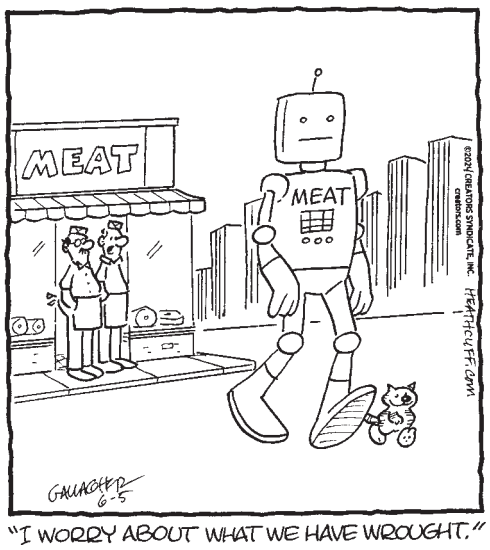
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

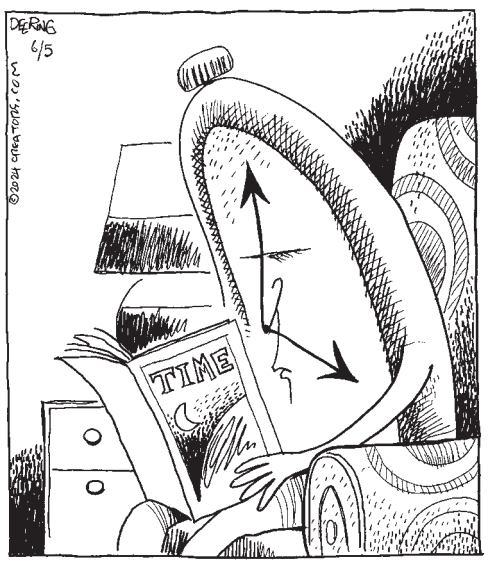
By PETER GALLAGHER



"I WORRY ABOUT WHAT WE HAVE WROUGHT."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 18 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

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Musically minded

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

Anvil	Drums	Key	Rock
Aria	Euphonium	Lyre	Score
Band	Fife	Melancholy	Slow
Buccina	Flute	Minuet	Tabor
Bugle	Four	Mistake	Tempo
Chang	Genre	Noisy	Tenor
Cheng	Gong	Oboe	Time
Citar	Hammond organ	Opera	Treble
Cowbell	Haydn	Piano	Trio
Crescent	Hear	Quartet	Ukulele
Crwth	Horn	Ready	Warm up
Drone		Rhythm	

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (June 5)

You've been holding back on a big move, but no more. Opportunity is ripe and for the seizing. You'll meet people worthy of a deep investment of time and energy, and you'll proceed in fascinating dance, weaving together shared aims and mutual appreciation. More highlights: proud trophies, epic gatherings of loved ones, and a new talent that takes you places. Virgo and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 2, 22, 19, 4 and 16.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Maybe when you first started pursuing a certain outcome, you just thought it was cool or popular, or you believed it would help you fit in. Now you see deeper and more personal reasons for the pursuit, and eventually, you will have what desire.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You don't have to disarm anyone -- with your quick timing, no one has a chance to put up their social defenses in the first place. You'll get someone laughing about the very thing they may have been trying to hide just moments before.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Embrace your own polarities and you become powerful. Your wishes, including and especially the goodness you want for others, will be promptly delivered upon. Though your own good fortune makes you feel happy, theirs makes you even happier.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Nothing causes more misunderstanding than wanting because it alters perception, warping the entire world around the object of desire. Considering the bent points of view you're up against today, seeing eye to eye on anything is a wonder worth celebrating.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The word "caper" can refer to a goofy prank or ridiculous adventure. Caper can also refer to an unopened flower bud used in Mediterranean dishes. Either sort can add a burst of fun to the day, so why not incorporate both?

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There are many qualities nonessential to be possessed: charm, warmth, athleticism, beauty -- all sprinkles on top of the personality sundae. But a sense of personal responsibility speaks to the very core of humanity. Those without it should be avoided today.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). It's a little hard to appreciate the things that are readily available to you, and this does not make you a bad person; it just makes you a person. Two steps back from your familiar environment and resources are all your heart will need to open in a new awareness.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). It only takes three seconds to sum up a new person, and this can be enough to sustain many interactions. In the days to come, you'll meet people worth paying astute attention to so you may learn the deeper facets over a long period of time.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You are upfront about your intentions to have fun, which is in and of itself an act of responsibility. And even though you are warm and communicative, you take care of yourself by maintaining the amount of distance that gives you freedom and autonomy.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You sense when people want something from you, and you don't rest until you figure out what it is. Relatedly, you're not so easy to sell to. If the product, idea or course of action is right for you, you'll do it, and if not, you'll be impossible to close.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Love is a creative endeavor. Some would argue it is the creative endeavor. Each choice you make contributes to the art. From clothing to lighting to casting, you'll plot the action to support your unfolding love story.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). So far, no person born of earth has been able to control the weather, but someone invented refrigeration, and now ice can be made in places that were once uninhabitable. You'll find workarounds to bring comfort to yourself and your people.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

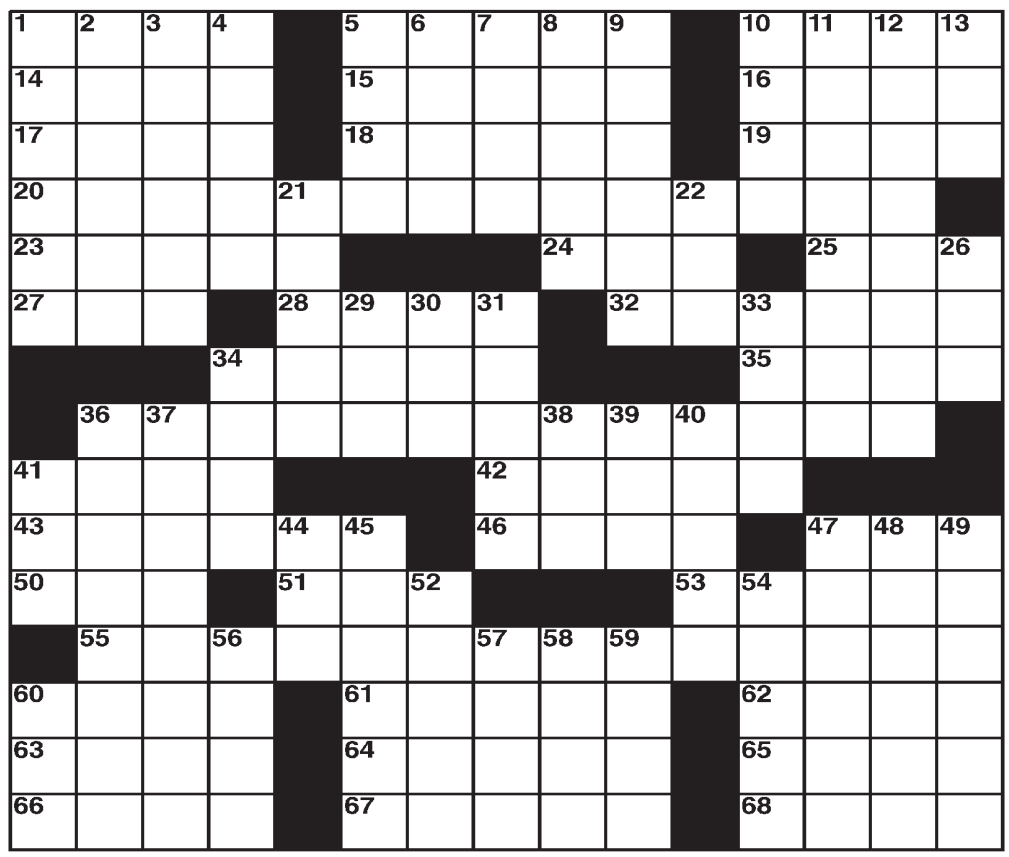
ANY WHICH WAY by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Unconfident guess
5 Plumber's tubes
10 Some Wall Street traders, for short
14 Secret message
15 Wrestling event venue
16 Center of an apple
17 Russia's __ Mountains
18 Jacks and aces
19 Be adjacent to
20 Assume what's been asked
23 "Am not!" rebuttal
24 German "the"
25 Animation artwork
27 Maritime plea
28 Sled-dog race command
32 Widen, as your pupils
34 Italian salami city
35 Female choir voice
36 Take unnecessary chances
41 Hungarian city that merged with Pest
42 Becomes worthy of
43 Familiar maxim
46 Recipe part
47 PC's "brain"
50 41, in old Rome
51 Paper Mate competitor
53 Tiny land in the sea
55 Observe while unseen
60 *Star Wars* princess
61 Sink's outlet
62 Lawn implement
63 Tourney round exemptions
64 Perrier alternative
65 Assert confidently
66 Kid around
67 Back in fashion
68 Prescriptions, for short

DOWN

1 Goes diving with tanks
2 Spanish performer in a ring
3 Familiar maxims
4 Karate awards
5 Rate of walking
6 Baghdad's land
7 Country in the Andes
8 All through
9 Talked fresh to
10 Smoothie superfruit
11 Audio version of spam
12 Dark-haired woman
13 Broadway background
21 Slugger's big shot
22 Quadri- minus one
26 Zodiac feline
29 Numero __ (the boss)
30 Piglet's mom
31 Detests
33 Chem classes
34 Mardi __ celebration
36 Dartboard's center
37 Curious collectibles
38 Long-tailed rodent
39 Mine resource
40 Remove, as a corsage
41 Jury enclosure
44 Attorneys' org.
45 Not as tame
47 Split open
48 Topped out
49 Speaks
52 Whittle something
54 "Get lost!"
56 Dawn direction
57 Manner of walking
58 Untruthful one
59 Part of AD
60 JFK successor



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06/05/24

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

TAX

FROM PAGE 3

The reconciliation rule also works the other way around. People who overestimate their income and receive less subsidies than they're eligible for could get money back. And for those who make less than 400% of the federal poverty level, there are limits to how much they'd have to repay the IRS if they were to owe.

At the time of learning they'll owe the IRS, some people question whether they should keep their health insurance, Casillas said. But people may also owe if they go without insurance. That's because California is one of five states that requires residents to have health insurance. Those who go without it may face penalties.

MANY SAVE MONEY WITH COVERED CALIFORNIA

Some people who have encountered this issue in the past see it as a tradeoff, Casillas said. They pay very little for their health insurance every month, but pay hundreds or a couple thousand dollars when they file their taxes. For many people, what they end up owing the IRS is still less than what they'd pay for a health plan at full price or what they'd pay for a hospital visit, Casillas said.

"We just tell them, 'Hey, you know what, these things can be unpredictable. You want to have some savings,'" she said.

Correctly estimating next year's earnings can be especially difficult for people who freelance or job hop, causing their estimates to be less precise, experts say.

"A lot of people on the ACA marketplace do have incomes that can be very volatile. They might be piecing together part-time jobs or are self-employed or small business owners," Cox said.

Hernandez said he advises people enrolled in a Covered California plan to find an agent of their own and check in with them every so often. Because agents get commissions from insurance companies, this service is often free to the public. This is the best way to be informed and avoid unexpected charges, he said.

Supported by the California Health Care Foundation (CHCF), which works to ensure that people have access to the care they need, when they need it, at a price they can afford. Visit www.chcf.org to learn more. This article was originally published by CalMatters.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

Help Wanted

Cognosphere LLC d/b/a HoYoverse seeks a Live Operation Specialist in Santa Monica, CA towork closely w/ development & live operation team to elevate the gaming exp. of our players.Collect & manage feedback & suggestions from players & deliver meaningful insights to thedevel team. Position is based in our Santa Monica, CA office but role holder is eligible to workremotely w/ manager approval. SALARY RANGE: $93,600 - $95,000 per year. APPLICANTS:Email resume to: recruiting_na@hoyoverse.com. Reference code # 7910662 when applying.

Sr Analytics Engineer (InVenture Capital Corp d/b/a Tala)(Santa Monica, CA) Drive optmztions by cnvrtng raw data into actnble insghts by tying tgthr mble, demgrphic, operatnl & spndng data pnts. Reqs bach deg or forgn equiv in Data Sci, Anlytcs, or rltd anlytcl fld + 5 yrs exp in a BI, Data Anlyst or Bus Anlyst role (or Mstrs Deg+3 yrs exp in the same) Telecommuting Permitted $146,744-151,000/yr Apply by email to princesa.choy@tala.co ref: Sr Analytics Engineer in subj line.

Help Wanted

Sr. AR Designer, Concept (5) - Multiple Openings sought by Snap Inc. (Santa Monica, CA) *Hybrid work permitted - Snap practices a "default together" approach & expects team members to work in Santa Monica ofc at least 80% of time (avg 4 days/wk). Create storyboards for RND lenses & generate new ideas. Base salary: $167,523-$189,000/yr. Eligible for discretionary performance-based bonus award. Eligible for equity in form of RSUs. Our Benefits: https://careers.snap.com/benefits. Email Resume: apply2snap@snap.com. Ref. Job Code #SARDC5-SM-0524. EOE.

Help Wanted

Environmental Design Project Manager (Playa Del Rey, CA) Work w/ team members for the creation of art assets basedon client requests. Bachelor's deg in graphic dsgn or another closely-rltd field; 2 yrs of work exp providing project supportfor envrmt'l graphics dsgn projects; Proficiency in Adobe InDesign & Adobe Photoshop. The wage range is $62,192 -$80,000. Please send resume to svaldes@selbertperkins.com, or Selbert Perkins Design c/o Robin Perkins, 432 CulverBlvd., Playa Del Rey, CA 90293.

PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED HERE

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



WEDNESDAY | JUNE 5

VENICE HERITAGE MUSEUM RIBBON CUTTING

Join the Venice Chamber of Commerce for a VCC Happy Hour Mixer and Ribbon Cutting at the Venice Heritage Museum, 228 Main St., Venice, beginning at 5 p.m. Mix and mingle with Venice Chamber members and prospective members alike. Enjoy beer and wine at a cash bar and complimentary small bites from host. Members $10, Prospective Members $15. For more information, visit business.venicechamber.net.

THURSDAY | JUNE 6

SMC LYRIC CHORUS WELCOMING THE SUMMER

Sing along with the Santa Monica College Emeritus College Lyric Chorus during this performance of Broadway tunes to welcome the spirit of summer. The chorus was founded over 50 years ago and is led by conductor Tom Gerhold. Begins at 11 a.m. in the Martin Luther King Jr. Auditorium at the Santa Monica Public Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.

HOUSING COMMISSION

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

HOUSING SOLUTIONS PANEL

The Santa Monica History Museum presents a dynamic panel discussion delving into modern housing solutions and the future of housing in Santa Monica. Frances Anderton, former host of KCRW's "DNA: Design and Architecture" and author of "Common Ground: Multifamily Housing in Los Angeles," will moderate the evening. Panelists include former Santa Monica Mayor Denny Zane from Santa Monicans for Renters Rights, Bruce Fairty representing Cypress Equity, Jesús Hernández from Community Corporation of Santa Monica, and Jing Yeo, planning manager from the City of Santa Monica. Admission is free. Begins at 6 p.m. at the Santa Monica History Museum, 3250 7th St.

SMC MUSIC DEPARTMENT CONCERT

Using excerpts from Duke Ellington's three Sacred Concert settings as the centerpiece, the Santa Monica College Music Department presents a collaboration between the SMC Jazz Ensemble, Chamber Choir, Concert Chorale and Jazz Vocal Ensemble. Tickets $15. Begins at 7:30 p.m. at the SMC Performing Arts Center, 1310 11th St. For more information, visit smc.edu.

NOMA MEETING

Critical city issues will be combining with Midsummer fun at the North of Montana Avenue Association meeting Thursday, June 6, 2024, on Zoom. Preparation and programming for NOMA's annual Make Music Day bash in Palisades Park are up for discussion along with new SM Fire Chief Matthew Hallock's presentation of his department's 2024-2025 Strategic Plan. Members will also learn of latest developments on SB-9 — the controversial 'lot-split' law —- from attorney John Murdock. The meeting begins at 7 pm and all are invited, log-on information available at www.smnoma,org.

FRIDAY | JUNE 7

PICO ROOTS MARKETPLACE GRAND OPENING

Join Pico Roots Marketplace, 1819 Pico Blvd., for a grand opening ceremony at 10 a.m. As the only small-business incubator in Santa Monica, attendees will have the opportunity to interact and purchase unique products from vendors like Adey Gojo Coffee and Catering, Tiny Bee Cards and Lucky Bug Clothing. The even will also include music by DJ KillaCam, refreshments, a community art project and a professional portrait studio. Registration is free, RSVP required. To RSVP, visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/pico-roots-marketplace-grand-opening-tickets-902858051737.

CHEESE & WINE NIGHT

Andrew's Cheese Shop, 728 Montana Ave., will be hosting an evening of wine and cheese pairings beginning at 7:30 p.m. The brand-new event showcases an array of cheeses expertly matched with unique wines and complementary accompaniments. There will be six distinct cheese, wine and accoutrement pairings alone with crudité grazing boards with fruits and vegetables to nibble on between tastings. To top it all off, enjoy a dessert float using Elio Perrone's Bigaro, a sweet blend of Moscato and Brachetto. Event for ages 21+, tickets $75. To purchase, visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/june-7th-cheese-wine-night-tickets-900150754137.

FIRST FRIDAY FOOD TRUCK FEST

Abbot Kinney Boulevard's fun and festive night in Venice will feature a food truck festival, running from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Chances are you will find whatever food you are craving, along with special merchant events. Free admission, food trucks will be at 1525 Abbot Kinney Blvd., at the corner of Palms Blvd. For more information, visit abbotkinneyblvd.com/firstfridays.

HIGHWAYS 35TH BIRTHDAY

Highways Performance Space proudly celebrates 35 years of groundbreaking performances with an exclusive event, Highways 35th Birthday, featuring Sean Dorsey Dance and honoring The Los Angeles Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence with Highways' inaugural "BEHOLD!" Award. The anniversary event at Highways Performance Space will take place on Friday and Saturday at 8:30 p.m. The event also celebrates Sean Dorsey Dance's 20th Anniversary Season, as they premiere renewed transgender choreographer Sean Dorsey's new full-length work, "The Lost Art of Dreaming," for its Southern California premiere. Tickets are $35 for general admission and $25 for students and seniors on both dates. To purchase, visit highwaysperformance.org/shows.


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