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smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

Volume 23 Issue 143 THURSDAY 6/6/24 smdp.com

Inclusive dance group gains GoFundMe support to stay afloat

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

A place where anybody can be themselves resonated with the local community, who recently supported a dance troupe dedicated to inclusivity.

This past month, Santa Monica-based non-profit Free 2 Be Me Dance, which hosts dance classes for people with disabilities, launched a GoFundMe campaign to keep its doors open. Seeking funding for dance studio rentals and staff development, the initial goal of $10,000 to stay afloat this summer was reached in six days.

The organizers, including founder Colleen Perry, then raised the goal to $25,000 to remain open into the fall semester, which the community also answered the call on. The GoFundMe stands at $33,766 collected as of Wednesday, something Perry called "unbelievable" support.



Courtesy Photo

DANCE: Free 2 Be Me Dance's GoFundMe campaign has gained over $33,000, helping the dance non-profit aimed at giving those with disabilities a creative outlet.

"We're over the moon thrilled, but we can't stop," Perry said. "My job is not done at this point, because our future, our legacy isn't guaranteed, so we have to keep pushing to keep getting more funds."

Perry started Free 2 Be Me in 2009 as a way for those with Down Syndrome to express themselves creatively, taking inspiration from a similar program started within the Boston Ballet. A former ballet dancer in her own right, Perry coordinated getting students involved through the Down Syndrome Association of Los Angeles, starting up classes with donated studio space at Westside School of Ballet.

"People with Down Syndrome have all sorts of doctor's appointments, physical therapy

SEE **DANCE** PAGE 11

Amos brings the blues in blackbox performance

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

The BroadStage complex lends itself to some unique concert atmospheres, including the usage of the indoor-outdoor hybrid Plaza space, which hosts the "blackbox" series of blues rhythm performances.

Curating the blackbox series has been NAACP award-winning author and Grammy-nominated producer The Reverend Shawn Amos, who himself will be taking the Plaza stage Saturday evening. Now in its sixth year, Amos took up the blackbox endeavor as a responsibility to create a diverse space and bring artists of color to the BroadStage.

"The goal is to introduce the

SEE **BLUES** PAGE 4



Courtesy Photo

BLUES: The Reverend Shawn Amos will return to BroadStage on Saturday as part of his "blackbox" series in the Plaza space.

Salvation Army celebrates National Doughnut Day with Downtown giveaway

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

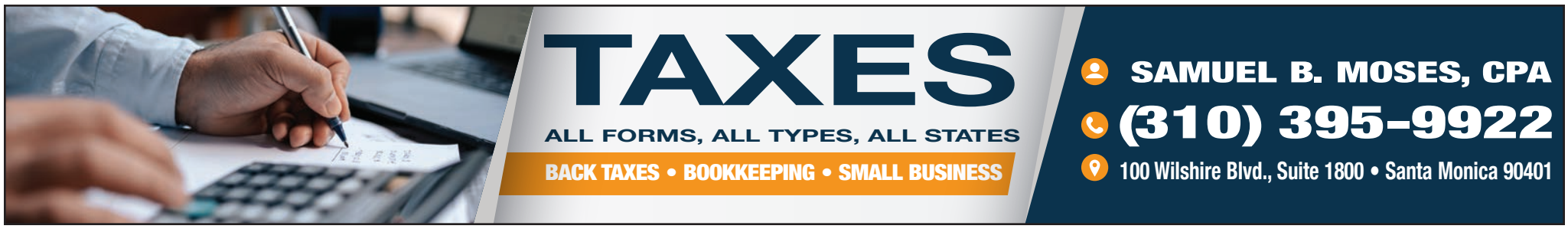
Without a shadow of doubt, America's biggest contribution to Western civilization is the trusty doughnut and as such, we should embrace every opportunity to celebrate these dollops of unadulterated deliciousness.

Once again, the Salvation Army is using the occasion to offer the people of Santa Monica free sugar-coated snacks, along with games, prizes and even a rumored doughnut eating contest with our very own Mayor Phil Brock competing.

Many might not realize the history between these glazed, heavenly hoops of happiness and the Salvation Army and it's a connection that goes back over a century. Doughnuts, in one form or another, have been around since Dutch settlers brought them to the US in the early 18th century, but they proved pivotal to morale in the muddy fields of northern France during the First World War.

In 1917, the Salvation Army began a mission to provide spiritual and emotional support for US soldiers fighting in France during WWI. About 250 volunteers traveled overseas and set up small huts located near the front lines where they could give soldiers clothes, supplies and baked goods. After discovering that serving baked goods would be difficult considering

SEE **DOUGHNUT** PAGE 4



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AROUND TOWN

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Food Events Aplenty

SMDP's Weekly Guide to Food & Entertainment Goings-On In & Around Town includes National Donut Day offers, Eeeeeatscon Festival, Rose on Rose Fest, and much more!

Night Market Returns to The Bungalow Every Thursday This Summer: This free event, open to the public for guests of all ages and pet-friendly, kicks off on Thursday, June 6, and will run every Thursday from 5 - 11 p.m. through August 29. Families can also enjoy a kids' play area with complimentary face painting, alongside various brand activations, celebrity appearances, and DJ performances. Thursday, June 6 features actor Jason Momoa pouring Meili Vodka and performing with his band ÖOF TATATÁ. Aaron Paul of "Breaking Bad" fame will showcase his Dos Hombres Mezcal. https://thebungalow.com/santa-monica/#calendar



Courtesy image
FOOD: There are several events happening including the EEEEEATSCON this weekend.

Pico Roots Marketplace Grand Opening: Community Corp. of SaMo is hosting the grand opening of this marketplace home to diverse, local small businesses, with a DJ, refreshments, and activities. "As Santa Monica's first and only small business hub, attendees will have the opportunity to interact and purchase unique products from vendors." Friday, June 7, 10a.m. @ 1819 Pico Blvd. Register here: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/pico-roots-marketplace-grand-opening-tickets-902858051737

Mycology Workshop @ Main Street Community Garden: Discover the fascinating world of fungi at this workshop. Learn about mushroom cultivation, identification and their ecological roles. Speaker: Jamie Oliver. Workshop begins at 10 a.m. Come at 9 a.m. to wander around the gardens and grab a cup of coffee. Limited seating, bring your own chair or blanket. Saturday, June 8, 9 - 11a.m. @ 2318 Main St. Questions? Email gardens@santamonica.gov.

Proper Presents Perspectives with Jim Ganzer: Santa Monica Proper Hotel is hosting an exhibit by Malibu surf legend and underground LA icon, Jim Ganzer. Discover his "Life Lived" collection, featuring black & white photography from the 1960s-1980s, ink drawings, and furniture. Sip cocktails while enjoying a panel discussion and book signing with Ganzer himself. Saturday, June 8 @ 700 Wilshire Blvd. https://www.santamonica.com/event/proper-presents-perspectives-with-jim-ganzer/

SEE **EVENTS** PAGE 8

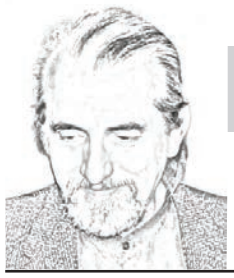
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OPINION **NOTEWORTHY**

Charles Andrews | Send comments to editor@smdp.com

"Turandot," Trucks Tedeschi, Toledo



Courtesy photo

MUSIC: The LA Opera performance of "TURANDOT" is almost gone.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

TEDESCHI TRUCKS BAND, LITTLE FEAT – Susan Tedeschi was a very well regarded blueswoman (guitar, soulful vocals) with albums and tours, before she met and married Derek Trucks, nephew of original Allman Brothers Band drummer Butch Trucks. I first noticed Derek 30 years ago from a video of him playing "Layla" with such slide guitar fire and finesse that it must have made Duane Allman sit up in his grave for a better listen. He joined the ABB in 2010. So this is one of the best married musician duos ever, and they tour with a 12-piece band that rocks those blues. Little Feat? One of the best LA bands ever, and that's saying something. How many groups could lose such a towering talent as Lowell George (only 34) and still be so good 55 years later? (Still the original four players, plus two added in the last five years.) This is a pairing for people who really love great musicianship. Fri 7 p.m., Greek Theatre, LA, $50-700.

THEATRICUM BOTANICUM – Founded more than half a century ago by blacklisted writer/actor Will Geer, his family have carried on superbly, and his daughter Ellen is directing "A Winter's Tale." They are known for their Shakespeare and performed "A Midsummer Night's Dream" their first season, and every year since. TB is a great reason for living in LA! Topanga Canyon Road has been reopened quickly after a landslide, so you have no excuse to put it off. "A Winter's Tale" Sat 7:30, "Midsummer" Sun 3:30, $15-60.

LA OPERA, "TURANDOT" – This may be the best opera production I have ever seen. (Don't make fun of a rocker – I have seen a few, 40, anyway, from LA to Santa Fe to Italy.) I knew how spectacular, from photos, David Hockney set design was, but the singing was thrilling, especially the chorus (I love choruses) and soprano Angela Meade and Guanqun Yu, and of course Russell Thomas, an LA Opera favorite. Yes, it's expensive, but so is Bruce, and the Stones. There is only one more performance. Sat 7:30 p.m., Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, LA, $424-499 (hey! - there are 120 performers on stage, those costumes, and Hockney's magnificent set - pay the piper!)

HOT CLUB OF LOS ANGELES — You can go to the Cinema Bar any Monday, 9–11:30pm, for more than a decade now, and hear these hot players run through Django Reinhart-style '30s jazz. This amazing ensemble is a treasure, just over the border from SM. Mon 9pm, Cinema Bar, Culver City, no cover.

RECOMMENDED:

"WILD THINGS ARE HAPPENING: THE ART OF MAURICE SENDAK" – Is there anywhere a heart so hardened that they didn't fall in love with this children's tale and especially the mildly wild illustrations? And now you can see them much bigger than a page in a book. This is the first complete retrospective of his work since his death in 2012, and includes his work in many areas of the arts. Twyla Tharp, Spike Jonze, Tony Kushner. Opera sets!

SEE **NOTEWORTHY** PAGE 4



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **59.7**

THURSDAY
FAIR
SURF: 3-4ft
Waist to chest

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

FRIDAY
FAIR
SURF: 3-4ft
Waist to chest

SW swell eases a bit, small S swell and NW swell mix in the background. Might be just enough energy to make a few sectiony/broken up lines at the combo spots. Surf is drained early, gets a little better on the AM tide push.

Weather

Thursday: Patchy dense fog before 11am. Otherwise, cloudy through mid morning, then gradual clearing, with a high near 68.
Thursday Night: Patchy fog. Otherwise, cloudy, with a low around 59. West southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.
Friday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, cloudy, with a high near 68. Light south wind becoming southwest 5 to 10 mph.
Friday Night: Patchy fog. Otherwise, cloudy, with a low around 61.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
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
2024/06/09	Sun	5:29 PM	2.74	L
2024/06/09	Sun	11:40 PM	5.55	H
2024/06/10	Mon	07:20 AM	-0.48	L
2024/06/10	Mon	2:31 PM	3.55	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: 6/4
19 37 40 63 69
Mega#: 17
Jackpot: 20 M

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

Fantasy 5 — Draw Date: 6/4
2 5 22 23 30

Daily 3 — Draw Date: 6/4
EVENING: 5 2 9
Draw Date: 6/4
MIDDAY: 7 8 2

Daily Derby — Draw Date: 6/4
1st: 10 - Solid Gold
2nd: 02 - Lucky Star
3rd: 01 - Gold Rush
Race Time: 1:41.07

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PUBLISHED BY NEWLON ROUGE, LLC

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Santa Monica Daily Press

BLUES

FROM PAGE 1

audience to talent they might not come across otherwise … to bring some diversity to (the) audience in terms of ethnicity, diversity in terms of musical genres, or approach to genres," Amos said.

Wanting to provide opportunities for artists to further their performance resume, Amos lauds the BroadStage and Plaza space as a safe haven for Los Angeles-based musicians. The Los Angeles music scene, he added, has been torn apart in recent years due to streaming-based pay models and the destruction of various venues from high rent costs.

"It's tough, I think creatives of any sort are fighting to hang on in LA and keep their various scenes alive," Amos said.

The BroadStage scene has remained thriving, however, with the blackbox series eventually transitioning to the Plaza space due to successful growth. The atrium space doubles as a place where the audience can grab drinks and hit the dancefloor.

"You get sort of the best of both worlds, so I'm quite enjoying it," Amos said of the space.

Amos' enjoyment will be palpable on Saturday evening with a program including songs from his new album, "Soul Brother No. 1," which represents the culmination of his decades-long artistic career. Raised as the son of music agent and entrepreneur Wally Amos (founder of the Famous Amos brand of cookies) and R&B nightclub singer Shirlee May, Amos has excelled in both the written word and musical world.

At the beginning of his music career in the 1990s, Amos produced multiple compilation albums, such as the Grammy-nominated historical box set "Rhapsodies in Black: Music and Words from the Harlem Renaissance." After more tributes to classic artists, including co-producing a remake of Marvin Gaye's classic album "What's Going On," Amos returned to roots and blues music in the 2010s and began curating blackbox for the 2018-19 BroadStage season.

His written works have also received acclaim, as his debut novel, "Cookies & Milk," was nominated for an NAACP Image Award and is currently in development for the animated world. The chronicles of Amos' youth was picked up by Disney Branded Television with legendary actor Laurence Fishburne attached as an Executive Producer.

The release of "Soul Brother No. 1" is a celebration of Amos' journey, and is self-described as "10 funk-inspired joyful blues songs filled with love, hope and concern for all brothers and sisters." Playing blues around the world, Amos added that attendees will probably be amazed by how much fun they'll have at Saturday's show.

"I think people sometimes will hear blues (and think) old timey music, (but) they come to it (and) I think they're surprised (with) how much fun they're having … it ends up being this unexpected dose of community, of communion, that a lot of people don't have," Amos said.

The show will begin at 8 p.m. at the BroadStage Plaza, and tickets are available to purchase at BroadStage.org.

thomas@smdp.com

DOUGHNUT

FROM PAGE 1

the conditions of the huts and limited rations, two volunteers — Ensign Margaret Sheldon and Adjutant Helen Purviance – began frying doughnuts in soldier's helmets. Nicknamed "Doughnut Lassies," the women who served them to troops are credited with popularizing the snack in the United States.

"The First World War was a long time ago, but we're still very much on the front lines," said James Fleming, Administrator and Pastor at the Santa Monica corps of The Salvation Army, adding, "The front lines in this day and age are ongoing issues like homelessness, mental health, drug addiction and poverty. Many think we just serve the homeless, but we actually serve around 200 families a month with food boxes."

"We're also taking this opportunity to honor all the other people who serve on these front lines, including the police department, all five fire stations, 911 dispatch and the VA center," Fleming said.

This time 12 months ago, a large crowd gathered for an event at their 4th Street HQ commemorating the 130 year anniversary of, and the work accomplished by the Santa Monica corp.

"Last year was more of a celebration, which was fantastic, but this year, we just want to keep the tradition going and get the message out there that we're here for people… We'll have 2,000 doughnuts to give away, we'll be on the Third Street Promenade from 11 to two o'clock, close to the Apple Store and the Mayor is coming along to take part in a doughnut eating contest," Fleming grinned.

The Daily Press reached out to Brock and asked him what kind of physical and psychological training regime he'd been undertaking in order to compete in such a demanding event, to which he replied, "No extra training! I've had a lifetime of preparation!"

Brock added, "From Clean and Sober campaigns to tending those on the streets of Santa Monica the Army is always there, ready to help anyone in need anywhere, anytime. The Army treats anyone in need regardless of faith, sexual orientation, race or creed and does it for no cost."

This year's event was once again made possible with the generous cooperation of Santa Monica-based Lionsgate Studios, who, through the tireless efforts of Ross Pollack, EVP and Chairperson of the Salvation Army Advisory Board, covered the cost of the near infinite amount of tasty treats made by DK Donuts.

The Salvation Army will be celebrating National Doughnut Day on the Promenade, close to 1415 3rd Street, between Broadway and Santa Monica Blvd, from 11.a.m.–2 p.m. on Friday, June 7. Find out more by visiting santamonica.salvationarmy.org

scott.snowden@smdp.com

NOTEWORTHY

FROM PAGE 3

"I love opera beyond anything," he once proclaimed, "and Mozart beyond anything." 6/6-9/1, Skirball Museum, admission price? Parking fee - call for info and hours.

REVEREND SHAWN AMOS – The first time I saw The Rev was at an outdoor festival at the The Broad some years ago, and he knocked me out, and has every time I've seen him since, through a variety of stylistic personae. A versatile talent who always gives a good show. Sat 8 p.m., The Broad Stage, Santa Monica, $20-65.

LIBRARY GIRL - "IT'S NOT THE END OF THE WORLD (A Tribute to JuDy Blume)" – But it sorta is, if you keep missing the incredible string of nearly 200 terrific spoken word performances available once a month here in your backyard. There's music too, a live musician or two. This night, Stephen Feldman. And free parking. And dessert. But hey, suit yourself. I guess there is good TV on a Sunday night. Sunday 7 p.m., Ruskin Group Theatre, $20.

TOLEDO DIAMOND — Unique, riveting, first class act. There's nothing like it, it is high performance art and great decadent fun. Degeneracy is rarely so well disciplined. And the band is smokin'! Don't. Miss. Toledo Diamond. Sun 9:30pm, Harvelle's, Santa Monica, $12.

ENGLISH BEAT, VOODOO GLOW SKULLS - I've gotta be honest, I know almost nothing about the Skulls. They've been around since 1988, some of them wear costumes or crazy headgear, they've always had a rabid following, and they play a punkish brand of ska. The (English) Beat I know very well. Seen them quite a few times, and had founder-songwriter-vocalist Dave Wakeling on my cable TV show. He IS The Beat. Every hit song (and there are many more of them than most people think - "Oh yeah! I LOVE that one!") come to life with his familiar voice. And he's almost a Santa Monican - has lived in Pacific Palisades for decades. I guess that means he could run for Council, eh, Jesse? Oh! A late change. VAMPIRE WEEKEND has been added to the bill, the start time moved up to 6:30… and probably the ticket prices moved up too. Wed 6:30 p.m Hollywood Bowl, LA, $42-3,254.

COMING ATTRACTIONS (also recommended): "Wild Things Are Happening: The Art of Maurice Sendak," Skirball, 6/6-9/1; Tedeschi Trucks Band, Little Feat, Greek, 6/7, 9; Theatricum Botanicum- "A Winter's Tale," 6/8, 15, 23, 30, 7/4, 14, 19, 28, - "A Midsummer Night's Dream," 6/8, 15, 23, 30, 7/7, - "Wendy's Peter Pan," 6/22. 29, 7/6, 14, 23, 26, - "Tartuffe-Born Again," 7/13. 20, 27, " LA Opera, "Turandot," 6/8; Reverend Shawn Amos, Broadstage, 6/8; Library Girl, Ruskin Theatre, 6/9; Toledo Diamond, Harvelle's, 6/9, 16, 23, 30; Hot Club of Los Angeles, Cinema Bar, 6/10, 17, 24; English Beat, Voodoo Glow Skulls, Hollywood Bowl, 6/12; Hollywood Bowl Jazz Festival, 6/15, 16; All Star Sumo, Walter Pyramid, 6/22; Doobie Brothers, Kia Forum, 6/23; Chris Stapleton, Grace Potter, Hollywood Bowl, 6/26, 27; Roots Picnic: Hip-Hop is the Love of My Life, Hollywood Bowl, 6/29; Rolling Stones, Sofi Stadium, 7/10, 13; Dwight Yoakam, Mavericks, Greek, 7/27; Lake Street Dive, Greek, 7/27; UB40, Greek, 7/31; Mavis Staples, Norah Jones, Greek, 8/4; Hives, Foo Fighters, BMO Stadium, 8/9.

Charles Andrews has listened to a lot of music of all kinds, including more than 3,000 live shows. He has lived in Santa Monica for 38 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or hate mail to: therealmrmusic@gmail.com

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

CITY OF SANTA MONICA IS NOW ONLY ACCEPTING ELECTRONIC BID SUBMITTALS

Notice is hereby given that electronic proposals for **Bid No. SP2718** shall be received to **furnish and deliver General Lumber, Hardware, Tools & Maintenance Supplies**, per terms, conditions and specifications. Bids will be electronically opened at 3:00 pm **(Pacific Time) on Monday, June 17, 2024** viewable on the City's e-Procurement Portal, OpenGov Procurement at https://procurement.opengov.com/portal/santa-monica-ca.

Vendor Queries Due: Questions must be submitted online in the "Q&A" tab. The City will only accept or respond to questions submitted through the online vendor portal. Questions regarding this bid are due Tuesday, June 11, 2024 no later than 3:00 pm Pacific Time.

Bid Package: *Bid packages containing all forms, specifications, terms and conditions may be obtained on the City's e-Procurement Portal.*

Electronic Submissions: *Submissions will be accepted through the City's e-Procurement Portal, OpenGov Procurement at https://procurement.opengov.com/portal/santa-monica-ca.They must be received by the specified date and bid opening time.*

SMMUSD
SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE LOCAL CONTROL AND ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN (LCAP) AND THE BUDGET OF SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY The Governing Board of Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District will hold a public hearing on the LCAP and the BUDGET OF THE DISTRICT FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2025, PRIOR TO Final Adoption as required by Education Code Section 42103 and 52062. The public hearing will be held at 1717 4th St. Santa Monica, CA, 90401 on June 20, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. The public is cordially invited to attend this meeting. Pursuant to Education Code 52062, members of the public may submit written comments regarding specific actions and expenditures proposed to be included in the LCAP. Comments may be submitted to: Office of the Superintendent, 1717 4th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401 The proposed LCAP and Budget will be on file and available for public inspection should members of the public wish to review the LCAP and Budget prior to the public hearing, at the following location(s): Office of the Superintendent, 1717 4th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401 from June 17, 2024 to June 19, 2024 during the hours of 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Debra Duardo, M.S.W., Ed.D. Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools 6/6/24 CNS-3815743# SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS

FARMERS MARKET

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Peaches in June!

Yes! It really, truly is June and a stone fruit jubilee is awaiting you at the farmers markets tempting you with all your favorites including peaches, nectarines, apricots, cherries with plums and pluots on the way!! Celebrate the season by shopping farmers markets for the freshest stone fruits direct from California stone fruit growers. In the mood for a field trip? Ask our stone fruit producers McFarlan, Olson, and Ken's Top Notch about the annual Organic Stone Fruit Jubilee event at the historical park in Kingsburg on June 22.

Ready for grilled peaches? It's BBQ Season!! Make sure to pick up everything you need for grilling at the farmers market from locally harvested fruits and veggies to freshly caught fish from Santa Barbara Channel Sea Food, a local fishermen's collective, as well as regenerative pasture raised meats turkey, chicken, duck, pork, and lamb from Casitas Valley Pastures at the Main Street Farmers Market. We recently had the opportunity to tour Casitas Valley Pastures with Jeronimo, a 5th generation Argentinian farmer. His regenerative farming practices focus on small scale rotational grazing with an emphasis on cover cropping and building soil. At Pico, you will find plenty of grilling options as well including fresh locally caught fish and shellfish from Wild Local Seafood and pastured pork and cheeses from Step Ladder Ranch and Creamery and whole broiler chickens from Lily's Eggs.

We are very excited to share that we will be adding more prepared food vendors arriving at Pico and Main Street Farmers Markets in July!! Plus, pop ups and other surprises to come! Hello Summer!!

PICO FARMERS MARKET

June 8 Music: Teddy Bang Trio – 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
June 15 Farmers Market – 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. - Juneteenth Celebration at the Park 2 - 7 p.m.
June 22 Music: East Of Lincoln – 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
June 29 Music: 8 - 9 a.m. MKW, Farmers Market 8 a.m. - 1 p.m., Pico Library Anniversary Celebration 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

MAIN STREET FARMERS MARKET

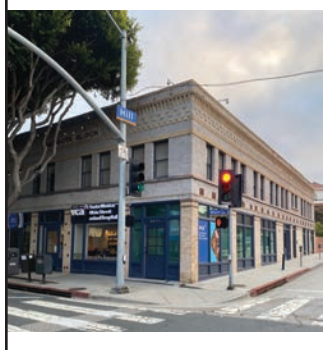
June 2 – Kids' Day with Laura Jean Music Academy 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Dance with Miss Alice – 9 - 10 a.m.
Santa Monica Fire Department
June 9 – Chloe Fischer – 9-10 a.m.
GM Jazz Quartet – 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
City of Santa Monica – Airport Conversion Project
June 16 – Happy Fathers' Day with Miss Me and the Music Castle 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
June 23 – DJ and the Main Street Jam – 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
June 30 – The Guest House – 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

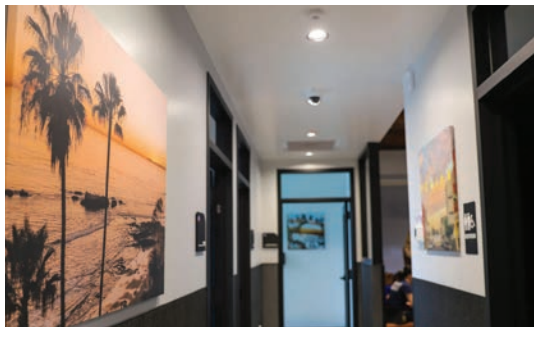


Courtesy photo

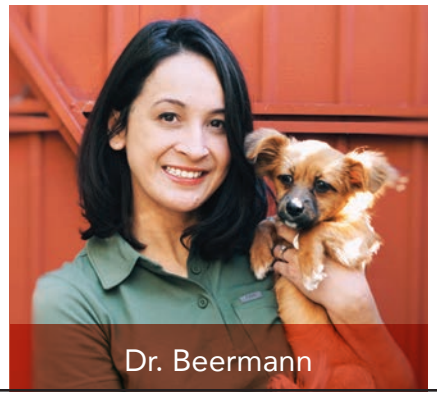
STONE FRUIT: June is the start of the season for peaches, nectarines, apricots, cherries, plums and pluots.











THANK YOU SANTA MONICA FOR VOTING US THE BEST VETERINARIANS OFFICE IN TOWN!

MOST LOVED 2024 Santa Monica

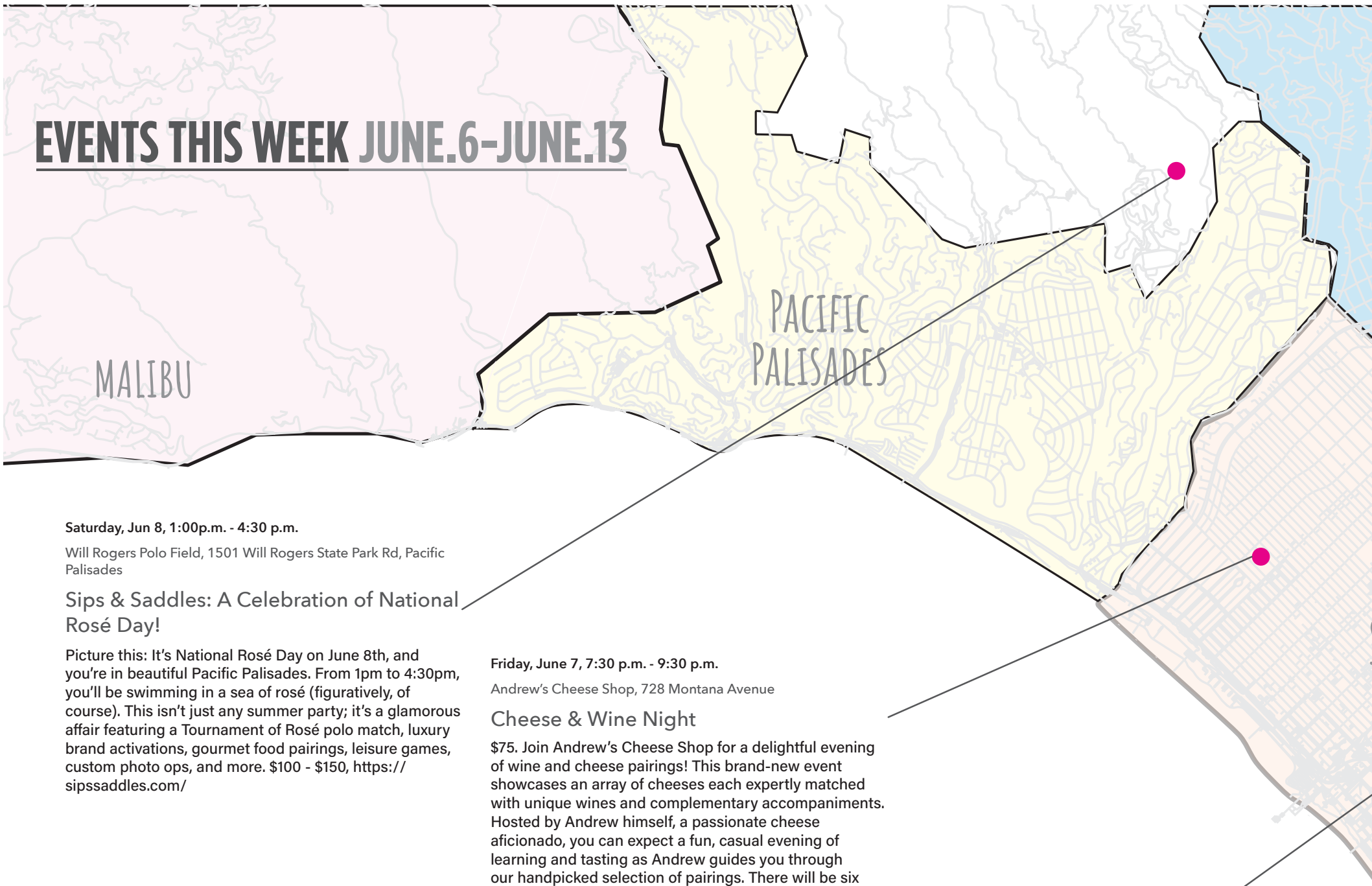
We love taking care of your four-legged friends!

vca animal hospitals

VCA Main Street Santa Monica #1356
2671 Main Street
Santa Monica, CA 90405

VCA Santa Monica Animal hospital
vcasmmainstreet

EVENTS THIS WEEK JUNE.6-JUNE.13



Saturday, Jun 8, 1:00p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Will Rogers Polo Field, 1501 Will Rogers State Park Rd, Pacific Palisades

Sips & Saddles: A Celebration of National Rosé Day!

Picture this: It's National Rosé Day on June 8th, and you're in beautiful Pacific Palisades. From 1pm to 4:30pm, you'll be swimming in a sea of rosé (figuratively, of course). This isn't just any summer party; it's a glamorous affair featuring a Tournament of Rosé polo match, luxury brand activations, gourmet food pairings, leisure games, custom photo ops, and more. $100 - $150, https://sipssaddles.com/

Friday, June 7, 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Andrew's Cheese Shop, 728 Montana Avenue

Cheese & Wine Night

$75. Join Andrew's Cheese Shop for a delightful evening of wine and cheese pairings! This brand-new event showcases an array of cheeses each expertly matched with unique wines and complementary accompaniments. Hosted by Andrew himself, a passionate cheese aficionado, you can expect a fun, casual evening of learning and tasting as Andrew guides you through our handpicked selection of pairings. There will be six distinct cheese, wine and accouterment pairings along 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. Don't miss this opportunity to experience some amazing new flavors and unique pairings!
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/june-7th-cheese-wine-night-tickets-900150754137

Friday, June 7, 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Pico Roots Marketplace, 1819 Pico Blvd

Pico Roots Marketplace Grand Opening

Join organizers for the grand opening of the small business marketplace, Pico Roots! As the only small-business incubator in Santa Monica, attendees will have the opportunity to interact and purchase unique products. Vendors include: Adey Gojo Coffee and Catering, Tiny Bee Cards, Lucky Bug Clothing, Youthful Savings Marketplace, Santa Monica to Senegal, Queen and Kings and Soleil Satnam
The event will also include music by DJ KillaCam, refreshments, a community art project, and a professional portrait studio. The activities will go through the weekend with interactive play for children and snow cones on June 8, followed by collage making and a family portrait studio June 9. Registration is free and RVSP is required. For the opening weekend, anyone who makes a purchase of $50 or more will receive a free canvas tote bag.
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/pico-roots-marketplace-grand-opening-tickets-902858051737

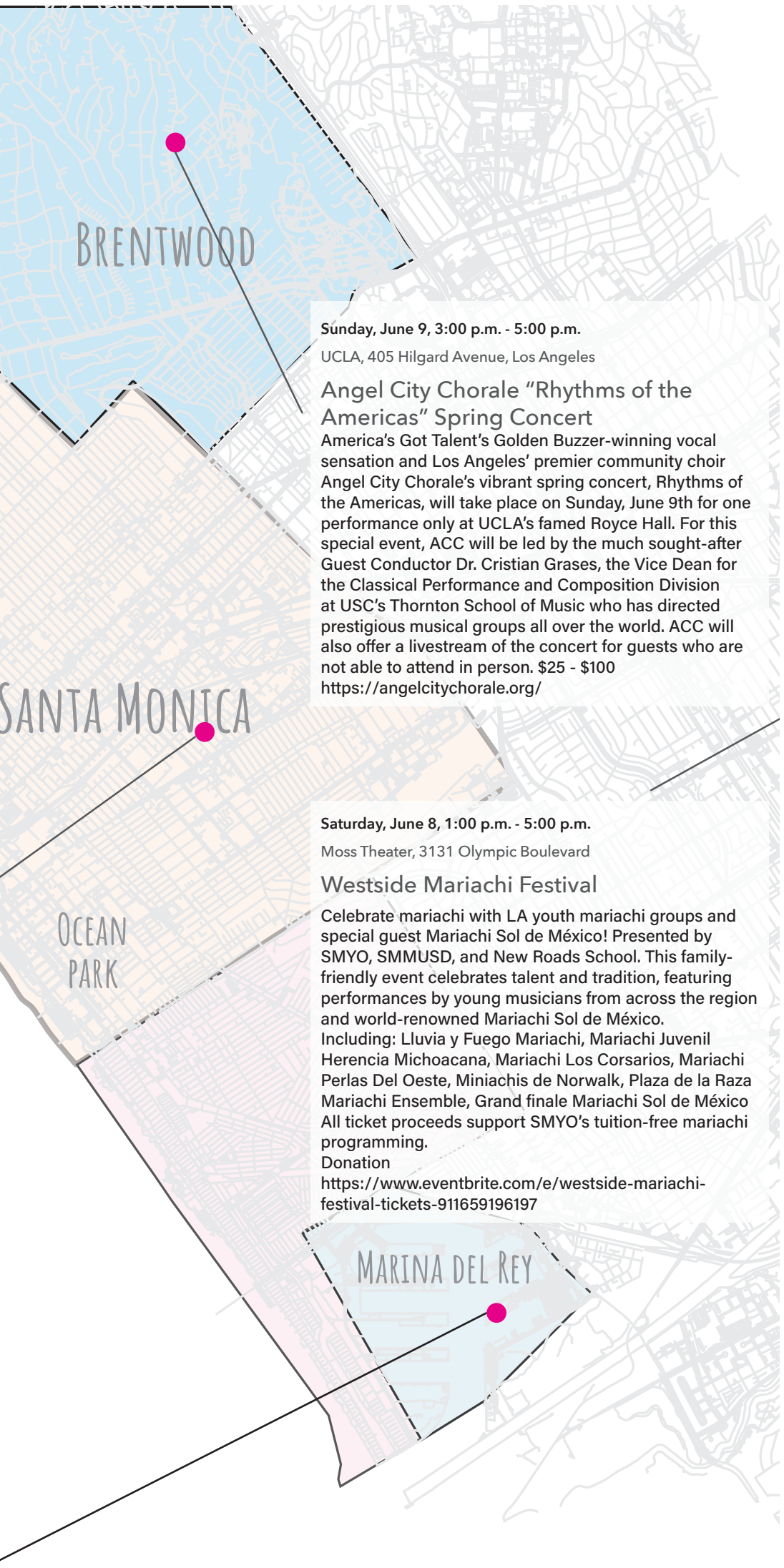
Sunday, June 9, 10:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Burton Chace Park, 13650 Mindanao Way, Marina del Rey

Marina Culture Jam

The Marina Culture Jam series returns to Burton Chace Park this Spring. June's performances include the String Family Players – All Strings Considered and Beth Sussman – A Touch of Classical.

Check out more events at: smdp.com/events



Sunday, June 9, 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

UCLA, 405 Hilgard Avenue, Los Angeles

Angel City Chorale "Rhythms of the Americas" Spring Concert

America's Got Talent's Golden Buzzer-winning vocal sensation and Los Angeles' premier community choir Angel City Chorale's vibrant spring concert, Rhythms of the Americas, will take place on Sunday, June 9th for one performance only at UCLA's famed Royce Hall. For this special event, ACC will be led by the much sought-after Guest Conductor Dr. Cristian Grases, the Vice Dean for the Classical Performance and Composition Division at USC's Thornton School of Music who has directed prestigious musical groups all over the world. ACC will also offer a livestream of the concert for guests who are not able to attend in person. $25 - $100
https://angelcitychorale.org/

Saturday, June 8, 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Moss Theater, 3131 Olympic Boulevard

Westside Mariachi Festival

Celebrate mariachi with LA youth mariachi groups and special guest Mariachi Sol de México! Presented by SMYO, SMMUSD, and New Roads School. This family-friendly event celebrates talent and tradition, featuring performances by young musicians from across the region and world-renowned Mariachi Sol de México.
Including: Lluvia y Fuego Mariachi, Mariachi Juvenil Herencia Michoacana, Mariachi Los Corsarios, Mariachi Perlas Del Oeste, Miniachis de Norwalk, Plaza de la Raza Mariachi Ensemble, Grand finale Mariachi Sol de México
All ticket proceeds support SMYO's tuition-free mariachi programming.
Donation
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/westside-mariachi-festival-tickets-911659196197



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.

SATURDAY | JUNE 8

BELGIAN BEER WEEK USA : GARTENPARTY
Tour through the best and strongest beers from another land with importers pouring over 50 offerings and limited releases in this all you can taste event. Explore the beautiful and complex flavors side by side with knowledgeable brewery reps at the showcase event in the Wurstkuche garden. 625 Lincoln Blvd Venice, 2 - 5 p.m. $50. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/belgian-beer-week-usa-gartenparty-tickets-900196972377

EVENTS

FROM PAGE 2

Warming, A Live Site-Specific Dance Performance: This celebrates the beauty of the site and by extension the earth, as well as how it might be affected by climate change. Saturday, June 8, 3p.m. @ the water element at the Ocean Ave. entrance to Tongva Park, 1615 Ocean Ave. More details and RSVP here: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/warming-tickets-900472616837

Eeeeeatscon Los Angeles 2024: The Infatuation's signature food event returns to The SaMo Airport Barker Hangar. Sofia Vergara, Chrissy Teigen, David Chang, Nicole Byer, Keith Lee, and more, highlight festival with more than two dozen restaurants from across the U.S. including Lucali (NYC), KG BBQ (Austin, TX), and more. Saturday June 8 & Sunday June 9 @ 3021 Airport Ave. https://www.eeeeeatscon.com/los-angeles

"Rosé on Rose" Wine Fest: This rosé crawl and street fest includes tastings, rose-inspired food and beverage, activities, music, vendors, photo ops, art, a pink disco recovery lounge, and more with a portion of proceeds to benefit the Venice Family Clinic, a leader in providing comprehensive high-quality, primary healthcare for people in need. SMDP readers can get $10 off with the code ROSEALLDAY24. Saturday, June 8, 12 - 5 p.m. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2nd-annual-rose-on-rose-wine-fest-tickets-852000996917

AIDS/LifeCycle Finish Line Festival: Celebrate the arrival of the cyclists and roadies as they finish their 7-day, 545-mile journey from San Francisco. Saturday, June 8, 10:30a.m. - 4p.m. @ 2030 Ocean Ave. https://www.aidslifecycle.org/venue/2030-ocean-ave-santa-monica-ca-90405/

Venice Stories: Celebrating 10 Years of Community and Culture: Venice Stories, the innovative comic page dedicated to capturing the spoken history of Venice Beach, is celebrating its 10th-anniversary. The party takes place at Hinano Cafe, 15 Washington Blvd. on Saturday June 8, with live music from 5:30 - 9:30 p.m. Admission is free and everyone is invited to celebrate a decade of storytelling, creativity, and community spirit.

WHAT TO EAT & DRINK?

Celebrate National Donut Day: Yup, there's a day for that too! Friday, June 7.

–FREE DK Donuts, Games & Prizes provided by Lionsgate Entertainment 11a.m. - 2p.m. @ 3rd St. Promenade between Broadway & Santa Monica Blvd. (across from the Apple Store)

–Holey Grail Donuts will offer a free Holeys promotion titled "Make Any Donut Holey," where customers receive a free donut hole with any donut purchase.

Abbot Kinney First Friday Food Truck Fest: About two dozen food trucks are expected to line the street for the monthly event. Friday, June 7, starting at 5 p.m. https://www.abbotkinneyblvd.com/

Cheese & Wine Night @ Andrews Cheese Shop: There will be six distinct cheese, wine and accoutrement pairings along with crudité grazing boards with fruits and vegetables to nibble on between tastings. $75. Friday, June 7, 7:30p.m. @ 728 Montana Ave. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/june-7th-cheese-wine-night-tickets-900150754137

Longtime local favorite bar JP's finally open after permitting delays: "Originally at 1101 Wilshire Blvd and now less than two blocks west [@ 1250 10th St.], JP's is practically a local landmark and it is in fact among the oldest standalone watering holes in Santa Monica." https://smdp.com/2024/05/31/longtime-local-favorite-bar-jps-finally-open-after-permitting-delays/

Baby Blues BBQ is Back! Venice's legendary BBQ spot is officially open again, after being closed since Sept. 2022 due to a fire. Pull up and get some of the best ribs, brisket, tri-tip, wings, catfish, shrimp, corn bread, banana pudding, and much more. 444 Lincoln Blvd. https://www.venicepaparazzi.com/2024/05/25/bbq/

A Big Deal New York City Chef Is Overhauling SaMo Pier's Concessions: This EaterLA post details "New York City-based chef James Kent, who owns Michelin-starred Crown Shy and two-Michelin-starred Saga in the Financial District, is overhauling the concession menus at Santa Monica Pier's Pacific Park starting on June 8. Kent and his hospitality company, Saga Hospitality Group, will open five new spots under the name Snackville, including Smashie's Burgers, Mr. Nice Fry, Churrito Churro, Scoops Creamery, and Cosmic Funnel." https://la.eater.com/2024/6/4/24171107/snackville-santa-monica-pier-restaurants-new-food-options-opening

Looking Ahead Around Town: Looking Ahead Around Town: Movie Fridays on 3rd St. Promenade (6/14), Montana Ave. Summer Kick-Off & Big Gay Bake Sale (6/15), Make Music Day (6/21), Pride on the Promenade (6/22), Main St. 4th of July Parade (7/4), Summer Solstice Festival: (7/13)

If there's something you think is worth highlighting, you can reach out directly to me at sean@smdp.com and let me know if you have any feedback on Around Town: Food Events Aplenty



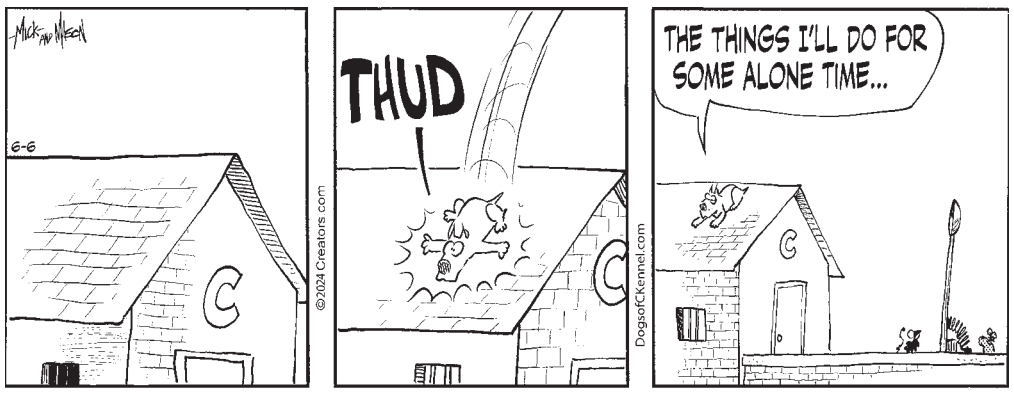
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



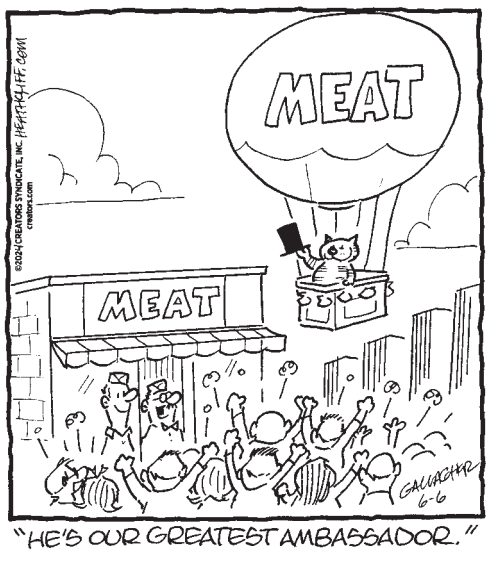
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



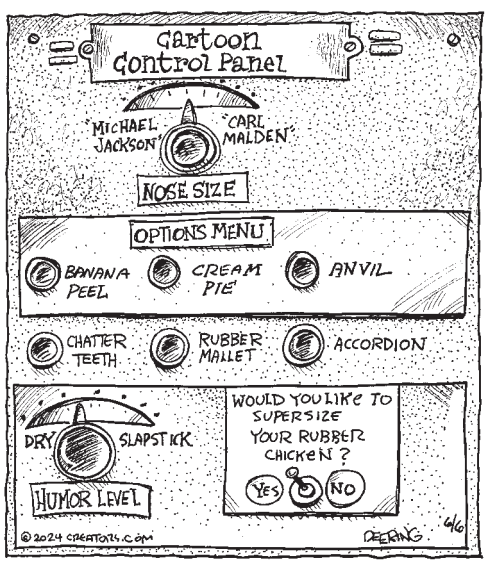
Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



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

© australianwordgames.com.au 6233

Harsh but beautiful outback

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

Alone
Beer
Bore
Boss
Brolga
Cold
Cooroy
Creeks
Crops
Donkeys
Dry
Dunes
Emus
Fauna
Fire
Flood
Galah
Gibson
Goanna
Grass
Hares
Home
Hope
Hotel
Ills
Indigenous
Lightning Ridge
Maps
Melaleuca
Mulka
North
Outback
Pacific
Pimba
Rain
Relief
Rice
Salt
Scrub
Snow
Sun
Surf
Titanic memorial
Tour
Uluru
West
Zinc

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smdp Santa Monica Daily Press

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (June 6)

You are an excellent steward and so will be trusted with much including money, big projects and tender hearts. Your useful skills well-applied will bring a flood of beauty and love into your world. More highlights: You'll rise with a small group of diverse talents. You'll have an exhilarating streak of wins, which compound over a season. Libra and Taurus adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 15,1, 3 and 5.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You'll be tempted to let someone in on a secret, but think twice. These skies make sharing seem casual, but information has a way of morphing as it's getting passed around, and you can be sure the gossip mill will have its way.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your focus improves when you instate a few preemptive measures. Limit devices, ban email, get to social media later, and before you start a single thing, remind yourself why you're doing it in the first place.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Why is solving a mystery fun but disillusionment decidedly less so? The answer is curiosity. Curiosity is an invitation to the truth. No curiosity, no invitation — the truth becomes an unwelcome interloper.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Bonds between people are not like tape, rope or plastic ties; rather they are like electric cords through which currents can pass. The energy you send and receive can travel through space and time to make a difference.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The tangible and practical issues that affect a relationship will be reflected in less concrete aspects of the connection and vice versa. Love can be a feeling or a sandwich, a gaze or a random domestic decision about what to clean up.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Some people love people. Some people just love to be loved by people. Those in the latter category can still be a good partner, best paired with extremely self-contained types who will need and expect very little from them.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Because you have the respect of people who do not necessarily trust one another, you will make a good middle-man, moderator or buffer. It will not be easy to find a fair compromise, but if anyone can do it, you can.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Though you've worked hard to earn what you have, you're well-aware that others are without the same opportunities, talents and options. This is why you are repelled by attitudes of snobbery and arrogance.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Avoid overthinking or making things too fancy. No one is trying to trick you; this is just the easy part. There's no good reason to look for hidden meanings or alternative methods. Do what needs doing in the obvious way.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You read the room well now, and "the room" may be as small as a conversation with one other person or as big as the whole town over the course of a long day. You pay attention, and they love you back.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Slow down and enjoy the moment of this day. There will be at least two gifts for you to "unwrap," but you have to be going slow enough to recognize them for what they are. So many of life's presents come in unassuming packages.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You will sell things with your confidence, though of course it's easier to be confident when you genuinely believe you can enrich the other person's life. You shine to the same degree of your certainty on the matter.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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

Newsday Crossword

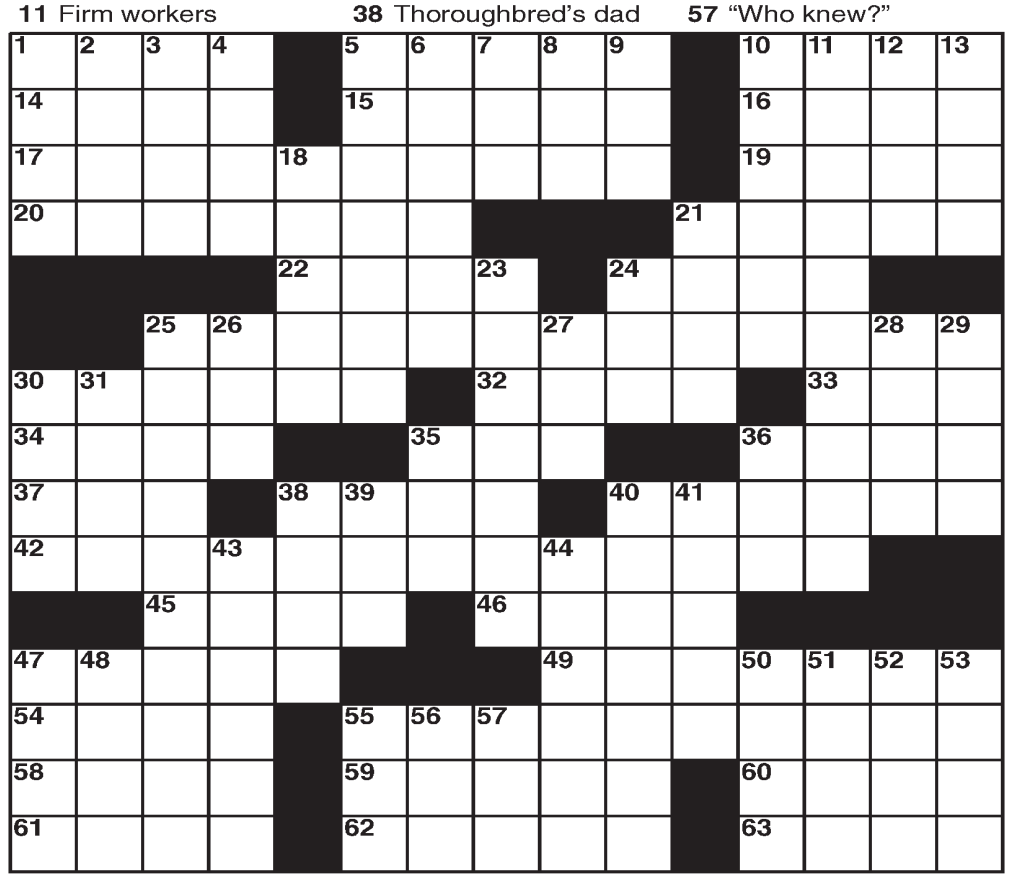
LIVING LARGE by Mark McClain
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 "In your dreams!"
5 Steamed up
10 Audiobook hardware
14 Divulge
15 Preempted, perhaps
16 Significant other
17 Track meet events
19 Side of an issue
20 Went wild
21 Imbibed
22 Let pass
24 Betting group
25 Pass catchers
30 Edits or organizes
32 Royal command
33 Coalesce
34 Darth Vader's daughter
35 Long-term investment
36 Billionth, to start
37 Turncoat
38 Chase away
40 Gracefully slim
42 "America the Beautiful" display
45 Needing patching
46 Greenish blue
47 Water near Carson City
49 *GWTW* setting
54 Minor anomaly
55 The American + National
58 Exclusive
59 Less confined
60 Metrical tributes
61 Look narrowly
62 Farm store inventory
63 Refined fellow

DOWN

1 Inc. e.g.
2 Singer Bareilles
3 Essential mineral
4 Worry about
5 What outsiders won't get
6 Networking device
7 24-hr. convenience
8 Outperform
9 USCG officer
10 Comedy style
11 Firm workers
12 Lots and lots
13 Place to work
18 Simple semiconductor
21 "Get cracking!"
23 Microwave setting
24 Lentil cousin
25 Delay gratification
26 Brewpub order
27 Snoop group
28 Monopoly payment
29 Small plum
30 Upscale cams
31 Multitude
35 Slip in a pot
36 Once called
38 Thoroughbred's dad
39 Sweetie
40 Olympians on ice
41 Rural residence
43 *The Deerslayer* novelist
44 What some bids and lips are
47 Half a fl. oz.
48 Shampoo additive
50 Gung-ho
51 *The Thinker*, for instance
52 Ending for six or eight
53 __ mgr.
55 Closest bud
56 Steamed state
57 "Who knew?"



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06/06/24

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DANCE

FROM PAGE 1

appointments, occupational therapy appointments, but there was nothing really in the creative field of art for them," Perry said. "As an ex-ballet dancer myself, (I) just felt really passionate about bringing the joy of dance to this population, because I really believe that dance is for everybody."

Initially offering ballet classes due to her expertise, Perry expanded Free 2 Be Me to have sessions in hip-hop dancing, Latin ballroom and improv. About a decade into the program, Perry and her instructors gained specialized training to accommodate people on the autism spectrum, furthering its mission of inclusion.

"We have fully integrated classes, so we don't separate anybody, and now we're fully inclusive," Perry said. "We started having some of the sisters, some of the brothers of the dancers also (wanting) to participate in class, and I didn't want to turn them away. I'm a real proponent of a more inclusive world."

Funding the inclusive space has been an ongoing challenge, however, as registrations are "bursting at the seams" requiring expanded studio space and support staff.

Ideally needing three studio spaces for two hours each, something increasingly difficult to find on Sunday mornings, the GoFundMe campaign went towards renting studio space as well as a scholarship fund for families wanting to participate. Perry said the public donations are especially important after the COVID-19 pandemic siphoned many of the studios willing to offer free spaces.

"We were just at a really critical point in (our) history where I think a lot of different programs that used to donate space, other things that we used to be able to get for free, everybody struggled … because of (the pandemic)," Perry added. "So it's really hard to get more donations and also donated space and (things) that we need."

More than $30,000 later, Free 2 Be Me will be able to stay afloat for the fall, and celebrated the campaign during a June 1 recital at the Saban Theatre in Beverly Hills. The troupe was able to perform during the 8 Count Dance Academy's showcase, part of a years-long partnership between the two groups.

Dancers memorized choreography all spring long for ballet and hip-hop routines where Perry said they "dance their hearts out."

"Once they perform, usually myself, my teachers and all of (the) parents are all in tears … we're so overcome with emotion at the hard work, and the dedication, and just the joy on their faces … I truly believe that it's not because they have (disabilities), it's because they translate the joy of dance into their movement," Perry added.

The GoFundMe campaign for Free 2 Be Me Dance will remain active for a short time, with donations to be given at https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-free-2-be-me-dance-run-summer-session. For more information on the organization, visit free2bemedance.org.

thomas@smdp.com



Courtesy photo

FUNDRAISER: Free 2 Be Me Dance will remain open for the fall semester after donations to a GoFundMe campaign.



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