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FRIDAY
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Council wants to restore historic preservation programs in new budget

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

City Council held a study session to review the Financial Year (FY) 2023-25 proposed biennial budget last week and among the instructions to staff were a block of actions to bolster the city's landmark and preservation process.

Council want to reestablish monthly meetings for the Landmarks Commission, waive application fees for non-profits and Landmarks Commissioners for Landmark Designations and Certificates of Appropriateness, review legal considerations for placing pending Demolition Permit applications on the Landmarks Commission agendas and explore the possibility of limiting consultant review of Landmark Designation applications.

The actions were driven in part by recommendations made by the Santa Monica Conservancy who said the decisions were not only a great step forward – but also a demonstration of what residents can accomplish when they make their collective voice heard.

According to the Conservancy and other advocates, prior to the budget allocations, the lack of resources applied to historic preservation required private citizens to conduct burdensome review of upcoming projects and to maintain a vigil for possible demolition of historic properties as there was no automatic review on

SEE **BUDGET** PAGE 4

Plywood is the new glass









SMDP Photos

VANDALISM AND BURGLARY: In the course of regular business this week, SMDP staff encountered seven businesses that had been vandalized recently. Damage included two burned-out ATMs at the Chase location in Downtown Santa Monica and multiple instances of broken glass doors on several businesses. According to the Santa Monica Police Department broken windows in isolation would be considered vandalism. Vandalism calls increased from 607 in 2018 to 757 in 2021. Calls declined slightly last year to 746 and in the first quarter of this year SMPD reported 175 instances compared to 182 in 2022. However, if the suspect enters the building after breaking the glass, the call becomes burglary, regardless of any actual theft. Burglary declined from 740 calls in 2021 to 669 calls in 2022. However, in the first quarter of this year, burglary (both residential and non residential) increased to 180 calls from the 163 in the same time last year.

'Godzilla next door': How California developers gained new leverage to build more homes

BEN CHRISTOPHER
Special to the Daily Press

Late last fall, a Southern California developer dropped more than a dozen mammoth building proposals on the city of Santa Monica that were all but designed to get attention.

The numbers behind WS Communities's salvo of proposals were dizzying: 14 residential highrises with a combined 4,260 units dotting the beachside city, including three buildings reaching 18 stories. All of the towers were bigger, denser and higher than anything permitted under the city's zoning code

City Councilmember Phil Brock attended a town hall shortly after the announcement and got an earful. A few of the highlights: "Godzilla next door," "a monster in our midst" and "we're going to never see the sun again."

"'Concerned' would be putting it mildly," Brock said of the vibe among the attendees. "A lot of them were freaked."

As it turns out, freaking locals out may have been the point.

WS Communities put forward its not-so-modest proposal at a moment when it had extreme leverage over the city thanks to a new interpretation of a 33-year-old housing law. Santa Monica's state-required housing plan had expired and its new plan had yet to be approved. According to the law, in that non-compliance window,

SEE **GODZILLA** PAGE 8



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COMMUNITY NEWS

Citywide

Santa Monica College Interaction Design Students Collaborate with MaCher Inc., USA

Santa Monica College (SMC) Interaction Design (IxD) juniors enrolled in the baccalaureate program celebrated the culmination of an eight-week-long design challenge in which they took a fresh look at reimagining specific MaCher, Inc. flagship products. MaCher, Inc. is a Certified B Corporation and an EcoVadis Platinum-rated company, among the top 1% of sustainable businesses worldwide.

The five teams—17 students in total—made their final presentations at MaCher's Venice, Calif. offices on Thursday, June 1. A jury of industry experts selected the winning team/project: Nicolas Palomino, Kalynn Porter, Hawa Camara, and Yelizaveta Skibinskaya who redesigned a travel carry bag for consumer electronics and added a proposed digital companion—a chatbot with a Welsh corgi mascot named Wren.

The four students won premium MaCher marketing products, the opportunity to work with MaCher to further develop their idea, and a surprise award from MaCher client Rudi Schreiner, owner of Calabasas-based AMAWaterways: a seven-night European river cruise for each winner, plus one guest.

"This collaboration is an excellent opportunity for the students to gain real-world experience and professional feedback on their work, and for MaCher to be inspired by innovative and fresh perspectives from the next generation of designers," said Patrick Marsden, MaCher Partner. Marsden explained that while MaCher is in the top 1% of sustainable businesses worldwide, the company is "paradoxically part of one of the dirtiest and most inefficient industries in the world: the promotional products industry." The company's mission, therefore, is to "shrink the massive, dirty and inefficient promotional products industry into something smaller, more effective, and far more sustainable."

Kalynn Porter stated that the eight-week project was "the first time we have worked with a real brand and company, so we were trying to be really mindful and put our best foot forward." Ben Denzinger, MaCher strategic innovation and design lead, mentored the team throughout the process, but "never forced his opinion on us." Among things they learned, Porter named "iterating and designing and getting feedback and not being afraid to show [our work] to a bunch of different people . . . being brave in that way, I think, helped us be a success."

Porter is passionate about service design—a process where designers create sustainable solutions and optimal experiences for customers in unique contexts and service providers—because her mother is disabled. "Ways to make the world easier for her to navigate, that's what I'm interested in," she said.

Yelizaveta Skibinskaya said the group's goal in reimagining MaCher's product was to "make something that was modular, that could have many more lives." "We wanted something that was easy to use, that could go from [containing] your gadgets to going around your trip in a matter of seconds," Skibinskaya said. This was for the physical product. As for the digital component, "we wanted something that was really simple and that a person wouldn't have to download . . . something that anybody with just a cellphone and Wi-Fi connection could access." Hence, the idea of a proprietary chatbot with a Welsh corgi mascot named Wren, who could provide helpful tips to a traveler exploring a new destination.

The collaboration with MaCher is the final capstone project in the Major Studio 2 class taught by Maxim Safioulline in the junior year of the Interaction Design program. The project spans two other classes taught in the Spring 2023 semester: Product Design taught by Richard Schuler and the Project Management class taught by Luke Johnson. The design brief is shared among the three classes and the student groupings remain consistent while focusing on a separate component relevant to the skills learned in each class: Project Management deals with organizing and running a medium-scale design project; Product Design, the material exploration and the design of a physical object; Major Studio 2, the design of a high-quality user interface for "a useful and delightful digital experience."

In collaboration with industry partners like MaCher, SMC faculty create a challenge to satisfy the requirements of all three classes. Last spring, IxD students completed a design challenge for MaCher and Meow Wolf.

Safioulline stated that this semester's project focused on design for sustainability through the exploration of eco-friendly material options and manufacturing practices, and through extending the useful life of physical products with the help of companion digital experiences. "This firmly orients our students towards both imagining the exciting possibilities in cross-disciplinary design and being able to concretely organize their implementation. These skills are invaluable on the job market for the innovative and solution-oriented design industries," Safioulline said.

All students who participated in the MaCher collaboration received gift packages of MaCher marketing products, and will also be featured in a project collaboration highlight on MaCher's newsletter and LinkedIn page.

To learn more about SMC's Bachelor of Science in Interaction Design program—whose alum have gone on to work for JPMorgan Chase & Co, Google, Snap Inc., Sony PlayStation, Lyft, Amazon Prime Video, and more—visit ixd.smc.edu.

SUBMITTED BY GRACE SMITH



Courtesy Photo

STUDENTS: The winning team during their June 1 presentation at MaCher Inc.'s Venice, Calif. offices.



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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Businesses need help

To all that do business, live, work and manage our City of Santa Monica,

This week a group of us went to visit 10 local hotel concierges to try and drum up business for our restaurants, as it has been painfully slow in Santa Monica.

I have spoken to many colleagues in the Santa Monica hospitality business and they have also confirmed very slow business. The gray weather does not help, but I wanted you all to know that several of the hotels commented that they are no longer seeing foreign tourists as they are being advised to stay away from Santa Monica specifically, due to the increase in homelessness, unsafe streets and beaches that are populated by homeless.

Social media has only exacerbated this, showing images of people on the streets defecating in front of strollers, mentally ill people spitting on food at restaurants and wandering the streets screaming at people. I wish I could say these were not the norm and it is just propaganda, but working on Ocean Avenue every day and night, it is a daily reality that is sad, terrible for business and tourism.

This morning I dealt with a screamer yelling profanities at my staff, and the pics attached were taken in just one block. Additionally we have had to spend 100k a year to hire a private security guard at Blue Plate taco as our staff can no longer deal with the daily interactions and disruptions of this problem. They are not trained for this and also expressed on many occasions that they would work elsewhere where these problems and challenges do not exist on a daily basis. We find people sleeping on our patios, human feces left for us to pick up, and regularly call ambassadors and police to help us drive people away so our guests do not have their dining experience ruined.

A few weeks ago, we had a mentally ill paranoid man with tattoos all over his face blocking the entrance for over half an over, keeping guests from leaving or entering. He was scary and freaked everyone out. I called the police who said they would come as soon as they could, at which point I reached out to Ramon Batistsa who immediately responded by sending officers over. They were unable to take him away but finally were able to move him away from the entrance.

We are in the trenches everyday downtown on Ocean Avenue speaking with locals, tourists and people who work in the area, all of whom are diners and guests. It is really sad how many people comment on the state of Santa Monica, and the difficult part is that it is deeply affecting businesses. Tourists do not want to come back, ask how this has happened and why the streets are ridden with so many homeless and mentally ill people when they are paying sometimes over $500 for a room per night. I personally have had people approach me on my walk from Blue Plate taco to BP Oysterette, yelling, saying they were going to kill me. My boyfriend went to Pilates last week on 2nd street, parked in one of the public lots and was charged by a man with a spear gun yelling at him. He ran away and fortunately was able to find police nearby, but will no longer use public lots, where I have seen some very scary things going on. How has this become part of our daily lives?

I have lived and had businesses in the area for 30 years, both on Ocean Avenue and Montana Avenue and run our local Block party so I am very familiar with the community.

Things are very dire. Locals and tourists are not wanting to come to downtown SM due to the appalling conditions we see on a daily basis and it is hugely affecting our businesses.

We keep a security log and at least 3 times a week, have issues with mentally ill/homeless people disrupting our business. We call the police and they come when available but there is little they can do.

How can we survive as businesses, small and large, when the City is constantly charging us more for outdoor dining, parklets, rents continue to rise, minimum wage is at an all time high and we are all required to provide PTO, health and other costly benefits, yet business is the worst it has been in years. The problem persists and grows and we are now in the position where our P and L's show loss month after month which is not sustainable. From what people have told me, there is an abundance of mentally ill and homeless people in the Santa Monica area due to the incoming train and because there are resources available in the way of food and meals that are not in neighboring cities. I understand that it is important to take care of people, but what are you going to do to help businesses and residents?

Visitors and locals will not return to a place like Downtown Santa Monica when they can go elsewhere. The businesses that pay taxes and bring people to Santa Monica are suffering. We used to have the SM Civic Auditorium which brought people to visit, and that is no longer open. The bowling alley, the Promenade, Cirque Du Soleil and many of the attractions that brought people from all around the world are now closed or ghost towns.

I see that there is a City Council meeting on the 13th at 5:30 p.m. Is this specifically to address these problems or will there be other agendas that evening?

The last few City Council meetings I have attended, I ended up staying until 11 p.m. and the issues I was there to discuss, (parklet expenses and homelessness) had still not been addressed and I had to leave to relieve a babysitter. It was a waste of my time so I was wondering what the plan is for this meeting. Perhaps the Council/City Managers should conduct a designated 911 meeting with local businesses at an hour we can actually attend to better understand our struggles before we all start moving or closing. We all are demanding an explanation of what mandatory changes are being made to improve the current dire situation so businesses can once again thrive in a safe community.

We know how to run restaurants and be hospitable, however we cannot do this with dwindling customer counts. The general consensus seems to be that very few people in the city care, want to make necessary changes to help improve the problem, or they believe that this is the way things should be, as we are helping people by feeding them.

If it is the case, that certain people do not care or are unwilling to make changes to make our streets safer and more business friendly, why would they be in a political position?

Perhaps some people who are against changing the current situation are out of touch with reality as they are making decisions from behind a desk rather than seeing the daily realities of running a business amongst this chaos. We invite you to come and spend the day with us working outside, seeing the daily challenges we are having interacting with people on the street who are scaring locals, tourists and staff away from Downtown Santa Monica. In speaking to many of my colleagues who own restaurants in other parts of Los Angeles, they are not having the same problems. I am only sharing this as I have heard many rumblings of business owners fed up and wanting to leave Santa Monica to safer communities. As I said, this is no longer a random occurrence, it is every day in Downtown Santa Monica.

We need help.

Jen Rush, Blue Plate Santa Monica

COMMUNITY NEWS

Sacramento

Gear Up for Summer Travel with a REAL ID

More than 15.8 million Californians now have a REAL ID – an increase of 172,036 from the previous month – according to California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) data.

As we approach the first official day of summer this month, now is the ideal time to get a REAL ID driver's license or identification card. There is no need to wait for the federal enforcement date of May 7, 2025, that requires a REAL ID to board flights within the United States and access secure federal facilities. Not having a REAL ID or other federally approved document to get through airport security could put a dent to your future summer travel plans.

"Don't let your future flight plans be a bummer by not getting a REAL ID this summer," said DMV Director Steve Gordon. "You can save time by starting your application online, which means more time to enjoy fun in the sun."

To apply for a REAL ID, Californians should visit REALID.dmv.ca.gov, fill out the online application and upload their documents. Customers must visit a DMV office and bring their uploaded documents to complete the application. Customers need to provide:

Proof of identity* – One original or certified document (example: valid passport, birth certificate) *Legal name change document(s) is required if the name on proof of identity is different from the name on the other documents (example: marriage certificate, adoption papers).

Proofs of California residency – Two documents, paper copies (example: utility bill, bank statement).

Social Security number (exceptions may apply).

Visit REALID.dmv.ca.gov for a complete list of acceptable documents and a link to the online application.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Los Angeles

U.S. Attorney Martin Estrada Expands Office Mission of Prosecuting Crimes Involving Consumer Protection Issues

United States Attorney Martin Estrada, the United States Attorney for the Central District of California, has announced the establishment of the Environmental Crimes and Consumer Protection Section, a newly fortified unit that will focus on protecting the health, safety, economic security and dignity of individuals across the Central District of California.

This Office aims to further its goal of bringing impactful consumer protection cases by vigorously prosecuting cases that involve fraudulent and deceptive marketing practices; consumer product safety; food, drug, and dietary supplement safety; and other conduct that may cause or threaten to cause serious harm to the people in this district and throughout the United States.

"Safeguarding the health, safety and economic security of our district's residents – especially the elderly, children and other vulnerable people – is one of my Office's paramount goals," said United States Attorney Martin Estrada. "Under this revamped section, we will continue to pursue all appropriate measures to bring to justice any culpable entity – particularly corporations acting illegally – that endangers the welfare of the population we serve."

"Protecting consumers from harm is a priority for the Department of Justice" stated Amanda Liskamm, Director of the Department of Justice's Consumer Protection Branch. "The Consumer Protection Branch has a strong partnership with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Central District and we look forward to working with the revamped Environmental Crimes and Consumer Protection Section on significant consumer protection investigations and prosecutions. Our joint efforts will protect the safety of our communities and ensure that those that put consumers at risk will be held accountable."

The Office's recent commitment to consumer protection includes a $91 million resolution with Gree USA Inc., a City of Industry-based subsidiary of a Chinese appliance company that was ordered in April 2023 to pay a $500,000 criminal fine after pleading guilty to failing to notify the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) that millions of dehumidifiers it sold to domestic consumers were defective and could catch fire.

The Central District of California – the nation's most populous federal district – is a seven-county area encompassing approximately 20 million residents in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties.

Assistant United States Attorney Mark A. Williams will lead the Environmental Crimes and Consumer Protection Section as section chief. The section also includes Assistant United States Attorneys Amanda M. Bettinelli – who in October 2022 was appointed the Office's Environmental Justice Coordinator – Laura A. Alexander, Dan Boyle, Dominique Caamano, Joseph O. Johns, Dennis Mitchell, Matthew W. O'Brien, Juan M. Rodriguez, and Erik M. Silber.

SUBMITTED BY USACAC-MEDIA

Classifieds

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Must Watch

R Watch the highly praised solo woman play by your Santa Monica neighbor Esther Pearlman. "Re-Inventing Me" is now available OnDemand at www.whitefirethreatre.com. Recording made during engaging March 9th live performance.

Lien Sale

NOTICE OF PUBLIC LIEN SALE Pursuant to the California Self-Service Storage Facility Act, (B&P Code 21700et. seq.), the undersigned will sell at public auction, on June 20-2023 personal property including but not limited to business equipment, electronics, furniture, clothing, tools and/or other miscellaneous items located at: A-AMERICAN SELF STORAGE Via storagetreasures.com @ 2:00 pm, at 2300 Federal Ave Los Angeles CA 90064 (310) 478-2211 STORED BY THE FOLLOWING PERSONS:
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COMMUNITY NEWS

Malibu

2023 Malibu Library Speaker Series Showcase: Local Author Series Featuring Diane Peterson and Leslie Klinger

The 2023 Malibu Library Speaker Series continues with the Local Author Series featuring a free evening of discussion with Diane Peterson and Leslie Klinger on Tuesday, June 13, 7:00 PM at the Malibu Library.

"The Malibu Library Speaker Series enriches the life of our community with cultural and literary events that educate, inspire and entertain," said Mayor Bruce Silverstein. "The series is free to the general public, and we hope that many of our residents are able to attend and benefit from the Local Author Series, which showcases some of the incredible talent within our own community."

Diane Peterson has been a professional stuntwoman for more than 40 years. She is past president of the Former Stuntwomen's Association of Motion Pictures and has worked in over 200 movies and television shows. She has film credits as a stunt double for Sharon Stone, Jessica Lange, Faye Dunaway, Diane Keaton, Farrah Fawcett, Michele Pfeiffer, and hundreds of other actresses. Take an exciting journey with Diane into the world of stunts.

Leslie S. Klinger is the two-time Edgar Award-winning, New York Times bestselling editor of more than 75 books, including "New Annotated Sherlock Holmes," "New Annotated Dracula," "New Annotated Frankenstein," "New Annotated H. P. Lovecraft," "Classic American Crime Fiction of the 1920s," and most recently, "New Annotated Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde." Klinger is a daily tax and estate planning lawyer and has lived in Malibu with his wife Sharon for 23 years.

About the Series

Launched in 2013, the Malibu Library Speaker Series is a program in partnership with the Malibu Library, part of the LA County Library, and the City of Malibu. It features experts, authors, and other notable figures discussing various subjects, including the entertainment industry, literature, science, motivation, the arts, education, sports, travel, food, and the environment.

The free event includes a reception with a Q&A. Space is limited, so RSVPs are required. The Malibu Library is located at 23519 West Civic Center Way. For more information or to RSVP visit www.MalibuCity.org/Speakers or call the Malibu Library at 310-456-6438.

SUBMITTED BY MATT MYERHOFF

BUDGET

FROM PAGE 1

the part of officials.

"Your Conservancy Board is very concerned about the negative impact the city budget cuts of the last three years have had on our Historic Preservation Program," said the group in advance of the decision. "These cuts have reduced the number of Landmarks Commission meetings, limited Commission responsibilities, and raised the cost of designation applications so only the wealthiest property owners can afford to apply for landmark protections."

The Conservancy has additional ideas for the future including restoring a staff position to facilitate much of the necessary work.

Council made other requests of the budget that generally aligned with the five priorities that Council identified during its March 11 workshop: addressing homelessness; clean and safe Santa Monica; cultivate economic recovery and expand community and cultural offerings; racial justice, equity and social diversity; sustainable and connected community.

According to a press release from the City Council, "The budget provides a plan, built upon priorities, to continue to rebuild and restore services notwithstanding economic uncertainty and disruption coming from geopolitical unrest, consumer behavior changes, inflation, labor shortages and the trailing impacts of the pandemic."

During the review session, comments from Council expressed support for the proposed enhancements, including:

– Organizational realignment and expanded efforts to address homelessness.

– Enhanced patrol and security services at the Pier, Beach, Downtown and on buses.

– Expanded teams for maintaining clean public spaces.

– Further restoration of youth programs.

– Further restoration of library hours.

– A new small businesses assistance program.

– Establishing a Citywide ADA Coordinator.

– Continuing work on action plans to support zero waste, sustainable water and electrification of the City's fleet.

In addition, Council also provided direction to:

– Restore the City Traffic Engineer, which will enhance the City's ability to deliver mobility projects including Safe Routes to School capital improvements, Vision Zero projects to eliminate fatal and severe injury crashes, and develop a multi-year traffic signal preventative maintenance program.

– Provide funds to invest in technology to enhance community safety.

– Support funding to enable CREST to fully operate at elementary schools and enroll additional participants in CREST Club and enrichment opportunities.

"Despite the strains that the Eric Uller case and the ongoing pandemic recovery have placed on the city's fiscal health, the proposed biennial budget allocated funds to maximize impact in the city's key priorities," Councilmember Caroline Torosis said in response to a request for comment.

"I will continue to push for as much funding as possible to go to housing and preventing homelessness, keeping our community clean and safe and facilitating our community's economic recovery and development.

"I'm also proud that due to my motion to help small businesses, we have funded the City's first ever small business tenant improvement fund to facilitate expansion for small businesses of color," Torosis said, adding, "A budget is a value statement and although the city must confront a variety of challenges in the next two years, our roadmap forward provides great opportunities for us to continue to build a thriving, prosperous, and equitable city."

The total proposed budget for the City is $740.9 million in FY 2023-24 and $746.4 million in FY 2024-25. The proposed budget is prepared alongside five-year forecasts for all funds to ensure the long-term fiscal viability of proposed programs and services.

The direction will be incorporated into the final FY 2023-25 biennial budget, which will return to Council for adoption at its June 27 meeting.

scott.snowden@smdp.com

OPINION **LAUGHING MATTERS**

Jack Neworth

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Is Santa Monica's biggest "wave" crime?



Courtesy Photo

SANTA MONICA: Crime and homelessness are significant problems.

Two years ago I was invited for lunch in Manhattan Beach with a movie producer who had optioned one of my screenplays. It was a wonderfully sunny day and the restaurant, The Kettle, was also wonderful as we discussed movies, politics and baseball, though not necessarily in that order.

Streams of mostly young people, walked by on their way to the beach or to local shops. Manhattan Beach felt like the perfect quaint beach town. But I was also sad because I used to live in a quaint beach town, Santa Monica. The people walking by weren't worried they might get stabbed by a mentally ill homeless person or have their car's catalytic converter stolen.

At the end of that wonderful afternoon, just as I re-entered Santa Monica's border on my way home it was if it were a perfectly timed cue in a dystopian movie. Cutting in front of me was a 20-something man hurriedly riding his bike as he deftly guided another bike by firmly holding the seat, all the while glancing nervously over his shoulder. Trust me, the dude had just stolen that second bike.

In the past five years I've had three bikes ripped off, the last in broad daylight in front of UCLA-Santa Monica Hospital on 15th As I sadly examined what was left of the lock, I saw a cop approaching so I flagged him down. He listened patiently to my tale of woe but then jokingly suggested I walk to Reed Park where thieves openly reassemble stolen bikes to see if maybe I could buy it back. I wasn't in the mood to laugh. (Which I hope I haven't done to you as you read this.)

Actually I'm writing this subject because of "mad as hell" emails in recent months from readers and posts on Nextdoor. Santa Monica is turning into a paradise lost combination of "Clockwork Orange," "Zombie Apocalypse" and "Network."

In 1974 I moved to Santa Monica. Downtown the businesses included a porn movie house and pawn shops. And on Main Street in Ocean Park where I live the stores' doorways often had "winos" sleeping if off. As the street gentrified suddenly we noticed "bag ladies," tragically homeless women pushing shopping carts seemingly filled with their worldly belongings. It wasn't unusual to see homeless men in volatile arguments with ghosts from their past. But, as opposed to now, they were rarely violent.

However, in 1981, President Reagan emptied the psychiatric hospitals into "community" clinics. It saved beaucoup dollars and restored freedom to poor souls held against their will. Unfortunately most of the deinstitutionalized were severely mentally ill with schizophrenia. That brings me to what's going on these days, which sends chills up my spine. (And might explain any typos.)

Let's start with the Metro, or as some call it, "The Crime Train." Like a horror movie, every night, at midnight the Metro makes its last stop dropping off poor souls who will add to our "unhoused" population which already is up 15% from last year. Meanwhile, the Promenade is 35% vacant while foreign tourism is almost non-existent. The message has spread world wide, as a recent sign outside an empty storefront read, "Santa Monica is NOT safe!"

Catalytic converter thefts are not abating as the "shields" placed underneath them have proved a minor inconvenience to crooks. If you notice city lights being dark it's likely thieves have stolen the copper wiring to sell on the black market. While crime is up 14%, shoplifters are not being prosecuted unless over $953 worth of goods are stolen. And illegal drug usage seems at an all-time high (no pun intended) with potentially deadly meth, fentanyl and horse tranquilizer known as "tranq" which literally "eats" human skin. Sad is an understatement.

This is so grim if there was a comedy commission they might yank my "Laughing Matters" banner. But thankfully, dear reader, there are some bright spots. In the last 24 months the city has hired 45 new police officers and the City Council is working with L.A. County, and the Metro, determined to turn things around. Last week Council Member Phil Brock went to seven new

SEE **LAUGHING MATTERS** PAGE 7

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Palisadian Danny Wax takes a final swing at the U.S. Open Final Qualifier

MAGNOLIA LAFLEUR
Special to the Daily Press

On Monday, a competitive field of 89 golfers, consisting of both pro and dreamers alike, assembled at the Hillcrest Country Club to vie for the top five spots, which advance to the 123rd U.S. Open.

> At the end of the day I'm happy with the performance
> - Danny Wax

Dubbed "Golf's Longest Day," the two round 36 hole tournament was set under a brisk overcast sky on the recently renovated course designed by Granite Bay-based architect, Kyle Phillips.

Palisadian Danny Wax, a 36-year-old retired professional golfer was a fan favorite along with 13-year-old Jaden Soong - the youngest player to ever qualify for the final.

"This is why the U.S Open is great," said Julia Pine, Director of Championship Communications for the Southern California Golf Association (USGA). "We like to say it's the ultimate meritocracy in golf. There was a lot of support from the local clubs and the spectators. Someone like Danny Wax had Brentwood Country Club supporting him and Jaden had a large gallery following him. We've got 50 year-olds and 13 year-olds, professionals and amateurs playing side by side."

Wax had a strong first round with a score of 70 that included four bogeys and five birdies, putting himself in position to compete for the top five spots. The turning point in his game came in the second round where he closed out on the 18th hole with four bogeys and three birdies and a total score of 71, not advancing to the top five.

"At the end of the day I'm happy with the performance," Wax said. "I think I slipped up a little bit on the last nine and I just attribute that to fatigue. The turf is completely different [from Brentwood], we had Kikuyu [grass] at Brentwood and here it's Bermuda. But I do love this course."

Wax's past competitor, (and friend of 23-years), E.J. Kahn, a Brentwood Country Club championship holder, said he knew Wax was special after watching his "insane footwork" in the first round of golf they played as budding amateurs.

> This is why the U.S Open is great
> - Julia Pine, Director of Championship Communications for the Southern California Golf Association (USGA)

Kahn recalled, "He was also a soccer player and has a strong lower body that helps a lot with golf. It's all about leveraging the ground. He's just an amazing athlete. You have to play 30 tournaments a year to be the top and if you don't play all the time it's pretty hard. The fact that he's here now, shows he's that good."

Danny's father, Marshall Wax agreed and called his son "a wonderful athlete." The elder Wax noted that the years Danny spent playing college golf at the University of Denver combined with "good genes" is what placed him in a league of his own.

Those "good genes" date all the way back to 1911 when Danny's grandfather was tearing up the greens. "Golf is a generation skipping gene," Marshall said smiling. "My father was good, Daniel is great, I'm in the middle - the missed generation." He added, "I'm proud of him. Daniel always has high expectations, he likes to win, and to have fun, he's good at it."

Monday came to a close with Soong not making it in the top five but finishing strong with a seven over par after bogeys on four of five of his last nine holes. UCLA sophomore Omar Morales, Stanford senior Barclay Brown and Liv Golfer David Puig all qualified for the top three U.S Open spots with Charley Hoffman and Preston Summerhays rounding out the final two spots in an early Tuesday playoff.

The U.S. Open will be played June 15-18 at the Los Angeles Country Club.

Originally published in the Westside Current



Venice stabbing death ruled suicide, new details emerging

ANGELA MCGREGOR
Special to the Daily Press

Costa Karras, a Venice resident, was identified earlier this week as the victim of a stabbing early Tuesday morning on Washington Blvd. The LA County Coroner has now ruled his death a suicide.

Public records confirm that Karras, 46, lived just a short distance from where the tragic incident occurred. The store manager at the Ralph's supermarket on Lincoln Blvd., across from the 90 Freeway, revealed that Costa had briefly worked at the Starbucks counter before abruptly quitting the Friday prior to his death.

The Los Angeles County Coroner's website currently lists the manner of Costa's death as "suicide," despite the initial reports that he had suffered multiple stab wounds. LAPD sources confirm that while there were multiple injuries, the wounds appeared to have been self inflicted. Other evidence at the scene as well as information gathered during the investigation also indicated the death could have been a suicide.

Neighbors and friends, expressing their grief on the Nextdoor platform, remember him as someone who had exhibited normal behavior shortly before the incident. One friend emotionally shared, "Our entire neighborhood has come together during this tragic event. I am profoundly saddened and already miss him dearly."

Above a potted rose bush, a sign fixed to a fence at the site of Costa's death reads, in part: "You're with the great spirits now. A GREAT friend."

Originally published in the Westside Current

LAUGHING MATTERS

FROM PAGE 5

business openings. "I was born here and I will die here" he said, to which I joked, "But not before the council turns things around, right?"

This brings me to the City Council meeting Tuesday, the 13th. I'm hoping that the 100+ people who have sent me "mad as hell" emails and posted on "Next Door" will show up at 5:30 p.m. It's only an hour and could be powerful for the Council to hear our concerns and expectations.

To satisfy my "quaint beach town" jonesin' I'll continue to visit Manhattan Beach. I just hope my producer friend keeps picking up the check.

Tuesday, June 13, the City Council will hold a meeting open to the public to speak at 5:30 p.m. The City Hall is located at 1685 Main St.

Jack is at: jackdailypress@aol.com.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Malibu

Malibu High School Scholarship Winner Announced

Each year the Malibu Association of REALTORS awards a scholarship to the Malibu High School graduating senior who has demonstrated a high academic standard, strong character, and an interest in entrepreneurial activities. The Malibu Association of REALTORS hopes to foster curiosity and creativity in the business world by supporting entrepreneurial students. The scholarship is made possible by the contributions of MAR members. The recipient of this year's scholarship is Garrett Button.

The award was presented at Malibu High School by Malibu Association of REALTORS President Cody Garcia and Directors Bianca Torrence and Cristian David. Garrett plans to attend Northeastern University where he will study Business Analytics, which he believes will give him a strong foundation on which to be an entrepreneur and build his own business. Garrett is a remarkable young man whose positive outlook on life has already helped him earn the Malibu Optimist Club Award, while his academic honors include being named an AP Scholar with Honor and a National Merit Scholar Quarter Finalist. His busy high school life included being on the varsity baseball team where he was team captain for two years, participating in the Malibu High Surfrider club and volunteering as the sports photographer for Malibu High's Yearbook and newspaper.



Courtesy Photo

REALTORS: Left to right, Torrence, David, Button, Garcia.

Garrett's community involvement included two years as an executive board member of the Malibu City Harry Barovsky Youth Commission and working with Kehillat Israel Tzedakah Teens, which is a teen run philanthropic group. Malibu Association of REALTORS congratulates Garrett and all graduating Malibu High Seniors and wishes them great success in their future endeavors. The Malibu Association of REALTORS. Established in 1947, with over 1000 current members, serves to advocate for the profession, to educate, inform and serve both the public and REALTOR members and affiliated professional members. REALTORS are the largest professional association in the country, on the front line fighting to preserve private property rights and promote home ownership.

SUBMITTED BY MALIBU ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS



GODZILLA

FROM PAGE 1

developers can exploit the so-called builder's remedy, in which they can build as much as they want wherever they want so long as at least 20% of the proposed units are set aside for lower income residents.

Over the last two years, local governments across California have had to cobble together new housing plans that meet a statewide goal of 2.5 million new units by 2030. At last count, 227 jurisdictions — home to nearly 12 million Californians, or about a third of the state population — still haven't had their plans certified by state housing regulators, potentially opening them up to builder's remedy projects.

That gives developers a valuable new bargaining chip.

WS Communities used its advantage in Santa Monica to broker a deal in which it agreed to rescind all but one of its 14 builder's remedy projects in exchange for fast-tracked approval of 10 scaled-down versions.

"The builder's remedy — the loss of zoning control, the ability of a developer to propose anything, Houston-style, whatever they want, no zoning regulations — that gets people's attention," said Dave Rand, the land-use attorney representing the WS Communities. "The builder's remedy can be a strategic ploy in order to potentially leverage a third way."

For the developer, the settlement — which still needs a final vote to fully be implemented — is a major win. But this use of a long-dormant law also represents a shift in the politics of housing in California, reflecting a new era of developer empowerment bolstered by the growing caucus of pro-building lawmakers in the Legislature.

"The old games of begging municipalities for a project and reducing the density to get there and kissing the ass of every councilmember and planning official and neighbor — that's the old way of doing things," said Rand. "Our spines are stiffening."

It's hard to know just how many builder's remedy projects have been filed across the state. YIMBY Law, a legal advocacy group that sues municipalities for failing to plan for or build enough housing, has a running count on its website of 46 projects, though its founder, Sonja Trauss, admits that it's an imperfect tally.

Some of the projects, like those in Santa Monica, are towers with hundreds of units. Others are more modest apartment buildings. Whatever the total, Trauss said it represents a significant uptake for a novel legal strategy.

"There were a lot of naysayers who were like 'it's too risky,' 'nobody knows what's gonna happen,' 'nobody's gonna do it,' blah, blah, blah," she said. "I feel vindicated. You know, people are trying it."

But counting just the units proposed under the law misses its broader impact, said UC Davis law professor Chris Elmendorf.

Multiple cities rushed forward their housing plans this year, with city attorneys, city planners and councilmembers warning that failure to do so before a state-imposed deadline could invite a building free-for-all.

"All the action is in negotiation in the shadow of the law," said Elmendorf. The law "may result in a lot of other projects getting permitted that never would have been approved because the developer had this negotiating chip."



Photo by Zaydee Sanchez for CalMatters

CONSTRUCTION: A bulldozer on the corner of 7th Street and Colorado Avenue in Santa Monica on May 24, 2023.

REDISCOVERING THE CALIFORNIA BUILDER'S REMEDY

If it's possible for someone to unearth a forgotten law, Elmendorf can rightly claim to have excavated the builder's remedy"

The Legislature added the provision to the government code in 1990, but no one used it for decades. In the one case Elmendorf found where someone tried — a homeowner in Albany, just north of Berkeley, who wanted to build a unit in his backyard in 1991 without adding a parking spot — local planners shot down the would-be builder.

Elmendorf stumbled upon the long-ignored policy 28 years later while researching East Coast laws that let developers circumvent zoning restrictions in cities short on affordable housing.

He started tweeting about it. He even dubbed the California law the "builder's remedy," borrowing the coinage from Massachusetts.

"I think it's fair to say that people in California had forgotten about the builder's remedy almost completely until I started asking about it on Twitter," he said. "I think those twitter threads led some people to say, 'huh.'"

Among those who noticed: staff at the state Housing and Community Development department who began listing the "remedy" as a possible consequence of failing to plan for enough housing.

Why was the builder's remedy largely forgotten? The text of the law is complicated and it's only relevant once every eight years, when cities and counties are required to put together their housing plan. Plus, though it allows developers to ignore a city's zoning code, it's not clear that it exempts them from extensive environmental review, making the cost savings of using it uncertain.

But more importantly, up until recently, invoking the builder's remedy — the regulatory equivalent of a declaration of war — was bad for business.

Historically, local governments have had sweeping discretion over what gets built within their borders, where and under what terms and conditions. Developers and their lawyers hoping to succeed in such a climate had to excel at what one land use attorney dubbed the art of "creative groveling."

But in recent years, as the state's housing shortage and resulting affordability crisis have grown more acute, lawmakers have passed a series of bills to take away some of that local control. In many cases, cities and counties are now required to approve certain types of housing, like duplexes, subsidized housing apartments and accessory dwelling units, as long as the developer checks the requisite boxes.

That's all led some developers to rethink their approach to dealing with local governments — one that is less concerned with building bridges and isn't so afraid to burn a few.

SANTA MONICA MAKES A DEAL

Santa Monica's city council voted unanimously for the deal with WS Communities early last month — but grudgingly.

In exchange for the developer pulling its original proposals, the city agreed to a streamlined approval process for the new plans. The council also agreed to pass an ordinance to give the developer extra goodies on the 10 remaining projects.

If the city doesn't pass the ordinance, according to the settlement, WS Communities has the right to revive the builder's remedy for all 14 towers.

Councilmember Brock, elected in 2020 along with a slate of development-skeptics, was hardly a fan of the deal. But as he saw it, the prospect of a lengthy legal battle that the city's attorney insisted Santa Monica would lose gave the council little choice. That didn't make what Brock viewed as a hard-knuckle negotiating tactic any easier to swallow.

"I don't believe for a minute that they ever planned to build all those projects," he said.

Councilmember Caroline Torosis, who was elected last fall, laid the blame on the prior council for failing to pass a timely housing plan. Even so, she said the city had no choice but to reclaim control over its own land use from the developer.

"We were put in a difficult situation," she said. "I think that this was absolutely the best negotiated settlement that we could have reached, but of course, they had leverage."

Both Scott Walter, the president of WS, and Neil Shekhter, the founder of the parent company, NMS Properties, refused a request to be interviewed through their lawyer, Rand.

But in true property kingpin fashion, WS was able to flip these builder's remedy proposals into things of even greater value: ironclad plans that it can build out quickly or sell to another developer.

"The builder's remedy projects were anything but fast and certain," said Rand. "This has been parlayed into something with absolute certainty and front-of-the-line treatment."

AFFLUENT CALIFORNIA CITIES FIGHT BACK

About an hour's drive northeast of Santa Monica, the foothill suburb of La Cañada Flintridge recently rejected a builder's remedy application.

During a May 1 hearing, Mayor Keith Eich stressed the city was "not denying the project." Instead, they were denying that the builder's remedy itself even applied to the city.

The argument: The housing plan the council passed last October complies with state law. California's Housing and Community Development department rejected that version of the plan and has yet to certify a new one. But La Cañada's city attorney, Adrian Guerra argued at the hearing that the agency's required changes were minor enough to make the October plan "substantially" compliant.

That's not how state regulators see it. In March, the housing department sent the city a letter of "technical assistance."

"A local jurisdiction does not have the authority to determine that its adopted element is in substantial compliance," the letter reads.

Not so, said Guerra: "The court would make that determination."

A number of cities across the state have made that argument. Among them are Los Altos Hills and Sonoma. Beverly Hills is already fending off a lawsuit contending that the law applies to that city, though it recently rejected a builder's remedy project on extensive technical grounds.

It's a question that's almost certain to end up in court. A recent California's Fifth Circuit Court of Appeal ruling offers legal fodder to both sides.

The April opinion ruled against the state housing department's certification of the City of Clovis' housing plan. That's a point for those arguing that the word of state regulators is not inviolate. But the ruling also noted that courts "generally" defer to the state agency unless its decision is "clearly erroneous or unauthorized."

Down the coast, the City of Huntington Beach isn't relying on such legal niceties. In March, the city council passed an ordinance banning all builder's remedy projects under the argument that the law itself is invalid. Days later, the Newsom administration sued the city.

But in Santa Monica, city council members didn't see much upside in pushing back.

"You can't just fight a losing battle," Brock said. "I think anybody who decides they're gonna be an all star NIMBY is up for failure."

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (June 9)

Notable figures mentor and inspire you as you navigate the challenges and opportunities that come your way. You are also someone who values personal growth and development, and you may find that your work takes on a deeper meaning as you see it as a way to contribute to your own spiritual practice and self-improvement. Aquarius and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 6, 13, 2, 22 and 19.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Most relationships come with caveats and conditions, and yet there are some relationships that seem beyond all that. You really do believe in extending unconditional love to some people. Who and why?

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). If only you could get to a destination by merely wanting to be there. But since you can't today, you'll move and shake, putting yourself in the thick of the action where you can feel which direction everything is going.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're curious, willing to dip a toe into the unknown, and more than capable of handling whatever comes of that. Even so, keep your distance from weird energy. Good things to borrow: library book, pen... Bad thing to borrow: trouble.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). A very effective process can seem like a mess to behold to the outsider who doesn't know better. But to the insider who understands what's getting made and how things come together, the same process is fascinating and beautiful.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Let the others fight over who owns a thing and who gets credit, money and status from it. You're more interested in the general usefulness of the thing. Can it be played with, leveraged or traded? You'll use things very well regardless of who they belong to.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You've known the lingering shadow of loneliness and recognize when it's settled on someone else. You'll help. Even the shortest conversation can have an enormous impact to alleviate the pain of isolation. Your smile has healing power.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). A problem that's very real to a 5-year-old may seem ridiculous to a teen and irrelevant to the autonomous adult. Life gets simple when you skip the mundane struggles, opting only for the timeless ones.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The schedule that worked for you before does not quite represent your current needs and priorities. It's possible something is demanding attention you can't afford to give at this time. A few tweaks can make things work much better.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Even as a powerful commander of your own vessel, you can still be surprised at the strong impulses, preferences and behaviors that can overtake you. Today this happens beautifully and to your benefit.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Healing takes time and has many stages. Things do not get magically better in one day. Adjust your expectations to allow for ups and downs, blips and bumps in the road.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). It can be like a torture to tolerate the soft grating of boring discourse. When what's going on has no relevance or interest to you, don't wait to act. Change the channel, set something down or walk away.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). It's not necessary to ask anyone if you're on the right path today because the multitudes within you will sing and let you know. Sometimes it's the soundtrack that actually makes the path right.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

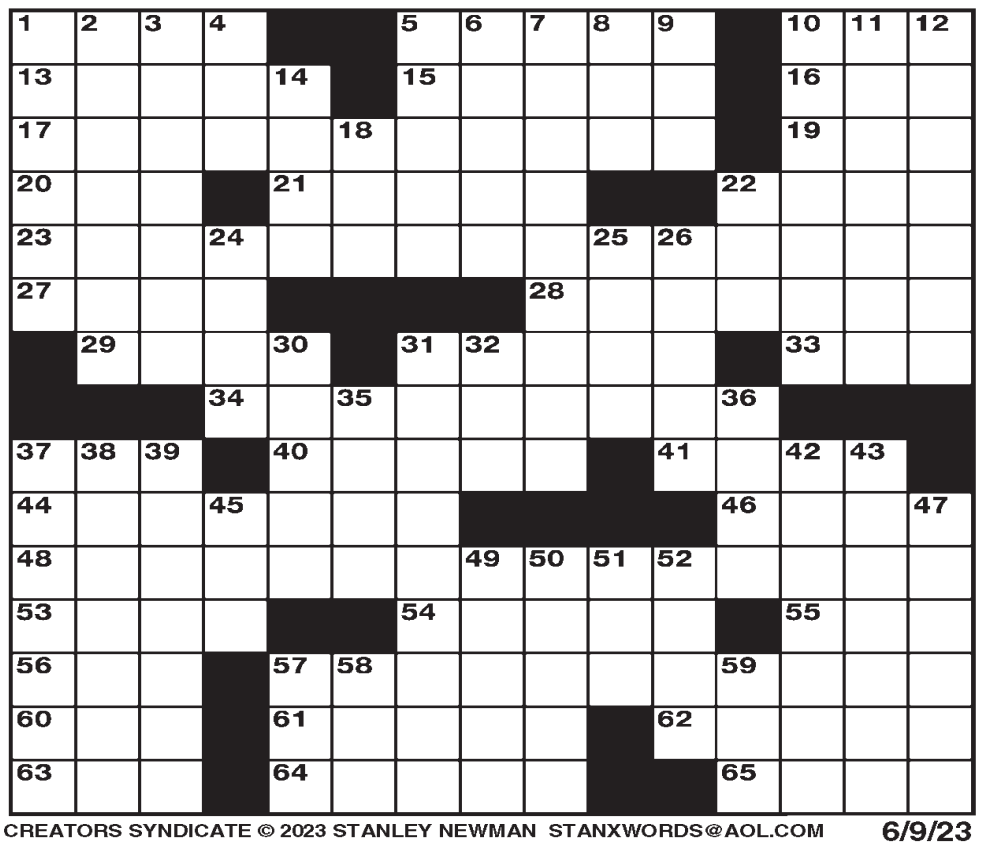
6		9				5		1
		7	5		8			
	5		9				6	8
	1			2		4	3	
			4	3	9			
	2	4		7			5	
5	4				3		9	
			2		1	6		
2		3				1		5

Newsday Crossword

SHOP TALK by Matthew Sewell
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Hybrid hay hauler
5 Crack at a hit
10 Sort of a "Shh!"
13 Transistor descendants
15 One of the world's highest cities
16 Empty (of)
17 Got wise
19 NCAA Atlantic Coast team
20 Pointer's expression
21 John Paul's successor
22 About a quarter of the UN
23 Coast Guard company commander
27 Genesis 8 round-tripper
28 Where cockney is spoken
29 Become tiresome
31 Part as equals?
33 West side of Sussex
34 Office assistant
37 Distinctive manners
40 It has term limits
41 Puzzle (out)
44 Contrite comment
46 Source for exotic feather dusters
48 Ends a triple axel well
53 Way less than whopping
54 Beast on Wyoming's state quarter
55 Strands at a lab
56 Video game virtual person
57 Peregrinator's proof of purchase
60 Swimmer at some golf courses
61 Achilles opponent
62 *Cuarto número primo*
63 Mag with Innovate, Lead, and Grow features
64 Helpings
65 Folk group

DOWN
1 Reckon wrong
2 Directional key
3 Slap down?
4 Setting for Cooperstown's induction ceremonies
5 Big name in microcomputer history
6 Dwindles
7 Mere trifle
8 Bits in some pits
9 Needle work
10 One on a board
11 Humble helpers
12 Common lanyard attachments
14 Name on the cover of *A Light in the Attic*
18 Ivy Leaguer
22 Just a sham
24 Much of Air Canada's logo
25 Carry on
26 Targets of manual exercises?
30 Piques
31 Hershey toffee treats
32 BTU producers
35 Allowed to check out, say
36 Certain Sunni
37 Newbie's wear on the slopes
38 Address meant to impress
39 Highly momentous
42 Task evader
43 Aykroyd, in *Chaplin*
45 Work at
47 Polychromatic minerals
49 Banks of baseball
50 Bank deposit
51 Saver of fable
52 900+-episode TV franchise
57 COD opposite
58 Thailand minority language
59 "The Nation's first line of defense"

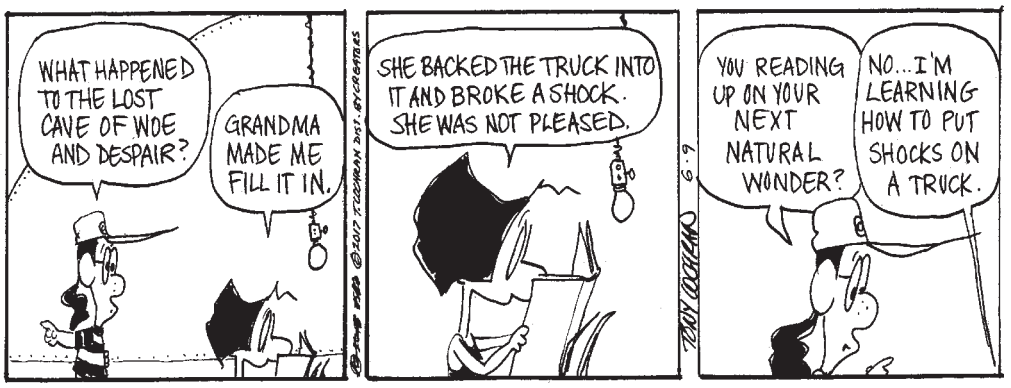


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MORE OF STAN'S CROSSWORDS! Play FREE from Stan's archives of Easy, Hard and Sunday puzzles at: tinyurl.com/stan-newman-crosswords

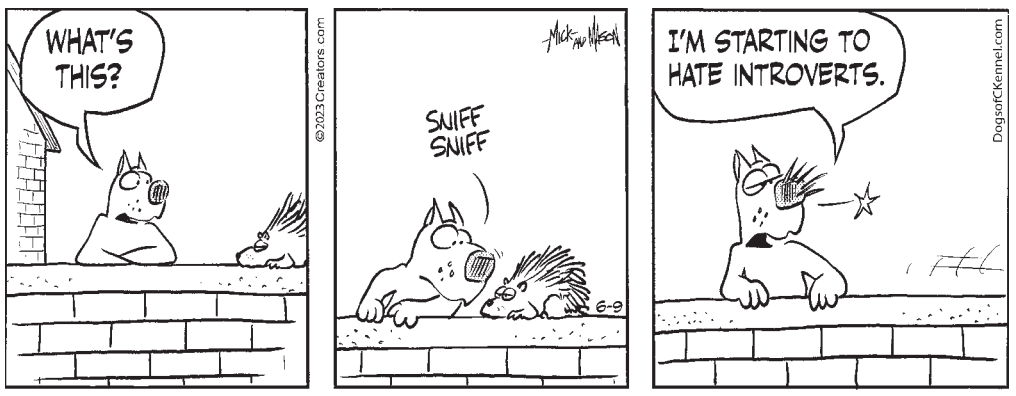
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



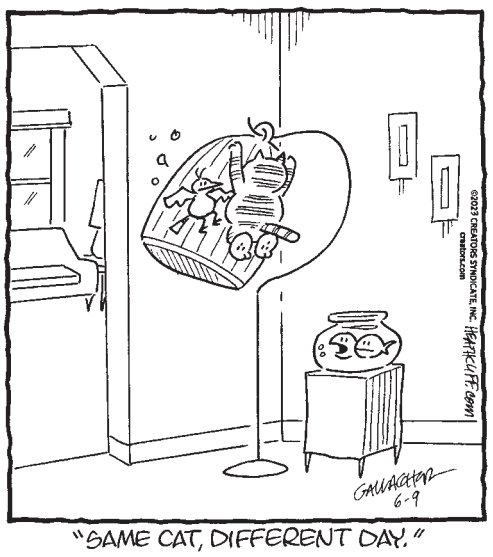
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"SAME CAT, DIFFERENT DAY."

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 13 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 5870

Another year gone

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

Alcohol	Diet	Horns	Personal
Baby	Drinks	Hotel	Play
Ball	Entertainment	Hugs	Save
Band	Explode	Idol	Show
Break	Flirt	Kiss	Smoke
Bubbly	Funny	Lifestyle	Snacks
Celebrate	Games	Loud	Soda
Chips	Give up	Music	Stress
Clock	Glow	New Year's	Thank
Clubs	Happy	Eve	Whistles
Dance	Hats	Night	Wild
Debt	Hope	Noise	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Lunch then a nap

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What's Up Westside

out and about in Santa Monica

FRIDAY | JUNE 9

MADE WITH PRIDE MARKETPLACE
A unique retail pop-up hosted every Friday through Sunday in June at Santa Monica Place on Level One. Hosted with Streetlet, the Marketplace showcases over a dozen LGBTQ+ business owners, highlighting their stories and featuring local goods and services made, conceived, and curated in Southern California. Santa Monica Place. 395 Santa Monica Place Santa Monica, CA 90401

SATURDAY | JUNE 10

MAIN STREET CG OPEN HOUSE
Come visit the Main Street Community Garden on Saturday June 10th and check out our Summer Crops and Flowers. The Annual Tomato Tasting competition is around the corner, keep an eye out for the date! Main Street Community Garden 2318 Main Street Santa Monica, CA

AIDS/LIFECYCLE RIDE FINISH LINE EVENT
We welcome the riders of the AIDS/LifeCycle Ride to Santa Monica for the first time as they finish their 545-mile ride from San Francisco near the Santa Monica Pier at Beach Lot 4 South. They are also seeking volunteers to make sure the Finish Line Festival is as fun and exciting as possible! Santa Monica Beach Lot 4 1230 Ocean Ave Santa Monica, CA 90405

SUNDAY | JUNE 11

SABA SURF BEACH DAY + CLEAN UP
Saba Surf, the Venice-based surf lifestyle brand, invites you to join their beach day and clean up on June 11th at 9am at Breakwater in Venice Beach (look out for the large SABA SURF tent). Grab coffee, a pair of gloves from the check-in table, and join the beach-clean up starting at 9:30 a.m. Guests will be invited to meet back up at the Saba Surf tent at 10:30 for a chance to win a month's supply of Saba Surf Wax, Saba T-Shirt, and more. Breakwater, Venice Beach Ocean Front Walk. Venice, CA https://www.instagram.com/p/Csjkdw9yP8A/

MONDAY | JUNE 12

LANDMARKS COMMISSION
Established in 1975, the mission of the Landmarks Commission is "To protect improvements and areas which represent the City's cultural, social, economic, political and architectural history; safeguard the City's historic, aesthetic and cultural heritage; and promote the use of landmarks and historic districts for the education, pleasure and welfare of the people." [SMMC Chapter 9.56] City Council Chambers Santa Monica, CA

TUESDAY | JUNE 13

93RD COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY
Join SMC for a momentous occasion as they celebrate the achievements of over 5,000 graduating students! The traditional Commencement ceremony will be on-ground once again. Commencement Speaker: Christopher P. Lu, U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations for Management and Reform. Eligible graduating students will receive RSVP details. Families/Guests: RSVPs are not required.

WEDNESDAY | JUNE 14

TRIVIA NIGHT AT THE BUNGALOW
Meet at The Bungalow at Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows every Wednesday for Trivia Night. Test your knowledge, enjoy the food and fare and win over $500 worth of prizes every week. Bring friends and family for an epic showdown. See you there! The Bungalow. 101 Wilshire Blvd Santa Monica, CA 90401 https://thebungalow.com/santa-monica/#calendar

THURSDAY | JUNE 15

CHILDREN'S BUREAU OFFERING VIRTUAL ORIENTATIONS
Children's Bureau is seeking foster families and now offers two virtual ways for individuals and/or couples to learn how to help children in foster care while reunifying with birth families or how to provide legal permanency by adoption. If you or someone you know may be interested in learning more about foster care and adoption, a live English Zoom Orientation is scheduled for June 15 from 4 to 5 p.m. hosted by a Children's Bureau team member and a foster parent. For those who want to learn at their own pace about becoming a foster and/or fost-adopt parent, a PowerPoint orientation is also available. To R.S.V.P. for the live orientation or to request the PowerPoint orientation, please email Rfrecruitment@all4kids.org or call 800-730-3933, or visit https://www.all4kids.org/foster-care-and-adoption-inquiry-form/ to complete a quick inquiry form. A link to the meeting will be emailed to you.

FRIDAY | JUNE 16

SAMO PRIDE DRAG QUEEN STORYTIME
Celebrate Pride Month with Drag Queen Storytime! Our guest of honor, Pickle, will lead an interactive storytime designed to challenge restrictive gender stereotypes, encourage self-expression, and promote diversity and inclusion. Annenberg Community Beach House. 415 Pacific Coast Hwy. Santa Monica, CA 90402

SATURDAY | JUNE 17

SUMMER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION
Ishihara Park Learning Garden, 2909 Exposition Blvd, Santa Monica 90404 Join us at the Ishihara Park Learning Garden as we celebrate the impending Summer Solstice by focusing our energy on the sun !! by building a SOLAR OVEN. What is a Solar Oven you may ask? Come and find out.

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



SURF REPORT

WATER TEMP: **62.8**

FRIDAY *POOR TO FAIR*	**SURF:** 3-4ft Waist to chest	Trending smaller through the day but could be another reasonably clean morning. Worth keeping an eye on if you want smaller but still rideable surf as S swell winds down. Only trace NW swell mixing in.
SATURDAY *POOR TO FAIR*	**SURF:** 2-3ft+ Thigh to stomach	Smaller surf through the day and morning cleanliness is in question. Possible added small NW swell mix blending in late at exposures with the leftover S swell.

WEATHER

Friday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 63. West southwest wind 5 to 15 mph.
Friday Night: Cloudy, with a low around 60. West southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.
Saturday: Cloudy, with a high near 63. Southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.
Saturday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, cloudy, with a low around 60.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2023/06/09	Fri	01:22 AM	5.26	H
2023/06/09	Fri	08:55 AM	-0.51	L
2023/06/09	Fri	4:02 PM	4.10	H
2023/06/09	Fri	9:00 PM	2.66	L
2023/06/10	Sat	02:38 AM	4.60	H
2023/06/10	Sat	09:52 AM	-0.07	L
2023/06/10	Sat	4:53 PM	4.53	H
2023/06/10	Sat	10:46 PM	2.18	L
2023/06/11	Sun	04:07 AM	4.04	H
2023/06/11	Sun	10:46 AM	0.38	L
2023/06/11	Sun	5:37 PM	5.00	H
2023/06/12	Mon	12:07 AM	1.46	L
2023/06/12	Mon	05:36 AM	3.67	H
2023/06/12	Mon	11:34 AM	0.83	L
2023/06/12	Mon	6:17 PM	5.45	H
2023/06/13	Tue	01:10 AM	0.70	L
2023/06/13	Tue	06:58 AM	3.50	H
2023/06/13	Tue	12:18 PM	1.27	L

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: 6/7
16 21 29 53 66
Power#: 2
Jackpot: 308 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 6/6
6 12 23 29 57
Mega#: 4
Jackpot: 240 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 6/7
6 14 16 23 27
Mega#: 4
Jackpot: 66 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 6/7
12 16 21 23 28

Daily 3
Draw Date: 6/7
EVENING: 7 5 4
Draw Date: 6/7
MIDDAY: 6 7 1

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 6/7
1st: 02 - Lucky Star
2nd: 12 - Lucky Charms
3rd: 04 - Big Ben
Race Time: 1:43.88

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Thursday/Sunday: 12-6

Friday/Saturday: 12-8