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Withstand legal challenge

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Want exemption from law

5 **Crime Watch**
Three arrests made

6 **Amazon**
Drivers file legal claims

smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

Volume 23 Issue 147 WEDNESDAY 6/12/24 smdp.com

Chamber ceremony celebrates motorcycle dealership



Photos Courtesy Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce

TRIUMPH: City officials and business leaders revved up for an exciting afternoon at Triumph Santa Monica, taking part in the "Boulevard Bikes and Brews" open house event on June 1. The Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony for the motorcycle shop at 1710 Santa Monica Blvd., a location that carries the largest United Kingdom-owned motorcycle manufacturer. In addition to selling new and pre-owned motorcycles, the dealership also features a service, repairs and maintenance department, and can order parts as needed. To contact Triumph Santa Monica, call 310-310-8163.

Eighth graders SMASH their way to high school in final ceremony



Photo by Thomas Leffler

SMASH: SMASH eighth grade graduate Lamarr Turner was all smiles during the school's 2024 graduation ceremony.

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

For 20 soon to be high schoolers, their final day as Santa Monica Alternative School House (SMASH) students was much like their school experience, full of both playful and poignant moments.

On Tuesday, SMASH held a graduation ceremony for students that finished "Core 4" learning on the campus. SMASH, offering a robust social curriculum alongside its academics, focuses on models

SEE **SMASH** PAGE 7

Skate worlds, coffee collide for limited-edition latte

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

The Westside of Los Angeles is famous for its sand and surf, but also notable for the third "s" in the equation, skateboarding culture.

To celebrate a powerful group changing the fabric of skateboarding worldwide, the founding area of the craft has concocted a coffee fit for a pre-ride treat or supporting other ventures. On Thursday, Dogtown Coffee in the Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows will launch its special "GRLSWIRL Latte," a honey lavender creation named after the female skateboarding collective. For a three-month limited run, $1

SEE **SKATEBOARDING** PAGE 11



Photo Courtesy Fairmont Miramar

SKATEBOARDING: The female skating collective GRLSWIRL has partnered with Dogtown Coffee for a special honey lavender creation.



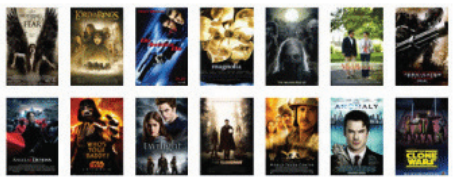
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California gig worker law withstands challenge from Uber at federal appeals court



Photo by Mike Blake, REUTERS

WORKERS: Uber, Lyft and DoorDash drivers strike, during what they are calling "A National Day of Action", to protest fair pay and treatment by their rideshare companies, in Los Angeles on Feb. 14, 2024.

LEVI SUMAGAYSAY
Special to the Daily Press

Uber has lost its long-running attempt to overturn a California law that would require it to provide employment rights to its drivers and delivery workers.

The ruling by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals could have major implications — depending what the state Supreme Court decides in a separate but related case.

Uber and Postmates, a food-delivery platform Uber now owns, alleged that Assembly Bill 5 violated their rights under the Equal Protection Clause of the state and U.S. constitutions. AB 5 requires ride-hailing and delivery companies to treat their workers as employees instead of independent contractors and codifies the so-called ABC test to determine which workers should receive benefits. Under the law, other gig companies are subject to a different test, which Uber and Postmates claimed was unfair.

The companies sued and won an injunction against the law that took effect at the beginning of 2020. Last year, a three-judge panel at the 9th Circuit sided with Uber and revived the case, which had been previously dismissed by a federal judge.

But writing for the full 11-judge appeals court today, Judge Jacqueline Nguyen said there are "plausible reasons" for treating Uber differently from other types of companies that use gig workers, such as Wag, a platform that connects dog owners and dog walkers, because the Legislature "perceived transportation and delivery companies as the most significant perpetrators of the problem it sought to address — worker misclassification."

More than 1.4 million workers in California do app-based driving and delivery work for big gig companies such as Uber, Lyft, DoorDash and Instacart, according to the industry's latest estimates.

Lorena Gonzalez, chief officer of the California Labor Federation and the former state lawmaker who authored AB 5, said in a statement today: "This is a victory for all workers in the state, but especially the chronically misclassified workers in rideshare and delivery jobs. Now, we must continue to seek ways to enforce this law."

The ruling means "the Legislature can continue to make laws that impact companies differently if the decision to do so is rational, without being concerned that such laws would violate the constitutional rights of the corporation," said Veena Dubal, a UC Irvine law professor whose research centers on labor and inequality. "This is particularly important because so many sectors are now concentrated by two or three large companies."

The decision also is significant because the California Supreme Court in May heard oral arguments in a case challenging the constitutionality of Proposition 22, the initiative the gig industry put on the ballot in 2020, and which a majority of California voters approved. Prop. 22 exempted Uber and other companies such as Lyft, DoorDash and Instacart from AB 5, allowing them to continue to treat their workers as independent contractors while giving them some new benefits they did not have before, such as guaranteed minimum earnings.

Uber is counting on the state's highest court to uphold Prop. 22, on which it spent more than $57 million out of the about $200 million the gig industry put into the campaign. It contends AB 5 threatens the "flexible work opportunities" that many Californians want.

Theane Evangelis, a lawyer for Uber, in an emailed statement today reiterated the company's position that "with AB 5 the Legislature unfairly targeted my clients out of animus rather than reason." Uber had argued that AB 5 has many exemptions for companies that pay workers in different industries. They

SEE **UBER** PAGE 8

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

California restaurants now want an exemption from the state's new hidden fees law

DAN WALTERS

In "1984," George Orwell's novel about a dystopian future, he describes "newspeak," a propagandistic language of euphemisms and inversions used by officialdom to mask the reality of their meaning.

We got a dose of California-style newspeak last week when state Sen. Bill Dodd, a Napa Democrat, introduced Senate Bill 1524. It would exempt restaurants from his previous legislation, SB 478, which requires businesses to fully include extra fees in their prices, rather than tacking them on after services or goods have been delivered.

> Restaurant customers shouldn't be surprised when they get their checks by a slew of extra charges they were not expecting
> - Bill Dodd, Sen.

Dodd declared his proposed new legislation would "enhance consumer protection" for restaurant patrons by "clarifying state law" on how fees and other service charges should be disclosed.

"Restaurant customers shouldn't be surprised when they get their checks by a slew of extra charges they were not expecting," Dodd said. "Many restaurants are up-front with their business practices but too many aren't, necessitating action."

In fact, Dodd's original legislation, passed last year and due to take effect on July 1, was aimed at eliminating "a slew of extra charges" on restaurant bills and other consumer transactions. But SB 1524 would reduce consumer protection by allowing restaurants to avoid full disclosure of their prices by burying the notices of extra fees within their menus, where customers are least likely to notice them.

The deceptive descriptions of Dodd's new legislation accompany assertions by bill sponsors in the restaurant industry and their unions that if surcharges are included in food prices, they would somehow lead to pay reductions.

"Cutting the pay of banquet servers and ballpark workers was never the intention of SB 478, as the bill's authors have made clear," said Mario Yedidia, western political director for UNITE HERE, a union that represents some food service workers.

"This will enable restaurants to continue to support increased pay equity and to make contributions to worker health care and other employee benefits," added Matthew Sutton, senior vice president of the California Restaurant Association.

There is absolutely nothing in the current law that prevents restaurants from raising their prices as much as they desire to increase their workers' pay and benefits. That's simply business as usual throughout the economy.

Nor is requiring restaurants and other businesses to list their full prices before consumers decide whether to make transactions such a novel idea.

Take, for instance, gasoline prices.

If you pay $5 for a gallon of gas, it includes about $1.50 in state and federal taxes and other surcharges. The full prices are displayed on signs and on the gas pumps themselves. Gas stations cannot advertise fuel for $3.50 and then tack on the extra fees and taxes after you've already filled your tank.

Before you buy a house and take on a mortgage, state law requires you to be informed of transaction fees before signing the final papers. Same applies for buying a new car.

When SB 478 was going through the Legislature last year, somehow those in the restaurant business assumed that it would not compel them to list full prices in their menus, even though there was nothing in the bill itself to support that assumption.

Uncertainty about SB 478's effect on restaurants led Attorney General Rob Bonta to declare recently that they would be subject to the new law, generating a strong backlash from those in the industry and pressure on Dodd and other legislators to grant an exemption.

We shouldn't be fooled by the newspeak descriptions of SB 1524. It does not "enhance consumer protection." It would purposely undermine consumer protection by allowing restaurants to resume their bait-and-switch tactics – giving patrons menu prices that don't fully reflect what their final bills will be.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **63.7**

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

Fresh SW swell picks up, mixing with secondary S swell and a hint of NW energy. Blend of swells bodes opens occ. beachbreak corners so structured spots shouldn't be the only game in town. AM looks clean enough - maybe a touch of texture.

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

SW swell holds, mixing with a little more S swell and a hint of NW energy. Blend of swells offers an occ. beachbreak corner so structured spots shouldn't be the only game in town. AM looks clean enough - maybe a touch of texture.

Weather

Wednesday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, cloudy, with a high near 67. Light south wind becoming southwest 5 to 10 mph
Wednesday Night: Patchy drizzle after 11pm. Patchy fog. Otherwise, cloudy, with a low around 58.
Thursday: Patchy drizzle and fog before 11am. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 68.
Thursday Night: Patchy drizzle and fog after 11pm. Cloudy, with a low around 59.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2024/06/12	Wed	01:17 AM	4.47	H
2024/06/12	Wed	08:51 AM	0.36	L
2024/06/12	Wed	4:18 PM	3.84	H
2024/06/12	Wed	9:09 PM	2.93	L
2024/06/13	Thu	02:19 AM	3.91	H
2024/06/13	Thu	09:38 AM	0.77	L
2024/06/13	Thu	4:59 PM	4.08	H
2024/06/13	Thu	10:54 PM	2.59	L
2024/06/14	Fri	03:41 AM	3.42	H
2024/06/14	Fri	10:23 AM	1.15	L
2024/06/14	Fri	5:32 PM	4.37	H
2024/06/15	Sat	12:07 AM	2.04	L
2024/06/15	Sat	05:10 AM	3.12	H
2024/06/15	Sat	11:03 AM	1.50	L
2024/06/15	Sat	6:02 PM	4.68	H
2024/06/16	Sun	01:00 AM	1.43	L
2024/06/16	Sun	06:34 AM	3.02	H
2024/06/16	Sun	11:39 AM	1.80	L

Daily Lottery

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POWERBALL
Draw Date: 6/10
3 10 33 58 59
Power#: 9
Jackpot: 20 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 6/7
3 5 12 22 66
Mega#: 7
Jackpot: 30 M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 6/8
1 7 27 30 40
Mega#: 6
Jackpot: 43 M

FANTASY 5
Draw Date: 6/10
15 16 20 27 38

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 6/10
EVENING: 5 5 5
Draw Date: 6/10
MIDDAY: 7 1 3

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 6/10
1st: 03 - Hot Shot
2nd: 09 - Winning Spirit
3rd: 10 - Solid Gold
Race Time: 1:41.42

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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City of Santa Monica

The Santa Monica Housing Authority (SMHA) is pleased to announce the selection of the following owners for the award of Project-Based Housing Choice Vouchers: Yaron & Yael Levy Revocable Trust, Michelle Kim, Delaware Avenue Apts., LLC c/o Farid Afra, Miller Family Trust 222 Bicknell Avenue, LLC, Ken Downing, Mansouri, David & Nazila Panah, Xanate Properties Gregg Wolff, Slome Kaplan a California Limited Partnership and Laurel EAH NC, L.P.

SMHA wishes to thank the owners for their participation in the program and for being a part of the solution to address affordable housing needs.

The award of the vouchers furthers SMHA's goal of de-concentrating poverty and expanding economic and housing opportunities for low-income families in the City of Santa Monica, California.

SMHA is an equal employment and housing opportunity agency.



Some California officials can meet remotely. For local advisory boards, state lawmakers say no



Photo Courtesy of CalMatters

REMOTE: Yusef Miller, of the North County Equity and Justice Coalition, speaks at the dais during a CLERB meeting at the San Diego County Administration Center on Oct. 17, 2023.

SAMEEA KAMAL
Special to the Daily Press

On the one hand, allowing local advisory boards and commissions to meet remotely could make it easier for more Californians to take part, including those with disabilities or in jobs that make it hard to attend in-person meetings.

But on the other, shouldn't people have the opportunity to address their public officials face-to-face?

That was the heart of the discussion around Assembly Bill 817, one of several recent proposals seeking to extend flexible meeting policies born out of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Legislature agreed last year to do that for state boards, until Jan. 1, 2026.

But lawmakers declined to give that flexibility for local advisory boards, including planning commissions and budget oversight committees, beyond emergency situations, caregiving and other exceptions they granted during the pandemic.

The broader bill failed in the Senate's local government committee last week, failing to get a single "yes" vote. Four members voted "no" and three others didn't vote.

Sen. María Elena Durazo, a Los Angeles Democrat who leads the committee, said that since advisory boards are often appointed by elected officials and make recommendations that lead to action, "it is vital that the public can inform the recommendations these bodies make."

"I don't believe that you can as effectively do that on a computer screen instead of in person," she said.

Currently, state law requires local boards to meet where the public has access. If that's not at a central location like a county building, members are required to post a notice and allow the public to attend, even at their homes.

This bill — introduced by Downey Democrat Blancha Pacheco and passed by the Assembly on a 54-8 vote in January — would have, until Jan. 1, 2026, let advisory bodies have no board members and only one staffer at a physical meeting location, and one agenda posted at the staffer's location. It would have required board members to be on camera.

> This bill would have taken a meat cleaver to the Brown Act when a scalpel could give flexibility to those who truly need it
> - Brittney Barsotti, general counsel for the California News Publishers Association

Pacheco said at the June 5 hearing that her bill would bring local boards in line with state ones.

SEE ADVISORY PAGE 8

CRIME WATCH

Crime Watch is culled from reports provided by the Santa Monica Police Department. These are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Assault on Main St at midnight results in three arrests

According to the Santa Monica Police Department (SMPD), just after midnight, in the early hours of this morning, Tuesday, 11 June, officers responded to a 911 call of an assault in the 2700 block of Main Street.

The victim has been transported to a local hospital for treatment, but SMPD has said they do not have any details related to his injuries and his condition is not known.

Three suspects have been taken into custody. More information will be released as the investigation progresses.

A SMAlert was sent out by email at 12:35am that said, “Main Street is closed between Hill and Ashland due to police activity. Please avoid the area until further notice.”

And another alert was sent by text message at 5:57am that said, The Santa Monica Police Department activity at Hill street and Main street has ended. Resume normal activities.”

Anyone with information about this incident is encouraged to contact Detective Tavera or the Watch Commander at (310) 458-8427, which is a 24/7 number.

scott.snowden@smdp.com

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Free the hens

Dear Editor,

I am writing to bring light to the maltreatment of the three lovely hens currently surviving in a small cage of dirt and filth on Yale Street in Santa Monica, as a part of the Upward Bound House urban farm, sponsored by Roque & Mark.

These sentient beings should be free to roam on the grass in the sunlight in an animal sanctuary rather than being confined in rusty metal for the benefit of a few people who want their eggs.

Looking at these beings in the midst of a supposedly ‘progressive’ city only evokes disgust, sadness, and incredulity. I encourage anyone who is reading this newspaper to go take a look at these poor creatures, now languishing at 1417 Yale Street and to write to our city council members, demanding a change to the municipal code.

Surely these hens were not born for this - surely they were not ‘made’ for this.

How about if we work toward helping these hens get the home they deserve - free of the bars, the filth, and the exploitation?

We are better than this and we know better than this. We have to ask ourselves, would we want to live in this kind of prison? Would we want to be exploited the way these hens are being exploited?

I think that we all know the answer to this question.

Sincerely

Rizwati Freeman, Santa Monica

Race to the bottom

Dear Editor,

Our city council seems to want Santa Monica to be ever more trashy and financially struggling, rather than classy and financially sound.

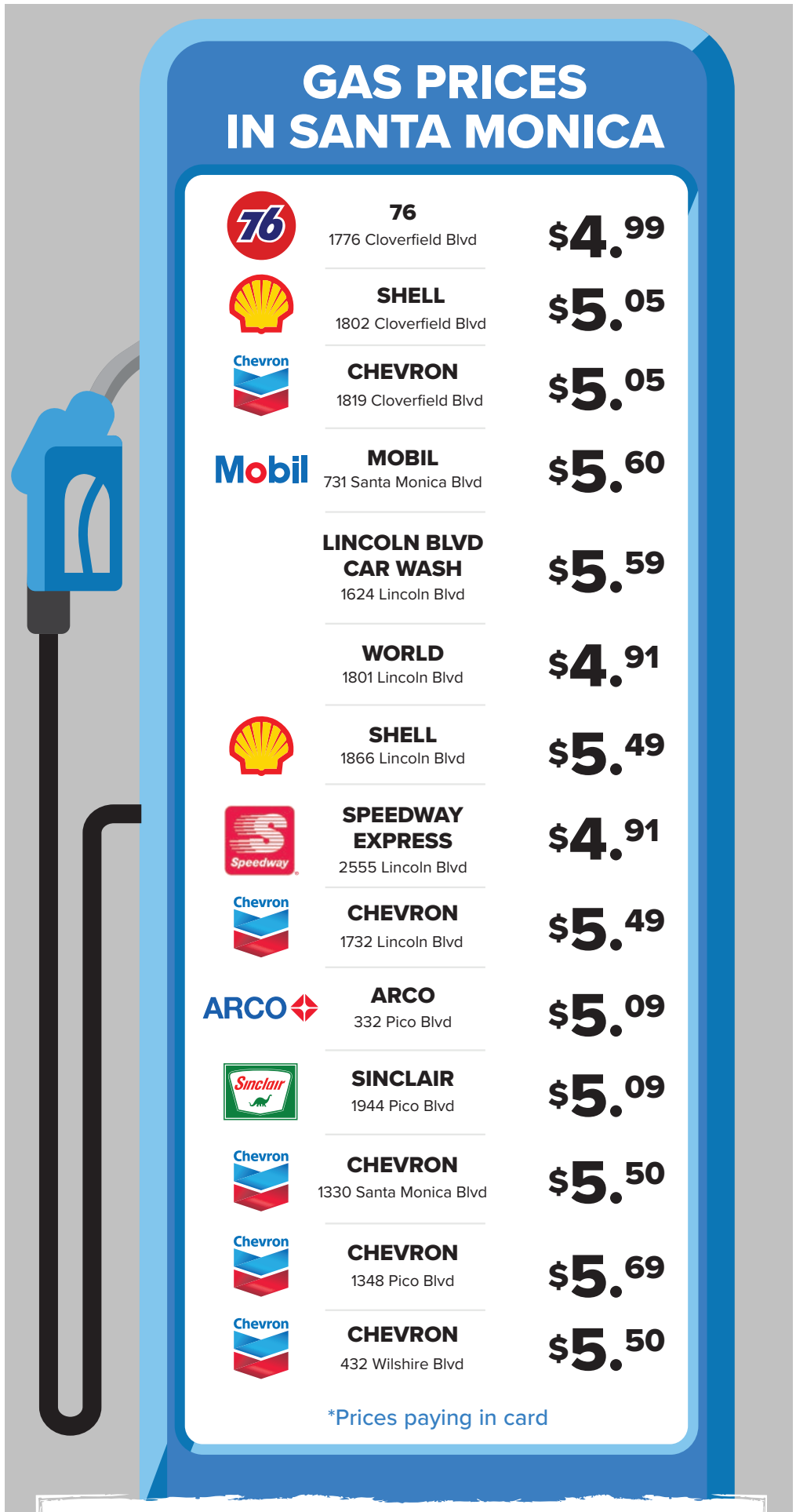
Thanks to a well-deserved reputation for crime and rampant shoplifting, Santa Monica is failing as a tourist destination, and many stores on Third Street are empty. (REI leaving 4th Street broke my heart.) Landlords are bleeding cash and are desperate for anyone willing to rent their spaces. It seems like the only tenants they can get now are tattoo parlors, massage parlors and cannabis stores.

Century City Mall is bursting with high end stores and paying customers. Why? It is not because it lacks massage parlors or pot-stores. It is because they get the basics right. A safe, clean place where stores are not being killed by shoplifting.

Our council seems to be caving in to the short-sighted lobbying of struggling landlords, and fatally cheapening our city. It is safe streets and less shoplifting that will ultimately lead to higher rents and better retail tenants. Other cities are thriving. But by not taking a long-term view, by giving in to misguided businesses and not fixing the basics, our city is destined to spiral into tawdry cheapness and despair.

A race to the bottom in retail is like an alcoholic begging for one last drink before promising to dry out. It just ends up making things worse. In all seriousness, I am predicting that strip clubs and massage parlors will open on Third Street before long.

Peter Borresen, Santa Monica



Average gasoline prices in Los Angeles have fallen 10.1 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging $4.83/g, according to GasBuddy’s survey of 2,135 stations in Los Angeles. Prices in Los Angeles are 42.5 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand 10.0 cents per gallon lower than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has fallen 6.7 cents in the last week and stands at $3.75 per gallon.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Los Angeles was priced at $3.99/g while the most expensive was $5.99/g, a difference of $2.00/g. The lowest price in the state yesterday was $3.89/g while the highest was $8.35/g, a difference of $4.46/g.

The national average price of gasoline has fallen 10.0 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging $3.40/g. The national average is down 23.0 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 18.2 cents per gallon lower than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country.

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Thousands of drivers file arbitration claims against Amazon for unpaid wages and other losses

HALELUYA HADERO
AP Business Writer

Thousands of delivery drivers filed legal claims against Amazon on Tuesday, alleging the company's classification of them as independent contractors instead of employees has led to unpaid wages and other financial losses.

Two law firms spearheading the action said about 15,860 Amazon Flex drivers have submitted arbitration claims with the American Arbitration Association, where 453 similar cases are already being litigated.

Amazon's Flex program, which was founded in 2015, signs up drivers to deliver packages with their own cars and a special app.

The company pitches the work as a flexible, part-time opportunity that allows people to earn extra income during the hours they choose. Most drivers earn $18-25 per hour, according to Amazon, though how much they get paid can depend on other factors, such as their location and how long it takes to complete deliveries.

The arbitration claims submitted Tuesday were made by drivers in California, Illinois and Massachusetts, all of which have rules that limit the amount of control companies can exert over independent contractors. The claims, collected over a span of four years by attorneys Joseph Sellers and Steven Tindall, maintain the drivers should be classified as Amazon employees instead of independent contractors, based on current laws in the three states.

That change would allow Flex drivers to collect unpaid wages because Amazon only pays them for a pre-determined number of hours regardless of how long it takes to complete deliveries, according to the lawyers. It would also allow Flex drivers to receive overtime pay if they work more than 40 hours a week and get reimbursements for work-related expenses, such as gas costs and vehicle wear and tear.

Gas and other vehicle costs are a "huge expense to our clients," Tindall said during an interview. He also said one client represented in the claims worked 7-day weeks making deliveries for Amazon during a holiday period and never was paid overtime.

In a prepared statement, Amazon spokesperson Brandon Baribeau touted the benefits of the Flex program, saying it gives "individuals the opportunity to set their own schedule and be their own boss, while earning competitive pay."

"We hear from most of the Amazon Flex delivery partners that they love the flexibility of the program, and we're proud of the work they do on behalf of customers every day," Baribeau said.

Tindall and Sellers say they have so far succeeded in seven of the eight arbitration claims against Amazon they took to trial. The drivers they represented in those cases were awarded an average of $9,000 in damages.

Amazon's business model for its driving workforce - made up of independent contractors and third-party businesses that allow the company to avoid unionization – faces scrutiny and challenges from different corners.

A bipartisan group of more than 30 U.S. senators sent Amazon CEO Andy Jassy a letter last week asking for more information on the company's relationship with the thousands of independent businesses that make millions of deliveries each day as part of Amazon's Delivery Service Partners program.

> We hear from most of the Amazon Flex delivery partners that they love the flexibility of the program, and we're proud of the work they do on behalf of customers every day
> - Brandon Baribeau

In March, the Wisconsin Supreme Court let stand a lower court ruling that declared Flex drivers to be employees - a decision that would allow them to be part of the state's unemployment insurance system and entitled to jobless pay if they are laid off.

The Teamsters union, which is seeking to organize Amazon's drivers, also filed a complaint at the National Labor Relations Board last year challenging how the company classifies some of its drivers.

GET IT DAILY...

SMASH

FROM PAGE 1

such as Project-Based Learning to enhance their time on campus. Students are broken into four "cores," with the final "Core 4" being seventh and eighth grade students studying mathematics, humanities and science through individual and group projects.

SMASH Principal Jessica Riche said this particular eighth grade group has left "quite a legacy" on campus, including helpful mentorship to younger students and a "combination of very loud and quiet advocacy." Riche added that it's "hard to say goodbye" to the 2024 class, but knows it must be done because "they're ready to embrace what's ahead."

"A characteristic of them overall as a whole is (that) they're playful," Riche said. "They've shown physical agility, artistic creativity, intelligence (and) ability to command an audience … you will have a fulfilling, successful, positively impactful high school experience and life ahead of you."

The SMASH ceremony was full of that playfulness, from seventh graders writing humorous new lyrics to songs like "Party in the USA" and "We Didn't Start the Fire" to commemorate the class, as well as various jokes thrown out during graduate speeches. As per campus tradition, the graduates were not called up in any specific order, as teachers instead gave out clues as to who the graduate was, prompting the crowd to yell out a name.

One of the names was Leonardo Ka, who comically recited a quote from "Kung Fu Panda" about the gift of the present, before heaping praise on his classmates in his own hilarious way.

"I started out as an awkward sixth grader, I ended up belonging in a gang of eighth graders, it's truly been a journey," Ka remarked.

The bonds formed within the 2024 class were on display in nearly every speech, including Lamarr Turner who called fellow graduates "like family."

"We've spent 1,809 days together, and I wish we could have a few more," Turner said. "We are about to embark on a new journey, and even though we won't be on the same campus … I know that the love and support that my classmates feel (for each other), it won't end."

These friendships were the key to self-discovery for many, such as Jordyn Cogan, who said she walked onto SMASH campus "completely terrified" but left proud of her identity as "an autistic, LGBTQ individual."

"If there's one thing I have learned during my three and a half years (at) SMASH, it's how to accept myself even when others cannot accept me … my friends (have) taught me to be unafraid to show people who I am," Cogan said.

SMASH students further explored their identities through the "Eighth Grade Passion Project," seeking out topics that interest them like Griffin Kay's affinity for graffiti and street art, and Phoebe Gardner learning sign language which was brought out during her speech.

"Your love and encouragement have been the foundation upon which we build (and) achieve," Gardner said of her class. "(SMASH will) always be something that I hold close to my heart because of the friends that have been with me for nine years."

thomas@smdp.com



Photo by Thomas Leffler

SMASH: The 2024 eighth grade class at Santa Monica Alternative School House (SMASH) walked the campus one final time on Tuesday.

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Summons

Summons (Citación Judicial) SUM 100Case No: 24SMCCV01279NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): STUDIO MAAST, INC., a California corporation; ASHLEY RIEDL, an individual; and DOES 1-50,InclusiveYOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): MEERA PARIKH, an individual; and ASHISH PARIKH, an individual; and DISHOOM, LLC,a California limited liability corporation NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the cross-complaint. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Website (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of $10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación. Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al contrademandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en el formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de $10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.The name and address of the court is (El Nombre y dirección de la Corte es): Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, Santa Monica Courthouse1725 Main Street, Los Angeles, CA 90401The name, address, and telephone number of cross-complaint attorney, or cross-complaint without an attorney, is (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):Mark T. Collinsworth, Esq., SBN 172275, Collinsworth, Specht, Calkins & Giampaoli, LLP 9665 Chesapeake Drive, Suite 305, San Diego, CA / Tel: (858) 549-2800Date (fecha) 03/19/2024 David W Slayton executive officer Clerk, by (Secretario), A. LLieva Deputy (adjunto)

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UBER

FROM PAGE 2

include live performers, music professionals, real estate appraisers and more.

But William Gould, professor emeritus at Stanford Law School and a former chairman of the National Labor Relations Board, called the opinion "eminently sensible." Gould said the court "correctly holds that Uber and others may be covered where the Legislature deems them to be disproportionately responsible for inequality in the gig economy."

If Prop. 22 is upheld, it would be a huge victory for Uber and the other big gig companies, but today's ruling means they would still be on the hook in any cases where they are found to have violated laws related to worker classification before Prop. 22 took effect. In the appeals court decision, Nguyen referred to "ongoing state enforcement actions seeking retrospective relief, including civil penalties," against Uber and Postmates.

If Prop. 22 is thrown out, the appeals court ruling means "these companies do not have this case to fall back on to exempt themselves from having to provide basic employment protections," Dubal said.

The state Supreme Court files its written opinion within 90 days of oral argument, so its decision could come by the end of August.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

ADVISORY

FROM PAGE 4

But press and government transparency advocates saw the bill's failure as a "critical victory for open government."

"This bill would have taken a meat cleaver to the Brown Act when a scalpel could give flexibility to those who truly need it," said Brittney Barsotti, general counsel for the California News Publishers Association. The group is asking the Legislature to hold hearings to craft a better bill next year.

Durazo said Pacheco had declined amendments that would balance transparency with accessibility by requiring board members who get paid to attend in person, and that a certain number of members meet in person.

Ginny LaRoe, advocacy director for the First Amendment Coalition, which pushes for free speech and government transparency, noted that videoconferencing is already available to officials under a variety of circumstances.

"But it shouldn't be the only option for the press and public to keep tabs on government," she told CalMatters.

The bill's supporters, which included Disability Rights California and groups representing local governments, said the state has a responsibility to allow more people to take part on boards and commissions.

"California is a huge state, and most counties have a large geographic area, and members find it very difficult, if not impossible, to attend meetings," Janie Whiteford, president of the California IHSS Consumer Alliance and a member of a Santa Clara advisory committee on in-home supportive services, told the committee. She noted that one member had resigned because taking paratransit to and from meetings would take six hours.

"If you cannot conduct business due to a lack of quorum, the alternative is that we simply do not meet and county decision makers are left without local input," Whiteford said.

The influential AARP also supported the bill. Sens. Nancy Skinner and Scott Wiener, both Democrats from the Bay Area, declined to vote on the bill — a significant departure from their typical voting alignment with the retiree advocacy group, shown in the CalMatters Digital Democracy database.

Opponents of AB 817 said last year's bill that gives exceptions in emergency situations must be given time to play out before making further changes to open meeting laws.

"We've worked on proposals that kind of narrowly tailor the flexibility for public officials who have a need for more flexibility," LaRoe said. But most of the bills on open meeting laws "tried to take things in what we feel is the wrong direction."

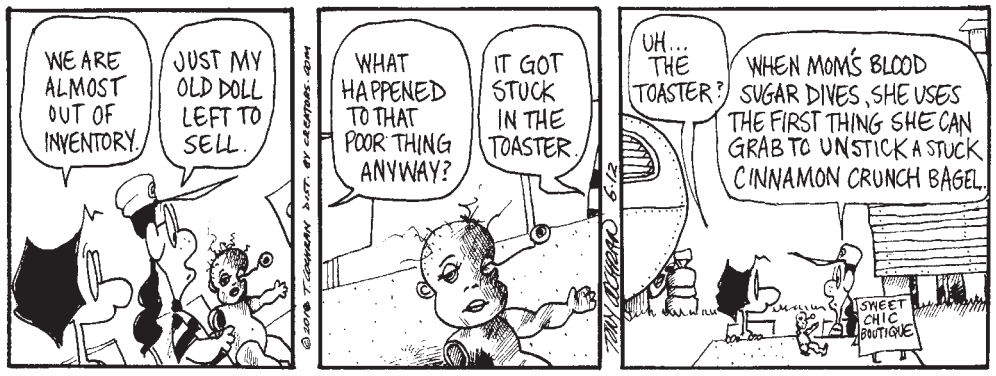
Two narrower bills related to open meetings did pass the committee last week: A bill by Democratic Assemblymember Tasha Boerner allowing closed sessions to discuss cybersecurity threats, and one from Republican Assemblymember Josh Hoover allowing email-only notifications to certain media for emergency school board meetings instead of by telephone.

CalMatters Digital Democracy reporter Ryan Sabalow contributed to this story. This article was originally published by CalMatters.

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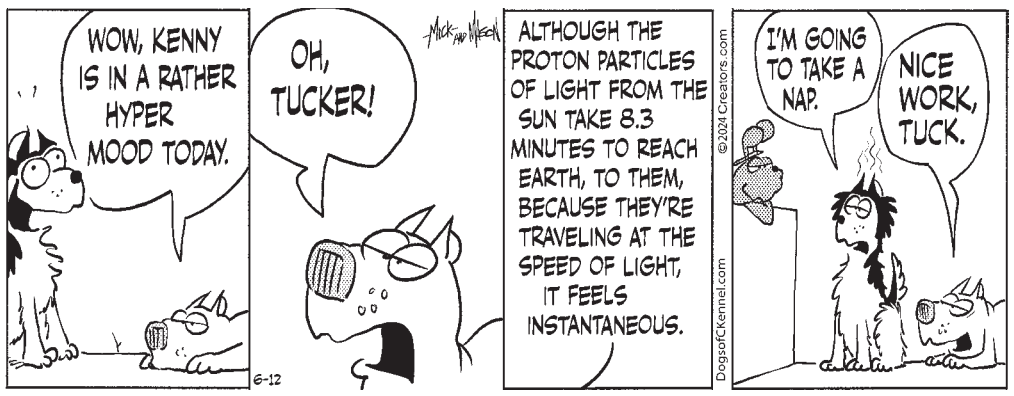
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



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

© australianwordgames.com.au 6239

Taking some photos

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

Aerial	Controls	JPEG	Speed
Albums	Cost	Kids	Still
Angle	Delight	Lamp	Storm
Artifact	Depth of field	Lens	Tone
Aunty		Macro	Tourist
Bike	Eager	Megapixel	Uncle
Blur	Export	Memory	Unit
Camera	Filter	Mirth	Valued
Cars	Holidays	Mode	View
Cats	Home	Pets	Zoom
Close up	Hot shoe	Scenery	
Composition	Instant	Snaps	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (June 12)

People believe in you and want you to do well. You'll build your impeccable style, blend trends and bank on your personality and flair. New relationships start off sweet and only get more so with time. More highlights: You'll be a part of a bright team and have new and interesting projects to work on. You'll close three deals and reinvest the money. Taurus and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 3, 20, 1 and 16.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). If you find that you simply can't figure out what to believe, that's OK. There are worse things to lack than faith. Anyway, faith doesn't make things happen; work does. And there is no lack whatsoever in your work ethic.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Don't let the thing you want stop you from getting the other thing you want. Two desires may currently be at an impasse, but this is only because they are not arranged in the optimal way. How can you realign them?

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). It's safe to loosen your grip on the reins of life. Today, it will mean spending a bit more than you were planning to, either in time, money or emotional investment. More resources will open to you soon.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). When you let playful creativity take over, good things happen. Life will begin to order itself differently, making arrangements that open you to maximum success and abundance.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Most people find it easy to be kind to the people they enjoy or want something from, but it's the people who are kind to absolutely everyone who are the real gems. Get more people like that in your life and everything brightens.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You will be wonderfully liberating to give up all things in opposition to your goal. You don't have to give them up forever, just for long enough to understand their true cost to you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). When you are on the receiving end of life, you do it with grace. However, you much prefer to be the giver. When you give, you not only help someone else out but you are also lifted by your own generosity.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). If you feel tense, it's difficult to learn. For this reason, the best learning environments are safe and nurturing, with just enough competition to produce a heightened energy level and not enough to dishearten or stifle.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Adults like to ask children what they want to be when they grow up, but it's not just a question for children. Keep asking yourself this question. It will speak to the innocent, wide-eyed and hopeful part of you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You have an objective view of yourself today and are aware of the attitudes that help you as well as the ones that might be holding you back. You know what you want to project, and you will measure it against what you are projecting.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Treasure doesn't always glisten. Very valuable things will be hidden in the dirt of life today. They will need to be cleaned up and cared for to shine like the valuable commodities they are.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). We live in a culture of labeling, but sometimes naming a thing also puts a limit on it or causes it to show up in only the ways that match the name. Try to accept a thing without naming it. In doing so, you'll know what it really is opposed to what it is called.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

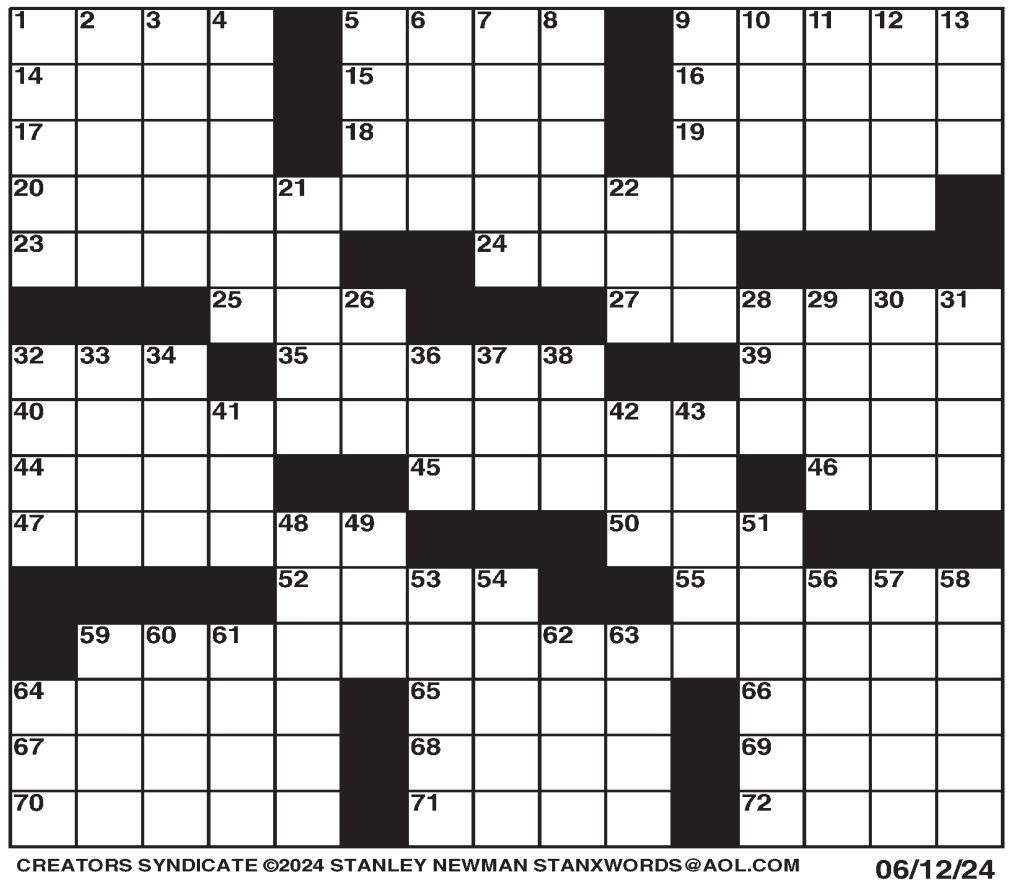
OUT OF SIGHT by Mark McClain
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Male singing voice
5 Payroll tax letters
9 Catch with a 63-Down
14 *Beetle Bailey* dog
15 Strong smell
16 Started a poker pot
17 Largest continent
18 Infamous Roman emperor
19 Bring together
20 People sending unsigned valentines
23 __ for granted (presumed)
24 Identical
25 GOP opponent
27 Word like "people" or "peanuts"
32 Place with parking spaces
35 Snack on
39 San Juan, Puerto __
40 Unidentified benefactors
44 Great joy
45 Male singing voice
46 Golfer's peg
47 Methodical procedure
50 Pro hoops league: Abbr.
52 Small plateau
55 New Delhi's nation
59 Uninvolved business co-owners
64 Farther down
65 No higher than
66 Sci-fi saucers, for short
67 Included with
68 Coin toss
69 First-rate
70 Thickly packed
71 Gala gathering
72 "__ we forget"

DOWN

1 Be a braggart
2 On a cruise
3 Butter in a box
4 Flew high
5 Typeface selection
6 Concept
7 Thick strings
8 Pleasing smell
9 Wreath of victory
10 Vampire novelist Rice
11 Mix with a spoon
12 Studio's sound stages
13 Tribute in verse
21 Foe
22 Little rascal
26 Keeping quiet
28 Big coffee dispenser
29 Very funny person
30 Land size measure
31 Misplace
32 Falls behind
33 Merely
34 Tips of boots
36 "Ready or __, here..."
37 Signal to start
38 QVC alternative
41 After-tax
42 Title for Quixote
43 Moon's path
48 Come out of hiding
49 Fellows
51 Once-a-year magazine
53 Cram tightly
54 Orchard fruit
56 Robinson Crusoe creator
57 Presses, as pants
58 Worthwhile trait
59 A few
60 Triumphant cry
61 Camera glass
62 Keep __ (persist)
63 Rodeo accessory
64 Young boy



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06/12/24

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

SKATEBOARDING

FROM PAGE 1

from every latte sold will directly support GRLSWIRL's initiatives, including funding group skates and mentorship programs across the globe.

Both Dogtown Coffee and GRLSWIRL came to prominence in the Venice and Santa Monica areas, making the partnership a natural one to GRLSWIRL co-founder Lucy Osinski.

"We were of course super excited, it just felt really authentic and kind of turnkey because they're in our community and we're in theirs," Osinski said of the endeavor. "It's really exciting and just seems really on brand for all the things we care about."

The group cares foremost about a "culture of authenticity," as the "World's Okayest Skaters" take female boarders regardless of skill level. Osinski, a professional ballerina in the past, took up skateboarding on the Westside as a novice in her own right, wanting to forge a group that accepted herself and those like her.

"I (turned to) any girl I saw on a skateboard because I was so desperate to feel like I had someone to be around, because it was so scary," Osinski said. "Every time I (was) on a skateboard, people catcall you or yell at you to do a kickflip, and (it) just felt so intimidating. So I (started GRLSWIRL) and when we all met up, we kind of realized (that) by ourselves we're getting catcalled, but when we're in a group, we're getting cheered on."

The group mentality was enticing, as the unit went from nine co-founders to over 100 skaters in bi-weekly Venice skate sessions. Soon, skaters worldwide were asking how they could start their own collectives, leading to international chapters in places like Lisbon and Paris. GRLSWIRL's Skate Mentorship program helped bring lessons to those places and beyond, including teaching at a refugee camp in Tijuana and holding a "skate jam" event on a Native American reservation.

"Our goal is just to get as many people around the world on board, because we know that it has the power to change the world, and we know it's unifying people," Osinski added.

Unifying events will continue via the new 501c3 called Swirl Foundation, with one of the organization's big endeavors kicking off in October, a worldwide group skate tour beginning in Thailand. Throughout all of their travels, the collective still holds the Westside dear, raising over $50,000 for local charities like Safe Place for Youth and Harvest Home.

"We've become the world's largest skate collective all through this grassroots movement of bringing people together and unifying people through community ... (and) we're just so grateful to (have this) born out of a place where skateboarding was born," Osinski said.

For more information about the group, visit grlswirl.com.

thomas@smdp.com



Photo Courtesy Fairmont Miramar

SKATEBOARDING: The skateboarders of GRLSWIRL have made their mark worldwide, but have a local focus this summer for its latte collaboration with Dogtown Coffee.



WEDNESDAY JUNE 12

DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET

The largest grower-only Certified Farmers Market in Southern California and a favorite for local chefs. Enjoy Santa Monica's downtown farmers market from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. between 4th St. and Ocean Ave. Widely considered to be among the best on the west coast and featuring field-fresh produce, hundreds of kinds of vegetables, brilliant cut flowers, breads, cheese, delicious foods, live music and more.

CRAFTERNOON

Are you working on a craft project you can't seem to find time to finish? Bring it in and make space for yourself! We'll chat, have treats, and work together. Don't have one? We'll provide coloring pages and pens/pencils, so come relax. For ADA accommodations, call (213) 228-7430 at least 72 hours prior to the event. 3 - 5 p.m. West Los Angeles Regional Branch Library, 11360 Santa Monica Boulevard, Los Angeles.

WESTERN STANDARD TIME

This event is 21 and over. Any ticket holder unable to present valid identification indicating that they are at least 21 years of age will not be admitted to this event, and will not be eligible for a refund. The Venice West 1717 Lincoln Blvd, Venice, $25, starts at 8 p.m., https://www.ticketweb.com/event/western-standard-time-ska-orchestra-the-venice-west-tickets/13462474

BMH & POD OFFICE HOURS

Housing staff with the City of Santa Monica will be available to answer questions in-person in English and Spanish about applying to the City's Below Market Housing (BMH) or Preserving Our Diversity (POD) programs. No appointment necessary, first come basis. Runs from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave. For additional questions, email smhousing@santamonica.gov or call 310-458-8740.

TRANSIENT OCCUPANCY TAX ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

City Council established by resolution an advisory committee that would make non-binding recommendations on the use of the additional Transient Occupancy Tax revenues. The TOT Advisory Committee meeting will begin at the Santa Monica Institute Training Room, 330 Olympic Dr., 2nd Floor (Plaza Level) at 6 p.m.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Established in 1946, the Planning Commission envisions Santa Monica as a city of wellbeing, sustainability, and equity, and seeks to balance the many needs and priorities within our community in accordance with the City's General Plan and Specific Plans. The Commission acts through open and civil discourse that is informed by public input, impartial analysis, and best practices in land use and planning. Meeting begins at 7 p.m. in City Council Chambers of Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main St.

THURSDAY JUNE 13

LA BELLE VIE APÉRO DE LOULOU

The weekly French hipster rendezvous to celebrate "La Belle Vie" at LouLou Santa Monica, 395 Santa Monica Pl #300, begins at 6 p.m. Programming includes live performance by Chloe Perrier & The Heart Jazz Band, DJs, Apero menu, "Plat du Jour," menu a la carte and carefully selected French wines. For more information, contact Claire at asst@splashpragency.com or 323-877-8102.

RENT CONTROL BOARD MEETING

The Rent Control Board meets to conduct business associated with the Rent Control Charter Amendment and Regulations. Meeting begins at 7 p.m. in City Council Chambers of Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main St.

FRIDAY JUNE 14

FAMILY PRIDE

Join the Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 Pacific Coast Highway, for a fun-filled morning celebrating love and diversity with their friends, family and community members. Beginning at 10 a.m., activities will include trailblazing Queer Chicana graphic novelist Kayden Phoenix hosting "Draw Your Own Superhero and Princess," aimed at giving kids of all ages the opportunity to dream up and express themselves through art. Pickle, the first Drag Laureate of the City of West Hollywood, returns to host an interactive Drag Storytime that delightfully challenges restrictive gender stereotypes and encourages self-expression. Free admission, to reserve a spot visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/family-pride-tickets-907060360957.

STORYECTOMY

To kickoff Family Pride at The Crow at Bergamot Station Arts Center, 2525 Michigan Ave., The Crow is launching Storyectomy Family Pride with shows at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. This storytelling show is a culmination of Storyectomy, a six-week storytelling initiative, and in this iteration, LGBTQ+ community members and allies will share their personal and comedic stories on stage alongside pro comedians like Netflix's Cameron Esposito. All ages welcome, tickets $15. To purchase, visit crowcomedy.com/familypridefest.

MOVIE FRIDAYS

Join the Third Street Promenade for a showing of the movie "Rent" starting at 7:30 p.m. on the 1200 block of the Promenade between Arizona Ave. and Wilshire Blvd. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. No advanced registration is required and all ages are welcome. Picnicking is allowed, but alcoholic beverages are prohibited. Dogs are welcome, tall chairs are not allowed. Public restrooms are available in the nearby Parking Structure 4.

GRILLED CHEESE & BEER NIGHT

Andrew's Cheese Chop, 728 Montana Ave., invites the public to a family-style dinner featuring a curated menu of decadent open face grilled cheese sandwiches expertly paired with artisanal beers from around the world. Starts with a starter salad, followed by four courses of grilled cheeses paired with four specialty beers, finished with a dessert course of an imperial stout float with french vanilla ice cream. Begins at 7:30 p.m., tickets $75. Can be purchased at: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/june-14th-grilled-cheese-beer-night-tickets-900894619057.


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