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Wayfinder kiosks: a first look at the functioning prototype



BIG Outdoor

KIOSK: A conceptual mock up of what the final design, it is thought, will look like.

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

The first working prototype of the digital wayfinding and out-of-home advertising kiosk program has been made available for Santa Monica residents to inspect, examine and evaluate and we went along to prod, play and put it to the test ourselves.

Officially known as the Digital Wayfinding and Out-of-Home Advertising Kiosk Program, the initiative was first introduced in early 2020, shortly before the pandemic, but the proposal was temporarily shelved until November 2022, when Council selected a company to install, operate and maintain the network of kiosks. A company called BIG Outdoor beat the competition and was awarded the exclusive franchise in December 2022. However, one of the companies spurned by the selection process, IKE Smart City, threatened legal action, accusing BIG of exaggerating their qualifications and copying other company's intellectual property as it related to the kiosks.

However, in a classic kumbaya ending to this epic tale, both IKE and Big settled their differences in February 2023 and announced a partnership to meet the terms of

SEE **WAYFINDER KIOSKS** PAGE 7

Friends organize fundraiser to support orphan injured in DUI crash



Courtesy Photo

CRASH: Gelvy Velazquez Ortiz was injured when he was hit by a car.

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

An 18-year old orphan from Guatemala has lost one leg and is in danger of losing the second after he was seriously injured by an alleged DUI driver on June 2.

Gelvy Velazquez Ortiz is one of three brothers who lost their parents before coming to the United States. He was waiting for the bus at the intersection of 26th and Wilshire at about midnight when John Edward Alevizos (DOB: 04-12-1988) of Los Angeles, is accused of losing control his Volkswagen Jetta and slamming into Velazquez Ortiz who was seated at the bus station.

Alevizos was arrested on suspicion of drunk driving but posted bail shortly after the crash. SMPD said the investigation into the incident is ongoing and they are unable to release additional details at this time.

SEE **DUI** PAGE 6

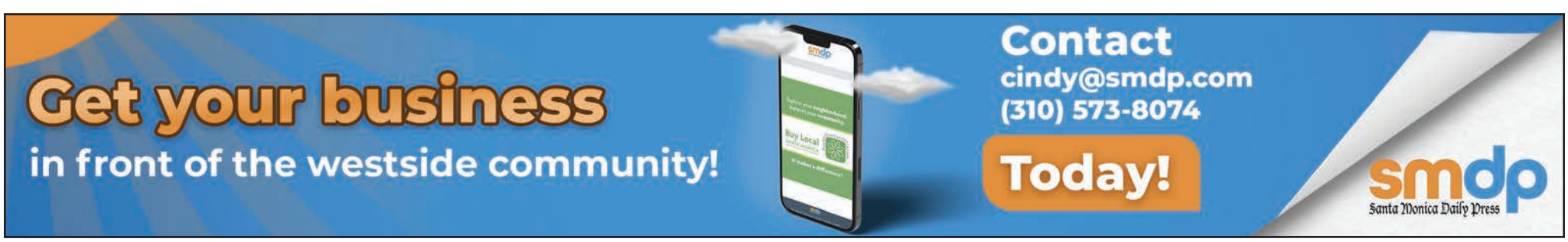
Survey shows homelessness is the biggest stressor for housed LA residents

MAGNOLIA LAFLEUR
Special to the Daily Press

It is no surprise that the homeless crisis in L.A is taking a toll on the mental health of the unhoused. A 2022 study by the RAND Institute found that 54% reported suffering from a mental health condition and symptoms of depression, stress or anxiety.

But according to a recent LAist survey conducted between Dec. 12 and March 12, 33% of respondents who classified themselves as either homeowners or renters felt homelessness stood as "their biggest personal stressor" with 63% citing it as the top issue for

SEE **HOMELESS** PAGE 6



US decides to rejoin UNESCO and pay back dues, to counter Chinese influence

ANGELA CHARLTON AND MATTHEW LEE
Associated Press

UNESCO announced Monday that the United States plans to rejoin the U.N. cultural and scientific agency — and pay more than $600 million in back dues — after a decade-long dispute sparked by the organization's move to include Palestine as a member.

> "It's a historic moment for UNESCO
> - Audrey Azoulay UNESCO's director general"

U.S. officials say the decision to return was motivated by concern that China is filling the gap left by the U.S. in UNESCO policymaking, notably in setting standards for artificial intelligence and technology education around the world.

The move will face a vote by UNESCO's member states in the coming weeks. But approval seems a formality after the resounding applause that greeted the announcement in UNESCO's Paris headquarters Monday. Not a single country raised an objection to the return of a country that was once the agency's single biggest funder.

The U.S. and Israel stopped financing UNESCO after it voted to include Palestine as a member state in 2011. The Trump administration decided in 2017 to withdraw from the agency altogether the following year, citing long-running anti-Israel bias and management problems.

UNESCO's director general, Audrey Azoulay, has worked to address those concerns since her election in 2017, and that appears to have paid off.

"It's a historic moment for UNESCO," she said Monday. "It's also an important day for multilateralism."

U.S. Deputy Secretary of State for Management and Resources Richard Verma submitted a letter last week to Azoulay formalizing the plan to rejoin. He noted progress in depoliticizing debate about the Middle East and reforming the agency's management, according to the hand-delivered letter, obtained by AP.

The decision is a big boost to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, known for its World Heritage program as well as projects to fight climate change and teach girls to read.

> "What's happened over the last years meant that UNESCO matters
> - Audrey Azoulay UNESCO's director general"

While Palestinian membership in UNESCO was the trigger for the U.S. fallout with the agency, its return is more about China's growing influence.

Undersecretary of State for Management John Bass said in March that the U.S. absence from UNESCO had strengthened China, and "undercuts our ability to be as effective in promoting our vision of a free world."

He said UNESCO was key in setting and shaping standards for technology and science teaching around the world, "so if we're really serious about the digital-age competition with China ... we can't afford to be absent any longer."

The U.S. decision doesn't address the status of Palestine. While it's a member of UNESCO, on the ground, the Palestinians are further away from independence than ever. There have not been serious peace talks in over a decade, and Israel's new government is filled with hardliners who oppose Palestinian independence.

The Palestinian ambassador to UNESCO didn't comment on the U.S. decision. The only envoy who wasn't gushing with praise was China's ambassador, Jin Yang. He noted the negative impact of the U.S. absence, and expressed hope that the move means Washington is serious about multilateralism.

"Being a member of an international organization is a serious issue, and we hope that the return of the U.S. this time means it acknowledges the mission and the goals of the organization," the ambassador said.

UNESCO director Azoulay, who is

SEE UNESCO PAGE 4



The Great Grift: How billions in COVID-19 relief aid was stolen or wasted

RICHARD LARDNER, JENNIFER MCDERMOTT AND AARON KESSLER
Associated Press

Much of the theft was brazen, even simple.

Fraudsters used the Social Security numbers of dead people and federal prisoners to get unemployment checks. Cheaters collected those benefits in multiple states. And federal loan applicants weren't cross-checked against a Treasury Department database that would have raised red flags about sketchy borrowers.

Criminals and gangs grabbed the money. But so did a U.S. soldier in Georgia, the pastors of a defunct church in Texas, a former state lawmaker in Missouri and a roofing contractor in Montana.

All of it led to the greatest grift in U.S. history, with thieves plundering billions of dollars in federal COVID-19 relief aid intended to combat the worst pandemic in a century and to stabilize an economy in free fall.

An Associated Press analysis found that fraudsters potentially stole more than $280 billion in COVID-19 relief funding; another $123 billion was wasted or misspent. Combined, the loss represents 10% of the $4.2 trillion the U.S. government has so far disbursed in COVID relief aid.

That number is certain to grow as investigators dig deeper into thousands of potential schemes.

> Here was this sort of endless pot of money that anyone could access
>
> - Dan Fruchter, chief of the fraud and white-collar crime unit at the U.S. Attorney's office in the Eastern District of Washington.

How could so much be stolen? Investigators and outside experts say the government, in seeking to quickly spend trillions in relief aid, conducted too little oversight during the pandemic's early stages and instituted too few restrictions on applicants. In short, they say, the grift was just way too easy.

"Here was this sort of endless pot of money that anyone could access," said Dan Fruchter, chief of the fraud and white-collar crime unit at the U.S. Attorney's office in the Eastern District of Washington. "Folks kind of fooled themselves into thinking that it was a socially acceptable thing to do, even though it wasn't legal."

The U.S. government has charged more than 2,230 defendants with pandemic-related fraud crimes and is conducting thousands of investigations.

Most of the looted money was swiped from three large pandemic-relief initiatives launched during the Trump administration and inherited by President Joe Biden. Those programs were designed to help small businesses and unemployed workers survive the economic upheaval caused by the pandemic.

The pilfering was wide but not always as deep as the eye-catching headlines about cases involving many millions of dollars. But all of the theft, big and small, illustrates an epidemic of scams and swindles at a time America was grappling with overrun hospitals, school closures and shuttered businesses. Since the pandemic began in early 2020, more than 1.13 million people in the U.S. have died from COVID-19, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Michael Horowitz, the U.S. Justice Department inspector general who chairs the federal Pandemic Response Accountability Committee, told Congress the fraud is "clearly in the tens of billions of dollars" and may eventually exceed $100 billion.

Horowitz told the AP he was sticking with that estimate, but won't be certain about the number until he gets more solid data.

"I'm hesitant to get too far out on how much it is," he said. "But clearly it's substantial and the final accounting is still at least a couple of years away."

Mike Galdo, the U.S. Justice Department's acting director for COVID-19 Fraud Enforcement, said, "It is an unprecedented amount of fraud."

Before leaving office, former President Donald Trump approved emergency aid measures totaling $3.2 trillion, according to figures from the Pandemic Response Accountability Committee. Biden's 2021 American Rescue Plan authorized the spending of another $1.9 trillion. About a fifth of the $5.2 trillion has yet to be paid out, according to the committee's most recent accounting.

Never has so much federal emergency aid been injected into the U.S. economy so quickly. "The largest rescue package in American history," U.S. Comptroller General Gene Dodaro told Congress.

The enormous scale of that package has obscured multibillion-dollar mistakes.

An $837 billion IRS program, for example, succeeded 99% of the time in getting economic stimulus checks to the proper taxpayers, according to the tax agency. Nevertheless, that 1% failure rate translated into nearly $8 billion going to "ineligible individuals," a Treasury Department inspector general told AP.

An IRS spokesman said the agency does not agree with all the figures cited by the watchdog and noted that, even if correct, the loss represented a tiny fraction of the program's budget.

The health crisis thrust the Small Business Administration, an agency that typically gets little attention, into an unprecedented role. In the seven decades before the pandemic struck, for example, the SBA had doled out $67 billion in disaster loans.

When the pandemic struck, the agency was assigned to manage two massive relief efforts — the COVID-19 Economic Injury Disaster Loan and Paycheck Protection programs, which would swell to more than a trillion dollars. SBA's workforce had to get money out the door, fast, to help struggling businesses and their employees. COVID-19 pushed SBA's pace from a walk to an Olympic sprint. Between March 2020 and the end of July 2020, the agency granted 3.2 million COVID-19 economic injury disaster loans totaling $169 billion, according to an SBA inspector general's report, while at the same time implementing the huge new Paycheck Protection Program.

In the haste, guardrails to protect federal money were dropped. Prospective borrowers were allowed to "self-certify" that their loan applications were true. The CARES Act also barred SBA from looking at tax return transcripts that could have weeded out shady or undeserving applicants, a decision eventually reversed at the end of 2020.

> Death by a thousand cuts might be death by 80,000 cuts for them
>
> - Michael Horowitz, the U.S. Justice Department

"If you open up the bank window and say, give me your application and just promise me you really are who you say you are, you attract a lot of fraudsters and that's what happened here," Horowitz said.

The SBA inspector general's office has estimated fraud in the COVID-19 economic injury disaster loan program at $86 billion and the Paycheck Protection program at $20 billion. The watchdog is expected in coming weeks to release revised loss figures that are likely to be much higher.

In an interview, SBA Inspector General Hannibal "Mike" Ware declined to say what the new fraud estimate for both programs will be.

"It will be a figure that is fair, that is 1,000% defensible by my office, fully backed by our significant criminal investigative activity that is taking place in this space," Ware said.

Ware and his staff are overwhelmed with pandemic-related audits and investigations. The office has a backlog of more than 80,000 actionable leads, close to a 100 years' worth of work.

"Death by a thousand cuts might be death by 80,000 cuts for them," Horowitz said of Ware's workload. "It's just the magnitude of it, the enormity of it."

A 2022 study from the University of Texas at Austin found almost five times as many suspicious Paycheck Protection loans as the $20 billion SBA's inspector general has reported so far. The research, led by finance professor John Griffin, found as much as $117 billion in questionable and possibly fraudulent loans, citing indicators such as non-registered businesses and multiple loans to the same address.

Horowitz, the pandemic watchdog chairman, criticized the government's failure early on to use the "Do Not Pay" Treasury Department database, designed to keep government money from going to debarred contractors, fugitives, felons or people convicted of tax fraud. Those reviews, he said, could have been done quickly.

"It's a false narrative that has been set out, that there are only two choices," Horowitz said. "One choice is, get the money out right away. And that the only other choice was to spend weeks and months trying to figure out who was entitled to it."

In less than a few days, a week at most, Horowitz said, SBA might have discovered thousands of ineligible applicants.

"24 hours? 48 hours? Would that really have

SEE **THEFT** PAGE 8

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WINNER

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UNESCO

FROM PAGE 2

Jewish, won broad praise for her personal efforts to build consensus among Jordanian, Palestinian and Israeli diplomats around sensitive UNESCO resolutions. She met with Democrats and Republicans in Congress to explain those efforts. Thanks to those bipartisan negotiations, she expressed confidence that the U.S. decision to return is for the long term, regardless of who wins next year's presidential election.

"What's happened over the last years meant that UNESCO matters," she said. "And when you're absent from that ... you lose something. You lose something for your influence in the world, but also for your own national interest."

Under the plan, the U.S. government would pay its 2023 dues plus $10 million in bonus contributions this year earmarked for Holocaust education, preserving cultural heritage in Ukraine, journalist safety, and science and technology education in Africa, Verma's letter says.

The Biden administration has already requested $150 million for the 2024 budget to go toward UNESCO dues and arrears. The plan foresees similar requests for the ensuing years until the full debt of $619 million is paid off.

That makes up a big chunk of UNESCO's $534 million annual operating budget. Before leaving, the U.S. contributed 22% of the agency's overall funding.

A UNESCO diplomat expressed hope that the return of the U.S. would bring "more ambition, and more serenity" — and energize programs to regulate artificial intelligence, educate girls in Afghanistan and chronicle victims of slavery in the Caribbean.

The diplomat said that the agency would also "welcome" Israel back if it wanted to rejoin. There was no immediate response from the Israeli government.

Israel has long accused the United Nations of anti-Israel bias. In 2012, over Israeli objections, the state of Palestine was recognized as a nonmember observer state by the U.N. General Assembly. The Palestinians claim the West Bank, east Jerusalem and Gaza Strip — territories captured by Israel in the 1967 Mideast war — for an independent state. Israel says the Palestinians' efforts to win recognition at the U.N. are aimed at circumventing a negotiated settlement and meant to pressure Israel into concessions.

The United States previously pulled out of UNESCO under the Reagan administration in 1984 because it viewed the agency as mismanaged, corrupt and used to advance Soviet interests. It rejoined in 2003.

Lee reported from Washington. Laurie Kellman in Tel Aviv and Masha Macpherson in Paris contributed.

Jeffrey Epstein victims settle sex trafficking lawsuit against JPMorgan for $290 million

KEN SWEET AND MICHELLE CHAPMAN
AP Business Writers

JPMorgan Chase announced a tentative $290 million settlement Monday with the victims of Jeffrey Epstein who had accused the bank of being the financial conduit that allowed the financier to continue operating a sex trafficking operation.

Epstein was arrested in 2019 on federal charges accusing him of paying underage girls for massages and then molesting them at his homes in Florida and New York. He was found dead in jail in August of that year, at age 66. A medical examiner ruled his death a suicide.

The lawsuit filed in Manhattan federal court in November sought to hold JPMorgan financially liable for Epstein's decades-long abuse of teenage girls and young women. A related lawsuit has been filed in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The proposed settlement comes roughly two weeks after JPMorgan Chase CEO Jamie Dimon testified in a deposition for the case, where he denied knowing about Epstein and his crimes until the financier was arrested in 2019, according to a transcript of the videotaped deposition released last month.

"We all now understand that Epstein's behavior was monstrous, and we believe this settlement is in the best interest of all parties, especially the survivors, who suffered unimaginable abuse at the hands of this man," JPMorgan Chase said in a written statement early Monday.

The proposed settlement, which must still be approved by the judge in the case, totals $290 million, according to lead plaintiff attorney David Boies.

According to the lawsuits, JPMorgan provided Epstein loans and regularly allowed him to withdraw large sums of cash from 1998 through August 2013 even though it was aware of his participation in sex trafficking. The anonymous victim in the suit, referred to as Jane Doe, said she was sexually abused by Epstein from 2006 and 2013.

Also on Monday, a judge ruled in favor of making Doe's lawsuit into a class-action lawsuit for all victims of Epstein's sex crimes.

"Money, which for far too long flowed with impunity between Jeffrey Epstein's global sex trafficking enterprise and Wall Street's leading banks, is decisively being used for good," said Sigrid McCawley, an attorney for Jane Doe and other Epstein victims, in a prepared statement. "The settlements signal that financial institutions have an important role to play in spotting and shutting down sex trafficking."

The bank continued to count Epstein as a client despite the fact that he was arrested and pled guilty in 2008 to sex crimes in Florida.

"Any association with him was a mistake and we regret it," the bank said in a prepared statement. "We would never have continued to do business with him if we believed he was using our bank in any way to help commit heinous crimes."

Both lawsuits were filed after New York state in November enacted a temporary law letting adult victims of sexual abuse to sue others for the abuse they suffered, even if the abuse occurred long ago.

> "Money, which for far too long flowed with impunity between Jeffrey Epstein's global sex trafficking enterprise and Wall Street's leading banks, is decisively being used for good"
> - Sigrid McCawley

Lawsuits are still pending between the U.S. Virgin Islands and JPMorgan Chase, and the bank is still pursuing its lawsuit against JPMorgan former executive Jes Staley.

The bank has denied the allegations and sued Staley, saying he hid Epstein's crimes to keep him as a client. Staley left JPMorgan in 2013 to later become CEO of the British bank Barclays. Staley stepped down from that role in 2021 due to his prior relationship with Epstein.

AP Writer Michael Hill contributed to this report from Albany. AP Writer Larry Neumeister contributed from New York.

City of Santa Monica

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NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that bids will be received by the City of Santa Monica until 3:00 p.m. on the date indicated at which time they will be opened and posted for:

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GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

California's COVID unemployment reckoning goes national



Courtesy photo

UNEMPLOYMENT: The agency responsible for aid faces stiff criticism.

LAUREN HEPLER
Special to the Daily Press

A former federal technology official enlisted by Gov. Gavin Newsom to triage California's pandemic unemployment response details in a new book how technical and political failures combined to block payments to workers while enabling fraud.

Jennifer Pahlka, founder of Code For America and former U.S. deputy chief technology officer, writes that the turmoil at California's Employment Development Department is a prime example of failures that have also plagued other major civic tech efforts, such as the post-Obamacare implosion of healthcare.gov or archaic IT systems at the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs.

"Of all the tech disasters I've witnessed and tried to help untangle, the one I've come to see as most emblematic of these forces — and the ways we consistently misunderstand them — is the story of California's unemployment insurance in the first year of the pandemic," Pahlka writes in the book "Recoding America: Why Government is Failing In the Digital Age and How We Can Do Better."

Three chapters of the book chronicle Pahlka's time co-leading a "Strike Team" deployed by Newsom in mid-2020, as long benefit delays and outlandish stories of fraud began to dominate headlines. In the months to follow, state officials would find that payments were delayed to some 5 million workers and may have been improperly denied for another 1 million, all while the state lost as much as $32 billion to fraud, according to varied state and industry estimates.

Among the problems and potential solutions detailed in the new book: Why it was easier for scammers to file successful unemployment applications than it was for some workers, how a $100 million-plus tech modernization project by state contractor Deloitte buckled during the pandemic, and why the furor about outdated online systems has more to do with flawed state and federal policy than old software.

"Modernizing technology without rationalizing and simplifying the policy and process it must support seldom works," Pahlka wrote. "Mostly, it results in much the same mess you had before, only now in the cloud."

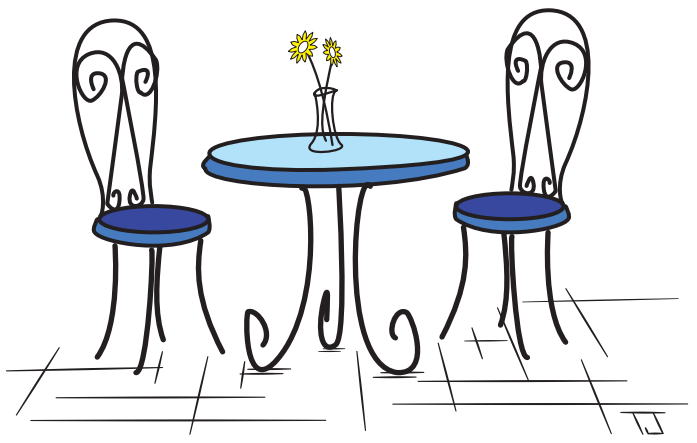
An EDD spokesperson declined to comment.

The new details come amid a national reckoning over pandemic unemployment failures, including millions in federal funding recently made available for new tech modernization efforts. More than 150,000 workers in the state are still facing long appeals backlogs as they fight for delayed or denied unemployment benefits.

Meanwhile, congressional factions have also dragged jobless benefits back into bitter political fights. Last week, questions about responsibility for EDD woes resurfaced during a contentious U.S. House committee hearing led

SEE **UNEMPLOYMENT** PAGE 8

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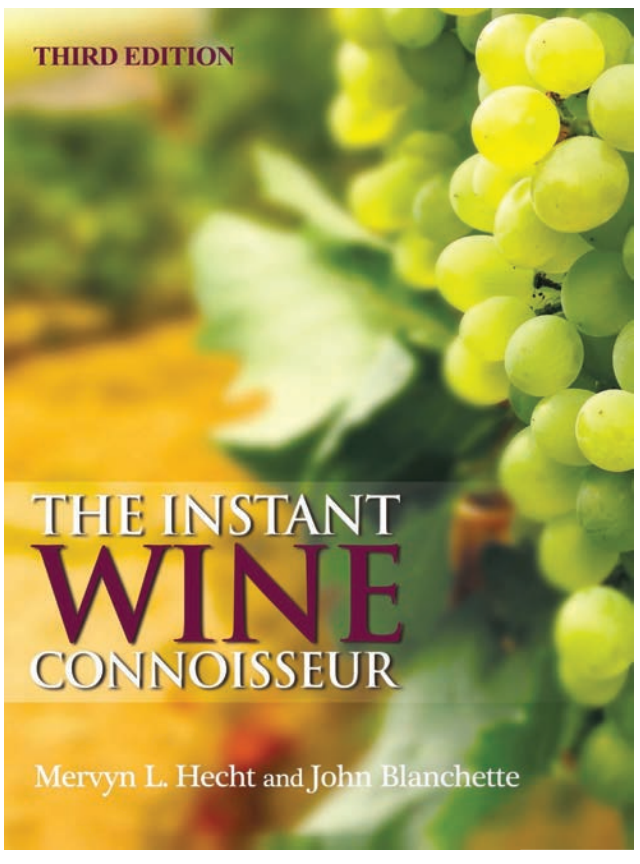
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CRIME WATCH

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.

AT 7:03 A.M. ON JUNE 9

SMPD received a 9-1-1 call from the resident in an apartment in the 800 block of 18th Street. The caller reported hearing someone walking around upstairs in their two-story unit. The two residents left the location. Officers were on-scene and set up a perimeter within minutes. They conducted an interior search, noting that two vehicles in the attached garage had been rifled through. Inside the house, a package had been torn open and clothing and other items had been pulled from drawers and a storage closet and left on the floor. Officers discovered a single male subject hiding in a small closet. Vanbasten Portillo, 32 years old, with an address in Los Angeles was arrested for burglary and taken to the Santa Monica jail for booking.

DUI

FROM PAGE 1

However, the community is rallying around the Velazquez Ortiz family.

"He lost his left leg completely, and his right leg is still under observation with a big risk that he might lose it as well," said a fundraiser organized for the family.

According to the fundraiser, Gelvy is the youngest of three siblings who are orphans; he (along with his siblings) came to the United States from Guatemala, in hopes of finding a better life with opportunities. He was a full time high school student, while his brothers worked to support the family.

"Sadly this has all changed due to the accident, as the only caretakers for Gelvy, his older brothers have stopped working to care for him, therefore these brothers need our help to pay the medical bills, and pay for their basic human necessities (rent, food, bills, etc.). Overall help for Gelvy that will need lots of therapy not only physically but mentally and for future expenses such as getting a prosthetic leg and other resources that will be needed in the future," said the fundraiser.

To donate, visit https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-support-18-year-old-Gelvy-road-to-recovery.

editor@smdp.com

HOMELESS

FROM PAGE 1

Mayor Karen Bass to prioritize.

In the multiple-choice questionnaire on stress, respondents could select one of a number of options from climate change and commuting to public health and safety. Those who selected homelessness as their top personal stressor reported that they felt "less safe in L.A. because of homelessness" and considered it "a public health issue." In addition, they reported experiencing stress by simply "seeing so many unhoused Angelenos."

Amy McManus, a Los Angeles-based licensed marriage and family therapist (LFMT) said her clients have become "increasingly anxious" and concerned about their safety due to the homeless dilemma. Many have contemplated moving out of Los Angeles as a solution to the stress.

"People are especially vulnerable to anxiety right now for a multitude of reasons both personal and global - job insecurity, increased cost of living, political instability, global climate change," McManus said. "Having so many reasons to be anxious already makes it even harder to have the resources to manage anxiety around perceived threats to personal safety."

Los Angeles Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), Ektha Aggarwal, who is the founder and CEO of Shakti Therapy and Healing Services said she found it "encouraging" that the community were able to recognize homelessness as a public safety issue that Mayor Bass needs to rectify as she too has seen an uptick of clients impacted by the growing concern.

"Homelessness takes a significant toll on the mental health and well-being of children and adults, creating a sense of instability, unwavering fear, and vulnerability, even those not directly impacted by a loss of shelter," Aggarwal said.

McManus noted that with the overload of issues people are facing on a daily basis it is even more important that the solutions created to tackle homelessness are not just temporary fixes.

"People need local leadership to reassure them that there is a plan to take measures that will keep them safe," McManus said.

> "People need local leadership to reassure them that there is a plan to take measures that will keep them safe
> - Amy McManus

Aggarwal added that people are having to deal with moving from a pandemic right into a homeless epidemic that is increasing by an inordinate number of people in the past five years. She explained to the Current that the attempt of those in desperate need to meet basic needs can lead to violent situations and cause fear in the community that can lead to everyday citizens experiencing trauma symptoms such as "heightened anxiety and hyper-vigilance."

"These issues often compound one another, leading to increased generalized anxiety, paranoia, fear, isolation, and instability among those affected," Aggarwal said, also adding "It is imperative for policymakers and mental health clinicians to find alignment and collaborate on holistic health and wellness approaches that directly address these challenges collectively to address the root causes of distress and homelessness."

Published in partnership with the Westside Current

WAYFINDER KIOSKS

FROM PAGE 1

the contract that will roll out up to 50 digital wayfinding signs and raise in the region of $5 million per year for the city.

An open house was set up at the Bergamot Station Arts Center and three dates were made available in the first week of June. The public was invited to explore the digital features, interact with the user interface, offer design criticisms and even suggestions on a giant map as to where the best locations would be to place them throughout the city.

Keen to get our paws on this gigantic, new gadget, we jumped at the opportunity to visit as soon as possible and during our visit, a number of Santa Monica residents trickled in, including Councilmember Christine Parra. Almost tragically the first topic of discussion was how well this monolith-sized message board would stand up to the inevitable vandalism that any nice, shiny new toy placed on the streets of Santa Monica will be vulnerable to.

"First and foremost was making sure we had protocols in place if something does happen," says Bill Tagliaferri, President of BIG Outdoors. "We're hiring full time maintenance workers and their job is solely to check these kiosks and clean them. And this is in tandem with the city's maintenance program. So they're going to be in charge of fixing whatever issues that are sorted within 48 hours."

BIG has a number of digital displays in place in cities around the country and while none of them are quite like the wayfinder kiosk, some do share some very basic functionality in their features.

Steve Edgington, Lead Engineer at BIG Outdoors, says that they're not only designed to withstand strict seismic standards, but, "from a vandalism standpoint, the structure can take quite a hit."

> "First and foremost was making sure we had protocols in place if something does happen
>
> - Bill Tagliaferri, President of BIG Outdoors

"There are components that can be replaced and if the glass were to break, or get shattered for whatever reason, it's laminated glass, so you'll just see a crack and then it will be replaced within 48 hours. One of our biggest aims on the design side is to ensure if there was any damage, then it absolutely will not pose any safety risk," Edgington says.

For the most part, the user experience was faultless. The Daily Press identified one teeny-tiny glitch, but Kiley Kmiec, Business Developer for BIG Outdoors, was lightening quick to take note. While one or two examples of iconography could be tweaked, the navigation was simple, effective and logically laid out. A wealth of useful information is available, from the nearest bars and restaurants – including ratings and reviews – to maps of the immediate area, public transportation guides, lists of local events taking place, in short, just about everything both residents and tourists alike will find extremely useful.

"This is so exciting," Parra said, adding, "These kiosks represent new, modern and really interesting ways in which we'll be able to share important and fun information with the whole community," before taking a thoroughly amusing selfie.

The prototype was approximately 8ft tall, with a 55-inch display and stood in a Kubrick-esque manner in the center of the room. Despite the exterior casing not being exactly like the proposed final design – this first round of testing was more about the user interface than anything else – an emergency panic button had been incorporated as the current plan is to include something similar on the mass production model.

It currently sits about 3ft up on one edge in an attempt to make it easily accessible to someone in a wheelchair for example and to be ADA compliant. However, it also currently has no safeguards in place and any bored adolescent will almost certainly take pleasure in pretending this is a giant pinball machine once they've discovered that magical, mysterious silver button.

Both IKE and BIG have been working closely with Santa Monica emergency services representatives to create design solutions and SMPD Chief Ramon Batista himself took time to look over the prototype in person last week.

"It'll be interesting to see what we can come up with. We just have to find the best engineering solution, we have some experience with blue phones and, depending on where they are, some have taken a beating but others have been used quite a bit," Batista says,adding, "Off the top of my head I'm not sure yet how we're going to make it essentially child proof."

The current proposal for the kiosk design also incorporates its own Wi-Fi hotspot, with a range of about 30ft or so, plus a built-in camera that enables you to take selfies. These two features have also raised questions, the first being whether or not a free Wi-Fi network will simply result in "camps" of people huddled around the kiosks using the internet all day and the issue of privacy if cameras are incorporated.

"So long as we can clearly show with no doubt that cameras are being used responsibly we can make sure that the public feels safe in how we're utilizing the technology," Batista says. "It's my hope that the cameras stay as I think it would be a win for both public safety and for having fun."

Tagliaferri said that everyone involved was working closely with the city of Santa Monica to decide as a collective what the best policy will be. "There have been some discussions where the Wi-Fi connection ends after 30 minutes, so you're kicked off for the day, or something along those lines," adding, "When it comes to us making those final adjustments, we'll be able to put in every one of those restrictions, if they're needed."

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UNEMPLOYMENT

FROM PAGE 5

by Republican lawmakers opposed to President Biden's nomination of ex-California labor chief Julie Su to be the U.S. Labor Secretary.

Nearly three hours into the hearing convened by the House Committee on Education and the Workforce, Rep. Kevin Kiley, a Rocklin Republican, brought out a poster board printed with state auditor findings about how the "EDD did not bolster its fraud detection efforts." The hearing followed months of business-versus-labor campaigning on the nomination of Su, whose role as secretary of the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency placed her at the helm of the state agency that oversaw the EDD during the pandemic.

"Do you accept any responsibility for the $32 billion in unemployment fraud that occurred on your watch in California?" Kiley asked at the hearing last week.

Su responded: "I certainly know that I and many of my colleagues, and others that sat in the same position that I did when the pandemic hit, wish that we had a system that was capable of meeting the need."

What exactly derailed the EDD's computer system — or "grab bag of somewhat connected, somewhat separate systems," as Pahlka wrote in the new book— is far more complicated than popular notions that "EDD staff was just incompetent at technology." Even understanding the agency's layers of antiquated technology, which she likens to an archaeological dig, doesn't get to the heart of the issue.

Rather, Pahlka explains, the dysfunction stems from the policy environment at the EDD and the bodies that oversee it. The California Legislature, federal labor regulators and flawed oversight mechanisms have all contributed, she wrote, to ever-growing and often-incompatible regulations, plus a political system that rewards compliance over public access.

"The bureaucratic confusion," Pahlka wrote, "ultimately lands on the people."

Early in the pandemic, this dynamic played out in tandem with an unprecedented wave of online fraud targeting nationwide unemployment systems. California was a particularly big target, fraud analysts say, because of the state's large size and online systems that proved easy to game.

Much of the fraud can be traced back to organized criminal rings that used stolen identity data to file fake unemployment claims in bulk — an approach, Pahlka wrote, that made it easier for scammers to auto-file successful applications with precise stolen data than for some real workers who made minor mistakes, like typos or listing a middle initial instead of a full middle name.

"I am much more likely to get my own Social Security number wrong than a sophisticated criminal enterprise is," Pahlka explains, "especially if I'm fingering it into a wonky, hard-to-see web form on a tiny keyboard on my mobile phone."

The EDD has hired a special prosecutor to investigate fraud, which the agency says has so far recovered about $1.8 billion. In January, EDD leadership also responded to a request for records and more information about fraud from another Republican-led congressional oversight committee by blaming former President Donald Trump for failing to act on nationwide fraud.

> "I am much more likely to get my own Social Security number wrong than a sophisticated criminal enterprise is
>
> - Jennifer Pahlka, founder of Code For America and former U.S. deputy chief technology officer

"We strongly support a robust and coordinated national response to the sophisticated criminal enterprises that have threatened the integrity of unemployment programs nationwide," the agency wrote in a letter. "Unfortunately, the Trump Administration expressed no interest in establishing such coordinated national response when these programs were initiated in 2020, leaving states to fend for themselves."

Some of the problems cited by Pahlka and state watchdogs have since been addressed, at least in part. The federal Pandemic Unemployment Program that was the biggest target for fraud has since ended. The EDD also went on a tech buying spree during the pandemic for services including call center support from longtime contractor Deloitte and an online identity verification system recommended by Pahlka's Strike Team (which, in turn, spurred different complaints about long waits for some workers). The agency is now working on another nascent tech modernization project called EDDNext.

Still, Pahlka warns, the biggest underlying issues remain harder to address.

"What we need has less to do with updating rigid 1950s code than with updating rigid 1950s thinking," Pahlka wrote. "We need a fundamentally different way of delivering on the promise of policy."

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

SEND YOUR NEWS TO THE EDITOR

Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

THEFT

FROM PAGE 3

upended the program?" Horowitz said. "I don't think it would have. And it was data sitting there. It didn't get checked."

The Biden administration put in place stricter rules to stem pandemic fraud, including use of the "Do Not Pay" database. Biden also recently proposed a $1.6 billion plan to boost law enforcement efforts to go after pandemic relief fraudsters.

"I think the bottom line is regardless of what the number is, it emanates overwhelmingly from three programs that were designed and originated in 2020 with too many large holes that opened the door to criminal fraud," Gene Sperling, the White House American Rescue Plan coordinator, said in an interview.

"We came into office when the largest amounts of fraud were already out of the barn," Sperling added.

In a statement, an SBA spokesperson declined to say whether the agency agrees with the figures issued by Ware's office, saying the federal government has not developed an accepted system for assessing fraud in government programs. Previous analyses have pointed to "potential fraud" or "fraud indicators" in a manner that conveys those numbers as a true fraud estimate when they are not, according to the statement.

Han Nguyen, a spokesman for the SBA, said Monday that "the vast majority of the likely fraud originated in the first nine months of the pandemic programs, under the Trump administration." For the COVID-19 economic injury disaster loan program, Nguyen said, SBA's "working estimate" found $28 billion in likely fraud.

The coronavirus pandemic plunged the U.S. economy into a short but devastating recession. Jobless rates soared into double digits and Washington sent hundreds of billions of dollars to states to help the suddenly unemployed.

For crooks, it was like tossing chum into the sea to lure fish. Many of these state unemployment agencies used antiquated computer systems or had too few staff to stop bogus claims from being paid.

"Yes, the states were overwhelmed in terms of demand," said Brent Parton, acting assistant secretary of the U.S. Labor Department's Employment and Training Administration. "We had not seen a spike like this ever in a global event like a pandemic. The systems were underfunded. They were not resilient. And I would say, more importantly, we were vulnerable to sophisticated attacks by fraudsters."

Fraud in pandemic unemployment assistance programs stands at $76 billion, according to congressional testimony from Labor Department Inspector General Larry Turner. That's a conservative estimate. Another $115 billion mistakenly went to people who should not have received the benefits, according to his testimony.

Turner declined AP's request for an interview.

Turner's task in identifying all of the pandemic unemployment insurance fraud has been complicated by a lack of cooperation from the federal Bureau of Prisons, according to a September "alert memo" issued by his office. Scam artists used Social Security numbers of federal prisoners to steal millions of dollars in benefits.

His office still doesn't know exactly how much was swiped that way. The prison bureau had declined to provide current data about federal prisoners. The AP reached out to the bureau several times for comment, starting June 2. Bureau spokesperson Emery Nelson said on Monday the agency had provided in February and March "all the necessary data" to the Pandemic Response Accountability Committee. Turner is a member of the committee.

Ohio State Auditor Keith Faber saw trouble coming when safeguards to ensure the unemployment aid only went to people who legitimately qualified were lowered, making conditions ripe for fraud and waste. The state's unemployment agency "took controls down because on the one hand, they literally were drinking from a firehose," Faber said. "They had a year's worth of claims in a couple of weeks. The second part of the problem was the (federal government) directed them to get the money out the door as quickly as possible and worry less about security. They took that to heart. I think that was a mistake."

Ohio's Department of Job and Family Services reported in February $1 billion in fraudulent pandemic unemployment claims and another $4.8 billion in overpayments.

The ubiquitous masks that became a symbol of the COVID-19 pandemic are seen on fewer and fewer faces. Hospitalizations for the virus have steadily declined, according to CDC data, and Biden in April ended the national emergency to respond to the pandemic.

But on politically divided Capitol Hill, lawmakers have not put the pandemic behind them and are engaged in a fierce debate over the success of the relief spending and who's to blame for the theft.

Too much government money, Republicans argue, breeds fraud, waste and inflation. Democrats have countered that all the financial muscle from Washington saved lives, businesses and jobs.

Republicans and Democrats did, however, find common ground last year on bills to give the federal government more time to catch fraudsters. Biden in August signed legislation to increase the statute of limitations from five to 10 years on crimes involving the two major programs managed by the SBA.

The extra time will help federal prosecutors untangle pandemic fraud cases, which often involve identity theft and crooks overseas. But there's no guarantee they'll catch everyone who jumped at the chance for an easy payday. They're busy, too, with crimes unrelated to pandemic relief funds.

"Do we have enough cases and leads that we could be doing in 2030? We absolutely could," said Fruchter, the federal prosecutor in the Eastern District of Washington. "But my experience tells me that likely there will be other priorities that will come up and will need to be addressed. And unfortunately, in our office, we don't have a dedicated pandemic fraud unit."

Congress has not yet passed a measure that would give prosecutors the additional five years to go after unemployment fraudsters. That worries Turner, the Labor Department watchdog. Without the extension, he told Congress in a late May report, people who stole the benefits may escape justice.

Sperling, the White House official, said any future crisis that requires government intervention doesn't have to be a choice between helping people in need and stopping fraudsters.

"The prevention strategy going forward is that in a crisis, you can focus on fast delivery to people in desperate situations without feeling that you can only get that speed by taking down common sense anti-fraud guardrails," he said.

McDermott reported from Providence, Rhode Island.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (June 13)

It's your year for finding people who really get you. You'll fix specific pains and receive the loyalty and patronage of devotees. Your understanding of the world is ever-expanding, and you'll achieve heights beyond your former teachers. More highlights: Inspiration from strange places will lead you to create an amazement. Cancer and Aries adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 40, 21, 3 and 6.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You'll stretch your understanding to get to know someone — an opportunity you'll be happy to have. Your sophistication of mind allows you to tolerate differences and respect people's right to live in the way that works for them.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). A collective emphasizes the best and the worst qualities its constituents have in common. Because groups have greater power than the sum of their parts, you'll be extremely careful who you join. The right group can bring magic to your life.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). A problem will be yours to solve. Avoid an overly linear approach. Lightbulbs were not developed from candles. Think broadly across many subjects and disciplines. Be open-minded about the accidents and anomalies.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Good relationships make everything else fall into place. You'll knock yourself out for people you care for — not easy, but not caring would be harder for you. Invite someone to join your quest and you'll make a memory.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). A person's behavior at any given moment is usually their best attempt to get their needs met with the tools, knowledge and abilities they have. Behavioral change comes from the acquisition of skill.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). "Many words lead to exhaustion," said Lao Tzu. You'll try and communicate in fewer words, or better yet, none. Action can say it all — and in some cases, inaction can be just as expressive.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You allot people a certain amount of your time and there are those who continually stretch it — a signal that they wish to be more important to you. Are you flattered? How should people earn a place of priority in your life?

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You'll be made aware of a need in your community you can help with. You don't always feel precisely how you are connected to the whole, but your action will have a ripple effect that extends beyond what you realize.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You've spent plenty of time in the music of your own thoughts, and now it's time to expand your range. You'll get the opportunity to engage with the playlists of other minds and discover new music.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're a partner, a team player and an appropriate contributor. You're also an individual who wants to be heard. With a group that's a good fit, you can express yourself and still promote the collective agenda, no problem.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). No matter how much a thing costs, owning it costs more because the price of ownership is always some amount of freedom. Today, you'll work toward a lifestyle that includes fewer obligations and possessions.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Seeking approval from oneself instead of others takes time and practice and is so worth the effort. Reflect and identify areas where you may be seeking validation from others. Understanding your motivations is the start of a healthy change.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

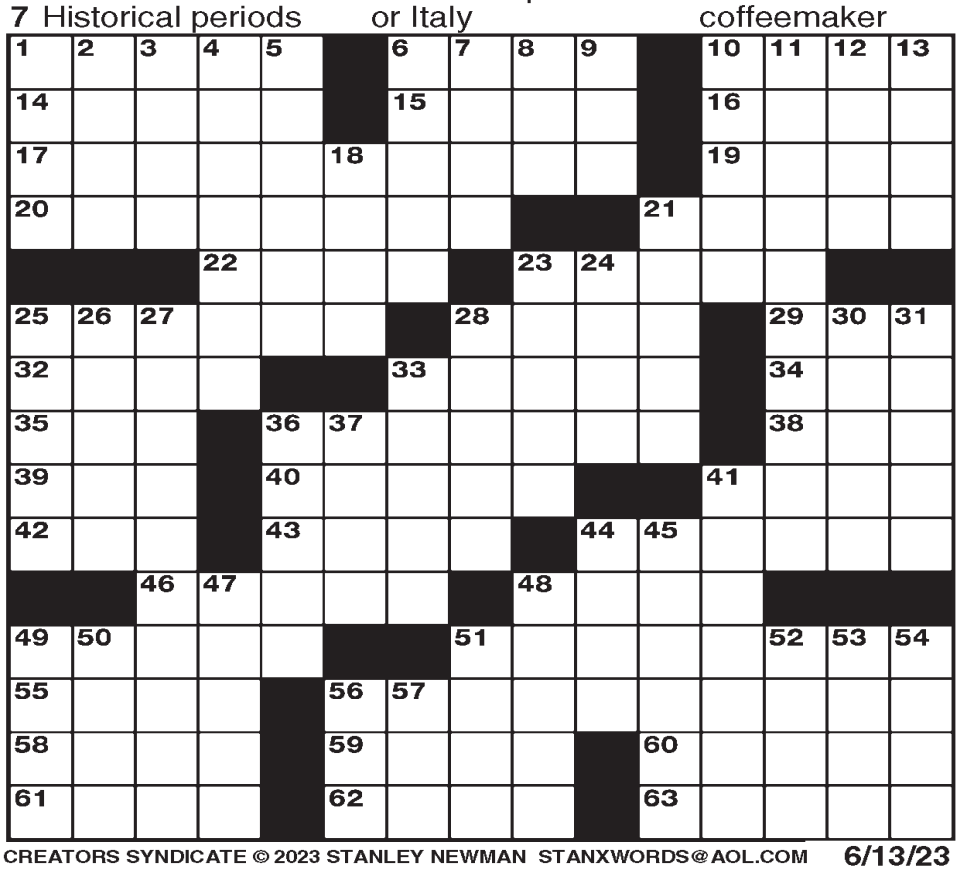
FOUR QUARTERS by Sally R. Stein
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Formation on icy windows
6 Leather strap for trousers
10 Not very many
14 "Bald" national bird
15 Region
16 Rant and __
17 Refreshing April precipitation
19 Lost traction on a road
20 Boys in a blended family
21 Turnpike charges
22 Veggies in a pod
23 Former French money
25 Most lately published
28 Banana covering
29 Rock from a mine
32 At the center of
33 "It's the truth!"
34 Baseball great Gehrig
35 Is able to
36 Four-per-year theme of the puzzle
38 ". . . that __ flag was still there"
39 Successful film or play
40 Already in use
41 Approximately
42 Spanish cheer
43 Located atop
44 Contacts placed in eyes
46 Wandered around
48 Voice quality
49 Punctual, as for a script
51 Region including China and Japan
55 Chimney dirt
56 July destination for kids
58 Fill with cargo
59 One of the Great Lakes
60 Have a quarrel
61 Not fooled by
62 Bugs found in pantries
63 Sounds of baby chicks

DOWN

1 __ up (admit mistakes)
2 Extremely attentive
3 Mean person
4 Lost one's footing
5 Past and present, for verbs
6 Buildings for farm animals
7 Historical periods
8 Luau neckwear
9 Light brown
10 Fire-setting crime
11 Attractions of October foliage tours
12 Wicked
13 Gets married
18 "Billy" farm animal
21 Stories that might be "tall"
23 Serious criminal
24 Harness strap
25 Taco chip
26 Electronic message
27 Outerwear for January
28 Tough riddle
30 Shake out of sleep
31 Coins in Spain or Italy
33 Unclothed
36 Cooktop range
37 Roof overhang
41 Large-size front lawn
44 Misplace
45 Lure into wrongdoing
47 Perform better than
48 Makes docile
49 Capital of Norway
50 Hour after 11 a.m.
51 Give off, as light
52 Wise person
53 "It's my turn"
54 Chimps and baboons
56 The Mediterranean or Caribbean
57 Caterer's coffeemaker

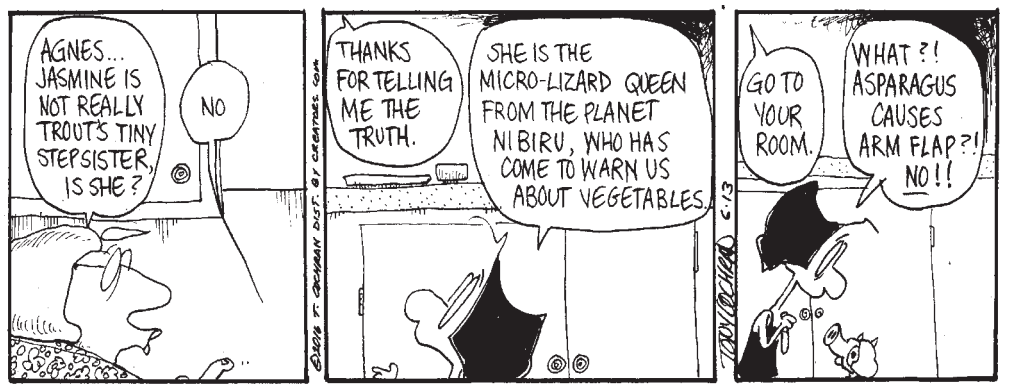


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MORE OF STAN'S CROSSWORDS! Play FREE from Stan's archives of Easy, Hard and Sunday puzzles at: tinyurl.com/stan-newman-crosswords

Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



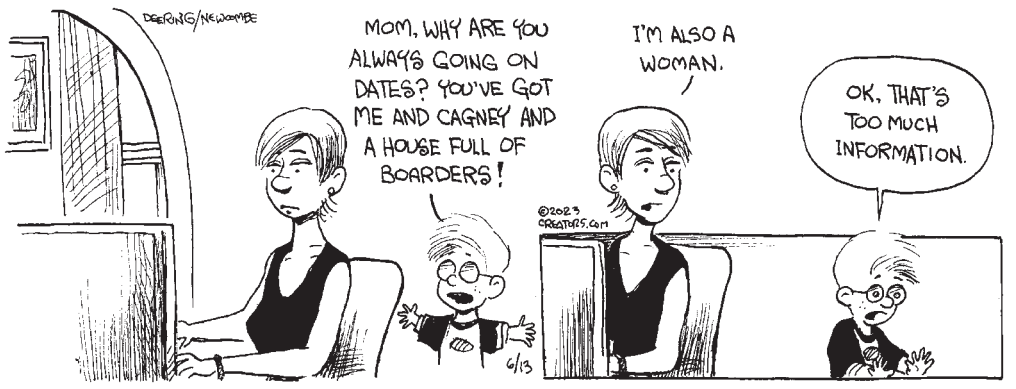
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



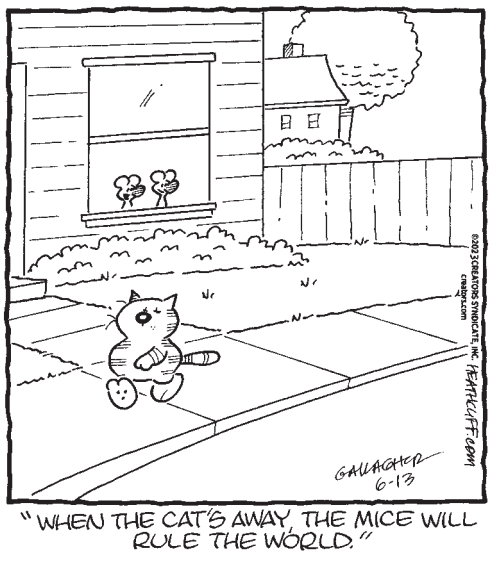
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



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 5874

Fashion show

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

Anorak
Audience
Bags
Beauty
Belt
Beret
Bias
Bodice
Camera
Cheer
Chic
Coat
Draft
Expensive
Face
Fads
Fold
Gowns
Hats
International
Ksubi
Latest
Linen
Makeup
Marie Claire
Mini
Music
Mystique
Pins
Pleat
Pose
Pout
Saba
Seam
Sell
Silk
Skirt
Stage
Stride
Success
Suede
Swimsuit
Tack
Thimble
Tops
Wear
White
Wool
Yoke

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What's Up Westside

out and about in Santa Monica

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.

CARDBOARD YACHT REGATTA

Have you ever dreamed of setting sail across the waters in your very own yacht? Now you can build your own cardboard yacht and test its seaworthiness in a race across the Beach House Pool. Build a yacht using just corrugated cardboard and duct tape, decorate it, cross your fingers and hope you can make it to the other side. $20 to participate. Register online at https://anc.apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

UC MASTER GARDENERS AT PICO FARMERS MARKET

Visit with the UC Master Gardeners at the Saturday Pico Farmers Market. he booth is filled with free advice on how to care for plants, how to troubleshoot a gardening problem, and much more. Free seeds and seedlings are available on a limited basis. Market attendance is subject to change based on weather and holidays. 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

NOTHIN' BUT SAND BEACH CLEANUP

Join Heal the Bay for our June Nothin' But Sand Beach Cleanup. 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Register online at https://healthebay.org/event/nothin-but-sand-beach-cleanup-16/

31ST ANNUAL JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

Join the City of Santa Monica and the Juneteenth Celebration Committee, Inc. for an afternoon of music, unique food and craft vendors, and local resources to celebrate the 31st annual Juneteenth on Saturday, June 17th, from 1 to 7 pm in Virginia Avenue Park under the theme of Coming Together in Appreciation, Reconciliation, and Commemoration! Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave. 1 - 7 p.m.

SUNDAY | JUNE 18

CHESS SUNDAYS

Make your move! Chess players of all ages and levels are invited for weekly casual play on Third Street Promenade! Every Sunday through the summer, from 11am-3pm, play a game with a friend or meet a new one. Chess sets (including a few giant ones) will be provided, but you're welcome to bring your own! This event is a partnership between the Santa Monica Chess Club and Downtown Santa Monica, Inc.

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



SURF REPORT

WATER TEMP: **62.1**

TUESDAY *POOR TO FAIR*	**SURF:** 1-2ft Knee to thigh	Smaller mix of S swell and NW swell. Morning winds look light. High tide slows the dawn patrol for most of the region, shape improving as the tide comes down by mid morning.
WEDNESDAY *POOR TO FAIR*	**SURF:** 1-2ft Knee to thigh	Pretty lackluster day due to lack of waves. Small S swell drops, NW swell minimal. Early morning winds look light.

WEATHER

Tuesday: Partly sunny, with a high near 66. Light southwest wind becoming west southwest 10 to 15 mph.
Tuesday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, increasing clouds, with a low around 58.
Wednesday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 66. West southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.
Wednesday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 60.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
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
2023/06/13	Tue	6:55 PM	5.83	H
2023/06/14	Wed	02:02 AM	0.04	L
2023/06/14	Wed	08:09 AM	3.47	H
2023/06/14	Wed	1:00 PM	1.67	L
2023/06/14	Wed	7:31 PM	6.09	H
2023/06/15	Thu	02:48 AM	-0.46	L
2023/06/15	Thu	09:07 AM	3.50	H
2023/06/15	Thu	1:39 PM	1.99	L
2023/06/15	Thu	8:06 PM	6.24	H
2023/06/16	Fri	03:28 AM	-0.77	L
2023/06/16	Fri	09:57 AM	3.52	H
2023/06/16	Fri	2:17 PM	2.24	L
2023/06/16	Fri	8:40 PM	6.28	H
2023/06/17	Sat	04:07 AM	-0.90	L
2023/06/17	Sat	10:43 AM	3.53	H

DAILY LOTTERY

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site at http://www.calottery.com

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 6/10
21 32 42 46 50
Power#: 4
Jackpot: 324 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 6/9
3 19 53 60 68
Mega#: 13
Jackpot: 260 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 6/10
7 9 17 21 28
Mega#: 16
Jackpot: 67 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 6/11
5 7 12 24 27

Daily 3
Draw Date: 6/11
EVENING: 6 9 8
Draw Date: 6/11
MIDDAY: 2 1 7

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 6/11
1st: 07 - Eureka
2nd: 09 - Winning Spirit
3rd: 12 - Lucky Charms
Race Time: 1:43.03

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