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WEEKEND EDITION
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Private security cuts theft from vehicles by almost half in Downtown garages

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

A contingent of private security guards working in municipal garages has significantly impacted crime and cleanliness concerns in the facilities according to the Santa Monica Police Department.

Council approved an extended contract with Good Guard security last week following a six-month pilot program to replace the former company patrolling ten parking structures in the City's downtown area in addition to the Main Library and Ken Edwards Center.

Staff said the pilot program proved successful, with a notable decrease in calls for police services at all parking structures, the Main Library, and the Ken Edwards Center. A comparison from January through May of 2022 to 2023 showed a decrease of 48% in calls for service and calls for service specific to theft from vehicles have decreased by 60%. Library staff noticed the impact of overnight security in stairwells, library grounds, and elevators.

The company's presence in Santa Monica includes a paid supervisor who participates in SMPD's Homeless Liaison Program bi-weekly meetings, monthly parking structure walkthroughs, and other meetings regarding maintenance, homeless outreach, and crime trends in the downtown area. SMPD said the online reporting provided by the company has assisted with collaborative

SEE **GUARDS** PAGE 8

Santa Monica Playhouse saves musical after cascade of crises



Mid-World Players

THEATER: Music rehearsal at the Santa Monica Playhouse.

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

Last week Santa Monica Playhouse presented the opening night of Murder Ballard after a string of unfortunate events very nearly derailed the production. Originally set to open in May, in a theater in Long Beach, the cast and crew of the Mid-World Players found themselves homeless when that venue unexpectedly closed.

Jesse Seann Atkinson, Artistic Director of Mid-World Players, began a frantic search to find an alternative location. Thankfully after a few weeks of non-stop cold calling, Santa Monica Playhouse responded positively and a new date was officially confirmed.

"The only drawback was that it didn't provide regular rehearsal space. Plus, with the change in date and new location, some of the cast and crew couldn't make it," Atkinson said, adding, "It was like starting again, including trying to find a lead performer."

Atkinson made his apartment available in Downtown Los Angeles for rehearsal for four nights every week. However, as he says, losing

SEE **PLAYHOUSE** PAGE 6

Bus driver stabbed in Venice

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

A bus driver was stabbed in the back in Venice on Thursday prompting outrage and concern from Los Angeles officials.

The attack took place on South Main Street, near Windward Circle, with the assailant approaching the bus driver from behind and stabbing him in the back while he was working on the vehicle. It is unclear what may have prompted the incident or if there was any prior interaction between the two individuals. The bus driver was transported to the hospital and is reported to be in stable condition.

Witnesses said the suspect may have been homeless and a passerby ran to the scene and pepper-sprayed the attacker, who was later seen handcuffed and being loaded into an ambulance.

The motive for the attack remains unknown, and no further information about the suspect has been released.

Metro, the transit agency responsible for the bus, said cases of violence on public transit required a strong response from police.

"Metro is angered and saddened to hear about this heinous act of violence and is providing support to our employee and his loved ones," said Metro in a statement. "We will work closely with the LAPD to investigate this incident and are grateful for their swift action in arresting the suspect. If you have any information related to this incident, please call the LAPD's 24-Hour Anonymous Tip Line at 1-877-LAPD 24-7"

SEE **STABBING** PAGE 6

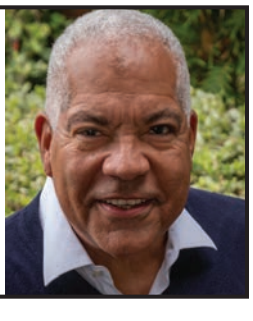


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Child brides: A campaign starts to ban underage marriages in California

RYA JETHA
Special to the Daily Press

They stood on the steps of the state Capitol, in white bridal gowns and veils, their wrists chained together and their mouths taped shut.

They are survivors of forced and child marriages — and they want California to finally outlaw child brides.

"When I was 14 years old, my parents coerced me into marrying the 27-year-old pedophile who had been abusing me for two years because I became pregnant and it brought "shame" to the family," said Pat Abatemarco, who said she eventually escaped the marriage, with her daughter, with the help of a social worker.

Thursday, she and others shared their stories of enduring gender-based violence, being forced to abandon their education, and becoming estranged from their families during the "chain-in" protest organized by Unchained At Last, a national advocacy nonprofit, to launch a campaign for the law.

"We are here in gowns and chains to demand an end to a human rights abuse and nightmarish legal trap that gives get-out-of-jail-free cards to child rapists," said Fraidy Reiss, a forced marriage survivor who founded Unchained At Last. "What better way to urge legislators to take action than to show them what life looks like for those who are forced into marriage?"

In California, you must be 18 to get a divorce. But there is no minimum age to get married, as long as a parent or guardian consent and a court gives permission. California is among just seven states, including New Mexico and Oklahoma, that does not have a minimum age for marriage.



Photo by Rahul Lal, CalMatters

WEDDING: Forced and child marriage survivors arrive to address support for a ban of the practice during a press conference at the state Capitol in Sacramento on June 22, 2023.

Assemblymember Cottie Petrie-Norris, an Irvine Democrat, plans to introduce legislation next year to end child marriage.

"We like to think that here in California... we are ahead of the curve," she said. "But when it comes to child marriage, we aren't leading, we aren't even following. We are failing."

A FALSE START

In 2017, California was on track to be the first state to pass an absolute ban on marriages for those younger than 18. However, due to opposition from the American Civil Liberties Union, the Children's Law Center and Planned Parenthood, the bill proposed by then-Sen. Jerry Hill was watered down to add some safeguards for child marriage.

In an opposition letter, the ACLU said that the bill "unnecessarily and unduly intrudes on the fundamental rights of marriage without sufficient cause," while the Children's Law Center said that "...for some minors, the decision to marry is based on positive, pro-social factors and the marriage furthers their personal, short and long-term goals."

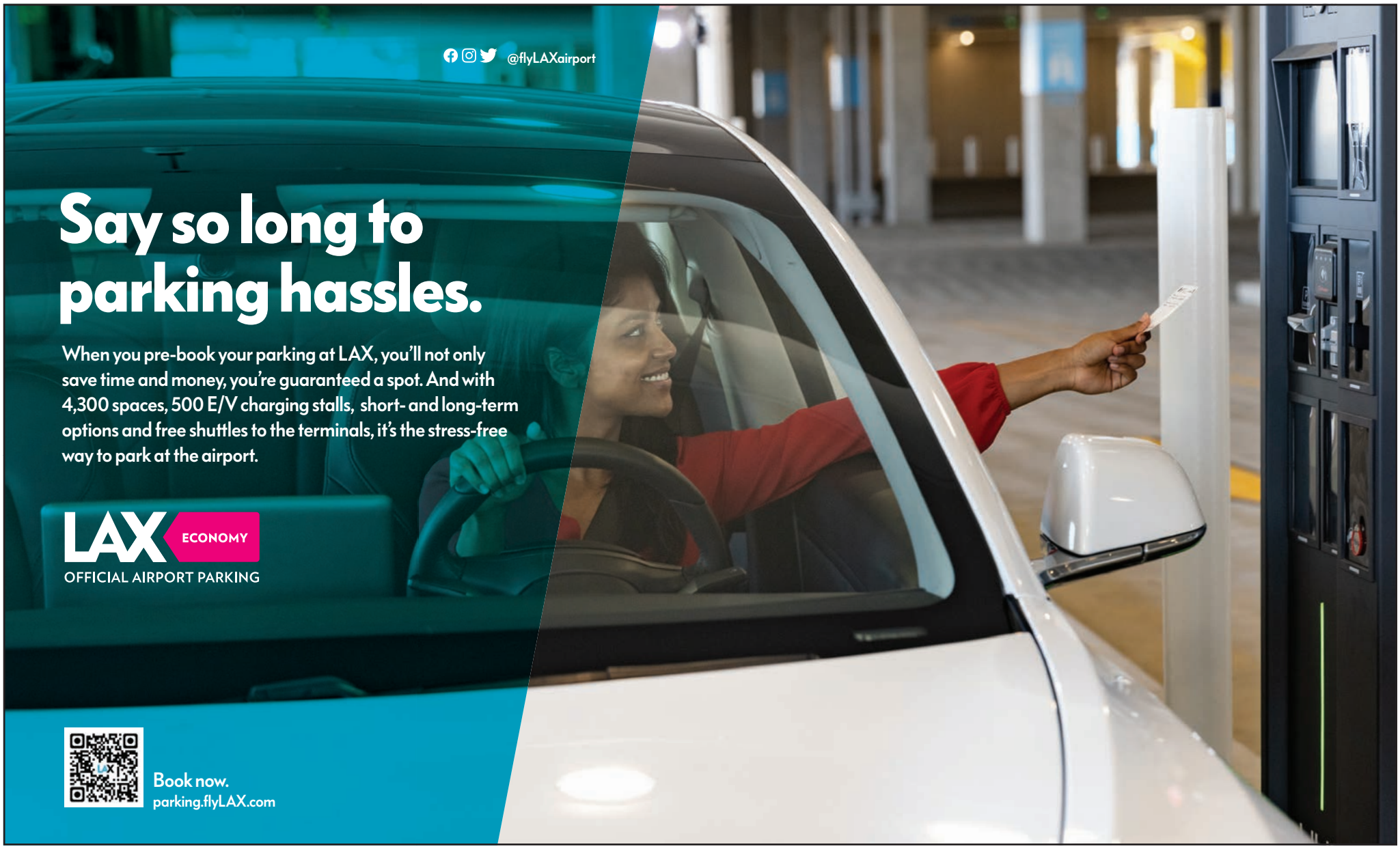
Most research disputes the claims made by the Children's Law Center. A review by the International Center for Research on Women found that married girls are more likely to drop out of school and less likely to complete college, more likely to live in poverty, and at greater risk of diabetes and cancer.

"It's not at all about maturity." Reiss said, "but what you wake up with on your 18th birthday, which is crucial, is the rights of adulthood," including leaving home, renting an apartment, getting into a domestic violence shelter, or taking legal action.

The U.S. State Department classifies forced marriage as a human rights abuse, while the International Labor Organization has called it a form of modern slavery.

"The federal government considers marriage under the age of 18 in foreign countries a human rights abuse, yet it still remains legal right here in our own backyards," Petrie-Norris said at the protest. "I am committed to ending this human rights abuse in California. One child forced into marriage is one too many."

SEE **CHILD BRIDES** PAGE 4



Xylazine-laced fentanyl is causing wounds and scrambling efforts to stop overdoses

MATTHEW PERRONE
AP Health Writer

A powerful animal sedative in the illicit drug supply is complicating the U.S. response to the opioid crisis, scrambling long standing methods for reversing overdoses and treating addiction.

Xylazine can cause severe skin wounds, but whether it is leading to more deaths — as suggested by officials in Washington — is not yet clear, according to health and law enforcement professionals on the front lines of efforts in New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania. In fact, early data suggests the drug may inadvertently be diluting the effects of fentanyl, the synthetic opioid behind most overdose deaths.

There is broad agreement, however, that much more information is needed to understand xylazine's impact, to craft ways of disrupting illegal supplies and to develop medicines to reverse its effects.

"We don't know whether xylazine is increasing the risk of overdose or reducing the risk of overdose," said Dr. Lewis Nelson of Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, who advises federal regulators on drug safety. "All we know is that there are a lot of people taking xylazine and a lot of them are dying, but it doesn't mean that xylazine is doing it."

In almost all cases, xylazine — a drug for sedating horses and other animals — is added to fentanyl, the potent opioid that can be lethal even in small amounts. Some users say the combination, dubbed "tranq" or "tranq dope," gives a longer-lasting high, more like heroin, which has largely been replaced by fentanyl in U.S. drug markets.

Like other cutting agents, xylazine benefits dealers: It's often cheaper and easier to get than fentanyl. Chinese websites sell a kilogram for $6 to $20, no prescription required. Chemicals used to produce fentanyl can cost $75 or more per kilogram.

"Nobody asked for xylazine in the drug supply," said Sarah Laurel, founder of Savage Sisters, a Philadelphia outreach group. "Before anybody knew it, the community was chemically dependent on it. So now, yes, people do seek it out."

From a storefront in Philadelphia's Kensington neighborhood, Laurel's group provides first aid, showers, clothes and snacks to people using drugs.

Xylazine's effects are easy to spot: users experience a lethargic, trance-like state and sometimes black out, exposing themselves to robbery or assault.

"It's a delayed reaction, I could be walking down the street, it's 45 minutes later," says Dominic Rodriguez, who is homeless and battling addiction. "Then I wake up, trying to piece together what happened."

U.S. regulators approved xylazine in 1971 to sedate animals for surgery, dental procedures and handling purposes.

In humans, the drug can cause breathing and heart rates to drop. It's also linked to severe skin ulcers and abscesses, which can lead to infections, rotting tissue and amputations. Experts disagree on the exact cause of the wounds, which are much deeper than those seen with other injectable drugs.

In Philadelphia, the drug's introduction has created a host of new challenges.

Naloxone, a medication used to revive people who have stopped breathing, doesn't reverse the effects of xylazine. Philadelphia officials stress that naloxone should still be administered in all cases of suspected overdose, since xylazine is almost always found in combination with fentanyl.

With no approved reversal drug for xylazine, the Savage Sisters group has taken to carrying oxygen tanks to help revive people.

Meanwhile, a roaming van staffed by local health workers and city staffers aims to treat the skin wounds before they require hospitalization.

The wounds can make it harder to get people into addiction treatment programs, which typically don't have the expertise to treat deep lesions that can expose tissue and bone.

"If you have someone out there who's ready to come in for treatment, you really want to act on that quickly," said Jill Bowen, who runs Philadelphia's behavioral health department.

The city recently launched a pilot program where hospitals treat patients for wounds and then directly transfer them into addiction treatment.

Xylazine can be addictive and patients who stop taking it report severe withdrawal symptoms, including anxiety and distress. There's no approved treatment but physicians have been using the blood pressure-lowering drug clonidine, which is sometimes prescribed for anxiety.

In April, federal officials declared xylazine-laced fentanyl an " emerging threat," pointing to the problems in Philadelphia and other northeastern cities. Testing is far from uniform, but the drug has been detected in all 50 states and appears to be moving westward, similar to earlier waves of drug use.

Officials describe the drug's toll in stark terms and statistics: Fatal overdoses involving xylazine increased more than 1,200% percent between 2018 and 2021. But that largely reflects increased testing, since most medical examiners weren't looking for the drug until recently.

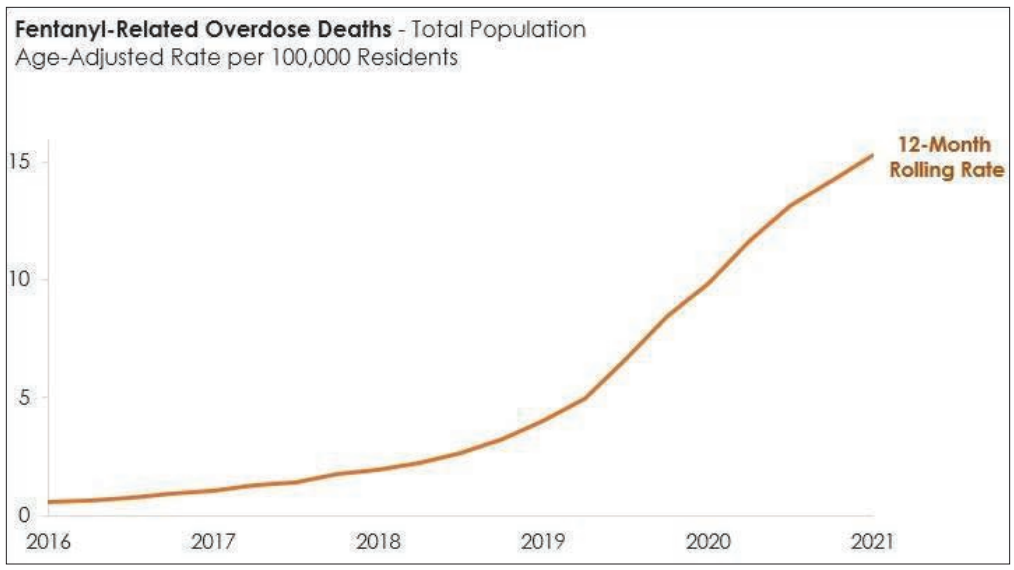
"What it is doing is making the deadliest drug we've ever seen, fentanyl, even deadlier," Anne Milgram, head of the Drug Enforcement Administration, told attendees at a recent conference.

But those who have studied the problem closely aren't so sure.

One of the only studies looking at the issue reached a startling conclusion: People who overdosed on a combination of fentanyl and xylazine had "significantly less severe" outcomes than those taking fentanyl alone.

It was the opposite of what Dr. Jennifer Love and her colleagues expected, given xylazine's dangerous effects on breathing. But their analysis of more than 320 overdose patients who received emergency care found lower rates of cardiac arrest and coma when xylazine was involved.

Love, an emergency medicine physician at New York's Mount Sinai hospital, suggested xylazine may be reducing the amount of fentanyl in each dose. She stressed that this is only one possible explanation, and more research is needed into xylazine's long-term effects. She also noted that the study didn't track downstream effects of xylazine that could be deadly, including skin infections and amputations.



CDPH

FENTANYL OVERDOSES: Deaths have increased over time.

But hints that xylazine could be blunting fatal overdoses are showing up elsewhere.

In New Jersey, about one-third of the opioid supply contains xylazine, based on testing of drug paraphernalia. But less than 8% of fatal overdoses involved xylazine in 2021, the latest year with complete data.

Police Capt. Jason Piotrowski, who oversees the analysis of state drug data, said xylazine's ability to extend users' high may be a factor in why it's showing up less than expected in fatal overdoses.

"If xylazine is lasting longer and that's why people are using it, then they're not going to need as many doses," he said. "So now their exposure to the more deadly fentanyl decreases."

Like other experts, Piotrowski stressed that this is only one theory and xylazine's impact is far from clear.

Philadelphia officials see no upside to the drug.

"I don't frankly see a plus side to xylazine," said Dr. Cheryl Bettigole, the city's health commissioner. "It seems to increase the risk of overdose and it causes these severe, debilitating wounds that interfere with peoples' ability to get into treatment."

Philadelphia's annual toll of fatal overdoses has climbed by 14% since xylazine became a significant part of the local drug market around 2018. In 2021, the city reported 1,276 overdose deaths. Bettigole expects final 2022 figures to show another increase.

More than 90% of lab-tested opioids in Philadelphia contain xylazine, according to city figures.

Even as Savage Sisters and other advocates deal with xylazine's toll, they are seeing newer drugs circulate, including nitazenes, a

SEE **FENTANYL** PAGE 4

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WINNER

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CHILD BRIDES

FROM PAGE 2

Under California law, it's statutory rape when an adult has sex with someone younger than 18, if they are not married. The crime is a misdemeanor or a felony, depending on the age difference.

The law that eventually passed in 2018 required a judge and Family Court Services to interview both parties to the marriage and a guardian to determine that coercion, child abuse and trafficking were not taking place.

The law also required local registrars to begin reporting the number of marriage certificates issued to minors. Since 2019, the state has reported fewer than 20 child marriages.

But in 2021, about 8,800 15- to 17-year-olds in California reported being married in the previous 12 months to the U.S. Census, according to an analysis by Unchained At Last. The vast majority, but not all, are girls.

The group says that the huge difference in the numbers is because many registrars are not keeping track of child marriages.

WHAT OTHER STATES ARE DOING

Since the limited 2018 law took effect in California, nine states have made the marriage age 18 with no exceptions: Connecticut, Delaware, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Vermont. This week, Michigan's Legislature voted to ban child marriage.

Protesters and advocates hope that California will be the eleventh state to ban child marriage with no exceptions. But a bill to do that has already been weakened in the current session.

Instead of setting a minimum marriage age, the bill now addresses some underage marriages that are done through spiritual ceremonies that are not legally recognized.

"While some — myself included — have concerns with minors getting married under any circumstances, California does have some guardrails to protect children," the bill's author, Sen. Aisha Wahab, a Fremont Democrat, said in a statement to CalMatters. "However, current law does not account for instances in which a third party arranges or officiates an underground marriage between a minor and another person, and that is what we are targeting with this bill."

In May, the state Senate unanimously passed the amended Senate Bill 404, which would make it a misdemeanor for any person to knowingly sanction a religious union or unauthorized secular union between a minor and another person.

While supporters say this proposal would strengthen California's ability to protect children, some backers of the original bill said the current version could further harm children by criminalizing their families and communities.

"The survivors of forced marriage that we serve often have complicated relationships with the parents or communities who pressure them to marry," the Tahirih Justice Center says in the bill analysis. "In many cases, even after facing significant abuse, they still love and value these social bonds and hope for reconciliation."

> "There are some human rights abuses we all agree are terrible, but we might not be able to eliminate them in our lifetime"
>
> - Fraidy Reiss

Unchained At Last also says the amended bill doesn't address the real problem; it wants a minimum marriage age of 18. Thursday's protest, similar to those held in other states, is the beginning of building a coalition in California, said Reiss. The group plans to sit down individually with legislators, to make the case for a law.

"There are some human rights abuses we all agree are terrible, but we might not be able to eliminate them in our lifetime," said Reiss. "But child marriage in California, we can end it, not only in our lifetime…(but) this year."

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

The US has tons of leftover food. Upcycling turns would-be trash into ice cream and pizza

HAVEN DALEY
Associated Press

At Tyler Malek's ice cream parlors, one cook's trash is another chef's frosty treat.

The head ice cream maker at the Portland, Oregon-based Salt & Straw uses the whey leftover from yogurt makers in upstate New York to make his lemon curd flavor. For chocolate barley milk, he mixes in the remnants of rice and grains from beer brewing to give it a light and creamy taste.

"Instead of calling this food waste, we need to call it wasted food and start decreasing how much wasting we're doing," Malek said.

Malek's ice cream chain is among those at the forefront of the upcycling movement, the process of creating high-quality products from leftover food. Malek's shops from the Pacific Northwest to Miami now feature flavors like "Cacao Pulp & Chocolate Stracciatella Gelato," which is made from leftover cacao pulp from chocolate production that otherwise would have gone to waste.

It's a trend gaining ground as consumers spend more time reading packaging labels and menu ingredients to learn where their food comes from and how it affects the environment. More than 35 million tons (31 million metric tons) of food are wasted every year in the U.S. — about 40% of the country's food production — costing the national economy more than $200 billion, according to the Upcycled Food Association.

Upcycled food is becoming increasingly common in cake mixes and veggie chips at natural grocery stores. Ingredients include fruits and vegetables from farms nationwide that are perfectly edible but often rejected by restaurants and grocery stores because of their shape or color, like white strawberries, wilted greens and ugly mushrooms.

The Upcycled Food Association, which will celebrate World Upcycling Day on Saturday, issues an official "Upcycling Certified" seal to qualifying products. These seals, which adorn the new Salt & Straw upcycled flavors, raise awareness with consumers that the company making the food used such ingredients.

The association initially certified about 30 products in 2021 and now has 450 carrying the label.

"A lot of the food that is uneaten or thrown away in our supply chain is actually due to archaic cosmetic standards or sort of perceptions that what we think is edible or quality food," said Angie Crone, the association's chief executive. "So this is a mark that you can see on the products wherever you go shopping, to be able to understand how that company is reducing food waste in their supply chain."

The association's seal also is featured on all products made by Renewal Mill, an Oakland-based company turning byproducts from plant-based milk into pantry stables like baking flour to reduce waste at the manufacturing level.

"Our first product is the pulp leftover from making soy milk. We turn that into a high fiber gluten-free flour called okara flour," co-founder Caroline Cotto said. "And then we use that flour to make things like baking mixes and ready-to-eat cookies."

The company's okara flour is featured in Salt & Straw's new "Salted Caramel & Okara Cupcakes" flavor.

The movement isn't confined to recycled products found in a trendy ice cream store, farmers market or natural grocery. In San Francisco, a restaurant serving pizza and wine focuses on upcycled ingredients such as ugly mushrooms, misshapen peppers and discolored tomatoes, as well as offcuts of meat for menu stars like beef heart meatballs.

"I think so many people think about dumpster diving or using rotten ingredients, but we have this wildly over productive food system that accounts for a ton of waste," said Kayla Abe, co-owner of Shuggie's Trash Pie. "Some people might not read that it's a beef heart meatball and they just might see meatball. They order it and they're like, that was the best meatball I've ever had in my life."

FENTANYL

FROM PAGE 3

synthetic opioid that can be even more potent than fentanyl.

A shifting mix of opioids, stimulants and sedatives has come to define the U.S. drug epidemic, making it harder to manage a crisis that now claims more than 100,000 lives a year.

The Biden administration and Congress are considering changes to try to limit xylazine prescribing and distribution.

But past restrictions didn't solve the problem: When regulators cracked down on painkillers like OxyContin, people largely shifted to heroin and then fentanyl.

"First we had pills, then we had heroin and then we had fentanyl," Piotrowski said. "Now we have everything. And xylazine is just a part of that."

AP journalists Tassanee Vejpongsa and Matt Rourke in Philadelphia contributed to this story. The Associated Press Health and Science Department receives support from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute's Science and Educational Media Group. The AP is solely responsible for all content.

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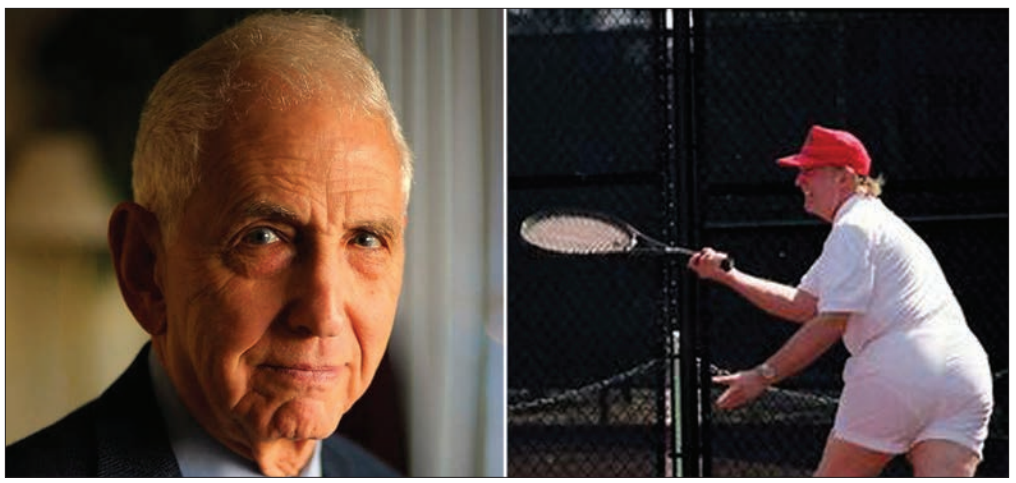
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OPINION **LAUGHING MATTERS**

Jack Neworth

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Trump & Ellsberg stole classified docs



Courtesy image

TRUMP: Ellsberg and Trump.

Daniel Ellsberg, who died of pancreatic cancer on June 16th at the age of 92, was a patriot. He served in the Marines from 1954-1957 as a company commander and in 1961 went to Vietnam as part of a Pentagon fact-finding task force hoping the South Vietnamese government, with U.S. backing, was defeating the insurgency of the Viet Cong. Spoiler alert: they weren't.

In 1971, while working in Santa Monica at the Rand Corporation as a strategic analyst, Ellsberg stumbled onto classified documents that totally changed his life. They revealed that American military leaders and presidents had been lying to the public about Vietnam for decades, falsifying casualties and hiding that the war was not "winnable."

With over 500,000 American troops in Vietnam and so many tragically coming home in body bags, Ellsberg was compelled to unveil the truth. Over eight incredibly stressful months he covertly photocopied 3,000 pages of historical analysis and 4,000 pages of government documents all classified as "Top Secret."

At enormous peril to himself and his family, in August, 1971, Ellsberg released the 47 volumes to the New York Times in what came to be known as the "Pentagon Papers." It shocked the country and the world. Standing by what he'd done, Ellsberg knew he'd spend the rest of his life in prison. But he was willing to pay the price in hopes it would lead to the end of the war which cost the lives of an estimated 3,000,000 South Vietnamese and Viet Cong soldiers and civilians and 58,200 American GI's. Yes, Ellsberg committed serious crimes but did so for a cause greater than himself.

All these years later even writing about Vietnam is painful, so let's switch to former president, twice impeached and twice indicted (and counting) Donald Trump. He also stole classified documents, including nuclear secrets and mock U.S. war plans against Iran. He obviously didn't do it for a cause greater than himself because for Trump there is no cause greater than himself.

Trump didn't serve in the Viet Nam War because as he has reportedly said, "being a soldier is for suckers." To escape the draft he claimed to have bone spurs. Though he played sports endlessly, apparently the one physical activity he couldn't do was "marching." His podiatrist, who rented office space from Trump's real estate tycoon father, wrote a letter to the draft board that enabled devious Donnie to con his way out of military service.

In 2015, when Trump declared his candidacy for President reporters inquired about his bone spurs. As he described them as painful, many people could tell Trump was lying because his lips were moving. Also he couldn't remember on which foot he had the condition. "It's somewhere in the records" he said dismissively. Decades later, on the Howard Stern Radio Show, Trump joked, "Actually my Viet Nam was avoiding catching STD's."

Though Ellsberg anticipated a life sentence, his case was dismissed when the federal judge discovered Nixon's "plumbers" had broken into Ellsberg's psychiatrist's office. Meanwhile, Trump's 37 counts, including violations of the Espionage Act, conspiracy to obstruct justice and making false statements to investigators, could yield maximum sentences of 536 years! (Not counting time off for good behavior.)

Ironically, Trump could have avoided all charges if he just gave the documents back as any normal person might have done, the key word being "normal." Like a petulant child, Trump insisted "These are my boxes!"

In a recent interview on Fox News with Bret Baier, Trump was low energy and incoherent. When Baier asked, "Why didn't you just return the boxes? Trump responded absurdly, "My golf shoes, shirts and pants were in those boxes!" He's supposedly a billionaire, why not buy new golf shoes? It's better than 536 years

SEE **TRUMP** PAGE 6

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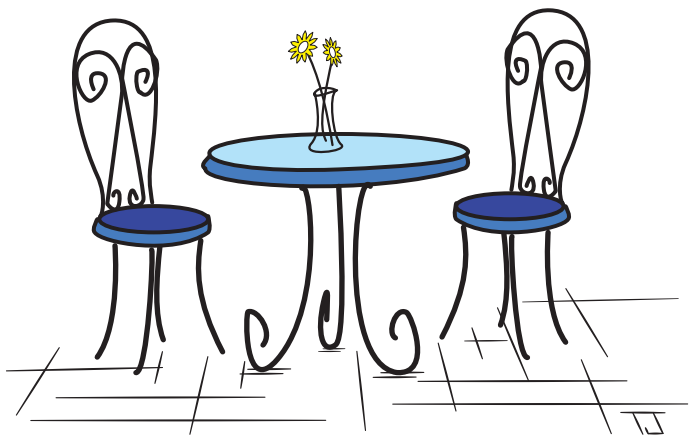
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Starbucks union calls strike over Pride displays, but the company calls it a misinformation campaign

MICHELLE CHAPMAN
AP Business Writer

Workers at 150 Starbucks locations will strike in the coming week over what their union says is a clash over decor supporting LGBTQ+ causes, but the company denies it's banned any such displays and accused the union of using misinformation as a tactic in labor talks.

Starbucks Workers United said in a tweet Friday that 3,500 workers will be on strike over the next week, starting with the flagship location in Seattle.

The union has tried to establish a foothold at Starbucks for some time and at least 358 Starbucks stores have petitioned the National Labor Relations Board to hold union elections. A Starbucks in Buffalo, New York, became the first to unionize early last year.

But those efforts have slowed in recent months with pushback from some workers who have resisted organization efforts. Starbucks on Friday said Workers United is using misinformation about its support for LGBTQ+ causes as part of ongoing contract negotiations.

"Workers United continues to spread false information about our benefits, policies and negotiation efforts—a tactic used to seemingly divide our partners and deflect from their failure to respond to bargaining sessions for more than 200 stores," Starbucks said in a written statement.

Starbucks, based in Seattle, said last week that there had been no change to any policy on the matter and that its support for LGBTQ+ causes is "unwavering." The company has been outspoken in its support for LGBTQ+ employees for decades. It extended full health benefits to same-sex partners in 1988 and added health coverage for gender reassignment surgery in 2013.

Starbucks Corp. is also currently selling Pride-themed tumblers in its stores designed by Toronto artist Tim Singleton, who is gay.

Workers United says that store managers around the country have curtailed or removed displays during a month-long celebration of LGBTQ+ people. In some cases, the union said, managers told workers that Pride displays were a safety concern, citing recent incidents at Target where some angry customers tipped over merchandise and confronted workers.

Starbucks said recent anti-LGBTQ+ social media campaigns against brands like Disney, Target and Bud Light in some parts of the country have not changed its stance.

Brands like Chick-fil-A, which closes on Sundays for a day of "rest and worship," and Cracker Barrel Old Country Store, have also been targeted online by anti-LGBTQ+ groups and individuals.



PLAYHOUSE

FROM PAGE 1

a lead performer is not easy to overcome, so with the new opening date fast approaching, Assistant Director Jess Be stepped in.

"I'd worked with them [the Mid-World Players] many times in the past, in roles in dramatic productions, but I'd certainly never performed in a musical," said Be. "We had to put together a live band to perform the songs and we really only had time for a handful of run-throughs."

Atkinson describes the story as a love triangle gone wrong. "Murder Ballad centers on Sara [the role Be now plays]. She's a wealthy uptown girl who seems to have everything, but she has a downtown past that lingers enticingly and dangerously in front of her."

Sadly however, that wasn't the end of the string of mishaps to befall the musical. Maybe someone unwittingly whispered the name of The Scottish Play during an early rehearsal.

Tragically, one of the principal cast members had to deal with a death in the family and another was struck down with an illness that prevented him from rehearsing for a week. "It was slowly beginning to look like it wasn't meant to be," said Atkinson.

Despite these and all the other setbacks, Atkinson and his Mid-World Players partner, Jennifer Harmon – who also stars in the show – persevered and led the cast and crew to deliver on the promised open date of June 17, with the opening night being a massive success.

"Opening night was incredible," said Harmon, adding, "It was marvelous to see so many theatergoers come out to support us. Just a few weeks ago, we had no venue, but through our relentless efforts, unwavering commitment and a fortunate turn of events, we managed to create an unforgettable opening night at Santa Monica Playhouse. The audience showered the cast and crew with enthusiastic applause as the final curtain fell, evoking an incredible sense of satisfaction."

Santa Monica Playhouse describes itself as a non-profit, professional intimate theater and educational conservatory. It was established in 1960 and according to the website, it "is the only theatre of its kind to have produced continuously for over half a century, without compromising the true spirit of the European Repertory theatre" having presented nearly 20,000 actual performances for close to two million audience members.

Evelyn Rudie, Co-Artistic Director of Santa Monica Playhouse, said, "We're excited and pleased to welcome the guest production Murder Ballad and the Mid-World Players to our boards."

Rudie herself was a child actor and has starred in movies with the likes of Lauren Bacall and Fred Astaire. She even has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, located at the corner of Hollywood Blvd and Highland Ave.

Santa Monica Playhouse (https://www.santamonicaplayhouse.com) is at 1211 4th Street, Santa Monica. Tickets are available through Eventbrite or on the door and the show runs until July 3, 2023.

scott.snowden@smdp.com

STABBING

FROM PAGE 1

On Thursday, Los Angeles Councilwoman Traci Park expressed deep concern over the stabbing.

"Today's stabbing incident involving a Metro bus driver is deeply concerning," she said. "My thoughts are with him and his family. The violence on public transit is out of control. We need more police and security officers present to keep our drivers and riders safe. The people who commit these crimes must be held accountable."

The assault is the second stabbing on a Metro bus in as many months.

In May, a 17-year-old boy was arrested in connection with the near-fatal stabbing of a Metro bus driver in Woodland Hills.

He is suspected of attempted murder in the attack that occurred near Topanga Canyon Boulevard and Erwin Street. Police said the teen boarded the bus and got into an argument with the 61-year-old driver over fare evasion.

Both the driver and teen wound up getting off the bus and continued the argument, during which the teen pulled out a knife and repeatedly stabbed the driver, according to police.

The attacks have highlighted the growing criticism of safety on regional public transit systems that include buses and trains.

On May 17 a woman was attacked on the Blue Line train in Long Beach and a group of teenagers beat a man with skateboards at the Downtown Santa Monica train station in April.

In May, County Supervisor and Metro board member Janice Hahn called for "a full accounting" of security protocols on the system. She said officials needed to review the multi-million dollar law enforcement contracts associated with Metro.

"Enough is enough," Hahn said. "Our trains need to be safe for our residents," Hahn said at the time.

The Westside Current contributed to this report

TRUMP

FROM PAGE 5

in the slammer.

Moments later Trump said in the weirdest tone, "The only way I would give the documents back was if the National Archives said please, please, please." A week before he insisted "And they'd have to pay me damages!" (In his arrogant defense apparently Trump doesn't realize he's actually confessing.)

When Baier calmly listed former members of Trump's administration now saying he's unfit to be President, Trump boorishly called one a "gutless pig," another "a born loser," another "a man with a small brain" and another "dumber than a rock." (So much for "I only hire the best people.")

Daniel Ellsberg was a truth seeker who became a patriotic antiwar activist, a beloved husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. To me he was a national hero and may he R.I.P. To me Donald Trump is a national nightmare and his name and the word "beloved" in the same sentence sounds oxymoronic. But I suppose he's entitled to get his golf shoes back. (Then again, who knows how they'll blend with an orange jump suit.)

Please Google "Bret Baier interviews Trump" and watch the video. Jack is at: jackdailypress@aol.com

NASA opposes lithium mining at tabletop flat Nevada desert site used to calibrate satellites

SCOTT SONNER
Associated Press

Environmentalists, tribal leaders and others have fought for years against lithium mining ventures in Nevada. Yet opposition to mining one particular desert tract for the silvery white metal used in electric car batteries is coming from unusual quarters: space.

An ancient Nevada lakebed beckons as a vast source of the coveted element needed to produce cleaner electric energy and fight global warming. But NASA says the same site — flat as a tabletop and undisturbed like none other in the Western Hemisphere — is indispensable for calibrating the razor-sharp measurements of hundreds of satellites orbiting overhead.

At the space agency's request, the U.S. Bureau of Land Management has agreed to withdraw 36 square miles of the eastern Nevada terrain from its inventory of federal lands open to potential mineral exploration and mining.

NASA says the long, flat piece of land above the untapped lithium deposit in Nevada's Railroad Valley has been used for nearly three decades to get measurements just right to keep satellites and their applications functioning properly.

"No other location in the United States is suitable for this purpose," the Bureau of Land Management concluded in April after receiving NASA's input on the tract 250 miles northeast of Las Vegas.

The bureau has spent nearly three years fighting mining challenges of all sorts from conservationists, tribes, ranchers and others who want to overturn approval of a huge lithium mine in the works in northwest Nevada near the Oregon line.

In December, the bureau initiated a review of plans for another lithium mine conservationists oppose near the California line where an endangered desert wildflower grows, about 230 miles southeast of Reno.

In Railroad Valley, satellite calculations are critical to gathering information beamed from space with widespread applications from weather forecasting to national security, agricultural outlooks and natural disasters, according to NASA, which said the satellites "provide vital and often time-critical information touching every aspect of life on Earth."

That increasingly includes certifying measurements related to climate change.

Thus the Nevada desert paradox, critics say. Although lithium is the main ingredient in batteries for electric vehicles key to reducing greenhouse gases, in this case the metal is buried beneath land NASA says must remain undisturbed to certify the accuracy of satellites monitoring Earth's warming atmosphere.

"As our nation becomes ever more impacted by an evolving and changing environment, it is critical to have reliable and accurate data and imagery of our planet," said Mark Moneza of Planet Labs, a San Francisco-based satellite imaging company that has relied on NASA's site to calibrate more than 250 of its satellites since 2016.

A Nevada congressman introduced legislation earlier this month seeking to revoke the bureau's decision to withdraw the land from potential mining use. Republican Rep. Mark Amodei told a House subcommittee last week that the decision underscores the "hypocrisy" of President Joe Biden's administration.

"It is supposedly a goal of the Biden Administration to boost the development of renewable energy technology and reduce carbon in our atmosphere," Amodei said. "Yet they support blocking a project to develop the lithium necessary for their clean energy objectives."

The Carson City, Nevada, company holding most of the mining claims, 3 Proton Lithium Inc., had not submitted any formal project plans in 2021 when NASA requested the land withdrawal. But the firm claimed to have done extensive research in anticipation of future plans to extract the brine-based lithium resource it said is one of the 10 largest deposits in the world.

Chairman Kevin Moore said the tract's withdrawal likely will prevent his energy company from pumping the "super brine" from about one-third of its claims there, including the deepest, richest deposits holding about 60% of the site's value. He joined Amodei in testifying last week before the House Resources Subcommittee on Mining and Mineral Resources.

"This project is a vital part of transitioning to a green economy, creating good-paying American jobs, combating climate change, ending America's over-reliance on foreign adversaries and securing a domestic supply chain for critical and rare earth minerals," Moore said.

Other opponents of BLM's move include James Ingraffia, founder of the energy exploration company Lithium Arrow LLC. He told the bureau in earlier public comments that by establishing obstacles to Railroad Valley lithium mining, it was undermining efforts to combat climate change.

"Essentially, your actions are boiling down to, 'There's a problem that we want to keep worrying about but NOT allow to be solved,' " he said. "It's self-contradictory."

3 Proton Lithium insists its brine-pumping operations would cause little if any disturbance to the land's surface. But NASA doesn't believe the risk is worthwhile.

The area's unchanged nature has allowed NASA to establish a long record of images of the undisturbed topography to assist precise measurement of distances using the travel time of radio signals and assure "absolute radiometric calibration" of sensors on board satellites.

"Activities that stand to disrupt the surface integrity of Railroad Valley would risk making the site unusable," Jeremy Eggers, a spokesman for NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland, told The Associated Press.

"The ultimate decision was to protect Railroad Valley, which in turn protects the critical scientific data that multiple economic sectors rely on," he said in an email Thursday.



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GUARDS

FROM PAGE 1

efforts across multiple departments and staff said it has greatly contributed to improving the downtown cleanliness and public safety.

The City chose Good Guard based on price, ability, capacity, and skill to perform or provide services, and the character, integrity, reputation, judgment, training, experience, and efficiency of the company. At the time, the company's technology and their customer-oriented approach were listed as positive traits.

Good Guard uses the "SilverTrac" guard monitoring system which provides GPS-based tracking capabilities. With this technology, designated City staff can access the system and look up the current location of guards as well as download GPS-based activity reports, showing the location of guards throughout their shifts.

Council extended the contract shortly after hearing from residents who want the city to do more to address crime and homelessness citywide. At the meeting, Councilman Phil Brock asked if the Good Guard program was working as envisioned and what could be done to improve it.

"I know we went through a variety of security services over the last three years and I'd like to know if this security company, this guard company, how they're doing," he said. "And we heard from a member of the public earlier tonight that said that the elevators were still filled with homeless people, the stairways were terrible, etc. When I've gone through the parking structures in the evening, I'm really impressed. I walked five floors of structure five in one night and Good Guard was in the stairwell, the lighting was drastically improved and it looked great. So I want to sort of see how you feel about the improved security if they're improved, and where we are now," he said.

SMPD Lieutenant Robert D'Andrea said there had been a drastic improvement in service with the implementation of Good Guard who were providing double the number of guards over the previous company Allied Security. He said the four-person team's inclusion of a supervisor increased their effectiveness and the company's integration with other services helped flag maintenance or other problems more quickly.

However, he said the original proposal was for a six-person team and while the current guards are working, the other two guards are still necessary for maximum impact.

"My opinion, I think six would be the optimal, four is working," he said. "But the quality of these four is really good. We've had the same four guards, same supervisors since we started with Good Guard so they've really gotten to know the property and it makes a difference."

The extension of the contract brings the total five-year value to $2.4 million. Staff have estimated it would take another $876,440 to increase the number of guards to six.

While Good Guard are working on behalf of the City directly, other organizations are also increasing their reliance on private security. Downtown Santa Monica Inc. announced plans to implement a stronger security guard presence in the area, transitioning $1.7 million away from its ambassador program to pay for a new company, Covered 6, to bring a mix of armed and unarmed guards to the Promenade.

Shoppers downtown had a mixed response to the idea of increased security downtown. While some said the proposals would make them feel safer, few said the presence of guards would make them more likely to shop in the area and some questioned the way armed security would alter the feel of the Promenade.

Council will have an opportunity to debate the cost of the guards as part of their larger budget discussion scheduled for June 27.

editor@smdp.com

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (June 24)

Following your vision for how things should be, you'll steer yourself and others into a golden era. You'll be well-paid for applying your talents in fresh and forward leaning directions. More highlights: much revelry, enjoying abundance in an area that was once scarce for you and righting wrongs to raise the status of the underappreciated. Leo and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 4, 40, 11 and 28.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). For the most part awards and the like have very little to do with your identity or sense of purpose. So, while you may participate in competitions, you are not incentivized by the prize at the end so much as the camaraderie along the way.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). As you challenge and nurture yourself, a holistic approach is best. The work of the body is not independent of the work of the mind. Each relies on the health of the other. What you do for one will be done for the other.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Whatever people appreciate or dislike about others says something about what they value or reject in themselves. Notice what grows and diminishes your affection. It will be telling, as will the voiced preferences of others.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You'll be reviewed in some way. It's nothing to put much stock in now, but what does matter about this interaction is your gracious reception of the critique. Simply listen and say "thank you," and fortune follows.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll be made aware of how deeply you are invested in someone. Though it is possible to feel happy while you're out on your own, this is because you're never really alone. Your joy is an extension of your connection to others.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You can be grounded and still wander with no destination in mind, especially when your purpose is to witness the world in a philosophical way. You may not be in the mood to participate actively, but you'll enjoy contemplative observation.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). As far as the written rules go, most would adhere out of common decency without even knowing what they were. The rules that matter now are unwritten. Compliance is reliant on keen observation and excellent social instinct.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Empathy is a quality that is both learned and inherited. While we can always improve, it is easier and more intuitive for some than others. Consider that whatever a person's empathetic score, it likely comes from a long line.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Each circumstance and person you meet will bring out a slightly different side of you. It will be fun to discover yourself through a social lens as you mix and mingle with a variety of characters this weekend.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). There will be a blank space in the story and people will rush to fill it in with their own theories, assumptions and fantasies. For this reason, misinformation abounds that would be unwise to act on. Wait for the truth to surface.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). One way to describe consciousness is "thinking about your thinking." You'll become aware that a certain line of thought makes you feel less effective, whereas a different mental direction empowers you, and you'll steer accordingly.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You're getting ready to make an exit. There's a right and a wrong way to end things. The wrong way leaves a trail of scorched earth and a bridge on fire in the rearview mirror.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

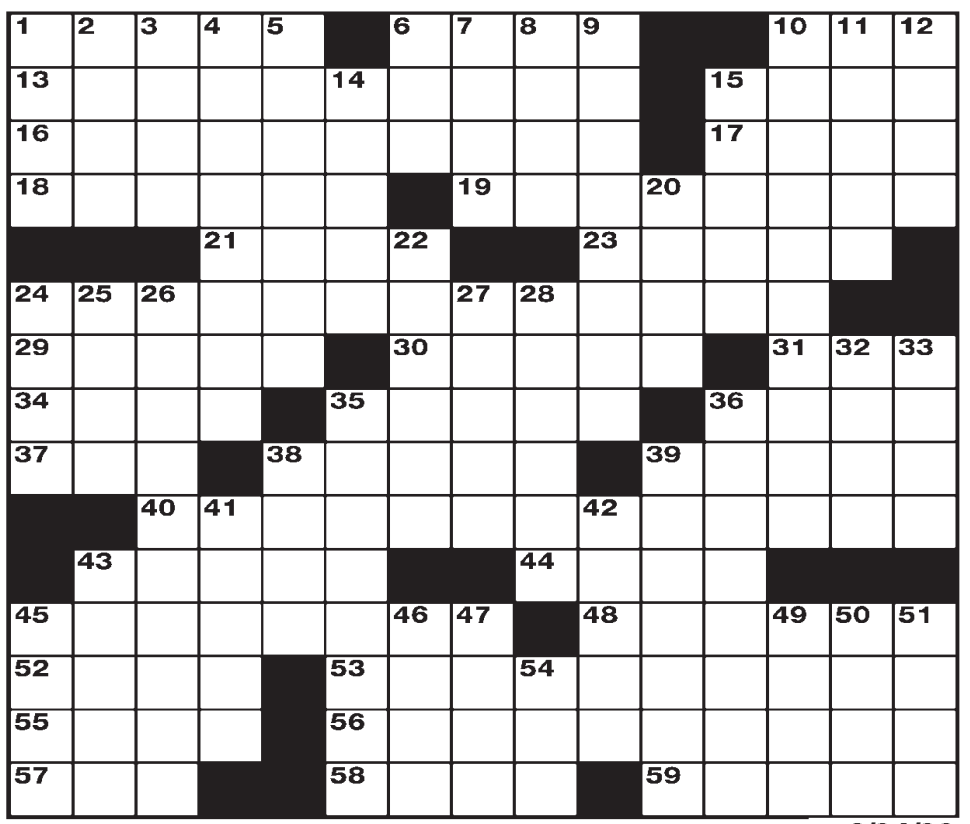
	9	1	8	4				
	5		6					7
2		6				1		8
	1				5			
9			3		7			1
			4				7	
8		5				6		9
4					6		1	
				3	8	7	2	

Newsday Crossword

SATURDAY STUMPER by Steve Mossberg
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Came 'round?
6 Optimize for stamina
10 Something to drink or drive
13 Instrumental part favored by Beethoven
15 Heads-up request
16 Group amusement
17 *Astronomicis bestia*
18 Scrabble sextet that can form a seven-letter word with 18 of the 26
19 All the features
21 Dirty blanket
23 Element in the oldest lava
24 Being side-by-side
29 Get smarter
30 Means of support
31 Toaster's goal, perhaps
34 Beast
35 Small snorters
36 Overwhelm, in a way
37 "Birthplace of Confederation," for short
38 Keep doing what you're doing
39 Get ready for clubbing?
40 Literally, "harm joy"
43 Outrider
44 Tiny bit
45 Rayed wildflower
48 Present day directive
52 Dickinson's singer "without the words"
53 Shaggy shepherd
55 Good to proceed
56 They pair well with pasta
57 Bonded
58 Cry for
59 Seasonal swimmer septet

DOWN
1 Starting lineup order
2 Platinum-purveying org.
3 Icon of retailing
4 One preparing to fight
5 Entry-level guy
6 Piece in a perfboard
7 Duettist in Haydn's *Creation*
8 What you don't want to be spotted in
9 Exalts
10 One way to serve schnitzel
11 Hot pursuit
12 Bare your teeth, perhaps
14 Med tech assignment
15 Hot, as chips
20 Crocus cousin
22 Lose one's touch
24 Maki Ohguro's music
25 Word from the Latin for "press"
26 Made a cactus garden, say
27 Assuage
28 Aim
32 Talk up
33 Touch-__
35 Hybrid outerwear
36 Directive for details
38 Kind of temple
39 Big hits
41 Prepped for baking, maybe
42 4'1" hero of fantasy fiction films
43 Instigate
45 Ostentation
46 Bob's relative
47 #5 law school in longevity
49 People's Choice Animated film leading role for 2019
50 What a seer often says?
51 It's between Denver and Ciudad Juárez
54 Relieved

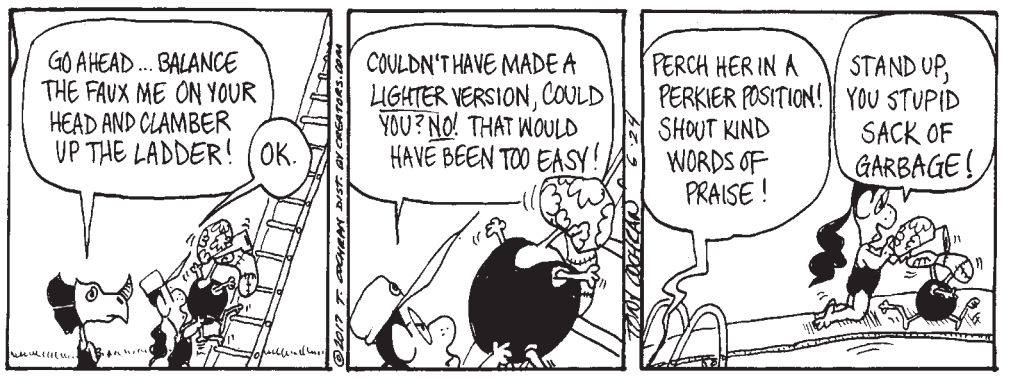


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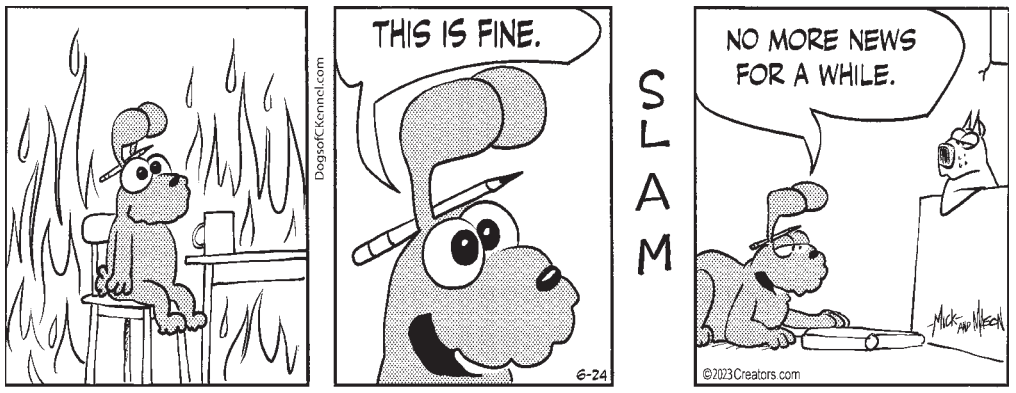
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



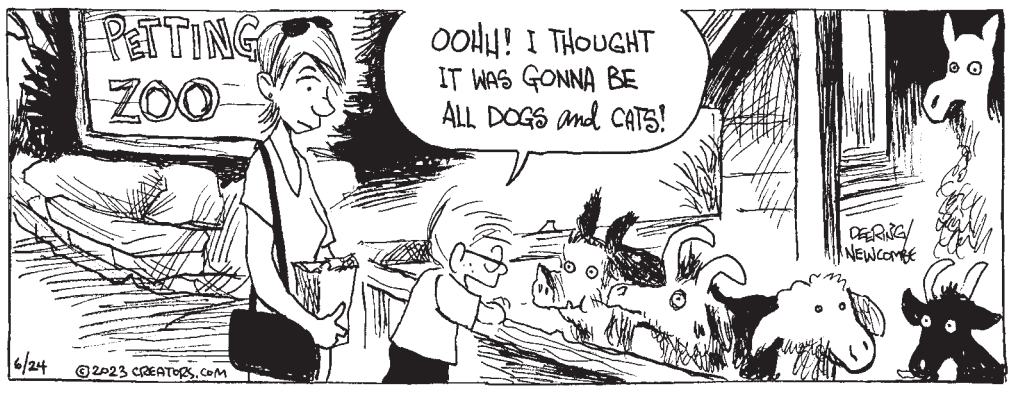
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

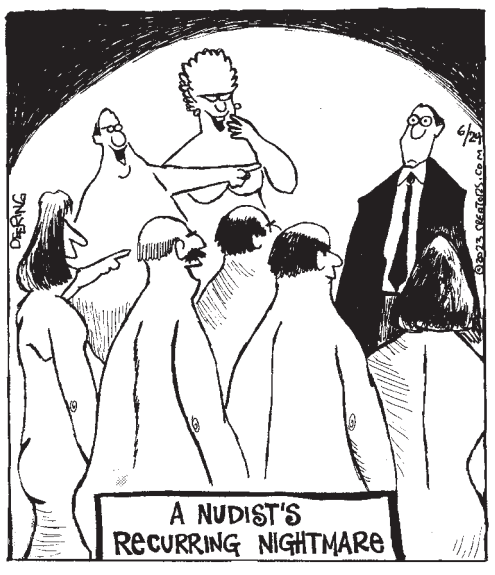
By PETER GALLAGHER



"FAM ON THE LAM."

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

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Conquering the mountain

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

Adventure	Cool	Inch	Shelf
Alps	Courage	Lofty	Sleet
Axes	Crawl	Mountaineer	Slide
Bivouac	Crest	Oxygen	Solo
Boots	Crimp	Peak	Spike
Breathless	Down	Posts	Steep
Cairn	Expedition	Precarious	Summit
Camp	Gaps	Reward	Trail
Chalk	Goal	Ridge	Trust
Chock	Haul	Rope	Wall
Climb	Heave	Rugged	
Cold	High	Scale	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.

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What's Up Westside

out and about in Santa Monica

SATURDAY | JUNE 24

SANTA MONICA PIER 360 BEACH FESTIVAL

Santa Monica Pier 360 Beach Festival celebrates the best of beach life with an awesome, FREE, all-ages festival! With ocean sports competitions, Polynesian dancing, a one-of-a-kind surf and skate history museum, live music, food and drinks, interactive games, sampling by some of your favorite brands and so much more, Pier 360 offers a peek into iconic SoCal beach culture and brings together thousands of guests for a day of good vibes. Whether you're hanging with the family, competing on land or at sea or partying with your friends–Santa Monica Pier 360 Beach Festival has got it all! Santa Monica Pier 200 Santa Monica Pier Santa Monica, CA 90401.

SAMO PRIDE SAPPHIC ICONS: POETRY MASTERCLASS & WORKSHOP

In honor of SaMo Pride 2023, Santa Monica Cultural Affairs and the Annenberg Community Beach House engage local poets Joshua Jennifer Espinoza and Eileen Elizabeth Espinoza to present a 3-hour masterclass on the lives and work of essential figures in queer women's literature. Annenberg Community Beach House 415 Pacific Coast Hwy Santa Monica, CA 90402

SUNDAY | JUNE 25

SUMMER SOLSTICE GODDESS ACTIVATION

This journey will include cacao medicine, guided group meditation, intention/goal setting, vocal activation practice, a variety of dance and movement to co-create with your inner child, journaling, and the use of high-vibrational music, crystals, and smudging tools to become spiritually ignited by your inner Goddess Life Force. Depart with inspired action steps to integrate daily rituals to transform your entire life. IntoMeSea 1812 Lincoln Blvd Santa Monica, 90404 https://www.eventbrite.com/e/summer-solstice-goddess-activation-tickets-643359394267

MONDAY | JUNE 26

AIRPORT COMMISSION

The Commission acts in an advisory capacity to the City Council in matters pertaining to the administration of Santa Monica Municipal Airport and other aviation matters affecting the City. The Airport Commission meets on the 4th Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, except in August and December when the Commission is in recess. Santa Monica City Hall 1685 Main St. Santa Monica, CA 90401 City Council Chambers.

LOVEBUG & ME MUSIC

In this musical storytime for little ones, we'll sing songs, dance and play along with LoveBug & Me Music! For ages 0-2. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 10:30 - 11:15 a.m.

COMPOST CONNOISSEUR JON REED TOURS SOCAL WHOLE FOODS STORES

From New Zealand, Jon's start-up Compostic is leading the efforts to reduce kitchen usage of plastic with a product that can be directly added to your compost pile. Your garbage is the most important part of your home when it comes to personally impacting the environment, something Jon can explain. Using compostable plastic products, which the UN recently called hugely important for fighting plastics pollution, is a big part of the solution. He's a passionate and articulate advocate for the possibilities of widespread composting, and can talk about these serious topics in a way that's hopeful and funny. He's also got a remarkable personal story. He became obsessed with the idea that there was a better, more environmentally friendly way to make plastics. And that's the mission he's still on today! 3 – 7 p.m., 11666 National Blvd, Los Angeles. Event repeats at the Venice Whole Foods, 225 Lincoln Blvd on Tuesday, June 27 and in Malibu on June 30.

TUESDAY | JUNE 27

TUESDAY TALES: A TRAVELING STORYTIME- CROWN ACT STORYTIME

A storytime celebrating the 4th anniversary of the Crown Act, which prohibits discrimination based on hair style, type and texture. Ages 2-5. Limited space. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd. 10:30 - 11 a.m.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

City Hall 1685 Main Street. 5:30 p.m. start time.

WEDNESDAY | JUNE 28

THE L.A. ZOO GOES TO THE LIBRARY

Join the L.A. Zoo this summer as we find ways to discover the local wildlife that lives in Griffith Park and learn about the unique story of your Los Angeles Zoo. Venice - Abbot Kinney Memorial Branch Library 501 S. Venice Boulevard Venice.

SUMMER READING PROGRAM: DANCE TO EXPRESS YOUR STORY

Everyone gets to dance! Dancer Teresa smith gets kids and families moving and grooving to music from around the world. Free tickets available at 2 p.m. For Families. Limited space. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.

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



SURF REPORT

WATER TEMP: **66.4**

SATURDAY *FAIR*	**SURF:** 2-3ft Thigh to waist	Small blend of southerly swells on tap, looking like the tiniest day in a while. Morning wind looking okay but not great at this point with a decent tide first thing. Another small wave gear, groms, beginners kind of day.
SUNDAY *POOR TO FAIR*	**SURF:** 2-3ft Thigh to waist	Looking like a smaller day as long period forerunners of a new SSW swell fill in and take over for old S swell leftovers. Early conditions look okay at this point, potential for a few little waves on the small wave gear.

WEATHER

Saturday: Partly sunny, with a high near 69. East wind 5 to 10 mph.
Saturday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 58.
Sunday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, partly sunny, with a high near 69.
Sunday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, partly cloudy, with a low around 59.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2023/06/24	Sat	01:01 AM	4.40	H
2023/06/24	Sat	08:29 AM	0.59	L
2023/06/24	Sat	3:55 PM	3.86	H
2023/06/24	Sat	8:50 PM	2.93	L
2023/06/25	Sun	01:58 AM	3.87	H
2023/06/25	Sun	09:09 AM	0.96	L
2023/06/25	Sun	4:33 PM	4.14	H
2023/06/25	Sun	10:36 PM	2.59	L
2023/06/26	Mon	03:19 AM	3.37	H
2023/06/26	Mon	09:51 AM	1.32	L
2023/06/26	Mon	5:06 PM	4.49	H
2023/06/26	Mon	11:52 PM	2.00	L
2023/06/27	Tue	04:57 AM	3.06	H
2023/06/27	Tue	10:35 AM	1.65	L
2023/06/27	Tue	5:39 PM	4.89	H
2023/06/28	Wed	12:48 AM	1.29	L
2023/06/28	Wed	06:28 AM	3.00	H
2023/06/28	Wed	11:18 AM	1.93	L

DAILY LOTTERY

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

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 6/21
5 11 33 35 63
Power#: 14
Jackpot: 427 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 6/20
6 37 39 45 46
Mega#: 21
Jackpot: 320 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 6/21
15 26 30 35 41
Mega#: 17
Jackpot: 70 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 6/22
11 14 18 30 38

Daily 3
Draw Date: 6/22
EVENING: 2 3 9
Draw Date: 6/22
MIDDAY: 4 6 1

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 6/22
1st: 02 - Lucky Star
2nd: 04 - Big Ben
3rd: 12 - Lucky Charms
Race Time: 1:47.81

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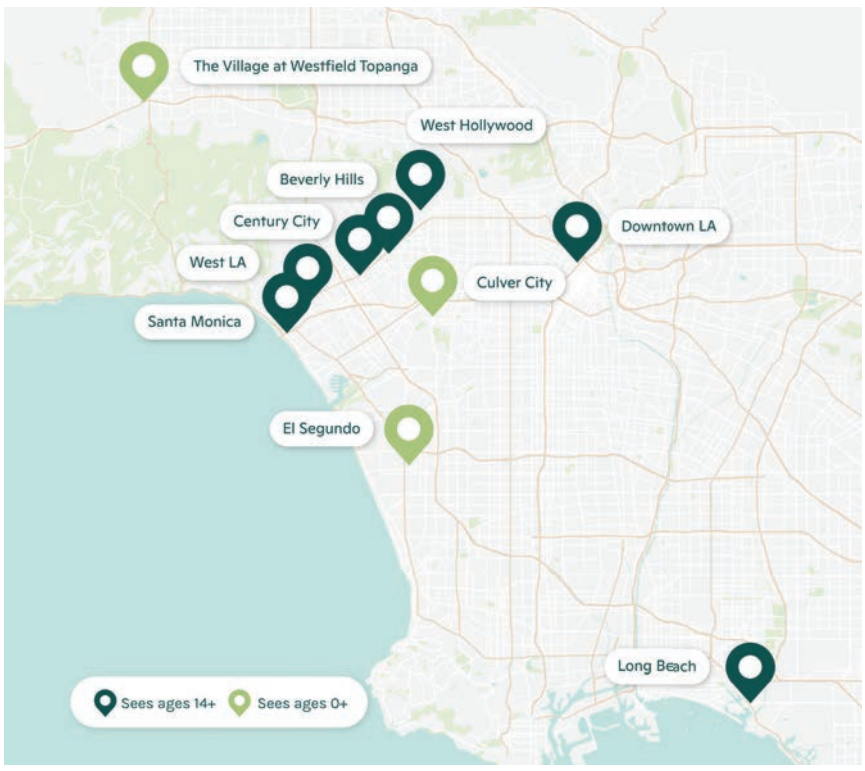
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