2
Homelessness
A single shelter?

4
Around Town
What to do this week.

5
Noteworthy
Forever young.

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Pier 360









Photos by Julieta Giner

BEACH: The Santa Monica Pier's popular Pier 360 festival brought crowds and competition to the beach last week. With a full weekend of activities, locals and visitors could observe beach sports, live entertainment or just enjoy the vibes.

Council approves final budget with expanded homeless outreach efforts

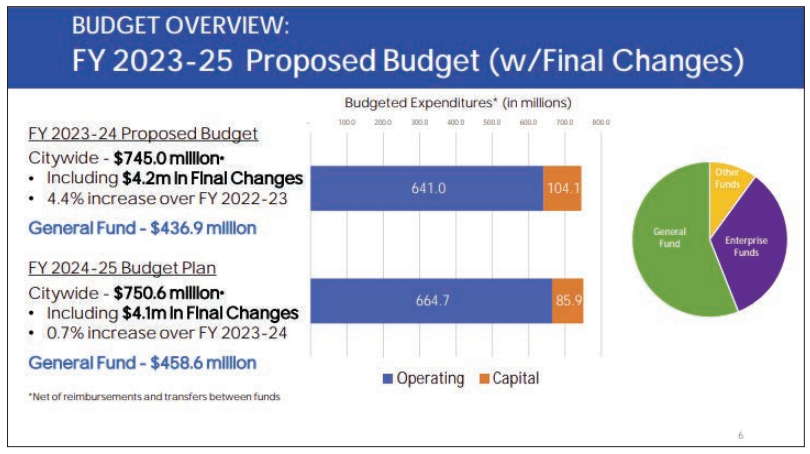
MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Editor's Note: This will be the first of several stories regarding passage of Santa Monica's budget.

In what may be a record for efficiency, the Santa Monica City Council passed its budget on Tuesday after about three hours of conversation and debate.

The $745 million document had received multiple hearings in recent weeks but Council had a last minute opportunity to tinker in the margins with much of their focus on expanded resources targeting homelessness and crime.

The budget includes a contract of up to $400,000 with Berry Dunn McNeil & Parker to develop a Homelessness Strategic Plan and while the expense had long been part of the budget, it was the subject of conversation again on Tuesday with Councilmembers wanting assurances it would generate tangible results.



Courtesy image

BUDGET: The City's budget for the next two years.

The origins of the plan date back to November of 2022 when a study on the city's homelessness response and prevention efforts recommended the development of a comprehensive homelessness strategic plan that would advance the already completed study by clarifying roles and responsibilities of city departments, involving community partners, improving metrics and reporting to track progress and demonstrating a return on investment.

According to staff, the plan will leverage the city's expertise and investments to develop alignment,

SEE **BUDGET** PAGE 8

Early success of AI surveillance tools could foreshadow wider adoption in Santa Monica

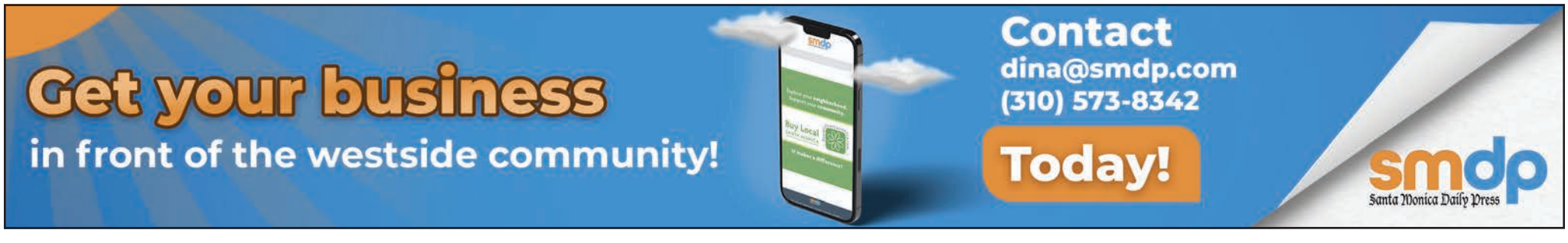
MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

A pilot program to detect blockages in local bus lanes found more than 500 violations during a 45 day test this year and officials will now consider if full adoption of the technology is appropriate in the city.

The program was one of two started this year to use artificial intelligence (AI) systems and cameras to identify low-level crimes or infractions.

The Big Blue Bus system uses an AI camera system from Hayden AI on two buses to detect and discourage the illegal use of bus lanes and zones by traffic. The system was tested along Lincoln Blvd., where the city has a designated bus-only lane. The technology utilized computer vision and advanced analytical capabilities to gather evidence of potential parking and traffic violations in these restricted areas. The system included a forward-facing camera and a license plate reader. If a violation was detected, an encrypted evidence package could be generated and sent to the Traffic Services Division of the Santa Monica Police Department,

SEE **AI** PAGE 6



A Texas city shelters nearly all homeless residents in one place. It's turning heads in California

MARISA KENDALL
Special to the Daily Press

It's a common question as one walks past the sprawling tent camps that line the streets of so many neighborhoods in California: Why can't we build a place for all these people to go?

One city in Texas did just that, and some California leaders are taking notice. But can – and should – California replicate the model?

Haven for Hope, a 22-acre, 1,600-person shelter in San Antonio addresses the homelessness crisis at a scale that's unheard of in California. The facility serves 85% of the city's total homeless population. It virtually guarantees that anybody who wants to sleep indoors, can, while accessing a plethora of on-site social services.

The model has fans in California. They say it can be recreated here to ease the suffering of people who have no other option but to sleep on the street – and to lessen the burden large homeless camps place on surrounding communities.

"Haven for Hope has not solved homelessness in San Antonio," said Sacramento County Supervisor Rich Desmond, who visited the campus in 2021 and tried to incorporate parts of the model into programs in his own district. "But they have certainly done a much better job, I think, than most places in California."

Scrambling for new solutions to a seemingly intractable problem, a handful of California politicians and nonprofit groups support replicating Haven for Hope (or at least copying pieces of it) here. A Placer County group recently pushed for a San Antonio-inspired project outside of Rocklin in the Sierra Nevada foothills, and a grassroots Sacramento group is trying to rally support and funding for a similar concept.

But some homelessness experts throughout the country are critical of the San Antonio model. In several ways, it would mark a shift away from some of California's widely accepted best practices. Haven for Hope's most robust program requires participants to be sober, for example, contradicting the prevailing belief in California that everyone should be offered housing before addressing their addictions and other issues.

Conditions at the San Antonio shelter are crowded, too, with 80 bunk beds in a room, or a few hundred mats inches apart on the floor. California has plenty of those types of shelters, too. But increasingly, officials and nonprofits here are using hotels, tiny homes and other facilities that hold fewer people but give residents a private space with a locking door.

Another red flag for Californians: The San Antonio shelter comes from conservative roots. It originally was bankrolled by Bill Greehey, founding CEO of Valero Energy Corporation and financial supporter of former President Donald Trump. Its first CEO, Robert Marbut Jr., went on to head Trump's U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness. Under Marbut, clients had to start off sleeping on mats in an open-air courtyard and could be rewarded with beds, better food and access to more services if they showed good behavior.

Marbut left Haven for Hope more than a decade ago, and the shelter's current leadership says the program has changed "night and day" since then – there is no more open-air sleeping, for example. But Marbut's policies created lasting impressions that shape how other homeless providers view the site.

"Taking this kind of judgemental, punitive, paternalistic approach doesn't actually make sense or work for a lot of people," Eric Tars, legal director of the National Homelessness Law Center, said of Haven for Hope.

Haven for Hope also poses a fundamental question for California and every other state struggling with homelessness: Should officials prioritize emergency shelters that get people out of dismal encampments quickly, or long-term housing that takes years and piles of money to build?

The trade-offs are clear. Haven for Hope succeeds in pulling many people off the streets, but it hasn't done as well when it comes to connecting those people with permanent housing.

Of the more than 7,000 people Haven for Hope served last year, just 15% moved into permanent housing.



Courtesy Photo

BEDS: Volunteers prepare for sleeping arrangements at San Antonio's Haven for Hope. Transformed, the community kitchen sleeps on average 200 clients.

ONE-STOP SHOP AT HOMELESS SHELTER

Aside from its sheer size, what draws Californians to Haven for Hope is the shelter's all-inclusive model. The campus has medical, dental and eye-care clinics, a hair salon, a free clothing store, childcare and counseling services, as well as offices with staff who can help clients get a new ID, find housing, get a job or secure disability benefits, and more.

The idea is to make the labor-intensive, bureaucratic process of getting back on their feet as smooth as possible. Instead of trekking all over town to appointments at various departments – a challenging task for someone without a car – clients can do everything in one place.

For people who need extra help, there's a facility with mental health crisis, detox and addiction recovery beds across the street.

Paul Anthony, 51, has been staying at the San Antonio shelter off-and-on for five months, sleeping on a top bunk in a dorm with 20 men. Before that Anthony, who'd had trouble landing a job after a stint in jail for a felony charge of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, had slept in the woods, in a storage unit and on a piece of cardboard downtown. Since moving into Haven for Hope, the facility's strict rules helped him stay sober, he said, and he's landed two jobs – working in a factory and delivering pizza for Domino's.

"One of the things I'm most grateful for is it does take you off the street," he said. "It gives you a safe place to think through what it is you want to do."

David Hanna, a 52-year-old Navy veteran, slept on a mat on the floor of Haven before moving to a bunk bed in a room shared with 80 men.

"At least I'm safe in there, for the most part," he said. "It's a place to sleep."

When interviewed by a reporter in May, he finally had landed a one-bedroom apartment he could afford with his disability payments, and was set to move in later that week.

'NOT FIT FOR A DOG'

Haven prides itself on accepting everyone – even sleeping people in its offices and chapel when other spaces get full – but the large campus model has its drawbacks. The shelter operates far above its intended capacity. While some people get bunk beds, hundreds also sleep on mats on the floor of the cafeteria. The mats are so close together, that one man said he rolled into his neighbor in the middle of the night, nearly causing a fight. Another man said he woke up to find someone vomiting on him.

James Killen, a 68-year-old retired truck driver and Army veteran, said he can't stand being there. But he has nowhere else to go.

"It's not fit for a dog in here," said Killen, who had been sleeping at Haven for Hope for three weeks. His identification was recently stolen, which led to a delay accessing his Social Security payments and meant he couldn't pay the rent on his apartment. "This place is dirty. It's filthy. It's nasty. They treat you like cattle."

Sleeping conditions can be "very close and cramped," admitted David Huete, Haven for Hope's vice president of transformational services. "But the alternative," he said, "is that people who are vulnerable – people who are mentally vulnerable, people who are physically vulnerable, aged populations – those individuals would be sleeping on the street and would be preyed upon."

Not everyone sleeps on the floor. Haven has two programs with different amenities and requirements.

One accepts anyone, regardless of their substance use. It includes 200 bunk beds and nearly 500 floor mats.

The other, called the "transformational campus," provides bunk beds to those lucky enough to get a spot, and requires clients to submit to regular drug and breathalyzer tests, and work with staff on a plan to get permanent housing and an income.

Huete said Haven for Hope requires sobriety because children and recovering addicts live in that part of campus. But critics say that setup flies in the face of the "housing first" model – which advocates eliminating barriers to housing – that is widely adopted throughout California and at the federal level. The notion is so ubiquitous in California that programs that don't follow it cannot receive state funding.

"Everyone's deserving of that dignity and access to services and assistance," said Alex Visotzky, senior California policy fellow for the National Alliance to End Homelessness, "and adding unnecessary requirements and thresholds for people to meet just adds bureaucracy and stumbling blocks and makes it harder for us to move people out of homelessness."

But Nick Golling, director of homeless services for the city of Sacramento, thinks a lot of aspects of Haven for Hope work well. For one, he supports giving people a sober-living option.

"If you see (drug use) and cannot get away from that, it can be difficult to maintain that type of sobriety if that's where you're at in your journey," he said. "I do see that as a gap in services as far as I'm concerned."

COULD HAVEN FOR HOPE TAKE OFF IN CALIFORNIA?

Finding the space and political will to adopt an all-inclusive mega-shelter like Haven for Hope is a challenge in California. When the Oakland City Council voted last year to pursue turning a former Army base into a shelter for at least 1,000 people, the city administrator quickly tried to quash the idea, leading to a heated debate in council chambers. Instead, council members agreed to look into a scaled-down version of that initial plan.

In Sacramento County, Desmond said he'd

SEE **HOMELESSNESS** PAGE 8

Is it a 'richcession'? Or a 'rolling recession'? Or maybe no recession at all?

CHRISTOPHER RUGABER
AP Economics Writer

The warnings have been sounded for more than a year: A recession is going to hit the United States. If not this quarter, then by next quarter. Or the quarter after that. Or maybe next year.

So is a recession still in sight?

The latest signs suggest maybe not. Despite much higher borrowing costs, thanks to the Federal Reserve's aggressive streak of interest rate hikes, consumers keep spending, and employers keep hiring. Gas prices have dropped, and grocery prices have leveled off, giving Americans more spending power.

The economy keeps managing to grow. And so does the belief among some economists that the United States might actually achieve an elusive "soft landing," in which growth slows but households and businesses spend enough to avoid a full-blown recession.

"The U.S. economy is genuinely displaying signs of resilience," said Gregory Daco, chief economist at EY, a tax and consulting firm. "This is leading many to rightly question whether the long-forecast recession is really inevitable or whether a soft-landing of the economy" is possible.

Analysts point to two trends that may help stave off an economic contraction. Some say the economy is experiencing a "rolling recession," in which only some industries shrink while the overall economy remains above water.

Others think the U.S. is experiencing what they call a "richcession": Major job cuts, they note, have been concentrated in higher-paying industries like technology and finance, heavy with professional workers who generally have the financial cushions to withstand layoffs. Job cuts in those fields, as a result, are less likely to sink the overall economy.

Still, threats loom: The Fed is all but certain to keep raising interest rates, at least once more, and to keep them high for months, thereby continuing to impose heavy borrowing costs on consumers and businesses. That's why some economists caution that a full-blown recession may still occur.

"The Fed will keep pushing until it fixes the inflation issue," said Yelena Shulyatyeva, an economist at BNP Paribas.

On Wednesday, Fed Chair Jerome Powell reinforced that message, saying the central bank's key rate hasn't been restraining the economy for "very long" and that "the bottom line is that policy hasn't been restrictive enough for long enough."

Powell spoke at a global conference in Sintra, Portugal, along with three other central bank leaders whose economies are also struggling with persistently high inflation. The Bank of England last week raised its key rate a substantial half-point, which could send the U.K. into a recession, while Europe's economy has stagnated in the past six months.

Here's how it could all play out in the United States:

IT'S A ROLLING RECESSION

When different sectors of the economy take their turns contracting, with some declining while others keep expanding, it's sometimes called a "rolling recession." The economy as a whole manages to avoid a full-fledged recession.

The housing industry was the first to suffer a tailspin after the Fed began sending interest rates sharply higher 15 months ago. As mortgage rates nearly doubled, home sales plunged. They're now 20% lower than they were a year ago. Manufacturing soon followed. And while it hasn't fared as badly as housing, factory production is down 0.3% from a year earlier.

And this spring, the technology industry suffered a slump, too. In the aftermath of the pandemic, Americans were spending less time online and instead resumed shopping at physical stores and going to restaurants more frequently. That trend forced sharp job cuts among tech companies such as Facebook's parent Meta, video conferencing provider Zoom and Google.

At the same time, consumers ramped up their spending on travel and at entertainment venues, buoying the economy's vast service sector and offsetting the difficulties in other sectors. Economists say they expect such spending to slow later this year as the savings that many households had amassed during the pandemic continue to shrink.

Yet by then, housing may have rebounded enough to pick up the baton and drive economic growth. There are already signs that the industry is starting to recover: Sales of new homes jumped 12% from April to May despite high mortgage rates and home prices far above pre-pandemic levels.

And other sectors should continue to expand, providing a foundation for overall growth. Krishna Guha, an analyst at Evercore ISI, notes that some areas of the economy — from education to government to health care — are not so sensitive to higher interest rates, which is why they are still hiring and probably will keep doing so.

If the U.S. economy achieves a soft landing, Guha said, "we think these rolling sectoral recessions will be a big part of the story."

IT'S A 'RICHCESSION'

Affluent Americans aren't exactly suffering, particularly as the stock market has rebounded this year. Yet it's also true that the bulk of high-profile job losses that began last year have been concentrated in higher-paying professions. That pattern is different from what typically happens in recessions: Lower-paying jobs, in areas like restaurants and retail, are usually the first to be lost and often in depressingly large numbers.

That's because in most downturns, as Americans start to pull back on spending, restaurants, hotels and retailers lay off waves of workers. As fewer people buy homes, many construction workers are thrown out of work. Sales of high-priced manufactured goods, such as cars and appliances, tend to fall, leading to job losses at factories.

This time, so far, it hasn't happened that way. Restaurants, bars and hotels are still hiring — in fact, they have been a major driver of job gains. And to the surprise of labor market experts, construction companies are also still adding workers despite higher borrowing rates, which often discourage residential and commercial building.

Instead, layoffs have been striking mainly white collar and professional occupations. Uber Technologies said last week that it will cut 200 of its recruiters. Earlier this month, GrubHub announced 400 layoffs among the delivery company's corporate jobs. Financial and media companies are also struggling, with Citibank announcing that it will have shed 1,600 workers in the April-June quarter. On Tuesday, Ford Motor Co. said it was laying off several hundred engineers, after having cut 3,000 white collar jobs last year.

Many of the affected employees are well-educated and likely to find new jobs relatively quickly, economists say, helping keep unemployment down despite the layoffs. Right now, for example, the federal government, as well as employers in the hotel, retail and even railroad industries are seeking to hire people who have been laid off from the tech giants.

Tom Barkin, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, notes that affluent workers typically have savings they can draw upon after losing a job, enabling them to keep spending and fueling the economy. For that reason, Barkin suggested, white collar job losses don't tend to weaken consumer spending as much as losses experienced by blue collar workers do.

"It's easy to imagine that this might be a different sort of softening labor market ... that has a different kind of impact, both on demand and on things like the unemployment rate than your normal weakening," Barkin said in an interview with The Associated Press last month.

OR MAYBE NO RECESSION

The most optimistic economists say they're growing more hopeful that a recession can be avoided, even if the Fed keeps interest rates at a peak for months to come.

They point out that a range of recent economic data has come in better than expected. Most notably, hiring has stayed surprisingly resilient, with employers adding a robust average of roughly 300,000 jobs over the past six months and the unemployment rate, at 3.7%, still near a half-century low.

Manufacturing, too, is defying gloomy expectations. On Tuesday, the government reported that companies last month stepped up their orders of industrial machinery, railcars, computers and other long-lasting goods.

Many analysts have been encouraged because some threats to the economy haven't turned out to be as damaging as feared — or haven't surfaced at all. The fight in Congress, for example, over the government's borrowing limit, which could have triggered a default on Treasury securities, was resolved without much disruption in financial markets or discernible impact on the economy.

And so far, the banking turmoil that occurred last spring after the collapse of Silicon Valley Bank has largely been contained and doesn't appear to be weakening the economy.

Jan Hatzius, chief economist at Goldman Sachs, said this month that the ebbing of such threats led him to mark down the likelihood of a recession within the next 12 months from 35% to just 25%.

Other economists point out that the economy doesn't face the types of dangerous imbalances or events that have ignited some recent recessions, such as the stock market bubble in 2001 or the housing bubble in 2008.

"The risk of recession is receding, rapidly," said Neil Dutta, an economist at Renaissance Macro. Whether we are having a rolling recession or "richcession," he said, "If you have to call it different names, it's not a recession."

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WINNER

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AROUND TOWN

Sean Besser

Welcome to SMDP's weekly column highlighting upcoming goings on in and around Santa Monica.

Your Independence Day weekend starts here with the "Celebrate America" SMC Fireworks, Main Street 4th of July Parade, Outdoor Movie Nights, food and drink highlights, and much more!



Courtesy photo

JULY 4: The Parade is on Tuesday

"Celebrate America" SMC Fireworks (Saturday, July 1, 9p.m.): Billed as "the biggest, most sensational patriotic event on the Westside," the free celebration returns after a three year hiatus at SMC's main campus. https://www.smc.edu/student-support/campus-life/celebrate-america.php

Main Street 4th of July Parade (Tuesday, July 4, 9:30a.m.): The parade starts near City Hall and runs south down Main St to the Venice border. Click here to learn more or volunteer to help with the event: https://www.santamonicaparade.com/home.html

Free Film Screening - "Give Me an A" @ Aero Theatre (Thursday June 29, 7:30 p.m.: 17 filmmakers created 17 short films in response to the Supreme Court overturning Roe vs. Wade. This free screening of the film and a Q&A with cast and crew members. Instead of purchasing a ticket, they encourage donations that will be given to Planned Parenthood. RSVP here: https://www.americancinematheque.com/now-showing/give-me-an-a-6-29-23/

Heal the Bay Aquarium Comedy Club (Friday, June 30, 8p.m.): Where else can you watch comedy while the fish are swimming around you? The pop-up comedy club features headliners from Comedy Central, HBO Max and more with 100% of the gift shop & beverage proceeds going to Heal the Bay. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/santa-monica-aquarium-comedy-club-july-1st-tickets-631051691597

Organic Gardening - Orchids 101 (Saturday, July 1, 12p.m.): Master gardener Emi will show attendees at the Venice-Abbot Kinney Memorial Branch Library how to grow and care for orchids. Limited to 20 participants. https://www.lapl.org/whats-on/events/organic-gardening-orchids-101

The Princess Bride FREE Movie Night @ Reed Park (Saturday, July 8, 6p.m.): Expect "FREE Music, Movie, Popcorn & Lemonade!" www.wilmont.org

La La Land @ Street Food Cinema Will Rogers State Historic Park (Saturday, July 1, 5:30p.m.): "LA's largest outdoor cinema and music series is back for another season around town with this dog friendly event on the Westside that includes food trucks and live music." https://www.streetfoodcinema.com/events/la-la-land-63950

Marina del Rey 4th of July Fireworks Show (Tuesday, July 4, 9p.m.): Popular viewing spots for the free 20-minute show include Burton Chace Park and Fisherman's Village. https://events.visitmdr.com/event/4th_of_july_fireworks

Kids Club @ SaMo Place (Wednesday, July 5, 11a.m.): "Come play with us on the first Wednesday of every month for a FREE, fun, family-friendly musical morning hosted by Twinkle Time, a bilingual, Billboard pop-artist for kids, and featuring special guests each month." https://www.downtownsm.com/events-calendar/8384/kids-club-at-santa-monica-place

WHAT TO EAT & DRINK?

Mediterranean Fusion Restaurant Mon Ami @ 1541 Ocean Ave & Colorado: This Eater report has a lot of delicious looking food pics. https://la.eater.com/2023/5/1/23706900/mon-ami-santa-monica-open-photos-inside-courtyard-hangout

SEE **ABOUT TOWN** PAGE 6

Activision Blizzard CEO Bobby Kotick defends Microsoft's planned takeover of game-maker in court

MATT O'BRIEN
AP Technology Writer

Activision Blizzard CEO Bobby Kotick was in court Wednesday defending Microsoft's proposed $69 billion takeover of his video game company against an attempt by federal regulators to block the deal.

Kotick told a federal judge in San Francisco Wednesday that there's no incentive to deprive Microsoft gaming rivals like Sony of the popular Activision game Call of Duty. Kotick said it's not in his company's interest to make the game exclusive to Microsoft's Xbox console or to offer subpar versions on other systems, like Sony's Playstation.

"If we were to remove Call of Duty from Playstation, it would cause serious reputational damage to the company," Kotick said. He added that making a subpar version for PlayStation would cause "vitriol from gamers" and is not something Activision developers would do.

Kotick's remarks were meant to undercut a key claim by antitrust enforcers at the U.S. Federal Trade Commission, who argue that the acquisition will harm competition in the video game industry.

Kotick testified before U.S. District Judge Jacqueline Scott Corley on the fourth day of a court hearing in San Francisco. The proceedings are likely to make or break what would be the most expensive acquisition in technology history. Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella was also scheduled to take the stand Wednesday.

Kotick said it's important for the deal to go through, noting that 98% of Activision Blizzard shareholders voted for the transaction.

The hearing represents a major test of the FTC's amped-up oversight of Big Tech under Chairperson Lina Khan, who has been outspoken about her belief that U.S. regulators were too lenient in past deals that helped increase the power of companies such as Amazon, Google and Facebook. The courtroom tussle with Microsoft comes six months after the FTC took Facebook owner Meta Platforms to court in Silicon Valley to try to stop a takeover of a virtual reality fitness company only to be rebuffed by the judge in that case.

Microsoft has hailed the deal with Activision Blizzard as a way to make popular Activision games such as Call of Duty more widely available.

The U.S. Federal Trade Commission is trying to persuade Corley to issue an order stopping the takeover from being consummated before a more extensive administrative trial begins Aug. 2 in Washington. Microsoft is fighting to close the deal ahead of a July 18 deadline that could trigger it having to pay a $3 billion breakup fee to Activision.

Microsoft struck the deal 17 months ago in hopes of expanding its video game imprint beyond Xbox, which has about half the market share of the longtime industry leader Sony and its PlayStation device.

The FTC has been fighting to block a deal that it fears will enable Microsoft to make popular franchises such as Call of Duty and World of Warcraft exclusive to the Xbox and online subscription services that are becoming an increasingly bigger part of the $210 billion worldwide video game market. The sector is already larger than the movie and music industries combined.

The court also heard this week from Sony gaming executive Jim Ryan, whose testimony came from a videotaped deposition.

Recorded in April, Ryan said he initially expressed little worry about the acquisition after private conversations with Kotick and Xbox chief Phil Spencer. But Ryan said he later came to believe Microsoft would leverage Call of Duty's popularity to disadvantage PlayStation, particularly in the U.S., where first-person shooting games are popular.

"The harm to (Sony) arises from gamers deserting our platform and going to Xbox," said Ryan, the CEO of Sony Interactive Entertainment. Even if Microsoft followed through with a pledge to keep the game on PlayStation, Ryan said there could still be "some form of degraded experience for PlayStation gamers."

Microsoft has accused the FTC of ignoring pressure the company's gaming division will be under to deliver profit margins that justify the huge price being paid for Activision and the fierce backlash likely from highly opinionated video game fans if a popular franchise such as Call of Duty is withheld from other platforms.

Harvard University economist Robin Lee, a hired expert brought in by the FTC, testified Tuesday that such backlash would likely be offset by the "pretty substantial economic benefits" Microsoft could get by shutting out rivals from access to Call of Duty and other popular games, such as by allowing Xbox users to get earlier or better versions of the game.

Lee's testimony led the judge to remark Tuesday that "all the testimony has been about Call of Duty in this case," and to ask whether that might distinguish the acquisition from other game industry deals that have been challenged on similar grounds.

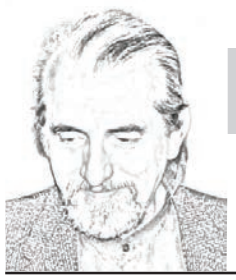
"It's a unicorn in the durability, in the popularity, in the numbers," Corley said. "It certainly stands out."

Microsoft has pointed to commitments it has already made to make Call of Duty available on Nintendo's Switch console and a Nvidia gaming subscription service as evidence that the Activision deal would benefit consumers.

Microsoft also tried to present evidence that Sony is trying to blow up the deal to preserve its giant lead in the console market.

The proceedings are scheduled to conclude Thursday. Another major regulator, the U.K.'s Competition and Markets Authority, also has taken action to thwart Microsoft's takeover.

AP Technology Writer Michael Liedtke contributed to this report.



OPINION **NOTEWORTHY**

Charles Andrews | Send comments to editor@smdp.com

The Night Is Young

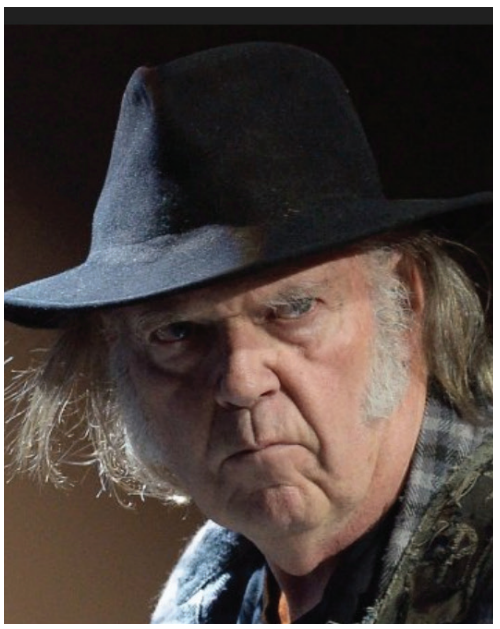
HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

NEIL YOUNG – He's 77 and he's a rock and roll pioneer, an icon, a legend, but he hits the stage like a 19 year old with something to prove. He's always had a terrible voice but it's perfect for his songs and somehow he manages to hit most of the notes and besides, they're his notes and we love them. He slashes at his vintage Gibson Les Paul like he's still reaching for that imaginary Best Rock Guitar Player Ever title. He does not dress up or worry about his scraggly hair or how beat up or ugly his old hat is, he frankly usually looks like hell and clearly does not care. He's up there for one purpose only: Rockin' the whole damn Free World, and the parts that aren't free too. Some of his projects and albums are unabashedly noncommercial, maybe outright weird. He has always been an outspoken social critic, when other artists are hiding under a rock for fear of losing part of their audience. If there's anyone who always plays by their own rules, it is Neil Young. How does he pull it off and stay so popular that he's selling out half a dozen shows in LA? He's immensely talented and completely authentic, and it seems there's an audience for that. Thank God. Fri, Sat, Mon, Wed 8 p.m. Ford Theater, Hollywood, $150-200.

THE HOT CLUB OF LOS ANGELES – from their website: "Hot Club's brand of virtuoso, Django-style 1930s gypsy swing jazz is found nowhere else and even if it were, it couldn't possibly be this good. These guys are masters, individually and collectively. You will find it hard to stop smiling all night. - Santa Monica Daily Press" And may I add, they manage to record and play high-profile gigs and still show up every Monday night here, for years. Aren't we lucky? Mon 9 p.m., Cinema Bar, Culver City, no cover.

RECOMMENDED:

TONIGHT! - Interview, Q & A, book signing by our own SUSAN HAYDEN, of her first book, "NOW YOU ARE A MISSING PERSON." The woman who launched or enhanced hundreds of writing careers, as the founder and "Presenter" for 14 years of the amazing LIBRARY GIRL monthly spoken word and music series at the Ruskin Theatre Group at Santa Monica Airport, is now the "Presented." A cosmic shift, and apparently the universe approves because the recent launch at Beyond Baroque was packed! And respected writers like Cameron Crowe and Dave Alvin are giving it high praise. You can now get it in stores, and online, and tonight you only have to go as far as Culver City to catch her talking about her book, which she calls "a lyrical, hybrid memoir of stories, poems and fragments." Perhaps the first time a memoir has been presented in quite this form. I've known Susan for at least seven years, maybe more, and I remember at our first meeting she told me about this long-simmering, oft-neglected "project" she was determined to finish. But in fact it took a lifetime, her lifetime, to finish it. What an accomplishment. Thurs 7 p.m., "The Marriage of Love and Grief," with NYT Bestseller author Steve Leder, The Village Well, Culver City, free but please reserve.



Courtesy photo

NIEL YOUNG: Forever Young.

"QUEEN MARGARET'S VERSION OF SHAKESPEARE'S WAR OF THE ROSES" – "What compels those who rule to make war, not love? The pendulum swings, and a petty universe of leaders works alone, ignoring the needs of those they supposedly govern. Human values erode as governments vying for power overtake the mere living of life." – does that sound centuries old, or like a City Council meeting but with much better dialogue? Theatricum's production encompassing Henry VI Part I, II, III, and Richard III, centers on Queen Margaret and the women and children of Shakespeare's civil war saga. Sat 7:30 p.m., Theatricum Botanicum, Topanga Canyon, $15-60.

"A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM" – TB specializes in Shakespeare, and they do "Midsummer" every single season, 50 years now. If it ain't broke, and the people love it, don't axe it, but they do tinker with it a little every summer, and that means if you saw them perform it last year, or 10 years ago, you will see something a bit different, but still Will's welcome warhorse. Who doesn't love it? Puck, yes! Sun 3:30 p.m., Theatricum Botanicum, Topanga Canyon, $15-60.

"MACBETH"' – In this bloody, depraved corner, M'Lord and M'Lady, reigning still as the unchallenged monstrous couple of political pushiness, gruesome greed, absolute ambition and murderous mayhem. Some things never change. No wonder this one by Will (Shakespeare, not Geer) remains perhaps his best-known work (but hardly beloved). Sun 7:30 p.m., Theatricum Botanicum, Topanga Canyon, $15-60.

TOLEDO DIAMOND – Unique, riveting, first class act. There's nothing like it, it is high performance art and great fun. Degeneracy is rarely so well disciplined. Could be the most memorable 12 bucks you ever spent. Sun 9:30 p.m., Harvelle's, $12.

Next Thurs - LYLE LOVETT – Hard to remember that Texas troubadour Lovett has been around 37 years. Through 14 albums and four Grammys, being named Texas State Musician, receiving the very first Trailblazer Award from the Americana Music Association, we sometimes forget that he is more than just a Texas Guy. He's much bigger than Texas. Through his Large Band, and smaller ones, acoustic and electric, duos and solo efforts, he has pushed horizons and expanded the entire landscape of American music. Singer, composer and actor, he is a gentle and engaging storyteller. How many performers or bands boast they play "country, jazz, blues, folk, swing and gospel," and you wonder if they have any idea what they're talking about. But if you listen carefully to Lovett, you will hear all that. He respects great American music, and spreads the word most tunefully, and I like that. Next Thurs 8 p.m., Saban Theatre, Beverly Hills, $68-148.

Next Thurs - DUDAMEL Conducts FALLA, RAVEL – What a fun night. Falla's "Nights in the Gardens of Spain," Dukas' "The Sorcerer's Apprentice" (I challenge you to not think of Mickey Mouse once), and Ravel's "Mother Goose Suite," under the warm skies of summer with Gustavo Dudamel leading the mighty LA Phil. Enjoy it while you can. Next Thurs, Hollywood Bowl, $6 (are you kidding me?)-134.

COMING ATTRACTIONS: "QUEEN MARGARET'S VERSION OF SHAKESPEARE'S WAR OF THE ROSES," Theatricum Botanicum, 7/8, 16, 23, 30; TOLEDO DIAMOND, Harvelle's, 7/9, 16, 23, 30; "MACBETH," Theatricum Botanicum, 7/9, 16, 21, 30; "A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM," Theatricum Botanicum, 7/9, 23, 28; HOT CLUB OF LOS ANGELES, Cinema Bar, 7/10. 17, 24, 31; JAKE SHIMABUKURO, Saban Theatre, 7/8; HAPPY TOGETHER TOUR with TURTLES, Little Anthony, others, Saban Theatre, 7/9; LIQUID KITTY'S PUNK ROCK BBQ, Harvelle's, 7/9; NEIL YOUNG, Greek Theatre, 7/10, 13; DUDAMEL Conducts VERDI'S REQUIEM, Hollywood Bowl, 7/10 (Invitational Rehearsal), 7/11; RICK SHEA, Cinema Bar, 7/13; ELLINGTON, GERSHWIN with DUDAMEL, Hollywood Bowl, 7/13; JASON ISBELL AND THE 400 UNIT, Greek Theatre, 7/14; KOOL & THE GANG, VILLAGE PEOPLE, Hollywood Bowl, 7/14, 15; DIANA KRALL, Hollywood Bowl, 7/19; REGGAE NIGHT XXI with BERES HAMMOND, STEEL PULSE, Hollywood Bowl, 7/23; GERSHWIN, DVORAK, LA PHIL, Hollywood Bowl, 7/25; DAKHABRAKHA, Ford theater, 8/4.

Charles Andrews has listened to a lot of music of all kinds, including more than 3,000 live shows. He has lived in Santa Monica for 37 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com (the real mr music...)

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A TOWN

FROM PAGE 4

Holey Grail Donuts Featured in NY Times: This "Los Angeles Is a Doughnut Town" article highlights the Hawaiian based Main St taro doughnut shop. https://www.nytimes.com/2023/04/24/dining/los-angeles-doughnuts.html

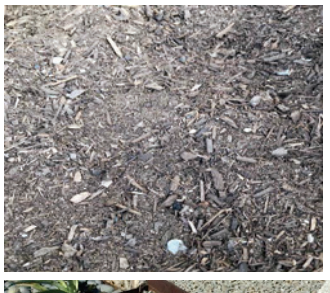
SaMo Seafood Six Week Sustainable Fishing Awareness Campaign: This SMDP article details how the "six week initiative is being broken down into three, different twice-rotating ASC-certified product promotions." https://smdp.com/2023/06/22/santa-monica-seafood-starts-six-week-sustainable-fishing-awareness-campaign/

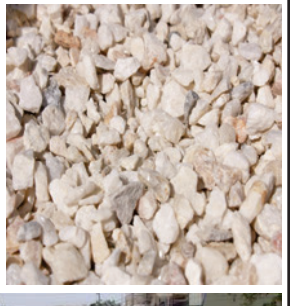
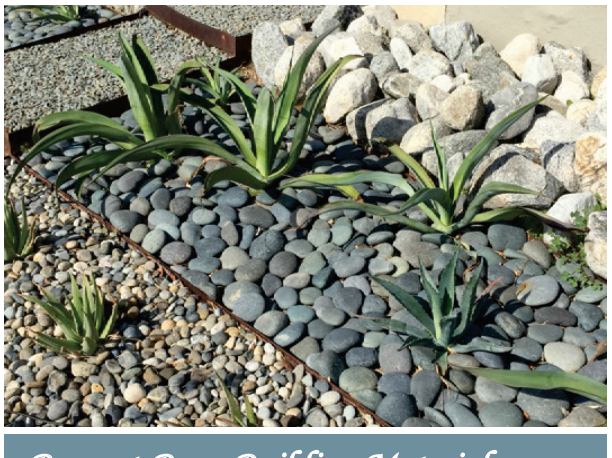
Planta is a New Meat-Free Restaurant in the Marina: This Eater LA article details how they are "focusing on Latin-inspired dishes, a robata grill, and more" in a waterfront spot biking distance from Santa Monica. https://la.eater.com/2023/5/17/23725853/planta-cocina-marina-del-rey-brentwood

If there's something you think is worth highlighting, you can reach out directly to me at sean@smdp.com.

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Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com


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AI

FROM PAGE 1

however that feature was not active during the test. The 45-day pilot provided officials with access to data analysis and real-time camera feeds to evaluate its success.

511 parking violations were detected over the course of this 45-day pilot. The location with the most bus lane parking violations (90 in total) was southbound Lincoln Boulevard near its intersection with Grant Street. The bus stop with the most parking violations – 21 violations – was northbound 4th Street at Santa Monica Place.

Hayden AI said the kinds of infractions targeted in the program slow bus service and prevent buses from reaching the curb which can make it difficult for everyone to board.

"Improving public transportation is one of the best things we can do to improve sustainability," said Chris Carson, CEO and co-founder of Hayden AI. "We're grateful to the visionary leaders at Big Blue Bus for making Santa Monica the next city to deploy this effective technology. Our goal is to provide the Big Blue Bus with the data they need to better understand the true impact that parking in bus lanes and at bus stops has on the thousands of riders who rely on public transit every day."

The company said its goal was to prove the concept and quantify the problem in Santa Monica. A formal report will be given to the city and it will then be up to local officials to decide if they want to roll out the system in a permanent way.

Hayden AI is already contracting with AC Transit in the Bay Area to deploy automated bus lane and bus stop enforcement technology, and has installed more than 650 AI-powered, interior bus-mounted camera systems throughout the country helping to increase compliance with dedicated bus lane stopping, riding and bus stop parking violations.

The second program underway focuses on proactive video monitoring in trouble spots within the Downtown area. AI-equipped cameras have been installed providing continuous live feeds, which are monitored 24/7 by trained staff from the pilot vendor, Net Watch. This technology aims to deter crimes such as trespassing, theft, and vandalism by allowing monitoring staff to engage with intruders through loudspeakers, issuing warnings for them to leave immediately or face law enforcement intervention.

While no formal report has been issued on the project, it has anecdotally been credited as reducing problems at downtown locations, specifically the Main Library.

City Manager David White discussed the technology during the June 27 meeting as a part of a discussion around increased safety programs.

"And that service is really a live video service or camera service that is responding to incidents that could be a public safety nature," he said. "Around that library we have seen and we've shared, I know I've shared this with the council, we've seen a significant decline in incidents resulting from this technology. So we're going to be evaluating what we should do next with this technology and if we should continue to use it, deploy it, etc."

For more information about Hayden AI visit www.hayden.ai

editor@smdp.com




Courtesy photos

AI: The camera system was installed on buses during a 45 day test.

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Your DoorDash driver? He's the company's co-founder

DEE-ANN DURBIN AND TERRY CHEA
Associated Press Writers

On a recent afternoon in San Francisco, a DoorDash driver was circling the neighborhood — first in his car, then on foot — trying to find the restaurant where he needed to pick up two orders. Finally, he Googled the location and realized DoorDash's app sent him to the wrong address.

It's an error he vowed to fix, and he probably will. Because that worker is Andy Fang, DoorDash's chief technology officer and one of the company's three co-founders.

"If it happens with one restaurant, it might actually be happening with a lot of other restaurants as well," Fang said after he retrieved the orders and settled back into his car. "If we can see why that happened, maybe we can fix other issues too."

Fang is one of a growing number of executives who occasionally do the hourly work that makes their companies hum. Starbucks' new CEO, Laxman Narasimhan, is a trained barista and puts in a half-day of work at a store each month. Uber CEO Dara Khosrowshahi and Lyft CEO David Risher occasionally shuttle passengers. Air New Zealand CEO Greg Foran has been spotted serving drinks and snacks on flights.

Amazon recently re-launched a program called the Associate Experience Week, which encourages employees to shadow operations workers for a week to gain a better understanding of their job. The program is mandatory for some managers. A1 Garage Door Service, which operates in 16 states, also encourages job-shadowing and requires all employees to learn skills outside their immediate responsibilities. A1 CEO Tommy Mello says the policy promotes empathy and collaboration.

But few companies have a program as robust as WeDash, which requires thousands of salaried DoorDash employees in the U.S., Canada and Australia to complete at least four deliveries per year. Employees are strongly encouraged to make deliveries monthly. They can use work time to complete those shifts, and they keep any money they make.

"We just want to make sure that people who are working here, who are supporting our audiences, are understanding what people are going through," Fang told The Associated Press.

When they started DoorDash a decade ago, while they were still students at Stanford, Fang and the company's other two co-founders — CEO Tony Xu and Chief Product Officer Stanley Tang — made all the deliveries themselves.

"We had to. There was nobody else to do them," Fang said. "But what we quickly found out was that by doing these deliveries ourselves, we learned a ton of insights into what it actually took to get these deliveries fulfilled."

The company started WeDash in 2015 to make sure every employee was getting those insights. Fang said there are some exceptions; if an employee can't drive, for example, they might visit merchants or work in the call center.

DoorDash has grown exponentially since then. In 2022, more than 6 million DoorDash drivers — all independent contractors — fulfilled 1.7 billion orders worldwide. DoorDash has expanded beyond restaurant delivery into convenience stores, groceries, pet stores and pharmacies.

Fang, who makes deliveries for at least an hour each month — sometimes with Xu and Tang in tow — says he has made real changes to DoorDash's app based on his experiences. When he was on the East Coast recently, he set a time to make deliveries when he returned to California. But when he got home, he realized the time he had set was off by three hours because the app assumed he was still on the East Coast. He got that bug fixed.

Another new feature, introduced this week, arose from employee feedback in WeDash. The feature, Dash Along the Way, lets drivers specify where they want to start making deliveries and then assigns them orders that they can complete en route.

Fang also experiences drivers' other frustrations. The wrong address in the DoorDash app cost him time delivering orders from Bonchon, a Korean fried chicken chain. On the afternoon he drove with an AP video journalist, Fang only made $15.50 for 51 minutes of work. DoorDash says that's lower than the $34 per hour that California drivers make on average, including tips.

It's also vastly lower than what Fang pulls in as CTO. His annual compensation in 2022 totaled $2.79 million and Forbes pegged his net worth that same year at $1.1 billion, illustrating the gap between those at the top of a company and those at the bottom.

DoorDash and others recently pushed back against a new rule introduced in New York City implementing a minimum pay rate for app-based food delivery workers that could nearly triple their average earnings in the coming years. DoorDash said it may pursue legal action.

Still, the company is seeking ways to make drivers' earnings more reliable. This week, it announced a new Earn By Time mode, which will let drivers earn a guaranteed minimum rate for the time they spend on a delivery, not including tips. Drivers can still opt for an Earn Per Offer mode, which is how they have always been paid.

Fang said he knows there are limits to how much he can understand the day-to-day work of the company's drivers, which is why he also seeks feedback from a council of drivers and from other employees.

Denise Rousseau, a professor of organizational behavior at Carnegie Mellon University, said there is a lot of value in asking workers to do other jobs within their company. Having senior leaders participate, as DoorDash does, sends an even stronger message.

"If you spend your own time on it, that's not cheap talk anymore," she said. "You are trying to convey, 'This is the focus of our business and we care.'"

Elizabeth Bitter, who delivers for DoorDash in Broomfield, Colorado, didn't know about the WeDash program but has noticed updates in the app that make their job easier.

SEE **DOORDASH** PAGE 8



Santa Monica Daily Press
Classifieds

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Summons

Summons (Civil Harassment Restraining Order) Orden de Restricción por acoso Civil) Case Number: 23STRO02913Superior Court of California (County of corte de Superior de California Condado de) Los Angeles Central District Stanley Mosk Courthouse 111 North Hill Street Los Angeles, CA 90012 1.Person Seeking Protection (La Persona que solicita protección) MARY TESSA CORMAN 2. Notice to: (name of person to be restrained) Aviso a (Nombre de la persona a ser restringida) Donald Jake SellerThe person in 1 is asking for Civil Harassment Restraining Order Against youLa Persona en 1 esta pidiendo una restricción por acoso civil contra usted3. You have a court date (Tiene una audiencia en la corte) Date: (fecha) 8/1/23 Time: (Hora) 8:30 am Dept: (Depto) 25 Room Room: (Sala) N/A What if I don't go to the court date? If you don't go to the court date, the judge can grant the restraining order that limits your contact with person in 1. Having a restraining order may impact your life in other ways, including preventing you from having guns and ammunition. If you do not go to your court date, the judge could grant everything that the person in 1 asking the judge to order. Qué pasa si no voy a la audiencia? Si no va a la audiencia, el juez puede dictar una orden de restricción que limita su contacto con la persona en 1. Una orden de restricción en su contra puede tener otras consecuencias, como prohibirle tener armas de fuego y municiones. Si no va a la audiencia, el juez puede ordenar todo lo que pide la persona en 1. How Do I Find out what the person in 1 is asking for? To find out what the person in 1 is asking the judge to order, go to the court listed on page 1. Ask for the court clerk to let you see your case file. You will need to give the court clerk your case number, which is listed above in page 1. The request for a restraining order will be on form Ch-100 request for civil harassment restraining order. Cómo puedo entender lo que pide la persona en 1? Para entender lo que pide la persona en 1, vaya al tribunal en la dirección en la parte superior de la página 1. Pida al secretario de la corte permiso para ver el expediente de su caso. Tendrá que darle al secretario el número de su caso, que aparece arriba y en la página 1. La solicitud de una orden de restricción se hace en el formulario CH-100, solicitud de órdenes de restricción por acoso civil. Where can I get help? Free legal information is available at your local court's self help center. Go to www. courts.ca.gov/selfhelp to find your local center. Donde puedo obtener ayuda? Puedo obtener información legal gratis en el centro de ayuda de su corte. Vea ahttps://www.courts.ca.gov/selfhelp-selfhelpcenters.htm?rdeLocaleAttr=es para encontra el centro de ayuda en su condado. Do I need a lawyer?You are not required to have a lawyer, but you may want legal advice before your court hearing. For help finding a lawyer, you can visit www.lawhelpc.org or contact your local bar association. Necesito un abogado? No es obligatorio tener un abogado, pero es posible que quiera consejos legales antes de su audiencia en la corte. Para ayudar encontrar un abogado visite www.lawhelpc.org/homepage o contacte al colegio de abogados local. Date (Fecha) June 23, 2023 Clerk, by (Secretario , por) W. Slyaton Deputy (Asistente) S. Watson.

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HOMELESSNESS

FROM PAGE 2

like to build something like Haven for Hope, but the county couldn't find a site large enough. Nevertheless, a grassroots group called Hope for Sacramento is dedicated to the sole purpose of replicating San Antonio's model in the state's capital.

"It's such a fabulous, fabulous program," said Hope for Sacramento board member Nola Boyer, a retired physical education teacher who visited the San Antonio site last year. "And we just see it as such a translatable project here in California."

The group holds information sessions to teach the local community about Haven, meets with politicians and woos donors. But so far, they've managed to raise only a few thousand dollars.

The idea made it a little further in Placer County last year, where nonprofit The Gathering Inn found a 17-acre site for its proposed "Campus of Hope." The project on the outskirts of Rocklin would have included 50 no-barrier shelter beds, about 175 shelter beds with a sobriety requirement and 240 units of permanent housing made out of shipping containers. Combined with the area's existing resources, it would have been enough to shelter all of the county's 750 homeless residents, said Keith Diederich, president and CEO of The Gathering Inn.

But the project ran into pushback from neighbors and couldn't get the buy-in it needed from county supervisors. It didn't even make it to a vote, Diederich said.

"When it comes to actually siting a program," he said, "a lot of times people who want to do something about homelessness don't want it near them."

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

DOORDASH

FROM PAGE 7

DoorDash's app used to ask if a delivery was good or bad, and if the driver felt safe or unsafe, after every delivery. Bitter appreciated the safety concerns, but filling out the survey slowed deliveries, so it was a relief when the app recently stopped requiring that information. Another recent update lets drivers unassign themselves from an order if they have to wait too long at a restaurant to get it.

"It does make me feel better knowing that the people I work for are getting to experience firsthand what it's like to work for them," said Bitter, who makes an average of $20 per hour on DoorDash.

Durbin reported from Detroit.

BUDGET

FROM PAGE 1

clear vision and accountability while conveying the story of the city's efforts and documenting progress as they move forward.

Councilwoman Christine Parra said this kind of plan has been a longstanding priority for her. She said homelessness cannot be completely solved but she wanted the plan to examine duplicative efforts, identify areas for improvement and ultimately make a significant impact with real results.

"It really needs to look at everything and give us a plan of like, how do we move the needle forward? Right, and is that what the plan is going to do for us? Not just look at everything and give us metrics? Or really take a look at everything and see what efforts we're duplicating what things we can pull back on, and how can we move the needle forward …"

Deputy City Manager Anuj Gupta said the City already has policies and programs in place regarding homelessness but the plan will identify a clear goal for all those disparate efforts and create a unified system for evaluating efforts.

"We also have areas that we know we can do better," he said. "We can engage better, we can partner better, we can communicate better, we can certainly track and report better and so I think these partners are people that we'd be able to work with to identify how to organize and leverage and amplify and accelerate the things that are working. And then where are the gaps in our efforts, really close those gaps."

While the plan is being developed, additional money was approved for expansions of existing programs including street teams who conduct outreach throughout the city.

"Their job is to work with those who are most vulnerable in our community and connect them to services and housing and provide services to them in the field," said City Manager David White. "So right now with the way we're structured, we currently have teams that work, for the most part largely concentrated in the Downtown and beach areas, and that's represented about 40% of our homeless population."

He said while even more resources will be needed to address the scope of the city's crisis, the budget includes money for an additional team that will focus East of Lincoln.

"I don't think that will likely be enough resources for the East of Lincoln area, but it's certainly a start and a commitment to deploying resources to address folks that are experiencing homelessness in that part of the community," he said.

In addition, SMPD will expand its dedicated Homeless Liaison program and the City authorized a two-year $446,250 contract with the Salvation Army to fund an outreach team to work with the SMPD program citywide. The Salvation Army team will help respond to problems raised through the City's 3-1-1 reporting system that includes user submitted complaints about a variety of issues.

"So I don't know that we've well publicized this feature but you now can report either homeless issues or active encampments to 311 as well," he said. "So this team is absolutely part of that multi-layered approach to working with folks who are experiencing homelessness on our streets."

Staff said the newly funded teams would be official as of the July 1 fiscal year and would begin work as soon as they were hired. The larger strategic plan will be finished by May of next year with a community engagement phase beginning later this year.

Additional homelessness actions included the expansion of hours to allow for 24/7 intakes at the downtown Santa Monica shelter, allocating funds to support eviction prevention and the addition of a dedicated Santa Monica Fire Department case manager.

editor@smdp.com

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (June 29)

Your cosmic present is unflagging energy, grit and the wisdom to know where and when to apply it. Once you decide on the goal, you'll be astounded at what you can accomplish and who helps you. More highlights: You attract sweethearts and fun people, and many dates pepper the year. Kindred spirits in altruism make a difference. A game develops into something that means much more. Sagittarius and Leo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 10, 4, 44 and 17.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). With a brave spirit you will confidently articulate your thoughts. Grace depends on equal parts kindness and assertiveness. Your voice makes things happen, while contributing to a more harmonious and enlightened world.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Sacrifices and trade-offs will be a relationship requirement. There's no score to keep here, but it's important not to make sure you don't give so much that you'll later resent the balance. Communicate your needs, expectations and boundaries.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Don't assume what the limits are. If you ask yourself, you'll produce your best guess, but it could be way off. If you ask other people, they'll come up with an answer, but they don't really know. The only way to really know the limit is to cross it.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Family will be a complex source of joy and challenge. You'll be reminded that the thread of connection that weaves you together is in many ways unbreakable, for better or worse -- an enduring bond of shared blood, history and love.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Ideally, you would strike a balance between ambition and self-care to ensure your overall well-being. But life doesn't always provide that option. Opportunities must be seized in the moment. When you go for it, you'll surprise yourself at how strong you are.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You are inherently curious and driven to explore. Results vary when you turn that curiosity to a particular person. Your subject may feel flattered, guarded, excited to share or keen to perform. You'll learn by making people feel it's safe to be honest.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Adventure for pleasure and excitement, not to chase something you think you're missing. Since everything fulfilling is either right in front of you or just within you, external pursuits intended for anything but sheer fun will only be a waste of gasoline.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You've been known to hide your talent from those who wouldn't understand. It's risky to show people that you can do things they can't, unless there's something in it for them. You'll consider all angles and make a plan.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Everyone needs to be seen. We are social creatures who crave an understanding of ourselves that exists in the mirror of other people. Guided by this principle, you will uncover hidden gems, which will lead to extraordinary collaborations.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You know what you want, but you don't know if it's reasonable to have it, which depends entirely on the context of the moment. Learn more. Feel things out before making your ask, then go slightly high.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Disharmony isn't inherently bad, but it's something to move through instead of prolonging or perpetuating intentionally. Neither should you avoid or ignore the tension. Instead, allow it to motivate you to solve, forgive and adjust into accordance.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The thrill of a purchase will be short-lived. Think it over first, reminding yourself how stuff deteriorates, goes out of style and becomes obsolete. Seek the timeless thing that can only be won through heart-rooted values like love, compassion and integrity.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

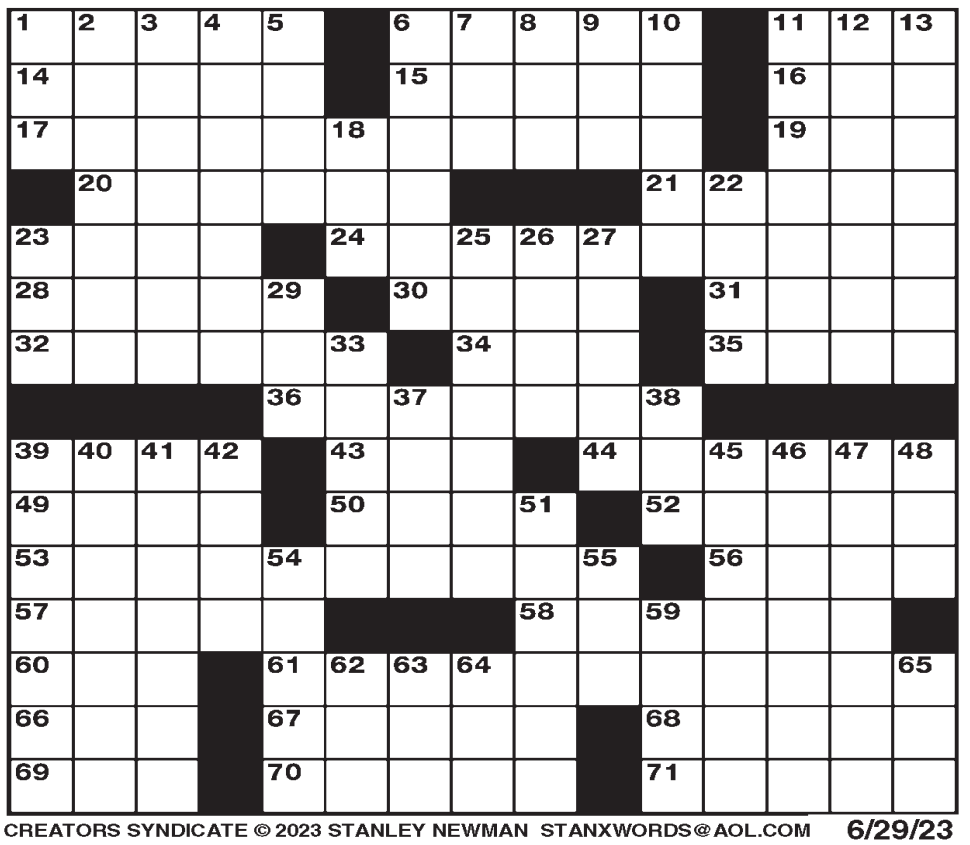
COMPUTER LANGUAGE by Gary Cee
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Place for pumpkins
6 Microbes
11 Start to fix or shrink
14 Outburst often blessed
15 Lose one's temper
16 Superman foe Luthor
17 Chicken feed
19 Constitution, in DC
20 Because you were scared
21 Person filling up
23 Second shot
24 Fast-moving water
28 All possible
30 Many square dancers
31 Parakeet's pad
32 Sealy alternatives
34 Thanksgiving serving
35 Petitioned (for)
36 What's hidden in the four longest Across answers
39 Thanksgiving servings
43 Kick __ fuss
44 Web gateway
49 Treat with cocoa
50 Testing stage
52 Colonial era settlement
53 Antibody producer
56 Kitchen accessory
57 Rapids transit
58 Barnyard sounds
60 Top rank
61 Newspaper reviewer
66 Radio spots
67 Salsa ingredient
68 Sconrful look
69 Trike rider
70 Comically overdone
71 Towel material

DOWN

1 DC fundraiser
2 Get done
3 Storm warning
4 Consolation
5 Great expectations
6 Ruth's longtime teammate
7 Notable time
8 Preside over
9 What ACs cut down on
10 One in a herd
11 Level off
12 Common whodunit motive
13 Brought to bear
18 Link in a train
22 Flies like flies
23 Hi-__ monitor
25 Weekly scale
26 Nontalkative person
27 GPS software
29 Big mouth
33 Diver's device
37 Global cartel
38 Sleep on it
39 What a painter finishes with
40 A Universal Studios city
41 Most cruel
42 Nothing to write home about
45 Salad green
46 Bird sound
47 Less likely to relax
48 Divulge, with "out"
51 Alphabetically first state capital
54 Red French wine
55 Cousin of Inc.
59 Prefix for while
62 Basis for some vaccines
63 Direct effort (to)
64 Household cleaner
65 Outburst

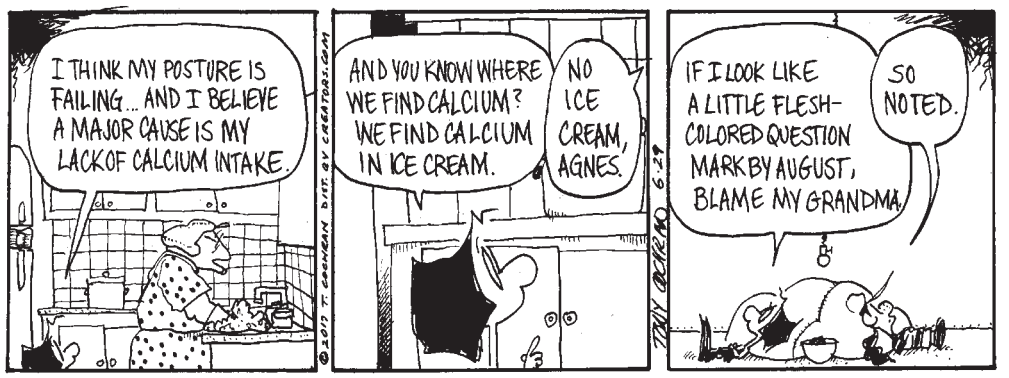


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MORE OF STAN'S CROSSWORDS! Play FREE from Stan's archives of Easy, Hard and Sunday puzzles at: tinyurl.com/stan-newman-crosswords

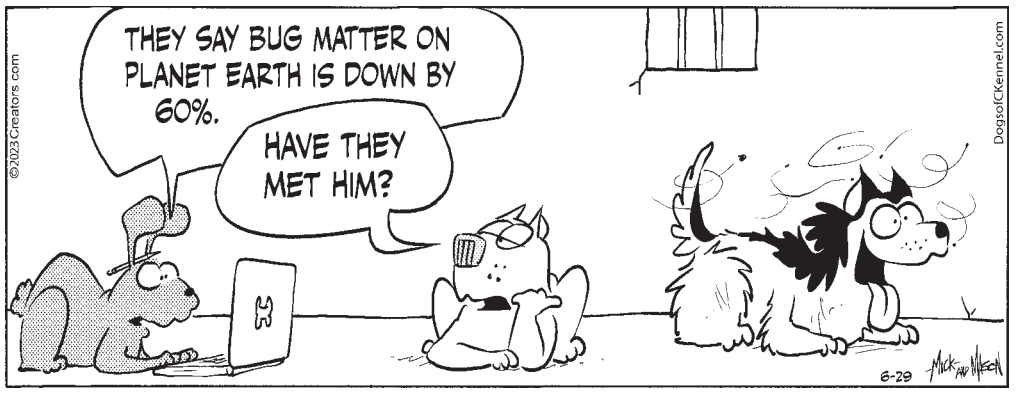
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



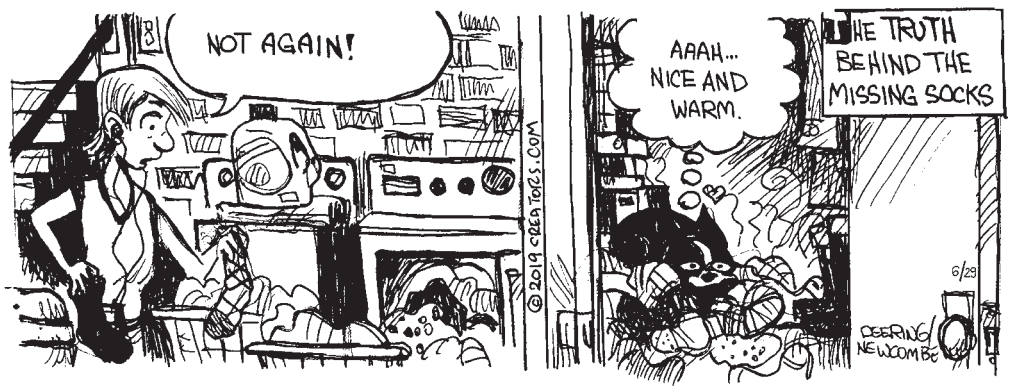
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



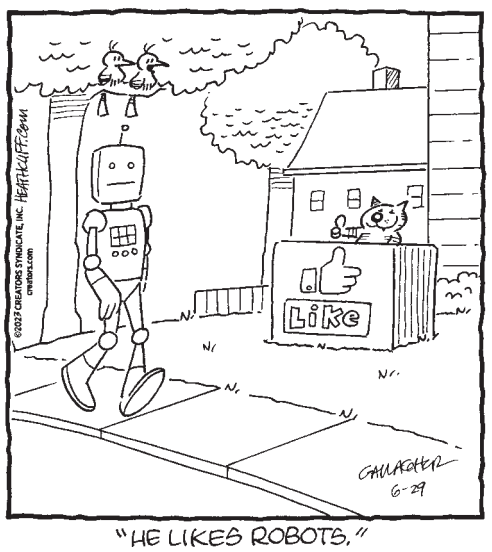
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"HE LIKES ROBOTS."

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 21 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 5890

The south coast of NSW

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

Bait
Bathe
Bays
Bega
Berry
Birds
Bombo
Bushwalk
Cape
Care
Cliffs
Cobargo
Cold
Cool
Cudmirrah
Dalmeny
Eden
Explore
Fish
Golf
Jobs
Kiah
Lagoon
Lake
Milton
Mogo
Moruya
Mountain
Nowra
Oysters
Ports
Red Point
Rest
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What's Up Westside

out and about in Santa Monica

THURSDAY | JUNE 29

WOMEN'S MORNING BEACH DANCE

Join other women as they dance or simply move our bodies. It's a gorgeous way to start the morning. Freedom, nature and community. This isn't a dance class and there's no experience necessary. You're free move how you choose. You'll bring your own music and ear buds. So everyone will be together but also be in our own musical worlds. This time is for self-care and freedom. Follow your energy levels - be as still or wild as you please. All ages are welcome. Women and girls including trans women and gender fluid/non-binary femme folk are wholeheartedly welcome. Annenberg Community Beach House 415 E. Pacific Coast Highway Santa Monica, CA (310) 458-4904 https://www.meetup.com/dancing-women-meetup-group/

ACTIVE AGING APPY HOUR

Bring your questions about purchasing transit fares and planning a trip using technology and get hands-on support. (Coffee will not be provided, but feel free to purchase your own. Goodboybob does not accept cash, so please be prepared to pay by a card or mobile pay if you'd like to get some coffee.) Goodboybob Coffee Roasters (2058 Broadway, Santa Monica, CA 90404 inside the Broadway Place)2 - 3 p.m.

FRIDAY | JUNE 30

COMING OUT WEST: LGBTQ+ ELDERS SHARE THEIR STORIES

Santa Monica History Museum and The Outwords Archive present an exhibition of oral histories, ephemera and historical objects from LGBTQ+ elders with ties to Los Angeles and the Santa Monica Bay area. Santa Monica History Museum 1350 7th Street 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

SATURDAY | JULY 1

POSITIVE PARENTING: BEHAVIORAL STRUGGLES IN CHILDREN

Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd. 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. United Mental health Promoters presents this free, confidential and educational conversation for parents, grandparents and caregivers. UMHP aims to reduce the stigma associated with mental illness by increasing awareness, removing barriers, engaging families with children and improving timely access to culturally- and linguistically- appropriate resources. A light breakfast is served and childcare provided. To register, email library@santamonica.gov or call (310) 458-8600.

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION AT SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

SMC's Independence Day Celebration—the biggest, most sensational patriotic community event on the Westside! Bring your family and friends to SMC for a star-spangled salute to our nation's independence. Come early, picnic on the lawn, enjoy continuous entertainment and special exhibits (with plenty of refreshments available for purchase), and cap off the evening with a spectacular fireworks salute to America. Santa Monica College 1900 Pico Blvd. Santa Monica, CA 90405 https://www.smc.edu/calendar/index.php#event-details/349216ef-e8d8-4118-aa78-e1d6af36a997

SUNDAY | JULY 2

DAPPER DAY SOCIAL

Calling all vintage buffs- legendary LA event producers Dapper Day will host an afternoon at the Santa Monica Place full of vintage fun: music, refreshments, vintage shopping, and more!

MONDAY | JULY 3

20 QUESTIONS TRIVIA @ O'BRIEN'S

20 Questions Trivia is like no other trivia show, because you're a part of the show. Wrong answers count for partial credit if they're funny. Every week the show has a theme, and all the questions and/or answers revolve around that theme. That makes it possible to figure out the answer even if you don't know it. And every question is followed by a song, which is usually an additional clue to the correct answer.

TUESDAY | JULY 4

FOURTH OF JULY PARADE

The 2023 parade returns to its classic route. The parade kicks off promptly at 9:30am at Pico and Main Street, traveling South on Main Street before turning right onto Marine, ending at Barnard Way. You can watch the parade anywhere along the Main Street route as classic cars and community organizations make their way to Lot 5 South by the beach. The official parade grandstand will be located in front of the Ocean Park Library at the corner of Ocean Park and Main Street. On the 4th of July much of Main Street and some adjacent streets leading to it will be closed to vehicle traffic from 6 a.m. – noon. Public parking is available at several parking lots off Neilson Way and beach lots to the west. Consider walking, biking or taking the metro to watch the parade. Ocean Park Library 2601 Main St. Santa Monica, CA 90405

WEDNESDAY | JULY 5

DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET

Santa Monica Farmers Markets create thriving, vibrant communities that are inclusive, connected, and diverse by promoting the prosperity of California farmers and small food businesses, preservation of the agricultural arts and sustainable food systems. Downtown Santa Monica features weekly markets on Wednesdays and Saturdays. The Wednesday and Saturday markets are 8:00am to 1:00pm, rain or shine, and may be closed for selected holidays.

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



SURF REPORT

WATER TEMP: **65.3**

THURSDAY *FAIR*	**SURF:** 3-4ft Waist to chest	Should be another fun day of waves, just easing some from Wednesday. SSW swell will ease through the day as NW swell mix lingers. Dawn patrol tide push could be fairly fun.
FRIDAY *FAIR*	**SURF:** 2-3ft Thigh to waist	Trending smaller but should still be rideable. The morning looks pretty clean so could be a good day for the 1-3' and fair contingent.

WEATHER

Thursday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, cloudy, then gradually becoming mostly sunny, with a high near 71.
Thursday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 61.
Friday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 72.
Friday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 62.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2023/06/29	Thu	01:35 AM	0.56	L
2023/06/29	Thu	07:44 AM	3.13	H
2023/06/29	Thu	12:03 PM	2.15	L
2023/06/29	Thu	6:50 PM	5.80	H
2023/06/30	Fri	02:17 AM	-0.14	L
2023/06/30	Fri	08:42 AM	3.32	H
2023/06/30	Fri	12:50 PM	2.29	L
2023/06/30	Fri	7:30 PM	6.25	H
2023/07/01	Sat	02:59 AM	-0.75	L
2023/07/01	Sat	09:30 AM	3.50	H
2023/07/01	Sat	1:38 PM	2.36	L
2023/07/01	Sat	8:12 PM	6.66	H
2023/07/02	Sun	03:42 AM	-1.23	L
2023/07/02	Sun	10:14 AM	3.65	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: 6/26
6 28 39 43 54
Power#: 12
Jackpot: 462 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 6/27
8 34 35 41 52
Mega#: 12
Jackpot: 368 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 6/24
7 12 13 17 41
Mega#: 9
Jackpot: 71 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 6/27
2 17 26 30 34

Daily 3
Draw Date: 6/27
EVENING: 7 0 7
Draw Date: 6/27
MIDDAY: 1 7 1

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 6/27
1st: 07 - Eureka
2nd: 03 - Hot Shot
3rd: 08 - Gorgeous George
Race Time: 1:42.76

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- Sharlyne Massillon
SMC Basic Needs Manager

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