2
A homeless village
Inspires California.

3
Wildflowers
Still in bloom.

4
Affirmative Action
Struck down in court.

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Westside homelessness spikes by 45%

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Homelessness increased by about 9% countywide and by 45% the Santa Monica area this year according to the latest results released by the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA).

LAHSA released the results of the 2023 Homeless Count and said homelessness increased by 9% to 75,518 in Los Angeles County and the City of Los Angeles saw a 10% increase to 46,260.

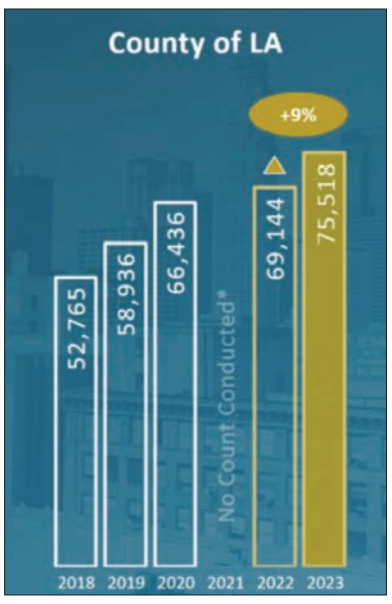
The increase was driven almost entirely by huge spikes in the western and southern regions of the county, including the area covering Santa Monica.

The County divides its count into eight Service Planning Areas (SPA) and Santa Monica is in SPA 5 alongside Bel Air, Beverly Hills, Beverly Crest, Beverly Glen, Brentwood, Century City, Culver City, Holmby Hills, Laurel Canyon, Malibu, Mar Vista, Marina Del Rey, Manchester, Pacific Palisades, Palms, Rancho Park, South Robertson, Venice, Westchester and Westwood.

According to LAHSA, homelessness increased by 45 percent in the region or 2,065 individuals from a total of 4,604 in 2022 to 6,669 this year.

That spike accounts for about a third of the total increase in Los Angeles County. The county's southernmost tip grew by a similar amount (2,031) and the south east portion grew by 1,730 people.

LAHSA said the rise in LA County's homeless population



LAHSA

COUNTY: Homelessness increased by 9 percent countywide.

coincides with increases in major cities across the United States. Chicago and Portland saw double-digit increases (+57% and +20% respectively), while several Southern California counties experienced increases larger than Los Angeles, including San Bernardino (+26%), San Diego (+22%), Kern (+22%), and Riverside (+12%).

The increases were almost entirely in people living on the streets, not the region's shelter population.

"The homeless count results tell us what we already know — that we have a crisis on our streets, and it's getting worse," said Dr. Va Lecia Adams Kellum, LAHSA

SEE **HOMELESS** PAGE 5

Independence Day means fireworks and that means frightened pets

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

Independence Day is, without question, a cause for celebration. It marks the day that the country was officially recognized, seceding from the British Empire and years later of course, the day when all the people of Earth united under Bill Pullman to thwart an alien invasion.

Whatever the reason, fireworks are invariably a traditional part of those celebrations, but to every pet and wild animal in the City of Santa Monica and beyond, the justification for this jubilee doesn't matter and all fireworks actually do is cause unnecessary anxiety, panic and fear.

All fireworks are illegal in Santa Monica and officials are yet again

SEE **FIREWORKS** PAGE 5



Elizabeth Noble

PETS: Animal Control Officer Taylor Schill together with Chloe and Edward, brother and sister cats available for adoption.

Temperatures on the rise at July 4 approaches

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Officials are warning locals to be prepared for a hot holiday weekend that may take many by surprise after weeks of below average temperatures and some intense May Gray / June Gloom.

The City of Santa Monica is expected to remain cool for most of the weekend with temperatures peaking in the upper 70's. However, nearby areas could be 20 degrees hotter with some areas forecast as topping 100.

"With a flip of a switch, we will jump into summer with the first heatwave of the season expected across interior valleys and mountains starting as early as Friday," said the National Weather Service.

The heat is expected to last through at least Monday and will include zones adjacent to Santa Monica such as the Santa Monica Mountains.

"For coastal valleys, the heat will be very noticeable with 90s to lower 100s expected, but this falls into a moderate heatrisk level and just short of any heat advisory criteria," said the forecast. "The near coast environment will continue to be dominated by a shallow marine layer and daily seabreezes, with a much more reserved warming trend. Low clouds and fog will be common near the ocean each night and early morning, and some beaches may have a hard time clearing due to the extreme inland heating and thermal low development each day."

The weather brings both fire and health hazards.

SEE **WEATHER** PAGE 8



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Inside a Texas homeless village that inspires California replicas: Art, movies and a fishing pond

MARISA KENDALL
Special to the Daily Press



Jordan Vonderhaar

HOMES: An aerial view of Community First! Village in Austin, TX on May 12, 2023.

At first glance, Community First! Village looks more like an art commune or even a high-end summer camp than what it really is: Austin's formidable, 51-acre solution to the homelessness crisis.

Nestled amongst picturesque tiny houses and RVs – home to about 350 formerly unhoused people – are a ceramics studio, an outdoor movie theater and a game room. Quiet, winding roads lead past a pond stocked with catfish, a hydroponic vegetable garden and a yurt visitors can rent on Airbnb. The ashes of 36 former residents are interred in a columbarium on the property.

If you want a souvenir, there's even a gift shop of sorts – a convenience store that sells hats, infant onesies and other swag branded with the community's slogan: "Goodness."

"Right up underneath that windmill is where we have the farmer's market every Saturday morning," says village founder Alan Graham, CEO of nonprofit Mobile Loaves & Fishes, pointing from a golf cart as he gives a tour of the village. "We have a hair studio here. We got over 300 fruit and nut-bearing trees growing all over the property. This is a big, old pear tree right here. It's loaded with pears."

It's the same tour he and his team have given to multiple California officials and service providers, all of whom came looking for new answers to the Golden State's dire homelessness crisis. As a result, villages inspired by Austin now are popping up in California.

These developments put a new spin on the "housing first" philosophy that prevails among California homeless programs. In these Austin-influenced villages, the predominant belief is that housing alone simply isn't enough – one needs community, too.

The nonprofit Salt + Light is building an Austin-inspired permanent housing village near Visalia, in the San Joaquin Valley. Dubbed The Neighborhood Village, it will consist of 53 mobile homes with perks including a dog park, garden, columbarium, pop-up movie theater, art classes and mobile medical clinics. As in Austin, they'll also have "missionals" – volunteers who live on-site, look out for their formerly homeless neighbors 24/7 and help build a sense of community.

Salt + Light CEO Adrianne Hillman first visited Austin's tiny home village in 2018.

"The first time I went, I cried, actually, when I got there," she said. "I was pretty overwhelmed with the beauty of it. It resonated with me on a soul level."

Convinced someone had to bring the model to California, Hillman upended her entire life, started a nonprofit and got to work.

She's not the only Californian to be taken in by Community First's utopian village of small, cutesy dwellings, lovingly landscaped gardens and roads with names like Peaceful Path and Goodness Way. Another copycat project took root in the East Bay city of Livermore. Two more are trying to get off the ground, one in Silicon Valley and the other in Bakersfield.

Two city council members from Richmond in the East Bay Area attended a symposium at Community First in April and came home with a vision to replicate what they saw.

"I was really, really impressed," said Councilmember Gayle McLaughlin. She wants to partner with Contra Costa County and local nonprofits to build something similar – though smaller – on a 3.5-acre site outside the city limits.

NOT ENOUGH TINY HOMES FOR ALL WHO WANT THEM

Community First offers multiple tiny home options. Its 200-square foot micro-homes, for example, provide electricity but no plumbing

SEE **HOUSING** PAGE 7



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COMMUNITY NEWS

Santa Monica Mountains

Wildflowers in the Santa Monica Mountains Still Thriving Due to Winter's Productive Rains

According to local National Park Service biologists, Mother Nature has extended the spring bloom season in the Santa Monica Mountains due to last winter's abundant rains. They've been gushing about how native blooms will uncharacteristically extend into July.

"It's amazing! There have been incredible blooms of California broom, also known as common deerweed," said Joey Algiers, a restoration ecologist at Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. "It's incredible!"

> "It's amazing! There have been incredible blooms of California broom, also known as common deerweed
>
> - Joey Algiers, a restoration ecologist at Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area

Other prolific blooms, primarily perennials, include canyon sunflower, chamise, three types of mariposa lilies, and various species of Dudleya, which are often found clinging to rock walls, as well as some annuals like California poppies, phacelias, and different species of clarkia (farewell-to-spring).

It is still possible to spot these blooms in the lower to mid-elevation areas, which include Malibu Creek State Park, the Backbone Trail, Charmlee Wilderness Park, and between Kanan Dume Road and Encinal Canyon Road.

Typically, at this time of year, they're more restricted to higher elevations, like in the Circle X Ranch area near Sandstone Peak, the highest elevation in the Santa Monica Mountains. This year, visitors can delight in the wildflowers at the higher elevations well into July, biologists say.

Almost five years after the 2018 Woolsey Fire, shrubs are continuing to make a strong recovery. Biologists say California broom is the one of the first to typically appear.

"Usually, after a wildfire, the environment will go through a series of different plants, starting with fire-following herbs," Algiers said.

"This is a natural process that we're seeing now some years after the fire. The California broom is doing what it's supposed to be doing, and it's an important plant for wildlife. It's a great pollinator plant for our native bees and butterflies, and deer love to eat this plant."

Initially, biologists expected peak blooms to occur in April or May this year. Instead, it peaked in May and June.

"Across the board, we got these late bloomers," said park biologist Mark Mendelsohn, who recently documented 185 different plant species in just one team's 2-3-mile hike through a recently protected parkland. "We got lots of things later than we typically do, and we think that's because of the cloudy and cooler days that extended up until fairly recently."

Mendelsohn says with the recent sunny days, plants will be drying out soon.

"So go catch this cool bloom before summer fully settles in!" he said.

Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area (SMMNRA) is the largest urban national park in the country, encompassing more than 150,000 acres of mountains and coastline in Ventura and Los Angeles counties. A unit of the National Park Service, it comprises a seamless network of local, state and federal parks interwoven with private lands and communities. As one of only five Mediterranean ecosystems in the world, SMMNRA preserves the rich biological diversity of more than 450 animal species and 26 distinct plant communities. For more information, visit www.nps.gov/samo

SUBMITTED BY ANA BEATRIZ CHOLO

Citywide

Federal Lawsuit Against Los Angeles County Alleges ADA Violations and Discrimination Against Voters with Disabilities

Following a lengthy investigation that determined the County of Los Angeles discriminated against persons with disabilities at vote centers during recent elections, the United States Attorney's Office today filed a lawsuit alleging the county has failed to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA).

The investigation into the county's voting program found that the county, acting through its registrar-recorder, excluded qualified individuals with mobility disabilities and those with vision disabilities from participating in the county's voting programs. The complaint filed in United States District Court seeks a court order directing the county to comply with the ADA, promptly develop a plan to completely remedy the alleged violations, and not further discriminate against individuals with disabilities.

"Voting is a fundamental right, and we will do everything we can to ensure that it is not limited or denied to anyone in our community," said United States Attorney Martin Estrada. "Through this lawsuit, we demand that Los Angeles County afford individuals with disabilities an opportunity to participate in the county's voting program that is equal to that provided to nondisabled individuals."

"Voting is the bedrock of our democracy, and all voters, including those with disabilities, should have an equal opportunity to participate in the voting process. This lawsuit should send a strong message to officials across the country regarding the Justice Department's firm commitment to ensuring polling place accessibility," said Assistant Attorney General Kristen Clarke of the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division.

The lawsuit was brought under Title II of the ADA, which prohibits public entities from discriminating against qualified individuals with disabilities. The federal investigation has focused on physical accessibility for persons with mobility disabilities and persons with vision disabilities at county vote centers during the 2020 primary election, the 2020 general election and the 2022 general election. The United States Attorney's Office also reviewed other aspects of the county's voting programs, including curbside voting and ballot drop boxes.

On May 16, the United States issued a Letter of Findings that advised the county of its findings about inaccessible vote centers during the March 2020, November 2020, and November 2022 elections; inaccessible ballot drop boxes from the November 2020 and 2022 elections; and the inaccessible curbside voting system. The United States advised the county that its use of physically inaccessible vote centers and its curbside voting system violated Title II of the ADA.

The lawsuit filed today in Los Angeles alleges that the county is responsible for selecting and providing accessible facilities to be used as polling places or vote centers for federal, state and local elections.

During elections in June 2016, March 2020 and November 2020, the United States Attorney's Office surveyed well over 250 polling places and vote centers, finding that only a small percentage of them complied with the ADA, according to the complaint.

During the November 2022 general election, the United States surveyed 52 Los Angeles County vote centers to determine if they were compliant with the ADA and applicable standards for accessibility. "Each of the surveyed vote centers had non-compliant elements or features, including, for example, a lack of van accessible parking; wide gaps, abrupt level changes, and excessive cross slopes on designated accessible routes; ramps with steep running slopes and without the required handrails; entrances and/or exits that were obstructed or too narrow, lacked level landings, or had high thresholds; interior routes that had protruding objects; and voting areas with narrow routes," the complaint alleges.

The lawsuit identifies specific vote centers in Pasadena, North Hollywood, Downey and Watts that are still in use, even though the federal government first alerted the county about accessibility deficiencies at the first three facilities in September 2016 and the Watts location in July 2020.

Other accessibility problems were identified with ballot drop boxes used during the November 2020 and November 2022 general elections.

The lawsuit discusses difficulties experienced during the August 2019 special election by a voter who uses a wheelchair. This voter "reported feeling dismayed and frustrated by her treatment at the polling place and that she felt as if she had lost her freedom to vote privately and independently like everyone else," the lawsuit states.

The lawsuit is part of the Justice Department's ADA Voting Initiative, which seeks to increase accessibility for voters with disabilities across the country. A hallmark of the ADA Voting Initiative is its collaboration with jurisdictions to increase accessibility at vote centers or polling places. Through this initiative, the Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division and U.S. Attorney's Offices across the country have surveyed more than 2,700 polling places and increased polling place accessibility in more than 50 jurisdictions, including Kenton County, Kentucky; Travis County, Texas; and Lycoming County, Pennsylvania.

Assistant United States Attorney Katherine M. Hikida of the Civil Division's Civil Rights Section is handling this case.

Information about the Civil Rights Section in the Civil Division of the United States Attorney's Office is available on their website. Members of the public may report possible civil rights violations to their office via email to USACAC.CV-CivilRights@usdoj.gov.

SUBMITTED BY THOM MROZEK DIRECTOR OF MEDIA RELATIONS U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

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PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

PARTNER
Todd James
todd@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Matthew Hall
matt@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Charles Andrews,
Jack Neworth,
David Pisarra.

CIRCULATION
Guadalupe Navarro
ross@smdp.com

Keith Wyatt
ross@smdp.com

STAFF WRITERS
Scott Snowden
scott.snowden@smdp.com

DIRECTOR OF ADVERTISING
Cindy Moreno
cindy@smdp.com

MARKETING MANAGER
Dina Araniva
dina@smdp.com

PRODUCTION
Esteban Inchaustegui
production@smdp.com

Julio Davalos
julio@smdp.com

Cristina Rios
cristina@smdp.com

Santa Monica Daily Press

1640 5th Street, Suite 218
Santa Monica, CA 90401
OFFICE (310) 458-PRESS (7737)
FAX (310) 576-9913

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Human remains have likely been recovered from the Titan submersible wreckage, US Coast Guard says

PATRICK WHITTLE
Associated Press

Human remains have likely been recovered from the wreckage of the submersible that imploded during an underwater voyage to view the Titanic, the U.S. Coast Guard said Wednesday.

The news came hours after the announcement that debris from the Titan, collected from the seafloor more than 12,000 feet (3,658 meters) below the surface of the North Atlantic, had arrived in St. John's, Newfoundland. Twisted chunks of the submersible were unloaded at a Canadian Coast Guard pier.

Recovering and scrutinizing the wreckage is a key part of the investigation into why the Titan imploded last week, killing all five people on board. The multiday search and eventual recovery of debris from the 22-foot (6.7-meter) vessel captured the world's attention.

"There is still a substantial amount of work to be done to understand the factors that led to the catastrophic loss of the Titan and help ensure a similar tragedy does not occur again," Coast Guard Chief Capt. Jason Neubauer said in a statement released late Wednesday afternoon.

The "presumed human remains" will be brought to the United States, where medical professionals will conduct a formal analysis, Neubauer said. He added that the Coast Guard has convened an investigation of the implosion at the highest level. The Marine Board of Investigation will analyze and test evidence, including pieces of debris, at a port in the U.S. The board will share the evidence at a future public hearing whose date has not been determined, the Coast Guard said.

Neubauer said the evidence will provide "critical insights" into the cause of the implosion.

Debris from the Titan, which is believed to have imploded on June 18 as it made its descent, was located about 12,500 feet (3,810 meters) underwater and roughly 1,600 feet (488 meters) from the Titanic on the ocean floor. The Coast Guard is leading the investigation, in conjunction with several other government agencies in the U.S. and Canada.

Authorities have not disclosed details of the debris recovery, which could have followed several approaches, according to Carl Hartsfield, who directs a lab at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution that designs and operates autonomous underwater vehicles and has been serving as a consultant to the Coast Guard.

"If the pieces are small, you can collect them together and put them in a basket or some kind of collection device," Hartsfield said Monday. Bigger pieces could be retrieved with a remote-operated vehicle, or ROV, such as the one brought to the wreckage site by the Canadian ship Horizon Arctic to search the ocean floor. For extremely big pieces, a heavy lift could be used to pull them up with a tow line, he said.

Representatives for Horizon Arctic did not respond to requests for comment. The ROV's owner, Pelagic Research Services, a company with offices in Massachusetts and New York, is "still on mission" and cannot comment on the investigation, company spokesperson Jeff Mahoney said Wednesday.

"They have been working around the clock now for 10 days, through the physical and mental challenges of this operation," Mahoney said.

Analyzing the recovered debris could reveal important clues about what happened to the Titan, and there could be electronic data recorded by the submersible's instruments, Hartsfield said.

"So the question is, is there any data available? And I really don't know the answer to that question," he said Monday.

The Transportation Safety Board of Canada, which is conducting a safety investigation into the Titan's Canadian-flagged mother ship, the Polar Prince, said Wednesday that it has sent that vessel's voyage data recorder to a lab for analysis.

Stockton Rush, the Titan's pilot and CEO of OceanGate Expeditions, the company that owned the submersible, was killed in the implosion along with two members of a prominent Pakistani family, Shahzada Dawood and his son Suleman Dawood; British adventurer Hamish Harding; and Titanic expert Paul-Henri Nargeolet.

OceanGate is based in the U.S. and OceanGate Expeditions, a related company that led the Titan's dives to the Titanic, is registered in the Bahamas.

The company charged passengers $250,000 each to participate in the voyage. The implosion of the Titan has raised questions about the safety of private undersea exploration operations. The Coast Guard wants to use the investigation to improve the safety of submersibles.

This story was first published on June 28, 2023. It was updated on June 29, 2023, to make clear that the company that led the Titan's dives to the Titanic was registered in the Bahamas, but the Titan itself was not. Associated Press writers Holly Ramer in Concord, New Hampshire, and Michael Casey in Boston contributed to this report.

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As Supreme Court strikes down affirmative action, colleges see few other ways to diversity goals

COLLIN BINKLEY
AP Education Writer

As an alternative to affirmative action, colleges from California to Florida already have tried a range of strategies to achieve the diversity they say is essential to their campuses. Many have given greater preference to low-income families. Others started admitting top students from every community in their state.

But years of experimentation — often prompted by state-level bans on considering race in admissions — left no clear solution. In states requiring race-neutral policies, many colleges saw enrollment drops among Black and Hispanic students, especially at selective colleges that historically have been mostly white.

Now that the Supreme Court has struck down the consideration of race in college admissions, schools nationwide will face the same test. Some have warned the development could erase decades of progress on campus diversity.

At Amherst College, officials had estimated going entirely race-neutral would reduce Black, Hispanic and Indigenous populations by half.

"We fully expect it would be a significant decrease in our population," said Matthew McGann, Amherst's director of admission, earlier this year.

Facing a conservative Supreme Court that appeared skeptical from the start, colleges have been preparing for a rollback. Some were considering adding more essays to get a better picture of an applicant's background, a strategy invited in Thursday's Supreme Court ruling.

"Nothing prohibits universities from considering an applicant's discussion of how race affected the applicant's life, so long as that discussion is concretely tied to a quality of character or unique ability that the particular applicant can contribute to the university," Chief Justice John Roberts wrote for the court's conservative majority. "Many universities have for too long wrongly concluded that the touchstone of an individual's identity is not challenges bested, skills built, or lessons learned, but the color of their skin. This Nation's constitutional history does not tolerate that choice."

Other colleges were planning to boost recruiting in racially diverse areas, or admit more transfer students from community colleges.

The court took up affirmative action in response to challenges at Harvard University and the University of North Carolina. Lower courts upheld admission systems at both schools, rejecting claims that the schools discriminated against white and Asian American applicants. But at Supreme Court arguments in late October, all six conservative justices expressed doubts about the practice, which had been upheld under Supreme Court decisions reaching back to 1978, and as recently as 2016.

While they awaited this latest ruling, schools were taking lessons from colleges that don't consider race. Nine states previously banned affirmative action, starting with California in 1996 and most recently Idaho in 2020.

> "Socioeconomic status is not a proxy for race
> - Erica Sanders, the director of undergraduate admissions at Michigan

After Michigan voters rejected it in 2006, the University of Michigan shifted attention to low-income students.

It sent graduates to work as counselors in low-income high schools. It started offering college prep in Detroit and Grand Rapids. It offered full scholarships for low-income Michigan residents. More recently, it started accepting fewer early admission applications, which are more likely to come from white students.

Despite those efforts, the university offers itself as a cautionary tale. The share of Black and Hispanic undergraduates hasn't fully rebounded from a falloff after 2006. And while Hispanic enrollments have been increasing, Black enrollments continued to slide, going from 8% of undergraduates in 2006 to 4% now.

The campus is drawing more low-income students, but that hasn't translated to racial diversity, said Erica Sanders, the director of undergraduate admissions at Michigan.

"Socioeconomic status is not a proxy for race," Sanders said.

At the same time, some of Michigan's less selective colleges have fared better. At nearby Eastern Michigan University, the number of students of color increased, reflecting demographic shifts in the state. It illustrates what experts say is a chilling effect seen most acutely at selective colleges — students of color see fewer of their peers at places like Ann Arbor, prompting them to choose campuses that appear more welcoming.

Growing up in Ann Arbor, there was an expectation that Odia Kaba would attend the University of Michigan. When her application was deferred, she started at Eastern Michigan with plans to transfer to Ann Arbor her sophomore year.

By then, Kaba was getting daily texts from her sister, who attended U-M, describing the microaggressions she faced as a Black student on campus. Rooms went silent when she walked in. She was ignored in group projects. She felt alone and suffocated.

"Why would I go to U of M?" Kaba, 22, remembers thinking. "I'm just going to be

SEE ACTION PAGE 8

HOMELESS

FROM PAGE 1

Chief Executive Officer. "The important thing to take away from today is that for the first time, the city, county, and LAHSA are moving with urgency to house the people living on our streets."

She said efforts should focus on replicating successful models where available.

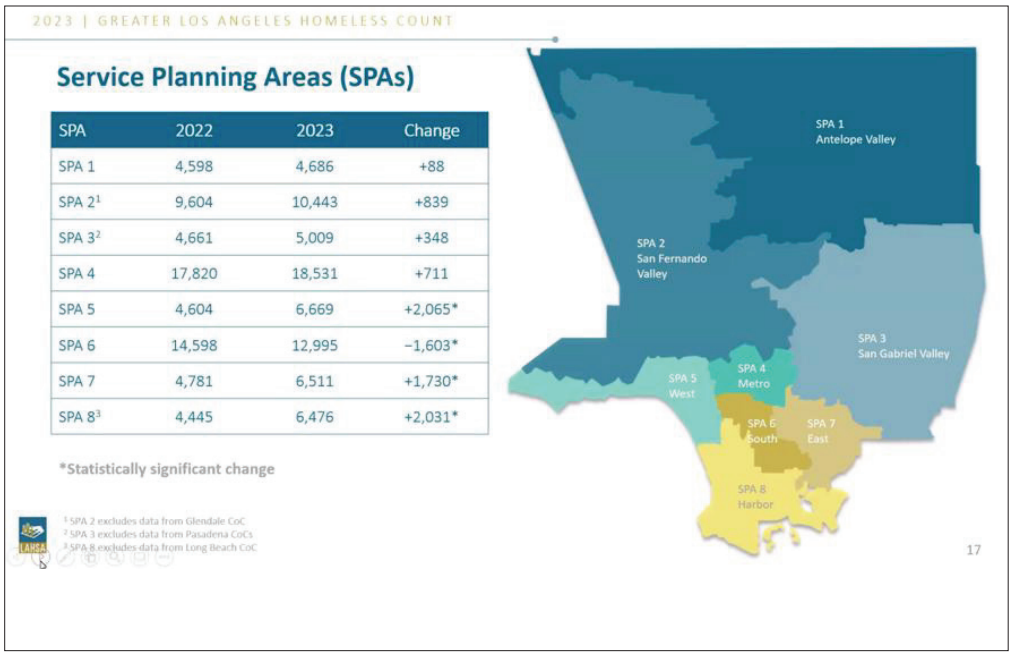
"We need to collaborate and coordinate to end unsheltered homelessness. In the past, when we've set goals and dedicated resources to focus on specific populations, like veterans, we saw the numbers drop. We need to apply that mindset to addressing unsheltered homelessness countywide," she said. "We are all dedicated to addressing street homelessness. We've already had success with our early efforts, but we need to work together to scale them enough to address this humanitarian crisis."

Municipalities conduct the volunteer driven count each year to tally the number of people who appear to be living outside, in cars, and in shelters. Individual cities, such as Santa Monica, conduct their own operations and LAHSA is responsible for generating the wider total that includes unincorporated areas.

The goal of the point-in-time count is to get a snapshot of the homeless population and by conducting a simultaneous count, officials hope to make it less likely to double count or miss individuals who move around. The number of people in shelters is also calculated on the same night for the same reason.

While the count is mandated by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, it also helps officials to gain a better idea of the number of people living in homelessness, demographic trends among the population, and locations of concentration. This data is used to inform local and regional efforts to address homelessness and can affect how resources are allocated.

According to the annual Homeless Count in Santa Monica, homelessness increased by 15% in the city compared to the previous year. The count found an additional 73 individuals on the streets and 46 in shelters, bringing the total to 926.



Courtesy photo

HOMELESS: Homelessness in the Los Angeles area has been driven by the Westside.

All efforts to stem the tide have failed recently with homelessness increasing by about 70% countywide since 2015 but this year's results come amidst yet another wave of new programs and services across the region. Santa Monica recently funded a new strategic plan on homelessness alongside additional outreach teams, expansion of shelter hours and eviction protection measures.

"These results are disappointing. It is frustrating to have more people fall into homelessness even as we are investing hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars and resources into efforts to bring people inside," said Chair of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Janice Hahn. "I appreciate the cities that have stepped up and supported solutions, but these numbers prove that solutions-oriented cities are too few and far between. I hold out hope that the new partnership between the County and City of Los Angeles will make a difference and help us more effectively address this crisis. 2023 needs to be a watershed year for us where we turn these trends around."

Los Angeles Councilwoman Traci Park unveiled a new proposal on Wednesday to address the pressing issue of individuals living in recreational vehicles (RVs) within her Los Angeles district that includes Venice. The motion put forward by Councilwoman Park will allocate a budget of $500,000 to establish an RV Rehousing Pilot Program, which will focus on providing comprehensive support services and viable pathways to permanent housing.

"Crisis demands action," Councilwoman Park said. "Our community is grappling with an alarming increase in individuals living in RVs and the RV Rehousing Pilot Program is not just about responding to a crisis, but also about safeguarding public health, environmental wellness, and community safety. We are responsible for ensuring that everyone, including our most vulnerable populations, has access to safe and secure housing."

She said the new numbers were sobering. Park said her office has transitioned about 200 individuals to housing so far but said more needs to be done.

"We need to face the fact that homelessness is a multifaceted issue and often intertwined with other crises such as addiction and mental health," she said. "Today's numbers show that 30% of the unhoused population self-reported substance use disorder, and 25% self-reported serious mental illness. And yet, we are not adequately investing in recovery housing or addiction treatment. We need our State and County partners to step up with the right kind of interventions and services to get at these very serious problems that contribute to the homelessness crisis."

Santa Monica based The People Concern serves homeless clients across the Los Angeles area and said they believe in a housing first approach that prioritizes housing before other kinds of services.

"The numbers released today by LAHSA reflect that the homelessness crisis continues to be the humanitarian crisis of our time demonstrating the urgent need for building more housing and implementing effective homelessness prevention strategies." says John Maceri, CEO of The People Concern.

Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass had previously announced that in the first six months of her administration, more than 14,000 people moved from LA's streets to interim or permanent housing, with over 4,300 obtaining permanent housing and that count was concluded before many of those individuals were housed.

County officials said a recent study cited the high cost of housing as the primary driver of homelessness in the State.

"Today's announcement confirms why we are in a state of emergency: more Angelenos continue falling into homelessness than we are able to house," said Los Angeles County Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath. "Over the last six months, we have proven that our unified approach is connecting more people to housing and services. Now we must address the root causes of homelessness by investing in families; working to make housing more affordable; and, most importantly, keep people in the places they already call home."

editor@smdp.com

FIREWORKS

FROM PAGE 1

warning potential July 4th partygoers to keep the illegal activity out of the city. According to the Santa Monica Fire code, "All fireworks shall be illegal in the City of Santa Monica including California State Fire Marshal 'Safe and Sane' fireworks. No person shall possess, transport, sell or offer for sale, any such fireworks."

Santa Monica's only legal fireworks show will be at Santa Monica College on Saturday.

According to the Santa Monica PD, every year the department responds to dozens of complaints of fireworks around this time of year and while many of those complaints are reported as other kinds of calls, such as "shots fired," they turn out to be fireworks. Local officials say the problem is national in scope with more than 19,500 reported fires started by fireworks annually.

Now add to that the fact that cats and dogs especially, but almost every other animal too, has a significantly more developed sense of hearing, or audition. You probably wouldn't like it either if every year you were suddenly subjected to something that sounded more like a sustained artillery bombardment in the Ardennes rather than the occasional pop, whizz or bang. To them, it's deafening.

"Every year we like to remind our residents how to keep their pets safe if there are loud noises from fireworks causing them to have anxiety," says Lieutenant Robert Silverstein, Santa Monica Animal Shelter Foundation Board Liaison.

"They should keep doors and windows closed. The curtains or blinds should also be closed. Keep the cats and dogs inside the residence with them. If the animals are going to be left alone, secure them in a bedroom and give them something they like such as a toy or blanket. They should make sure the exterior gates and fencing are also secure in case the animal does go outside."

To prepare your pets as best you can, please follow these recommendations from the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Los Angeles.

• Microchip & ID tags: Cats and Dogs should be microchipped and wear current ID tags at all times. This is the best way towards a happy reunion if your pet goes missing.

• Report lost pets: Report a lost pet to your local animal care services department. Anyone looking for a lost pet will certainly look there first. You can also post lost pets on social media and neighborhood apps.

• Keep pets indoors: Leave the family pet at home where they will be safe, secure, and less stressed. Loud noises from fireworks can cause a dog to jump a fence and run away from home or a cat to hide for days. Keeping your pets indoors will keep them out of danger.

• Train your dog: Training your dog provides mental stimulation, reduces anxiety and enables you to manage your dog safely.

• Keep pets comfortable: Create a safe space for your pet, in their bed or in a cool, well-ventilated room with soothing music playing softly in the background. Include your pet's favorite toys, a tasty chew and a pet bed or blanket for comfort. Close windows and curtains to muffle noise and block flashing lights. It is ideal if at least one family member can stay home with the pet, especially if you know they will be in distress.

• Prepare: Consult your vet for prescribed or over-the-counter calming solutions.

• Refrain from restraint: Never tie-up your dog to keep them from escaping. The loud noises from the fireworks can frighten your pet making them more likely to attempt to flee. Dogs can seriously injure themselves, or even die, trying to escape.

• Educate children: Teach them to not scare or tease pets with firecrackers or sparklers.

"Due to fireworks and other loud activities, the time around July 4th can be very difficult for pets. It's important that all pet owners take extra special care of their furry companions at this time," Mayor Gleam Davis said, herself an animal lover and owner of a shepherd/terrier named Sylvie.

The Santa Monica Animal Shelter still has so many wonderful animals looking for their forever homes and some have been there for far longer than they should have to be. But, even if you can't adopt any more, or just don't have room in your apartment that's already filled with countless cute cats and kittens, you can still help the animals by making a donation or shopping on the Chewy wishlist. Some of the rescued animals at the Shelter need costly veterinary care, so until some super-wealthy philanthropist donates a $million or two, they still need our help.

To adopt a cat, kitten or any of the adorable available animals, you can call the Santa Monica Animal Shelter at: (310) 458-8595 to schedule an appointment.

scott.snowden@smdp.com

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Former Google executive enters 2024 US Senate race to succeed California's Feinstein

MICHAEL R. BLOOD
AP Political Writer

Former tech executive Lexi Reese announced Thursday that she is entering California's 2024 U.S. Senate contest, adding another Democrat to a growing field of candidates that already includes three members of Congress.

The Google and Facebook veteran enters the contest to replace retiring Democratic Sen. Dianne Feinstein as a virtual unknown in the nation's most populous state, home to 22 million voters. In her first run for office she is hoping to distinguish herself as an outsider — "a new candidate with a fresh message," her advisers say. That would contrast with established politicians already in the race: Democratic U.S. Reps. Katie Porter, Adam Schiff and Barbara Lee.

"The California dream is dying," Reese says in an online video launching her campaign. "Millions of families are working hard but barely getting by. It is time to work together to build a better future together."

Reese filed a statement of candidacy with federal election regulators on June 15, designated a committee to raise funds and indicated she intended to spend personal funds on the campaign.

It typically takes tens of millions of dollars to wage a successful statewide campaign in the vast state, which includes some of the nation's most expensive media markets. It's not clear how much Reese intends to spend from her personal funds on campaigning.

Schiff, for example, had $25 million in his campaign account at the end of March and is likely to have millions more after second-quarter fundraising concludes at the end of June.

With the centrist Feinstein in the twilight of her career, the race in the heavily Democratic state already is shaping up as a showcase for an ambitious, younger generation on the party's left wing. The seat is expected to stay in Democratic hands — a Republican hasn't won a Senate race in the state since 1988.

And as a first-time candidate, Reese enters the race without an established base of support in a field already splintered by Democratic candidates.

Reese's website is largely devoted to introducing herself to voters, and asks them to send her an online message about the good and bad of living in the state.

Beyond the challenges faced by a first-time candidate, veteran Democratic consultant Bill Carrick warned that a divided Democratic vote could have an unintended advantage – for Republicans.

In California's last two Senate races, only Democrats advanced to the general election under the state's top-two election system, in which only the top two primary vote-getters face off in November.

"If you have four Democrats in the race who are all running significant campaigns, you are going to open the back door for a Republican to be in the (November) runoff," Carrick said.

"If you divide the Democratic vote by four and somebody is able to become the dominant Republican, you increase the chances you have a Democratic-Republican runoff" in November, Carrick said.

Former baseball MVP and Republican Steve Garvey, who played for the Los Angeles Dodgers and San Diego Padres, is considering getting into the race. He would join GOP attorney Eric Early — an unsuccessful candidate for state attorney general in 2022 and 2018 and for Congress in 2020.

In recent election cycles, California Republicans have targeted criticism at the state's Democratic-dominated government, faulting the rival party for notoriously high taxes, a homeless crisis, troubling urban crime rates, and out-of-reach housing prices for many working-class families.

Reese's advisers say she had an opening: Many voters remain undecided with the March primary election still months away, and even the leading Democrats are not broadly known across the state.

At Google, she was vice president for global programmatic platforms, among other roles. The Harvard Business School graduate also has worked for American Express.

In her video, Reese recalled challenges in her past — her father lost a longtime job, her parents divorced, her siblings struggled with addiction and a brother died trying to recover.

"I understand what financial uncertainty can do to a family," she said.



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HOUSING

FROM PAGE 2

(residents share communal bathrooms) and have room for a bed and a small living area that comes with a refrigerator, freezer, microwave, crock pot and coffee maker. The village has larger models, too, including manufactured homes that are about 400 square feet and fully plumbed. They have a bedroom, living area with a couch and small dining table, mini kitchen and bathroom with a toilet, sink and shower.

With land at a premium in California, it would be difficult to build enough tiny homes to make a noticeable difference in the state's homelessness crisis. Even Austin's tiny home village hasn't solved the problem.

Encampments still proliferate in the city's greenbelts, and the estimated number of homeless residents in the county grew 40% between 2019 and 2022, according to the federally mandated point-in-time count. In 2021, fed-up Austin voters passed a law banning public camping, and activists say unhoused people now are forced to move from camp to camp because there aren't enough shelter beds or long-term housing.

Matt Bradley, 39, said it would be "lovely" to move into the tiny home village and stop constantly worrying that someone will steal his belongings. Bradley, one of many people living in a tent in the woods behind Austin's South Town Square shopping center, said he's been on a housing waitlist for three years. Periodically, police come by and check on him and his neighbors.

"They reassure us and say help is coming," Bradley said. "But you know, we're still waiting."

AUSTIN VS. CALIFORNIA

In some ways, California homeless providers are predisposed to like what they see in Austin. State and local leaders have doubled down on tiny homes as a solution to homelessness ever since the pandemic, when worries about COVID-19 spreading in crowded shelters shaped state policy. Gov. Gavin Newsom is in the process of doling out 1,200 tiny homes for unhoused residents in Los Angeles, Sacramento, San Jose and San Diego County.

But there are some major differences between Austin's tiny homes and most of the similar programs in California.

In California, tiny homes are almost exclusively considered temporary shelter. Residents are expected to move out of the micro-dwellings and into traditional housing – sometimes within a period of mere months, and often with low success rates. Community First, by contrast, is permanent housing. Residents pay rent (between about $370 and $440 a month for a tiny home including utilities, or $450 for an RV – plus electric and propane) and can live there until they die.

The sheer size of Community First also distinguishes it from other tiny home projects. It is likely the largest in the country for homeless residents. Built on 51 acres just outside the city's limits, its nearly 400 occupied dwellings house 345 formerly homeless people and 40 missionals, with plans to increase to 530 homes by the end of the year. In addition, construction is underway on another 600 homes across the street, set to be completed over the next six years. Travis County recently contributed $35 million toward building another 750 homes on a separate property 15 minutes away.

The county's commitment marks the first time the organization has received public funding. Until then, it relied on private contributions and major gifts from wealthy donors like Michael and Susan Dell. That's another departure from California, where tiny home projects tend to rely heavily on city, county and state funding.

COULD THE COMMUNITY FIRST MODEL WORK IN CALIFORNIA?

In the big California cities where homelessness is most prevalent – Los Angeles, San Francisco and San Diego, for example – it's nearly impossible to find giant parcels of land that could fit hundreds of tiny homes.

"The tiny homes are often just not at a scale to be helpful," said Marybeth Shinn, a professor at Vanderbilt University specializing in homelessness.

And there is debate about whether tiny homes should be accepted as permanent housing. About two-thirds of the tiny homes in the Austin village have no plumbing, forcing residents to leave their units to access communal bathrooms.

The units without bathrooms don't meet the housing quality standards set by the federal government, which has given some activists pause.

"The focus has to be on housing somebody," said Alex Visotzky, senior California policy fellow for the National Alliance to End Homelessness. "And housing means having a bathroom, kitchen, a sense of privacy, the rights of tenancy and the stability that comes along with it. That has to be the end goal. That's what ends somebody's homelessness."

Austin's Graham strongly disagrees. If people want to live in a small unit they can afford with no bathroom, that should be their right, he said. Besides, no one in his community has to walk more than 100 feet to a bathroom, he said.

"People should have a choice," Graham said, "and we should get people out from under the misery that they're living in as fast as we can."

A SENSE OF BELONGING

Graham, who lives in the tiny home village himself, describes the community as joyful with a "side salad of tension." Many residents have mental health conditions, and it's not unusual to see someone walk naked down the street, he said. The program doesn't require residents to be sober, and many have addictions. But after moving into the village, residents who use drugs self-report using an average of 80% less than they did on the street, Graham said.

Blair Racine, 69, has lived at Community First in Austin for five years. He pays about $500 a month to rent an old RV from the 1990s – one of the original dwellings set up before the organization began building fancier tiny homes. A graduate of the University of Minnesota and a former realtor, Racine said he fell into homelessness after an ex-business partner landed him in financial trouble and he had no family support to fall back on. He spent four years on the street and in homeless shelters.

Now, Racine feels like he belongs. People here call him "the Mayor," and he spends his days lending a listening ear and emotional support to his neighbors. He plans to live here until he dies. Then, he wants to be interned on site.

"I came out here and found this is my place," he said. "And the rest is history."

This article was originally published by CalMatters.



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CRIME WATCH

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

ON JUNE 15TH AT 11:35 AM

Officers arrived at Ralphs, 1600 block of Cloverfield, after receiving information that someone had broken out the window of a car in the parking lot. Officers arrived to find a female standing near a vehicle with a broken window bleeding from several small lacerations on her face. The individual explained that she was sitting in her car when a male suspect approached and smashed her driver's side window with a windshield wiper. Jacob Tajalle was located nearby and arrested for assault with a deadly weapon, vandalism and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Santa Monica Daily Press
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Summons

Summons (Civil Harassment Restraining Order) Orden de Restricción por acoso Civil) Case Number: 23STR002913 Superior 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 Notice to: (name of person to be restrained) Aviso a (Nombre de la persona a ser restringida) Donald Jake Sellers The person in 1 is asking for Civil Harassment Restraining Order Against you La Persona en 1 esta pidiendo una restricción por acoso civil contra usted
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 a https://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.

HOURS MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00am - 5:00pm
LOCATION 1640 5th Street, Suite 218, Santa Monica, CA 90401

ACTION

FROM PAGE 4

stuck with people that don't look like me, can't relate to me, and with no way to escape it."

Kaba stayed at Eastern Michigan and graduated with a degree in quantitative economics this year. Even though it's a mostly white campus, Kaba said she found pockets of diversity that helped make her comfortable.

"I'm in economics, which is a white male-dominated space. But I can walk out of the classroom and be surrounded by my people, and I just feel safe," she said.

The University of California saw similar enrollment slides after a statewide ban in 1996. Within two years, Black and Hispanic enrollments fell by half at the system's two most selective campuses, Berkeley and UCLA. The system would go on to spend more than $500 million on programs aimed at low-income and first-generation college students.

The system also started a program that promises admission to the top 9% of students in each high school across the state, an attempt to reach strong students from all backgrounds. A similar promise in Texas has been credited for expanding racial diversity, and opponents of affirmative action cite it as a successful model.

In California, the promise drew students from a wider geographic area but did little to expand racial diversity, the system said in a brief to the Supreme Court. It had almost no impact at Berkeley and UCLA, where students compete against tens of thousands of other applicants.

Today at UCLA and Berkeley, Hispanic students make up 20% of undergraduates, higher than in 1996 but lower than their 53% share among California's high school graduates. Black students, meanwhile, have a smaller presence than they did in 1996, accounting for 2% of undergraduates at Berkeley.

Opponents of affirmative action say some states have fared well without it. After Oklahoma outlawed the practice in 2012, the state's flagship university saw "no long-term severe decline" in minority enrollments, the state's attorney general told the Supreme Court.

It pointed to a recent freshman class at the University of Oklahoma that had more Hispanic, Asian and Native American students than in 2012. The share of Black students fell, but it wasn't far from flagship universities in other states that allow affirmative action, the state said.

Still, many colleges expect racial diversity could take a hit. With affirmative action struck down, colleges fear they will unknowingly admit fewer students of color. In the long run, it can be self-perpetuating — if numbers fall, the campus can appear less attractive to future students of color.

That's a problem, colleges say, because racial diversity benefits the entire campus, exposing students to other worldviews and preparing them for a diverse workforce.

"We need to make sure we're sending the message that we're committed to diversity, independent of what the court does," said Doug Christiansen, dean of admissions at Vanderbilt University.

The stakes are high for colleges like Vanderbilt, where Black students make up 9% of the student body, more than most highly selective colleges. But the school isn't planning a major shift in strategy, Christiansen said this spring. Instead, it plans to build on efforts to recruit in diverse areas and expand its outreach.

In some ways, colleges have been preparing for an end to affirmative action since earlier legal challenges, Christiansen said. "These are things we've had to think about for quite some time," he said.

Beyond race, the decision has the impact to reshape other admissions policies. To draw more underserved populations, experts say colleges may need to do away with policies that advantage white students, from legacy preferences and early admission to standardized test scores.

At Amherst, officials ended legacy preferences in 2021 and expanded financial aid. The college is looking for ways to sustain its diversity, but officials say options are limited.

"I don't know if there's going to be some terrific innovation," McGann said. "If a school had figured it out, they would be doing it already."

WEATHER

FROM PAGE 1

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Public Health) has issued a reminder to take precautions against heat-related illnesses during the upcoming holiday weekend.

Extreme heat poses a significant health risk, especially for vulnerable groups such as young children, the elderly, individuals with chronic diseases, pregnant women, people with disabilities, and socially isolated individuals who may be more sensitive to the negative impacts of extreme heat. It is crucial to never leave infants, children, pets, or individuals with impairments alone in a parked car, as temperatures inside a vehicle can rise to deadly levels within minutes. If you come across a child or pet left alone in a car, call 911 immediately.

If you or someone you know is at a substantial health risk, it is advisable to have a friend or relative check on you twice a day during the heatwave. Similarly, if you know someone who is susceptible to heat-related issues, such as the sick, elderly, pregnant women, children, or those who live alone, make sure to check on them at least twice a day. Infants and young children require even more frequent monitoring.

Officials said those at risk should stay cool and if outdoors, avoid physical activity. Everyone should stay hydrated and keep pets or children out of high temperature situations, such as cars.

The weather also raises the risk of fire. While dangers such as lawn care creating a spark, hot coals from a grill or embers from an illegal encampment are constant problems, this weekend has the additional concern of illegal fireworks.

All fireworks are illegal in the county and officials say the best way to enjoy the holiday is at a legal fireworks show.

In Santa Monica, there is only one legal fireworks show.

Santa Monica College (SMC) will host its show, "Celebrate America 2023" on Saturday, July 1, at Corsair Field on the main SMC campus at 1900 Pico Blvd. Admission to the popular entertainment and fireworks spectacular is free.

editor@smdp.com

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (June 30)

What once eluded you will finally fall firmly into your grasp — such sweet satisfaction! You'll be a disciplined investor, conducting research before going all-in. Several financial wins are featured, though the principle applies in non-financial matters. You are careful and wise. What you give your heart, time and creativity to will pay you in abundance. Virgo and Capricorn adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 1, 4, 44, 14 and 28.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You'll look at what is, and what's behind what is, and, if possible, what's inside it. Instead of guessing, ask open-ended questions. The answers will only produce more questions, but at least they'll narrow the scope of this investigation.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Ever aware of the vastness of the universe, you resist a narrow focus. Locality is relative. What's happening in your room will be forgotten when you get to town, and what's in town will be forgotten when you leave the country.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Stand by your own definition of beauty. As a wise pig once said, "Beauty is in the eye of the beholder, and it may be necessary from time to time to give a stupid or misinformed beholder a black eye." — Miss Piggy

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You decide your role, then everything flows from character. The artist can turn any act into an act of art. The warrior can turn any act into an act of war... and it follows for the teacher, the lover and the provider.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Cats like you aren't really nocturnal, but they are hunting machines who can do some of their best work at night. There's something you want to acquire, and you'll be at your most clever about it after the sun goes down.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There's little point in trying to stop the flow of feelings because feelings are not amenable to suggestion. You may as well give in and feel emotions fully. Trust in your ability to process what comes. Your feelings will cleanse and heal you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You've experienced your share of consequences and you have known the repercussions of authority enforcing a sense of order. These experiences have led to the development of self-imposed boundaries. Check those restrictions. Do they still make sense?

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). While some are motivated by a reward that is just out of reach, you're in no mood to chase. You'd rather build on what you enjoy and do best and see what situations drift into the path of your happy industry.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your good attitude about bad things is a wonder. Enthusiasm is like an egg white that, with enough vigor, can be whipped into the light and wonderful meringue that turns a tart lemon pie into a spectacularly sweet dessert.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Maybe friends would keep your confidences, but it will cause you stress to wonder. It's better to keep private things to yourself, especially things like the minutiae of relationship statuses that are likely to change with the weather.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). If mistakes end up bringing good fortune in the form of lessons, work, new connections or setting some fortuitous course of action in motion, can they really be called mistakes? You are thankful and open to what comes.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). While there very well may be an art to breaking up, who would want to be in that position enough times to perfect it? The art of connection and reconciliation, on the other hand, is a joy to master.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

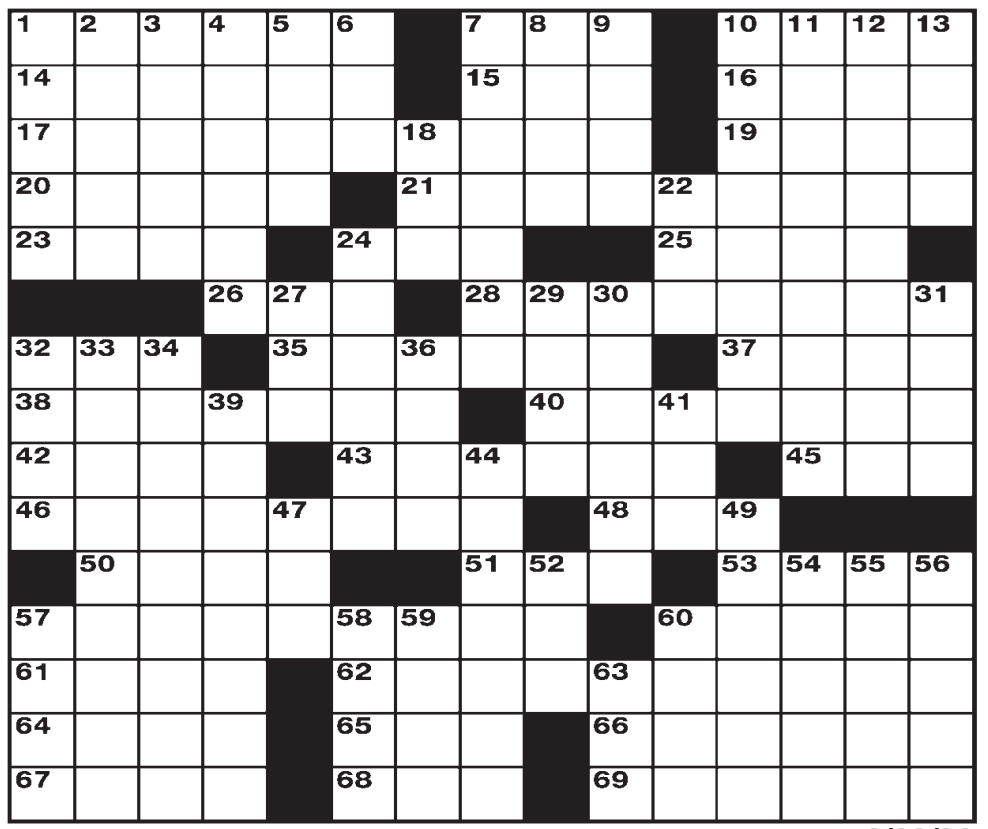
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4			1	5			8	
	5				8		7	
8		7		1		6		4
	1		2				9	
	6			8	5			1
7		1		6		5	3	
	8		3					

Newsday Crossword

POLYMATH PATRIOT by S.N.
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Gender equality issue
7 Altar declaration
10 Big number
14 Model railroad scale
15 #5 baby girl name in 2021
16 Western predator
17 A 62 Across occupation
19 Dread for Indiana Jones
20 Name akin to Ilie
21 A 62 Across occupation
23 Spotted
24 South America's __ Francisco River
25 How muesli tastes
26 Tallest dude on coins and bills
28 Area of impeded advancement
32 Half a union of unions
35 Hunter who became a clothier
37 Small notes
38 A 62 Across occupation
40 A 62 Across occupation
42 Trig figure
43 __ lion (beast in a Herculean labor)
45 Took down
46 And more, for long
48 Went first
50 Dust-up
51 Alcott's __ *Boys*
53 Knocks over
57 A 62 Across occupation
60 Black-and-white toon in *Two Scent's Worth*
61 Handel contemporary
62 Polymath Founding Father
64 Piece of a periscope
65 Go amiss
66 Follower of fair or long
67 11/15, e.g.
68 __-Thérèse, Quebec
69 Recently

DOWN
1 Produce category
2 Apt for acrobatics
3 Sotomayor, in the '70s
4 Large South American region
5 Catalysts, for short
6 NASCAR Hall of Fame designer
7 Zane Grey's "Get outta here!"
8 Common shape of cricket fields
9 Trick stick
10 Musical with "King Arthur's Song"
11 Vessel in WWI headlines
12 Parents-only household
13 Clean up
18 Turkish leader
22 Agricultural noun or verb
24 Lunar sister of Helios
27 Lettered lunch
29 Fill a hold
30 *Paper Moon* pair
31 Compass *dirección*
32 It adjoins an altar
33 Squandered (away)
34 How mail to some Cornhuskers is addressed
36 Contractional nickname missing OTH
39 Gratuitous
41 Compass reading
44 Force __ (disruptive event, in contract law)
47 Name on the cover of . . . *Red October*
49 Powers' nemesis
52 Shaq's first NBA team
54 Juilliard department
55 Flat topper
56 Celsius, but not Fahrenheit
57 It's east of Java
58 Cinematic franchise combatants
59 Low-slung racer
60 Dinner party expander
63 Letter on Greek euros



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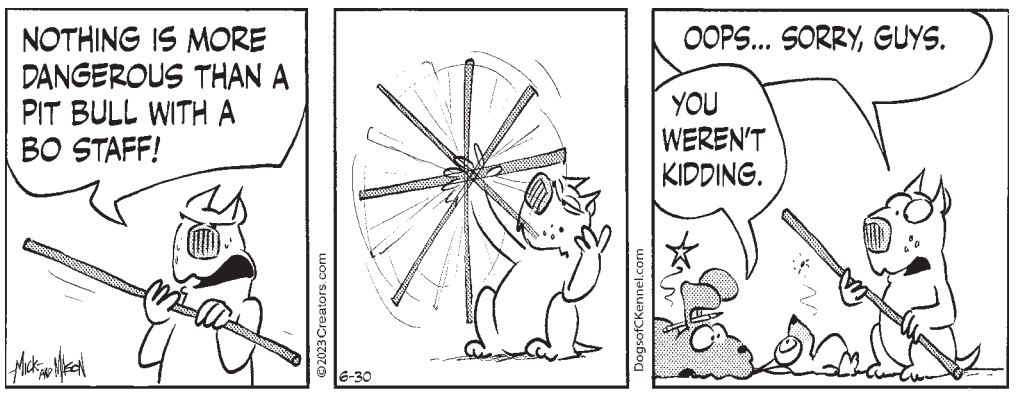
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



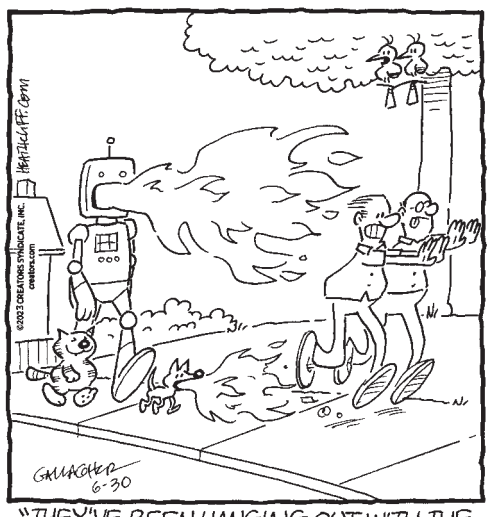
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



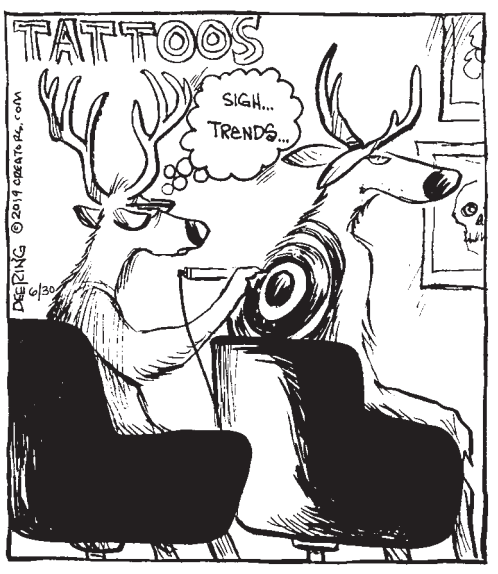
Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 18 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 5891

In the refrigerator

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

Beans	Devon	Lamb	Rolls
Beef	Diet	Lard	Sago
Bread	Dips	Leeks	Salad
Brie	Edam	Leg ham	dressing
Buns	Eggs	McDonald's	Snags
Cake	Energy	Meat	Soda
Cauliflower	Fish	Milk	Soup
Cheese	Fudge	Mince	Sponge
Chicken	Hash	Mouldy	Stew
Chops	Item	Oils	Tasty
Coke	Jam	Peas	Tomatoes
Condiments	Jelly	Pie	Wine
Curds	Juice	Ricotta	Wrap

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What's Up Westside

out and about in Santa Monica

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.

THURSDAY | JULY 6

THE KIDS ARE FINE, NOT GREAT

Three hilarious, fresh faced, up-and-coming college-age stand-ups will perform alongside three well-established, big-name comedians to create a show that's guaranteed to have audiences roaring with laughter. Curated Comedy with comics from HBO, Netflix, Comedy Central and late night TV. Bergamot Station Arts Center. 2525 Michigan Ave. Santa Monica, CA

TECH & TASKS

Volunteer tutors provide help with reading documents or written tasks, using mobile devices, navigating government websites, filling out forms, using email, writing resumes, and more. The July 13 program includes transportation representatives from the Santa Monica Active Aging Program. 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Main Library, Tutoring Center.

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



SURF REPORT

WATER TEMP: **66.4**

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.
SATURDAY *POOR TO FAIR*	**SURF:**	2-3ft Thigh to waist	Trending toward very small again but maybe still enough swell leftover from the SSW and NW to be rideable. Should be clean in the morning..

WEATHER

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.
Saturday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 74.
Saturday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 64.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
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
2023/07/02	Sun	2:27 PM	2.35	L
2023/07/02	Sun	8:56 PM	6.95	H
2023/07/03	Mon	04:26 AM	-1.52	L
2023/07/03	Mon	10:59 AM	3.77	H
2023/07/03	Mon	3:16 PM	2.31	L
2023/07/03	Mon	9:42 PM	7.08	H
2023/07/04	Tue	05:11 AM	-1.62	L
2023/07/04	Tue	11:45 AM	3.89	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: 6/28
19 25 34 57 68
Power#: 4
Jackpot: 493 M

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

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 6/28
5 9 12 34 46
Mega#: 27
Jackpot: 72 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 6/28
9 10 21 22 38

Daily 3
Draw Date: 6/28
EVENING: 3 1 7
Draw Date: 6/28
MIDDAY: 7 3 6

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 6/28
1st: 09 - Winning Spirit
2nd: 02 - Lucky Star
3rd: 01 - Gold Rush
Race Time: 1:45.20

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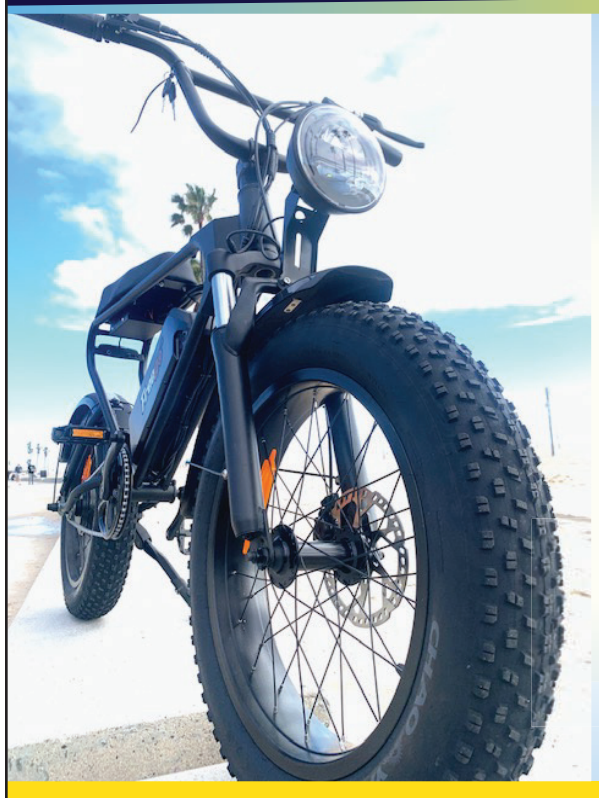
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