2 **Local entrepreneur**
Honored by alma mater.

4 **State Legislature**
Makes flurry of changes.

7 **HOA Homefront**
On Fair Housing Laws.

8&9 **Real Estate Map**
Westside spots for rent.

smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

Volume 23 Issue 164 | THE WEEKENDER 7/5-7/7 | smdp.com

Smart beachgoers called on to keep beaches healthy on holidays



Photo by Thomas Leffler

BEACH: Heal the Bay organizes beach cleanups in Santa Monica, and has been stressing beach health during a busy Independence Day season.

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

Though the festivities of Independence Day are now in the rearview, Santa Monica's beaches are still littered with remnants of the holiday, and not in a positive way.

July 5 is often called the most dirty day of the year on public beaches, with Santa Monica being no different. Independence Day follows other summer holidays like Memorial Day and Labor Day in being particularly nasty with plastic wrappers and other debris, a combination of sheer tourism amounts and the attitude of those trekking the beaches.

"I think that day when you see visitorship quadruple, it can be very overwhelming," said Heal the Bay Senior Director of Community Outreach & Connection Meredith McCarthy. "I think people are coming from all over the state, the region, the country to visit the beach, people who aren't as devoted to the care and welfare of our beaches. The mentality is, oh, this is somebody's job to pick up this stuff after I visit the beach."

McCarthy stressed that beach cities like Santa Monica "do a great job" in daily beach maintenance and debris removal, but that holidays like Independence Day can be "brutal" due to the "intense number of people at the beaches." She added that beach cleanup can be difficult on these days, particularly with trying to empty trash cans people see on the sand. These cans begin to fill up rapidly,

SEE **BEACH** PAGE 7



Gary Limjap
(310) 586-0339

In today's real estate climate ...
Experience counts!
garylimjap@gmail.com www.garylimjap.com

COLDWELL BANKER
CalRE # 00927151

City of Santa Monica
WOODLAWN
Cemetery
Mausoleum
Mortuary
FD #2101

Helping families honor, remember, and celebrate life.



• Traditional Burial • Green/Natural Burial • Cremation
• Funeral Planning & Mortuary Services
ALL IN ONE LOCATION

1847 14th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90404 ▪ (310) 458-8717 (on-call - 24/7)
woodlawn.cemetery@santamonica.gov ▪ www.woodlawnsm.com

TAXES
ALL FORMS • ALL TYPES • ALL STATES
BACK TAXES • BOOKKEEPING • SMALL BUSINESS
(310) 395-9922
SAMUEL B. MOSES, CPA
100 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1800 • Santa Monica 90401

Tool Repair & Servicing

Bourget Bros. offers Expert Repair on all of your tools:

Compressors
Rotary Hammers
Strip Nailers
Cordless Tools
Pneumatic Tools
Demolition Hammers & More





Blade Sharpening
Saw Blades
Gardening Tools
Knifes and Scissors

Bourget Bros. Building Materials
1636 - 11th Street
Santa Monica, CA 90404
bourgetbros.com • (310) 450-6556

All repair work meets factory regulations and comes with a 90-day warranty. Stop in or call us to schedule service.

Santa Monica automotive entrepreneur honored for second year by ASU Alumni Association



Courtesy photo

ARIZONA: Local entrepreneur Kevin Emamian has been honored once more by his alma mater, Arizona State University.

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

Santa Monica resident Kevin Emamian, owner of The Haus automotive repair center has been recognized by his alma mater, Arizona State University (ASU), for the second straight year for launching and managing a successful and fast-growing business.

At the event held at the university's main campus, 135 outstanding alumni were announced as members of the class of 2024 in the annual awards program that recognizes the fastest-growing alumni-owned or -led organizations. They range from individual business owners to leaders of large corporations from dozens of industries, including architecture, construction, information technology, legal, marketing and public relations, nonprofit and real estate.

Emamian was also nominated last year, but this year he was recognized in the next revenue category up, which is only possible if your business has continued to grow, by a specified and significant amount.

"It's a little like I was competing in the lightweight category last year and now, this year, I've been able to qualify for the middleweight category," Emamian said. He ranked #16 in the $250k-$1.99 million tier (last year) and ranked #30 in the $2 million-$9.99 million tier (for 2024) — both out of over 40 other competitors in each category.

Eligible companies are evaluated based on their remarkable percentage increase in gross sales and revenue over the previous three consecutive years, categorized into three financial tiers of $250,000–$1.999 million, $2 million–$9.999 million and $10 million-plus.

"Although, I think it might be a little while before I'm able to compete in the top category," he laughed, adding, "But it is truly an honor to be acknowledged by my university, which takes pride in nurturing both current and future entrepreneurs."

This year there were 52 first time honorees, a total of 34 out-of-state businesses in 17 different states across the country,

SEE **ASU HONOR** PAGE 15

How a 'once in a century' broadband investment plan could go wrong

KHARI JOHNSON

Starting next week, California residents have 30 days to challenge maps that will determine how $1.8 billion is distributed to increase internet access in the state.

Actually getting the California Public Utilities Commission to accept changes to the federal maps is quite difficult, which internet access advocates with educational backgrounds are raising alarm over.

For example, after the COVID-19 pandemic hit and teachers at the Fresno Unified School District started teaching classes remotely, Philip Neufeld started work to ensure 7,000 students could log on.

Neufeld, a district IT worker and member of the Fresno Coalition for Digital Inclusion, started noticing patterns. He heard about students going to Taco Bell and McDonald's for WiFi to do their homework, but he saw comparatively low download speeds across entire neighborhoods, disparities that reminded him of redlining, the practice of denying people housing and wealth based on their race. Neufeld and a colleague built an open source tool to gather 14 million speed tests across Fresno over the span of two years.

"What it shows is that it's not just people in rural areas who have a real need for better internet," he said. "It's people in urban, low-income neighborhoods in apartment buildings and mobile home parks, and these patterns are showing up across multiple large cities that have higher poverty."

> "What it shows is that it's not just people in rural areas who have a real need for better internet"
> - Philip Neufeld

Data collected from students in Fresno mirrors "digital redlining" documented in other parts of the United States. But the government won't use data like the kind collected in Fresno to redraw a map that will decide how to distribute the money because Neufeld's data doesn't conform precisely to the strict challenge process that's been put in place. That's one of a number of ways advocacy groups say the process to challenge how funding for affordable high-speed internet is difficult. Some advocates have gone so far as to suggest the challenge process is broken by design.

'ONCE IN A CENTURY' BROADBAND FUNDING

Shortly after the COVID-19 pandemic exposed areas of the digital divide — the gap between people with ready access to reliable internet and those who don't — for students and workers, Congress passed an infrastructure bill in 2021 to invest more than $42 billion in broadband internet projects in all 50 U.S. states and six territories. California got $1.8 billion for such projects. A U.S. Department of Commerce agency oversees the program and the California Public Utilities Commission distributes the money to local projects.

Government officials and advocates alike refer to the Broadband Equity Access and Deployment, or BEAD program, as a once in a generation or, as a contractor working with the California Public Utilities Commission put it, a "once in a century" investment in affordable high-speed internet access.

But advocates say maps compiled with data provided by internet service providers are highly inaccurate while the challenge process is short, arduous, and unfairly places the burden of proving that inaccuracy on people in areas unserved or underserved. They warn this could lead to the once in a generation money being misspent.

HOW TO CHALLENGE GOVERNMENT INTERNET ACCESS MAPS

Anyone can visit a state online portal to find out if their home or nearby community institutions are designated as eligible for funding, or if the map inaccurately says they have internet access or adequate internet speed. They can use the same portal to run tests to challenge things about their home internet like speed or latency. Successful challenges can change a home designation, but there's no guarantee that the challenge will make a difference because only certain parties can challenge the maps.

Only local and tribal governments, internet service providers, and advocacy groups can demand changes to the map, and so in order for an individual who challenges claims about their internet access to be heard, one of these groups must verify the evidence gathered by an individual and claim their challenge in order for it to be recognized by state and federal agencies.

Among more than 80 such organizations registered to participate in the challenge process, roughly two dozen are municipal, county, or tribal governments.

To successfully challenge internet speeds, an individual must carry out speed tests three times a day over the span of three days and provide details. They must also subscribe to a broadband speed plan or the highest tier plan available from an internet service provider.

Inspired by Neufeld, Oakland Undivided did a similar speed test in late 2023 in partnership with the Oakland Unified School District and HubbleIQ. There they found that more than half of 18,000 students had download speeds that would qualify for

SEE **INTERNET** PAGE 4



Surf report — WATER TEMP: 69.1

FRIDAY — *FAIR TO GOOD*
SURF: 4-5ft Chest to head
Overlapping SSW swells offer decent size for summer exposures. Not much NW windswell in the mix so the average beachbreaks get pretty walled. The points/spots with some structure are the best option for any kind of shape.

SATURDAY — *FAIR TO GOOD*
SURF: 4-6ft Chest to overhead
A bit more of a coastal eddy setup possible — could bring dicey SE wind for the morning. SSW swell energy holds steady with just trace NW windswell in the mix. Beachbreaks are mostly walled and you'll want structure for decent shape.

Weather

Friday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 78.
Friday Night: Clear, with a low around 69.
Saturday: Partly sunny, with a high near 77.
Saturday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, cloudy, with a low around 67.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)High/Low
2024/07/05	Fri	04:15 AM	-1.17	L
2024/07/05	Fri	10:53 AM	3.77	H
2024/07/05	Fri	3:08 PM	2.49	L
2024/07/05	Fri	9:26 PM	6.57	H
2024/07/06	Sat	04:54 AM	-1.09	L
2024/07/06	Sat	11:33 AM	3.81	H
2024/07/06	Sat	3:51 PM	2.49	L
2024/07/06	Sat	10:05 PM	6.38	H
2024/07/07	Sun	05:31 AM	-0.89	L
2024/07/07	Sun	12:11 PM	3.84	H
2024/07/07	Sun	4:34 PM	2.50	L
2024/07/07	Sun	10:43 PM	6.08	H
2024/07/08	Mon	06:06 AM	-0.60	L
2024/07/08	Mon	12:48 PM	3.88	H
2024/07/08	Mon	5:18 PM	2.53	L
2024/07/08	Mon	11:21 PM	5.68	H
2024/07/09	Tue	06:40 AM	-0.23	L
2024/07/09	Tue	1:25 PM	3.93	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: 7/1
5 9 32 39 55
Power#: 9
Jackpot: 138 M

MEGA MILLIONS — Draw Date: 7/2
4 8 19 31 45
Mega#: 11
Jackpot: 162 M

SuperLotto Plus — Draw Date: 6/29
8 10 12 21 25
Mega#: 16
Jackpot: 49 M

Fantasy 5 — Draw Date: 7/2
1 4 15 16 28

Daily 3 — Draw Date: 7/2
EVENING: 4 3 7
Draw Date: 7/2
MIDDAY: 9 3 2

Daily Derby — Draw Date: 7/2
1st: 03 - Hot Shot
2nd: 06 - Whirl Win
3rd: 02 - Lucky Star
Race Time: 1:42.88

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

Thomas Leffler
thomas@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

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

AWARD WINNER

Sustainable Quality Awards
WINNER

The Santa Monica Daily Press publishes Monday - Saturday with a circulation of 8,200 on weekdays and 8,000 on the weekend. The Daily Press is adjudicated as a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Los Angeles and covers news relevant to the City of Santa Monica. The Daily Press is a member of the California Newspaper Publisher's Association, the National Newspaper Association and the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce. The paper you're reading this on is composed of 100% post consumer content and the ink used to print these words is soy based. We are proud recipients of multiple honors for outstanding news coverage from the California Newspaper Publishers Association as well as a Santa Monica Sustainable Quality Award.

PUBLISHED BY NEWLON ROUGE, LLC
© 2023 Newlon Rouge, LLC, all rights reserved.
Santa Monica Daily Press

INTERNET

FROM PAGE 3

BEAD funding and heat map patterns that resemble historical redlining. Speeds are 10 times better in high income neighborhoods in the area serviced by AT&T, Comcast, Sonic, and T-Mobile, but the FCC map shows that adequate coverage is nearly ubiquitous throughout the city of Oakland.

"We've been talking with a lot of other digital equity coalitions around the state in Fresno, LA, and we kind of all agree that this process is designed to make it impossible for communities to submit data," said Patrick Messac, director of Oakland Undivided, a nonprofit organization started during the COVID-19 pandemic that last year critiqued a map for distributing billions of dollars for a state broadband program.

> We've been talking with a lot of other digital equity coalitions around the state in Fresno, LA, and we kind of all agree that this process is designed to make it impossible for communities to submit data
> - Patrick Messac

Because of the difficulty involved with collecting speed test data, Oakland Undivided changed focus from speed tests and the challenge process to instead seek greater internet availability for community institutions. But Messac, who also works in IT for the city of Oakland, worries that the federal broadband dollars could get depleted before places like schools, libraries, and Head Start centers would be in line for funding.

"What we are finding, and others have noted as well, is that the National Map overstates coverage," said Adeyinka Ogunlegan, the vice president of government affairs and policy for Education Superhighway.

That group is focused on improving internet speeds in apartment buildings since roughly 1 in 4 people who lack internet access live there. It's one of the only organizations nationwide planning to mount challenges in all 50 U.S. states, with 800 planned challenges in California alone. Education Superhighway is also choosing to focus on availability challenges instead of speed tests. Ogunlegan wouldn't go so far as to say the challenge process is designed to fail, but said it's difficult for organized groups that have followed the process for years to participate, so it must be challenging for the average individual as well. Making people call internet service providers instead of using an online tool, for example, makes it harder to gather evidence that an internet provider does not offer services at your address.

John Windhausen is executive director of Schools, Health, and Libraries Broadband Coalition, a nonprofit organization with hundreds of member groups. He's hearing from members that the challenge process is very difficult.

"We are concerned that internet service providers allege that they serve areas but many locations cannot receive the level of service required by the BEAD program," he said.

Alexis Schrubbe is director of the Internet Equity Initiative at the University of Chicago and a member of the National Broadband Mapping Coalition. She helped make an open source tool for residents to carry out speed tests and agrees with other broadband experts who say the map for allocating the federal funding overstates coverage. She encourages anyone dissatisfied with their internet to mount a challenge and take the opportunity to participate. It can seem like a lot of labor but it's really not for a once-in-a-lifetime chance.

"This is everybody's best chance to have their complaint heard, so they should take advantage of it," she said. "Don't be afraid to ask questions, and don't be intimidated by the process. It's our best chance to make the maps right and to stand up and advocate for ourselves."

'(CALIFORNIA) SHOULD BE A LEADER IN THIS SPACE'

The challenge process for the federal money in California begins July 3 and ends Aug. 5. After the public submits challenges to the map, internet service providers get their chance to rebut those challenges. The California Public Utilities Commission expects to make final determinations by the end of the year.

Initiatives to narrow the digital divide started to backslide in recent months with the loss of the federal Affordable Connectivity Program subsidy in April.

In more positive news, 10 affordable broadband projects received initial approval last week. The public utilities commission is slated to make a final decision with a vote in August. Also last week: the Federal Communications Commission said it plans to modernize its E-Rate program. A change, if adopted at a July 18 meeting, would allow more schools access to funding to loan students Wi-Fi hotspots for use at home.

Both internet service providers and groups passionate about ending the digital divide are campaigning for AB 2239, a draft bill that defines digital discrimination to broadband internet access and allows city attorneys and district attorneys to file suit against internet service providers.

However the challenge process turns out, Neufeld wants state education groups to continue to routinely run speed tests on devices loaned to students. If anonymized and made into a formal process, the tests could inform broadband investments or prove patterns of neglect that can lead to legal action under AB 2239 in order to hold internet service providers to account.

"We [California] should be a leader in this space," he said. "There's no reason at a state level that we couldn't have a better way of mapping users' real experience."

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

California Legislature makes a flurry of big changes to November ballot measures



Photo by Rahul Lal, CalMatters

ELECTION: The state Capitol in Sacramento, Calif. on Wednesday, July 6, 2022.

DAN WALTERS

With California's votes for president and U.S. senator being foregone conclusions, the state's political establishment has been gearing up for multimillion-dollar battles over high-stakes ballot measures this year.

However, seemingly overnight — but really in about one week — the November ballot has undergone a radical makeover.

Several major ballot measures have been dropped, sometimes in favor of legislative compromises. Meanwhile, Gov. Gavin Newsom and legislators have added two large bond issues and a criminal justice measure aimed at undermining a more punitive proposal already on the ballot.

The common denominator of these maneuvers is that all were negotiated and drafted in utter secrecy and are being implemented at warp speed.

A new legislative proposal dictates the order in which measures appear on the ballot so as to give those favored by Newsom and legislators a better chance of winning. It does so with a parliamentary trick — declaring that the Nov. 5 election is also a special election.

The ballot measure gamesmanship thus continues the tendency of dominant Democrats to operate behind closed doors and reveal their actions only after deals have been cut — a strategy very obviously used for the state budget.

One example is a $10 billion bond issue for construction and modernization of public schools and community colleges. As it surfaced, a coalition of civil rights groups complained that it favors projects in wealthy school districts over those in poorer areas.

"If the state fails to put an equitable bond on the November ballot that fixes these glaring inequities, we will have to consider pursuing legal action on behalf of the students, families and community organizations we represent," Nicole Gon Ochi, an attorney for Public Advocates, said in a statement.

The other bond issue, also $10 billion, would finance a variety of environmental projects under the rubric of climate change and were omitted from the deficit-ridden state budget. The move continues a troublesome tendency to pile on debt when revenues fall short.

Negotiated legislative deals led sponsors of two initiative measures to drop them, one to repeal the Private Attorney Generals Act that empowers workers to sue their employers for violations of state labor law, and another that would require schools to provide personal finance instruction.

Newsom and other Democrats also persuaded the state Supreme Court to void a measure that would have made it much more difficult to raise state and local taxes.

Meanwhile, after spending millions of dollars to qualify it, the oil industry is dropping a referendum to repeal a law restricting the siting of oil wells near schools and other public places — a tactical win for environmental groups. An industry coalition said that if the referendum had succeeded, the Legislature would have probably just reinstated the law, so the group may move the battle to the courts.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Bye bye, So Long, Farewell

In the wake of thirty-four guilty verdicts in the Donald Trump hush money case, the party that chanted "lock her up" has suddenly found religion. Conservatives who had no problem with the idea of incarcerating Ms. Clinton out of sheer revenge responded with rage when Trump was found guilty of thirty- four felonies. The never ending narrative from Fox and Newsmax has been that Joe Biden is weaponizing the justice department to attack his 2024 presidential opponent. In the process Bid en is perceived as single handedly attempting to destroy the democratic process that has reigned supreme in our country for close to two hundred and fifty years.

On the day that the verdicts were read all of the commentators who live in Trumpworld went ballistic. Fox News' Laura Ingraham had these words to say to her viewers: "This is a disgraceful day for the United States, a day that America may not recover from." Lidia Curanij a Newsmax pundit had an apocalyptic response to the verdicts: "The America we know and love has perished. President Trump found guilty on all thirty-four counts which could put him behind bars for the rest of his life, marking the end of what was once the fairest justice system in the world." Fox News' Sean Hannity pontificated in response to the jury verdicts: "Let me bear no doubt here. This is a sad day for our country. It's a sad day for our justice system, the best justice system ever created by man, the foundation of our constitutional republic. It's literally dying before your eyes."

A guy can find less drama at a Bette Davis film festival. These pundits seem to be suffering from collective amnesia. The folks at Fox and Newsmax have conveniently forgotten that when Hillery Clinton ran for president in 2016 she ran through eight Bengazi investigations, and an ongoing email inquiry. A few days before election day in 2016, the email case against Clinton was reopened perhaps having an impact on the final vote count. Common sense dictates that there was absolutely nothing wrong with any of those investigations of Clinton. The issue here has to do with unhinged hypocrisy on the part of the Republican party. When Hillery Clinton ran for president in 2016, she was faced with multiple legal challenges from the GOP. When Donald Trump has been put on trial for a variety of legitimate reasons. Republicans have accused Joe Biden of election interference.

Conservatives would have us believe that Trumpworld is a place where justice and the rule of law are embraced. The fact is, all of the employees of Fox and Newsmax have willfully chosen to forget that on January 6, 2021, thousands of radical supporters of Donald Trump attacked our nations' Capital building. One hundred and forty law enforcement officers were injured that day, and the mob chanted a terrible mantra: "Hang Mike Pence, hang Mike Pence." It has long been forgotten that in early 2021, Donald Trump's harshest critics were former "Speaker of the House" Kevin McCarthy and current "Senate Minority Leader" Mitch McConnell. On February 13, 2021, McConnell said these words about the former president: "January 6th was a disgrace. American citizens attacked their own government ... They tried to hunt down the Speaker of the House. They built a gallows and chanted about murdering the Vice President...There is no question none that President Trump was practically and morally responsible for the events of the day." In January of 2021, Kevin McCarthy condemned Donald Trump in no uncertain terms: "Last week's violent attack on the Capital was undemocratic unAmerican and criminal. Violence is never a legitimate form of protest. The President bears responsibility for Wednesday's attack on Congress by mob rioters."

In a speech given by Donald Trump on May 11, 2024 at Wildwood New Jersey, the former president provided our nation with a terrible prophecy of what a second Trump term will look like: "2024 is our final battle. With you by my side, we will demolish the deep state. We will expel the war mongers from our government. We will drive out the globalists. We will cast out the communists Marxists and fascists. We will throw off the sick political class that hates our country and we will rout the fake news media. We will drain the swamp, and we will liberate our country from these tyrants and villains once and for all." With these terrible words, the former president made it abundantly clear that in a second Trump term there will be a scorched earth purge of all of his political enemies.

Say goodbye to the United States of America. Say farewell to our great democracy. It was fun while it lasted.

W. Palmer Riley

LET US KNOW YOUR OPINION

Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

FOR QUOTES PLEASE CALL 310-573-8074

or email **cindy@smdp.com**

CLASSIFICATIONS					
Announcements	Pets	Apartments/Condos	Real Estate Loans	Attorney Services	Wealth and Success
Creative	Boats	Rent	Storage Space	Business	Lost and Found
Employment	Jewelry	Houses for Rent	Vehicles for Sale	Opportunities	Personals
For Sale	Wanted	Roommates	Massage	Yard Sales	Psychic
Furniture	Travel	Commercial Lease	Services	Health and Beauty	Obituaries
	Vacation Rentals	Real Estate	Computer Services	Fitness	Tutoring

Petition to Admin Estate

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: Steven Anthony Gunther CASE NUMBER: 23STPB07114 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of Steven Anthony Gunther A Petition for Probate has been filed by Mary Guilfoylein the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles-Stanley Mosk Courthouse. The Petition for Probate requests Mary Guilfoyle be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: Date: Aug 9, 2024 Time: 8:30 a.m Dept. 79 Room - Address of Court: Stanley Mosk Courthouse 111 N. Hill St Los Angeles, CA 90012 If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Law Offices of Eric D Riley. Eric D Riley 273702 567 W Channel Island Blvd Ste.210 Port Hueneme, CA 9304. Tel 805-244-5291 07/05/24, 07/12/24, 07/19/24

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

INSIDE
THE DAILY PRESS
PODCAST
smdp.com/pod
ALSO AVAILABLE ON

AI is learning from what you said on Reddit, Stack Overflow or Facebook. Are you OK with that?

MATT O'BRIEN
AP Technology Writer

Post a comment on Reddit, answer coding questions on Stack Overflow, edit a Wikipedia entry or share a baby photo on your public Facebook or Instagram feed and you are also helping to train the next generation of artificial intelligence.

Not everyone is OK with that — especially as the same online forums where they've spent years contributing are increasingly flooded with AI-generated commentary mimicking what real humans might say.

Some longtime users have tried to delete their past contributions or rewrite them into gibberish, but the protests haven't had much effect. A handful of governments — including Brazil's privacy regulator on Tuesday — have also tried to step in.

"A more significant portion of the population just kind of feels helpless," said Reddit volunteer moderator Sarah Gilbert, who also studies online communities at Cornell University. "There's nowhere to go except just completely going offline or not contributing in ways that bring value to them and value to others."

Platforms are responding — with mixed results. Take Stack Overflow, the popular hub for computer programming tips. First, it banned ChatGPT-written responses due to frequent errors, but now it's partnering with AI chatbot developers and has punished some of its own users who tried to erase their past contributions in protest.

It's one of a number of social media platforms grappling with user wariness — and occasional revolts — as they try to adapt to the changes brought by generative AI.

> A more significant portion of the population just kind of feels helpless
> - Sarah Gilbert

Software developer Andy Rotering of Bloomington, Minnesota, has used Stack Overflow daily for 15 years and said he worries the company "could be inadvertently hurting its greatest resource" — the community of contributors who've donated time to help other programmers.

"Keeping contributors incentivized to provide commentary should be paramount," he said.

Stack Overflow CEO Prashanth Chandrasekar said the company is trying to balance rising demand for instant chatbot-generated coding assistance with the desire for a community "knowledge base" where people still want to post and "get recognized" for what they've contributed.

"Fast forward five years — there's going to be all sorts of machine-generated content on the web," he said in an interview. "There's going to be very few places where there's truly authentic, original human thought. And we're one of those places."

Chandrasekar readily describes Stack Overflow's challenges as like one of the "case studies" he learned about at Harvard Business School, of a how a business survives — or doesn't — after a disruptive technological change.

For more than a decade, users typically landed on Stack Overflow after typing a coding question in Google, and then found the answer, copied and pasted it. The answers they were most likely to see came from volunteers who'd built up points measuring their credibility — which in some cases could help land them a job.

> Fast forward five years — there's going to be all sorts of machine-generated content on the web
> - Andy Rotering, Software developer

Now programmers can simply ask an AI chatbot — some of which are already trained

SEE AI PAGE 15

FIX YOUR CREDIT CONSULTING

Better Credit.
Better Life.

We are a top rated and fully bonded credit repair consulting company. We are extremely aggressive and also teach you how to maintain good credit. After reviewing your credit report, our Credit Consultants determine a customized fee based on your situation.



Give Us A Call Today! **(877) 212-2450** fixyourcreditconsulting.com

HOA HOMEFRONT

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Reader Questions – Is THIS OK Under Fair Housing Laws?

KELLY G. RICHARDSON, ESQ., CCAL

Kelly: The board recently voted to change the parking rules in our community handicapped stalls within the parking garage. The board says handicap stalls will be viewed as common visitor stalls subject to the same visitor parking limits. The intent of this change by the board is to punish individuals who park in handicapped stalls for extended periods of time. My concern is this does not comply with Fair Housing Act. N.K., Irvine.

Dear N.K.: If someone qualifies under the Fair Housing laws as "disabled" and needs access to parking spaces closer to the resident's home, the HOA rules take a back seat to the Fair Housing requirements. However, I often find that residents request special parking privileges that do not in fact assist them with their disability. For example, the person who prefers to park in visitor parking instead of their assigned garage, which is almost always closer. Accommodation requests must be viewed in a stand-alone fashion without regard to the governing documents. So, if someone truly is disabled and needs reasonable help from the HOA with that disability, the HOA rules may not prevent that help. Also, DMV-issued handicapped placards are not documentation of a current disability. Best regards, Kelly.

Mr. Richardson, our CC&Rs state that no animal of any kind shall be kept in any unit. Recently a resident adopted a large dog. The board approached the resident and a few days later she provided a letter from a psychiatrist stating that she suffers from anxiety and that the dog is a support animal. The letter claims that the Federal Fair Housing Act gives her the right to keep the animal despite the CC&Rs. Do HOAs have any recourse in this situation? The resident is a renter, not an owner, if that makes any difference. Thank you. K. D., Redondo Beach.

Dear K.D.: If the animal's necessity is properly documented by someone with direct knowledge of the resident (whether or not an owner) as an "assistive animal" then it is not a "pet" and is not subject to the HOA's pet rules. Website "certifications" aren't sufficient. Should the animal harm others, damage property, or otherwise cause a nuisance, the accommodation then becomes "unreasonable" and the owner of the animal can be held accountable for problems the animal causes. By the way, how can your HOA have a complete ban on animals in units, given Civil Code Section 4715, which protects the right of a resident to have one animal in their residence?

Thanks for your question, Kelly

Mr. Richardson, I am going to request a slight modification to our sidewalk/entry, to make it wheelchair accessible. Is the HOA obligated to honor my request per ADA, or anything else? Thank you in advance for your assistance. S.M., Dana Point

Dear S.M.: The ADA does not apply to most HOAs, which in most respects are not "public accommodations," but state and federal Fair Housing laws apply. If a resident suffers from a disability requiring the modification of the unit's entry, so long as the modification is "reasonable," the HOA may be required to allow it. The modification's cost in most instances must be paid for by the requesting resident. For more information on accommodating disabilities in California see https://calcivilrights.ca.gov. Sincerely, Kelly

Kelly G. Richardson CCAL is a Fellow of the College of Community Association Lawyers and Partner of Richardson Ober LLP, a California law firm known for community association advice. Send column questions to Kelly@roattorneys.com. Past columns at www.HOAHomefront.com. All rights reserved®.

BEACH

FROM PAGE 1

and seagulls and birds can pick at trash that overflows around the cans.

To remedy this, McCarthy recommends packing picnics with reusable materials moving forward, including bringing plates and forks from home, as well as keeping as much trash away from beach cans as possible.

"It's really important to tuck a garbage bag into your picnic and pack out your supplies, getting it into a completely overflowing garbage can is not good enough," McCarthy said. "We need to take it home, and I think that's just something that a good conscientious beachgoer can probably figure out."

For July 5 and beyond, Heal the Bay is an ocean health non-profit constantly at work helping local beaches, hosting over 400 cleanups per year. McCarthy said that these cleanups have involved "a big footprint of mighty-hearted volunteers," over 200,000 of them thus far, and that the cleanups are important in "tackling the difficult small plastics" that regular beach maintenance machines miss. The group is going to pass its two millionth pound of trash collected during its annual Coastal Cleanup Day later this year, something she called a "startling number" considering its status as a smaller non-profit.

McCarthy added that the work is paramount to global survival, as the ocean produces protein that sustains half of the planet's population. Locally, a healthy coastal ecosystem is also a major economic driver for Santa Monica, making beach health ever-present.

"As a global partner, a global coastal partner, we play a role in preventing marine debris from entering the coastal system that really sustains half the planet, so it's in our best interest to do our part to protect our piece of that global footprint," McCarthy said.

thomas@smdp.com

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
ORDINANCE NUMBER 2782 (CCS)
(CITY COUNCIL SERIES)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA (CITY) AMENDING Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC) Chapter 9.53 to Align the City's Transportation Demand Management Ordinance with South Coast Air Quality Management District's (SCAQMD) Rule 2202

The following is a summary of Ordinance Number 2782 (CCS) prepared by the Office of the City Attorney:

Per a memorandum of understanding with the South Coast Air Quality Management District, the City is required to align its transportation demand management ordinance (SMMC Chapter 9.53) with SCAQMD's rules and regulations. In August 2023, SCAQMD updated Rule 2202 to require employers to collect and report on additional data on employee commute activity which will be analyzed to inform potential future rule amendments. Ordinance Number 2782 amends SMMC Chapter 9.53 to address Rule 2202 changes associated with employee commuting behaviors, such as the increase in teleworking, and to capture additional data on employee commute activity which will be analyzed to inform a potential future rule amendment.

The Ordinance takes effect 30 days after adoption.

The full text of the above Ordinance is available upon request from the office of the City Clerk, located at 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica. Phone: (310) 458-8211.

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
ORDINANCE NUMBER 2783 (CCS)
(CITY COUNCIL SERIES)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA (CITY) AMENDING Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC) Article VIII To Adopt Local Amendments To The 2022 California Green Building Standards Code Relating To Electric Vehicle (EV) Parking Requirements For Newly Constructed Buildings

The following is a summary of Ordinance Number 2783 (CCS) prepared by the Office of the City Attorney:

The City Council previously adopted EV Charger Reach Codes; codes that go beyond the state mandatory requirements under the California Green Building Standards Code (CALGreen), in 2020 and again in 2022. The California Building Standards Commission recently adopted changes to the 2022 CALGreen EV charging requirements, which took effect July 1, 2024, and include significant increases to the required charging infrastructure in new multifamily buildings. Ordinance Number 2783 supports increased EV adoption by making it much easier for residents to charge at home. The 2024 Santa Monica EV Charger Reach Code brings the City's Green Building Code into compliance with the 2024 CALGreen Intervening Code Cycle and includes additional requirements through CALGreen Tier 1. Ordinance Number 2783 adopts the Voluntary Requirements of Tier 1 Option A for residential buildings and readopting Tier 1 with an increased local requirement for office parking facilities under the non-residential building category.

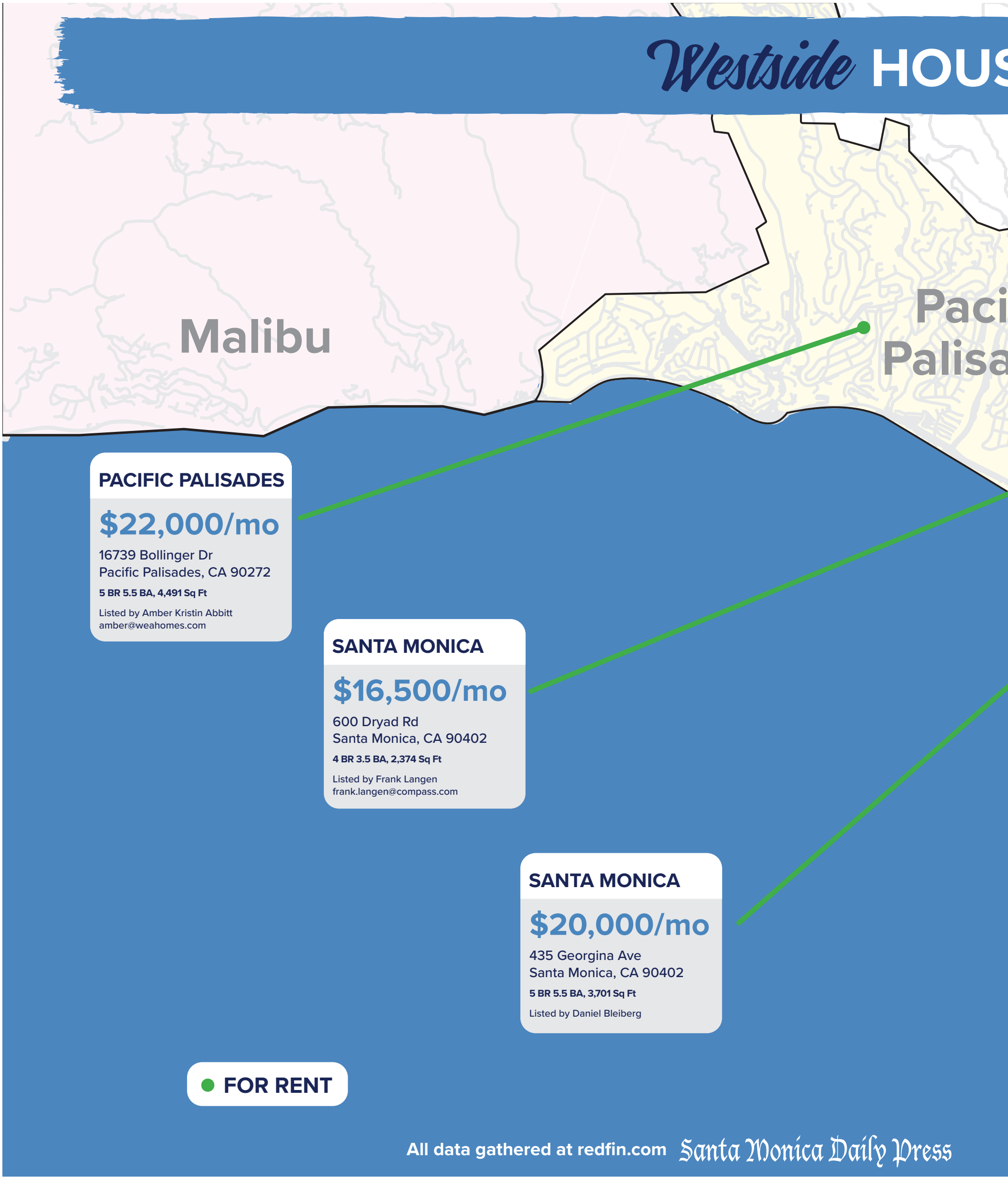
The Ordinance takes effect 30 days after adoption.

The full text of the above Ordinance is available upon request from the office of the City Clerk, located at 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica. Phone: (310) 458-8211.

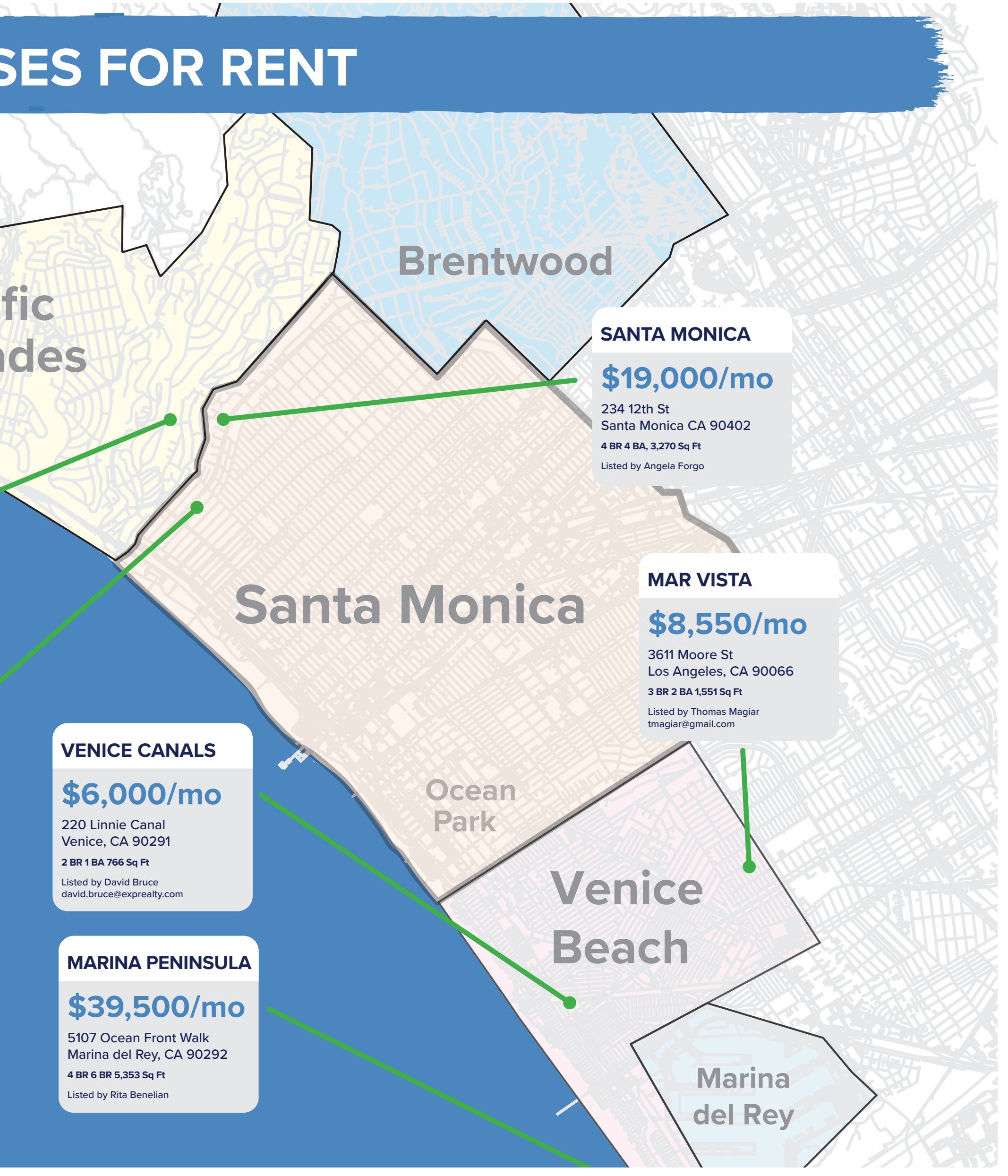
Explore your **neighborhood.**
Support your **community.**

Buy Local SANTA MONICA
buylocalsantamonica.com™

It makes a difference!


Westside HOUS
Malibu
Paci
Palisa
PACIFIC PALISADES
$22,000/mo
16739 Bollinger Dr
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272
5 BR 5.5 BA, 4,491 Sq Ft
Listed by Amber Kristin Abbitt
amber@weahomes.com
SANTA MONICA
$16,500/mo
600 Dryad Rd
Santa Monica, CA 90402
4 BR 3.5 BA, 2,374 Sq Ft
Listed by Frank Langen
frank.langen@compass.com
SANTA MONICA
$20,000/mo
435 Georgina Ave
Santa Monica, CA 90402
5 BR 5.5 BA, 3,701 Sq Ft
Listed by Daniel Bleiberg
FOR RENT
All data gathered at redfin.com
Santa Monica Daily Press

SES FOR RENT



SANTA MONICA

$19,000/mo

234 12th St
Santa Monica CA 90402

4 BR 4 BA, 3,270 Sq Ft

Listed by Angela Forgo

MAR VISTA

$8,550/mo

3611 Moore St
Los Angeles, CA 90066

3 BR 2 BA 1,551 Sq Ft

Listed by Thomas Magiar
tmagiar@gmail.com

VENICE CANALS

$6,000/mo

220 Linnie Canal
Venice, CA 90291

2 BR 1 BA 766 Sq Ft

Listed by David Bruce
david.bruce@exprealty.com

MARINA PENINSULA

$39,500/mo

5107 Ocean Front Walk
Marina del Rey, CA 90292

4 BR 6 BR 5,353 Sq Ft

Listed by Rita Benelian

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

What will happen to gas prices and taxes if California shifts away from fossil fuels?

DAN WALTERS

California's taxes on gasoline, already among the nation's highest, increased by another 1.7 cents per gallon this week. Republicans blamed Gov. Gavin Newsom for increasing the state's sky-high living costs.

> Gavin Newsom just made living in California even more expensive by raising California's gas tax once again while refusing California Republicans' calls to suspend it
>
> - Jessica Millan Patterson

"Gavin Newsom just made living in California even more expensive by raising California's gas tax once again while refusing California Republicans' calls to suspend it," Jessica Millan Patterson, state GOP chairwoman, said in a statement. "Californians continue to pay the highest gas prices and endure some of the worst roads in the nation."

Newsom can be fairly criticized for many things he's done or not done over the last five years, but this one is a bum rap. The tax increase was simply an annual inflationary adjustment by the state Department of Tax and Fee Administration, required by a law that predates Newsom's governorship by many years.

The state's most recent big jump in gas taxes occurred in 2017, when the Legislature passed a bill aimed at increasing revenues by $5 billion a year to finance highway improvements. Opponents tried to cancel the tax increase through a ballot measure the following year, but voters rejected the repeal.

The tax increase then and the inflationary adjustments since have pushed California's total tax to nearly 70 cents per gallon — by most accounts the nation's highest. Yet the state's motorists still must contend with high levels of congestion and relatively poor pavement conditions.

As of 2020, California had the fourth worst roadway conditions of any state with just 67% of its 26,406 miles of pavement in "acceptable" condition, according to the federal Bureau of Transportation Statistics. Revenues from the gas-tax law are being spent to improve those conditions, but given the size of California's roadway network and its long-neglected condition, it could be years before improvements become evident.

A more fundamental issue is what will happen to gasoline prices and gas tax revenues as the state attempts to wean Californians away from gasoline-powered cars and make zero-emission vehicles the norm.

Transportation, particularly autos and light trucks, is California's largest single source of greenhouse gases as vehicles burn billions of gasoline each year. Therefore, reducing or eliminating those emissions is regarded as the key to achieving the state's goal of carbon neutrality by 2045.

Last September, the California Air Resources Board published a report on the effects of intensifying adoption of its Low Carbon Fuel Standard program, which is aimed at providing "the economic incentives to produce cleaner fuels like electricity, hydrogen and biofuels that are needed to displace fossil fuels and reduce transportation sector emissions."

The report describes the potential health and economic benefits of conversion, but also notes the costs to consumers during the transition, including sharp increases in the cost of gasoline.

It projects an immediate increase in gas prices of 47 cents per gallon from adoption of a revised program and then, "on average, from 2031 through 2046 the proposed amendments are projected to potentially increase the price of gasoline by $1.15 per gallon, potentially increase the price of diesel by $1.50 per gallon and fossil jet fuel by $1.21 per gallon."



Photo by Adriana Heldiz, CalMatters

PRICES: Gas prices at a gas station in San Diego on Oct. 20, 2023.

This is just an early projection of advancing the conversion, and is already undergoing revisions. So the eye-popping numbers are by no means inevitable, but it is a stark reminder that the massive effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in California won't come cheap and motorists will be hit hard.

Also, it's fair to say that the millions of Californians who already live in poverty or near-poverty and depend on cars to earn their livings will feel the impact most keenly.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

ADVERTISE WITH US TODAY!
Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

SEND YOUR NEWS TO THE EDITOR
Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com



FRIDAY | JULY 5

FIRST FRIDAY FOOD TRUCK FEST
Abbot Kinney Boulevard's First Friday Food Truck Fest is a fun and festive night in Venice, beginning at 5 p.m. at 1525 Abbot Kinney Blvd, corner of Palms Blvd. Chances are you will find whatever food you are craving, along with special merchant events.

INK & PAINT
Celebrate 4th of July weekend with a fabulous evening of theatre, a lovely post-show wine-and-nibbles reception with the cast of "Ink & Paint" and support for the Playhouse Benefit Campaign. Inspired by real events, "Ink & Paint" follows five women artists at Walt Disney Studios in the 1930s and beyond, telling the true story of the company's first all-women story unit. Begins at 7:30 p.m. at Santa Monica Playhouse, 1211 4th St. Tickets $25, includes post-show reception with the cast. For more information, visit: https://www.santamonicaplayhouse.com/ink-and-paint.html.

SATURDAY | JULY 6

SUMMER READING PROGRAM- SUMMER WATER SAFETY
Longfellow the Whale and staff from Santa Monica Swim Center share tips on how to stay safe around the water this summer, beginning at 10:30 a.m. in The Annex at the Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd. Limited space; free tickets available 30 minutes before program. For families.

SOUNDWAVES NEW MUSIC CONCERT
After eight years and almost one hundred shows, the Soundwaves New Music series at the Santa Monica Public Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., concludes with a concert by the Present Quartet beginning at 3:30 p.m. in the Martin Luther King Jr. Auditorium. Series founder and bassist Jeff Schwartz organized the Present Quartet in 2018 with frequent collaborators. Call 310-458-8600 to request special accommodations.

SUNDAY | JULY 7

SANTA MONICA AIRPORT ANTIQUE MARKET
$7. 7 a.m. - 3 p.m. Santa Monica Airport, 2800-3200 Airport Ave. Noted as One of the Top Ten "Flea Markets' in America, visit the Santa Monica Airport Antique Market, a fun outdoor (and dog-friendly!) market full of many great dealers with furniture, antiques, collectibles, art, vintage clothes, jewelry, rugs and much more. A destination for decorators, designers, boutique owners, families with their friendly dogs and collectors of all ages. Shop for ancient to antique, Victorian to Mid-Century, from vintage to the eccentric. Our dealers bring; shabby chic, architectural salvage and industrial furniture, paintings from listed European and American artists, original vintage prints, posters and lithographs, estate jewelry, vintage to couture fashion, books, candelabras, outdoor furniture and garden accessories, rugs from around the world, tribal and African art, sculpture and beads, exotic plants and more. Located next to the Museum of Flying. Occurs every 1st and 4th Sunday of every month.

SANTA MONICA FARMERS MARKET
The Sunday Main Street Farmers Market features some of California's freshest produce plus prepared foods from local Main Street restaurants as well as artisanal foods prepared with ingredients sourced from California farmers. Enjoy musical entertainment, prepared and pre-packaged foods, kids activities as well a local artisan crafts. Market is open Sundays from 8:30-1:30, year-round, rain or shine. Some closures due to holidays. 2640 Main Street

CHESS SUNDAYS
Make your move! Chess players of all ages and levels are invited for weekly casual play on the 1200 Block of Third Street Promenade! Every Sunday from 11am-3pm, play a game with a friend or meet a(check) mate. Some chess sets (including a few giant ones) will be provided, but you're welcome to bring your own! Chess Sundays are FREE and open to all, no sign-ups or advance registration required. This event is a partnership between the Santa Monica Chess Club and Downtown Santa Monica, Inc. 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

MYSTERY BOOK CLUB
West Los Angeles Regional Library, 11360 Santa Monica Boulevard, 2 - 4 p.m. Meet on the first Sunday of each month to discuss a mystery, thriller, or suspense book picked by the group. For current titles, please contact the West LA Library at westla@lapl.org or 310-575-8323.

Animal Feeding Demonstrations
Swim by and visit the Aquarium every Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday to observe local marine animals, and watch live feeding demonstrations by Aquarium staff. Join them for Mealtime at 1 p.m. & 3 p.m. every Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday! Heal the Bay Aquarium, 1600 Ocean Front Walk. Admission required. $12.

MONDAY | JULY 8

BOOKMARK MONDAYS
Stop by the Central Courtyard of the Santa Monica Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., and make a different bookmark each Monday in July while learning how to take care of your books. Begins at 3 p.m.

TUESDAY | JULY 9

SOCIAL SERVICE ASSISTANCE
Virginia Avenue Park, in partnership with Providence St. John's Community Health Program, resumes Social Service Assistance from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Help with facility nutrition and health care access from trained community health workers. The trained Providence St. John's staff can assist with enrollment in CalFresh, the state of California's food subsidy program created to improve the nutrition of families through access to healthy foods. Staff can also help navigate enrollment or questions for MediCal or Medicare. If you have questions about whether you qualify for benefits or if you need help completing enrollment forms, you can make an appointment by calling 310-458-8688. Drop-ins are also welcome.

AUTHOR TALK WITH KATE DICAMILLO
Join Santa Monica College at the SMC Library for a visit with Newbery Medal winning author Kate DiCamillo, who will be sharing the stories behind the creation of her early chapter book series, the original "Mercy Waterson," and the follow up series "Tales from Deckawoo Drive." Begins at 11 a.m.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
The City Council is made up of seven members elected at-large for staggered four-year terms. Every two years, after each election, the City Council selects one of its members to serve as Mayor and another to serve as Mayor Pro Tempore. The City Council also sits as the following bodies for the City of Santa Monica: Housing Authority, Parking Authority, Public Financing, Redevelopment Successor Agency, Audit Subcommittee. Meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. in City Council Chambers of Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main St.

SPARK LA BRAINSTORM & CONNECT
SPARK is a local meetup initiative by Freelancers Union, hosting monthly events to educate and empower freelancers across the nation. Whether you're a seasoned freelancer or just starting your freelance journey, this event is the perfect opportunity to expand your network, gain valuable insights and have a great time with peers in the freelance community. Begins at 6:30 p.m. at Capital One Cafe, 401 Broadway. Free admission, to RSVP, visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/spark-la-brainstorm-connect-tickets-902892655237.

WEDNESDAY | JULY 10

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

HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
The goal of the Santa Monica Human Services Commission is to advise City Council on priorities and strategies involving the well-being, equity and needs of vulnerable, low income and at-risk residents including youth and families, seniors and people experiencing homelessness. Begins at 3 p.m. in the SMi Room in the Civic Center Parking Structure. 330 Olympic Dr.

LITERARY LOUNGE
Discover the joy of social reading at the Literary Lounge; a space for bibliophiles to bond over books, with music and literary-inspired mocktails. Bring your own book or choose from a collection of staff favorites. Begins at 6:30 p.m. in the Courtyard of the Santa Monica Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.

PRODUCTION CONNECT
Production Connect is here for its July in-person event at The Victorian, 2640 Main St., beginning at 7 p.m. This is your chance to connect with like-minded individuals, discover the latest trends, and gain valuable insights to enhance your production skills. Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity to grow your career and expand your network. Tickets $15, to purchase visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/production-connect-july-24-registration-928864999217.

LOBBY LOUNGE LIVE- PIANO NIGHT
Guests are invited to immerse themselves in the enchanting ambiance of the Lobby Lounge at the Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows, 101 Wilshire Blvd., as they enjoy handcrafted cocktails, delectable bites and the unparalleled talent of master pianist Jason Pelsey. As a special treat, six lucky attendees will have the opportunity to join Pelsey at the piano for an unforgettable musical experience (first come, first serve). Begins at 7 p.m.

THURSDAY | JULY 11

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

FRIDAY | JULY 12

FAMILY AND FRIENDS SPLASH NIGHT
What better way to celebrate than with an evening of family fun at the pool? Bring the whole family and friends and dive into an unforgettable experience at Santa Monica Swim Center, 2225 16th St., beginning at 4 p.m. Pool floats and an inflatable obstacle course provided, as well as delicious treats for all attendees. Fees apply, for more information visit: https://www.santamonicaswimcenter.org/swim-center-special-events.

SUNSET SWIM
Enjoy an evening around the historic 1920s pool at the Annenberg Community Beach House with swimming, hanging out with friends and making new friends poolside. S'mores and pool floats provided. $10 for adults, $5 for seniors (age 60 and above). Begins at 6 p.m. Register at: https://anc.apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/activity/search/detail/97113.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

FOR QUOTES PLEASE CALL 310-573-8074

or email **cindy@smdp.com**

CLASSIFICATIONS					
Announcements	Pets	Apartments/Condos	Real Estate Loans	Attorney Services	Wealth and Success
Creative	Boats	Rent	Storage Space	Business	Lost and Found
Employment	Jewelry	Houses for Rent	Vehicles for Sale	Opportunities	Personals
For Sale	Wanted	Roommates	Massage	Yard Sales	Psychic
Furniture	Travel	Commercial Lease	Services	Health and Beauty	Obituaries
	Vacation Rentals	Real Estate	Computer Services	Fitness	Tutoring

Abandonment Notice

Notice is hereby given that under and pursuant to the California Civil Code section 1988(b); Section 6066of the Government Code any other applicable CA Statutes, that the items of property listed below isbelieved to be abandoned by Five Star Home Health Inc. and all other owners, occupants, partners,tenants and/or subtenants at address: 8616 La Tijera Blvd., Suite #309, Los Angeles, California 90045.Items will be sold at a Public Auction by Marlow Family LLC and Fritz B. Burns Foundation, to be offeredin bulk and or bulk lots at a competitive bid sale through an Online Auction Wednesday, July 24th, 2024at 10:00 am at 8616 La Tijera Blvd., Suite #309, Los Angeles, California 90045 with live preview Tuesday,July 23rd, 2024 from 10am - 4pm.Auction access via WWW.MEGAAUCTIONS.NETItems to be sold are to include but are not limited to:Dell PowerEdge T320 Tower PC, HornetTek Viper External HDD, APC XS 1500 Back-UPS, Dell Inspiron3847 Tower PC, HP Officejet Pro 8600 Premium Printer, Yealink CP925 HD IP Conference Phone, 5 xYealink SIP-T33G Phones, 3 x HP Pavilion 500-070 Desktop PCs, A1633 iPhone 6s, A1532 iPhone 5c,A1349 iPhone 4s, Ricoh MP C3004ex Color Laser Workstation, Pitney Bowes Sendpro MailstationSupport HZ00 Works with Scale SmartLink Device and Misc Parts, Lenovo AMD Desktop PC, HP p2-1317cDesktop PC, 3 x Acer LCD Monitors, 2 x Asus LCD Monitors, 6 x Dell LCD Monitors , NEC LCD Monitor, 2x UpStar LCD Monitors, Assorted Keyboards & Mice, PC Speakers, Dell Docking Station, Trackball,Meridian Office Phone, Norstar M7310 Office Phone, 2 x Netgear Switches, Switch, NIC Card, PSU's,Various Cables, PC Anywhere, AT&T Arris Modem, Ricoh MP3503 Print Cartridges (Black, Yellow), RicohWaste Toner Container, Ashland 7ft Pre-Lit Willow Tree, Hunter HPQ15G-M Heater, Seville UltraSlimlineTower Fan, BOSE AV18 Media Center with Power Supply Antenna Remote Speakers Cables, CuisinartCoffee Machine Black & Decker Toast-R-Oven, Royal 89106U 1620MX Shredder, Samsung 55" LCD TVwith Remote & Wall Bracket, Keurig 2.0 Coffee Brewer, Whalen Industrial Rack 4 Shelf, HON 510 Series 4Drawer File Cabinet, 4 x Vevor Stanchion Posts, Vevor Literature Organizer, Metro Type Rack 4 Shelf, 6 xMahogany L-Shape Desks 66" x 72" with Lockable Draws, 2 x Sharper Image SI 100 Office Chairs, 7 xChair Mats, Various File Trays, 2 x Calculators, 5 x Mouse Pads, Various Office Supplies, 3 x Office Chairs,X-Acto 12" Guillotine Paper Cutter, Hole Punches, Foray Framed Cork Board, 3 x Aidata FDS005L-20Organizers, Holmes Heater, Various Staplers, Metro Type 3 Shelf Storage Rack with Wheels & Handle,Bookshelf Wood 5 Shelf, Whiteboard, Doctors Coat, Power Strips, Tape Dispensers, Ceramic Organizer, 3x Stackable Reception Chair with Padded Armrests, 4 x Flash Furniture Diamond Black Conference Chairwith Accent Nail Trim, Wooden Mobile Cabinet with Stationary, Ergo Office Chair, Pillow, Lasko Heater,Trash Bins, Small Wooden 3 Shelf Unit, File Folders, Paper, Clock, Mahogany Desk with Draws, OfficeCredenda Filing Cabinet, Wooden Dining Table with 4 Chairs with Bowl, Paper Towel Holder, CertificateFrames, Kidde Fire Extinguisher, 8 Person Wooden Conference Table, 7 x Conference Chairs, Metro Type3 Shelf File Rack with Wheels & Handle, SimpleHuman Round Step Can, Credenda File Cabinet 2 Draw, 3x Sandusky Steel Storage Cabinets, SimpleHuman Swing Top Trash Can, Paper Trimmer, 9 x First Aid Only21-760 Spill Clean Up Kit, 5 x Emergency Preparedness Backpack with Supplies, 5 x 50 Pack, Zip LockDYND30261 Specimen Bags, Famidoc FDIR-V22 Thermometer, Stericycle 5 Gallon Biohazardous WasteBucket, 1 x Box Curad Tripple Antibiotic Ointment Packets, 1 x Box Haylard Procedure Masks, PlasticBottles, Medline Poly-Lined Drape, 100 x PPE Face Shields, Boxes of Disposable CPE Arron with Sleeves,Medical Wraps, 3 x Boxes Esteem+ One-Piece Drainable Pouches, Burn Dressings, Urethral Catheters,Misc Medical Items, Binders, Tape, Envelopes, Sheet Protectors, Medline Bulkee II Gauze Bandages,Medical Gloves, Pads, Sponges, Paper Tape, Cotton Applicators, Wound Dressings, Misc Medical Items,Sharps Containers, Lighted Menora, LED Bulbs, Misc Bag of Cables, Ghent Triumph Display Easel, Trays,Trash Bags, Food Wrap, Straws, Reynolds Wrap, Coffee Carafe, Mug, Dixie Cups, Forks, Plates, 1 BoxGallery Collection Greeting Cards & Envelopes, Misc Items.

Affordable Local Plumber

Santa Monica Drain Co is your local plumbing company. We offer same-day service at an affordable price. Licensed. Bonded. Insured. 310-422-8915

PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED HERE

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

'Nothing will be protected' — why California environmentalists oppose a 'green' energy bill



Photo by Robert Hanashiro, USA Today Network via Reuters

ENERGY: Visitors walk among a field of flowers at Anza-Borrego Desert State Park in San Diego County on March 28, 2024.

RYAN SABALOW
Special to the Daily Press

Power companies, racing to meet the state's ambitious clean-energy goals, are asking lawmakers for some relief from California's signature environmental protection law so they can upgrade their transmission lines, including at state parks.

The bill's author, Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia, said to tackle climate change, power companies need to be able to connect solar fields and wind turbines to an upgraded energy grid faster and without as many bureaucratic hurdles.

"Achieving these goals will require unprecedented construction of this infrastructure to provide reliable, renewable energy to electrify our homes, commercial buildings and transportation," Garcia, a Democrat from Coachella, told the Senate's Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee, last week. "And that's going to require some bold moves in the policy space."

Supporters of Garcia's Assembly Bill 3238, which is being heard today by the Senate's Environmental Quality Committee, say streamlining the state permitting process for electrical grid upgrades is sorely needed since California's sweeping plan to end its dependence on fossil fuels by 2045 would increase electricity consumption by as much as 68%. That would put an immense strain on the state's already blackout-prone energy grid. As it stands, large-scale grid upgrades regularly take five or more years to plan and build, due to the lengthy environmental review process, they say.

But major environmental groups are fighting the bill to change the California Environmental Quality Act. The debate is an example of a broader tension bedeviling California officials and those across the country as they try to get more clean energy projects up and running amid a climate crisis.

The same rules that helped environmental groups fight development and polluters in the past are now often used to delay energy projects necessary to wean the country – and California – off dirty fossil fuels.

Environmentals fear fast-tracking environmental reviews would lead to power companies trampling fragile landscapes in the rush to make the grid bigger. They're particularly concerned about state parks that currently have smaller power poles and lines that utilities would like to upgrade into massive, unsightly energy towers.

"We know how imperative it is for our state and planet to transition to clean energy as quickly as possible," Kim Delfino, a lobbyist representing Defenders of Wildlife and the California Native Plant Society told the committee. "However, efficiencies should not equal weakening core environmental protections."

REFORMING CEQA ISN'T EASY

The opposition to Garcia's bill, which has 12 bipartisan co-authors, also illustrates the fierce pushback to even small reforms to the California Environmental Quality Act – something that's befuddled the Legislature and governors for years.

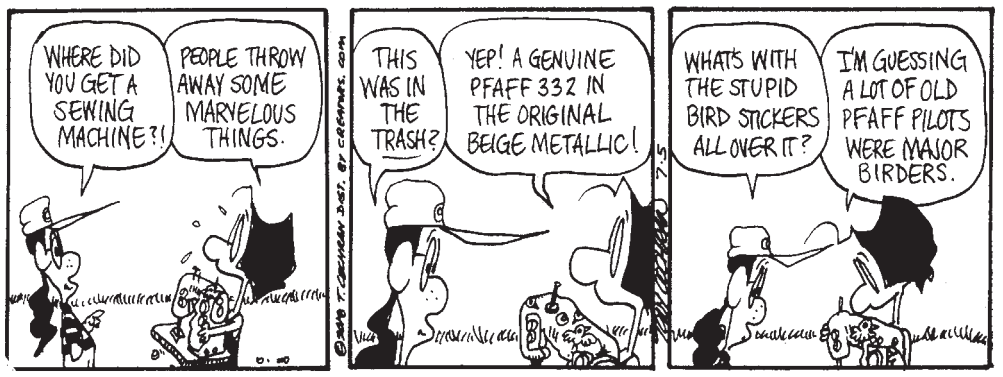
Former Gov. Jerry Brown once called reforming the act "the Lord's work," but he wasn't able to pass substantial reforms. His successor, Gov. Gavin Newson, has made cutting delays from "green tape" a priority, and he also has tried to tackle CEQA. Last year, his office supported a package of bills and created a "strike team" with a goal of speeding up CEQA.

Advocates for CEQA reform say that since former Gov. Ronald Reagan signed it, the law intended to protect the environment from harmful pollution and large-scale industrial development is now regularly used to kill or delay for years much-needed projects, from affordable housing to green-energy

SEE **ENERGY** PAGE 15

Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



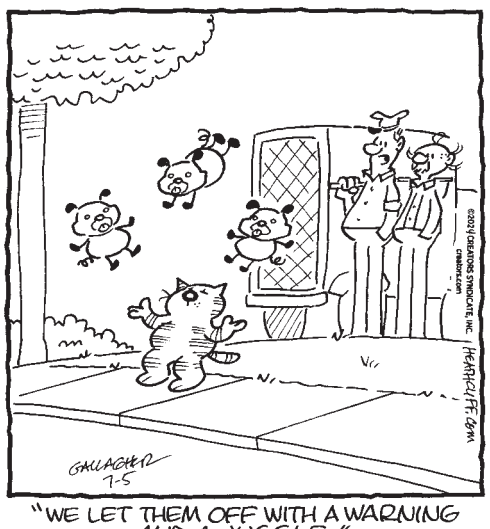
Zack Hill

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

© australianwordgames.com.au 6262

Shearing time

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

Ache	Dips	Jackie	Shute
Auction	Dogs	Howe	Smoko
Averages	Effort	Lambs	Squatter
Bench	Equipment	Layer	Tally
Bleat	Ewes	Maggoty	Tar boy
Border	Expert	Merino	Thirsty
collie	Fine	Owner	Tired
Carding	Gate	Pays	Tough
Click	Gun	Price	Waste
Comb	Hands	Rams	Wear
Count	Help	Sale	Wether
Dags	Hungry	Shed	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Needs patience and skill

Covering the city by the bay since 2001.
To advertise, email cindy@smdp.com or call 310.458.7737
smdp Santa Monica Daily Press

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 5)

You believe in yourself and you will make things happen. You're not a vengeful person, but you'll have the deep satisfaction of a comeuppance that feels like something sweetly close to revenge. Self-advocacy is a theme that will keep coming up and you will be victorious time and again. More highlights: two events you're involved with are triumphs. A. big check in your mailbox and 25 beautiful outings with the pics to prove it. Libra and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 1, 11, 19, 13 and 8.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Tension will build deliciously. You may butt heads with a dear one but it's the conflict that brings more beauty, awareness, communication and clarity into your life and relationships.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The growth of plants is not up to the plant. It's usually because the environment or some other factor is not conducive to growth. There's something in your life that you really wish could be taking off, and it certainly will, in circumstances that are a good fit.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You'll elevate your work, relationships and lifestyle through specificity and choices that meet a select criteria. You'll have a kind of success that's better than what money can buy, though it also comes with a few high-dollar perks.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You're not picky but you're discerning and this is precisely why your choices get you noticed. There's a taste-level being reflected here and it will make your life easier as well as serving as a magnet that attracts similarly tasteful folks as well as people who want your services.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Though it won't be natural for you today, try to think of yourself and your own needs first. They are important, and you'll have the resources to speak to them. When you do this, it will allow you to be in a better position to assist others.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You've needed guides throughout life and you need them still. It's something that none outgrow, so don't be afraid to reach out to new people and listen to their wisdom. It can come in many forms today, and book form will be the most profound.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You will understand so much more than you ever did, not because you cram information, but because you do the opposite. You sit back and let things settle. You relax and make space in your life for ideas to come together quite on their own.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Everyone's reality is different, but some situations are much more conducive to imaginative interpretation than others. If no one is agreeing about what happened, that just means that you took part in something interesting.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Are you a wizened elder? Are you a youthful innocent? Are you in the adolescent middle ground of the unknown? The answer is yes, yes, and yes. You contain multitudes and get to experience many of them today.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your creativity is innate. Believe it and let yourself do whatever it is you feel like doing without judgement. The freer you are, the more you will learn about your boundaries, which are limitless.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your gifts have value. You probably feel like you need to prove it, stick a price tag on it and/or deliver to the extent that people will be impressed. These are normal thoughts, and you are better to ignore them and get on with the business of doing what you do.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Even the people who say they know what they want often aren't nearly as sure about it as they seem. Show what you're offering. You'll shape appetite by merely displaying new offerings.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

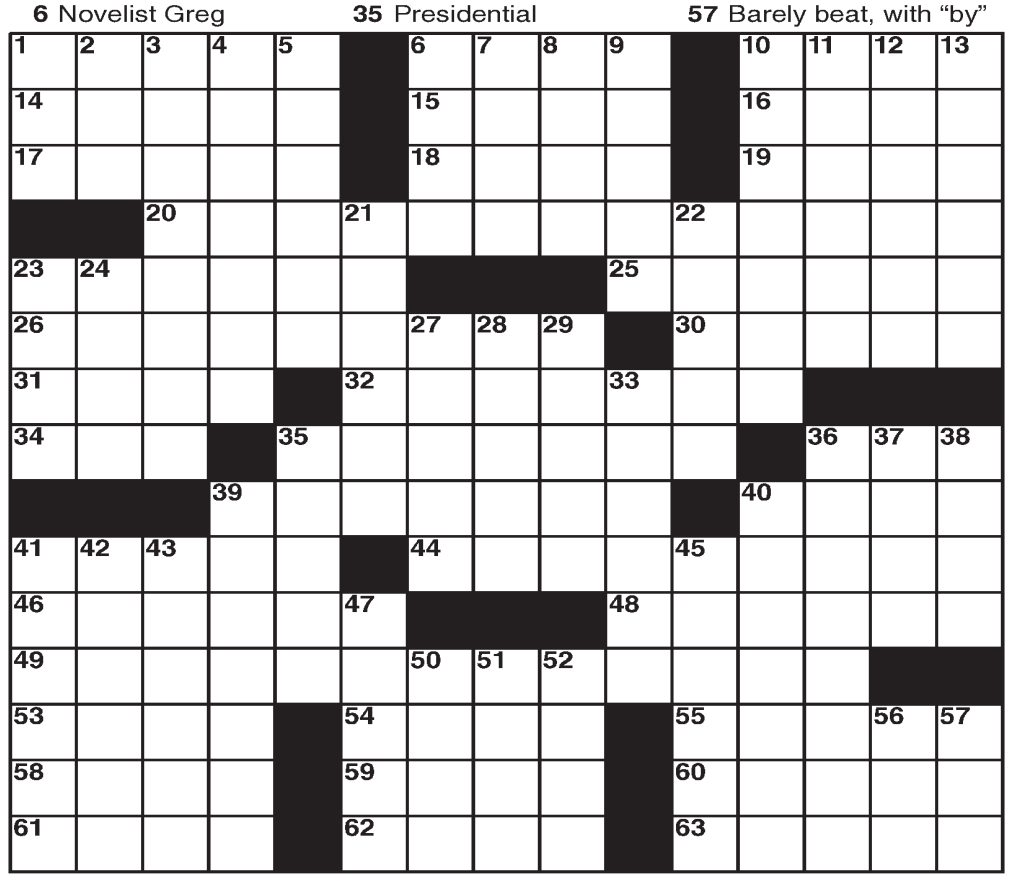
RUMOR-READY by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Slacked off
6 Fertile Crescent land
10 Sort of peninsula
14 Queen Elizabeth predecessor
15 Meal with kalua pork
16 Sea that has split up
17 Gym bag items
18 Actor Morales
19 Sort of bread
20 Rumor wanter's query
23 State of Mexico
25 City anagramming to "counts"
26 With 44-Across, rumor holder's answer to 20-Across
30 App runner
31 Rumor source, perhaps
32 Sissy's Oscar role
34 Cause of some blowups
35 Hands over, in a way
36 Frat letter
39 Strict moralist
40 Cartoon caveman
41 Faux cocoa
44 See 26-Across
46 Some food coloring, to chemists
48 Waste no time
49 Rumor wanter's answer to 26-/44-Across
53 "Major" animal
54 Relaxed run
55 Flinch
58 Figures out
59 Hold sway
60 "Don't worry"
61 __ prof.
62 Hound sound
63 Common TV music

DOWN

1 "Chummy" pair
2 Dismissive shout
3 Urban pest
4 Simple fastener
5 Win over
6 Novelist Greg
7 Fall foliage color
8 Sound of satisfaction
9 Peacefully silent
10 Web screen test
11 Operatic passage
12 Backer or client
13 Comedian Boosler
21 Fashion as needed
22 School system CEOs
23 Delta material
24 Reservable
27 __-law (family member)
28 Calliope's sister
29 Coup __
33 Place after a dot
35 Presidential nickname
36 False show
37 Move goods
38 Frivolous
39 Latter-day talk show
40 AR city
41 Lake near Cornell
42 Portuguese chain
43 Shakes awake
45 Best in brainpower
47 Dictionary listing
50 Irrefutable
51 Wallpaper purchase
52 It overlooks the Rio Grande
56 URL ender
57 Barely beat, with "by"



CREATORS SYNDICATE ©2024 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM

07/05/24

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

ASU HONOR

FROM PAGE 2

plus 101 based in the state of Arizona, all bringing in a whopping $17.421 billion in revenue. In addition, each year, up to 10 brave undergraduate students present their innovative business ideas in front of nearly 1000 attendees of which Emamian is one.

"It's incredibly inspiring to witness the drive and motivation of these students, as they showcase their unique and lucrative business plans," he said, adding, "Their enthusiasm gives hope that these future entrepreneurs have the foundation to succeed in their respective industries."

When his best friend was accepted and honored as part of the class of 2022, Emamian said that he was determined to make the cut. "I was absolutely going to make it happen. When my friend walked onto the field at Sun Devil Football Stadium I was both proud and jealous in equal parts," he said.

Emamian had been offered a track and field sports scholarship for long jump and triple jump to Westmont University, but he injured himself not long before the academic year was due to start and the offer was rescinded. Searching for a last minute alternative, he visited and subsequently fell in love with the campus at ASU. And, according to the promotional blurb, ASU "maintains its position as the number one institution for innovation, surpassing MIT, Stanford and USC."

"When I worked at Lexus Santa Monica, that's when I met my business partner Stephen Adams working in the Service Dept and a gentleman named Matt Unger showed me the ins and outs of the auto industry to prepare me for eventually taking over and starting my own business within this cut throat industry," Emamian said.

The class of 2024 honorees were unveiled at a reception in April at Mullet Arena in Tempe, Arizona, but all recipients of the award will also be celebrated on September 7, once again at the Sun Devil Football Stadium before the home team takes on the Mississippi State Bulldogs. This is the event Emamian is most looking forward to.

"Yeah, I'm really looking forward to this," Emamian beamed. "I'll get to see and hang out with old friends and meet all the award winners too and hang out with them. Plus of course I get to walk out on our home football field and bask in the glow of all the ASU love. Honestly, there's just no feeling like it," he said.

The Haus is a certified independent Mini Cooper and BMW repair shop located at 2621 Pico Blvd — with a second location at 14850 Calvert St in Sherman Oaks — and Emamian's slowly-but-surely expanding empire celebrates its 10 year anniversary this year.

Moreover, if you're the proud owner of one of those diminutive icons of design, emblematic of English yesteryear, then you'll no doubt already be familiar with The Haus. In fact, the name means "house" in German, entirely appropriate since BMW bought and rebooted the Mini brand in 2000.

scott.snowden@smdp.com

AI

FROM PAGE 6

on everything ever posted to Stack Overflow — and it can instantly spit out an answer.

ChatGPT's debut in late 2022 threatened to put Stack Overflow out of business. So Chandrasekar carved out a special 40-person team at the company to race out the launch of its own specialized AI chatbot, called Overflow AI. Then, the company made deals with Google and ChatGPT maker OpenAI, enabling the AI developers to tap into Stack Overflow's question-and-answer archive to further improve their AI large language models.

That kind of strategy makes sense but may have come too late, said Maria Roche, an assistant professor at Harvard Business School. "I'm surprised that Stack Overflow wasn't working on this earlier," she said.

When some Stack Overflow users tried to delete their past comments after the Open AI partnership was announced, the company responded by suspending their accounts due to terms that make all contributions "perpetually and irrevocably licensed to Stack Overflow."

"We quickly addressed it and said, 'Look, that's not acceptable behavior,'" said Chandrasekar, describing the protesters as a small minority in the "low hundreds" of the platform's 100 million users.

Brazil's national data protection authority on Tuesday took action to ban social media giant Meta Platforms from training its AI models on the Facebook and Instagram posts of Brazilians. It established a daily fine of 50,000 reais ($8,820) for non-compliance.

Meta in a statement called it a "step backwards for innovation" and said it has been more transparent than many industry counterparts doing similar AI training on public content, and that its practices comply with Brazilian laws.

Meta has also encountered resistance in Europe, where it recently put on hold its plans to start feeding people's public posts into training AI systems — which was supposed to start last week. In the U.S., where there's no national law protecting online privacy, such training is already likely happening.

"The vast majority of people just have no idea that their data is being used," Gilbert said.

Reddit has taken a different approach — partnering with AI developers like OpenAI and Google while also making clear that content can't be taken in bulk without the platform's approval by commercial entities "with no regard for user rights or privacy." The deals helped bring Reddit the money it needed to debut on Wall Street in March, with investors pushing the value of the company close to $9 billion seconds after it began trading on the New York Stock Exchange.

Reddit hasn't tried to punish users who protested — nor could it easily do so given how much say voluntary moderators have on what happens in their specialty forums known as subreddits. But what worries Gilbert, who helps moderate the "AskHistorians" subreddit, is the increasing flow of AI-generated commentary that moderators must decide whether to allow or ban.

"People come to Reddit because they want to talk to people, they don't want to talk to bots," Gilbert said. "There's apps where they can talk to bots if they want to. But historically Reddit has been for connecting with humans."

She said it's ironic that the AI-generated content threatening Reddit was sourced on the comments of millions of human Redditors, and "there's a real risk that eventually it could end up pushing people out."

Associated Press writer Eléonore Hughes in Rio de Janeiro contributed to this report.

ENERGY

FROM PAGE 12

infrastructure.

As it stands, CEQA (pronounced "see-kwa") requires developers to pay for an environmental impact report that can cost hundreds of thousands of dollars and take years to complete.

The analyses, sometimes thousands of pages of impenetrable legal and scientific jargon, have to consider a number of potential harms to wildlife and people. That includes pollution, construction traffic, noise, urban blight and a project's impact on recreation. The reports must offer a range of alternatives that would mitigate any possible damage.

If an agency approves a report and moves the project forward, the law allows environmental groups, local organizations and other opponents to then comb through the document looking for flaws that can be used in a lawsuit. Those lawsuits can take years to make their way through the courts.

Garcia's office said CEQA reviews have become a major barrier to upgrading the state's energy grid. His office cited one 117-mile Southern California powerline project that took five years for officials to review. It had an 11,000-page impact report that evaluated over 100 project "alternatives." That same project required 70 permits issued by more than two dozen different agencies.

ARE STATE PARKS THREATENED?

Garcia's bill is in response to a settlement reached last year between the state's three largest investor-owned public utilities – Pacific Gas and Electric, Southern California Edison and San Diego Gas and Electric — and some environmentalists and clean-energy groups.

The settlement called for changes to the way the California Public Utilities Commission issues permits for electrical transmission lines. The bill would take the settlement's recommendation to make the commission the lead CEQA permitting agency for electrical grid infrastructure projects.

The commission would be required to conduct reviews within 270 days, which Garcia's office says would shave up to two years off the process.

And instead of having other state and local agencies conduct separate CEQA reviews for the entire length of a powerline project, they'd only be obligated to conduct a review for the portion that crosses their jurisdictions. Garcia's office said that would eliminate up to three years of delays.

Garcia told the committee last week those provisions would eliminate bureaucratic duplication "while still ensuring the opportunity for environmental review."

But a key sticking point for environmentalists is how the bill would exempt power grid upgrades from CEQA on state owned-lands, particularly at California's parks.

Garcia's bill would eliminate CEQA reviews for infrastructure upgrades that require a utility to acquire state lands immediately adjacent to existing "right of way" already used for power lines and other energy infrastructure. His office said the actual construction of new transmission towers and other electrical equipment on state property would still require a CEQA review.

Environmentalists such as Brianna Fordem, executive director of the Anza-Borrego Foundation, worry that the upgrades will destroy huge stretches of state parks.

Fordem told the committee last week that Anza-Borrego Desert State Park in San Diego County alone has "hundreds of miles of existing rights of ways" that will be "the path of least resistance for hundreds of 200-foot towers permanently scarring our campgrounds, our hiking trails, our sacred cultural preserves, endangered wildlife habitat, dark night skies and more."

"Nothing," she said, "will be protected."

BILL SAILS THROUGH, DESPITE OPPOSITION

The state's major utilities companies, however, contend that the bill is critical to meeting the state's clean-energy goals.

"If we are truly in a climate crisis, then we need to behave as if we are in one," San Diego Gas & Electric's Erica Martin told the committee last week. "The existing process for approval to construct electric infrastructure is duplicative, lengthy and costly."

Those arguments have given the bill momentum, despite environmental opposition.

It sailed through the Assembly this spring with only one lawmaker, San Ramon Democratic Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan, voting "no," according to the Digital Democracy database. She declined to comment, according to her spokesperson.

The Senate utilities and energy committee also passed the bill last week without anyone voting against it. The committee's Democratic chairperson, Sen. Steven Bradford of Inglewood, said his experience working for a utility informed his vote.

He's a former public affairs manager for Southern California Edison, and he said he saw environmental groups support an energy project only to be "absolutely opposed" to building the transmission lines to make it functional. He said he saw the same thing happen to a San Diego Gas & Electric project.

"Both of those projects were delayed almost five years and added billions of dollars to the cost," Bradford told the committee. "At the same time, we set all these arbitrary goals of when we're going to have this renewable power, but we're failing to build the infrastructure that's necessary to deliver the power where it's needed."

This article was originally published by CalMatters.



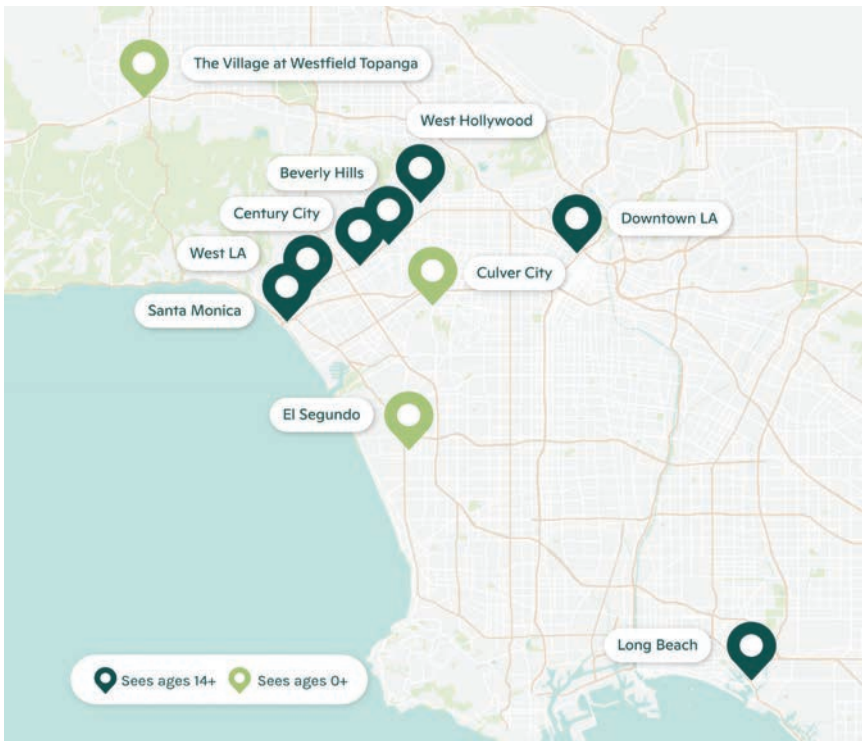
one medical

Avoid the 405 with 10 primary care offices



The doctor's office tailor-made for Los Angeles.

One Medical makes it easy to get in-person primary care and 24/7 virtual care for your body and mind. Visit us in our comfortable, modern offices or right from your phone — our providers will make you feel seen, heard, and cared for.



- 10 primary care offices in the area
- 24/7 on-demand virtual care via message or video
- Improved appointment lengths with minimal wait
- Request prescription refills via our app
- Simple referral process for specialists

Get $55* off your 1st year of membership with code: **SMDPOM**
Learn more at **onemedical.com/smdp**

*Terms & conditions apply