2 **Government reforms**
In Los Angeles.

3 **Ballot measures clash**
At November's election.

5 **Guest Commentary**
Newsom and his policies.

6 **Letter to the Editor**
Santa Monica in Crisis.

smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

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School Board to ask voters for new bond in November

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

The well-being of Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) facilities took up a large chunk of the Board of Education's July 24 meeting, bringing public comment into focus on district bond measures, as well as updates on the situation at McKinley Elementary School.

The prospects of going out for bond measures in the 2024 election cycle were met warmly by both the board and the majority of commenters during the meeting. The board unanimously approved of measures that would be for $495 million in School Facility Improvement District #1 (Santa Monica schools) and $395 million in School Facility District Improvement 2 (Malibu schools), which would need 55% local vote in November elections to pass.

Public comment ranged from the support of Building and Construction Trades Council representative Eddie Alvarez to Committee for Excellent Public Schools Co-Chair Sirinya Matute, with the latter expressing her prior support for November 2018's Measure SMS vote. Former Samohi PTSA Executive Board member Gabrielle Cohen acknowledged the financial costs to the public while also lending her support.

"Even though none of us really like to ask our taxpayers for more money … our elementary schools and our middle schools deserve the upgrades that they need," Cohen said. "It's time to get rid of those temporary mobile home classrooms that we've been talking about for years, we need roofs and ceilings that need to be repaired, electrical system that need to be replaced,

SEE **FACILITIES** PAGE 7

SMPD welcomes new officers





Courtesy photos

POLICE: SMPD welcomed two new officers: Paulina Cuenca and Ivan Lozano from the police academy and the Field Training Officer (FTO) Program last week. Cuenca is a former soccer player who played for the Republic of the Philippines. Lozano, a Southern California local, is a proud UCLA graduate. The department also recognized their Lifesaving Medal awardees. Chief Batista (left) presented the award to Officer Aurash Siah, Officer Darnell Crumpler, Officer Steven Soto, Officer Edgar Arana, and Deputy Chief Jacob. On the evening of May 19, 2024, the four officers were the first responders to the scene of a stabbing of multiple victims, tourists visiting from Germany. The officers applied a chest seal to one of the victims and CPR, restoring his breathing and pulse and stabilizing him long enough to be transported to a local hospital for medical treatment.

City Council votes to implement a new $3.8 million system to streamline the permit process

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

The City of Santa Monica is moving forward with an initiative that will benefit businesses, home renovators and property owners by providing an updated, streamlined and comprehensive online system to secure building permits.

Following a unanimous 7-0 vote, councilmembers approved a $3.8 million, five-year contract with Speridian Technologies, LLC to adopt and implement the Clariti permitting and land use management system. The new system is expected to be fully implemented in the next 18 months.

It's no secret that many new businesses opening in Santa Monica have faced permitting problems and complaints about timing, process and complexity are a common theme among businesses.

According to the City, the new move is a direct result of staff input and an extensive evaluation of the existing permitting system and processes. "Tuesday's council vote clears the way for the city to invest in an up-to-date, modern and more intuitive permitting system that will guide customers through the permit application process and make the overall review and approval process more efficient for both the public and city staff," the City said in a statement.

"Opening a business can be complicated, so any way we can help to make the process smoother on the city side is a huge win for everyone," Mayor Phil Brock said. "This new system will help us attract businesses to open here and

SEE **PERMITTING** PAGE 11

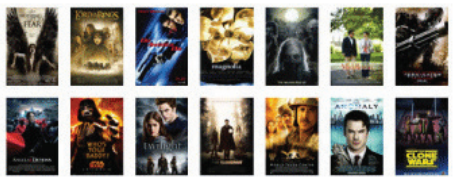


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GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Los Angeles County supervisors look to rare reforms that would dilute their power



Photo by Kirby Lee via AP Photo

LA: The Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration in downtown Los Angeles in 2020.

DAN WALTERS

It's axiomatic that institutions, whether governmental, academic, philanthropic or corporate, rarely reform themselves.

Universally, if systemic change occurs, it tends to come from outside the existing structure for one overriding reason: Those who wield authority within the institution don't want to risk having their powers diluted or eliminated.

California's recent history offers several cogent examples of the syndrome, including the imposition of term limits on legislators and other state officials, the shift to a top-two primary election system and moving the decennial shuffling of legislative and congressional district boundaries from the Legislature to an independent commission.

That said, what's happening in Los Angeles County could be an historic exception.

Three of the county's five supervisors have voted, at least so far, to place a measure on the November ballot that would radically overhaul the county's governance. They want to expand its Board of Supervisors from five members to nine and, even more dramatically, erode the board's powers by creating an elected county executive — in effect, a county mayor.

> We can no longer let a dated bureaucracy prevent us from more effectively addressing our homelessness crisis, making real progress on justice reform, or actualizing a government where Angelenos can meaningfully be at the decision-making table
>
> - Kathryn Barger and Holly Mitchell

Supervisors Lindsey Horvath and Janice Hahn first proposed the overhaul

SEE **SUPERVISORS** PAGE 7

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

California's voters face competing ballot measures as interest groups clash



Photo by Julie A Hotz for CalMatters

ELECTION: Bay Area tenants from the KDF Tenants Association protest housing conditions and rent increases outside the office complex that houses KDF Communities LLC's office in Newport Beach, on Oct. 26, 2023.

DAN WALTERS

Although the initiative process — proposing new laws via ballot measures — has been in California's constitution for more than a century, its use was fairly uncommon until the 1970s.

There were just nine initiatives placed before voters in the 1960s, the lowest utilization of any decade. The number jumped to 22 in the 1970s, including such game-changing measures as Proposition 20, 1972's coastal protection act, and Proposition 13, the state's iconic tax limitation, in 1978.

The number of initiatives facing voters in each election cycle continued to climb, reaching an apogee of 70 in the first decade of this century before declining a bit to 51 in the 2010s.

Prop. 13 not only exemplifies how the initiative became California's single most powerful policymaking tool but how opponents of proposed measures have attempted to employ countermeasures. By making enormous changes in how government services are financed, particularly public schools, Prop. 13 offended the state Capitol's political figures, including then-Gov. Jerry Brown, who denounced it as "a ripoff."

Hoping to undermine support for Prop. 13, Brown and legislators hurriedly placed an alternative measure on the ballot, Proposition 8, which would have reduced property taxes on homes but would have not benefited commercial property.

The ploy failed miserably. Prop. 13 passed with 65% of the votes cast in the June 6, 1978, primary election while Prop. 8 failed to get even 50%. Afterward Brown, who was running for a second term that year, did a 180-degree political pirouette and declared himself a "born-again tax cutter."

Although the countermeasure tactic failed in 1978, it has been employed occasionally as the number of initiatives continued to rise.

The 2022 election, for instance, featured two competing measures to legalize wagering on sports, Proposition 26, sponsored by California's casino-owning Indian tribes, and Proposition 27, a rival backed by big online gaming interests. Despite hundreds of millions of dollars being spent by the contesting interests, voters rejected both.

This year, after law enforcement groups qualified Proposition 36, which

SEE **VOTERS** PAGE 6



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **64.4**

MONDAY
FAIR
SURF: 2-3ft+
Thigh to stomach

Small'ish but potentially kinda fun as a new SSW swell fills in & slowly becomes dominant source of surf. Likely lully, but could be some pretty crisp little lines at the points and maybe still just enough NW running for peaks at beachbreak.

TUESDAY
FAIR TO GOOD
SURF: 3-4ft+
Waist to shoulder

A bit more SSW and less NW than Friday is likely - so potential for fun little lines at the points with more walled up shape at the beachbreaks. Stay tuned.

Weather

Monday: Partly sunny, with a high near 71. Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph.
Monday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, increasing clouds, with a low around 60.
Tuesday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 72.
Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 59.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2023/10/13	Fri	02:57 AM	0.77	L
2023/10/13	Fri	09:11 AM	5.35	H
2023/10/13	Fri	3:24 PM	0.75	L
2023/10/13	Fri	9:24 PM	4.87	H
2023/10/14	Sat	03:17 AM	1.02	L
2023/10/14	Sat	09:30 AM	5.58	H
2023/10/14	Sat	3:56 PM	0.46	L
2023/10/14	Sat	9:59 PM	4.62	H
2023/10/15	Sun	03:37 AM	1.32	L
2023/10/15	Sun	09:50 AM	5.75	H
2023/10/15	Sun	4:32 PM	0.25	L
2023/10/15	Sun	10:37 PM	4.29	H
2023/10/16	Mon	03:58 AM	1.66	L
2023/10/16	Mon	10:13 AM	5.85	H
2023/10/16	Mon	5:11 PM	0.15	L
2023/10/16	Mon	11:21 PM	3.92	H
2023/10/17	Tue	04:18 AM	2.02	L
2023/10/17	Tue	10:40 AM	5.86	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: 7/31
23 34 37 50 58
Power#: 7
Jackpot: 171 M

Mega Millions
Draw Date: 7/30
19 23 30 33 50
Mega#: 25
Jackpot: 358 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 7/31
2 12 13 43 47
Mega#: 15
Jackpot: 10 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 7/31
15 20 25 28 36

Daily 3
Draw Date: 8/1
MIDDAY: 9 0 0
Draw Date: 7/31
EVENING: 3 9 8

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 7/31
1st: 05 - California Classic
2nd: 01 - Gold Rush
3rd: 03 - Hot Shot
Race Time: 1:46.95

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

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2024143647 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 07/8/24The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Shear Blue Barbershop 212 Pier Ave Santa Monica, CA 90405. Los AngelesArticles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): Ai #ON. The full name of the registrant(s) is/are Shear Blue LLC 602 ½ Eucalyptus Ave Inglewood, CA. If corporation or LLC- Print State of CAThis is Business is Conducted: A Limited Liability Company The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 06/2024Registrant/ Corp/ LLC Name /s/: Blue Shear LLC Title: CEO Ryan David Lopez . This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 07/8/2024NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. ,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS.08/5/24, 08/12/24, 08/19/24, 08/26/24

Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMECase No/ 24STRCP00302Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition Jon Bentley Coast for Change of NameTO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:Petitioner or Attorney: Jon Bentley Coast a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Jon Bentley Coast to Jon Bentley Roberts Coast. The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 09/20/2024 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: M Room: 350. The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES LASC North Central District Burbank CourtHouse 300 E Olive Ave Burbank, CA 92502. . A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press.

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LA plan to regulate RV dwellings near schools and parks clears Transportation Committee

JAMIE PAIGE
Special to the Daily Press

The Los Angeles City Council Transportation Committee unanimously passed a motion last week to regulate the dwelling of oversized vehicles, including RVs, near schools, daycare centers, parks, and residential neighborhoods. The motion, introduced by Councilwoman Traci Park, seeks to address the challenges posed by RVs used as housing units, which impact public health, welfare, and neighborhood livability.

"The surge in these oversized vehicles being used as housing units creates a myriad of challenges that affect the overall livability of our local neighborhoods," Park stated. She highlighted concerns such as illegal dumping into storm drains, occupation of scarce parking spaces, and contributions to crime and fire risks.

Park's proposal aims to limit oversized vehicle dwelling in residential areas while establishing designated zones where RVs can park and access essential services like housing assistance and sanitation facilities. She is advocating for a collaborative study across city departments to identify optimal locations for these vehicles and ensure RV dwellers can access necessary services.

Despite ongoing efforts, Los Angeles continues to face hurdles related to mental health, addiction, and the reality that many vehicle inhabitants do not view themselves as homeless, preferring their vehicles over traditional shelter options. "The scale of the vehicular homelessness crisis and the unsafe and unsanitary conditions this problem has created demand immediate action," Park emphasized.

Jill Crosby, a member of the Venice Neighborhood Council, attended the Wednesday meeting and shared her views on the complexity of the issue. "I feel like one of the biggest problems that we have is we've put all of our eggs under the overarching canopy of homelessness. And as a result, we have leaned so far left or so far right that we don't have the ability to use our common sense anymore. And we have eliminated tools to be diagnostic around what's happening per situation. And I think that that's a real dangerous message to send to the general public," Crosby said.

Crosby also shared personal experiences with RVs in her neighborhood, recounting how her 80-year-old mother was assaulted twice, and how her daughter has felt unsafe walking their dog in the neighborhood due to the rise in violence and the impact of the fentanyl crisis. "I've lived in Venice for 35 years and I've never, ever experienced this level of danger, even when gangs were active. I think a lot of it has to do with the fentanyl crisis and the drug crisis. I think that we're under addressing the problem and mislabeling it as just homelessness," Crosby added.

Alex Reynolds, another attendee at the meeting, voiced similar concerns as a mom and community member. "I feel it's important that we as parents are represented here today with all that's gone on in the city in the last four to five years with the RV encampments in our schools, parks, and public places meant for all to enjoy. It's gotten out of hand and out of control, and we're past the breaking point," Reynolds stated. She recounted witnessing an overdose near her child's school and an RV explosion in front of the school, incidents that left many children traumatized. "Our kids don't feel safe anymore in this city. We live in a coastal neighborhood with much to offer, but we can't even enjoy it because of fear," Reynolds added.

Reynolds also noted the need for a compassionate approach while ensuring children's safety. "We all want to be compassionate and teach our children to care. Many kids have done projects on homelessness, but we can't have these encampments near our schools. Our kids need to feel safe," she emphasized.

Jason Neroni, a well-known chef and restaurant owner in Venice, also spoke on Wednesday. "Hello, my name is Jason Neroni, and I am a chef and restaurant owner in Venice for the past 13 plus years. I want to preface this by saying that I have also been homeless before. I have been one of the largest employers in the area, with up to 250 employees, and have served 4.5 million guests in just 8.5 years.

Venice Beach was once the number two tourist destination in California, behind Disneyland. Since the rise of encampments, including RVs, have come to surround our homes and our businesses, I currently have an immobile RV parked in front of my business, housing individuals who have been cited or arrested multiple times. Just this week, I found seven syringes filled with substances tossed on the doorstep of the business, which my guests and children alike have to step over. I have had to hire private security for the safety of my guests, as well as my employees, not to mention myself. Over the years, I have had a baseball bat swung at my head, been threatened with syringes and knives, witnessed two murders, and experienced multiple break-ins and thefts. The situation has become untenable and dangerous for my family, employees, and patrons."

The motion outlines several measures, including identifying suitable locations in each council district for oversized vehicle parking, a permit system free of charge, provision of mobile sanitation services similar to the city's Mobile Pit Stop/Shower Stop program, and regular sanitation and trash collection services. Additionally, the motion calls for the provision of wrap-around services and safety measures, along with necessary changes to the Los Angeles Municipal Code to facilitate the program.

The motion now goes in front of the Homelessness and Poverty Committee before heading to the full council for a vote.

Published in partnership with the Westside Current.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Newsom denounces Trump's authoritarian tendencies, but displays some himself



Photo by Miguel Gutierrez Jr., CalMatters

NEWSOM: Gov. Gavin Newsom addresses the media during a press conference unveiling his 2024-25 January budget proposal at the Secretary of State Auditorium in Sacramento on Jan. 10, 2024.

DAN WALTERS

California Gov. Gavin Newsom has been one of the loudest Democratic politicians in denouncing former President Donald Trump as a threat to democracy.

While endorsing Vice President Kamala Harris' campaign for the presidency this month, Newsom declared, "With our democracy at stake and our future on the line, no one is better to prosecute the case against Donald Trump's dark vision…"

Trump is "lighting democracy on fire," Newsom told ABC News.

Fears that a second Trump presidency could be an authoritarian nightmare are well justified, given his many declarations of what he would do if elected. However, if one needs an example of how unchecked political power undermines democracy, Newsom's California is available.

Newsom himself has displayed a penchant for governing by decree, especially evident during the COVID-19 pandemic. Meanwhile, with his Democratic Party holding total control of state government, its officeholders feel entitled to act as they please, ignoring those who might disagree.

The ruling party's autocratic streak was demonstrated last month, when Newsom and the Legislature passed a state budget and dozens of "trailer bills" to implement its provisions. Both the budget and the trailer bills could be enacted with simple majority votes, thanks to a 2010 ballot measure, Proposition 25, that reduced the voting margin from two-thirds.

Prop. 25 was aimed at removing any Republican role in the budget, and it succeeded. However, it also created a way for governors and legislators to make changes in laws having little or nothing to do with the budget through trailer bills that could not be challenged by the referendum process.

This year's batch of trailer bills contain two pithy examples of the syndrome.

Assembly Bill 174 contains a slew of items mostly having to do with governmental operations, but one passage exempts the Legislature's Capitol annex project from the California Environmental Quality Act. It aims to shut down efforts by two groups critical of the massive construction project to require changes.

The self-serving CEQA exemption not only was inserted into the bill in semi-secrecy, but it continues the rather shameful practice of granting such exemptions on a case-by-case basis rather than undertaking a comprehensive reform of the often misused law.

The second example, Senate Bill 167, is even more outrageous. It sets a very

SEE **NEWSOM** PAGE 6

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Newsom's push to enforce anti-camping laws repeats California's past mistakes on homelessness



Photo by Ted Soqui for CalMatters Photo by Ted Soqui for CalMatters

HOMELESS: Tents outside the Federal Courthouse in Los Angeles. Homeless advocates spent the night on the sidewalk. 4/22/2024 Los Angeles, CA.

REBA STEVENS

"I've been looking for you."

These were the words that haunted me during the more than two decades I spent living on the streets of Los Angeles, from 1977 to 1998. At the time, the city enforced robust anti-camping laws that kept homeless people out of sight but made it nearly impossible for friends, family and case workers to help me find permanent housing.

A June decision by the U.S. Supreme Court in the Grants Pass v. Johnson case signaled to local governments that they could enforce these laws without offering services or housing. A few weeks later, Gov. Gavin Newsom gave his own green light that they should move more aggressively — and that state agencies would as well — with an executive order.

My own experiences remind me that we've seen these laws before, and we know they don't work. For me and scores of others, anti-camping rules didn't solve our homelessness; they made it harder to get back on our feet.

I remember the constant dislocation during those years, and the feeling as a Black woman that a target was on my back. Each displacement not only stripped me of my meager possessions but also my dignity. With each arrest for living outside, I lost everything I owned: Important documents, medications — essentials for managing my life — were gone.

Invariably, I would be released back onto the streets with nowhere to go, no personal belongings and new court dates I couldn't keep track of, plunging me deeper into despair and perpetuating a cycle of criminalization and homelessness.

In my worst moments, the threat of arrest led me to dangerous environments where I could avoid law enforcement, but where substance use and domestic violence were prevalent. One such instance led to a terrifying situation where someone overdosed, and out of fear for arrest, we fled instead of calling for help.

Even now, I am dogged by the shame and guilt of not knowing whether we left them for dead or alive.

Displacement also meant losing touch with those few who provided a sense of security, magnifying my mental and emotional turmoil while keeping me further away from resources that could eventually help me find housing. I often faced the impossible choice of seeking safety in the shadows or facing incarceration for merely trying to survive. Displacement never solved my homelessness, but one thing finally did: I was offered housing.

This is the reality for countless others living on the streets, and Black people account for an overwhelming amount of

SEE **ANTI-CAMPING** PAGE 11

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Santa Monica In Crisis - Homeless Housing Solution

Santa Monica, renowned for its picturesque coastline, vibrant arts scene, and cultural richness, has long epitomized the California dream. People from around the world have flocked to our city to bask in its allure, drawing inspiration from the Hollywood lifestyle and the iconic Santa Monica Pier. However, the recent surge in homelessness and drug addiction has plunged our city into a crisis, transforming our once-thriving community into a shadow of its former self.

The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated these issues, leaving our streets overwhelmed with individuals suffering from severe drug addiction, particularly to substances like fentanyl and heroin. This crisis is not just negatively impacting tourism and local businesses; it is destroying them. More critically, it is devastating the quality of life for residents. Santa Monica feels like a land of zombies, with people visibly suffering from drug-induced psychosis attacking others or lying in their own vomit. In the early mornings, these individuals awaken with a desperate, opportunistic focus on finding ways to get food, drugs, or commit crimes. This environment creates a highly dangerous and uncomfortable situation for Santa Monica's 95,000 residents. The tourism that once thrived in the city has plummeted, and commercial enterprises, such as those in the famous Santa Monica Promenade and the Santa Monica Place shopping district, are becoming ghost towns. The city's obsession to build housing to solve mental illness and drug addiction associated with a transient homeless population is misguided, incredibly expensive and further exacerbates the degradation of our quality of life and economic vitality. The degradation of the city's infrastructure and vibrant downtown area is a direct result of policies that fail to address the root causes of homelessness and addiction, leading to an overall crumbling of the community's fabric.

PROPOSED SOLUTION: REINSTATING ASYLUMS

The deinstitutionalization of mental health facilities in California has had long-lasting effects on urban areas, leading to increased homelessness and crime. Reinstating asylums could provide structured, humane care for individuals who are unable to function in society due to severe mental illness. This would involve reopening or repurposing former asylum facilities to house and treat these individuals, thereby reducing the burden on urban areas and improving public safety.

CORRELATION BETWEEN PAST AND PRESENT:

In the 1980s, a significant portion of the population requiring mental health care was institutionalized, providing them with necessary treatment and removing them from the streets. For instance, facilities like Patton State Hospital and Agnews State Hospital housed thousands of patients, ensuring they received continuous care away from the public eye. Comparatively, today's homeless population includes a large percentage of individuals who would have been institutionalized under the previous system. In Santa Monica and Los Angeles, the visible crisis of homelessness and drug addiction can be traced directly to the absence of such structured care facilities.

IMPACT AND CLOSURE:

By the 1980s, many of these facilities were closed due to allegations of mistreatment and a shift towards deinstitutionalization. The closure led to a significant increase in the number of mentally ill individuals without adequate support, contributing to the current homelessness crisis. The political will to reinstate these institutions could be driven by showcasing the correlation between past percentages of institutionalized individuals and current homelessness statistics. This comparison highlights the critical need for a return to effective, humane treatment options.

HUMANITARIAN AND PUBLIC SAFETY BENEFITS:

Reinstating asylums could provide a humane solution, offering appropriate medical and psychological care while enhancing the quality of life for residents and reducing crime rates. This approach requires careful planning, funding, and political support to ensure humane and effective treatment for those in need.

CALL TO ACTION FOR UPCOMING ELECTIONS

With the 2024 elections approaching, particularly for the Santa Monica City Council, it is crucial for residents to recognize that their vote is the only way to enact meaningful change. We need fresh blood on the City Council with a united commitment to revitalizing our city and addressing the homelessness crisis. This is not about taking control from anyone or casting blame, but about bringing in new leadership that can implement effective, compassionate solutions.

CONCLUSION

The ongoing homelessness and drug addiction crisis in Santa Monica and Los Angeles can be traced back to the deinstitutionalization of mental health care facilities in the 1980s. Reinstating asylums offers a viable solution to manage severe mental illness, improve public safety, and restore the quality of life for residents. It's time to reconsider and revive the asylum system to protect our communities and provide better care for those who cannot function in society.

Daniel Gregory, Santa Monica

VOTERS

FROM PAGE 3

would increase penalties for some crimes, Gov. Gavin Newsom tried to fashion a competing measure that would be less harsh, but he eventually ran out of time.

However this year's ballot does offer another example of competing measures, this time over rent control, albeit with a new twist.

Michael Weinstein, who heads the Los Angeles-based AIDS Healthcare Foundation, has twice spent millions of dollars on measures to repeal California's three-decade-old law that limits the ability of local governments to impose controls on residential rents. Both, one in 2018 and another in 2020, were rejected by voters after the California Apartment Association and other real estate groups spent millions of dollars on opposition campaigns.

Weinstein is back for a third time this year with Proposition 33. But in addition to financing another opposition drive, the apartment association has qualified Proposition 34, which would require "prescription drug price manipulators" — organizations that acquire and distribute discounted drugs through a federal program — to spend at least 98% of their revenues on patient care.

The apartment association says its "dual campaigns aim to defeat both Weinstein's current rent control measure and prevent him from misusing taxpayer dollars to fund rent control campaigns in the future."

Weinstein and his supporters cry foul and tried to persuade the California Supreme Court to invalidate Prop. 34. The court refused, though it indicated it might revisit the measure's validity if it passes.

However this duel plays out, it's a new wrinkle in California's perennial clashes of special interest gladiators in the ballot arena, one that will continue to test voters' ability to discern motives behind propositions.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.



Photo by Nelvin C. Cepeda, San Diego Union-Tribune/TNS via REUTERS

CASINO: California voters rejected two competing ballot measures on sports wagering funded by casino interests. Here visitors play on slot machines at the Valley View Casino & Hotel in San Diego County on July 1, 2019.

NEWSOM

FROM PAGE 5

dangerous precedent of rewriting state tax laws retroactively.

The state Franchise Tax Board recently lost an appeal of a corporate tax case involving Microsoft and a years-long dispute over the tax treatment of foreign earnings. The state Office of Tax Appeals ruled for Microsoft, thus requiring the state to refund $1.3 billion immediately, with hundreds of millions in other refunds in the future.

Rather than swallow its loss, the Franchise Tax Board persuaded Newsom's Department of Finance to include language in SB 167 that voids the appellate ruling and potentially allows tax collectors to go back years and impose more taxes on corporations.

The implications are scary. Californians could fully pay their taxes and then years later be hit with new tax bills because the Legislature has changed tax law retroactively and perhaps even secretly.

The California Taxpayers Association is raising alarms about the law's potential effects, and its president, Robert Gutierrez, says a legal challenge is being considered.

"This legislation shreds well-reasoned, unanimous decisions of California's Office of Tax Appeals and serves as a not-so-hidden tax increase," Gutierrez said. "This is a cash grab that undermines the tax system and threatens the integrity of the tax appeals process in California, and it must be stopped."

What could be more authoritarian than arbitrary and retroactive increases in taxes?

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

FACILITIES

FROM PAGE 1

and our students deserve to go to school in buildings that don't look like they're falling apart. We have the ability with this bond measure to do that for them."

Temporary classroom removal remains a top priority with the November bond, with district Chief Facilities Officer Carey Upton stating that the bond would eliminate 11 of the portables on the elementary and middle school levels, adding to the 19 already planned for removal with Measure SMS funds.

Another classroom shift takes place at the early elementary level, as the looming Universal Transitional Kindergarten (TK) program is set for 2025 in California schools, prompting new facility requirements for the grade level. Needing around 23 TK classrooms, Upton said the "big challenge" is turning typical 900 square-foot classrooms into 1,350 square footage with an in-suite bathroom and adjacent play yards. One example provided would be to take four regular-sized classrooms at Grant Elementary, dividing them into three TK classrooms and adding restrooms.

With the unanimous approval by the board setting the stage for November's election, Upton added that the board has been "supportive and knowledgeable of what is needed" in an always-changing educational landscape.

"They're very aware that the taxpayers will have to pay for this, and how much we ask for and how much we can prove and show that we're using their money (right)," Upton said. "They're very much committed to showing that we're being very good stewards of the money and balancing (finances) with making sure that the students have what they need to learn."

More immediate work is ongoing at McKinley Elementary School, where arsenic-tampered soils are currently being hauled off at the site. A plan for a soil mitigation process, capping it under the surface of structures with pavement, was nixed by the regulations of the Southern California Air Quality Management District (CSAQMD), reverting the district back to the original plan of hauling off impacted soil and replacing it with fresh dirt.

While the regulations could be exempted while working with the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), CSAQMD refused to grant such exception, even when pressed by DTSC officials on the matter.

"We reached out to them, and they wrote us back and said, we've already given you an answer, and we're not going to meet with you," Upton said. "So they refused to meet with us, and DTSC reached out to them … to try to get a meeting and they were also rebuffed."

The board adopted a resolution terminating the Environmental Oversight Agreement and School Cleanup Agreement with DTSC, and approved an amended mitigation monitoring and reporting program, in order to not delay McKinley work by a full year. Trucks will continue to load up soil at McKinley through this week, and will begin the importing of clean dirt before school starts, taking a "little break" while students get settled into the new school year before finishing.

Upton originally pegged the cost of the soil removal at over $1,000,000; however after a "deep dive" it was determined that this method would cost a little over $100,000 over the alternate mitigation.

"If you just pick it up and move it, put it in the truck, you're paying for the trucks, you're paying for the new soil, but once it's gone, all of that other work disappeared," Upton added.

Several citizens in close quarters to McKinley spoke out at the board meeting, concerned with potential dust that would get into the air as well as the noise level of the project.

"We're part of your community … we're the people that are actually there while this construction is taking place," said Rosvita Rauch, who lives across the street from McKinley. "While you say we want to make sure (soil removal) happens before the school children return, our lives are equally as valuable."

To these concerns, senior environmental consultant Eric Fraske of NV5 stated that there is full-time monitoring for dust on site, with four monitoring stations along the fencing line, as well as a full-time air monitoring station to measure wind speed. Results will be posted from NV5 daily for locals.

"We actually have someone sitting there staring at a laptop all day watching the numbers, as it climbs (and approaches) a limit, we know we need to add more dust suppression, do more watering, things like that … with the work we've done so far, we're well under our limits," Fraske said.

Upton added that himself and the NV5 team met with several citizens, walking them through the McKinley site and describing the testing processes in detail.

The soil mitigation change has no bearing on mitigation of soil vapors found with detections of "volatile organic compounds," mainly dry cleaning chemical agent tetrachloroethylene. The district plan to install a soil Vapor Intrusion Mitigation and Migration Engineering Controls System is still on the books.

thomas@smdp.com



Photo by Thomas Leffler

CONSTRUCTION: The hauling of arsenic soil at McKinley Elementary School has begun, a process that will continue through this week.

SUPERVISORS

FROM PAGE 2

last month and later gained support from Supervisor Hilda Solis. They acted despite opposition from the remaining two supervisors, Kathryn Barger and Holly Mitchell.

"We can no longer let a dated bureaucracy prevent us from more effectively addressing our homelessness crisis, making real progress on justice reform, or actualizing a government where Angelenos can meaningfully be at the decision-making table," Horvath and Hahn said as they first aired their measure.

Mitchell and Barger didn't oppose the overhaul directly, but complained that it was being rushed through without sufficient study.

"Something this significant and historic shouldn't be entered with the comment 'It's not perfect,'" Barger said when the proposal was unveiled. "We have an obligation to our voters to make sure when we do this, we do it right."

It will be ninth time that the huge county's voters will consider expanding the board. Most recently, in 2000, 64% of voters rejected increasing the board to nine members.

Except for the combined city and county of San Francisco, California's counties have long been governed by five elected supervisors, who wield both legislative and executive powers. It works reasonably well in smaller counties, including Alpine, for example, which has about 1,200 residents, but doesn't in large urban counties such as Los Angeles, which has 10 million people — more than most states.

Each Los Angeles supervisor has about 2 million constituents, which means their campaigns collect and spend millions of dollars and only major interest groups can play the game. Board seats are so coveted that politicians will even give up seats in Congress in hopes of becoming one of the five.

Expanding the board would be a step towards making the board more reflective of the county's immense diversity. But the second reform, having an elected county executive, is an even more fundamental change.

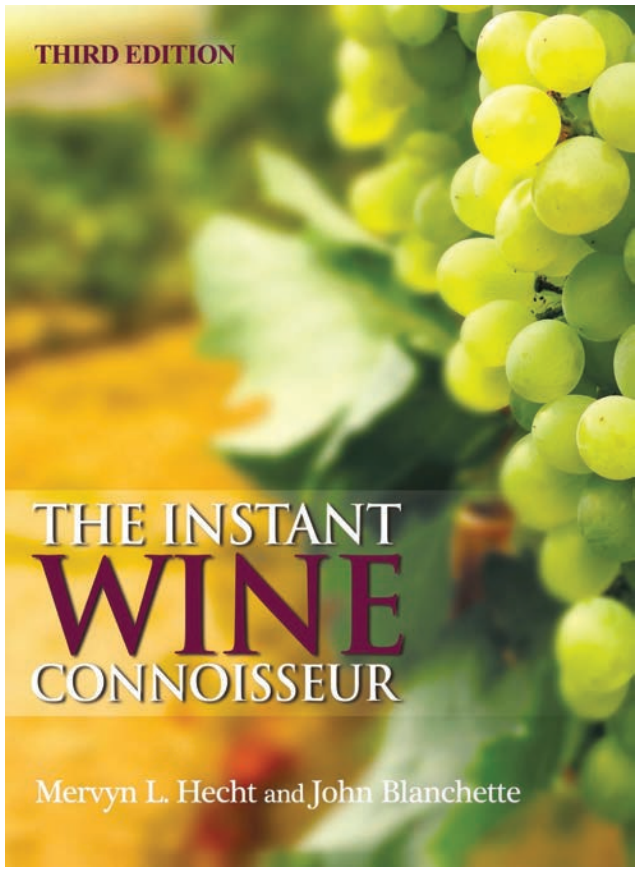
Having all authority vested in a five-member board makes decisive action more difficult than it should be and undercuts accountability. Voters don't know who to blame when failures occur, or even who to credit when good things happen.

Given the size of the county, an elected county executive arguably would hold California's second-most powerful office, eclipsed only by the governor, and it would be a natural stepping stone into the governorship.

Even if approved by voters, the systemic overhaul of Los Angeles County government would not take effect immediately. It would be phased in and become fully operational after the 2030 census.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

★★★★★ A light-hearted fun read.
★★★★★ Well written, particularly useful, instantly accessible.
★★★★★ …Hecht has a joyful eye and fabulous taste



Daily Press Food &Wine Columnist Merv Hecht takes you on an delightful tour of the world of wine. A fun way to increase your appreciation and knowledge of wine.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2024140364 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 07/01/24The following person(s) is (are) doing business asPesifa Home Loans 8383 Wilshire Blvd 800mBeverly Hills, Ca 90211. Los Angeles Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): Ai #ON. The full name of the registrant(s) is/are Norma Voelkel 8383 Wilshire Blvd 800mBeverly Hills, Ca 90211If corporation or LLC- Print State of This is Business is Conducted: An Individual The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 07/2024Registrant/Corp/ LLC Name /s/: Jesyka Devi Title: Owner , Jesyka Devi This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 07/01/2024NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. ,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS., 07/15/24, 07/22/24 07/29/24, 08/05/2024

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2024144635 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 07/9/24The following person(s) is (are) doing business as SuperSeller 3116 Colorado Ave Apt C Santa Monica, CA 90404. Los Angeles Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): Ai #ON. The full name of the registrant(s) is/are Shankman LLC 3116 Colorado Ave Apt C Santa Monica, CA 90404. If corporation or LLC- Print State of CAThis is Business is Conducted: A Limited Liability Company The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/ARegistrant/ Corp/ LLC Name /s/: An Individual Title: Owner High Borax. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 07/9/2024NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. ,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS.07/22/2024, 07/29/24, 08/5/24, 08/12/24

DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2024143305 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 07/5r/24The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Claremont Nighthawks 602 E Miramar Ave Claremont, CA 91711. Los Angeles Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): Ai #ON. The full name of the registrant(s) is/are Claremont Running Team 602 E Miramar Ave Claremont, CA 91711. If corporation or LLC- Print State of CAThis is Business is Conducted: A Corporation The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 07/2024Registrant/Corp/ LLC Name /s/: Claremont Running Team Title: Treasurer Peter Gloria. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 07/5/2024NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. ,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS.08/5/24, 08/12/24, 08/19/24, 08/26/24

Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMECase No. 24SMCP00343Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Fausta Zhou for Change of NameTO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:Petitioner or Attorney: Fausta Zhou a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Fausta Zhou to Fausta Kasauska The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 08/30/2024 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K Room: The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES Santa Monica Courthouse 11725 Main St. Santa Monica, CA 90401. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press.

Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMECase No. 24SMCP00356Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Jessica G Hill for Change of NameTO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:Petitioner or Attorney: Jessica G Hill a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Jessica G Hill to Jessica Gabrielle Cabrera-Contaoi The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 09/13/2024 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K Room: The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES Santa Monica Courthouse 11725 Main St. Santa Monica, CA 90401. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMECase No. 24SMCP00345Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Hisayo Noguchi for Change of NameTO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:Petitioner or Attorney: Hisayo Noguchi a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Hisayo Noguchi toHisayo Mann The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 08/30/2024 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K Room: The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES Santa Monica Courthouse 11725 Main St. Santa Monica, CA 90401. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press.

Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMECase No.24TRCP00272Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition Elijah Jerimiah Groves for Change of NameTO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:Petitioner or Attorney: Elijah Jerimiah a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Elijah Jerimiah Groves to Elijah Jerimiah Groves-Pickering The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 08/30/2024 Time: 9:30 a.m, Dept: 8 Room: 504 The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES Torrance Courthouse 825 Maple Ave.Torrance, CA 90503. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No.24SMCP00372 Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles Petition Danielle Mekahel Barlev for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney: Danielle Mekahel Barlev a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Danielle Mekahel Barlev to Danielle Mekahel Barlev The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 09/6/2024 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K Room: The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT

Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMECase No/ 24SMCP00390Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition Stephanie Eve Urness for Change of NameTO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:Petitioner or Attorney: Stephanie Eve Urness a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Stephanie Eve Urness to Stephanie Eve Bender The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 09/20/2024 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K Room: -. The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES LASC North Central District Burbank CourtHouse 300 E Olive Ave Burbank, CA 92502. . A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMECase No/ 24SMCP00403Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition Sharzad Taji Mohajerian for Change of NameTO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:Petitioner or Attorney: Sharzad Taji Mohajerian a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Sharzad Taji Mohajerian to Sharzad Taji. The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 10/04/2024 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K Room: -. The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES LASC North Central District Burbank CourtHouse 300 E Olive Ave Burbank, CA 92502. . A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press.

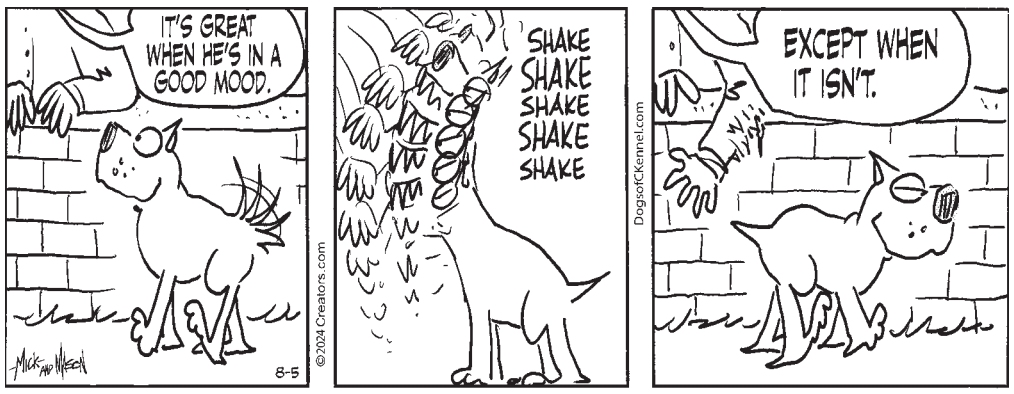
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By TONY COCHRAN



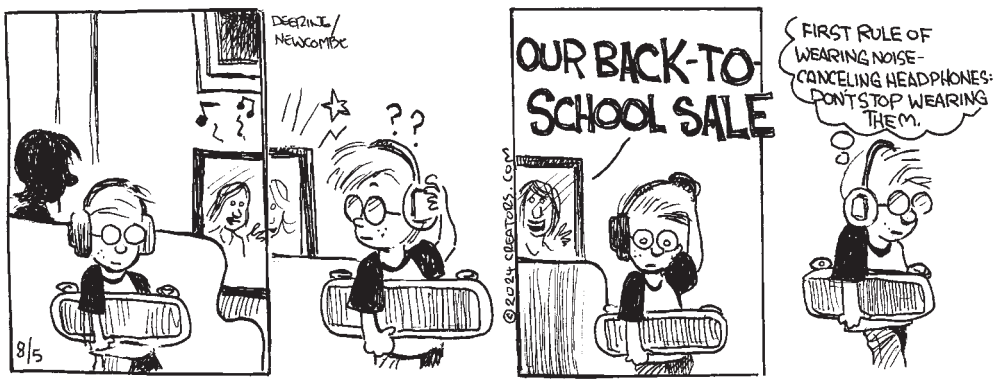
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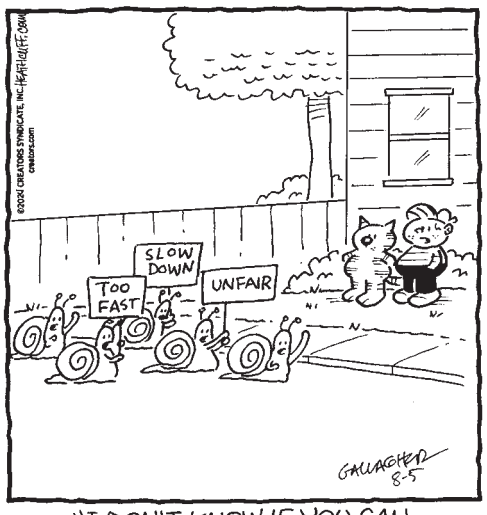
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



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By JOHN DEERING



FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 19 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

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Visiting Uluru

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

Bats	Dusty	Heritage	Rain	Storm
Beer	Emmet	Hike	Rest	Surf
Bore	Empty	Home	Rice	Sweat
Boss	Emus	Hotels	Risk	Tank
Camp	Ewaninga	Icon	Ruins	Track
Coober	Ferns	Ills	Salt	Tree
Pedy	Fire	Koalas	Scrub	Uluru
Crow	Flood	Long	Snakes	Unique
Dirty	Fuel	Mulka	Speed	Vast
Drought	Gold	Open	Stark	View
Drums	Grass	Pimba	Steep	Wines

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 5)

The more you make the uplift of others a focus, the better you feel. You'll accomplish amazing feats expending but half the energy they once required because you have so much love, admiration and support around you this year. More highlights: A fitness goal will be reached. You'll sock away money for a huge investment, and you'll entertain like the star you are. Aries and Taurus adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 20, 14, 26 and 33.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Much will come of saying yes. You'll join in a plan you wouldn't think to do on your own, which leads to an adventure. New places and faces will populate your experience. The best part is how easy it all will be.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Where the goal is to get it done right, you will get the most qualified person for the job and it will eliminate that pressure. When the goal is to make things interesting or fun, a less-qualified person is a better fit.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). One person's forgetting is an opportunity for another's remembering. Also, there will be a chance to jump in and save a social situation, perhaps with a gesture of compassion, humor or hospitality.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Secrets build trust, curiosity and a bond that is both thrilling and fragile. People are more likely to trade secrets than they are to simply give them up. In sharing secrets, we reveal our true selves, layer by layer.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your cosmic gift is one of grace and charm. The way you communicate will have a greater impact than the content of your words. Your intentions will come true even when you don't articulate them. People just feel you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Whether you accept or reject a change, it's going to happen. You don't have to acknowledge and integrate developments into your experience, but you'll be more powerful as you do.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Choose your companions wisely. Even the brightest days can feel hollow when spent with those who drain your energy. It's better to weather a storm with someone fun than bask in sunshine with someone who dims your light.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). People will have various preferences for tending. Some would rather appear strong than receive care. Others don't trust help or just prefer soloing. Your needs are evolving and so are your methods of meeting them.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Someone's small but constant demands for your attention will pull your focus, and this makes your goals seem far away indeed. To move toward your aspirations, it's essential to set boundaries and prioritize your own needs.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You deliver the work only to realize there is still a mountain more of it to do. The cycle needs three steps: work, breathe, celebrate. The breather and the celebration are essential to the cycle, and it would be detrimental to leave them out.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Relationships will always involve complexity because humans are complex. Step back for a broader view of fascinating patterns and dynamics that are not visible up close. Nuanced observations are paths to empathy.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Villains aren't all bad. Heroes aren't all good. Each case is unique and so is each read of the situation. Your preferences and tolerances will be highlighted. You'll find a way to help everyone get along.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

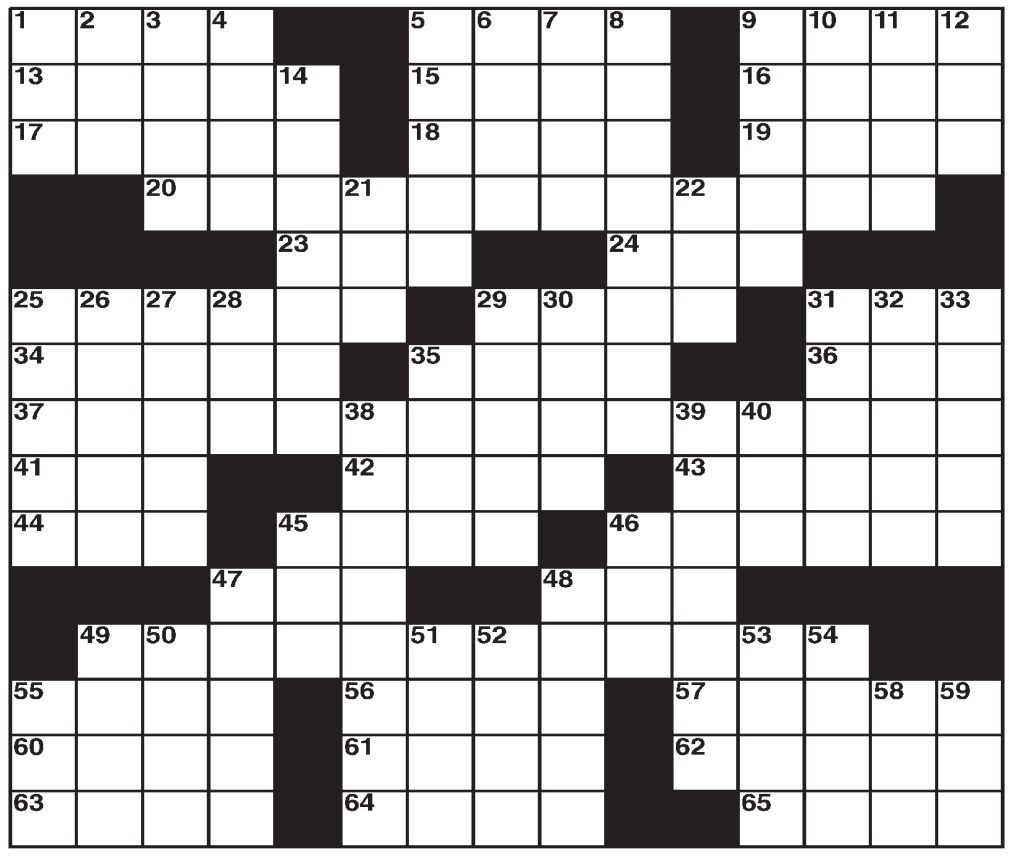
THINK INK by Doug Peterson
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Sandwich shop
5 In the __ (long ago)
9 Pottery material
13 Major occasion
15 A Great Lake
16 Neither __ nor there
17 Old-fashioned "Awesome!"
18 Horse's father
19 Has a meal
20 Fancy alternatives to ballpoints
23 __ de Janeiro, Brazil
24 NASA's "Totally fine"
25 __ price (cost of a store item)
29 Regular pay
31 Typing speed stat: Abbr.
34 Skirt-smoothing appliances
35 Store's markdown
36 Three, in Roman numerals
37 Machines for producing newspapers
41 "Electric" fish
42 Dove's sounds
43 Sister's daughter
44 Streets and highways: Abbr.
45 Stitched together
46 Holder for three-hole paper
47 Place to bathe
48 Droop
49 Handheld devices to mark "PAID"
55 Mexican coin
56 Sushi grain
57 Sedans and coupes
60 Home for Adam
61 Candle's light
62 Sneering smile
63 Model's stance
64 Full collections
65 Bird of __ (eagle or vulture)

DOWN

1 Family room
2 Adam's partner
3 Bit of lettuce
4 Run __ (encounter)
5 Green pasta sauce
6 Operatic solo
7 iPhone's voice
8 Adolescent
9 Place to apply rouge
10 Tilt to one side
11 Bachelor of __ degree
12 "For sure!"
14 Visitor who's seeing the sights
21 Zilch
22 "The Raven" writer
25 More ready to harvest
26 Made a mistake
27 Works hard
28 Raggedy doll
29 Station __ (family car)
30 Swiss mountains
31 Got smart, with "up"
32 Bit of a jigsaw puzzle
33 Overly frugal person
35 Skiing surface
38 Frozen Arctic hazards
39 Baffling puzzles
40 Moral misdeed
45 Undersea vessel
46 Sheep's sound
47 Kind of steak
48 Slow-cooked meals
49 Begin again with
50 Finds a function for
51 Make angry
52 Traditional kilt wearer
53 Tire-inflating device
54 Mix with a spoon
55 Lively energy
58 Metallic mineral
59 Pie in the __ (unlikely goal)



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PERMITTING

FROM PAGE 1

thrive for years to come," he added.

The City currently uses an Accela system to enter, store, and manage permits and other record types for multiple City departments, including but not limited to, Community Development, Public Works and Rent Control. According to the staff report, the City's workflows in Accela result in inefficiencies and duplicative data entry, highlighting the need for an integrated, modern solution.

The new system covers permitting processes end-to-end: from application to review to issuance to fee assessment to inspections. The modern platform will enable efficiencies, enhance the applicant experience, and provide a "one-stop shop" for land management, along with the corresponding planning, licensing, permitting and enforcement functions.

"The updates build upon ongoing efforts from the city to make it easier to do business in Santa Monica, including streamlining existing permitting processes and easing zoning requirements downtown," the statement said.

In addition to improving customer experience, the new permitting system will streamline application submittal and permit approval processes and provide intuitive systems that are simpler to navigate via an online portal with a single sign-on user experience.

Moreover, it will reduce manual processes and improve efficiencies through use of increased automation and improve reporting and availability of permitting metrics, such as number and type of permits, for city staff and the public.

Finally, the software offered by Albuquerque-based Speridian — an authorized reseller and implementor of the Clariti system — will also provide reports and dashboards for city staff to better monitor the status of permit processes and improve integration with other city technology systems.

scott.snowden@smdp.com

ANTI-CAMPING

FROM PAGE 5

arrests — a reality that these laws overlook and a racial disparity they exacerbate. These laws do not address why people like me find themselves homeless; they merely shuffle us from one underpass or street corner to another, escalating our crises.

The solution lies not in displacement but in permanent, supportive measures. The overwhelming majority of Californians recognize this need. Data from a recent statewide poll found that 68% of voters believe there is at least some need for additional funding to address housing affordability, with 55% expressing support for a $9 billion housing bond. This indicates a clear public mandate for solutions that provide housing and services rather than punishment.

The same morning that the Grants Pass decision came out, Los Angeles announced the results from its annual regional housing count, which showed a record number of housing placements accompanied a decline in the number of people experiencing homelessness. This demonstrated how a significant investment in affordable housing and permanent funding for services that address the root causes of homelessness can help people rebuild their lives and end the cycle of homelessness. Arrests never have and never will.

In the weeks before the count results came out, an audit of Los Angeles policy found that after spending $3 million on encampment clearings, only two people were connected to permanent housing.

The people subject to arrest in Grants Pass, Oregon, on California state property and in the communities that follow the poor guidance of the governor's executive order have real lives and suffer real hardships. Whatever the Supreme Court has ruled, Newsom and local policymakers should instead invest in humanity, dignity and real solutions that uphold the right to a home.

The time for temporary fixes has long passed. We must commit to comprehensive solutions that address homelessness with the seriousness and compassion it demands. Only then can we hope to bring every Californian home.

This article was originally published by CalMatters. Reba Stevens is a Los Angeles-based community advocate and a member of the Bring California Home Coalition.





MONDAY | AUGUST 5

DISABILITIES COMMISSION

6:30 p.m. Civic Center Parking Structure SMi Room, 333 Civic Center Dr. The Disabilities Commission helps improve the quality of life for people with disabilities in Santa Monica by prioritizing issues of concern and advising the City Council and City Staff on those issues. The Commission recommends ways to maximize participation of people with disabilities in all facets of City life and increase awareness of the abilities, rights and issues of people with disabilities throughout the community.

TUESDAY | AUGUST 6

SOCIAL SERVICE ASSISTANCE

9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave. Virginia Avenue Park in partnership with Providence St. John's Community Health Program, resumes Social Service Assistance. 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.

SUMMER READING PROGRAM

2:30 - 3:15 p.m. Fairview Branch Library, 2101 Ocean Park Blvd. Get up close to amazing animals and learn interesting tidbits to appreciate how we share this planet. For families. Tickets are available starting at 2 p.m. Space limited.

CYANOTYPE & PINHOLE CAMERA WORKSHOP

4 - 6 p.m. Annenberg Community Beach House Sand & Sea Room, 415 Pacific Coast Highway. Led by Camera Obscura Art Lab Artist-in-Residence Marzieh Karimi, join for a fun and immersive workshop where you can learn about the fascinating world of camera obscura and how to make and use a basic pinhole camera to create your own unique artwork. You will also learn the compelling art of cyanotype, a camera-less technique for creating prints. Event is free, space limited, to register visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/pinhole-camera-and-cyanotype-workshop-with-artist-marzieh-karimi-tickets-965352022887?aff=ebdssbdestsearch.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

5 - 8 p.m. Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main St. Police Chief Ramon Batista and the members of the Santa Monica Police Department would like to invite the Santa Monica community to celebrate this year's National Night Out, an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie, aimed at making our neighborhoods safer and more caring places to live. This year's theme is "Past, Present and Future!" With 80s and 90s nostalgic snacks and games, historic PD items, displays of current technology and presenting plans for the future. Participants can meet police personnel (human and 4-legged), ask questions about police vehicles and equipment, and enjoy music, food and family-friendly activities.

WEDNESDAY | AUGUST 7

HOMELESS CONNECT DAY

8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Venice Family Clinic Health and Wellness Center, 604 Rose Ave., Venice. People experiencing homelessness can connect with Venice Family Clinic services, including medical care, dental cleanings and consultations, health insurance enrollment, CalFresh enrollment, overdose prevention supplies, testing for Hep C and sexually transmitted infections including syphilis, for which L.A. County Department of Public Health will provide initial treatment onsite. L.A. County Homeless Court will help with pedestrian and traffic tickets, and celebrity stylist Jason Schneidman will give free haircuts. Venice Family Clinic will also provide hygiene kits, showers, a bike valet and hot meals.

DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET

8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Between 4th St. and Ocean Ave. The largest grower-only Certified Farmers Market in Southern California and a favorite for local chefs. 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.

AUTHOR TALK WITH DR. JENNIFER LEVASSEUR

11 a.m. - 12 p.m. Santa Monica College Library, Floor 1, 1900 Pico Blvd. You're invited to virtually step inside one of the greatest international achievements with a behind-the-scenes guide to space exploration with the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum curator Dr. Jennifer Levasseur. Revealing a new perspective into the world of space exploration and the daring astronauts who make it possible, Dr. Levasseur will guide you through the Smithsonian's "Behind the Scenes at the Space Station" and take you on a once-in-a-lifetime virtual tour of the International Space Station. To register, visit: https://libraryc.org/smclibrary/52409/register.

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS CHARACTER CREATION

4:30 - 5:30 p.m. Pico Branch Library Annex, 2201 Pico Blvd. Curious about Dungeons & Dragons? Come craft a character to participate in upcoming adventures. Materials provided. For ages 9-14.

PRIEST RANCH ON THE ROAD TOUR

5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Local Kitchen, 1736 Ocean Park Blvd. Priest Ranch is taking its show on the road in 2024 with winemaker Cody Hurd and CEO Judd Wallenbrock. Local Kitchen will dish up light bites to pair with a selection of Priest Ranch wines, including a 2023 Priest Ranch Sauvignon Blanc, 2021 Priest Ranch Cabernet Sauvignon, 2019 Snake Oil Cabernet Sauvignon and 2019 Remedy Red Blend. Tickets are $45 and includes wine tasting and light nosh. To purchase, visit: https://www.priestranchwines.com/Visit/Events/Priest-Ranch-on-the-Road-Tour-2024.


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