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smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

Volume 23 Issue 187 THURSDAY 8/8/24 smdp.com

Get your skates on as Roll at Santa Monica opens downtown



Photo Credit: Mandy Zelinka

ROLL AT SANTA MONICA: The new Santa Monica roller rink in Downtown has created a safe, welcoming environment for people to enjoy for less than $20.

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

Just because it's not winter, doesn't mean you can't skate, so push the ice skates to the back of the cupboard and bring forth the roller skates instead.

The creative folk at Downtown Santa Monica, Inc. (DTSM) have used the same resources at the same location — 1324 5th Street — as the winter seasonal spectacular Ice at Santa Monica and built a roller skating rink. The significance of this is far greater since to begin with, this is the very first time this has ever been done in Santa Monica and secondly because neighboring Venice Beach has become the unofficial roller skating capital of the world.

The project is the brainchild of Jeremy Ferguson, Operations & Placemaking Director for DTSM and Matt Kessinger, Project Director at Willy Bietak Productions, who conceived the idea when they were building the ice rink last October.

"It made obvious and perfect sense," said Ferguson, adding, "We did some research and discovered that no one had ever built a seasonal outdoor roller rink in Santa Monica before … I People have talked about the potential of having a roller rink for years, so I do appreciate all the groundwork that was laid before me to help make this possible.

"Nearly every person we spoke with lit up with excitement and shared with us their own skating story. I'm so excited to produce an activation already welcomed by so many in the community."

Ferguson explains that with one or two obvious exceptions, almost the entire set up from the ice rink is being reused, because the intricate wooden support structure constructed to accommodate the ice rink and keep everything spirit level-straight was designed and built in such a way that it could be easily disassembled, stored and reassembled. "Just like moving a jigsaw puzzle, albeit quite a big one," Ferguson said, adding, "And Matt [Kessinger] basically designed that jigsaw puzzle … His knowledge and experience from working on other, similar projects for Willy Bietak Productions, who specialize in this kind of thing, cannot be overstated."

The admission cost, including skate rental, is $15 and a session can last as long as you want. Lockers, socks and a party tent are also available to rent or purchase. There are five time slots available to book, 12 p.m., 2 p.m., 4 p.m., 6 p.m. and 8pm, to stagger numbers a little, but once you're on, you can stay on.

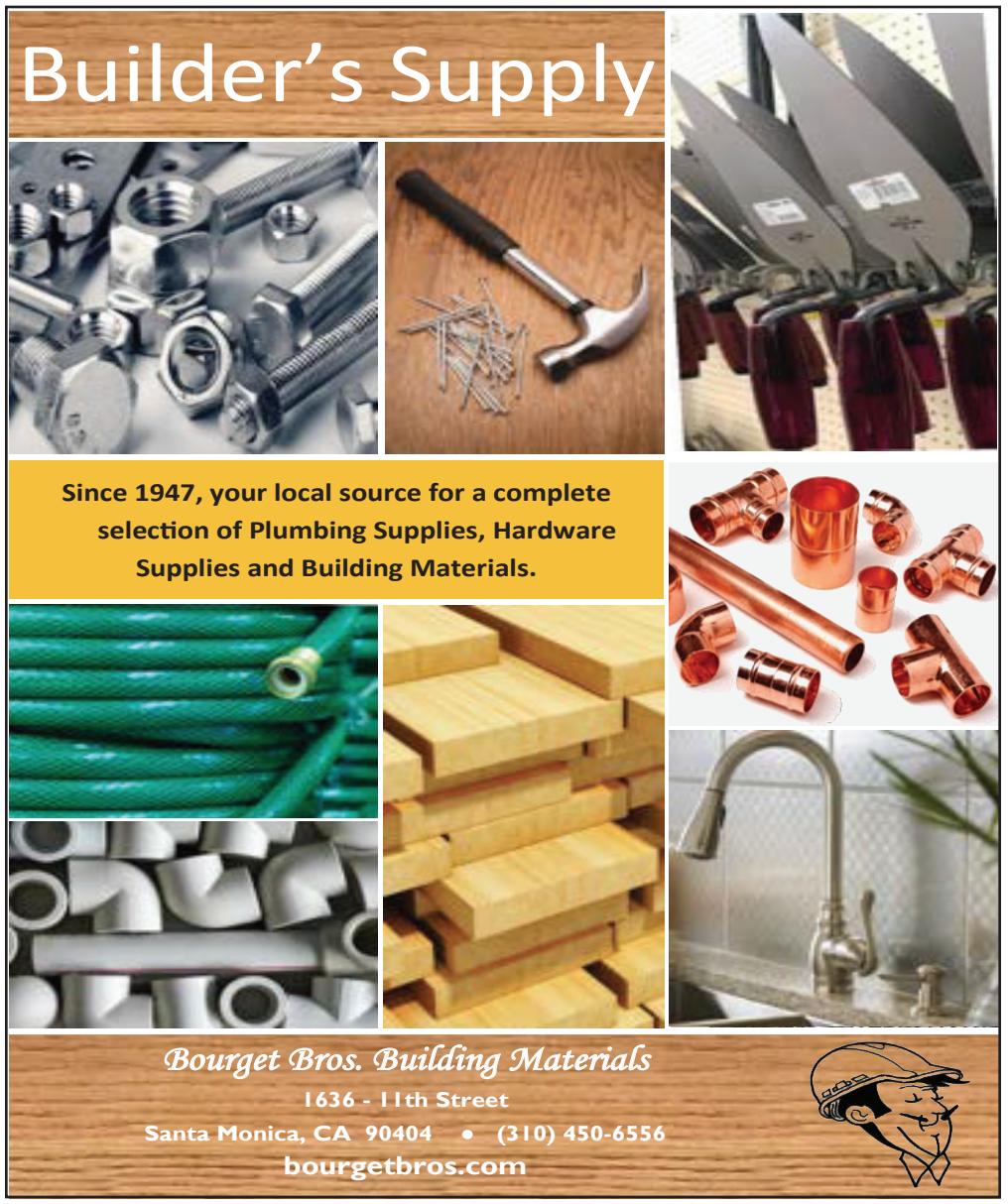
"What we've tried to create here is a beloved community rink that's for everyone, so we have intentionally set the price point as absolutely low as we can go and still cover our costs," Ferguson said.

"The roller rink is a different animal so it's a different operation," Kessinger said. "Consequently, we don't have the same overheads. There's no ice to keep frozen, so power consumption is a fraction, plus the team required to keep the operation running is smaller. And if people want to bring their own skates, they can."

The four-wheeled turning roller skate as we know it was invented in 1863 in New York City. It took just 20 years for the idea to become

SEE **ROLLER RINK** PAGE 11





Larger parcel incentive latest move to inspire Bergamot development



Photo by Thomas Leffler

BERGAMOT: City officials including the Architectural Review Board are attempting to add incentives for development in the Bergamot area.

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

City officials are attempting to cultivate new incentives for applicants in the Bergamot area, focusing on the creation of not just housing, but palatable open spaces for potential residents.

At the July 15 meeting of the city's Architectural Review Board (ARB), the board held a lengthy discussion on the Bergamot Area Plan which was first adopted in September 2013. Using the 140 acres of land surrounding the Metro 26th Street/ Bergamot Expo Line station, the Bergamot plan was intended to guide compact, mixed-use development linked to the transit site.

Over a decade later, officials stated that the plan has not resulted in the intended transformation of Bergamot, with just four projects being approved thus far, all predating building standards laid out by the plan. City Planning Manager Jing Yeo told City Council during a June 11 study session that one of the "key reasons" developers have been shy is due to "confusing" standards that have been "difficult to implement."

"The idea was to build this sort of transit village, a new neighborhood," Yeo said. "Suffice to say, looking over 10 years later, almost nothing has happened that is governed by the plan," Yeo said.

To remedy this, boards like the ARB and Planning Commission have been working to construct more attractive standards for building, including a new incentive for larger sites. Given Council's interest in prioritizing open spaces and landscaping, ARB introduced a potential incentive for sites larger than one acre, which would create pathways for pedestrian and resident access through the project site and "create a walkable residential neighborhood."

Though nothing is official yet, ARB is seeking feedback on the incentive, part of the Bergamot Area Plan's goal of simplifying "overall standards" and providing "clearer user-friendly regulations with greater incentives to build housing."

In a staff report on the subject, the ARB noted that instead of two buildings being constructed on separate smaller parcels, putting two buildings within one larger parcel would potentially bypass an extra fire lane consideration at sites, giving "more meaningful open space" to residents.

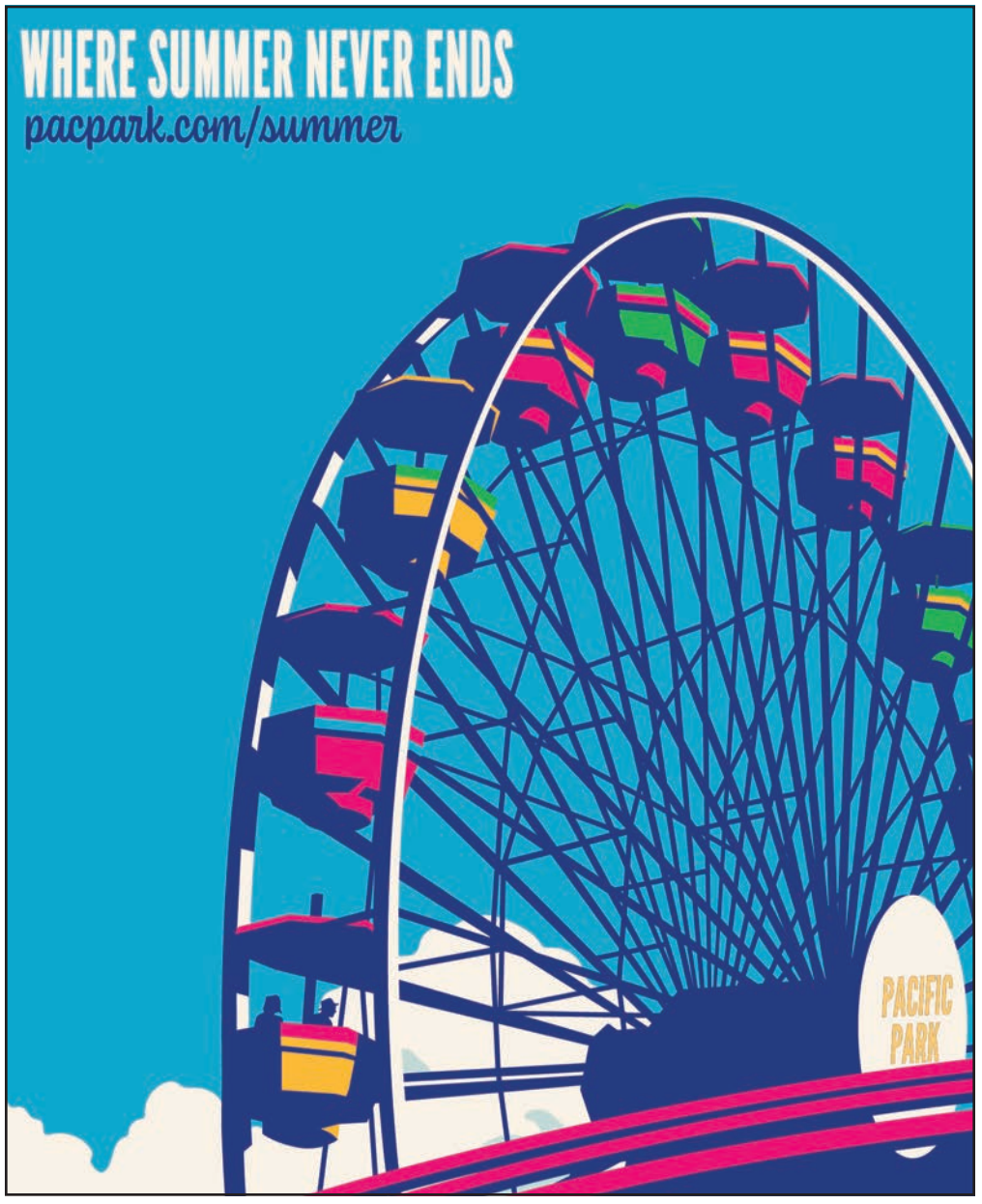
Council direction to the ARB stated that open space should be required on the ground floor of any future project, as the space "creates openness at the ground level in between buildings and properties." Council also noted that ground floor open space should be designed adjacent to a sidewalk to "contribute to a walkable neighborhood for residents."

Another arm of the Bergamot discussion hinged on the creation of objective standards for new residential development that considers "the unique aspects" of high-rise design within the area's context. Building projects beginning at 90 feet of height, the Council recommended, should factor in open spaces as well as "human-scale, pedestrian-oriented design." Council and other boards previously reviewed high-rise standards in places like San Diego, San Jose and New York City in crafting recommendations.

Discussions around high-rise standards come into play with potential development projects under California's Density Bonus Law, which Yeo noted the city has been "mindful" of in the Bergamot process.

"We really believe that we have to have a statement of the city's values with respect to these buildings and our expectations ... but we also want to make sure that we have standards that are reasonable and feasible and will actually be used," Yeo said.

thomas@smdp.com



Budget apartment hunters nearly out of luck locally



Photo Courtesy of Zillow

APARTMENT: A Zillow listing at 919 18th St. for $1,400 per month gives prospective renters an option, albeit at 250 square feet.

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

For those on modest apartment-hunting budgets, Santa Monica doesn't seem to be the answer, something that also applies to the Los Angeles metropolitan area.

A recent RentCafe study analyzed 200 different United States cities on what $1,500 per month in rent could get a renter, and unsurprisingly, the analysis was very unkind to the LA market. Renters in Los Angeles proper, the study shows, can expect an apartment with approximately 439 square feet on a $1,500 budget. This is the third-smallest approximate space on the list of LA metro cities, with only Pasadena (427 square feet) and Irvine (436) stretching dollars less.

Those looking to get an apartment for that budget in Santa Monica are almost entirely out of luck, and will have to assess whether they want to share a space with a bevy of roommates to live in the city. Scouring listings from apartment rental websites Zillow, Apartments.com, Westside Rentals, Redfin and Apartment Finder; only three studio apartments fit under the $1,500 price tag.

One of these was found on Zillow, a 250 square-foot space at 919 18th St. costing $1,400 with a provided microwave and refrigerator. Another spot found on Zillow is at 3222 Santa Monica Blvd. at an unlisted square footage for $1,495 a month, with the same price point and same unlisted footage found on Redfin at 1302 Euclid St. On Apartment Finder, a slightly out of the price range spot at 1010 Pico Blvd. would give a renter 350 square feet for $1,595 per month.

Those willing to share spaces with others may have a little more luck, with an Apartments.com rental available at 621 Strand St. providing a private bedroom in a 3-bed, 2-bath apartment for $1,250 a month, albeit having to share the 1,200 square foot space with two male roommates in their 20s.

A rising trend in Santa Monica is the co-living space, where young professionals and students can secure a place in a massive living cohort for a cheaper price point. Apartments.com and Westside Rentals show three of these spaces currently available, one at 1996 Virginia Ave. for $850 per month, and spots at 1503 Yale St. and 1796 Delaware Ave. for $790 a month.

A catch to the low price is not knowing how many roommates someone will have, as the month-to-month leases lead to much turnover. The co-living spaces have proven successful for international students, though, finding living quarters while attending Santa Monica College and other local colleges.

The further a prospective renter gets from Los Angeles proper, the better off the square footage is for $1,500. The highest average apartment size for the budget are found in Palmdale (693 square feet), Lancaster (670) and Pomona (564). The 439 square feet average in Los Angeles still remains higher than its massive metro neighbor to the east, New York City, where renters get 300 square feet in Brooklyn and a tight 228 square feet in Manhattan.

Out of United States cities with a population over 225,000, the $1,500 budget stretches furthest in Wichita, Kansas (1,359 square feet of living space), Toledo, Ohio (1,345) and Memphis, Tennessee (1,257).

thomas@smdp.com



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **65.1**

THURSDAY
POOR TO FAIR
SURF: 1-2FT
Knee to thigh

Watching the EPAC tropics — could start to see new tropical swell later in the day. Small SW/SSW swell from the SPAC and minor NW windswell otherwise. AM winds look light. Tide is drained out early and slows most breaks.

FRIDAY
FAIR
SURF: 2-3FT
Thigh to waist

Watching the EPAC tropics for better size. Small SW/SSW swell from the SPAC and minor NW windswell linger. Light winds due most of the morning. Tide is drained out early and slows most breaks for the dawn patrol.

Weather

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

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)High/Low
2024/08/08	Thu	06:14 AM	0.67	L
2024/08/08	Thu	12:43 PM	4.48	H
2024/08/08	Thu	6:24 PM	2.06	L
2024/08/09	Fri	12:09 AM	4.47	H
2024/08/09	Fri	06:34 AM	1.15	L
2024/08/09	Fri	1:11 PM	4.54	H
2024/08/09	Fri	7:15 PM	2.09	L
2024/08/10	Sat	12:50 AM	3.83	H
2024/08/10	Sat	06:52 AM	1.65	L
2024/08/10	Sat	1:42 PM	4.59	H
2024/08/10	Sat	8:24 PM	2.10	L
2024/08/11	Sun	01:49 AM	3.19	H
2024/08/11	Sun	07:06 AM	2.12	L
2024/08/11	Sun	2:22 PM	4.64	H
2024/08/11	Sun	10:12 PM	1.93	L
2024/08/12	Mon	03:56 AM	2.72	H
2024/08/12	Mon	07:10 AM	2.54	L
2024/08/12	Mon	3:19 PM	4.72	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: 8/5
29 42 44 51 54
Power#: 12
Jackpot: 185 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 8/6
23 29 36 61 70
Mega#: 22
Jackpot: 398 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 8/3
3 4 28 40 44
Mega#: 19
Jackpot: 11 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 8/6
4 9 19 34 35

Daily 3
Draw Date: 8/7
EVENING: 8 0 8
Draw Date: 8/6
MIDDAY: 5 3 6

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 8/6
1st: 08 - Gorgeous George
2nd: 06 - Whirl Win
3rd: 03 - Hot Shot
Race Time: 1:43.03

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Santa Monica Daily Press

SMMUSD
SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO ALL QUALIFIED VOTERS of the SANTA MONICA - MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT that a SPECIAL BOND ELECTION will be held on TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2024, consolidated with the GENERAL ELECTION in order to submit to the voters the following measure: SANTA MONICA SCHOOLS REPAIR/IMPROVEMENT BOND MEASURE: To repair/replace leaky school roofs, outdated wiring/ plumbing; remove hazardous materials; upgrade classrooms, labs, instructional technology supporting science, math, engineering; improve education for struggling students; and increase student/ school safety; shall Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District's measure for School Facilities Improvement District No.1 (Santa Monica Schools) be adopted authorizing $495,000,000 of bonds at legal interest rates, levying 3¢ per $100 assessed value (raising $28 million annually) while bonds are outstanding, with citizens' oversight, annual audits, and all funds for Santa Monica schools only? Pursuant to Elections Code Section 9502 the last day arguments for and against the measure must be filed with the REGISTRAR RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK, 12400 Imperial Highway, Norwalk, 2 nd Floor, Room 2013, no later than 5:00 p. m., Friday, August 16, 2024. Argument and Rebuttal Forms are available at the REGISTRAR- RECORDER/ COUNTY CLERK OFFICE and on the website at Argument/Rebuttal Information (lavote.gov) or by calling (562) 462-2317. No argument shall exceed 300 words in length and arguments shall not include more than five authors. Each author shall sign a statement that states the argument is true and correct to the best of his/her/their knowledge and belief. One argument in support of and one argument in opposition to the measure will be selected. The public examination period for review of the materials for the measure will be available from August 10, 2024, to August 19, 2024. Persons requiring multilingual assistance in Armenian, Bengali, Burmese, Cambodian/Khmer, Chinese, Farsi, Gujarati, Hindi, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean, Mongolian, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog/Filipino, Telugu, Thai or Vietnamese regarding information in the notice may call (800) 815-2666, Option 3. DEAN C. LOGAN RegistrarRecorder/County Clerk County of Los Angeles 8/8/24 CNS-3840283# SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS

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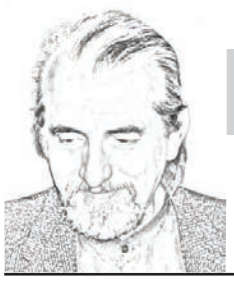
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OPINION **NOTEWORTHY**

Charles Andrews | Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Another week of so much!



Photo by Jim Coke

THE DOORS: Devonshire Downs, 7/15/1967.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

Tonight - THEATRICUM BOTANICUM: "The Winter's Tale" is one of Willie the Shake's last, a tragi-comedy in five acts. TB's ever-evolving staple "A Midsummer Night's Dream" has been performed by them every season, for more than half a century now. Molière's classic "Wendy's Peter Pan" is typical of how TB takes a fresh look at things, and by title alone sounds like a lot of fun. "Tartuffe" is brought forward a few centuries, and right into today's headlines. "Midsummer" Thurs, next Thurs, 7:30 p.m., "Wendy" Fri 7:30 p.m., "Winter" Sat 7:30 p.m.,"Tartuffe" Sun 7:30 p.m., $15-60.

JON BATISTE – First noticed him leading the band with panache on Stephen Colbert, wasn't surprised when he released a couple of great singles, because his performance of "Freedom" on the Grammys a couple years ago was off the charts. He had the biggest names in music standing, applauding, going nuts. Sat 8 p.m., Greek Theatre, LA, $48-176.

HOT CLUB OF LOS ANGELES — You can go to the Cinema Bar any Monday night, 9-11:30, for more than a decade now, and hear these hot players run through Django Reinhart-style '30s jazz. This amazing ensemble is a treasure. Mon 9 p.m., Cinema Bar, Culver City, no cover.

RECOMMENDED:

"WILD THINGS ARE HAPPENING: THE ART OF MAURICE SENDAK" – Now you can see them much bigger than a page in a book. This is the first complete retrospective of his art since his death in 2012, and includes his work in many areas of the arts. 8/8 - 9/1, Skirball Museum, admission price? Parking fee - call for info and hours.

Tonight - "THE SUBSTANCE OF FIRE" – Is still gaining steam, as the rave reviews roll in. Drawing actors like Bryan Cranston, Kevin Pollack, Dann Florek, Laurence Fishburne. ("They all loved it," said Ruskin's Mike Myers.) And now they are adding Thursdays, starting tonight. Starring Rob Morrow and Marcia Cross, both with extensive credits and awards for stage, film and TV. Go soon, you may well want to return, and take friends. Fri, Sat, next Thurs 8 p.m., Sun 2 p.m., Ruskin Group Theatre, SM Airport, $25-40.

HIVES, FOO FIGHTERS - OK, this is a little iffy, and my millennial daughter may cringe at this pick, but I think The Hives always have the possibility of reclaiming their early rock and roll Swedish awesomeness, and FF Dave Grohl lives the rocker's total immersion, with energy and humor. Fri 5:30 p.m., BMO Stadium, LA, $102-599.

WAILING SOULS – Great name, eh? Great vocal harmonies, since the '60s, I've seen them several times in the last 40 years, the real deal, originals Pipe and Bread are still wailing. I expect a big crowd there in the park. Sat 7 p.m., Levitt Pavilion, MacArthur Park, LA, free.

ALANIS MORISETTE, JOAN JETT & THE BLACKHEARTS – Kickass proof that the "ladies" can sing, play their instruments, and blow any rockers off the stage. Great pairing. If you've never seen JJ, you haven't lived. Don't kill yourself, just go. Sat 8 p.m., Kia Forum,

LIBRARY GIRL -" Into This House We're Born." LG always has some music bubbling in its themes but this month they are getting right to it, with the quintessential yet unique LA band. Celebrating the lyrical essence of The Doors' music. An especially sterling roster of writers will

SEE **NOTEWORTHY** PAGE 11

AROUND TOWN

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Roller Skating & Endless Summer CAMP



Courtesy image

SKATE: The winter ice rink has become a summer roller rink that opens this week.

SMDP's Weekly Guide to Food & Entertainment Goings-On In & Around Town includes Roller Skating, Endless Summer CAMP, and much more!

Yacht Club Pop-Up in Marina del Rey: Denver's Yacht Club Bar, ranked one of North America's 50 Best Bars, will take over Cast & Plow Bar inside The Ritz Carlton in Marina del Rey for an evening of cocktails and bites, including signature drinks such as their Hidden Valley Ranch Water made with Patrón Silver Tequila, fino sherry, dill, mint, lemon, black pepper, buttermilk, and Perrier. Known for their hot dog-focused food program, Yacht Club will serve their signature Caviar Dog (caviar, crème fraiche, chives, chips), alongside other bites from Cast & Plow's culinary team. Thursday, Aug. 8., 5 - 8p.m.@ 4375 Admiralty Way

SMPL at the Beach: "Fun in the sun for all ages at So Cal's only beachside pop-up library. Join us for a fun-filled day of activities starting with Seaside Storytime with local author Nell Cross Beckerman at 10:15 a.m., sign out books from our curated beach reads collection, play games, or kick back, relax and read in our Surfside Lounge. All ages welcome." Friday, Aug 9, 10:00a.m. - 3:00p.m. @ Annenberg Community Beach House 415 Pacific Coast Highway https://www.santamonica.gov/events/440b0ckhtyg6x4mbgk8zz41ndc/202408091000

Nutribullet Pier Party & Lucy Hale Pop Up: "the nutribullet Pier Party, featuring complimentary smoothies, exclusive prizes, and a fitness session led by celebrity trainer, Lacey Stone. Special guest Lucy Hale will also be in attendance." Friday, Aug. 9, 11a.m. - 7p.m. @ SaMo Pier eventbrite.com/e/free-event-nutribullet-pier-party-in-santa-monica-tickets-966383447907

15th Annual MixMatch Dance Festival: The Festival touts a line up of mixed dance styles in Modern, Jazz, Ballet, Latin, Sign Language, Indian, Flamenco, Hip Hop, Contemporary, and more. Friday - Sunday, Aug. 9 - 11 @ Highways Performance Space, 1651 18th Street https://www.hartpulsedance.com

Endless Summer C.A.M.P. (Community | Art | Music | Picnic) at Tongva Park (FREE): This first of four Saturday events celebrates community, arts and culture. Bring a picnic and join as artists from across Santa Monica and the LA region share their culture through interactive music, performances, and hands-on crafts. Special performances by local youth will be featured. Open to all. Saturday Aug. 10, features Philippine dance, music and song by Kayamanan Ng Lahi along with Traditional Mexican folklorico dance by Academia de Danza Ballet Folklorico Flor de Mayo's youth ballet. Artist Eros Cortes will lead a plant terrarium workshop. Saturdays, Aug 10, 17, & 24, 11:00a.m.-2:00p.m. https://www.santamonica.gov/press/2024/07/25/economic-growth-cultural-vitality-free-art-and-music-events-enliven-santa-monica-parks-this-summer

Skate Under the Stars at Santa Monica's New Seasonal Roller Rink: Roll @ Santa Monica is a new seasonal skating rink that will twirl daily from Aug. 10 through Oct. 14. Join the Grand Opening Celebration on August 10, from 12-2 PM, featuring music and skate performances by LA Skate Hunnies. Aug. 10 - Oct. 14 @ 1324 5th St. https://rollatsantamonica.com/

"Second Saturdays of Summer" Free Movie in the Park: Wilmont Neighborhood Coalition is hosting "free live music and movies" along with free popcorn & lemonade for kids, too. This month's movie is "Wonka." Saturday Aug. 10 @ 7:45p.m. @ Reed Park,

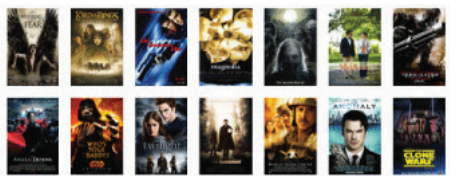
SEE **AROUND TOWN** PAGE 11

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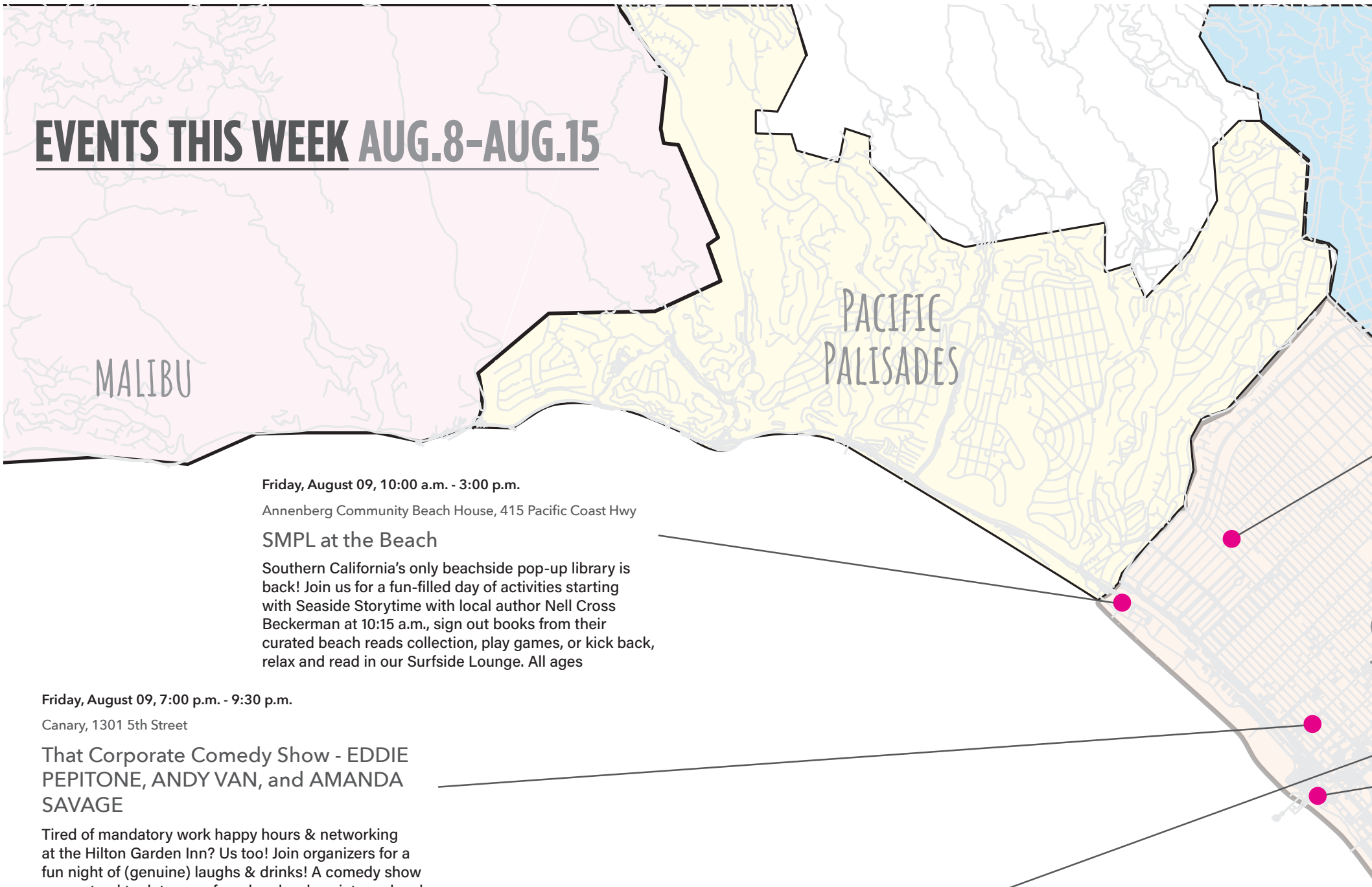
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EVENTS THIS WEEK AUG.8-AUG.15



Friday, August 09, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 Pacific Coast Hwy

SMPL at the Beach

Southern California's only beachside pop-up library is back! Join us for a fun-filled day of activities starting with Seaside Storytime with local author Nell Cross Beckerman at 10:15 a.m., sign out books from their curated beach reads collection, play games, or kick back, relax and read in our Surfside Lounge. All ages

Friday, August 09, 7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Canary, 1301 5th Street

That Corporate Comedy Show - EDDIE PEPITONE, ANDY VAN, and AMANDA SAVAGE

Tired of mandatory work happy hours & networking at the Hilton Garden Inn? Us too! Join organizers for a fun night of (genuine) laughs & drinks! A comedy show guaranteed to detox you from low-level anxiety and make you forget about Google Suite for 90 minutes! Just grab a ticket and prepare to laugh while you imbibe in some of LA's finest cocktails to set the perfect weekend tone!
$15 - $30
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/that-corporate-comedy-show-eddie-pepitone-andy-van-and-amanda-savage-tickets-946964746047

Friday, August 09, 8:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Bergamot Station Arts Center, 2525 Michigan Ave

Read the Room: Live Audience Tarot Readings and Stand-Up Comedy

Get ready for a hilariously mind-blowing experience at Read the Room: Live Audience Tarot Readings. What might professional tarot reader Jovan Illa and professional comedian Audrey Stewart have to say about your love life, career path, or chronic UTIs? Want a reading? Drop your name in the Mystical Chalice, and we'll see what's in the cards for you! $24
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/read-the-room-live-audience-tarot-readings-and-stand-up-comedy-tickets-804218016737

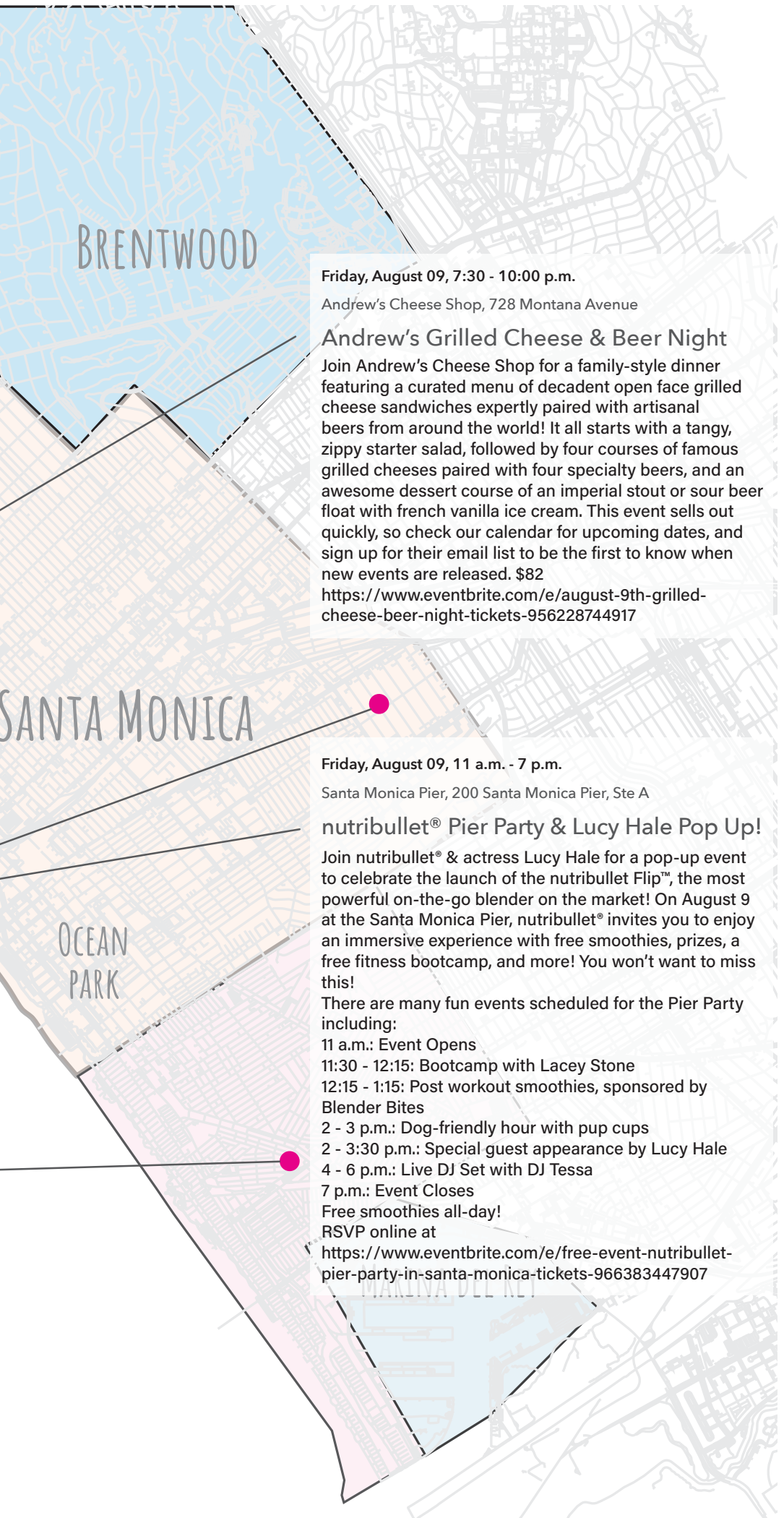
Check out more events at: smdp.com/events

Saturday, August 10, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Beyond Baroque Literary Arts Center, 681 Venice Blvd Venice Beach

Sagacious Syllabics: A Poetry Workshop with Lory Bedikian

Poets often believe they are experiencing writer's block when, in fact, they are grappling with an abundance of material that requires control, form, and measure. This workshop will explore what it means to write in syllabics or to compose syllabic verse (s.v.). Participants will examine whether such poems can truly be considered verse and delve into insights from the New Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics. The workshop will highlight how poets like Robert Bridges, Marianne Moore, and Dylan Thomas exemplify this form, with a special emphasis on Marianne Moore's mastery of syllabic verse. The workshop will feature an analysis of poems from Marilyn Hacker's collection "Names," which predominantly utilizes syllabics alongside ghazals. Discussions will focus on how writing in syllabics can help overcome creative blocks while being mindful of maintaining the musicality of the line. The form should serve as a guide, with adjustments made when necessary for strategic and significant purposes.
Participants will begin with smaller exercises, aiming to piece together their work and conclude with a working draft where syllables lead the way.
$85-$95
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sagacious-syllabics-a-poetry-workshop-with-lory-bedikian-tickets-935857102787



Friday, August 09, 7:30 - 10:00 p.m.

Andrew's Cheese Shop, 728 Montana Avenue

Andrew's Grilled Cheese & Beer Night

Join Andrew's Cheese Shop for a family-style dinner featuring a curated menu of decadent open face grilled cheese sandwiches expertly paired with artisanal beers from around the world! It all starts with a tangy, zippy starter salad, followed by four courses of famous grilled cheeses paired with four specialty beers, and an awesome dessert course of an imperial stout or sour beer float with french vanilla ice cream. This event sells out quickly, so check our calendar for upcoming dates, and sign up for their email list to be the first to know when new events are released. $82
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/august-9th-grilled-cheese-beer-night-tickets-956228744917

Friday, August 09, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Santa Monica Pier, 200 Santa Monica Pier, Ste A

nutribullet® Pier Party & Lucy Hale Pop Up!

Join nutribullet® & actress Lucy Hale for a pop-up event to celebrate the launch of the nutribullet Flip™, the most powerful on-the-go blender on the market! On August 9 at the Santa Monica Pier, nutribullet® invites you to enjoy an immersive experience with free smoothies, prizes, a free fitness bootcamp, and more! You won't want to miss this!
There are many fun events scheduled for the Pier Party including:
11 a.m.: Event Opens
11:30 - 12:15: Bootcamp with Lacey Stone
12:15 - 1:15: Post workout smoothies, sponsored by Blender Bites
2 - 3 p.m.: Dog-friendly hour with pup cups
2 - 3:30 p.m.: Special guest appearance by Lucy Hale
4 - 6 p.m.: Live DJ Set with DJ Tessa
7 p.m.: Event Closes
Free smoothies all-day!
RSVP online at
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/free-event-nutribullet-pier-party-in-santa-monica-tickets-966383447907



THURSDAY | AUGUST 8

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

FRIDAY | AUGUST 9

SMPL AT THE BEACH
10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 Pacific Coast Highway. Southern California's only beachside pop-up library is back for a fun-filled day of activities starting with Seaside Storytime with local author Nell Cross Beckerman at 10:15 a.m., sign out books from the curated beach reads collection, play games, or kick back and relax in the Surfside Lounge. All ages welcome.

SUNSET SWIM
6 - 9 p.m. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 Pacific Coast Highway. Enjoy an evening around the historic 1920's pool by swimming, hanging out with friends and making new friends poolside. S'mores and pool floats provided. Adults 18+ only. Outside food welcome, no glass, no alcohol. $10 for adults, $5 for seniors age 60 and above.

THAT CORPORATE COMEDY SHOW
7 - 9:30 p.m. 1301 5th St. A comedy show guaranteed to detox you from low-level anxiety and make you forget about Google Suite for 90 minutes. Prepare to laugh while you imbibe in some of LA's finest cocktails to set the perfect weekend tone. Featuring Eddie Pepitone, Amanda Savage, Andy Van and more. General admission $17.85, to purchase visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/that-corporate-comedy-show-eddie-pepitone-andy-van-and-amanda-savage-tickets-946964746047.

15TH ANNUAL MIXMATCH DANCE FESTIVAL
7 - 8:30 p.m. Highways Performance Space, 1651 18th St. This year's 15th Annual MixMatch Dance Festival touts a lineup of mixed dance works bringing dance styles in Modern, Jazz, Ballet, Latin, Sign Language, Indian, Flamenco, Hip Hop, Contemporary and more. Tickets $20, to purchase visit: https://www.hartpulsedance.com/.

LAUGH IT OFF COMEDY SHOW
8 - 10 p.m. Viceroy Santa Monica, 1819 Ocean Ave. Get ready to laugh out loud in a night of non-stop laughter and hilarious stand-up comedic performances from Zak Johnson, David Del Rosario, Del Harrison, Willie Macc and Billy Bonnell. Tickets $23.18, to purchase visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/laugh-it-off-comedy-show-tickets-948276700137.

SATURDAY | AUGUST 10

NATIONAL FARMERS MARKET WEEK CELEBRATION
8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Virginia Avenue Park, Pico Blvd. and 23rd St. Join the Saturday Pico Farmers Market to wrap-up a National Farmers Market Week. Live music, activities, California grown produce, hot food, pre-packaged food-to-go, coffee, pastries and more available. Market buck given for taking a selfie at the market and showing it at the info booth. Features a Market Match program which matches up to $20 for EBT customers.

PHOTOGRAPHY IN THE GARDENS
9 - 11 a.m. Main Street Community Garden, 2318 Main St. The monthly Main Street Community Garden program will have a session on photographing gardens. Bring your own photographs of the garden or your best garden photos to share. At 10 a.m., Antony Lewis will lead the group through the garden to discuss tips and techniques when taking pictures in an outdoor setting. Bring your own camera and sense of exploration. Light refreshments provided.

ENDLESS SUMMER C.A.M.P.
11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Tongva Park, 1615 Ocean Ave. The second annual Endless Summer C.A.M.P. will highlight world music and dance, puppetry and animals from around the world. The event is family-friendly and attendees are encouraged to pack a picnic, blankets and beach chairs. This week's lineup will have Philippine dance, music and song by Kayamanan Ng Lahi along with Traditional Mexican folklorico dance by Academic de Danza Ballet Folklorico Flor de Mayo's youth ballet. Artist Eros Cortes will lead a plant terrarium workshop and Angel Fruits Cart will offer fresh fruit for purchase.

PROJECT SAVE OUR SURF BEACH CLEAN UP
11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Santa Monica Beach Tower 26, 2559 Ocean Front Walk. Come join Project Save Our Surf for a fun afternoon of music and refreshments cleaning the beach. Buckets and gloves will also be provided for the cleanup. A partnership with Project Pop Drop will also be collecting items for the homeless that will be delivered to a homeless shelter on the last Saturday of the month (each month is a different shelter). Collections include non-perishable foods and new toiletries, new socks, new underwear, new clothing, etc.

MARBLE RUN WORLD RECORD ATTEMPT
11 a.m. - 3 p.m. 1219 3rd Street Promenade. Sean Jordan of Something New will be attempting to put together a contraption to break a world record in the marble run, in a partnership with Downtown Santa Monica, Inc. Free to the public for whoever would like to join.

SELF-GUIDED BEACH CLEAN UP
12 - 3 p.m. Heal the Bay Aquarium, 1600 Ocean Front Walk. Join Heal the Bay with a self-guided clean up of Santa Monica Beach. From 12 p.m. to 3 p.m., you can stop by Heal the Bay Aquarium to grab your free clean up supplies and held rid the sands of harmful plastic pollution before it reaches the ocean.

SOLEIL SATNAM GRAND OPENING
2 - 4 p.m. Pico Roots Marketplace, 1819 Pico Blvd. Come celebrate and toast the grand opening of Soleil Satnam at the Pico Roots Marketplace with a champagne reception. To RSVP, call 424-225-1616 or email soleilsatnam@gmail.com.

How California conservatives are fighting back



Photo by Rahul Lal for CalMatters

ELECTION: People show support for conservative initiatives during a press conference with Republican lawmakers at the state Capitol in Sacramento on Aug. 28, 2023.

ALEXEI KOSEFF
Special to the Daily Press

Republican power in California has been waning for decades. The party hasn't elected a candidate to statewide office since 2006, and it now represents a superminority in the Legislature.

Though there are still millions of conservative voters, Democrats are so dominant they can dismiss the cultural grievances that have come to animate the political discourse in red states — election fraud, illegal immigration, corporate support for gay rights, transgender athletes — without so much as a debate.

That has left conservatives to target local governance for protests against liberal California, using the relative autonomy of city councils, county boards of supervisors and school boards to assert a competing vision for their communities — perhaps even a new state altogether — and sometimes, to settle ideological scores with the state's progressive values.

"It almost feels like you have to overcompensate for some of the damage being done," said Gracey Van Der Mark, a Huntington Beach council member who proposed a library book review committee. "The more radical they got to the left, the more I felt myself pulling to the right."

California lawmakers have, in turn, moved quickly to squash most of these uprisings. As they advance legislation to ban parental notification policies for students' gender identity, stop voter identification requirements, and prohibit restrictions on library books, they contend they are defending the rights of marginalized groups.

This pitched battle tracks with a growing repolarization among California voters. After decades of steady gains in independent registration, the trend has undergone a sharp reversal over the past five years as more voters embrace the Democratic and Republican parties again. Surveys find an increasing number have a favorable view of their own party and an unfavorable view of the opposition, heightening the stakes of these culture clashes.

> It almost feels like you have to overcompensate for some of the damage being done
>
> - Gracey Van Der Mark, a Huntington Beach council member

CalMatters has been exploring the rebellion in conservative California — how it is testing the state's reputation as the leading edge of liberal politics and the limits of local control, but also how it is roiling the very communities that Republican politicians say they are seeking to better represent.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

California's two biggest school districts botched AI deals. Here are lessons from their mistakes.

KHARI JOHNSON
Special to the Daily Press

With all the hubris of a startup founder, Alberto Carvalho, superintendent of Los Angeles Unified School District, took to the stage in March to launch Ed the chatbot. He told parents and students it had "the potential to personalize the educational journey at a level never before seen in this district, across the country, or around the world."

"No other technology can deliver real time on this promise," he said. "We know it will succeed."

In June, after only three months and nearly $3 million, the district shelved Ed following layoffs of more than half of the staff at AllHere, the startup that made the conversational AI assistant. District spokesperson Britt Vaughan refused to answer questions about the bot's performance or say how many students and parents used it before the shutdown.

Also in June, an AI controversy unfolded in San Diego, where school board members reportedly weren't aware that the district last summer bought a tool that automatically suggests grades for writing assignments. The dustup began after Point Loma High School teacher Jen Roberts told CalMatters that using the tool saved her time and reduced burnout but also gave students the wrong grade sometimes. A week later, Voice of San Diego quoted two members of the school board saying they were unaware the district had signed a contract involving AI. In fact, no one on the board seemed to know about the tool, the news outlet said, since it was included as part of a broader contract with Houghton Mifflin that was approved unanimously with no discussion alongside more than 70 other items. (None of the board members responded to CalMatters' requests for comment. San Diego Unified School District spokesperson Michael Murad said that since AI is a quickly evolving technology, "we will make an increased effort to inform board members of additional relevant details related to contracts presented to them in the future.")

Mistakes in Los Angeles and San Diego may trace back to growing pressure on educators to adopt AI and underline the need for decision-makers to ask more and tougher questions about such products before buying them, said people who work at the intersection of education and technology. Outside experts can help education leaders better vet AI solutions, these people said, but even just asking basic questions, and demanding answers in plain English, can go a long way toward avoiding buyer's remorse.

No one disputes that educators face increasing demands to find ways to use AI. Following the release of OpenAI's generative AI tool ChatGPT nearly two years ago, the California Education Department released guidance referencing an "AI revolution" and encouraging adoption of the technology. Educators who previously spoke with CalMatters expressed fear that if they miss the revolution, their students could get left behind in learning or workforce preparedness.

GRADING AI TOOLS

Staff shortfalls, techno-optimism, a desire to be on the cutting edge and a fear of missing out all push educators to adopt AI, said Hannah Quay-de la Vallee, a senior technologist at the Center for Democracy and Technology, a nonprofit that's studied how teachers and students are adopting generative AI.

She thinks recent events in Los Angeles and San Diego show that more education leaders need to engage in critical analysis before bringing AI tools into classrooms. But whether a particular AI tool deserves more scrutiny depends on how it's used and the risk that use poses to students. Some forms of AI, like the kind used for grading and predicting if a student will drop out of school, she said, deserve high risk labels.

The European Union regulates AI differently based on risk level, and in the U.S. the National Institute of Standards and Technology released a framework to help developers, government agencies, and users of AI technology manage risk.

California's state schools superintendent, Tony Thurmond, was unavailable to respond to CalMatters' questions about any action he could take to help prevent future school AI snafus.

Lawmakers are considering a bill that would require the superintendent to convene a working group to make recommendations on "safe and effective" use of artificial intelligence in education. The bill was introduced by Josh Becker, a Democrat from Silicon Valley, and supported by Thurmond and the California Federation of Teachers.

Quay-de la Vallee suggested that educators work with organizations that vet and certify education technology tools such as Project Unicorn, a nonprofit that evaluates edtech products.

When education leaders rush to adopt AI from education technology providers anxious to sell AI, both may cut corners, said Anaheim Union High School District Superintendent Michael Matsuda, who hosted an AI summit in March attended by educators from 30 states and more than 100 school districts.

He thinks the recent AI problems in San Diego and Los Angeles demonstrate the need to avoid getting caught up in hype and to vet claims made by companies selling AI tools.

School districts can assess how well AI tools perform in classrooms with help from tech-minded teachers and internal IT staff, Matsuda said. But assistance is also available from nonprofits like The AI Education Project, which advises school districts across the nation about how to use the technology, or a group such as the California School Boards Association, which has an AI task force that tries to help districts and counties "navigate the complexities of integrating artificial intelligence."

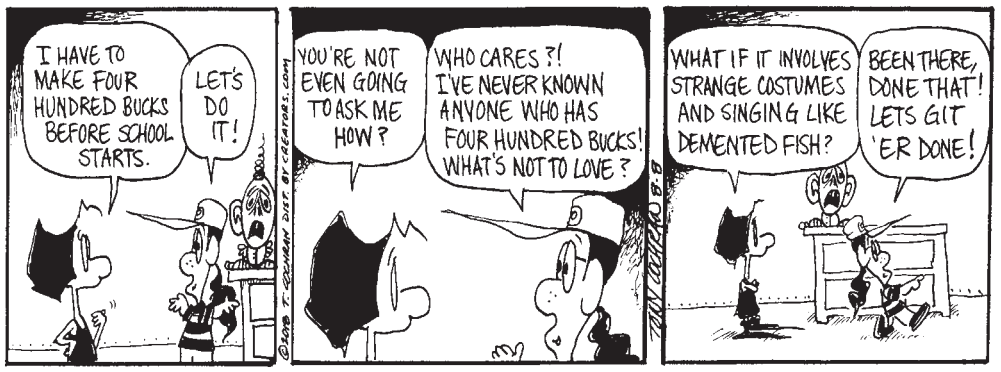
"We have to work together, consider what we learned from missteps, and be open about that," he said. "There's a lot of good products coming out, but you have to have the infrastructure and strategic policies and board policies to really vet some of these things."

Education leaders don't always have an intimate understanding of tech used by teachers in their school district. Matsuda said Anaheim Union High School District uses AI to personalize student learning material and

SEE AI PAGE 11

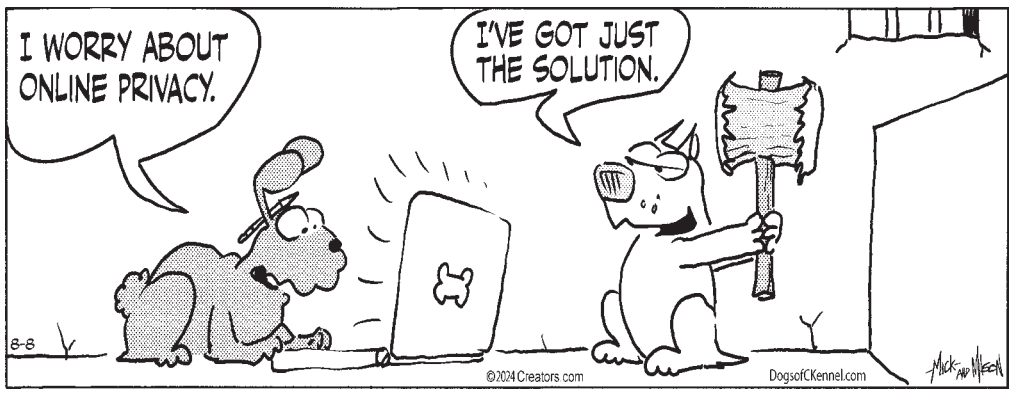
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



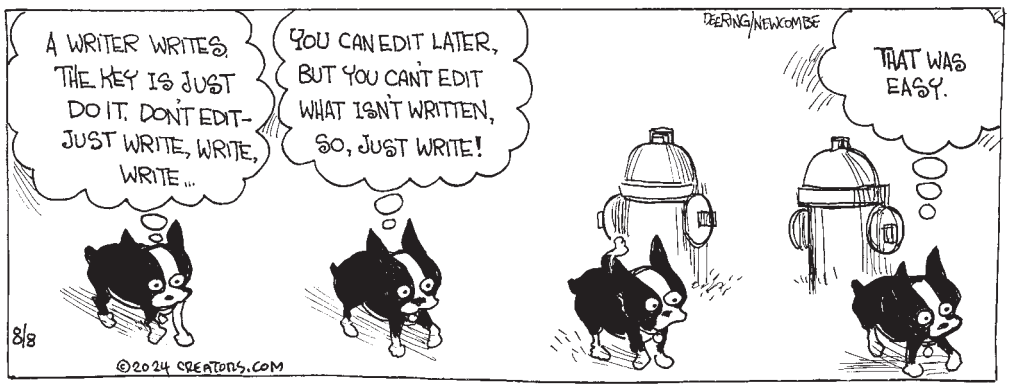
Dogs of C-Kennel

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 20 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 6296

Buying a used car

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

Alvis
Aston Martin
Automatic
Battery
Beemer
Buick
Buying
Carrera
Classic
Club
Corolla
Dents
Dodge
Engine
Expensive
Ford
Frame
Jackaroo
Jaguar
Keen
Lights
Lincoln
Mags
Makes
Mechanical
Minx
Nash
NRMA
RACQ
Rare
Saab
Salesman
Show
Tarago
Test
Torn
Trustworthy
Utility
Vintage

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Places of learning

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 8)

With the power surge of this solar return, you will forge the most profound relationship with yourself that you've ever experienced. A clear goal propels you forward. The sea of external pressures that once encumbered you will part, allowing you to walk great and impossible distances. More highlights: exciting travel, new vitality-boosting habits and a legendary business deal. Scorpio and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 1, 30, 22 and 18.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The goal-getting method of starting with the end in mind and planning backward will work for you... until it doesn't. Certain steps won't add up, and that's when you should ask for help. New input will be a game changer.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You have rules for yourself that you didn't even realize were in place until they started causing you stress. Luckily, these are the kinds of laws you have the power to change because you are the ruler of the country of you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Before you really had a grasp of the boundaries, some areas seemed off-limits. Now that you have the lay of the land, you realize it's all open territory. You'll go where you please and please where you go.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). If anyone with money can have a thing, it's not very interesting to you. You care about the story behind how things came to be as they are now. You care about the significance of items and their meaning, place and use in the world.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Attraction isn't about what you do; it's about how you do it. Small tweaks in your approach will make a difference, but what matters most is the thrust of your intention. People who need care will be drawn by your tenderness.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You want to bring joy to someone and will be successful as long as you find the right person to focus your effort on — someone receptive to joy and open to you as well. With the right subject, all else falls into place.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The essence of etiquette is figuring out what makes others comfortable and behaving within those boundaries. First one must prioritize the comfort of others over their own and recognize that preferences differ.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). As social as you are, solitude is still precious to you. Today's solo experience may reach such epic proportions of sweetness, productivity or peace that none can compete.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Risking with your heart feels dangerous, but just know that fortune will smile on spontaneous expressions of love, but even more so, it favors daily routines that hold your relationships in good stead.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Blame or credit do not need to be assigned. In fact, doing so would only drain your energy, and the next step — following through on the prize or punishment — is even more of a waste of time. Stick to the action, and the rest solves itself.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb.). Persistence and hard work pay off, but usually not at the expected time. Celebrate every small victory along the way. A team effort warrants a trophy and, if you keep at it, you'll eventually get one.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The good stuff will come wrapped in humor to the extent that you'll wonder if the humor itself is the real gift. Whether you laugh silently to yourself or raucously with friends, you'll be healed by the body shake.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column, and 3x3 block. Use logic and process of elimination to solve the puzzle.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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

Newsday Crossword

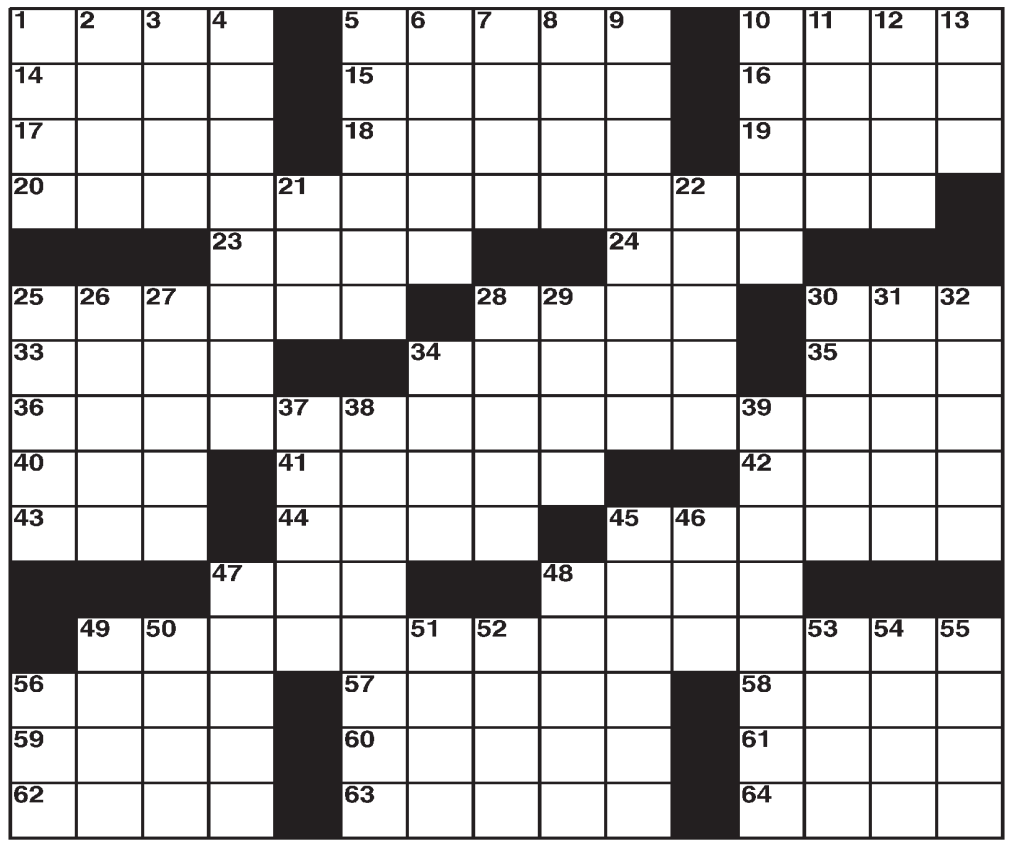
MANE THING, AT LAST by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Science class model
5 Infamy
10 Concert keepsake
14 Call from a curb
15 Without delay, say
16 Corleones' creator
17 Symbolic warning
18 Midwest hub
19 Mid-March exclamation opener
20 Many tall timepieces
23 Hardly rosy
24 Hypotheticals
25 Send back, per a judge
28 *X-Files* agent
30 Astronaut Jemison
33 It's held for questioning
34 *Moby-Dick* ship co-owner
35 Thumbs-ups
36 Stone, Streep and Swank
40 Stroller rider
41 Cinematic swordsman
42 Man, e.g.
43 Person who might bug you
44 Minute, to a 40-Across
45 *Pilgrim's Progress* author
47 Close __ (sports squeaker)
48 Office fixture
49 Spot for Spielberg
56 Toastmaster's intro, often
57 Go at it
58 Predator of great white sharks
59 *Oil Market Report* publisher
60 Kindled again
61 Debtor's document
62 Bill's other name
63 Property papers
64 It's right on the map

DOWN

1 Surmounting
2 Easy to handle
3 The yoke's on them
4 Psych-out tactic
5 Apathetic
6 Apathetic exclamation
7 A first mate
8 Artist Chagall
9 Pencil in a purse
10 Draftsperson's data
11 "Young" reformer
12 Commando movie arms
13 Half a sweet treat
21 Bouquet holder
22 Not a kid anymore
25 Kicks back
26 Many a security guard
27 *Back to the Future* teen
28 Beef about
29 Viola's range
30 What many forest floors are
31 Cub Scout leader
32 City north of Cologne
34 Comb creation
37 Cybermag
38 Piece of stationery
39 Metaphor for a financial drain
45 Embattles
46 It's near the L.A. Coliseum
47 Hoover competitor
48 Stonehenge worshiper
49 "Inside" info
50 Seller of cabinet kits
51 Nursery purchase
52 Look at unsubtly
53 Tune for a tenor
54 Sorbet cousins
55 Post in ALL CAPS, perhaps
56 Piece of work



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08/08/24

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

AI

FROM PAGE 8

even offers classes to students interested in a career in AI, but he said he doesn't know if Anaheim educators use AI for grading today. Following events in San Diego, Matsuda said the district may consider high risk labels for certain use cases, such as grading.

USING COMMON SENSE

You don't have to be an expert in AI to be critical of claims made about what AI can do for students or teachers, said Stephen Aguilar, co-lead of the Center for Generative AI and Society at the University of Southern California, and a former developer of education technology. District officials who sign contracts with AI companies need to know their own policy, know what the district seeks to achieve by signing the contract, and ask questions. If contractors can't answer questions in plain English, that may be a signal they're overselling what's possible or attempting to hide behind technical jargon.

"I think everyone should take the lessons learned from LA Unified and do the post mortem, ask questions that weren't asked, and slow things down," Aguilar said. "Because there's no rush. AI is going to develop, and it's really on the AI edtech companies to prove out that what they're selling is worth the investment."

The challenge, he said, is that you don't evaluate an AI model once. Different versions can produce different results, and that means evaluation should be a continuous process.

Aguilar said that while events in Los Angeles and San Diego schools demonstrate the need for greater scrutiny of AI, school district administrators seem convinced that they have to be on the cutting edge of technology to do their jobs, and that's just not true.

"I don't quite know how we got into this cycle," he said.

The market is pressuring edtech providers to include AI in their products and services, foundations are pressuring school leaders to include AI in their curriculum, and teachers are told that if they don't adopt AI tools then their students might get left behind, said Alix Gallagher, head of strategic partnerships at the Policy Analysis for California Education center at Stanford University.

Since AI is getting built into a lot of existing products and contracts involving curriculum, it's highly likely that San Diego's school board is not alone in discovering AI unexpectedly bundled into a contract. Gallagher said that administrative staff will need to ask questions about supplemental curricula or software updates.

"It's close to impossible for districts and schools to keep up," she said. "I definitely think that's even more true in smaller school districts that don't have extra people to devote to this."

Gallagher said AI can do positive things like reduce teacher burnout, but individual teachers and small school districts won't be able to keep up with the pace of change, and so trusted nonprofits or state education officials should help determine which AI tools are trustworthy. The question in California, she said, is who's going to step up and lead that effort?

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

AROUND TOWN

FROM PAGE 5

1133 7th St. https://www.wilmont.org/?mc_cid=2b4b60a192&mc_eid=141281ef42

Santa Monica Picklympic Games: Santa Monica Pickleball Club and the city of Santa Monica are hosting the first ever Santa Monica Picklympic Games on Sunday, August 11 at Memorial Park, 1401 Olympic Blvd. https://www.instagram.com/santamonicapickleballclub/

WHAT TO EAT & DRINK?

Upcoming Dinner, Alcohol Menus Elevating New Jinky's Location: "To reestablish Jinky's as a downtown destination, a new dinner menu is soon set to be introduced, prompting later hours for hungry customers. Open from 7:30am to 3pm, the dinner portion of the location will push closing time to 10pm. First seen at the Studio City location, the Jinky's dinner will "reflect the global flavors" of Los Angeles, with dishes inspired by Southwest, Italian, Californian, French, Indian and Middle Eastern cuisine." https://smdp.com/2024/08/06/upcoming-dinner-alcohol-menus-elevating-new-jinkys-location/

The Infatuation's "Where To Eat Lunch In Santa Monica" List: The updated list includes Bread Head, La Purépecha, Ghisallo, among others. https://www.theinfatuation.com/los-angeles/guides/where-to-eat-lunch-in-santa-monica

Further Afield: LA River Fest 2024: Join Friends of the LA River (FoLAR) on Sunday, August 11th for a free, open-air environmental arts and community festival celebrating the culture, history, and people that shape the LA River. https://folar.org/riverfest/

LOOKING AHEAD: Montana Ave. Dog Daze (8/24), The Pier's Birthday Bash (9/6), Main St. Day of the Dog Festival (9/7), Montana Ave. Art Walk (9/28); Americana in the Park (Sundays in September)

If there's something you think is worth highlighting, you can reach out directly to me at sean@smdp.com and let me know if you have any feedback on Around Town: Roller Skating & Endless Summer

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ROLLER RINK

FROM PAGE 1

mainstream and in 1883 the first roller rink appeared in the US. The next big milestone was in 1958 when La Monica Ballroom at the Santa Monica Pier introduced a roller rink. Then, the 70s arrived and disco took roller skating to an entirely new level and not long after that, almost inevitably, Venice Beach pretty much became the roller skating capital of the world.

Ferguson says that watching the 2018 HBO documentary United Skates, which tells a story about a community of thousands who fight to prevent the country's last standing roller rinks from closure in a racially charged environment to save an underground subculture, is essential to properly understand the culture of skating in Southern California. Much like watching the movie Lords of Dogtown is required viewing if you want to appreciate the history of skateboarding.

And in fact, Phelicia Wright, the daughter of a skate-DJ mom and skate-guard dad, the mother of five skaters herself and who played a significant role in United Skates, has been collaborating with Ferguson and Kessinger on this project.

"The documentary United Skates underscores the importance of having safe community spaces open for all to enjoy. And all skates are welcome and if you watch it, you'll understand the importance of that reference," Ferguson says.

Roll at Santa Monica is located at 1324 5th Street and opens officially on Saturday, August 10, 2024 with a special preview night this Friday, August 9. The roller rink runs through to October 14 when there will be a three-week break as the crew transform it into the ice rink. Hours of operation are Sundays through Thursdays 12 p.m. to 10 p.m. and Fridays and Saturdays from 12 p.m. to 11 p.m. Visit the website rollatsantamonica.com for more details.

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NOTEWORTHY

FROM PAGE 4

be on stage, including co-curator Michael C. Ford, who was good buds with Jim Morrison, noted music journalist Steve Hochman, and Susan Hayden herself. Also, the return of Mason Summit, now a Nashville cat, whose songs graced LG shows for so many years. (He's not 12 anymore.) Do not miss this one. See you there. Sun 7 p.m., Ruskin Group Theatre, Santa Monica Airport, $20, includes dessert and free parking, such a deal.

PRETENDERS, FOO FIGHTERS – Combine two picks above: if you've never seen The Pretenders/Chrissie Hynde... Jagger at 80 has Chrissie at 72 chasing him, also an amazing catalog of songs. 5:30 p.m., BMO Stadium, LA, $102-599.

COMING ATTRACTIONS (also recommended): "Wild Things Are Happening: The Art of Maurice Sendak," Skirball, 8/8-9/1; Theatricum Botanicum - "A Midsummer Night's Dream" 8/8, 15, 29 - "Wendy's Peter Pan" 8/9, 18, 25 - "The Winter's Tale" 8/10, 16, 24 - "Tartuffe-Born Again" 8/11, 18, 25, 30; "The Substance of Fire," Ruskin Group Theatre, 8/8, 9, 10, 11, 15, 16, 17, 18, 22, 23, 24, 25, 29, 30, 31, 9/1; Hives, Foo Fighters, BMO Stadium, 8/9; Jon Batiste, Greek, 8/10; Wailing Souls, Levitt Pavilion, 8/10; Alanis Morisette, Joan Jett & Blackhearts, Kia Forum, 8/10; Library Girl, Ruskin Theatre, 8/11; Pretenders, Foo Fighters, BMO Stadium, 8/11; Herbie Hancock "Head Hunters" 50th, H0llywood Bowl, 8/14; 10CC, Theatre at Ace Hotel, 8/15; Lila Downs, Marina del Rey summer concert series, 8/17; All-Dvořák with Midori, LA Phil, Hollywood Bowl, 8/20; Gary Clark Jr., Hollywood Bowl, 8/21; Ghostland Observatory, Teragram Ballroom, 8/24; Ash Grove Alumni, McCabe's, 8/25; Dudamel & Yunchan Lim, Hollywood Bowl, 8/29..

Charles Andrews has listened to a lot of music of all kinds, including more than 3,000 live shows. He has lived in Santa Monica for 38 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or hate mail to: therealmrmusic@gmail.com

Classifieds

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