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Scents of Santa Monica custom-made by candle wiz

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

Locals and tourists alike often hear about the sights and sounds of Santa Monica, but what about the smells? The scents of the city may be different for everyone, and now everyone has the chance to show others what that scent is like at the area's first custom candle bar.

The latest addition to the Third Street Promenade is Candles on Tap, a hands-on experience where anyone can craft a candle catering their nose needs. Located between Arizona Ave. and Wilshire Blvd. next to the 1212 restaurant, the enticing "bar" setup has about 85 fragrances to choose from, uncovering a world of perfume possibilities. Open for about a month now, owner Chantel Briann brings the bar to the Promenade after a successful run in San Diego.



Photo by Thomas Leffler

CANDLES: The Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce welcomed Chantel Briann and Candles on Tap at 1220 Third Street Promenade to the community last week.

When a customer comes in, he or she can peruse a catalog of single-scented notes, writing down their favorites on a worksheet. Then, as Briann explained, a "candle vessel" is selected, with different price points depending on the size and style of the jar.

"After they go through the fragrance walls (and) pick their candle vessel, then they come to us at the bar, and we have our scent stylists who will go through all of their fragrances with them to help create their perfect, one-of-a-kind scent blend," Briann said.

Briann said she's always "loved and dabbled" with scents, before beginning to make her own candles

SEE **CANDLES** PAGE 7

Countdown to 2028: Santa Monica Mayor takes part in LA Olympics hand-off event

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

The United States is still buzzing from a successful 2024 Paris Olympic Games showing, and even more so knowing the next installment of the summer extravaganza is coming back to familiar territory.

Sunday marked the closing ceremony of the Paris games, featuring a preview of Los Angeles' endeavor in 2028, with LA Mayor Karen Bass taking the stage in Paris. Locally, an LA28 event in Inglewood's new Cosm Los Angeles venue featured a viewing party for the closing ceremony and the Olympic flag transfer. Santa Monica Mayor Phil Brock was in

SEE **OLYMPICS** PAGE 5



Courtesy Photo

OLYMPICS: Santa Monica Mayor Phil Brock and Arts Commissioner Michelle Edgar took part in an Olympics closing ceremony viewing party in Inglewood, taking the torch as the 2028 Los Angeles games approach.

From Paris to Los Angeles: How the city is preparing for the 2028 Olympics

JAIMIE DING AND ANDREW DALTON
Associated Press

It's Los Angeles' turn for the torch. Mayor Karen Bass accepted the Olympic flag at the Paris closing ceremony Sunday, before handing it off to a key representative of LA's local business — Tom Cruise — who in a pre-recorded trek via motorcycle, plane and parachute kicked off the countdown to 2028.

The city will become the third in the world to host the games three times as it adds to the storied years of 1932 and 1984. Here's a look forward and back in time at the Olympics in LA.

LA'S OLYMPIC TRILOGY

Los Angeles got the 2028 games as a consolation prize when Paris was picked for 2024.

Back in 1932, LA hosted its first Olympics. The city was the only bidder for the games at a time marred by the Great Depression and the absence of several nations. Yet memorable sport moments came from athletes including American athlete Babe Didrikson Zaharias, who won golds in the new women's events of javelin and hurdles.

Financial and cultural success gave 1984 a reputation as the "good" Olympics" which made seemingly every major world city want their own.

Emphasizing both the modern and the classical with a hand from Hollywood, the games opened with

SEE **2028** PAGE 6



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City of Santa Monica

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- **RFP #417 LICENSE TO SELL & DISPLAY ADVERTISING ON BBB & CULVER CITY BUSES**
- **Submission Deadline Is September 9, 2024 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.**

Proposals must include forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica. Request for Proposals may be obtained on the **CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL.** The website for this Request for Proposals and related documents is OpenGov (https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca). There is no charge for the RFP package.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Eric Uller sexually abused children while masquerading as a police officer at Santa Monica Police Activities League (PAL).

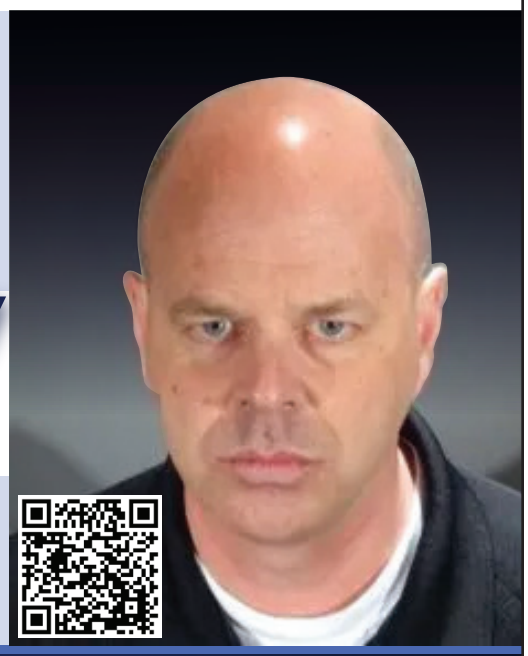
WHAT WE KNOW:

- Over 300 victims (boys and girls).
- Over almost 30 years (late 1980s to early 2000s).
- Some victims, parents and city and PAL employees reported Uller.

WHAT WE DON'T KNOW:

- Why were reports of abuse and/or inappropriate conduct by Uller not acted on?

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Californians: Your rent may go up because of rising insurance rates



Photo by Jules Hotz for CalMatters
RENT: Mike Placido in front of a four-unit rental property that he and his wife own and manage in San Gabriel on Aug. 12, 2024.

LEVI SUMAGAYSAY
Special to the Daily Press

Like single-family homeowners in California, landlords are facing higher insurance premiums, too. And they're passing along some of those costs to their tenants.

Many insurance companies have stopped writing policies in the state because of increased wildfire risks, but that's not the only reason. They say in the case of any catastrophe, the potential costs of replacing any residential or commercial property, from labor to material costs, is just plain more expensive now. So even owners of properties in areas that are not at high risk for wildfires have had their policies canceled because their buildings may need repairs or improvements. Landlords are having to find other insurers, or having to turn to the ever-growing and more expensive FAIR Plan, the insurance industry-run plan that is mandated under California law to be the insurer of last resort.

This is where the insurance crisis could worsen the housing crisis, according to some experts. Increased insurance costs for properties other than single-family homes are starting to affect the rental market — in a state where almost half of residents are renters — and could compound the state's housing problems, they say.

Josh Hoover, an insurance broker in the Los Angeles area, handles mostly commercial accounts and said "it's almost impossible" to find coverage for any large structure. In late 2022, Allstate said it would stop writing new property insurance in the state, including commercial policies. Then State Farm, the biggest insurer in the state, recently canceled policies for tens of thousands of homes, residential community associations, business owners and commercial apartment properties.

"Even buildings made in the '80s are now considered old, which is ridiculous," Hoover said. "Most carriers want everything updated in the last 30 years. They want a new roof, electrical redone, plumbing redone — they want you to have copper pipes."

FOR LANDLORDS, 'DEATH BY A THOUSAND CUTS'

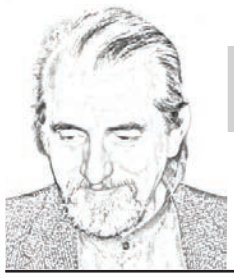
Earlier this year, Farmers canceled the policy on a 33-unit apartment building in San Bernardino that was built in the 1960s, said its co-owner, Uwe Karbenk. Karbenk found an out-of-state insurer instead of going with the more expensive FAIR Plan, but his premium has still increased by $28,000 to more than $41,000 a year.

Combined with state laws that limit how much he is allowed to raise the rent each year — 5% plus inflation, or up to 10% in some cases, with possibly other rent-control measures on the way — Karbenk said being a landlord in California is "a little bit like death by a thousand cuts." He added that if his profit margin continues to shrink, he would rather invest in something else besides real estate.

"One of these measures, it's not a big deal," Karbenk said. "But over the years, it's really difficult for mom-and-pops."

Mike Placido and his wife are definitely a mom-and-pop. They own two rental properties, a four-unit building in San Gabriel and a duplex in Alhambra. He said they bought the properties as a way to supplement their retirement income when the time comes in a few years.

SEE **RENT** PAGE 8



OPINION **CURIOUS CITY**

Charles Andrews | Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Opinions, Facts, The Media

"THE VENEER OF TRUTH"

Do you know who Lawrence O'Donnell is? For nearly 14 years, he's been a prominent voice on late-night MSNBC with his show, "The Last Word." Before that, he brought his political savvy to "The West Wing" as a producer, writer, and actor, drawing from his experience as an aide to the esteemed Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan and as staff director for two key U.S. Senate committees. He also calls Santa Monica home.

Last Thursday night, O'Donnell delivered a fiery rant that was as spot-on as it was powerful. He took aim at the media, including his own network, for even airing the event. It was as angry as I've ever seen him. The target of his ire? A so-called "press conference" that Trump held the day before at Mar-a-Lago, an event that was nothing more than an hour-long spectacle. O'Donnell noted that the small group of "reporters"—handpicked, no doubt—failed to challenge a single one of Trump's many outrageous lies. NPR counted 162 falsehoods in just 64 minutes.

Trump warned that the country is in "the most dangerous position it's ever been in economically." Someone should remind him about the Great Depression because every economic indicator shows the U.S. at the top among world economies today. He bemoaned the lack of domestic oil production and promised to "drill, baby, drill!"—yet the U.S. is currently the world's leading oil producer. He claimed nobody in the U.S. wants abortion to be legal, that we're on the brink of WWIII, that violent crime is skyrocketing, and, of course, that his crowds are the largest ever. He even claimed his January 6th crowd was bigger than the one for MLK Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech, which drew over a million people. What's new? This is the man who told over 30,000 lies while in the White House.

The press conference was a farce. There were no microphones in the "press" section, so viewers couldn't hear the questions. Some broadcasters added subtitles, but it was still a ridiculous setup. Trump was free to say whatever he wanted, often completely off-topic. When he insulted Kamala Harris, claiming she was too stupid to hold a press conference, no one pointed out that she has degrees from Howard University and UC Hastings School of Law. Trump, who has a BS in Economics, famously sued to keep his grades secret. He claimed Harris's crowds were small—"1,200, maybe 1,500"—but no one corrected him to say it was actually 12,000 or 15,000. He even suggested her crowd photos were enhanced with AI, a claim that has been thoroughly debunked.

HE DID NOT ANSWER A SINGLE QUESTION

O'Donnell emphasized it three times: "Not one. In the entire hour." He pointed out that reporters still don't grasp that whatever Donald Trump says in response to a question isn't actually an answer. Yet, there's no pushback, no accountability. Trump speaks, and they broadcast it without question. Meanwhile, not a single network aired Harris's crucial speech in Michigan — only O'Donnell aired it, at the end of his show.

Too often, people stay silent when confronted with blatant falsehoods. But the press, of all people, should never have that mindset. Failing to challenge lies is a dereliction of their primary duty. O'Donnell didn't hold back, using the previous day's events in Florida to deliver a scathing indictment of the media, accusing them of being complicit in Trump's dishonesty.

Sure, Trump would hurl insults at anyone who dared to confront him—he's got the microphone, after all, and they don't. That's classic bully behavior. But the only way to beat a bully is to stand up to them. O'Donnell's show last Thursday was the best I've seen. The most impactful statement came from a guest: "When you don't push back on lies, it gives them the veneer of truth." And that brings us back to—

"RETIRED FORMER MAYOR" KEVIN MCKEOWN

And anyone else here publicly spreading lies and distortion. I don't have the eloquence, or even the righteous anger of Lawrence O'Donnell – maybe he'll invite me over to his SM pad for some tutoring – but it's the same principle. Let lies stand without challenge, and they take on the veneer of truth.

McKeown has been very active lately with a few letters to the editor that are laced with quite a few distortions and downright untruths. He claims, incorrectly, that Brock and the rest of the City Council are responsible for unleashing unstoppable massive development on Santa Monica when it is the state who has changed the rules. He has tried to claim all the ills of the city are the fault of three Councilmembers he dislikes and it feels a lot like electioneering to suddenly start criticizing those individuals during an election but perhaps the City would have more options for addressing resident concerns if we weren't so bankrupt from a sexual predator who roamed unchecked for years during McKeown's time on Council.

"The Brock Council does its best to operate out of sight." That's quite an unsupported accusation. And – "the Brock Council"? I'm sure Brock wishes. Wonder why the "retired mayor" seems to have it in for the current mayor?

Charles Andrews has lived in Santa Monica for 38 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com



Surf report WATER TEMP: **68.9**

WEDNESDAY *FAIR* | **SURF:** Waist to chest 3-4FT

Fun pulse of SSW swell tops out through the day and there's enough NW windswell in the mix to open some beachbreak corners. Structured breaks still best. Light AM wind has decent odds.

THURSDAY *FAIR* | **SURF:** Thigh to stomach 2-3FT+

Lingering SSW swell is down a smidge from Wednesday and we could see NW windswell up a peg. That's a recipe for some peaks at the beachbreaks and cruisy corners for the points. Morning conditions look decent at this point.

Weather

Wednesday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, cloudy through mid morning, then gradual clearing, with a high near 72.
Wednesday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, increasing clouds, with a low around 62.
Thursday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 74.
Thursday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 63.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)	High/Low
2024/08/14	Wed	12:54 AM	0.89		L
2024/08/14	Wed	5:39 PM	5.27		H
2024/08/15	Thu	01:39 AM	0.31		L
2024/08/15	Thu	08:47 AM	3.49		H
2024/08/15	Thu	12:03 PM	3.11		L
2024/08/15	Thu	6:36 PM	5.73		H
2024/08/16	Fri	02:17 AM	-0.22		L
2024/08/16	Fri	09:02 AM	3.74		H
2024/08/16	Fri	1:04 PM	2.82		L
2024/08/16	Fri	7:26 PM	6.23		H
2024/08/17	Sat	02:52 AM	-0.65		L
2024/08/17	Sat	09:23 AM	4.01		H
2024/08/17	Sat	1:54 PM	2.44		L
2024/08/17	Sat	8:12 PM	6.65		H
2024/08/18	Sun	03:26 AM	-0.94		L
2024/08/18	Sun	09:49 AM	4.30		H
2024/08/18	Sun	2:40 PM	2.02		L
2024/08/18	Sun	8:55 PM	6.90		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: 8/12
9 22 57 67 68
Power#: 14
Jackpot: 20 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 8/9
12 32 38 40 57
Mega#: 21
Jackpot: 435 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 8/10
9 21 32 34 42
Mega#: 15
Jackpot: 13 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 8/12
17 18 29 30 39

Daily 3
Draw Date: 8/12
EVENING: 0 5 0
Draw Date: 8/12
MIDDAY: 4 2 9

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 8/12
1st: 11 - Money Bags
2nd: 04 - Big Ben
3rd: 05 - California Classic
Race Time: 1:48.96

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Santa Monica Daily Press

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Summons

Summons (Sum 100) (Citacion Judicial)CASE NUMBER(Número del Caso):22SMCV01963NOTICE TO DEFENDANT (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): CITY OF LOS ANGELES, a public entity; CITY OF SANTA MONICA, a public entity; COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, a public entity; CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH; a public entity, OPPC OCEAN PARK COMMUNITY CENTER, a public entity. YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE) Todd Johnson, an individual. NOTICE. You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the informationBelow. You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy you served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear yourCase.There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California CourtsOnline Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, askthe court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and propertymay be taken without further warning from the court.There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorneyreferral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locatethese nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center(www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees andcosts on any settlement or arbitration award of $10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información aContinuación.Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en estacorte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estaren el formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta.Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en labiblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corteque le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte lepodrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio deremisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de unprograma de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services,(www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o elcolegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobrecualquier recuperación de $10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene quepagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.The name and address of the court is:(El nombre y dirección de la corte es):Los Angeles County Superior CourtSanta Monica Courthouse1725 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401The name, address, and telephone number of the petitioner's attorney, or the petitioner without anattorney, are: (El nombre, direcci6n y número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o deldemandante si no tiene abogado, son)Patrick Kahalil, Esq. Downton LA Law Group 601 N Vermont Ave Los Angeles, CA 90004Date 10/24/2023 Sherri R Carter, Executive Officer/Clerk Court Clerk by (secretario) K. Parenteau Deputy (ajunto)

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Billions more for California housing? Why some construction unions aren't sold yet



Photo by Zaydee Sanchez for CalMatters

HOMES: Construction near 7th Street and Broadway in Santa Monica on May 24, 2023..

BEN CHRISTOPHER
Special to the Daily Press

This November, voters across the San Francisco Bay Area will be asked whether to back the largest affordable housing bond in California history — a $20 billion IOU aimed at building homes in the epicenter of the state's housing crisis.

But before developers, workers, pro-tenant and pro-building activists can start campaigning for the blockbuster borrowing measure in earnest, they'll need to stop squabbling over who will get hired to build all the new homes and under what conditions.

That fissure is mostly playing out behind closed doors, but both sides of the debate warn it could soon spill out into the open. Such a public spat could jeopardize a measure that affordable housing supporters have spent six years pushing toward the ballot and which all sides agree is likely to be the subject of a challenging campaign.

Last month, the Bay Area Housing Finance Authority voted to put a measure on the November ballot that would let the authority borrow up to $20 billion. This will only go before voters in the nine counties of the San Francisco region and it would be paid back by Bay Area property owners.

Now the State Building and Construction Trades Council of California, an umbrella group that covers electricians, roofers, heavy machinery operators and other unionized construction workers, is backing a bill that would tack on some additional terms. Senate Bill 735 would require any developer who wants to use the bond money to fund a project of 40 units or more to first enter into a contract known as a project labor agreement. Such agreements typically steer developers toward hiring unionized workers and stipulate strict worker protections.

With less than 100 days to go before Election Day, the time to settle this debate is now, said Sen. Dave Cortese, a Democrat who represents Campbell in the state Senate and who authored the trades-backed bill.

"There's a bond campaign out there that needs the support of labor across the board," he said.

Critics of the bill say the requirement would exclude many non-union workers from benefiting from the historic taxpayer-funded spending measure while further ratcheting up the cost of building affordable housing. In the Bay Area, such costs can already exceed $1 million per unit. A new study released this week by the RAND Institute adds fodder to those arguments: It found that a similar labor requirement on a $1.2 billion Los Angeles municipal housing bond raised total development costs by 21%.

Cortese and members of the building trades dispute such findings, but also argue that fixating on higher costs ignores the purported benefits of such labor-friendly arrangements.

"The union building trades are the best possible path to give someone a middle class life," said Vince Sugrue, legislative director for northern California's sheet metal workers union. "The easiest mechanism to do that is through project labor agreements."

Cortese's bill currently sits before the Assembly Appropriations Committee, where it's parked on what's known as the "suspense file." In one of the Legislature's more secretive rituals, on Thursday, the committee will quickly rattle through all the bills on the suspense file, moving some along and quietly killing others, without a public vote.

The behind-the-scene debate over this bill makes for a familiar fight in Sacramento, where the goals of building more homes, ensuring that workers who build them are well-compensated and satisfying the state's various construction unions are often in

SEE **HOUSING** PAGE 11

OLYMPICS

FROM PAGE 1

attendance, noting it was neat to reconnect with old acquaintances and the LA28 team Santa Monica will be working with.

"It was a glorious afternoon filled with executives from LA28 who are charged with making our upcoming Olympics a success," Brock wrote on his Instagram. "We will be the venue for Beach Volleyball and are busy beginning to prepare to make sure Santa Monica shines."

Indeed, the plan remains for the sport to take center stage in Santa Monica, although the beachfront venue was not confirmed by the Los Angeles Olympic Committee last month. Plans call for a temporary 12,000-seat stadium just north of the Pier, with construction likely phasing the closure of Beach Lot 1 North over several months (during construction, games and tear-down periods). Olympic golfing will also be in the area, officially announced as taking place at The Riviera Country Club in Pacific Palisades.

Before saying au revoir to the Paris games, California finished the two-week endeavor strong, with 47 of the US teams' 126 medal performers coming from the state. Out of those medals, 15 of which were gold, the most were earned in the sport of water polo (12), with basketball and football also bringing five medals to the Golden State. Los Angeles native Jrue Holiday was instrumental in Team USA once again taking the gold in basketball, serving as the team's lockdown defender in tight-knit victories over Serbia and France.

Another LA native from the Westside, Pacific Palisades' Miles Partain, was unable to join the medal group after himself and partner Andy Benesh were ousted in the Men's Beach Volleyball quarterfinals. After advancing past the Round of 16, the duo were defeated by Qatar's Cherif Younousse and Ahmed Tijan in straight sets by scores of 21-14 and 21-16, with several US errors proving costly.

Paris marks the first time Team USA was unable to earn a beach volleyball medal since the sport was added to the Olympics for the 1996 Atlanta games. Partain, a star at Palisades High, made a name for himself in Paris as the youngest-ever member of the USA unit.

"I think everyone gave their best effort," Partain told USA Volleyball after his experience. "I am pretty confident in that and I am happy we got to represent the U.S. along with the other three teams."

Partain now has his sights set on representing not only his country, but his community, when volleyball comes to the Pier in four years. Another person eyeing the Santa Monica experience is Kerri Walsh Jennings, a three-time Olympic gold medalist in beach volleyball, who told Santa Monica Travel & Tourism that visitors in 2028 should enjoy the "unifier" of sport and take advantage of the city's locale.

"The Santa Monica lifestyle is beachy, it's natural, it's active, and that's everything that my sport represents … not only is it amazing for beach volleyball, with their three and a half miles of white sandy beaches and Pacific Park and all the fun activities to do off the sand, but now, as someone who's a mother who just appreciates being active and wants to give my kids the experience … Santa Monica is such a no-brainer," Jennings told Travel & Tourism in a Paris interview.

Other notable sports set to debut or re-debut in 2028 include squash, flag football, cricket (for the first time since 1900) and lacrosse. The Los Angeles stage will also serve as a showcase to huge activities for locals, those being surfing and skateboarding.

thomas@smdp.com

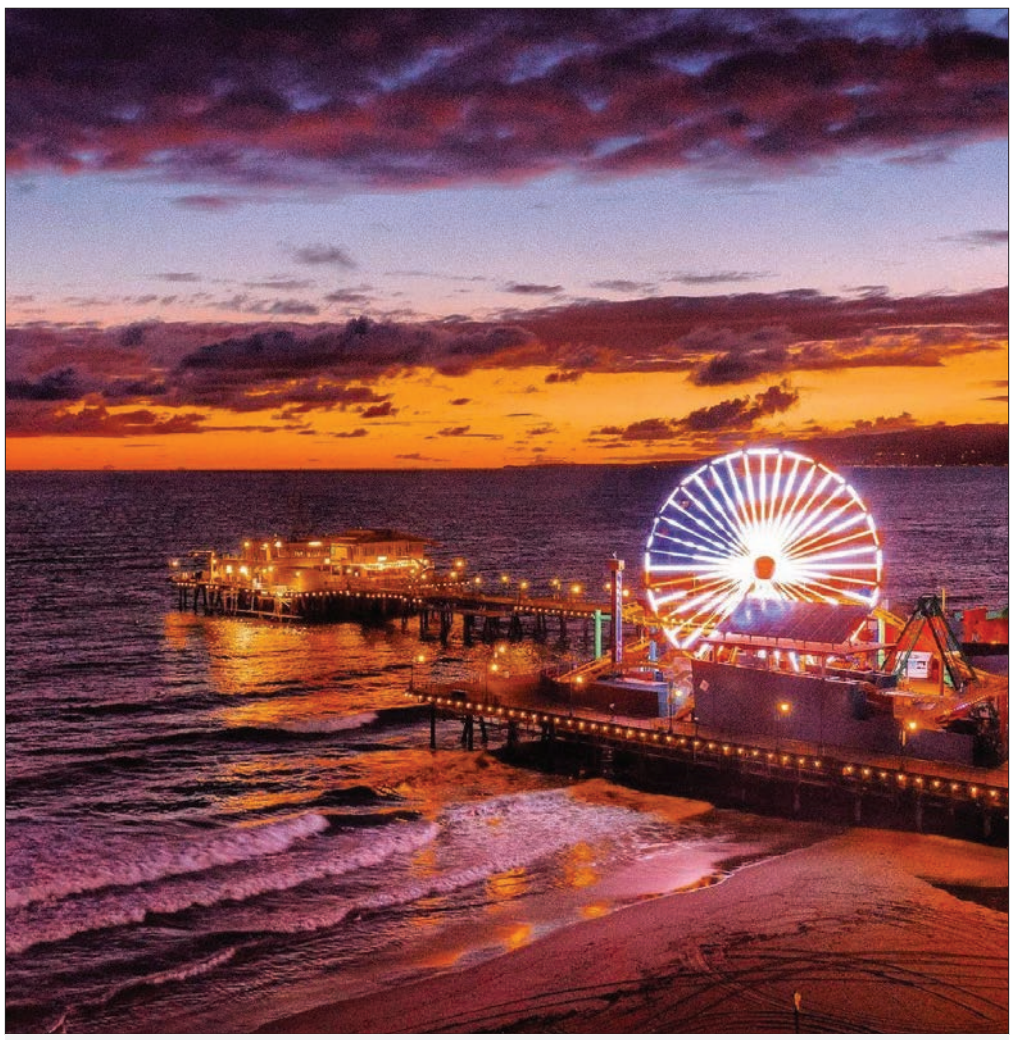


Photo Credit @dougbasscomedy

PIER: The Ferris Wheel at Pacific Park was lit up in patriotic flair this past weekend to commemorate the handoff of the Olympic Games from Paris to Los Angeles..

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2028

FROM PAGE 1

decathlon champion Rafer Johnson lighting the torch, a guy in a jetpack descending into the Memorial Coliseum and theme music by "Star Wars" maestro John Williams.

With Eastern Bloc countries boycotting, the U.S. dominated. Carl Lewis and Mary Lou Retton are among the athletes who became household names. A young Michael Jordan led the men's basketball team to gold.

The games renewed, for a while, the global reputation of a city that had been perceived to be in decline.

"We want our games to be a modern games, youthful, full of the optimism that Southern California brings to the world and the globe," Janet Evans, four-time Olympic gold medalist in swimming and chief athlete officer for the LA 2028 organizing committee, told The Associated Press in Paris.

PASSING THE TORCH

Bass, who returned to LA Monday, said one of the biggest takeaways was the way Paris organizers made the "Olympics for everyone, whether you participated in the games or not."

She gave examples of watch parties held in surrounding cities and breakdancing classes before the competitions.

Joining her were LA28 Chairperson Casey Wasserman, an entertainment executive, and LA councilmember Traci Park, chair of the city Olympic committee.

City council president Paul Krekorian, who joined Bass in bringing the Olympic flag to LA, said they were "going to make this the only city in the world who have ever had three financially successful Olympic Games."

Venues old and new, plus a swimming stadium

Amid a stadium-and-arena boom, LA will polish existing structures rather than erect new ones.

"It's a no-build games," Evans said.

After Paris' innovative opening ceremony on the Seine River, LA plans to open with a traditional, stadium-based approach at SoFi Stadium in neighboring Inglewood that also incorporates the century-old Memorial Coliseum in Los Angeles itself.

Home to two NFL teams, SoFi has hosted a Super Bowl and several Taylor Swift concerts since opening in 2020. It will become what organizers say is the largest Olympic swimming venue ever. Its opening ceremony role means swimming will come after track and field for the first time since 1972.

Intuit Dome, the soon-to-open Inglewood home of the NBA's Clippers, would be the games' newest major venue and is the planned home for Olympic basketball. The Lakers' downtown Crypto.com Arena will host gymnastics.

The toxicity of swimming in the Seine became a serious issue in Paris. That could put renewed focus on the Long Beach area waterfront when it hosts marathon swimming and triathlon races. Its cleanliness history is mixed but its ocean waters got consistently high marks in a 2023 analysis by nonprofit Heal the Bay.

The Long Beach shore was home to the pre-recorded performances during Sunday's ceremony of the Red Hot Chili Peppers, Billie Eilish, Snoop Dogg and Dr. Dre, though it was easy to mistake for LA's Venice Beach, where the journey of the flag begun by Cruise was shown ending moments earlier.

TRAINS, BUSES AND TRAFFIC

A city that's notoriously hard to traverse may seem like an odd fit for the Olympics, but it can work.

Bass said she plans to emulate the tactics of Tom Bradley, the mayor in 1984, whose traffic mitigations had some saying it was better than at non-Olympic times. They include asking local businesses to stagger workforce hours to reduce the number of cars on the road and allow work from home during the 17-day games.

Landing the Olympics under then-Mayor Eric Garcetti in 2017 gave the city an unusually long lead time for planning.

While it's no Paris Metro, LA has built a subway since its last Olympics, with lines running past major venues.

In 2018, the city planned an ambitious slate of 28 bus and rail projects to transform public transit. Some were scrapped but others moved forward, including the extension of a subway line to connect downtown Los Angeles with UCLA, the planned home of the Olympic Village.

Another high-profile project is the Inglewood People Mover, an automated, three-stop rail line past major Olympic venues. It initially received a commitment of $1 billion in federal funding, but opposition from Democratic Rep. Maxine Waters led to a $200 million reduction, the Los Angeles Times reported. It's unclear whether the line will be completed by 2028.

Metro recently received $900 million in funding through an infrastructure spending package and grants from the Biden administration, of which $139 million will go directly toward improving transportation by 2028 and the goal of a "car-free" Olympics.

"The biggest challenge is not waiting to 2028, but really taking the opportunity between now and 2028 to help Angelenos and visitors alike reimagine the transportation network as something that will be their first choice," Metro CEO Stephanie Wiggins said.

CRIME, SAFETY AND PERCEPTION

While crime rates were considerably higher in 1984 than today, the countdown to 2028 comes as the issue has gotten increased attention and cast a social-media-amplified shadow.

The Olympics are designated as a national special security event, which makes the U.S. Secret Service the lead agency tasked with developing a security plan, supported by significant federal resources.

LA city and county law enforcement sent officers to Paris to observe, learn and assist as they prepare for their own 2028 games.

There are many more encampments on city streets than there were in 1984, and it's unlikely LA will have solved its homeless crisis in the next four years. As the Paris games ended, California Gov. Gavin Newsom threatened to withhold funding from cities unable to clear encampments.

Ahead of the Games in Paris, organizers relocated thousands of unhoused people, a practice also used for the 2016 Rio de Janiero games and criticized by activists as "social cleansing."

TOURISTS AND FINANCES

LA is the "next logical destination" for the Olympics, said Adam Burke, president and CEO of the LA Tourism and Convention Board. "LA has emerged as really one of the world's sports capitals."

First though, the city will host a FIFA World Cup event and U.S. Women's Open in 2026 and another Super Bowl in 2027.

The city's hotel industry has continued to see growth, adding 9,000 new hotel rooms in the past four years with more to come over the next four.

LA28 organizers are banking on ticket sales, sponsorships, payments from the International Olympic Committee and other revenue streams to cover the games' $6.9 billion budget. The committee has brought in just over $1 billion toward a goal of $2.5 billion in domestic corporate sponsorships..

CANDLES

FROM PAGE 1

on the kitchen stove in 2018. While things were getting "a little bit more serious" for her in the industry, she saw the custom candle bar idea taking off in Ohio and sought out the creators. Paying a fee to train in the custom arts to "see if it was a good fit," Briann was eventually able to purchase her first set of orders from Ohio for her first Candles on Tap location in San Diego.

Knowing she wanted to "share the craft" with the San Diego area, she unknowingly picked the wrong time to do so, opening the store just before the COVID-19 pandemic.

"When I opened the store, there were obviously some difficulties, there were shipment delays and all of that, and people (were) concerned with scent when COVID was a smelling issue," Briann said. "But people were still able to come in with their masks and do it all safely, so once that kind of settled down, the community already got wind of us and everyone was super excited."

The San Diego success "got the ball rolling" on potential for a second store, with Briann searching both in Los Angeles and Orange County for a successor location. Initially approaching Montana Ave. about a space, she eventually pivoted to the Promenade due to the foot traffic opportunities. Much like her unfortunate timing in San Diego, Briann also ran into hiccups with Santa Monica's permitting process, stating it was "kind of a struggle" in the six months she had to wait to open.

"It was a big bummer to have to pay rent with no additional revenue flowing in from this location," Briann said. "We were relying on our first location, it's behind us now but it was a bummer with how long it did take to open these doors."

With the spot being fully functional, a host of audiences have taken in the scents, with Briann marketing for date nights, girls trips and holidays like Christmas and Mother's Day. Much like San Diego, the beach-themed fragrances have proven popular, such as Sea Foam, Santorini, Gardenia and a special Santa Monica Pier fragrance that smells "like all the sweet scents on the Pier."

Noting that there's a "scent for everyone who comes in the door," Briann adds that her passion for candles has not burnt out despite handling the day-to-day of the unique concept.

"Even with wearing all the hats I have to wear as a business owner, I still get to work with customers here to create their scent, (and) it's really fun to be able to see both sides of the business aspect with customers (and) behind the scenes," she said.

Reservations for Candles on Tap can be made by searching for the location on Yelp, as well as visiting candlesontap.com.

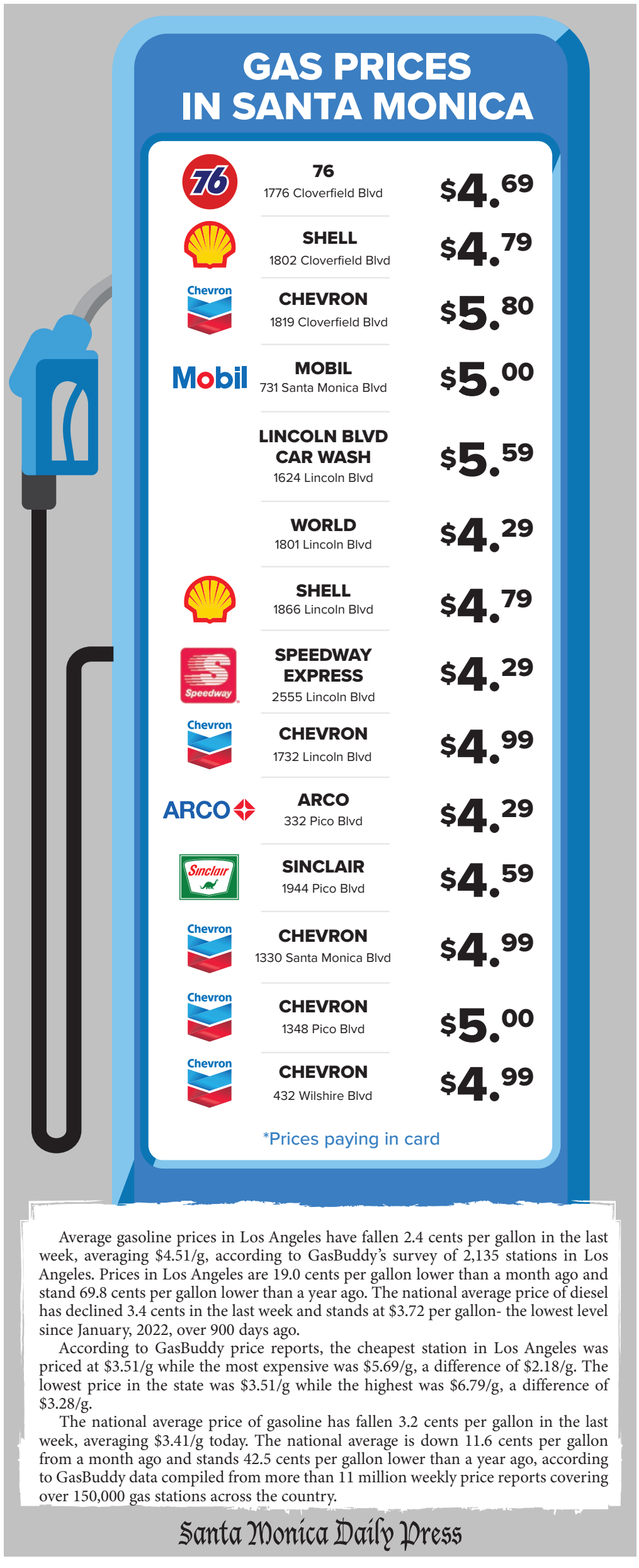
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Thomas Leffler

CANDLES: Third Street Promenade's spot for scents, Candles on Tap, has a selection of candle vessels for custom-made aromas, as well as pre-made blends to give customers inspiration..



Average gasoline prices in Los Angeles have fallen 2.4 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging $4.51/g, according to GasBuddy's survey of 2,135 stations in Los Angeles. Prices in Los Angeles are 19.0 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand 69.8 cents per gallon lower than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has declined 3.4 cents in the last week and stands at $3.72 per gallon- the lowest level since January, 2022, over 900 days ago.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Los Angeles was priced at $3.51/g while the most expensive was $5.69/g, a difference of $2.18/g. The lowest price in the state was $3.51/g while the highest was $6.79/g, a difference of $3.28/g.

The national average price of gasoline has fallen 3.2 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging $3.41/g today. The national average is down 11.6 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 42.5 cents per gallon lower than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country.

Santa Monica Daily Press

RENT

FROM PAGE 2

When State Farm canceled the policy on their San Gabriel property, Placido got a quote from the FAIR Plan for $8,600, much higher than their old $2,600 premium. Instead, he was able to cobble together three different policies from a Florida-based insurer to get the coverage the old policy provided for $6,500, a 150% increase. So he said he plans to raise rents in January.

"It's not like I'm some land baron," Placido said. "I'll pass along as much as I possibly can, as much as the market can bear, and I'll shoulder the rest. I have no choice."

YET ANOTHER WORRY FOR RENTERS

About 44% of Californians are renters, according to the U.S. Census. The median monthly rent in the state is $2,850, a third higher than the national figure, according to online real estate marketer Zillow. About 30% of the state's renters are considered severely cost-burdened, meaning they spend at least half of their income on housing, according to an analysis by the Public Policy Institute of California. Now their rents could rise to even more burdensome levels.

Shanti Singh, legislative director for statewide renters' rights organization Tenants Together, said "it's still kind of an unknown how common it is" that tenants' rents are rising along with insurance costs, partly because not all landlords say why they're raising rents.

"It depends on the landlords," Singh said. "Some are transparent; a lot of them aren't."

Any significant rent increases have not yet shown up in Zillow's data, which shows California's median rent is actually down about $100 compared with last year, though it has climbed higher since the beginning of the year.

In the Bay Area, two renters who didn't want to be named out of fear of retaliation from their landlord said the rents at their live-work complex jumped earlier this year, and the reason was spelled out to them in an email that had "insurance costs" in the subject line.

Singh said she fears things will only get worse for renters as the effects of climate change, such as wildfires, continue to weigh on the affordability of insurance, and in turn, housing.

"Tenants are going to have the least recourse," Singh said. They "always end up bearing a disproportionate brunt of what they can afford."

HOUSING AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Singh and others who deal with California's lack of affordable housing expressed concern about whether certain parts of the state will eventually be uninhabitable and uninsurable — whichever comes first.

Sarah Karlinsky, director of research at the Terner Center for Housing Innovation at UC Berkeley, said the lack of enough housing within already developed cities means more building "at the fringe of regions, in places that are more dangerous," also known as the wildland urban interface, or the WUI, in wildfire speak.

"If we don't want to continue down this road, we have to fundamentally rethink our development patterns," Karlinsky added.

Laurie Johnson, an urban planner and former chief catastrophe response and resiliency officer for the California Earthquake Authority, pointed out that some property owners in the state who own their buildings and have no mortgages might choose not to insure their properties because of the rising costs. That's worrisome, she said.

"It feels like we want to keep our multifamily stock insured and don't want to take the risk of losing it," Johnson said. Hoover, the insurance broker, agreed and said he has had some clients tell him they plan to forgo insurance.

Johnson added that just as jurisdictions have been requiring seismic retrofitting in case of earthquakes, protection against fires and other catastrophes — and the ability to replace whatever might be lost — is vital: "You would be displacing so many people."

The growing risks of climate change make it more important than ever for renters to have their own insurance, said Emily Rogan, senior program officer for United Policyholders, a consumer advocacy group.

Renters insurance would cover the costs for tenants to stay "somewhere else as you figure out where to live in case of a severe weather event," Rogan said.

EFFECTS ON COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES AND BUSINESSES

Small businesses that rent their space will be affected by their landlords' rising premiums, too.

John Reed owns a mixed-use commercial property in Oakhurst, outside Yosemite — an area that has seen its share of fires in the past several years. Last year, his fire insurance cost about $2,800, but Berkshire Hathaway canceled his policy. He got three different quotes from the FAIR Plan, with the highest being $24,000. Then, he found a plan from Lloyd's of London for about $14,000.

Reed said he will have to pass on his increased costs to his six tenants. "As a landlord, I can't hit them with the whole burden all at once," he said. "If I'm able to afford it, I will try to spread that out over a two- or three-year period."

California's insurance commissioner, Ricardo Lara, has unveiled a multi-part plan to address the state's insurance woes, mainly focused on wildfires. For example, insurers will be allowed to use catastrophe models if they agree to write policies in certain areas of the state. But Insurance Department spokesperson Michael Soller pointed out that Lara also recently announced a deal with the FAIR Plan that creates a high-value commercial coverage option.

"The reforms will have broad benefits for the availability of insurance," Soller said.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.





Photos by Tracy Barbutes for CalMatters

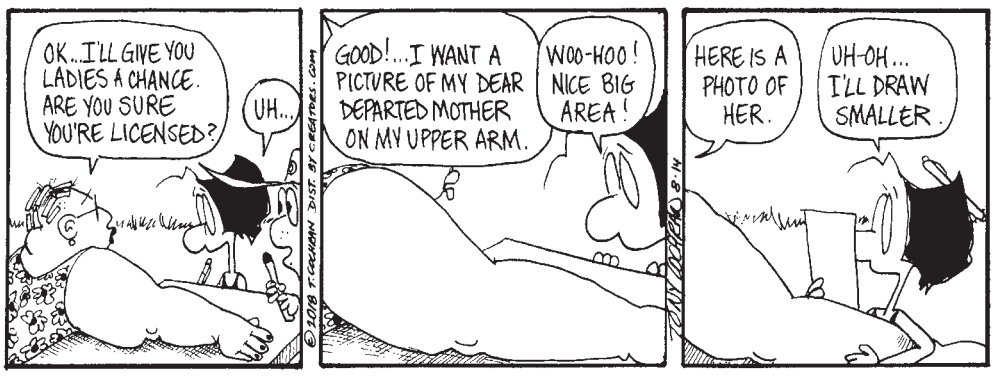
FIRST: The MVP Commercial building. Last: John Reed outside of the MVP Commercial building. Oakhurst on Aug. 11, 2024.

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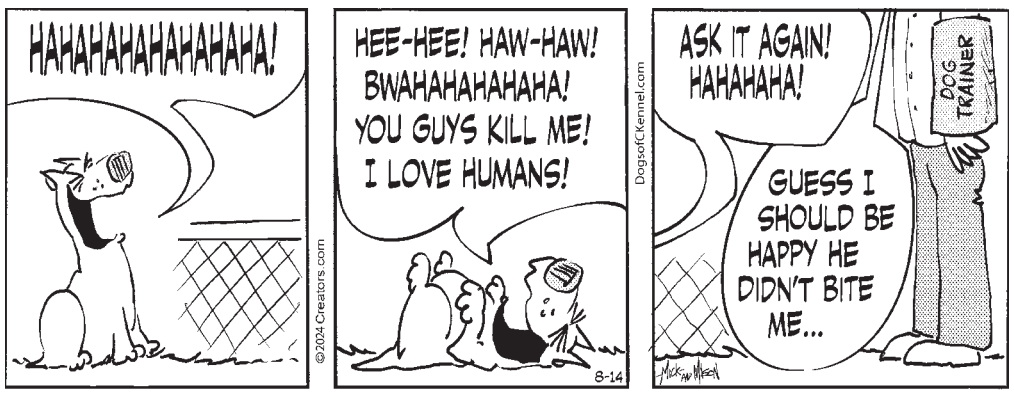
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



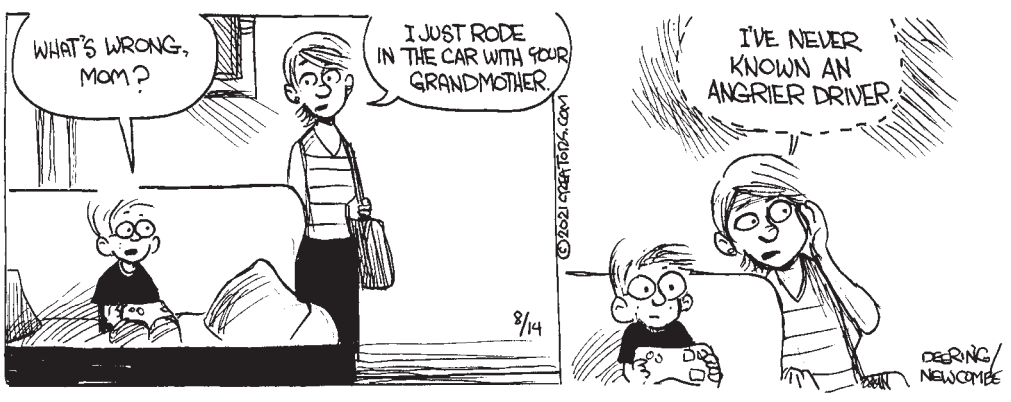
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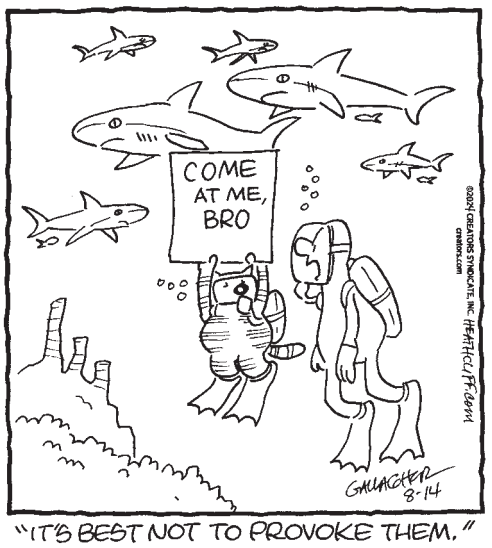
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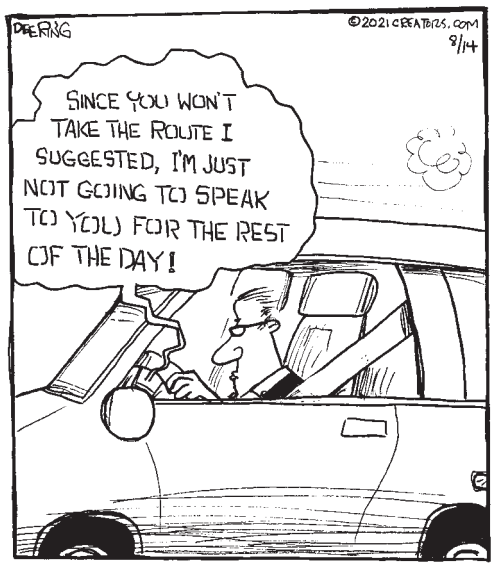
By PETER GALLAGHER



"IT'S BEST NOT TO PROVOKE THEM."

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 28 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 6302

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P T E P I E L A I E T C D T A
E L H O G B T E E X I E E O M
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SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 14)

You'll get your wish! It's not because someone grants it but because you figure out the right action to repeat and do so with dedication until what you want is in hand. This is a better way because it means you can have more whenever you need it. More highlights: Wonderful invitations, seeing the world with friends and reaching new levels with your special talent. Scorpio and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 10, 3, 5, 32 and 17.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Run your day through your mental projector before you launch into it. See yourself with your hands on the steering wheel. This is no time to compromise the vision. Collaboration is ill-advised. Your project needs your unique touch.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You know what you want, but you don't know the cost or if it's even possible or reasonable to have it. Are others asking for the same thing? What would it take to make it happen? Test the waters and trust your instincts.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Consider your loved ones and role models. Do you believe their worth is diminished by flaws or mistakes? Of course not, and neither is yours. Allow yourself the same grace you afford others.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). No choice is entirely personal. Today, your life events will reflect broader societal themes, and you'll be increasingly aware of how your actions tie into the larger picture. You have influence, and you'll use it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll learn by doing, which is a thrill. You'll experience excitement in the wrong moves and right ones alike. This is the quickest way to become proficient, but it also takes the most energy. You'll rest well when it's over.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You hit the right tone at the right times, and it's the secret to creating harmony in your world. It works in relationships, at work, and especially in your relationship with yourself and the environments you most enjoy.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). People may be initially attracted by a surface quality in you, or so they think, but there's actually something deeper and mysterious drawing them in. Trust in this magnetization. You don't have to chase anyone or oversell your assets.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Some people will advise you even when they know less than you do about the situation. You'll save time and effort by doing your own research and using your own judgment.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Often, the right move feels a little scary. Take notice and keep moving. Let feelings inform your experience, but don't let them be the only factor in your decision-making.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Whether or not you take things very seriously, you'll still get a lot done. Just don't take any of the events too personally, which can only slow you down. With the mindset of a team player, you'll give your peak performance.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Before you have to speak your mind, you might not realize fully what it has to say. In the process of articulating yourself, there's much to discover. There will be magic in your refinements.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The order you do things will affect the outcome even more than usual today, mainly because coming at a task with the right energy makes all the difference in the world. The actions that get you in the right headspace must come first.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

	G	O	O	N		E	G	A	D		H	I	L	O
K	A	P	P	A		A	R	I	A		I	S	I	N
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C	A	N	D	I	D	A	T	E	S		H	A	R	E
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T	E	N	A	N	T		T	I	A	R	A			
A	W	E	D		C	R	E	D		R	I	N	S	E
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G	O	A	T		M	O	O	N		S	I	M	O	N
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L	E	E	R		D	E	N	S		D	A	I	S	

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

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

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	9			6	1	3	4	
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Newsday Crossword

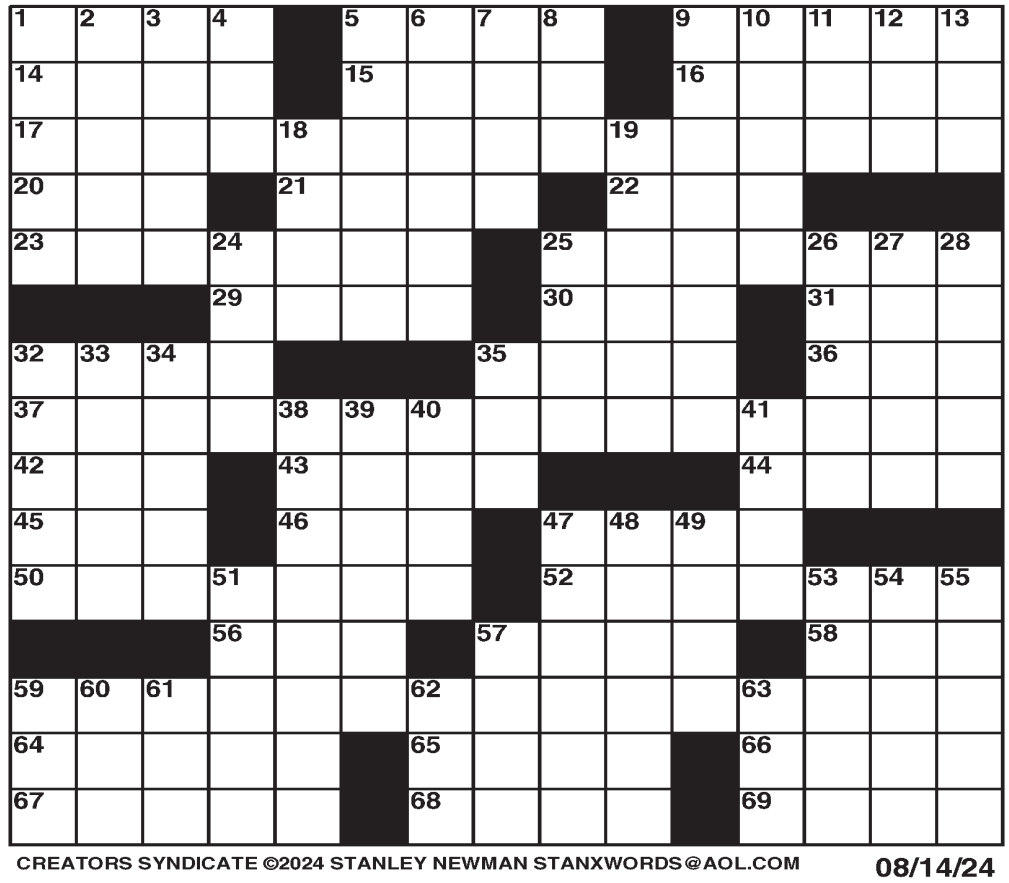
AROUND THE GROCERY by Jerry Clarkson
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Statistics
5 Petroleum measures: Abbr.
9 In first place
14 Spruce up for publication
15 Black-and-white cookie
16 Surface for a surfer
17 Round doughy products
20 Cry of discomfort
21 Concerning, in a memo
22 December 24 or 31
23 Becomes drenched
25 Wishes well to, after a sneeze
29 May auto race, informally
30 4 __ (texter's "permanently")
31 U-turn from WSW
32 Perform a ballad
35 Covering for 37-Across
36 College website suffix
37 Round citrus fruits
42 Sound from a sheep
43 Frequently
44 Common lipstick shades
45 List-shortening abbr.
46 __ Aviv
47 Leaning Tower city
50 Criticize gently
52 Hard coating on furniture
56 Before, in verse
57 Nintendo rival
58 __-K (toddlers' school)
59 Round cheeses
64 Grab __ of (seize)
65 Simplify
66 Take a timeout
67 Real estate listing
68 Without charge
69 Highways: Abbr.

DOWN

1 Repair, as software
2 Wise saying
3 Form-fitting
4 Ingested
5 Ordered (around)
6 Bad-mannered, as a child
7 Former *Tonight Show* host
8 Grass grown on farms
9 Most importantly
10 Sharpens, as skills
11 __ de Cologne
12 Any creative talent
13 Tooth care pro: Abbr.
18 Grass-covered yard
19 Looked (into) in detail
24 ONE WAY or YIELD
25 "__ waiting long?"
26 Message from a teacher
27 Phased out
28 *Green Eggs and Ham* guy
32 Clear-headed
33 Much more than miffed
34 Civil rights org.
35 Touch of encouragement
38 Sports drink brand
39 TV news hour
40 "Filet" fish
41 Baghdad's nation
47 Gratify
48 "Me too"
49 Shady scheme
51 Spools for fishing
53 Surprise victory
54 Wipe clean
55 Gets a lease for
57 Warm up for a bout
59 Shout from Scrooge
60 Letter after pi
61 Debt document
62 3 on a telephone
63 Go wrong



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08/14/24

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HOUSING

FROM PAGE 4

tension.

The cast of characters facing off against one another is a repeat too. On one side, the building trades. On the other, affordable housing non-profits and the state's unionized carpenters. In recent years, developers, "Yes In My Backyard" activists, pro-development Democrats and the carpenters have formed a lasting and formidable political bloc to push through legislation aimed at ramping up housing production while extending labor standards that aren't quite as stringent as those championed by the trades.

Project labor agreements have long been a hallmark of California construction projects, but tying them to every project that takes money from a voter-approved bond or tax is a relatively new idea. This coming election, voters in Los Angeles County will also be asked whether to support a sales tax hike, which promises to raise hundreds of millions of dollars for new affordable housing. That, too, has a labor agreement requirement.

But the Bay Area bond represents the largest of its kind — the biggest housing IOU to go before voters at any time in California at either the local or state level. That makes the stakes of the debate behind Cortese's bill especially high.

DO PROJECT LABOR AGREEMENTS MAKE HOUSING MORE EXPENSIVE?

Project labor agreements don't come standard issue, but they do tend to have a set of common elements: high wages and benefits, clear dispute resolution rules and restrictions on how people get hired and put to work. And though a government can't force a private company to exclusively hire union workers, these contracts can nudge them in that direction by requiring them to hire through union-run hiring halls, to take on apprentices who typically come from union programs or to pay into pension systems that only union workers collect.

Developers and other critics of these agreements say these restrictions all have the effect of discouraging non-union subcontractors from bidding on projects, which inevitably means less competition, higher winning bids and higher overall costs.

A survey of Los Angeles developers who took part in the Measure HHH program, a 2016 Los Angeles bond measure that had a similar mandate, found that there were 20% to 50% fewer bidders on projects subject to the project labor agreement.

Opponents of the Cortese bill can also point to the RAND study of Measure HHH in 2016 as the most definitive recent empirical argument against tacking on these requirements.

The study builds off a preliminary study from 2021. The new report released this week, which uses real cost data rather than pre-development estimates, finds that the agreement caused projects to take roughly half a year longer to wrap up and pushed costs roughly one-fifth higher.

Members of the trades tend to insist that project labor agreements do not increase costs. In the debate over Cortese's bill, they pointed to an analysis by the UC Berkeley Labor Center, which applied RAND's methodology to more up-to-date cost data. That analysis found that while overall cost estimates were higher for projects tied to these agreements, the result was not statistically significant — meaning that the results could have been the product of random chance. Ward countered that the Labor Center used inaccurate data posted by the city of Los Angeles. In a memo, the Labor Center's authors acknowledged problems with the data, but said it would be premature to rescind their findings until the entire dataset can be reassessed.

Even if these agreements do hike costs, that isn't always a bad thing, said Andreas Culver, Secretary-Treasurer of the Building and Construction Trades Council of Alameda County.

"If you eliminate the bottom-feeders that are not paying their people the proper prevailing wages, yes, it's going to have an impact," he said.

THE UNIONS ARE FIGHTING AGAIN

Not everyone — not even every union construction worker — agrees that such agreements only exclude "bottom-feeders."

Jay Bradshaw, Executive Officer of the Northern California Carpenters Union, said the barriers that a project labor agreement mandate would impose on hiring non-union workers is simply impractical for a state desperate for more affordable homes. He cites low unionization rates across California's residential construction industry. "So where, magically, are these workers going to come from?"

But his argument is also a philosophical one that has divided the carpenters from the trades council for at least two years now. The trades have regularly made union-hire requirements a condition for their support of legislation aimed at making it easier to build apartment buildings. In 2022, the carpenters joined a coalition of nonprofit developers and Yes In My Backyard activists to come up with what Bradshaw calls "not a union mandate", but one that is broadly "pro-worker" and "inclusive" of union and non-union workers alike.

That AB 2011 standard, named for the bill by Oakland Democratic Assemblymember Buffy Wicks in which it was first introduced, forces developers to pay union-level wages, provide health benefits and agree to compliance oversight. As long as developers abide by those rules, they are free to hire whomever they like. That standard has become a go-to template for Sacramento Democratic legislators hoping to spur more housing with the blessing of developers, YIMBYs and the carpenters — though many developers still argue that it's too costly.

That standard, said Bradshaw, would be a better requirement to tack onto the Bay Area bond.

Selling voters on a $20 billion bond "is going to be a very heavy lift," he said. After working on the bond measure for years, adding a "last minute" project labor agreement requirement "will make it that much harder to pass this, no doubt about it."

Culver of Alameda County makes the opposite argument. Adding a project labor agreement requirement improves the bond's political odds because it secures the support of the powerful trades.

"How do we go to our membership…and say 'look, we want to support this campaign, we want to put money into this campaign, we want you to walk for this campaign, but you're not going to be working on the jobs that these funds that are being raised are going to create?'" he said. "You need labor to win."

Negotiations between the trades, the carpenters and Cortese's office are ongoing, but time is running short. The bill has until Thursday to pass the Assembly appropriations committee where Wicks is chair.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.



WEDNESDAY | AUGUST 14

COMPUTER BASICS - ORGANIZE FILES & PHOTOS

10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Computer Training Room, Santa Monica Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. Learn how to create and name folders, copy and move files, and more. For beginners.

LOS ANGELES INVESTOR LUNCHEON

11:30 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. Ruth's Chris Steak House, 13455 Maxella Avenue, Marina del Rey. Join Los Angeles investors for lunch and presentations at Ruth's Chris in Marina del Rey. There are networking opportunities with other professionals, investors and entrepreneurs. Opportunities include TTI Gaming (Blockchain Gaming Company), TTI Metaverse (Crypto, Metaverse and Blockchain software), Utility Rescue (Pre-IPO Cost Reduction FinTech Company) and more. Tickets are free for qualified active accredited investors, others may attend by paying a $100 ticket fee. To register, visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/los-angeles-investor-luncheon-ruths-chris-registration-952340675597.

GRAPHIC STORYTELLING WITH MAX BRALLIER, JULIE BUXBAUM & SARAH MLYNOWSKI

Wrap up summer vacation meeting authors Max Brallier (The Last Comics on Earth), Julie Buxbaum (The Area 51 Files: Friend or UFO) and Sarah Mlynowski (Whatever After, The Graphic Novel: Fairest of All), who discuss their exciting middle grade graphic novels. A book sale and signing follows. Santa Monica Public Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 3:30 p.m.

CLEAN BEACHES COMMITTEE MEETING

The mission of the Clean Beaches & Ocean Parcel Tax Citizens Oversight Committee is to uphold the mission of the City of Santa Monica Watershed Management Plan. Meeting begins at 6:30 in the SMI Room of the Civic Center Parking Structure, 333 Civic Center Dr.

THE BONEDADDYS

The Bonedaddys, are L.A.'s original "Worldbeatniks" (since 1985) and one of the very first American bands to be described as Worldbeat. The Bonedaddys still take a "wide stance" stylistically, and claim influences ranging from Charles Ives to Burl Ives and much in-between. The Venice West, 1717 Lincoln Blvd, Venice, $15, 8 p.m.

THURSDAY | AUGUST 15

AUTHOR TALK WITH DR. IRENA SMITH

11 a.m. - 12 p.m. Santa Monica College Library, 1900 Pico Blvd and online. Dr. Irena Smith, a former Stanford Admissions Officer, will talk to parents about constructive and healthy ways to approach the college application process, preserve relationships with their teens and help them define success on their terms instead of chasing the elusive "golden ticket." Free event. To register, visit: https://libraryc.org/smclibrary/52840/register.

SUNSET PICNIC

5 - 8 p.m. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 Pacific Coast Highway. It's Sunset Picnic at Annenberg Beach House, so pack your favorite picnic dinner, fancy or casual, bring your family and friends and your fun activities (games, dominoes, checkers). Enjoy a fun, casual beachfront summer evening with a musical duo vibing in the background and s'mores for dessert. No glass or alcohol are allowed.

RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION

6 p.m. City Council Chambers at Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main St. The Commission shall act in an advisory capacity to the City Council and Director of Community Services in all matters pertaining to public recreation including playgrounds, music and entertainment. The Commission will consider the budget of the Community and Cultural Services Department and make recommendations to the City Manager and the City Council. The Commission will also assist in the planning and promotion of a recreation program for residents and solicit the cooperation of school authorities and other public and private agencies.

MONTANA AVENUE BRANCH BOOK DISCUSSION

6 - 7 p.m. Montana Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave. This community-led, monthly book discussion group currently meets in person. August's selection is "Horse" by Geraldine Brooks.

AUGUST VENICE ART CRAWL

6 - 10 p.m. Venice Canals, Venice. This vibrant event will be held on the Venice Canals. Meet inspiring artists, discover hidden gems and experience the magic of this iconic neighborhood stretch.

FRIDAY | AUGUST 16

FREE PRODUCE MARKET

12 - 2 p.m. Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave. Come pick up refreshing summer fruits and vegetables at Seeds of Hope Free Produce Market at Virginia Avenue Park in the Patio Room. Strawberries, watermelon and much more available. Supplies limited to the first 150 families. For questions, call 310-458-8688.

SATURDAY | AUGUST 17

BEST TOMATO COMPETITION

9 - 11 a.m. Ishihara Park Learning Garden, 2909 Exposition Blvd. The monthly Ishihara Park Learning Garden community event, always free and open to all the public, will have locals bring their homegrown tomatoes and put them to the test against others around Santa Monica. Join in the fun and be a guest judge to help determine the best tomato in Santa Monica. Participate in Garden Bingo for your chance to win some fun prizes. Tomato entries must be received by 9:30 a.m., with testing starting promptly at 10 a.m.

UC MASTER GARDENERS AT PICO FARMERS MARKET

10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave. Visit with the UC Master Gardeners at the Saturday Pico Farmers Market. The booth is filled with free advice on how to care for plants, how to troubleshoot a gardening problem, and much more. Free seeds and seedlings are available on a limited basis. Market attendance is subject to change based on weather and holidays.

Play in Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Monica's Inaugural Golf Tournament!

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