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Santa Monica Daily Press

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Rollout of the Wayfinder kiosks continues and the first data on usage is in

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

More Wayfinder kiosks are popping up all over the Downtown area and two recently appeared at the 3rd Street and Santa Monica Blvd intersection, one on the northwestern corner and one on the southeastern corner.

At the time of going to press, 12 kiosks are currently operating in place and cleaned twice daily by Block By Block personnel.

PHASE 1

4th Street & Wilshire Blvd – installed April 29

Pico Blvd & Ocean Ave – installed June 14

Arizona Ave & Ocean Ave – installed June 14

Santa Monica Blvd & Ocean Ave – installed June 21

Pico Blvd & Ocean Front Walk – installed June 21

Broadway & Ocean Ave – installed July 3

PHASE 2

Broadway and 3rd St – installed August 8

Santa Monica Blvd & 3rd St (SE corner) – installed August 8

Santa Monica Blvd & 3rd St (NW Corner) – installed August 8

Arizona Ave & 3rd St (SE corner) – installed August 8

Arizona Ave & 3rd St (NE Corner) – installed August 8

Wilshire Blvd and 3rd St – installed August 8

And that fulfills rollout phases one and two. The next four displays that make up phase 3 will go operational in about a month.

Kiley Kmiec, Business Developer for BIG Outdoor, offers an insight into the analysis, "The key is to distinguish between 'usage' data and 'user' data. We do not collect any user data without consent of the user and in no cases are we selling data of any kind. We do collect 'usage data' to a certain extent (apps opened, time that kiosk is in interactive mode, etc) but none of that data tells us anything about the user. And none of it is considered 'Personally Identifiable Information,' which is the legal standard."

"The usage data helps us (and

SEE **WAYFINDER** PAGE 8



Scott Snowden

SIGNS: City Hall is about to embark on an awareness campaign to educate locals and visitors about the capabilities of the new kiosks.

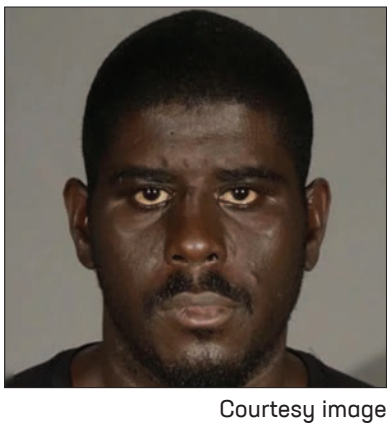
Suspect in unprovoked assault on Big Blue Bus found and taken into custody

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

On the afternoon of July 29, 2024, Santa Monica Police Department (SMPD) officers responded to the 3200 block of Santa Monica Blvd for an assault that just occurred on a Santa Monica Big Blue Bus.

According to the SMPD, officers located the victim who reported being attacked from behind while seated on the bus. The attack was unprovoked; the victim did not know the suspect. The victim sustained significant injuries and was transported to a local hospital for treatment.

The suspect fled the scene prior to the officers' arrival. Utilizing Big Blue Bus surveillance video, TAP card information and additional neighborhood surveillance camera video, SMPD detectives identified 34-year-old Erik Morgan of Los Angeles as the suspect. On August 9, Morgan was located and taken into custody.



Courtesy image

SUSPECT: Erik Morgan has been arrested for assault.

Morgan, who has been confirmed as experiencing homelessness, was arraigned on August 13 and faces felony charges of 203 PC (Mayhem), 245(a)(4) PC (Assault likely to cause great bodily injury), 243(d) PC (aggravated battery) and 3455(a)pc (Violation of probation). He remains in custody of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

Anyone with information about this incident or suspect is asked to contact Detective Orta at (310) 458-2293, Sgt. Chad Goodwin at (310) 458-8931, or the Watch Commander desk 24 hours a day at (310) 458-8427.

scott.snowden@smdp.com

Local artist pays homage to inspirations at Bergamot exhibit

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

Every creative being has their inspiration, and one local artist has brought hers to life as a reflection of her own values.

Through September 1, Venice-based artist Victoria White is giving the area a deeper look into past icons via solo exhibition "Legends in Monochrome." Held at the Fabrik Projects Gallery at Bergamot Station Arts Center, the series of monochromatic portraits is a celebration of musicians, actors and other modern figures.

White experimented on legends like Bob Marley, Albert Einstein, Audrey Hepburn and Dolly Parton, using their unique features to point out precious personality traits.

"I'm painting portraits of their values and their character, (reflecting) what I want to say about my own self, because there's a part of me in each portrait that I paint ... I started reading biographies and doing a lot of research on the people that I painted, and so it became very immersive for me." White said.

She added that the top characteristic she wants to convey about her subjects, and herself, is "authenticity" and mastery of their crafts.

"One big connecting factor of all of these people (is) discipline and the pursuit of excellence through hard work and creative expression ... Pablo Picasso said that painting is not an aesthetic operation, it's a

SEE **MONOCHROME** PAGE 11

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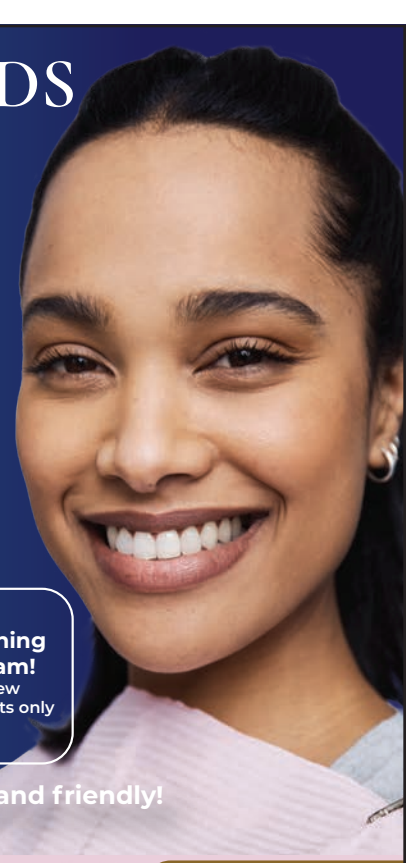
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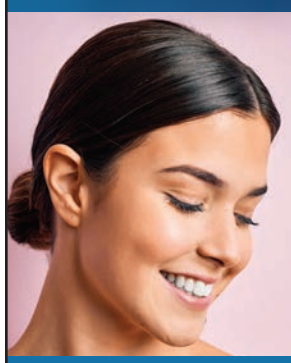
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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Playing Politics

Editor:

In last week's letter, former council candidate Arthur Jeon attempted to smear four council candidates with falsehoods and conspiratorial accusations. The record must be corrected.

I, too, am a 9th Street resident, one block away from Santa Monica Blvd, Wilshire Blvd, and Lincoln Blvd. Arthur and I must be neighbors! Therefore, I know he knows his letter is all about playing politics and not reflective of the actual character of our neighborhood.

I am not involved in the leadership of Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights, but I have been a member for over a decade because I believe in the organization's mission to create opportunities for people of all income levels, but especially the least fortunate among us, to be able to live and thrive in Santa Monica.

My family and I were able to rely on the stability provided by our City's robust rent control policy to save up over the course of many years to eventually afford a down payment on our first home, right on the very same block Jeon claims has become unaffordable due to overdevelopment.

Just a few pieces of misinformation from Jeon's letter:

- The laughable accusation that SMRR has taken money from Cypress Equity. In fact, SMRR and the Democratic Club both voted to formally *oppose* Cypress Equity's attempted ballot measure which would have exempted multi-family buildings from the City's real estate transfer tax, thus incentivizing more of the development Jeon and his friends on Council claim to oppose. Thanks to the efforts of these two groups, the measure failed to qualify for the ballot this fall.

- The conspiracy theory that SMRR only supports our RHNA goals because it gives the organization more power. We hear the same disturbing accusations from MAGA Republicans who claim that Democrats support immigration in order to accrue more voting power. In fact, most Santa Monicans support meeting our RHNA goals because *they are mandated and enforced by state law.* We understand the contempt that MAGA and Trump have for following the Constitution, but now we are seeing the same reflected in our local government. Maybe I'm just a far-left lunatic, but I believe our City should follow the California laws on the books. If we don't like the laws, we lobby our state legislature to change them.

- Blaming SMRR for all of the City's current problems. This age-old line is undermined by the fact that Jeon's friends on the Change Slate have held a solid majority on City Council for nearly four years. Has anything changed for the better? Or does Jeon assert there is a SMRR Deep State working to undermine the conservative majority on Council?

- The accusation that home ownership is made more difficult by building more housing. We know this is false, which is why Vice President Kamala Harris announced this week that her housing platform includes building three million more housing units. She understands that the best way to increase public safety and decrease homelessness in our cities is to create more housing. In fact, what makes home ownership so difficult for so many is the NIMBY politics embraced by Phil Brock and Oscar de la Torre that oppose any new housing production, thus drastically increasing the cost of housing. Fighting the creation of supportive housing, of course, also means that the "deeply ill people" Jeon complains about will remain on the streets.

Rather than blaming a tenants rights organization, Jeon should turn his ire on the conservative council majority. Thanks to their unwillingness to adhere to (and apparent ignorance of) state law, and repeated threats to sue the state, our Housing Element went out of compliance long enough for the so-called "Builder's Remedy" to take effect, meaning over a dozen high-rise buildings became automatically approved without any local control at all. At least two of those skyscrapers are in the immediate pipeline for development now.

This November, voters will remember the contempt for following the law that Phil Brock, Oscar de la Torre, and their "Change Slate" allies demonstrated when they played politics from the dais and threatened our City's character by playing chicken with our state government.

Jon Katz, President, Santa Monica Democratic Club

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

A City at a Crossroads: The Choice for Santa Monica's Future

Editor:

As a passionate advocate for Santa Monica—a community I deeply love for its diversity, vibrancy, and incredible seaside charm—I believe we are at a critical juncture in our city's history. Our beloved Santa Monica, once a beacon of opportunity and safety, is now grappling with existential threats that jeopardize everything we cherish about living here. From rampant homelessness and unchecked drug use to an alarming surge in violent crime and a faltering local economy, we face challenges that could erode the very fabric of our community if we don't act now. The good news is that we have a clear choice before us, a choice that could define our future for years to come.

In November, Santa Monica voters will be presented with two distinct visions for our city: one represented by the five Democratic Socialists of America (DSA) and Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights (SMRR)-aligned candidates, and the other by a group of four centrist Democrats—Mayor Phil Brock, Councilmember Oscar de la Torre, Dr. Vivian A. Roknian, and John Putnam—who are supported by Santa Monicans United (SMU) and the Change Slate. These two groups offer profoundly different approaches to the issues threatening our city, and the choice between them could not be more stark.

THE DIRE REALITY SANTA MONICA FACES

Santa Monica is one of the most beautiful and diverse cities in the country, but it's no secret that we are in the midst of a serious crisis. The numbers are staggering: we now have one of the highest crime rates in the state of California, and the crimes themselves are becoming more severe and brazen. In the past few years, we've seen multiple murders, rapes, assaults, and stabbings—not in some faraway place but right here in our parks, beaches, and public spaces. Smash-and-grab robberies have devastated businesses on the Third Street Promenade, leaving nearly half of the storefronts empty. Residential burglaries and home invasions have left families feeling unsafe in their own homes. Bike thefts, package thefts, catalytic converter thefts, and car break-ins have become everyday occurrences. Needles litter our parks and beaches, a visible and heartbreaking symbol of how far our city has fallen. And our city, to be frank, is effectively broke. With decreased tourism and business Downtown and on the Promenade, we lack funding for basic services like libraries and public safety.

This isn't the Santa Monica we want or deserve.

THE FAILED POLICIES OF THE DSA/SMRR SLATE

The four candidates endorsed by SMRR, the Santa Monica Democratic Club, and Santa Monica Forward, plus one active SMRR member and activist (Erika Lesley) who has made the ballot, have made it clear that they will continue down the same path that got us into this crisis in the first place. They support policies that prioritize rampant development, filling our city with high-rise buildings and expensive, taxpayer-funded housing projects that have done nothing to address homelessness or housing affordability. They refuse to enforce laws that would clear our parks and public spaces of homeless encampments, and instead, they promote policies that make Santa Monica a magnet for homeless individuals by building million-dollar homes for them, funded by the hard-earned money of our taxpayers.

Perhaps most alarming, these candidates support the distribution of needles and drug paraphernalia—like crack and meth pipes—right in our parks or at the very least, in indoor locations within city limits, courtesy of the County of Los Angeles. This approach, under the guise of "harm reduction," has made our public spaces unsafe for families, children, and residents. Instead of getting addicts the treatment they need, this policy perpetuates the cycle of addiction and homelessness, and keeps our parks and beaches riddled with drug use and crime.

While the SMRR/DSA candidates claim to focus on issues like "climate justice" and "diversity, equity, and inclusion" (DEI), their efforts to ban natural gas in homes and businesses or prioritize DEI initiatives over tangible safety measures have done little to address the actual concerns of Santa Monicans. They advocate for fewer police officers, and when crimes go unsolved or ignored, their response is to deflect with talk of "restorative justice" and systemic issues rather than enforcing the law.

These candidates will undoubtedly accuse their opponents of being anti-renter or opposed to rent control, but let's be clear: both slates—those aligned with SMRR and those aligned with SMU—support rent control. This election is not about rent control. It's about the survival of our city and whether we want to continue on the disastrous path we're on or choose a better future.

A BETTER FUTURE WITH THE CHANGE SLATE AND SMU CANDIDATES

I'll be the first to say that I haven't always agreed with every policy put forth by Mayor Phil Brock or Councilmember Oscar de la Torre. But when you look at the totality of their positions and efforts, it's clear that they have been voices for reason, common sense, and public safety in a city that has been overrun by failed progressive policies.

SEE **LETTER** PAGE 8



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **70.2**

TUESDAY
FAIR

SURF: Thigh to waist 2-3FT

SSW swell due to ease a bit, along with the smaller NW windswell. Shape continues to favor structured breaks. Early AM tide push helps, and winds look light then.

WEDNESDAY
FAIR

SURF: Thigh to waist 2-3FT

SSW/S swell lingers as NW windswell comes down a notch. It'll be a relatively smaller day than the start of the week but the summer focal points are rideable on the right gear. Tide is drained early — wait for it to build.

Weather

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 77. Light and variable wind becoming southwest 5 to 10 mph in the afternoon.
Tuesday Night: Clear, with a low around 64. West southwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming east after midnight.
Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 76. Light and variable wind becoming southwest 5 to 10 mph in the afternoon.
Wednesday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 61.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2024/08/20	Tue	04:34 AM	-0.91	L
2024/08/20	Tue	10:49 AM	4.95	H
2024/08/20	Tue	4:15 PM	1.28	L
2024/08/20	Tue	10:23 PM	6.56	H
2024/08/21	Wed	05:08 AM	-0.57	L
2024/08/21	Wed	11:23 AM	5.27	H
2024/08/21	Wed	5:07 PM	1.05	L
2024/08/21	Wed	11:11 PM	5.96	H
2024/08/22	Thu	05:41 AM	-0.03	L
2024/08/22	Thu	12:00 PM	5.53	H
2024/08/22	Thu	6:04 PM	0.93	L
2024/08/23	Fri	12:04 AM	5.16	H
2024/08/23	Fri	06:15 AM	0.65	L
2024/08/23	Fri	12:40 PM	5.68	H
2024/08/23	Fri	7:07 PM	0.91	L
2024/08/24	Sat	01:06 AM	4.26	H
2024/08/24	Sat	06:48 AM	1.39	L
2024/08/24	Sat	1:25 PM	5.71	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: 8/17
12 31 43 45 46
Power#: 22
Jackpot: 44 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 8/16
22 38 48 51 61
Mega#: 5
Jackpot: 498 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 8/17
8 12 15 21 32
Mega#: 27
Jackpot: 15 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 8/18
2 17 31 32 38

Daily 3
Draw Date: 8/18
EVENING: 3 9 2
Draw Date: 8/18
MIDDAY: 2 3 4

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 8/18
1st: 10 - Solid Gold
2nd: 02 - Lucky Star
3rd: 11 - Money Bags
Race Time: 1:40.77

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Santa Monica Daily Press

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
HOUSING DIVISION

The City of Santa Monica announces it has committed funds in the amount of $11,156,459, which includes an existing loan of $9,426,306, to Community Corporation of Santa Monica for the construction activities associated with a future affordable housing development located at 1342 Berkeley Street targeted to young adults (aged 18-26) and low-income households.

City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Proposed Amendments to the Text of the Santa Monica Municipal Code to Increase the Maximum Allowed Height of Fences, Walls, and Hedges in the Front Setbacks of R2, R3, and R4 Zoning Districts and to Address the Rules for Measuring the Heights of Fences, Walls, and Hedges Located on Top of Retaining Walls.

A public hearing will be held by the Planning Commission to consider a Resolution recommending to the City Council that the City Council adopt an Ordinance amending the text of the Zoning Ordinance to increase the maximum allowed height of fences, walls, and hedges in the front setbacks of R2, R3, and R4 zoning districts and to address the rules for measuring the heights of fences, walls, and hedges located on top of retaining walls.

DATE/TIME: **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2024 AT 6:00 PM**

LOCATION: City Council Chamber, Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California

At the August 27, 2024 Regular Meeting of the City Council, pursuant to SMMC Section 9.46.030(A), the Council will be considering the adoption of a Resolution of Intention directing the Planning Commission to initiate an amendment to the text of the Zoning Ordinance for the above. If the City Council does not adopt the Resolution of Intention on August 27, 2024, the Planning Commission will not conduct this public hearing on September 4, 2024.

HOW TO COMMENT
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. Members of the public unable to attend a meeting but wishing to comment on an item(s) listed on the agenda may submit written comments prior to the public hearing via email to planningcomment@santamonica.gov or via mail to the address listed below. Comments received prior to 12 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be distributed to the Planning Commission prior to the meeting and posted online. All written comments shall be made part of the public record. Please note the agenda item in your comments.

You may also comment in-person at the Planning Commission hearing. Please check the agenda for more detailed instructions on how to comment.

Address your comments to: **Shira Moch, Associate Planner**
Re: Fence, Wall, Hedge Height Limits Text Amendment

VIA E-MAIL: planningcomment@santamonica.gov
VIA MAIL: City Planning Division
1685 Main Street, Mail Stop 28
Santa Monica, CA 90401

MORE INFORMATION
If you want more information about this project or wish to review the project file, please contact Shira Moch by e-mail at shira.moch@santamonica.gov. The Zoning Ordinance is available on the City's web site at www.santamonica.gov. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (866) 311-7266 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Every attempt will be made to provide the requested accommodation. All written materials are available in alternate languages provided the request is received 72 hours prior to the meeting. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines serve City Hall and the Civic Center area. The Expo Line terminus is located at Colorado Avenue and Fourth Street, and is a short walk to City Hall. Public parking is available in front of City Hall, on Olympic Drive, and in the Civic Center Parking Structure (validation free).

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the public hearing.

ESPAÑOL
Esto es una noticia pública para revisar applicaciónes proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si desea más información, favor de llamar a Ana Fernandez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-2201 ext. 2431 o envíe un correo electrónico a ana.fernandez@santamonica.gov

SEND YOUR NEWS TO THE EDITOR

Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Disinformation Projection

Editor:

Charles Andrews has written two pieces since July 31 in which he accuses former mayor Kevin McKeown of writing letters to local newspapers making false claims about the self-anointed "Change Slate" councilmembers. Charles would do well to look in the mirror before making these complaints about Kevin, as he's been repeatedly pushing a major whopper of his own in the very same pieces: "And let me remind our ex-mayor that the Change Slate is three people, never a majority on a seven-seat Council."

What universe is Charles living in where Lana Negrete isn't the fourth Change Slate councilmember? To give just the highlights reel, Lana was nominated for her initial appointment by the Change Slate councilmembers; she voted with them to not investigate a criminal Brown Act leak; in her 2022 election campaign she was endorsed by the other Change Slate councilmembers and backed by the same PACs as supported the rest of them in 2020; and most recently she was on their side when another criminal Brown Act leak occurred that instead of investigating, councilmembers should get to commit unlimited crimes with impunity until the new council is seated in December.

Furthermore, her fellow Change Slate councilmember Christine Parra recently attacked councilmembers Gleam Davis, Caroline Torosis, and Jesse Zwick as being in the "liberal minority" on council. This comment necessitates that Christine recognizes that there's currently a conservative Change Slate minority on city council constituting herself, Lana, Phil Brock, and Oscar de la Torre.

I've seen Phil pushing this same alternative fact about never having had a majority on council on social media. I can only assume that this concerted disinformation campaign is intended as apologetics for Phil and Oscar's reelection campaigns to cover for the fact that the "Change" majority has failed to accomplish anything of note other than letting crime run amok in city hall and giving us the builder's remedy.

Jason Mastbaum, Santa Monica

Medal of Honor

Editor:

The Medal of Honor Citation of Santa Monica resident Joe Gandara reads:

Private Joe Gandara distinguished himself by acts of gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty while serving with Company D, 2d Battalion, 507th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division during combat operations against an armed enemy in Amfreville, France on June 9, 1944. On that day, Private Gandara's detachment came under devastating enemy fire from a strong German force, pinning the men to the ground for a period of four hours. Private Gandara voluntarily advanced alone toward the enemy position. Firing his machine gun from his hip as he moved forward, he destroyed three hostile machine guns before he was fatally wounded. Private Gandara's extraordinary heroism and selflessness at the cost of his own life, above and beyond the call of duty, are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.

The accounts of Donald Trumps own service during the Vietnam era are well chronicled as well as that of hundreds of thousands of draft age young men eligible to be called up for service , except for his dubious draft deferment for a heel spur that was so debilitating the later in life that he can't recall which foot was thus affected as he dons his designer golf shores.

Over the span of recent years Trump has exhibited some kind of disturbing and deeply rooted contempt for not just my generation of veterans but also for every other generation of veterans since World War II. This past week the former twice impeached , 34 count convicted felon known Epstein associate President, who is now the Republican Parties nominee for the presidency just denigrate the Medal Of Honor of every recipient as well as Private Joe Gandara who was raised in Santa Monica and gave his life on June 9 1944, D-Day so that others may have lived.

According to Private Joe Gandara's nephew Paul, and his sister Belinda, and their cousins Rosie and Johnny Franco, who also grew up and once lived here in Santa Monica, (that we all grew up with on Raymond street) their uncles citation was suppressed on account of his Mexican American heritage. That over site and insult was amended by President Obama who righted that wrong but not before both Paul and Belinda and other members of their family passed away knowing what the truth was, that there are those in America who are oblivious and openly indifferent to, and even contemptuous of, those who serve.

Donald J. Trump, aka Cadet Heelspurs, is one such person.

I for one shake my bowed head and breath a heavy sigh of relief that Paul and Belinda, Rosie and Johnny have not lived long enough to have heard the most recent remarks uttered from the lips of the aforementioned individual about not just all the recipients of this nations highest commendation, the Medal Of Honor, but closer to home here, a native son of Santa Monica, Joe, an uncle that they never knew but spoke lovingly of in hushed and reverent terms.

They would not have liked it I am sure of that. And I don't either and neither should your fair People of Santa Monica. Neither should you all.

Stewart Resmer, Vietnam Veteran

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

A response about crime

Editor:

In his book Factfulness (Ten Reasons We're Wrong About the World - and Why Things are Better Than You Think), Hans Rosling introduces the concept of the "Gap Instinct." This is our tendency to present things in extremes—rich versus poor, good versus bad, funded versus unfunded. Mr. Green, Chairperson of the Santa Monica Police Officers Association, coaxes readers into an overly dramatic and divided perspective in his July 10th opinion piece entitled "Opinion: Santa Monica massively underfunding its police department." Mr. Green points out that Santa Monica allocates 25.7% of its general fund budget to the Police Department, while cities like Manhattan Beach and Glendale spend over 40% on public safety.

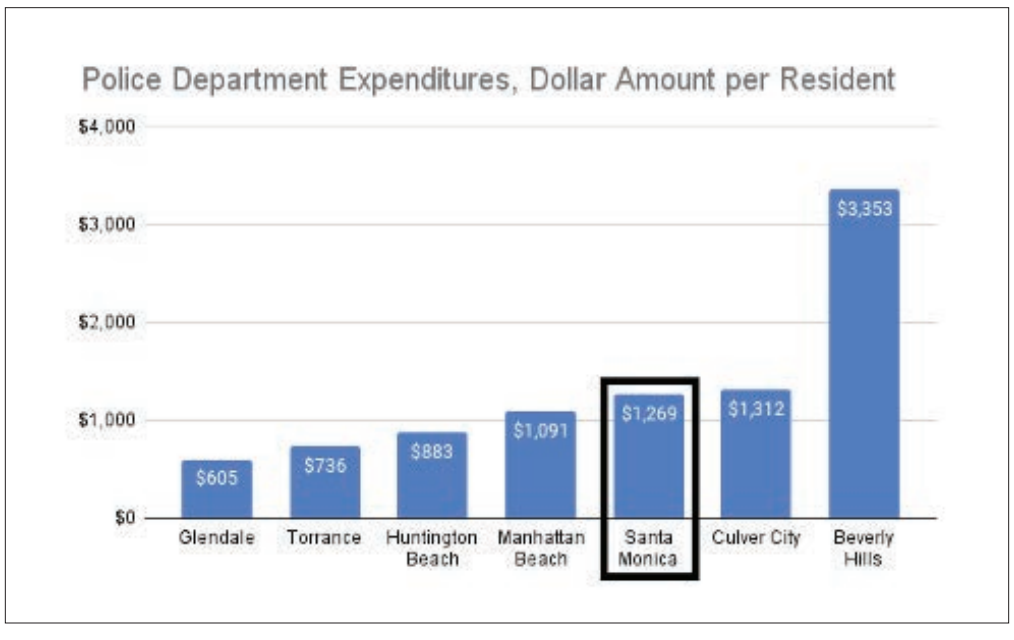
Relying on percentages can lead to misleading conclusions. For example, 83% of individuals who died in motorcycle accidents at this year's Sturgis Rally were riding Harley-Davidsons. This might make you conclude that Harley-Davidsons are inherently dangerous. But since Harley-Davidsons make up 90% of the bikes there, this changes the interpretation.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation publishes crime statistics adjusting for population size, allowing for comparison across regions and time periods. The same should be done for police budgets. Reworking Mr. Green's chart of police budget percentages with this approach we have the following:

When we adjust Mr. Green's figures for such comparisons, we find that Santa Monica's spending is not "drastically underfunded." It is quite similar to that of Manhattan Beach and Culver City, and significantly higher than in Glendale, Torrance, and Huntington Beach.

Appropriate presentation of data allows us to move away from Rosling's Gap Instinct - the division of things into two distinct and conflicting groups. In fact, Santa Monica's funding of its Police Department is not "out of step with nearly every comparable city around" as Mr. Green asserted. Perhaps the real question might be - what in the world is going on in Beverly Hills?

Philip Bretsky, Santa Monica



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OPINION **UNMUTED**

Devan Sipher

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Politics can be thankless

With all the headlines about childless cat ladies and bloodless coups, it's possible to forget that the Presidential campaign isn't the only election taking place this fall. In Santa Monica, there are races for school board, college board, rent control board, and 10 residents are running for four open seats on the City Council. Only two of those Council candidates are incumbents, because Councilmember Gleam Davis announced in May she wasn't running, and last week Councilmember Christine Parra joined her, which is a loss for Santa Monica.

I don't agree with Councilmember Parra on many issues, and I especially didn't agree with her choice to ignore my interview request when I began writing this column in April. However, on a divided Council, she has frequently offered a moderate and open-minded perspective. There have been some kneejerk votes in support of her faction, but mostly she has supported the residents of Santa Monica, speaking out passionately on their behalf, and making it clear, in ways large and small, that she identifies primarily as a member of the community. At a Council meeting in May, she teared up while speaking of her mother's cancer diagnosis, as much a neighbor sharing her misfortune as a Councilmember providing a public service announcement (for lung cancer awareness).

Santa Monica often seems like a tale of two cities: There's the urban blight that comes with being part of Los Angeles County, and there's also a Mayberry-like, small-town atmosphere, embodied by Councilmember Parra's heartfelt disclosure. It should be noted that Councilmember Lana Negrete also shed tears at the same Council meeting, while commemorating the municipal beneficence of Chico Fernandez, her father and Santa Monica stalwart.

At such moments, it's hard to remember we're part of a large metropolis with urgent economic and societal tribulations. Likewise, Mayor Phil Brock's three-minute history lessons at each Council meeting transport us to a simpler time in our city's past (though not a pristinely just and equitable one) and also remind us of the potential for a kinder and gentler body politic.

So I'm disappointed that Councilmember Parra chose to immediately give her "wholehearted" endorsement to all four "Change Slate" candidates, even though only two currently exist. She seems to be suggesting that if a tuna sandwich were nominated by the "Change Slate," it would have her full support.

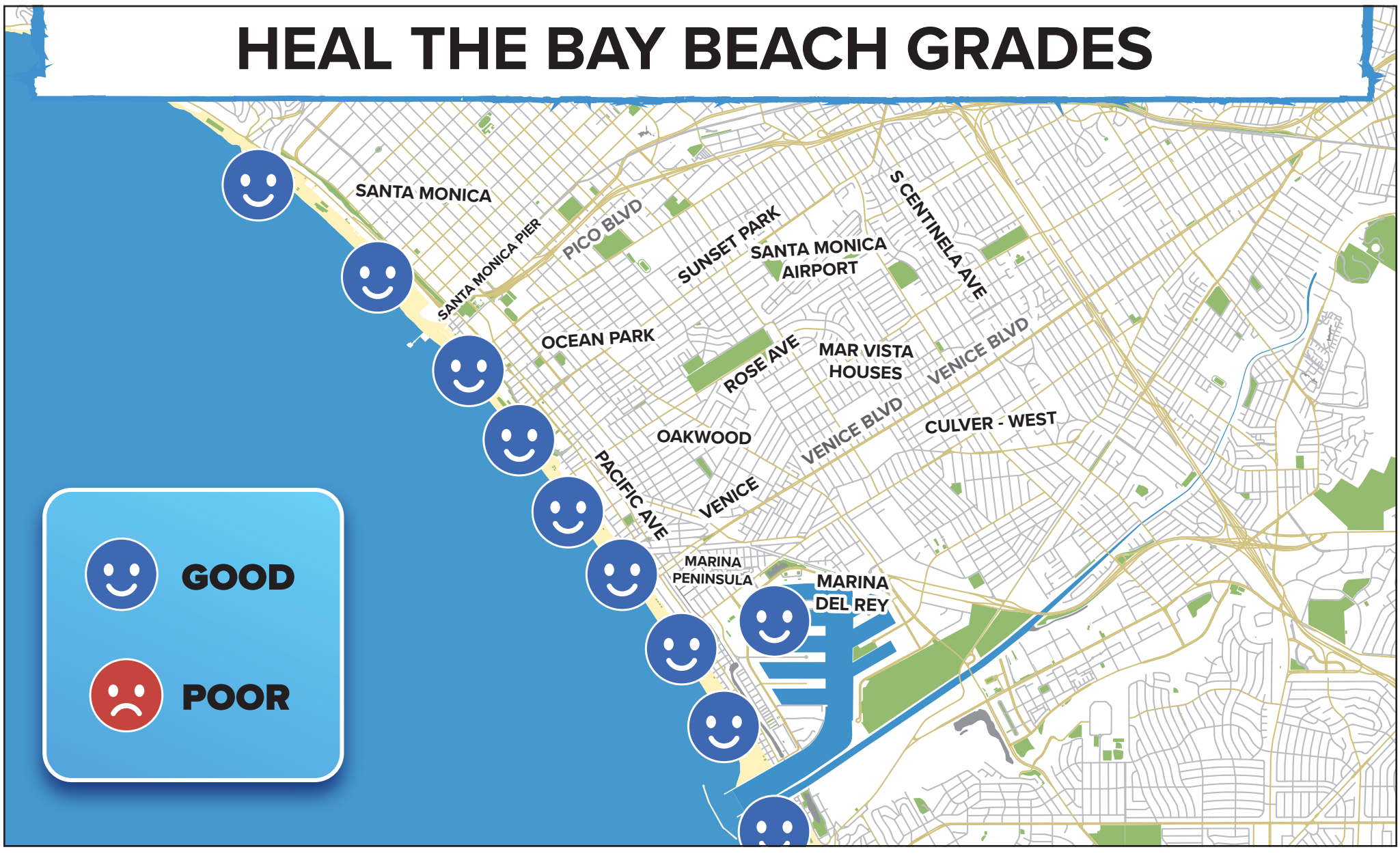
It's that kind of hyper partisanship that has been the greatest stain on the current Council. The fact that the two dueling factions don't even necessarily represent competing political parties just makes it all the more preposterous. I have no problem with progressive, conservative or moderate views being challenged. But too often that's been done with disrespect or disinformation, which is just as unacceptable from local politicians as it is from national ones. I might even argue that it's more so.

I'm hoping voters hold candidates accountable when they stray from honesty and courtesy. And I'm hoping voters choose candidates based on their individual merits rather than a list of shared biases or grievances. The politics of victimhood have no place in a balmy town with ocean breezes where even the most aggrieved of us have reason to feel fortunate.

I'm also hoping that Councilmembers Parra and Davis receive the gratitude they deserve for the contribution they've made to this city. These are people with careers and families who sacrificed innumerable hours and much sleep to the task of improving Santa Monica. Each of us is entitled to our own opinion about their success, but the enormity and the sincerity of their effort cannot be denied. If you see them on the Promenade or at the grocery store, it wouldn't hurt to say thank you. Even if you didn't vote for them. Maybe especially if you didn't vote for them. Politicians aren't the only ones with the power to make the world a more civil and gracious place. In this season of suffrage, let's each do our part.

Devan Sipher

GET IT DAILY...



Got cold symptoms? Here's when kids should take a sick day from school

CHEYANNE MUMPHREY
AP Education Writer

As schools reopen for another year, they are focused on improving student attendance. But back-to-school is hitting just as COVID-19 cases are increasing, raising the question: When is a child too sick for school?

School absences surged during the pandemic and have yet to recover. Nearly 1 in 4 students remains chronically absent, defined as missing 10% or more of the academic year, according to the latest data analyzed by The Associated Press.

One reason for continued high absences: After years of COVID-19 quarantines, parents are more cautious about sending children to school when they might be contagious with an illness.

When a child misses school, even for an excused absence like a sick day, it's harder for them to stay on track academically. So schools and health experts are trying to change the culture around sick days.

Here's what they want parents to know.

COVID GUIDELINES HAVE CHANGED

During the pandemic, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention urged people who tested positive for COVID-19 to isolate at home for a set number of days and to quarantine after exposure to the coronavirus. In some settings, people with any mild illness were urged to remain home until symptoms were clear.

Those standards, and the caution behind them, remained for years after schools reopened to in-person instruction. That meant children often missed large portions of school after contracting or being exposed to COVID-19 or other illnesses.

This spring, COVID-19 guidance officially changed. Now, the CDC suggests people treat COVID-19 like other respiratory illnesses, such as the flu and RSV.

FEVER-FREE FOR 24 HOURS

If a child has a fever, they should stay home, no matter the illness.

A child can return to school when their fever has been gone for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication. Other symptoms should be improving.

WHAT ABOUT OTHER SYMPTOMS?

If a child doesn't have a fever, it's OK to send them to class with some signs of illness, including a runny nose, headache or cough, according to schools and the American Academy of Pediatrics. If those symptoms aren't improving or are severe, such as a hacking cough, call your child's doctor.

The guidance around vomiting and diarrhea varies across school districts. Generally, students should remain home until symptoms stop, according to American Academy of Pediatrics guidelines. Older children may be able to manage mild diarrhea at school.

"Unless your student has a fever or threw up in the last 24 hours, you are coming to school. That's what we want," said Abigail Arii, director of student support services in Oakland, California.

Guidance from the Los Angeles Unified School District says students can attend school with mild symptoms such as a runny nose or cold, but should stay home if they have vomiting, diarrhea, severe pain or a fever of 100 degrees Fahrenheit (37 degrees Celsius) or higher.

> "Unless your student has a fever or threw up in the last 24 hours, you are coming to school. That's what we want"
> - Abigail Arii, director of student support services in Oakland, California

School districts across the U.S. have similar guidance, including in Texas, Illinois and New York.

WHEN TO WEAR A MASK

The CDC says people should take additional precautions for five days after returning to school or other normal activities.

Masks and social distancing are no longer mandated but are encouraged to prevent disease spread. Experts also recommend plenty of handwashing and taking steps for cleaner air, such as opening a window or running an air purifier.

School districts say parents should keep up-to-date on all health examinations and immunizations for students so they don't miss additional days of school.

AP Education Writer Jocelyn Gecker in San Francisco contributed.

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LETTER

FROM PAGE 3

Their efforts, unfortunately, have been drowned out by the louder, more radical voices of councilmembers like Jesse Zwick, Caroline Torosis, and Gleam Davis—councilmembers who are closely aligned with the same SMRR and DSA agenda that is driving our city into the ground.

Mayor Brock, Councilmember de la Torre, Dr. Vivian Roknian, and John Putnam represent a different path forward. These are centrist Democrats committed to pragmatic solutions that will actually improve the quality of life in Santa Monica. Their platform is based on common sense: treating mental health and drug addiction as the medical conditions they are, rather than perpetuating cycles of addiction in our parks; increasing police presence and enforcing laws to reduce crime; supporting businesses and revitalizing our retail districts; and maintaining rent control while promoting sustainable—not rampant—development to address housing needs, prioritizing long-term Santa Monica residents for any new affordable units.

Mayor Brock, who has been falsely accused by SMRR of being a "MAGA Republican," is actually a proud surrogate for Democrats like Kamala Harris and Tim Walz (whose campaign chose him for loyalty to the party). He recently campaigned for them in Nevada, underscoring the fact that this election is not about party lines. All of the candidates are Democrats—but they represent two very different approaches to governance.

THE CHOICE IS CLEAR

If you like what you see in Santa Monica right now—if you're content with homeless encampments in parks, skyrocketing crime rates, rampant development that benefits no one but developers, a devastated Promenade with fewer places to shop and eat, fewer police, and the distribution of needles and drug paraphernalia to addicts in our city—then by all means, vote for the five SMRR/DSA-aligned candidates. They will continue the policies that have brought our city to this point of crisis.

But if you're tired of seeing our beloved city deteriorate and want a change—if you want safer parks, fewer crimes, more businesses, and common-sense governance—then your choice is clear. Vote for Mayor Phil Brock, Councilmember Oscar de la Torre, Dr. Vivian Roknian, and John Putnam. They are the candidates who will restore safety, dignity, and opportunity to our vibrant, diverse community.

Santa Monica deserves better. Let's make the right choice for our future.

Houman Hemmati MD PhD, Santa Monica

Classifieds

DBA

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No/ 24SMCP00391 Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles Petition Katrina Samantha Nicdao for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney: Katrina Samantha Nicdao a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Katrina Samantha Nicdao to Katrina Samantha Austria. The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 09/20/2024 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K Room: The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES Santa Monica 1725 Main St Santa Monica, CA 90034 . A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press.

Summons

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA COUNTY OF HAND State of South Dakota County of HandIn Circuit Court Third Judicial Circuit Case 29CIV24-000018Plaintiffs BETH JULIAR, NEAL JULIAR, DIANE HOLT, ALAN HOLT, BRIAN HOLT, DAVID HOLT, JANET FOUSHEE, AND DARYL FOUSHEEVsDefendant MARVIN L FOUSHEE SUMMONS NOTICE: THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT: You are hereby summoned and required to answer the Complaint of the above-named Plaintiffs, which is herewith served upon you, and to serve a copy of your Answer upon the subscriber of the office of Victor B. Fischbach at Fischbach Law Office, 14 2nd Ave SE, PO Box 1456, Aberdeen, South Dakota 57402-1456 within thirty (30) days after the service of this Summons and Complaint upon you, exclusive of the day of such service. You are further notified that if you fail to answer the Complaint within the time aforesaid, judgment by default may be rendered against you as requested in the Complaint. Dated this 5th day of April, 2024 Luster B. Frishbash. Victor B. Fishbash Fishbash Law Office Attorney For Plaintiff14 2nd St Ave SE/PO Box 1456Aberdeen, SD 57402-1456605-225–1000 .

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WAYFINDER

FROM PAGE 1

the City) be able to see where we can do better. Do certain tiles need to be brought higher up? Are some tiles not being used? What tiles are most popular? These are some of the questions we ask each other as we try to determine how these kiosks can best serve the Santa Monica residents, local Santa Monica businesses as well as tourists," Kmiec said.

According to a statement issued by the City of Santa Monica, over the course of the program, there have been over 15,000 interactions with the kiosks. "This is something we are extremely pleased with," Kmiec said.

To understand the methodology, it's important to remember that the kiosks have had a staggered rollout. The sample data Kmiec provides is based on information collected from the following six sites: 4th St/Wilshire Blvd, Ocean Ave/Pico Blvd, Ocean Ave/Arizona Ave, Pico Blvd/Ocean Front Walk, Ocean Ave/Santa Monica Blvd and Ocean Ave/Broadway.

This information has been collected from the time frame of June 1 to August 5. That data set excludes 33 days from the 4th St/Wilshire Blvd site, together with any date after August 5. Moreover, it only includes 52 days for the Ocean Ave/Pico Blvd and Ocean Ave/Arizona Ave sites, 45 days for both the Pico Blvd/Ocean Front Walk and Ocean Ave/Santa Monica Blvd sites and 33 days for the Ocean Ave/Broadway location.

However, from that data, Kmiec said it has been possible to extrapolate the following information; the most used application is Transit, by a considerable margin, with Directions coming in second place, Arcade in third place, Events in fourth and the Photo Booth is fifth. Kmiec says that there have been a total of 10,966 interactions with these particular six kiosks during this time frame. (The remaining 4,034 interactions — the difference between that figure above and the 15,000 number provided by the City — come from different kiosk sites.)

While these figures are undoubtedly encouraging, when the Daily Press went to observe and ask passers by what their thoughts were on the recently erected kiosk at Santa Monica Blvd & 3rd St (NW Corner), no one seemed to realize that these monolithic monitors were actually interactive information outlets. Because the screens default to the advertisements that are digitally on display, many assume that they're just elaborate, electronic billboards.

"You definitely need to do something to let people know that they can actually use this," said Drew, who was visiting from Miami.

"It's like those displays you get in malls, yeah, I would never have known that," said Walter, who was visiting from New York.

"Nah, never would've thought to go up and actually touch it," said Tamsin, who was visiting from Western Australia.

"Nope, thought it was just another giant advertising space," said Rodney, a resident of Santa Monica.

"I'd just thought it was a billboard," said Sheldon, a resident of Santa Monica.

Over the course of two hours, during peak mid-afternoon foot traffic, on a Friday, absolutely no one interacted with this kiosk. However, it must be conceded that a 120 minute observational exercise is an extremely small sample size, but it still suggests that there might be a concern.

The words "TOUCH DISPLAY" are actually etched at the bottom of the black frame surrounding the display, but it's difficult to see in the blindingly bright sunlight (moreover, wearing sunglasses doesn't help), it's below most people's typical line of sight and finally, not everyone might realize what that might mean in this particular context.

In a statement to the Daily Press, the City of Santa Monica said, "We are pleased that the initial data suggests passersby are figuring it out so far … We plan to do additional outreach and education once the kiosks are all up and running."

And on Friday, Aug 16, the City of Santa Monica posted on X/Twitter and Instagram about the Wayfinder kiosks for the very first time.

When asked how Downtown Santa Monica, Inc. (DTSM) might modify the kiosks and/or the information displayed to better inform pedestrians of their potential, Andrew Thomas, CEO of DTSM responded, "The new digital directories being installed offer exceptional functionality. They will provide our visitors with an engaging and interactive way to navigate Downtown and discover everything we offer. I'm confident they'll find these tools incredibly helpful."

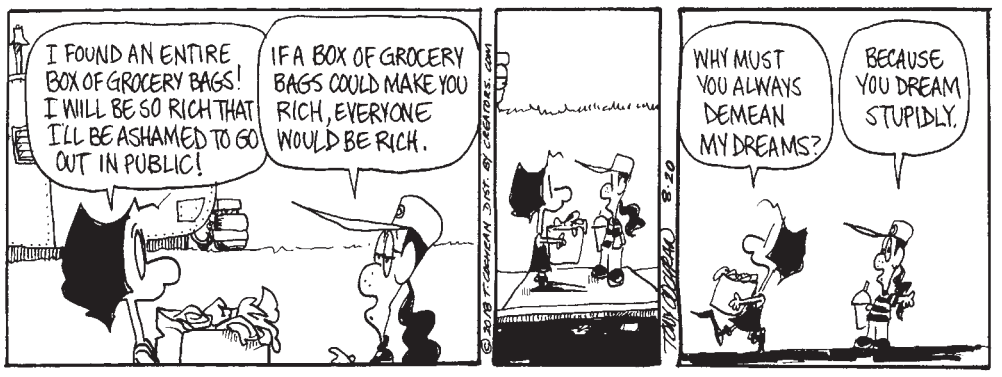
The City's website illustrates the five-stage rollout plan and shows the location of each of 29 proposed sites with the 3rd Street Promenade being part of the second stage of rollouts. The next four displays that make up Stage 3 will go operational in about a month.

scott.snowden@smdp.com

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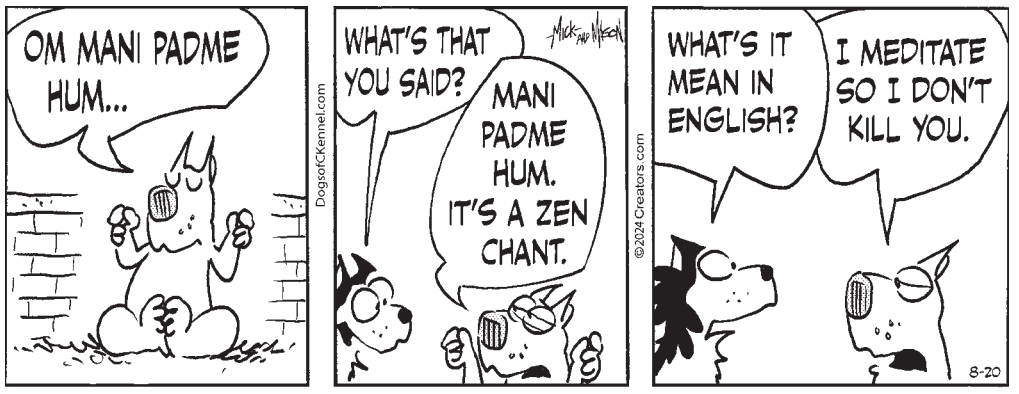
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



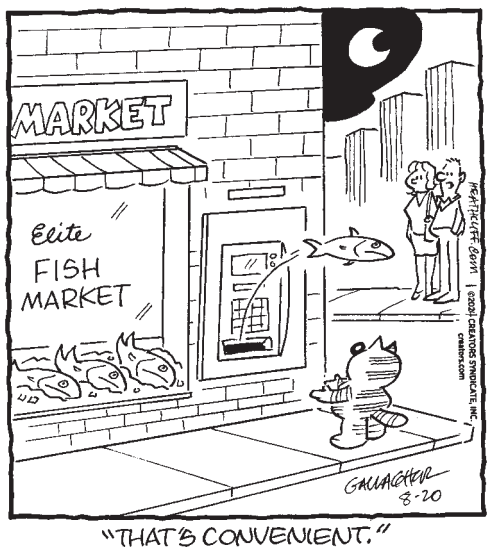
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 16 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

© australianwordgames.com.au 6308

Maintaining cash flow

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

Accountant	Charges	Gold	Real
Advice	Coin	Home	Receipt
ASIC	Costs	Inform	Risk
Assist	Crown	June	Safe
Audit	Debts	Kits	Sale
Automatic teller	Duty	Loan	Security
	Efficiency	Loss	Signature
Balance	Euro	Meet	Staff
Bank	Fees	Mint	Stocks
Bonds	Files	Notes	Students
Card	Firms	Number	Tedious
Cash	Gain	Pay	Users

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 20)

Hidden potentials are a major theme for you this year. You will notice and call out capabilities in others they do not realize they have. You are a developer of people, and you will be loved and paid for this. More highlights: You will get around in new ways, expressing your style in what you wear, say, drive and in the places you choose to go. Aries and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 1, 3, 33, 38 and 41.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You'll communicate well. You know just what you want to say because you're open to hearing what you don't want to hear. No one who was only open to what they wanted to hear ever heard the whole truth.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The more you do, the more you're capable of doing, but it doesn't mean you should keep a pace that makes you stressed. Intensity has a cost. Opt for a workload that gives you a degree of ease.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). People test one another today to find out who their true friends are. As it goes with tests, timing is very important. It's not just about who gets the answer right, it's also who gets the answer right away.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It's one of your most social days of the week. You have anecdotes, witty remarks and perfect timing. Your humor creates lighthearted moments to balance the drama and keep the fun rolling.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). It's possible to feel lonely in a crowd or incredibly connected to people when you're totally alone. Today, the people around you will have less to do with your sense of contentment than the person inside you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The more successful you become, the more options you have. You may wonder what the point of having more options is when you already know and like your choice, and you can be sure this is a musing of the wise.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). If an investment doesn't work out, you can earn more money, but time is a nonrenewable resource. So it's crucial that you spend time on what matters, what feels right to you what brings harmony to your world.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You can love a person you need, and need a person you love, but it's still good to recognize the difference between these two relationship dynamics. With awareness, relationships can strike a better balance.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your powers of observation are strong today. Noticing what others don't will give you a distinct advantage, especially if what you notice speaks to the emotional tone of interactions, or the motivations of others.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Make your move. When you know it's the right thing to do, there's power in doing it without hesitation. Those who wait for permission may waste their chance to seize the moment, win a heart or save the day.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Don't be shy about drumming up awareness for what you do. Your work is too valuable to others. Your investment in publicity will help everyone. Talk about what you do, advertise it, and ask for testimonials and referrals.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). If your younger self could see you today, the reaction would be one of surprise. Part of you is still wondering exactly how you got to this place. Certain turns were so involving you may not have a strong recollection of making them.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

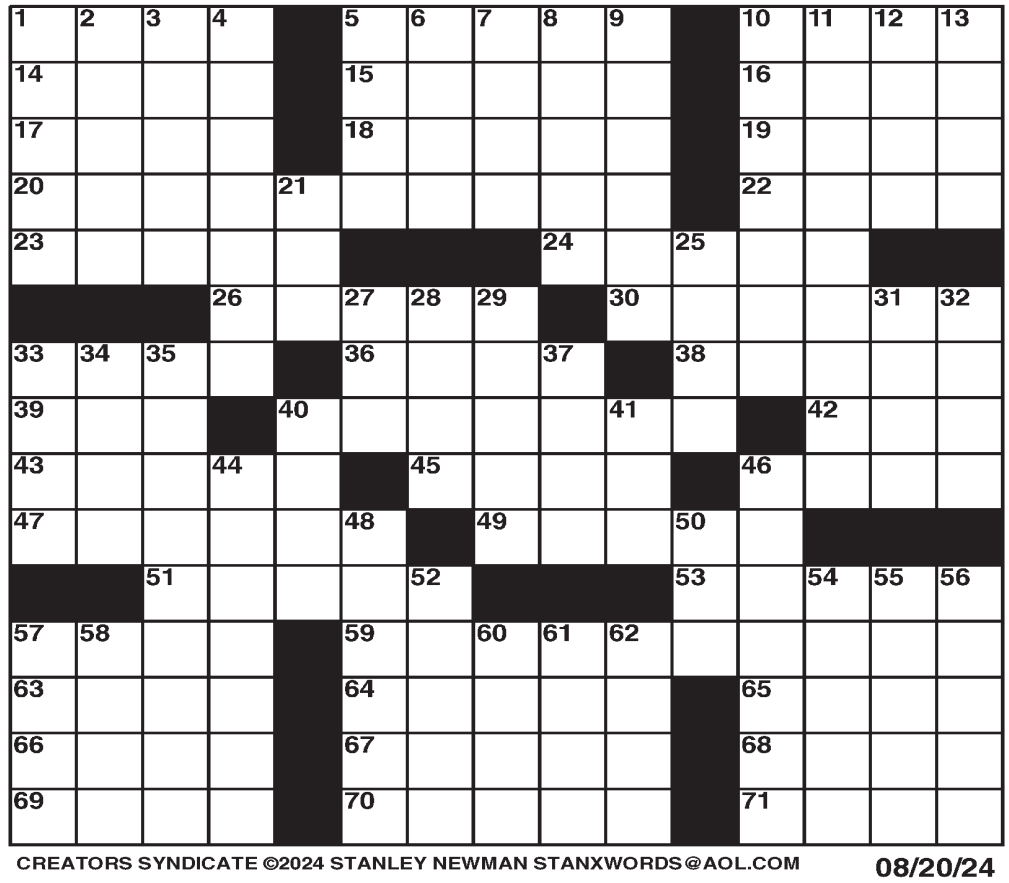
NIGHTY-NIGHT by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Small recipe amount: Abbr.
5 Celestial body with a tail
10 Performs in a play
14 Listen to sounds
15 Soprano's dramatic gig
16 Ship's front
17 "It comes __ surprise..."
18 Impolite glances
19 Bread with a pocket
20 Party pooper
22 Follow orders
23 Pilfered
24 Local sandwich shops
26 British noblemen below dukes
30 Headwear for the beach
33 Two-band, as a radio
36 Wide-mouth movement when weary
38 Guide your auto
39 Hair salon goo
40 Under
42 Period of history
43 Overplay a role
45 Statistics
46 Sporty car roof
47 "Who cares?"
49 Wild West show
51 Oddly frightening
53 Vagabond or hobo
57 Skeptical
59 Blocker of rays on an overcast day
63 Central parts of wheels
64 Florida Gulf city
65 "It was somebody else"
66 Creative notion
67 Main sports squad
68 Become weary
69 Clean and neat
70 Pennies
71 Unpleasant smell

DOWN

1 Starts to melt
2 Assail on all sides
3 __ Domingo, Dominican Republic
4 Math question to solve
5 Brown soda
6 Amenable (to)
7 Timid
8 Slipped up
9 Samples a bit of
10 Designate for a job
11 Cheater's paper
12 Carryall bag
13 Move to and fro
21 Meadow
25 Rich in vegetation
27 Sandwich bread
28 Touch down on a runway
29 Vow under oath
31 "Sky" prefix for space
32 Mouse-catching device
33 Years and years
34 Interoffice note
35 Garden spot for gardenias
37 USA alliance
40 Panda, for example
41 Tiny bit
44 "People tell me..."
46 Capital of Ontario
48 __-toe (X's and O's game)
50 List ending abbr.
52 Fill with delight
54 Stay away from
55 Urban area, for short
56 Nosy person
57 Slightest amount
58 German auto
60 Prophetic sign
61 __ the crack of dawn
62 Beaver-made blockades



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08/20/24

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

MONOCHROME

FROM PAGE 1

form of magic, and I believe that every form of creative expression is a form of magic … that's why we gravitate to a beautiful painting, or a beautiful song, or someone that can ride a wave perfectly," White said.

Born in New Orleans, White rode the creative wave growing up, but pivoted to law school after college and practiced for 10 years. When illness forced her to retire from the profession, she made a commitment to doing "one creative act per day," ranging from poetry and photography to playing the guitar. The canvas eventually became her calling, but she needed a signature style to get ahead in the competitive creative industry.

She finally connected to the monochromatic style after inspiration from a Mark Tansey exhibit, realizing it was "a whole look" that she hadn't seen before. Starting off with monochrome portraits of local musicians, she extended her catalog to more well-known figures like Lil Wayne and The Notorious B.I.G. as well as taking requests. One such request, a portrait of singer John Prine for a friend's brother, gave her the confidence to take the style nationwide.

"He just started crying … at that moment, that guy made me believe in myself with his emotional reaction to my artwork," White said. "(He) really made me believe that I had something and that I should pursue painting portraits in this style."

Hustling to make her new signature sizzle, her first show was local at Resin Gallery in Hermosa Beach, but she eventually made it to the East Coast via a solo exhibition at Aqua Art Miami for Miami Art Week. Conquering both coasts, White has made herself a hot item in Los Angeles, recently exhibiting at the LA Art Show and the US Open of Surfing in Huntington Beach.

Now at Bergamot, she noted that the show is a "celebration of color," with different shades of yellow used as an overarching theme. Along with the wall portraits, the centerpiece is a piano painted blue with a portrait tribute to Paul McCartney, her third such piano paintjob after previous tributes to Elton John and Freddie Mercury.

"I'm so grateful, because I wasn't really one to show my work or anything, and I didn't think it was particularly impactful, but I've learned that it really is," White said of her rise.

To pursue White's collection or purchase any of her works, including smaller giftable items like puzzles and ashtrays, visit victoriawhitecreates.com.

thomas@smdp.com



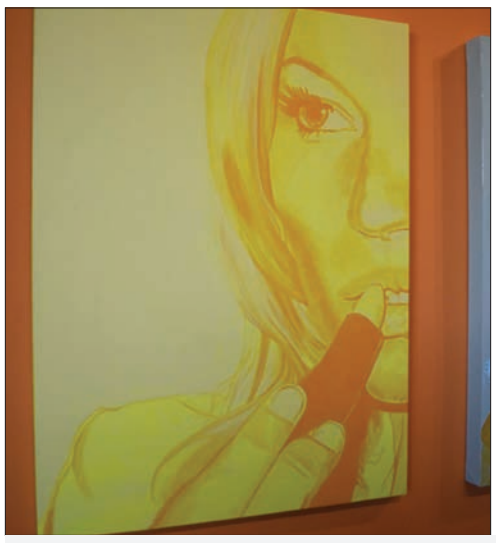




Photo by Thomas Leffler

EXHIBIT: Venice-based artist Victoria White pays homage to her inspirations with the "Legends in Monochrome" exhibition.

To learn how to feature your upcoming event on the SMDP and various digital event calendars

Contact dina@smdp.com today!



TUESDAY | AUGUST 20

BOOKS AND BAGELS

Join organizers the third Tuesday of each month for bagels, coffee and tea. They will have a thoughtful discussion of the current selection and discuss other great things they've been reading. Copies available at the front desk. Last American Man, Elizabeth Gilbert. Abbot Kinney Memorial Branch Library, 501 S. Venice Boulevard. 12:30 p.m.

MYSTERIOUS BOOK CLUB

Join organizers for the next meeting with readers who love mystery and suspense. They are reading Moonflower Murders by Anthony Horowitz. They welcome new members. Come even if you haven't read the book. You can meet everyone and you'll know the title for next month. Moonflower Murders is a deviously dark take on vintage English crime fiction. A book within a book. This book has some of the characters from Magpie Murders, both real and fictional (real in the book at least) - Susan Ryeland, the fictional Atticus Pund, and the hovering presence of Alan Conway the author, in a sense, of the murders both fictional and "real." If you haven't read Magpie Murders don't worry. You don't have to have read the first book to enjoy this one. Palisades Branch Library, 861 Alma Real Drive, Pacific Palisades. 1:30 p.m.

NONFICTION BOOK CLUB

This lively group of avid readers meets on the third Tuesday of each month to discuss a work of nonfiction. Books selected for discussion can be new or old and come from a wide array of genres, styles, and authors. August 20: The Pigeon Tunnel by John LeCarre
Titles for the upcoming month are available to check out at the Brentwood Branch Library circulation desk. Donald Bruce Kaufman - Brentwood Branch Library, 11820 San Vicente Boulevard, Los Angeles. 5:10 p.m.

WEDNESDAY | AUGUST 21

FALL PREVENTION DO'S & DON'TS

WISE and Healthy Aging is presenting a program on fall prevention. Falling is not a natural part of aging. Learn about the risks for falling and how you can prevent them. At the end of the hour participants will receive a free nightlight. Palisades Branch Library, 861 Alma Real Drive, Pacific Palisades. 11 a.m.

AUTHOR TALK WITH SHELBY VAN PELT

Remarkably Bright Creatures is a luminous debut novel about a widow's unlikely friendship with a giant Pacific octopus reluctantly residing at the local aquarium—and the truths she finally uncovers about her son's disappearance 30 years ago. Charming, compulsively readable, and full of wit, Shelby Van Pelt's debut novel is a beautiful exploration of friendship, reckoning, and hope–a reminder that sometimes taking a hard look at the past can help uncover a future that once felt impossible. Register online at https://libraryc.org/smclibrary/53271/register. Santa Monica College, 1900 Pico Blvd. 4 - 5 p.m.

FREE WALK-IN LEGAL CLINIC

Santa Monica residents can meet one on one with a lawyer from Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles for help with HOUSING issues. Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave. 4:30 - 7 p.m.

COME SING WITH THE BAND - LIVE BAND KARAOKE!

Doors open at 8 p.m. Show starts at 9:30 p.m.
Online ticket sales end at 7 p.m, tics available at the door after 8 p.m. 2 drink minimum. Harvelle's Santa Monica, 1432 4th St.

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS

4:30 - 5:30 p.m. The Annex at Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd. This is your chance to level up your Dungeons & Dragons characters before the next campaign begins. Materials provided. For ages 9-14.

THURSDAY | AUGUST 22

JOB HUNTING HELP WITH CHRYSALIS

Representatives from local nonprofit Chrysalis provide drop-in resume assistance, job search tips, and on-the-spot orientations for their free employment training and job placement programs. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd. 2 - 4 p.m.

TECH & TASKS

Volunteer tutors provide help with reading documents or written tasks, using mobile devices, navigating government websites, filling out forms, using email, writing resumes, and more. Santa Monica Public Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 2 - 4 p.m.

NIGHT MARKET AT THE BUNGALOW

Brent Bolthouse's vision for the Night Market at The Bungalow Santa Monica is brought to life this summer, offering an enchanting blend of culinary delights, live entertainment, and community spirit. The ultimate foodie event of the summer with food vendors, beverage activations, family-friendly activities, live musical and DJ performances, and celebrity guest appearances. Fairmont Miramar Hotel, 101 Wilshire Boulevard. 5 - 10 p.m.

FRIDAY | AUGUST 23

SUNSET SWIM

Enjoy an evening around our historic 1920's pool at the former oceanfront estate of actress Marion Davies built for her by media mogul, William Randolph Hearst. Swim, hang out with friends and make new friends poolside We will provide the s'mores and pool floaties. Adults Only, 18+ 6 - 9 p.m.

- Pre-purchase your Sunset Swim pool passes online; or purchase at the door on the day of the event, per availability. https://anc.apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/activity/search/detail/97116?onlineSiteId=0&from_original_cui=true
- If you pre-purchase pool passes, please pick up your pool passes by 6:30pm
- If the pool is at capacity when you arrive, you may be added to a waitlist and notified when space is available
- Parking: Pay upon arrival. $12/day or $3/hour; payable at the park and pay machines in the Beach House parking lot.
- Outside food welcome, no glass, no alcohol
- $10 Adult (age 18 – 59)
- $5 Senior Adult (age 60 & above)
- Half off with pool pass of the day

Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 Pacific Coast Hwy.

Celebrating the Rodriguez Legacy

Gilbert's El Indio Restaurant is proud to serve authentic Mexican food and offer our familia y amigos a warm and friendly dining experience with indoor and outdoor seating.

We celebrate 50 years of serving our local Santa Monica community on May 20, 2024. Our doors are open because of the commitment and support of our staff and loyal customers.

Thank you for keeping Carmen and Gilberto Rodriguez's dream of operating a family-owned restaurant a reality!



1974-2024

50 YEARS

Gilbert's El Indio

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Santa Monica, CA 90405

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