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smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

Volume 23 Issue 197 THE WEEKENDER 8/23-8/25 smdp.com

Santa Monica Animal Shelter hosts Clear the Shelter day with reduced adoption fees

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

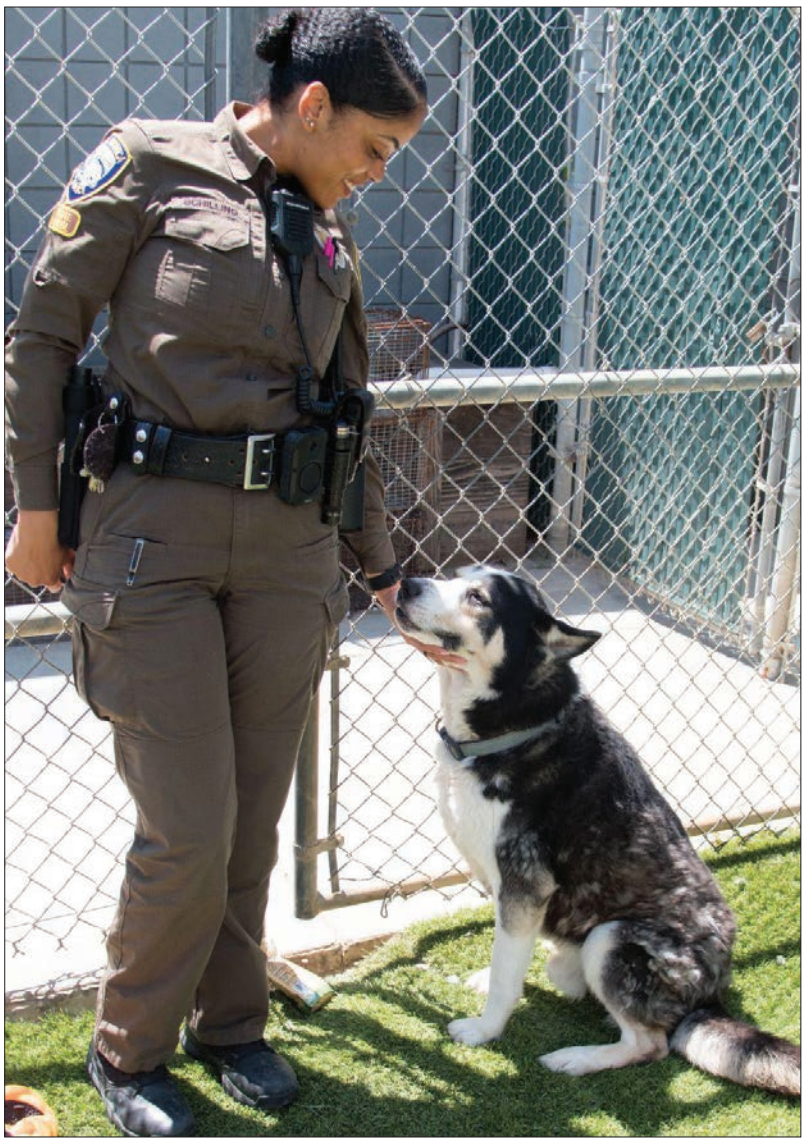
This Saturday, the Santa Monica Animal Shelter is hosting its annual Clear the Shelter Day, moreover the adoption rates have been lowered to just $20, so pop down to 1640 9th Street between the hours of 8-5pm and help transform the lives of all those little love bundles and might even you find your four-legged soul mate.

Every year the Animal Shelter participates in this annual campaign to help the animals find homes. This year the Santa Monica Animal Shelter Foundation is subsidizing the pet adoption fees so they will be significantly reduced. They usually run at around several hundred dollars, which is more than many can afford.

"We're subsidizing the adoption fees to help encourage more adoptions and help clear the shelter. If you're thinking of adopting a pet we encourage you to please visit the Animal Shelter this Saturday," said Elizabeth Noble, Chair, Santa Monica Animal Shelter Foundation, adding, "Staff will be available and ready to help you meet the wonderful animals that are waiting to be adopted, you might meet your new best friend."

The Santa Monica Animal Shelter is currently over capacity and it needs space for the cats, dogs and other rescued animals that benefit from the care and attention the staff provide, before a new, forever home is found.

The Santa Monica Animal Shelter has seen "a steady and marked increase" in the number of owners surrendering their pets — which beggars belief — and that's in addition to the number of animals arriving as strays. And as if that wasn't enough, the number of actual adoptions is "significantly" down as well.



Elizabeth Noble
ANIMAL SHELTER: Animal Control Officer Schilling and Lumi, who would just really like to have a best friend in his life.

"Many of the animals, especially the dogs, have been waiting far too long in the stressful shelter environment and we want nothing more than to see them find the loving home they each deserve," Noble said.

"Several of the dogs like Roger and Simba have been waiting patiently at the shelter for over a year. The longer a pet waits at the shelter the more you see them start to struggle.

SEE **ANIMAL SHELTER** PAGE 6

Suspect arrested in the city's second attempted kidnapping of a young child this year

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

A suspect has been arrested following a failed attempt to grab an 8-year-old child and run off with her near Lincoln Blvd and Maple Street.

According to the Santa Monica Police Department (SMPD), on August 21, at about 2:30 p.m., officers responded to a call of a suspicious person in the 800 block of the alley south of Maple Street. The reporting party told dispatchers the female suspect attempted to grab the 8-year-old child and run off with her. A second reporting party told officers the female suspect fled southbound toward the Gelson's parking lot. Thankfully, the child was not harmed.

Officers located the suspect, identified as 39-year-old Courtney Perrone, standing next to a white BMW in the Gelson's parking lot. She was positively identified by witnesses. The investigation revealed that the child victim was in the alley with an adult neighbor helping to put several pets into the neighbor's vehicle.



Courtesy photo
COURTNEY PERRONE

The suspect approached, claiming she was a member of the Russian police and that she was taking the child. Perrone knelt and put her arms around the child and a tug of war between the neighbor and Perrone ensued. The neighbor put the child in the front seat of his vehicle and told Perrone to leave. She ignored him and attempted to open the door of the car. When the neighbor confronted her again, Perrone produced a switchblade

SEE **KIDNAP** PAGE 6

Financial influencer has 3M people asking "WTF Happened to Santa Monica"?

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Santa Monica's presence on YouTube is often dominated by the namesake Everclear song or travel vlogs but a recent video from popular real-estate influencer Graham Stephan has gained massive attention on the platform generating almost 3 million views by exploring "WTF Happened to Santa Monica."

The obscene title summarizes Stephan's confusion as he reconciles his memories of the City as a teenager with its current reality.

"What used to be a thriving, vibrant culture and economy is now a barren wasteland of empty

SEE **YOUTUBE** PAGE 12



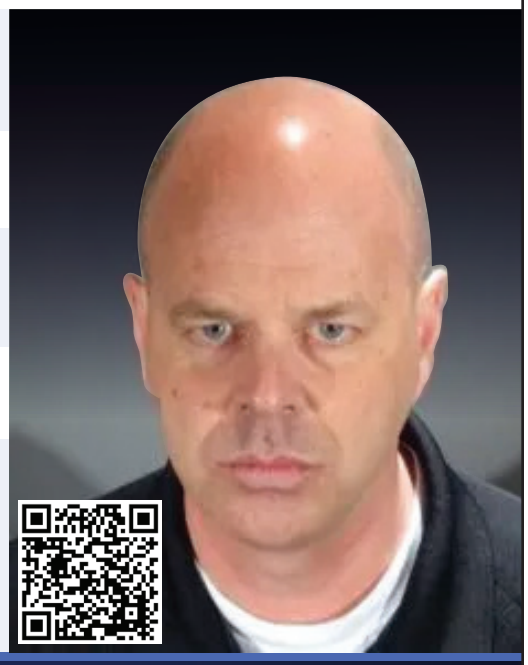
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PUBLIC NOTICE
If your child attended Santa Monica Police Activities League (PAL) or went to Memorial Park or Virginia Park during the late 1980s to early 2000s, your child may have come in contact with and been sexually abused by Eric Uller. Uller volunteered at PAL.
• Over almost 30 years, he sexually abused hundreds of boys and girls.
• Victims were often too scared or ashamed to tell their parents.
• Many victims have moved away and don't know they have a right to make a claim.
• Share this notice with your child.
• They may not disclose to you that they were abused, but they will know they can call our law firm for a free confidential consultation.

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Ad. No guarantee of outcome. Each case is different.

The 'loudest' voice on abortion: What Kamala Harris' record shows on reproductive rights



AP Photo/Adam Bettcher, File

HARRIS: Vice President Kamala Harris speaks at Planned Parenthood, March. 14, 2024, in St. Paul, Minn. Harris says "everything is at stake" with reproductive health rights in November's presidential election. Harris' statements from segments of an MSNBC interview that aired Sunday, June 23, comes as the Biden campaign steps up its focus on contrasting Joe Biden and Donald Trump's positions on the issue ahead of this Thursday's presidential debate.

KRISTEN HWANG
Special to the Daily Press

At a fundraiser in San Francisco last week, Vice President Kamala Harris spoke bluntly about the future of reproductive rights: California is not immune to a national abortion ban, she said.

"The stakes are high," Harris, the Democratic presidential nominee, said to a cheering crowd at the Fairmont Hotel that included Gov. Gavin Newsom and other high-profile Democrats. She continued the theme this week at the Democratic National Convention, where delegates have stressed their fears that reproductive rights could be curtailed nationwide.

As the Democratic nominee, Harris has made abortion and reproductive rights a central issue in the presidential race. Political strategists and pollsters say it's a winning issue for Democrats, with the majority of the American public supportive of abortion to some degree even as nearly two dozen states have passed abortion bans since the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade and ended federal abortion protections.

Where did Harris' full-throated support for abortion rights come from? According to colleagues, friends and Harris' public record, it's anything but new.

She built a reputation in California as a prosecutor who backed abortion rights, and, as attorney general, Harris threw her weight behind multiple abortion issues with national consequences. Two standouts include investigating claims that Planned Parenthood sold fetal remains and supporting regulation of anti-abortion pregnancy centers.

"As long as I have known her, this has always been a core issue," said San Francisco City Attorney David Chiu. Chiu is a former Democratic assemblymember who has known Harris for more than 20 years and worked with her on multiple statewide campaigns opposing ballot measures that would have required doctors to tell parents before performing an abortion on a minor.

That record gives her credibility to her platform on reproductive rights, but it also makes her a target among anti-abortion groups who stamp Harris as an extremist.

"The party that called for abortions to be 'safe, legal and rare' is long gone," said Marjorie Dannefelser, president of Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America, in a press release on the Democratic National Convention's 2024 platform. "They ignore the majority of women facing unplanned pregnancy who want real solutions to keep their children, not more pressure to abort. And they lack the courage to tell the truth about their agenda to go even further than Roe by passing a national all-trimester abortion mandate."

INVESTIGATING ANTI-ABORTION GROUP

As attorney general, Harris' first foray into the highly charged national abortion debate

SEE **KAMALA** PAGE 15

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

California sued twice after enacting a corporate tax law with billions at stake



Photo by Miguel Gutierrez Jr., CalMatters

LAWSUIT: Gov. Gavin Newsom addressed the media to unveil his 2024-25 January budget proposal at the Secretary of State Auditorium in Sacramento on Jan. 10, 2024.

DAN WALTERS

During Jerry Brown's first stint as governor of California, he became enmeshed in a very complicated dispute over how the state should tax the incomes of multinational corporations.

More than four decades later, the issue has resurfaced in a corporate tax case involving Microsoft, one of the nation's largest corporations, a legislative bill that was semi-secretly attached to the state budget in June, and two subsequent lawsuits.

The outcome could reopen tax returns from past years and potentially force companies to pay billions of dollars in retroactive taxes, or alternatively could eliminate a windfall of corporate taxes that Gov. Gavin Newsom is counting on to help close the state's budget deficit.

The issue that Brown faced in the 1970s was whether corporations should report their global incomes to California and have a calculated percentage subjected to state taxes, or could confine their taxable income reports to actual activities within the state.

At the time, the first methodology, called "unitary taxation," was used by the Franchise Tax Board, which is California's version of the Internal Revenue Service. However, foreign corporations, particularly those based in Japan and Great Britain, were adamantly opposed and sought the alternative, dubbed "water's edge."

Brown initially supported the tax board but after visiting Japan did a 180-degree flip, while accusing the board's executive officer, Martin Huff, of giving him "flaky data." Huff responded by essentially accusing Brown of lying, which led to Brown and legislative leaders quickly changing a unique state law that had protected the tax board's executive from political interference.

Huff had also alienated legislators by publicly suggesting that their "per diem" expense payments be subject to income taxes. After the law was changed to make it easier for Huff to be fired, he resigned.

The infighting over corporate taxation continued. At one point it even became an issue in a tax treaty that the U.S. government was negotiating with the British government. Eventually, in the

SEE **CALIFORNIA** PAGE 6



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **72.5**

FRIDAY
FAIR

SURF: Waist to chest
3-4FT

Looking for fun zone/playful day of waves. Smaller NW windswell, easing SSW swell, and some more S/SSW tropical swell from Gilma due. Light winds, favorable tide push first part of the morning.

SATURDAY
FAIR

SURF: Waist to chest
3-4FT

Lingering surf from Gilma due, along with modest scale mix of SSW swell and a bit of NW windswell. Possibly some longer period NW energy running but that likely won't factor in much for size. Morning winds look light, nice tide push early.

Weather

Friday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 69.
Friday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 63.
Saturday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 68.
Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 64.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
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
2024/08/24	Sat	8:24 PM	0.94	L
2024/08/25	Sun	02:30 AM	3.46	H
2024/08/25	Sun	07:24 AM	2.11	L
2024/08/25	Sun	2:19 PM	5.62	H
2024/08/25	Sun	10:05 PM	0.83	L
2024/08/26	Mon	04:47 AM	3.10	H
2024/08/26	Mon	08:11 AM	2.76	L
2024/08/26	Mon	3:30 PM	5.50	H
2024/08/26	Mon	11:42 PM	0.49	L
2024/08/27	Tue	07:09 AM	3.37	H
2024/08/27	Tue	10:08 AM	3.18	L

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: 8/21
27 31 33 38 67
Power#: 3
Jackpot: 34 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 8/20
5 20 26 49 51
Mega#: 24
Jackpot: 527 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 8/21
17 22 27 42 43
Mega#: 8
Jackpot: 16 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 8/21
16 19 20 31 37

Daily 3
Draw Date: 8/22
MIDDAY: 8 3 3
Draw Date: 8/21
EVENING: 8 5 1

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 8/21
1st: 01 - Gold Rush
2nd: 05 - California Classic
3rd: 10 - Solid Gold
Race Time: 1:44.96

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Santa Monica Daily Press





GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Parachute

There is no place for violent extremism in the United States of America: The type of vitriolic hatred that inspired a young man to attempt to murder Donald Trump on July 13, 2024 should never find a voice in the marketplace of political discourse. It is imperative that all Americans reject the pockets of hatred that seem to thrive on both extreme ends of the political spectrum.

I am a lifelong democrat who categorically rejects the extremist hatred of Hamas. The peaceful George Floyd protests that took place in the summer of 2020 had my support. The demonstrations that exploded into violence left me with a deep feeling of Heidegger style angst. In the summer of 2020, "peaceful protesters" completely destroyed a strip mall that exists about a mile away from my home in Santa Monica. I have no tolerance for the violent demonstrations that took place throughout our nation in the summer of 2020.

On his July 15 broadcast, Fox News' Greg Gutfeld blamed the Trump assassination attempt on harsh criticism that has been directed towards the former President by Joe Biden and other democrats. Gutfeld highlighted this statement that was made by Biden in 2024: "Donald Trump is a threat to our democracy. He is a threat to our freedom. He's literally a threat to everything America stands for." Gutfeld concluded that this brand of criticism provided an impetus for the assassination attempt that took place on July 13.

Greg Gutfeld has conveniently ignored the fact that on January 6, 2021 thousands of radical supporters of Donald Trump invaded our nation's Capital building. On that day one hundred and forty law enforcement officers were injured and the mob collectively threatened to murder the Vice-President ("Hang Mike Pence. Hang Mike Pence."). In early 2021, key GOP members of Congress condemned Donald Trump for his failure to deal with the violence on January 6.

On February 13, 2021 current Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell said these words about the former President: "There is no question, none, that President Trump is practically and morally responsible for the events of the day." In January of 2021 former Speaker of the House Kevin McCarthy condemned Donald Trump in no uncertain terms: "The President bears responsibility for Wednesday's attack on Congress by mob rioters."

On January 6, Donald Trump went for more than three hours doing nothing to stop the violence. He spent the entire time watching the chaos on TV in a White House dining room. Speaking as an eyewitness, Trump's press secretary Stephanie Grisham has reported that Trump was "gleeful" as he watched the violence unfold. "They're fighting for me." he kept saying, according to Grisham.

"They're fighting for me."

As Greg Gutfeld has correctly condemned the political excesses of the far left, he has ignored the extremist voices that exist in his own political party. In a speech given in Columbus Georgia in June of 2023, Arizona Senate hopeful Kari Lake said these words to her audience: "I have a message for Merrick Garland and Jack Smith and Joe Biden. If you want to get to Donald Trump you're going to have to go through me, and you're going to have to go through seventy-five million Americans just like me. And I'm going to tell you, most of us are card carrying members of the National Rifle Association. That's not a threat. That's a public service announcement." Her physical appearance suggests that she is the "girl next door". Actually, Kari Lake is the Ma Barker of the GOP.

In December of 2022, Georgia Congresswoman Marjorie Taylor Greene said these words about the January 6 attack on the Capital: "If Steve Bannon and I had organized that we would have won, not to mention it would have been armed." Both of these women were greeted as honored guests at the 2024 Republican convention.

Greg Gutfeld is no stranger to extremist rhetoric. In October of 2023 Gutfeld stated on "The Five" that the left was doing a terrible job of dealing with our nation's crime problem. His proposed solution was to engage in a civil war with the democratic party. To quote: "We went to war over slavery. Doesn't it feel that way now? It leaves you with a need to make war to bring peace. In a way you need to force them to surrender." When his cohosts suggested that ballots were preferable to armed conflict, Gutfeld stated: "Elections don't work. We know that."

Greg Gutfeld has given up on democracy. He believes that the only way to deal with political opponents is to go to war. Can someone please find a parachute for this guy?

W. Palmer Riley



OBITUARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Remembering Dr. Siroos Farzam: A Legacy of Dedication, Vision, and Community in Santa Monica

Dr. Siroos Farzam, a beloved figure in the Santa Monica community and a pioneering hotelier, passed away peacefully on Friday at his home. Dr. Farzam was not only a visionary in the hospitality industry but also a man of deep compassion, hard work, and commitment to his family and the community.

Before he found his calling in the hotel business, Dr. Farzam was a dedicated medical doctor. His journey to the United States began in Seattle, Washington, where he first immigrated with his wife, Gina, and their three children at the time. In Seattle, they purchased their first motel, a business venture they knew little about. But with resilience and a strong work ethic, they made it their own. Dr. Farzam worked the front desk while Gina worked housekeeping, learning the ins and outs of the hospitality industry from the ground up.

Driven by a desire for new opportunities, Dr. Farzam and his family eventually moved to Los Angeles, where they discovered Santa Monica—a place they would come to call home and where they would build a lasting legacy. One of their first properties in the area was the Santa Monica Motel on Lincoln Boulevard, which was recently reimagined and reopened as the Santa Monica Hotel earlier this year.

Throughout the 1980s and 1990s, Dr. Farzam's entrepreneurial spirit led him to acquire several more properties, including the Auto Motel, Pacific Sands Motel, and Travelodge on Ocean Avenue. In 1993, he redeveloped the Auto Motel into what is now the Ocean View Hotel, a uniquely designed Ocean Avenue landmark. His vision didn't stop there; Dr. Farzam also foresaw the potential in the Pacific Sands and Travelodge properties, which were ultimately transformed into the award-winning Shore Hotel, a testament to his commitment to sustainability and excellence.

Dr. Farzam's journey from a medical doctor to a respected hotelier is a story of perseverance, vision, and the American dream. His impact on Santa Monica is immeasurable, not only through the properties he developed but also through the sense of community he fostered. He was a man who believed in the power of family, hard work, and giving back to the community that supported him.

Dr. Farzam is survived by his wife and five children, who, along with their extended hotel team family, are committed to carrying on his legacy of dedication, compassion, and excellence in hospitality.

Submitted by the Farzam family



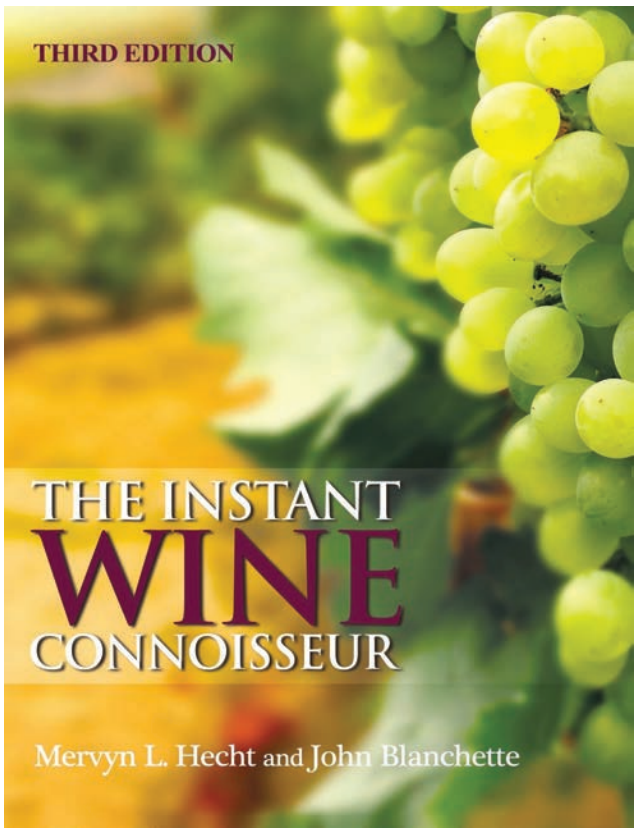
Courtesy photo

FARZAM: Dr. Farzam cutting the ribbon with his family at the opening of Shore Hotel.

SEND YOUR NEWS TO THE EDITOR

Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

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



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ANIMAL SHELTER

FROM PAGE 1

"[We're] dedicated to making sure that we're doing all we can to help these great pets get adopted and to make sure they have all they need while they are at the shelter. There is so much that we are doing to help the animals while they wait, providing toys and lots of love and attention, but at the end of the day no number of walks, or cuddles, will change the fact they are at the shelter and not in a home," said Noble.

Not only does the shelter have so many great dogs of all ages, different personalities and breeds, they also have many adorable cats and kittens and the sweetest rabbit in the west, Geoffrey, all crossing their paws and hoping that this Saturday is the day, the day they walk out the doors of the shelter and into their loving forever home.

The Santa Monica Animal Shelter Foundation will be there to help and will also have merchandise available so you can show your love and support for the shelter animals by making a donation or treating yourself to a hoodie or a tote bag.

Even if you can't adopt a pet, or just don't have room in your apartment that's already filled with countless cute cats and kittens, you can still help the animals by making a donation or shopping on the Chewy wishlist. Go to smasf.org for more information. Some of the rescued animals at the Shelter need costly veterinary care, so until some super-wealthy philanthropist donates a million or two, they still desperately need the help of everyone in the community.

Clear the Shelters at the Santa Monica Animal Shelter is this Saturday, August 24, from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. at the Santa Monica Animal Shelter located 1640 9th Street. You can call the shelter to learn more about any of the available animals on (310) 458-8595 and you can view photos and a list of many of the available animals at santamonica.gov/categories/services/animal-services

scott.snowden@smdp.com

KIDNAP

FROM PAGE 1

knife.

She left on foot in the alley and was later detained. According to SMPD, Perrone appears to be homeless and is living out of her vehicle (the white BMW). She has multiple prior out of state arrests for assault and battery, resisting arrest, possession of controlled substance and trespassing. The suspect was recently arrested by the Los Angeles Police Department for Assault with a Deadly Weapon (Not a Firearm), but was released for insufficient evidence.

She has outstanding warrants from New Hampshire for Forgery and Intimidation (Stalking). She is currently on probation out of Nevada for a 2024 Assault with a Deadly Weapon conviction. This is her first interaction with the SMPD.

Perrone will be arraigned on August 23 and she faces felony charges of Attempted Kidnapping (207(a) PC) and False Imprisonment (237(a) PC). She will also be charged with Assault with a Deadly Weapon (245(a)(1) PC).

The incident is the second time a child has been targeted in the city in recent weeks.

In July, a 4-year-old was abducted from the Panda Express restaurant in the 1900 block of Lincoln Boulevard and was later found in a room at the Holiday Motel & Suites at 1102 Pico Boulevard, along with the suspect.

In that case, Breanna Taylor Shields (DOB 1/22/93) walked into the restaurant and was able to walk away with a child while her grandmother was distracted. More than 30 sworn officers, together with civilian personnel, flooded the area, searching for the subject. Officers from the Downtown Services Unit located the suspect and child in a room at the motel where the suspect was living. Thankfully, the child was unharmed and the suspect was taken into custody.

Anyone with information about the Perrone incident is asked to contact Detective Jauregui, Sgt. Haro or the Watch Commander desk 24 hours a day at (310) 458-8427.

scott.snowden@smdp.com



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Leash your dogs

Hello SM,

What will it take for SM to react to the overwhelming presence of dogs on our beaches? A tragedy? The other day at Lifeguard Tower 22, where all the volleyball courts are, my 3 year old grandson was attacked by an unleashed big dog owned by one of the volleyball players. Fortunately nothing terrible happened, we were quick enough to avoid any contact with the aggressive animal, but the kid was crying and very scared.

A few days later, the same dog was jumping freely at the beach and the owner, when confronted again, was oblivious. The signs are very clear: NO DOGS are allowed on the beach, yet dogs are roaming freely, jumping and running unleashed. Where is the Animal Control unit that should enforce this rule? Local police say it is not their responsibility, so who is it? Are we waiting for someone to be hurt, perhaps mauled?

I think this is a problem that needs to be addressed, because as the city laxes on enforcement, owners feel entitled to bring their dogs everywhere, including beaches and playgrounds.

I think it would be less costly for the city to activate the sleeping Animal Control Department and get them to do their job, and not wait for a huge lawsuit, if, God forbid, a tragedy were to occur. BTW, I cannot even find an email to contact the Animal Control people, wonder why....

Sincerely,

Luca Bentivoglio, Santa Monica

CALIFORNIA

FROM PAGE 3

1980s, corporations were given the option of using either the unitary or water's edge method. Microsoft adopted the latter for its 2017-18 tax return, but found itself in a dispute with the tax board over how dividends from foreign subsidiaries should be treated.

The dispute jelled when Microsoft sought a $90.9 million refund, the tax board rejected the claim and the company appealed to the Office of Tax Appeals, which is essentially a tax court. Last year, after extensive trial-like hearings, a three-member appellate panel unanimously ruled in favor of Microsoft.

It could have forced the state to refund $1.3 billion immediately and perhaps more as the decision trickled through the state's corporate tax process. But the tax board did not concede defeat and instead turned to Newsom and the Legislature for a rescue.

It came in the form of Senate Bill 167, one of the dozens of "trailer bills" attached to the state budget. It declares that the Franchise Tax Board's position on the dividend issue is state law, regardless of how the appellate panel ruled.

This month, two lawsuits were filed to challenge the constitutional validity of SB 167, one by the California Taxpayers Association in Fresno, the other by the National Taxpayers Union in Sacramento.

"This legislation imposes a retroactive tax hike that would reach back several decades, allowing California's tax collectors to go after companies that already paid every cent of the taxes owed under the laws that were in place at the time," CalTax president Robert Gutierrez said. "This egregious violation of taxpayers' rights cannot go unchallenged."

> This legislation imposes a retroactive tax hike that would reach back several decades, allowing California's tax collectors to go after companies that already paid every cent of the taxes owed under the laws that were in place at the time
> - Robert Gutierrez, CalTax president

It should be very troubling that California officials claim the right to levy taxes retroactively by changing the law after losing in court.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

HOA HOMEFRONT

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Reader Questions- Open Forum Cutoffs, and Facing the Accuser in Disciplinary Hearings

KELLY G. RICHARDSON, ESQ. CCAL

Good morning, we have a small HOA. Currently we are conducting both membership and board meetings in person or by Zoom. There is one owner that generally attends all meetings and is allowed to discuss items on the agenda. That owner also refuses to pay late fees on their monthly HOA fees, so technically they are not "in good standing". Can we refuse to allow them to participate in meetings? The person in question is an owner, but is not a board member. Thanks, K.W., Brawley.

Dear K.W.: Board meetings are for board discussions. Except during open forum the audience should be listening, not participating, unless invited to comment. So, the simplest measure is to insist that outside of open forum members shall not interject into the board discussions. Member rights to vote cannot be suspended per Civil Code Sections 5105(h)(1) and 5115(b), but it is unclear whether a board could suspend someone's right under Civil Code Section 4925(a) to attend board meetings. The best response to member assessment delinquency is an effective collection program. Sincerely, Kelly

Question: At a HOA meeting, the president stated that no one would be allowed to interrupt a speaker while they were talking during their allowed 5 minutes. As a homeowner spoke, the President interrupted the homeowner and shouted that they were "out of order, out of line and to sit down". The homeowner tried to reclaim their time and finish speaking their point. The President declared that the meeting was over until the homeowner left. The homeowner left but a few days later was charged with 8 counts of violating the conduct rules. How can he do this? Is this even close to being legal? Anything that you can say would help. B.G., Palm Desert

Dear B.G.: Meeting conduct rules apply to everyone in the board meeting, including the president. So long as a homeowner is within their time limits, they should not be interrupted. There should be no censorship of what an open forum speaker says, although the HOA may remind attendees that the HOA has no responsibility for open forum comments. As to disciplining the homeowner, it's hard to comment without reviewing the rules, but your narrative implies a retaliatory attitude by the President, which would be improper. Best regards, Kelly

Hi Mr. Richardson, we have a homeowner that insists that the HOA must have the complainant in a harassment violation present at their hearing? We have never done that before – is it required? M.H., San Diego

Dear M.H.:

Many people confuse HOA disciplinary hearings with criminal court proceedings. While in a courtroom criminal defendants have various constitutional rights, the procedure in HOA disciplinary hearings is quite simple, as it should be. These are neighborhood hearings and nobody is going to jail. The procedure for such hearings and the "due process" is only what is stated in Civil Code Section 5855. So, there is no right to a jury, or right to counsel, or the right to cross-examine witnesses- the venue is a panel of volunteers deciding if HOA discipline should be imposed. It's a good idea for HOAs to adopt written disciplinary hearing procedures, so both homeowners and board members know what to expect in the hearing.

Thanks, Kelly

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

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that bids will be received by the City of Santa Monica until 3:00 p.m. on the date indicated at which time they will be opened and posted for:

BID #4486 FIRE DEPARTMENT UNIFORMS
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Bids must be submitted on forms supplied by the City of Santa Monica. Bid packages containing all forms, specifications, terms and conditions may be obtained on the **City's Online Vendor Portal.** The website for this Notice of Inviting Bids and related documents is: OpenGov (https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca). There is no charge for bid package and specifications.

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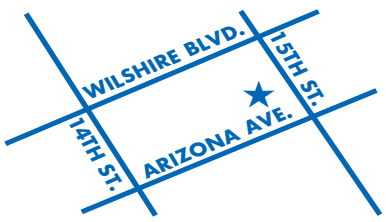
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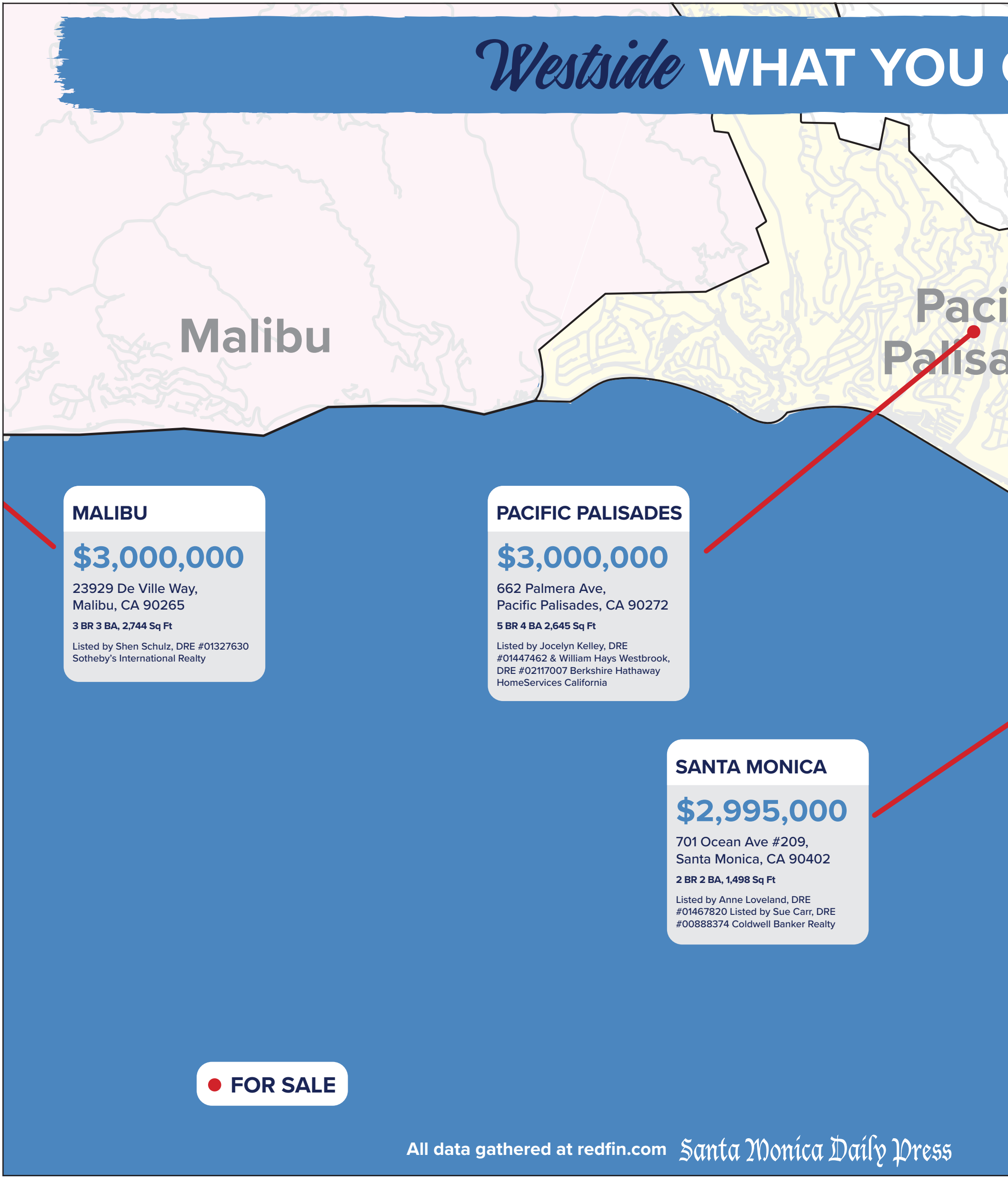
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Malibu, CA 90265

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Listed by Shen Schulz, DRE #01327630 Sotheby's International Realty

PACIFIC PALISADES

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662 Palmera Ave,
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

5 BR 4 BA 2,645 Sq Ft

Listed by Jocelyn Kelley, DRE #01447462 & William Hays Westbrook, DRE #02117007 Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices California

SANTA MONICA

$2,995,000

701 Ocean Ave #209,
Santa Monica, CA 90402

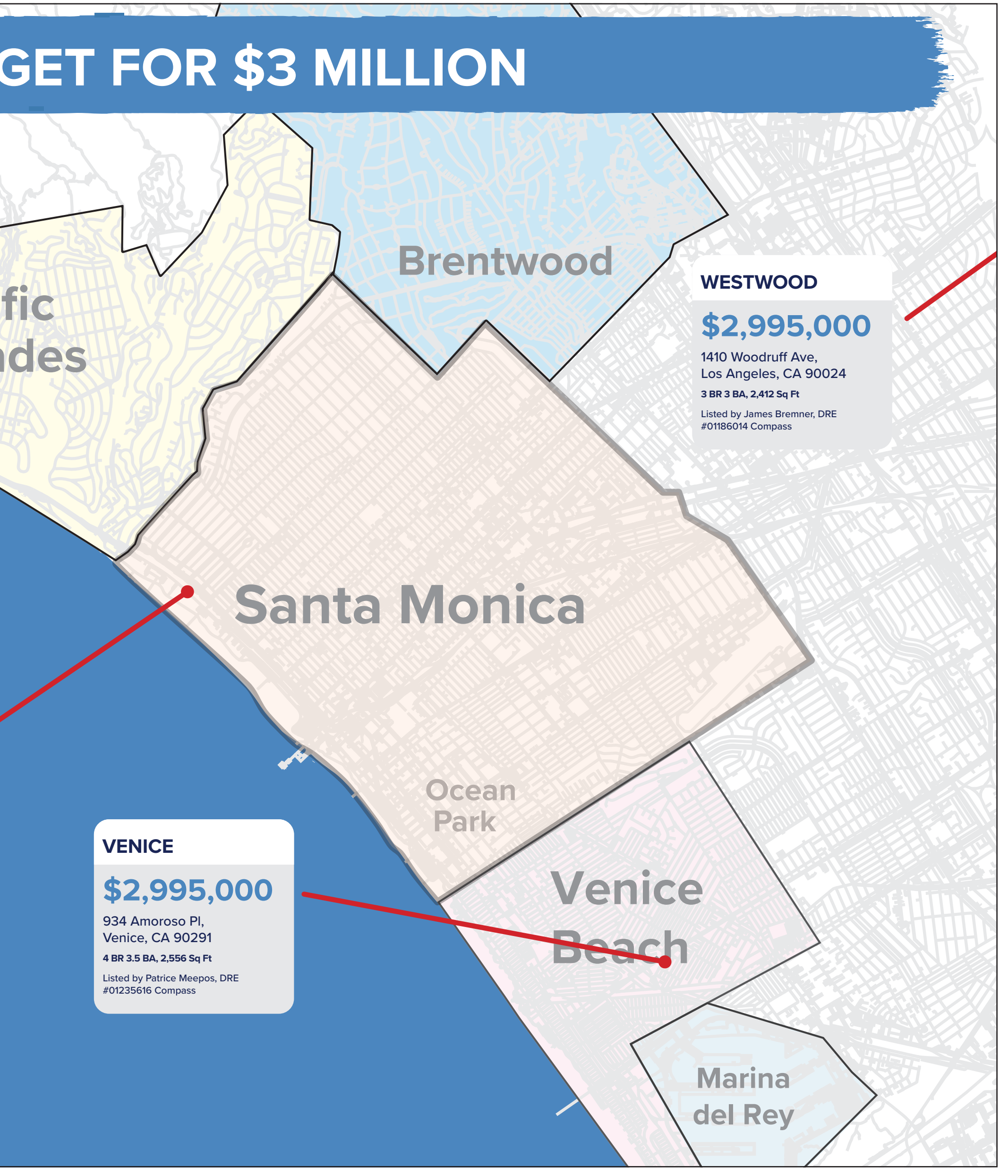
2 BR 2 BA, 1,498 Sq Ft

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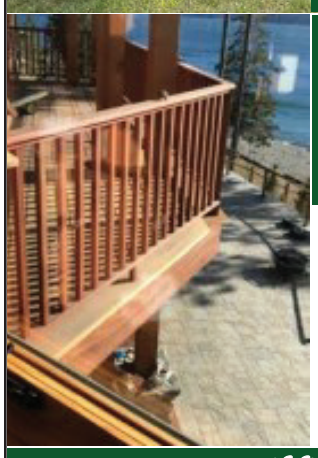
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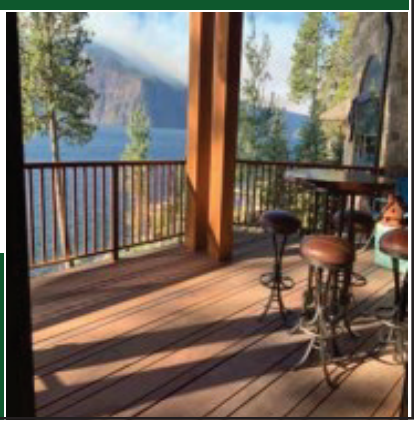
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SaMo students stimulated by first day activities







Photos by Thomas Leffler

SCHOOL: There was more excitement than nerves at Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) campuses Thursday, as students returned to school with smiling faces district-wide. At Edison Language Academy, the elementary students congregated in the cafeteria before being whisked away by their individual teachers. One of those teachers was fifth-grade instructor Carlos Morales, who took time to exchange fist bumps with all of his students as he entered his third decade in the district. Moving up to the middle school level, John Adams Middle School students were transfixed on finding their classroom assignments, while Principal Martha Chacon was at the entrance courtyard welcoming everyone back to JAMS. Samohi seniors came back for their final first day of school, and were able to get their picture taken in the quad. Samohi Vikings athletics are also underway, with the football squad's first contest Friday night in Chino.



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.

GRILLED CHEESE & WINE NIGHT

7:30 - 10 p.m. Andrew's Cheese Shop, 728 Montana Ave. In a new twist on grilled cheese events, the shop will be serving plates with decadent open faced grilled cheeses, each paired with an interesting wine. Starts with a starter salad, followed by four open faced grilled cheeses paired with a wine, and finished off with a float using Elio Perrone's Bigaro, a sweet blend of Moscato and Brachetto. This is a 21+ event, all sales final. Tickets $80, to join the waitlist visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/august-23rd-grilled-cheese-wine-night-tickets-962049845987.

SATURDAY | AUGUST 24

VIRGINIA AVENUE PARK ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Thelma Terry Building, Workshop 3, Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave. The Virginia Avenue Park Advisory Board (VAPAB) serves as an advisory body to the Recreation and Parks Commission and the Director of Housing and Human Services Department. The VAPAB is composed of seven Santa Monica resident board members. The Board represents the social and ethnic diversity of the park's neighborhood and includes but is not limited to representatives of the following segments of the community: park users, park neighbors, park program participants, seniors, families with children, community organizations and older youth.

FRIENDS OF VENICE LIBRARY BOOK SALE

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Venice Branch Library, 501 South Venice Blvd., Venice. Select from a large assortment of quality fiction, non-fiction, children's books, cookbooks, classics, poetry, arts & crafts, politics and history. CDs and DVDs also on sale, plus eclectic items are sometimes available like calendars or puzzles and games. All proceeds benefit programming and collection development at the Venice Branch. Cash and local checks accepted.

COUNTDOWN TO KINDER CLUB

10:30 - 11:30 a.m. The Annex at Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd. Explore the building blocks for Kindergarten, learn how to measure and practice counting by making a colorful glitter potion with the Magical Atelier. Refreshments provided. For ages 2-5. To register, email library@santamonica.gov.

ENDLESS SUMMER C.A.M.P.

11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Tongva Park, 1615 Ocean Ave. This family-friendly celebration invites attendees to pack a picnic, blankets and beach chairs and enjoy an afternoon showcasing artists from across Santa Monica and the LA region sharing their culture through unique performances and hands-on crafts. This week's showcases are "animals from around the world" with Conservation Ambassadors and Zoo to You, mini rock concerts from youth bands of Kid Row and a kite-making workshop with Dajin Yoon.

Power of She Workout Series:

12:30 - 1:30 p.m. NeueHouse Venice Beach, 73 Market St., Venice. Join Athleta to sweat, connect and experience the Power of She. Powered by elite trainers from Dogpound, join an exclusive HIIT class designed to build the strength, mobility and flexibility; and recover with post-class refreshments. Doors open 30 minutes prior to workout, RSVP required, to register visit: https://lu.ma/l7erfxfy.

WESTSIDE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

7 p.m. St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 958 Lincoln Blvd. Join conductor Brian Stone and soloists Jordan Warmath and Jonah Sirota for the 3rd program of Westside Chamber Orchestra's summer series, titled "Voilà... Viola!" Featuring pieces by Bach, Hindemith and Brahms. Ticket with suggested donation of $25. To purchase, visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-westside-chamber-orchestra-voila-viola-tickets-920400591947.

SUNDAY | AUGUST 25

SUNDAY FUNDAY POOL PARTY

1 - 6 p.m. Marina Del Rey Hotel, 13534 Bali Way, Marina del Rey. An unforgettable Sunday Funday includes the beats of some of the best DJs in town, delicious bites & BBQ classics, and drink specials while basking in the SoCal sunshine. Adult tickets $40, kids $20, to purchase visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sunday-funday-pool-party-at-marina-del-rey-hotel-tickets-876290918727.

EINSTEIN!

5 - 6:30 p.m. Santa Monica Playhouse, 1211 4th St. "Einstein!" is an inspirational and true story based on the recent release of a multitude of documents and three years of research from Albert Einstein. Writer and performer Jack Fry shares insight into Einstein's early life, a story that few people know. Show runs 80 minutes with no intermission. General admission $50, VIP ticket $75. To purchase, visit: https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/6236607?ref=349591.

POOLSIDE CINEMA AT FAIRMONT MIRAMAR

7:30 - 10 p.m. Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows, 101 Wilshire Blvd. Hulu brings movies to Santa Monica's Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows for the return of its annual poolside "Swim-ena." Angelenos can splash into cinema with curated screenings from Hulu paired with themed cocktails and bites. This week's selection is a to-be-announced forthcoming new release. Reserved seating is complimentary for hotel guests and a pre-purchased ticket, $45 per person, is required for visitors which includes admission, free popcorn and a 3-course, pre-fixe dinner menu. Children under the age of 5 are free. For more information, visit: https://www.fairmont-miramar.com/experiences/#!/e/summer-poolside-cinema-625415f9.

MONDAY | AUGUST 26

BABY TIME- OLYMPICS THEMED

10:30 - 10:50 a.m., 11:30 - 11:50 a.m. Youth Activity Room at Santa Monica Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. Introduce your child to story time with interactive books, bounces and more. Olympics-themed session includes fun sensory and motor skills activity stations. For ages 0-17 months.

PRINCE STREET PIZZA AND TASTAMADE COLLAB

5 - 7 p.m. Prince Street Pizza Venice, 326 Lincoln Blvd., Venice. Prince Street Pizza has partnered with Tastemade to create its first-ever take on Hawaiian pizza. The collaboration slice includes pineapple and ham on a delicious white base. The collaboration slice will be available through September 1. To celebrate the launch, the first 100 slices of the new Hawaiian pizza will be free for attendees.

SANTA MONICA ARTS COMMISSION

6:30 - 8 pm. City Hall East Conference Room #120, 1685 Main St. City art and culture programs are guided by the 9-member Santa Monica Arts Commission, which was formally established in 1982 to ensure a regular and ongoing assessment of art programs in the City. Appointed by the Santa Monica City Council, Arts Commissioners advise the Council on matters of policy, and strive to encourage the flow of art into the City and stimulate art activity here.

PIZZA PARTY + COMEDY SHOW

7:30 p.m. The Crow, 2525 Michigan Ave., Santa Monica. What do you get when you have LA's sauciest comedians and two boxes of hot pizza? The Crow's Pizza Party comedy show, featuring Jessica Saul, Leslee Elwood, Jorge Lopez and others. General admission $15. To purchase, visit: https://crowcomedy.com/shows.

THE CO$T OF LIVING

8 - 9:15 p.m. Santa Monica Playhouse, 1211 4th St. A world premiere ShortBurst Theatre production crafted by community members in collaboration with members of Theatre R.A.W. Written by Evelyn Rudie, directed by Playhouse Co-Artistic Director Chris DeCarlo. All tickets $20, includes post-show wine and dessert reception with the cast. To purchase visit https://www.santamonicaplayhouse.com/the-cost-of-living.html or call 310-394-9779 Ext. 1.

TUESDAY | AUGUST 27

DANCE OPEN HOUSE

11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Santa Monica College Dance Department, 1900 Pico Blvd., Core Performance Center Room 304. Learn about SMC dance courses, meet faculty, and sample a variety of dance styles. Free and open to all. Visit smc.edu/dance for more information.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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

Submit your event online at smdp.com/events

YOUTUBE

FROM PAGE 1

buildings and crime," he says at the start of the video.

Stephan focuses on the Promenade and talks about the vacancy rate of the area, growing homelessness crisis and the perceptions of crime. While he doesn't offer any concrete solutions to the problem, he does highlight the problem with landlords keeping rents high to justify property values, pandemic-related retail losses and broader retail trends. However, a significant portion of the video focuses on the City's damaged reputation with multiple clips from local news channels highlighting crime and anecdotes regarding businesses feeling under siege from homelessness, mental health concerns, drug use and theft.

"I would personally say though as someone who grew up here that the nail in the coffin was the 2020 riots and a lot of these businesses were broken into and ever since then it just seems like they've had a really difficult time recovering from that," he said.

The video is one of several from the past months highlighting the City's problems with homelessness, crime and store closings. While there's been a spate of YouTuber interest in the City recently, video critiques of the City go back decades and include South Park's Eric Cartman jumping his skateboard over a trio of homeless people in Palisades Park as part of a 2007 episode.

While officials say the situation isn't as bad as it appears in the online videos and is in fact improving, many of the economic indicators point to a real problem in recent years.

This year, crime increased in Santa Monica for the third consecutive year driven largely by thefts and petty assaults.

Car theft has been a rising trend everywhere and Hyundai is the most stolen car for the past five years followed by Toyota but Kia thefts have spiked in the past two years. While fraud crimes were relatively low in number (241) the category had one of the largest percentage increase of 16.6%. Simple assault, which results in minor or no injuries came in at 859, a 15% increase from last year.

The number of arrests increased by 12% (totaling 2,723) and while that is still below 2019 (3,840), it has steadily increased since 2020.



YouTube

VIDEO: A recent video examining Santa Monica's current economic reality has been viewed by millions of people on YouTube.

As has been the trend for several years, about two-thirds of the city's arrests are of homeless individuals. Homeless arrest numbers were up to 1,839, making up 67.6% of the total number of 2,723 arrests (an 11% increase compared to last year). In 2022, the total number of arrests was 2,438 and the unhoused percentage of that was 66.9%, a total of 1,632.

The City's tourism market has declined substantially. Total visitors are down 12.8% from 2022, tourism related sales tax revenue is down 7.9%, total visitor spending is down 2.5%, there are about 10.8% fewer tourism jobs in the city and total international visitors is down 7%. The average hotel room rate was down 11% in 2023 and hotel room occupancy rates are still below pre pandemic levels (77% in 2023 vs. 82% in 2019). Foot traffic on the Promenade is down a whopping 40% since the pandemic with only 452,678 visitors in July of this year compared to 759,563 visitors in July of 2019.

Sales tax has also declined in recent years. In the first quarter of 2024 actual sales were down 4.8% from last year (which were down from 2022 by 2.2%). While tax revenues did drop at the county and state level in the first quarter, Santa Monica's decline was vastly more than the others with county sales declining 0.8% and State sales down 0.2%.

Councilwoman Caroline Torosis recently said the local economy was "thriving" in an email to supporters and told the Daily press that economic growth is on the horizon.

"Santa Monica's downtown is in the midst of an exciting revitalization, with new businesses opening and more than $1 billion of investment in commercial and residential projects. This is in part due to strategic changes the city has implemented to allow for more kinds of shopping, dining and entertainment downtown and make it easier to open a business in Santa Monica. In addition, we continue to invest in programs and initiatives to keep our public spaces clean and enhance public safety," she said.

She said the video did point out the role that private property owners play in the situation and said the city was making good progress working with landlords on improving conditions.

City spokeswoman Lauren Howland said the video gave an inaccurate impression of the Downtown area as it highlighted vacant units without providing any information on the upcoming openings filling those spots. She said ground floor retail is at about 80% occupancy on the Promenade with many spaces already leased.

She said Google is combining two spots to open a new store in the landmarked Keller Building, the former HSBC Bank property has been leased to a prominent video production company who is deciding what type of business to open or sublease the space to, an internationally known specialty footwear retail is taking the former Hollister location, a lease is under negotiation for the former Forever 21 store (that moved to the mall), MINISO recently opened in the former Cotton On location, an existing restaurant business is in negotiation for a new entertainment venue where T-Mobile used to be, the corner of Santa Monica Boulevard and Third St. has been leased to a national restaurant chain that will occupy the existing food use location as well as two additional retail spaces along Santa Monica Boulevard, 1360 Third St. is to become HQ Gastro Pub, with construction underway and the former food court will become Holey Moley (a miniature golf and restaurant use).

"The city remains optimistic about the future of downtown and the Third Street Promenade, with many exciting openings on deck in the next few weeks alone. Change is always challenging and can take time, but it is clear that the city's strategic efforts to make it easier to open a business in Santa Monica are paying off," she said.

editor@smdp.com

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

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or email **cindy@smdp.com**

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DBA

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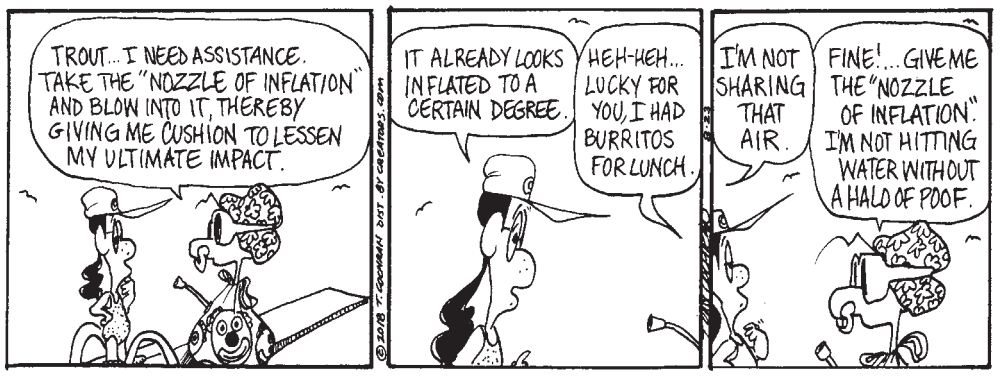
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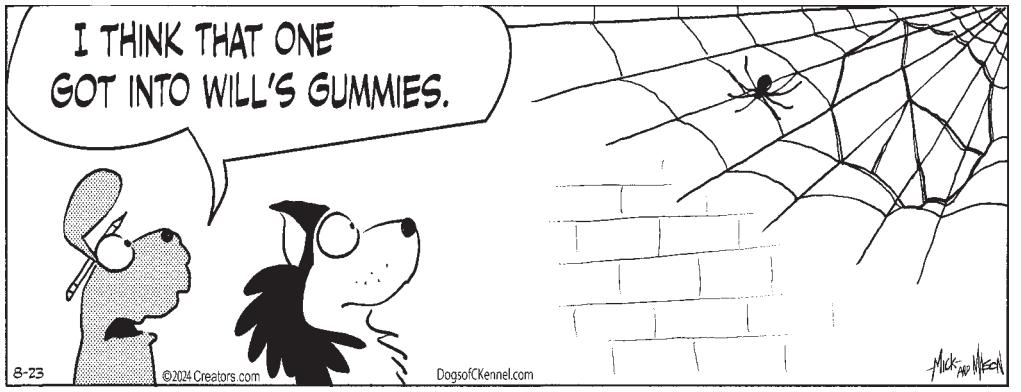
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By TONY COCHRAN



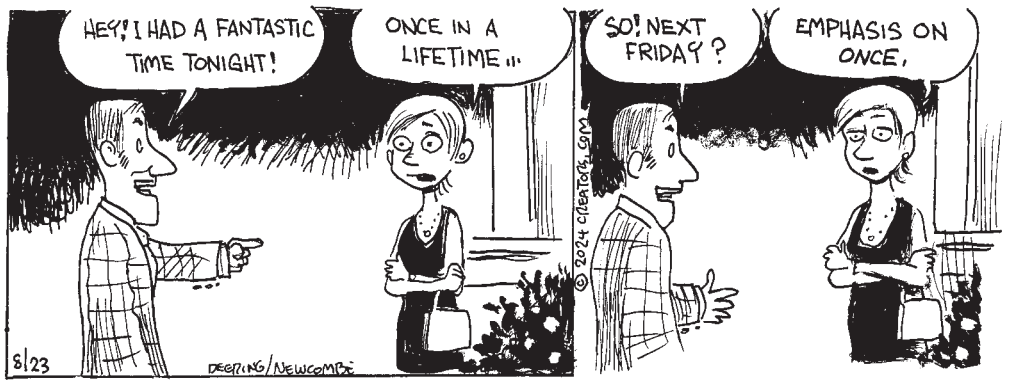
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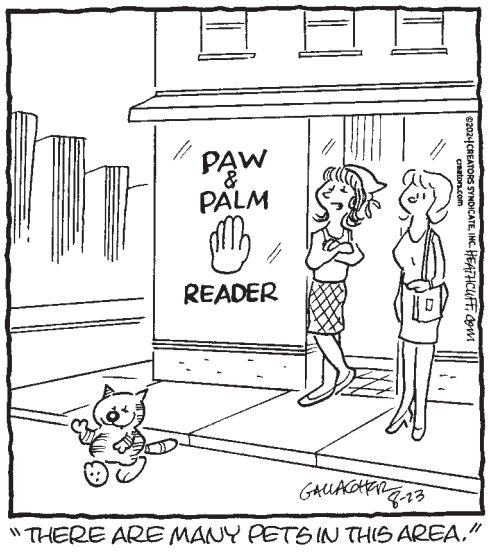
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

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"THERE ARE MANY PETS IN THIS AREA."

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

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Country show

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

Akubra
Animals
Best
Booth
Broke
Bulls
Cats
Cows
Craft
Displays
Dodgem
Dogs
Drink
Dust
Exhibits
Fish
Flume
Fruit
Groom
Hall
Lost
Meat pie
Music
Needlework
Noise
Open
Order
Pass
Pigs
Prize
Queen
Rams
Ribbons
Riding
Rodeo
Roulette
Sheep
Show
Shuttle
Sore
Tasty
Tents
Tired
Train
Tube
Waterslides
Woodchop

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 23)

The world will see your brave heart through acts of love. You embrace the kind of problems you get to solve this year, knowing that it is through untangling these knots that strong bonds will be born. More highlights: a certification your elders would be proud of, great vitality through small health and fitness changes, and day-to-day duties that make you feel you have finally arrived. Scorpio and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 20, 1, 11 and 13.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Most people shy away from criticism, but not you. You ask for the honest feedback you can learn from. You want to know what works for others and what doesn't so you can be as effective as possible.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Avoid being overly skeptical, overthinking things or reading too much into every outcome. Not everyone has a hidden agenda; some people are simply following their natural inclinations.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're still new to a certain scene. Today there's an opportunity in the fact that others aren't paying close attention. It gives you a chance to experiment to see how to work a situation better.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Because it's important to you to feel you have balanced honesty with kindness, you'll take more time in crafting thoughtful responses to people. This extra effort ensures your true feelings come respectfully through.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You have a natural talent for making others feel comfortable, and that's a wonderful quality. However, it's also important to share your genuine thoughts and feelings. Authenticity strengthens relationships today.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Mental exercises are worth spending some time on. Record your findings, too. The fates favor you now and name you as the one most likely to be struck by a brilliant insight or a personal revelation.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Society too-often equates fun with laziness, idleness and avarice, but this is not a healthy perspective. Playfulness is not just for children; it's the essence of a productive life. Today, you'll make a fascinating connection while you play.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Success stories are more fun coming from people you don't know or those you admire from a distance. Success stories from, say, a sibling are not always as palatable. A diplomatic reaction will help you in the future.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). As for the people who demand a lot of attention, you shouldn't be saddled with the responsibility of being the only one giving it to them. How can you take care of others and yourself, too? Today brings discussion, and solutions will follow.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). No one got more successful by knowing things, and nor does owning things make a person a winner. It's the application of knowledge and the sharing of resources that make a person successful.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Who has a problem-free life anyway? Problems are life's spicy seasoning. A bland life without challenges — where's the fun in that? Embrace the chaos. There will be plenty, and it will keep things interesting.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Giving your attention well can be a lot of work. Socializing can seem like a chore, but just like the other chores, it must be done. The good life can appear in many different ways, but most of them include other people.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

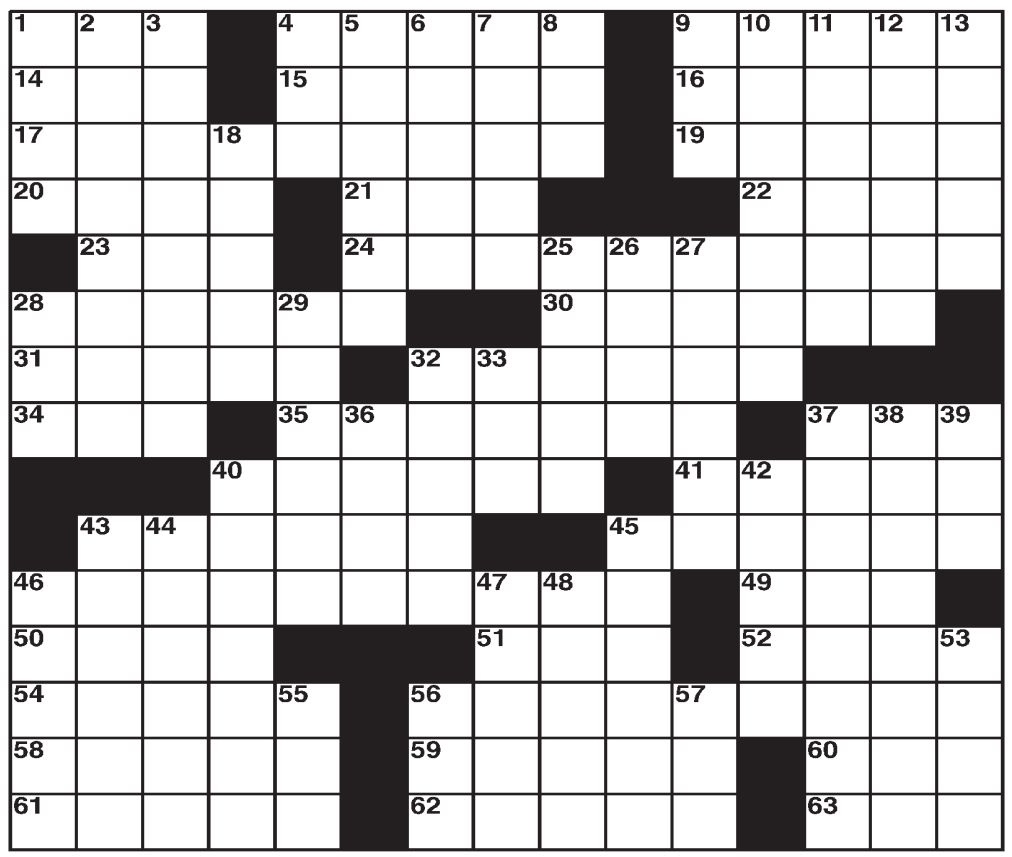
NO-WIN SITUATION by Prasanna Keshava
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 *Kennedy Center Honors* airer
4 Make a hash of
9 Disconnected
14 Hamburger lament
15 Rick __ (good name for a cowboy)
16 Ring-fitting device
17 Shine source
19 Milan's *Teatro alla* __
20 Melville novel
21 Latin verb
22 Father and daughter boxers
23 Sch. with a Hershey campus
24 High collar top
28 Provide outfits for
30 Ranchers' gear
31 An eco R
32 Soaps star Hall
34 Unformatted document file
35 Word unseen in Baum's *...Wizard of Oz*
37 Bowl goal
40 Waiting area
41 Steve Jobs' first employer
43 "Mean" NFL great
45 Uniquely new
46 Frugality metaphor
49 *CSI* setting
50 Flawlessly
51 Toy tycoon Schwarz
52 Golf great Norman
54 Duel challenge deliverer to Hamlet
56 What the four other longest Across answers do
58 Crete's highest pt.
59 Irrelevant data
60 It's its own square root
61 Top-billed *Up* voice
62 Oldest Cabinet department
63 Sound of disappointment

DOWN

1 Baja resort, for short
2 Biotin, niacin, etc.
3 Waves away
4 Surround in profusion
5 Runs behind
6 Former SeaWorld star
7 Inside appointments
8 Sylvan symbol of strength
9 Parent of some zebroids
10 Salsa specification
11 Rhododendron cousin
12 Dig discoveries
13 *East of Eden* family name
18 Speaks well of
25 *Survivor* contingent
26 Cruise ship's __ deck
27 Canal accumulation
28 The first PC screen
29 Role models
32 What might resemble a train car
33 HS class
36 Reunion attendee
37 Wood shavings : mulch :: spud slivers : __
38 Outmoded entertainment centers
39 Thus, to Tacitus
40 Water following wind
42 Pacific island monarchy
43 They're in *Macbeth* and *Richard III*
44 Arrive boisterously
45 Narcissus, for instance
46 Leaf pore
47 "Failing that..."
48 Gymnast legend Comaneci
53 Tech whiz
55 Lincoln, e.g.
56 Rank just below lt.
57 Center of some "surname sandwiches"



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08/23/24

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KAMALA

FROM PAGE 2

came in April 2016 when investigators from the California Department of Justice raided the home of anti-abortion activist David Daleiden, seizing a laptop and hard drives.

Nine months prior, Daleiden posted videos purporting to show Planned Parenthood executives engaging in the illegal sale of fetal remains. The videos showed covertly filmed conversations of Planned Parenthood executives discussing abortion procedures and how tissue is collected and exchanged with research companies. At least 13 state investigations, including those initiated by Republican lawmakers, have since debunked the claims made by Daleiden in the videos.

Donating fetal tissue to researchers and recouping expenses is legal under U.S. law and states may impose additional regulations.

But at the time the videos set off a firestorm of outrage across the country. They're circulating again on social media this election cycle.

Conservatives characterized Harris' investigation into Daleiden as a political inquisition. Anti-abortion groups protested the raid, and some California Republicans called on Harris to investigate Planned Parenthood instead of Daleiden.

She made no public remarks about Daleiden.

"Harris never held a press conference. She didn't do that," said Dan Morain, a former CalMatters editor who wrote a biography of the vice president called "Kamala's Way, An American Life." "She was doing what prosecutors need to do, (which) is not try the case in public."

The evidence gathered by Harris' justice department laid the groundwork for 15 felony charges later filed by then-Attorney General Xavier Becerra against Daleiden and his counterpart Sandra Merritt, alleging they recorded conversations without consent in violation of state law.

At the time, Daleiden called the charges "bogus." He has maintained he was exercising his First Amendment rights when he recorded conversations with Planned Parenthood leaders, and that the recordings were obtained legitimately in public places.

"Instead of prosecuting the persons and organizations caught on tape (of) commercially exploiting fetal tissue transfers, the Attorney General instead targeted Daleiden and Merritt," court documents filed by Daleiden's attorney state.

Kathy Kneer, who was chief executive of Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California, refuted the idea that Harris granted the organization "any special favors." Instead, the organization was required to supply investigators with reams of documentation, she said.

"They really held our feet to the fire and did everything within the letter of the law," Kneer said.

Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California declined to be interviewed for this story. The organization has endorsed Harris.

The criminal case against Daleiden is ongoing with a jury trial scheduled for December. The state Supreme Court most recently rejected an appeal from Daleiden and Merritt in 2023, allowing the jury trial to move forward. In 2019, a civil jury ruled against Daleiden and awarded Planned Parenthood $2.2 million in damages, which the U.S. Supreme Court affirmed by dismissing Daleiden's federal appeal in 2023.



Courtesy photo

ABORTION: An examination chair surrounded by medical devices inside an examination room at a pregnancy center.

BACKED CALIFORNIA LAW REGULATING PREGNANCY CENTERS

Around the same time, Harris sponsored a bill in the Legislature to regulate crisis pregnancy centers. It was a relatively risky move, some say, which would end up backfiring when the U.S. Supreme Court sided with anti-abortion groups and overturned the law.

"She stuck her neck out on that one by sponsoring the bill," Morain said. "It's quite apparent that it wasn't necessarily going to be the case that it was deemed constitutional."

The legislation — simple on its face — required crisis pregnancy centers to post a notification stating that comprehensive family planning services including contraception and abortion were available through state public programs.

Crisis pregnancy centers are often religiously affiliated organizations that aim to prevent women from getting abortions. They may offer free diapers, parenting classes and other social services, but abortion rights advocates also accuse them of misleading women about the dangers of abortion and contraception — an accusation that many centers deny.

Center owners and those in the pro-life movement vehemently opposed the law, stating that the government was forcing them to advertise something with which they fundamentally disagreed.

"It was not right, not fair and clearly unconstitutional," said Thomas Glessner, president of the National Institute of Family and Life Advocates, a legal organization with about 155 member pregnancy centers in California.

Almost as soon as then-Gov. Jerry Brown signed the requirement into law, the National Institute of Family and Life Advocates filed a lawsuit to stop it.

In 2018, the U.S. Supreme Court overturned the law on First Amendment grounds. Since then, lawmakers across the country have struggled to regulate pregnancy centers. There are at least 176 pregnancy centers in California, according to a 2023 CalMatters analysis.

"We won the case and it was hailed by a lot of free speech advocates as…the most significant free speech case in a generation," Glessner said.

Though the law was struck down, supporters don't necessarily see it as a strike against Harris' record. Chiu, who co-authored the bill, said he believes the law was narrowly tailored and would have been upheld if former President Donald Trump had not appointed three Supreme Court justices during his term.

ABORTION ON THE BALLOT AFTER ROE

Harris' public messaging on abortion has been remarkably consistent throughout her career. She has repeatedly credited her work as a local prosecutor specializing in sex crimes against women and children for her condemnation of total and near total abortion bans that make no exceptions for rape or incest.

"The idea that states would be passing laws that would take from an individual their right to self determination after they have endured such an atrocious act of violence is unconscionable," Harris said during a reproductive rights forum with California lawmakers in 2022.

On the campaign trail, Republican presidential nominee Trump has said he would not sign a national ban and pushed the Republican National Committee to adopt a softer stance that hints at, but doesn't outright acknowledge, fetal personhood. He has taken credit for the Supreme Court repealing Roe v. Wade, and said the issue should be settled by individual states.

Republicans "backed away from clarity," said Mary Ruth Ziegler, an abortion historian and legal scholar from UC Davis School of Law, on the updated Republican platform. "The platform is very confusing, and I think that's on purpose because it's designed to appeal to people with a wide variety of positions on abortion."

It's an unsurprising, calculated move, said Mike Madrid, a long-time California GOP strategist and Trump opponent, because abortion is a losing issue for Republicans. It's Harris' strongest issue, he said.

"As long as you're focused on an issue that is not your strength, you either do a complete 180 on it or you're going to suffer on the polls," Madrid said.

Ziegler also said the type of outrage Daleiden and his organization Center for Medical Progress tried to stoke 10 years ago with his undercover videos may have less impact on today's voter in part because states have actually banned abortion.

"The strategies that might have worked to paint supporters of abortion rights as extremists don't seem to be as effective in a world where, you know, almost half the country has some kind of ban," Ziegler said.

San Diego Democratic state State Sen. Toni Atkins, who ran two reproductive health clinics before seeking public office, called Harris "the loudest and most visible and most prominent voice on reproductive freedom."

That visibility has included her visiting a Planned Parenthood clinic earlier this year, the first vice president to do so. But because of her long-running support, pro-life advocates like Glessner see a Harris presidency as a threat.

"We immediately sent out an invitation for her to visit a pro-life pregnancy center…and of course never got a response," Glessner said. "Why don't you come and see who you're criticizing and give us a fair shake."

The Harris campaign did not respond to several interview requests for this story.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

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