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WEEKEND EDITION
08.26.23 - 08.27.23

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Eager Edgar takes new role in 'culture epicenter'

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

Santa Monica's rich tradition as an epicenter of the arts is being passed on to a fresh voice in the community.

Michelle Edgar has stepped into the position of an Arts Commissioner for the city. A resident of the Los Angeles area for over a decade, Edgar took the chance to move to her "happy place" during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"When I first moved to L.A., the Santa Monica Pier, concerts, the culture in Santa Monica always drew me," Edgar said. "I knew it was a matter of time before I moved (here), now I'm (here), and I'm looking to really lay my roots in the community and create some impact."

Edgar has been making her impact felt in the arts and entertainment world on both coasts. A piano player from a young age, she studied at the Manhattan School of Music in New York City, eventually developing programs in the city through her non-profit, Music Unites. Her efforts in Los Angeles included spearheading an orchestra program in Compton.

In Los Angeles is where Edgar combined her philanthropy work with her professional ambitions in the music industry, becoming an agent with ICM Partners in 2016. She developed relationships with A-list stars such as Mary J. Blige, Anderson.Paak and Rick Ross, and now desires to parlay those experiences into fresh arts fare for

SEE **ARTS** PAGE 7

Grabbing a Handel on Santa Monica sweets



Thomas Leffler

HANDEL'S ICE CREAM: The staff of Handel's in Santa Monica, along with Mayor Pro Tem Lana Negrete, joined sweet treat fans from across the area during the Aug. 24 grand opening.

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

The sweetest addition to Santa Monica is a treat for all ages, one that a lucky few will make long-lasting.

Handel's homemade ice cream expanded its fast-growing footprint by adding a location along Ocean Park Boulevard, run by Peg Hale and her partner Rob. To celebrate the confectionery, the Aug. 24 grand opening saw the first 50 customers in line receive a deal for one free ice cream cone per week for the next year, an opening attended by well over double that mark.

With its 48 unique flavors of ice cream, Hale was quick to realize what others told her about Handel's quality.

"It's almost an obsession with people," Hale said. "And when I tasted [it], I'm like, wait, I know why. It's delicious. And there's a lot of really great flavors."

Both herself and her husband were looking for other business plans during the COVID-19 pandemic, when the commercial real estate market they worked in was faced with uncertainty. During the brainstorm, Rob noticed that Handel's Redondo Beach location "always" had a line outside. Long before they took in their own massive

SEE **ICE CREAM** PAGE 6

Council seeks to scrutinize LA County syringe exchange program

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

A Santa Cruz court case has prompted the City Council to take a new look at a local needle exchange program with an eye towards additional restrictions on local distribution.

At their Aug. 22 meeting, all seven councilmembers voted to direct the City Manager and City Attorney to investigate and analyze the processes employed by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health and its syringe exchange program currently operating in Santa Monica.

At present, the Department of Public Health, along with the Venice Family Clinic, arranges for weekly, three-hour visits to Reed park to distribute clean needles and Narcan doses as part of the county's Harm Reduction Syringe Services Program.

However, in September of last year, in a unanimous open letter to Los Angeles County officials, then Mayor Sue Himmelrich called for a halt to the program and "immediately [move] this program to a service rich environment (preferably indoors) where individuals in need of substance abuse, mental health, and other services can coordinate and work directly with service providers."

That request came after an overdose was listed as the suspected cause of death for a

SEE **COUNCIL** PAGE 7



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CRIME WATCH

Crime Watch is culled from reports provided by the Santa Monica Police Department. These are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 12TH,
SMPD officers arrested Lashayveon Thomas, 30 years old, for shoplifting at Nordstrom located near the 200 block of Broadway. Thomas was seen on video exiting Nordstrom without paying for over $1200 in merchandise. He was detained by Nordstrom asset management staff and transferred into the custody of the responding officers.

COMMUNITY AND GARDENING

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Dining in the Garden: "Savory Summer Squash Muffins"

SALIMA SAUNDERS

Yellow squash here, growing in abundance at Ishihara Park Learning Garden, specifically the crookneck variety, which, you guessed it, comes with a bend at the top. The cheery yellow vegetable grows on a vine low to the ground and can be harvested when it is 6-8 inches long. Any bigger than that, and the tender squash could lose flavor. It is best to store squash in an open paper bag in the crisper drawer of the refrigerator for up to 10 days. The squash flower is also edible, so don't forget to clip some for stuffing and frying as well!

We have all probably enjoyed a delicious summer zucchini bread, moist and tender. (After all, zucchini contains a good bit of liquid.) I like my zucchini bread with walnuts and chocolate chips. For a new flavor, today's recipe offers a different baked good. I wanted to use the yellow crookneck squash in a savory application, a cheesy muffin, that would be excellent to eat with a side of eggs or on its own with a cup of coffee.

Squash is a very mild vegetable, which makes it a good vegetable to sneak into baked goods for added nutrition. Grated and flavored with a hint of onion, sundried tomato, and Italian seasoning, the squash is undetectable in texture while subtly tasty, which makes this a muffin that can be enjoyed by adults and kids alike.



Fran Lyness

SQUASH: A summer vegetable.

SAVORY SUMMER SQUASH MUFFIN RECIPE:

1 medium crookneck summer squash-grated
2 TBS finely diced yellow onion
¼ cup sundried tomato diced
2 eggs
1 cup milk
2 and ¼ cups all purpose flour
4 tsp baking powder
2 cups shredded cheese (I used an Italian blend)
1 tsp Italian seasoning
½ tsp freshly ground pepper
½ tsp salt
Method:

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees
2. Line a muffin tin with 12 muffin liners or grease well to ensure the muffins will not stick
3. In a large bowl whisk together flour, baking powder, salt, pepper, and Italian seasoning
4. In a separate bowl whisk together the milk, eggs, squash, onion, and sundried tomato
5. Pour the wet ingredients into the dry and add in shredded cheese
6. Stir until just combined and spoon the mixture into the muffin tin
7. Bake for 18 minutes and enjoy!

SEND YOUR NEWS TO THE EDITOR

Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

One image, one face, one American moment: The Donald Trump mug shot

JONATHAN J. COOPER
Associated Press



Courtesy Photo

TRUMP: The first mug shot of an ex-President

A camera clicks. In a fraction of a second, the shutter opens and then closes, freezing forever the image in front of it.

When the camera shutter blinked inside an Atlanta jail on Thursday, it both created and documented a tiny inflection point in American life. Captured for posterity, there was a former president of the United States, for the first time in history, under arrest and captured in the sort of frame more commonly associated with drug dealers or drunken drivers. The trappings of power gone, for that split second.

Left behind: an enduring image that will appear in history books long after Donald Trump is gone.

"It will be forever part of the iconography of being alive in this time," said Marty Kaplan, a professor at the University of Southern California Annenberg School of Communications.

In the photo, Trump confronts the camera in front of a bland gray backdrop, his eyes meeting the lens in an intense glare. He's wearing a blue suit, white shirt and red tie, his shoulders squared, his head tilted slightly toward the camera. The sheriff's logo has been digitally added above his right shoulder.

Some of the 18 others charged with him in Georgia smiled in their booking photos like they were posing for a yearbook. Not Trump. His defiance is palpable, as if he's staring down a nemesis through the lens.

"It is not a comfortable feeling — especially when you've done nothing wrong," he later told Fox News Digital about the moment.

NOT LIKE ANY OTHER PHOTOGRAPH

Trump facing charges is by now a familiar sight of 2023 to Americans who watched him stand before a judge in a New York courtroom or saw watercolor sketches from the inside of federal courthouses in Miami and Washington, where cameras aren't allowed.

This is different.

As Anderson Cooper put it on CNN: "The former president of the United States has an inmate number." P01135809, to be exact. But until he surrendered to face charges of trying to steal the 2020 election in Georgia, his fourth indictment this year, he avoided having to pose for the iconic booking photo like millions accused of crimes before him.

Never mind that Trump, like all Americans, is innocent until proven guilty in court; the mug shot, and all it connotes, packs an extra emotional and cultural punch.

A mug shot is a visceral representation of the criminal justice system, a symbol of lost freedom. It permanently memorializes one of the worst days of a person's life, a moment not meant for a scrapbook. It must be particularly foreign to a man born into privilege, who famously loves to be in control, who is highly attentive to his image and who rose to be the most powerful figure in the world.

"'Indictment' is a sort of bloodless word. And words are pale compared to images," said Kaplan, a former speechwriter for Vice President Walter Mondale and Hollywood screenwriter. "A mug shot is a genre. Its frame is, 'This is a deer caught in the headlights. This is the crook being nailed.' It's the walk of shame moment."

HE IS ALREADY LEVERAGING THE MOMENT

Trump is unlikely to treat the mug shot as a moment of shame as he seeks a second term in the White House while fighting criminal charges in four jurisdictions. His campaign has reported a spike in contributions each time he's been indicted.

And the imagery itself? Trump hasn't shied away from it. In fact, his campaign concocted one long before it became real.

Months before he was photographed in Georgia on Thursday evening, his campaign used the prospect of a mug shot as a fundraising opportunity. For $36, anyone can buy a T-shirt with a fake booking photo of Trump and the words "not guilty." Dozens of similar designs are available to purchase online, including many that appeal to Trump's critics.

Now they have a real one to work with. Within minutes of the mug shot's release, Trump's campaign used it in a fundraising appeal on its website. "BREAKING NEWS: THE MUGSHOT IS HERE," reads the subject line of the campaign's latest fundraising email, which advertises a new T-shirt with the image. And this quote: "This

SEE **TRUMP** PAGE 4

City of Santa Monica

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Settle the case

Editor:

The California Supreme Court has now sent the Santa Monica case involving at-large vs. district voting back to the Court of Appeals. The City is spending lots of money that it really can't afford to fight this case. Moreover, the case is turning into a "Bleak House" style endless lawsuit. Are we now going to have more historical experts arguing about events in the 1940s or 1990s with little actual relevance to today's realities? Will we have more experts with statistical analysis of this or that election? And then, when the Court of Appeals rules however it does, will we have yet another appeal to the state Supreme Court?

The fact is that at-large voting doesn't work well in Santa Monica where most people don't pay much attention to local politics and where the top 3 or 4 candidates "win." Voters are given 3 or 4 votes to sprinkle around a list of names. Now that there's big money riding on local elections, the winners tend to be those with money for yard signs and mailers that achieve some vague name recognition among voters. Was the fourth-ranked candidate who got, say 10% of the vote really much preferred over the fifth with 9.9%? Maybe at-large was OK in the past, but now that big money is involved in local elections, we need voting reform.

Come on city council! Cut the losses and settle this lawsuit. No more experts. No more statistical analysis. No more money for high-priced law firms. If you really think that there needs to be an elected official with a city-wide rather than a neighborhood interest, then propose a district system with an at-large elected mayor. I can't tell you who will win with district elections. But there will be a more level playing field for all candidates, more grass roots organizing, and those who can present a more appealing platform - even if they don't have a lot of money - will have a better chance.

Daniel J.B. Mitchell, Santa Monica

TRUMP

FROM PAGE 3

mugshot will forever go down in history as a symbol of America's defiance of tyranny."

In a show of solidarity, U.S. Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene posted to X, the platform formerly known as Twitter, a photo of herself smiling broadly in front of a gray background, the sheriff's logo in the top left corner to mimic the jail's style — essentially her DIY mug. "I stand with President Trump against the commie DA Fani Willis," she said, a swipe at the Fulton County, Georgia, district attorney who persuaded a grand jury to indict Trump.

Recent history is full of politicians seeking political dividends from their booking photos. They've offered large smiles or defiant smirks and tried to make the best of their predicament.

Yet this is one of just 45 presidents in all of U.S. history — not only someone who held the keys to the most powerful government in the world, but who held a position that for many these days, both at home and overseas, personifies the United States. To see that face looking at a camera whose lens he is not seeking out — that's a potent moment.

"There's a power to the still image, which is inarguable," said Mitchell Stephens, a professor emeritus at New York University who has written a book about the place imagery holds in modern society and how it is supplanting the word.

"It kind of freezes a moment, and in this case it's freezing an unhappy moment for Donald Trump," Stephens said. "And it's not something he can click away. It's not something he can simply brush off. That moment is going to live on. And it's entirely possible that it will end up as the image that history preserves of this man."

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COMMUNITY NEWS

South Lake Tahoe

President Joe Biden Says He Will Request More Funding for a New Coronavirus Vaccine

President Joe Biden said Friday that he is planning to request more money from Congress to develop another new coronavirus vaccine, as scientists track new waves and hospitalizations rise, though not like before.

Officials are already expecting updated COVID-19 vaccines that contain one version of the omicron strain, called XBB.1.5. It's an important change from today's combination shots, which mix the original coronavirus strain with last year's most common omicron variants. But there will always be a need for updated vaccines as the virus continues to mutate.

It's not clear exactly when people can start rolling up their sleeves for what officials hope is an annual fall COVID-19 shot. Pfizer, Moderna and smaller manufacturer Novavax all are brewing doses of the XBB update but the Food and Drug Administration will have to sign off on each, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention must then issue recommendations for their use.

"I signed off this morning on a proposal we have to present to the Congress a request for additional funding for a new vaccine that is necessary, that works," Biden, who is vacationing in the Lake Tahoe area, told reporters on Friday.

He added that it's "tentatively" recommended "that everybody get it," once the shots are ready.

The White House's $40 billion funding request to Congress on Aug. 11 did not mention COVID-19. It included funding requests for Ukraine, to replenish U.S. federal disaster funds at home after a deadly climate season of heat and storms, and funds to bolster the enforcement at the Southern border with Mexico, including money to curb the flow of deadly fentanyl. Last fall, the administration asked for $9.25 billion in funding to combat the virus, but Congress refused the request.

For the week ending July 29, COVID-19 hospital admissions were at 9,056. That's an increase of about 12% from the previous week. But it's a far cry from past peaks, like the 44,000 weekly hospital admissions in early January, the nearly 45,000 in late July 2022, or the 150,000 admissions during the omicron surge of January 2022.

SUBMITTED BY SEUNG MIN KIM ASSOCIATED PRESS

Texas

Texas and California Meet for a Berth in the Little League World Series Championship

Texas will play California on Saturday for a bid to represent the United States in the Little League World Series title game on Sunday.

Here's a look at both teams prior to their semifinal matchup.

HOW THEY GOT THERE

Texas is the lone undefeated team from the U.S. bracket, but its games have been tight.

It took the team from Needville, Texas, nine innings to defeat Washington 1-0 on Wednesday — its third game decided by two runs or fewer.

Texas also defeated Pennsylvania 2-1 in the opening round, beat North Dakota 6-2 and won 3-1 against its U.S. championship opponent, California, before knocking off Washington from the winner's bracket.

Despite falling to Texas in its second game, California has won its last three games.

The team from El Segundo, California, beat Ohio 4-3 in its first game and bounced back from its loss to Texas with a 9-3 victory over Rhode Island. California then defeated Tennessee 5-3 on Wednesday and Washington 2-1 on Thursday.

PLAYERS TO WATCH

Texas has won games by close margins thanks in part to good pitching. On Saturday, Needville is likely to start its ace, DJ Jablonski, who is 2-0 with 15 strikeouts and just one walk in two starts this tournament. He also homered against California.

For California, 6-foot-1 Louis Lappe has stolen the spotlight.

Lappe homered for California's only run in its loss to Texas, struck out nine in victory over Rhode Island and went 3 for 3 with a two-run homer against Tennessee.

FUN FACTS

Needville Little League was two games from a LLWS berth in 2021 before a player tested positive COVID-19 which, under protocols at that time, meant the team could not continue its run into the regionals.

California crowns its home-run hitters with an army helmet, but since the team hit no homers on Thursday, starting pitcher Declan McRoberts donned the helmet postgame.

SUBMITTED BY SETH ENGLE ASSOCIATED PRES

New York

'Dune: Part Two' Release Postponed to 2024 as Actors Strike Lingers

The release of "Dune: Part Two," one of the fall's most anticipated films, has been postponed from November until next year, Warner Bros. confirmed Thursday.

Denis Villeneuve's science-fiction sequel had been set to open Nov. 3, but will instead land in theaters March 15 next year. With the actors strike entering its second month, "Dune: Part Two" had been rumored to be eyeing a move. Variety earlier this month reported Warner Bros. was mulling the delay.

Warner Bros. is opting to wait until its starry cast can promote the follow-up to the 2021 Oscar-winning "Dune." "Part Two" stars Timothée Chalamet, Zendaya, Rebecca Ferguson, Dave Bautista, Javier Bardem, Stellan Skarsgård, Austin Butler, Florence Pugh and Léa Seydoux.

"Dune: Part Two" is one of the biggest 2023 films yet postponed due to the ongoing strikes by actors and screenwriters. Recent releases have mostly opted to go ahead, despite lacking their stars on red carpets or on magazine covers. SAG-AFTRA has asked its members not to promote studio films during the work stoppage.

Luca Guadagnino's "Challengers," an MGM Studios release starring Zendaya, earlier withdrew from its Venice Film Festival opening night slot and postponed its debut to next April. Sony also pushed its next "Ghostbusters" film from December to next year, and removed the early 2024 release "Spider-Man: Beyond the Spider-Verse" from its schedule.

As part of the "Dune" delay, Warner Bros. and Legendary Pictures are shifting "Godzilla x Kong: The New Empire" one month, to April 12. Warner Bros.' "Lord of the Rings: The War of the Rohirrim" will vacate that April date and move to December 2024.

Warner Bros. didn't change its other 2023 releases, including "Wonka" (Dec. 15), "Aquaman and the Lost Kingdom" (Dec. 20) and "The Color Purple" (Dec. 25).

SUBMITTED BY JAKE COYLE AP FILM WRITER S

OPINION **LAUGHING MATTERS**

Jack Neworth

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

I Never Thought I'd Miss Nixon



Courtesy Photo

EX-PRESIDENTS: Nixon: "I'm not a crook!" Trump: "I'm your retribution."

In 1952, when U.S. Senator Richard Nixon of California was selected by GOP power brokers to be Dwight Eisenhower's presidential running mate, Ike wasn't thrilled as Nixon already had a reputation of an unethical campaigner. In fact, his nickname was "Tricky Dick." And sure enough, well before the election a scandal surfaced that Nixon had received illegal campaign funds. Desperate, Nixon went on TV and gave what came to be known as the "Checkers Speech." (It's on YouTube and Nixon is so obviously lying you can almost see his nose grow.)

In the address Nixon stated, "There are no mink coats for the Nixons and I'm proud that my wife Pat wears a good Republican cloth coat." He denied any wrongdoing but did admit that the Nixon family had received a very special gift, He was referring to a Cocker Spaniel puppy with a black and white coat named "Checkers" that Nixon's two young daughters adored, prompting Nixon to insist, "We will never give Checkers back."

The speech was so corny it was pathetic but dog lovers all over America flooded Western Union with telegrams in support of Nixon remaining on the GOP ticket and so he was. The rest, however, would be history including Watergate during which Nixon insisted, "I'm not a crook!" And yet the disgraceful scandal resulted in 55 convictions and 15 in the Nixon administration being sent to prison.

Ultimately Nixon resigned and was pardoned by Gerald Ford who became VP when Spiro Agnew, who regularly took envelopes of cash bribes even in the White House, also resigned. (That was some ethically challenged ticket, Nixon and Agnew both of whom left office in shame but dodged the hoosegow.)

Ford, in saying "Our long national nightmare is over," claimed he pardoned Nixon "For the good of the country." That left me incensed. Why did so many go to jail for illegal actions perpetrated on behalf of Nixon and yet Tricky Dick retired to his ocean estate in San Clemente where he lived out a life in wonderful comfort? I wonder had Nixon been sent to prison as he deserved, if that might have caused Donald Trump, aka as of Thursday, Georgia Inmate #P01135809, to think twice before committing his endless crimes. Of course, I'm not sure Trump, the malignant narcissist, ever thinks twice.

In any event the Trump administration, which lasted only four years, will likely set records for indictments and prison time. And yet our "long Trump national nightmare" feels like it may never be over. At least not until Trump, who is out on bail in four jurisdictions charged with 91 felonies and facing a whopping 641 years, hears his steel cell door slam shut behind him.

I acknowledge that I may be biased but let's look at the record and see why. The Nixon administration in 5 ½ years had 76 indictments. 55 criminal convictions with 15 serving time in prison time. In 8 years, Ronald Reagan's administration had 26 criminal indictments with 16 convictions and 8 prison sentences. The George W. Bush administration in 8 years had 16 criminal indictments, 16 convictions with 8 defendants sentenced to prison.

Now let's examine the other side of the aisle. In 4 years, the Carter administration had 1 indictment and 0 convictions. In 8 years, the Clinton administration had 2 indictments 1 conviction and 1 defendant

SEE **TRUMP** PAGE 8

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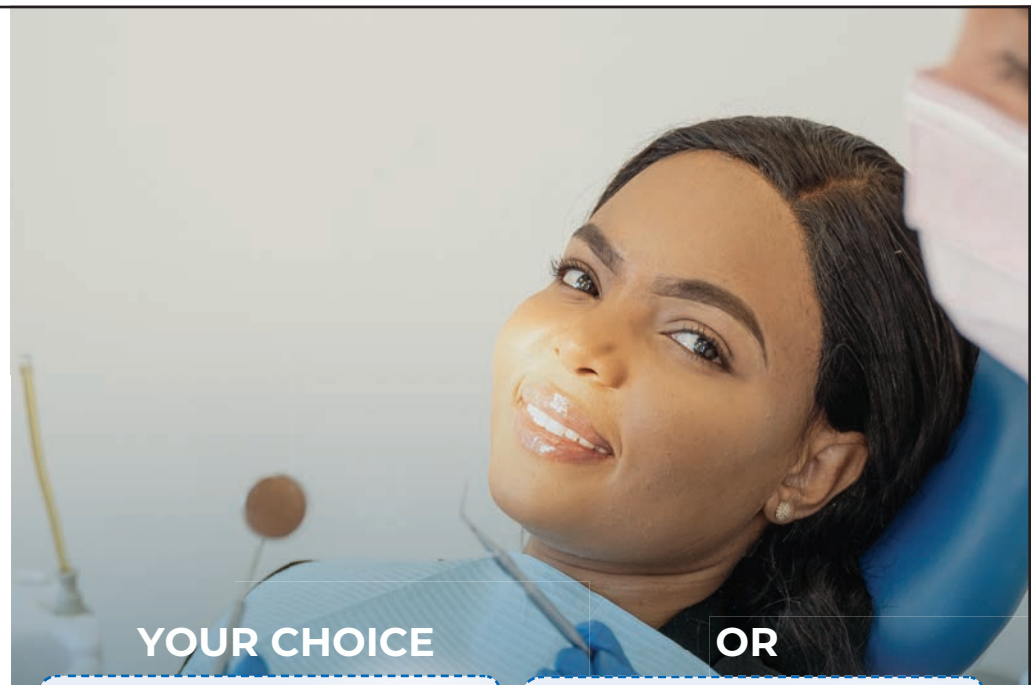
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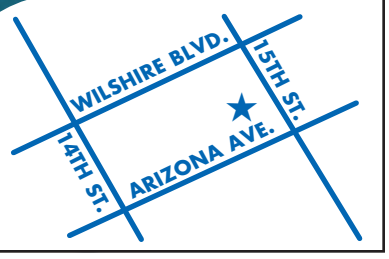
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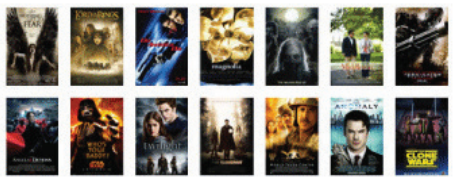


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ICE CREAM

FROM PAGE 1

line of ice cream lovers at the grand opening, Peg looked in to the Handel's business model and was immediately impressed.

"When I asked a question just as Joe Schmoe on the website, I got an answer to all my questions quickly," she said. "They care about their customers. They listen."

Listening eventually turned to action, as Handel's sent the couple to "ice cream boot camp" in May, with the two learning the tricks of the treat at the company's fourth-ever location in Canfield, Ohio.

The experience was a callback to Handel's humble beginnings in Youngstown, Ohio, when Alice Handel started a shop out of the window of her husband's gas station in 1945.

Fast-forward to 2023, and the couple learned a wide variety of skills, both in business and product creation.

"We learned everything ... how to close the store, how to store the cash, how to make ice cream," Peg said. "Our first day of making ice cream, Rob and I made 55 gallons."

Pushing that total to 500 gallons of ice cream per day to sustain the business, Hale credits the Handel's team for creating a "cooperative, friendly, loving" environment during the start-up process. The team gave back by sending representatives from Ohio to Santa Monica to aid in starting up the new location, a collaborative effort that required some sweat equity.

"We've been in here working day and night for weeks, literally," Hale said. "No days off for three weeks, and a couple of crazy nights. I [told] Rob, it's 2:30 [a.m.] and we're taking out the recycling."

With Handel's carrying 150 flavors overall, the Santa Monica location settled on 48 concoctions, 20 that come equipped in every Handel's shop and 28 that were chosen based on area demographics. Hale was proud of the chocolate pecan flavor in particular, a rarity in Santa Monica, especially adding whole halves of pecans roasted and salted, rather than crumbling them up into the cone.

Another point of pride for Hale was Handel's food quality, both in including vegan options on the menu and not having any hormones in the dairy products.

"There's things I care about with foods and they met my mark," she said.

Along with ice cream cones, Handel's menu includes specialty sundaes, milkshakes, malts and "hurricanes" that combine ice cream with famous candies. For customer's furry friends, the shop also includes a "frosty paw" option for dogs. The shop is located at 1701 Ocean Park Boulevard. Visit https://handelsicecream.com/store/santamonica/for more information.

thomas@smdp.com





Thomas Leffler

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ARTS

FROM PAGE 1

Santa Monica.

"I realized I had this kind of interesting convergence of my skill sets and I knew that there was more I could do ... I want to do something to give back. I want to do something that serves," she said.

To best serve the city, Edgar applied for the Art Commissioner position, with a co-sign from friend and State Senator Ben Allen helping to facilitate conversations about the role with City Council. Now in the position, Edgar recognizes that her servitude comes at a "critical time" for Santa Monica, a time to begin planning for major events such as the World Cup in 2026 and the Olympics in 2028.

"Santa Monica is the epicenter of arts and culture and it couldn't be better timing to spotlight and celebrate artistry and creators that move culture," she added. "We are uniquely situated with our diversity across cultures and art forms. Creating this kind of platform brings the community together celebrating our city, while propelling innovation in arts and cultural experiences ... opening a new realm of possibilities."

The first of those possibilities to become a reality was a series of Salsa dance lessons at the Pier. After a successful first run in the springtime, Salsa nights will return to the Pier next month.

"Michelle approached the Pier Corporation last winter with a request to add Salsa dance lessons to our monthly Locals' Nights and we agreed to give it a try," Pier Executive Director Jim Harris said. "What started out as a modest addition quickly grew into one of the most popular and spectacular parts of our series, and that's really 100% due to Michelle. I expect that the Arts Commission will greatly benefit from her dedication and diligence toward making good things happen."

Making things happen has required making herself known in the community, something Edgar accomplished through several gatherings in August. Events were held at both the Santa Monica Proper Hotel and the Viceroy, attended by city officials and other stakeholders.

For Edgar, the events and her continuing discussions will help to shape her arts and culture vision for the city.

"I think there needs to be a learning and understanding of what has been created in the past, what's worked, what hasn't, and then take that wealth of knowledge and ... (connect) it to my background and my relationships from the entertainment space," she said.

Those relationships include a hope that local entertainment businesses will "ignite" in their passion for Santa Monica arts. Edgar has begun the process of developing partnerships with local companies like Universal Music Group, Bad Robot, Red Bull, Lionsgate and Activision.

Local creatives are also encouraged to lend their voice, with Edgar theorizing that connective conversational meetings in the vein of "Inside the Actor's Studio" can make local artists part of the puzzle.

"I hope that becomes something that can really grow because the best things happen when it's organic," she said. "(We can] really celebrate the culture, artistry and people of our city."

Her passion for the city's culture comes from personal experience, knowing the power that arts and entertainment can bring to any individual.

"As a trained concert pianist, that was my everything, that was my outlet, and I know the power of art and music," she said. "It's the most powerful universal language that unites us all."

thomas@smdp.com





Photo by Jerrit Clark

MICHELLE EDGAR: New Santa Monica Arts Commissioner Michelle Edgar speaks at a gathering held at the Viceroy on Aug. 22.

COUNCIL

FROM PAGE 1

homeless person found in Palisades Park just weeks earlier in July, 2022. Despite the letter, little change was effected with minimal impact, especially considering the amount of opposition from Santa Monica residents and government. Aside from the Council's letter, Downtown property owner John Alle has made the needle exchange program a focus for his criticism of the city and he frequently posts to social media about the quantity of needles found in the city.

At the meeting, local officials reiterated the program was currently out of their control but also their hope for more tools.

> When this first came about last year, I was informed by a resident who said her daughter had stepped on a needle at Reed Park and it was, in fact, due to this needle exchange program that was happening, which nobody was aware of
> - Lana Negrete Mayor Pro Tem

"When this first came about last year, I was informed by a resident who said her daughter had stepped on a needle at Reed Park and it was, in fact, due to this needle exchange program that was happening, which nobody was aware of," said Mayor Pro Tem Lana Negrete, one of the proponents of this item.

"When I brought it to City Council nobody, including the staff, knew about the program. And as we dug deeper, we obviously realized it was a county program, we did not have any local control over it and our requests to not necessarily stop the program, but rather take it indoors to what we perceive to be a safer place to administer, wasn't that simple," Negrete said, adding that since it does not appear that all of the parties involved had been as collaborative as perhaps they could, "And so we will ask the City Manager's office and staff to look at if those things were done to get a permit to run it out of our public spaces then come back and look at it again."

This motion comes as a result of a lawsuit that has been recently filed over a needle exchange program in Santa Cruz. In that case a neighborhood group is challenging a state program on the grounds it bypassed local authorities and has insufficient environmental review. The courts initially ruled in favor of the needle program but on appeal, the case has been allowed to proceed to trial.

The local discussion item was instigated by Mayor Gleam Davis, Negrete and Councilmember Phil Brock and the unanimous vote by Council will determine if the proceedings in Santa Cruz can, in any way, affect any change within the City of Santa Monica.

"I can't tell you how many times I've had my child in one hand and I'm walking a foot away from someone shooting up. Not okay. Because we're protecting those kids across the street. They should not have to walk over from school with their lunch bags and see someone shooting up across the street from school. That's not okay. So that's why we're having this conversation today," Councilmember Christine Parra said.

City Attorney Douglas Sloan said the first step in any process will be determining what process should have applied in Los Angeles County and if those rules were followed.

"If the science dictates that we should resume this [syringe exchange program] with public input, police input, our resident input then fine, but until then, I think we need to pursue this course of action," Brock said.

Councilwoman Caroline Torosis asked if the city had any evidence that the program had decreased overdose calls in the city since its inception.

City Manager David White replied, "Through our Fire Department ... we do track overdose activity in the city of Santa Monica ... we saw an elevated level of overdoses, particularly in 2022, it's been a consistent increase ...consistent with LA County."

Torosis, who was not part of the council when the initial opposition letter was filed, said she had reservations despite her vote in favor of the study.

"I'm going to vote yes on this," said Torosis, adding, "But I'm going to echo that there's robust data for over 30 years that this is a harm reduction strategy and I think it's a question of manner and place in terms of where we do it."

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TRUMP

FROM PAGE 5

sent to prison. And in 8 years, Obama had 0 criminal indictments, 0 convictions and 0 prison sentences.

This may surprise you but let me mention a few traits and policies of Nixon's that I admired. First of all, he was very intelligent, a voracious reader and an author of five books: "Six Crises" recounting Nixon's role in major political crossroads; "RN: The Memoirs of Richard Nixon;" "The Real War" foreign policy and the Cold War; "Leaders" world leaders Nixon dealt with at urgent times and "Real Peace" his vision for peace.

Having grown up in poverty, Nixon had empathy for the poor and advocated for universal health care. He also cared about the environment and created the EPA. Though he severely violated the Constitution, once caught he showed respect for it in ultimately handing over the tapes etc. Google "Nixon's Farewell Address to the White House Staff," a remarkably inspiring speech. (Which actually brought me to tears which made me furious with myself.)

Trump's "The Art of the Deal," not only didn't he write it, but the real author doesn't think he even read it. Trump's first wife Ivana said the only book on "the Donald's" nightstand was Hitler's speeches.

As for talents, I admit Trump is a good golfer but he's also a pathological cheater. Caddies who've seen him constantly kick his ball out of the rough when he didn't think anyone was looking, nicknamed him "Pele" as is documented in the humorous best-selling book "Commander in Cheat."

Jack is at: jackdailypress@aol.com

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 26)

You'll grow yourself through an experimental process and become a different person, yet somehow also more yourself than ever. This solar return warms you up, softens your heart and makes you attractive to the situations and people who will make life sing. More highlights: A winning ticket, new business, and wonderful relationships that are not expensive. Leo and Taurus adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 14, 3, 37 and 11.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The one who tells another person's secret will tell yours too. You'll figure out who to trust. And, if you're not sure whether trust is warranted, err on the side of caution and discretion.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Self-esteem isn't a fixed thing. It may seem to waver more than usual throughout the day. But whether you feel strong or scared, you'll go ahead with your plans, which is what matters. Action creates energy.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). If you feel like someone is trying to persuade or control you, you'll resist. But it's when you don't feel pressured that you should really watch out. Skillfully manipulative people get what they want without making the others feel manipulated.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You're like an exotic orchid that needs a specific kind of attention. Even you are not sure what you need to thrive, but it probably has to do with the right kind of light. Sunny people will offer it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your compassionate energy radiates. There's not a situation out there that more kindness won't improve. There are many forms this takes. Sometimes kindness is a silent resonance. Sometimes it's a smile.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Leadership looks like a mouthpiece, but it's actually an ear. An improvement mission is underway. Your best plans and ideas come after you've listened to people from every section of the hierarchy — low- and high-ranking alike.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The question of standards will come up. Look around, do your research, understand the full range of what's possible, especially on the lower side then set the bar.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're not trying to be competitive or show anyone up. But as you follow your heart, you gain insight, skill and other qualities that make the people around you want to up their game.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). If the water is muddy, you won't be able to tell how deep it is. It's better not to take chances with murky situations. Let things settle so you can see the bottom. And if they're not settling, don't cross. Some territory is best avoided altogether.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). It's easy to tell others what to do, and also ineffective. They will only want to follow examples. Being the example is harder. Making yourself do all the things is so tricky, but worthy of your complete focus.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Emotional bumpers can be deployed like airbags at the first sign of relationship turmoil. Challenge yourself to relax your defenses. Protection devices prevent injury but also prevent closeness. Determine what's really necessary.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). No one is counting your mistakes except you. What you get right will count a great deal as long as you're not pulling the focus away by talking or thinking about what you did wrong.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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

Newsday Crossword

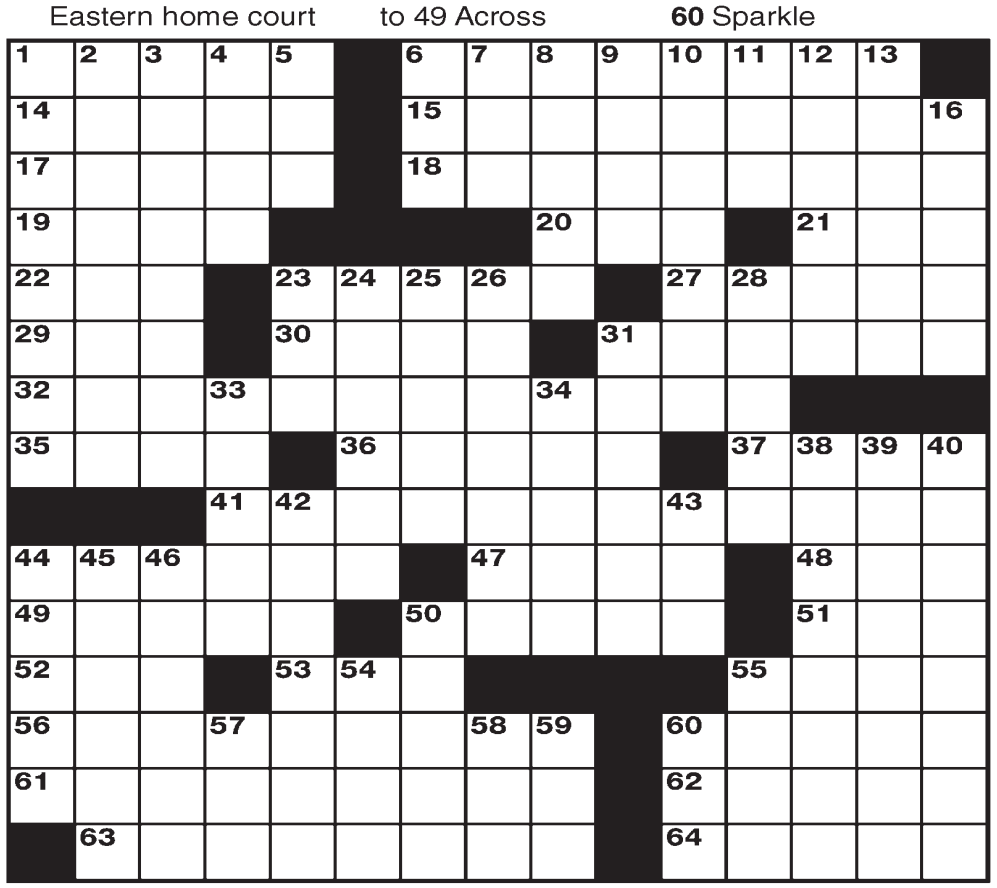
SATURDAY STUMPER by Lester Ruff
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 It's much higher than a D
6 Wrote to without paper
14 Relative of Betty and Bessie
15 "Pay less for college. For real." sloganeer
17 King born in Bethlehem
18 Employer of ushers
19 Essence of highlights
20 Breathless state
21 Big mess
22 Letter-ending letters
23 Discover serendipitously
27 Reckons to be
29 Word associated with jumps and umps
30 Slept in, say
31 Literary Long Islander
32 "Ditto!"
35 Experts in immobilization
36 Painters' purchases
37 Etymology sharer with "spade"
41 Bat man's specialty
44 Ring around some collars
47 Libraries have theirs every April
48 Writer next to Jung on the *Sgt. Pepper* cover
49 Write to without paper
50 Long chain
51 Go nowhere
52 Loan guarantor for Disneyland (1954)
53 Take a bath, in Britain
55 Incidental
56 Photo Story presentation
60 Steps off
61 *"La donna è mobile,"* e.g.
62 It's not much higher than a D
63 Liberates
64 Pizza handlers

DOWN

1 Story-telling follower
2 Daycare establishment
3 Achieves, as a dream
4 Israeli army retirees as of 2003
5 Sorry
6 Former WNBA Eastern home court
7 Hammer home
8 GM exec who founded MIT's business school
9 Dragging
10 Strove for
11 Fully appreciate
12 Gushes
13 Superior these days
16 Minute
23 CNN2, these days
24 Concession start
25 It's home on the range
26 Progress report of a sort
28 Aunt of Maria Shriver
31 Part of the KFC logo
33 Letters used to 49 Across
34 Ostrich or orangutan
38 Disney Frozen Minis brand
39 Inner image aspiration
40 Letter-reading rituals
42 Leads on a farm
43 Permits
44 __ of all
45 Takes it easy
46 It's south of Milwaukee
50 Not fancy at all
54 DoD branch since 2019
55 Noncontroversial
57 On the __
58 Accented approval
59 "Man was made for joy and __": Blake
60 Sparkle

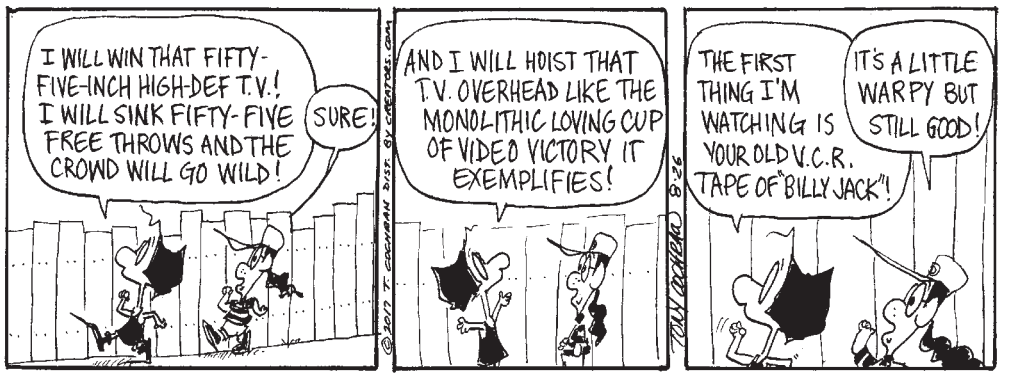


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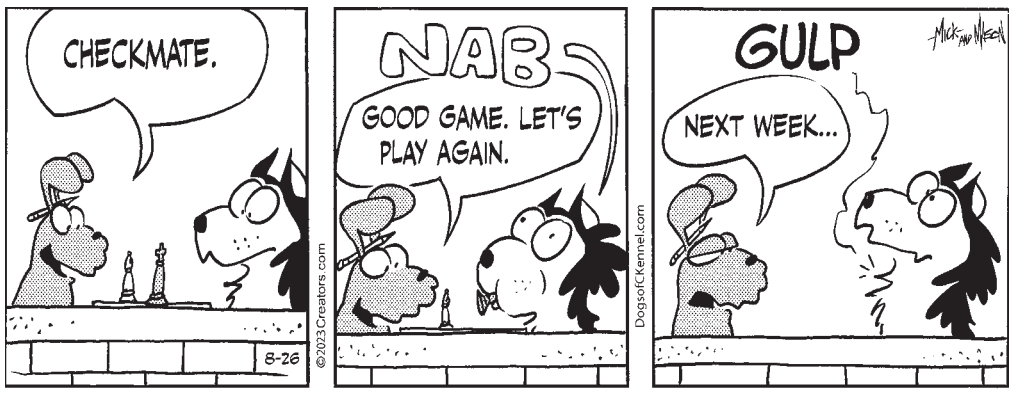
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



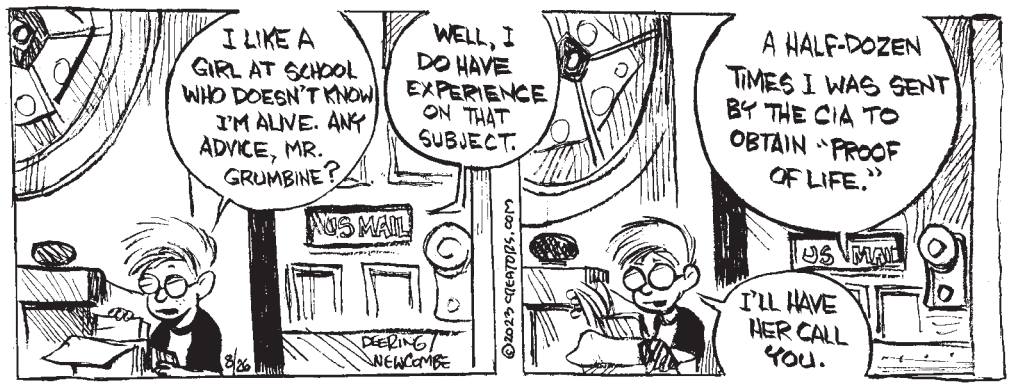
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

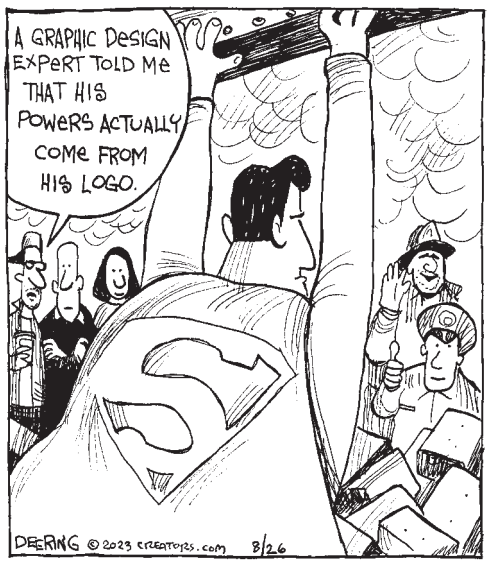
By PETER GALLAGHER



"HE'S A SORE WINNER."

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 21 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 5948

Rather be sailing

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

Alarm	Cove	Main	Size
Alee	Crew	Metre	Snorkel
Atoll	Cyclone	Nadir	Snubber
Axis	Drown	Oars	Sunfish
Bags	East	Ocean	Swell
Bank	Elizabeth	Open	Tack
Bays	Reef	Peak	Tide
Beam	Embark	People	Trapeze
Burn	Fetch	Plan	West
Calm	Helm	Plot	Wild
Carrier	High	Pole	Wind
Challenge	Inlet	Raft	Yawl
Clew	Jetsam	Sail	
Club	Keel	Ship	

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What's Up Westside

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SATURDAY | AUGUST 26

OPEN HOUSE CELEBRATING THE RENOVATED CHUCK LORRE ROSE AVENUE HEALTH CENTER

During the Community Open House, members of the public are invited to visit Venice Family Clinic's newly renovated Chuck Lorre Rose Avenue Health and Wellness Center and learn more about how the nonprofit community health center provides health care for people in need in the community. All are welcome to visit and see how the Center's new renovations have improved access by including a ground floor pharmacy and a community room for fitness classes and other groups. Guests will also see updates including newly improved spaces. Venice Family Clinic staff will walk guests through the new facilities and explain how the revitalized facility enables them to integrate services more thoroughly. A community celebration will take part outside with light appetizers and live music provided for all. 3:30pm-5:00pm Venice Family Clinic's Chuck Lorre Rose, Avenue Health and Wellness Center, 604 Rose Ave, Venice, CA

STREET FOOD CINEMA: WILL ROGERS STATE HISTORIC PARK

Street Food Cinema, LA's largest outdoor cinema and music series is back! More than just a movie screening, the series showcases local food trucks and live bands, and includes interactive audience games, concessions, themed photo ops, local vendors, and special guest appearances. Most locations also feature a full bar and offer a dog-friendly atmosphere! 8:30pm, Will Rogers State Historic Park, 1501 Will Rogers State Park Rd.

HEAL THE BAY AQUARIUM HOSTS THE "TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF THE OCEAN AND ITS WAVES" ART EXHIBITION AND PANEL DISCUSSION

Engage in meaningful discussion on the powerful relationship of science and surfing and the cumulative impact in healing individuals, communities, and nature conservation. Join for an inspiring evening celebrating the ocean and the powerful therapeutic impacts of surfing through an immersive audiovisual art exhibit and panel discussion. Curated by Costa Rican surf community by Author/Photographer Ivana Bajic and Heal the Bay award-winning Aquarium. Light refreshments will be served throughout the night from our donation-based beverage bar. 6:00 pm https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-transformative-power-of-the-ocean-and-its-waves-panel-exhibition-tickets-688169311937?aff=ebdsoporgprofile

SUNDAY | AUGUST 27

SANTA MONICA AIRPORT ANTIQUE MARKET

Noted as One of the Top Ten "Flea Markets' in America, visit the Santa Monica Airport Antique Market, a fun outdoor (and dog-friendly!) market full of many great dealers with furniture, antiques, collectibles, art, vintage clothes, jewelry, rugs and much more. Located next to the Museum of Flying. 7:00 am - 3:00 pm Santa Monica Airport, 2800-3200 Airport Ave.

MONDAY | AUGUST 28

BABY/LAP-SIT STORYTIME

Use movement, song, and play to help your little ones grow and to promote bonding. This program is intended for babies 0 - 18 months and their caregivers. 10:30 a.m. Venice - Abbot Kinney Memorial Branch Library https://www.lapl.org/whats-on/events/babylap-sit-storytime

TUESDAY | AUGUST 29

CRUNCHES AND COCKTAILS AT LANEA

Every Tuesday join Yoga Sculpt at Corepower Santa Monica at 5:30pm then head to Lanea for some apps on them and Happy Hour all night long! All Corepower students get 10% off at Lanea and Cult Santa Monica every day. Just show your CPY App Member Card! Lanea, 217 Broadway.

SOCIAL SERVICE ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY PROVIDENCE ST. JOHN'S COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAM

Help with family nutrition and health care access is resuming at Virginia Avenue Park thanks to Providence St. John's Community Health Program. Trained community health workers will be available to meet in person with community members at the Park Center Building in Virginia Avenue Park. The first Tuesday of the month 11:30 am to 7 pm and 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Tuesdays from 9:30 am to 5 pm. Virginia Avenue Park. 2200 Virginia Ave.

WEDNESDAY | AUGUST 30

AUTHOR TALK WITH JEFF SELINGO

Spend an hour with bestselling author Jeff Selingo, who immersed himself in the world of admissions for a year to answer the question on the minds of teenagers and their parents: how do colleges select their freshman class? The result is his most recent book, Who Gets In and Why: A Year Inside College Admissions, named one of the 100 Notable Books of 2020 by the New York Times. Online event 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM https://libraryc.org/smclibrary/31109/register

For help submitting an event, contact us at
310-458-7737 or submit to events@smdp.com



SURF REPORT

WATER TEMP: **68.7**

SATURDAY *FAIR*	**SURF:**	3-4ft+ Waist to shoulder	Generally looking very similar to past couple days, but likely to start losing a little gas. Primarily modest SSW swell running with AM wind/ conditions best.
SUNDAY *POOR TO FAIR*	**SURF:**	3-4ft Waist to chest	Small SSW-S swell lingers, but keeping rideable surf going for the better exposed breaks

WEATHER

Saturday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, cloudy through mid morning, then gradual clearing.
Saturday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 64.
Sunday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, partly sunny, with a high near 76.
Sunday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 65.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2023/08/26	Sat	12:55 AM	0.30	L
2023/08/26	Sat	08:08 AM	3.47	H
2023/08/26	Sat	11:21 AM	3.13	L
2023/08/26	Sat	5:58 PM	5.82	H
2023/08/27	Sun	01:42 AM	-0.30	L
2023/08/27	Sun	08:30 AM	3.81	H
2023/08/27	Sun	12:37 PM	2.81	L
2023/08/27	Sun	6:59 PM	6.33	H
2023/08/28	Mon	02:24 AM	-0.78	L
2023/08/28	Mon	08:56 AM	4.16	H
2023/08/28	Mon	1:35 PM	2.33	L
2023/08/28	Mon	7:52 PM	6.78	H
2023/08/29	Tue	03:03 AM	-1.07	L
2023/08/29	Tue	09:25 AM	4.52	H
2023/08/29	Tue	2:26 PM	1.82	L
2023/08/29	Tue	8:40 PM	7.01	H
2023/08/30	Wed	03:40 AM	-1.12	L
2023/08/30	Wed	09:56 AM	4.88	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: 8/23
25 30 32 33 55
Power#: 20
Jackpot: 345 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 8/22
1 12 26 36 50
Mega#: 7
Jackpot: 52 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 8/23
18 20 30 37 44
Mega#: 19
Jackpot: 12 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 8/24
7 8 10 32 36

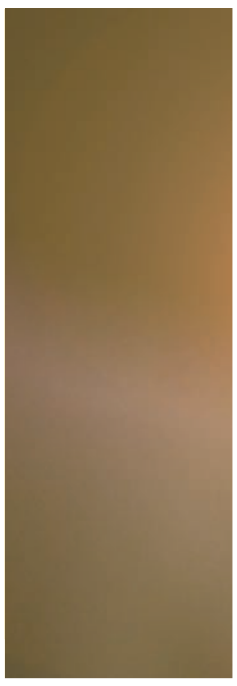
Daily 3
Draw Date: 8/24
EVENING: 2 8 0
Draw Date: 8/24
MIDDAY: 8 2 5

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 8/24
1st: 04 - Big Ben
2nd: 01 - Gold Rush
3rd: 03 - Hot Shot
Race Time: 1:43.12

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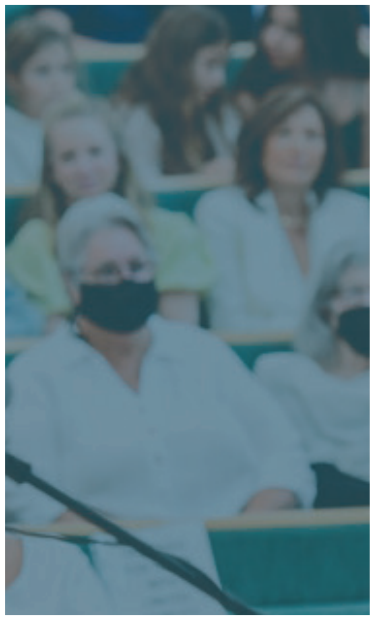
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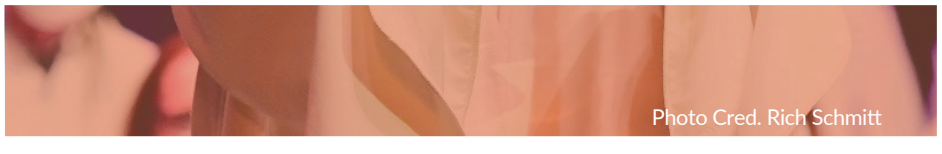


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