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Local Bitcoin business cleaned money for scammers and criminals

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

A Santa Monica man is facing up to five years in federal prison for helping criminals launder money through his cryptocurrency-cash exchange company.

Charles James Randol, 33, agreed to plead guilty to failure to maintain an effective anti-money laundering (AML) program at his business this week and the U.S. Attorney's office said the deal will be finalized in the coming weeks.

Randol's company, Digital Coin Strategies LLC. offered to exchange cryptocurrency like Bitcoin for cash or vice versa for a commission. The business allowed anonymous customers to complete in-person transactions, controlled a network of automated kiosks and conducted Bitcoin-for-cash transactions for unknown individuals who mailed large amounts of U.S. currency to him, including to post office boxes that he controlled.

According to the Justice Department, Randol falsely claimed the business was fully compliant with money service rules.

"In fact, as Randol admitted in his plea agreement, he repeatedly violated federal law and his company's own AML policies by facilitating suspicious currency exchange transactions and taking steps to conceal them from law enforcement, including by failing to file required currency

SEE **CRYPTO** PAGE 7

Power problem pivots Samohi to 3-day week



Photo by Thomas Leffler

SAMOHI CLOSURE: Santa Monica High School was closed for classes on Tuesday due to a fuse issue over the Labor Day weekend. The closure also impacted food service throughout the district but officials were able to restore power in time for school on Wednesday.

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

A potential power disaster was solved Tuesday morning at Santa Monica High School, ending a problematic weekend at the campus that led to a 4-day weekend for students.

On Saturday morning, two of the three wires providing the major electrical feed for Samohi's campus shorted out, requiring a replacement fuse to be installed. The resulting power outage lasted through early Tuesday morning, causing Samohi to be closed for classes on Tuesday, extending an already long weekend for students due to the Labor Day holiday.

Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Chief Operations Officer Carey Upton said that a similar power issue impacted the campus two weeks prior, with a fuse break on the side of power provider Southern California Edison (SCE). Over the weekend, however, it was confirmed that the problem was with Samohi's major power feed, which was installed over a decade ago during construction of the campus Innovation Building.

"On Sunday, the high voltage electrical contractor determined the cause and made the repair," Upton said. "This happening over Labor Day weekend made finding a replacement fuse very difficult. One was located by midday Sunday, but by that time the SCE crew was not available to re-energize the campus. SCE crews arrived

SEE **OUTAGE** PAGE 7

Montana businesses reopen after trio of burglary attempts

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Montana Ave. merchants are responding to a rash of burglaries on the street that has caused thousands of dollars worth of damage to several establishments.

According to the Santa Monica Police Department (SMPD), Margo's, Bardonna and Pinkberry were hit early Monday morning. Thieves successfully entered Margo's after breaking one of the windows. In addition to the thousands of dollars in damage, they stole several thousand dollars in cash from the establishment.

SMPD said they only have a vague description of the suspects at this time as they are seen wearing ski masks and leaving in a dark colored sedan. However, Lt. Erika Aklufi said detectives are still gathering evidence.

"We're still investigating it and there's no-one in custody at this time," she said. "We're gathering video from the street."

While the other two businesses were damaged, there are no reports of theft from those establishments. Aklufi said if the criminals damaged the windows but were unable to enter, those calls would be classified as vandalism rather than burglary but she stressed that officers are actively working the case and all information is preliminary at this time.

While not one of the burglarized businesses, Divine Vintage reported a shoplifting incident the same day as the burglaries and

SEE **MONTANA** PAGE 6



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School Board to continue COVID fallout discussions

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

The 2023-24 academic year at Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District is the first to begin a return to normalcy, after the COVID-19 pandemic triggered several district protocols.

Thursday's regular meeting of the SMMUSD Board of Education will continue discussions related to COVID-19 resolutions rescinded at the board's Aug. 3 meeting. At that meeting, the board gave six yes votes (with Board President Maria Leon-Vazquez absent) to rescind two prior resolutions, one that enacted a COVID-19 vaccine requirement for district employees, and another that enacted mandatory surveillance testing for district students. Thursday's discussion will allow Board Member Stacy Rouse to explain a request to reconsider language in the resolutions, particularly as it pertains to Level II volunteers in the district.

The first resolution relating to district employees was adopted on March 9, 2022, replacing health and safety protocols previously adopted on Aug. 10, 2021. The resolution adopted protocols for vaccination for district employees, surveillance testing for employees with approved vaccine exemptions, and adopted a mandatory testing policy for district employees that required evidence of a negative COVID-19 test at the start of the school year.

For students, the March 2022 resolution adopted COVID-19 protocols that included weekly surveillance testing for students requiring evidence of a negative COVID-19 test result to access district campuses and facilities. The resolution also "strongly recommended" students wear a face mask indoors.



File Photo

SCHOOL BOARD: The latest in the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District, including school health and financial matters, will be on Thursday's Board of Education agenda.

Both resolutions were rescinded in August partly due to the end of public health emergencies related to COVID-19. In May, the World Health Organization declared an end to the COVID-19 public health emergency, with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services following suit the same month. Los Angeles County's local public health emergency declaration for the disease ended on March 31.

Thursday's school board meeting will also include a scheduled 45-minute session with an independent Financial Oversight Committee (FOC) regarding district financial matters. The FOC was appointed as part of requirements associated with annual funds given to SMMUSD by the City of Santa Monica, and the FOC will be giving an annual report to the district board.

The FOC formed seven subcommittees for the 2022-23 fiscal year, with each subcommittee to present a year-end update on progress and recommendations for potential areas of focus in the 2023-24 school year. The subcommittees presenting findings on Thursday will include budget recommendations, tax revenue and assessed valuation, bond oversight, and financial communication and reporting.

A resolution adopting recognition of National Hispanic/Latino Heritage Month will also be brought to the district board, with the month recognized from September 15 through October 15. The resolution states that SMMUSD will join "with all Americans in celebrating this rich and diverse culture, and encourages all members of our community to recognize the important role of Hispanics in creating and building this great nation." The resolution also states that "appropriate lessons and units of study about the contributions of Americans of Hispanic/Latino descent" will take place not just during the month, but throughout the school year.

School Board will meet on Thursday, Sept. 7 at 5:30 p.m. in the district offices (1717 4th St.).

thomas@smdp.com



Man arrested after trying to rape a woman in her home



Courtesy photo

ARREST: The suspect was arrested after attempting to assault a woman in her apartment.

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Santa Monica Police Department (SMPD) has arrested a 29-year-old Cordell Dionte Studley for assault with intent to commit rape.

According to SMPD at approximately 1 a.m., Santa Monica Police Dispatch received a call from a resident in the 1500 block of 15th St.

The caller stated she woke up to a nude male who was standing next to her bed. After a brief struggle, the victim was able to open the front door of the apartment and force the attacker out.

Santa Monica Police Forensics Unit as well as Detectives responded. Studley was seen at the apartment complex two times on the previous day and identified as the suspect.

Police issued an alert for Studley and arrested him on Monday morning.

editor@smdp.com

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 AUGUST 19

SMPD officers responded to the 1300 block of Wilshire Blvd for a reported theft at Rite Aid. A store employee witnessed the suspect, Angelo Vajda from Los Angeles, steal approximately $120 worth of merchandise from the store. Rite-Aid personnel followed Vajda outside the store and watched him enter Target located a few blocks away and steal additional items. SMPD located the suspect at a nearby bus stop in possession of the stolen items. Vajda was arrested for shoplifting. A records check revealed Vajda had an active warrant for Grand Theft with Hawthorne PD.

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed proposals for

- **RFP: #375 PARKING STRUCTURE ADVERTISING**
- **Submission Deadline Is September 29, 2023, at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.**

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

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed proposals for

- **RFP: #373B PART-TIME EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES NURSE EDUCATOR**
- **Submission Deadline Is September 15, 2023, at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.**

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

City of Santa Monica

City of Santa Monica
Ordinance Number 2754 (CCS)
(City Council Series)

AN INTERIM ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA TO: (1) PROMOTE ECONOMIC RECOVERY IN THE CITY'S DOWNTOWN DISTRICTS, INCLUDING THE THIRD STREET PROMENADE AREA, AND (2) PROVIDE OTHER MINOR AND CLERICAL AMENDMENTS TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE RELATED TO ECONOMIC RECOVERY

The following is a summary of Ordinance Number 2754 (CCS) prepared by the Office of the City Attorney:

Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC) Article 9 establishes particular uses in the Downtown and Third Street Promenade areas of the City. Due to the continued economic uncertainty arising out of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the high vacancy rate along the Promenade in the Downtown area, this Interim Zoning Ordinance ("IZO") amends SMMC Chapters 9.04, 9.10, 9.21, 9.28, 9.31, and 9.44, to: (1) provide greater flexibility for restaurants that provide entertainment within the Third Street Promenade Area District; (2) expand Alcohol Exemption (AE) permits to additional uses to further streamline the review of alcohol permits while also correcting and refining existing AE permit conditions; (3) enable the Director of Planning to consider commercial uses that are not clearly defined in the Zoning Code; (4) extend terms for Temporary Use Permits; and (5) allow outdoor rooftop commercial uses on public parking structures owned by the City. It also makes other minor updates to ensure consistency with other SMMC provisions.

The Ordinance will take effect thirty days after its adoption.

The full text of the above Ordinance is available upon request from the office of the City Clerk, located at 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica. Phone: (310) 458-8211.

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WINNER

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City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed proposals for

- **RFP: #377 PROFESSIONAL AUDITING SERVICES**
- **Submission Deadline Is October 3, 2023, at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.**

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

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites Contractors to complete and submit electronic bids for the:

Fire Stations 3 & 5 Apparatus Doors Replacement
SP2703

Bids will only be accepted through the CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL, OpenGov Procurement or https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca. They must be received by the specified date and time. Late bids will not be accepted. Please allow sufficient time for uploading of documents. The bid opening will be electronic, all submitted bids will be viewable by the public via OpenGov Procurement immediately after bid close time.

MANDATORY PRE-BID JOB WALK:
Thursday, September 7, 2023 – Refer below for time and location.
1. **Fire Station 3: 1302 19th St, Santa Monica, CA 90404 – at 9:30 a.m.**
2. **Fire Station 5: 2450 Ashland Ave, Santa Monica, CA 90405 – at 11:00 a.m.**

PROJECT ESTIMATE: $185,000.00
CONTRACT DAYS: 45 Calendar Days
LIQUIDATED DAMAGES: 150 Per Calendar Day

Bidding Documents may be obtained by logging onto the City's bidding website at: https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca. The Contractor is required to have an C-61 / D28 license at the time of bid submission. Contractors wishing to be considered must submit Bids containing all information required pursuant to the City's Request for Bids.

Pursuant to Public Contracts Code Section 22300, the Contractor shall be permitted to substitute securities for any monies withheld by the City to ensure performance under this Contract.

Public Works | Notice Inviting Bids – Over Threshold | January 2020

Oil prices spike as Saudi Arabia, Russia extend 1.3 million barrel a day oil cut through December

JON GAMBRELL
Associated Press

Saudi Arabia and Russia agreed Tuesday to extend their voluntary oil production cuts through the end of this year, trimming 1.3 million barrels of crude out of the global market and boosting energy prices.

The dual announcements from Riyadh and Moscow pushed benchmark Brent crude above $90 a barrel in trading Tuesday afternoon, a price unseen in the market since November.

The countries' moves could increase inflation and the cost for motorists at gasoline pumps. It also puts new pressure on Saudi Arabia's relationship with the United States, as President Joe Biden last year warned the kingdom there would be unspecified "consequences" for partnering with Russia on cuts as Moscow wages war on Ukraine.

Saudi Arabia's announcement, carried by the state-run Saudi Press Agency, said the country still would monitor the market and could take further action if necessary.

"This additional voluntary cut comes to reinforce the precautionary efforts made by OPEC+ countries with the aim of supporting the stability and balance of oil markets," the Saudi Press Agency report said, citing an unnamed Energy Ministry official.

State-run Russian news agency Tass quoted Alexander Novak, Russia's deputy prime minister and former energy minister, as saying Moscow would continue its 300,000 barrel a day cut.

The decision "is aimed at strengthening the precautionary measures taken by OPEC+ countries in order to maintain stability and balance of oil markets," Novak said.

Benchmark Brent crude traded Tuesday above $90 a barrel after the announcement. Brent had largely hovered between $75 and $85 a barrel since last October. A barrel of West Texas Intermediate, a benchmark for America, traded over $87 a barrel.

The White House did not immediately respond to a request for comment, though Biden and U.S. lawmakers have criticized Saudi Arabia and Russia over their past production decisions.

Bob McNally, the founder and president of the Washington-based Rapidan Energy Group and a former White House energy adviser, said Saudi Arabia and Russia had "demonstrated their unity and resolve to proactively manage" the risk of oil prices potentially dropping in tougher economic conditions with their announcement Tuesday.

"Barring a sharp economic downturn, these supply cuts will drive deep deficits into global oil balances and should propel crude oil prices well above $90 per barrel," McNally said.

The average gallon of regular unleaded gasoline in the U.S. stands at $3.81, according to AAA, just under the all-time high for Labor Day of $3.83 in 2012. However, gasoline demand typically drops for U.S. motorists after the holiday so it remains unclear what immediate effect this could have on the American market, AAA spokesman Andrew Gross said.

"I'm more concerned about what the rest of hurricane season may hold," Gross told The Associated Press. "A big storm along the Gulf coast could move prices dramatically here."

Hurricane Idalia just plowed through Florida and U.S. forecasters said Tuesday that a new tropical depression in the Atlantic Ocean could become a "major hurricane."

Meanwhile, higher gasoline prices can increase transportation costs and ultimately push the prices of goods even higher at a time when the U.S. and much of the world is already raising interest rates to combat inflation.

"The impact these cuts will have on inflation and economic policy in the West is hard to predict, but higher oil prices will only increase the likelihood of more fiscal tightening, especially in the U.S., to curtail inflation," said Jorge Leon, a senior vice president at Rystad Energy. "Western leaders, wary of an oil price spike, could explore import adjustments or open diplomatic discussions to help mitigate the impact and tame inflation."

The Saudi reduction, which began in July, comes as the other OPEC+ producers have agreed to extend earlier production cuts through next year.

A series of production cuts over the past year has failed to substantially boost prices amid weakened demand from China and tighter monetary policy aimed at combating inflation. But with international travel back up to nearly pre-pandemic levels, the demand for oil likely will continue to rise.

The Saudis are particularly keen to boost oil prices in order to fund Vision 2030, an ambitious plan to overhaul the kingdom's economy, reduce its dependence on oil and to create jobs for a young population.

The plan includes several massive infrastructure projects, including the construction of a futuristic $500 billion city called Neom.

But Saudi Arabia also has to manage its relationship with Washington. Biden campaigned on a promise of making the kingdom's powerful Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman a "pariah" over the 2018 killing of Washington Post columnist Jamal Khashoggi.

In recent months, tensions eased slightly as Biden's administration sought a deal with Riyadh for it to diplomatically recognize Israel.

But those talks include Saudi Arabia pushing for a nuclear cooperation deal that includes America allowing it to enrich uranium in the kingdom — something that worries nonproliferation experts, as spinning centrifuges open the door to a possible weapons program.

Prince Mohammed already has said the kingdom would pursue an atomic bomb if Iran had one, potentially creating a nuclear arms race in the region as Tehran's program

SEE **OIL** PAGE 6

A Trump-Biden rematch may be on the horizon in 2024, whether voters like it or not

STEVE PEOPLES
AP National Political Writer

The end of Labor Day weekend would typically mark the start of a furious sprint to the Iowa caucuses as candidates battle for their party's presidential nomination. But as the 2024 campaign comes into greater focus, the usual frenzy is yielding to a sense of inevitability.

Among Republicans, Donald Trump is dominating the primary field, outpacing rivals with resumes as governors, diplomats and entrepreneurs that would normally prove compelling. The former president's strength comes despite — or perhaps because of — multiple criminal indictments that threaten to overshadow any serious debate about the future of the country. And for now, the tens of millions of dollars that Republican rivals are pouring into the race are doing little to diminish Trump's stature, fueling concerns among his GOP critics who fear the primary is essentially over before it begins.

> "I just can't imagine things markedly changing. So, it appears that past is prologue"
>
> - Gavin Newsom California Gov.

As one troubled front-runner tightens his grip on the Republican nomination, President Joe Biden is on a glide path to victory on the Democratic side. The 80-year-old incumbent is facing only token opposition for the Democratic nomination despite concerns about his age and performance from many within his own party.

Whether voters like it or not, a Trump-Biden rematch may be on the horizon, raising the prospect of a deeply uncertain election season that only intensifies the nation's political divide. Already, Trump is skipping his party's presidential debates and his court appearances are sometimes drawing more attention than his campaign stops. And Biden has barely begun to campaign as he grapples with questions about his age and his son's legal challenges.

"I just can't imagine things markedly changing. So, it appears that past is prologue," California Gov. Gavin Newsom, a Democrat, said in an interview, praising Biden's record of achievement while warning his party against underestimating Trump's political strength.

Newsom said concerns about Biden's age "are fair game and the White House knows it."

"But if age equals results," he went on, "I'm looking forward to his 85th birthday."

On the Republican side, dread is building among some donors and party leaders who hoped conservative voters would move past Trump given the Jan. 6 attack on the Capitol he inspired and his serious legal challenges.

"A Trump-Biden rematch would be a disaster for the country. I'm very depressed about it," said Bobbie Kilberg, a prominent Republican donor who is supporting former New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie. She said it's "scary" that so many voters in her party continue to support the former president. "I refuse to believe that Trump is our inevitable nominee."

There is time for the 2024 landscape to shift.

Four months remain before the first votes are cast in the Iowa caucuses and the general election is more than a year away. And recent history has plenty of examples of overlooked and seemingly overmatched candidates who proved the conventional wisdom wrong. Both Trump and Biden are among them.

There are also significant variables.

Abortion continues to scramble elections — even in GOP strongholds like Kansas, Kentucky and Ohio — as voters reject Republican efforts to restrict access to the procedure. A greater backlash is possible as the courts review access to a commonly used abortion pill.

And Trump is facing 91 felony charges in criminal proceedings unfolding in Washington, New York, South Florida and Atlanta. They involve everything from his handling of classified information to his efforts to overturn the 2020 election to orchestrating hush money payments to a porn actor.

The former president could be a convicted felon before the general election is decided next November. Still, party leaders — including most of his Republican primary opponents — have vowed to support him even if he's convicted. And nothing in the Constitution bars felons from assuming the presidency.

At the same time, Democratic officials are deeply concerned about the prospect of a third-party bid under the banner of No Labels, a centrist group backed by a $70 million budget actively working to secure a place on the presidential ballot in at least 20 states this year.

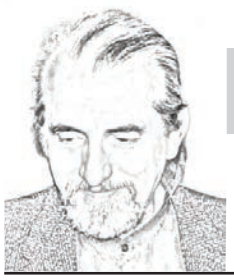
Group leaders insist they would nominate a candidate next spring only as "an insurance policy" should Trump and Biden win their respective primaries, which appears increasingly likely. And then, No Labels would move forward only if it's certain that its presidential nominee wouldn't unintentionally help Trump win reelection.

Democratic leaders aren't convinced.

Several current and former elected officials have been in close contact with the organization, including Sen. Joe Manchin, D-West Virginia, former Utah Gov. Jon Huntsman and former Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan.

Louisiana Sen. Bill Cassidy, a Republican who says he supports No Labels' mission, did not rule out running as a No Labels

SEE **ELECTION** PAGE 8



OPINION **CURIOUS CITY**

Charles Andrews | Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Insanity

BULLDOZING THE SANTA MONICA CIVIC?

No, that's not what I was thinking of when I chose the headline. In fact – hold on to yer hats – I believe the fate of the Civic is something reasonable people could disagree about. Some could have good reasons to choose selling it, disposing of it.

But they would be wrong. And history would condemn them.

But I will get to that later. What, then, is the insanity I was referencing?

CALLING CLIMATE CHANGE A HOAX

In 2023, as the world burns, glaciers melt, the Amazon chokes, the seas rise and are clogged with island-sized flotillas of plastic waste, and a hurricane hits LA. That hoax claim was put forth recently, not in an insane "asylum" but on a stage clogged with the ship of fools vying for the Republican party nomination for president of the United States. And the audience cheered.

And the craziest one wasn't even there. Trump of course is a lock on the GOP nomination for president, even, according to a poll of Republican voters, if he has been convicted of a federal crime. Even.... if he is in prison on 1/20/25.

But wait, there's more.

The ultra-conservative Heritage Foundation, who has buttressed Trump's every crazy move with "academic" justifications, is now putting together a coalition of many conservative groups to support (with a march on Washington) and activate his avowed concentration of all power in the executive branch, taking centuries-long Constitutional powers away from Congress, the courts, the Justice Department. His/their plan would strip the status of 50,000 pesky, law enforcing federal employees, so they could be fired.

He is no longer tiptoeing around his drive to be the dictator of the United States – if successful there is no doubt he will declare himself President for Life, a notion he blessed some years ago. And then (unless we have top military leaders who are able to follow their oath to the Constitution), all bets are off.

JUST IMAGINE A KING TRUMP AND ALL THAT WOULD MEAN

If you have been paying attention, you know I am not being nuts about this. It is nuts. And the audience cheered. Insane. And – possible. Look how close his win was over Hillary.

I don't think it will happen. I don't think he will be elected again because I believe enough frightened, sane voters will rise up, wait all day in the rain to vote, and maybe then we can relax a little.

But – all those tens of millions who would vote for him again, and for the McConnells and Cruzes and DeSanti, Boberts and MTGs, the cheering lunatics, are still with us. We will not be out of these woods for a long time. But is it insanity? By definition, yes. But there is a lot behind where we have come to today, that I will not go into. Let's just say it takes only a handful of ruthless, heartless, savvy individuals to create an insanity that makes them billionaires.

IS THERE HOPE?

I think so. Lately I have been listening less to CNN and more to Marianne Williamson, whose ideas on how to govern this nation are more sane and even more practical than you probably think, and to Rev. Michael Beckwith, who started his Agape congregation in his living room before moving it to a couple of locations in Santa Monica, and now he is in demand worldwide.

What appears to be hopeless ignorance and evil intent just might be the dying screams of an old order.

The crazies get the attention, but the vast majority of people have good will toward all, and just want to live their lives in peace and harmony. We do have to be careful, because the forces of intentional chaos are well-funded and organized. But how many wise teachers throughout time have told us, if you want to change the world, change yourself. Add that to the message of the most popular and influential band ever, All You Need is Love, and there just might be another, hopeful way to view this spiraling madness.

You need a pulpit, Charles, not a newspaper column. Nope, I'm a practical guy, just trying to give voice to the fears and hopes I hear from my friends and neighbors. If I thought I was the only one who thought this way, I'd keep my mouth shut. But whenever I'm hesitant about putting some idea into print, sure as shootin' I get a note saying, that's exactly how I feel about it, but I thought I was the only one. So, don't worry, be happy, every little thing is gonna be alright. (As long as you VOTE!)

SO, YEAH, THAT CIVIC AUDITORIUM

It hasn't made money for years, it's in need of expensive renovation, Santa Monica is broke (because we had to pay out $220,000,000 to victims of a pedophile in our government), and we would get a quick and large infusion of cash if we let it go. If this was just a building, it's a compelling argument.

This small auditorium has a richer history for Santa Monica than you can probably imagine.

You've hopefully seen one of the lists before. Dylan, Pink Floyd, the Stones, MLK Jr., the Dead, Pete Seeger, the Dalai Lama, Streisand getting her Oscar for "Funny Girl," and on and on. This building is oozing more momentous history than any its size, in any city our size. This is unique and it is precious and it should not

SEE **CURIOUS CITY** PAGE 6

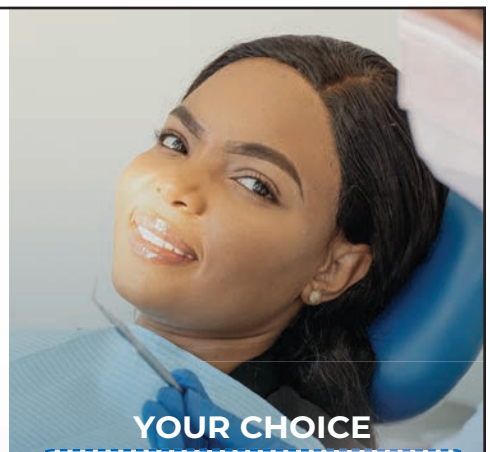
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MONTANA

FROM PAGE 1

owner Nick Dumerge said he feels incredibly frustrated at the current rise in theft in Santa Monica.

Having been open only since Thanksgiving, Divine Vintage has already reported multiple instances of theft to the police but Dumerge said he's feeling helpless at the lack of repercussions for the thieves.

"We just opened. We want to be here, but we've got no support from the city or police," says Dumerge. "They keep saying their hands are tied... and nothing gets done, and everyone blames everyone." Calling Santa Monica a "broken city," he points out that "Manhattan Beach has got the same laws, this doesn't happen. Beverly Hills has got the same laws, this doesn't happen."

Dumerge and his business partner, Jennifer Rush, have had to make big changes to their business to counter threats of shoplifting, including going cashless and removing their sale rack from outside their steps. Dumerge is even "suspicious of doing consignment" anymore, a staple component of vintage shopping, to ensure sellers don't lose out on their products to theft. Now, they are considering doing future business endeavors in other cities because of this growing problem, seen especially this past weekend on Montana Ave.

Local entrepreneur Mark Verge is the co-owner of Margo's and several other restaurants in the city. He said that he's had businesses in the city for his entire life but has never had to deal with anything like the brazen burglary this weekend.

"My major concern is for my employees safety and well being, not necessarily the damage to the property or losses," he said.

Unlike Dumerge, Verge praised the law enforcement response to his burglary.

"The response from the Santa Monica Police Department has been phenomenal, and the City as a whole has shown an outpouring of concern," he said. "We are lucky to be in a place as great as Santa Monica."

Local businesses have been targeted by burglary sprees in the past with criminals often targeting establishments of a similar type or location.

Santa Monica's overall crime rates are still below pre-pandemic levels but there has been an increase in recent years from historic lows. Recently local crime has been driven largely by theft, vandalism and simple assault.

Verge said the money wasn't what hurt most about the break-in.

"The thing I'm most upset about is that the crooks took my copy of the Santa Monica Daily Press," he said.

Antoinette Damico contributed to this report.

OIL

FROM PAGE 4

continues to advance closer to weapons-grade levels. Saudi Arabia and Iran reached a détente in recent months, though the region remains tense amid the wider tensions between Iran and the U.S.

Higher oil prices would also help Russian President Vladimir Putin fund his war on Ukraine. Western countries have used a price cap to try to cut into Moscow's revenues. But those sanctions have seen Moscow be forced to sell its oil at a discount to countries like China and India.

CURIOUS CITY

FROM PAGE 5

be for sale. In a couple of years, if we just let it be until we can figure out a way to bring it back to life, Santa Monica will be back on its fiscal feet again. If that is just impossible we can consider again selling it for the valuable land it sits on, and it would probably be worth even more. But once it's gone... no one wants to point to an empty lot or apartment building or hotel and say, the world-famous Santa Monica Civic used to be there...

We have stood helpless while so much of our Santa Monica history and character has been thrown on the trash heap for a few bucks, gone forever. Where does that leave us? We are NOT just another faceless beach city. We are Santa Monica. And those of us fortunate enough to live here now have an obligation, to our history and to our future, to protect it. We do not belong to the developers and their politicians and we must stand up for that, now, with this building, this issue. Yes, it is important.

Charles Andrews has lived in Santa Monica for 37 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

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OUTAGE

FROM PAGE 1

(Tuesday) morning."

Once the campus regained power Tuesday morning, district staff worked to bring the campus back up to use for afternoon athletic events and a normal Wednesday class schedule.

The Tuesday closure also included the Infant Toddler Center on campus, and project-based learning pathway students had their school day on the campus of Santa Monica College. Essential staff was called in to work, and all other SMMUSD students attended classes at their respective campuses.

Upton said that a provision in the district's education code allows for school days to be missed and not made up for certain "allowable" reasons, a power outage being one of them.

"It is unfortunate that this situation has a snowball effect requiring the loss of a school day, however, we are unable to have school without lighting, including in restrooms, heating, ventilation, air conditioning (HVAC), no phones, other electrical needs, and no use of the kitchen to provide food services for students," SMMUSD Superintendent Dr. Antonio Shelton said in a Monday press release.

The Samohi kitchen serves as the district's kitchen for all Santa Monica-based schools, with the power outage forcing a clean up and restocking of refrigerated food and supplies. Students that attended other SMMUSD schools on Tuesday were served a usual breakfast, as food was stored on sites prior to the outage. A lunch of pizza, salads and fruit was served, however, no special diet items were available on Tuesday. Families were encouraged to prepare lunch for students during the outage, and Shelton said that he and the district "appreciate parent cooperation" through the "challenge."

Student athletes received instructions from coaches on arriving at school for games, with both the Samohi girls volleyball team and girls tennis squads competing on Tuesday.

thomas@smdp.com

CRYPTO

FROM PAGE 1

transaction reports and suspicious activity reports," said a statement by the Justice Department.

Randol is accused of conducting in-person transactions with individuals he knew only by internet handles such as "Puppet Shariff," "White Jetta," "Aaavvv," "Aaaa," "Yogurt Monster," and "Hood." Those transactions were frequently in excess of $10,000. Three specific transactions, totaling $273,940 in cash for Bitcoin were conducted without gathering any of the required identification information.

Prosecutors said that while operating his crypto-exchange business, Randol also conducted hundreds of Bitcoin-for-cash transactions after receiving large cash shipments in the mail from anonymous individuals.

In those cases, Randol received the packages of suspicious cash that was packaged inside children's books, concealed inside fake birthday or holiday presents, buried within puzzle pieces, or wrapped within multiple magazines.

In 2019, the FBI contacted Randol over receipt of fraud proceeds. While Randol subsequently told customers he would be taking a hiatus from the business, he continued with his illegal practices.

Prosecutors said Randol's service was used to help scammers steal from victims.

"For example, between June 2018 and early 2020, Randol exchanged Bitcoin for cash that was mailed to him by a New Jersey resident who had been tricked into believing his grandson was facing criminal prosecution after purportedly killing an elderly woman in a traffic accident and that the money the victim was sending would be used to help the victim's grandson with his legal problems," said the release. "Based on these lies, the victim drained his savings and retirement accounts. While Randol did not participate in the fraud, his business converted the victim's cash to cryptocurrency and sent it to various digital wallets without conducting any customer due diligence or investigating the source of the money he was receiving."

The kiosk business was also used inappropriately with Randol allowing customers to make transactions without creating accounts or providing identification.

Randol continued the behavior even after hiring a compliance officer for Digital Coin Strategies who warned him about the company's risk of receiving illegal funds.

editor@smdp.com

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City of Santa Monica
Ordinance Number 2753 (CCS)
(City Council Series)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA REPEALING SANTA MONICA MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 4.08.270 AND AMENDING SECTION 4.12.180 TO PROHIBIT GAS POWERED LEAF BLOWERS, ALLOWING FOR ELECTRIC LEAF BLOWERS, INCLUDING AMENDMNETS TO THE ENFORCEMENT PROVISIONS

The following is a summary of Ordinance Number 2753 (CCS) prepared by the Office of the City Attorney:

Ordinance Number 2753 (CCS) ("the Ordinance") REPEALS Santa Monica Municipal Code section 4.0.270 and amends Santa Monica Municipal Code section 4.12.180 to prohibit gas powered leaf blowers while allowing for electric leaf blowers, including amendments to the enforcement provisions. Currently, Santa Monica Municipal Code section 4.08.270 prohibits, among other things, the operation of any motorized leaf blower within the City. This ordinance repeals that section and amends Santa Monica Municipal Code section 4.12.180 to include additional restrictions on gardening and landscaping activity, including a prohibition on the use of internal combustion/gasoline powered leaf blowers and a prohibition on the use of electric leaf blowers above 70 decibels. This ordinance also amends the enforcement provisions to define "responsible party" and provide for penalties and remedies.

The full text of the above Ordinance is available upon request from the office of the City Clerk, located at 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica. Phone: (310) 458-8211.

City of Santa Monica
Ordinance Number 2755 (CCS)
(City Council Series)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA TO AMEND THE TEXT OF THE CITY'S ZONING ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE INCENTIVES FOR CERTAIN HOUSING PROJECTS THAT FILED AN APPLICATION PRIOR TO IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CITY'S 6TH CYCLE (2021-2029) HOUSING ELEMENT

The following is a summary of Ordinance Number 2755 (CCS) prepared by the Office of the City Attorney:

Ordinance Number 2755 (CCS) ("the Ordinance")

The Ordinance establishes certain housing development incentives for applicants that have asserted eligibility for processing under the "builder's remedy" provision of the Housing Accountability Act ("HAA"), California Government Code section 65589.5(d). These housing project applications were filed prior to the State of California's Housing and Community Development Department's ("HCD") certification of the City's 6th Cycle (2021-2029) Housing Element on October 14, 2022.

The Ordinance applies to new multiple-unit dwelling projects with applications filed between June 1, 2023 and two years after the effective date of the ordinance, on parcels that meet the following requirements:

1. A preliminary application was filed for a housing development project pursuant to Government Code Section 65941.1 between September 30, and October 13, 2022; and

2. The preliminary application asserted eligibility for processing under the "builder's remedy" provision of the Housing Accountability Act, Government Code Section 65859.5(d).

The Ordinance provides an alternative means of providing housing on the sites subject to the builder's remedy applications by allowing applicants to be eligible for the housing development incentives resulting from Housing Element implementation, including increased height and FAR maximums in the City's nonresidential districts and streamlined ministerial approval process. The additional incentives provided by the Ordinance are related to offsite affordable housing requirements under the City's Affordable Housing Production Program ("AHPP"), eligibility for density bonuses for projects that provide affordable housing offsite in accordance with the AHPP, including incentives and concessions, waiver or reduction of building standards, and increased parking maximums in the Downtown Community Plan area.

Ordinance Number 2755 (CCS) was adopted on August 22, 2023, and will become effective 30 days from its adoption.

The full text of the above Ordinance is available upon request from the office of the City Clerk, located at 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica. Phone: (310) 458-8211.

ELECTION

FROM PAGE 5

presidential contender himself when asked during a recent interview.

"I don't want No Labels to run a candidate. I want the two parties to respond responsibly to the challenges before us," Cassidy said, indicating he wouldn't support Trump or Biden. He described a presidential bid of his own under the No Labels banner as a hypothetical he didn't want to comment on.

In ruling out Trump, the Louisiana Republican cited the criminal charges against the Republican former president, questions about his viability in the general election, and the former president's refusal to "be honest with the American people" about looming budget shortfalls in Social Security and Medicare.

Cassidy, a medical doctor, also raised concerns about Biden's physical and mental health. "He's just so obviously declining," he said.

Indeed, both Trump and Biden have glaring liabilities, according to a new poll by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research.

Biden is "old" and "confused," and Trump is "corrupt" and "dishonest." Those were among the top terms Americans use when asked to describe each party's leading presidential candidates.

But leaders in both parties are willing to overlook such problems.

Young Democrats of America President Quentin Wathum-Ocama concedes that young voters aren't necessarily enthusiastic about a Trump-Biden rematch, but he hopes that Trump's polarizing candidacy will give Wathum-Ocama's party the energy Biden cannot.

"Yes, people want a younger generation of politicians. We've always talked about Joe Biden as — even he's said — as a transitional figure in our political life," he said. "As much as we're seeing folks, for whatever reason, may not be excited or whatever, to me, it comes back to democracy is on the line."

With virtually no exceptions, Democratic officials in Congress and in key states are publicly rallying behind Biden's reelection.

Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, Biden's strongest challenger in the 2020 Democratic primary, endorsed Biden's reelection bid hours after it was announced this spring. Biden enlisted other would-be rivals for his national advisory board. The group includes Rep. Ro Khanna, D-Calif., Illinois Gov. J.B. Pritzker and Newsom.

Republicans have delighted in suggesting that Newsom plans to launch a primary challenge against Biden, something the California governor has repeatedly ruled out. That's even as Newsom teases the possibility of a high-profile debate against Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, who is among Trump's top Republican challengers.

Newsom said there would be a debate with the Florida governor, perhaps in November, although the camps are still working out the details.

"I get to do the one thing I look forward to doing more than anything else, and that's make the case for Joe Biden and what he's accomplished — and to do that one on one," he said of a DeSantis debate. "That's an opportunity, a platform I don't want to walk away from."

Meanwhile, in a show of confidence, the Trump campaign has already begun to pivot toward a general election matchup against Biden.

His team says he currently plans to skip all Republican presidential debates, sensing few consequences for skipping the first one last month. DeSantis, once thought to be a potent threat, has struggled to live up to expectations.

Trump's relationships across the party and his expansive political machine have made it extremely difficult for others to break through.

"The president benefits from having led the party for the last eight years," said Brian Jack, Trump's political director.

Trump is leading the fight for endorsements, winning the public backing of more members of Congress and statewide elected officials than the rest of the field combined.

The other candidates are also struggling to keep up with Trump's quiet campaign to control the delegate selection rules for individual state primaries. For example, Trump officials successfully pushed California Republicans to award all of the state's 169 delegates to the winner of their March 5 primary, instead of dolling out delegates to multiple candidates based on the proportion of their vote.

The payoff for that work became clear late last week when a pro-DeSantis super PAC scaled back its operations in Nevada and other states that host Republican primary contests in March, including California, North Carolina and Texas.

Given Trump's overwhelming advantages, some of Trump's powerful allies have begun to call for other Republican presidential candidates to give up. Miami Mayor Francis Suarez ended his short-lived White House bid last week after failing to qualify for the opening debate. But at least eight high-profile opponents remain.

"It has been clear for months that President Trump will be the Republican nominee," said Rep. Elise Stefanik, the No. 3 House Republican. "This election is the most important election in our lifetime, and I will continue to call on Republicans to coalesce our entire party apparatus behind President Trump's campaign."

While Trump remains the clear front-runner, he holds a wider margin nationally than he does in some of the early voting states. And influential Republicans there aren't ready to concede the nomination to Trump yet.

Gov. Chris Sununu of New Hampshire, which hosts the second Republican primary contest after Iowa, is working to boost Trump's GOP rivals, warning that Trump is too flawed to win the general election.

Former Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad, who served as Trump's ambassador to China, also has doubts about the former president's chances in the general election given the legal challenges that will play out for much of next year.

"The focus of the election ought to be on Biden and his record," Branstad said. "That's the thing that bothers me. It plays into the hands of the Democrats."

He added, "I think this thing is going to tighten up."

Even Trump isn't quite willing to say that he's already locked up the Republican presidential nomination.

"I don't want to say anything's over cause I don't say that," Trump said Friday on WABC. "I'm not a believer until it's over, right? As Yogi would say, 'Ain't over 'til it's over."

Associated Press writers Jill Colvin in New York and Sara Burnett in Chicago contributed to this report.



TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Sept. 6)

You will see distant places and thrive in the felicity of mutual interest. Not only will you form teams and work for something everyone wants, but you'll also enjoy hundreds of meaningful and perfectly matched exchanges in which people want exactly what you most wish to give them — and it's lucrative for all! Capricorn and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 40, 3, 8 and 11.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). It's hard to go in smiling when you are anxious about what's next, but even the smallest attitude adjustment can reduce your angst. With every task completed, you develop a stronger belief in your ability to handle challenges.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Progress is not always linear. Expecting it to be will set you up for difficulties. Today it's better to focus on your efforts than results. What matters is that your work has a continuous rhythm and that you don't give up.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Almost everything good in your world started out as a problem, but you turned it into treasure. You welcome the difficulties of the day and don't mind getting your hands dirty because you know the secret: Gold is found in the dirt.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You're so good at imagining yourself reaching a goal that you can envision the scene from many angles. Don't forget to add the dimension of feeling to this powerful exercise. With every pass, add more contentment and satisfaction.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). An insidious social media feed can make you aware of status signals you didn't even know existed until you started feeling bad about not having them. Steer to healthier influences. Spend time on activities that make you feel fulfilled.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You've a gift for brainstorming, and your talent is even hotter today than usual. There are hundreds of readily available ways to solve the same problem, and you'll come up with dozens more bespoke options perfectly suited to you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). When you think about your progress and all you've been able to attract, work for and maintain so far, you feel capable, lucky and grateful. Going forward, don't forget to celebrate minor achievements. It's good for morale.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Reaching out is a sign of strength. Your pride is not so fragile that it hinges on one accomplishment. You could get help with 100 things and it wouldn't diminish your capability or affect your worth, which is innate.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You've been assertive, fought when it was warranted, even changed the game with your rebellious spirit. But now it feels good to relax. You've earned this moment of comfort. Let down your guard and trust.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). External factors and personal circumstances contribute to your mood, but the strongest influence will be your determination to see what's good, beautiful and interesting around you. You're an explorer, giddy for discovery.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). People agree to terms they don't read every day — it's become a regular part of modern life. Today it will benefit you from reading some of the fine print — the part with the numbers.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You'll have the opportunity to make a sale. Whether it's about a product, idea or relationship, you will be charming and persuasive in your own laid-back way, mostly because your sincere desire is to help people out however you can.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

B	O	L	T	S	■	A	B	L	E	■	T	E	M	P
I	D	A	H	O	■	L	O	I	N	■	O	V	E	R
N	O	V	E	L	■	T	O	L	D	■	P	E	D	I
G	R	A	N	D	C	A	N	Y	O	N	■	R	I	D
■	■	■	■	E	E	R	■	■	R	E	G	G	A	E
A	S	H	O	R	E	■	P	I	S	T	O	L	■	■
M	O	O	N	S	■	T	I	M	E	■	O	A	F	S
M	A	T	E	■	E	A	V	E	S	■	I	D	E	A
O	R	S	O	■	S	L	O	T	■	P	E	E	L	S
■	■	P	U	P	P	E	T	■	B	U	R	S	T	S
T	A	R	T	A	R	■	■	D	O	N	■	■	■	■
A	S	I	■	Y	E	L	L	O	W	S	T	O	N	E
T	I	N	Y	■	S	E	A	M	■	T	O	K	E	N
E	D	G	E	■	S	A	K	E	■	E	R	R	E	D
R	E	S	T	■	O	P	E	D	■	R	E	A	D	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	9	3	1	7	6	4	8	2
6	2	8	3	4	9	5	1	7
4	1	7	8	5	2	6	3	9
8	4	9	6	3	1	7	2	5
2	3	1	7	9	5	8	4	6
7	5	6	4	2	8	3	9	1
9	6	2	5	8	3	1	7	4
1	8	4	9	6	7	2	5	3
3	7	5	2	1	4	9	6	8

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

Newsday Crossword

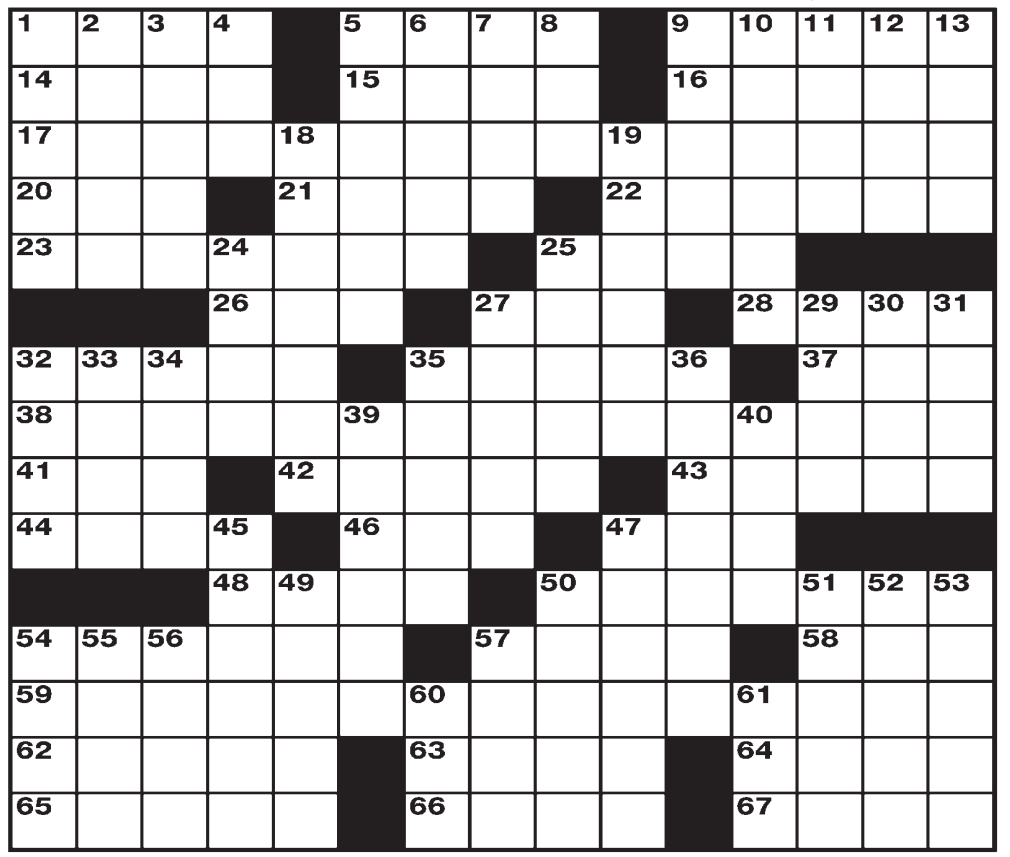
ON THE OUTSIDE by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Dress of India
5 Fraction of a marathon
9 Peruses
14 Choose not to include
15 All over again
16 Skylit hotel lobbies
17 Needless commotion
20 Be inquisitive
21 "Hold on!"
22 Make a gift
23 Put on again, as a show
25 Novelist Morrison
26 "Ready when you __"
27 What fills a basketball
28 Casino token
32 Dueler's weapon
35 Measures of 11 Down
37 Nation s. of Canada
38 Was the deciding factor
41 Chimp or gorilla
42 Rationed (out)
43 Makes angry
44 Give in a little
46 Tiny amount
47 Very wet ground
48 Is in debt
50 Without hope
54 Mischief maker
57 Type of pear
58 Dollar bill
59 Missile launcher ammunition
62 Detect, as an aroma
63 Colorful story
64 Very funny person
65 Publicizes heavily
66 "Yes" votes
67 Propels with oars

DOWN

1 As yet
2 Keep entertained
3 Takes a chance with
4 Part of TGIF
5 Be in charge of
6 Non-studio movie
7 Exited
8 Lamb's mom
9 Boca __, FL
10 Cuisine category
11 Surveyor's calculation
12 Garden soil
13 RSVP enclosure
18 Bestowed, as a trophy
19 Idolizes
24 Waterproof covering
25 Needing to take a break
27 Had sore muscles
29 Ship's framework
30 "Understood"
31 Decline to bid
32 Wild guess
33 Clean off with a towel
34 Unlock
35 Book of world maps
36 Squeeze into a ball
39 "I'm all ears"
40 Personal assistant
45 Tame, as petting-zoo animals
47 Green growths on tree trunks
49 Room boundaries
50 Sherlock creator Arthur Conan __
51 Book printer's sheet
52 At minimal power
53 Takes a break
54 Too quick to act
55 General's troops
56 A __ in the right direction
57 Donkey's sound
60 Approximate landing hr.
61 Goof up

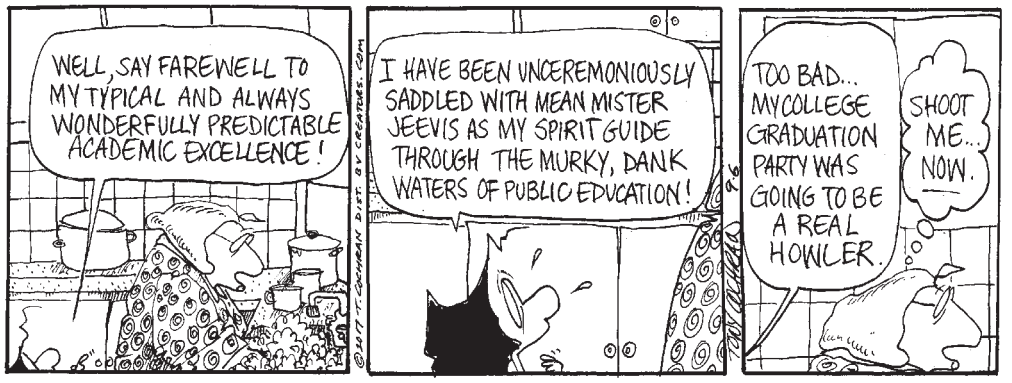


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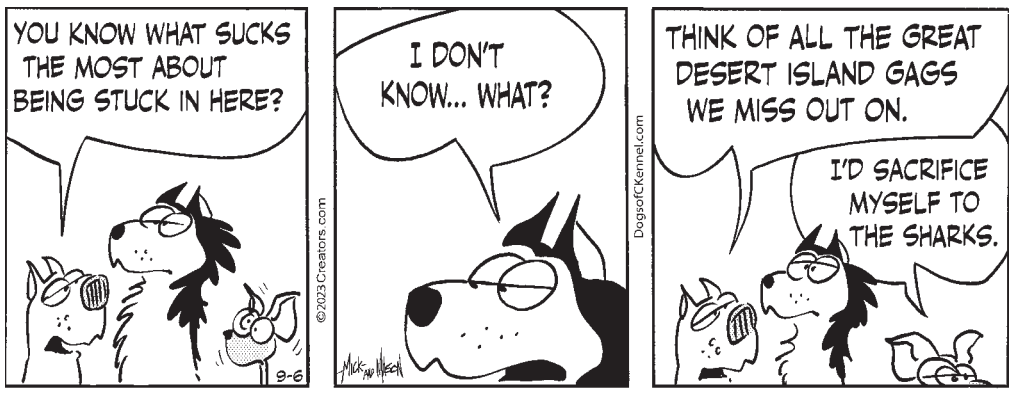
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



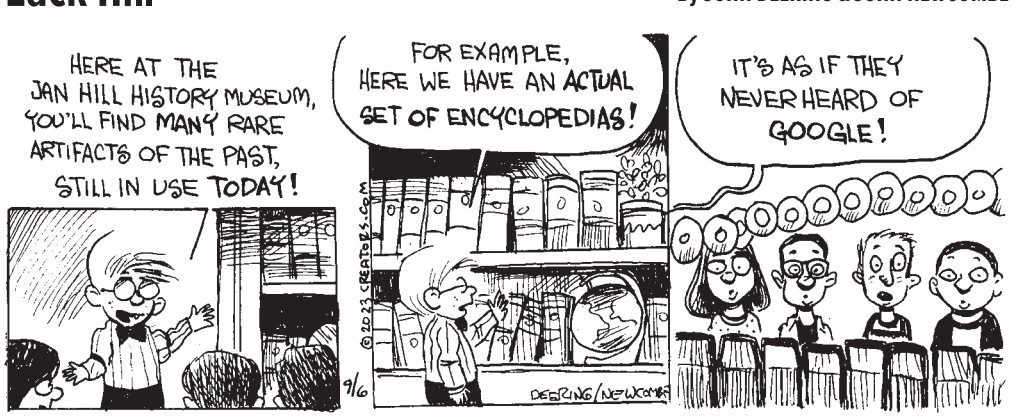
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



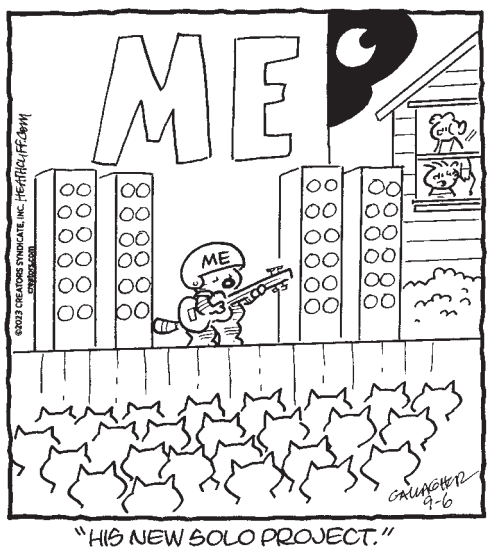
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

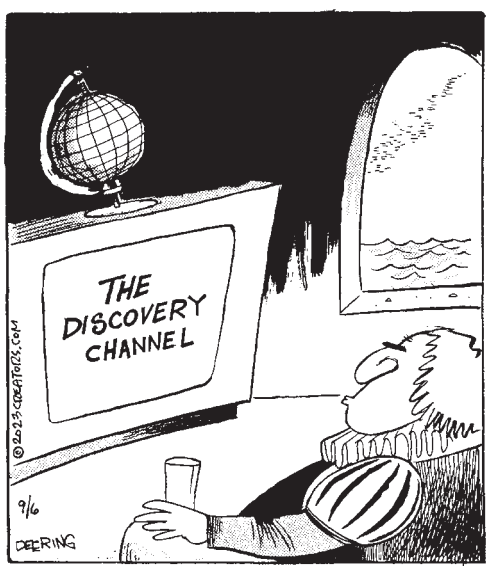
By PETER GALLAGHER



"HIS NEW SOLO PROJECT."

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 15 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 5959

Gone fishin'

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

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Bays
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Cairns
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Clam
Coral
Crab
Dive
Dory
Eden
Efficient
Escape
Exciting
Explore
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Lure
Mako
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Marlin
Mask
Nacre
Nets
Night
Ocean
Penn
Pike
Pipi
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What's Up Westside

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WEDNESDAY | SEPTEMBER 6

SUSTAINABLE FILM SCREENING SERIES AND PANEL DISCUSSION: THE ENGINE INSIDE

The Engine Inside follows six everyday people from vastly different worlds who dedicate their lives to a simple, 200-year-old machine. Their trials and tribulations reveal the bicycle's unique power to change lives and help build a better world. Covering many different global issues—from climate change and indigenous trauma to socio-economic inequality and more livable cities —The Engine Inside sparks hope and agency in everyone it touches. Panel discussion to follow. Free but registration required at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-engine-inside-film-screening-and-panel-discussion-tickets-692669843147. American Cinematheque at the Aero Theatre, 1328 Montana Ave, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY | SEPTEMBER 7

TECH & TASKS

Need a little help? Visit our Tech & Tasks program to receive one-on-one assistance from our volunteer tutors and build your skills. Staff and volunteers can assist with reading, writing, and technology related tasks. Drop-in between 2-4pm every Thursday to get help with completing online forms and applications, resume writing, device help, improving reading skills, email, downloading eBooks, and much more. Main Library. 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 2 - 4 p.m.

FRIDAY | SEPTEMBER 8

MOVIE FRIDAYS

Spy Kids. Doors open at 6:30, the movie will start at 7:30 Other things to know: No advance registration is required and all ages are welcome Picnicking is allowed (and encouraged!) but alcoholic beverages are prohibited Dogs are welcome Tall chairs are not allowed. Feel free to bring low chairs and pillows/blankets 1200 block of the Promenade.

THE BROBOTS

Doors open at 8 p.m. Show starts at 9:30 p.m. Online ticket sales end at 7 p.m., tickets available at the door after 8 PM. 2 drink minimum. THE BROBOTS "A Tribute to Rock N Roll" are a high-energy Rock N Roll party band from Venice Beach. Harvelle's, 1432 4th Street. General Admission is $10. https://santamonica.harvelles.com/shows/229644

SATURDAY | SEPTEMBER 9

MAIN STREET COMMUNITY GARDEN OPEN HOUSE

Grab a complimentary cup of coffee and see what the buzz is all about. Might be the bees and butterflies, might just be the chatter about our new project, the 19th Street Community Farm and Wellness Center, coming soon to the Pico Neighborhood. This event is free and open to the public. 9 - 11 a.m. Main Street Community Garden, 2318 Main St.

COUNTDOWN TO KINDER CLUB: EMOTIONS

Luce Puppets presents "Aesop's Fables," stories to explore and identify emotions with your child. For ages 2-5. Limited space; registration required. To register, email: library@santamonica.gov. 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd.

SUNDAY | SEPTEMBER 10

AMERICANA IN THE PARK 2023

Bring a picnic, blanket, and beach chairs for this end-of-summer series that explores Americana styles from its roots to modern forms. In addition to two Southern California acts featured at each concert, there will also be food trucks and a McCabe's Guitar Pop-Up Shop. Sunday, September 10 - Opener: blues/jazz singer Mara Kaye. Intermission: New Orleans Traditional Jazz Band. Headliner: New Orleans style soul with Dr SoundGood featuring Doug Legacy. Food Trucks will be on site. 4 - 7 p.m. Gandara Park 1819 Stewart St.

MONDAY | SEPTEMBER 11

NEW! BABY TIME

Introduce your child to story with interactive books, bounces, and more! Free tickets available at 10:15 a.m. Program runs from 10:30 - 10:50 a.m. For ages 0-17 months. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.

TUESDAY | SEPTEMBER 12

TUESDAY TALES: A TRAVELING STORYTIME

Join organizers for an engaging and fun weekly series with stories, songs and rhymes, which travels to different library locations every week! For ages 2-5. Free tickets available at 10:15 a.m. Program is from 10:30 - 11 a.m. Fairview Branch Library, 2101 Ocean Park Blvd.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The City Council is made up of seven members elected at-large for staggered four-year terms. The City Council meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month starting at 5:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 1685 Main Street.

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. 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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



SURF REPORT

WATER TEMP: **67.8**

WEDNESDAY *FAIR TO GOOD*	**SURF:**	4-6ft Chest to overhead	Another clean AM window with decent S swell leftover. Best surf of the morning will be on the tide push.
THURSDAY *FAIR*	**SURF:**	3-4ft+ Waist to shoulder	Old S swell backing down as some partially shadowed SW/SSW swell blends in. Could be a few corners off the mix of southerly swells.

WEATHER

Wednesday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, partly sunny, with a high near 70.
Wednesday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 62.
Thursday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, partly sunny, with a high near 72.
Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 61.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2023/09/06	Wed	04:24 AM	3.16	H
2023/09/06	Wed	07:40 AM	2.88	L
2023/09/06	Wed	2:54 PM	5.13	H
2023/09/06	Wed	11:15 PM	0.82	L
2023/09/07	Thu	07:10 AM	3.42	H
2023/09/07	Thu	09:32 AM	3.35	L
2023/09/07	Thu	4:20 PM	4.99	H
2023/09/08	Fri	12:31 AM	0.52	L
2023/09/08	Fri	08:03 AM	3.78	H
2023/09/08	Fri	11:48 AM	3.32	L
2023/09/08	Fri	5:40 PM	5.06	H
2023/09/09	Sat	01:25 AM	0.26	L
2023/09/09	Sat	08:29 AM	4.03	H
2023/09/09	Sat	12:54 PM	3.03	L
2023/09/09	Sat	6:42 PM	5.27	H
2023/09/10	Sun	02:05 AM	0.08	L
2023/09/10	Sun	08:49 AM	4.20	H
2023/09/10	Sun	1:36 PM	2.68	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: 9/4
1 26 32 46 51
Power#: 13
Jackpot: 461 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 9/1
10 31 42 43 55
Mega#: 8
Jackpot: 101 M

SuperLotto PLUS
Draw Date: 9/2
4 17 28 34 38
Mega#: 22
Jackpot: 15 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 9/4
2 6 11 32 33

Daily 3
Draw Date: 9/4
EVENING: 8 7 3
Draw Date: 9/4
MIDDAY: 0 6 1

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 9/4
1st: 10 - Solid Gold
2nd: 07 - Eureka
3rd: 01 - Gold Rush
Race Time: 1:46.57

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SATURDAY, SEP 23

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