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WEDNESDAY
09.13.23

smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

Volume 22 Issue 253

smdp.com

Soaring chronic absenteeism in California schools is at 'pivotal moment'

Absenteeism Rate
Source: California Dept. of Education

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Samohi	11.5%	no data	6.5%	30.6%
SMMUSD	9.6%	no data	4.9%	23.5%
Statewide	12.1%	no data	14.3%	30.0%

SMDP Graphic

ABSENT: Absences spiked during the pandemic but Santa Monica schools are returning to pre-pandemic levels.

CAROLYN JONES
Special to the Daily Press

As a new school year gets underway in California, districts are desperately trying to lure thousands of missing, tardy and truant students back to the classroom in what many view as a pivotal moment for education in California.

In 2021-22, 30% of students in California's public schools were chronically absent, an all-time high and more than three times the pre-pandemic rate. Advocates fear that unless schools can reverse the trend, so many students will fall behind that they may never catch up.

"This is a crisis, and it's not going to change until we do everything we can to get kids back in school 100%," said Heather Hough, a Stanford professor and director of Policy Analysis for California Education. "What we all fear is that this will become the new normal.... It is hard to overstate the importance of this issue, and it is absolutely a pivotal moment."

Before the pandemic, about 10% of students in California's public

SEE **ABSENTEE** PAGE 7

Rent Control Board wants landlords who evict tenants with the Ellis Act to go out of business, voluntarily

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

The Rent Control Board (RCB) wants landlords who evict tenants to actually leave the rental market when they use a state law to remove renters from rent controlled properties.

The Board will consider changes to local rules at its Sept. 14 meeting that would insert "good faith" language into existing regulations that allow landlords to evict tenants under rules that are supposed to apply to individuals or companies that want to exit the rental market.

Known as the Ellis Act, the law was put in place to provide property owners the ability to exit the rental business and use their property for other purposes. However, it doesn't actually require landlords to exit the rental business. Rather, it imposes a penalty on properties that reenter the rental market within five years of evicting tenants.

According to the Rent Control Board, those penalties are simply too weak to prevent abuse of the Ellis Act when partnered with another law, Costa Hawkins. The Costa Hawkins act resets rents to market rate when a Rent Controlled unit is vacated and under current economic conditions, landlords can now evict renters who are paying vastly below market rates, leave the units vacant for five years and return to profitability when units come back at market rate.

"Unfortunately, in practice, the re-control provisions that were meant to deter abuse of Ellis are often used as a blueprint for evading local rent regulations," said a report that will be presented to the RCB this week. "Instead of a good faith intent to leave

SEE **RCB** PAGE 7

Gym rats gather to DMN8 new location



Courtesy photo

OPEN Santa Monica's budding athletes and gym-goers gathered on Saturday, September 9, to cut the ribbon on DMN8 gym's new indoor location at 3101 Main Street. The location is an addition to DMN8's outdoor presence in Linear Park at 2410 Ocean Front Walk, and has several amenities for its four levels of members. The fitness company employs a credit-based membership, with prices ranging from $89 per month to $249 per month. The memberships convert to credit currency, which can be used in any class for the indoor and outdoor locations, and any unused credits carry over into the next month.
Chief Marketing Officer for DMN8, Mark Mattison, previously told the Daily Press that it "excites" the gym "to be able to provide more value through the credit system through flexibility and cheaper pricing that they pay otherwise than typical (gyms)."
The gym space includes gym equipment by Rogue & Lifetime Fitness, a "cardio corner" by Woodway & Concept 2, towel service by Parachute Home and nutritional options by DMN8's private chef. Cutting the ribbon during the Saturday event were DMN8 owner Eddie Roche, DMN8 instructor Sam Murphy, Santa Monica Mayor Pro Tem Lana Negrete and Santa Monica City Council member Phil Brock.



A plan to guarantee community college transfer to California's public universities died. Now it's back

MIKHAIL ZINSHTEYN
Special to the Daily Press

It's rare for a California bill to come back to life after enduring a quiet legislative death, but a shelved effort to help more community college students transfer to the University of California suddenly has new legs.

Spearheading this last-minute revival is bill author Assemblymember Kevin McCarty, a Democrat from Sacramento, who told CalMatters in an interview that his office spent weeks crafting the legislation with representatives from Gov. Gavin Newsom's office.

McCarty said the proposed law, Assembly Bill 1291, has input from the Senate and Assembly legislative leaders as well. It must pass the Legislature by Sept. 14.

"This is a game changer for higher education access and for expanding enrollment through the community college transfer process," McCarty said in an interview. "While not perfect, this simplifies more than anything we've ever seen."

He said the bill sets in motion a pathway to achieve a holy grail for higher-education advocates: A common admissions guarantee for community college students to get into a UC or California State University campus. Currently, community college students earning an associate degree for transfer, a specialized associate degree, are guaranteed admission to a Cal State campus — but not one of their choice. No such systemwide guarantee exists for the UC, though select campuses have their own transfer pathways, and the system is working on its own transfer guarantee.

> "This is a game changer for higher education access and for expanding enrollment through the community college transfer process"
> - Kevin McCarty

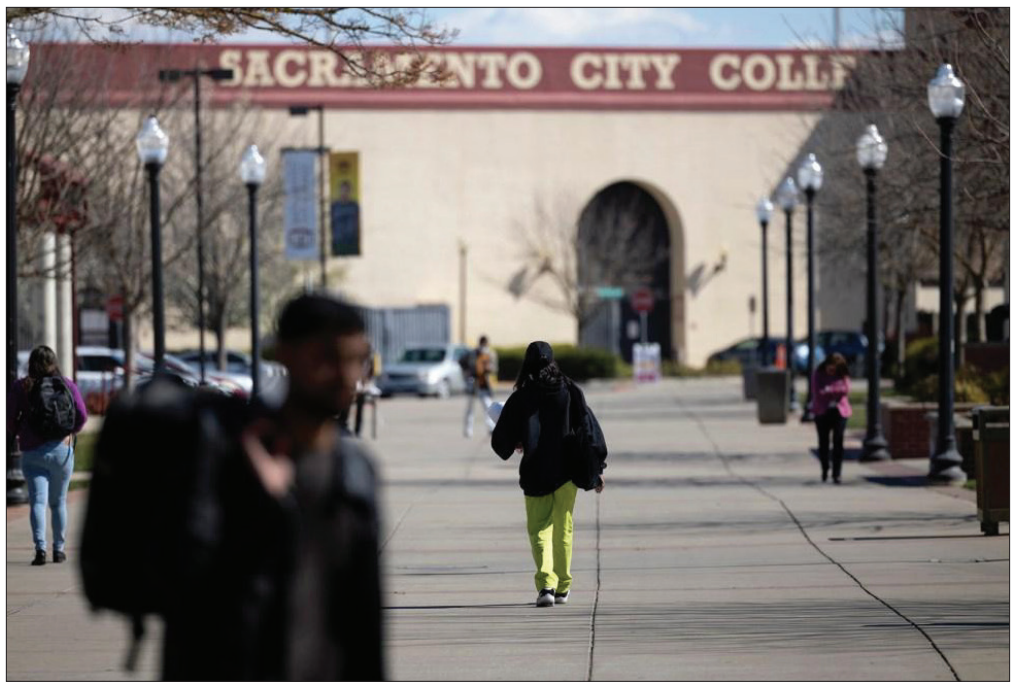


Photo by Miguel Gutierrez Jr., CalMatters

COLLEGE: Students walk through campus at Sacramento City College on Feb. 23, 2022.

It's a striking and rapid turn of events for a measure that a Senate committee killed Sept. 1. The original version of this effort, Assembly Bill 1749, also by McCarty, was held by the Senate Appropriations Committee in the semi-annual bill culling called the suspense file. That bill would have created a UC-wide transfer guarantee through the associate degree for transfer and was backed by student groups and the Campaign for College Opportunity, a major player in California higher education advocacy and policy.

The UC system opposed it, arguing that some of its majors have higher academic

SEE **COLLEGE** PAGE 8

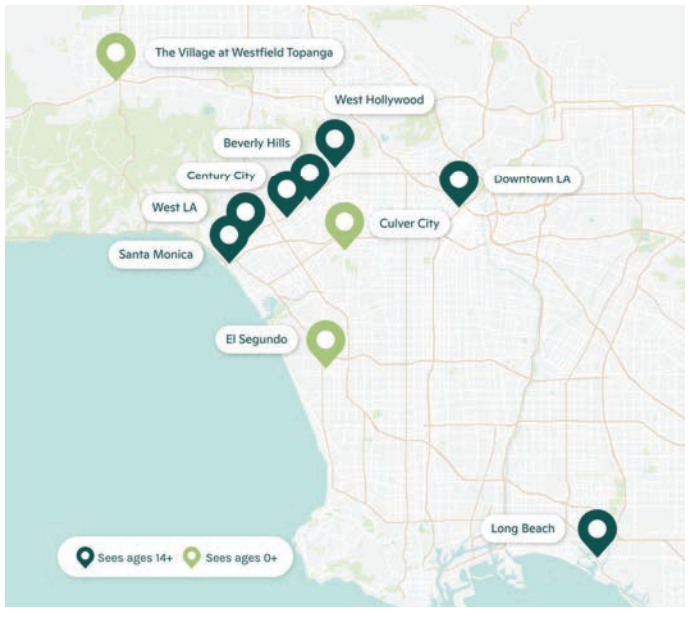
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Apple's new iPhones get faster chips, better cameras and new charging ports

MICHAEL LIEDTKE
AP Technology Writer

Apple on Tuesday unveiled its next generation of iPhones — a line-up that will boast better cameras, faster processors, a new charging system and a price hike for the fanciest model.

The showcase at Apple's headquarters in Cupertino, California, comes as the company tries to reverse a mild slump that has seen its sales drop from last year in three consecutive quarters. The malaise is a key reason Apple's stock price has dipped by about 10% since mid-July, dropping the company's market value below the $3 trillion threshold it reached for the first time earlier this summer.

Investors apparently weren't impressed with what Apple rolled out Tuesday. The company's shares fell nearly 2% Tuesday, a steeper decline than the major market indexes.

As has been case with Apple and other smartphone makers, the four types of iPhone 15 models aren't making any major leaps in technology. But Apple added enough new bells and whistles to the top-of-the line model — the iPhone 15 Pro Max — to boost its starting price by $100, or 9%, from last year's version to $1,200. As part of the higher base price, the cheapest iPhone 15 Pro Max will provide 256 megabytes of storage, up from 128 megabytes for the least expensive version of the iPhone 14 Pro Max.

Apple is holding the line on prices for rest of the line-up, with the basic iPhone 15 selling for $800, the iPhone 15 Plus for $900 and the iPhone 15 Pro for $1,000.

Although maintaining those prices are bound to squeeze Apple's profit margins and put further pressure on the company's stock price, Investing.com analyst Thomas Monteiro believes it's a prudent move with still-high inflation and spiking interest rates pinching household budgets. "The reality was that Apple found itself in a challenging position leading up to this event," Monteiro said.

And the price hike for the iPhone 15 Pro Max could help Apple boost sales if consumers continue to gravitate toward the company's premium models. Wedbush Securities analyst Dan Ives expects the iPhone 15 Pro and Pro Max to account for about 75% of the device's total sales in the upcoming year.

All the new models will be available in stores September 22, with pre-orders beginning this Friday.

One of the biggest changes that Apple announced is a new way to charge the iPhone 15 models and future generations. The company is switching to the USB-C standard that is already widely used on many devices, including its Mac computers and many of its iPads.

Apple is being forced to phase out the Lightning port cables it rolled out in 2012 because of a mandate that European regulators plan to impose in 2024.

Although consumers often don't like change, the transition to USB-C ports may not be that inconvenient. That's because the standard is already widely used on a range of computers, smartphones and other devices people already own. The shift to USB-C may even be a popular move since that standard typically charges devices more quickly and also offers faster data transfer speeds.

The basic iPhone 15 models have been redesigned to include a shape-shifting cutout on the display screen that Apple calls its "Dynamic Island" for app notifications — a look that was introduced with last year's Pro and Pro Max devices. The basic models are also getting a faster chip used in last year's Pro and Pro Max models, while the next generation of the premium iPhone 15s will run on an even more advanced processor that will enable the devices to accommodate the same kind of video games that typically require a console.

The iPhone 15 Pro and Pro Max also will be equipped with what Apple maintains is the equivalent of seven camera lenses. They will include periscope-style telephoto lens that will improve the quality of photos taken from far distances. The telephoto lens boasts a 5x optical zoom, which lags the 10x optical zoom on Samsung's premium Galaxy S22 Ultra, but represents an upgrade from the 3x optical zoom on the iPhone 14 Pro and Pro Max.

In anticipation of next year's release of

SEE **APPLE** PAGE 8

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: #376 STATE LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY SERVICES**
- **RFP: #378 FEDERAL LOBBYING & GRANT WRITING**
- **Submission Deadline Is October 2, 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:

Federally Funded
7th Street Fencing Upgrade and Activation Project
SP2577

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 following the submission of all requested Best and Final Offers from any or all bidders.

NON-MANDATORY PRE-BID JOB WALK:
Tuesday, September 26, 2023 at 9:30 AM
1620 6th Street, Santa Monica
Meet at the southwest corner of 7th/Colorado

PROJECT ESTIMATE: $1,750,000.00
CONTRACT DAYS: 180 Calendar Days
LIQUIDATED DAMAGES: $770.00 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 a **Class A (preferred) and/or B** license at the time of bid submission. If the Contractor has a Class B license but does not have a Class A license at the time of bid submission, then a **Class C8 and/or C12** license is also required. 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.

GET IT DAILY...

PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

PARTNER
Todd James
todd@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Matthew Hall
matt@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Charles Andrews,
Jack Neworth,
David Pisarra.

CIRCULATION
Guadalupe Navarro
ross@smdp.com

Keith Wyatt
ross@smdp.com

STAFF WRITERS
Scott Snowden
scott.snowden@smdp.com

Thomas Leffler
thomas@smdp.com

DIRECTOR OF ADVERTISING
Cindy Moreno
cindy@smdp.com

MARKETING MANAGER
Dina Araniva
dina@smdp.com

PRODUCTION
Esteban Inchaustegui
production@smdp.com

Julio Davalos
julio@smdp.com

Cristina Rios
cristina@smdp.com

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Santa Monica Daily Press

1640 5th Street, Suite 218
Santa Monica, CA 90401
OFFICE (310) 458-PRESS (7737)
FAX (310) 576-9913

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Sustainable Quality Awards WINNER

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

I was happy to read this piece (https://smdp.com/2023/09/11/santa-monica-set-to-establish-itself-on-the-worlds-sporting-stage) about our city's preparations for the Olympics, World Cup, and (possibly) Rugby. While the logistical plans are daunting, the benefits are obvious. This is a chance to revitalize our brand that has been destroyed by tolerating transient addicts and the mentally ill homeless, riots, and the hollowing out of our crown jewel promenade. While I hope it doesn't take us five years, we will all need to work hard to restore the sparkle and shine to our downtown, preparing it for the world stage, which will have economic and PR benefits for years to come.

It's key that we start now to completely revitalize downtown so residents and tourists have plenty of restaurants, bars, activities and shopping opportunities in clean, safe and walkable streets by 2028. You've made some good decisions toward that end, (and it's key to avoid some bad ones). Here are some random thoughts:

Speeding up the restaurant and liquor licensing process for restaurants and bars was a great decision. I was speaking to the owners of the new PickleBall court opening on the promenade and they said it was a breeze. We need to develop a reputation as a city that is easy to work with to start new businesses.

Voting in private security to take up the slack and leaving more time for police to chase serious crime was a good decision, and could be grow going forward. The "low-level" crimes that are committed by addicts to support their dug habit should be assiduously prosecuted. Sure, it's now a revolving door, but we can make Santa Monica very uncomfortable for addicts by arresting them for doing hard drugs in public, running warrants, confiscating their drugs, etc.

We should aim for Vision Zero in terms of the homeless, addicts, and the mentally ill on our streets. And I'm not talking about shunting them out of our city during the Olympics, which is

SEE **LETTER** PAGE 8

City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: **Proposed Extension of Interim Zoning Ordinance Number 2754 (CCS) Promoting Economic Recovery in the City's Downtown Area, Including the Third Street Promenade Area and Santa Monica Place, and Other Minor and Clerical Amendments to the Zoning Ordinance Related to Economic Recovery.**

A public hearing will be held by the City Council to extend Interim Zoning Ordinance Number 2754 promoting economic recovery in the City's Downtown area, including the Third Street Promenade Area and Santa Monica Place, and other minor and clerical amendments to the Zoning Ordinance related to economic recovery. The Council adopted Interim Zoning Ordinance Number 2754 (CCS) on July 25, 2023 and will expire unless extended by Council.

DATE/TIME: **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2023 AT 6:30 PM**

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

HOW TO COMMENT:
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. Members of the public unable to attend a meeting but wishing to comment on an item(s) listed on the agenda may submit written comments prior to the public hearing via email to councilmtgitems@santamonica.gov or via mail to City Clerk, 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica, California 90401. Written public comment submitted before 12:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be available for online viewing. All written comments shall be made part of the public record. Please note the agenda item number in the subject line of your written comments.

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

Address your comments to: City Clerk
Re: Promenade Interim Zoning Ordinance Extension

VIA EMAIL: councilmtgitems@santamonica.gov
VIA MAIL: 1685 Main Street, Room 102
Santa Monica, CA 90401

MORE INFORMATION: If you want more information about this project, please contact Steve Mizokami by e-mail at steve.mizokami@santamonica.gov. For disability-related accommodations, please contact the City Clerk's Office at (310) 458-8211 or (310) 917-6626 TDD at least 72 hours in advance. Every attempt will be made to provide the requested accommodation. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines serve City Hall and the Civic Center area. The Expo Line terminus is located at Colorado Avenue and Fourth Street, and is a short walk to City Hall. Public parking is available in front of City Hall, on Olympic Drive, and in the Civic Center Parking Structure (validation free).

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

ESPAÑOL: Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar applicaciónes proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-2275.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Good news and bad for LA sports squads in September

ASSOCIATED PRESS

FOOTBALL SQUADS FLIP SCRIPTS IN OPENING WEEK ACTION

Both of Los Angeles' National Football League teams shifted on their respective preseason expectations in Week 1 action.

The Los Angeles Rams, with a supposedly shallow squad following a 5-12 record in 2022, won the 2023 opener on the road 30-13 over the Seattle Seahawks, a playoff team from last season.

Unsung heroes were all over the field for coach Sean McVay, including a duo of surprise performances from Rams wide receivers. Wideouts Tutu Atwell and rookie Puka Nacua stunned the Seahawks secondary for 119 yards apiece, while improved offensive line play gave quarterback Matthew Stafford the time to get his receivers involved.

"Our offense is at its best when you get everybody involved and make them defend the full width and depth of the field … we talk about playing complementary football all the time," McVay said after the win. "I thought that was really on display yesterday."

The receiving duo shined in the wake of losing star Cooper Kupp to a lingering hamstring injury. Kupp remains the only significant injury for the Rams unit heading into a Week 2 matchup with the San Francisco 49ers, and the former Offensive Player of the Year will be out until at least Week 5.

At the same time as the Rams' surprising victory, home field was not the remedy for the Los Angeles Chargers, dropping the team's opener in last-minute fashion to the Miami Dolphins, 36-34. Expected to continue forward progress after a playoff appearance in 2022, the Chargers defensive unit was unable to slow down an electric Miami offense, which featured a 215-yard receiving day from Tyreek Hill.

"I didn't do a good enough job (Sunday) getting us adjusted throughout the game," Chargers coach Brandon Staley said. "We tried. Our adjustments didn't take shape. It turned into a track meet in the passing game."

The defeat continued the trend of disappointment for Chargers fans, who had to watch the Jacksonville Jaguars come back from 27 points down to win last season's playoff matchup. Further complicating matters was an ankle injury suffered by star running back Austin Ekeler, who is considered day-to-day leading up to the Chargers' Week 2 matchup at the Tennessee Titans.

DODGERS, ANGELS DEAL WITH CONTROVERSY, INJURIES

While the Los Angeles Dodgers and Los Angeles Angels are on different tracks, both are contending with issues in their respective locker rooms.

The Dodgers are among Major League Baseball's best during the stretch run, holding the second-best record in the National League at 87-56 as of Sept. 12. However, this week's homestand is shrouded by the separation between the team and pitcher Julio Urias. The World Series-winning left-hander is on indefinite administrative leave after being arrested Sept. 3 on suspicion of corporal injury on a spouse or cohabitant. This is Urias' second arrest in four years for domestic violence-related incidents, serving a 20-game suspension following a May 2019 arrest.

Urias' locker has been removed from the Dodgers' clubhouse, and two murals with his image were covered up at Dodgers Stadium preceding the homestand. Dodgers manager Dave Roberts said that the separation with Urias is a "very unfortunate, sad situation," and that he thinks the moves confirm that the club is moving on from the 27-year-old.

The Angels are far from the lofty record of their National League L.A. counterpart, sitting in fourth-place in the American League West division at 68-77 as of Sept. 12. The Angels fell out of playoff contention following a brutal stretch after the All-Star break, and now continue to deal with injuries to star Shohei Ohtani. Already shut down for the season as a pitcher due to a ligament tear in his pitching elbow, the two-way phenomenon was scratched from the hitting lineup yet again on Monday with a strained right oblique.

Ohtani's future with the Angels is in question, as the 2021 American League Most Valuable Player is eligible for free agency after the season. The organization has been haunted by injuries all season long, as team stalwart Mike Trout has played just 82 games in 2023.

WORLD CUP WOES ABOUND AS L.A. FINAL HOPES DASHED

Soccer fans in Los Angeles were ecstatic with the potential of the 2026 World Cup final being played at SoFi Stadium in Inglewood. However, the stadium's chances of hosting the final are now a "non-starter," according to The Times Chief Sports Reporter Martyn Ziegler. Per Ziegler's reporting, SoFi's field, or "pitch," is too narrow to comply with FIFA requirements for the game.

The final is now favored to land on the opposite end of the United States, with MetLife Stadium in the shadow of New York City emerging as a likely host. According to Ziegler, the stadium "would be better for international time zones." AT&T Stadium in the Dallas area is also a contender to land the final, having advantages such as a roof and climate control inside.

Ahead of High Holidays, US Jewish leaders stress need for security vigilance as antisemitism surges

DAVID CRARY
AP National Writer

Ahead of the High Holidays that begin this week, a network of Jewish security experts and religious leaders hosted several webinars to help prepare for the season. Among the topics: How to respond to an "active threat" targeting the Jewish community, and how to stop severe bleeding.

The holidays, encompassing Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur, are meant to be a period of joy and reflection. Over recent years — in the face of increased antisemitic threats and violence — the season also is a time of heightened vigilance.

"The High Holidays are about renewal — about trying to build a better world," said Rabbi Noah Farkas, president of the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles. "But we can't do that without a security regimen that makes people comfortable to go to synagogue."

Farkas his community was jolted in late July when federal and local law enforcement agencies arrested a man from the Los Angeles neighborhood of Reseda who allegedly was affiliated with a violent white supremacist group and had been advocating antisemitic violence.

According to the regional U.S. Attorney's Office, Ryan Scott Bradford "posted online messages and photographs documenting his use of a 3-D printer to manufacture firearms, as well as calling for the mass murder of Jews."

Officers searching his home found Nazi propaganda, 116 rounds of ammunition, and devices designed to help create automatic firearms.

"The potential danger to the community cannot be overstated." said U.S. Attorney Martin Estrada.

Farkas' federation, and its counterparts around the U.S., have taken numerous steps to enhance safety, notably through professionally led community security initiatives that offer advice, training and other security resources to Jewish schools, synagogues and organizations.

Experts with the Los Angeles CSI provided suspicious-activity reports to law enforcement in 2022 and early 2023 that helped lay the groundwork for the recent arrest in Reseda.

Security measures have been expanding at Jewish institutions across the U.S. for more than a decade, but efforts intensified after a gunman killed 11 worshippers at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh on Oct. 27, 2018. It was the deadliest act of antisemitic violence in U.S. history; the gunman, Robert Bowers, was sentenced to death in early August at the close of a lengthy, wrenching trial.

One of the biggest security initiatives since the massacre was launched in 2021 by the Jewish Federations of North America — a $130 million campaign seeking to ensure that every Jewish community in the U.S. and Canada has access to state-of-the-art communal security programs. As of last month, 103 Jewish federations in the two countries had programs based on standards set by the Secure Community Network; the requirements include community-wide trainings and intelligence-sharing with law enforcement.

The SCN was the organizer of the recent series of nine webinars – including those on severe bleeding and "active threats" — offered ahead of this year's High Holidays.

Eric Fingerhut, president and CEO of the Jewish Federations of North America, said he — like many Jews — wishes Rosh Hashana could be savored joyfully, without the need for security preparations and the worries about antisemitic threats.

"But we quickly move to the recognition that you can't have those joyful things unless you feel safe and secure," he said.

"People have come to accept it, but I don't know if we've fully internalized what the long-term costs will be," he added. "It's not going to go away, like a hurricane or tornado. This is going to be a permanent, ongoing feature as long as we can see into the future."

Nationwide, the security initiatives have been bolstered by constant expansion and broader collaboration.

Earlier this month, the Orthodox Union, the largest Orthodox Jewish umbrella organization, announced a partnership with the Community Security Service, a leading Jewish security organization, to encourage more Orthodox congregation members to volunteer for security training.

Last month, the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles and the Anti-Defamation League of Los Angeles announced a new joint effort to prevent and combat antisemitic incidents in Southern California.

"When you combine resources, you can connect the dots between what might appear to be unrelated incidents of antisemitism and paint a clearer picture of the challenges we face," said Jeffrey Abrams, regional director of ADL Los Angeles.

The new head of the Greater Los Angeles federation's Community Security Initiative is Larry Mead, a 36-year veteran of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department who specialized in intelligence gathering targeting gangs and organized crime. Since his hiring in early August, Mead says it's "been an eye-opener" to learn the extent and vehemence of antisemitic threats.

Mead said synagogues in California were among several dozen nationwide recently targeted by fake bomb threats and antisemitic swatting incidents that disrupted services and rattled worshippers.

"The people doing this — they want to frustrate the Jewish community," Mead said. "We can't let them win."

Farkas said the intelligence reports he gets from Mead "make me sad."

"Here we are going into High Holidays," Farkas said. "Why has it got to be that Jewish

SEE HIGH HOLIDAY PAGE 8



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COMMUNITY NEWS

Downtown

The Gourmandise School to Host "Love for Lahaina" Cooking Class to Benefit Relief Efforts on Maui

The Gourmandise School at Santa Monica Place presents an evening of creating Hawaiian inspired dishes with a group of Los Angeles's highly esteemed chefs, while raising funds to help the people of Maui in their recovery efforts from the recent devastating wildfires. This very special event is limited to 40 guests and will rotate between kitchens for live, interactive demonstrations with courses to follow each chef's presentation. 100% of proceeds will go to Kokua Restaurant & Hospitality Fund and 'Āina Momona' working directly in Maui to support hospitality workers and protect native Hawaiians restoring social justice and Hawaiian sovereignty. Participating chefs include Minh Phan, chef of Phenakite and Porridge + Puffs, Mercedes Rojas of The Arepa Stand, a local favorite food stand, Dara Yu, winner of Master Chef 2022, Kat Turner of West Los Angeles restaurant Highly Likely and Clemence De Lutz, co-owner of The Gourmandise School.

Featured dishes include:

Savory Moon Cakes with love and ingredients from Koda Farms

Creamed Corn, Heirloom Tomatoes and Crema

Yellowtail Crudo with Coconut Tigre Sauce and Pineapple

Hong Kong Style Clay Pot Rice with Chinese Sausage, Hawaiian Pork Belly and Chinese Greens

Mango and Passionfruit Marjolaine with Macadamia Dacquoise

The Kokua Restaurant & Hospitality Fund for Maui will provide immediate assistance to the hard-working restaurant, bar and hospitality workers displaced by the devastating wildfires that have impacted West Maui communities from Lahaina to Kapalua, a cherished home of the Hawaii Food & Wine Festival. We are committed to supporting the island's recovery. Together with your support, we can make a profound impact on the lives of our restaurant and hospitality workers who have played an integral role in shaping Maui's vibrant culinary scene and tourism industry.

Āina Momona is a Native Hawaiian 501(c)(3) organization founded by Walter Ritte for the purpose of achieving environmental health and sustainability through restoring social justice and Hawaiian sovereignty. 'Āina Momona is not affiliated with any religious institution. We are led by a board of exceptional Native Hawaiians that support the critical work of our talented staff who work in grass-roots communities to restore fragile ecosystems, promote cultural rights and practices, enhance community well-being, and advocate for native rights and social justice.

Monday, September 25 from 7 - 9 p.m. Tickets are available for $250 and can be purchased at thegourmandiseschool.com/classes-2/love-for-lahaina.

For more information, visit TheGourmandiseSchool.com

SUBMITTED BY GABRIELLA SILVA

Los Angeles

Federal Prosecutor Jeff Chemerinsky Announces his Candidacy for LA County District Attorney

Federal prosecutor Jeff Chemerinsky announced his candidacy to be the next Los Angeles County District Attorney in the March 5, 2024 election. Chemerinsky's campaign said he brings a successful track record, a wealth of experience, and an unwavering commitment to the pursuit of a fair and equitable legal system. His career has been defined by his dedication to serving the community and upholding the principles of justice, accountability, and public safety.

Chemerinsky served as Chief of the Violent and Organized Crime section of the United States Attorney's Office in Los Angeles, until he stepped down Friday to become a candidate for DA.

He has never lost a case, and personally prosecuted cases involving murder, sex trafficking, firearms trafficking, corruption, and sex assault offenses. He won convictions of more than 30 members of the MS-13 gang, including the leader of MS-13 in Los Angeles, and the leader of the East Coast Crips. He also led federal robbery prosecutions for the office, partnering with local law enforcement agencies to win convictions in many major organized retail theft cases.

As part of his commitment to upholding justice, Chemerinsky strongly believes in criminal justice reform because mass incarceration does not work.

In addition to his trial experience, Chemerinsky brings significant management experience overseeing a large team of attorneys and staff for the US Attorney's Office for the Central District of California, which is the largest federal judicial district in the nation, serving 19 million people living in Los Angeles and six other Southern California counties.

Chemerinsky is a Democrat who worked for then-Senator Joe Biden and the Senate Judiciary Committee when he was in law school. While the job of District Attorney is not partisan, Chemerinsky shares the values of his community, proudly, and always has.

"It's clear that many in Los Angeles County have lost confidence in the District Attorney as both a prosecutor and reformer of our criminal justice system, and we can do better," said Jeff Chemerinsky. "As a federal prosecutor, I've won convictions of violent criminals and gang leaders, child predators, and armed robbers across Southern California. Now I'm running for DA to keep our communities safe, to ensure fairness in our criminal justice system, and to bring new leadership to the District Attorney's office. I look forward to meeting voters across LA County to hear their concerns and discuss how we can increase public safety and ensure that everybody has a fair shot at justice."

Chemerinsky launched his campaign at a press conference attended by family and supporters at the Santa Monica Place shopping mall, where, in 2016, a group of thieves stole nearly $200,000 worth of inventory from the Ben Bridge Jewelers as part of a string of robberies that netted $6 million in stolen goods from stores across Los Angeles. Chemerinsky led the successful prosecution of that case, with all defendants convicted At today's press conferences he highlighted his work as an example of the kinds of law enforcement and prosecutions needed to address the current spike in smash-and-grab robberies and other retail theft across LA County and the nation.

More information about Chemerinsky and his campaign can be found on his website www.jeffforda.com.

SUBMITTED BY JEFF MILLMAN

ABSENTEE

FROM PAGE 1

schools missed at least 10% (or 18 days) in a school year, which the state defines as chronically absent. But COVID-related school closures, remote learning and quarantines have created a new habit for millions of families: optional, not mandatory, daily school attendance.

Even though California law requires all children ages 6 through 18 to attend school every day, nearly 2 million students were chronically absent in 2021-22, the most recent year data is available. Nearly every group of students had high rates of absenteeism, but the highest rates were among kindergartners. Kindergartners who are Black, Pacific Islander or have disabilities all had rates of 50% or higher.

Students' specific reasons for missing school are varied. Lack of transportation is among the most common reasons, but sometimes students have to look after younger siblings or go to work. In some cases, students stay home because they're being bullied or don't like their teachers. After COVID, some parents have become overly cautious about sending their children to school with minor ailments.

Santa Monica's absentee figures mirror the national trend. In 2018/19 (pre-pandemic) the district reported a chronic absenteeism rate of 9.6 percent. No data was available for the first pandemic year of 2019/20 but the rate dropped to 4.9 percent for 2020/21. However it spiked to 23.5 percent for 2021/22 representing about 2,189 of the district's 9,323 students.

SMMUSD Community & Public Relations Officer Gail Pinsker said the 2021/22 year was marked by a hybrid set of Covid protocols that caused significant disruptions to regular classes. She said students were often forced to stay home due to positive tests in a classroom and the testing/quarantine precautions were challenging.

According to Pinsker, preliminary analysis of the most recent school year (2022/23) indicates the local absenteeism rates are returning to the pre-Covid range of about 10%.

Absenteeism has myriad negative impacts. For students, they're more likely to fall behind academically, drop out and not graduate. For schools, lower attendance means less revenue from the state, which bases its funding on how many students show up every day. For teachers, poor attendance means half–empty classrooms, with some students who are weeks or months behind their peers.

There are legal implications, as well. In extreme cases, local district attorneys can get involved, citing and fining parents or students who persistently flout the mandatory attendance law.

Local officials said September is actually Attendance Awareness Month in SMMUSD and the district is working to keep parents aware of the importance of sending kids to school.

"'Showing up' is a valuable life habit – it represents more than attendance, it's an attitude – it's showing up, being present, and being engaged," said SMMUSD Superintendent Antonio Shelton in a letter to parents. "Strong attendance is the foundation for academic success, personal growth, and the building of a robust school community."

The district's tips for parents include setting an example for students, sticking to a routine, communicating about challenges and providing positive reinforcement.

"Strong family-school relationships are key to student success. With your involvement, we will successfully prepare, educate, and inspire every student," said Shelton in his letter to parents. "Together, let's celebrate our students' potential and ensure that Attendance Awareness Month sets a positive tone for the entire school year ahead."

Alarmed at the extent of the crisis, the Legislature is also intervening. The Assembly recently asked Hough's organization, Policy Analysis for California Education, to study the issue and come up with recommendations.

The findings could lead to legislation that would address the issue directly. A few possibilities include increased accountability at the local level, such as offering districts more incentives to get students back in class; better data collection; and broader efforts to make school a more attractive place for students to be.

In response to the pandemic, the state has already invested billions in initiatives aimed at boosting student engagement, including:

— After-school and summer programs.

— Improved school meals.

— Community schools, which offer social services to students, their families and others in the neighborhood.

— Mental health counselors, on-campus wellness centers and staff training on social-emotional learning.

— Expanded school bus services.

It's unclear how much impact these programs have had so far, or if they'll survive once COVID relief funding expires or the state budget tightens. But in any case, the state needs to do more, said Assembly Budget Chair Phil Ting, a Democrat representing San Francisco.

"It's worrisome that kids are still staying home from school in record numbers," Ting said. "Our investments in universal school meals, after-school programs and home-to-school transportation have not been enough to bring students back."

Ting said he's hopeful that studying the issue will lead to solutions.

"When children don't regularly attend class, they fall behind on their lessons, and they are more likely to drop out – some as early as kindergarten. The implications of a less-educated generation are great," he said. "We need to understand why attendance is below pre-COVID levels, so that we can better direct state resources and education leaders where they'll be most effective in re-engaging students."

Stemming absenteeism ultimately may be up to individual schools and staff, said Hedy Chang, executive director of the advocacy group Attendance Works.

For starters, health standards need to change, she said. Schools should promote better preventative care for students, but also convince parents that COVID is no longer a public health emergency and children should not miss school "for every sniffle or tummy ache."

But more importantly, school staff must work directly with families to address the specific reasons for absenteeism, taking into account language and cultural barriers, and build strong personal relationships with parents and students, she said.

"We need to create those deep connections, so every child knows that there's an adult waiting with open arms to welcome them to school," Chang said. "That needs to be the new normal."

SMDP Editor Matthew Hall contributed to this report. This article was originally published by CalMatters.

RCB

FROM PAGE 1

the rental business, some landlords, especially large corporate entities, are invoking Ellis in order to empty their rental properties and leave them vacant until such time as the re-control provisions allow the units to be re-offered at market rental rates, whether by the current owner or a successor owner."

The report said there is now a viable business model for evicting tenants that accounts for the five-years waiting period.

"As a result, some landlords, at the time they are evicting tenants under Ellis, have calculated that 5-year period and factored in those rental losses in advance as the cost of doing business," said the report. "At the end of that 5-year period, the now-vacant rental units, which often have undergone extensive renovations during this time, are either re-offered for rent at market rates or sold to a new owner at a premium and then re-rented at market rates. The agency has even seen ads for properties that are being marketed as empty rental properties with the 5-year date touted as when Ellis 'ends.' This is a clear misuse of the law since none of these owners have the requisite intent to 'go out of business' at the time the requisite notices are filed."

The proposal before RCB this week adds additional definitions to the rules clarifying the Ellis Act has a "good faith" intent qualification.

"These amendments clarify the definition of good faith and require owners to attest to their intent to leave the rental business in the Notice of Intent that is filed with the agency. They also include some factors for determining good faith, which will assist both landlords and tenants as well as provide a resource for hearing officers and judges in adjudicating cases where the landlord's intent is in question," said the report.

In addition to the clarifying language, the proposal also reiterates the existing repercussions for violations of the rules including rejecting Ellis applications, pursuing lawsuits against non-complying landlords and mandating reoccupancy by evicted tenants.

The Rent Control Board will discuss the issue at their Sept. 14 meeting to be held in City Hall (1685 Main Street) at 7 p.m.

editor@smdp.com

Status	Properties	Units
Withdrawn from the rental market	684*	3,317
Returned to the market and under rent control	183	992
Net loss before redevelopment	501	2,325
`	Properties	Units
Controlled after property redevelopment	15	258
Total net loss due to Ellis activity	486	2,067

Courtesy image

ELLIS: Ellis Act evictions have increased over time.

FINDING A NEW DENTIST IS TOUGH!!!
(BUT WE MAKE IT EASY!!!)

YOUR CHOICE

If you don't like what we have to say we will give you a copy of your x-rays at no charge

DENTAL CARE WITHOUT JUDGEMENT!

WE OFFER UNIQUE SERVICES
*Nitrous Oxide available
*No interest payment plans
*Emergencies can be seen today
*Our dentists and staff members are easy to talk to

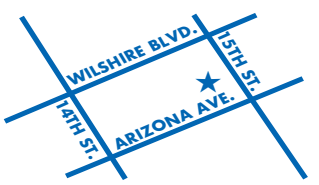
TRY OUR NO OBLIGATION
$20 EXAM
INCLUDES FULL XRAYS
*Offer to non insured patients

OR

TRY OUR NO OBLIGATION
$99 EXAM AND CLEANING
For New Patients
INCLUDES FULL XRAYS
*Offer to non insured patients

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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.

The Santa Monica Police Department is investigating accusations of child abuse after an online activist organization conducted an investigation in the Santa Monica area.

According to SMPD, local officers were notified after the fact that the "Creep Catching Unit" (CCU), a volunteer group with no law enforcement affiliation or authority, was in Santa Monica performing an investigation.

SMPD officers met with the volunteers and took a report. However, details of the accusations are limited as the case is under investigation.

"As a law enforcement agency, SMPD must ensure there is verifiable evidence that meets prosecutable standards that can be presented to the Los Angeles County District Attorney," said SMPD in social media posts. "The circumstances alleged by the reporting party remain under investigation by SMPD detectives."

The CCU has been to Santa Monica before. In the past, members of the group posed as a 14-year-old girl and used online platforms to communicate with a suspect who wanted to meet his alleged victim in Santa Monica. That suspect, Fernando Dominguez, was ultimately arrested.

Their efforts in other cases have secured convictions in several jurisdictions throughout California and the group operates statewide.

LETTER

FROM PAGE 4

a reprehensible clean-up sweep of an endemic problem. I'm talking about bearing down on it as a solvable issue within our city limits in time for the Olympics in 5 years. We might not get there, but that should be the vision, one that you are reminded of every time you leave Santa Monica and don't encounter what residents deal with every day (we're all the frog in boiling water!). I personally experience a form of cognitive dissonance when I go somewhere that doesn't have a lurching, unstable human coming at me on the sidewalk. Like: "Oh, this is what's normal!"

A key component in succeeding in Vision Zero will be bringing our police force up to 280, which is what we need to address our growing city. They need to go after the embedded drug dealers and dry up the supply, which will make Santa Monica less desirable for transient drug tourists. Turn us into a hard target for criminals.

Another component will be a close audit of what the city is getting for the enormous amount of money we are spending. It's a failure. Time to rethink it from the ground up, including dismantling and outsourcing expensive programs that don't work. We need to take a page from Malibu because, like them, we have a tourism industry to revive and protect.

This means avoiding the mistake of putting "supportive housing" anywhere near downtown. Embedding 50 units on fourth street with "wraparound" services is such a bad idea it sounds like an Onion headline. For those of you who doubt it, I'm happy to introduce you to Brian, a local wrecking ball shouting racial expletives when he gets drunk, who was given an apartment in Step-up-on-second. Believe me, Brian still regularly visits areas in and adjacent to downtown, terrifying everybody he encounters. Let's not shoot ourselves in the foot as we try to reboot.

Commercials, longer PR videos packs, and advertising about Santa Monica, should be created and aired during the Olympics. Some of this will be done organically through the Olympic committee, but there's lots we can do. Our PR and tourism budgets should be increased to start changing the perceptions of the International tourists that have abandoned us.

Restore the Civic Center to be used for events that will draw musicians back to the city. Commerce follows art and I'm sure this small venue could be used to create way more ancillary revenue than it will cost to restore. I know we're broke due the pedophile payouts, but we won't always be, and selling our treasures now, to be replaced by another stack and pack, is short-sighted and foolish.

The massive dog event on Main Street this past weekend was awesome. Everything is better with dogs! Events like this should continue to be courted. Santa Monica should be connoted with fun and not crime. With joy and not despair. It has to become a place where people can come and forget their problems, whether they are rich international tourists, or a family of immigrants coming out to use the beach and take their kids to the pier.

Stop our building spree and take time for the already massive amounts in the pipeline to play out. You have an opportunity to do this by pausing the 507 unit building proposed that you are discussing tomorrow. Take a breath, and take a look at a map of what the city will look like once everything green-lit has been built.

If you want a vision of what we want to become, simply look back to what we were 10 years ago, and how we were viewed by residents and international and regional tourists. I'm not looking back in nostalgia, for change is inevitable. I'm looking back to remember something I've written about before, which is Vibe, something both tangible and intangible. We must protect our city's vibe and personality so that we don't become generic, so that we stay one of the special places in people's memories when they visit. This affects development, architecture (please be beautiful, we will be living with you forever), activities, safety, cleanliness, events—everything about Santa Monica.

Work together (I know it's tough), and simply focus on the ills and opportunities for our residents and visitors. Stop trying to solve regional, national issues, or culture war issues. Solve what is right in front of you as the council of Santa Monica, nothing more, nothing less. Let's not waste an opportunity to get back on the list if the 10 most appealing beach communities in the world (where we once were). The lead up to the Olympics gives us all a fresh chance. Let's seize it!

Arthur Jeon, Santa Monica

COLLEGE

FROM PAGE 2

standards than what's required to earn the associate degree for transfer. The UC has no position on McCarty's latest bill, a spokesperson said.

Scholars say California needs to overhaul its process for how students transfer. "Most students who wish to transfer never do, with large variation across racial and ethnic groups," said a recent report by the Public Policy Institute of California.

McCarty's bill would create a pilot at UCLA that identifies 12 majors — four in the sciences and math — by 2028 that would be similar to the courses community college students take to earn associate degrees for transfer and that are accepted by Cal States. The pilot would identify eight majors by 2026. The bill also would phase in at least four more UC campuses that would accept 12 majors that are similar to those associate degrees. There's intent language to have all nine UC campuses that enroll undergraduates take part in the program by 2031-32.

But while McCarty's original bill included an admission guarantee, this version doesn't, noted Jessie Ryan, a senior executive at the Campaign for College Opportunity. Instead, the current version says the UC would "prioritize admission" to transferring students.

"We see this new bill as being the baseline and not the ceiling for what we hope will happen with the UC's commitment to strengthening the transfer pathway," said Ryan, who added the organization isn't taking a position on the new bill.

But two students representing University of California and California Community Colleges student governments oppose McCarty's new bill — and were caught off guard by McCarty's latest proposal.

"We were definitely not reached out to by the author nor the sponsors for this," said David Ramirez, government relations director of the UC Student Association and fourth-year student at UCLA.

The new bill is a gut-and-amend, which takes legislation that's gone through some of the legislative process and completely rewrites it to meet legislative deadlines.

"I'm initially very concerned with what this bill looks like," Ramirez added. "We certainly won't be supporting it." His organization will take a formal position on the bill this evening, he said.

Ramirez wasn't aware of the bill's existence until a CalMatters reporter called him for comment yesterday morning.

Chanelle Win, who leads legislative efforts for the Student Senate for California Community Colleges, also said she opposes the bill.

Chiefly, it undermines the goal of having one admissions guarantee for the UC and Cal States by taking a piecemeal approach. She also fears it preempts an existing student and advocacy effort to propose a transfer guarantee to the UC created by a previous state law. Ryan said she doesn't think the bill upends that effort.

McCarty understands the students' criticisms, but "like everything else in the legislative process, you have to compromise," he said.

"I'm not going to let the perfect be the enemy of the good," he added.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

APPLE

FROM PAGE 3

Apple's mixed reality headset, the iPhone 15 Pro and Pro Max will also have a spatial video option designed for viewing on that headset.

Apple is encasing the premium models in titanium that the company says is the same alloy used on some space ships.

Besides its new iPhones, Apple also announced its next generation of smartwatches — a product that made its debut nearly a decade ago. The Series 9 Apple Watch, available in stores September 22, will include a new gesture control that will enable users to control alarms and answer phone calls by double snapping their thumbs with a finger.

HIGH HOLIDAY

FROM PAGE 5

people, in order to celebrate the most sacred days of the year, have to check in with the police?"

"I worry that something bad is going to happen, because it feels almost inevitable," he added. "That's a tough place to be emotionally."

Even as the threats and attacks persist, there have been documented instances demonstrating the value of new security measures.

Rabbi Jeffrey Myers, one of the rabbis conducting services when Pittsburgh's Tree of Life synagogue was attacked, had never carried a cellphone on Shabbat prior to receiving active-shooter training. He had his phone with him during the attack, and was able to call 911.

Rabbi Charlie Cytron-Walker, one of three people held hostage for 10 hours at his Colleyville, Texas synagogue in 2022, credited their escape to security training he had received over the years.

"Without the instruction we received, we would not have been prepared to act and flee when the situation presented itself," the rabbi said.

In November, when the FBI said it had received credible information about a "broad" threat to synagogues in New Jersey, Jewish leaders in part of the state were able to get real-time updates via text message thanks to a new emergency broadcast system established by the Jewish Federation of Northern New Jersey.

One of the duties for that federation's director of community security, Tim Torell, is providing PowerPoint presentations on the active-shooter response strategy known as "Run, Hide, Fight."

"The Jewish community does not want to do this — it wants to go worship and not have to worry about an active shooter," Torell said. "But there is a need to do it."

He recounted a recent training session where most of the participants were in their 70s, including a woman who came up to him at the end, tears in her eyes.

"She said, 'We're grateful, but I can't believe the world is coming to this. I can't believe we have to do this in my synagogue,'" Torell recalled.

"She got to me," he added. "I'm standing there, trying not to lose it."

Associated Press religion coverage receives support through the AP's collaboration with The Conversation US, with funding from Lilly Endowment Inc. The AP is solely responsible for this content.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Sept. 13)

Your heart will sing when you get the grown-up version of something you wanted as a child. You'll luck into working for a strong leader. You'll gain new confidence and use it to make friends and money. A partner will support you in numerous ways, and you'll reciprocate, using your talent to promote their interests. Gemini and Leo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 10, 4, 41, 3 and 18.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Instead of hastily embracing the next passing fad, you'll step back to compare the new fix to established tools and techniques. Faster isn't always better, nor is labor always to be avoided.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The energy of passion goes beyond the realm of reason and even the realm of responsibility. Your personal life thrives when you seek the more contained, concentrated energy of loyalty and duty.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). A special individual takes notice and values the small gestures and efforts you make. This recognition becomes a driving force, motivating you to extend your efforts even further.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You ask a lot of yourself, but as long as the vision aligns with your strengths and preferences, and accepts your vulnerabilities, you'll thrive in the process. Just don't ask yourself to be anyone other than who you are.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll be involved in a scene where everyone has an agenda. Communication is tricky and so layered, it may take days or weeks to understand exactly what's going on. For this reason, don't be too quick to make a move.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll be presenting ideas. If your audience is sharp, they will be curious about how things work, and your presentation will turn into a conversation. If not, you haven't found the right audience yet.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your mind is bright, your soul deep. The quiet claims you as one of its own, calling you to observe, listen, learn, reflect and delve profoundly into the essence of ordinary matters.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). A plan has gotten convoluted. There may be too many people involved, multiple objectives or an unwieldy amount of requirements. So, stand back, decide what's essential and start over with fewer elements.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Typically, you're put off by boasting, pretentiousness and name dropping, but today you can't help but be drawn in. Maybe you find it flattering, this effort to impress you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Loving better doesn't mean loving more precisely. Expectations get misplaced. Someone always loves more. Attempts to be more careful with your heart will only backfire. Better to embrace love's messy and unpredictable nature.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You think things are one way, then life shows you something different. The goals that seem easy become a challenge due to interference from your personal life. Let the plot twist invigorate you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You'd rather chase something exhilarating and improbable than go for the easy but unexciting win. The thing about a long shot is, the more steps you take toward it, the shorter the shooting range becomes.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

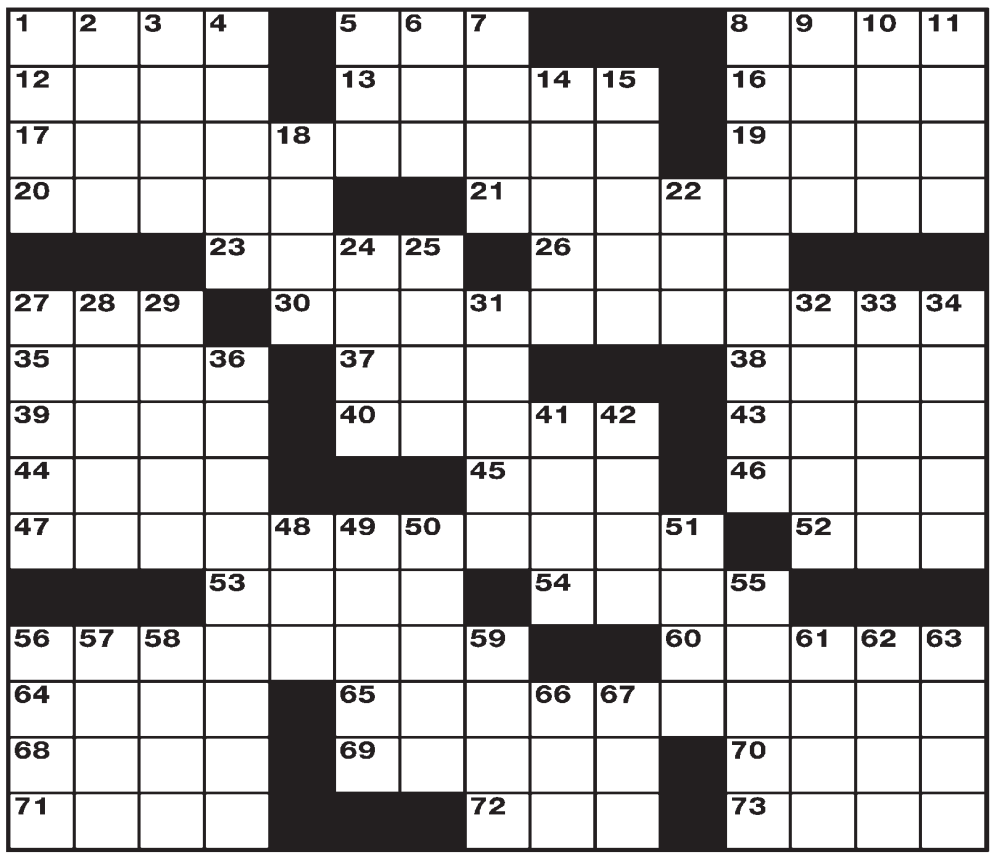
ON THE OUTSIDE by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Sweater's sleeves
5 Angry
8 Daybreak, in verse
12 __ moss (gardening material)
13 Michelle or Barack
16 "Fine by me!"
17 Japan's oceanic locale
19 Large vases
20 Buy things
21 "Junior," to his dad
23 Affectionate greeting
26 Construct
27 Video recorder, for short
30 State-of-the-art
35 Aroma
37 Brazilian city, familiarly
38 Floor space measure
39 Trig ratio
40 Appliance for onion rings
43 Smallest of a litter
44 Be introduced to
45 Tribute in verse
46 Kingly title
47 Beyond what is acceptable
52 Bear cub's home
53 Animator's character
54 "Get real!"
56 Got by trickery
60 Lowest possible
64 Much-admired person
65 Free movement of people between countries
68 Envelope adhesive
69 Lipstick mishap
70 Lost fish in a Disney film
71 Drop in the mail
72 School support grp.
73 Peevish mood

DOWN

1 Smartphone programs
2 Gather up, as a crop
3 Spice in eggnog
4 Have a bad 35 Across
5 French "me"
6 Alphabet intro
7 Repair, as a sock
8 Disneyland headwear souvenir
9 Cajun vegetable
10 Admiral or general
11 Wall St. market
14 Southeast Florida port
15 Jordan's capital
18 Bank-watchdog org.
22 Heart test, in brief
24 Browse the Internet
25 Mix with a spoon
27 Women's fashion mag
28 Parisian "Farewell!"
29 Impressionist painter Claude
31 End of the "Happy Birthday" song
32 Worshiper at Stonehenge
33 Any artistic category
34 Had a meal
36 Double-checked, as a sum
41 Novelist Ferber or O'Brien
42 Wines pairing well with meat
48 Visibility reducer
49 Western neckties
50 An hr. after noon
51 Cylindrical farm structure
55 Plants with fronds
56 Mediterranean fruits
57 Just sitting around
58 Any word that can be pluralized
59 Low in pitch
61 Mideast's Gulf of __
62 Prefix for sweet
63 Jogger's gait
66 __ Geo (cable channel, for short)
67 Bikini part

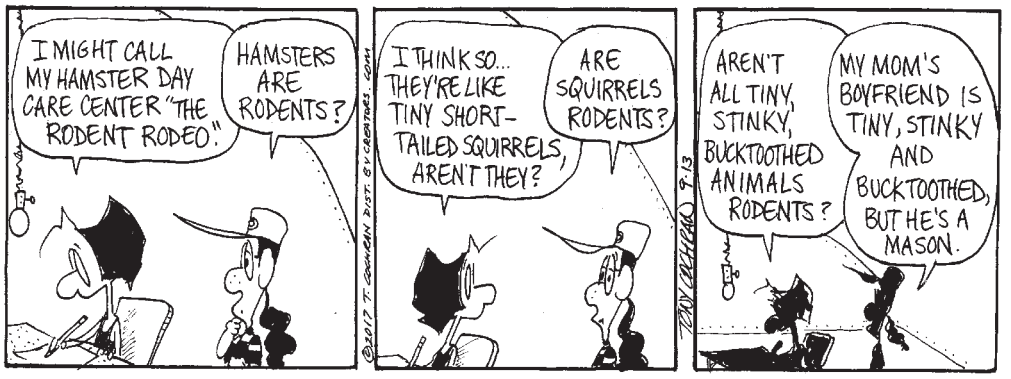


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MORE OF STAN'S CROSSWORDS! Play FREE from Stan's archives of Easy, Hard and Sunday puzzles at: tinyurl.com/stan-newman-crosswords

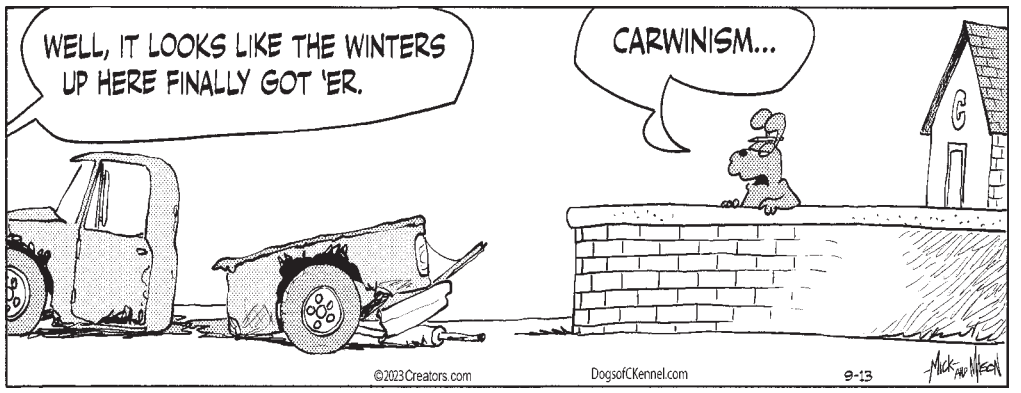
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

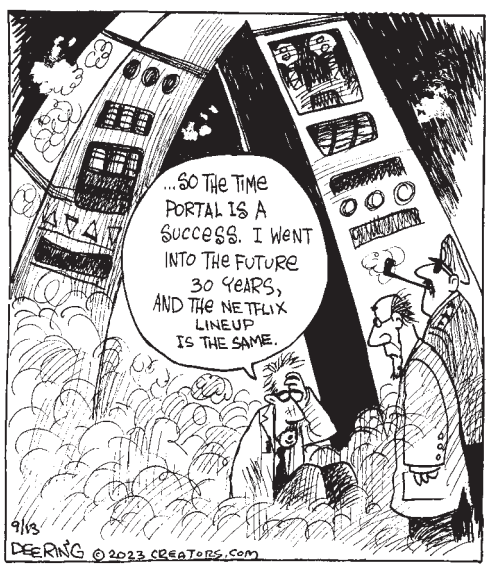
By PETER GALLAGHER



"THE BRO RALLY WAS BIGGER."

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

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Here for a visit

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

Anchor
Ballet
Barefoot skiing
Bays
Bikini
Bottom
Canoes
Cave
Colours
Coral
Dams
Deep
Dragon boat
Event
Fins
Flags
Gloves
Heat
Lake
Lessons
Lotion
Mast
Oars
Ocean
Paddle
Pool
Practical
Raft
Rips
River
Safety
Scuba
Spear gun
Storm
Summer
Sunny
Swim
Tanned
Theory
Throw
Tube
Wharf
Yacht

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What's Up Westside

out and about in Santa Monica

WEDNESDAY | SEPTEMBER 13

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE
There is an immediate need! To make an appointment, visit: redcrossblood.org/make-donation and enter sponsor code SantaMonicaLibrary. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.

COMPUTER CLASS: INTRO TO CHROMEBOOKS (FOR BEGINNERS)
Gain the skills to start using a Chromebook computer at home, work, or school. Find out how you can check out one of these simple laptops from the Library. For beginners. 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.

THURSDAY | SEPTEMBER 14

FRAUD AND IDENTITY THEFT AWARENESS
Antonia Villasenor, from the California Dept. of Financial Protection & Innovation, discusses how to protect yourself and your loved ones from financial fraud, and steps to take if your identity is stolen. 4 - 5 p.m. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.

RENT CONTROL BOARD MEETING
The Rent Control Board meets to conduct business associated with the Rent Control Charter Amendment and Regulations. 7 p.m. until concluded. Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main St.

FRIDAY | SEPTEMBER 15

CELEBRANDO INDEPENDENCIA
Join Familias Latinas Unidas (FLU) as they celebrate de Independence of Latin American Countries. Come dressed in traditional clothing and enjoy history, mariachi, food and the "grito". 6 - 10 p.m. Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave.

SATURDAY | SEPTEMBER 16

SAVING YOUR SUMMER SEEDS
Seed Saving Workshop Begins at 10 a.m. With experts leading through harvesting, cleaning and storing. Kids activities aplenty, whether that's messin' around in the worm bin, flippin' our compost pile or making chalk art on the sidewalk. This event is free and open to the public. 9 - 11 a.m. Ishihara Park Learning Garden 2909 Exposition Blvd.

NOTABLE FICTION BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP
Join a community-led discussion of award-winning current and classic fiction, held via Zoom. Contact library@santamonica.gov for the link. September's selection is Trust by Hernan Diaz. 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. Virtual.

SEA STAR FEEDING
Come learn about the diet of the local sea stars and help serve them their favorite lunch. Visitors to Heal the Bay Aquarium can help assist aquarium staff as they feed the sea stars in their Tide Pool Touch Tanks, every Saturday at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Heal the Bay Aquarium, 1600 Ocean Front Walk.

SUNDAY | SEPTEMBER 17

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. Opener: folk/pop singalong with McCabe's Hootenanny Collective | Headliner: East L.A ska with The Delirians | Food Trucks*: Creamy Boyz Ice Cream, Pacifico Charbroiled Fish, Cerda Vega. 4 - 7 p.m. Gandara Park, 1819 Stewart St.

PING PONG ON THE PROMENADE
Every Sunday through September, show off your Ping Pong skills on Third Street Promenade! The tables will be out 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. on the 1200 Block (between Arizona & Wilshire.)

MONDAY | SEPTEMBER 18

MAIN LIBRARY BOOK GROUP DISCUSSION
Join a community-led online discussion of a wide range of books, chosen by the members. To register, email library@santamonica.gov. September's selection is Lincoln in the Bardo by George Saunders. Virtual. 7 - 8:30 p.m.

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

CIVIC MEETINGS: ARTS COMMISSION / ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD / COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY, ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, AND THE ENVIRONMENT
Arts Commission: Santa Monica Arts Commission meeting starts at 6:30 p.m. Public Art Committee meeting commences 5:30 p.m. Main Library Community Meeting Room on the second floor - 601 Santa Monica Blvd
ARB: City Hall, 1685 Main Street. 7 p.m.
Commission on Sustainability, Environmental Justice, and the Environment: Civic Center Parking Structure, 333 Civic Center Dr. SMI Room. 7 - 10 p.m.

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



SURF REPORT

WATER TEMP: **70.3**

WEDNESDAY *FAIR*	**SURF:** 3-4ft Waist to chest	Slow start but keep an eye on the afternoon. Playful, long period SSW swell builds further through the day. Fun waves for the summer exposures. Morning window looks cleanest but the afternoon should be in play. Points pretty clean all day.
THURSDAY *FAIR TO GOOD*	**SURF:** 4-6ft Chest to overhead	Fun surf all day as SSW swell holds steady. Beachbreaks probably walled but may still be just enough NW windswell for occasional peaks. Morning looks like the cleanest window of the day before light onshore W flow develops PM.

WEATHER

Wednesday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, cloudy through mid morning.
Wednesday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, increasing clouds, with a low around 63.
Thursday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 71.
Thursday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 61.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2023/09/13	Wed	03:26 AM	0.09	L
2023/09/13	Wed	09:42 AM	4.61	H
2023/09/13	Wed	3:08 PM	1.71	L
2023/09/13	Wed	9:09 PM	5.72	H
2023/09/14	Thu	03:47 AM	0.23	L
2023/09/14	Thu	09:59 AM	4.78	H
2023/09/14	Thu	3:38 PM	1.45	L
2023/09/14	Thu	9:39 PM	5.56	H
2023/09/15	Fri	04:07 AM	0.45	L
2023/09/15	Fri	10:18 AM	4.96	H
2023/09/15	Fri	4:10 PM	1.25	L
2023/09/15	Fri	10:10 PM	5.28	H
2023/09/16	Sat	04:27 AM	0.73	L
2023/09/16	Sat	10:38 AM	5.12	H
2023/09/16	Sat	4:45 PM	1.10	L
2023/09/16	Sat	10:43 PM	4.90	H
2023/09/17	Sun	04:46 AM	1.09	L
2023/09/17	Sun	11:00 AM	5.23	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: 9/11
9 25 27 53 66
Power#: 5
Jackpot: 550 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 9/8
3 12 17 51 62
Mega#: 1
Jackpot: 141 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 9/9
24 25 26 30 43
Mega#: 3
Jackpot: 8 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 9/11
4 13 19 23 34

Daily 3
Draw Date: 9/11
EVENING: 7 5 1
Draw Date: 9/11
MIDDAY: 1 8 5

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 9/11
1st: 04 - Big Ben
2nd: 05 - California Classic
3rd: 12 - Lucky Charms
Race Time: 1:47.02

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Santa Monica Daily Press

City of Santa Monica

Santa Monica's Equity Plan Kickoff Event

The City of Santa Monica needs your help setting priorities for its citywide equity plan.



September 23, 2023,
11 a.m. to 2 p.m

1450 Second St. | Virtual option available



Featuring:

- Info Session on $500 Community Engagement Grants
- Panel Discussion
- Free Lunch
- Small Group Sessions

RSVP required. Email socialjustice@smgov.net or call (424) 299-6748 to reserve your spot.

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