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Popping up in LA.

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Latest in local concerts.

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Plenty of weekend activity

smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

Volume 23 Issue 214 | THURSDAY 9/19/24 | smdp.com

Bitcoin, Pickleball join forces in unique tournament event

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

Two fast-rising industries will collide next month for a unique mix of education and competition.

On October 18, The Proof of Workforce Foundation will be partnering with the Fold App and Pickle Pop at 1231 Third Street Promenade for "PickleBit." The special pickleball tournament is themed around the Bitcoin digital currency, coinciding with the Bitcoin Peer to Peer Festival on the Promenade that day.

The PickleBit tournament will have a semi-pro and amateur mixed doubles tournament, both following a double-elimination format, with over $5,000 in Bitcoin on the line. Other prizes include additional Bitcoin hardware devices provided by CoinKite.

"This will be an incredible event, bringing together two talented and high-growth communities, Bitcoiners and Pickleballers, to support creative re-use of commercial space on the (Promenade)," Proof of Workforce Foundation Founder Dominick Bei stated.

The day-long festival is hosted by the Santa Monica Bitcoin Office, which made headlines in July by becoming the first such office in the United States. At the request of Vice Mayor Lana Negrete and approved by City Council, Proof of Workforce coordinated with the city on piloting the Bitcoin Office.

Four key initiatives of the office are: Bitcoin education for Santa Monica residents, identifying Bitcoin initiatives and partnerships to cultivate economic growth, identify career opportunities in the

SEE **BITCOIN** PAGE 8

Supportive housing recipient gets keys to apartment, new life



Photo by Thomas Leffler

PSH: Christopher Felts recently showed off the rooftop garden of The Laurel to LA County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath.

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

Christopher Felts welcomed a few visitors at his door this past week, celebrating the longtime Santa Monica resident's transition into permanent supportive housing.

Felts, who has been fighting homelessness in the city for over a decade, was recently welcomed into The Laurel at 1413 Michigan Ave., a permanent supportive housing (PSH) development that hosts 57 tenants in the PSH program. The new Laurel resident gained his keys as part of the Los Angeles County Pathway Home initiative, a collaboration between the City of Santa Monica, the LA County Homeless Initiative and the Office of County Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath.

Horvath was one of the guests at Felts' new abode at The Laurel, a one-bedroom apartment on the building's fourth floor.

Horvath was joined by representatives from her office, Laurel developer EAH Housing

SEE **LAUREL** PAGE 11

Top tappers pay pioneers tribute with dance showcase

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

A living history of one of dance's most accessible forms will be on display this weekend.

On Sunday at 2 p.m., the Moss Theatre at New Roads School will host "Classic Tap!," a tribute to tap dance's masters of the stage via live performances and vintage film clips. Some of this generation's tap specialists will be honoring mentors and icons of the genre, including Danny Daniels, Louis DaPron and Gene Nelson.

Along with professional performers like Rusty Frank, Darrin Contessa, Mark Marchillo and Joseph Navarez; the showcase features the Diane Davisson Dancers, a local troupe that has gone worldwide with its dance exploits.

Davisson, who has run the company for 37 years, prides herself on the fact that her performers have day jobs ranging from teachers and artists to graphic designers and realtors. Adding to the "Classic Tap!" show is a bonus to the family atmosphere the company created, with some dancers still with Davisson after all the decades.

"It's something perfect, because people are doing that for themselves, it's something that gives them great joy … when you're an adult, you do it because you want to be there and it always lifts people's spirits," Davisson said of her tap troupe. "People sometimes come in after a really hard, long day, or maybe they don't even feel so good, (but) when they leave, they always feel better than they did when they came in."

The company has done full-length tap dancing shows at colleges, veteran gatherings and assisted

SEE **TAP** PAGE 8

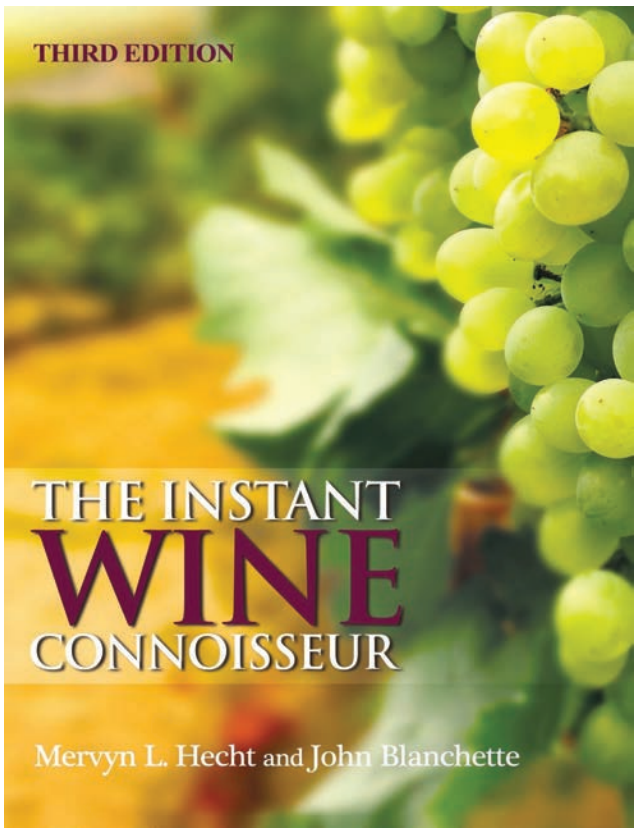
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★★★★★ A light-hearted fun read.
★★★★★ Well written, particularly useful, instantly accessible.
★★★★★ ...Hecht has a joyful eye and fabulous taste



Daily Press Food &Wine Columnist Merv Hecht takes you on an delightful tour of the world of wine. A fun way to increase your appreciation and knowledge of wine.

available at amazon

Los Angeles area sees more dengue fever in people bitten by local mosquitoes

JAIMIE DING
Associated Press

Health officials warned Wednesday that the Los Angeles area is seeing more dengue fever cases in people who have not traveled outside the U.S. mainland, a year after the first such case was reported in California.

Public health officials said at least three people apparently became ill with dengue this month after being bitten by mosquitoes in the Baldwin Park neighborhood east of downtown Los Angeles.

> This is an unprecedented cluster of locally acquired dengue for a region where dengue has not previously been transmitted by mosquitoes
>
> - Barbara Ferrer, director of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health

"This is an unprecedented cluster of locally acquired dengue for a region where dengue has not previously been transmitted by mosquitoes," said Barbara Ferrer, director of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health.

Other cases that stemmed from mosquito bites originating in the U.S. have been reported this year in Florida, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico, where officials have declared a dengue epidemic. There have been 3,085 such cases in the U.S. this year, of which 96% were in Puerto Rico, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Cases of dengue have been surging globally as climate change brings warmer weather that enables mosquitoes to expand their reach.

Dengue fever is commonly spread through the bite of infected Aedes mosquitoes in tropical areas. While Aedes mosquitoes are common in Los Angeles County, local infections weren't confirmed until last year, when cases were reported in Pasadena and Long Beach.

Before then, the cases in California were all associated with people traveling to a region where dengue is commonly spread, such as Latin America, said Aiman Halai, director of the department's Vector-Borne Disease Unit.

So far this year, 82 such cases have been reported in L.A. County by people returning from traveling, Halai said. Across California, there have been 148 cases.

Dengue can cause high fevers, rashes, headaches, nausea, vomiting, muscle pain, and bone and joint pain. About one in four people infected will get symptoms, which usually appear within five to seven days of a bite from a dengue-carrying mosquito. One in 20 people with symptoms will develop severe dengue, which can lead to severe bleeding and can be life-threatening.

Public health officials will be conducting outreach to homes within 150 meters (492 feet) of the homes of people who have been bitten. That's the typical flight range of the mosquitoes that transmit the virus, according to Ferrer.

Ferrer recommended that people use insect repellent and eliminate standing water around their houses where mosquitoes can breed.

Officials have been testing mosquitoes for the disease and so far have not found any in the San Gabriel Valley with dengue.

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GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Disorganization, city-county feuds impede California's efforts to reduce homelessness



Photo by Rich Pedroncelli, AP Photo

HOMELESS: Mark Bannister plays with his dog, Amelia, where he lives in a camp for people experiencing homelessness along the American River Parkway in Sacramento on Feb. 24, 2022. Bannister said many people lacking housing do not want to go to shelters in Sacramento because pets are not allowed. For years, liberal cities in the U.S have tolerated people living in tents in parks and public spaces, but increasingly leaders in places like Portland, Oregon, New York, Seattle and other cities are removing encampments and pushing other strict measures that would've been unheard of a few years ago..

DAN WALTERS

Over the last five years, the state government has spent some $24 billion to ameliorate homelessness, which, according to polls, is California's most troublesome issue.

Despite that immense financial commitment —and billions more in spending by local governments and philanthropic organizations — the number of homeless people continues to grow.

The latest federal homelessness count found 186,000 Californians living on the streets or in shelters, up 5,000 from the previous year and 36,000 since 2019, the year Gavin Newsom became governor. California has the highest homelessness rate of any state and more than a quarter of the nation's homeless population.

Despite the crisis, we have no hard data telling us how the money was spent, much less which programs, if any, have been successful. Not surprisingly, given the evident lack of results, official and private agencies that administer the programs are reluctant to disclose such information.

In fact, Calmatters.org and other groups have resorted to lawsuits to compel homelessness agencies to release information on what they have done with the funds.

Despite the shameful secrecy, it's apparent that one factor in the expanding crisis is a lack of coordination and cooperation among the public and private agencies.

Earlier this year, State Auditor Grant Parks issued a sharply worded critique of the California Interagency Council on Homelessness, the Newsom administration's tool for coordinating homelessness programs.

"The state lacks current information on the ongoing costs and outcomes of its homelessness programs, because (the council) has not consistently tracked and evaluated the state's efforts to prevent and end homelessness," Parks wrote.

State-level disorganization is compounded by a structural choke point at the local level. Overwhelmingly, unsightly encampments of homeless people are located within cities, but the social and medical services central to closing those camps are administered by counties, and in highly politicized urban areas, city and county officials tend to be rivals rather than partners.

While Newsom periodically issues

SEE **HOMELESSNESS** PAGE 11



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **64.4**

THURSDAY
FAIR
SURF: Knee to thigh 1-2FT

Modest scale SW swell lingers, as NW windswell drops. Morning winds look light and there's a nice tide push for the dawn patrol.

FRIDAY
FAIR TO GOOD
SURF: Knee to thigh 1-2FT

Surf staying small with a minor mix of NW and SSW/S swell. Morning looks clean with an early tide push.

Weather

Thursday: A 40 percent chance of showers. Cloudy, then gradually becoming mostly sunny, with a high near 66.
Thursday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers. Partly cloudy, with a low around 59.
Friday: A 20 percent chance of showers before 11am. Mostly sunny, with a high near 65.
Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 59.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)High/Low
2024/09/19	Thu	04:25 AM	0.21	L
2024/09/19	Thu	10:36 AM	6.15	H
2024/09/19	Thu	4:59 PM	0.01	L
2024/09/19	Thu	11:06 PM	5.25	H
2024/09/20	Fri	04:58 AM	0.82	L
2024/09/20	Fri	11:12 AM	6.29	H
2024/09/20	Fri	5:54 PM	-0.06	L
2024/09/21	Sat	12:04 AM	4.51	H
2024/09/21	Sat	05:30 AM	1.50	L
2024/09/21	Sat	11:52 AM	6.23	H
2024/09/21	Sat	6:55 PM	0.07	L
2024/09/22	Sun	01:14 AM	3.79	H
2024/09/22	Sun	06:04 AM	2.17	L
2024/09/22	Sun	12:37 PM	5.97	H
2024/09/22	Sun	8:08 PM	0.29	L
2024/09/23	Mon	02:57 AM	3.31	H
2024/09/23	Mon	06:40 AM	2.79	L
2024/09/23	Mon	1:34 PM	5.57	H
2024/09/23	Mon	9:44 PM	0.43	L
2024/09/24	Tue	05:36 AM	3.38	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: 9/16
8 9 11 27 31
Power#: 17
Jackpot: 176 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 9/17
14 31 48 57 64
Mega#: 9
Jackpot: 47 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 9/14
8 13 28 30 47
Mega#: 2
Jackpot: 23 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 9/17
1 22 28 30 38

Daily 3
Draw Date: 9/17
EVENING: 8 6 2
Draw Date: 9/17
MIDDAY: 7 7 2

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 9/17
1st: 10 - Solid Gold
2nd: 01 - Gold Rush
3rd: 04 - Big Ben
Race Time: 1:46.22

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Santa Monica Daily Press

COMMUNITY NEWS

Citywide

Council challengers pick up labor endorsements

A slate of challengers for City Council received a pair of labor-endorsements this week.

The Los Angeles County Federation of Labor (LA Fed) and the Los Angeles County Democratic Party (LACDP) have endorsed Dan Hall, Commissioner Ellis Raskin, Santa Monica College Board Trustee Barry Snell, and Natalya Zernitskaya for this fall's Santa Monica City Council elections.

They join others including labor union UNITE HERE Local 11 they are the candidates who will best fight for Santa Monica's workers and renters.

"During the historic hotel worker strike, Mayor Brock tried to restrict workers' ability to protest. We need a council who will stand with working people, not with wealthy hotel corporations," said Cristina Navarro, 20-year hotel room attendant, Union shop steward, Santa Monica renter, and member of the Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights Steering Committee.

According to the announcement, the Progressive Slate candidates Hall, Raskin, Snell and Zernitskaya all stood strongly with the striking hotel workers.

The press release issued by Danielle Wilson of UNITE HERE Local 11also attacks Brock for taking actions against workers including sharing "right-wing propaganda polls created by the Center for Union Facts, a right-wing, anti-union PR firm run by Republican strategist Richard Berman."

SMDP STAFF

Citywide

DA race draws Santa Monica endorsements

Santa Monica councilwoman Lana Negrete is featured in a new ad for Nathan Hochman's campaign.

Hochman is running against incumbent George Gascon for Los Angeles District Attorney. Hochman has criticized Gascon for being too lenient and contributing to rising fears about crime in the County by preventing prosecutors from pursuing appropriate penalties.

In the ad, Negrete is speaking in her role as a small business owner rather than an elected official. She recounts the work her business and nonprofit does but describes the challenges caused by crime and the ad features video of her store being robbed.

"Hochman will restore neighborhood safety so that our music shop can serve our community for years to come..." she says before endorsing him.

Just days after the ad, Hochman's campaign sent out an email announcing the endorsement of Mayor Phil Brock.

"As the Mayor of Santa Monica, I see the failures of the current district attorney on my streets every day," said Brock in the announcement. "We must demand accountability from those who choose to break the law, and Nathan Hochman is the person best qualified to protect our residents from harm. I believe that Mr. Hochman will empower the District Attorney's Office to effectively bring justice that is compassionate and effective in enforcing the laws of our county. I am wholeheartedly supporting Nathan Hochman for Los Angeles County District Attorney to bring safety and justice to our city and county."

Gascon also lists Santa Monicans among his endorsements including Councilwoman Gleam Davis and the Santa Monica Democratic Club.

SMDP STAFF

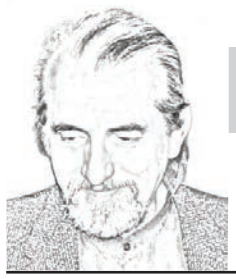
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OPINION **NOTEWORTHY**

Charles Andrews | Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Summer shows winding down



Courtesy photo

LA PHILHARMONIC: Don't miss the end of season shows.

So don't put off seeing these great ones.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

LA OPERA, "MADAME BUTTERFLY" – What a way to start the new season! With Korean soprano Karah Son in her signature role. And you can see it broadcast live to the Pier Saturday, free. Sat 6 p.m., next Thurs 7:30 p.m., Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, LA, $49-450.

THEATRICUM BOTANICUM: New political thought provoker – don't be scared! They are always entertaining too. A few laughs too, I'm sure. It is another thing they are known for, one of their strengths. Grandpa Walton would be proud. "The Winter's Tale" is one of Willie the Shake's last, a tragi-comedy in five acts. He had at that point moved away from telling the stories of royalty, writing more about the emotions and lives of more everyday people. A terrific production. TB's ever-evolving staple "A Midsummer Night's Dream" has been performed by them every season, for more than half a century now. But you should probably come see this one again, because I have been told it has been reworked interestingly. Molière's classic "Tartuffe" is brought forward a few centuries, and right into today's headlines. How do you rid yourself of a persistent and clever con man? "Wendy's Peter Pan" is typical of how TB takes a fresh look at things, and by title alone sounds like a lot of fun. I plan to see it and report back (but don't wait for that). Sat 8 p.m. "Wendy," Sun 3:30 p.m. "Tartuffe," Sun 7:30 p.m. "Hispanic," Mon 7:30 "Midsummer" Thurs, 7:30 p.m., $15-60.

HOT CLUB OF LOS ANGELES — You can go to the Cinema Bar any Monday night, 9-11:30, for more than a decade now, and hear these hot players run through Django Reinhart-style '30s jazz. This amazing ensemble is a treasure. Mon 9 p.m., Cinema Bar, Culver City, free.

RECOMMENDED:

Tonight - "THE SUBSTANCE OF FIRE" – is still getting glowing reviews, and packing them in at our local theater treasure, The Ruskin, at the airport, in this long run. Written in 1991 by Jon Robin Baitz while still in his 20s, he drew his characters lovingly and skillfully, even those decades past his age. Directed here by Mike Reilly, the first NY production starred Rob Rifkin and Sarah Jessica Parker. Lead Rob Morrow first performed it years ago, as the youngest son. Now he plays the aging Holocaust-survivor patriarch of a family business, a book publishing company not doing well and about to be taken over by a large foreign firm. His children want him to bend his principles and publish a best-seller, but he is intent on a six-book examination of Nazi medical experiments. It's almost like two plays, first the family dynamics with his three very different shareholding children, and in the second part comes Marcia Cross as a psychiatric social worker, and a different territory opens up. Last three performances of this long run! Thurs, Fri, Sat 8p.m., Sun 2 p.m., Ruskin Group Theatre, SM Airport, $25-40..

LA PHIL –Free neighborhood concert, but a first class program, with conductor Rodolfo Barráez, performing Debussy, Still, Bartok, Romero, Piazzolla (including his marvelous "Four Seasons of Buenos Aires," Barber's heart-wrenching "Adagio for Strings," Wed 7:30 p.m., South Gate Municipal Auditorium, free

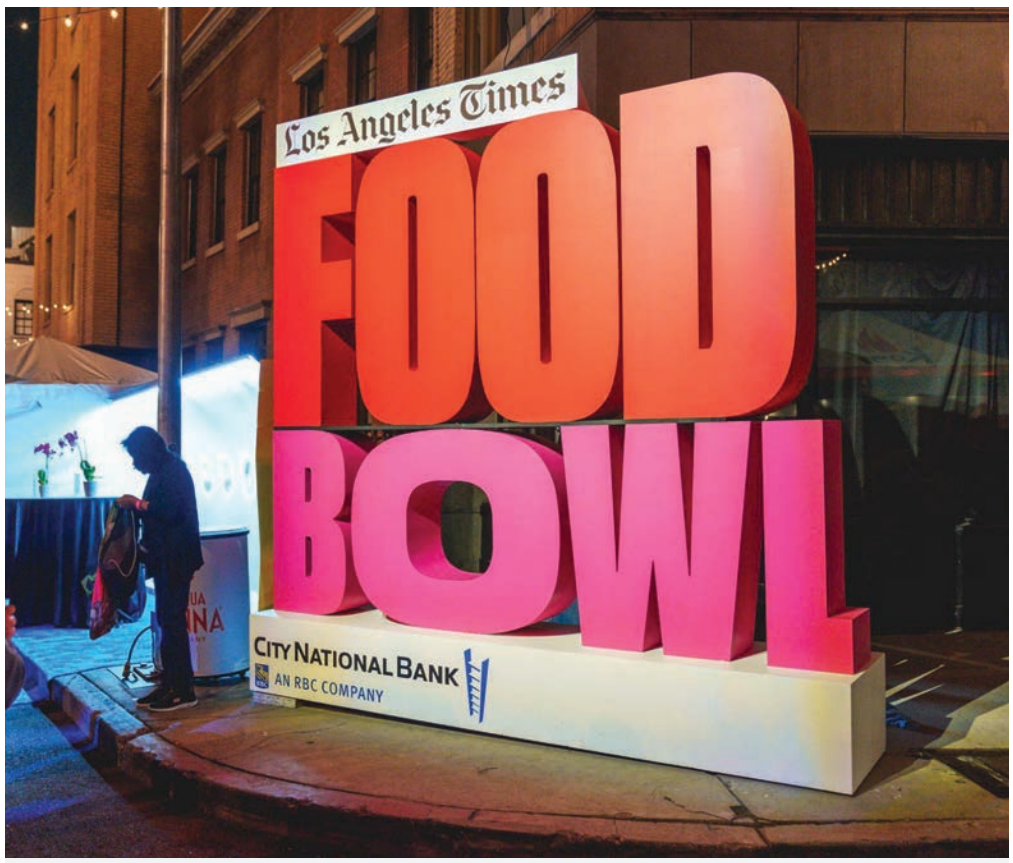
COMING ATTRACTIONS (also recommended): DENGUE FEVER, Lodge, 9/20; Theatricum Botanicum - "Wendy's Peter Pan" 9/21, 28, 10/4 - "The Hispanic/Latino/Latina/Latinx/Latine Vote" 9/22, 29, 10/3, 6, 12, 20 - "Tartuffe-Born Again" 9/22, 29, 10/5, 13 - "A Midsummer Night's Dream" 9/23 - "The Winter's Tale" 9/30; "THE SUBSTANCE OF FIRE," Ruskin Group Theatre, 9/21, 22, 23; LA PHIL Neighborhood Concert at South Gate Municipal Auditorium 9/25; LA PHIL Neighborhood Concert at Heart of Los Angeles 9/27; LA PHIL Gala Concert: DUDAMEL & LANG LANG, Disney Hall, 10/1; A Midsummer Night's Dream with DUDAMEL, Disney Hall, 10/3, 4; TOM JONES, Greek Theatre, 10/7; JONI MITCHELL and the Joni Jam, Hollywood Bowl, 10/19, 20; JEFF LYNNE'S ELO, Kia Forum, 10/25, 26; DAVID GILMOUR, Hollywood Bowl, 10/29, 30, 31; Halloween Organ, Film & Music: "Nosferatu," Disney Hall, 10/31; LA SANTA CECILIA, Wiltern, 10/31.

Charles Andrews has listened to a lot of music of all kinds, including more than 3,000 live shows. He has lived in Santa Monica for 38 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or hate mail to: therealmrmusic@gmail.com

AROUND TOWN

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Opera on the Pier, LA Times Food Bowl & More!



Courtesy Photo

FOOD: The signature Los Angeles Times Food Bowl is fast approaching, along with plenty of things to do this weekend in Santa Monica.

SMDP's Weekly Guide to Food & Entertainment Goings-On In & Around Town includes Opera on the Pier, LA Times Food Bowl, International Coastal Cleanup Day, Future Sounds of Jazz Festival, and much more!

Rosie O'Donnell Lunchtime Show at the Crow: "Tickets start at $25, but if you'd like the full lunch break experience, add on a Crow Bar drink and one of three sandwich selections from Huckleberry." Thursday, Sept. 19, 12:30p.m. at 2525 Michigan Ave. https://jetbook.co/e/out-to-lunch-with-rosie-odonnell-1kv4

Pier Locals Night: Local's Night is back with a Reggae-themed evening offering live entertainment including a classic car show, youth activities, art exhibits, DJs, and several reggae performances. Thursday, Sept. 19, 3:30 - 10p.m. https://www.santamonicapier.org/localsnight

Third Thursday at 3rd St. Promenade: The free block party features live music from DJ Asha, No False Ego, and Good Cop Bad Cop, plus free face painting and caricatures, and local vendors. Bring your pups, friends, and family for an evening of fun, dancing, and outdoor dining for the perfect sunset experience. Thursday, Sept. 19, 5:00 - 8:00p.m., 1200 Block, 3rd St. Promenade https://www.eventbrite.com/e/third-thursdays-third-street-919-tickets-950994198247

Saturday is International Coastal Cleanup Day: Multiple organizations are organizing cleanup efforts, including Santa Monica College (SMC), which is helping to clean up the "Inkwell." SMC's adopted section of beach is the historic site where SMC student Nick Gabaldón and other African Americans challenged Jim Crow racism and helped open public beaches for all. Gloves, buckets, and safety training will be provided. Saturday, Sept. 21, 9:00a.m. - 12:00p.m., at Santa Monica Beach Tower 20 (at the end of Bay St.) https://healthebay.org/coastalcleanupday/

Marina del Rey Movie Nights: Watch Ferris Bueller's Day Off on September 21 and Sixteen Candles on September 28, 8:00 p.m. at Burton Chace Park. More info here. https://visitmdr.com/events/free-marina-movie-nights#

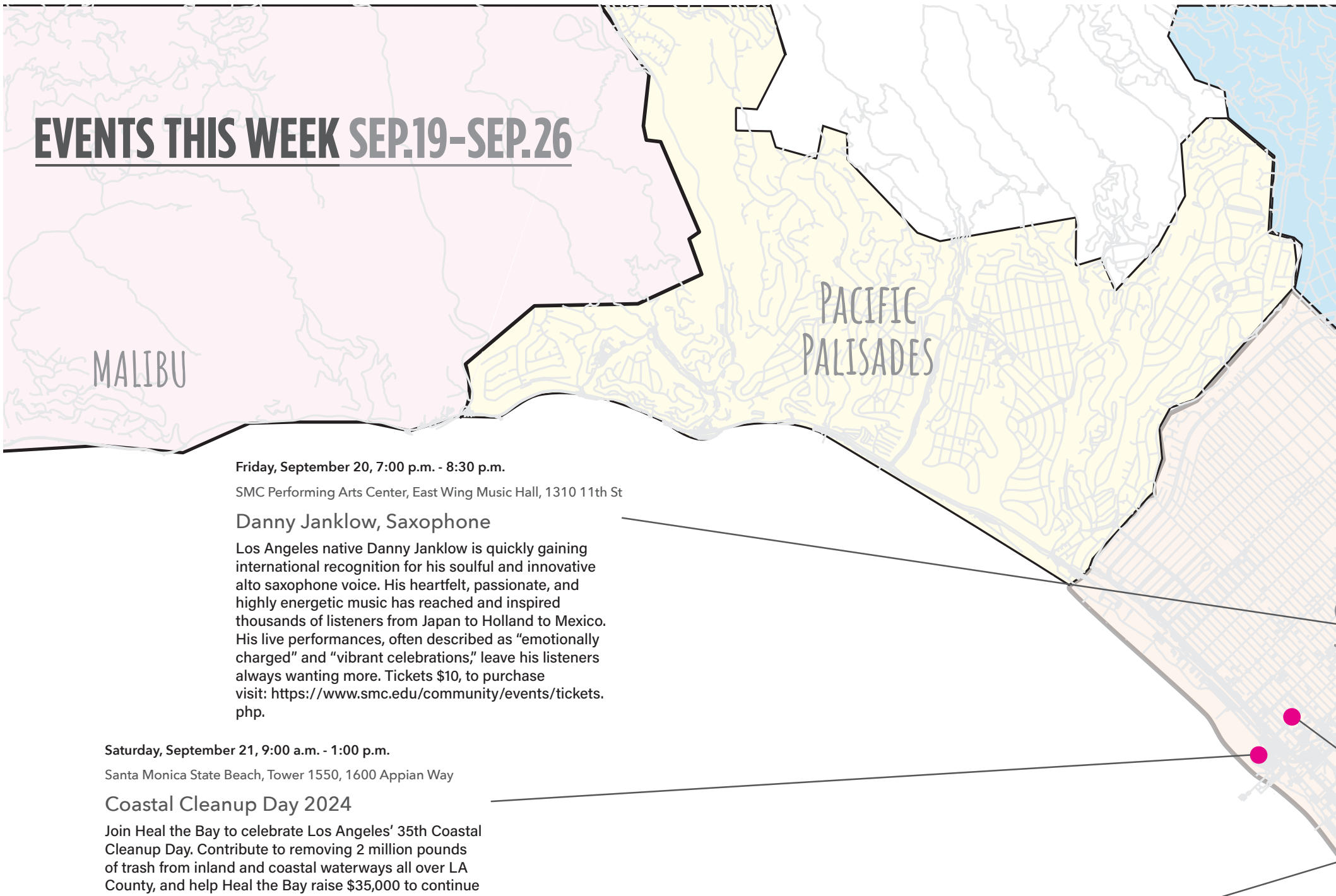
Future Sounds of Jazz Festival: The BroadStage presents a special day of jazz music curated by the legendary Stanley Clarke. Immerse yourself in the vibrant

SEE **AROUND TOWN** PAGE 11

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EVENTS THIS WEEK SEP.19-SEP.26



Friday, September 20, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

SMC Performing Arts Center, East Wing Music Hall, 1310 11th St

Danny Janklow, Saxophone

Los Angeles native Danny Janklow is quickly gaining international recognition for his soulful and innovative alto saxophone voice. His heartfelt, passionate, and highly energetic music has reached and inspired thousands of listeners from Japan to Holland to Mexico. His live performances, often described as "emotionally charged" and "vibrant celebrations," leave his listeners always wanting more. Tickets $10, to purchase visit: https://www.smc.edu/community/events/tickets.php.

Saturday, September 21, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Santa Monica State Beach, Tower 1550, 1600 Appian Way

Coastal Cleanup Day 2024

Join Heal the Bay to celebrate Los Angeles' 35th Coastal Cleanup Day. Contribute to removing 2 million pounds of trash from inland and coastal waterways all over LA County, and help Heal the Bay raise $35,000 to continue this work year-round. For more information on how to volunteer, visit https://healthebay.org/event/coastal-clean-up-day-2024/.

Sunday, September 22, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Ocean View Park, 2701 Barnard Way

5K Awareness Walk

Stride with heart and walk for hope as The Good Karma LA brings the community together to raise awareness for mental health and cancer support in honor of all those who battle these challenges daily. Benefits JIVA Mental Health and Cancer Support Community Los Angeles. Participants are welcome to run, jog or walk at their own pace. General admission $40, to register visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/priya-means-love-5k-awareness-walk-tickets-950226953397.

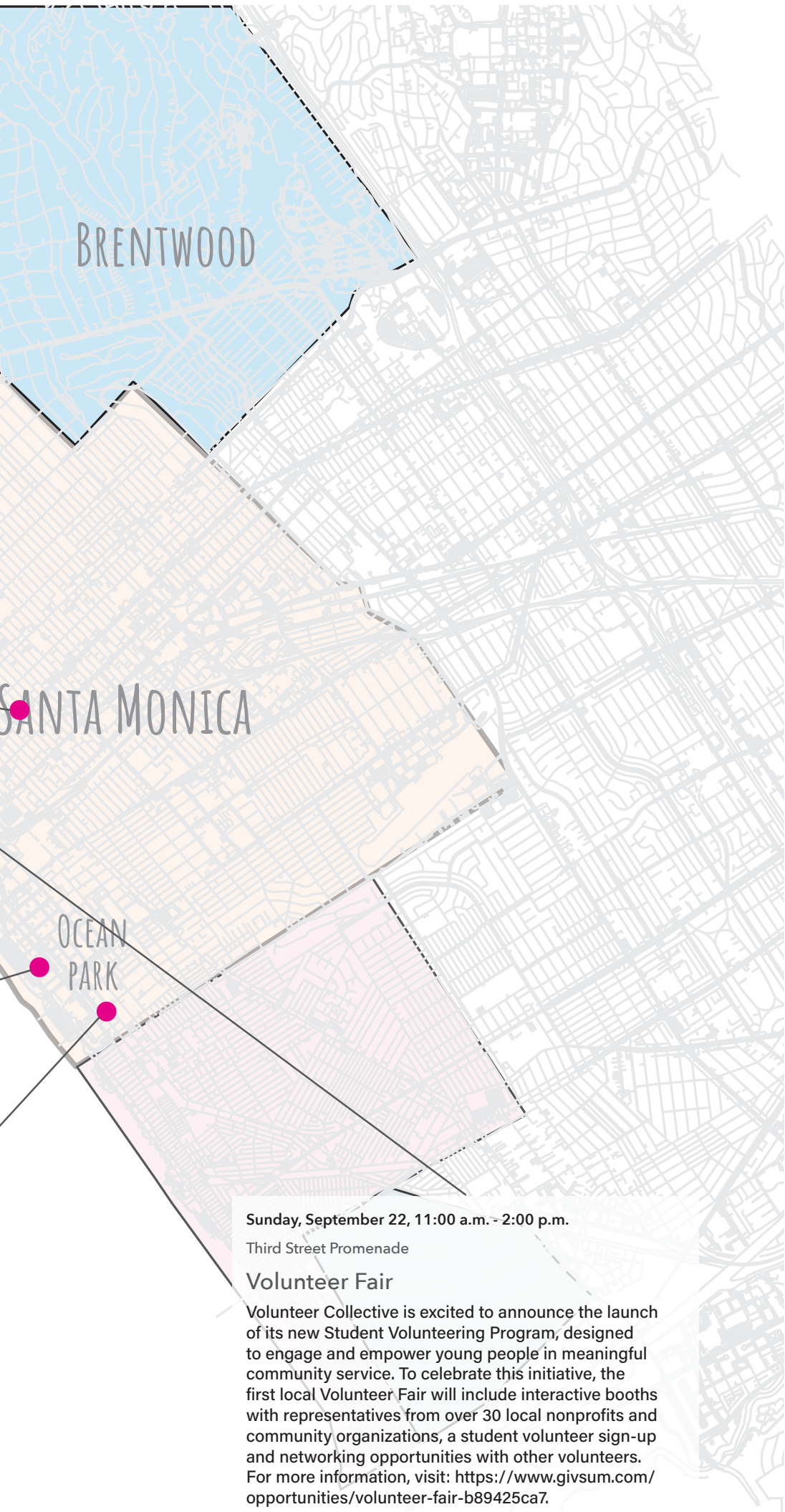
Saturday, September 21, 7:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

3110 Main St

Pvolve Grand Opening

Pvolve, the fast-growing boutique fitness franchise, is expanding its national footprint with the opening of their new location in Santa Monica. The 1,900 square-foot studio boasts a modern and elevated design featuring luxury amenities, patented and innovative equipment, a beauty bar featuring brands such as R+Co and Public Goods, and more. At launch, Pvolve Santa Monica will be offering their signature Strength + Sculpt class utilizing Pvolve's proprietary equipment to sculpt and tone the full body through low-impact workouts.

Check out more events at: smdp.com/events



Sunday, September 22, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Third Street Promenade

Volunteer Fair

Volunteer Collective is excited to announce the launch of its new Student Volunteering Program, designed to engage and empower young people in meaningful community service. To celebrate this initiative, the first local Volunteer Fair will include interactive booths with representatives from over 30 local nonprofits and community organizations, a student volunteer sign-up and networking opportunities with other volunteers. For more information, visit: https://www.givsum.com/opportunities/volunteer-fair-b89425ca7.



THURSDAY | SEPTEMBER 19

RETAIL/HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE MEETING

8 - 9 a.m. Virtual. The Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce members-only Retail and Hospitality Committee meeting encourages businesses to join and discuss any issues, policy changes, or other proposals that may be effecting your industry currently or in the future. To register, visit: https://santamonicachamber.chambermaster.com/eventregistration/register/23198.

TECH & TASKS

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

LEGO CLUB

4 - 5 p.m. Youth Activity Room, Santa Monica Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. Explore the limits of your building imagination or try out one of our suggested builds. All materials provided. For ages 18 months - 11 years old.

LAND USE, DEVELOPMENT AND MOBILITY COMMITTEE

4 - 5 p.m. 2800 28th St., Suite 170. Focuses on issues influencing the operation of businesses in Santa Monica including permitting, zoning, parking and access. To register, visit: https://santamonicachamber.chambermaster.com/eventregistration/register/24083.

THIRD THURSDAYS AT THIRD STREET

5 - 8 p.m. Third Street Promenade. A free block party with live music, interactive art, outdoor dining and community booths. Music performances from DJ Asha, No False Ego and Good Cop Bad Cop. Community booths include free face painting and caricature artists, as well as voting registration city staff.

MONTANA AVENUE BRANCH BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

6 - 7 p.m. Montana Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave. This community-led, monthly book discussion group currently meets in person. This month's title is "The March" by E.L. Doctorow.

RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION

6 - 8 p.m. City Council Chambers, Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main St. The Commission shall act in an advisory capacity to the City Council and Director of Community Services in all matters pertaining to public recreation including playgrounds, music and entertainment. The Commission will consider the budget of the Community and Cultural Services Department and make recommendations to the City Manager and the City Council. The Commission will also assist in the planning and promotion of a recreation program for residents and solicit the cooperation of school authorities and other public and private agencies.

AUTHOR EVENT WITH ED BURNS

6 - 7 p.m. Zibby's Bookshop, 1113 Montana Ave. Zibby's Bookshop is thrilled to host Ed Burns to celebrate the release of "A Kid From Marlboro Road." Ed will be joined by author and Zibby's Bookshop founder Libby Owens. Lodestar Whiskey will also be on hand to bring specialty cocktails to the event. Includes discussion, Q&A and book signing. Tickets $18-$49, to purchase visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/author-event-ed-burns-x-zibby-owens-tickets-980383693017.

FRIDAY | SEPTEMBER 20

OPEN HOUSE AND RESOURCE FAIR

4 - 6 p.m. Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave. Virginia Avenue Park presents the free Virginia Avenue Park Open House and Resource Fair. Participants are invited to connect with a wide array of local services providers, many of whom offer free programs at the park. Learn about their offerings including senior services, financial services, mental health services, music education, hospitality employment training and other services. In addition, Seeds of Hope Free Produce Market will provide free produce to all attendees while supplies last. Whole Foods will be providing refreshments.

SATURDAY | SEPTEMBER 21

PVOLVE GRAND OPENING

7:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Pvolve Studio, 3110 Main St. Pvolve, the fast-growing boutique fitness franchise, is expanding its national footprint with the opening of their new location in Santa Monica. The 1,900 square-foot studio boasts a modern and elevated design featuring luxury amenities, patented and innovative equipment, a beauty bar featuring brands such as R+Co and Public Goods, and more. At launch, Pvolve Santa Monica will be offering their signature Strength + Sculpt class utilizing Pvolve's proprietary equipment to sculpt and tone the full body through low-impact workouts.

SEED SAVING WORKSHOP AND SEED ID CHALLENGE

9 - 11 a.m. Ishihara Park Learning Garden, 2909 Exposition Blvd. Come join the monthly garden party and hear from master gardeners about the joy of saving seeds. Flowers and vegetables alike, discussions will be held on dry and wet seed harvesting, drying and storage tips. Also participate in the Seed ID Challenge and see who among your group is the seed whisperer.

COASTAL CLEAN UP DAY 2024

9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Santa Monica beaches. Join Heal the Bay to celebrate Los Angeles' 35th Coastal Cleanup Day. Contribute to removing 2 million pounds of trash from inland and coastal waterways all over LA County, and help Heal the Bay raise $35,000 to continue this work year-round. For more information on how to volunteer, visit https://healthebay.org/event/coastal-clean-up-day-2024/.

PROPER QUILTING COLLAGING FOR KIDS

10 - 11 a.m. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 Pacific Coast Hwy. A fun and creative event hosted by the City of Santa Monica Cultural Affairs Division where kids will have the opportunity to learn the art of paper quilting collaging in a relaxed and friendly environment. Led by Camera Obscura Artist-in-Residence Karen Gibson Roc. Free to attend, space is limited. For ages 6-12. To register, visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/paper-quilting-collaging-for-kids-with-artist-karen-gibson-roc-tickets-1011370304807.

BITCOIN

FROM PAGE 1

Bitcoin industry, and to explore the potential of utilizing stranded city-generated renewable energy to explore environmentally neutral bitcoin mining.

"The Santa Monica Bitcoin Office is already bringing communities and revenue opportunities to key areas of our economic revitalization strategy, and has done so at zero cost to the city," Negrete said. "(The festival) is exciting and an example of collaborative and innovative ideas to reimagine retail on 3rd Street."

Along with the pickleball action, the festival will include a presence from the UCLA and USC Bitcoin student clubs, as well as BitDevs LA. For more information on the PickleBit tournament, visit: https://picklepop.playbypoint.com/programs/picklebittournament.

thomas@smdp.com



Courtesy Graphic

BITCOIN: The PickleBit pickleball tournament will coincide with a Bitcoin-themed festival on the Promenade Oct. 18.

TAP

FROM PAGE 1

living facilities, even reaching Brazil for one performance. The unique art of tapping your feet rhythmically is something Davisson calls "elemental," a form someone can pick up without needing the "dancer body" or extensive background.

"It's different than say, ballet, where by the time you're 30, you're sort of over the hill," Davisson added. "Some of the very best tap dancers are older, and that's so wonderful."

Combining the talents of her troupe with the professionals, Davisson called the show "Classic Tap!" as a rallying call for the timeless tap form, pioneered by the event's honorees. She describes it as "what people who go to the movies and go to a Broadway musical" would expect to see, with a good bit of upper body movement that also tells a story.

One of history's great tap storytellers was Daniels, who passed away in his Santa Monica home in 2017. Running a tap school in Santa Monica for decades, Daniels received four Tony nominations for his tap choreography, including a win in 1984 for "The Tap Dance Kid."

Along with classic film clips of the honorees, the Classic Tap YouTube channel has unearthed interviews with Daniels speaking to pioneers of the art form, once thought lost in obscurity after being donated to the New York Public Library performing arts archives.

To view the interview clips, visit https://www.youtube.com/@ClassicTap-c8p. To purchase tickets for Sunday's event, visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/classic-tap-tickets-939968700687.

thomas@smdp.com



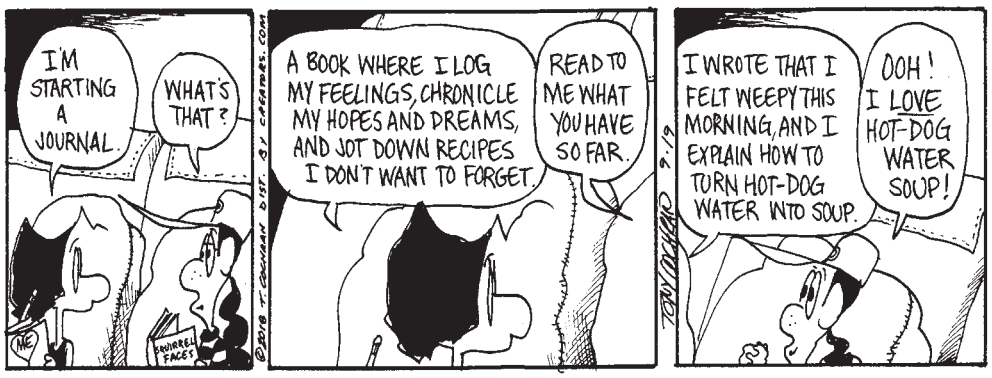
Photo Courtesy Diane Davisson

DANCE: Legends of the dance like Danny Daniels will be honored on Sunday with "Classic Tap!".



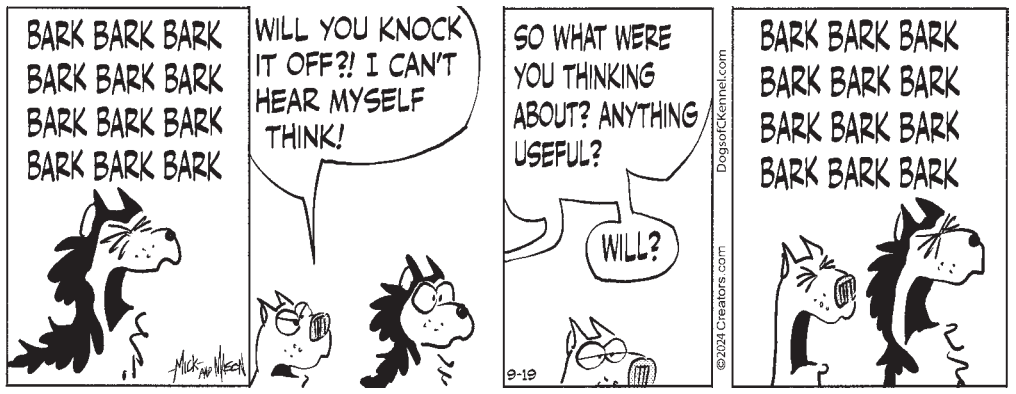
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



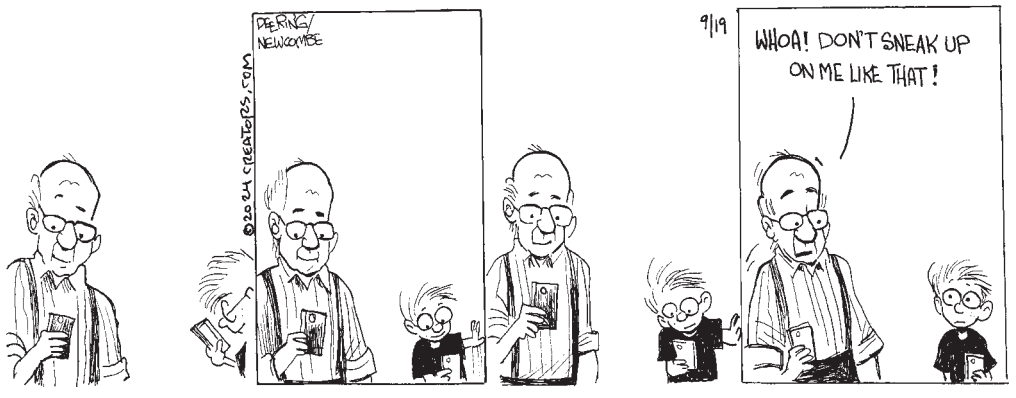
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



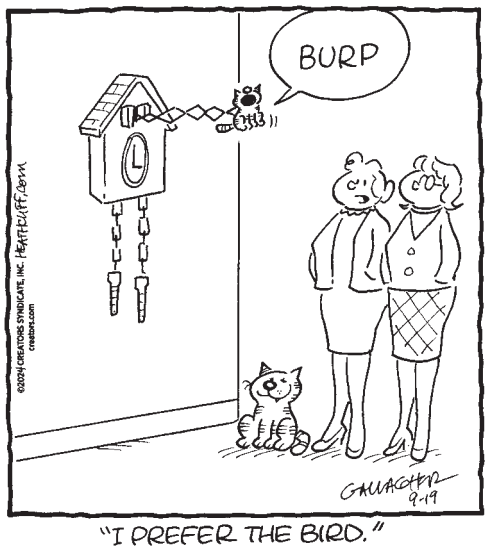
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

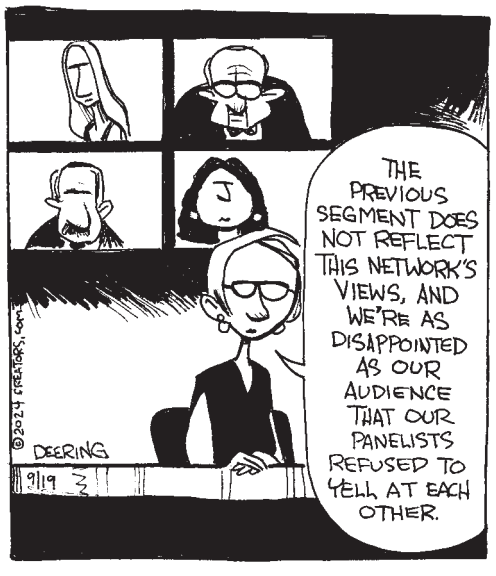
By PETER GALLAGHER



"I PREFER THE BIRD."

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 24 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com 6338

Bowled over

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

Arrows	Fail	Note	Skill
Bagger	Fast	Penalty	Smash
Ball	Finesse	Perfect	Solo
Bonus	Focus	Pins	Spare
Break	Foul	Play	Speed
Burner	Game	Point	Take
Championship	Holes	Power	Thumb
Count	Indoor	Refreshment	Total
Curl	Laughter	Rivalry	Wait
Dirk	Lose	Roll	
Drink	Love tap	Score	
Face	Noises	Shoot	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Immersive world of books

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To advertise, email dina@smdp.com or call 310.573.8342
smdp Santa Monica Daily Press

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Sept. 19)

It's as though the world got together with a plan to give you plenty of space to be you. At every turn, you'll be celebrated for your uniqueness, honored for your original contributions, paid for what only you can do. More highlights: hot tickets, a slow climb to a very satisfying long-term result, and a relationship that gets interesting to a cinematic level. Scorpio and Cancer adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 12, 9, 14, 27 and 2.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Ideally your support system is a "family of otters" situation with all the playful diving and swirling, but, most importantly, holding hands in the currents so as not to drift apart. Love is what makes the roughest waters feel safe.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Don't spend too much time worrying about what's "important" or "worthy," as if life's value is measured by the grandness of our pursuits. Nothing is frivolous if you enjoy it. Nothing at all.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Your best champion isn't the celebrity in the field who also happens to be naturally gifted, suited and set-up for the task. It's the one who has attempted what you're going for and failed many times who will steer you right and cheer you on.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The novice is proud of and wants full recognition for talents and skills. The wise would rather go under the radar, realizing the strategic advantage in being invisible or underestimated.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Idleness is not always wasteful. Sacred idleness will be more productive than action. How do you make idleness sacred? Sanctify it with intention, imbue it with meaning, protect it like a treasure and respect it like it's holy.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Some endeavors seem so natural, it's as though it's in your blood to execute them. In regard to today's challenge, it would be harder to resist than to follow-through.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). It's the funny little things that happen between you and a special someone that make the relationship a percolate. Today you'll put some effort into making those exchanges happen. And bringing back the inside jokes that point to your unique bond.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). An upcoming event has you bustling with excitement. The success of a project will depend on everyone's effort. Teamwork and trust can turn a good idea into something spectacular.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Let yourself be daring and even foolish, which will unlock something new. If it weren't for the messiness of growth and the awkwardness and inconvenience that comes with journeying, there'd be nothing funny to talk about at the dinner table.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You won't be able to put anyone at ease unless you feel at ease. So when you put yourself first, you're actually helping everyone get comfortable. Figure out what's in it for you and relax into that.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Though social norms and conventions shape everyone, sometimes it can be difficult to see exactly how. The perspective of an outsider is crucial to understanding some of the absurdities on the inside.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). There's a learning curve in work and play alike. It takes time to develop a relationship with the game, subject or interest. Be as patient with yourself about learning how to have fun as you are about picking up other skills.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

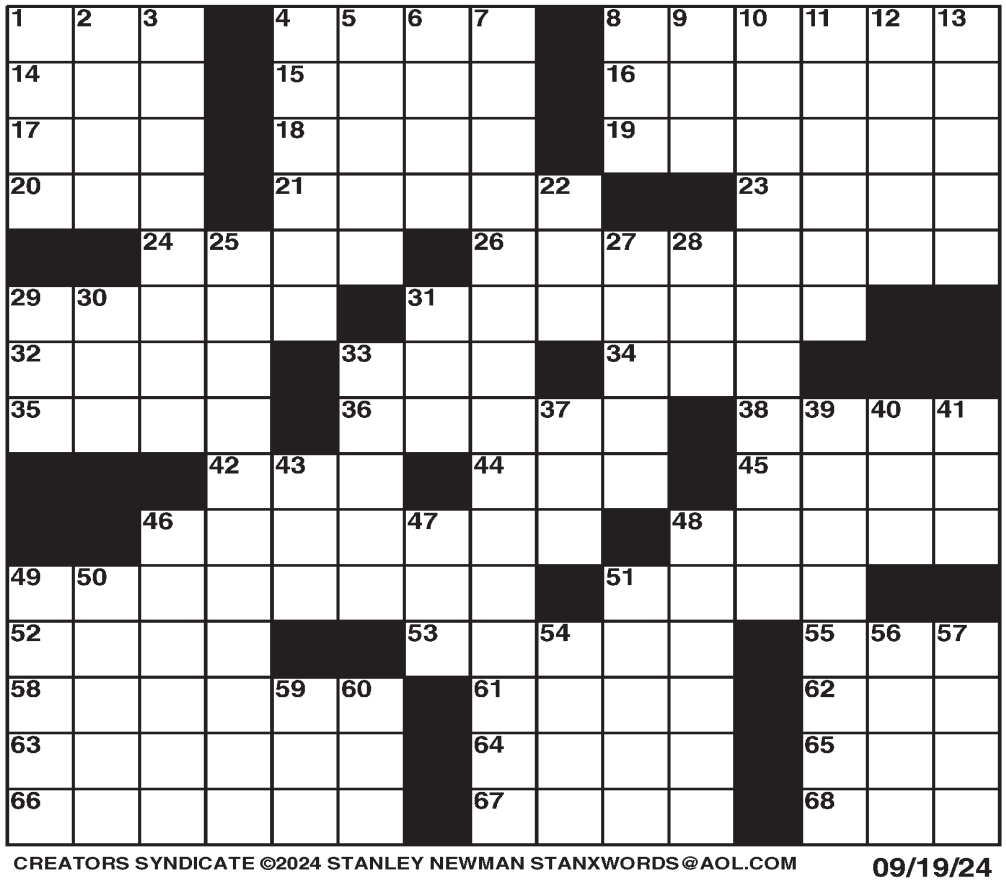
WATER FALL by Winston Emmons
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Energy source in foods
4 Cowpoke's ride
8 Formal acknowledgment
14 Disneyland's Main Street, __
15 Rental entity
16 Hub
17 Crater periphery
18 "Agreed!"
19 Put up with
20 Maine harvest
21 "Poison" shrub
23 *Othello* antagonist
24 Per piece
26 "So what!"
29 Mystery novelist Harlan
31 Poseidon prop
32 Rating measure
33 Leave stunned
34 UN workers' agency
35 Slinky and Gumby
36 Informercial knife
38 Tech news site
42 Red state
44 Device above a dash
45 Extremely extended spans
46 Musket attachment
48 Horn (in)
49 Expiate, as mistakes
51 Family female
52 Overextended
53 They're seen over swamps
55 Sandwich selection
58 Was next
61 Battery measure
62 __ Luis, Brazil
63 "Are you sure?"
64 Super-secure carrier
65 Foul up
66 Custard/cake dessert
67 Stood up
68 Big bumbler

DOWN

1 Faux __ (certain outerwear)
2 Tigers' turf
3 ...beside St. Pete
4 Sherlock's landlady
5 Outdo
6 Today's Thailand
7 ...beside Montreal
8 Water cooler
9 Late dinnertime
10 ...beside Bangladesh
11 Queen Anne's house
12 Worsted fabric
13 53-calorie treats
22 Sorority letter
25 ...beside Bahrain
27 Great hate
28 Toon collectible
29 KC setting, sometimes
30 Ear-relevant starter
31 Prefix for light
33 Paine's *The* __ *Reason*
37 Waited comfortably
39 ...beside Belgium
40 Part of the UK
41 Poet's monogram
43 Loaf grain
46 Horticultural hobby
47 Pseudonym, for short
48 Flurry of activity
49 Taking it all in
50 Cartridge for copying
51 Brother of Prometheus
54 Unaccompanied
56 Seniors' advocate
57 Besides that
59 Bracket shape
60 Food coloring



CREATORS SYNDICATE ©2024 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM

09/19/24

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

LAUREL

FROM PAGE 1

and Santa Monica Director of Housing and Human Services Heather Averick.

"I couldn't be happier to have you as a resident in my district," Horvath told Felts in a sit-down chat on his new furniture. "Your perseverance, your willingness to connect and still trust after such hardship, and now you're home. I'm just so thrilled."

Felts said he had "been hoping for a program like this for a while," and said he cherishes both the privacy and having moderate temperatures by the beach.

"It feels great, and that's the reason I want to be able to share my story, to give more encouragement to people and hope that maybe more resources can be pointed in this direction," Felts said. "To me, it's very important, (you) can't just cast people aside."

The city's PSH program is working toward that housing inclusivity, with The Laurel representing 57 of the city's 181 units. Averick stated that unit occupancy is around 90-95% at the moment, with The Laurel completely full, and an estimated 98 units are in the development pipeline. She added that for individuals formerly homeless or at-risk of becoming, PSH has become a "critical component and program" for the city.

"It's truly a huge benefit ... (for) entrepreneurs, artists, filmmakers in our city, even adjunct college professors, who due to just one life change (like) the COVID pandemic, the writers' strike, an apartment fire, would have otherwise not been able to find housing where they already lived," Averick said. "The Laurel offered them an opportunity, and similarly, some of our faces in the community that are very familiar to all of us that live here, who've been unhoused in our community for 10-plus years, this is an opportunity for them to also get the housing stability they need."

PSH apartments are offered to those who qualify as "Santa Monica Priority Population," which includes those who: Lost housing in Santa Monica, was working at Santa Monica at the time they became homeless and/or currently works in the city, has been experiencing homelessness in Santa Monica for at least five years, and/or is a high utilizer of city services. Those ineligible include those who have moved to Santa Monica from a different city or state, as well as individuals who require a "higher level of care" such as a mental health stabilization bed. The Santa Monica Housing Authority conducts background checks for all applicants.

The Housing Authority issues project-based vouchers for renters as part of PSH, as well as "wraparound" services helmed by case management, often with a licensed clinical social worker. Services include life skills classes, budgeting classes and community-building social activities; and are used as a springboard not just for survival, but for a flourishing life ahead.

"I think of it as a life coach, which we could all benefit from sometimes in our life, and so that's what helps give this stability and helps them come up with plans," Averick added. "And via those plans, they could choose and elect to remain here, but sometimes, some individuals (feel) good and they're ready to move into (general affordable housing) ... or sometimes they just move out into renter units like the rest of us."

With The Laurel having a grand opening ceremony in the coming weeks, EAH is proud of its development, stating the company has a "really great working relationship" with the city. Echoing comments of Horvath and Averick, EAH VP of Real Estate Development Denice Wint stated that meeting with PSH recipients is "why we do this work."

"It's my favorite part, because we go through a lot to try to get to this point ... (we do this for) love, being able to house people, where people feel like they're given a second chance, or they're able to fulfill their hopes and dreams," Wint said.

thomas@smdp.com

HOMELESSNESS

FROM PAGE 3

demands that local officials do a better job of eliminating the camps — notwithstanding disorganization in his own administration — the lack of local cooperation and coordination is a major impediment.

A situation in Sacramento, within earshot of the state Capitol and detailed by Sacramento Bee columnists Tom Philp and Robin Epley, illustrates the conflict.

Sacramento's city and county officials have feuded for years over homelessness, not only for the usual reasons but because the American River Parkway, which runs through the city and has been a favorite camping site for homeless people, is managed by the county.

Two years ago, faced with a business-backed ballot measure to crack down on encampments, the city fashioned a less harsh alternative that anticipated an agreement with county officials to provide services for people losing their camping sites.

However, instead of joining the city, county officials banned camps in the parkway and ordered law enforcement to clear them.

City officials complained that people removed from the parkway simply set up new camps inside the city limits. When a local legislator, Assemblyman Kevin McCarty, obtained a $25 million state grant to the county for homeless programs, county supervisors decided how to spend it, mostly on a few dozen shelter beds or housing slots, without agreement from city officials.

City Councilwoman Karina Talamantes showed up at a meeting of county supervisors to complain about their unilateral actions.

"All the people living on the American River Parkway moved across the street into our neighborhoods north of the river," Talamantes told the board. "I've been asking about these funds for the last two years."

Supervisors fired back in a press release accusing Talamantes of shading the facts about the situation. McCarty, now a candidate for mayor, is caught in the middle of the feud.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

AROUND TOWN

FROM PAGE 5

sounds of jazz music echoing across multiple venues throughout the day, along with food and beverages and special vendor booths. Saturday, Sept. 21 https://broadstage.org/tickets-shows/calendar/future-sounds-of-jazz/

LA Opera Live Broadcast of Madame Butterfly on Santa Monica Pier: Grab a few blankets and lawn chairs, pack a picnic, and enjoy the outdoor screening under the stars. FREE for all ages. Saturday, Sept. 21, 6:00 p.m. More info here. https://www.laopera.org/community-learning/performances-events-for-all-ages

Olympians + Pups Without Borders Adoption Event: Meet Olympic Medalists and Adopt a Dog at the Barrington Circle Event Pups Without Borders, a rescue organization dedicated to saving dogs, will hold a dog adoption event on Sunday, Sept. 22, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at 11710 Barrington Circle in Brentwood. Anita Alvarez and Daniella Ramires, both silver medalists in artistic swimming, and Nick Atkin, who earned a bronze medal in fencing and several local businesses in the Barrington Circle area are supporting the event. www.pupswithoutborders.org

Americana in the Park: Head over to Gandara Park for this annual music concert series featuring two bands each week every Sunday in September. Bring your picnic, blankets, and beach chairs to soak up the sounds of Americana music, from its roots to modern forms. Enjoy craft activities for all ages, tasty treats from local food trucks, and a vibrant community experience in Gandara Park, 1819 Stewart St. Sunday, Sept. 22, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. features Molly Miller Trio opens with instrumental Americana jazz songs tinged with folk and Surf Rock vibes along with powerful original compositions of The Azar Lawrence Experience headlining. https://www.santamonica.com/event/americana-in-the-park/

Live Talks with Connie Chung in conversation with Lisa Ling: "Trailblazing broadcast journalist Connie Chung pulls no punches in her sharp, witty memoir that chronicles her incredible life and career." Monday, Sept. 23, 8:00 p.m., at New Roads School 3131 Olympic Blvd. https://livetalksla.org/events/connie-chung/

WHAT TO EAT & DRINK?

Mon Ami Barcelona Dinner: One night per month the restaurant will present a menu curated to mirror the flavors of the featured city, from the beaches of Mallorca to the canals of Venice. At sunset, dive into vibrant nightlife with live music and themed cocktails. Thursday, Sept. 19 features Barcelona with flamenco dancers, live entertainment, a custom passport, great vibes, and a menu that'll make you feel like you're dining in Spain. Check out the menu and grab a reservation here: www.monamism.com/first-class

FIG Restaurant Celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month with New Collab Menu with Entrepreneur and Co-Founder of Café Lola & Saint Honoré, Dr. Alexandra Lourdes: A Celebration of Latino Culture, and cuisine, the limited-time menu supports the Santa Monica Education Foundation with $1 donated for every dish sold. Available at dinner Tuesdays – Saturdays through the end of October, menu highlights include Signature Pink Chopped Salad ($25), Pizza ($30) with tender chicken tinga, one whole creamy avocado, melty mozzarella, red onion, and spicy jalapeño, all drizzled with cilantro dill dressing and a hint of garlic-infused olive oil, and Crème Brûlée Churros ($16). Fairmont Hotel, 101 Wilshire Blvd. https://figsantamonica.getbento.com/fig-x-alexandra-lourdes/

LA Times Profiles Melisse: This write-up profiles SaMo born and raised Chef Citron and details "How this ultra fine-dining restaurant keeps thriving after 25 years in L.A." https://www.latimes.com/food/story/2024-09-16/melisse-california-french-dining-in-la-turns-25-years-old

Bludso's Smoke Club Seafood Boil: They are partnering with Santa Monica Seafood for this end-of-summer "family-style seafood boil including fresh snow crab, wild jumbo shrimp, andouille sausage and all the fixins', and a special dessert to finish." $95. Wednesday, Sept. 25, 6:30p.m. 1329 Santa Monica Blvd. https://www.bludsosbbq.com/seafoodboil

The Lobster Celebrates 25th Anniversary with National Lobster Day Bash: Expect entertainment, a hosted raw bar, and specialty cocktails. Wednesday, Sept. 25, 7:00 - 9:00p.m. Guests can RSVP here in advance to secure their spot at the celebration and table reservations are highly recommended on Resy. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/celebrate-the-lobsters-25th-anniversary-national-lobster-day-tickets-1013218151767

Further Afield: L.A. Times Food Bowl (9/20-22) The signature event is back this year with a three-day night market with some of the most celebrated restaurants offering tastings right in the heart of Paramount Studios. Get more info and tickets here: https://lafoodbowl.com/

Looking Ahead: Montana Ave. Art Walk (9/28); Thai Feast by the Beach (9/28); Americana in the Park (Sundays in September); Off the Hook SaMo Seafood Festival (10/12), Venice Art Crawl (10/17); Cirque du Soleil (10/19 -1/10)

If there's something you think is worth highlighting, you can reach out directly to me at sean@smdp.com. Here are my past columns and let me know if you have any feedback on Around Town: Opera on the Pier, LA Times Food Bowl & More!

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