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From Kiwanis.

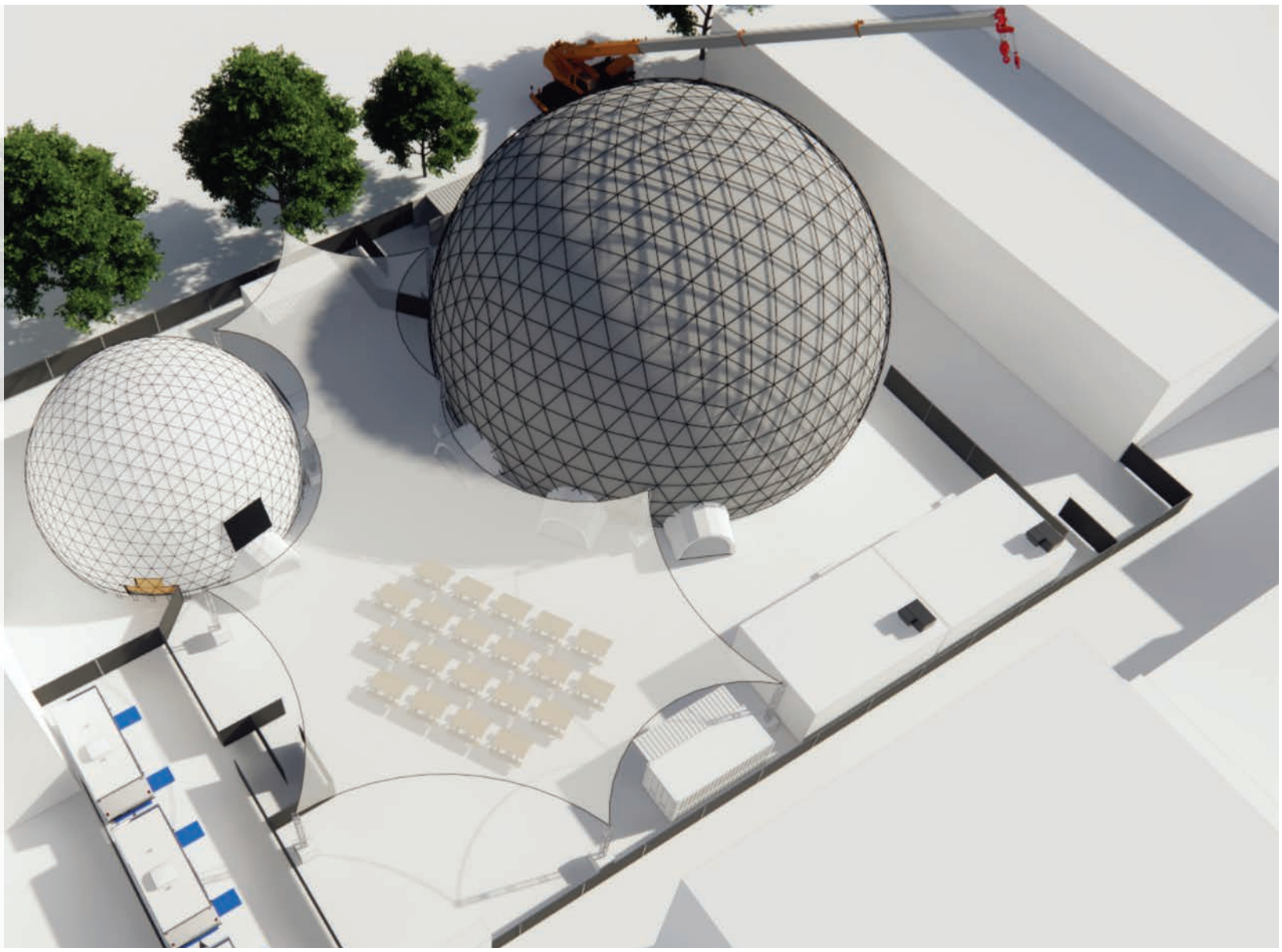
smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

Volume 22 Issue 291 WEDNESDAY 11/01/23 smdp.com

Santa Monica to get its own sphere (or two)

DTSM APPROVES NEW ENTERTAINMENT PROJECT AT FORMER PS3 SITE

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer



Courtesy image

DOMES: The location used to be a parking structure but has been vacant while a long gestating housing project moves through approvals.

In Downtown Santa Monica, Inc. (DTSM) board meeting last Thursday, members voted unanimously to move ahead with a 360 degree immersive entertainment activation on the former site of Parking Structure 3.

The project will consist of two, 360 degree immersive entertainment domes, very much like the new Sphere in Las Vegas, that has been attracting a lot of attention recently. While these will be very similar in nature they will be significantly scaled down, with one dome being 100 ft in diameter and the other being 180 ft. (To compare, the Sphere is nearly three times that size at 516 ft in diameter.)

The activation will focus around a brand new animated universe aimed at children that centers around an indigenous little girl, named Haibu, gifted with the ability to speak to animals.

"Her story, as defined in our book series, live musical and our upcoming feature film, is universally relatable to a worldwide audience that loves animals. Haibu is quickly becoming the face and voice for global animal conservation," said Blake Freeman, founder and CEO of Haibu Media Group (HMG).

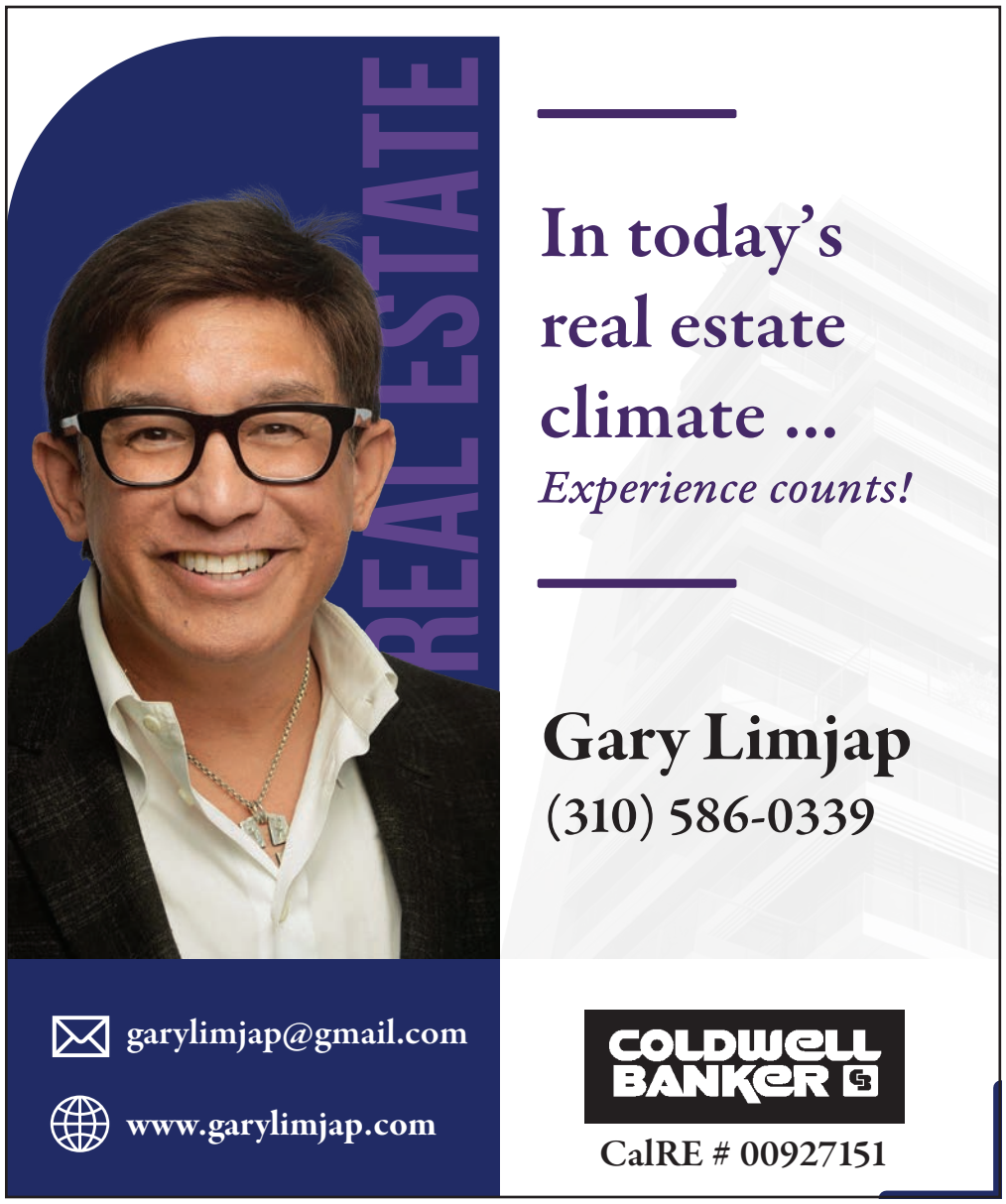
"That this has such a strong underlying environmental theme was something we deemed very important," said Jeremy Ferguson, DTSM Operations Director. "We'll be partnering with Save the Bay and connecting both the Pier and the Promenade together, which again, was something we felt was very important."

The demolition of Parking Structure 3, located on 4th Street between Santa Monica Blvd. and Arizona Ave., began in March 2022 following a failed legal effort to stop the project. Since 2018, the City has been working on a plan to demolish the 50-year-old parking garage and replace it with a multi-level affordable housing project, which would include ground floor retail and subterranean parking.

However, since demolition was completed in November of last year, the site has remained empty amid continued concern over the local economy. According to DTSM, the City is expected to break ground in 2025, which is why in the request for proposals it was made clear that the

SEE **DTSM** PAGE 6





Panel talks countering 'truth decay'

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer



Photo by Thomas Leffler
TRUTH DECAY: Digital Media Wellness Educator Julia Storm was part of a panel discussing "truth decay" at Santa Monica College Monday evening.

Looking at any social media feed typically means viewing an argument between two or more parties. Whether it be something as light as the latest sports contest or movie, or a heavier subject like politics, current social climate dictates that a fight will be had, and usually not a well-informed one. A break from past discourse comes in the form of arguing parties not agreeing on the same sets of facts, something author and RAND Corporation President Emeritus Michael D. Rich coined "truth decay."

At Santa Monica College's Student Services Center Orientation Hall Monday evening, Rich and several panelists held a community conversation about "Countering Truth Decay," sponsored by the Human Relations Council of Santa Monica Bay Area. Rich co-authored the 2018 book "Truth Decay: An Initial Exploration of the Diminishing Role of Facts and Analysis in American Public Life" with Jennifer Kavanagh, a work that became widespread enough that former President Barack Obama put it on his 2018 summer reading list.

Though the book is now five years old, Rich says that the analysis "still holds up pretty well" in discussing "the most consequential challenge" of public life, that being the diminishing role of facts and analysis. The author cited reasons like cognitive and media biases for heightened disagreement about "objective, verifiable, observable facts," while also pointing out shortages in the American education system to prepare new generations for the world of "truth decay."

"We've fallen behind teaching skills that citizens need to determine the viability and resources to distinguish facts in this new, different, rapidly-changing information landscape," Rand said.

One of the panelists, Los Angeles-based Digital Media Wellness Educator Julia Storm, expanded on this idea by saying that children are at a particular disadvantage when it comes to figuring out "what is and isn't real." Storm noted that media consumption has become "overwhelming," and that it is important to teach kids to be critical thinkers around media. She also said that parents should be viewing media alongside children to create constructive conversations.

"Most of us go about our day consuming media very unconsciously," Storm said. "You get bored, you pull out your phone, you don't realize (it) ... you're scrolling through whatever, we don't make very intentional decisions about what we allow in. And as such, we allow everything."

Norbert Schwarz, Provost Professor in the Dornsife Department of Psychology and the Marshall School of Business at the University of Southern California (USC), added that mediums like cable news and social media rely on catching eyeballs for their business, and that "outrage" elicits a bigger reaction, prompting heightened negative emotions that leave people susceptible to lies and half-truths.

Representing the field of journalism on the panel was Anna Scott, who covers housing and homelessness for KCRW. Scott talked about how people's strong beliefs on a subject can be changed just by shifting the optics on how a story is reported, such as the shift in who cared about an unhoused encampment in West Los Angeles when it was veterans instead of regular unhoused people. Those who typically wouldn't care, or have negative feelings about, the plight of the unhoused were suddenly very supportive of the veterans.

"I just saw this opportunity to turn everything upside down, and maybe talk to people in a way that could engage them in a subject that they often come in thinking 'I already know everything about this, I know what the story is gonna be' ... it was an opportunity to talk about solutions, because it is a powerful example of how we can break through this awful, awful polarization," Scott said.

Current RAND research focus in the matter of "truth decay" is centered in the "mezzo" level, above individuals and before government. RAND Corporation Distinguished Chair for Countering Truth Decay, Ray Block Jr., referred to the phenomenon as a part of "groupness" and group thinking, and he wishes to solve the issue in a "creative way" before the death of honest discourse.

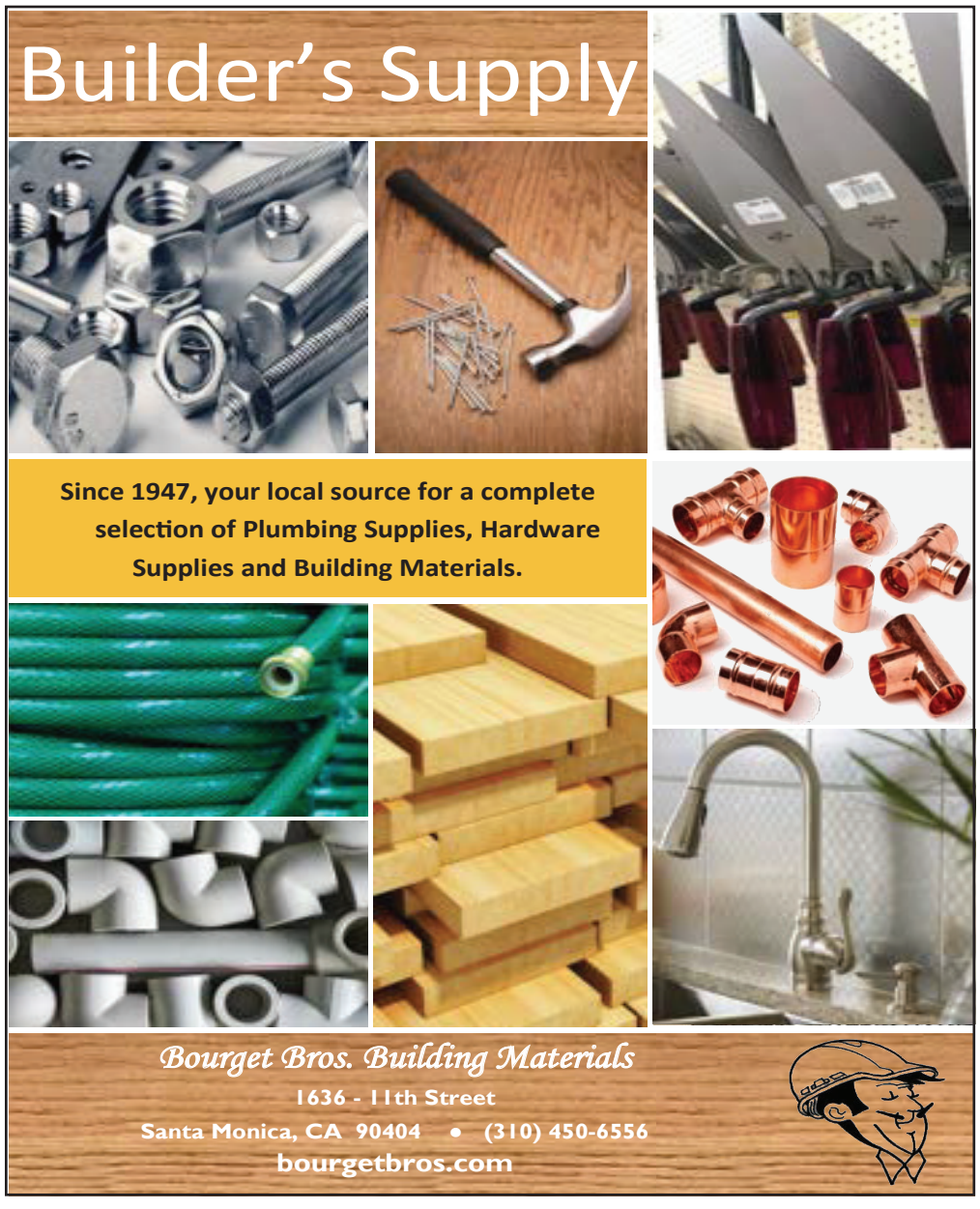
"Think about how truth decay can make it so that you don't feel like you can engage in dialogue, or you might start worrying about whether or not you can figure out what is real ... I'm worried that these things will undermine, undervalue, and somehow (mess) with our democracy," Block Jr. said.

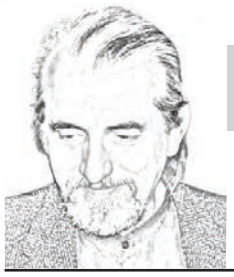
As a working member of government, this statement hits home for Santa Monica Mayor Gleam Davis, who was invited as a special guest for the SMC event. Davis called the matter of truth decay "truly one of the most pressing challenges of our current world."

"I think not a day goes by that some of us don't wonder how someone can believe something is true when it seems so obviously false to us, or how someone can believe something is false when it seems so obviously true," Davis said. "For those of us working in local government, it's a challenge we face every day. I can't tell you how many times ... I've had people say 'I don't want to know the facts ... I know what I feel' and while that is certainly (their opinion), it is not the basis for good policy."

"Truth Decay: An Initial Exploration of the Diminishing Role of Facts and Analysis in American Public Life" is available online at the RAND Corporation's website, rand.org.

thomas@smdp.com





OPINION **CURIOUS CITY**

Charles Andrews | Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Santa Monica Politics

SOME OF YOU KNOW ALL OF THIS

Some know some of it. Some are starting from total bewilderment. And some would say this is all a load of hooey. Use it as you will.

This is written for all who love this special city. And that includes a lot of folks I believe are instrumental in destroying what we have/had here. Some of those have been corrupted by their desires for money or power or prestige. But many have become ideologues who so fiercely believe in a philosophy that they can ignore the damage done to people, neighborhoods, character, history and heritage.

This is, of course, one person's opinion. This is an opinion column.

If you are one of the bewildered, trying to understand how and why things happen here, especially the things that seem so patently wrong, I have good news and bad news. Your inability to make sense of things is to be expected. SM politics is a black widow spider web buried in a wasps nest and overrun by angry red ants. The bad news is, it will take you years to come even close to unwrapping and understanding it all. This is, of course, intentional.

THERE ARE SO MANY POWER CENTERS

And influential, ambitious individuals. All working together, in some Illuminati conspiracy? Ha. No, not organized, like that. But often their separate goals intersect. Like, many tall, wide buildings are just what we need, cars (and parking) are bad, water supply doesn't matter, school district is a billion dollar construction company with a side interest in education.

BUT THE BUCK DOES STOP AT THE CITY COUNCIL

From my observations of the past almost two decades, it is a series of development-loving Councils that got density rolling. Richard Bloom was on Council a little before my awakening (1999-2010) but many say he was the one who really pushed that wrecking ball. Twelve years on Council led him to the State Assembly, for 10 years, and now he is probably harmless to us, as a judge. Kevin McKeown seemed to have drunk the overdevelopment Kool-Aid post-Bloom; people tell me Bobby Shriver didn't do much damage (always late to meetings); nor Mike Feinstein, in their six year terms. Ted Winterer also had only six years, and was quietly pro-development; Terry O'Day was all behind densification and raising our skyline, in his 10 years. I'll never forget his immediate reaction in a Council meeting, to the news that we were being ordered by a quasi-governmental agency to build another 8,800 housing units in the next nine years: "Well, we'll just have to change our zoning, won't we?" Or you could have suggested we fight that bull pucky, like several other neighboring cities did.

Was Sue Himmelrich ("I'll bid $140,000 of my own money, Alex, for that Council seat, and 400K for that vanity, ineffective tax bill that seems to tax the rich... but doesn't") up there for only eight years? It seemed like forever. Who can forget her tantrum over demanding that she would not serve a one year term as mayor, only two! We should have called her bluff.

THE CURRENT CITY COUNCIL?

Fifty percent terrific. Christine Parra has made some unfortunate votes, Oscar de la Torre is nearly impossible to predict (not a compliment, Oscar), and Phil Brock (a longtime friend) has made more moves I didn't care for than I would have predicted. But he is probably the hardest working Council member ever, for residents, with morning till night meetings here and in neighboring cities. An insider told me recently, Phil has probably done more good with the things he has stopped, than what we see. For a guy who I know cherishes our history here, he blew it on the unnecessary bulldozing of Samohi's History Building by the School Board, and remained too neutral about the Civic Auditorium. He just survived a ridiculous, petty attempt by Gleam Davis to prevent him from becoming mayor, something decided by the whole Council long ago. Lana Negrete, appointed then elected, was the deciding vote, as she has been so many times. Sometimes I hate the way she votes but she has been a lifesaver when she teams with "The Slate" and I am so glad she's there.

The other two? Caroline Torosis at least came from a government background, in LA and here, but she and Jesse Zwick march in development lockstep with mayor Gleam Davis. Zwick was upbraided at a recent CC meeting by Negrete for his facial expressions on the dais (smirks, chuckling) while, you know, grilling our Police Chief, and of course never lived here until a few months before the election (going to school here while living in Pacific Palisades does not make you a Santa Monican).

OH YEAH - GLEAM DAVIS

Definitely a Commander in the march to build a high-rise Santa Monica. City Council 2909-2024. She never told us, for years, that her husband worked for Michael Dell, developer of the obscenely huge expansion of the Miramar Hotel, while she never recused herself and voted on issues affecting it. Altering the rules for electing a mayor just as Brock is coming in is only her next best trick, in my book. I loved it when she broke

SEE **CURIOUS CITY** PAGE 4



Surf report WATER TEMP: **63.7**

WEDNESDAY *POOR TO FAIR* | **SURF:** 2-3ft Thigh to waist

Modest SW swell in the water. Decent day for the small wave gear with light wind first thing in the morning and an okay tide push to work with. Manageable onshore flow for the tide drop in the afternoon if you can't hit it early.

THURSDAY *FAIR* | **SURF:** 2-3ft Thigh to waist

SW-SSW swell continues to provide modest surf. Favorable wind expected for the early window at this point, will need a spot that doesn't mind the moderate low tide on offer. Small wave gear kind of day.

Weather

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 77. North northeast wind 5 to 10 mph.
Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 53. West southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.
Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 77. North northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming southwest in the afternoon.
Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 54.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)	High/Low
2023/11/01	Wed	01:01 AM	3.54		H
2023/11/01	Wed	04:59 AM	2.71		L
2023/11/01	Wed	11:24 AM	5.81		H
2023/11/01	Wed	7:10 PM	-0.08		L
2023/11/02	Thu	02:32 AM	3.35		H
2023/11/02	Thu	05:29 AM	3.11		L
2023/11/02	Thu	12:07 PM	5.29		H
2023/11/02	Thu	8:15 PM	0.29		L
2023/11/03	Fri	1:02 PM	4.77		H
2023/11/03	Fri	9:36 PM	0.54		L
2023/11/04	Sat	06:09 AM	3.74		H
2023/11/04	Sat	08:54 AM	3.65		L
2023/11/04	Sat	2:28 PM	4.33		H
2023/11/04	Sat	10:50 PM	0.63		L
2023/11/05	Sun	05:35 AM	4.00		H
2023/11/05	Sun	10:21 AM	3.30		L
2023/11/05	Sun	3:11 PM	4.13		H
2023/11/05	Sun	10:44 PM	0.66		L
2023/11/06	Mon	05:56 AM	4.25		H
2023/11/06	Mon	11:20 AM	2.77		L

Daily Lottery

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site at http://www.calottery.com

POWERBALL Draw Date: 10/30
19 22 34 66 69
Power#: 5
Jackpot: 152 M

MEGA MILLIONS Draw Date: 10/27
11 32 43 57 70
Mega#: 6
Jackpot: 159 M

SuperLotto Plus Draw Date: 10/28
5 14 28 31 40
Mega#: 3
Jackpot: 10 M

Fantasy 5 Draw Date: 10/30
1 16 28 29 36

Daily 3 Draw Date: 10/30
EVENING: 6 7 4
Draw Date: 10/30
MIDDAY: 1 2 8

Daily Derby Draw Date: 10/30
1st: 10 - Solid Gold
2nd: 09 - Winning Spirit
3rd: 04 - Big Ben
Race Time: 1:48.30

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Sustainable Quality Awards
WINNER

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Santa Monica Daily Press

SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS CALLING FOR BIDS
SANTA MONICA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
RFQ# 101323SF ON-CALL ARCHITECTURAL SERVICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above-named California Community College District, acting by and through its Board of Trustees, hereinafter "the District" will receive up to, but not later than the below-stated date and time, Proposals for the Contract for the Work of the Project generally described as: On-Call Architectural Services in accordance with bid document.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF THE BID PROPOSALS: 11/15/23, 2:00pm

All Bid Proposals shall be submitted on forms furnished by the District. Bid Proposals must conform with, and be responsive to, the RFQ and Contract Documents, copies of which may be obtained from the District as set forth above. Only Proposals submitted to the District in the manner specified and at or prior to the date and time set forth shall be considered.

Bidding Documents may be obtained by logging onto the District bidding website at: https://www.planetbids.com/portal/portal.cfm?CompanyID=13721#.

Post Dates: 10/25/23 & 11/01/23

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

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

BID #4472 DIFFERENTIAL REPAIRS FOR TRANSIT AND FIRE APPARATUS

Submission Deadline is November 15, 2023 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.

Bids must be submitted on forms supplied by the City of Santa Monica. Bid packages containing all forms, specifications, terms and conditions may be obtained on the **CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL.** The website for this Notice of Inviting Bids and related documents is: OpenGov (https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca). There is no charge for bid package and specifications.

TEMPORARY STREET CLOSURES
MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 2023

For the latest information on temporary street closures and roadway impacts, please visit the City of Santa Monica website at: www.santamonica.gov/categories/getting-around/street-closures; or scan the QR code below. The Street Closure page has links to various City capital improvement and street maintenance projects and is updated continuously as projects progress to completion. Please check this page periodically for updates.

Several SMMUSD policies to be broached by board

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District's Board of Education will be discussing changes to board policy on multiple subjects during Thursday's regularly-scheduled meeting.

During the meeting, the board will consider an adoption of policy regarding environmental education, which is in alignment with the previously board-approved districtwide sustainability plan. The policy focuses on promoting environmental literacy among students, teachers and staff, integrating it further into existing curriculum. Creating environmentally or climate-literate persons is defined by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration as understanding "the essential principles of Earth's climate system, (knowing) how to assess scientifically credible climate information, (communicating) about climate change in a meaningful way, and can make informed and responsible decisions regarding actions that may affect climate."

Previously, the board approved the districtwide sustainability plan in March 2019, which provided a roadmap for integrating sustainability into student learning, organized into focus areas such as climate, water, transportation and solid waste. The new board policy will continue that work by promoting climate education lessons, providing "easy and equitable access" to climate education materials, and building conditions for student and staff learning.

In a separate item also related to climate literacy, the board will read a resolution on Thursday declaring climate change as "one of the most pressing crises of our time," setting forth a commitment "to develop and support existing curricula and practices to establish a minimum standard of climate literacy for its students." The resolution was developed by students from Santa Monica High School's Team Marine, and was previously presented to SMMUSD principals. Team Marine students were instrumental in the adoption of the districtwide sustainability plan, and the new resolution "strongly encourages" teachers "to commit to at least one lesson per semester on a climate topic," examining the climate crisis through a "social, economic, political, and/or scientific lens."

Another consideration by the board Thursday will be the potential adoption of policy surrounding physical education and activity. During a recent federal program monitoring review, it was determined that SMMUSD did not have a policy in this matter, with staff recommending the adoption of the California School Boards Association (CSBA) sample policy and regulation.

The policy "recognizes the positive benefits of physical activity on student health, well-being, and academic achievement" and lists examples of physical activity throughout the district, specifically for grades 9-12. For those grade classes, the policy suggests that "the overall course of study" should include "the mechanics of body movement," as well as activities like aquatics, gymnastics and tumbling, individual and dual sports, rhythm and dance, along with team sports. For physical fitness testing the policy designates that the test designated by the State Board of Education, FITNESSGRAM, shall be administered to students in grades 5, 7 and 9.

Finally, revisions to board policy related to the district's complaint systems will be broached, including complaints concerning district employees, instructional materials, uniform complaint procedures and Williams uniform complaint procedures. Proposed updates clarify and expand upon the complaint and response processes, and bring the district into alignment with CSBA policy.

thomas@smdp.com

CURIOUS CITY

FROM PAGE 3

all rules of procedure and years of strict precedent to let union members, many many of them, speak to an item no longer on the agenda. Wonder why she might want to curry favor with the union?

Yes, I know, I left out beloved Pam O'Connor, 1994-2018, who gave us so many gifts, like all the problems with the train and a million dollar lawsuit loss, to her petulance. But she took a few gifts too. I was stunned to learn you could pay off a campaign debt of as little as $4,000 of a Council member who had voted on your projects. I have lots more stories to tell about her, like her hilarious deposition over the Voting Rights lawsuit, but am saving them for my book.

YES, THERE IS SO MUCH TO KNOW

I did leave out a couple of important morsels. Like, there is no housing crisis in a CA with a declining population, just an affordability crisis. (Oh, and if someone trots out "supply and demand" when talking about housing prices in SM, just laugh and walk away.) But it is a convenient way to get all this building through. Which we can no longer blame on our City Council, because Sacramento has legislated away cities' ability to determine their growth. Gosh, there's so much more, but that's enough to chew on for now. Any more and I would have to cry.

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

LET US KNOW YOUR OPINION

GAS PRICES IN SANTA MONICA

76	1776 Cloverfield Blvd	$5.44
SHELL	1802 Cloverfield Blvd	$5.60
CHEVRON	1819 Cloverfield Blvd	$7.19
MOBIL	731 Santa Monica Blvd	$6.40
LINCOLN BLVD CAR WASH	1624 Lincoln Blvd	$6.39
WORLD	1801 Lincoln Blvd	$5.29
SHELL	1866 Lincoln Blvd	$5.60
SPEEDWAY EXPRESS	2555 Lincoln Blvd	$5.39
CHEVRON	1732 Lincoln Blvd	$5.60
ARCO	332 Pico Blvd	$5.49
SINCLAIR	1944 Pico Blvd	$5.55
76	2601 Wilshire Blvd	$7.00

*Prices paying in cash

SMDP and GasBuddy

$2.99 gasoline is making a comeback at tens of thousands of stations across the U.S., a huge treat for drivers this Halloween. The national average has plunged 38 cents over the last month, according to GasBuddy, the leading fuel savings platform saving North American drivers the most money on fuel. At $3.44 per gallon, the national average price of gas now stands at its lowest since March 28, and is projected to drop another 10 to 20 cents by the end of the year, while drivers in 33 states can now find at least one gas station at $2.99/gal or lower.

The fall in gasoline prices is tied to seasonal factors, including declining gasoline consumption as colder weather keeps Americans inside, as well as the changeover to winter gasoline. In some regions, there has been improvement in refinery snags, which had hit the West Coast and Corn Belt hard in late summer, sending prices higher. Those areas have seen dramatic declines due to the early changeover to winter gasoline, with average prices in California down a staggering 80 cents in just four weeks.

"The decline in gas prices has been astounding, but not completely surprising as we finally get back to a more typical fall, which in recent years has seen impacts from Covid and Russia's war on Ukraine disrupting seasonal changes," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. "GasBuddy anticipates the drop could continue into November and December, with the national average falling another 10 to 20 cents in the weeks ahead, so long as the violence in the Middle East does not spread or jump to other countries. Motorists in 33 states are seeing prices at or below $2.99, and I expect more states to see such low prices, and even the West Coast should see prices at more places falling below $3.99 in the weeks ahead."

Santa Monica Daily Press

MISSING CHILD



Zoey Josephine Mirene Lopez

NCIC# M777485432

Missing Since:
July 22, 2023
LA PUENTE, CA, US

Female



EXTRA PHOTOS

Both photos shown are of Zoey. She was last seen on July 22, 2023.

How you can help

•Scan, View, & Share
• Report Sighting CALL 911 or 1-800-THE-LOST

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office (California)
1-626-330-3322

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DTSM

FROM PAGE 1

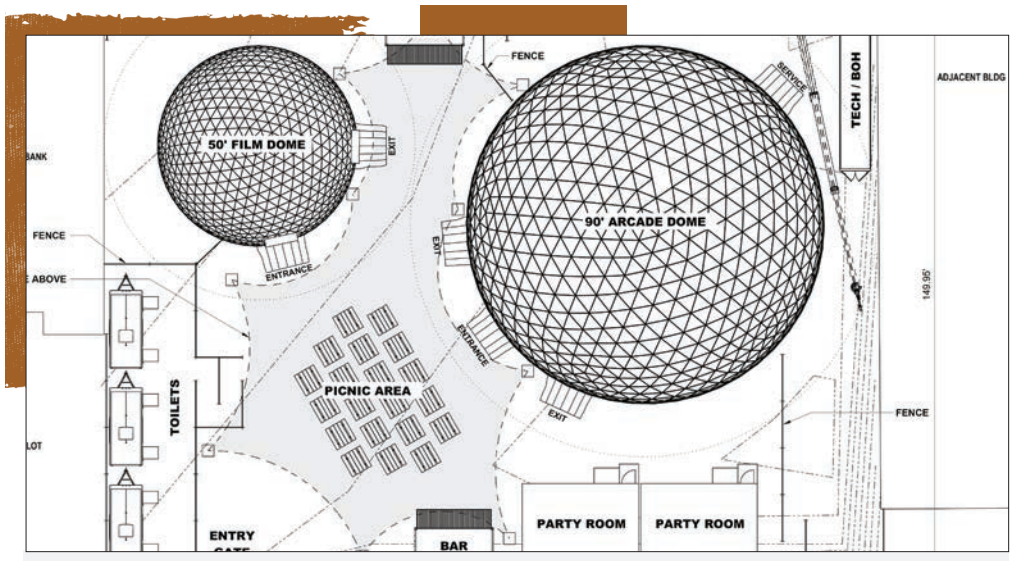
license agreement would be for 18 months.

"One of the goals of DTSM is to activate underutilized public space. We do this in Lot 27 [626 Market and ice rink] at the intersection of Ocean and Colorado [Afters Ice Cream] and are working to program the Rooftop Cinema Club on the top floor of parking structure 6," said Andrew Thomas, CEO of DTSM.

"The former Parking Structure 3 lot is underutilized space and we see Haibu as an opportunity to activate this space to benefit our stakeholders and all of Downtown," Thomas said, adding, "The space will become affordable housing in the near future. Our agreement with the City to activate this space is for 18 months and then goes month-to-month in case the housing project is delayed."

HMG is building an expansive portfolio of kids content using proprietary workflows and the very latest real time technology at their studio in Santa Monica. They're partnering with Vortex Immersion Media to create the activation that, along with the two domes, will also include a party room, picnic area, merchandise stalls and bathrooms. Vortex Immersion Media itself brings a wealth of experience installing and maintaining these surround vision-style domes across the state of California including the immersive CineTheater in downtown Los Angeles and at events like San Diego Comic-Con.

scott.snowden@smdp.com



Courtesy image

DOME: The two domes will feature a new cartoon character.

COMMUNITY NEWS

11th Street

SMC Chamber Choir Presents Live "Songs from the Heart" Concert Nov. 5

The Santa Monica College (SMC) Music Department is pleased to present the SMC Chamber Choir in "Songs from the Heart." The choir will perform the live concert Sunday, Nov. 5, at 4 p.m. in The Edye at the SMC Performing Arts Center, 1310 11th Street (at Santa Monica Boulevard), Santa Monica.

Under the direction of SMC music instructor Jeremiah Selvey and accompanied by SMC pianist Gary Gray, the ensemble will perform a program of chamber and small group vocal music collaboratively curated by the performers and the conductor.

Tickets are $10 general admission (plus a modest service charge); free for students with any student I.D. Advance tickets can be purchased online at smc.edu/tickets or by calling 310-434-3005 (Monday-Friday; limited hours). Tickets may also be purchased — starting 45 minutes before the performance begins — at The Broad Stage Box Office at the SMC Performing Arts Center. Free parking on premises. Seating is strictly on a first-arrival basis.

With mask requirements subject to change, guests should visit smc.edu/coronavirus for up-to-date details before heading to the concert.

More information is available at smc.edu/events or by calling 310-434-4323. All performances subject to change or cancellation without notice.

SUBMITTED BY GRACE SMITH



Photo by Martin Cohen

CHOIR: The Santa Monica College Music Department presents the SMC Chamber Choir performing "Songs from the Heart" on Sunday, Nov. 5, at 4 p.m. in The Edye at the SMC Performing Arts Center, 1310 11th Street (at Santa Monica Boulevard), Santa Monica.

caffe luxxe

CAFFE LUXXE

Passionate about coffee

925 Montana Ave | (310) 394-2222 | caffeluxxe.com

Santa Monica's Caffe Luxxe is where it all began in 2006 for the now thriving coffee company.

The business started in Santa Monica, and specifically Montana Avenue, because the atmosphere of the city was exactly what its founders were looking for: a cultural community where the common passerby would recognize and appreciate what they were doing. Their initial goal was to create an Italian-influenced coffee shop that would aesthetically recreate the experience of being in a café in Europe. If all went as planned, it would turn into a local coffee shop like the European cafes they visited where customers and baristas could create relationships and the shop would be a place of community gathering. The entire operation focuses on creating a place for their local friends and family to enjoy each other's company and to become closer as a Santa Monica community and as human beings interacting with each other in person.

"It means the world to us knowing that our community is filled with friends and family that all support one another and share the love," co-founder Gary Chau said.

"We are nothing without our amazing people and our customers. We support our Santa Monica community through the children and providing as much support for them through charity activities to all of the local schools that ask us for help. " Chau said.

"We believe that the future of our great city is with our children. If we provide them with the right formative tools, then they will grow up to become healthy adults that experience opportunities and livelihood within our neighborhood, so then they stay in the community and the city grows and thrives with the circle of life."

In addition to a full espresso bar, drip coffee, pour over brewed by the cup, and hot and iced coffee, Caffe Luxxe offers fresh baked organic pastries every day, breakfast sandwiches and morning snacks, as well as small sweet bites for the afternoon. There are also culinary retail treats, as well as fancy stationery when you're all dressed up with places to go and want to shower others with gifts.

After more than 17 years in business at the same location on Montana Avenue, they have truly found the home they always wanted.

"It's a place that is close to our hearts and for many years to come, thanks to the support of our Santa Monica neighbors and city," Chau said.





Trick-or-treating brings 'normalcy' to young patients

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

Halloween is a time to dress up as favorite characters, decorate houses in spooky garb and dish out as much candy as kids can handle. For the young patients at UCLA Santa Monica Medical Center, the holiday means a chance to take part in the festivities just like everyone outside the hospital grounds.

On Tuesday, the medical center's Child Life department coordinated a trick-or-treating event around the hospital garden, bringing together volunteers and staff to provide patients with dress-up opportunities. Along with donning various costumes, the young patients were able to play games and pet therapy animals like dogs and a mini-horse.

"Our department is basically responsible for helping kids have normalcy while they're getting treatment," UCLA Health Child Life Specialist Laila Ramji said. "It's developmentally appropriate and it's totally normal for them to experience Halloween outside of the hospital, so we're bringing Halloween into the hospital for the patients and their families."

For patients unable to make it down to the garden, medical center staff also organizes "reverse trick-or-treating," where rooms are decorated for the occasion and staff members bring goodies to the patients directly.

"It's something that says to the kids that we see you, we respect you, we know who you are ... it's really important to feel normal ... feel like a kid, or a teenager," Ramji said.

Part of the festivities were the therapy pets, provided by the UCLA People-Animal Connection (PAC) program. PAC Manager Jennifer Dobkin has been leading patient visits for both the Santa Monica location and the Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, and she says that feedback from patients and families is "that this is the best thing that happens to them when they're in the hospital."

"(It's great) seeing a warm, non-judgmental animal come into the room that just wants to hang out and provide comfort and joy," Dobkin said.

Along with multiple therapy dogs, PAC collaborated with Mini Therapy Horses for the trick-or-treating, with the mini-horse Blue Moon dressed as Dorothy from "The Wizard of Oz." Blue Moon visits with patients, along with other groups like veterans across the area.

> It's about making that connection with the horse and the patient, or the person who's going through trauma (or) crisis ... this horse is incredible at feeling what other people are going through ... she just connects with people in a way that's very magical
>
> – Victoria Nodiff-Netanel Mini Therapy Horses Founder

"It's about making that connection with the horse and the patient, or the person who's going through trauma (or) crisis ... this horse is incredible at feeling what other people are going through ... she just connects with people in a way that's very magical," said Mini Therapy Horses Founder Victoria Nodiff-Netanel, who added that she is "very proud" to be part of the Halloween event.

thomas@smdp.com



Photo by Thomas Leffler

UCLA MEDICAL CENTER: Youth who were unable to get out for Halloween had the holiday brought to them at UCLA.

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Roosevelt benches cultivate camaraderie





Photo by Thomas Leffler

BENCH: The Kiwanis Club of Santa Monica continued its gift-giving mission at Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District campuses Monday, dedicating three "Buddy Benches" on the campus of Roosevelt Elementary School. The benches have been installed at numerous SMMUSD schools since 2019, including at Franklin Elementary, McKinley Elementary, Muir Elementary at SMASH, Grant Elementary, Edison Learning Academy, John Adams Middle School and Lincoln Middle School. The concept of the "Buddy Bench" was popularized in 2013 to help promote friendship and inclusion, as the benches are put at schools and playgrounds where kids feeling lonely or left out can signal that they need a friend. "Thank you to the administration of Roosevelt for their tireless work on behalf of the students ... we are grateful to (Roosevelt) for bringing the student's request for more Buddy Benches to our attention, so that the Kiwanis Club of Santa Monica could help make a difference for these children," Kiwanis Club of Santa Monica President Eula Fritz said.

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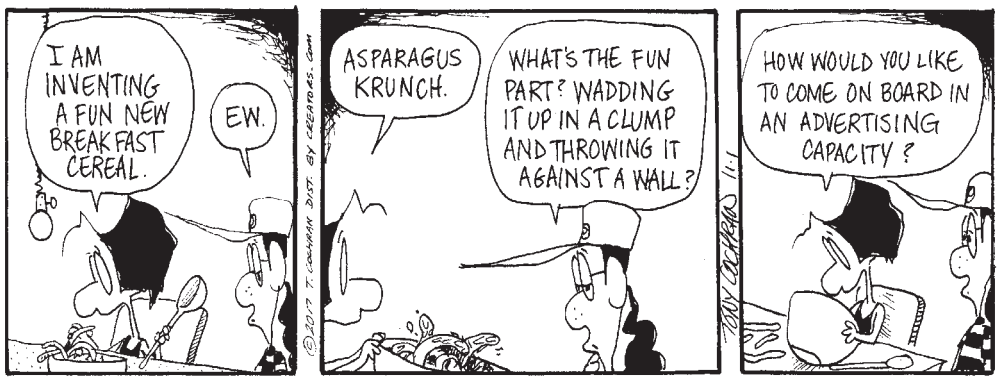
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Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



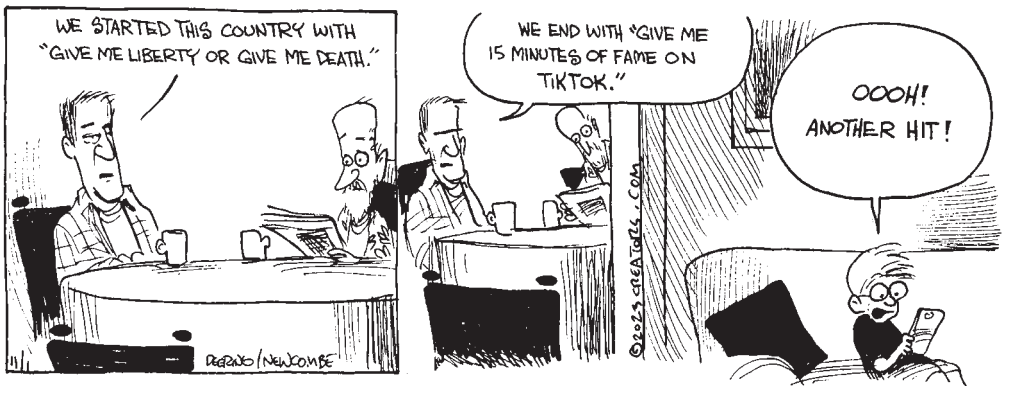
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



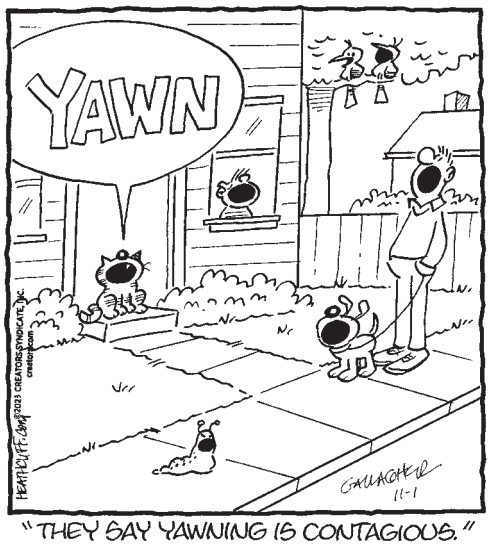
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"THEY SAY YAWNING IS CONTAGIOUS."

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 20 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 6015

Party time

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

Adults	Games	Music	Snacks
Assemble	Gluten free	Nice	Songs
Bakes	Hats	Night	Special
Band	Hire	Peanuts	Spirit
Beer	Icing	Pool	Stereo
Booze	Jolly	Popular	Sugar
Canape	Kids	Pubs	Tags
Croon	Leis	Regrets	Tapas
Dips	Love	Rose	Ties
Dress	Meal	Serviettes	Toys
Drum	Merry	Smart	Video
Food	More	casual	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 1)

Your curiosity is a gift and a skill because the more you want to know, the better you get at tracking it down. You'll search for one thing and find something far more valuable. More highlights: You'll be a tremendous help to a family or company and be shown appreciation in the language that matters to you. You'll wheel and deal your way into a proud purchase. Taurus and Cancer adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 1, 10, 33 and 6.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The atmosphere gets competitive. Expect posturing, boasting and the like. You don't have to actively participate by voicing your side, though it will help your game to show up impeccably dressed and with the body language of confidence.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). A struggle has taught you something, but there's an end to what it has to offer. Sometimes, you win by just dropping it — not a surrender but a decision to involve yourself in more promising endeavors.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). To take full possession of this world doesn't mean you act like you own the place — rather, you approach it like you belong to it, care for it and are open to experiencing its many ways of loving you back.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Divide up the decisions. You won't get everything you want that way — no one will — which will be better for everyone. You'll overcome obstacles, earn trust and create rapport, too.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The big picture is coming into focus. Stop and take in the view. Don't try to do it while you're rushing along. Really pause and jot down notes, take a picture or record your thoughts in some way. Honor the inspiration and it will come around more often.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You may feel like you're out on a limb. Scooch your way back to the trunk. Go where you can depend on something or someone who is steady and deeply grounded.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You will frame events with your words. You'll attract people to your cause with emotive vocabulary. Because you really feel it, others will, too. Get the feeling right first and the rest will follow.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). No matter how much you love the ones closest to you, spending time with other friends keeps your social life well rounded, increases your knowledge and network and contributes to your happiness, which is good for every relationship you have.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Once the mother duck gets all her babies in a row, they continue this way, each following a tail feather to the destination. You'll seek and find team members like this — people who, once directed, will stay on track.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Focus on others and use your intuition to figure out how people you know can help one another. You may not be able to solve your own problem, but you'll solve someone else's, and the karma will quickly come full circle.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Go to the environments you want to be a part of in the future. Create experiences that reinforce the person you want to be. Surround yourself with people who make it easier for you to do the things that help your growth.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Life gets cumbersome, but that didn't stop the elephant family from roaming Earth for millions of years. Could you think of the heaviness you're dealing with as might, leverage, or substantial and powerful presence?

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

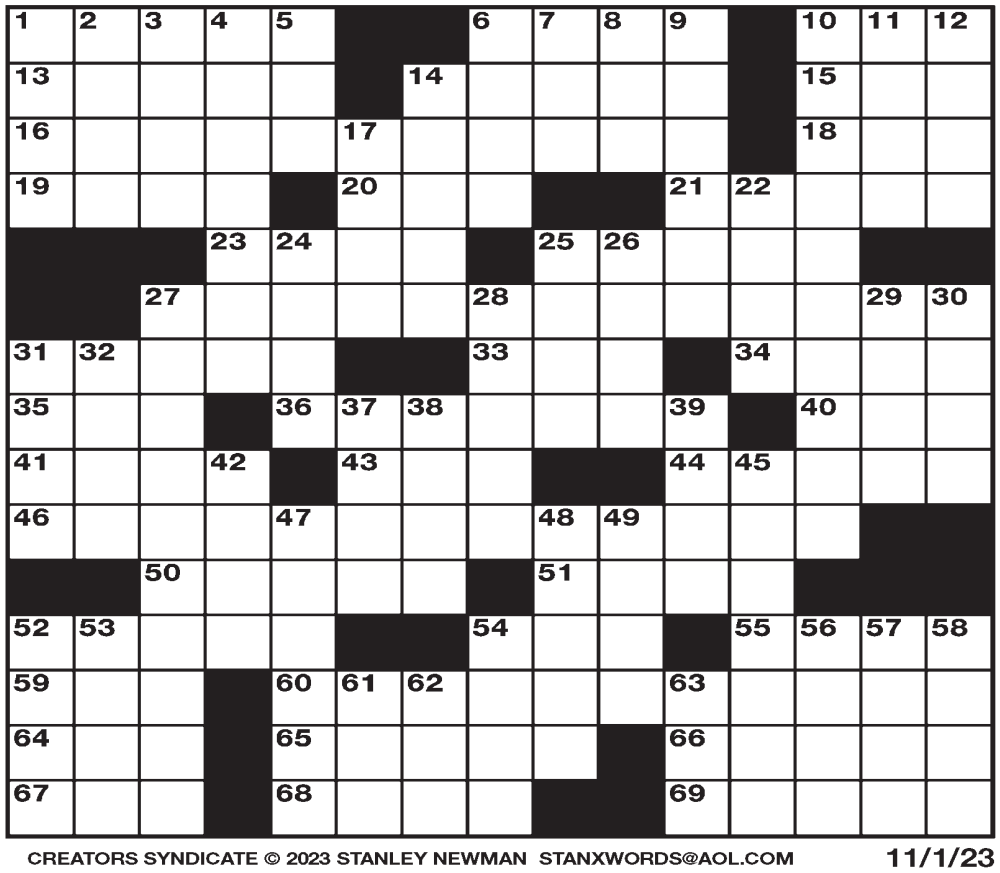
ABRACADABRA by Guilherme Gilioli
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Got up from a chair
6 What socks surround
10 "Ready when you __!"
13 Tosses, as dice
14 River mouth shape
15 Payroll deduction
16 Poster maker's pen
18 __ out a living (just manage)
19 Gingery cookie
20 Large coffee dispenser
21 Wives or husbands
23 Hostile, as a crowd
25 Hidden supply
27 Word processors' typo features
31 Shoreline
33 Gardening tool
34 "Shoo!"
35 Hurry away on foot
36 Very wise
40 Feast __ famine
41 Quadri- doubled
43 Official prohibition
44 "Don't need anything else"
46 Wrist adornment
50 Business magnates
51 __ and hearty (robust)
52 Casual shirts
54 ATM keypad array
55 Bylaws, for short
59 It's north of Mex.
60 Bridge game activity
64 __-ray Disc
65 Bizarre and scary
66 Jeweler's measure
67 "Send help" signal
68 Sandwich loaves
69 Slow-cooked meals

DOWN

1 Sweater's sleeves
2 Reddish-brown horse
3 Gymnast Korbut
4 Minor mistakes
5 "Undo" PC key
6 Common office plant
7 Animal with antlers
8 Hot season in Paris
9 Airport pavement
10 Absorbed an expense
11 Leaf-gathering tool
12 Former partners
14 Actress Hannah or rock singer Oates
17 Think (over)
22 Seeks an answer
24 Understands
25 It surrounds a sock
26 Typical high schooler
27 Once-a-year sleigh driver
28 Great Wall locale
29 Scarcer that scarce
30 Physician's "Now!"
31 Gator's cousin
32 "That smarts!"
37 Shortened word, for short
38 Golf scorecard numbers
39 Cash drawer
42 Rice-shaped pasta
45 One of two *Lion King* pals of Simba
47 Become proficient in
48 Carburetor valve in old cars
49 Where the sun is each morning
52 Where pints cost pounds
53 Scandinavian capital
54 CBS crime franchise
56 Dublin's land
57 Chew like a rat
58 Police dept. supervisors
61 Marina Del __, CA
62 Angry emotion
63 Coolers in VWs



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2023 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 11/1/23

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

Scary good times at JAMS









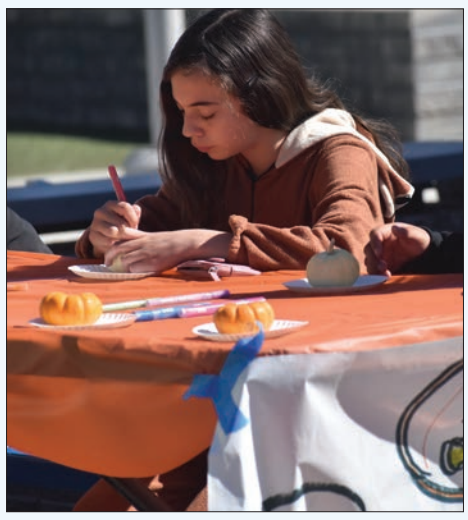



Photo by Thomas Leffler

JAMS HALLOWEEN: Students and faculty at John Adams Middle School (JAMS) were in the spooky spirit Tuesday for the Halloween holiday, taking part in a costume parade along with several activities. Students were able to decorate Rice Krispie treats and cookies with Halloween themes, paint pumpkins and spin a trick-or-treat wheel for various prizes. Inflatable costumes were a hit for the JAMS student body, as students entered suits based around properties like the "Fall Guys" video game and "South Park."



WEDNESDAY | NOVEMBER 1

COPING WITH HOLIDAY STRESS & GRIEF

Visit the NAMI Westside Los Angeles information table for resources and referrals to help you and your family cope with the stresses of the holiday season. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 2 - 6 p.m.

THURSDAY | NOVEMBER 2

JOB HUNTING WITH CHRYSALIS

Representatives from local nonprofit Chrysalis provide drop-in resume assistance, job search tips, and on-the-spot orientations for their employment programs. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

TECH & TASKS

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

THE NONSEMBLE + VENICE HERITAGE PRESENT

This event is 21 and over. Any ticket holder unable to present valid identification indicating that they are at least 21 years of age will not be admitted to this event, and will not be eligible for a refund. The Venice West, 1717 Lincoln Blvd, Venice, $23 http://ticketmaster.evyy.net/c/253158/264167/4272

LITTLE AMAL

In the spirit of hope and solidarity for displaced people everywhere, Little Amal, the internationally celebrated 12-foot-tall puppet of a 10-year-old Syrian refugee girl, will visit the Santa Monica Pier at 5 p.m. as part of her acclaimed 6,000-mile journey across the United States. CARS (Community Arts Resources) is partnering with LA-based Kumu Hula Keali'I Ceballos, an internationally acclaimed Hawaiian and Polynesian dance teacher, and his award-winning dance company/hula school – Halau Hula Keali'I O Nalani to welcome her to the historic Santa Monica Pier.

FRIDAY | NOVEMBER 3

LA COUNTY VACCINE CLINIC

Venice - Abbot Kinney Memorial Branch Library, 501 S. Venice Boulevard, Venice, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

20 QUESTIONS TRIVIA @ TRIP

20 Questions Trivia is like no other trivia show, because you're a part of the show. Wrong answers count for partial credit if they're funny. Trip Santa Monica, 2101 Lincoln Blvd. Free—Free admission. Prizes for the top five teams.

SMC APPLIED MUSIC SHOWCASE

Performing Art Center, John Adams Middle School, 2425 16th Street, 7:30 p.m. https://www.smc.edu/calendar/index.php

LETTERS OF LIFE

An art installation spanning through Nov. 3 where organizers ask members of the community to share their favorite Pier memories, photographs, and anecdotes of family and friends who have passed. These memories will decorate our space via digital murals that surround the historic 101-year-old Carousel and will be displayed over the course of the celebration. Submit online at https://www.santamonicapier.org/dia-de-los-muertos-2023

SATURDAY | NOVEMBER 4

SOUNDWAVES NEW MUSIC CONCERT

Soundwaves celebrates LA's diverse history of innovative underground music with free performances by world-class artists. Started in 2016 by librarian, author, and musician Jeff Schwartz with composer Daniel Rothman, and funded by the Santa Monica Public Library, Friends of the Santa Monica Public Library, and the Amphion Foundation, Soundwaves has collaborated with presenters including the Angel City Jazz Festival, Microfest, PianoSpheres, Jacaranda Music, the Dog Star Orchestra Festival, the Santa Monica Department of Cultural Affairs, and Cold Blue Music. Trio Through the Looking Glass, Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

HISTORY TALKS: THE IMPACT OF YIDDISH THEATRE

West Los Angeles Regional Library, 11360 Santa Monica Boulevard, Los Angeles. 3 - 4:30 p.m. https://www.lapl.org/whats-on/events/history-talks-impact-yiddish-theatre-0

FESTIVAL OF 10-MINUTE PLAYS

Studio Stage, Theatre Arts Complex, SMC Main Campus, 1900 Pico Blvd. 7 p.m. https://www.smc.edu/calendar/index.php

HUMAN LIBRARY

Check out a human book for a one-on-one, 30-minute conversation that challenges stereotypes and prejudices. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd. 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

MARINE PARK CG COMMUNITY COMPOSTING

Join organizers at the newest of our Community Gardens, located along the Southwest side of the tennis courts at Marine Park as they start talking about Community Composting. A perfect time to bring your moldy Jack-o-Lanterns or Kitchen Scraps and check out how you can help turn them into beautiful compost locally. Don't have any to bring? Join organizers for a cup of coffee and check out the garden. To learn more about the event, please contact Isabel Filson at Isabel.Filson@Santamonica.gov. Marine Park is located at 1406 Marine Street. 10 - 11 a.m.

SUNDAY | NOVEMBER 5

GOAT YOGA IN THE PARK

Goat Yoga is "baaaa"ck! Marine Park (Next to the Tennis Courts) 1406 Marine St. 9:30 - 11 a.m. $39. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/goat-yoga-in-the-park-november-5th-at-930am-tickets-730865146327



Santa Monica Area Interfaith Council

Israel & Palestine Conflict Statement

The Santa Monica Area Interfaith Council is a collaborative environment for people of faith to pursue peace and justice together. We grieve the deadly October 7 assault on Israel and the many innocent lives taken by the terrorizing actions of Hamas. We further grieve the spiral of violence once again ignited by these actions, the resulting loss of innocent Palestinian lives, and the devastation brought to Gaza. We recognize that Hamas does not represent all Gazans, and the Israeli government does not reflect the wishes of all Israelis, let alone all Jews. We call upon all parties to exercise restraint and to pursue an immediate ceasefire and de-escalation of this conflict.

We call attention to the illuminating awareness of the 8th-century BCE Israelite Prophet Isaiah: "Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Divine, to the house of the G-d of Jacob; that he may teach us the holy ways and that we may walk in the Divine paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction... The Holy One shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore" (Isaiah 2:3-4). We similarly lift up the teaching of the 6th-century CE Islamic Light of Guidance, the Prophet Muhammad, who taught: "No one shall become a true believer until they desire for their siblings what they desire for themselves." (Hadith 13, 40 Hadith an-Nawawi).

In Santa Monica and beyond, our Interfaith Council is committed to forging relationships based on love, mutuality, respect, multireligious exchange, and multicultural appreciation. We hope to model among ourselves the quality of relationships that we would like to see fostered in our larger world. We condemn anti-Semitism and Islamophobia here and abroad. We will continue to advocate for human rights, uphold the dignity of humanity, acknowledge the oneness of humankind, and promote the eradication of violence and prejudice of all kinds. We hope you will join us in these values and commitments.

Leadership Team, Santa Monica Area Interfaith Council

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