2 **Local Opera**
Continues to grow

3 **Los Angeles Rents**
Increase by up to 6%

4 **Freeway fire**
Puts focus on homelessness

8&9 **Real Estate Map**
What you get for your money

smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

Volume 23 Issue 4 THE WEEKENDER 11/17-11/19 smdp.com

Don't feed the birds: new rule aims to curb bird poop pollution at the Santa Monica Pier

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

The seemingly innocent act of feeding birds near the Pier actually contributes significantly to bacterial contamination in the waters surrounding the iconic Santa Monica landmark prompting Council to unanimously approve new rules this week that prohibit feeding creatures in the area.

Back in June, the waters surrounding Santa Monica Pier were ranked as some of the most polluted in California, according to environmental non-profit organization Heal the Bay's 2022-2023 Annual Beach & River Report.

"We are fortunate to have beaches that are beautiful and clean most days of the year, but unfortunately, there are times and conditions when the water at the beach makes folks sick," Tracy Quinn, President and CEO of Heal the Bay said when the report was released.

"The fact is, our coastal waters are regularly contaminated with pollutants such as chemicals, trash and fecal matter, which are harmful to human health and the ocean ecosystem."

Feeding wild animals and birds has long been prohibited in most areas, from cities to rural areas and in state and national parks. Animals and birds can become accustomed to human food, negatively impacting their health and ability to forage and successfully find natural food sources, while also causing them to congregate in large numbers near human areas. This increases health and safety risks for humans and disease transmission. The proposed change to local rules would have a citywide impact.

Councilmember Caroline Torosis made reference to the Los Angeles Times article

SEE **BIRD** PAGE 5

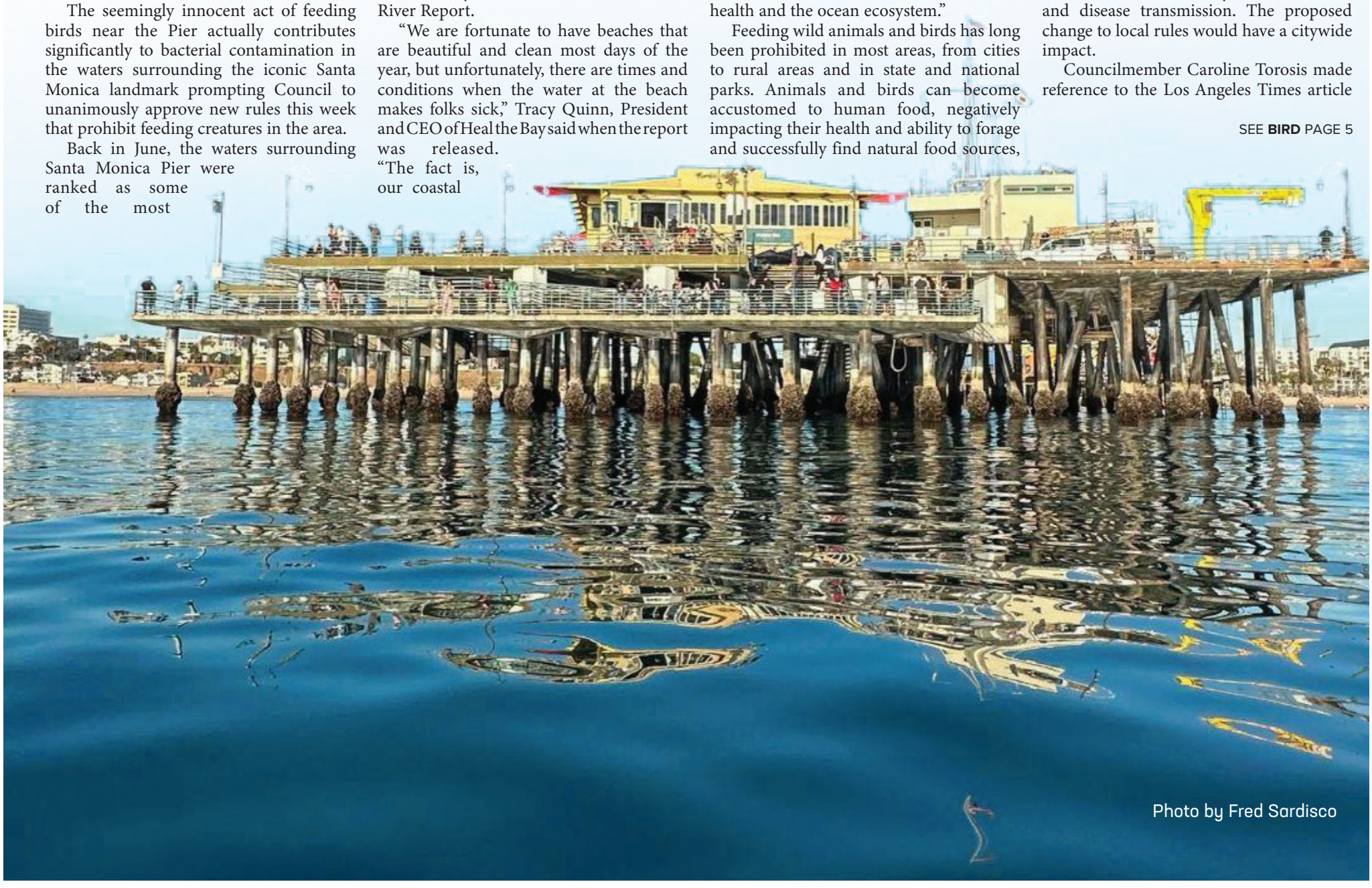


Photo by Fred Sardisco



845 Brooks #2
Venice
Stylish 2BD/2BA Condo

$5,200 / Month

Bulldog Realtors | Bulldog Estates

bulldogrealtors.com
1501 Main St. Suite 106, Venice, California

Emerson Langlois-Ulrich
424-382-5674
DRE#02165849



Four decades in, legendary local opera group continues growth

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

Any group endeavor has its ups and downs. From the business world to creative spaces, groups go through high points before often ultimately breaking apart, either due to financial troubles or a lack of new ideas to forge artistic paths. While many groups serve as cautionary tales, one creative endeavor in Santa Monica has persevered through the decades, traversing its musical mastery through different points of the city's history.

For the 2023-24 concert season, the Verdi Chorus is celebrating its 40th anniversary, a testament to the countless singers that have engaged in operatic choral music under the leadership of Artistic Director Anne Marie Ketchum. The Verdi, named for Italian composer Guiseppe Verdi and the old Verdi Restaurant in Santa Monica in which the group was born, is a unique Southern California treasure by focusing primarily on diverse operatic selections.

Four decades after starting as a collection of what Ketchum called "passionate amateur music lovers," the chorus will be performing its Fall 2023 concert featuring operatic sequences from Guiseppe Verdi at the First Presbyterian Church in Santa Monica, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Saturday and 4 p.m. Sunday.

"This concert is such a landmark event, not only for the chorus and audience members who have been with us from the very beginning, but for new opera enthusiasts we are welcoming for the first time on both sides of the concert stage," Ketchum said of the show.

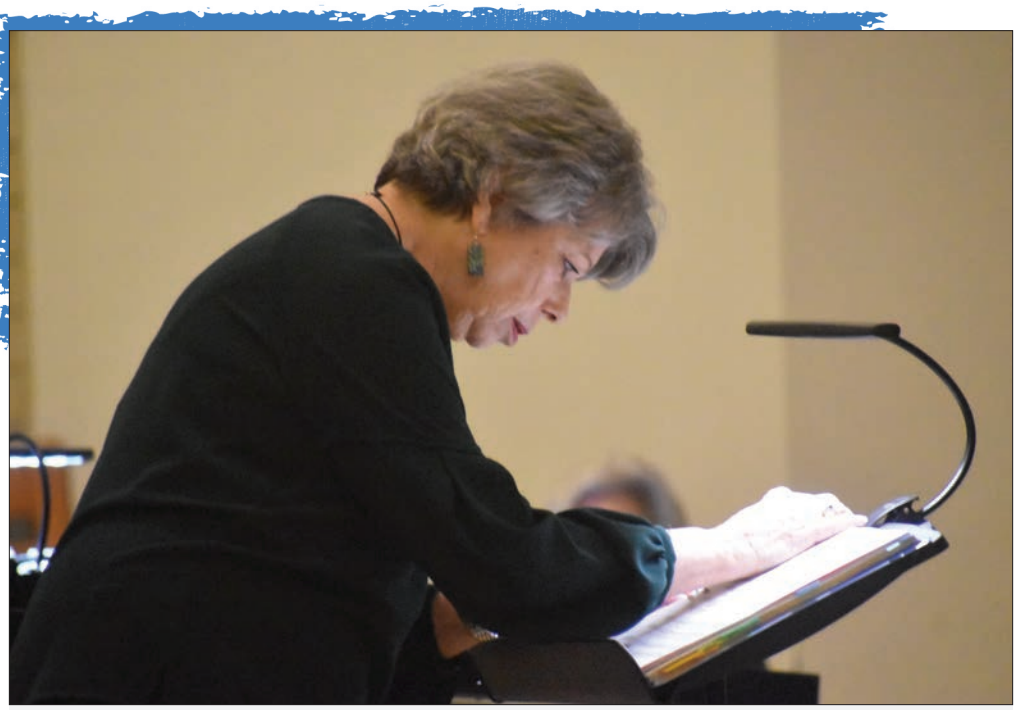


Photo by Thomas Leffler

FOUR DECADES LATER: The Verdi Chorus, led by Artistic Director Anne Marie Ketchum, prepares for its 40th Anniversary Fall Concert at the First Presbyterian Church in Santa Monica.

The director recounts 1983 like it was yesterday, stating that the Verdi Restaurant was a "very elegant place" where a company of about 20 young professionals would perform opera alongside more contemporary works. The restaurant regulars came up with the idea of transforming into a chorus, and Ketchum was asked to lead due to her prior conducting background.

"There was a lot of enthusiasm, and I chose relatively simple things for them to do," Ketchum said of the early years. "And they had such a good time … every time the chorus sang in the restaurant, (the) place was packed with their friends, their relatives, anybody else that came along. The chorus grew … it was a good thing, it was everybody having a good time and making really good music."

One of the enthusiastic members was Bobbi Mapstone, who remains the last of Verdi's original singers 40 years later. Mapstone decided to join the chorus after a push from friends, and had joy at Monday rehearsals in the restaurant, able to eat delicious leftover cakes from the prior night's dinner service. Although not trained in the art of opera, Mapstone has grown incredibly close to Ketchum's group and the musical form.

"It's got theater, it's got music, it's got singing, it's got everything … so (Verdi) really made a difference in my life … it's been very, very special, and I can't believe it's (been) 40 years," she noted.

After the closure of the restaurant, Ketchum was able to make the group official, complete with auditions and the ability to perform more complex pieces. Finding new venues was just as complex, as Verdi performed in various bars, hotels and synagogues, before finding home at the First Methodist Church in Santa Monica, followed by a recent move to the First Presbyterian Church. With every new venue and idea for a show, membership grew as well, with the group boasting 60 singers in 2023.

"We were not by any means mainstream, we didn't really start to move into the music world for quite some time, but we really did grow," Mapstone said of Verdi's path. "And it's been such an incredible learning experience

SEE **CHORUS** PAGE 12

FINDING A NEW DENTIST IS TOUGH!!!

(BUT WE MAKE IT EASY!!!) *YOUR CHOICE*

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

DENTAL CARE WITHOUT JUDGEMENT!

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

AND OF COURSE WE DO
- Invisalign
- Periodontist on Staff
- Oral Surgeon on Staff
- Cosmetics and Implants
- Zoom bleaching
- and more

YOUR CHOICE

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

OR

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

DR. ALAN RUBENSTEIN SANTA MONICA FAMILY DENTISTRY
(310) 736–2589 1260 15th ST. SUITE #703 WWW.ALANRUBENSTEINDDS.COM

Los Angeles adopts rent increases of up to 6%

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

The City of Los Angeles imposed new caps on rent increases for its rent-stabilized apartments following hours of debate and public comment on Tuesday.

Landlords who cover utilities (gas and electric) will be able to raise rents by 6% while those who do not will be limited to 4%. The increases are less than would have occurred without Council intervention after the City previously voted let a pandemic era rent freeze expire.

Councilmembers Traci Park and John Lee were the only "no" votes on the proposal although Councilmembers Paul Krekorian, Katy Yaroslavsky and Curren Price all recused themselves citing income from rental properties.

Several councilmembers tried to alter the proposal on Tuesday pitching a return to the full rent freeze, a lower cap on increases and an exemption for small landlords. All efforts to alter the motion failed with the original proposal passing by a 10-2 vote.

Local and regional agencies have been working on similar increases this year.

In Santa Monica, tenants in rent controlled apartments saw their rents increase by 2.8 percent or $67 this year, whichever was lower.

Rent increases in local rent-controlled units are determined by a formula based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI), which limits rents to 75 percent of the CPI. This year, with a CPI of 3.7 percent, rent increases were capped at 2.8 percent. However, the Rent Control Board has the option to establish a dollar cap on increases, which would be a maximum of $67 per month for units already paying $2,375 or more.

Last year, record inflation rates of about 8.5 percent led to a rent increase of 6 percent, the highest allowable increase at the time. This sparked a renter rebellion and prompted local officials to propose a charter amendment, Measure RC, which aimed to lower the maximum allowable rental increase to 3 percent per year, regardless of the CPI. Measure RC also rolled back the 2022 general adjustment to an average of 3 percent.

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors set a temporary cap on rent increases of 4% for tenants in unincorporated Los Angeles County communities who reside in housing subject to the County's Rent Stabilization and Tenant Protections Ordinance (RSTPO). The motion authored by Supervisors Lindsey P. Horvath and Hilda L. Solis will be effective January 1, 2024 – June 30, 2024, and aligns with the County's homelessness prevention priority for the homelessness emergency declaration.

"Keeping people in their homes by stabilizing rent to keep it affordable is essential in preventing homelessness. Doing so is responsible, just, and necessary in the face of the homelessness crisis we face – anything less will undermine our ongoing emergency response," said Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath. "This moment calls us to level the playing field and protect our most vulnerable while we gather better data on rent stabilization impacts throughout our unincorporated communities."

Through the motion, the county rent cap will be set at 4% for a six-month period while a comprehensive analysis is conducted on the economic impact of recently enacted rent increase formulas in order to recommend permanent changes to the RSTPO.

In approving increases this week, the Los Angeles council asked for an analysis of programs to assist tenants and landlords for maintenance of rent-stabilized properties. It also asked for a report on rules that would differentiate "mom-and-pop" landlords from large corporations.

Tenants rights organization, the Coalition for Economic Survival said the size of the landlord didn't matter if the tenant couldn't pay the rent.

"The obsession with protecting small landlords totally ignores that the tenants living in these units cannot afford the larger rent increase," they said in a statement. "Instead, valid small landlords who truly need help should be provided government financial assistance, not saddling tenants with additional rent hikes they can't afford."

editor@smdp.com

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 #4474 BATTALION COMMAND AND REM VEHICLES

Submission Deadline is December 4, 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.



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **62.6**

FRIDAY
FAIR
SURF: 3-4ft
Waist to chest

Could be another pretty fun day. Decent pulse of S swell tops out along with the W swell from our storm off the coast. Shape is peaky at the combo breaks and wind looks pretty light most of the day.

SATURDAY
FAIR
SURF: 2-3ft
Thigh to waist

Looking like the day the lingering storm offshore will push into the coast, bringing rain and some shorter-period WSW swell reinforcements. S swell dropping to more modest leftovers. Winds dicey at this point but the AM could have a window.

Weather

Friday: A 30 percent chance of showers, mainly after 4pm. Partly sunny, with a high near 68.
Friday Night: A chance of showers before 10pm, then rain after 10pm. Low around 58. South southeast wind 5 to 10 mph.
Saturday: Rain, mainly before 4pm. High near 67. South wind 5 to 10 mph, with gusts as high as 15 mph.
Saturday Night: A 40 percent chance of rain, mainly before 10pm. Partly cloudy, with a low around 54.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2023/11/17	Fri	12:48 AM	3.28	H
2023/11/17	Fri	04:00 AM	2.90	L
2023/11/17	Fri	10:43 AM	5.83	H
2023/11/17	Fri	6:46 PM	-0.34	L
2023/11/18	Sat	02:19 AM	3.37	H
2023/11/18	Sat	05:03 AM	3.17	L
2023/11/18	Sat	11:45 AM	5.41	H
2023/11/18	Sat	7:54 PM	-0.16	L
2023/11/19	Sun	03:35 AM	3.67	H
2023/11/19	Sun	06:55 AM	3.33	L
2023/11/19	Sun	1:05 PM	4.95	H
2023/11/19	Sun	9:03 PM	-0.03	L
2023/11/20	Mon	04:21 AM	4.10	H
2023/11/20	Mon	09:16 AM	3.01	L
2023/11/20	Mon	2:42 PM	4.59	H
2023/11/20	Mon	10:01 PM	0.10	L
2023/11/21	Tue	04:57 AM	4.61	H
2023/11/21	Tue	10:44 AM	2.26	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: 11/15
3 4 51 53 60
Power#: 6
Jackpot: 280 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 11/14
29 35 59 61 69
Mega#: 22
Jackpot: 267 M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 11/15
31 37 38 39 43
Mega#: 2
Jackpot: 15 M

FANTASY 5
Draw Date: 11/15
1 3 15 20 25

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 11/15
EVENING: 2 2 5
Draw Date: 11/15
MIDDAY: 6 4 7

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 11/15
1st: 04 - Big Ben
2nd: 02 - Lucky Star
3rd: 11 - Money Bags
Race Time: 1:49.72

PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

PARTNER
Todd James
todd@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Matthew Hall
matt@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Charles Andrews,
Jack Neworth,
David Pisarra.

CIRCULATION
Guadalupe Navarro
ross@smdp.com

Keith Wyatt
ross@smdp.com

STAFF WRITERS
Scott Snowden
scott.snowden@smdp.com

Thomas Leffler
thomas@smdp.com

DIRECTOR OF ADVERTISING
Cindy Moreno
cindy@smdp.com

MARKETING MANAGER
Dina Araniva
dina@smdp.com

PRODUCTION
Esteban Inchaustegui
production@smdp.com

Julio Davalos
julio@smdp.com

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

AWARD WINNER

Sustainable Quality Awards
WINNER

The Santa Monica Daily Press publishes Monday - Saturday with a circulation of 8,200 on weekdays and 8,000 on the weekend. The Daily Press is adjudicated as a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Los Angeles and covers news relevant to the City of Santa Monica. The Daily Press is a member of the California Newspaper Publisher's Association, the National Newspaper Association and the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce. The paper you're reading this on is composed of 100% post consumer content and the ink used to print these words is soy based. We are proud recipients of multiple honors for outstanding news coverage from the California Newspaper Publishers Association as well as a Santa Monica Sustainable Quality Award.

PUBLISHED BY NEWLON ROUGE, LLC
© 2023 Newlon Rouge, LLC, all rights reserved.

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING APPLICATIONS TO THE

LANDMARKS COMMISSION

UNSCHEDULED VACANCY

Landmarks Commission:
One seat available for a term ending **June 30, 2026.**
Applicant must be a Santa Monica resident and an Architect Historian.

Applications due by noon, January 16, 2024.
Appointments to be made by City Council, **January 23, 2024.**
No Santa Monica City Employee may serve as a member of any Board or Commission.

The State Political Reform Act requires certain officeholders to disclose their interest and income which may be materially affected by their official action. The applicants appointed to serve in these positions will be required to file a Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700) upon assuming office, and annually thereafter.

Applications are available on-line at: www.smgov.net/boards
All current applications on file will be considered.

Disability related assistance and alternate formats of this document are available upon request by calling (310) 458-8211.

City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

SANTA MONICA
LANDMARKS COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
SANTA MONICA CITY HALL

DATE/TIME: Monday, November 20, 2023, 7:00 PM

LOCATION: Council Chambers (wheelchair accessible)
Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Room 250

RESOLUTION:

- Resolution Number 23-002 (LCS) A Resolution of the Landmarks Commission of the City of Santa Monica Amending the Rules of Order and Procedure for the Conduct of Landmarks Commission Meetings.

DISCUSSION ITEM:

- Discussion of Landmarks' nomination application process in response to City Council direction at the May 23, 2023 meeting, including but not limited to the possibility of a revised application and other revised procedures, with the goal of reducing cost and time for applicants.

More information is available online at https://www.smgov.net/Departments/PCD/Boards-Commissions/Landmarks-Commission/ *(en espanol tambien at (310) 458-2201 ext. 5547#).*

Translation service available upon request. Please contact Planning@santamonica.gov at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled meeting.

Servicio de traducción disponible a pedido. Comuníquese al Planning@santamonica.gov al menos 72 horas antes de la reunión programada.

The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. Those wishing to give written public comment shall email comments to planningcomment@santamonica.gov. Comments received **prior to 12 p.m.** on the day of the meeting will be distributed to the Landmarks Commission prior to the meeting and posted online. Please note the agenda item in your comments.

For disability-related accommodations, please contact (866) 311-7266 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Every attempt will be made to provide the requested accommodation.

Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines serve City Hall and the Civic Center area. The Expo Line terminus is located at Colorado Avenue and Fourth Street, and is a short walk to City Hall. Public parking is available in front of City Hall, on Olympic Drive, and in the Civic Center Parking Structure (validation free).

GET IT DAILY...

Los Angeles criticized for its handling of homelessness after 16 homeless people escape freeway fire

CHRISTOPHER WEBER
Associated Press

The fire erupted after midnight under a Los Angeles freeway where 16 people were living, including a pregnant woman who was only weeks from giving birth.

As the flames engulfed the storage yard and the inferno's heat melted some of the thoroughfare's steel guardrails and concrete pillars, rescue crews were able to get everyone out safely. But the disaster has brought renewed criticism of officials' inability to get homeless residents off the street, leaving tens of thousands living in perilous locations across the nation's second-largest city.

Three years ago, as part of a court order related to a yearslong lawsuit accusing the city and county of Los Angeles of not doing enough to address homelessness, a judge wrote that he was concerned about 7,000 people living under freeways, calling it "unreasonably dangerous." County supervisor Hilda Solis said officials have since set aside nearly $300 million to create 6,700 shelter beds, but rows of tents and makeshift shelters are still a common sight under overpasses and along highway ramps.

Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass and California Gov. Gavin Newsom are now under pressure to not only reopen the section of Interstate 10 as fast as possible, but to find out who started the fire and what oversight the state had on the property. Bass has warned repeatedly against assumptions that homeless residents started the blaze, but that hasn't stopped speculation and blame.

Late Wednesday, an attorney for Apex Development Inc., the company that leased the property, said the company had complained to city officials numerous times about fires started by homeless people on or near the property. Newsom has called the company a "bad actor," and the state is in litigation with Apex seeking $78,000 in back rent for the property and saying Apex sublet to unauthorized tenants.

"It is unfortunate that Governor Gavin Newsom and Mayor Karen Bass have used this incident to speculate and mischaracterize Apex and its principals as 'bad actors' to excuse their own failures to adequately address the public safety issues caused by the unhoused," attorney Mainak D'Attaray said in an emailed statement.

A spokesperson for the governor disagreed with D'Attaray. The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection "currently believes the fire was caused by arson — the criminal act of deliberately setting fire to property — in a fenced-off area that Apex was responsible for maintaining while they continued to assert rights under the lease," Izzy Gardon said.

A federally required January count estimated that on any given night there were more than 75,500 homeless people in the county, with well over 46,000 of them in the Los Angeles city limits. Since 2015, homelessness has increased by 70% in the county and 80% in the city. Advocates over the years have sued the city and county to demand more action.

> It is unfortunate that Governor Gavin Newsom and Mayor Karen Bass have used this incident to speculate and mischaracterize Apex and its principals as 'bad actors' to excuse their own failures to adequately address the public safety issues caused by the unhoused
>
> - Mainak D'Attaray, attorney

Investigators have made a preliminary determination that the blaze was intentionally set behind a fence where businesses were storing materials under I-10, but they said they do not know yet who started it.

Mel Tillekeratne, an advocate for homeless people and founder of nonprofit The Shower Of Hope, said Saturday's blaze could have been a horrible human catastrophe.

"We were lucky there that nobody got hurt," he said. "But something like this could happen at any other encampment at any other time. It's just a tragedy waiting to happen."

Tillekeratne said he hopes disasters like this shine a light on how homeless resources and facilities need to be staged in more neighborhoods to keep people away from highways, where pollution from exhaust and traffic accidents are major hazards.

"We're talking about one of the busiest freeways in the U.S.," he said, speaking of I-10.

Solis, who represents the area where the fire began, said, "We know that more resources are needed in this area to help overcome the consequences of structural and systemic inequalities."

Of those evacuated during Saturday's fire, eight moved into interim housing, three went to stay with friends and one was reconnected with a homeless services program, Solis said Wednesday.

SEE **FREEWAY** PAGE 12

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

California wants to rollback environmental rules for cannabis. That won't help ailing growers



Miguel Gutierrez Jr., CalMatters

POT: Cannabis plants at the Pure Beauty growing site in Sacramento on Jan. 26, 2022.

Legalizing recreational cannabis in California was supposed to bring illegal growers out of the shadows and into a robust, safe and regulated market. When voters approved Proposition 64 in 2016, the measure promised to end the damage to our lands and water that had long been part of the illegal marijuana industry.

Instead, while some of the small growers who characterized the illegal business have been licensed, the new market has quickly become dominated by a handful of huge corporate farmers. Hoping to save the small growers from extinction, the California Legislature is considering rolling back some of the very environmental guardrails that were supposed to make the legal industry more sustainable.

This is a big mistake. While the intent of proposals like Senate Bill 508 may be laudable, removing environmental safeguards would set a bad precedent, and it won't save the beleaguered growers who are struggling to survive in the new market.

In fact, it will probably hasten their demise.

The state's environmental regulations are not to blame for the struggles of small farmers. County permitting decisions, the local political climate in places where there is opposition to the industry, and the inability of law enforcement to completely eradicate illicit cultivation have been much bigger hurdles.

But the largest obstacle has been simple economics.

Cannabis prices have fallen rapidly since the product became legal, and that shouldn't be a surprise. Prior to legalization, about 80% of the cost of producing weed came from trying to avoid law enforcement, according to a RAND Corporation report. With that huge cost of production gone, larger growers entered the market and were able to use technology and other efficiencies to lower their costs.

The result is a glut of supply that has driven down the price, making it nearly impossible for small farmers in the remote forested mountains of Northern

SEE **CANNABIS** PAGE 6

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Interfaith statement on Israel / Gaza conflict

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
Santa Monica Area Interfaith Council

BIRD

FROM PAGE 1

that ran in October of last year about a homeless man named Augustine Hurtado who uses most of any money he manages to scrounge to buy bird seed to feed seagulls and pigeons on and around the Santa Monica Pier.

"I think many of us might have read in the LA times ... about the man who ... sees that this is his God-given mission to feed these birds ... He's unhoused and he's using all the money that he has to feed the birds. So, in putting forward this ordinance, what is our actual plan for this individual who appears to be a potentially large source of the feeding of the birds?" Torosis asked, adding, "I'm not quite sure that a monetary fine is going to deter him."

Jonathan Maldonado, Civil Engineering Associate, Santa Monica Public Works Department, who gave a short presentation to the dais reiterated that at this time, no consideration had been made for Hurtado at this time.

"Our overall goal was to improve the water quality. We can look into different options with this gentleman in particular, but at this time, our focus is to improve the water quality," he said.

David White, City Manager chimed in, "Pragmatically, we will take whatever steps we can to work with the individual, I've read the story multiple times. The bigger picture is we're trying to improve water quality, but we would obviously work with this person and not try to put them in a position of being punitive."

With the assurance that Hurtado wasn't going to be suddenly walloped with a pile of fines that he wouldn't be able to pay, Torosis seemed satisfied and White added, "We'll talk to code enforcement to make sure everyone's aware."

Councilmember Christine Parra inquired as to how the public would be made aware and Maldonado replied that research was being conducted into the most effective form of public outreach.

A motion was made by Councilmember Oscar de la Torre and seconded by Councilmember Phil Brock and passed unanimously 6-0 as Mayor Pro Tempore Lana Negrete was absent for the entirety of this meeting.

scott.snowden@smdp.com

LET US KNOW YOUR OPINION

Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com



FRIDAY | NOVEMBER 17

L.A.'S LANDMARK RESTAURANTS & ICONIC CALIFORNIA FOODS
Author, chef and culinary educator George Geary discusses the iconic eateries and national restaurant chains featured in his books L.A.'s Landmark Restaurants and Made in California. A book sale and signing follows. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

COUNTDOWN TO KINDER CLUB: FOOD & NUTRITION
Learn about the best foods to fuel your body, with Providence St. John's and the Farmers Market of Santa Monica. Refreshments provided. For ages 2-5. Limited space; registration is required. Email library@santamonica.gov to register. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd. 10:30 - 11 a.m.

SATURDAY | NOVEMBER 18

FRIENDSGIVING AT ISHIHARA PARK LEARNING GARDEN
A day to thank each other for being supportive, and perhaps get a little peek into the life of a Worm Bin !! Maybe its time to Start your own! Have extra gently used toys or Childrens' books lying around? They are preparing for the Annual Toy Swap in December. Help help make the Holidays special for everyone. Don't have kids toys/books? They are also accepting donations of New Socks to help keep feet warm for those experiencing permanent housing challenges. Ishihara Park, 2909 Exposition Blvd 9 - 11 a.m.

UC MASTER GARDENERS AT PICO FARMERS MARKET
Visit with the UC Master Gardeners at the Saturday Pico Farmers Market. he booth is filled with free advice on how to care for plants, how to troubleshoot a gardening problem, and much more. Free seeds and seedlings are available on a limited basis. Market attendance is subject to change based on weather and holidays. 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

COUNTDOWN TO KINDER CLUB: FOOD & NUTRITION
Learn about the best foods to fuel your body, with Providence St. John's and the Farmers Market of Santa Monica. Refreshments provided. For ages 2-5. Limited space; registration is required. Email library@santamonica.gov to register. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd. 10:30 - 11 a.m.

L.A.'S LANDMARK RESTAURANTS & ICONIC CALIFORNIA FOODS
Author, chef and culinary educator George Geary discusses the iconic eateries and national restaurant chains featured in his books L.A.'s Landmark Restaurants and Made in California. A book sale and signing follows. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

NOTABLE FICTION BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP
Join a community-led discussion of award-winning current and classic fiction, held via Zoom. Contact library@santamonica.gov for the link. October's selection is 10 Minutes, 38 Seconds in This Strange World by Elif Shafak. November's is The Space Between Us by Thrity Umrigar. 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

MULTIMEDIA SALE
Marvelous Multimedia Sale of DVDs, CDs, audiobooks, graphic novels, manga, and books inside the Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., Central Courtyard on Saturday, November 18, 2023 from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Can't make it to the sale, visit the Bookstore on Mondays & Saturdays from noon - 3 p.m. and Thursdays from 3 p.m. - 6 p.m. We're on Instagram & X @friendsofsmpl. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.

AUTHOR TALK WITH STUART GIBBS
Stuart Gibbs, author of several best-selling middle grade series, debuts his two newest books, Spy School Goes North and The Quest of Danger. A book sale and signing follows. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd. 2 - 3:15 p.m.

SUNDAY | NOVEMBER 19

SMC WIND ENSEMBLE
Kevin McKeown, Director. Don't miss an exciting concert with a focus on living composers on the 'best' coast, centering on modern works for the Wind Ensemble. SMC Performing Arts Center, The Eli & Edythe Broad Stage $10, https://www.smc.edu/calendar/index.php#event-details/bed530ce-1a48-48aa-8778-2d3cdc9aa7a5

GLOBAL MOTION WORLD DANCE COMPANY PERFORMANCE
Raquel Ramirez and Sri Susilowati, Artistic Directors. Come experience the excitement and learn about other cultures through performances by SMC dancers showcasing world dance styles — including West African, Flamenco, Ballet, Asian, Hawaiian, Mexican Folklórico, Salsa, and more! The performance includes works by guest artists, faculty, and student choreographers. See smc.edu/dance for details. Broad Stage, $20, https://www.smc.edu/calendar/index.php#event-details/a9be4ee9-52d0-4dc3-a473-77211d0a4709

MONDAY | NOVEMBER 20

SANTA MONICA ARTS COMMISSION
Agenda online at https://santamonica.granicus.com/boards/w/70e8bee24c0dcfd9/boards/9995 Brentwood Art Center, 1625 Olympic Boulevard 6:30 - 8 p.m.

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD
Agenda online at https://www.smgov.net/Departments/PCD/Boards-Commissions/Architectural-Review-Board/ City Hall, 1685 Main Street, 7 p.m.

COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY, ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, AND THE ENVIRONMENT
Civic Center Parking Structure, 333 Civic Center Dr, 7 - 10 p.m.

VIRGINIA AVE PARK ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
Agenda online at https://www.smgov.net/Departments/CCS/content.aspx?id=52743. Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave. 7 - 8:30 p.m.

COMMUNICATION & DEMENTIA
Beginning with a basic understanding of Alzheimer's disease and its effect, Alzheimer's Los Angeles will explore communication principles necessary to maintain meaningful connections. They will also use scenarios and offer tips and useful strategies to help with communication issues over the course of the disease. Palisades Branch Library, 861 Alma Real Drive, Pacific Palisades, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Authorities arrest college professor in connection with death of Jewish demonstrator

JOHN ANTCZAK AND JULIE WATSON
Associated Press

A college professor was arrested Thursday in connection with the death of a Jewish protester during Southern California demonstrations over the Israel-Hamas war, authorities said.

Loay Abdelfattah Alnaji, 50, will be booked into jail for investigation of involuntary manslaughter — the unintentional killing of another person, the Ventura County Sheriff's Office said. The district attorney will decide whether there is enough evidence to charge him.

A man who answered the phone at a mobile number listed for Alnaji in public records said he did not want to comment. He did not give his name. A message could not be left at a number for Alnaji's home in Moorpark north of Los Angeles, because voicemail was not set up.

Paul Kessler, 69, died early Nov. 6 at a hospital following a Nov. 5 confrontation with a pro-Palestinian demonstrator in Thousand Oaks, a suburb northwest of Los Angeles.

Sheriff Jim Fryhoff said at a subsequent press conference that deputies determined Kessler fell backward and struck his head on the ground. The pro-Palestinian demonstrator stayed at the scene and told deputies he had called 911, Fryhoff said.

County Medical Examiner Dr. Christopher Young said at the time that an autopsy found Kessler died from head injuries consistent with a fall. Young also said Kessler had injuries that could be consistent with a blow to the face but that it was unclear what caused his fall.

Kessler's death was ruled a homicide, but authorities said that only meant his death was caused at the hands of another and by itself was not sufficient evidence to establish probable cause for an immediate arrest of a suspect.

Authorities did not say in Thursday's news release why an arrest was warranted. They said they were still seeking more video evidence in the case. A short video clip surfaced showing Kessler on the ground, but there haven't been any videos released showing the actual confrontation.

In a news conference days after Kessler's death, Fryhoff said authorities briefly detained a 50-year-old man from Moorpark and searched his home, but he was then released.

The Sheriff's Office has said investigators received conflicting information from witnesses on both sides about what took place, impairing witness credibility and making it difficult to prove a case beyond a reasonable doubt.

Kessler was among a group of pro-Israel demonstrators who showed up at the event that was advertised as a peaceful gathering to support Palestinians. About 75 people in total were there and patrols in the area reported seeing no indication of violence 15 minutes before the altercation, officials said.

Demonstrations have been widespread and tensions are escalating in the United States as the death toll rises in the Israel-Hamas war.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles said in a statement that it was grateful for the work of sheriff's investigators.

"This arrest shows that violence towards our Jewish community will not be tolerated," the federation said.

Watson reported from San Diego.

CANNABIS

FROM PAGE 5

California, who once dominated the industry, to compete.

Changing the environmental rules wouldn't change this economic reality. Instead, it would punish the small growers who navigated the permitting system and are playing by the rules. And it would give still another advantage to the large corporate farmers who have had little trouble creating and expanding their operations.

The state should focus on changes that would actually help small growers. Increasing law enforcement spending against illicit producers for at least five years would send a clear message.

Limiting the size of farms, which would give small growers a chance to compete while they establish their businesses, would also help. This was part of the original intent of Prop. 64, but the state created a loophole that allowed larger farms to be created and dominate the market.

California needs to make it easier for small growers to reach their customers. Large farmers have the resources to build vertically integrated businesses where cultivation, processing and distribution are all under one umbrella, while small growers currently lose much of their revenue to middlemen.

Providing more economic aid, including low-interest loans and grants to small farmers in general – just as we do for other small businesses – would ensure that this integral part of our state ecosystem can compete more effectively with large farmers who have much greater resources.

When voters agreed to legalize marijuana for recreational use, they were told they were helping both small farmers and the environment. The state can and should continue to pursue each of these goals, instead of retreating on both.

Rosalie Liccardo Pacula is a senior fellow at the USC Schaeffer Center for Health Policy and Economics and a professor of health policy, economics and law at USC. She is the former president of the International Society for the Study of Drug Policy. Michael Sutton is the former president of the California Fish and Game Commission. This article was originally published by CalMatters.

ALL BIKES ON SALE



E-bike exclusive brand
now only
$1499

310.581.8014 BikeShopSantaMonica.com **10am-5pm**
2400 Main Street. Santa Monica, CA 90405 - Across from Urth Cafe

THE BIKE SHOP SANTA MONICA

Eric Uller at Police Activities League (PAL) sexually abused hundreds of children in the late 1980s – early 2000s

Coming forward takes courage. It's time.

There *may* still be time to file a claim.



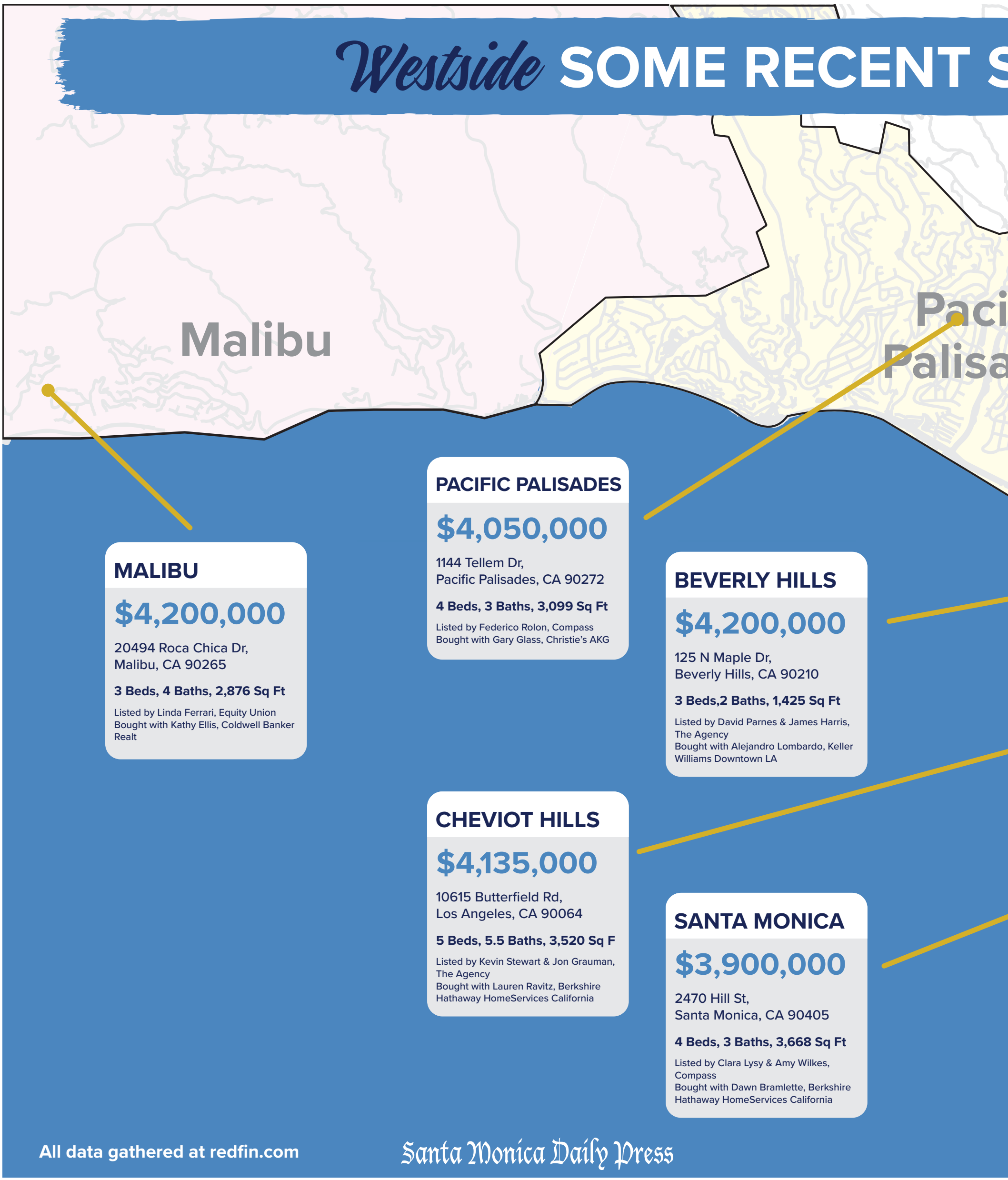
McGEE | LERER & ASSOCIATES

Sexual Abuse
+
Personal Injury Attorneys

Free confidential case review
(310) 231-9717
www.mcgeelerer.com

Ad. No guarantee of outcome. Each case is different.

Westside SOME RECENT S



MALIBU

$4,200,000

20494 Roca Chica Dr,
Malibu, CA 90265

3 Beds, 4 Baths, 2,876 Sq Ft

Listed by Linda Ferrari, Equity Union
Bought with Kathy Ellis, Coldwell Banker Realt

PACIFIC PALISADES

$4,050,000

1144 Tellem Dr,
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

4 Beds, 3 Baths, 3,099 Sq Ft

Listed by Federico Rolon, Compass
Bought with Gary Glass, Christie's AKG

BEVERLY HILLS

$4,200,000

125 N Maple Dr,
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

3 Beds,2 Baths, 1,425 Sq Ft

Listed by David Parnes & James Harris, The Agency
Bought with Alejandro Lombardo, Keller Williams Downtown LA

CHEVIOT HILLS

$4,135,000

10615 Butterfield Rd,
Los Angeles, CA 90064

5 Beds, 5.5 Baths, 3,520 Sq F

Listed by Kevin Stewart & Jon Grauman, The Agency
Bought with Lauren Ravitz, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices California

SANTA MONICA

$3,900,000

2470 Hill St,
Santa Monica, CA 90405

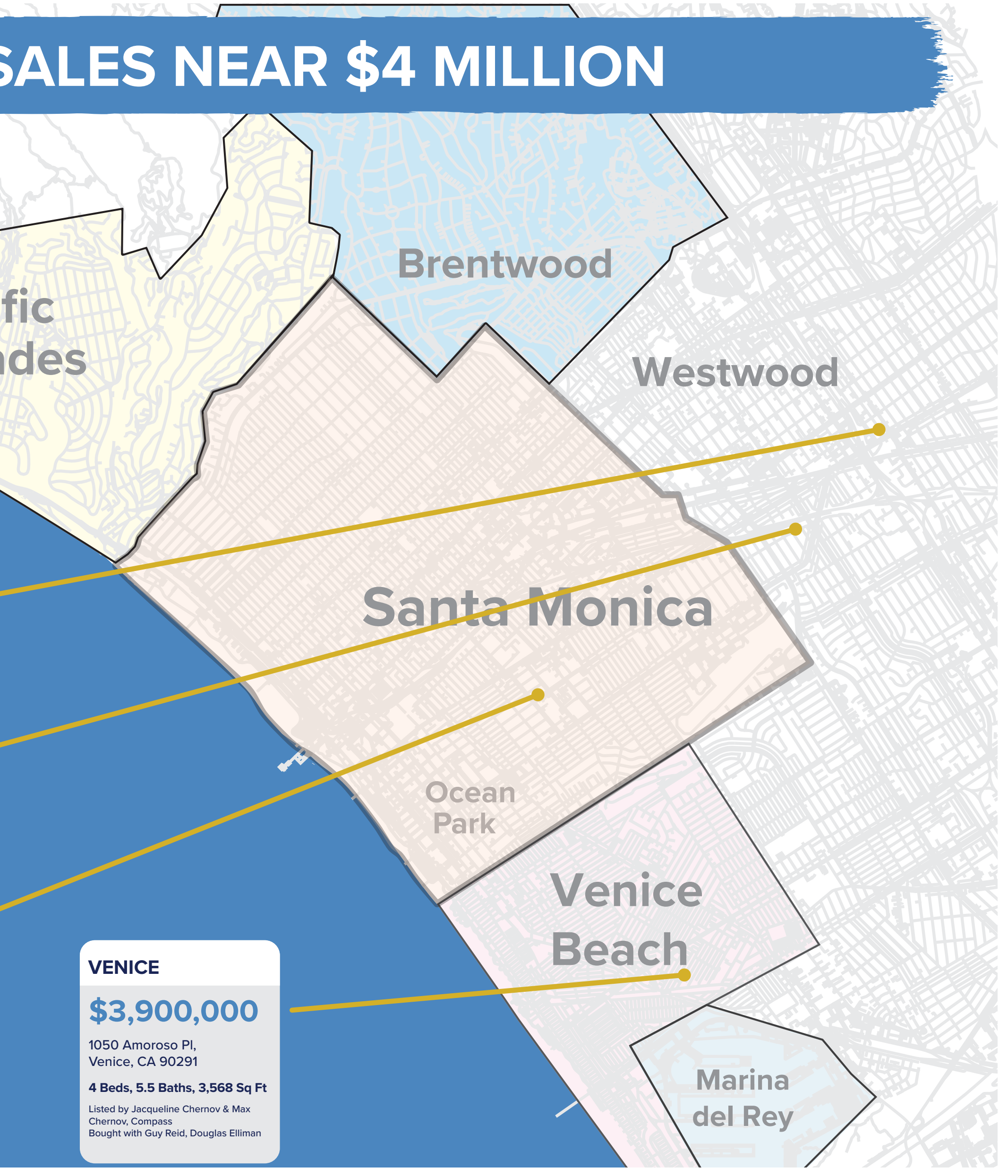
4 Beds, 3 Baths, 3,668 Sq Ft

Listed by Clara Lysy & Amy Wilkes, Compass
Bought with Dawn Bramlette, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices California

All data gathered at redfin.com

Santa Monica Daily Press

SALES NEAR $4 MILLION



VENICE

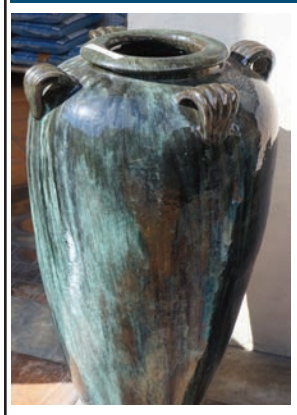
$3,900,000

1050 Amoroso Pl,
Venice, CA 90291

4 Beds, 5.5 Baths, 3,568 Sq Ft

Listed by Jacqueline Chernov & Max Chernov, Compass
Bought with Guy Reid, Douglas Elliman

Water Features
Bourget Bros. offers a wide selection of custom made water features , pots and a full line of accessories.









Bourget Bros. Building Materials
1636 - 11th Street
Santa Monica, CA 90404 • (310) 450-6556
bourgetbros.com

Ocean Water Quality Rain Advisory



Thomas Leffler

WATER: Due to rainfall, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health advises beach users to avoid all water contact, especially near discharging storm drains, creeks, and rivers due to potentially higher bacteria levels in these areas. This includes any runoff that may flow onto or pond on the beach sand. Ocean and bay recreational waters, especially near discharging storm drains, creeks and rivers can be contaminated with bacteria, chemicals, debris, trash, and other public health hazards from city streets and mountain areas after rain. Individuals who enter the water in these areas could become ill. Rain advisories remain in effect for 72 hours after the rainfall ends. This advisory will be in effect until at least Saturday, November 18, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. This advisory may be extended depending on further rainfall. Recorded information on beach conditions is available 24-hours a day on the County's beach closure hotline: 1-800-525-5662. To view map of impacted locations and for more information please visit: PublicHealth.LACounty.gov/Beach/.

REAL ESTATE



In today's real estate climate ...
Experience counts!

Gary Limjap
(310) 586-0339

garylimjap@gmail.com
www.garylimjap.com

COLDWELL BANKER
CalRE # 00927151

City of Santa Monica
WOODLAWN
Cemetery
Mausoleum
Mortuary
FD #2101

Helping families honor, remember, and celebrate life.



• Traditional Burial • Green/Natural Burial • Cremation
• Funeral Planning & Mortuary Services
ALL IN ONE LOCATION

1847 14th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90404 ▪ (310) 458-8717 (on-call - 24/7)
woodlawn.cemetery@santamonica.gov ▪ www.woodlawnsm.com

TAXES
ALL FORMS • ALL TYPES • ALL STATES
BACK TAXES • BOOKKEEPING • SMALL BUSINESS
(310) 395-9922
SAMUEL B. MOSES, CPA
100 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1800 • Santa Monica 90401

COMMUNITY NEWS

Los Angeles

LACAHSA Awarded $660,000 to support housing programs

LACAHSA has announced that the agency has been awarded a $660,000 grant from the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG). Funds will help the new agency establish a strategic plan to guide operations, including the design of new pilot programs to radically simplify how affordable housing can be funded and built in Los Angeles, attract new private investment capital, and prevent homelessness in the process.

One affordable housing pilot will unlock a tax exemption tool that enables affordable housing developers to tap into one single private loan, bypassing the often complex public financing and tax credit models that make housing development in LA so slow and expensive. This is not currently happening at scale across the region and corrects a key failure of our current affordable housing financing system: the costly, slow "capital stack" process, which forces developers to assemble multiple public loans and tax credits over many years, driving up costs.

"This is such a big moment, a new era toward making housing more affordable for all of us," said LA County Supervisor Holly Mitchell, who began her term this year as LACAHSA's first Board Chair. "We are all so frustrated at how difficult and expensive it is to break the logjam in our housing crisis. LACAHSA is our first-ever regional approach to making housing more affordable across the whole county. The award is like rocket fuel to help get us off the ground and make the first projects possible to accelerate how we produce and preserve affordable homes and prevent people from falling into homelessness."

LACAHSA was created by a 2022 state law introduced by then State Senator Sydney Kamlager and is governed by a board of committed leaders and experts from communities across LA County. The main goal: make housing more affordable through a regional approach. LACAHSA will advance equity and prevent homelessness at the scale of the problem, helping people stay housed through countywide programs including eviction protection and rental assistance, and scaling up the preservation and production of affordable housing.

"LACAHSA is the missing piece we've needed for decades in order to tackle our housing crisis with bold, scalable solutions across our whole county," said Elise Buik, President & CEO, United Way of Greater Los Angeles. "We've essentially created a Metro for housing–something LA desperately needs in order to solve our housing crisis at the true scale of the problem."

The property tax abatement tool is made possible by the state welfare property tax exemption (WTE), where housing developers can enter into joint development agreements with LACAHSA. By entering into a joint agreement with LACAHSA, developers receive a tax exemption provided they guarantee quality affordable units long-term. Because the developer no longer has to pay property tax, it changes the economic structure of new housing and rehab building projects. The math works, so units that would otherwise be subject to market pressures stay affordable.

As a public agency, LACAHSA can attract private investment through this tax exemption, acquisition and land banking, and other innovative strategies. Additional flexible public investment is critical to addressing the housing crisis and has the power to radically simplify how affordable housing is developed and preserved. Similar approaches have been instrumental in creating thousands of new homes in San Francisco, New York City and Texas.

Last December, the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA) tested the tax abatement model to preserve affordable housing. The purchase of the Residences at Woodlake, a 276-unit apartment community in Crenshaw, was made possible through the same property tax welfare exemption LACAHSA will use. Rather than raising rents, costs are reduced due to the money saved through the exemption of property taxes. Now LACAHSA will have the capacity to scale up this approach across the County.

"Private investors are a necessary part of maintaining affordable housing in LA, but they have stopped investing due to the perceived bureaucracy," said Jennifer Keith, Managing Partner at Ethos Real Estate. "LACAHSA will pave a way for more private capital to invest in housing and maintain affordable housing in Los Angeles County. With LACAHSA, there is the potential to build on what we started, and expand this anti-displacement investment strategy on a much larger scale."

The L.A. County Affordable Housing Solutions Agency was created to make housing more affordable, help people stay in their homes, and increase housing options for people experiencing homelessness. It is a regional organization focused on all of L.A. County. By having leaders from across the county, and a single CEO, it is accountable enough to cut through red tape so we can do more than ever before. For more information, visit https://lacahsa.gov/

SUBMITTED BY MARIE CONDRON

Citywide

Santa Monica receives perfect score in HRC's 2023 Municipal Equality Index Scorecard

For the fifth consecutive year, the city of Santa Monica has earned a perfect score in the Human Rights Campaign's Municipal Equality Index, reflecting the city's inclusive municipal laws, policies and services for LGBTQ+ people who live and work here.

The annual Municipal Equality Index, or MEI, rates cities based on non-discrimination laws, the municipality as an employer, municipal services to the community and law enforcement and leadership on LGBTQ+ equality.

"Santa Monica strives to be a community where all are welcome, feel safe and can thrive," Mayor Gleam Davis said. "I am grateful that our commitment to the LGBTQ+ community has again been recognized by the Human Rights Campaign this year."

As part of its comprehensive effort surrounding equity and inclusion, Santa Monica employs community liaisons in several city departments, includes gender identity and sexual orientation as categories in all non-discrimination policies for staff and vendors, and regularly provides training to staff on understanding gender identity and sexual orientation.

Santa Monica was one of the first cities to be recognized for the inclusion of sexual orientation and gender identity in anti-bullying policy and training for all youth programs, and the city was one of the first in the state to require all new multi-stall bathrooms to be all gender.

Santa Monica Awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting

SUBMITTED BY TATI SIMONIAN, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

Citywide

Santa Monica Awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting last week to the city of Santa Monica for its annual comprehensive financial report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.

The report was judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program, including demonstrating a constructive spirit of full disclosure to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read the report.

The achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting and represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management. The city of Santa Monica has received this award each year for the last 39 years.

The city continues to carry the highest ratings of financial health for an organization from all three major credit rating agencies. In affirming the ratings, the agencies noted the city's strong fiscal management even during the pandemic struggles.

SUBMITTED BY TATI SIMONIAN, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

Los Angeles

Councilwoman Traci Park Looks To Protect City Underpasses And Other Critical Infrastructure

Los Angeles City Councilwoman Traci Park, who represents the westside of Los Angeles, presented a motion this week calling for greater protections of citywide infrastructure following Saturday's devastating fire under the 10 Freeway, a critical regional corridor for the movement of goods and people.

"This recent fire underscores the vulnerability of our city's infrastructure and the importance of protecting these vital systems against fire and other risks," said Park.

Among these risks, Park underscored the prevalence of encampment fires along freeway underpasses and over passes. Park noted that in a year's time, at just one underpass in CD11, more than ten encampment-related fires broke out. "When fires in and around our critical infrastructure occur, the lives, health and safety of those living in encampments at those locations, as well as the lives and safety of our city's first responders, are significantly jeopardized."

Park is asking City departments to prepare an inventory of the city's critical infrastructure that is essential to public services including underpasses, overpasses, and bridges along with other sensitive transportation systems. Park is also instructing the Los Angeles Fire Department to report back on the number of encampment related fires that have happened along freeway underpasses, overpasses, and embankments so far this year.

The motion has been referred to the Los Angeles City Council's Public Safety Committee for further consideration.

SUBMITTED BY JONATHAN DAVILA

11th Street

SMC Wind Ensemble Presents "Locally Grown" Nov. 19

The Santa Monica College Music Department will present the SMC Wind Ensemble in "Locally Grown." The live concert will be held on Sunday, Nov. 19, at 2 p.m. in The Broad Stage at the SMC Performing Arts Center, 1310 11th Street (at Santa Monica Boulevard), Santa Monica.

Under the direction of Kevin McKeown, the SMC Wind Ensemble will present an exciting concert with a focus on living composers on the 'best' coast, centering on modern works for wind ensembles.

Tickets are $10 general admission (plus a modest service charge); free for all 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.

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

SUBMITTED BY GRACE SMITH



CHORUS

FROM PAGE 2

for me to go from really no classical music at all (to) becoming passionate about opera."

The group grew in diversity over time as well, bringing in singers from all walks of life, ranging in age from 18 to the 87. Ketchum says that they all learn from one another because they're "not all exactly the same kind of person," which coincides with opera where they are portraying characters unlike themselves.

Having a diverse support network has led to group expansion into such endeavors as the young professional group Fox Singers and the Sahm Foundation Apprentice Singers scholarship program. Through all the growth, Ketchum showed gratitude for her team escaping "various difficult times" like the COVID-19 pandemic and the 2008 financial crisis.

"I think the fact we're still doing opera courses, and people are still coming on and passionate about it, I think that's a lot to celebrate. I think it's quite astounding ... and I'm incredibly grateful that this has been a part of my life," Ketchum said.

For more information on the Verdi Chorus or the Fall 2023 concert, visit verdichorus.org.

thomas@smdp.com

FREEWAY

FROM PAGE 4

Business owners who subleased the storage properties said they voiced concerns for years about fire danger and other hazards related to camps in an industrial zone under I-10.

Rudy Serafin said the number of homeless encampments in the neighborhood has grown steadily since he began storing supplies for his business under the freeway in 2009. He said Serafin Distribution, which provides office supplies and other items, couldn't get insurance due to concerns about homeless people starting cooking fires. He said he and other business owners made multiple reports asking city officials to act.

"We called every single week," he said, adding that eventually encampments were cleared, only to reappear again within days.

The city didn't respond to a request for comment about whether they had received complaints or removed people from the site. Some business owners said there had been other fires in the area, but the Los Angeles Fire Department couldn't immediately confirm that.

Storage yards under highways are common statewide, with the money from the leases going to public transit. Newsom said the practice would be reevaluated following the fire.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

FOR QUOTES PLEASE CALL 310-573-8074 or email cindy@smdp.com

CLASSIFICATIONS
Announcements, Creative, Employment, For Sale, Furniture, Pets, Boats, Jewelry, Wanted, Travel, Vacation Rentals, Apartments/Condos, Rent, Houses for Rent, Roommates, Commercial Lease, Real Estate, Real Estate Loans, Storage Space, Vehicles for Sale, Massage, Services, Computer Services, Attorney Services, Business Opportunities, Yard Sales, Health and Beauty, Fitness, Wealth and Success, Lost and Found, Personals, Psychic, Obituaries, Tutoring

Announcements

NEW AUTHORS WANTED! Page Publishing will help you self-publish your own book. FREE author submission kit! Limited offer! Why wait? Call now: 1-855-667-0380 (Cal-SCAN)

Prepare for power outages today with a GENERAC home standby generator. $0 Money Down + Low Monthly Payment Options. Request a FREE Quote -Call now before the next power outage: 1-844-439-5645 (SCAN)

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-424-7581 (Cal-SCAN)

Autos Wanted

DONATE YOUR UNWANTED CAR, TRUCK, RV OR BOAT TO HELP HOMELESS PETS PETS ALIVE, A CALIFORNIA, QUALIFIED 501-C-3 NONPROFIT. WE ARE TAX DEDUCTION AND PAPERWORK EXPERTS AND PROVIDE GUARANTEED TAX DEDUCTIONS. FOR QUOTES AND QUICK PICK UP, CALL US TODAY. 833-772-2632 (Cal-SCAN) LAPETSALIVE.ORG

Autos Wanted

DONATE YOUR CAR TO KIDS Fast Free Pickup - Running or Not - 24 Hour Response - Maximum Tax Donation - Help Find Missing Kids! Call 1-888-491-1453. (Cal-SCAN)

GOT AN UNWANTED CAR??? Your car donation to Patriotic Hearts helps veterans find work or start their own business. Fast free pick. Running or not! Call 24/7: 1-877-529-0495. (Cal-SCAN)

Tiene un vehiculo no deseado? Donelo a Patriotic Hearts! Recogida rápida y gratuita en los 50 estados. Patriotic Hearts ofrece programas para ayudar a los veteranos a encontrar trabajo o iniciar su propio negocio. Llama ahora: 1-844-244-5441 (24/7) (Cal-SCAN)

Donating your vehicle? Get more! Free Towing. Tax Deductible. Plus a $200 restaurant voucher and a 2-night/3-day hotel stay at one of 50 locations. Call Heritage for the Blind to donate your vehicle today. CALL 1-844-491-2884 (Cal-SCAN)

Financial Services

Over $10K in Debt? Be debt free in 24 to 48 months. No upfront fees to enroll. A+ BBB rated. Call National Debt Relief 1-888-231-4274. (Cal-SCAN)

Autos Wanted/Luxury

WANTED! Old Porsche 356/911/912 for restoration by hobbyist 1948-1998 Only. Any condition. Top $ paid! PLEASE LEAVE MESSAGE 1-707-339-5994. Email: Porscherestoration@yahoo.com Cal-SCAN

Miscellaneous

The difference in winning and losing market share is how businesses use their advertising dollars. CNPA's Advertising Services' power to connect to nearly 13 million of the state's readers who are an engaged audience, makes our services an indispensable marketing solution. For more info call Cecelia @ (916) 288-6011 or cecelia@cnpa.com

DID YOU KNOW Newspaper-generated content is so valuable it's taken and repeated, condensed, broadcast, tweeted, discussed, posted, copied, edited, and emailed countless times throughout the day by others? Discover the Power of Newspaper Advertising. For a free brochure call 916-288-6011 or email cecelia@cnpa.com (Cal-SCAN)

Insurance

SAVE BIG on HOME INSURANCE! Compare 20 A-rated insurances companies. Get a quote within minutes. Average savings of $444/year! Call 1-844-410-9609! (M-F 8am-8pm Central) (Cal-SCAN)

Home Improvement

Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, we're waiving all installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. Offer ends 12/31/23 Call 1-833-985-4766 (Cal-SCAN)

Real Estate Loans

RETIRED COUPLE $$$$ for business purpose Real Estate loans. Credit unimportant. V.I.P. Trust Deed Company www.viploan.com Call 1-818-248-0000. Broker-principal DRE 01041073. No consumer loans. (Cal-SCAN)

Internet

FREE high speed internet for those that qualify. Government program for recipients of select programs incl. Medicaid, SNAP, Housing Assistance, WIC, Veterans Pension, Survivor Benefits, Lifeline, Tribal. 15 GB internet service. Bonus offer: Android tablet FREE with one-time $20 copay. Free shipping & handling. Call Maxsip Telecom today! 1-855-480-0769 (Cal-SCAN)

Health/Medical

Stroke and Cardiovascular disease are leading causes of death, according to the American Heart Association. Screenings can provide peace of mind or early detection! Contact Life Line Screening to schedule your screening. Special offer - 5 screenings for just $149. Call 1-888-892-5598 (Cal-SCAN)

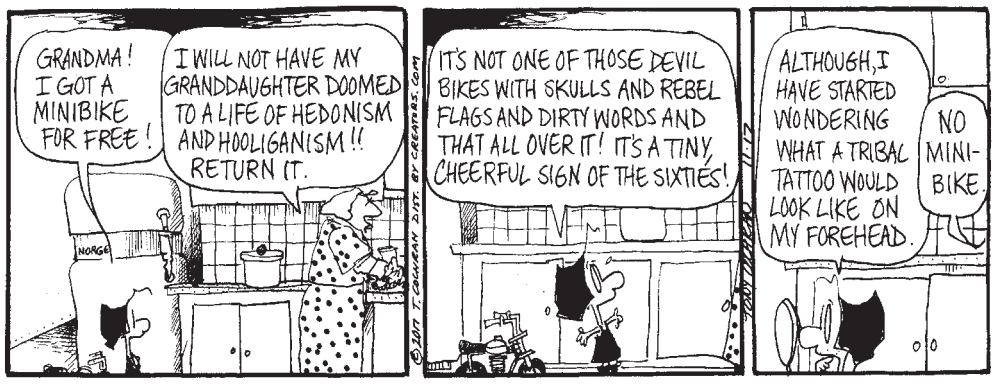
Safe Step. North America?'s #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and $1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-888-989-5749 (Cal-SCAN)

PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED HERE

Santa Monica Daily Press HOURS MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00am - 5:00pm LOCATION 1640 5th Street, Suite 218, Santa Monica, CA 90401

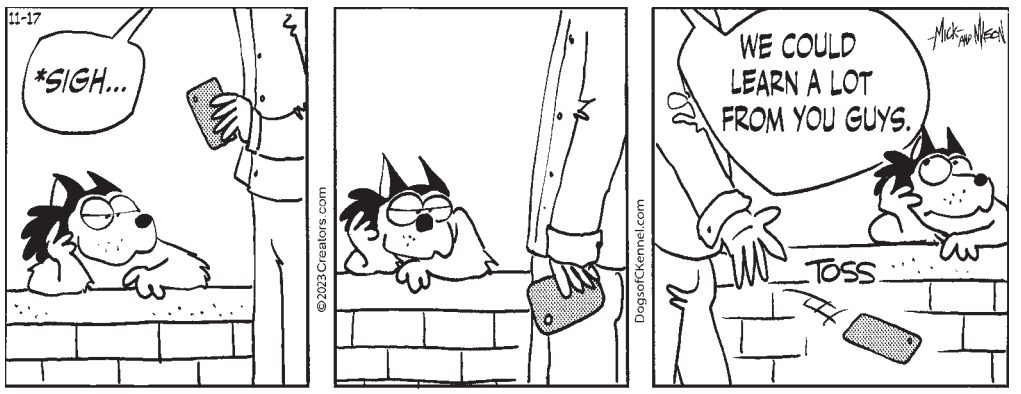
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



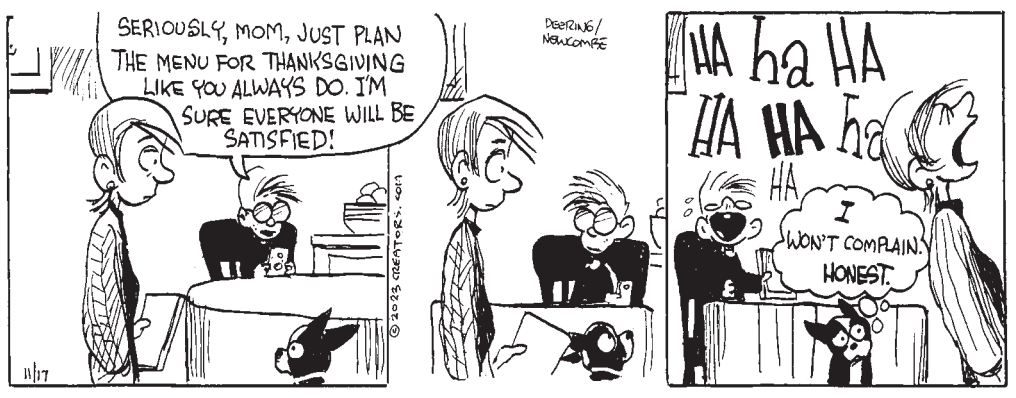
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



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

© australianwordgames.com.au 6031

Golfing tragic

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

Ability
Bogey
Buggy
Bunker
Bye
Cameron Davis
Card
Chip
Devlin
Divot
Drive
Drop
Eagle
Easy
Fade
Flag
Grass
Green
Grip
Head
Heel
Help
Hole
Kemp
Lapse
Loft
Lost
Mulligan
Newton
On par
Open
Path
Perform
Pins
Professional
Putt
Relief
Return
Round
Rules
Score
Shaft
Slice
Stance
Talent
Tees
Tour
Trap
Water
Webb
Wood
Yips

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Vital resources

Covering the city by the bay since 2001.
To advertise, email cindy@smdp.com or call 310.458.7737
smdp Santa Monica Daily Press

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 17)

A location change or lifestyle upgrade will energize your scene. It will be your honor and pleasure to ease the burdens of others and while smoothing their way you'll run into your own good fortune. More highlights: You'll accept a new position. You'll be inspired by the excellent company you keep, and you'll connect through shared humor and taste. Sagittarius and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 26, 23, 9, 8 and 12.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Usually, you get a better perspective by backing off of your problem but today, getting closer will help you more. Ask your mind to magnify the bits you should be paying attention to. Instinct will kick in and amaze you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Get your work out of the way so you can be relaxed and at ease when it's time to have fun. Tonight, you'll get the chance to enjoy just being you, giving what you want to, nothing more or different than comes naturally.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Even if you would welcome a change, there is something to love about your current status. To embrace where you are is to conserve energy. The more energy you have, the easier it is to make change happen.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). As the chooser instead of the chosen, you're free to pursue what's best for you. In food seek nutrition; in service, efficiency; in friendships, levity. Stick to your rules and standards. It's these criteria that keeps you on track now.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). A true friend is someone who is there for you when you need them. Even if you don't see them often, they are someone you know you can trust. Happiness comes from prioritizing these relationships.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Everyone you meet was a baby once, helpless and in need of being raised. Being in touch with the basic vulnerability we all share emboldens you to take social risks, talk to strangers and generally put yourself out there.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your higher judgment will tell you it's safe to let go of your inhibitions and become closely involved with other people. There's no reason to resist, so allow a relationship to take its natural progression through your life.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Shortly after alighting on the best idea ever, you'll speculate all of the reasons it's really not. This is the natural pendulum swing of ideas. You'll only really know its merit when you take it out of thought form and into reality.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). People gain tremendous self-worth from being able to do things for themselves. So, while your desire is to be of service, you're also well aware that sometimes it's better to teach others, then stand back and watch them take it from there.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). It's surprising how little awareness some people have of their own talents. It takes an outsider to provide illumination. The compliments you give will be meaningful in both content and timing. You help people understand their strengths better.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Though sometimes you've felt crowds were a nuisance, causing traffic, long lines and other inconveniences, today the crowd is your friend. It offers protection and a certain atmosphere that induces a feeling of well-being and happiness.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You're a deep thinker but stay in the shallows today because you will need to decide quickly and without much research. You'll guess well because your perceptive subconscious mind is working all the time.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

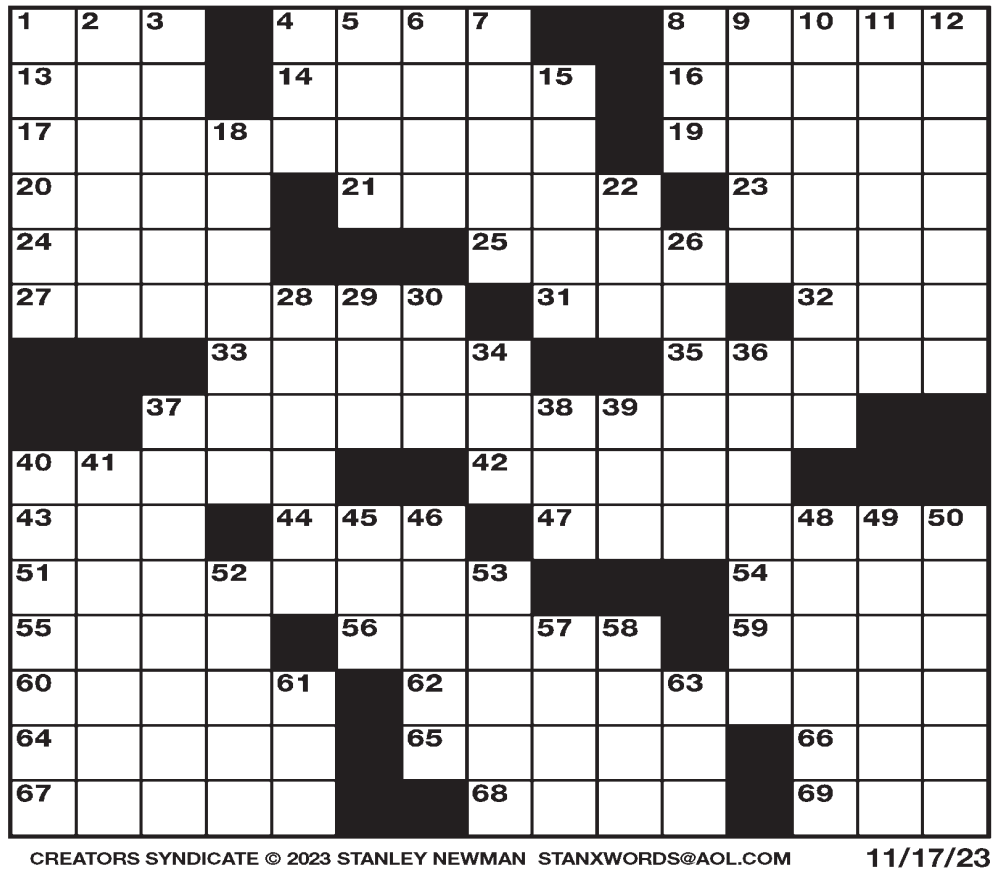
IF I WERE YOU by Steve Faiella
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Cardboard pkg.
4 Foursome with a Stockholm museum
8 Test one's metal
13 Founder of the Shakers
14 Flower sources of saffron
16 Sock away
17 RAISED, AS A BET
19 Toast starter
20 Garb painted by Degas
21 "Blue" bird
23 Berry in smoothies
24 Juice blend prefix
25 BRIDLE FLAPS
27 City with a Chocolate Avenue
31 Revered Fr. woman
32 Wish undone
33 Bushy-tailed canines
35 Long battle
37 SORT OF SNAKE
40 Operators
42 "That didn't surprise me"
43 Goalies' grp.
44 Arrive at
47 Concluded with
51 STRUCK EACH OTHER
54 Mythical mountain monster
55 Corker
56 Pokémon film genre
59 Some cereal
60 Autobiography adapted for *What's Love Got to Do With It*
62 EXHAUSTS TO EXCESS
64 Regretful feelings
65 Today's cargo pants, for instance
66 __ la la
67 More than one cares to pay
68 Break time
69 Alternative channel to ShopHQ

DOWN

1 Gearshift pedal
2 Academic's achievement
3 Bee's collection
4 Top performer
5 "Dude!"
6 Upmarket audio brand
7 Bitter-tasting
8 Volcanic dust
9 Suffix for bed or home
10 Wizard or magician
11 Floor decor
12 "No need to explain further"
15 Role models
18 Seeks election to
22 Hard-shelled fruit
26 Got comfy
28 Tokyo's locale
29 Strait's "All My __ Live in Texas"
30 Nonetheless
34 __ Lanka
36 Gratetful statement
37 Geneticist's culture collection
38 Small stringed instrument
39 *Situation Room* airer
40 Detaches, as a microphone
41 Castigate loudly
45 Rocky Mtn. state
46 Barbershop quartet voice
48 Shortage
49 Web-footed mammals
50 Toyota rival
52 Sudden thrust
53 Wetsuit wearer
57 Measure (out)
58 Makes a misstep
61 Beast on Tut's mask
63 Little one



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2023 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 11/17/23

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

SAINT JOHN'S PHYSICIAN PARTNERS
PROVIDENCE

eHealth

Doctor • Hospital • Benefits YOUR WAY

Let Saint John's help **YOU** find the right Medicare plan.

Call eHealth at 844-240-6434 (TTY 711) to speak with a licensed insurance agent Mon – Fri from 5 a.m. – 6 p.m., Sat 7 a.m. – 4 p.m. PST.

Visit us online at: eHealth.com/SJPP to shop plans side-by-side.

Attend workshops sponsored by Saint John's to explore Medicare insurance options.

RSVP for an upcoming in-person workshop: 1-866-909-DOCS (3627) (TTY/TDD 711)
More dates available at Providence.org/MedicareCA

3 p.m. Tuesday, November 21st
El Torito:
3360 Ocean Park Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90405
By CHM Insurance Services (Broker-Multiple Plans Presented)

Enrollment in a plan may be limited to certain times of the year unless you qualify for a special election/enrollment period or you are in your Medicare Initial Election Period. Not all plans offer all benefits mentioned. This ad is not from the government. It's from eHealth, an insurance agency selling plans from many insurance companies. For accommodations of persons with special needs at workshops, call 1-866-909-3627 (TTY/TDD 711). A licensed insurance agent will be present with information and applications. CHM Insurance Services, West LA Baby Boomer Insurance Services, Clear Financial Insurance Services, AGA, Avanti Insurance Solutions, Inc., and Paul Davis Insurance Services represent various Medicare Advantage (MA) and Prescription Drug Plans (PDPs) with Medicare contracts. Workshops are provided by the entities noted and are not affiliated with eHealth.

SANTA MONICA RESIDENT

Save on stays with exclusive hotel discounts for locals now through January 29, 2024

Book Now

Participating Hotels:
https://www.santamonica.com/extra-bedroom/

SANTA MONICA
TRAVEL & TOURISM



SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

Chill and Thrive

Complete a full-credit class in just 6 weeks!

Classes start January 2

On-campus and online

smc.edu/winter



SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

SANTA MONICA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Barry Snell, *Chair*; Dr. Margaret Quiñones-Perez, *Vice Chair*; Dr. Susan Aminoff; Dr. Nancy Greenstein; Dr. Tom Peters; Rob Rader; Dr. Sion Roy; Alyssa Arreola, *Student Trustee*; Kathryn E. Jeffery, Ph.D., *Superintendent/President*

Santa Monica College | 1900 Pico Blvd. Santa Monica, CA 90405 | smc.edu

32 YEARS

#1 IN TRANSFERS